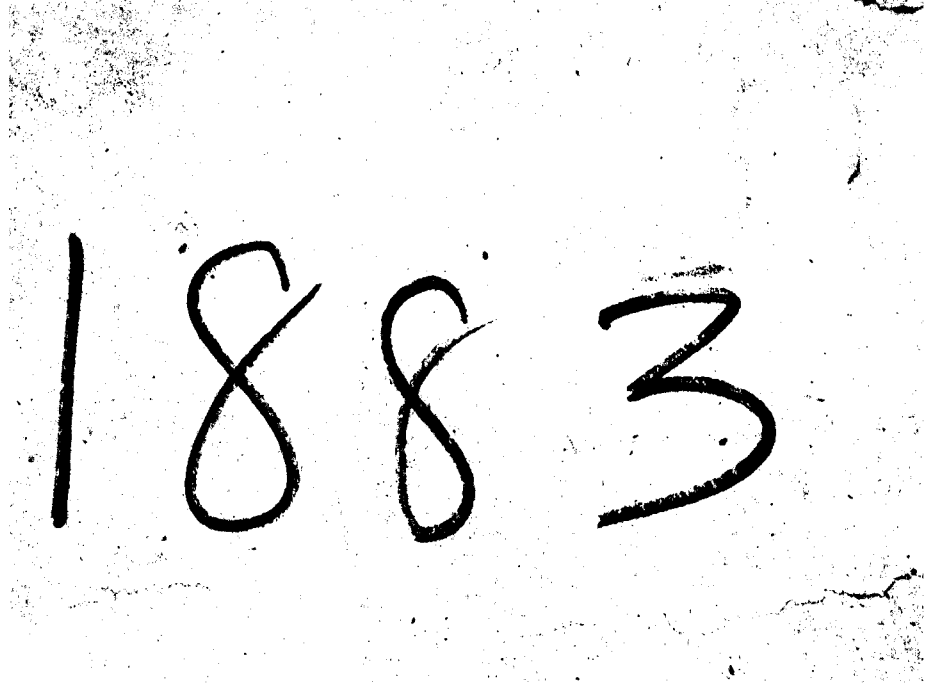
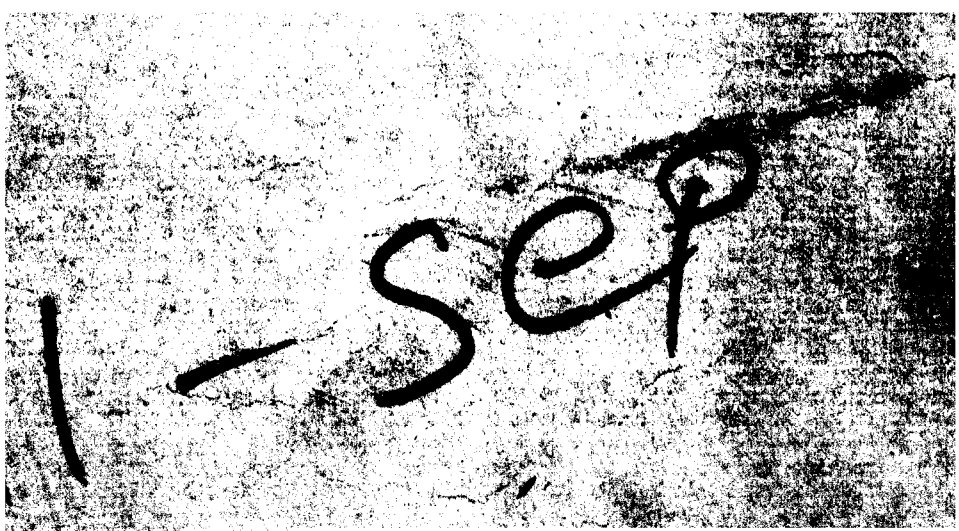

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amended order shall, unless and until it be reversed or modified in manner hereinafter provided, be conclusive.

C.—Appeals from orders of Boundary-officers.

Appeals against orders of Boundary-officers.

18. An appeal shall lie to the Commissioner of the Division from every order passed by a Boundary-officer under section twelve or section fourteen.

If order confirmed on a matter of fact, decision final.

19. If the Commissioner confirms the order of the Boundary-officer on a matter of fact, such decision shall be final.

If order reversed or modified, or if confirmed on a question of law, second appeal allowed to Judicial Commissioner.

In all other cases in which the Commissioner confirms the order of the Boundary-officer, and in all cases in which the Commissioner reverses or modifies the order of the Boundary-officer, an appeal shall lie to the Judicial Commissioner.

Period of limitation.

20. The period of limitation for an appeal under section eighteen or section nineteen shall run from the date of the order or decision appealed against and shall be as follows, that is to say,—

(*a*) in the case of an appeal under section eighteen—sixty days;

(*b*) in the case of an appeal under section nineteen—ninety days.

In computing such periods of sixty and ninety days, and in all respects not herein specified, the limitation of such appeals shall be governed by the provisions of the Indian Limitation Act, 1877.

Powers of Commissioner and Judicial Commissioner in hearing appeals.

21. The Commissioner and the Judicial Commissioner shall in hearing and determining appeals presented under this Act have, as nearly as may be, the same powers as they have in the case of appeals from decrees and orders in civil suits.

D.—Boundary-marks.

When permanent boundary-marks are to be erected.

22. Whenever an order determining a boundary has become final, the Boundary-officer shall, unless permanent boundary-marks of a suitable description have already been erected along such boundary, cause to be erected permanent boundary-marks, of such materials, in such number and in such manner, as he may consider sufficient to distinguish such boundary.

An order determining a boundary becomes final for the purposes of this section when it is not open to appeal.

Expense of erection of marks.

23. All expenses incurred by the Boundary-officer in erecting such boundary-marks for any land shall be apportioned amongst the owners or occupiers of such land, in such proportions as the Boundary-officer may think fit.

Notice to owners to pay share of expense.

24. When the expenses have been apportioned among such owners or occupiers, the Boundary-officer shall cause a notice to be served on each of them, specifying the amount payable by him in respect of such expenses, and requiring him to pay such amount to the Boundary-officer within one month from the service of such notice.

Owners and occupiers may be required—

25. The Boundary-officer may further cause a notice to be served on any owner or occupier placing under his charge any boundary-marks erected on the boundary of his land whether by order of such officer or otherwise.

to preserve boundary-marks;

Every owner or occupier shall preserve such boundary-marks as may be placed under his charge under this section, and shall give immediate notice to the nearest Magistrate or the officer in charge of the nearest Police-station if any such marks are injured, destroyed or removed, or require repairs.

to give notice of any injury occurring to them.

Magistrates may repair boundary-marks.

26. Whenever a Magistrate of the first or second class becomes aware that any boundary-mark erected under this Act within the local limits of his jurisdiction has been injured, destroyed or removed, or requires repairs, such Magistrate may cause such boundary-mark to be re-erected, restored or repaired, and may recover any expenses incurred in respect of such re-erection, restoration or repair from the owner or occupier who is bound under section twenty-five to preserve such boundary-mark.

Duties of village-officers.

27. It shall be the duty of every village-headman and thoogyee—

(*a*) to prevent the destruction, injury or alteration of any boundary-mark within the local limits of his jurisdiction;

(*b*) whenever he becomes aware that any such boundary-mark has been destroyed, injured or altered, to report immediately to the officer in charge of the nearest Police-station or to the nearest Magistrate such destruction, injury or alteration.

CHAPTER III.

SURVEY.

Survey-officer.

28. When any officer is appointed by the Government to make a survey of any land, the Chief Commissioner may invest such officer, for the purposes of such survey, with all or any of the powers conferred on Demarcation-officers by sections four to nine (both inclusive), and also with power to cause any boundary or other marks to be erected by the owners or occupiers of any land, or to erect such marks and to charge the cost of such erection to such owners or occupiers.

CHAPTER IV.

MISCELLANEOUS.

If owners, occupiers or other persons fail to obey lawful order, it may be carried out at their expense.

29. If any owner or occupier of any land, or any other person, being ordered in accordance with this Act to perform any act, fails to perform such act within a reasonable time, the officer who gave the order may, after giving notice to such owner, occupier or other person of his intention so to do, cause the act to be performed; and the expenses incurred in such performance shall be payable by such owner, occupier or other person.

Penalty for refusing or neglecting to comply with orders or notice.

30. Whoever, being legally bound to comply with any lawful order under this Act, or with the requisition contained in any special notice served upon him under this Act, refuses or neglects to comply therewith, shall be punished with fine which may extend to fifty rupees.

Mode of recovery of amounts of money due under this Act.

31. Every amount due under the provisions of this Act may be recovered as if the same were an arrear of land-revenue.

Chief Commissioner may make rules.

32. The Chief Commissioner may, from time to time, make rules consistent with this Act—

for the collection and record of any information in respect of any land;

prescribing and limiting the powers and duties of officers conducting proceedings under this Act;

regulating the delegation by such officers to subordinate officers of the powers and duties conferred and imposed on them respectively by this Act or the rules made hereunder;

for the proper performance of all things to be done and for the regulation of all proceedings to be taken under this Act;

for the publication, issue and service of all notices, whether general or special, to be published, issued or served under this Act; and

for carrying out generally the purposes of this Act.

Mode of publication.

All such rules shall be published in the local official Gazette, and shall thereupon have the force of law.

Validation of surveys made before the Act.

33. All surveys made, and all boundary-lines and marks fixed for survey or revenue-purposes, at the time of the passing of this Act shall be, and are hereby declared to be, of the same effect as if made and fixed under this Act; and this Act shall apply to them as fully as to surveys made and boundary-lines and marks fixed hereunder.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

THIS Bill has been prepared, at the instance of the Chief Commissioner of British Burma, with a view to facilitating the operations of the survey which has been undertaken by the Government in connection with the revenue-settlement of that province.

2. Sections 3 to 10 give the powers required for the demarcation of boundaries. They empower the Demarcation-officer to enter upon the land and to summon those interested in the demarcation to point out the boundaries, aid him in setting up boundary-marks and afford such other assistance as may be required.

They further empower him to require a boundary-line to be cleared of jungle, fences or crops, when this is necessary for the purpose of demarcating it; but where any loss is caused by such clearance, compensation will be paid.

3. It is believed that the cases in which any dispute will arise regarding a boundary will be rare. Where any such dispute does arise, the Demarcation-officer will, after a summary enquiry, lay down the boundary provisionally, the final determination of the matter being reserved for a later stage of the proceedings.

4. The Demarcation-officer is, lastly, empowered to erect such boundary-marks as he thinks fit, and charge the cost of erecting them to the persons interested. Where the boundary is undisputed, those marks would usually be of a substantial and permanent nature. On the other hand, where there is a dispute, the marks erected at this stage would be such as would be merely sufficient to fix the line pending the determination of the dispute.

5. On the completion of the demarcation the Demarcation-officer will submit a report of his proceedings, including such maps as he has prepared, to the Boundary-officer. The Boundary-officer will be an officer qualified to exercise regular judicial functions, and it will be his duty to try out and decide as a Court of first instance all disputes as to boundaries and all objections taken to the proceedings of the Demarcation-officer. From his decisions an appeal will lie to the Commissioner of the division, and in certain cases a further appeal to the Judicial Commissioner.

Where there is no dispute or objection, a formal order will be passed by the Boundary-officer confirming the demarcation made by the Demarcation-officer. Where there is a dispute or objection, the case will stand over until such dispute or objection has been finally disposed of.

6. When the boundary has been finally settled, the Boundary-officer will, if permanent boundary-marks have not already been erected along it, cause such marks to be erected, charging the cost to those interested, and will then issue a notice placing all boundary-marks, whether erected by his order or by order of the Demarcation-officer, under the charge of the landholders who will thenceforward be responsible for their protection.

"Property in land was not recognized, but every cultivator was entitled to hold his land as long as he paid the share of the Government revenue apportioned to it. The Central Government fixed annually the sum which each pargana or revenue sub-division was to pay. The apportionment of the revenue on the several villages was made by the pargana officers in consultation with the headmen or patéls of villages, who assembled at the pargana head-quarters for this purpose. When the assessment of each village had been settled, the patéls returned each to his own village, and the share to be paid by each cultivator was made known to him.

"The manner in which the detailed assessments were made is interesting and curious, and arose, no doubt, out of the habit of the Mahratta Government of not fixing its revenue until late on in the agricultural year. The usual practice of the Nágpur Government was to announce its assessments about the month of August, when the character of the rains and the probable quality of the harvest were known. Here, however, as elsewhere in India, the agricultural year begins about June, and that is the time when the annual settlements between the Government agent and the raiyats would generally be made. But, as the amount which each raiyat would have to pay depended entirely on the amount of the Government assessment, which in June was an unknown quantity, an ingenious method of meeting the difficulty was devised. The patél and the cultivators, acting as a body bound together by the tie of one common responsibility for the payment of the revenue assessed on their village, divided the cultivated lands into two classes. In one class they ranked the very inferior soils, which could not bear more than a very small rent; and these they assessed at a fixed money rent with respect to the quality of the soil and the ruling prices of produce. In the second class they placed the better soils which, after paying the cost of cultivation, left a considerable margin of profit, sufficient to bear the possible fluctuations in the Government demand. Fields of this class were not assessed at any fixed rate, but the joint liability for the Government revenue on the whole village being taken, say, at a hundred shares, each of these fields was rated as equal to so many shares of the whole. Thus each individual cultivator knew that he would have to pay a fixed unalterable sum for his bad lands, and that on account of his good lands he was liable to pay a certain fraction of the Government revenue, whatever that might be. This classification and valuation of fields was made annually, with a view to meeting the changes in the condition not only of the fields but of the raiyats themselves. Impartiality in the distribution of the revenue was secured by the rule of joint responsibility. If the revenue imposed on any individual could not be recovered from him, the deficiency was not remitted, but was made good by the imposition of an additional rate on all the others. Thus, there was given not only a great incitement to fair and just dealing, but a considerable stimulus to mutual help and co-operation.

"This system is described by Sir R. Jenkins, who was Resident at Nágpur in 1827, as existing in his time, and the sketch of it which I have given, and which is taken mainly from his well-known report on the territories of Nágpur, appears to show clearly that under the old constitution of the country there was no such thing as a landlord or tenant in our sense of the word, that rent was unknown, and that such things as revenue-rates or rent-rates had no existence at all.

"However, even during the period of Native rule, influences were at work which tended to subvert the ancient order of things. During the decline of the Bhonsla power, the State imposed revenues higher than the people could easily pay, and resorted to the abuse of farming the villages to the patéls or village-headmen, and leaving them to collect what they could from the people. This abuse tended to place the patél in a position of greater supremacy, and to give him powers which were capable of developing into proprietary rights. Here, as elsewhere, the transition from a collector of revenue to a farmer of revenue, and from a farmer of revenue to a receiver of rents, was easy and natural.

"This, then, was, roughly speaking, the state of things which we found in existence when we took over the several territories which make up the Central

Provinces. What modifications did we introduce into it? To answer this question, I shall quote again from Mr. Jones' note:—

'The history of our dealings with the different parts of the Province as we successively acquired them is, in almost every case, the same. We first made one or more severe settlements for short terms, then tried experiments in farming, interfering a good deal in a patriarchal way between patéls and cultivators, sometimes resorting to khám management, and finally made up our minds to long settlements at reduced jamas. These long settlements—I do not here refer to their effect on the prosperity of the agricultural classes—were the great turning-point in the revenue-history of the Province, and to them every change by which the Native revenue-system was modified, and at last superseded, may be traced.

'The chief immediate effect of the long settlements was to sever the mutual interdependence of the amount of cultivator's payments and the Government demand. The patél became the málguzár, and was no longer restricted, either by theory or in practice, from demanding rents disproportionate to the jama which hé had to pay out of them. Cultivators began to pay rent instead of revenue, and the question arose whether málguzárs could not enhance during the currency of a settlement, irrespective of increase of cultivation; in other words, whether Government had not delegated to them the right, which it would (had the long settlement not been made) have itself exercised, of from time to time raising its revenue by enhancing the payments of cultivators. In the case of the earlier settlements, there can be no doubt that the intention of the officers who made them was that the rents paid at the time of settlement should not be enhanced during the settlement; but in the case of the later settlements the point is not so clear, except where, for instance, in Nimár, the training and prepossessions of local officers led to an unhesitating acceptance of the alternative most favourable to the cultivator. This much, however, is quite clear, that, whether málguzárs were regarded by the officers of the day as having a right to raise rent during the currency of a settlement or not, they did not themselves feel confident of having this right, and never exercised it. They could not all at once shake themselves free of the idea that cultivators could not be asked to pay more than the Government revenue. The position, therefore, at the close of the period preceding the regular settlement was this, that cultivators paid rent and that there was no restriction in the amount of rent which new cultivators might pay, but that rents fixed at the commencement of a settlement remained in practice unaltered to its close.

'The acquisition by málguzárs of the right to demand rent as distinguished from revenue, and of the theoretical power of raising rent during the currency of a settlement, brought in its train other fundamental changes by which the other roots of the Native revenue-system were torn up, for,—

'first, málguzárs, having always been accustomed to eject in the interest of the Government tenants who would not pay the quotum of revenue demanded from them, began now, by an easy transition, to think themselves entitled to eject in their own interest tenants who refused to pay the *rent* demanded of them; and,

'secondly, the resulting tendency to an increased exercise of the power of ejectment being strongly opposed by the sentiment of the people, a limitation was placed upon it by the introduction of a novel distinction between old and new cultivators, and the recognition of a specific right of occupancy in the latter.

'The change from the Native system of revenue-administration was thus completed. Not one of the principles enumerated in paragraph 4' (these are the four principles which I have already mentioned) 'remained intact. Short annual settlements had given way to settlements for long terms; cultivators' payments had become rents; the power of fixing them having been resigned by the State in favour of málguzárs; the latter had acquired rights which made their position approximate more to that of proprietors than of mere office-holders; and, lastly, one class of tenants, the occupancy-class, had been allowed to participate in the full rent of their lands, or, in other words, to acquire rights which conflicted with the right of the State to realize a maximum revenue from the land.

'But although the Native revenue-system had thus been uprooted in theory, it had not, at the time when regular settlements began, lost its hold on the people, even in those parts of the province where it had been longest exposed to hostile influences. The tenant would not believe that the State had handed him over to the málguzár; would not understand that his rent was to be disproportionate to the Government-demand; wanted it lowered when the Government-demand was lowered, and looked upon the settlement *parchas* as leases from Government. His views on the subject of ejectment were not announced with great distinctness, because, at the period I am speaking of, he did not understand the new motive which the málguzár had for ejecting him. Ejectments with the object of increasing a rent-roll had not then been much resorted to, and District-officers were apt to use their influence in protecting tenants when necessary.'

"Under these circumstances, and at a time when most of the current settlements for the Central Provinces were in course of being made, Act X of 1859 was extended to those provinces. The exact date of its extension is the 2nd March, 1864. This famous Act, with the main provisions of which the members of this Council have only too good reason to be acquainted, was, as we are all

aware, framed with a view to the special circumstances of Bengal, and it was applied to the Central Provnces, not because it was held to be suited to their circumstances and conditions, but because a law of some kind was wanted, more to regulate matters of procedure than to settle questions of right, and Act X of 1859 was the only law ready to hand. It was, in fact, avowedly introduced as a mere temporary makeshift, and it was never intended to remain in permanent operation.

'First of all,'

writes Mr. Jones in the note from which I have already quoted at such length, 'I would correct an impression, which I believe is prevalent among Revenue-officers in the Central Provinces, that, when Act X was introduced, the applicability of those parts of it which contain substantive law was considered, and that the relations between landlord and tenant which the Act lays down or assumes were then, after discussion, held to be suitable to the circumstances of the Province. Nothing can be further from the truth. In the correspondence which preceded the introduction of the Act, those parts of it which contain substantive law are only casually referred to, and attention was directed, almost exclusively, to the sections which confer jurisdiction and supply a procedure. The fact is, that the substantive provisions of the Act, coinciding, as they did, with the views which had gained acceptance among the officers by whom the greater part of the Province was administered before its formation, with theories held in the North-Western Provinces, and with the English ideas then prevalent, were not deemed to require discussion at all, and the Act was introduced with the sole object of rounding off the corners of the system of procedure previously applicable to civil and revenue suits. In the Ságar and Narbada territories there had been a special code of procedure for revenue-suits, and, in the Nágpur Province, Act X suits had been dealt with as summary suits under Regulation VIII of 1831. Act X simply abolished these procedures, and no one has any right to suppose that the assumptions regarding the relations of landlords and tenants which underlie its provisions received any new support or confirmation at the time, and by the fact, of its introduction.'

"The provisional character of the law thus introduced, and the necessity of modifying it for the purpose of making it even temporarily applicable to the circumstances to which it was applied, are fully recognized in the circular instructions which were issued to Settlement-officers shortly after its introduction. The most important of these circulars is one which was issued on the 27th of March, 1865, and which is, I believe, well known among Revenue-officers as Circular G. I refer to it because it appears to be the basis of the distinction, which is recognized and confirmed by the Bill, between absolute occupancy-tenants and other occupancy-tenants who have up to this time been, for reasons which I shall explain, commonly known as conditional occupancy-tenants.

"The first class, that of absolute occupancy-tenants, was created at the time of settlement, and comprises, as I understand, all the old substantial resident cultivators who then existed. They were termed absolute occupancy-tenants because their rights were recognized on grounds other than those mentioned in Act X, and were not conditional on the retention of that Act as part of the law of the Provinces. The tenants entered in this class were men whose rights in the soil were admitted without reservation by all parties. Into this class were swept all those who had long connection with the village, who had dug wells, planted groves, or otherwise improved their lands. The form in which their rights should be declared was considered by the Government in 1868, and it was then decided—

(*a*) that their rents should be fixed for the term of settlement, now and hereafter;

(*b*) that their tenure should descend as land;

(*c*) that they might sub-let or mortgage, and might sell subject to a right of pre-emption at five years' rent or the payment of one year's rent as a fine to the málguzár.

"These conditions were accordingly embodied in the village-administration papers, and were in this manner made binding as between the málguzár and the tenant.

"The other class of occupancy-tenants are those who owe their rights to the twelve years' rule embodied in Act X of 1859. With respect to this class, the officers of the Settlement Department were instructed by Circular G 'to make it clear to all parties that any record of occupancy-right

based solely upon possession for 12 years is made subject to any future alteration of the law.' It is in consequence of this saving clause that tenants belonging to this class are often spoken of as conditional occupancy-tenants. They hold from father to son, and are, under the law as it stands, liable to enhancement of rent only on the grounds specified in section 17 of Act X of 1859, that is to say, on the ground either that the rents are below the rates prevailing in the neighbourhood; that there has been an increase in the value of the produce or of the productive power of the holding; or that there has been an increase in the area of the holding.

"The circumstances of Chánda, Nimár and Sambalpur were found to require special and exceptional treatment, and in those three districts the settlement which was effected was, in point of fact, a raiyatwárí settlement. The rights of tenants in Chánda and Nimár are at present determined under a resolution of the Government of India, dated the 21st of June, 1865. Under this resolution, all tenants who held land (other than sír land) on that date, and all tenants who might take up land after that date without a written lease, became occupancy-tenants, and were declared to hold on a tenure which was described as "the customary tenure," and the main incidents of which are as follows :—

"i.—It is heritable, both lineally and collaterally.

"ii.—The right is transferable to a co-sharer by inheritance or to an heir-expectant.

"iii.—If the rent was fixed by a Settlement-officer before the date of the resolution, it is to remain fixed during the term of settlement. Otherwise the landlord can apply *once*, and once only, during the term of settlement to enhance the rent up to the maximum rate recorded for the class of soil held by the tenant.

"iv.—The tenant has the right to improve.

"v.—The power of sub-letting is restricted.

"All the land in Nimár and, practically, all the land in Chánda appears from recent returns to be held by tenants who are described either as absolute or as conditional occupancy-tenants.

"In the case of Sambalpur, the Government of India intervened before proprietary rights were conferred or recognized as existing in any person between the State and the cultivator, and decided that the village headman or *gaontia* was to be the proprietor only of his *sír* or *bhógra* land, and was to have the right of collecting the revenue and managing the village; that the persons (if any) holding sír land under him were to be his tenants-at-will; that during the term of settlement he was to have the privilege of creating raiyats on waste land, and that the revenue thence derived was to be his during that term, but that he was not to charge them more than the village-rates as fixed at the time of settlement. All other raiyats are Government raiyats, paying revenue and not rent, and not liable to eviction except for non-payment of revenue.

"I have dwelt on these particulars, at the risk of being tedious, because they explain the special references in the Bill to Chánda, Nimár and Sambalpur, and show that what might otherwise appear to be arbitrary differences of treatment are due to the desire to make no greater alteration than is necessary in the existing state of things.

"The broad result is that, subject to the special peculiarities which I have noticed, the tenantry of the Central Provinces may at present be divided into three classes, namely :—

"i.—Absolute occupancy-tenants.

"ii.—Occupancy or conditional occupancy-tenants.

"iii.—Ordinary tenants not protected by any special provision of the law or entry on the village-papers.

"I understand that about 37 per cent. of the total number of tenants have occupancy-rights, and it appears from some returns which have been recently

laid before the Select Committee that about 7-12ths of the total acreage under cultivation is held either by absolute or by conditional occupancy-tenants.*

"These, then, are the circumstances with which we have to deal. We found a body of cultivators paying revenue to the State through their village-headmen. Under, and for the purposes of, the revenue-system which we introduced, we converted the headmen into proprietors or landlords, the cultivators into their tenants, and the payments made by the cultivators into rent. We took a man who had no motive but to make a fair apportionment of the State demand and who, even after he became a contractor for, or a farmer of, that demand, did not conceive that he could reap a legitimate profit by enhancing the rents of the raiyat; we took this man and made him proprietor of the soil. We made the Government raiyats his tenants, and we gave him a legal power to raise his rents and at the same time a motive for exercising that power. Instead of using our utmost endeavours to squeeze out of him every penny which he could succeed in extracting by fair means or foul from the cultivator of the soil, we reduced his revenue-assessments to such a level as left him a substantial margin of profit; and we secured him in the enjoyment of this margin for a long term of years. Thus, whereas in the earlier settlements of Hoshangábád we took 85 per cent. from the málguzár, leaving him only 15 per cent. for expenses of collection, we reduced the amount thus taken to 66 per cent. in 1838, when a twenty years' settlement was made, and we further reduced it to 50 per cent. in 1864, which was the date of the last settlement. We saw, indeed, that the changes which we had introduced would tend to benefit the new proprietary class unduly at the expense of the cultivators, and we endeavoured to give the latter some kind of protection, partly by means of a law which, having been framed for a widely different set of conditions, was applied as a temporary makeshift to the Central Provinces, but mainly by means of stipulations and declarations inserted in the settlement-records. But we always recognized the imperfect, provisional and transitory nature of the arrangements thus made.

"Under these circumstances, there will be little dispute either as to the necessity for legislation, or as to the main principles on which legislation should proceed.

"The necessity for legislation was recognized as long ago as 1873, when Mr. Jones, now Chief Commissioner, was entrusted with the duty of framing a suitable law for regulating the relation of landlord and tenant in the Central Provinces.

"And as to the principles of legislation, it is clear that we must not allow what was intended to be a boon to the immediate revenue-payers to be a curse to those from whom the revenue is ultimately derived. In giving the proprietary right to one class, the Government neither intended nor had a right to injure the status of another and much larger class; and if it is found that the change which we have introduced has injured that status, we are not only justified in devising, but bound to devise, measures for remedying that evil. Our object then should be to protect the tenant, so far as it is practicable to protect him, by legislation, and the only question is what form that protection should take. For the purpose of explaining the proposals made by the Bill with this object, I will remind you of the several classes of tenants with whom we have to deal, and will show how the Bill proposes to deal with each.

"There are, as I have said, in the existing state of things, three main classes of tenants—absolute occupancy-tenants, conditional occupancy-tenants, and a third class who are usually described as tenants-at-will, and who are in fact given no special protection by the law. The Bill recognizes these three

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* See Paper No. 30 to the Bill.

	Acres.
Area of absolute occupancy-tenants' holdings	3,232,173
Do. conditional do. do. do.	3,861,304
Total area held by absolute or conditional occupancy-tenants	7,093,477
Area held by other tenants	5,336,014
Total	12,429,491

classes, and adds to them a fourth, that of sub-tenants, whom, however, it treats very curtly.

"The absolute occupancy-tenant is left by the Bill very much as he stands under the existing record-of-rights. His rent is fixed for the term of settlement, and cannot be altered during that time, except on the ground of an improvement made by the landlord or of a material increase, diminution or deterioration of his holding. He cannot be ejected. His rights are heritable, and are transferable subject to certain restrictions which I will mention. In the first draft of the Bill it was proposed to deprive absolute occupancy-tenants of the power of transfer, on the ground that, by leading them into debt, it was proving their destruction. There is, no doubt, much to be said for this view, but I think that the more powerful arguments are against it. The rights conferred on these tenants at settlement were made part and parcel of the settlement-contract in order to remove them, if possible, from the field of legislation. Their holdings have in not a few instances changed hands, and the purchasers have acted on the understanding that they had bought a marketable commodity. It may be that the improvident have lost their lands, but those who remain are presumably the more prudent and thrifty of their class, and are not likely to appreciate an interference which will undoubtedly lessen the value of their property. Moreover, I am myself somewhat sceptical about the possibility of preventing the transfer of rights of this kind when they once have been placed on a secure legal basis.

"Accordingly, the Bill allows the absolute occupancy-tenant to transfer his rights, but his power of transfer is not altogether unfettered.

"Under the settlement-rules, the tenant of this class had an unlimited power of mortgage; but, if he sold his tenure, the landlord had a right either to claim a fine or to buy the tenure at a fixed price. We found it very difficult to express the exact conditions laid down by the settlement; and we have altered them in two directions. On the one hand, in the interest of the landlord, we have treated a mortgage above a certain value as equivalent to a sale; on the other, in the interest of the tenants, we have abolished the fixed price at which the landlord might under the settlement-rules claim to buy, and have left the price to be equitably determined in each case by a Revenue-officer.

"Some objections have been raised on behalf of the landlords to this change. But I think a consideration of the section (38) will show that what we have done is, on the whole, the fairest way of dealing with the matter. As the right of pre-emption has hitherto stood, it could always be evaded by a mortgage. And as the price fixed at settlement—five times the annual rent—was left farther and farther behind the real value of the land, the landlord's right would have been generally defeated in this way.

"Next come the twelve years' men, those who have acquired occupancy-rights under the operation of the twelve years' rule in Act X, but whose rights were, under Circular G, expressly made subject to any alteration in the law. The persons belonging to this class are in the Bill called simply occupancy-tenants, and the class is so defined as to include all persons who have, up to the present date, acquired the rights to which I have referred.

"With respect to this class it was generally admitted that their rents ought to be fixed by superior authority and not left to competition; and the most important questions with respect to them were two—for what period should their rents be fixed, and by what standard?

"First, as to the period for which the rents should be fixed.

"In answering this question regard must be had to the special circumstances of the Central Provinces. There are parts of the country, such as the North-Western Provinces, in which the weight of argument appears to be strongly in favour of fixing the rents of occupancy-tenants for the full term of settlement; but the circumstances of those regions differ widely from the circumstances of the Central Provinces. In the North-Western Provinces the country has long been opened up; rents have attained a high general level; population is dense; competition for land is keen; the revenue is probably as high in most districts as it ought to be.

"To the Central Provinces none of these statements apply. The country is in its infancy; population is sparse; rents are low; the effects of introducing roads and railways are only just beginning to be felt. If in a country such as this rents were fixed for the period of settlement, the result would be that there would be a very large beneficial interest given to the cultivator, sub-letting would be encouraged, and, when the time comes for revising the assessment, great hardship would probably be caused to the tenant by the necessity of ordering a sudden and serious increase in his rent.

"This being so, the late Chief Commissioner and the local Committee to whom he referred the Bill for consideration came to the conclusion—a conclusion which the Select Committee have adopted—that it would be wise to provide for some enhancement of rent during the term of settlement, and the Bill has made such provision accordingly, but under conditions which guard against the rent being increased (except for landlord's improvements or increase in area) more than once in ten years.

"Next, as to the standard by which these rents should be fixed. The Bill as first introduced provided for the determination of these rents primarily on the basis of the settlement-rates and other customary rates paid by tenants of the same class. But it was found that, mainly in consequence of the non-existence of anything that could properly be called customary rates, there would be a difficulty in applying this standard; and accordingly the Bill in its present form simply directs (by section 42) the Settlement-officer to fix the rent of the holding of every occupancy-tenant at each settlement of the area in which the holding is comprised, and empowers the Chief Commissioner (section 82) to make rules for the officer's guidance in fixing rents. Our desire is that the rents should be fixed at such a rate as will leave the tenant a reasonable margin of profit without trenching too widely on the share either of his immediate landlord or of the State; but we doubt whether this principle can be satisfactorily embodied in any hard-and-fast legislative enactment, and accordingly we have thought it safer to leave the point to be dealt with by executive instructions.

"I have said that provision is made for raising the rent of these tenants during the term of settlement. It may be so raised by order of a Revenue-officer on the application of the landlord; and the Bill as submitted to the Council last December directed that such an order might be made if the rent of the occupancy-tenant was less than three-fourths of the rate usually paid by ordinary (that is to say, non-occupancy) tenants of holdings situate in the same or adjoining tahsíls for lands of similar quality with like advantages, and that, if the order was made, the rents were to be raised to three-fourths of those rates. This direction has, however, been objected to from two points of view,—first, as tending to raise the rent of occupancy-tenants to an excessive rate, and secondly, as tending to unduly hamper officers in fixing rents at the term of settlement. I think that sufficient answers may be found to both of these objections; but, on the other hand, it was not easy to see why, if the discretion of officers in fixing rent at settlement was left uncontrolled by any hard-and-fast legislative direction, it should not be left to the same extent uncontrolled during the term of settlement. We have accordingly omitted from the present draft of section 46 any reference to the standard supplied by the rents of ordinary tenants, and have left such directions as may be required for the guidance of officers in acting under the section to be supplied by rules made under section 82.

"With respect to the devolution of an occupancy-tenant's rights on death, we have not modified the original proposals of the Bill. His rights are to descend as if they were land, except that they are not to go to a collateral relative unless he was at the tenant's death a co-sharer in the holding. This is the rule of inheritance which under the North-Western Provinces Rent Act applies to tenants holding at fixed rates. An exception has been made in the case of the three districts of Chánda, Nimár and Sambalpur. In these districts, where, as I have said, the settlement is virtually raiyatwárí, the rights of an occupancy-tenant are expressly declared by the settlement-record to be heritable collaterally as well as lineally; and accordingly we have left them so. But in the

other districts, where no fixed rule of inheritance appears to have been established by usage or prescribed by authority, we have thought it desirable, whilst recognising the heritable character of the right, not to saddle it more than necessary with the complicated rules of Hindu succession.

"We have restricted the power of an occupancy-tenant to transfer his holding to cases where the transfer is made to a person who would be an heir, or is a co-sharer, or is made with the landlord's consent; and we have provided that his right shall not be sold in execution of a decree. And, after various attempts to deal with the difficult question of sub-letting, we have come to the conclusion that it is impracticable to do more than impose on sub-letting the same restrictions as are imposed on transfer in the ordinary sense of the word; that is to say, a tenant may not sub-let without his landlord's consent, unless his sub-tenant is a co-sharer or an expectant heir.

"I now come to the most difficult class of all,—the class who are described in the Bill as ordinary tenants. The position of this class under the existing law is this. They have no rights conferred on them by the law or by the terms of the settlement-record, except that, if they remain long enough on their land, they rise, under the operation of the twelve years' rule in Act X, to the status of occupancy-tenants.

"The Bill as first introduced maintained the twelve years' rule and allowed the growth of occupancy-rights. Recognising, however, the tendency of that rule to induce landlords to shift and harass their tenants, the authors of the Bill provided a machinery to protect the tenant during the term of growth of his rights. This arrangement, which I need not explain in detail, introduced in point of fact a new class of tenant, likewise deriving his rights from lapse of time or prescription and liable to lose them under certain conditions. These proposals met with much criticism and opposition from many sides, and the late Chief Commissioner and the local committee, after giving the proposals long and careful consideration, came to the conclusion that they ought to be abandoned.

"This being so, the proverbial three courses appeared to be open to us. We might either leave things alone, maintaining the existing twelve years' rule, and allowing the present race of tenants-at-will to struggle by means of it into the position of occupancy-tenants or, we might give a right of occupancy to all cultivators of every class, or, thirdly, we might do away with the twelve-years' rule and devise some other means for protecting all tenants who have not acquired occupancy-rights.

"Before explaining the course which the local committee ultimately recommended, and which the Select Committee decided to adopt, let me remind you briefly of the facts with which we have to deal. The most important are these—

"(1) The twelve-years' rule was never introduced into the Central Provinces otherwise than provisionally and tentatively; it has never become in these Provinces part of the established law of the land.

"(2) Up to a recent time in all parts of the Provinces, and up to the present time in many, perhaps most, parts of them, the competition has been for tenants, not for land, and landlords have been indifferent to the growth of occupancy-rights.

"(3) This state of things is now altering, and appears likely to alter with increasing rapidity. The number of notices to quit issued in the districts of the Narbada Valley, which is the part of the Provinces most affected by recent improvements of communication, has become very significant, and manifests a growing inclination on the part of landlords to prevent the growth of occupancy-rights and to make enhancements.

"Now, the objections to the twelve-years' rule are obvious. It gives the tenant during the currency of the twelve years the most insecure of all titles—a title by sufferance: it supplies the landlord with a powerful additional motive to evict. Where it has been deliberately and permanently engrafted into the law of the land, and has for a considerable time constituted part of that law,

the balance of argument may be in favour of retaining it, with such modifications and supplementary provisions as may be necessary for preventing landlords from reducing it to a nullity. But, as I have shown, in the Central Provinces this is not the case. The rule was introduced there merely as a stop-gap, not as a permanent settlement of the question. It may, indeed, be said that it has nevertheless worked well so far, that the growth of rights under it is steady, and that in most parts of the Provinces it has not produced friction between landlord and tenant or led to the increase of evictions. There is much truth in this, but, on the other hand, we cannot shut our eyes to the economic changes which are going on, and which must inevitably at no distant future produce the effects which they have produced in other Provinces. Prevention is better than cure, and the very fact that the present relations between landlord and tenant are comparatively harmonious supplies a powerful argument in favour of intervening now to devise, if we possibly can, some measures for the protection of the tenant which may be free from the defect shown by experience to be inherent in the twelve-years' rule.

"On the whole, then, having regard to the obvious imperfections of the twelve-years' rule, and to its recent and provisional introduction, we decided to abandon it, except so far as rights had already grown up under it, and to stop the further growth of occupancy-rights by lapse of time.

"Should we then fix the rents of all classes of tenants for a term, and thus give them all occupancy-rights? This is evidently the most thorough-going remedy against rack-renting, but it involves official interference of a very strenuous and prolonged character, and the local committee were of opinion that, other considerations apart, the time had not come for imposing so heavy a burden on an already overtasked administration. Whatever may be the case in the older Provinces, uniform rates of rent are not, I understand, to be found in the Central Provinces;* and, in the absence of such guides, the task of fixing the rent of every tenant for a term of years would be one of extreme magnitude. It would practically amount to a regular settlement. When we consider that the Province passed through the ordeal of settlement barely 15 years ago, that a settlement is one of the most costly luxuries in which the State can indulge, and that no increase of revenue can be looked for, we shall readily agree with the local committee that the universal ascertainment and settling of rents is a measure not at present desirable.

"There remained the adoption of some new method of protection, and the method which the local committee eventually made up their mind to recommend was the method of compensation against disturbance. This is the proposal which is embodied in the Bill. The tenant's rent may be enhanced by agreement. If he agrees to the enhancement demanded by the landlord, no further enhancement may be made for seven years. In other words, he gets a seven years' lease at the enhanced rent. If he refuses to agree to the enhancement, the landlord may evict him, but must pay him as compensation a multiple of the sum demanded as enhancement. After much discussion we have fixed the multiple at seven times the yearly increase of rent demanded. The tenant cannot be ejected except for non-payment of rent, or on certain other grounds which are specified in the Bill.

"The great argument in favour of this proposal is that it compels the parties by the pressure of self-interest to decide what is a fair rent. If the tenant refuses a fair demand for an increase, he will be liable to lose his holding for an insufficient recompense. If the landlord makes an unfair demand, he may have to buy out the tenant at a cost which he can never recover. The scheme may indeed be objected to on the ground that, although based on a precedent derived from Ireland, there is no precedent for it in the Indian statute-book, and that it constitutes a new departure in Indian legislation. The same objection might have been urged—was, if I am not mistaken, urged—

* "The most rudimentary idea of rent-rates does not exist here, and the greatest anomalies in practice are found. Nothing could be more common than to find two contiguous fields allowed by the holders to be equal in quality and productiveness, yet one paying double the rate of rent paid by the other." (Settlement Report, p. 201.)

against the principle of compensation for improvements which has, now for many years, been embodied in the law of landlord and tenant for the Panjáb, Oudh and the North-Western Provinces, and will, I hope, before long form part of the law of landlord and tenant for Bengal. But those who denounce this and similar proposals as new-fangled and exotic should remember that in India settled laws and, to a great extent, property in land are exotics, and that in the Central Provinces they are exotics of very recent importation. We have, by the measures which we have introduced, created entirely new rights and entirely new relations. The general effect of these measures is, we believe, beneficial to the country, but they have produced, or are likely to produce, certain results which we did not intend, which are likely to be pernicious, and against which we are bound to guard. The rights themselves being novel, it is not a matter for surprise that the safeguards which are necessary to prevent an abuse of those rights should be novel also; and in the Central Provinces more than in most parts of the country we have something resembling a *tabula rasa* to work upon. There are comparatively few traces of existing customary rights on which to found our law. The whole position is novel, and demands novel treatment.

"The mere novelty, then, of the proposals constitutes no substantial objection to their adoption. Far more serious are the arguments that they will prove in practice an insufficient protection against rack-renting. We have not overlooked these arguments, and we admit their force in the case of countries where there is a keen struggle for land, and where population is redundant and has no outlet. But it seems a fair reply to say that at the present time these conditions do not exist in the Central Provinces. Compensation for disturbance constitutes a check on capricious eviction. Whether that check will be sufficient, whether it is likely to be surmounted or got round, is a question which turns mainly on the habits and nature of landlord and tenant, and on the amount of demand for land. These are points about which I am not competent to give an opinion; and all that I can say is that, in the belief of those who are most competent from local experience to form a judgment on these points, the proposals embodied in the Bill will work well, and will give an effectual protection to the cultivator for some time to come. If the Bill does this, if for some considerable time to come it is found sufficient to protect the tenant against capricious eviction, and to secure him in possession of his holding as long as he pays a fair rent, it will have done all that we can reasonably hope to accomplish.

"Except in respect of the procedure for enhancement of rent, there is practically no difference between the position of the occupancy-tenant and that of the so-called ordinary tenant under the Bill. The rights of the ordinary tenant are heritable and transferable, under the same restrictions as those which apply to the occupancy-tenant; he is protected from ejectment except in execution of a decree which can only be obtained on specified grounds, and he cannot contract himself out of this protection.

"Under these circumstances, it is doubtful whether he would gain much by being made in name an occupancy-tenant. However, the Bill provides him with a means of acquiring that status, if he desires to do so. It gives him the right of purchasing the status of occupancy-tenant by the payment of a fixed sum equal to 2½ years' rent. This proposal is in accordance with the views of the Famine Commissioners, and may, I think, be fairly regarded as a proper and necessary consequence of the abolition of the twelve-years' rule. It will enable the prudent and thrifty to raise their status.

"This provision has indeed been considered by the landlords as an injury and infringement of their rights. But we fail to see that it can do any substantial injury to that class. We have provided that, before a tenant can claim to complete the purchase of an occupancy-right, his rent may be raised to the full average ordinary standard. Thus, a landlord will get Rs. 250 for every Rs. 100 of rent, and that sum, if invested, will suffice to protect him from the small future loss which the tenant's right of holding at a beneficial rate may hereafter cause him.

"The provisions with respect to transfer and sub-letting by an ordinary tenant are, as I have said, substantially the same as in the case of an occupancy-tenant.

"The mention of sub-letting naturally leads me to the fourth class of tenants dealt with by the Bill—the class of sub-tenants. The chapter on sub-tenants is very short—almost as short as the famous chapter on snakes in Iceland—and there are doubtless many persons who would wish that its brevity were due to the same cause. I cannot say that sub-tenants do not exist in the Central Provinces, but I believe I am right in saying that they are comparatively scarce. I am informed that only 22,000 persons have returned themselves as belonging to this class. We have in other parts of the Bill, whilst admitting the expediency of discouraging the practice of sub-letting, admitted the impossibility of preventing the practice when it has once grown up. And when we came to consider what rights should be attached to their status, the conclusion to which we ultimately came was that, at all events in the present condition of the Central Provinces, the need for giving them legal protection was not such as to outweigh the disadvantages arising from the creation of successive strata of privileged classes one superimposed above another. In the Bill which was presented with our third report we had inserted a proviso, the object of which was to protect the sub-tenants of certain absolute occupancy-tenants from excessive enhancement of rents. But, on further consideration, we have come to the conclusion that the protection thus proposed to be given can be safely dispensed with; and accordingly we have omitted the proviso.

"Such of the other provisions of the Bill as it is necessary to refer to relate not to any particular class of tenants, but to tenants in general. Of this kind are the provisions relating to the right to make, and be compensated for, improvements, and the provisions as to distraint.

"The Bill gives the first right to make improvements, in some cases to the landlord, in others to the tenant, but provides that neither party shall be able to prevent the other from making an improvement which he himself is unable or unwilling to make. We have enabled the landlord to obtain an immediate increase of rent for any improvement made by him or at his expense, and at the same time we have made him liable to pay compensation to an ejected tenant for any improvements made by the latter.

"In dealing with the procedure for recovery of rent, we have gone as far as we think safe towards abolishing distraint. What we have retained is, in fact, not distraint. It merely amounts to a recognition that the rent is a first charge on the produce of the land, and, as it embodies, it is believed, the customary procedure of the country, we hope it will work well. The greater security we have given to the tenants will make them much more eager to retain their holdings, and will render the recovery of rent more easy. I believe the experience of the Court of Wards estates goes to show that it is not the occupancy-tenant, but the man who has no rights, who is usually in arrears. Distraint in the form laid down by Act X of 1859 has been almost unknown in the Provinces. But it is believed that, in accordance with old custom, landlords have usually prevented an unsafe tenant from removing his produce until he paid his rent; and the provisions in the Bill are devised for the purpose of legalising, while guarding against the abuse of, this practice. In the last draft of the Bill we have, by an addition to section 17, made a slight extension in the lien given to the landlord over his tenant's crops when stored.

"In minor matters, we have provided for the protection and equitable treatment of the tenants. For example, section 8 provides for the case where there are several landlords; section 9 for the deposit of rent in a Government treasury; section 16 for the commutation of rent payable in kind; sections 25 to 28 for the avoidance of disputes when rents are paid in kind or by estimate of the crop; section 73 gives the Court power to suspend or remit arrears of rent in cases of drought or calamity; section 74 gives the Court equitable power in dealing with cases of forfeiture of the holding for the breach of a lease, &c.; and section 75 provides for the rights of an ejected tenant in respect of crops on the ground or of land prepared for sowing. All these are measures of help and protection to the tenant, which ought to better his condition. They may restrain

or prevent the abuse of power by bad landlords, but no honest and just landlord can fairly object to them.

"The objection brought against the Bill generally by the landlords is that it is a one-sided measure. Any law of this kind must in a certain sense be one-sided. It is avowedly an attempt to strengthen the hands of the tenant against the landlord, and to prevent the abuse of power. Every such law starts with postulating that the parties are not on equal terms. The objection of one-sidedness must therefore be met by an admission. The Bill is necessarily one-sided, but it is not unfair. The question is, does the Bill deny to the landlord anything that is justly his, or does it unduly control the actions of a good landlord? This question must, I think, be answered in the negative. No good landlord would desire to evict his tenants or harass them by continual changes of land; no good landlord would ask more than a fair rent; no good landlord would desire to confiscate his tenant's improvements, or to force him to pay rent when a calamity had destroyed his produce.

"But a truer description of the Bill is, in my opinion, that it is not one-sided, but compensatory,—compensatory for the additional rights which we have given to the proprietors or landlords by our revenue-system, and for the additional powers of enforcing those rights which we have given them by our law Courts. Without such supplementary legislation as this, our system of administration would have been justly exposed to the charge of being not only one-sided, but unfair. For, just consider who these 'proprietors' were, and what we have made them. Take, for instance, the case, to which I have already referred, of the Hoshangábád málguzár. Forty-five years ago he was a middle-man receiving a commission of 15 per cent. out of the rents which he collected for the State. He now gets half the rents, and what we propose to do is to prevent him from arbitrarily increasing that half.

"In the matter of jurisdiction, we have endeavoured to make the Bill as simple as possible. There are two classes of cases which will arise under the law: one which partakes of an executive character; the other which is of a judicial nature. In the former, we give the executive Revenue-officers jurisdiction; in the latter, we give jurisdiction to the Civil Courts. But, in order to secure in the judges that acquaintance with agricultural and revenue affairs which is necessary for the efficient treatment of this class of cases, it has been provided that a judge of a Civil Court of original jurisdiction shall not, unless he is also a Revenue-officer or Settlement-officer, hear suits under the Act. As the Courts of the Provinces are at present constituted, almost every civil judge of original jurisdiction is also a Revenue-officer. This, however, is a state of things which may not always exist.

"These, then, are the proposals to which we ask this Council to give the force of law. They are, as I said at the opening of my speech, the product of local experience, and framed with special reference to local conditions and local requirements. It so happens that the gentleman to whom just ten years ago the task of framing this law was entrusted has now become Chief Commissioner of the Provinces to which it is to apply. The Bill has been submitted to him for his consideration since he assumed his present office; and, as its provisions differ in some important respects from the provisions of the draft which he originally prepared, it is a matter of no small satisfaction to be informed by him, as we have been informed, that the Bill in its present form appears to him to be an excellent Bill; and that, when he finds that, although its purport has been made known to the people, there has been no serious agitation against it, and that it has been accepted by the late Chief Commissioner, not to mention the distinguished, experienced and careful officers who gave it its final shape, he feels that he may safely assent to its being proceeded with and undertake to work it. He doubtless recognizes that, though the machinery which it adopts is in some respects different from that which he originally suggested and would possibly still prefer, yet the principles on which it is based are identical, and believes that it is likely to attain the same end though by a somewhat different road.

"I hope that a similar view will be taken of the Bill by those who, accepting as sound the general principles on which it proposes to proceed, judge it in

the light of experience derived from other parts of India. For instance, there are obvious differences between the provisions which we have embodied in the present Bill and the provisions which we have embodied in the Bill which is now pending for the regulation of the relations of landlord and tenant in Bengal. There are also differences between the law which we propose for the Central Provinces and the law of landlord and tenant as it stands now in the Panjáb and in the North-West.

"We have not overlooked these differences, but it appears to us that they are not greater than are warranted by what I may venture to call the radical differences between the circumstances of the Central Provinces and the circumstances of, say, Bengal—differences arising out of their past history, their recent treatment and their present economic condition. In the sketch which I have given of the institutions which we found in existence when we took over these Provinces and of the institutions which we introduced into them, I have endeavoured to illustrate some of these differences, and I will not elaborate them further now. But what I would impress on the Council is this, that whilst we have declined to admit that provisions which may be suitable or necessary for Bengal are therefore suitable or necessary for the Central Provinces, so we desire to guard against committing ourselves or any one else to the view that provisions which, on authority of great weight, we have accepted and adopted as suitable and sufficient for the Central Provinces, are therefore suitable or sufficient for Bengal, for the Panjáb, for the North-Western Provinces, or, in short, for any other part of India, except that to which we propose to apply them."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that to section 55 of the Bill the following be added, namely:—

"or that the holding consists entirely of sír-land."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that in section 56, after the words "an ordinary tenant," the following be inserted, namely:—"whose holding does not consist entirely of sír-land and."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that to section 62 the following be added, namely:—

"(5) Nothing in this section shall apply to a holding consisting entirely of sír-land."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY moved that in section 11, after the words "not exceeding," where they first occur, the words "five hundred rupees or when" be omitted; and that the words "exceeds five hundred rupees, not exceeding double that amount or value," at the end of the section, be omitted. He said:—

"My Lord, as I have given notice of some amendments to the Bill, it is, I think, due to the Council to state that I have never been employed in the Central Provinces, and have had no special opportunity of becoming acquainted with the tenures prevailing in that part of the country. If I had reason to suppose that any other Member of this Council was in a better position in this respect, I should have hesitated to propose any amendments until I had first consulted him. But, while I must admit that I may have been led into error in some points by want of knowledge of the country to be legislated for, I do not think that the risk of this is enough to excuse me from giving my best consideration to any Bill that the Council is asked to pass into law; and it is after a careful examination of the Bill and of the papers circulated with it, that I have come to the conclusion that legislation on the subject is necessary, but that some of the provisions of the Bill are open to objection, while on other points I have been led by a perusal of the papers to accept provisions in regard to the propriety of which I was in the first instance doubtful.

"I have not been consciously influenced by any theory as to what the relations of landlord and tenant ought to be. I have rather endeavoured to ascertain what relations have hitherto existed between these classes in the Central Provinces, and how far the proposals of the Bill to define and improve these relations are consistent with the equitable claims of both parties. The note of the present Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, Mr. Jones, on the original draft of the Bill, of which he was the author, supplies much information as to the position of tenants in the Central Provinces, both anterior to British rule and during the period of transition which preceded the formation of regular settlements and the extension of Act X of 1859 to those Provinces, and further information on the same subject is to be found in some of the opinions collected with reference to Bill No. I, which are to be found in Paper No. 11, especially those given by Colonel Lucie Smith, Commissioner of Chhattísgarh.

"The period of the introduction of regular settlements is of special importance, as it was then that steps were first taken to ascertain the persons to whom proprietary rights belonged, the previous policy of the British authorities in the Ságar and Narbada territories, which had long been under British rule, having been to withhold 'any recognition of positive rights of ownership.' The instructions of the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces for the settlement of those territories, issued in November, 1853, are to be found in Appendix XX to Sir William Muir's edition of the 'Directions for Settlement Officers.' In paragraph 12 of these instructions it was directed that the settlement should be 'concluded on the basis of apparent, or approximate, proprietary right, in so far as such right can with any certainty or confidence be traced, and that the leading object in so doing' should 'be to recognise fixed rights, or claims and interests, in whatever form they may already have grown up.' But 'the subject being one of much admitted obscurity and doubt,' paragraph 13 provided that, 'in order to avoid any future contest or litigation with respect to the rights declared in the settlement-proceedings,' the proprietary title should be formally conferred in every case as 'the creation or free gift of the Government.' Paragraph 16 again refers to cases in which village-communities might be found to have preserved rights having 'the character of a proprietary interest in the soil of an entire village'; while the 14th, 15th and 17th paragraphs relate to cases in which it was a matter of discretion whether the former málguzár, or the cultivators, should be recognised as proprietors. In such cases, provision was made for cultivators who had been in possession since 1840 being declared proprietors of their holdings, while the person who had hitherto engaged for the revenue, rather from a hereditary tenure of service than from any exclusive right of ownership or occupancy over the whole village-lands,' might be recognized, subject to the rights thus conferred upon the cultivators, as the proprietor of the village. In all cases, a careful ascertainment and record of all subordinate tenures and interests was prescribed by paragraph 18.

"It is clear from these instructions that the Lieutenant-Governor did not regard the Ságar and Narbada territories as a *tabula rasa*, throughout which no trace of proprietary rights existed, so that it was open to the Government to confer them at pleasure. On the contrary, he carefully provided for the recognition of all existing rights, whether proprietary or subordinate, while he also proposed to confer a proprietary title in cases where proprietary rights were either non-existent or the indications of them were so weak that there was serious difficulty in determining to what persons they belonged.

"When the Nágpur Province, which was annexed in 1854, came under regular settlement, the principle laid down in these instructions appears to have been followed, and there also it is probable that, while in many cases proprietary rights had been extinguished, in others they were easily discoverable. Mr. Jones refers to the existence of village-communities, 'though,' he says, 'they are as a rule less highly organized than in the North-Western Provinces,' and he guards against its being supposed that his remarks as to the original uniformity of tenures in the Central Provinces refer to anything else than 'the relative position of cultivator and málguzár.' They must not, he says, 'be understood as applicable to the rights of málguzár as against the State, or to the constitution

of proprietary bodies and their rights, *inter se*.' When he refers to 'the creation of proprietary right,' he evidently alludes to the cases where such right was conferred upon the *patéls*, through whom the revenue was paid, though they had no real claim to it.

"I have considered it necessary to make these remarks, as in some of the papers submitted to the Council it has been assumed that proprietary rights in the Central Provinces are entirely the creation of the British Government. In a letter by Mr. Lindsay Neill, dated 27th June, 1882, it is not, indeed, assumed, but it is argued at some length, that this is the case. The Lieutenant-Governor in 1853 is likely to have been better informed as to the existence at that time of proprietary rights than local officials 29 years after, more especially as the form of a grant which was adopted was calculated to give rise to the impression that such rights were being conferred for the first time. I do not, however, think that it is a question of much importance whether any proprietary rights existed in the Ságar and Narbada territories thirty years ago, or in the Nágpur Province 20 years ago. The recognition of such rights as already existed would give them new strength, and, when these rights were conferred for the first time by the British Government, no one, I am sure, would now propose to take them away. But still it is worthy of notice that, even when new rights were granted, care was enjoined to ascertain and record all existing rights; and, so far as this was attended to, the grants made cannot have curtailed or endangered any rights belonging to others. The fact, which, I think, Mr. Jones has clearly proved, that rent as distinguished from revenue is, in the Central Provinces, a creation of our rule, is much more material than the origin of proprietary rights, as this fact, combined with the demand for cultivators, goes far to explain the favoured position which even ordinary tenants appear as a rule to have hitherto enjoyed in those provinces.

"It is also clear, both from Mr. Jones' note and from the other papers which have been circulated, that the extension of Act X of 1859 to the Central Provinces has in some parts of the country acted prejudicially to the tenants without rights of occupancy, while in others the general recognition of their claims not to be disturbed in their holdings, so long as they are willing to pay a fair rent, and probably also the amount of land available for cultivation, have hitherto preserved them from injury. On this ground, as well as because Act X of 1859 was originally passed for a country very differently circumstanced from the Central Provinces, and has been shown to be in many respects unsuited to those Provinces, I admit the necessity for legislation.

"And, as regards the measure now before the Council, I may at once say that many of its provisions have my hearty approval. Some of the points on which it appears to me open to objection have been put right by the amendments moved by my hon'ble friend the mover of the Bill, though these do not remove the objections to which the explanation attached to the definition of sír-land in section 3 appear to me to be open. As, however, that explanation has been accepted by this Council when it passed Act XVIII of 1881, I have not seen my way to propose to strike it out. But there appears to be considerable danger that, when a proprietor, who may be aged or infirm, a minor or a female, or otherwise unable to arrange for the cultivation of his sír-land, is obliged to let it out to tenants, the lapse of six years will, under this explanation, extinguish his sír-rights, and he will be unable to get the land back when he becomes able to manage it. I have not overlooked the provision that land is not unoccupied by the proprietor when it is leased with an express reservation of his sír-rights; but, unless education has made greater progress in the Central Provinces than anywhere else in India, it will be long before the great majority of the proprietors know that any such express reservation is necessary, and in many cases there will be no written lease at all. In some of the papers which have been circulated I have noticed references to the ignorance of the Gonds and other classes who enjoy proprietary rights. I also observe that we have no information as to the extent to which land is held by cultivating proprietors in the Central Provinces, though we have very recently been furnished with information as to the area of land occupied

by tenants of the different classes recognized in the Bill. But the persons who were recognized at settlement as proprietors of their own holdings would be, as a rule, cultivating proprietors, though they may occasionally have tenants; and I gather that there must be a good deal of land occupied by cultivating proprietors from statements like that made in the memorial of the zamíndárs of the Damoh District (Paper No. 10), that 'in these Provinces the málguzárs are cultivators themselves, their sír-land generally forming the principal source of their income,' and from the persistence with which the proprietors have urged that sufficient provision has not been made against the growth of tenant-rights over their *sír* land. The explanation attached to the definition of sír-land is expressly objected to in Papers No. 14, No. 16 and No. 25, in the last of which it is pointed out that no such restriction is to be found in the North-Western Provinces Rent Act; and, where so much protection is given to ordinary tenants as is provided by Chapter VI of this Bill, it becomes extremely important that the amount of sír-land available for occupation by cultivating proprietors should not be reduced in consequence of its being occasionally let to tenants.

"While I have carefully studied the papers submitted to the Council, I am obliged to admit that we are legislating on very imperfect information. There has been no general criticism by local officials of any of the Bills subsequent to Bill No. I, though the Bill framed by the Pachmarhi Committee, on which Bill No. II was based, departed very widely from that Bill, and Bill No. III introduced some important provisions which did not appear in any of the earlier Bills. One of these provisions has been amended at the instance of the late Chief Commissioner, and some other amendments have been made, apparently in consequence of representations by landowners; but we have very little guarantee that the provisions of the Bill, as it now stands, are suited to the circumstances of the Central Provinces; and if the passing of some of the amendments now proposed should lead to the Bill being recommitted, I hope the opportunity will be taken to obtain the opinions of local officers on the suitability of those provisions to the country and for the people for whom it is proposed to enact them.

"I now come to the amendment to section 11.

"The words which I propose to strike out were first introduced into the section by Bill No. III. The effect of this amendment would be that, in case of exaction, the penalty which the tenant might recover would not exceed double the amount illegally levied. This is what was proposed by Bill No. III, which was founded upon the Bill drafted by the Pachmarhi Committee, and it corresponds with the provisions of section 48 of the North-Western Provinces Rent Act, XII of 1881.

"It is only in cases when the amount illegally exacted is very small that there could be any doubt whether double the amount would fully compensate the tenant; and small exactions are most likely to be attempted when the landlord believes that he is entitled to the money. Mistakes on a question of this nature may easily occur when the landlord is a cultivating proprietor no better informed than his tenants. The landlord may, for instance, think himself entitled to a small cess, which has been usually levied in the neighbourhood, but which is not, strictly speaking, part of the rent of the land, while, if the cess were unusual, it is almost certain that the tenants, protected as they will be under this Bill, would refuse to pay it. If a tenant finds that he has paid a rupee which was not due, he would probably be sufficiently compensated by a payment of two rupees, in addition to his expenses in recovering this sum, and no Court would award him Rs. 500; while, if he were persuaded to sue for that amount, he would render himself liable to heavy costs. If the act of the landlord amounts to extortion, he would, of course, be criminally, as well as civilly, liable.

"No reason was given in the Further Report of the Select Committee for providing a penalty not exceeding Rs. 500, nor does it appear from any of the papers that cases of exaction have been common in the Central Provinces. In one of the papers, a petition from the málguzárs of Raipur (No. 28), it is alleged

that 'the judicial records will prove that the málguzárs do not realize more than their just dues,' and the petitioners protest against being singled out as a special class of offenders and 'threatened with punishment for offences which they do not commit.'

"I propose the omission of the words adding this penalty, as I do not think that they will benefit the tenants, who may be tempted by them to sue for unduly large sums, while they are calculated to irritate the landlords."

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON said:—"My Lord, the object of this amendment is to limit the discretion of the Court by restricting the penalty, which it has power to impose in cases of illegal exaction of rent, to double the amount so exacted in excess of the rent payable. Cases are conceivable where such a penalty would be quite inadequate. In Act X of 1859, the corresponding provision was similar to that now proposed by my hon'ble friend, but the North-West Act of 1873, section 49, fixed the sum awardable to the tenant as compensation in such cases at a sum of Rs. 200 in addition to double the amount exacted, no doubt because the earlier provisions were found inadequate.

"The present Bill adopts the principle of naming a sum which the amount awarded is not to exceed, leaving it to the Court to decide what compensation or penalty is proper in each case. As a fact, the discretion may be in some cases more restricted than that given by the North-West Act; and, as exaction of rent is an offence which it is highly expedient to discourage, as any improper exercise of the discretion can be checked by the Appellate Courts, and as no evil consequences have been shown to result from this principle, already adopted by the legislature, I must express my opinion that there are not sufficient grounds for discarding it, and vote against the amendment."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"My Lord, I also must oppose this amendment. My hon'ble friend would return to the penalty of twice the amount extorted. This was the old penalty in Act X of 1859, and how has it worked? Hardly ever have I known it worked. Yet it cannot be said that the extortion of illegal additions to the rent is unknown. The Members of this Council who heard the Hon'ble Major Baring's speech on the Bengal Tenancy Bill will recollect the interminable list of illegal cesses quoted by him from the correspondence of 1874 as taken in the 24-Parganas. The same correspondence showed how universal the complaint was, and left on me the impression that a cultivator might well have to pay a rupee extorted illegally for every two rupees he paid as legal rent; and the reason why such extortion is not suppressed by a mild penalty such as twice the amount extorted is obvious. The penalty could only be enforced after a special suit by the raiyat, with due formality and full proof in each case. This was not to be expected, and, as a matter of fact, the penalty was a useless threat. It is obviously worth the landlord's while to risk such a penalty, which would, if enforced, be nothing to him, though the extortion might be a great deal to the raiyat. No; if it is worth having a penalty at all, it should be substantial. Nor will such a penalty, as urged, be cumulative. The extortion may be general, but, unless each raiyat brings a suit, the penalty will not be cumulative; and in such cases each raiyat does not bring a suit. One raiyat will have to bell the cat, and, the penalty once enforced, the others might hope to get the advantage of it.

"The amount of penalty, it should be observed, is discretionary with the Court. We only fix the maximum. The Court may be trusted not to levy a penalty disproportionate to the offence. I must oppose the amendment."

The Motion was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY also moved that in section 29, sub-section (*2*), after the words "an ordinary tenant," the words "whose holding does not consist entirely of sír-land" be inserted. He said:—

"My Lord, I have already pointed out that the protection of the proprietor's cultivating rights in his sír-land is the necessary complement of the provisions of the Bill in favour of tenants. If, then, he finds it convenient to let that land for a time, his tenant should not be allowed to insist on his making improvements, nor to make them himself unless with the landlord's consent. The North-Western Provinces Rent Act, XII of 1881, section

44, allows no tenants other than tenants at fixed rates or occupancy-tenants to claim compensation for improvements made without the consent of the landlord; and, under that Act, as under section 41 of the present Bill, occupancy-rights cannot be acquired in sír-land. The amendment proposed also seems in harmony with clause 4 of section 30, which, in providing for improvements made by tenants before this Act comes into force, excepts sír-land."

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON said:—"My Lord, there are few things in this country more necessary for the good of the community generally, and the welfare of the agricultural classes in particular, than that landlords and tenants should have the strongest inducements to effect improvements in the land held by them as a protection against famine, and a means of promoting increased production of food to meet the growing demands of a rapidly increasing number of mouths. All legal obstacles which obstruct the carrying out of improvements should be removed so far as this can justly be done. This amendment of my hon'ble friend, if accepted, will perpetuate, instead of removing, such an obstacle.

"It may be true that it will not operate in numerous cases, but still, if a cultivator of sír-land has the will and the means to make an improvement, it is certainly for the public advantage that he should be empowered by law to call on his landlord to make it, and, in case of the landlord's refusal, to make it himself. Amendments have been introduced by my hon'ble and learned friend in charge of the Bill which will guard the rights and interests of minors and widows in sír-land let to tenants. But it is of the highest importance that the capabilities of such land, as well as of all other land, should be developed at the earliest moment; and the reluctance of the landlord to allow of a tenant effecting such development from a chimerical fear that an unjust award of compensation might subsequently be given against him should not be allowed to outweigh the general good. He will, it is true, be liable to pay compensation for improvements, but the liability is measured by the increase given to the letting value of the land and other considerations stated in section 31, by which his interests are adequately protected."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"My Lord, I am inclined to accept Mr. Barkley's amendment. I do not know much of the custom in the Central Provinces in regard to dealing with sír-land, but I should think the practical effect would be very small. If I understand rightly, the man who cultivates a málguzár's sír-land can rarely be considered a permanent tenant of that land. The landlord employs him practically as a labourer, giving him his payment in the shape of a share of the produce. The tenant's interest is from year to year, the landlord's interest is permanent; and I think it unfair to the landlord, in regard to land which is strictly his own, and in which the tenant has no durable interest, that the latter should be able to create an interest by making an improvement which his landlord may be unwilling or unable to make, thereby preventing the landlord from ousting him except at heavy expense. I draw the most marked distinction in this respect between sír-land and raiyatí lands, and, while in the latter I think the tenant should have every possible security and every encouragement to improve, I see no ground for giving him similar security in land which is distinctly the personal property of the landlord. I see no objection to the present section in cases where the landlord may find it convenient to give a tenant a lease of (say) three or more years, but, in regard to sír-land generally, I would vote for Mr. Barkley's amendment."

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said:—"I should just like to ask one question as to the effect of this clause. The hon'ble member moves an amendment to section 29, but moves no amendment to section 30; and I am not quite clear whether, supposing an ordinary tenant of sír-land were to make an improvement with the consent of his landlord, there would be any provision in the Bill which would secure him legal compensation for the improvement so made."

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT said that an improvement so made would not be made "in accordance with this Act," and therefore would not entitle the tenant to compensation under section 30. His inclination was to agree with the recommendation of the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton that the Bill be left as it stood;

but, as it was an arguable point, he was quite content to adopt the view of the majority of the Council. His hon'ble friend Mr. Barkley was not quite accurate in saying that improvements in sír-land were excluded from the operation of the Bill. Sub-section (4) of section 30 merely said that the presumption as to improvements having been made with the landlord's consent should not apply to improvements made on sír-land.

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said:—"I agree with the Hon'ble Sir Steuart Bayley in thinking that it is very desirable to maintain the distinction between sír-land and raiyatwárí land. The amendments introduced by the Hon'ble Mr. Ilbert all tended in that direction. I should, therefore, be personally prepared to accept Mr. Barkley's amendment of section 29, provided that it is made clear that, if the tenant of the sír-land makes an improvement at his own expense with the consent of his landlord, he shall have a legal right to compensation. I am quite ready, in regard to sír-land, to make the consent of the landlord a *sine quâ non*; but I am not prepared to admit that, that consent having been obtained, the tenant shall be entitled to no compensation for improvements made at his own expense. That appears to me to be a highly unjust proceeding and one which ought to be guarded against by the law; but, if that can be done, I shall be prepared to accept Mr. Barkley's amendment."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that in section 30, sub-section (*1*), for the words "which have been made in accordance with this Act by him or by the persons under whom he claims," the following shall be substituted, namely:—"which he or the persons under whom he claims may have made in accordance with this Act or with the landlord's consent otherwise than in accordance with this Act."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY moved that to section 43, sub-section (*1*), the words "or unless the holding has been inherited from an ancestor common to him and the deceased tenant" be added. He said:—

"As Mr. Jones' Draft Bill is not with the papers circulated, and the subject is not referred to in his note and commentary, I have been unable to ascertain whether the exclusion of collaterals from succession to occupancy-tenants was proposed by him. They are excluded by section 81 of Bill No. I, but, under the previous law, section 6 of Act X of 1859, there was no bar to the succession of collaterals. When Bill No. I was circulated for opinions, Colonel Lucie Smith, the Commissioner of Chhattísgarh, stated that the proviso excluding collateral relatives 'is opposed to the custom of the country,' and considered that it should be omitted (Paper No. 11, page 47). Afterwards the Nágpur landholders, on the Bill as revised by the Pachmarhi Committee being communicated to them, remarked on section 14 in a letter to Mr. J. W. Neill, Officiating Judicial Commissioner: 'We allow collateral succession at present, and we will not object if the scope of the section be enlarged so as to allow of such succession in future.' It appears, therefore, that they did not desire a change of the existing law on this point. After Bill No. II was published, the tenants of the Harda tahsíl of the Hoshangábád district objected to section 35 as excluding the succession of collaterals, and referred to section 6 of Act X of 1859 as permitting it (Paper No. 15). On the other hand, the landlords of the Hoshangábád and Narsinghpur districts, in Paper No. 14, approved of the Bill on this point, and the opinion submitted by them was afterwards adopted by the landlords of certain villages of the Nágpur division in Paper No. 16. In none of the remaining papers does the subject appear to be noticed.

"It is true that the law has been changed in the North-Western Provinces by section 9 of Act XVIII of 1873 (re-enacted in Act XII of 1881), but I do not think that this is a reason for making a change unfavourable to the occupancy-tenants in the Central Provinces. I can understand that there may be reasons for excluding remote collaterals, whose ancestors never held the land, from succession to occupancy-tenants, but such reasons would not be applicable to the claim of one brother to succeed another in land in which their father had acquired occupancy-rights. The Bill allows such succession in case the brothers

held the land as co-sharers; but, if the land was not enough for both, and one gave up his share to the other and sought for other means of support, or if the holding had been divided between them, as it might be, with the landlord's consent, the right to succeed would be lost. Suppose that, on the death of a father who held land as an occupancy-tenant, there are three sons entitled to inherit, but the land is not more than enough for two. One may enlist in the army or leave the village to look for employment elsewhere, while the other two succeed their father. One of the latter dies, leaving no heirs but his brothers. If the holding has not been divided, the brother who has remained at home will succeed, but the brother who gave up his share will be excluded. Even if both the brothers who succeeded to the holding die and the absent brother is their sole heir, he will not be allowed to return and take up the family holding. A law which would lead to such results as this is not likely to commend itself to Native public opinion, and, when it came to be understood, there would be a strong temptation to all heirs to cling to their ancestral holding, even though it were manifestly inadequate to support them. If any one were to leave, some arrangement would be come to by which he might appear to continue a co-sharer with those who remained.

"In order to remedy this, I propose, as in the Panjáb Tenancy Act, to allow collaterals in the line of descent from the person who acquired the holding to succeed in the absence of lineal heirs."

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON said:—"As explained by my hon'ble friend, the Bill, following the precedent set by the North-Western Provinces Rent Act, limits the succession of collateral relatives to the occupancy-rights of a deceased tenant to such collaterals as were co-sharers in the holding at the death of the tenant. The amendment proposes to extend this limitation so as to bring within it all collaterals of the deceased, provided that the holding was inherited by them from an ancestor common to him and them.

"The objections to this course are, in my mind, great. It will introduce all the intricacies of Hindu law into the determination of questions respecting the ownership of occupancy-rights, which it has hitherto been the policy of the legislature to exclude. It will undoubtedly foster litigation and promote disputes among conflicting claimants, and, most important of all, will encourage subletting by absentee occupancy-tenants who have inherited rights under the provisions of the amendment."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"My Lord, the question here raised is whether in the Central Provinces we should make the custom follow that of the Panjáb, or keep it, as in the Bill, in accordance with the law prevailing in the North-Western Provinces. The Bill as drawn follows the North-Western Provinces law, and, considering the very complete sifting which the Bill has had at the hands of experienced local officers, I would *a priori* accept their view. But, moreover, I think the Panjáb rule, however reasonable in a system founded on the supposition that the cultivators are themselves the proprietary body, is hardly adapted to a system where a single landlord is responsible for the land-revenue of his estate. The landlord must, in case of land being vacated by death, find another tenant. Where a son is on the spot, he succeeds by law—where a near relative is available, he would generally succeed by custom; but it seems to me most inequitable that the landlord, or the tenant who in the absence of other applicants he may have put in on the land, should be at the mercy of any one of a hundred collaterals who may have entirely separated himself from the land, and may turn up and claim the tenure any time within 12 years. The landlord can know nothing about these, and he would probably not only lose the tenant of his choice, but have to compensate him for being turned out. There is a still more serious objection on general principles in the tendency to *morcellement* and to consequent litigation, which would be involved by giving all collaterals the right to participate in every holding left vacant. Nor do I see how Mr. Barkley can reconcile his amendment with the principles laid down in section 33 of the Bill regarding relinquishment. By section 33 (*b*) a tenant is presumed to relinquish his holding by ceasing to reside. By section 34 a tenant is presumed to relinquish his holding by leaving the land uncultivated and the rent unpaid for two years even when he resides

in the village. The collateral in the case supposed by Mr. Barkley has altogether ceased to reside in the village, and, instead of the limitation given in section 34, he would apparently, if the amendment be allowed to stand, be able to claim the inheritance—at least I suppose this would be the effect—under the ordinary law of limitation.

"I presume also the amendment would have to be applied to section 61, also regarding ordinary tenants. To sum up, I would oppose the amendment because it is contrary to the opinion of the best local officers, because it is opposed to public policy by its tendency to burthen the land with more mouths than it can support, because it introduces all the complexities of Hindu law into the land-system and tends to foster litigation, because it is inequitable and oppressive to the landlord and his *bonâ fide* tenant, because it is contrary to the principles which regulate relinquishment under the Bill."

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also opposed the amendment.

Mr. BARKLEY stated in reply that, under Act X of 1859, collaterals had enjoyed the right of succession to occupancy-tenants in the Central Provinces, in default of lineal heirs, for the last 19 years; that there was no relinquishment of the holding in the lifetime of the deceased tenant, succession to whom was in question; and, if the heir did not come in within two years, there was no reason why section 34 should not apply; and that he had not considered it necessary to propose any amendment to section 61, which related to a different class of tenants.

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said:—"The question is one not altogether free from difficulty, but the weight of legal opinion appears to me to be so decidedly in favour of the Bill and opposed to the amendment, that I shall vote against it."

The Motion was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY also moved that in section 58, sub-section (2), clause (*b*), for the words "equal to," the words "not less than three times and not exceeding" be substituted. He said:—

"My Lord, the provisions of this chapter give a great degree of protection to ordinary tenants. Their tenures are made heritable, and, if their rent is enhanced under the provisions of this chapter, it cannot be again raised under those provisions until seven years have elapsed. The only check upon the amount of enhancement, however, is that provided by this section combined with sections 55 and 57, that, in case the tenant does not agree to pay the enhanced rent demanded, the landlord can only proceed by suing to eject him; and, if ejectment is decreed, the landlord must pay into court any sum declared to be due as compensation for improvements, and further, as compensation for disturbance, seven times the yearly increase of rent demanded. Though it may be doubted whether this sufficiently provides for the case of an improving tenant, who does not wish to give up his land, and who, rather than do so may be compelled to pay an enhanced rent due to his own improvements, it cannot be denied that it affords a very efficient protection to the ordinary tenant in all other cases. The exceptional case is that of the sitting tenant, which is at present being discussed in England by men like Professor Bonamy Price and Sir James Caird. I was at first, I confess, doubtful as to the principle of giving heritable rights to ordinary tenants, which was not proposed either in Bill No. I or in the Pachmarhi Committee's draft Bill. But, on examining the opinions given on Bill No. I, I found that Colonel Lucie Smith, Commissioner of Chhattísgarh, urged (Paper No. 11, page 13) that all tenants in Chhattísgarh are entitled to hold their land, being other than sír, so long as they pay a reasonable rent, and quoted depositions of málguzárs in a case in the neighbourhood of Raipur in support of this (page 42). In a subsequent communication, dated 20th December, 1880, he stated that there was 'hardly a man among the malguzárs who would come forward openly and assert that he has the right to eject a raiyat who is willing to pay a reasonable rent;' and he quoted a minute by Sir George Campbell, in support of an argument he had previously urged, that a custom which prevailed there, of the raiyats redistributing the

lands amongst themselves, was an indication of proprietary right, though at settlement the managers of the villages had, by mistake, been recognised as proprietors. Again, while the Pachmarhi Committee's Bill had provided in section 23 that ordinary tenancies should lapse on the death of the holder, a pleader, Mr. Bipin Krishna Bose, who had previously acted for the Nágpur landlords, suggested to the Judicial Commissioner that heirs who had been members of a joint family with the cultivating tenant should be allowed to succeed on his death. Bill No. III made the rights of ordinary tenants heritable, and in the Report of the Select Committee it was stated that it was believed that the amendment would be in consonance with the general feeling of the people. Opinions have since been received from landlords of the Nágpur Division, and of the Hoshangábád, Narsinghpur, Betul and Raipur Districts; and in none of these has this amendment been objected to, though other provisions of the Bill have been warmly canvassed. The Raipur landlords indeed admitted that, before the introduction of Act X into the Chhattísgarh Division, ejectments of tenants were unheard of, and that tenants should not be ejected so long as they pay fair rents. As the Bill puts a stop to the growth of occupancy-rights by 12 years' possession, the heritable right conceded to ordinary tenants of other than sír-land may be regarded as a compensating advantage; and, as the concession has not been objected to from any quarter, and in some parts of the country, at least, the right of such tenants not to be ejected so long as they paid reasonable rents was recognized, I see no reason to call in question its propriety. It would, however, be valueless unless there were some means of protecting the tenant from unreasonable enhancement of rent, and the provisions of section 58 furnish a convenient means of preventing this in most cases; and, though the principle of compensation for disturbance is objected to in some of the papers received (Nos. 25 and 28), the landlords of the Nágpur Division have accepted it (Paper No. 25), only urging that seven times the yearly increase is too much, and that five times would be a fair compensation.

"I think the Bill errs in laying down an unduly rigid rule on this point. There may be cases in which seven times the yearly increase demanded would not be excessive. There are tenants who, if the passing of this Bill were delayed, would acquire occupancy-rights under Act X of 1859 within a year, and, when the growth of such rights under that Act is stopped, there will be cases of ordinary tenants whose families have held the land for two or three generations. Such tenants would usually pay any rent the land could properly yield rather than give it up, and, if an excessive rent were demanded to compel them to quit their holdings, it would not be unfair to allow seven times the increase demanded, especially if the tenants were already paying as much, or nearly as much, as they ought to be asked to pay. But in other cases, the tenant may have held the land only for a year or two, without paying any premium on entering, and perhaps at a low rate of rent. In others, again, the land may have been let on favourable terms for a period of years in order to get it brought under cultivation. In the one class of cases, the claims of the tenant to compensation for disturbance would be but small; in the other, seven times the increase demanded, even though that increase was not unreasonable in amount, might be an excessive sum. If, for instance, the tenant held at half the normal rate of rent, and the landlord proposed to demand the normal rate, the tenant, if he chose to give up his holding, would get 3½ years' rental, in addition to any compensation for improvements which might be due him.

"I therefore propose that the Court which passes the decree should be allowed to fix the compensation, with regard to the circumstances of each particular case, at from three to seven times the increase demanded. The compensation thus could not be merely nominal unless the increase of rent demanded was nominal, while it might be large in cases in which the tenant was entitled to special consideration. It would rest with the Court to adjust it according to circumstances, and this, I think, would be a more satisfactory arrangement than to give a fixed number of times the increase demanded. It might also facilitate arrangements out of Court, where the landlord's object was to resume his land, which he can only do by agreement with his tenant. He might say to his tenant: 'You have held my land for four or five years; you have made no improvements; it is now convenient to me to take it into my own hands, but I can only do so by asking an increase of rent which you will not give. I therefore propose to add one-half to the rent, and offer you three times the yearly increase.' The tenant might say: 'I am not prepared to pay the increased rent, but the Court may give me more than you offer. I am ready to give up the land for five times the yearly increase.' If the landlord agrees, the tenant would get 2½ years' rental, and if the landlord and tenant agree to four times the increase, the tenant would get two years' rental, to surrender land he had held only a few years.

"The principle of compensation for disturbance is entirely new to Indian law, and it may therefore not be out of place to remind the Council that the Irish Tenancy Act, in which this principle was first recognized, allows a discretion to the Court to give compensation for disturbance not exceeding so many years' rental, the maximum varying according to the size of the holding, while no minimum is prescribed."

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON said:—"This is one of the means of protection for ordinary tenants devised by the framers of the Bill in lieu of the growth by prescription of rights of occupancy, and of which they as a class have been deprived, and it is intended to operate as a check upon rack-renting. Seven times the yearly *increase* of rent demanded seems no immoderate compensation to award to a tenant who may be driven out of house and home with no resource before him but starvation; and, as the Select Committee have after mature deliberation accepted this amount as the minimum likely to prove effective for the object in view, I see no cause for giving the Courts any discretion in the matter. It is difficult to see on what principles such discretion could be exercised; so that we should have to expect widely different judgments from different judges, and, as a consequence, fertile crops of litigation and discontent. This is pre-eminently one of the cases in which a hard-and-fast line is advisable. The minimum suggested in the amendment, namely, three times the increase demanded, would leave it in the power of any judge to defeat the avowed intention of the legislature."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"My Lord, this amendment also, I fear, I must oppose. It introduces an element of elasticity no doubt, which is in itself desirable, but it also introduces a far greater element of uncertainty which would be most prejudicial. Doubtless the limit of seven times the amount of enhancement is arbitrary; but it was come to after very full consideration, and was discussed at two separate meetings of the Select Committee. The original Proposal was ten times. This was considered too much in a temporarily-settled province, where the landlord was liable to have his revenue enhanced at the next settlement, as the enhanced rent which *en hypothesi* he would receive from the incoming tenant might not pay him a fair interest on the compensation he would have to pay the outgoing tenant. After several proposals the amount was reduced to seven. My great objection to Mr. Barkley's proposed amendment is that, under the discretionary rule, not only would the landlord never know exactly what risk he ran in ousting a tenant for refusal to pay an enhanced rent, but, worse than that, the tenant would never know whether it was better worth his while to pay or to refuse. Each case would be a speculation in litigation. The Courts would have no practical guide. Another objection is that the system itself is experimental and may possibly not work well; but, under the Bill as it stands, it would at least work consistently, and its action could be watched. If it broke down, the Government would know why, and would be able either to withdraw it or to strengthen its weak points. Under the proposed amendment, one could never judge fairly of the experiment, because its working would differ with the personal equation of each Revenue-officer. It is certainly better, in introducing an important experiment of this kind, about which, as Mr. Ilbert has shown, there is room for various opinions, that the conditions of its introduction should be fixed and known, and that they should not vary with the varying idiosyncracies of every officer."

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said:—"I cannot accept this amendment. The question, as my friend Sir Steuart Bayley has said, has been [illegible]

carefully considered by the Select Committee and the Government. The original proposal was to fix the rate at ten times the increase, but, in consequence of representations received from the Central Provinces, that figure was reduced to seven times the increase of rent—a very small amount to be demanded for compensation for disturbance, and very greatly less than that demanded under the Irish Land Act. This is making the experiment on a small scale. It appears to me to be sufficient for the circumstances of the Central Provinces, where population is thin and where farms are rather seeking for tenants than tenants for farms. It seems to me to be the least that could be proposed, and, therefore, I cannot accept the amendment proposed by my hon'ble friend."

The Motion was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY also moved that for section 62 the following section be substituted, namely :—

"62. The landlord of any holding held by an ordinary tenant may confer upon him the rights of an occupancy-tenant in respect of the holding; and the landlord of any holding held by an occupancy-tenant or an ordinary tenant may confer upon him the rights of an absolute occupancy-tenant in respect of the holding; and a person upon whom such rights are so conferred shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to be an occupancy-tenant, or an absolute occupancy-tenant, as the case may be."

He said :—

"This, my Lord, is the most important of the amendments of which I have given notice, and the section to which it relates is the only one in regard to which I find myself absolutely at issue with the principles adopted in the Bill. My objections to that section are so strong that, if it is allowed to stand, I shall, though with regret, feel it my duty to vote against the passing of the Bill.

"This section, like that giving heritable rights to ordinary tenants, was first introduced in Bill No. III, nothing similar having appeared either in the original Bill or in the revised draft prepared by the Pachmarhi Committee. It cannot be said to have been suggested by any of the opinions received from the Central Provinces, and the only opinions given after Bill No. III was published, except that of the Chief Commissioner himself (Paper No. 20), are strongly opposed to it. Unfortunately, these are the opinions only of landlords, the late Chief Commissioner not having thought it necessary to consult any of the local officers as to the changes made by Bill No. III. But the landlords of the Nágpur Division (Paper No. 23) denounced the section as a departure from what they called the Pachmarhi compromise, that is, the Pachmarhi Committee's draft Bill, which they had expressed themselves willing to accept, and as an encroachment on their rights, and urged that the compensation proposed to be given to the landlord is wholly inadequate. The opinion of the landlords of the Hoshangábád, Narsinghpur and Betul Districts (Paper No. 25) was similar, except that they did not refer to the Pachmarhi Bill. The landlords of Raipur (Paper No. 28) objected to the section that it arbitrarily interferes with voluntary contracts and nullifies the provisions contained in section 41, clause (*c*), and urged that, if a tenant desired occupancy-rights, he should pay at least six times the rental. The Chief Commissioner forwarded a copy of this petition without comment (Paper No. 29), remarking that it accepted the principles of the Bill, but stated certain objections to some details, which it was unnecessary for him to discuss. It is, I think, to be regretted that he did not discuss the objections taken to section 62. All that the Select Committee say in support of this section, the provisions of which do not appear to have been suggested by any local authority, and have been so strongly objected to by the landlords, is that—

'The growth of occupancy-rights by lapse of time having been stayed, we think, with the Famine Commissioners, that some means should be provided by which a thrifty, industrious tenant can raise his status. The provision we have introduced can in no way injure the málguzár, while it holds out a prospect to the tenant which will induce him to retain and improve his holding. We have little expectation that tenants will avail themselves of this privilege for a long time to come, except in a few cases.'

"The landlords, I observe, contend that it is likely to be very largely taken advantage of when the power becomes known, but it is of course possible that they are mistaken as to this. It may be that few tenants will be willing or able to give 2½ years' rental for the advantages enjoyed by an occupancy-tenant over an ordinary tenant protected by Chapter VI. But, if so, the benefit to the tenants will not be very great.

"I do not know how far the Famine Commissioners are responsible for suggesting a section of this nature, but, assuming that the suggestion is theirs, I do not think that their authority is so conclusive that we should refrain from discussing the merits of the proposal.

"My own objections to it, being objections of principle, can be stated very briefly. They may be summed up in the four following propositions: 1st, that to give the tenant power to compel the landlord to sell a portion of his rights is an encroachment on the rights of the landlord; 2nd, that, while rights of property may be interfered with by the legislature when public interests require this, and on reasonable compensation being made to the persons whose rights are interfered with, all unnecessary interference with such rights should be avoided; 3rd, that, in the present case, there is no evidence that public interests render it necessary that tenants should be empowered to compel their landlords to sell them occupancy-rights; 4th, that, even assuming such necessity to be established, there is no evidence that 2½ years' normal rental would compensate the landlord for the alteration in the status of his tenant.

"As regards the first proposition, I do not see how it is possible to deny the encroachment upon the landlord's rights. The section does not protect any existing right of the tenant, but gives him a power to acquire new rights without the landlord's consent. The principle is precisely the same as if it were proposed to empower the tenant to buy absolute occupancy-rights at five years' normal rental, or proprietary rights at eight years' normal rental. Whether these sums represent the value of the interests sold or not, the landlord has a right not to be compelled to part with those interests, unless, for sufficient cause, the legislature deprives him of this right.

"The second proposition is scarcely likely to be disputed in this Council, as it is difficult to see how it can be disputed by any one who does not disapprove of private property being recognized at all.

"The third proposition raises a question of evidence, and I think I am entitled to ask for the evidence of necessity. It tells against the existence of any necessity that the local authorities have not asked for the grant of such a power to ordinary tenants, and were originally content to give them much less protection than is given by the other provisions of this chapter. Mr. Grant, in introducing Bill No. I, urged the necessity of shunning heroic remedies, and, if it has since been found advisable to prescribe such remedies, a clear case of necessity for doing so should certainly be made out.

"The fourth proposition also raises a question of evidence. The Select Committee say that the provision they have introduced can in no way injure the málguzár, but I have been unable to discover the proof that the difference between occupancy-rights and the position of an ordinary tenant is not worth more than 2½ years' rental in many instances. The only test of its value would be to ascertain what the tenant would pay and the landlord would accept in consideration of the superior status being conferred; but, unless free contract is allowed, this test cannot be applied. The difference may be worth five years' rental, or it may be worth only one. It may be worth five years' rental in one case, and only one year's rental in another. In the latter case, the section will have no operation; in the former, the landlord will be compelled to sell his property for half its value. How can it be said that in such a case he will be in no way injured? In short, except in the cases where the right to be purchased is exactly worth two and a half times the rental, the section must either be inoperative or the landlord must part with his property for less than its value.

"If it were shewn to be necessary on public grounds to give this power to tenants, then, instead of fixing an arbitrary value, some machinery should be

devised for determining the value in each instance, when the parties did not themselves agree as to the sum to be paid. I consider the absence of any such machinery, and the absence of proof of necessity for conferring such a power, insuperable objections to the section as framed.

"But I think that in many cases landlords who find it necessary to raise money would have no objection to sell occupancy-rights to their tenants, if no compulsion existed. They would thus, instead of losing their land altogether by sale, or losing control over it for a time by mortgage, retain a substantial interest in it, though one of smaller value than that they previously possessed. And the proper sum to be paid would be ascertained by agreement between landlord and tenant, both parties being in a better position than almost any one else to judge of the value of the interest sold. If the compulsory power is retained, the landlord would feel its existence a grievance, even if the tenant did not exercise it; but, in the absence of such a power, there would be no reason why he should not be willing to give a thrifty, industrious tenant a superior status, when this could be done without injury to himself. This would to some extent meet the views of the Famine Commission; and, as the Bill does not provide for the purchase of occupancy-rights otherwise than by section 62, I have proposed a new section to take the place of section 62 which will give effect to such transactions. The second proviso to section 80 of Bill No. II contained a provision of this nature, suggested by the Pachmarhi Committee's Bill."

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON said:—"My Lord, this amendment, like the preceding, strikes at the root of one of the essential provisions of the Bill. For reasons which appeared to them of great force in the Central Provinces, and which I for one am not prepared to dispute, the Select Committee have omitted from this Bill all provisions enabling ordinary tenants to acquire rights of occupancy by prescription in the lands held by them, but they had no wish to leave the cultivators of the soil at the mercy of the landlords and without hope of raising their condition.

"To guard them against rack-renting and capricious eviction, measures will be found in the Bill which it is to be hoped will prove efficacious for that purpose, and to enable the thrifty and industrious tenant to better himself the section now under discussion has been drafted. The twelve-years' rule, coupled with an unrestricted power of eviction, in effect left it with the landlord to determine whether rights of occupancy should or should not be acquired by tenants. A vigilant landlord always had the means of preventing the accrual of such rights by the simple expedient of turning the tenant out of his holding. The result has been that these prescriptive rights have been attained at the cost of much ill-feeling, and that each party is on the watch to take advantage of any omission, mistake or misfortune on the part of the other.

"It is not to be supposed that these consequences were within the intention of the framers of Act X of 1859, and, to avoid them and bestow a substantial instead of an illusory benefit upon the tenant, the present section makes it obligatory on the landlord to confer occupancy-rights on an ordinary tenant on tender of a sum equal to $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the rent paid, or equitably payable according to the decision of the settlement-officer for the holding.

"The amendment of my hon'ble friend reverses all this, and throws things back into their old state, by making the consent of the landlord a condition precedent to the acquisition of such rights, and leaving the terms of the bargain to be adjusted by mutual agreement. He must be a man of sanguine temperament who expects that such provisions would ever have any operation.

"The measure embodied in the section is in accordance with the recommendation of the Famine Commission, and the only objection which I have hitherto heard urged against it is that, from poverty or other reasons, tenants may fail to take full advantage of it."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said:—"My Lord, this amendment I cannot support. Mr. Barkley's proposal would practically abolish the principle of section 62. The section was introduced as a counterpoise to the abolition of the twelve-years' rule. It was felt that ordinary tenants would want some protection, and compensation for disturbance was provided. It is impossible to say how

this principle will work, as, though we augur well of it, it is admittedly experimental. If it fails, the ordinary tenant would be, to a great extent, unprotected, and his position under the landlord's power to rackrent would probably deteriorate. Moreover, as time goes on, since occupancy-rights can no longer be acquired by the prescriptive title of twelve years' holding, it is quite certain that the tendency will be for the class of occupancy-tenants to decrease, and for that of unprotected tenants to increase; and it seemed absolutely necessary, as a counterpoise to this tendency, to give ordinary tenants some means of protecting themselves by the acquisition of occupancy-rights. The particular rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ years' purchase may be open to objection. I can only say it was adopted after careful consideration by those most competent to advise the Committee, but I cannot approve of the Bill being shorn of the principle altogether. If I may take an illustration from another province, I would refer to the use that the raiyats in Eastern Bengal made of the increased receipts coming to them from jute-cultivation. They found themselves, as we fear the Central Provinces tenants may find themselves, insufficiently protected from arbitrary enhancement, and, as soon as they acquired the means, a movement set in, under which numbers of these raiyats, by payment of a large premium, got from their landlords a permanent lease of their lands. The permanently-settled Bengal Government is unaffected by this movement. In a temporarily-settled province, no doubt, the position, so far as the Government revenue is concerned, is different. But we wish a similar principle to apply, and we wish to facilitate it, by giving the raiyat the right to protect himself by acquiring occupancy-rights at a rate ordinarily settled by law, but in special cases after the rents have been adjusted through the Courts, so that the landlord shall not suffer. I should be unwilling to part with this principle, and must oppose the amendment."

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said:—"I most strongly object to the substitution proposed by my hon'ble friend. When he speaks of section 62 as an encroachment on the rights of landlords, it is necessary that we should consider what are the rights of landlords at the present moment in the Central Provinces. We are not talking of the abstract rights of landlords. That subject is a very large one. What we have to deal with are the rights of landlords in the Central Provinces now, and those rights are subject to the provision of Act X of 1859, which confers on the tenant the power of obtaining occupancy-rights if he occupies the same land for a period of twelve years; therefore, the rights of landlords in the Central Provinces at present are limited by the rights of tenants to acquire, by a certain process, an occupancy-right in their lands. The framers of the Bill in its present shape were led to believe that it would be desirable to put an end to the existing mode of obtaining occupancy-rights by the tenants, in consequence of the serious objections which may be urged against any system under which a tenant acquires occupancy-rights by a mere lapse of time. It seemed, therefore, desirable that to get rid of that system in the Central Provinces before it had produced there those evils and those difficulties in the relations of landlord and tenant which have been found to spring from it in other parts of India. The question, then, the Committtee had to consider was, what substitute they should give to tenants for this power of obtaining rights of occupancy by the lapse of time. My hon'ble friend Mr. Barkley says that Bill No. I as introduced by Mr. Grant did not contain this proposal. Doubtless not, but it did not propose to abolish the twelve-years' rule. Bill No. I retained the twelve-years' rule, and gave tenants that mode of acquiring rights which the present Bill seeks to supersede. It appears to me that one of the great advantages of the present proposal over the twelve-years' rule is that, whereas, practically speaking, the twelve-years' rule gives occupancy-rights to tenants by accident, this proposal, on the contrary, gives the power of obtaining such rights to thrift and to frugality. Under the twelve-years' rule, it depends on an accident whether a landlord gives a tenant notice to quit before the expiration of twelve years, and thus takes the measures necessary to prevent the accrual of the right; on the other hand, it is the thrifty tenants who will under the new proposal be able to purchase an occupancy-right. The right will depend not upon accident, not upon whether the landlord will allow the tenant to remain in possession for twelve years, but upon whether by frugality he is able to lay by sufficient to enable him to purchase an

occupancy-right in the manner proposed by section 62. Now, my hon'ble friend Mr. Barkley says there is not much evidence to show that this proposal has been accepted by those best acquainted with the Central Provinces. I may say that, in the first place, it has been accepted by Sir J. H. Morris, than whom no one is better acquainted with the circumstances and requirements of those Provinces. It has also been most carefully and closely considered by my hon'ble friend Mr. Crosthwaite, who had charge of the Bill originally. I have discussed it with him several times, and it is most unfortunate that we have not his presence here to-day. I felt bound to call him to higher functions during the absence of Mr. Bernard, but, had he been present here, he would have given us the weight of his great experience in the Central Provinces to meet the objections taken by Mr. Barkley. I must also point out that, if we were to adopt the amendment proposed by Mr. Barkley in this matter, we should actually put the raiyats in the Central Provinces in a worse position than they are now in. We should have abolished their power of acquiring the right of occupancy under the twelve-years' rule, and substituted for it nothing but a legal power to the landlord to sell them this right if he chose to do so. It is quite impossible that the Council can accept a proposal of that kind. For a considerable time this clause may be made little use of, but it will enable those tenants who have laid by a small amount of capital to acquire the greater security which occupancy-rights afford, and without it the result of the Bill would be to shut the door to all hope of raiyats ever acquiring that security at all.

"Under these circumstances, I cannot give my vote in favour of the amendment proposed by my hon'ble friend Mr. Barkley."

The Motion was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY also moved that in section 71, clause (*a*), for the words "one hundred," the word "twenty" be substituted. He said :—

"This amendment raises no question of principle, but merely one of expediency. A similar provision is to be found in the Rent Act in force in the North-Western Provinces, but I think it necessary to point out that, in cases where rent is paid in the form of a share in the produce or of the estimated value of such a share, suits for arrears of rent usually involve questions of much difficulty, such as the actual amount of the yield, the value of the landlord's share, and the reason why that share was not taken when the crop was reaped,—the tenant perhaps alleging that the landlord would not accept it, because the yield was so small that he hoped to get more by suing, while the landlord asserts that the tenant removed the whole crop before any division of the produce could be made. The decisions of Assistant Commissioners of the first class in the simplest cases are at present subject to appeal, and neither landlords nor tenants appear to have such confidence in the courts of these officers as to make them willing to be deprived of the power of appeal in cases relating to arrears of rent. The tenants in the Harda tahsíl ask that appeals may be allowed or that the limit of exclusion may be reduced to Rs. 10 (Paper No. 15), and the landlords of Raipur are willing that there should be no appeal from the Deputy Commissioner's decision in cases of this nature,—which that officer is not likely often to try,—but ask for an appeal from the decision of the Assistant Commissioner (Paper No. 28). I have taken Rs. 20 as the limit, as, in claims under that amount, it can rarely be worth the while of either party to appeal, where no question of title or interest in land is involved. But I think we should avoid doing anything which would give colour to the supposition that we regard the right decision of cases where the amount of rent payable is in question as of less importance than the right decision of cases relating to small debts."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—"My Lord, I cannot concur in this. Against the limitation which prevails in the Panjáb, the Bill has adopted that which has been found to work well in Bengal under section 153 of Act X of 1859 and section 102 of the present Act, in the North-Western Provinces under section 80 of Act XII of 1881, and in Oudh under section 95 of the Oudh Tenancy Act. Assuredly, the tendency of recent

legislation has not been to increase the facilities for appealing. I should prefer, therefore, to maintain the limit of 100 rupees."

The Motion was put and negatived.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON said :—"My Lord, I cannot refuse to support this Bill, which is the result of long and careful deliberation on the part of this Council and of the local authorities, and which offers a hopeful prospect of placing on a satisfactory footing for some time to come the relations between landlords and tenants in the Central Provinces. I am, however, reluctant to give a silent vote in favour of it, lest my acceptance of the measure should lead to the conclusion that I consider it a precedent to be invariably followed in other cases for which we may hereafter have to legislate.

"The speech of my hon'ble and learned friend Mr. Ilbert has shown very clearly why the Bill now before us differs so materially from that which the Government of India, with the consent of Her Majesty's Government at home, have thought fit to propose for the Lower Provinces of Bengal; and I would, even at the risk of some repetition, call the attention of the Council to a few circumstances in which the Central Provinces differ from that part of Upper India of which I have most personal knowledge, namely, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, with the object of deprecating the inference that, in any future legislation for the latter, this Bill should, of necessity, be taken as a guide. Numerous provisions of the Bill are of a novel character; several of them, such as the stoppage of the growth of occupancy-rights by prescription, the modes of enhancing the rents of occupancy-tenants and the different methods adopted for the protection of tenants without rights of occupancy from rack-renting and capricious eviction, are of a most important nature, and have been determined on with the advice of those best able to judge of the local peculiarities of the Central Provinces; but it by no means follows that such provisions would be found adequate or could be successfully applied under conditions essentially different.

"In the Central Provinces, culturable waste land is abundant, and is available in the shape most favourable to a wide extension of cultivation; that is, in large blocks for the use of new settlers. There is no district or part of a district in which there is an early prospect of the limits of cultivation being reached. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, on the other hand, there is left but a small margin of land easily culturable, much of that which is so recorded being portions of villages impregnated with salts pernicious to vegetation, and incapable of being rendered culturable by any experiment that is likely to prove remunerative.

"In the Central Provinces, there is a sparse population, the density of which is about one-fourth of that of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, where, especially in the Eastern districts, the pressure of population on the culturable area is becoming extreme.

"In the former favoured regions, Act X of 1859 was introduced at a later period, and landlords have not been driven, and have not generally attempted, to work that enactment to the prejudice of the tenants; but in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, the acquisition of occupancy-rights under the twelve-years' rule has been recognised since before the mutiny, and, together with its correlative right of barring such acquisition by ejecting the tenant before the expiration of the prescribed period, received legal confirmation in 1859 by Act X of that year. These mutual rights of landlord and tenant are universally known and widely exercised, while the powers of enhancement conferred on the landlord, which have remained in the Central Provinces almost a dead-letter, have been very generally enforced, in many cases to the uttermost farthing.

"In fact, in the one case, abundance of waste land and a sparse population effectually protected the tenants from rack-renting and capricious eviction; in the other, a denser population, which has almost reached the utmost limits of cultivation, tended to compel both parties to insist on every jot and tittle of their legal rights. I think, therefore, I am justified in asserting that there are essential

differences in the economic conditions and mutual relations of the agricultural classes in the two Provinces.

"The discussion of the relative rights of landlords and tenants, and the due adjustment of these with reference to the good of the whole community, are not now subjects confined to a single province or even to British India. They have long been burning questions in Ireland, and the settlement of them has taxed to the utmost the wisdom of Parliament. They are coming rapidly to the front in England and Scotland, and indications are not wanting that even in the United States of America we are within measurable distance of a time when the operation of the land laws there in force will be subjected to rude criticism, and possibly to revision. In India, a tenancy Bill for Bengal is pending before this Council, proposals have been made and enquiries instituted having in view the amendment of the Rent Laws of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and of the Panjáb, and even in British Burma the subject is attracting attention. It is impossible to suppose that in all these countries the same remedies will be found equally applicable. There can be no doubt that widely different modes of treatment must be adopted in different cases, and that each case must be dealt with on its own merits.

"Without, therefore, expressing any opinion as to the lines on which legislation for landlords and tenants in other provinces should proceed, which would be for me alike improper and inexpedient, I would on this occasion merely insist on the fact that the existence of differences such as I have attempted to describe, between the North-Western Provinces and Oudh on the one hand and Central Provinces on the other, is sufficient to refute the reasoning that, by passing the Bill now under discussion, we tie our hands from legislating in the future for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh in any direction that, after due deliberation, may appear most suitable."

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER said:—"My Lord, I desire to say a few words in regard to the third class of tenants dealt with by this Bill. The two superior classes possessing occupancy-rights have, since the Provinces passed under British rule, enjoyed the fostering care of the Government. Their status is founded on ancient custom, it has been confirmed by the settlement-records, and it will henceforth rest on the firm legislative basis provided by this Act. The position of the third class of cultivators, the tenants-at-will, is very different. They have no prescriptive privileges to plead, nor any settlement-papers to appeal to, and their whole future depends on the legal status now accorded to them. And not their future alone, but also in an important, although in a less direct, manner, the future of the corresponding class of cultivators in the crowded districts of the North-Western Provinces and Bengal. For the population in some of those districts now presses so heavily on the land, that large numbers must either submit to suffering, at times bordering on starvation, in their native villages; or they must go forth in quest of new homes. Such movements of the people have already begun, not only under the spasmodic compulsion of famines, but also under the steady constraint of over-population. The sparsely inhabited tracts on the east and south of the Gangetic valley have from ancient times formed, and still form, the natural receptacles of this peasant outflow. Those tracts are now, for practical purposes, Assam and the Central Provinces. While population in some of the densely thronged districts of the Ganges has reached the stationary stage, the inhabitants in Assam increased by three-quarters of a million or over 18 per cent. in the nine years between the Census of 1872 and that of 1881. During the same period the inhabitants of the Central Provinces increased by 2⅛ millions, or over 25 per cent. How far the increase is due to immigration, and to the children born of immigrants, it is not yet possible to state with precision. The quality of the unoccupied soil varies from unhealthy hill tracts in the Central Provinces to the great grass plains of the Brahmaputra, which, according to the Chief Commissioner, require only a sickle and a lucifer match to turn them into arable fields. Taken as a whole, the cultivable lands still unoccupied in Assam and the Central Provinces, deducting Government forests and the area within great private estates, exceed 17 millions of acres; or more than the whole area in Great Britain and Ireland under corn crops, green

crops, grass and all other crops in 1879, excluding, of course, permanent pasture.

"These vast reserves of land are a trust which the State holds, not only for the growing inhabitants of the territories within which they lie, but also for the overcrowded population of the Provinces adjacent to them. In three districts of the Central Provinces, from 13 to 15 per cent of the people are immigrants, and, if we add the children born to them, the proportion would be much higher. The majority of such new-comers cultivate the soil as tenants-at-will. When the land-settlement was made, most of the old tenants received occupancy or proprietary rights; and almost all the rest of them have since acquired occupancy-rights under the twelve-years' rule. 'The residuum,' to quote the words of our late colleague, Mr. Charles Crosthwaite, when in charge of the Bill, 'consists chiefly of new men—to a large extent of men who have taken waste or abandoned lands since the settlement.' The number of these 'new men' has not been placed before the Council, and they seem to be dismissed as a less important class than the occupancy-tenants. But I find that the holdings of tenants-at-will have increased from under half-a-million to over 1½ millions between 1872 and 1882 in the Central Provinces, and that they now exceed all the holdings of the two superior classes of tenants put together. Instead of being an insignificant residuum they have become the most important class of tenants, both numerically and for the purposes of this Act, as their whole status will depend on the rights accorded to them by this Act. They are also the most important class in regard to the future development of the Central Provinces. For it is these 'new men,' as Mr. Crosthwaite calls them, who will chiefly extend cultivation, raise rents and increase the revenue. A paper before the Council shows that they already cultivate nearly one-half of the whole land returned as tenants' holdings in the Central Provinces.

"What provision does the Act make for the well-being of this useful and important class of 'new men'? In parts of Bengal the tenants-at-will are so overcrowded, that a Bill now before the Council provides for increasing the protection accorded to them, at the cost of curtailing rights hitherto enjoyed by the landlords. The economic necessities of the case justify such increased protection. But I think that the Bengal landholders may reasonably ask that Government, before curtailing their privileges, shall do everything in its power to meet those economic necessities by throwing open the land to new comers in adjacent territories like the Central Provinces, where the State still retains a large measure of the proprietary right. By facilitating communication by road and railway, the Government has done much; and the projected line from Lower Bengal into the heart of the Central Provinces will still further aid the distribution of the people. But the question still remains whether the Land Law offers sufficient inducements to new comers to settle in those Provinces, and secures to them an adequate protection in the fields which they cultivate, and which, in many cases, they have reclaimed.

"The present Bill, together with the papers before the Council, offers to this question an answer, in some respects satisfactory, but in other respects, I fear, the reverse. The new settler and the tenant-at-will at once enter, under the provisions of the Act, on certain clearly defined rights. In the first place, the new comer, or tenant-at-will, gets his land at the low rate of 13⅛ annas per acre. Indeed, the superabundance of land is still so great in the Central Provinces, that, as far as the rates show, the tenants-at-will practically pay as low a rent as the conditional occupancy and absolute occupancy-tenants, whose average rate is 12½ annas per acre. The old occupancy-tenants, however, usually hold the most favourably situated fields. Once settled on a holding, the new comer or tenant-at-will immediately acquires the five following rights under this Act. First, he must pay the rent agreed between himself and his landlord, but it requires a process at law for the landlord to eject him, or to raise the rent except with the tenant's consent. Second, if the tenant agrees to pay the enhanced rent demanded by the process of law, he is exempt from any further enhancement by judicial process for seven years. Third, if he declines to pay the enhanced rent and gives up his holding, he is

entitled to compensation for improvements, and to a compensation for disturbance equal to seven times the enhancement demanded on the rent. Fourth, subject to the above, his right to continue on his holding becomes, from the moment he enters on it, hereditary in his family, although not passing to collaterals. Finally, he has a right to purchase the status of an occupancy-tenant by the payment of 2½ times the annual rent. As regards, therefore, the immediate rights of the new comer and the tenant-at-will, this Act makes a most liberal provision. It may fairly claim to have done away with tenants-at-will altogether, and to have raised them, in fact as well as in name, into the new class which it terms 'ordinary tenants.'

"But if we look beyond the immediate rights conferred to the future status created by the Bill for new comers and ordinary tenants, the prospect is not so satisfactory. Such tenants enter at once upon all the privileges which they will ever acquire under the Act, and the element of the growth of rights is altogether absent. But the superabundance of land affords an ample protection to such tenants in the meanwhile, apart from any legislative enactment; and the Bill makes no adequate provision for the time when the superabundance of land will have disappeared. So long as the economic relation of land and labour suffices to protect the new comer and the ordinary tenant, they have no need to resort to the Bill. When the present exceptional relations of land and labour in the Central Provinces shall have given place to competitive rents, the ordinary tenants will resort to the Bill in vain. For this Bill abolishes the chief safeguard which the ordinary tenant has enjoyed from time immemorial, not only in the Central Provinces, but in almost every part of India; namely, the growth of a right of occupancy accruing from the continued cultivation of the land.

"I am aware, my Lord, that, in raising the point which I now desire to bring before the Council, I may be charged with inconsistency. The Select Committee on this Bill has already presented several reports approving of the measure, and of that Select Committee I have the honour to be a member. The first report of the Committee suggested the abolition of the twelve-years' rule which conferred the right of occupancy, and I signed the report. But in that report we distinctly said that the majority of the Committee desired to reserve its opinion as to the expediency of the amendments proposed. I was absent on tour as President of the Education Commission when the Committee came to the consideration of those amendments, and presented its second report, dated the 6th September, 1882, approving of the proposal with regard to occupancy-rights. That report I did not sign, and, at the first meeting of the Committee which I subsequently attended, I brought the question of the twelve-years' rule before the members. I ascertained that the subject had been fully considered; and it would have been unsuitable to again raise a question upon which the Select Committee had made up its mind. I now desire to state, while acknowledging the many admirable provisions of the Bill, and while giving my support to the measure as a whole, the reasons which lead me to regret this particular feature of it.

"Until to-day, one-half of the tenants' holdings in the Central Provinces have been held by men who were in the process of acquiring occupancy-rights under the twelve-years' rule. After the passing of this Bill, those men will lose all further chance of acquiring such rights. The arguments which have led to this sudden change seem to me inadequate; and the privileges which the Bill substitutes for the growth of occupancy-rights seem to me insufficient. The arguments for putting an end to the growth of those rights, as disclosed by the papers before the Council, are two-fold. First, that the landholders of the Central Provinces, in order to prevent these rights accruing, harass their tenants by frequently shifting their holdings. Second, that a large amount of litigation is thereby involved, injurious alike to the landlord and the tenant. The result is, as summed up in the speech of the hon'ble the Legal Member this morning, to render the position of the ordinary tenant one of great insecurity. But the first of these two arguments is stated by Mr. Jones, now Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, to be 'demonstrably unsound.' Mr. Jones points out in his letter, dated 18th September, 1880, that the protection clauses (in the Bill as it formerly stood) do not require that a tenant should cultivate the same land. Under such protection clauses, the tenant's claim to occupancy-rights by twelve years' continuous cultivation may run—and it is proposed in Bengal that it shall run—so long as the tenant holds land in the same village or estate. I am aware that Mr. Jones has since accepted the Bill as a whole, but, as far as I have seen, he has not altered his opinion on this point. The demand for tenants is so great in the Central Provinces, and the present difference between the rate of rent paid by the ordinary tenant and the occupancy-tenant is so small, that, although a landlord might try to break the twelve years' continuous occupancy by shifting the holdings of his tenants upon his own estate, in very few cases would he drive a tenant off his property with a view to preventing the growth of occupancy-rights. Nor is combination between neighbouring landlords for that purpose possible on any considerable scale, in the present relation of land to labour in the Central Provinces. As a matter of fact, Mr. Crosthwaite admits that the twelve-years' rule has operated freely in those Provinces, and 'that the great mass of the tenants who were in existence at the settlement have acquired rights under the twelve-years' rule.' In support of the second argument, namely, excessive litigation, Mr. Crosthwaite, in his able memorandum of the 20th February, 1883, quotes the statistics of applications made to the Courts to eject tenants, and lays special stress on the increasing number of these applications during the past four years. I find that the average during the four years amounted to 2,839 applications, and that the number during 1880-81, the last year cited, was 2,780. Taking the highest of these figures and calculating it upon the 1,556,823 holdings by tenants-at-will in the Central Provinces, I find that the applications to eject averaged only one a year to 548 holdings by tenants-at-will. I do not think that this can be called excessive litigation. A large proportion of these tenants-at-will have acquired occupancy-rights or are approaching the acquisition of them. The obvious and simple way to test their occupancy-rights is by means of an application for ejectment, and I think that one such suit to every 548 holdings is a very cheap price to pay for the assertion of their rights. I am aware that in certain districts the average was higher. But in those districts the competition for land had become more severe, the value of occupancy-rights, if succesfully maintained, had become greater to the tenant, and I think the increased litigation necessary to maintain those rights was a cheap price to pay for them. It is impossible to give land-rights without creating a necessity for asserting and defending those rights in the Courts of law. A third argument against the continuance of the twelve-years' rule was brought forward by the hon'ble the Legal Member in his speech this morning. If I caught the argument aright it amounts to this: The continuance of the twelve-years' rule would involve a settlement of rates, and a settlement of rates is a costly process to Government. But the general re-settlement of the Central Provinces is impending. In individual districts the period of the old settlement has expired, or will shortly run out. Until the re-settlement is effected in the ordinary course, the twelve-years' rule might continue to be carried out, as in Bengal, through the operation of the Court. I think, therefore, that the arguments brought forward for the abolition of the twelve-years' rule conferring occupancy-rights, are inadequate.

"The privileges conferred by the Bill in lieu of the acquisition of occupancy-rights by ordinary tenants seem to me equally insufficient. It is sometimes argued as if the twelve-years' rule was an arbitrary invention of Act X of 1859. As a matter of fact, the rule has existed in one form or another ever since the British Government began to concern itself about the rights of the people. What Act X did was to select, from among the various terms of years which had been current in different parts of the country, the single term of twelve years, and to make it applicable to all Provinces to which the law was extended. This term coincided with the period of limitation in suits on account of immoveable property, and it fairly applied to the older settled Provinces. But before any single term obtained the rigidity of law, there had been also other periods with the binding force of custom. More than sixty years ago Sir J. E. Colebrooke, in his Minute on Settlement, dated 12th July, 1820, proposed that an enactment should be passed 'declaring the resident tenants to be not removable as long as they continue to pay the same rent

which they have paid during the last five years.' Sir W. Sleeman in 1840 applied the five-years' period of continuous occupation as a test of occupancy-rights to parts of the Central Provinces which were then under the British Government. Mr. Charles Grant, in his paper now before the Council, dated the 13th September, 1873, stated 'that this rule retained its place in popular acceptation as late as 1855, and it was acted upon in the settlement of some parts of the Central Provinces.' The five-years' rule in favour of the tenant was made harder by Act X of 1859, requiring twelve years of continuous occupation. The twelve-years' rule in favour of the tenant is now to be altogether abolished in those Provinces, for reasons which, as I have shown, cannot be maintained. From this day the new-comers and ordinary tenants of the Central Provinces may bring the jungle under cultivation and reclaim the wastes, but their rights to the fruits of their labour will never increase (except by purchase) from the moment after they have entered on the land.

"I have admitted that the compensation given by the Bill to the tenants for taking away their growing right of occupancy is liberal, if we look only to the immediate results. But the more successful that compensation may be as an inducement to immigration in the present, the harder will be the lot of the people in the future. For, with the influx of cultivators, rent will rise, and the whole advantages conferred by this Bill seem to me to depend upon the present low rate of rent due to under-population. The Bill leaves the ordinary tenant in all time coming to make such a bargain as he can with the landlord: which means in India submission to whatever terms the landlord may impose. Once the increase of population has taken place, the only practical check upon rack-renting will be the seven years' compensation for disturbance. The compensation for improvements will be inoperative, for the Bill gives the first right of making improvements not to the ordinary tenants but to the landlord. Nor does the Bill protect the ordinary tenant who clings to his land and submits to a rise of rent, from an enhancement arising out of the improvements which he himself has made. The provision for the purchase of occupancy-rights by ordinary tenants will be little operative. Indeed, the framers of this provision admit that they do not expect it to be resorted to on any considerable scale. For, assuming, as the former draft of the Bill assumed, the maximum difference between occupancy and ordinary rates of rent to be 25 per cent., the sum which the ordinary tenant must pay for occupancy-rights would, at 12 per cent. interest per annum, exceed the maximum benefit in rent which he could gain by the transaction. It is doubtful whether the ordinary tenant could borrow at 12 per cent.

"The one real safeguard which the Bill gives is the compensation for disturbance equal to seven times the enhancement demanded. The Hon'ble Sir Steuart Bayley has told the Council this morning that, if the provision of compensation for disturbance fails, the ordinary tenant will be worse off than under the old state of things. Mr. Crosthwaite, when in charge of the Bill, admitted that compensation for disturbance was a new experiment in Indian legislation. I believe it is a new experiment in legislation in any country. The only precedent with which I am acquainted is the Irish Land Law. The experiment was first tried by the Irish Landlord and Tenant Act of 1870, and it did not succeed. The causes of its failure, so far as I have seen them stated, were due chiefly to the inadequacy and unsuitability of the scale. The Irish Land Law of 1881 has, therefore, amended and increased the scale. Whether even this higher scale will suffice to protect the tenant no man can yet say. But the higher scale found necessary to give compensation for disturbance a fair chance in Ireland is not seven times the enhancement claimed, but a sum not exceeding seven times the whole rent. This is applicable to rents of £30 or under, which would practically include all rents paid by ordinary tenants in the Central Provinces. That is to say, if an Irish tenant sitting at a rent of £10 refuses to agree to an enhancement of £1, and is ejected in consequence, his landlord has to pay him a sum not exceeding £70 as compensation for disturbance. The same man in the Central Provinces can receive as compensation only £7. I am aware that the competition for land is at present much less keen in the Central Provinces than in Ireland; but compensation for disturbance is intended to protect the tenant when the competition for land in the Central Provinces

has grown more intense. The contrast is equally great if the tenant submits to the enhancement. In Ireland, he would receive a statutory lease for 15 years at a rent fixed by a Court of law. At the end of that period the rent could only be raised upon cause shown by the landlord to the Court, in which case the tenant would get a fresh statutory lease for another term of 15 years, and so on for ever. The tenant in the Central Provinces has to submit to an enhanced rent, not as impartially fixed by a Court, but as demanded by his landlord and enforced by process of law. He receives protection from a further arbitrary enhancement by the same process for only for seven years, and at the end of the seven years he is entirely at the mercy of the landlord. This Bill substitutes for the old customary growth of occupancy-rights, which have existed from time immemorial in India, new legislative devices copied from the English law. But it deprives those devices of the stringency by which the English law renders them operative in favour of the tenant.

"I had hoped that the duty of stating these objections would have fallen to a member of the Council whose views would have carried the weight of greater experience than mine. My hon'ble friend Mr. Reynolds, one of the chief authorities in Bengal on questions of land-administration, signed the third report of the Select Committee with much hesitation, as he was not satisfied that the interests of the tenants were sufficiently protected. He has now written to me that he intended, if the Bill had come before the Council in Calcutta, to oppose it on grounds similar to those which I have taken up. If your Lordship will allow me, I should like to read the following sentences from his letter :—

'In regard to the tenants who have not yet acquired the rights of occupancy, and the tenants who may take land hereafter, the provisions of the Bill are disastrous. They are resident cultivators, and, whether they have held for twelve years or not, they are entitled under the common law of India to the status of occupancy-raiyats. But the Bill declares not only that they do not possess that status, but that they shall never acquire it. As to future tenants, the scheme is one of cottierism. Compensation for ejectment is quite a new experiment in India, and it may safely be said that it will be inefficacious. It is certain that the raiyat will submit to any exaction rather than surrender his holding. The Bill will reduce the great mass of the population to the condition of rack-rented tenants.'

"I do not go so far as my hon'ble friend either in regard to the common law of India, which has not yet been so accurately ascertained as in my opinion to permit of generalisations from it, or in regard to the disastrous consequences which he anticipates from this Bill. I believe that the Act as a whole will prove beneficial both in respect to the amended procedure which it lays down, and by the clearly defined status which it provides for the two superior classes of tenants. But I think that the abolition of the growth of occupancy-rights under the twelve-years' rule is particularly unfortunate at present. It is of the utmost importance that population should be induced to move into the unoccupied lands of the Central Provinces. I have shown that such a movement has already begun, and the Government is doing what it can to assist the movement by facilities of communication. But to tell the men who come in and clear the forest and bring the land under tillage that, while by their labours the landlord's rent shall rise and the Government revenue increase, they themselves shall never acquire occupancy-rights except by purchase, that, indeed, they shall never obtain a single further right in the soil than that which they possess on the first day that they break up the land, seems equally opposed to Indian custom in the past and to economic expediency in the present. Before considering this aspect of the Bill, I examined the available evidence regarding the movements of the people. It is to such movements quite as much as to the legislation now impending in Bengal, that we must look for a permanent remedy for the poverty and over-population of the Gangetic provinces. The facts available are of a scanty character, as the census does not show the children born to immigrants. But they suffice to disclose the inexpediency of putting any check upon the acquisition of land-rights in sparsely peopled tracts. Since the census of 1872 a vast new population of cultivators has arisen up in the Central Provinces, all of whom have until to-day been acquiring occupancy-rights; but not one of whom will now be permitted to complete the

acquisition of those rights, as the interval since the last census does not amount to twelve complete years. During the same period, more than a million of new holdings by tenants-at-will appear on the returns. How many individual tenants are represented by these holdings the statistics do not show. But every one of this million of new holdings will be now excluded from the customary growth of occupancy-rights. What Mr. Crosthwaite calls the 'residuum chiefly of new men,' at one time comparatively insignificant, but who now occupy nearly one-half of the whole area of tenants' holdings in the Central Provinces, and who will hereafter form the chief source of increase in the cultivation of those Provinces, are from to-day for ever debarred from acquiring occupancy-rights. I think it is much to be regretted that the movements of the people have never formed the subject of a comprehensive enquiry by the Government of India. I believe that the facts elicited by such an enquiry would have prevented this mistake in an Act which, in other respects, has been carefully considered, and which will prove beneficial to the people.

"I am aware that your Lordship's Government had in this Bill to find a workable middle line between two extreme parties—between the partisans of the landlords and the tenants' friends. I acknowledge the fairness and the skill with which that line has been struck, excepting at one point—a point not of immediate urgency, although of great future importance. The increasing population in the Central Provinces is already making itself felt in two ways—by a rise of rent in some districts, and by a more intensive husbandry in others. The holdings of the two superior classes of tenants with occupancy-rights numbered just over a quarter of a million in 1872, with an average of 16 acres a-piece. They had increased to 1½ million in 1882, with an average of under five acres. The holdings of the tenants-at-will were under half a million in 1872, with an average of ten acres. They now exceed 1½ million, with an average of three acres. During the last ten years, therefore, the tenants' holdings in the Central Provinces have increased more than four-fold in numbers, and have decreased to one-fifth of their previous average area. The time when the tenants-at-will must require protection is, therefore, not in the distant future. But for the Act which we are now about to pass, that protection would have been given under the customary twelve-years' rule of continuous occupation, and it was given in the earlier draft of the Bill. I believe that the protection thus accorded would have been in strict consonance with the teaching of the past and with the wants of the future. It would have been accorded without any injury to private proprietary rights, for the Government has not yet permitted such rights to fully consolidate themselves in the Central Provinces. The proprietary body is there a comparatively recent creation of British rule, and still holds its land subject to conditions which the Government may make in favour of the tenants-at-will at the next settlement. In this respect the Government had an opportunity to provide for the future of the cultivators of the Central Provinces without infringing on proprietary rights—an opportunity which it has long since lost in Bengal, and which it will no longer enjoy even in the Central Provinces when private proprietary rights have consolidated. The very increase of population which will render a greater degree of protection necessary for the tenants, will also render it more difficult for the legislature to grant such protection without injustice to the landlords. The recognition of the pre-existing twelve-years' rule of occupancy under the safeguards recommended by the present Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, and set forth in the earlier draft of this Bill, would have got rid of that difficulty once and for ever. The rights of the cultivators would have grown with a natural and customary growth, as the necessity for such rights augmented. The problem which might at present have been so simple to deal with in the Central Provinces, has become complicated by private proprietary rights in Bengal. I therefore, equally with my hon'ble friend Mr. Quinton, enter a *caveat* against the arguments which I have used in regard to the Central Provinces being transferred, except with great caution and with many reservations, to the proposed Rent Bill for Bengal. I regret to observe a disposition in some of the papers before the Council to minimise this Bill as one intended only for the present, to refrain from seeking a basis for the tenants-at-will in the history of the past, and from attempting to forecast their necessities in the future. It was, therefore, with particular pleasure that I listened to the exhaustive retrospect in the speech of the hon'ble the Legal Member to-day. For land-legislation, if it is to be fair, must be based on the history of the past, and, if it is to be safe, it must take into consideration the economic changes impending in the future. For the future will assuredly arrive and bring with it the consequences of the present. Those consequences, if unchecked in the Central Provinces, will in time produce a population of small tenants holding at competitive rents. I sincerely hope that those consequences will be checked, and I think the Government of India may be safely trusted to devise the means. For the great measures of land-legislation, with which your Lordship's name will for ever be associated, are in reality measures for the protection of the peasant. This Bill gives ample security to the cultivator so long as the population continues sparse; and I hope that additional safeguards will be provided as the population increases."

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said:—"I should like to make one or two observations on the remarks which have fallen from my hon'ble friend Mr. Hunter. I listened with feelings of regret to a great portion of that speech, because I felt it was a very powerful argument against the provisions of this Bill, and I began to fear that the Bill might be open to the objections which he was urging against it. But I confess I was somewhat comforted by the last sentence of his speech, in which he said that this Bill made ample provision for the right of the cultivators so long as the population was sparse. That, however, is really all that the Bill professes to do. Certainly it was all I thought that the Bill would do. It appears to me that, in dealing with this very difficult question of the relations between landlord and tenant, what we have to do is to treat it with reference to the varying conditions of different parts of India as they come before us when we undertake legislation. I feel strongly that legislation which might be wise for one province with a thin population might be altogether inadequate to provide proper securities for the cultivators of the soil in the more thickly populated districts of India.

"In preparing the Bill, the object of its framers has been to deal with the circumstances of the province at the present time. It is undesirable to interfere more than may be necessary in the relations between landlord and tenant, because such interference is always a delicate matter. I am not, however, one of those who object to interference of that kind when necessary, but I think it wise in undertaking such interference to pay careful regard to the agricultural arrangements of each district, and I am not at all inclined to attempt to force one uniform system upon all parts of the country.

"My friend Mr. Hunter spoke of the case of Ireland. He said that some of the proposals in this Bill were borrowed from Bills passed in respect of Ireland, and that they were even less extended in their scope than the proposals contained in the Irish Land Act of 1870, which have been proved to be inadequate. My answer to that objection is this. In Ireland you have a much more keen competition for land than at present exists in the Central Provinces. What may be inadequate in Ireland may not be inadequate in the present circumstances of the Central Provinces. It is very possible that this measure may not afford sufficient protection for the rights of ordinary tenants in the Central Provinces if their circumstances should change. But if they do change, it will be the duty of the Government of India to consider what legislative arrangements will be necessary to meet their altered condition. What we have endeavoured to do now is to provide for these circumstances as we find them, and to have recourse to the minimum of interference in the arrangements between landlord and tenant, which appear to us to be sufficient to give the cultivators of the soil in those Provinces due protection against exorbitant enhancement of rent and arbitrary eviction. It is my hope that this measure will be effectual for that purpose; but this remains to be seen. Ten or twenty years hence it is possible that these arrangements may be found inadequate, and, should that be the case, it will be for the Government of that day to apply a [illegible]

"I confess, with respect to the twelve-years' rule, that I cannot [illegible] with the amount of satisfaction with which it has been spoken of by [illegible] and Mr. Hunter. I share strongly the opinion expressed in [illegible]

the Bengal rent question by my friend Mr. Justice Cunningham, who brings forward there, very clearly and plainly, the objections which lie against any system which makes the acquirement of occupancy-rights dependent on the efflux of a fixed and determined period of time. All the evidence goes to show that that system is open to objection, and it is very undesirable that it should be allowed to grow up. My Hon'ble friend Mr. Hunter argues that the evils resulting from it have not yet sprung up in the Central Provinces; but there is evidence to show that they are already appearing there as the population increases; and it seems to me that it was advisable to put a stop to them now, rather than to wait till we have to encounter hereafter those difficulties which now meet us in Bengal. I yield to no man in the desire to protect the just rights of tenants, and I hope and believe that this Bill will operate to strengthen the position of the cultivating tenants of the Central Provinces. The Bill is not intended, as has been justly remarked by the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton, as a precedent to be followed in other provinces the condition of which is very different, but it is a measure applicable to the circumstances of the day in the Central Provinces; and, if hereafter it should require amendment, I have no doubt that the Government of India will know how to deal with any fresh circumstances which may arise."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

NATIVE PASSENGER SHIPS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Native Passenger Ships Act, 1876. He said that the object of the Bill was to amend the Native Passenger Ships Act, VIII of 1876, with a view to provide for the better regulation of the pilgrim-traffic between British India and Arabia. This traffic had formed the subject of correspondence between the Secretary of State, the Government of India and the various Local maritime Governments in India. A careful consideration had brought the Government to the conclusion that the importance of the pilgrim-traffic made its detailed regulation imperative, and that, to secure uniformity of procedure, and thereby avoid the friction which must inevitably follow divergence between rules separately framed by different States, it was desirable that on all the more important points a common understanding should be come to among the Governments who were chiefly interested in the proper management of that traffic. The establishment of a practical coincidence between the general provisions of the local Turkish regulations and those of the law of India could only be effected by diplomatic correspondence between the British and Turkish Governments. But, since experience had shown that the provisions of the Indian law as it at present stood were insufficient to meet the peculiar exigencies of this traffic, and that in some respects they required revision, it seemed desirable, before attempting to bring about an assimilation of the British and Turkish laws, to make such amendments of our own law as were necessary to put it in a satisfactory state.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also introduced the Bill.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the *Gazette of India*, and in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, the *Bombay Government Gazette*, the *Calcutta Gazette* and the *British Burma Gazette* in English and in such other languages as the Local Governments might think fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

RANGOON STREET TRAMWAYS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved for leave to introduce a Bill to authorize the making, and to regulate the working, of Street Tramways in Rangoon. He said that the Municipal Committee of Rangoon had entered into an agreement with Mr. J. W. Darwood by which they conferred upon him the exclusive right to construct and work public tramways within the limits of the municipality. The sanction of the Chief Commissioner had been obtained,

but legislation was necessary both for the purpose of giving the requisite powers for interference with the streets and for the purpose of regulating the use of the tramways.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also introduced the Bill.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the *Gazette of India*, and in the *British Burma Gazette* in English and in such other languages as the Local Government might think fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

CATTLE-TRESPASS ACT, 1871, AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Cattle-trespass Act, 1871. He said that, by the Central Provinces Local Self-government Act passed at the beginning of this year, provision was made for transferring to the local authorities constituted under that Act some of the functions which, under the law as laid down in the Cattle-trespass Act, must be performed by the Magistrate of the district or the local officers, and also for crediting the surplus sale-proceeds of impounded cattle to the local fund. Provisions for the same purpose had been introduced both into the Bill which had been introduced at the Legislative Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for amending the system of local self-government in that province, and also into the Bills now pending before this Council for local self-government in the Panjáb and the North-Western Provinces. There was no difficulty about these provisions so far as they were contained in the latter Bills, but doubts had been entertained whether, inasmuch as these provisions amounted to an amendment of the Cattle-trespass Act, their enactment would not be beyond the competency of a local legislature such as that of Bengal. Under these circumstances, the best course to adopt would be to make the Act more elastic by enabling Local Governments to make the requisite changes by executive order.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also introduced the Bill.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the *Gazette of India*, and in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, the *Bombay Government Gazette* and the *Calcutta Gazette* in English and in such other languages as the Local Governments might think fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

PROTECTION OF INVENTIONS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved for leave to introduce a Bill for the protection of inventions exhibited in the Exhibitions of India. He said that this Bill had been prepared in view of the forthcoming Exhibition to be held at Calcutta next cold season. It had been brought to the notice of Government that the want of some such protection might probably deter inventors of important inventions from sending them, and thus prevent the exhibition of some interesting exhibits. The effect of the Bill, if it became law, would be that, if an inventor exhibiting his invention applied, within six months from the opening of the Exhibition, for leave to file a specification, the circumstance of the invention having been publicly used after the opening of the Exhibition would not affect his rights. The Bill was based on an English Statute which had been passed for a similar purpose, and the differences between the present Bill and the English Act were mainly to be explained by reference to the differences between the English and Indian Patent Acts.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also introduced the Bill.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the *Gazette of India*, and in the local official Gazettes in English and in such other languages as the Local Governments might think fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

SUNDRY BILLS.

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON moved that the Hon'ble Mr. Barkley be added to the Select Committees on the following Bills:—

Bill to provide for the constitution of Local Boards in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

Bill to make better provision for the Organization and Administration of Municipalities in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

AGRICULTURAL LOANS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Hon'ble MR. QUINTON be added to the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to loans of money for agricultural improvements.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 27th June, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,

SIMLA; *The 6th July, 1883.*

Secretary to the Government of India,

Legislative Department.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House, Simla, on Wednesday, the 27th June, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjáb, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.

Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.

The Hon'ble D. G. Barkley.

AGRICULTURAL LOANS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to loans of money for agricultural improvements.

NATIVE PASSENGER SHIPS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Bill to amend the Native Passenger Ships Act, 1876, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, the Hon'ble Mr. Hunter and the Mover.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

RANGOON STREET TRAMWAYS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill to authorize the making, and to regulate the working, of Street Tramways in Rangoon be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Messrs. Hope, Hunter and Quinton and the Mover, with instruction to report in one month.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

CATTLE-TRESPASS ACT, 1871, AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble Mr. ILBERT also moved that the Bill to amend the Cattle-trespass Act, 1871, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, the Hon'ble Messrs. Quinton and Barkley and the Mover.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

PROTECTION OF INVENTIONS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill for the protection of inventions exhibited in the Exhibitions of India be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, the Hon'ble Mr. Barkley and the Mover, with instruction to report in seven weeks. He said:—

"My Lord, I observed last week that this Bill was based on an English Statute. The Council are perhaps aware that a Bill to consolidate with amendments the Patent Law is now before Parliament; and I observe that a clause of that Bill, which purports to reproduce the Statute to which I have referred, contains a proviso which appears to me to be new, and which requires the exhibitor (in order that he may get the benefit of it) to give previous notice of his intention to exhibit. I mention this detail, as it may possibly be thought desirable to introduce a similar condition into the Indian Bill."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 11th July, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,

SIMLA; *The 5th July, 1883.*

Secretary to the Government of India,

Legislative Department.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 3rd JULY 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Heavy rain has fallen at Cuttack, Moulmein, and Akyab; elsewhere in Burma, Assam, and Bengal the rain has been lighter than in the previous week, but sufficient for present needs. Abundant rain and favourable weather are reported from the Central Provinces, and the monsoon current seems to have partially reached the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Punjab, though the rainfall has as yet been slight and insufficient. According to latest reports westerly winds prevail. In Central and Southern India more or less rain has fallen everywhere; in the Southern Mahratta Country, in Mysore, and parts of Rajputana a further supply is much needed; elsewhere it has been generally sufficient, while unprecedented floods are reported from Surat.

In Sind the dry weather of previous weeks has disappeared; a moderate quantity of rain has fallen and more is expected, but the rivers are unusually low.

Agricultural operations are in active progress throughout India, and, except in the tracts already mentioned as in need of more rain, prospects so far are favourable. Harvesting continues in Madras, and the standing crops in that Presidency and Mysore are in good condition. Rice is being sown and transplanted in Assam and Bengal, and in the latter province jute, sugarcane, and indigo are thriving wherever they have not been injured by floods.

Locusts are still prevalent in Bombay, but appear to be disappearing from Rajputana. Cattle-disease exists in most provinces, but is at present severe only in parts of Burma.

Prices are variable, with a downward tendency wherever good rain has fallen.

Cholera still rages in Poona and Ahmednagar, elsewhere it is on the decrease; but fever is prevalent.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(July 4th)		
Bellary ...	·42 (average of six stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, yield [illegible].
Kurnool ...	2·25 (average of nine stations).	Small-pox and cattle-disease in parts.
Ganjam ...	3·19 (average of sixteen stations).	Two cases of cholera.
Kistna ...	2·49 (average of twelve stations).	Small-pox abating.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	·8 (average of ten stations).	Standing crops good where water available; harvest *kar*, paddy, &c., yield half; small-pox, cholera, and cattle-disease in parts.
Coimbatore ...	·59 (average of three stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest *cholum* and *cumboo* in parts, outturn above average; fever and cholera in parts.
Tanjore ...	·3 (average of four stations).	Standing crops generally good; 28 deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	.....	Standing crops fair, except in one taluk; harvest dry crops in parts; fever slight in parts of one taluk.
Malabar ...	8·34 (average of fourteen stations).	First crop progressing in all taluks; small-pox slight in nine taluks; fever and cattle-disease in parts, latter slight.
Travancore ...	1·322	Paddy plants in good condition; fever prevails. *General Remarks.*—General prospects good.
Bombay—(July 4th)		
Kurrachee ...	Good showers of rain in Kurrachee—·63 last Friday and Sunday.	More rain threatening; 1 fresh case of small-pox in Kurrachee on 27th, 2 remaining sick; disease also in few villages in districts, 19 fresh cases, 1 death, 20 remaining sick; fever in six talukas; river at Kotri on 2nd 12 feet, against 15 feet 6 inches last year; damage anticipated to crops in Tatta from lowness of river; wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 26, 32 and 36 lbs., in Manjhand 28, 32 and 48, in Sakro 16, 30 and 44, and in Mirpur Botoro 28, 30 and 34 lbs. per rupee respectively.
Hyderabad ...	Rain in six talukas—average fall 1·36.	Lowness of river has caused anxiety; small-pox in four, fever in two, and cattle-disease in three talukas; wheat 25, *bajri* 39, *juari* 46, red rice [illegible], and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	1·36	Total rainfall 1·42; sowing commenced; wheat 26 and *bajri* 20½ lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	8·24	Total rainfall 10·89; public health good; sowing operations commenced everywhere, except in Amreli, where rain is wanted; transplantation of rice commenced in a few places of Naosari; *bajri* 26½ to 27¼ lbs. and rice 23½ lbs. per British rupee.
Surat ...	.....	Total rainfall about 22·0; heavy and unprecedented floods in Surat.
Násik ...	Good rain everywhere	Small-pox in Sinnar; cholera abating, 66 deaths reported; transplanting of rice and *nagli* and sowing of *wal* and *mung* nearly completed; locusts in most talukas damaging *bajri* and *nagli* plants; wheat 25, *bajri* 36, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Rain every day; total of week 3·06.	Total rainfall to date 14·80, being 9·42 below average; abnormal temperature from 2° cool to 1° warm; vapour in air *normal*; abnormal wind gradually backed from north-west on 1st to south on 3rd; gale on 3rd, thunderstorm on 29th.
Poona ...	Maximum ·66 at Kharkala; minimum ·09 at Bhimthari.	Slight damage to young crops by locusts in Ellawal taluka; cholera cases 1,107, fatal 422; *bajri* 37 and *juari* 44 lbs. per rupee, in Poona *bajri* 32 and *juari* 39 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	2·43 in Akola; 1·45 in Kopargaon; 1·16 in Nagar; 1·09 in Newasa; 1·05 in Sangamner; slight in all others.	Sowing of *kharif* in progress in Shrigonda, Rahuri, Karjat, and Jamkhed; cholera in all talukas, 1,906 attacks and 817 deaths; *bajri*—maximum 51 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 33 lbs. in Akola; *juari*—66 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 36 lbs. in Akola.
Sholapur ...	1·74	Total rainfall 12·58; *kharif* sowings in progress; *juari* 58 and *bajri* 51 lbs. per rupee; cholera cases 94, deaths 35.
Dharwar ...	Rain at all stations, except Ron—maximum at Hangal, 4·26; very slight in eastern talukas.	Standing young rice and sugarcane crops fair in Navalgund and Gadag talukas; sowing retarded for want of rain, and in Nargund petta, Hangal, and Karajgi by excess of rain, elsewhere *ragi* and *juari* sowings in progress where field had been already prepared; public health good; scarcity of drinking-water in some villages of Nargund petta continues; *juari* 57 and rice 31 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara ...	Karwar, 7·58; Kumpta, 13·06; Sirsi, 6·67; Hallial, 2·31.	Transplanting and weeding continue, also sowing in some places; rice plants, sugarcane, and garden crops healthy; rainfall favourable; small-pox in coast talukas; slight fever throughout the district; common rice in Karwar 12 seers 2 chittacks per rupee, in district average 14 seers per rupee.
Rajkot ...	Heavy rain night of 3rd 8·88.	Total rainfall 10·06; weather cloudy, high wind blowing; cholera in six villages of Nawanagar, Und, and two other places; general health good; *bajri* 28 and *juari* 34 lbs. per rupee. *General Remarks.*—Rain throughout the Presidency and Sind, but urgently wanted in parts of Southern Mahratta Country, where sowing is retarded in consequence, river also low in Sind; sowing in general progress; locusts in Násik, Poona, Ahmednagar, Khandesh, Tanna, and Ratnagiri; cholera in most Deccan districts, Kaladgi, and Tanna; small-pox, fever, and cattle-disease in a few places.
Bengal—(July 4th)		
Chittagong ...	7·42	Weather seasonable; transplanting of *aus* and sowing of *amun* going on; prospects fair; prices steady; fever and cattle-disease bad in Cox's bazar; cholera not yet abated.
Dacca ...	2·46	*Amun* paddy and *aus* being sown in one station owing to sudden rise of water; crops on low lands in Nawabgunge under water; jute destroyed to a certain extent by worms in the said station; *aus* rice being harvested.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	2·68	Prospects of early and *amun* crops good; early crops doing well; transplanting of *amun* paddy going on in parts of the district, and high lands being prepared for the crop; price of common rice stationary; public health good.
Moorshedabad ...	2·27	Prospects of crops favourable; *bhadoi* crops thriving well; sowing of *amun* paddy still continues; public health on the whole good.
Rajshahye ...	·49; slight rain	State of crops good; *til* an average crop.
Burdwan ...	2·36	Ploughing for *amun* paddy going on; more rain wanted for transplanting in Cutwa and Cutwa sub-divisions, elsewhere rainfall sufficient and transplanting in progress; public health fair.
Rungpore ...	·22	Prospects of crops good; transplanting of *amun* paddy begun; *kaon* and *cheena* millets being reaped; cholera still somewhat prevalent in some parts of the district.
Bhagálpur ...	·30	Prospects good except in Muddehporah, where floods have damaged the young paddy; fresh seed being sown; health good.
Purneah ...	·44	Paddy and indigo much improved; prices of food-grains stationary; public health fair; rivers falling.
Patna ...	1·62	Prospects of standing crops good; ploughing and sowing going on; *makai* has germinated in some places; cholera reported from Bauh and Behar sub-divisions.
Durbhunga ...	1·37	Weather hot, cloudy, and showery; sowing of *bhadoi* and paddy crops and transplanting of paddy progressing; prices rising slightly; cholera almost disappeared; health good.
Hazáribágh ...	1·14	Weather warm and cloudy; sowing of *bhadoi* and early rice continue; public health good.
Cuttack ...	12·06; weather rainy	Rivers risen but falling to-day 3rd; sowing finished; plants coming up; prices stationary; public health generally good. *General Remarks.*—There has been generally seasonable rain during the week; agricultural prospects are favourable, save in a few localities where crops on low lands have suffered from excessive rain and floods; early rice and jute are doing well and ploughing and sowing of *amun* rice are in full progress; in some places transplanting of *amun* seedlings has commenced; in Behar and elsewhere *bhadoi* sowings are being vigorously pushed on; sugarcane is thriving well and indigo prospects are fair; sesamum and *cheena* and *kaon* millets are being reaped, early rice is also being reaped in a few districts; public health generally fair, though cholera still lingers in some districts, and fever is reported from a few.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (July 3rd)	·3; Chandausi, 1·1	Some *kharif* crops sown; *no* sickness of men or cattle; prices steady.
Allahabad („ 4th)	1·0 in four tahsils	Weather sultry, more rain wanted; cholera slightly on the increase; prices steady.
Gorakhpur („ 2nd)	2·2	Sky cloudy; *kharif* sowings in progress; some small-pox, but no cases of cholera; prices steady.
Jhánsi („ „)	1·8; Mau, 1·5; Moth, ·6; Garotha, 2·4.	Weather cloudy and stormy; ploughing and manuring in progress; prices rising; health good; *no* cattle-disease.
Agra („ 3rd)	·2 to 1·4 in six parganas.	Fever in two and small-pox in four parganas; sporadic cholera in five parganas; prices steady.
Bareilly („ „)	1·5 average	Weather cooler; rains commenced on 30th ultimo; ploughing begun; prices almost stationary; health remains good.
Meerut („ „)	8·0 to 3·0 average on 30th ultimo.	Since then weather clear and hot; health good; prices stationary.
Kumaun ...	Slight rain	Rains not set in; crops doing well; health good; cattle-disease still prevalent; prices unchanged.
Lucknow (July 3rd)	·9; Mallabad, 2·7; Mohanlalganj, 3·5.	Weather cool and cloudy; *kharif* sowings in progress; prices steady; slight cholera in the city and small-pox prevalent in the Mahona pargana.
Partabgarh („ „)	Rain fairly general; slight in Kunda and Patti tahsils; *being only* ·10.	A slight rise in prices; *kharif* crops being sown here and there; general health good.
Sitapur („ „)	·8 average	More rain now required; ploughing progressing slowly; sugarcane healthy.
Fyzabad („ „)	No rain	Sowing of *kharif* crops commenced; cattle-disease in part of district; health good.
Rae Bareli („ 2nd)	Sadr, ·8 and ·6	Weather cloudy, wind easterly; cholera abating; prices stationary.
Cawnpore („ „)	Average fall in eight parganas 1·1.	Ploughing general, and sowing progressing in places; a few cases of cholera reported in two parganas and city; prices slightly risen.
Farukhabad („ 3rd)	*Rain throughout* district, varying from ·7 to 4·8.	Sky clear since the rain fell; wind continues east; health of people fair.
		General Remarks.—Rain has fallen in all reporting districts except Fyzabad, but the fall has generally been slight, much the heaviest fall was 8·0 in Meerut; ploughing and sowing for the *kharif* continue, but more rain is required in some districts; cholera is reported from five districts; prices are rising in places, but as a rule stationary.
Punjab—(July 3rd)		
Delhi ...	3·20	Health fair; *prices stationary.*
Hissar ...	.....	No report received.
Umballa ...	·30	Health fair; *kharif* ploughing in progress; prices stationary.
Jullundur ...	·40	Health good; prices steady.
Amritsar ...	·40	Health good; slight fall in prices.
Sialkot ...	2·10	Health good; prices steady.
Ferozepore ...	No rain	Health good; *kharif* ploughing in progress; *prices fluctuating.*
Lahore ...	1·50	Health good; prices steady.
Rawalpindi ...	Nearly ·20	Health good; prices falling.
Mooltan ...	·10	Health good; *kharif* sowings *continue*; prices fluctuating.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	·70	Health good; *rabi* harvesting nearly completed; prices stationary.
Peshawar ...	·80	Health good; prices stationary.
		General Remarks.—Rain has fallen in nearly every district; health generally good; *rabi* harvesting nearly completed; *kharif* sowings in progress in most districts.
Central Provinces—		
Nagpur (July 4th)	3·39	Weather rainy; cotton sowings progressing; cholera slight; price of *juari* fallen.
Jubbulpore ...	5·44	Weather wet and cold; sowings in progress; small-pox lingering; prices stationary.
Saugor ...	2·87	Weather seasonable; cotton and other sowings general; prices steady; health good.
Seoni (July 3rd)	7·99; heavy showers on 30th June and 1st July.	Sowings progressing; 21 deaths from cholera; price of wheat slightly fallen; prices stationary.
Hoshangabad ...	2·71	Weather rainy and cloudy, occasionally with high winds; small-pox in places; cholera 9 cases; sowings continued; wheat 14 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	4·50	Weather cloudy; sowings nearly completed; 16 deaths from cholera; wheat 16, *juari* 18, and rice 15 seers per rupee.
Raipur ...	7·83	Prospects good; prices stationary.
Sambalpur (June 28th)	7·2	Weather very favourable; sowings continue; sugarcane greatly injured by hot weather; health good; prices rising.
		General Remarks.—Weather very favourable; rain general; sowings continue; cholera severe in Wardha; prices steady.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—(June 27th)		
Akyab ...	13·94	Total up to date 51·11; publichealth good; cattle-disease in four townships, severe in two; health of plough cattle good, *except in two townships*; ploughing *in progress in Myohoung*, about 41,000 acres ploughed, *no reports from other townships*; wages of ploughing labour from 29 to 34 baskets per man per season.
Rangoon ...	3·55	Total up to date 21·55; 2 fatal cases of small-pox, otherwise public health good; prices of paddy from Rs. 88 to Rs. 89 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	2·43	Total up to date 22·53; 1 death from cholera in Laymyethna township, otherwise public health good; 11 deaths of cattle in Laymyethna, 15 *in* Thabonng, 2 in Yaygyee, and 53 in Kyonepyaw *townships*; *ploughing* begun in different parts of district.
Prome ...	3·27	Total up to date 16·27; public health good; cattle-disease in Shwaylay and Mahthanan townships; ploughing has commenced.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	3·85	Total 41·59; public health in Moulmein and district good; cattle-disease slight in Yaylamaing, Amherst, and Martaban townships; severe in Balongyoon and Halaingbweh townships; about 30 per cent. fields ploughed in Amherst district, about 120 acres ploughed during week in Moulmein; ploughing and sowing progressing in Moulmein; health of plough cattle good; sowing partial in Amherst district.
Toungoo ...	2·15	Total up to date 20·54; 1 death from small-pox in town, otherwise public health good.
		General Remarks.—Public health good; rainfall pretty uniform; cattle-disease not on the increase and only sharp in parts of Amherst; price of paddy fairly steady; ploughing general; sowings broadcast and in nurseries here and there.
British Burma—(July 4th)		
Akyab ...	15·13	Total up to date 66·24; 4 deaths from small-pox in Koladan, otherwise public health good; cattle-disease in four townships, severe in two townships; health of plough cattle good, except in two townships; ploughing in progress, about 112,841 acres ploughed in four townships; ploughing wages 15 baskets lowest, 40 baskets highest.
Rangoon ...	3·99	Total up to date 25·54; 1 fatal case of small-pox, otherwise public health good; price of paddy from Rs. 88 to Rs. 90 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	6·76	Total up to date 29·29; 1 death from cholera in town, otherwise public health good; 42 deaths of cattle in Yaygyee and 105 in Kyonepyaw townships; ploughing progressing.
Prome ...	2·17	Total up to date 18·44; public health good; slight cattle-disease in Shwaylay and Mahthanan townships; ploughing operations being carried on all over district.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	13·42	Total up to date 55·01; public health good; cattle-disease slight in Yaylamaing, severe in Amherst and Halaingbweh townships; in Amherst district ploughing progressing, about 35 per cent. fields ploughed; health of plough cattle good; sowings progressing, about 5 per cent. fields sown in Moulmein districts; ploughing and sowing progressing, about 100 acres ploughed during week.
Toungoo ...	3·47	Total up to date 24·01; public health good; 8 deaths of cattle in Tagaya township; ploughing just commenced, about 700 acres ploughed; health of plough cattle good; price of paddy from Rs. 30 to Rs. 65 per 100 baskets.
		General Remarks.—Public health generally satisfactory; cattle-disease unimportant except in parts of Akyab, Pegu, and Amherst districts, where it is severe; ploughing and sowing operations progressing; weather seasonable.
Assam—(July 4th)		
Gauhati ...	·10 for week ending 30th ultimo.	Weather very hot; fever and cattle-disease still prevalent in the interior; river subsiding; reaping of *ahu* paddy commenced; public health indifferent.
Sylhet ...	2·38	Crop prospects improved in tracts flooded lately, elsewhere good.
Cachar ...	1·16	Weather intensely hot; cultivation for *sali* and transplanting *aus* and sowing *aghra* crops continue; common rice 16 seers per rupee; small-pox has again disappeared, 4 deaths reported from Katigora and 12 from Lakhimpur.
Dibrugarh ...	1·00	Weather very hot; transplanting of *sali dhan* commenced; cattle-disease reported from North Lakhimpur sub-division; public health improved.
Mysore and Coorg—(July 4th)		
Bangalore ...	·18	Rain much needed throughout the district for agricultural operations; pasturage insufficient in some taluks; standing crops in good condition; public health generally good.
Kadur ...	Slight rain in the taluks.	Standing crops in good condition, but need rain in some parts; prospects and public health good.
Shimoga ...	0·68	Vacancies on coffee estates being supplied by seedlings; paddy and *ragi* crops above ground; slight rise in prices of food grains; public health good.
		General Remarks.—Good rainfall at Shimoga and in the Malnad districts, light rain in other districts; standing crops and public health generally good; prospects favourable; average rainfall prices since 13, *ragi* 33, and horse-gram 34 seers per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Berar & Hyderabad—(July 4th)		
Amráoti ...	9·35	*Kharif* sowings progressing; wheat 16 and *juari* 16 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	1·26	*Kharif* sowings in progress.
Hyderabad ...	.....	No report received.
Central India States—(July 4th)		
Indore ...	2·61	Weather seasonable; agricultural prospects favourable; prices falling; health good.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	·86	Health good; weather cool and cloudy.
Sutna ...	3·36	Rain not yet general; weather warm; health good.
Ratlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	3·53	Weather seasonable; public health good.
Goona ...	3·54	Weather cloudy; health good; wheat 24 seers 8 chittacks per rupee; ploughing commenced.
Sehore ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	4·4	Weather seasonable; prospects and health good.
Sehore ...	2·94	Weather cloudy; crops and public health good.
Nowgong ...	2·44	Ploughing and *kharif* sowings commenced; weather seasonable; cholera and small-pox appeared towards north; prices steady.
Bhopawar ...	2·8	Health good; prices stationary; weather rainy; no sun for two days.
Rajputana—		
Abu (July 4th)	8·27	Heavy clouds and high winds during week, apparently regular monsoon has set in.
Sirohi („ 1st)	Occasional rain; 1·06	Fair supply in tanks and wells; health good; sowing for *kharif* begun; weather cloudy at times and oppressively hot.
Marwar (June 29th)	·22	Tanks all empty, water obtained from wells with difficulty; health good; absence of rain retards growth of crops; sky overcast; prices rising.
Meywar (July 1st)	·86	Tanks and wells fair; health very good; crop prospects good.
Harowti (June 30th)	Deoli, 2·31; Tonk, 8·07	Weather cloudy, wind high; health good; prices firm.
Jhallawar („ 29th)	4·37	Locusts still reported in one district; ploughing in progress.
Ajmere (July 3rd)	·62	Weather cloudy; Indian-corn sown; health good.
Jeypore („ „)	1·30	Weather preparing for *rabi* sowings; some cholera cases at capital and districts; prices stationary.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (July 3rd)	Average, 1·25	Cholera in four tahsils.
Nepal—(June 28th)		
Katmandu ...	3·90	Prospects good; showery and close weather.

T. W. HOLDERNESS,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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SUPPLEMENT TO

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№ 28. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF JUNE 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murnwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murnwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murnwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Madras.	Ganjam	10 5	10 5	11 13	...	...	...	17 13	17 13	17 13	22 13	22 13	19 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	13 13	35 3	35 3	35 3	40 0	36 10	26 10	215 13	215 13	215 13	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	13 13	Ganjam	Madras.
	Vizagapatam	13 8	12 0	10 8	...	...	...	8 6	8 6	9 0	11 5	11 5	11 5	24 13	24 13	22 11	23 13	21 13	21 13	87 8	87 8	93 *5	22 3	20 3	23 13	32 13	32 13	24 10	87 8	87 8	93 *5	14 10	14 10	15 3	14 0	14 5	14 10	Vizagapatam	
	Godavery	10 13	10 13	11 11	...	...	...	10 14	10 14	13 14	14 0	14 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	29 13	...	...	...	194 6	194 6	194 6	29 2	29 2	33 11	31 8	31 8	26 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	13 8	12 8	14 10	13 8	12 8	14 10	Godavery	
	Kistna	9 5	8 13	14 11	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 2	14 11	14 11	16 5	17 3	21 13	25 0	...	...	...	93 5	93 5	186 10	23 8	23 2	28 5	27 6	25 10	25 10	145 13	145 13	145 13	15 11	15 11	16 5	15 3	15 3	15 11	Kistna	
	Nellore	5 13	7 3	14 6	...	...	...	11 14	14 13	15 13	15 0	16 0	18 0	20 3	20 3	33 10	...	...	...	186 10	186 10	186 10	28 3	28 3	31 8	34 6	33 8	31 0	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 14	14 13	14 13	15 14	14 13	14 13	Nellore	
	Cuddapah	14 11	14 11	14 11	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	12 6	13 5	13 5	14 2	28 6	28 6	28 6	31 14	30 6	30 6	194 6	194 6	194 6	31 8	30 0	31 8	34 6	33 8	31 0	194 6	194 6	194 6	17 2	17 8	16 10	16 10	17 2	16 3	Cuddapah	
	Anantapur	13 6	13 6	14 6	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	15 0	12 5	12 5	16 3	30 14	30 14	33 0	30 2	30 2	18 13	...	...	...	31 0	31 0	31 0	38 2	38 2	35 13	...	...	...	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	Anantapur	
	Bellary	17 5	18 3	17 5	...	...	...	12 5	12 5	12 5	13 8	13 8	13 8	35 0	41 3	30 14	28 3	30 2	24 6	94 13	94 13	97 3	34 14	34 14	29 2	35 13	33 10	28 0	94 13	94 13	97 3	15 13	15 13	15 8	15 8	15 8	14 11	Bellary	
	Kurnool	13 5	15 3	14 10	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 10	11 13	11 13	11 6	32 14	32 3	27 6	30 0	27 8	27 8	179 13	190 8	194 6	32 3	...	...	28 8	27 0	27 0	179 13	190 8	194 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 0	14 0	14 0	Kurnool	
	Madras	11 5	11 5	11 0	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 3	15 2	15 8	15 8	21 10	21 10	23 0	25 2	26 6	26 6	86 5	83 13	81 6	26 0	27 6	28 13	26 8	27 5	26 2	86 5	83 13	81 6	16 14	16 14	16 11	16 8	16 8	16 3	Madras	
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 3	15 6	15 6	15 8	16 10	16 10	...	...	...	21 2	21 2	...	92 5	92 5	92 5	24 11	24 11	28 13	28 13	25 11	27 5	24 13	92 5	92 5	92 5	17 13	17 5	17 0	17 5	16 14	16 5	Chingleput	
	North Arcot	9 11	9 11	11 0	...	...	...	14 6	14 6	15 14	17 14	17 14	16 14	29 2	29 2	32 13	28 0	28 0	30 8	140 0	140 0	140 0	32 8	32 8	34 3	31 8	31 8	26 10	140 0	140 0	140 0	15 6	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 5	North Arcot	
	South Arcot	10 8	10 14	10 2	...	...	...	16 2	16 8	15 3	17 2	17 2	16 3	...	30	33 10	25 13	26 3	27 5	201 11	201 11	201 11	26 10	27 0	28 10	28 13	30 10	28 6	201 11	201 11	201 11	17 8	18 6	19 5	16 10	18 0	18 14	South Arcot	
	Tanjore	11 0	11 0	11 0	...	...	...	17 6	17 6	18 5	...	...	...	35 0	38 3	...	31 14	31 14	31 14	194 6	194 6	194 6	36 8	36 3	39 5	29 11	30 10	31 8	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 10	15 10	15 10	14 11	14 11	15 10	Tanjore	
	Trichinopoly	10 10	10 10	9 10	...	...	...	15 13	15 8	15 13	16 5	15 14	16 5	...	...	28 0	30 8	30 8	27 14	70 0	70 0	81 10	32 11	32 11	31 6	32 5	32 5	33 14	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 13	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	16 3	Trichinopoly	
	Madura	12 8	13 5	12 8	...	...	...	16 6	16 13	16 6	17 11	17 11	16 14	32 6	32 6	29 3	32 5	30 14	32 5	155 8	121 8	145 13	40 5	39 8	38 5	40 8	42 11	155 8	121 8	145 13	17 13	17 5	16 10	16 13	16 13	16 6	Madura	
	Tinnevelly	9 14	9 14	9 3	...	...	...	16 5	19 14	16 5	17 10	20 2	16 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	70 0	70 0	81 10	...	...	...	39 10	39 10	29 11	70 0	70 0	81 10	18 11	18 11	18 5	18 5	18 5	18 5	Tinnevelly	
	Coimbatore	13 14	14 13	12 5	...	...	...	13 14	13 14	14 6	14 14	14 14	15 6	27 0	26 2	28 11	27 0	27 0	35 0	131 3	131 3	131 3	31 8	29 8	29 8	32 5	32 5	30 6	131 3	131 3	131 3	15 2	15 2	15 2	14 10	14 10	14 10	Coimbatore	
	Nilgiris	10 10	9 14	9 14	...	...	...	11 3	11 3	9 10	12 0	12 0	11 3	20 0	20 0	18 8	21 0	21 0	18 3	161 13	161 13	121 8	21 10	21 10	20 3	24 14	24 14	20 11	161 13	161 13	121 8	13 0	13 0	11 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Nilgiris	
	Salem	14 6	13 10	12 11	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	16 0	16 14	16 0	29 2	26 14	27 5	26 8	24 10	22 14	151 10	151 10	151 10	32 8	32 8	30 13	39 6	39 6	39 6	151 10	151 10	151 10	16 0	15 6	16 6	15 6	14 5	15 0	Salem	
	South Canara	8 3	9 0	8 10	...	...	...	9 11	9 11	9 11	11 13	12 3	13 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	116 10	116 10	116 10	17 10	15 13	22 0	22 3	22 3	21 3	111 13	109 5	116 10	15 6	15 14	11 0	14 11	14 14	10 0	South Canara	
	Malabar	8 10	9 0	7 8	...	...	...	14 10	14 10	15 0	15 13	15 13	15 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	121 8	121 8	121 8	21 14	22 10	20 6	26 14	25 3	25 3	121 8	121 8	121 8	14 6	14 6	14 6	13 8	13 8	13 8	Malabar	
Bombay.	Bombay	10 9	10 3	10 4	23 11	23 8	16 14	8 2	7 8	7 10	12 6	13 1	12 13	18 15	18 14	18 7	15 1	15 15	15 9	62 6	62 6	54 9	15 4	16 3	14 1	15 13	15 12	17 3	62 6	62 6	54 9	16 12	16 12	14 5	14 6	14 6	14 5	Bombay	Bombay.
	Ahmedabad	12 0	11 8	12 8	20 0	17 0	...	7 8	8 0	6 8	12 0	13 0	8 0	17 6	17 8	17 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	16 8	16 8	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	Ahmedabad	
	Kaira	11 7	11 7	11 7	21 5	21 5	20 0	9 11	9 11	9 2	16 0	14 4	14 9	17 12	17 12	16 0	14 14	14 4	14 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	Kaira	
	Surat	11 6	11 6	13 6	12 7	12 8	5 6	7 9	7 9	7 7	8 7	8 7	8 5	19 1	19 1	15 9	14 3	14 3	11 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 14	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 10	13 9	13 9	13 10	Surat	
	Broach	12 4½	12 10	12 5	...	...	...	10 0	10 14	9 6½	11 7	12 7	12 9	19 1	19 1	15 9	14 3	14 3	11 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 14	16 0	16 0	106 0	106 0	106 0	15 9	15 9	15 4	14 8½	15 1	15 4	Broach	
	Tanna (Salsette)	9 12	9 12	9 3	...	...	...	8 2	8 2	8 3	10 0	10 0	10 0	16 0	17 0	16 0	13 8	14 0	15 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	35 11	25 11	25 11	13 4	13 4	15 4	71 1	71 1	71 1	14 5	14 5	14 5	13 4	13 4	12 12	Tanna (Salsette)	
	Colába (Alibág)	9 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	7 0	14 0	14 0	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	140 0	...	...	...	11 8	14 0	14 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	14 8	16 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	13 0	Colába (Alibág)	
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	14 0	15 12	14 9	...	...	...	8 1	8 0	7 4	12 10	12 10	10 15	16 0	18 9	23 13	14 4	16 0	18 9	128 0	128 0	128 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 15	140 0	140 0	140 0	16 0	16 0	15 6	15 14	15 14	15 0	Khandesh (Dhulia)	
	Násik	14 4	14 4	15 8	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	7 0	13 6	13 6	12 0	22 6	22 6	...	15 5	15 5	21 3	128 0	128 0	128 0	28 11	28 0	30 0	17 0	17 0	18 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	15 8	15 8	14 6	15 5	15 5	14 2	Násik	
	Ahmednagar	13 2	13 2	14 11	...	...	...	9 3	9 3	10 2	12 2	12 0	18 13	19 9	19 7	21 12	16 2	16 2	18 6	68 0	68 0	68 0	...	...	...	18 10	18 2	20 1	89 4	79 12	91 5	14 10	14 14	14 9	14 6	14 10	14 7	Ahmednagar	
	Poona	12 10	12 10	12 10	9 4	9 4	...	9 13	9 13	11 0	11 10	11 0	12 4	25 14	26 12	31 8	20 3	22 12	23 7	91 0	91 0	80 0	15 6	15 6	...	19 3	21 0	21 7	74 2	91 0	80 0	13 10	14 11	13 10	13 6	14 7	13 6	Poona	
	Sholápur	14 8	14 8	13 2	...	...	...	10 15	10 7	10 15	11 5	11 5	11 5	27 0	29 0	33 0	26 0	27 0	31 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	...	...	...	18 0	19 8	16 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 4	13 8	13 8	Sholápur	
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	18 12	20 0	20 12	17 0	17 8	15 0	6 12	6 12	6 8	10 12	12 0	9 0	16 5	16 5	16 0	11 0	12 0	11 0	116 8	122½ 10	110 15	25 14	26 12	31 8	25 14	26 12	31 8	116 8	122½ 10	110 15	13 13	13 13	12 6	13 2	13 2	11 10	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	
	Satara	12 1	12 1	12 1	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	9 11	11 7	11 7	11 7	16 5	16 5	16 4	15 5	15 8	15 8	65 0	65 0	80 0	19 0	20 4	35 0	16 8	16 8	14 8	65 0	65 0	80 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Satara	
	Belgaum	18 0	18 13	19 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	10 8	11 10	10 0	11 0	12 2	11 0	18 0	20 4	26 0	19 0	21 0	24 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	28 0	38 0	28 0	18 0	18 0	12 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	9 8	10 3	8 12	9 0	10 0	8 0	Belgaum	
	Dharwar (Hubli)	23 0	24 0	21 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	10 0	16 0	16 0	11 0	23 0	27 0	24 0	24 0	26 0	23 0	150 0	150 0	120 0	21 2	21 2	14 40	14 0	14 0	14 0	150 0	150 0	120 0	14 6	14 6	11 13	14 4	14 4	11 10	Dharwar (Hubli)	
	Ratnágiri	9 14	10 9	10 9	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	8 9	14 2	14 2	13 7	20 13	20 13	18 3	14 11	14 11	14 11	213 5	213 5	213 5	16 0	18 0	21 0	12 8	13 0	12 0	213 5	213 5	213 5	12 8	14 0	13 4	11 8	13 0	12 8	Ratnágiri	
	Kanara (Karwar)	11 8	13 0	9 0	1 6	...	...	7 0	8 0	8 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	16 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	200 0	26 10	26 10	28 0	22 13	22 13	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	Kanara (Karwar)	
	Panch Mahals (Godhra)	11 6	11 6	11 6	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	11 6	15 0	15 0	15 0	23 13	22 13	23 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	65 5	65 5	65 5	...	...	...	9 5	9 5	9 5	65 5	65 5	65 5	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	32 0	Panch Mahals (Godhra)	
	Aden	9 5	9 5	8 0	...	...	...	6 3	6 3	6 3	7 0	7 0	7 0	12 7	12 7	11 4	8 16	8 16	8 16	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	17 12	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 4	12 0	12 0	12 4	Aden	
	Asirgarh	13 9	15 0	14 0	...	...	...	12 2	12 7	11 4	14 8	15 0	12 7	18 6	18 8	21 0	18 5	21 0	24 0	...	...	75 13	15 3	15 2	17 8	17 8	18 8	137 8	137 8	137 8	12 8	12 8	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	Asirgarh	
	Baroda	9 5	10 5	9 12½	15 3	14 0	14 0	8 3	8 3	8 12	11 11	11 10	11 10½	15 3	14 0	16 0	13 7	13 6	14 0	...	...	...	14 5	14 9	14 10½	14 0	14 0	14 0	150 0	150 0	120 0	14 6	14 6	11 13	14 4	14 4	11 10	Baroda	
	Disa	13 8	13 15	13 4	...	...	...	6 14	6 14	6 9	9 0	9 0	8 11	17 0	19 3	18 8	17 0	18 3	16 0	213 5	213 5	213 5	16 0	16 0	21 0	13 0	12 0	13 0	213 5	213 5	213 5	12 8	14 0	13 4	11 8	13 0	12 8	Disa	
	Nimach	15 4	15 0	13 0	21 0	21 0	16 8	9 0	9 4	8 8	9 4	10 0	10 0	19 0	18 8	17 8	12 0	12 0	16 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	26 10	26 10	28 0	19 5	19 5	19 5	200 0	200 0	200 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	Nimach	
	Nasirabad	16 8½	16 8	15 15	23 0	24 3½	21 11½	6 0	6 0	6 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	22 10	23 8	24 0	17 8	17 10	14 6	65 0	65 0	65 0	...	...	...	9 5	9 5	9 5	65 5	65 5	65 5	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	32 0	Aden	
	Rájkot	14 2	14 0	12 2	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 0	10 12	11 4	11 0	17 8	17 10	14 6	14 0	14 0	13 0	75 13	75 13	75 13	14 5	14 9	14 10½	14 0	14 0	14 0	75 13	75 13	75 13	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	Asirgarh	
	Upper Sindh Frontier	14 4	13 12	14 0	25 8	24 8	26 0	13 4	13 4	11 4	17 8	17 8	22 12	32 0	32 0	33 8	32 0	30 4	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	30 0	40 0	...	24 8	22 8	23 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 12½*	12 12½*	12 4½*	12 8*	12 8*	12 4*	Upper Sindh Frontier	
	Karachi	13 13	13 13	12 5	22 0	22 0	22 0	9 0	9 8	9 0	17 0	18 0	12 0	24 0	23 0	20 0	17 0	18 0	19 0	105 0	105 0	103 0	9 8	9 8	9 8	18 0	18 0	20 0	105 0	105 0	103 0	17 13	17 13	14 3	17 0	17 0	14 0	Karachi	
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	16 0	16 0	16 0	35 0	30 0	25 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	18 0	17 8	20 0	30 0	27 0	26 0	26 0	24 0	25 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	24 0	24 0	...	22 0	20 0	16 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	14 8	14 8	14 0	14 8	14 8	14 0	Haidarabad (Nakur)	
	Shikarpur	14 2	14 2	13 10½	25 12	25 0	26 5	12 13	12 7	12 12½	19 0	17 8	18 0	30 0	29 12	26 5	30 0	28 0	28 0	280 0	280 0	280 0	...	...	...	23 12	22 2	19 7	280 0	280 0	280 0	13 8	14 0	13 2	13 6	13 14	13 0	Shikarpur	
	Sukkur	14 8	13 8	14 0	29 8	29 8	30 8	12 8	12 8	11 4	19 8	19 8	19 0	29 8	29 8	29 8	27 8	26 8	28 0	280 0	280 0	280 0	...	...	...	23 8	23 8	19 4	280 0	280 0	280 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 0	13 0	13 0	Sukkur	
	Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	14 0	14 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 3	14 4	...	...	...	16 8	16 12	13 6	125 0	120 0	160 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	160 0	14 12	13 8	10 11	14 12	13 8	10 11	Thar and Parkar (Umarkot)	
																															Prices per md. of 40 seers.							
																															₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.		
Western Districts.																																					*Western Districts.*	
	Burdwan	14 8	14 0	30 0	30 0	21 0	19 0	19 8	25 8	24 0	25 0	28 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	21 0	20 0	24 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 1 3	3 1 0	2 12 0	12 0	12 4	13 12	Burdwan	
	Bancoorah	14 0	14 0	18 8	19 0	19 0	18 0	18 12	19 0	25 0	24 0	24 8	35 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	320 0	18 8	18 8	20 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	3 8 6	3 3 6	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	Bancoorah	
	Beerbhoom	15 12	15 0	14 0	...	...	...	16 8	18 0	22 4	21 0	22 8	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	180 0	21 0	21 0	24 0	200 0	200 0	180 0	3 10 3	3 5 0	3 3 6	10 8	11 4	12 0	Beerbhoom	
	Midnapore	14 0	15 0	16 0	17 0	14 0	...	18 0	20 0	22 0	24 0	24 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	155 0	155 0	160 0	16 0	14 0	20 0	155 0	155 0	160 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	13 0	13 0	13 8	Midnapore	
	Hooghly	13 8	13 8	18 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 8	18 8	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	17 0	17 0	21 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
	Howrah	13 0	13 0	18 4	...	...	...	14 8	14 0	16 4	20 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	17 0	19 0	21 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	Howrah	

a In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Culna 13-8 seers, Cutwa 10-8 seers and Baneegunge 12-12 seers.
b Retail price of salt at Balpore 11 seers, Onda 15 seers, Sonamukhi 12 seers, and Mejia, Bisnenpore, Indas and Kotulpore 13 seers.
c In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10-8 to 13-4 seers.

* In common use.
d In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Ghattal 12-8 seers, Contai 9 seers, and Tumlook 11 seers.
e In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Serampore 13 seers and Jehanabad 12-8 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF JUNE 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgnum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgnum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgnum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Pennisillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Pennisillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Pennisillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhiwa, Nagkee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhiwa, Nagkee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhiwa, Nagkee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
	Central Districts.																															*Central Districts.*	
	Calcutta	14 4	14 4	13 5	19 6	18 13	26 8	10 5	10 5	10 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	23 2	20 0	19 6	...	...	...	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	14 0	14 0	13 8	Calcutta	
	24-Pergunnahs	13 5	13 5	13 5	16 0	16 0	20 3	8 0	9 0	10 8	14 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	90 0	80 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	13 5/	13 5	13 5	24-Pergunnahs	
	Nuddea	14 8	14 8	15 4	22 15	22 15	26 0	15 4	15 4	18 13	17 4	17 4	21 5¼	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 1 11	3 1 11	2 13 0	11 10½	11 10½	12 13½	Nuddea	
	Khoolna	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	...	25 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	180 0	180 0	...	3 4 0	3 2 0	...	10 8¾	11 0	...	Khoolna	
	Jessore	14 8	19 0	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 12	22 12	22 12	29 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	11 0/	10 12	11 8	Jessore	
	Moorshedabad	17 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	19 0	19 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 0 0	12 0/	12 8	12 8	Moorshedabad	
	Dinagepore	11 0	12 12	10 8	11 0	11 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	22 0	20 6	20 0	25 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 7 0	3 7 0	3 4 0	11 8¾	11 0	12 0	Dinagepore	
	Rajshahye	16 8	17 4	16 8	30 0	35 0	48 12	13 8 to 16 0	13 8 to 16 0	18 0 to 18 12	17 4 to 18 0	16 8 to 18 0	21 0 to 24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 12 9	3 8 3	3 5 3	10 8/	11 4	12 0	Rajshahye	
	Rungpore	11 7	11 7	15 0	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	16 0	17 3	16 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	110 0	110 0	135 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 5 3	11 14*m*	11 14	11 8	Rungpore	
	Bogra	15 0	15 0	15 12	...	...	...	12 0	13 8	18 0	24 0	24 0	28 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	67 8	80 0	67 8	3 6 8	3 8 8	3 5 4	10 8	9 12	10 8	Bogra	
	Pubna	19 8	18 12	18 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 0	17 4	19 8	23 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 0 0	11 4*n*	11 4	12 0	Pubna	
	Darjeeling	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	5 0	6 0	5 0	9 0	9 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	128 0	160 0	128 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	8 0*o*	8 0	8 0	Darjeeling	
	Jalpáiguri	10 0	10 0	9 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	13 4	16 0	16 0	18 0	20 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Jalpáiguri	
	Eastern Districts.																															*Eastern Districts.*	
	Dacca	14 8	14 4	15 4	19 0	19 0	40 0	15 12	16 0	20 10	19 4	19 4	26 6	...	...	...	...	21 8	...	90 0	90 0	91 4	3 2 0	3 2 0	2 15 0	12 4*p*	12 4	13 5	Dacca	
	Furreedpore	20 0	24 0	21 0	30 0	37 0	35 0	16 0	18 0	22 0	18 0	20 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	...	3 5 0	3 5 0	2 15 5	12 0*q*	12 0	12 0	Furreedpore	
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	22 0	21 0	20 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	100 0	2 11 0	2 11 0	3 11 0	13 0/	13 0	10 9	Backergunge	
	Mymensingh	12 0	12 8	11 8	...	...	...	13 0	15 0	22 8	17 8	18 0	29 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	12 4*s*	12 0	12 8	Mymensingh	
	Tipperah	12 12	12 12	13 4	...	...	...	17 8	17 4	22 8	20 0	19 12	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	12 4/	12 0	12 12	Tipperah	
	Chittagong	12 0	12 0	9 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	18 0	22 0	22 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	40 0	60 0	80 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 0 0	9 0*a*	9 0	12 0	Chittagong	
	Noakholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	23 0	27 0	22 0	26 0	31 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	10 0*c*	10 0	10 0	Noakholly	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 8	10 0	16 0	13 4	11 8	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	320 0	6 0 0	5 4 0	3 8 0	6 1	6 1	10 0	Chittagong Hill Tracts	
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	16 0	18 0	24 0	20 0	22 0	34 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	Hill Tipperah	
	Behar.																															*Behar.*	
	Patna	17 8	17 8	16 8	32 0	32 0	34 0	14 0	14 0	11 8	19 0	19 0	31 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	130 0	130 0	130 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 2 0	10 8	10 8	10 9	Patna	
	Gya	20 0	20 0	17 8	27 0	26 0	29 0	12 0	12 8	12 0	16 0	16 8	20 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	180 0	180 0	180 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 4 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Gya	
	Shahabad	17 0 to 18 0	17 0 to 18 0	15 0 to 17 0	27 0	29 0	30 0	11 8 to 12 0	10 0	20 0 to 21 0	15 8 to 16 0	16 0 to 17 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	110 0	120 0	120 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	12 8*w*	12 8	12 8	Shahabad	
	Durbhunga	17 0	18 0	15 0	35 0	35 0	35 0	13 0	13 0	14 0	18 0	19 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 4 6	10 0*x*	10 0	11 0	Durbhunga	
	Mozufferpore	17 0	20 0	17 0	28 0	30 0	30 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	3 9 0	11 8*y*	12 0	12 8	Mozufferpore	
	Sarun	17 0	17 0	16 0	27 0	29 0	32 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	22 0	29 0	32 0	37 0	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 6 0	3 5 0	11 0	11 0	11 8	Sarun	
	Chumparun	19 0	18 0	19 0	40 0	40 0	38 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	18 0	18 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 8 0	11 8*z*	11 8	11 0	Chumparun	
	Monghyr	18 14	19 8	16 12	31 8	28 5	31 8	14 10	15 12	15 11	16 12	16 12	18 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	126 0	126 0	147 0	3 2 3	3 2 6	3 1 0	12 1*a1*	12 0	12 14	Monghyr	
	Bhágalpur	16 6	16 6	15 2	27 8	30 5	34 0	15 12	16 6	18 5	17 10	17 11	22 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	151 8	189 8	138 14	3 3 1	3 6 0	2 10 0	12 10*a2*	12 10	12 10	Bhágalpur	
	Purneah	16 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	22 0	18 0	16 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	10 0*a3*	10 0	10 0	Purneah	
	Maldah	17 8	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	19 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	120 0	120 0	3 7 0	3 6 0	3 0 0	11 0	11 0	13 0	Maldah	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	14 0	15 0	13 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	200 0	4 7 0	...	...	9 0	10 0	10 8	Sonthal Pergunnahs	
	Orissa.																															*Orissa.*	
	Cuttack	11 13	11 13	13 2	...	...	...	14 7	15 12	15 12	23 10*	24 15	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	Cuttack	
	Pooree	13 2	11 13	12 8	...	...	...	21 0	23 10	22 0	23 10	32 8	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	104 0	105 0	102 0	2 12 0	2 11 0	...	14 0*z4*	14 0	13 0	Pooree	
	Balasore	14 0	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	26 0	28 0	32 0	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	160 0	...	...	3 2 0	8 0*z5*	8 0	13 0	Balasore	
	CHOTA NAGPORE.																															CHOTA NAGPUR.	
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																															*South-Western Frontier Agency.*	
	Hazáribágh	16 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	20 0	24 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 15 3	3 9 9	3 11 3	9 9*z6*	11 0	10 0	Hazáribágh	
	Lohardugga	17 0	18 0	18 0	22 0	24 0	28 0	18 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	24 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	130 0	4 2 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	9 0*z7*	9 8	9 0	Lohardugga	
	Singbhoom	20 0	20 0	22 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	36 0	36 0	36 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	180 0	160 0	160 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 7 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Singbhoom	
	Manbhoom	13 0	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	18 0	16 0	19 0	27 0	24 0	34 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	140 0	120 0	140 0	3 7 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	10 0*z8*	10 0	11 0	Manbhoom	

* In the interior prices range from 31-8 to 39-6 seers.
f In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Baraset and Bussirhat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 10-8 seers, Barrackpore 13-13 seers, and Dum-Dum 12 seers.
g In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kooshtea 12-12 seers, Meherpore and Ranaghat 12 seers and Choondanga 12-8 seers.
h In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Bagirhat 11 seers and Satkhira 10 seers.
i In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers, and Bongong 13 seers.
j In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Laibagh 11 seers, Jungipore 9-8 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.
k Retail prices of salt at Raigunge 11-8 seers and Nowpore 12 seers.
l In Nattore and Nowgong retail price of salt 12 seers.
m In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Nilphamari 12 seers, and Kurigram and Gaibanda 10 seers.
n In Serajgunge retail price of salt 12 seers.
o Retail price of salt at Kurseong 8 seers and Silligoree 10 seers.
p In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Manickgunge 12 seers, Naraingunge 12-8 seers.
q In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Goalundo 10-8 seers, Madaripore 13 seers, Bhanga 11 seers, and Gopalgunge 12-12 seers.
r In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 10-10 seers, Bhola 9 seers, and Ferozepore 10 seers.
s In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishoregunge 10-10 seers, Attea 12 seers, Jamalpore 11 seers, and Nitrokona 13-5 seers.
t In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Brahmunberriah 12 seers and Chandpore 12-8 seers.
u Retail price of salt at Kumeriah 10 seers, and Hathazaree and Cox's Bazar 8 seers.
v In the interior retail prices of salt range from 8 to 12-4 seers.
w In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Sasseram and Bhaboa 10-8 seers and Buxar 11 seers.
x In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madhubani 10 seers and Tajpur 12 seers.
y In Hazipore sub-division retail price of salt in some places 11 seers and in others 12 seers.
z In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 12-8 seers.
z1 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Begusarai 10-4 seers and Jamui 11 seers.
z2 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Banka and Soopoie 11 seers and Muddehpoora 10-8 seers.
z3 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kissengunge 9 seers and Arrareah (at Ranceegunge) 11 seers.
z4 In Khoorda retail price of salt 13 seers.
z5 In Bhadrak retail price of salt 10 seers.
z6 Retail price of salt at Chutra 10 seers and Khurrueklhia 11 seers.
z7 Retail price of salt at Daltonganje 9 seers.
z8 Retail price of salt at Burrabazar 11 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF JUNE 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bairnsh Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bairnsh Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bairnsh Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	*R a.*	*R a.*	*R a.*	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
ASSAM.	Sylhet	13 4	13 4	11 12	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	17 0	17 8	17 8	35 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108 0	108 0	108 0	3 6	3 6	3 6	11 12	11 12	11 12	Sylhet	ASSAM.
	Cachar	9 2	10 0	9 2	13 5	16 0	16 0	13 5	12 13	21 5	16 0	13 5	25 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 8	3 8	3 7	10 10	10 10	9 2	Cachar	
	Goálpárá	20 0	22 0	26 11	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	13 5	18 0	17 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 6	3 6	3 8	12 0	11 0	10 2	Goálpárá	
	Gáro Hills	4 0	4 0	4 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 6	5 6	5 6	6 6	6 6	6 6	Gáro Hills	
	Kámrúp	18 0	16 0	19 0	...	...	...	11 12	11 12	11 0	15 4	15 4	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8	3 8	3 4	11 8	11 8	11 0	Kámrúp	
	Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Darrang	
	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 0	5 0	4 12	8 0	8 0	8 0	Nowgong	
	Sibságar	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	120 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 8	Sibságar	
	Lakhimpur	7 8	7 8	8 0	7 0	8 0	10 0	6 0	7 8	7 0	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Lakhimpur	
	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	10 0	9 0	10 0	11 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	120 0	4 4	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	
	Nága Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	Nága Hills	
																										S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.						
N. W. PROVINCES.	Dehra Dún	19 0	18 8	19 0	31 0	31 0	30 0	6 8	6 8	6 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	24 0	26 0	22 0	26 0	26 0	20 0	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	Dehra Dún	N. W. PROVINCES.
	Saháranpur	20 15½	21 8	20 7	32 4	34 6½	29 1	8 9½	8 9½	9 11	11 13	12 14½	12 14	26 14	25 13	25 13	17 3	21 8	23 10	...	...	...	150 0	150 0	150 8	12 14½	12 14½	12 6	12 9	12 11	12 1	Saháranpur	
	Muzaffarnagar	19 12	20 4	18 11	35 5	35 5	28 11	6 9	6 9	6 9	12 2	12 2	14 5	33 0	35 5	26 6	26 6	26 6	22 0	...	...	...	110 0	110 0	132 0	12 6	12 8	11 8	11 10	11 10	11 4	Muzaffarnagar	
	Meerut	18 8	19 0	18 0	30 0	31 0	24 0	7 0	7 0	6 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	29 0	31 0	25 0	21 0	23 0	21 0	...	...	...	110 0	110 0	110 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Meerut	
	Bulandshahr	19 14	21 0	18 14	27 8	29 0	23 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	10 15	11 0	10 15	28 0	27 0	23 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	130 0	130 0	130 0	12 0	11 8	11 8	...	...	...	Bulandshahr	
	Aligarh	18 0	18 0	17 8	26 0	27 0	22 8	7 0	6 8	6 0	12 0	12 0	15 8	28 0	28 0	24 0	18 6	18 0	19 0	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 8	13 0	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Aligarh	
	Kumaun	15 0	15 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	200 0	8 0	8 8	7 8	7 0	6 0	7 0	Kumaun	
	Garhwál	22 0	18 0	23 8	23 0	20 0	25 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	15 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	30 0*	27 0*	30 0*	...	...	...	280 0	280 0	200 0	8 8	8 8	7 8	7 13	8 0	7 0	Garhwál	
	Bijnor	20 4	21 2	17 2	31 12	33 3	26 7	10 4	10 6	11 4	11 13	11 13	12 10	24 12	29 4	22 8	21 6	21 6	19 2	...	...	...	125 0	125 0	162 8	12 10	12 10	12 7	12 8	12 8	12 3	Bijnor	
	Moradabad	20 5	21 4	18 7	31 4	32 8	24 6	10 10	10 10	10 9	13 12	13 12	14 6	23 2	29 6	23 12	14 6	18 2	19 6	...	...	...	125 0	125 0	192 0	11 6	11 1¼	10 8	11 1½	10 12½	10 0	Moradabad	
	Budaun	19 8	20 11	17 11	30 0	31 15	21 14	8 6	8 6	9 9½	14 14	14 14	15 9½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	125 0	125 0	192 0	12 8	12 8	11 14	11 14	12 3	11 4	Budaun	
	Bareilly	18 2	19 6	17 3	26 4	26 14	25 0	7 8	7 8	8 2	13 2	13 2	15 0	23 12	28 12	22 8	18 12	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	125 0	125 0	200 0	12 8	12 8	11 14	11 14	12 3	11 4	Bareilly	
	Sháhjahánpur	20 8	21 9	18 4	32 0	32 0	23 8	9 12	9 12	9 4	15 12	16 4	16 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	200 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	11 4	11 4	11 14	Sháhjahánpur	
	Tarái Pergunnahs	23 0	23 0	20 0	37 8	35 0	30 0	8 12	10 0	7 8	13 12	14 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	130 0	15 0	13 8	11 4	14 0	12 8	11 0	Tarái Pergunnahs	
	Muttra	18 0	18 8	17 0	25 8	27 0	21 8	7 0	...	12 0	13 0	15 0	22 0	24 0	22 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	Muttra	
	Agra	16 8	17 8	16 12	23 8	25 0	20 8	5 12	5 12	6 0	12 0	12 0	14 0	24 0	26 0	22 0	21 0	23 0	20 0	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	Agra	
	Farukhabad	19 6½	19 9	17 12	27 11	27 10	23 1	7 2	7 5	8 3	12 9½	12 8	14 6½	26 7	24 15	23 8½	20 3	21 1	...	...	...	...	156 8	150 0	156 8	12 4	12 4	11 14½	11 6	11 9	10 14	Farukhabad	
	Mainpuri	18 10	18 12	17 12	27 8	26 0	21 8	4 8	4 0	5 0	10 8	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	12. 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 8	Mainpuri	
	Etáwah	17 0	18 0	17 0	20 8	21 8	23 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 8	14 0	14 8	24 0	24 0	16 0	22 8	22 8	16 0	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Etáwah	
	Etah	19 4	19 15	20 0	27 0	27 8	22 8	8 0	7 12	8 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	22 0	23 8	...	20 8	22 8	18 0	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	12 0	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	Etah	
	Jalaun	19 0	20 0	19 0	22 0	22 0	20 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	13 0	25 0	26 0	28 0	23 0	23 0	24 0	...	...	...	110 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	12 0	13 0	10 0	11 8	12 0	Jhánsi	
	Jhánsi	23 0	23 0	21 4	40 0	35 0	33 5	10 0	10 0	8 8	17 0	17 0	15 0	35 0	35 0	29 3½	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	11 0	11 8	Lalitpur	
	Lalitpur	22 0	22 4	22 8	40 0	41 4	34 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	38 0	38 0	32 0	30 0	30 0	27 0	...	...	...	150 0	150 0	150 0	13 4	13 4	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 8	Cawnpore	
	Cawnpore	18 8	19 0	17 12	28 0	29 0	25 8	10 0	10 0	10 8	14 0	14 8	15 0	28 0	30 0	26 0	23 0	25 0	24 8	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	9 10	10 12	10 12	9 6	Fatehpur	
	Fatehpur	17 6	17 8	16 10	26 0	27 0	22 4	11 4	11 4	11 12	15 8	15 8	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	12 0	11 12	11 0	11 4	10 8	Bánda	
	Bánda	23 0	25 0	18 0	34 0	35 0	25 0	8 0	8 8	9 0	14 8	14 8	14 8	34 0	36 0	32 0	33 0	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	140 0	140 0	12 0	12 0	11 4	11 0	11 0	10 6	Allahabad	
	Allahabad	18 2	17 12	17 2	29 8	29 0	25 0	10 0	10 0	11 8	17 8	15 8	17 8	32 0	29 0	30 0	30 8	30 0	28 4	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 13	12 2	10 0	10 0	11 0	9 12	Hamírpur	
	Hamírpur	19 2	20 0	16 0	...	...	22 10	9 0	10 0	13 12	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	25 0	...	20 0	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	10 10	10 10	9 9	Jaunpur	
	Jaunpur	20 8	20 8	19 1	32 12	32 12	28 4	7 12	7 12	8 7	14 2	14 13	16 14	...	...	...	...	...	22 9	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 12	11 12	9 11	10 10	10 10	9 9	Gorakhpur	
	Gorakhpur	18 14	18 14	18 13	27 0	27 0	32 6½	12 9½	13 8	14 6½	16 3	16 3	18 13	28 13	32 6½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	...	10 13*	10 13	9 9½	Basti	
	Basti	19 0	19 0	18 8	36 0	27 0	38 0	13 12	15 0	15 0	16 0	17 8	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150 0	150 0	140 0	8 8	8 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Azamgarh	
	Azamgarh	18 7	18 7	19 3	25 13	25 13	28 0	10 5	10 5	8 14	14 12	14 12	17 11	29 8	29 8	41 4	20 10	20 10	...	...	...	...	147 8	147 8	147 8	9 3	9 3	9 3	8 14	10 8	8 8	Mirzapur	
	Mirzapur	17 8	17 8	16 0	27 0½	26 0	25 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	14 8	14 0	18 0	29 0	30 0	30 0	28 0	25 0	28 0	...	...	...	90 0	90 0	90 0	11 0	11 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	Benares	
	Benares	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Gházipur	
	Gházipur	19 5	20 9½	19 5	27 0	28 5	28 5	9 0	9 0	10 15½	16 1½	16 1½	20 15½	25 12	29 10	33 7½	26 6½	27 0½	25 12	...	...	...	128 12	128 12	103 0	10 15½	10 15½	10 5	10 5	10 5	9 10½	Gházipur	
	Balia	18 12	19 6	17 0	28 4	28 12	28 12	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 12	17 8	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	100 0	11 4	11 4	10 0	11 4	10 4	10 4	Balia	
	Pilibhít	21 2	21 6	18 12	36 4	35 4	28 10	15 0	13 12	14 12	16 8	16 4	16 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150 0	150 0	150 0	13 8	13 0	12 12	12 8	12 0	11 12	Pilibhít	
OUDH.	Lucknow	18 9½	18 12	16 9½	27 14	28 6½	23 6	6 0	6 0	6 0	13 2½	13 3	14 5	30 8	29 14	24 6½	21 8	24 1	23 10	...	...	...	115 0	115 0	120 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 8	10 8	9 8	Lucknow	OUDH.
	Unáo	18 8	19 4	19 0	26 0	28 0	26 0	11 0	11 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	30 0	30 0	...	24 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	11 0	12 0	11 0	Unáo	
	Bára Banki	18 8	18 4	18 0	29 0	30 0	25 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	15 0	18 0	17 0	33 0	35 0	28 0	22 0	22 0	20 0	...	...	...	130 0	130 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	9 8	Bára Banki	
	Sitapur	22 4	23 0	18 14	35 0	35 4	25 2	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	15 12	32 0	33 0	20 0	26 0	27 8	19 0	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 0	12 0	11 4	11 0	11 8	Sitapur	
	Hardui	18 12	18 12	20 6	30 0	30 0	27 11	5 10	5 10	5 10	11 0	11 12	13 3	...	23 7	...	16 14	23 0	...	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	240 0	9 6	9 6	8 8	7 8	8 7	7 8	Hardui	
	Kheri	24 0	23 12	18 0	36 0	36 0	27 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	16 0	15 0	15 0	45 0	50 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	200 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	11 0	11 0	10 0	Kheri	
	Fyzabad	18 0	18 0	16 12	29 0	30 0	23 8	10 0	10 0	11 8	17 0	17 0	17 8	36 0	36 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	...	...	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 0	Fyzabad	
	Bharaich	19 0	20 0	17 0	42 0	42 0	38 0	10 0	11 0	9 0	17 0	17 8	18 0	38 0	38 0	33 0	20 0	24 0	13 0	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	210 0	11 10	12 0	...	11 6	11 8	11 4	Bharaich	
	Gonda	22 9½	21 8	22 1	42 0	42 0	39 0	14 4	13 8	15 4	16 2	15 0	19 4	41 12†	43 0†	42 8†	23 12	26 0	25 0	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	160 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 0	9 0	Gonda	
	Rai Bareli	19 4	19 8	18 0	27 8	27 12	22 8	...	...	...	15 6	16 0	15 12	...	...	24 0	20 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 4	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	Rai Bareli	
	Sultánpur	21 8	22 0	20 8	32 0	32 0	30 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	17 0	17 0	19 0	...	...	...	20 0	...	20 0	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	200 0	...	11 0	11 0	10 11	10 11	10 10	Sultánpur	
	Partábgarh	20 11	21 5	19 14	32 9	33 12	28 7	15 10	16 0	16 5	17 5	17 7	16 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	200 0	...	11 0	11 0	10 11	10 11	10 10	Partábgarh	
PUNJAB.	Delhi	19 12	20 8	18 0	29 0	30 0	23 8	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	15 0	27 0	30 0	24 0	20 0	21 8	19 0	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	90 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	11 8	12 0	Delhi	PUNJAB.
	Gurgaon	21 0	21 0	19 0	31 0	30 0	24 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	13 0	25 0	26 0	22 0	23 0	23 0	20 0	...	...	...	140 0	130 0	140 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	12 0	Gurgáon	
	Karnal	21 0	21 0	19 0	34 0	32 0	30 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	13 0	28 0	30 0	28 0	22 0	23 0	16 0	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	160 0	11 8	11 4	11 14	11 0	11 0	11 8	Karnál	
	Hissar (*a*)	20 0	20 0	18 0	34 0	30 0	29 0	...	...	...	10 0	12 0	10 0	34 0	33 0	28 0	27 0	28 0	26 0	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	12 8	12 0	11 8	12 0	11 0	11 0	Hissar (*b*)	
	Rohtak (*b*)	21 0	21 0	17 8	30 0	30 0	25 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	27 0	28 0	25 0	24 0	25 0	21 0	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 12	12 12	11 0	12 4	12 8	11 4	Rohtak (*e*)	
	Sirsa (*c*)	24 8	24 0	21 8	45 8	44 8	40 14	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 0	44 0	45 0	39 6	33 0	32 0	31 0	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	11 8	11 12	12 8	12 8	11 8	Sirsa (*a*)	
	Umballa	24 8	24 0	21 12	38 0	37 0	30 8	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	32 0	36 0	32 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	130 0	14 4	14 4	13 8	14 0	14 0	13 4	Umballa	
	Ludhiana	26 0	26 8	24 8	41 0	43 0	34 0	...	...	...	11 8	13 0	12 0	41 0	43 0	38 0	28 0	28 0	30 0	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 14	14 14	14 14	14 8	14 8	14 8	Ludhiána	
	Simla (*d*)	...	18 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	11 0	...	10 10	10 8	10 7	9 13	Simla (*d*)	
	Jullundur (*e*)	25 0	25 0	25 8	40 0	44 0	40 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	44 0	45 0	32 0	28 0	28 0	24 0	...	...	...	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 0	14 8	14 8	13 8	14 4	14 0	Jullundur (*e*)	
	Hoshiárpur	25 8	26 0	25 0	40 0	45 0	35 0	...	...	...	12 0	14 0	11 0	36 0	36 0	29 0	25 0	25 0	19 0	...	...	...	110 0	110 0	120 0	14 0	14 0	13 12	13 12	13 8	13 8	Hoshiárpur	
	Kangra	23 0	23 0	24 0	36 0	36 0	40 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Kángra	

* Mándwa. † Maize. (*a*) Prices risen. (*b*) The prices of bajra, jowar and salt (retail) have risen. (*c*) Prices of wheat, barley, bajra, and gram fallen; jowar rise... (*c*) Prices steady. (*e*) Wheat and barley falling; jowar rising.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF JUNE 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorgum*). Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorgum*). Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorgum*). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajri), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajri), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajri), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, *Coracoo*, Murwa, Nugeel), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, *Coracoo*, Murwa, Nugeel), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, *Coracoo*, Murwa, Nugeel), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Punjab—*continued.*	Amritsar (*a*)	25 0	24 8	25 8	39 0	39 0	39 0	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	12 8	39 0	41 0	28 4	25 8	25 8	24 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	15 6	15 6	15 4	14 14	14 14	14 14	Amritsar (*a*)	Punjab—*continued.*
	Siálkot	26 8	26 8	25 12	40 0	42 0	37 8	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	36 8	39 0	26 0	37 0	39 0	24 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	15 8	15 8	15 0	Siálkot	
	Gurdáspur	30 0	32 0	30 0	38 0	40 0	40 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	35 0	35 0	28 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 0	13 0	12 8	Gurdáspur	
	Lahore	23 0	23 0	23 0	38 0	38 0	33 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	10 0	40 0	48 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	22 0	90 0	90 0	80 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Lahore	
	Ferozepore	23 0	22 0	23 0	50 0	45 0	35 0	...	...	...	12 0	11 0	11 0	45 0	50 0	36 0	36 0	36 0	36 0	100 0	100 0	90 0	13 12	13 12	13 4	13 8	13 8	13 0	Ferozepore	
	Gujránwála	24 0	24 4	23 8	45 0	45 0	38 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	36 0	36 0	30 0	35 0	35 0	20 0	95 0	95 0	95 0	15 0	15 4	15 4	14 12	15 0	15 0	Gujránwála	
	Ráwalpindi	No return received			...		...	...		...	...		...	...		...	...		...	...		...	...		No return received			Ráwalpindi	
	Jhelum					...			...			...			...			...			...							Jhelum	
	Gujrát (*b*)	28 8	28 8	26 8	42 8	46 8	38 8	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	12 0	50 0	50 0	21 0	50 0	50 0	28 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	*	*	*	16 0	16 0	15 0	Gujrát (*b*)	
	Shahpúr	32 0	31 0	20 0	53 0	53 0	31 8	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	13 0	44 0	42 0	20 0	48 0	48 0	20 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	Shahpúr	
	Mooltan (*c*)	16 12	16 4	17 8	29 0	29 0	23 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	30 0	30 0	24 0	27 0	27 0	24 0	320 0	320 0	428 0	17 0	14 12	13 12	14 8	14 8	13 8	Mooltan (*c*)	
	Jhang (*d*)	23 0	22 0	18 8	34 0	32 0	28 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	35 0	32 0	14 0	32 0	32 0	16 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	14 12	14 10	14 8	14 8	14 4	14 0	Jhang (*d*)	
	Montgomery	20 0	19 0	19 8	32 0	32 0	24 0	...	...	...	6 0	5 8	5 8	30 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	200 0	13 0	13 0	11 8	12 0	12 0	10 8	Montgomery	
	Muzaffargarh	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Muzaffargarh	
	Dera Ismail Khán																												Dera Ismail Khán	
	Dera Gházi Khán																												Dera Gházi Khán	
	Bannu																												Bannu	
	Pesháwar	24 10	24 4	18 0	41 8	41 0	35 12	...	...	...	13 0	12 8	9 8	38 0	35 6	26 8	33 0	31 0	13 6	320 0	320 0	320 0	54 10	54 10	55 4	52 0	52 0	53 0	Pesháwar	
	Kohát (*a*)	22 10	21 10	15 15	44 10	47 2	31 11	...	...	...	15 15	15 5	11 8	42 0	13 6	22 5	40 13	43 6	19 2	86 0	86 0	91 0	91 12	91 12	91 0	51 0	63 12	80 0	Kohát (*a*)	
	Házára	...	...	...	...	50 0	34 0	...	...	...	18 0	...	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	114 12	114 12	76 8	*	*	*	12 0	12 0	12 0	Házára	
Central Provinces.	Nágpur																			140 0	140 0	140 0							Nágpur	Central Provinces.
	Bhandára																												Bhandára	
	Chánda																												Chánda	
	Wardha																												Wardha	
	Bálaghát																												Bálaghát	
	Jubbulpore																												Jubbulpore	
	Saugor																												Saugor	
	Damoh																												Damoh	
	Seoni																												Seoni	
	Mandla	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received				Mandla	
	Betúl																												Betúl	
	Chhindwára																												Chhindwára	
	Hoshangabad																												Hoshangabad	
	Narsinghpur																												Narsinghpur	
	Nimár																												Nimár	
	Raipur																												Raipur	
	Sambalpur																												Sambalpur	
	Bilaspur																												Bilaspur	
British Burma.	*Arakan Division.*																												*Arakan Division.*	British Burma.
	Akyab	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	10 0	8 0	6 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	9 0	8 0	Akyab	
	Northern Arakan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Northern Arakan	
	Kyoukpyoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Kyoukpyoo	
	Sandoway	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sandoway	
	Pegu Division.																												*Pegu Division.*	
	Rangoon Town	11 2	15 0	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	...	12 3	12 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	...	50 11	50 11	...	22 10	23 10	...	Rangoon Town	
	Tharrawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 2⅜	35 11½	...	7 14 3/64	18 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	535 11½	535 11½	...	...	...	...	32 7¾	35 11½	...	Tharrawaddy	
	Prome	12 2	12 2	18 3	...	...	...	12 3	12 3	13 7	14 7	13 12	17 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	139 11	139 11	139 11	25 5	25 5	32 4	16 9	16 9	18 10	Prome	
	Irrawaddy Division.																												*Irrawaddy Division.*	
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 15	11 15	17 14	15 10	15 10	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	183 8	183 8	183 8	29 9	29 9	32 4	29 9	29 9	29 9	Henzada	
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 11	10 14	19 14	13 13	13 6	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	265 7	199 11	199 11	26 0	28 9	31 0	19 8	21 4	25 4	Bassein	
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 6	...	12 9	12 3	...	18 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	123 0	246 0	246 0	39 6	...	39 6	35 7	...	35 7	Thonegwa	
	Thayetmyo	10 1	13 6	15 1	...	...	...	10 3	11 11	11 11	12 7	13 13	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	245 0	245 0	245 0	25 5	25 5	25 6	18 15	18 15	18 15	Thayetmyo	
	Tenasserim Division.																												*Tenasserim Division.*	
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Moulmein Town & Amherst	
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	13 12	17 15	17 15	22 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	399 3	399 3	399 3	24 2	24 2	24 2	16 1	16 1	16 1	Tavoy	
	Mergui	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 4	21 12	17 5	21 12	16 4	21 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	428 0	428 0	428 0	24 5	25 5	36 6	14 7⅛	14 7⅛	29 3	Mergui	
	Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	...	18 5	14 3	...	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	...	24 0	29 6	...	27 1	18 12	...	18 12	Toungoo	
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 13	9 1	15 9	11 5	12 0	17 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	250 0	250 0	250 0	32 3	29 8	32 3	18 14	18 14	18 14	Shwaygyin	
	Salween	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Salween	
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	15 8	16 5	15 2	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	6 13	10 3	10 3	9 13	23 14	24 11	23 0	27 0	27 0	...	130 0	130 0	130 0	10 14	10 11	10 11	10 6	10 3	10 3	Secunderabad	Hyderabad Assigned Districts.
	Bolarum	18 1	18 15	17 8	...	...	...	7 11	7 11	7 1	9 5	9 9	8 12	28 5	28 5	26 11	...	...	...	116 14	116 14	116 14	...	...	...	10 22	10 15	10 9	Bolarum	
	Chudderghat	14 0	15 0	13 0	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	6 0	9 8	9 12	8 0	24 0	26 0	24 0	33 0	23 0	33 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	9 8	Chudderghat	
	Amraoti	16 0	16 0	16 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	25 0	26 0	27 0	15 0	16 0	24 0	64 0	64 0	70 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Amraoti	
	Akola	17 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	10 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	28 0	28 0	30 0	21 0	21 0	23 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Akola	
	Ellichpur	15 0	15 0	14 0	12 0	18 0	12 0	8 0	8 0	6 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	22 0	24 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	20 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	Ellichpur	
	Buldana	18 0	17 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	24 0	22 0	32 0	20 0	21 0	38 0	300 0	300 0	100 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	Buldána	
	Wun	16 0	18 8	14 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	7 0	13 0	13 8	10 8	31 4	34 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	8 0	Wún		
	Basim	21 0	21 0	21 0	...	...	...	6 0	5 4	5 4	14 0	13 8	13 0	27 0	28 0	30 0	...	...	...	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 12	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 8	Basim	

(*a*) Wheat falling; jowar rising. (*b*) Wheat, barley and gram rising. (*c*) Gram rising; wheat falling. (*d*) Gram rising; wheat, barley, jowar, and salt falling. * No wholesale sale sold in Házára and Gujrát.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF JUNE 1883 —*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coracio Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.			Districts.	Provinces.
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.		
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Mysore	Bangalore																																	Bangalore	Mysore
	Kolar																																	Kolar	
	Túmkúr																																	Túmkúr	
	Mysore	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Mysore	
	Hassan																																	Hassan	
	Shimoga																																	Shimoga	
	Kadur																																	Kadur	
	Chitaldroog																																	Chitaldroog	
Coorg	Coorg	8 15	9 6	8 9	10 1	10 4	9 2	14 5	14 1	10 10	17 14	18 0	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 13	25 15	19 13	26 12	28 6	21 14	110 0	110 0	110 0	9 13	10 2	10 8	9 10	10 2	9 8	Coorg	Coorg.
Rajpootana.	Jeypore	16 8	16 8	16 4	23 0	22 8	21 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	24 0	25 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	19 0	...	...	...	21 4	22 4	18 8	...	...	...	14 8	14 8	14 0	14 4	14 4	13 8	Jeypore	Rajpootana.
	Kishengurh	15 12	16 0	15 12	23 8	23 8	22 8	8 0	9 0	9 0	9 8	11 0	10 8	24 0	25 8	23 8	18 4	18 4	20 0	...	...	...	23 8	23 8	21 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 12	16 0	16 12	Kishengurh	
	Kerrowlee	18 6	19 6	17 0	26 13	26 14	20 0	12 8	12 8	13 8	13 12	13 12	15 0	26 13	26 14	20 0	23 0	23 0	17 8	...	...	...	27 15	27 10	20 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Kerrowlee	
	Ulwur	19 7	20 5	17 6	26 11	27 14	21 11	8 10	8 10	8 0	10 10	10 10	11 11	24 12	25 0	21 13	23 8	21 8	16 8	...	...	...	27 8	28 0	20 8	...	...	...	15 12	15 12	15 13	15 0	15 0	15 6	Ulwur	
	Bhurtpore (City)	19 8	20 14	17 8	29 12	30 9	22 8	8 0	7 13	6 8	9 13	11 0	11 0	27 8	28 4	23 8	21 8	25 8	19 8	...	...	...	23 0	22 12	21 8	70 0	60 0	70 0	13 5	13 6	14 8	13 0	13 0	14 0	Bhurtpore (City)	
	Ajmere	15 0	15 0	15 8	21 12	22 0	21 8	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 0	21 0	18 0	14 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	25 3	26 0	20 6	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	Ajmere	
	Deoli Cantonment	19 2	18 6	16 5	25 4	25 3	20 4	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	10 8	23 4	24 12	21 7	18 0	18 2	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	...	13 8	13 12	13 10	Deoli Cantonment	
																													R a. p.	*R a. p.* per md.	*R a. p.*					
	Erinpura	16 6	16 6	17 3	27 6	27 6	29 14	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	8 0	20 0	20 0	25 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	20 6	20 6	23 2	160 0	160 0	170 0	2 13 9	2 13 9	3 1 2	13 0	13 0	12 0	Erinpura	
	Sirohee	14 0	14 0	17 0	25 0	26 0	28 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	8 0	8 8	18 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	21 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	21 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 5 0	12 5	12 5	11 7	Sirohee	
	Abu	12 0	12 4	15 2	18 12	19 8	22 12	6 10	6 14	6 8	8 10	8 4	8 0	...	...	...	14 8	15 2	18 4	...	...	...	16 0	16 2	18 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	11 8	11 8	10 8	Abu	
	Anadra	13 4	13 10	17 4	21 12	22 8	26 8	7 4	7 4	7 0	9 4	9 0	9 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 12	21 4	...	...	...	17 4	17 0	21 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 8 0	12 4	12 4	11 8	Anadra	
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	20 0	19 8	19 0	26 0	26 0	26 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 8	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	24 0	24 0	*	*	*	3 10 0	3 4 0	...	11 0	12 0	10 0	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Meywar (Oodeypore)	13 4½	12 14¼	14 13½	16 12¾	16 6½	19 8½	10 8¾	10 2½	10 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 6½	16 0½	17 3	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 9 *R a. p.*	9 15¼ *R a. p.* per md.	9 9 *R a. p.*	9 6	9 9	9 6	Meywar (Oodeypore)	
	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	20 0	19 6	21 4	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	17 8	17 8	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	31 4	...	...	...	...	...	4 0 0	10 0	11 14	11 4	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	
	Partábgarh („)	15 2½	14 8½	15 2	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 15	11 4	11 4	13 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 5	19 11	19 1	...	...	...	2 5 6	...	...	17 0	17 12	10 0	Partábgarh („)	
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	15 5	15 0	15 10	20 0	21 4	21 4	6 4	6 4	6 4	7 8	7 8	7 8	20 0	18 12	21 4	17 13	17 8	18 12	...	...	...	19 6	18 12	20 0	...	...	...	2 9 0	2 10 0	2 9 0	15 5	15 0	15 0	Marwar (Jodhpore)	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Bikaneer	11 11	11 3	12 0	...	...	...	3 8	3 8	3 2	6 4	6 8	6 8	...	...	...	19 12	19 14	17 4	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	16 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	Bikaneer	
	Boondee	21 4	20 8	17 0	30 0	30 0	25 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	10 8	11 0	9 8	...	...	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 0	29 0	25 12	160 0	160 0	140 0	12 8	13 0	12 0	12 4	12 8	11 12	Boondee	
	Kotah	20 0	20 0	17 4	25 0	25 0	22 0	10 0	10 0	8 12	13 0	13 0	11 0	26 0	26 0	21 0	15 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	24 12	240 0	240 0	240 0	14 0	13 0	12 0	13 8	12 8	11 8	Kotah	
	Tonk	19 0	19 9	14 2	26 0	28 5	20 5	7 0	7 9	7 0	9 12	9 11	10 0	26 0	28 10	21 5	...	...	18 10	...	...	...	26 8	28 10	19 10	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 4	14 12	13 4	13 0	14 7	13 0	Tonk	
	Jhallawar	19 13	20 10	15 4	23 10	23 10	15 1	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	8 14	23 7	24 2	16 4	18 6	18 6	13 6	...	...	...	25 13½	26 2	18 9½	...	...	...	10 8	10 2	9 15½	10 4	9 14	9 11½	Jhallawar	
	Shahpoora	17 2	18 2	17 12	30 0	22 12	21 2	13 15	13 4	10 8	17 0	16 2	14 0	19 0	20 3	19 12	16 4	21 0	18 0	...	...	...	23 0	23 1	19 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 14	14 1	13 8	13 6	13 13	13 4	Shahpoora	
	Dholpur	17 9	18 8	16 10	25 12	26 4	21 8	10 2	10 2	10 2	11 4	11 4	12 6	23 8	24 10	21 3	22 5	22 0	19 2	...	...	...	25 9	26 8	21 1	...	...	...	12 15	13 8	12 15	12 2	12 10	12 8	Dholpur	
Central India.	Indore	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Indore	Central India.
	Gwalior																																	Gwalior	
	Goona																																	Goona	
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)																																	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	

* Eight pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 2nd HALF OF MAY 1883, PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1228 AND 1229 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 23rd JUNE 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Province.	District.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice. Best sort.			Rice. Common.			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.
		S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	*Rap.* per	*Rap.* maund.	*Rap.* maund.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
Rajpootana.	Bánswára (Meywar Agency).	19 6	18 12	25 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	7 8	17 8	17 8	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	35 0	...	...	...	3 6	6	...	...	11 11	12 8	11 14

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS IN BENGAL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1882-83.

Areas leased for Irrigation up to the end of March 1883.

Circle.	District.	Canal.	Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilized.	Approximate area of land under irrigation during month.	Approximate area of land under irrigation last year at same time.	DETAILS OF AREAS LEASED. Five years. All crops.	Five years. Khurreef.	Annual leases. Khurreef.	Rubbee.	Sugar-cane.	Bhadoi.	Hot weather.	Total.	Grand Total.	Rainfall, 1882-83. During month.	Rainfall, 1882-83. Up to end of month.	Rainfall, 1881-82. During month.	Rainfall, 1881-82. Up to end of month.	Remarks.
			C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	
Orissa	Cuttack	Kendrapara	1,269	261·12	62·61	247	874	...	53,688	...	48	71	...	...	119	53,807	1·15	86·32	0·00	59·29	
		Gobri	372·82	160·74	64·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
		Pattamoondee	1,042	24·00	24·00	...	...	...	12,068	...	2	...	...	...	2	12,070					
		High Level, Section I	675	224·30	...	16	...	...	14,213	...	28	8	...	1	37	14,250					
		Taldunda, 1st Reach	1,300	146·00	15·00	262	150	...	11,008	...	23	...	...	...	23	11,031					
		Ditto, 2nd do.	650	15·00				...	31,466	...	...	...	...	...	...	31,466					
		Matchgong	650	23·00	23·00	15	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...						
	Balasore	High Level, Section II	727·16	...	...	24	16	...	1,380	...	...	240	...	...	240	1,620					
		Ditto do. III	727·16	176·07	...	96	32	...													
		Total	...	...	...	660	1,072	...	123,823	...	101	319	...	1	421	124,244	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	123,823	...	89	268	...	...	357	124,180	...	...	...	...	
South-Western.	Midnapore	Midnapore	1,411	62	...	...	...	...	87,232	...	...	...	...	...	...	87,232	1·92	66·04	0·00	70·32	
	Howrah	Panchkoorah	522	15	...	...	...	...	12,857	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,857	2·37	51·59	0·00	78·43	
		Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	100,089	...	...	...	...	...	...	100,089	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	103,862	...	...	...	...	...	...	103,862	...	...	...	...	
Sone.	Shahabad	Western Main	4,342	1,162	344	1,578	970	3,302	...	3,269	1,356	1,217	11	...	5,853	9,155	0·65	28·57	0·00	40·33	
		Buxar	1,226	303	249	5,683	3,578	10,019	...	15,088	5,548	3,207*	45	...	23,888	33,907	0·25	36·05	0·00	46·03	
		Arrah	1,660	660	546	26,629	20,271	51,852	...	20,748*	5,324	2,864	35	...	28,971	80,823	Nil	36·62	0·00	42·14	
	Patna and Gya	Eastern Main	1,466	196	159	560	164	214	...	276	6	35	...	...	317	531					
		Patna				29,360	23,157	10,918	...	9,777	1,245	834	...	1,343	13,199	24,117					
		Total	...	...	...	63,810	48,442	76,305	...	49,158	13,479	8,157	91	1,343	72,228	148,533	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	42,810	...	36,930	19,970	13,848	...	...	70,748	113,558	...	...	...	...	
		Grand Total	...	...	...	...	...	76,305	223,912	49,158	13,580	8,476	91	1,344	72,649	372,866	...	...	...	...	
	Grand total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	42,810	227,685	36,930	20,059	14,116	...	...	71,105	341,000	...	...	...	...	

* There were errors in the areas returned by the Executive Engineer, Arrah Division, for the two crops (khurreef and sugar-cane) which have now been corrected.

The 19th June 1883.

G. F. E. S. NEILL, *Major, M.S.C.,*
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
P. W. Department.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, 1883, UP TO 31st MAY 1883.

Canal Division.	Water distributed during May 1883: Depth in Canal at regulating gauge in feet. Full supply.	Depth in Canal at regulating gauge in feet. Actual average throughout.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Allotted discharge.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Actual average throughout.	Total area of irrigation during current fasl.	Total area for the corresponding period of last year.
Upper Ganges. Northern	10·00	9·67	950	381	24,622	30,605
Upper Ganges. Anúpshahr	7·00	6·47	1,100	993	36,925	48,031
Upper Ganges. Meerut	8·10	7·85	925	1,386	43,423	51,368
Upper Ganges. Bulandshahr	7·20	7·66	925	1,037	46,896	46,240
Upper Ganges. Aligarh	5·50	5·33	1,300	1,188	53,665	61,186
Lower Ganges. Narora	9·00	7·76	975	444	10,614	11,649
Lower Ganges. Mainpuri	7·00	5·95	600	514	20,231	28,335
Lower Ganges. Cawnpore	8·20	5·19	825	591	40,384	44,111
Lower Ganges. Etáwah	5·80	4·04	975	1,243	46,282	55,191
Lower Ganges. Bhognipur	7·00	6·13	950	875	20,492	19,868
Total, Upper and Lower Ganges Canals	...	...	9,525	8,652	343,534	396,584
Eastern Jumna Canal	4·74	4·44	1,300	1,176	47,520	50,342
Agra Canal	8·50	7·2	1,300	819	16,672	25,856
Rohilkhand	...	...	...	178	6,251	11,287
Bijnor	...	...	...	100	571	718
Dún	...	...	...	...	1,776	2,030
Jhánsi	...	...	...	...	13	23
Hamírpur	...	...	...	...	54	27
Total	...	...	...	...	416,391	486,867

Zila.	Land irrigated (approximate): Sugarcane.	Indigo.	Rice.	Cotton.	Other food-grains.	Fodder crops.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Rainfall: Total from 1st April, to end of May, 1883.	Average of ten previous years for the same period.
Saháranpur	15,046	1,546	446	40	12	112	983	18,185	1·40	1·30
Muzaffarnagar	38,853	3,748	946	49	16	234	2,001	45,847	2·0	1·53
Meerut	61,028	15,127	418	645	88	284	1,743	79,333	·42	1·13
Bulandshahr	5,322	48,085	4	536	259	9	600	54,815	2·30	·67
Aligarh	572	39,008	51	1	168	...	379	40,179	1·40	·31
Muttra	1,071	6,343	...	628	11	...	303	8,356	1·10	·53
Agra	1,044	2,333	1	60	1	3	247	3,689	·40	·87
Etah	1,252	20,519	20	2	214	3	822	22,833	1·20	·44
Mainpuri	2,521	26,854	5	31	161	76	875	30,522	1·00	·77
Fatehgarh	2,152	12,681	...	...	383	127	65	15,408	·55	·53
Etáwah	4,830	35,238	...	...	181	18	606	40,872	·30	·38
Cawnpore	4,697	35,772	528	...	437	...	875	42,309	...	·60
Delhi	...	15	...	...	...	...	25	40	·9	·88
Gurgaon	995	3,136	10	996	32	1	168	5,338	·3	·83
Dehra Dún	768	...	724	...	...	...	284	1,776	·60	2·91
Bijnor	571	...	...	...	...	...	...	571	·60	1·27
Tarái	1,176	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,176	1·10	·86
Pilibhit	750	...	...	...	...	...	...	750	1·50	1·09
Bareilly	4,325	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,325	1·40	·91
Jhánsi	11	...	...	1	...	...	1	13	90	·30
Hamírpur	11	...	...	...	...	...	39	54	...	·57
Total	146,995	250,405	3,157	2,989	1,962	867	10,016	416,391	...	...
Total for the same period last year	185,692	271,298	6,011	9,181	3,025	1,812	9,848	486,867	...	...
Increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	168	...	...	...
Decrease	38,697	20,893	2,854	6,192	1,063	945	...	70,476	...	...

Remarks.

		Cubic feet per second.
Supply— Entering head of Ganges Canal		6,149
„ Lower Ganges Canal		2,977
		9,126
Expended— Ganges Canal	4,985	
Lower Ganges Canal	3,667	
	8,652	
Escaped— Anúpshahr Branch, Ganges Canal	37	
Meerut Division, ditto	10	
Bulandshahr ditto, ditto	13	
Narora ditto, Lower Ganges Canal	58	
Mainpuri ditto, ditto	65	
Cawnpore ditto, ditto	311	
Etawah ditto, ditto	14	
Percolation from Narora Division	242	
„ Mainpuri ditto	24	
	774	
	9,426	

Executive Engineer, Northern Division, Ganges Canal, reports that demand was slack early in May; nearly all sugar has however been secured that; a smaller area is reported under sugar this year owing to low prices in market; that rain on 25th, 26th and 27th May had made sugar independent of canal water for 10 days; and that rice cultivation is progressing.

Executive Engineer, Anupshahr Branch, Ganges Canal, reports that the decrease in sugarcane is due to low price of gur, and the decrease in indigo is attributable to dearness and scarcity of seed.

Executive Engineer, Meerut Division, Ganges Canal, reports that the area in sugarcane has diminished in the lower parts of the division by 25 per cent. and in the upper by 10 per cent.; that the large harvest has caused all agricultural operations to be backward; hence, although there was an unusually large supply of water in the distributaries, the rice crop is only 2½ per cent. of last year up to date; that owing to the rainfall varying from 0·5 to 2·9 inches all over the division in the last week of May, accompanied by hail and storms, the irrigation demand was slackened and in many places cotton fields were ploughed without the aid of canal water; and that the cotton crop has not yet practically taken water. The worm "kansua" has attacked the sugarcane and some fields have been ploughed up.

Executive Engineer, Bulandshahr Division, Ganges Canal, reports that the demand during May was great and with difficulty met owing to the growth of sarwal and jungle in the distributaries; that on the 27th and 28th rain fell all over the division, but was unequally distributed; that cotton sowing began about the 20th and with this rain is now in full swing, and that the falling off of sugarcane is due to low price of gur.

Executive Engineer, Aligarh Division, Ganges Canal, reports that as compared with the estimate for May 1882, there is a decrease of 1,844 acres under sugarcane and 4,918 acres under indigo. The first is due to the glutted state of the sugar market and the second to the high price of indigo seed; and that cultivators did not begin the preparation of land for cotton and food crop till the end of month.

Executive Engineer, Narora Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the irrigation recovered considerably from the effects of a late rabi this month, but rain which fell to an average total of 1·5 inches on several days between the 22nd and 28th unsettled the demand.

Executive Engineer, Mainpuri Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that there was a strong demand for water up to the 20th, after which date weather became cloudy with some rain and consequently the demand slackened; that the falling off of irrigation during the month, as compared with the irrigation in the same month of the previous year, which is due to the low supply in April, has not yet been made good, and that there is little doubt but that there will be a considerable falling off of the total areas as compared with last year.

Executive Engineer, Cawnpore Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the decrease of 3,727 acres as compared with last year's irrigation, is due to the loss on the Taria distributary as noted in April's return, and also due in a measure to excess returns submitted by zillaqar last year.

Executive Engineer, Etáwah Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the decrease of 9,909 acres, as compared with last year's irrigation, is chiefly indigo. The price of the indigo seed is said to be more than double what it was last year, and the harvesting of the rabi was late this year, which facts probably account for the falling off.

Executive Engineer, Bhognipur Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that there was a heavy demand throughout the month on all distributaries except the tail series where indigo cultivation is yet scarcely established.

Executive Engineer, Eastern Jumna Canal, reports that sugarcane is 4,400 acres short of last year, some will be made up but not all; that the deficiency is equally distributed and seems due to recent low prices of sugar and gur, &c., and that the water-supply was ample and the demand steady.

Executive Engineer, Agra Canal, reports that the season is very late, and that demand was very slack up to 20th May, from which date supply began to fail.

Executive Engineer, Rohilkhand Canals, reports that there was great demand for water, and that this is the first month in which water has been taken freely for sugarcane, which crop appears very backward this year; and although last month's area is nearly doubled, the total area watered is not much more than half of what was reported last year.

ALLAHABAD,
The 21st June 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON THE AGRA CANAL FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1883.

Nature of Traffic.	Agra Canal. Principal items of Traffic. Up. Mds.	Up. No.	Down. Mds.	Down. No.	Total up and down. Mds.	Total up and down. No.
Grains—						
Wheat	...	...	2,000	...	2,000	...
Gram	...	...	450	...	450	...
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paddy or dhán	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bejhar or mixed grain	...	...	100	...	100	...
Dál—						
Urd	...	...	...	...	...	...
Múng	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arhar	...	...	...	...	...	...
Masúri	...	...	...	...	...	...
Juár	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bájra	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maize or Indian-corn	...	...	...	...	...	...
Barley	...	...	700	...	700	...
Total	...	...	3,250	...	3,250	...
Cotton	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oil-seeds	...	...	150	...	150	...
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	...
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	...
Building materials	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous goods	27,725	...	...	...	27,725	...
Firewood	...	...	4,460	...	4,460	...
Bamboos	...	...	...	...	...	...
Timber—	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poles and unsquared timber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Karis and squared timber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Logs	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous timber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Live-stock	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total	27,725	...	7,860	...	35,585	...
Total during corresponding period of last year	12,390	...	2,900	...	15,290	...
Increase	15,335	...	4,960	...	20,295	...
Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...

Remarks.

Particulars.	Agra Canal. 1883.	Agra Canal. 1882.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	1,307	562
Ton mileage	150,525	63,826
Value of goods R	39,106	20,630
Number of passengers	*Nil.*	*Nil.*

Fair traffic up after the closure, but things were very slack by the end of the month; rates offered for boating stone up would hardly cover haulage expenses.

ALLAHABAD,
The 21st May 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1883.

	UPPER GANGES CANAL.								UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS.								REMARKS.
	PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF LOCAL TRAFFIC.								PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF THROUGH TRAFFIC.								
	Up.		Down.		Total up and down.		Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through).		Up.		Down.		Total up and down.		Upper and Lower Ganges Canal (local).		
	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	1882.	1883.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	1882.	1883.	
Wheat	...	...	11,057	...	11,057	...	...	2,464	...	...	22,418	...	22,418	...	11,569	13,857	
Gram	...	...	...	...	2,015	...	1,591	563,540	4,047	...	...	...	4,047	...	892,152	1,111,308	
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...	37,067	2,05,425	50	...	...	...	50	...	5,76,124	7,44,834	
Paddy or dhán	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,36,576	10	...	...	150	...	150	...	54	189	
Bejhar or mixed grain	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Dál ... { Urd	...	...	897	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	897	...	897	...	...	...	
Múng	...	...	...	...	712	...	...	...	131	...	...	...	131	...	...	...	
Arhar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	872	...	...	...	872	...	...	...	
Masúri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Juár	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Bájra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Maize or Indian-corn	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Barley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
TOTAL	2,727	...	11,057	...	13,784	...	2,464	11,569	5,100	...	23,465	...	28,565	...	1,584	...	
Cotton	...	...	...	...	981	...	563,540	892,152	...	...	1,584	...	1,584	...	12,171	...	
Oil-seeds	875	...	1,445	...	2,320	...	2,05,425	5,76,124	933	...	11,241	...	12,174	...	30,245	...	
Salt	2,411	...	27,598	...	27,598	...	10	54	1,295	...	28,950	...	30,245	...	4,740	...	
Metals	...	...	806	...	3,217	...	...	...	3,484	...	1,256	...	4,740	...	92,132	...	
Building materials	4,681	...	1,396	...	1,396	...	...	...	59,567	...	32,565	...	92,132	...	16,155	...	
Miscellaneous goods	6,041	...	6,982	...	11,663	...	...	...	4,955	...	11,200	...	16,155	...	49,017	...	
Firewood	595	...	16,483	...	641	...	...	...	19,331	...	29,683	...	49,017	...	99,195	1,983,900	
Bamboos	...	...	93,698	1,873,960	41	820	...	...	501	10,020	98,694	1,973,880	99,195	1,983,900	12,500	12,500	
Timber. { Poles and unsquared timber.	...	...	12,200	12,200	...	...	...	...	300	300	12,200	12,200	12,500	12,500	...	...	
Karis and squared timber.	9	9	...	...	9	9	...	...	59	59	28,624	31,060	28,683	31,119	...	...	
Logs	50	50	28,624	31,060	28,674	31,110	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Miscellaneous timber	750	38	...	...	750	38	...	...	750	38	...	...	750	38	...	...	
Live-stock	200	400	101	202	301	602	...	...	408	816	1,961	2,122	1,169	2,938	2,320	2,320	
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
GRAND TOTAL	39,690	488	184,193	1,917,422	223,883	1,917,910	40,203	9,900	46,065	118,040	86,268	111,740	16,793	845	50,265	...	67,058
TOTAL DURING CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF LAST YEAR.	39,307	...	193,287	2,405,136	232,594	2,405,136	25,378	...	13,667	131,886	39,045	131,686	24,206	871	19,117	...	43,323
INCREASE	383	488	...	...	...	...	14,825	9,900	32,398	...	47,223	...	20,146	...	26	...	23,735
DECREASE	...	...	9,094	487,714	8,711	497,226	...	...	...	...	30,046	...	...	...	...	...	...

Particulars.	Upper Ganges Canal (local).		Lower Ganges Canal (local).	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	8,544	8,224	1,454	1,317
Ton mileage	349,533	348,718	106,662	102,645
Value of goods . . . . . R	1,30,346	1,65,156	3,66,601	3,66,301
Number of passengers	45	179	...	...

W. P. V. HORST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. & Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

ALLAHABAD,
The 21st June 1883.

ERRATA.

In column "Total up and down Traffic" in statement *for* Upper and Lower Ganges Canal *for* April, 1883, "313,123" maunds; and in the same column *for* decrease "9,196" maunds, *read* increase "90,504" maunds.
In Upper and Lower Ganges Canal Traffic Statement *for* June, 1882, against "Ton mileage" in column showing "Through" Traffic 1882, *for* "4,226,239" *read* "4,226,239" *read* "606,301," and similarly in the statement *for* August, 1882, *for* "37,362" *read* "29,962."

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XIV OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 15TH APRIL 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 14TH APRIL 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST TO 15TH APRIL 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST TO 14TH APRIL 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
16th June 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	75,242	437	207	97,363	470	1,59,380	433	2,12,816	514	53,436	...
9th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	1,10,826	203	547	1,62,096	296	2,40,506	205	2,76,067	252	35,561	...
16th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi .	676	2,09,455	310	725	2,49,980	345	4,88,400	337	5,23,701	361	35,301	...
9th ditto	Madras . . .	858	1,28,127	149	861	1,25,298	146	2,91,543	159	2,69,790	157	...	21,753
9th ditto	South Indian . .	655	70,864	108	655	72,302	111	1,51,111	108	1,44,844	111	...	6,267
16th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,447	10,38,525	718	1,458	10,02,573	688	21,25,646	685	19,99,096	686	...	1,26,550
9th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	2,76,081	599	461	2,98,651	648	5,67,741	575	5,74,641	623	6,900	...
	TOTAL .	4,816	19,09,120	396	4,914	20,08,353	409	40,24,327	390	40,00,955	407	...	23,372
	State.												
16th June 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	8,76,066	581	1,507	10,39,126	690	19,20,380	595	20,42,862	678	1,22,482	...
9th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	28	2,842	101	43	5,255	122	5,988	99	11,089	129	5,101	...
16th ditto	Nalhati . .	27	1,807	48	27	1,531	57	2,883	50	3,389	62	456	...
2nd ditto	Northern Bengal .	233	35,784	154	230	39,874	173	80,620	163	87,984	191	7,364	...
16th ditto	Tirhoot . . .	55	12,903	152	157	16,670	106	28,461	156	35,303	112	6,842	...
12th May 1883	Patna-Gya . .	57	12,146	213	57	14,426	253	28,140	230	29,086	255	946	...
9th June 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	2,972	102	29	2,490	86	5,773	93	5,699	98	...	74
16th ditto	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	6,064	70	87	6,026	69	13,842	74	10,969	59	...	2,873
16th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	943	79	12	1,143	95	2,105	82	2,408	100	303	...
16th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	2,41,686	216	1,116	2,70,069	242	5,15,724	216	5,28,928	237	13,204	...
16th ditto	Wardha Coal . .	45	13,144	292	45	19,879	442	27,912	289	35,947	399	8,035	...
16th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	19,197	196	149	47,857	321	40,645	193	95,248	320	54,603	...
16th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawadi Valley . .	161	48,982	304	161	37,769	235	1,03,959	301	77,955	242	...	26,004
16th ditto	Sindia . . .	75	6,154	82	75	7,738	103	14,813	92	14,564	97	...	249
16th ditto	Punjab Northern .	368	68,926	187	422	63,464	150	1,62,877	206	1,40,927	167	...	21,950
16th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	78,194	118	660	1,32,378	201	1,66,647	118	2,68,256	203	1,01,609	...
16th ditto	Muttra-Achnera .	23	1,337	58	23	2,485	108	2,497	50	4,901	107	2,404	...
9th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla .	32	2,269	71	32	1,960	61	4,674	68	4,141	65	...	533
16th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	1,727	19	...	...	3,983	22	3,983	...
	TOTAL .	3,137	5,54,850	177	3,414	6,72,741	197	12,07,560	180	13,60,727	199	1,53,167	...
	Native States.												
16th June 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	29,992	155	193	29,341	152	61,517	148	59,474	154	...	2,043
9th ditto	Nizam's . . .	121	19,483	161	121	14,700	121	35,483	136	28,436	118	...	7,047
2nd ditto	Mysore . . .	86	5,708	66	86	4,376	51	11,774	64	11,137	65	...	637
16th ditto	Jodhpore . . .	...	...	...	19	628	33	...	...	1,550	41	1,550	...
	TOTAL .	401	55,183	138	419	49,045	117	1,08,774	127	1,00,597	130	...	8,177
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,861	33,95,219	344	10,254	37,69,265	367	72,61,041	344	75,05,141	366	2,44,100	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	33,40,079	158	36,02,468	176	...	18,238
	NET RECEIPTS .	...	...	...	...	...	...	39,20,962	186	39,02,673	190	...	16,289

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

Simla,
the July 1883.

No. XV of 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 22nd April 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 21st April 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total receipts from 1st to 22nd April 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total receipts from 1st to 21st April 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
16th June 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	70,371	409	207	93,912	454	2,29,751	425	3,06,728	494	76,977	...
9th ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund.	547	1,23,299	225	547	1,65,184	302	3,63,804	211	4,41,251	269	77,447	...
16th ditto .	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	676	1,99,427	295	741	2,42,790	328	6,87,827	324	7,66,491	350	78,664	...
9th ditto .	Madras . . .	858	1,34,439	157	861	1,26,350	147	4,25,982	158	3,96,140	153	...	29,842
9th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	70,631	108	655	90,002	137	2,21,742	108	2,34,846	119	13,104	...
16th ditto .	Great Indian Peninsula	1,447	9,96,754	689	1,458	10,50,062	720	31,22,400	686	30,19,157	697	...	73,243
9th ditto .	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	2,75,157	597	461	3,17,457	689	8,42,898	582	8,92,098	615	49,200	...
	Total .	4,816	18,70,078	388	4,930	20,85,757	423	58,94,404	389	60,86,711	412	1,92,307	...
	State.												
16th June 1883	East Indian. . .	1,507	9,23,200	613	1,507	10,35,434	687	28,43,581	601	30,78,297	681	2,34,716	...
9th ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	28	2,713	97	43	5,729	133	8,702	99	16,818	130	8,116	...
16th ditto .	Nalhati . . .	27	1,319	49	27	1,896	70	4,202	50	5,235	65	1,033	...
2nd ditto .	Northern Bengal. .	233	36,128	155	230	37,181	162	1,16,748	160	1,25,165	181	8,417	...
16th ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	85	15,356	181	157	18,202	116	43,817	164	53,505	114	9,688	...
12th May 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	10,884	191	57	12,252	215	39,024	218	41,338	242	2,314	...
9th June 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	3,117	107	29	3,144	108	8,889	97	8,843	102	...	46
16th ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	6,518	75	87	6,706	77	20,360	74	17,674	68	...	2,686
16th ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur.	12	938	78	12	1,267	106	3,042	81	3,675	102	633	...
16th ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	2,36,956	212	1,116	2,70,341	242	7,52,680	214	7,99,269	239	46,589	...
16th ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	12,640	281	45	18,536	412	40,552	287	54,483	403	13,931	...
16th ditto .	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh . . .	98	23,043	235	149	49,687	333	63,688	207	1,44,935	324	81,247	...
16th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . . .	161	42,310	263	161	37,696	234	1,46,269	289	1,15,651	239	...	30,618
16th ditto .	Sindia. . . .	75	6,655	89	75	6,702	89	21,468	91	21,266	95	...	202
16th ditto .	Punjab Northern. .	368	67,153	182	422	66,414	157	2,30,029	199	2,07,341	164	...	22,688
16th ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . .	660	78,364	119	660	1,44,409	219	2,45,011	118	4,12,665	208	1,67,654	...
16th ditto .	Muttra-Achnera . .	23	1,387	60	23	1,868	81	3,884	53	6,769	98	2,885	...
9th ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	1,993	62	32	1,893	59	6,667	66	6,033	63	...	634
16th ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	1,632	18	...	...	5,615	21	5,615	...
	Total .	3,137	5,47,474	174	3,414	6,85,555	201	17,55,032	178	20,46,280	200	2,91,248	...
	Native States.												
16th June 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	34,233	176	193	36,162	187	95,750	157	95,636	165	...	114
9th ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	18,056	149	121	14,414	119	53,539	141	42,851	118	...	10,688
2nd ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	4,977	58	86	4,977	58	16,751	62	16,114	62	...	637
16th ditto .	Jodhpore . . .	...	...	...	19	698	36	...	...	2,248	39	2,248	...
	Total .	401	57,266	143	419	56,251	134	1,66,040	131	1,56,849	125	...	9,191
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,861	33,98,018	345	10,270	38,62,997	376	1,06,59,057	344	1,13,68,137	369	7,09,080	...
	Gross Estimated Expenses .	...	...	...	...	...	...	49,03,166	158	54,56,706	177	...	...
	Net Receipts .	...	...	...	...	...	...	57,55,891	186	59,11,431	192	1,55,540	...

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R. E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

Simla,
The 2nd July 1883.

No. XVI of 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest Return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 29th April 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 28th April 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st to 29th April 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st to 28th April 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
16th June 1883	Eastern Bengal.	172	79,529	462	207	89,884	434	3,09,280	434	3,96,612	479	87,332	...
9th ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund.	547	1,16,279	213	547	1,49,223	273	4,80,083	212	5,90,474	270	1,10,391	...
16th ditto .	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	676	1,61,431	239	741	2,26,786	306	8,49,258	302	9,93,277	339	1,44,019	...
9th ditto .	Madras . . .	858	1,36,122	159	861	1,31,968	153	5,62,104	158	5,28,108	153	...	33,996
9th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	95,424	146	655	77,585	118	3,17,166	117	3,12,429	119	...	4,737
16th ditto .	Great Indian Peninsula	1,447	10,03,186	693	1,458	10,51,026	721	41,25,586	688	41,00,183	703	...	25,403
9th ditto .	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	2,91,732	633	461	3,39,230	736	11,34,630	594	12,31,338	668	96,708	...
	Total .	4,816	18,83,703	391	4,930	20,65,711	419	77,78,107	390	81,52,421	414	3,74,314	...
	State.												
16th June 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	9,34,552	620	1,507	10,69,828	710	37,78,133	605	14,48,125	688	3,69,992	...
9th ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	28	6,224	222	43	6,583	153	14,925	129	23,401	136	8,476	...
16th ditto .	Nalhati . . .	27	1,299	49	27	1,651	61	5,501	49	6,886	64	1,385	...
2nd ditto .	Northern Bengal .	233	40,325	173	230	50,460	219	1,57,074	162	1,75,625	191	18,551	...
16th ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	85	13,757	162	157	17,050	109	57,574	164	70,555	112	12,981	...
12th May 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	9,144	160	57	9,813	172	48,168	204	51,151	224	2,983	...
9th June 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	2,989	103	29	2,864	99	11,878	99	11,707	101	...	171
16th ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	7,779	89	87	7,047	81	28,138	78	24,727	71	...	3,416
16th ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur .	12	1,238	103	12	1,232	103	4,281	86	4,907	102	626	...
16th ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	2,26,526	203	1,116	2,91,073	261	9,79,206	211	10,90,342	244	1,11,136	...
16th ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	14,774	325	45	29,781	662	55,327	297	84,264	468	28,937	...
16th ditto .	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh . . .	98	21,972	224	149	52,427	352	85,660	211	1,97,362	331	1,11,702	...
16th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . .	161	37,358	232	161	40,856	254	1,83,627	275	1,56,507	243	...	27,120
16th ditto .	Sindia . . .	75	6,873	92	75	6,019	80	28,341	91	27,284	91	...	1,057
16th ditto .	Punjab Northern .	368	56,358	153	422	60,002	141	2,86,387	188	2,67,343	158	...	19,044
16th ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . .	660	95,853	145	660	1,60,944	244	3,40,864	125	5,73,609	217	2,32,745	...
16th ditto .	Muttra-Achnera . .	23	1,190	52	23	1,461	64	5,074	53	8,230	89	3,156	...
9th ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	2,767	87	32	2,064	64	9,434	71	8,097	63	...	1,337
16th ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	3,631	41	...	...	9,246	26	9,246	...
	Total .	3,137	5,46,426	174	3,414	7,44,958	218	23,01,459	177	27,91,238	204	4,89,779	...
	Native States.												
16th June 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	31,987	165	193	31,018	161	1,27,737	159	1,26,654	164	...	1,083
9th ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	17,940	148	121	16,609	137	71,479	143	59,459	123	...	12,020
2nd ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	5,279	61	86	4,608	54	22,030	62	20,722	60	...	1,308
16th ditto .	Jodhpur . . .	...	...	...	19	609	32	...	...	2,857	38	2,857	...
	Total .	401	55,206	137	419	52,844	126	2,21,246	133	2,09,692	125	...	11,554
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,861	34,19,887	347	10,270	39,33,341	383	1,40,78,945	344	1,53,01,476	373	12,22,531	...
	Gross Estimated Expenses .	...	...	...	...	...	...	64,76,315	158	73,44,708	179	...	...
	Net Receipts .	...	...	...	...	...	...	76,02,630	186	79,56,768	194	3,54,138	...

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

Simla,
The 2nd July 1883.

No. XVII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest Return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 6th May 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 5th May 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 6th May 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 5th May 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
23rd June 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	69,003	401	207	98,790	477	3,78,283	428	4,95,401	479	1,17,118	...
16th ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund .	547	1,27,855	234	547	1,46,428	268	6,07,9 38	216	7,36,902	269	1,28,964	...
16th ditto .	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	676	1,67,781	248	741	2,22,992	301	10,17,039	293	12,16,269	331	1,99,230	...
16th ditto .	Madras . . .	858	1,45,669	170	861	1,31,030	152	7,07,773	160	6,59,138	153	...	48,635
16th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	87,285	133	655	79,982	122	4,04,451	120	3,92,411	120	...	12,040
23rd ditto .	Great Indian Peninsula	1,447	9,28,490	642	1,458	10,61,828	728	50,54,076	679	51,62,011	708	1,07,935	...
16th ditto .	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	2,85,206	619	461	3,17,131	688	14,19,836	598	15,48,469	672	1,28,633	...
	TOTAL .	4,816	18,11,289	376	4,930	20,58,181	417	95,89,396	387	1,02,10,601	415	6,21,205	...
	State.												
23rd June 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	8,88,052	589	1,509	10,91,141	723	46,66,184	602	52,39,266	695	5,73,082	...
16th ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . .	28	2,470	88	52	5,415	104	17,395	120	28,816	128	11,421	...
16th ditto .	Nalhati . . .	27	1,619	60	27	1,720	64	7,120	51	8,606	64	1,486	...
2nd ditto .	Northern Bengal .	233	33,008	142	230	38,290	166	1,90,082	159	2,13,915	186	23,833	...
16th ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	85	13,098	154	166	14,416	87	70,672	162	84,971	107	14,299	...
19th May 1883	Patna-Gya . .	57	10,492	184	57	9,610	169	58,660	200	60,760	213	2,100	...
16th June 1883	Muttra-Hathras .	29	2,542	87	29	2,413	83	14,420	97	14,120	97	...	300
16th ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	7,230	83	87	7,357	85	35,369	79	32,079	74	...	3,290
23rd ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur .	12	1,422	116	12	1,397	116	5,703	92	6,304	105	601	...
23rd ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	2,23,047	200	1,116	2,92,686	262	12,02,253	209	13,83,027	248	1,80,774	...
23rd ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	12,446	277	45	12,126	269	67,773	293	96,390	428	28,617	...
23rd ditto .	Nagpore and Chhattisgarh . . .	98	17,087	174	149	47,449	318	1,02,747	204	2,44,811	329	1,42,064	...
16th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . .	161	39,823	247	161	36,732	228	2,23,450	270	1,03,239	240	...	30,211
23rd ditto .	Sindia . . .	75	6,853	91	75	6,889	92	35,194	91	34,173	91	...	1,021
16th ditto .	Punjab Northern .	404	53,494	132	422	58,877	139	3,39,881	176	3,26,220	155	...	13,661
16th ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	60,994	92	660	1,17,471	178	4,01,858	118	6,91,080	209	2,89,222	...
23rd ditto .	Muttra-Achnera .	23	1,228	53	23	1,532	67	6,302	53	9,763	85	3,461	...
16th ditto .	Kaunia-Dharla . .	32	1,750	55	32	2,259	71	11,184	68	10,356	65	...	828
23rd ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	7,990	90	...	...	17,236	39	17,236	...
	TOTAL .	3,173	4,88,603	154	3,432	6,64,629	194	27,90,063	172	34,55,866	202	6,65,803	...
	Native States.												
16th June 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	29,469	152	193	35,981	186	1,57,206	157	1,62,635	169	5,429	...
16th ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	17,058	141	121	15,691	130	88,537	142	75,150	124	...	13,387
9th ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	5,290	61	86	4,431	52	27,320	62	25,089	58	...	2,231
23rd ditto .	Jodhpur . . .	...	...	...	19	1,010	53	...	...	3,867	41	3,867	...
	TOTAL .	401	51,817	129	419	57,113	136	2,73,063	132	2,66,741	127	...	6,322
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,897	32,39,761	327	10,290	38,71,064	376	1,73,18,706	341	1,91,72,474	373	18,53,768	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	79,66,605	157	92,02,788	179	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS .	...	...	...	...	...	...	93,52,101	184	99,69,686	194	6,17,585	...

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 7th July 1883.

No. XVIII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest Return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 13th May 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 12th May 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 13th May 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 12th May 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
23rd June 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	63,840	371	207	86,123	416	4,42,123	419	5,81,524	468	1,39,401	...
16th ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	1,16,042	212	547	1,45,368	266	7,23,980	216	8,82,270	269	1,58,290	...
16th ditto .	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	676	1,55,580	230	741	1,99,167	269	11,72,619	282	14,15,436	321	2,42,817	...
16th ditto .	Madras . . .	858	1,43,154	167	861	1,34,127	156	8,50,927	162	7,93,265	154	...	57,662
16th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	74,496	114	655	72,238	110	4,78,947	119	4,64,649	118	...	14,298
23rd ditto .	Great Indian Peninsula	1,447	9,13,191	631	1,458	10,74,226	737	59,67,267	671	62,36,237	713	2,68,970	...
16th ditto .	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	3,35,851	729	461	3,07,630	667	17,55,687	620	18,56,099	671	1,00,412	...
	TOTAL .	4,816	18,02,154	374	4,930	20,18,879	409	1,13,91,550	385	1,22,29,480	414	8,37,930	...
	State.												
23rd June 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	8,70,794	578	1,509	11,17,437	740	55,36,979	598	63,56,703	703	8,19,724	...
16th ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	28	1,973	70	56	5,651	101	19,368	113	34,467	122	15,099	...
16th ditto .	Nalhati . . .	27	1,426	53	27	1,717	64	8,546	52	10,323	64	1,777	...
2nd ditto .	Northern Bengal .	233	36,090	155	230	37,152	162	2,26,172	157	2,51,067	182	24,895	...
16th ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	85	15,256	179	166	16,321	98	85,928	164	1,01,292	105	15,364	...
19th May 1883	Patna-Gya . .	57	9,189	161	57	9,052	159	67,849	194	69,812	204	1,963	...
16th June 1883	Muttra-Hathras .	29	2,337	81	29	2,899	100	16,757	94	17,019	98	262	...
16th ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	7,070	81	87	6,766	78	42,439	79	38,845	74	...	3,594
23rd ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	1,371	114	12	1,542	128	7,074	96	7,846	109	772	...
23rd ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	2,20,429	197	1,117	2,61,567	234	14,22,682	207	16,44,594	246	2,21,912	...
23rd ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	13,879	308	45	12,890	286	81,652	295	1,09,280	405	27,628	...
23rd ditto .	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh . . .	98	19,550	199	149	44,176	296	1,22,297	203	2,88,987	323	1,66,690	...
16th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . . .	161	35,586	221	161	35,980	223	2,59,036	262	2,29,219	237	...	29,817
23rd ditto .	Sindia . . .	75	6,462	86	75	7,506	100	41,656	90	41,679	93	23	...
16th ditto .	Punjab Northern .	412	55,731	135	422	60,091	142	3,95,612	169	3,86,311	153	...	9,301
16th ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	82,963	126	660	1,23,652	187	4,84,821	120	8,14,732	206	3,29,911	...
23rd ditto .	Muttra-Achnera .	23	1,127	49	23	1,334	58	7,429	52	11,097	80	3,668	...
16th ditto .	Kaunia-Dharla .	32	1,509	47	32	2,291	72	12,693	64	12,647	66	...	46
23rd ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	4,370	49	...	...	21,606	40	21,606	...
	TOTAL .	3,181	5,11,948	161	3,437	6,34,957	185	33,02,011	171	40,90,823	199	7,88,812	...
	Native States.												
16th June 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	25,644	132	193	33,041	171	1,82,850	153	1,95,676	169	12,826	...
16th ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	18,825	156	121	16,710	138	1,07,362	144	91,860	127	...	15,502
9th ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	3,947	46	86	4,529	53	31,267	59	29,618	57	...	1,649
23rd ditto .	Jodhpur . . .	...	...	...	19	910	48	...	...	4,777	42	4,777	...
	TOTAL .	401	48,416	121	419	55,190	132	3,21,479	130	3,21,931	128	452	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,905	32,33,312	326	10,295	38,26,463	372	2,05,52,019	339	2,29,98,937	373	24,46,918	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	94,53,929	156	1,10,39,490	179	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS .	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,10,98,090	183	1,19,59,447	194	8,61,357	...

SIMLA,
The 7th July 1883.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

No. XIX of 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest Return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 20th May 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 19th May 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total receipts from 1st April to 20th May 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total receipts from 1st April to 19th May 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
23rd June 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	62,809	365	207	89,574	433	5,04,932	411	6,71,098	463	1,66,166	...
16th ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund .	547	1,21,775	223	547	1,32,977	243	8,45,755	216	10,15,247	265	1,69,492	...
16th ditto .	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	676	2,06,171	305	741	2,08,276	281	13,79,094	286	16,23,712	315	2,44,618	...
16th ditto .	Madras . . .	858	1,26,590	148	861	1,33,648	155	9,77,517	160	9,26,914	154	...	50,603
16th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	67,633	103	655	79,465	121	5,46,580	117	5,44,114	118	...	2,466
23rd ditto .	Great Indian Peninsula	1,447	9,29,488	644	1,458	10,30,685	707	68,96,755	667	72,66,922	712	3,70,167	...
16th ditto .	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	2,90,090	629	461	3,32,224	721	20,45,777	621	21,88,323	678	1,42,546	...
	TOTAL .	4,816	18,04,859	375	4,930	20,06,849	407	1,31,96,440	384	1,42,36,330	412	10,39,920	...
	State.												
23rd June 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	8,74,758	580	1,509	10,93,796	725	64,11,737	596	74,50,499	706	10,38,762	...
16th ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	28	2,223	79	56	5,217	93	21,591	118	39,684	118	18,093	...
16th ditto .	Nalhati . . .	27	1,276	47	27	1,637	61	9,822	51	11,960	63	2,138	...
2nd ditto .	Northern Bengal .	233	31,310	134	230	35,562	155	2,57,512	155	2,86,629	178	29,117	...
16th ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	85	15,553	183	166	18,690	113	1,01,181	167	1,19,982	106	18,501	...
19th May 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	9,487	166	57	8,608	151	77,336	190	78,420	197	1,084	...
16th June 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	2,378	82	29	3,312	114	19,135	92	20,331	100	1,196	...
16th ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	5,983	69	87	6,776	78	48,422	78	45,621	75	...	2,801
23rd ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur .	12	1,570	131	12	1,510	126	8,644	101	9,356	111	712	...
23rd ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	2,21,790	199	1,117	3,09,056	277	16,44,472	206	19,53,650	250	3,09,178	...
23rd ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	13,052	290	45	11,846	263	94,704	295	1,21,126	384	26,422	...
23rd ditto .	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh	98	18,039	184	149	50,052	336	1,40,336	200	3,39,039	325	1,98,703	...
16th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . . .	161	28,558	177	161	30,643	190	2,87,594	250	2,59,862	231	...	27,732
23rd ditto .	Sindia	75	6,771	90	75	5,913	79	48,427	90	47,592	91	...	835
16th ditto .	Punjab Northern .	412	58,732	143	422	57,173	135	4,54,344	165	4,43,184	150	...	10,860
16th ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	65,541	99	660	1,18,271	179	5,50,362	117	9,33,003	202	3,82,641	...
23rd ditto .	Muttra-Achnera . .	23	1,318	57	23	1,350	59	8,747	53	12,447	77	3,700	...
16th ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	1,182	37	32	2,234	70	13,875	61	14,881	66	1,006	...
23rd ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	80	8,440	95	...	...	30,046	48	30,046	...
	TOTAL .	3,181	4,84,793	152	3,437	6,76,290	197	37,86,804	168	47,67,113	199	9,80,309	...
	Native States.												
16th June 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	25,639	132	193	34,022	176	2,08,489	150	2,29,698	170	21,209	...
16th ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	15,012	124	121	15,798	131	1,22,374	141	1,07,658	127	...	14,716
9th ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	4,188	49	86	5,426	63	35,455	57	35,044	58	...	411
23rd ditto .	Jodhpur . . .	...	...	...	19	1,108	58	...	...	5,885	44	5,885	...
	TOTAL .	401	44,839	112	419	56,354	134	3,66,318	127	3,78,285	129	11,967	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,905	32,09,249	324	10,295	38,33,289	372	2,37,61,269	337	2,68,32,227	372	30,70,958	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,09,30,184	155	1,28,79,469	179	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS .	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,28,31,085	182	1,39,52,758	193	11,21,673	...

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 7th July 1883.

No. XX of 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest Return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 27th May 1882. Total	Per mile open	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 26th May 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total receipts from 1st April to 27th May 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total receipts from 1st April to 26th May 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
23rd June 1883	Eastern Bengal .	172	68,820	400	207	87,767	424	5,73,752	410	7,58,865	458	1,85,113	...
16th ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	1,31,578	241	547	1,26,414	231	9,77,333	219	11,41,661	261	1,64,328	...
16th ditto .	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	676	2,07,967	308	741	2,37,383	320	15,87,061	288	18,61,095	316	2,74,034	...
16th ditto .	Madras . . .	858	1,23,023	143	861	1,33,275	155	11,00,510	158	10,60,189	154	...	40,351
4th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	81,731	125	655	85,911	131	6,28,311	118	6,30,025	120	1,714	...
23rd ditto .	Great Indian Peninsula	1,447	9,80,702	679	1,458	10,35,248	710	78,77,457	669	83,02,171	712	4,24,714	...
16th ditto .	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	2,99,987	651	461	3,41,604	741	23,45,765	625	25,29,927	686	1,84,162	...
	TOTAL .	4,816	18,93,808	393	4,930	20,47,602	415	1,50,90,219	385	1,62,83,933	413	11,93,714	...
	State.												
23rd June 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	9,36,505	621	1,509	11,06,405	733	73,18,242	599	85,56,904	709	12,68,662	...
16th ditto .	Calcutta and South Eastern . . .	28	7,650	273	56	6,490	116	20,241	128	46,174	118	16,933	...
16th ditto .	Nalhati . . .	27	1,502	56	27	1,584	59	11,324	52	13,544	63	2,220	...
2nd ditto .	Northern Bengal . .	233	39,984	172	230	45,316	197	2,97,495	157	3,31,945	180	34,450	...
16th ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	85	12,447	146	166	20,733	125	1,13,928	165	1,40,715	109	26,787	...
19th May 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	8,495	149	...	(a)	...	(b) 77,336	190	(c) 78,420	197	1,084	...
16th June 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	2,127	73	29	2,579	89	21,262	90	22,910	99	1,648	...
16th ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	6,695	77	87	6,646	76	55,117	78	52,267	75	...	2,850
23rd ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur .	12	1,167	97	12	1,402	117	9,811	100	10,758	112	947	...
23rd ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	2,46,676	221	1,117	3,11,640	279	18,91,148	208	22,65,290	254	3,74,142	...
23rd ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	21,875	486	45	23,072	513	1,16,579	318	1,44,198	401	27,619	...
23rd ditto .	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh	98	19,192	196	149	49,721	334	1,59,528	200	3,88,760	326	2,29,232	...
16th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . . .	161	26,069	162	161	32,867	204	3,13,663	239	2,92,729	227	...	20,934
23rd ditto .	Sindia	75	5,814	78	75	5,635	75	54,241	89	53,227	89	...	1,014
16th ditto .	Punjab Northern .	412	57,318	139	422	53,577	127	5,11,662	162	4,97,061	147	...	14,601
16th ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	1,00,501	152	660	1,55,768	236	6,50,863	121	10,88,771	206	4,37,908	...
23rd ditto .	Muttra-Achnera . .	23	1,385	60	23	1,170	51	10,132	54	13,617	74	3,485	...
16th ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	1,185	37	32	1,960	61	15,060	58	16,841	66	1,781	...
23rd ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	80	11,130	125	...	...	41,176	58	41,176	...
	TOTAL .	3,181	5,60,082	176	3,380	7,31,290	216	43,38,390	169	54,98,403	201	11,60,013	...
	Native States.												
16th June 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	27,772	143	193	30,746	159	2,36,261	150	2,60,444	169	24,183	...
16th ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	18,697	155	121	15,872	131	1,41,071	143	1,23,530	128	...	17,541
9th ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	6,290	73	86	5,138	60	41,745	60	40,182	58	...	1,563
23rd ditto .	Jodhpur . . .	...	...	...	19	760	40	...	...	6,645	44	6,645	...
	TOTAL .	401	52,759	132	419	52,516	125	4,19,077	128	4,30,801	129	11,724	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,905	34,43,154	348	10,238	39 37,813	385	2,71,95,928	339	3,07,70,041	374	35,74,113	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE .	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,25,10,127	155	1,47,69,620	181	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS .	..	...	...	...	...	...	1,46,85,801	184	1,60,00,421	193	13,14,620	...

(a) Return not received.

(b) Total receipt from 1st April to 20th May 1882.

(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 19th May 1883.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R. E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 7th July 1883.

No. XXI of 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest Return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 3rd June 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 2nd June 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total receipts from 1st April to 3rd June 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total receipts from 1st April to 2nd June 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
	Guaranteed.												
23rd June 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	70,333	409	207	82,815	400	6,44,085	410	8,41,681	452	1,97,596	...
16th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkund	547	1,11,033	203	547	1,28,117	225	10,88,366	218	12,64,778	257	1,76,412	...
16th ditto	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	676	1,98,345	293	741	2,72,085	367	17,85,106	289	21,33,180	322	3,47,774	...
16th ditto	Madras	858	1,63,137	190	861	1,24,590	145	12,63,677	161	11,84,779	153	...	78,898
16th ditto	South Indian	655	88,085	134	655	88,840	136	7,16,396	120	7,18,866	122	2,470	...
23rd ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	8,40,859	583	1,458	8,90,610	611	87,27,316	660	91,92,781	701	4,65,465	...
16th ditto	Bombay Baroda and Central India	461	2,75,694	598	461	3,09,699	672	26,21,459	622	28,39,626	684	2,18,167	...
	TOTAL	4,827	17,56,486	364	4,930	18,91,756	384	1,68,46,705	383	1,81,75,691	410	13,28,986	...
	State.												
23rd June 1883	East Indian	1,507	8,96,734	595	1,509	10,38,635	688	28,44,976	598	95,95,539	707	13,50,563	...
16th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	28	2,584	92	56	5,720	102	31,827	124	51,894	115	20,067	...
16th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,730	64	27	1,478	55	13,055	53	15,022	62	1,967	...
2nd ditto	Northern Bengal	233	33,529	144	230	35,050	152	3,31,024	155	3,66,996	177	35,972	...
16th ditto	Tirhoot	85	12,238	144	166	19,584	118	1,26,167	162	1,60,299	110	34,132	...
19th May 1883	Patna Gya	57	8,719	153	...	(a)	...	(b) 77,336	190	(c) 78421	197	1,085	...
16th June 1883	Muttra-Hathras	29	2,412	83	29	2,357	81	23,674	89	25,267	97	1,593	
16th ditto	Cawnpore Furrakhabad	87	6,195	71	87	6,826	78	61,312	77	59,093	75	...	2,219
23rd ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	1,150	96	12	1,089	91	10,961	109	11,847	110	886	...
23rd ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,117	2,24,067	201	1,117	2,76,340	247	21,15,215	207	25,41,630	253	4,26,415	...
23rd ditto	Wardha Coal	45	11,941	265	45	11,243	250	1,28,520	312	1,55,441	384	26,921	...
23rd ditto	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh	98	16,806	171	149	42,818	287	1,76,335	197	4,31,578	322	2,55,243	...
16th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	27,291	170	161	33,397	207	3,40,954	232	3,26,127	225	...	14,827
23rd ditto	Sindia	75	5,883	78	75	5,948	79	60,124	88	59,175	88	...	949
16th ditto	Punjab Northern	412	49,878	121	422	61,097	145	5,61,540	157	5,58,158	147	...	3,382
23rd ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	92,260	140	660	2,13,968	324	7,43,124	123	13,02,739	219	5,59,615	...
23rd ditto	Muttra Achnera	32	1,269	55	23	1,210	53	11,402	54	14,827	72	3,425	...
16th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	1,331	42	32	1,476	46	16,390	56	18,317	64	1,927	...
23rd ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	...	89	8,590	97	...	...	49,766	62	49,766	...
	TOTAL	3,181	4,99,283	157	3,380	7,28,191	215	48,28,960	167	62,26,597	205	13,97,637	...
	Native States.												
16th June 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal	194	22,660	117	193	27,297	141	2,58,921	146	2,87,741	166	28,820	...
16th ditto	Nizam's	121	16,077	133	121	14,545	120	1,57,148	142	1,38,075	127	...	19,073
9th ditto	Mysore	86	4,987	58	86	5,397	63	46,731	59	45,579	59	...	1,152
23rd ditto	Jodhpur	...	...	...	19	680	36	...	...	7,325	43	7,325	...
	TOTAL	401	43,724	109	419	47,919	114	4,62,800	126	4,78,720	127	15,920	...
	GRAND TOTAL	9,916	31,96,227	322	10,238	37,06,501	362	3,03,83,441	336	3,44,76,547	375	40,93,106	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,39,76,383	155	1,65,18,743	180	...	
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,64,07,058	181	1,79,27,804	195	15,20,746	...

(a) Return not received.
(b) Total receipts from 1st April to 20th May 1882.
(c) Total Receipts from 1st April to 19th May 1883.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R. E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 7th July 1883.

No. XXII of 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 10th June 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 9th June 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total receipts from 1st April to 10th June 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total receipts from 1st April to 9th June 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
	Guaranteed.												
23rd June 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	69,533	405	207	78,042	377	7,13,618	409	9,19,723	444	2,06,105	...
16th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	1,05,998	194	547	1,30,706	239	11,94,365	215	13,95,484	255	2,01,119	...
16th ditto	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	676	1,84,099	272	741	2,78,474	376	19,69,505	287	24,11,654	326	4,42,149	...
16th ditto	Madras	858	1,36,100	159	861	1,37,845	160	13,99,777	161	13,22,624	153	...	77,153
16th ditto	South Indian	655	79,128	121	655	77,965	119	7,95,524	120	7,96,831	121	1,307	...
23rd ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	5,88,722	405	1,458	7,81,284	536	93,16,038	634	99,74,065	684	6,58,027	...
16th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India.	461	1,58,530	344	461	3,06,070	664	27,79,989	594	31,45,696	682	3,65,707	...
	TOTAL	4,827	13,22,110	274	4,930	17,90,386	363	1,81,68,816	372	1,99,66,077	405	17,97,261	...
	State.												
23rd June 1883	East Indian	1,507	9,27,777	616	1,509	11,04,049	732	91,72,753	600	1,06,99,588	708	15,26,835	...
16th ditto	Calcutta and South Eastern.	33	2,530	77	56	6,000	107	34,357	120	57,895	118	23,538	...
16th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,301	48	27	1,567	57	14,356	52	16,589	61	2,233	...
2nd ditto	Northern Bengal	233	84,365	147	...	(a)	...	(b)3,31,024	155	(c) 3,66,996	177	35,972	...
16th ditto	Tirhoot	85	13,725	161	166	19,196	116	1,39,891	162	1,79,495	111	39,604	...
19th May 1883	Patna-Gya	57	7,895	139	...	(a)	...	(d)77,336	190	(e) 78,420	197	1,084	...
16th June 1883	Muttra-Hathras	29	1,798	62	29	2,205	76	25,471	86	27,472	95	2,001	...
16th ditto	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	6,356	73	87	7,527	87	67,669	76	66,620	76	.....	1,049
23rd ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	1,159	97	12	1,111	93	12,120	99	12,958	108	838	...
23rd ditto	Rajputana Malwa	1,117	1,94,357	174	1,117	2,64,670	237	23,09,572	204	28,06,301	251	4,96,729	...
23rd ditto	Wardha Coal	45	12,606	280	45	13,566	301	1,41,126	309	1,69,007	375	27,881	...
23rd ditto	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh	98	13,787	141	149	37,912	254	1,90,122	191	4,69,490	315	2,79,368	...
16th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley.	161	22,320	139	161	25,863	161	3,63,274	222	3,51,990	218	.....	11,284
23rd ditto	Sindia	75	5,410	72	75	5,997	80	65,534	86	65,165	87	.....	369
16th ditto	Punjab Northern.	412	47,336	115	419	50,500	121	6,08,876	153	6,08,658	144	.....	218
16th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar.	660	81,974	124	660	2,57,438	390	8,25,098	123	15,60,177	236	7,35,079	...
23rd ditto	Muttra Achnera	23	1,109	49	23	1,250	55	12,511	53	16,077	69	3,566	...
16th ditto	Kaunia Dhurla	32	1,091	34	32	1,739	54	17,481	53	20,056	62	2,575	...
23rd ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	...	89	8,590	97	...	...	58,356	65	58,356	...
	TOTAL	3,186	4,49,119	141	3,147	7 05,131	224	52,35,818	163	69,31,722	221	16,95,904	...
	Native States.												
16th June 1883	Bhavnagar Gondal	194	19,947	103	193	24,335	126	2,78,868	141	3,12,076	162	33,208	...
16th ditto	Nizam's	121	14,534	120	121	15,402	128	1,71,682	139	1,53,477	127	...	18,205
9th ditto	Mysore	86	4,209	49	86	5,079	59	50,941	58	50,658	59	...	283
23rd ditto	Jodhpur	...	...	...	19	550	29	...	...	7,875	41	7,875	...
	TOTAL	401	38,690	96	419	45,366	108	5,01,491	123	5,24,086	125	22,595	...
	GRAND TOTAL	9,921	27,37,696	276	10,005	36,44,932	64	3,30,78,878	330	3,81,21,473	382	50,42,595	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,52,16,284	151	1,82,98,308	183	...	
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,78,62,594	179	1,98,23,165	199	19,60,571	...

(a) Return not received.
(b) Total receipts from 1st April to 3rd June 1882.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 2nd June 1883.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 20th May 1882.
(e) Total receipts from 1st April to 19th May 1883.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R. E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 7th July 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

MEASURES TO PREVENT FREQUENT CHANGES IN THE PERSONNEL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF OF A PROVINCE.

No. $\frac{24}{885\text{-}96}$.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Public),—dated Simla, the 6th July 1883.

Read the undermentioned papers on the subject of certain proposed alterations in the Civil furlough rules:—

Home Department Resolution Nos. 33—1343-1354, dated 7th September 1882.

Financial Despatch to Secretary of State No. 299, dated 26th September 1882.

Financial Despatch from Secretary of State No. 66, dated 22nd February 1883.

RESOLUTION.

In the Resolution of the 7th September 1882, the Government of India intimated to Local Governments the result of the reference made to them a year previously, as to the practical working of the rule under which officers absent on furlough retain a lien on their appointments. It was stated that the Governor General in Council had found no sufficient reason for the withdrawal of that concession, but that at the same time there could be no doubt that in some provinces changes among the administrative, and especially among the district, staff had been more frequent than was at all desirable; and it was said that something should be done to check this tendency where it existed, partly by amendment of the rules in some points of minor detail, and partly by the adoption in all Local Administrations of a settled line of policy in working the rules. Much could, it was believed, be done by making proper arrangements for regulating the posting of officers on their return from furlough; and the general principle by which the Government of India desired that Local Governments should be guided in this matter was that private and personal considerations should always give way to public interests; and that every endeavour should be made to avoid unnecessary disturbance of existing arrangements. In these views of the Government of India the Secretary of State has now intimated his general concurrence, remarking that, while it is undesirable to lay down any general rule as to the length of time during which an officer should remain in one district, or as to the considerations which should guide the several Governments in posting officers on their return from furlough, the arrangements of Government must always be regulated with reference to the requirements of the public service at the time. The Governor General in Council trusts that Local Governments will in future see that full effect is given to these instructions of Her Majesty's Secretary of State. It was not the intention of the Government of India in the Resolution of September last to lay down any hard-and-fast rule as to the maximum term during which an officer should be retained in a district. Local Governments must of course be guided in deciding such matters by a consideration of what is best for the public interests, but it should not be forgotten that, while frequent changes are bad, an officer may yet be left too long in a district, and that it may sometimes be best both for himself and for the district administration to make a change.

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2. It was further proposed in the Resolution of September 1882 that Local Governments should have the power to require an officer to regulate the precise term of his leave to suit the public requirements, *i.e.*, that an officer should be compelled to take less or more leave (within reasonable limits) than he applies for, on penalty of his forfeiting a lien on his appointment if he declined to accept the arrangement. Upon this the Secretary of State remarks: "The Government should certainly have the power of refusing an officer the full leave for which he applies, if there is reason to think that the grant of that precise amount will be prejudicial to the public interests; but I do not think that an officer should ever be required to take more leave than he desires, or that he should, if prepared to pay the penalty of forfeiting the lien on his appointment or his claim to a similar one, have the right of taking an amount of leave (whether less or more) which would be inconvenient to the Government." The Governor General in Council desires that effect may be given to this view which practically enables the Local Government to insist on leave being taken in the manner most consistent with the interests of the Public Service. The point has been made clear in the Civil Leave Code by the insertion of the note under section 4 of the code, published in the Financial Department Notification No. 1333, dated 7th June 1883.

3. In paragraph 6 of the Resolution of September 1882, it was stated that a recommendation would be made to the Secretary of State that the period of a Civil Servant's residence in India entitling him to his first furlough should be reduced from eight to five years. It has now been decided that no change shall be made in the furlough rules on this point.

4. The Secretary of State has approved of the principle of imposing a check on the abuse of the leave rules by recurring grants of furlough on medical certificate to which attention was drawn in paragraph 7 of the Resolution of the 7th September last. The best mode of effecting this is still under consideration.

5. Lastly, the Secretary of State agrees to the proposal made by the Government of India that (except in very special cases) extensions of leave should not be granted in England, unless the applicants produce evidence that the Governments under which they are employed have no objection to such extension. This point has been provided for by the revised rule 1 under Section 77 of the Civil Leave Code, published in Financial Department Notification No. 1333, dated 7th June 1883.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution be communicated to the Local Governments and Administrations noted on the margin for information and guidance, and that a copy be forwarded to the Department of Finance for information, and that the Resolution be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

Madras.	Central Provinces.
Bombay.	British Burma.
Bengal.	Assam.
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	Coorg.
Punjab.	Hyderabad.

A. MACKENZIE,

Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 10th JULY 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Rain in varying quantities, heaviest on the south-west and north-east coasts, has fallen throughout the Madras Presidency. In Mysore the fall is still insufficient for standing crops, but Coorg has received a plentiful supply.

The rains over the districts of the Bombay Presidency, Berars, Central India, and Rajputana have, with few exceptions, been favourable and sufficient. In Guzerat the fall has been heavy; river floods have caused great damage in Surat, and a break is required. The Indus is rising in Sind, and prospects have improved. Parts of the Southern Mahratta Country are still in need of more rain. A break would be beneficial in Indore, but rain is beginning to be urgently wanted in Marwar in Rajputana where the tanks are all dry and water is obtained with great difficulty.

In Burma and Assam the weather continues favourable, but for the time of the year the rainfall is below average, particularly in the former province. The cessation of heavy rain in Bengal noticed last week has become more marked, the average fall being under two inches, except in Orissa and at Calcutta and Hazaribagh. Heavy and seasonable rain has fallen throughout the Central Provinces. The North-Western Provinces and Oudh have also received a moderate supply during the week, but more is required in several districts. Rain still holds off in the Punjab, hardly any having fallen between Delhi and Amritsar; elsewhere the fall has averaged under an inch and a half.

Harvesting is still in progress in Madras and Mysore. The rice crops of the districts on the west coast are being weeded and transplanted and promise well. Ploughing and sowing for the *kharif* continue everywhere, but are backward in parts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Punjab for want of rain. In Assam and Bengal the prospects of the rice crops are on the whole favourable, but more rain is necessary to admit of transplanting on high lands in Bengal. Harvesting of jute and early rice has commenced in a few places in the latter province, and the condition of standing crops of jute, indigo, and sugarcane is satisfactory.

Some damage has been done to crops in Surat by the floods, and danger from a similar cause is apprehended in Orissa where the rains have been heavy. Locusts continue to threaten the crops of several districts of the Bombay Presidency, and their appearance is also reported in one of the Central India States.

Fever is generally prevalent, and the mortality from cholera is still severe in Poona and Ahmednagar in Bombay and Wardha in the Central Provinces.

Prices are for the most part stationary, with a tendency to rise in the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(July 11th)		
Bellary ...	·54 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest ready, yield average.
Kurnool ...	1·51 (average of eight stations).	Small-pox in one and cattle-disease in six taluks.
Ganjam ...	4·13 (average of seventeen stations).	One case of cholera.
Kistna ...	·38 (average of seven stations).	Fever, small-pox, guinea-worm, and cattle-disease slight.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	2·26 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops good where water available; harvest *kar*, paddy, &c., yield half; small-pox in two taluks; cholera in two villages; cattle-disease slight in one taluk.
Coimbatore ...	·55 (average of three stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest *cholum* in parts, yield average; 2 deaths from cholera in one taluk; fever in one taluk.
Tanjore ...	·97 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops generally good; 5 deaths from cholera; rinderpest slight in one taluk.
Madura ...	·93 (average of five stations).	Standing crops generally fair except in one taluk; harvest dry crops in parts; cholera slight in parts of one taluk.
Malabar ...	3·82 (average of fourteen stations).	First crop progressing in all taluks; small-pox slight in nine taluks; fever and cattle-disease in parts, latter slight.
Travancore ...	·529	Paddy plants being weeded and in good condition; fever prevails. *General Remarks.*—General prospects good.
Bombay—(July 11th)		
Kurrachee ...	1·67; average of twelve other stations, 1·47.	One case of small-pox still remaining in Kurrachee, no fresh cases since 28th June, disease in eight villages in districts, 22 fresh cases, 1 death, 13 remaining sick; river at Kotri on 9th 15 feet 3 inches, 2 inches lower than on same date last year; fever in seven talukas, *kharif* preparations in progress; wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 26, 32 and 38, in Sehwan 32 and 40, in Ghorabari 20, 32 and 40, and in Shahbandar 20, 40 and 44 lbs. per rupee respectively.
Hyderabad ...	Rain in eight talukas, average fall ·85.	River rising at last; small-pox in eight and fever in one taluka; prices of food-grains steady since last week.
Ahmedabad ...	6·47	Total rainfall 11·89; sowings progressing; wheat 26½ and *bajri* 30 lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	10·48	Total rainfall 21·37; sowing operations commenced everywhere, including Amreli; health good; *bajri* 27 and rice 24 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	6·01	Total rainfall 25·34, break wanted; much damage to property in city and to property and crops in Chorasi, by recent flood; transplanting of rice in some talukas; fever in Bulsar and Pardi; *juari* 41 and *nagli* 42 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Nasik ...	Heavy rain throughout the district.	Small-pox in Nasik and Sinnar; cholera still prevails in most talukas; transplanting of *nagli* and *juari* in progress in Dangi villages, completed in others; locusts damaging *nagli* and rice crops; prices stationary.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Rain every day, heavy on 7th, 8th and 9th; total of week 13·0.	Total rainfall up to date 27·80, being ·03 above average; abnormal temperature from 1° warm to 2° cool; vapour in air normal; abnormal wind south-easterly till 6th, afterwards north-westerly, strong on 4th.
Poona ...	Maximum 2·46; minimum ·32.	697 cholera cases, 290 fatal; sowing nearly completed; *bajri* 37 and *juari* 45 lbs. per rupee, in Poona *bajri* 32 and *juari* 39 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	1·62 in Parner; 1·55 in Rahuri; 1·20 in Jamkhed; 1·14 in Kopergaon; 1·02 in Akola; in the remaining talukas from ·29 in Nagar to ·99 in Newasa.	Sowing of *kharif* in progress in all the talukas, except Parner, Kopergaon, and Akola; cattle-disease to a slight extent in Parner; cholera in all talukas, 1,748 cases, 873 deaths; *bajri*—maximum 51 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 33 lbs. in Rahuri; *juari*—maximum 66 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 48 lbs. in Rahuri.
Sholapur ...	·22	Total rainfall 12·90; *kharif* sowings continue; *juari* 59 and *bajri* 52 lbs per rupee; 160 cholera cases, 68 deaths.
Dharwar ...	Maximum at Hangal, 1·42; at Dharwar, 1·31; at Mugud, ·82; Mundargi, *nil*; at all other stations, less than ·50.	Rain urgently required at Navalgund, Nargund, Gadag, Mundargi, and Ranibennur; sowing of *juari* begun in some places; rice crop good, except in Kaladgi where it has been eaten up by insects, and fields are being sown afresh; ague prevails in Mugud and Mandargi pettas; *juari* 56 and rice 30 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara ...	In Karwar, 5·61; in Kumpta, 2·67; in Sirsi, 3·53; in Hallial, 1·06.	Transplanting and weeding continue, also sowing in some places above ghat; rice plants and garden crops healthy; small-pox in Karwar, Hallial, and Kumpta, 2 deaths; in Bhathal petta 1, and Sirsi 2; slight fever throughout the district; common rice in Karwar 12 seers per rupee, in district average 13½ seers per rupee.
Rajkot ...	2·64	Total rainfall 12·70, weather cloudy; health good; cholera in some parts of Halar; *bajri* 28 and *juari* 33 lbs. per rupee; the heavy rain in some parts of Halar has caused damage to houses.
		General Remarks.—**Rain throughout the Presidency and Sind, heavy in Guzerat, but wanted in parts of the Southern Mahratta Country; river rising in Sind; sowing in general progress, as also** transplanting of rice; locusts in Nasik, Khandesh, Tanna, Colaba, and Ratnagiri; cholera in Nasik, Poona, Ahmednagar, Khandesh, and Tanna; cattle-disease in a few places.
Bengal—(July 11th)		
Chittagong ...	·78	Weather seasonable; transplanting of *aus* rice nearly over; sowings of *amun* rice actively going on; prospects fair; prices stationary; sporadic cholera and cattle-disease continue; fever abating.
Dacca ...	1·74	Transplanted and *shail* rice being sown; *aus* being harvested; jute has been to a great extent destroyed by worms, and crops to a certain extent by the sudden rise of water in the Nawabgunge station.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	3·99	Prospects of *aus* and *amun* crops good; transplanting of *amun* rice on low lands going on, and high lands being prepared for it; price of common rice stationary; public health good.
Moorshedabad ...	1·03	Prospects of crops continue to be favourable; transplanting of *amun* rice has commenced in some places; average price of rice 19 seers per rupee; health generally good.
Rajshahye ...	1·21; slight rain	More rain wanted at an early date; crops rather backward for want of rain.
Burdwan ...	0·6	Rain much wanted in Cutwa sub-division where agricultural operations are at a standstill, insufficient rain in Culna sub-division; elsewhere transplanting in progress; public health fair.
Rungpore ...	·06	Prospects of crops good; some cholera still in the district.
Bhagálpur ...	·26	Prospects good; rice 17 seers 10 chittacks per rupee.
Purneah ...	1·63	Prospects of crops good; indigo manufacture commenced; common rice 18 seers per rupee; public health good; rivers falling.
Patna ...	·76	Prospects of crops good; ploughing and sowing going on; *makai* germinated in some places.
Durbhunga ...	·42	Low lands still under water, high lands dry; transplanting checked; rain wanted; cholera greatly diminished, but breaks out sometimes in places; prices stationary; health good.
Hazáribágh ...	4·59; ample rain during the week.	Weather seasonable; prospects of *bhadoi* and early rice favourable; general health good.
Cuttack ...	5·54	Rivers falling; rice growing well; prices unchanged; public health generally good.
		General Remarks.—More or less rain fell during the week in all the districts of Bengal; in a few places agricultural operations are retarded for want of sufficient rain; prospects of the crops on the whole are favourable; in a few places early rice and jute are being harvested; transplanting of *amun* rice on low lands is progressing, and high lands are being prepared and awaiting more rain for transplanting operations; sugarcane, jute, and other crops are doing well; *bhadoi* crops are doing well; some damage is anticipated in Orissa in consequence of high floods and breaches in embankments; public health generally good, though in a few places cholera and fever are still prevalent; cattle-pox in Gya.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (July 11th)	·6	Weather cloudy; some *kharif* crops sown; no sickness of men or cattle; prices steady.
Allahabad („ „)	2·8 average in all parganas on 6th; ·8 at Sadr on 10th.	More rain wanted; ploughing and sowing begun all over district; cholera increased; prices slightly risen.
Gorakhpur („ 9th)	2·0	Sky generally cloudy; *kharif* sowings in progress; no cholera; prices steady.
Jhansi („ „)	3·4; Mau, ·7; Moth, 4·4.	Ploughing and sowing in progress; prices fluctuating; health good.
Agra („ „)	·6 to 2·4 in all parganas.	*Kharif* sowings in progress; fever in two and small pox in one pargana; sporadic cholera in four parganas; prices rising slightly.
Bareilly („ 10th)	Rain over most of the district on the 9th instant.	Sowings going forward; prices tending to rise; health remains good.
Meerut („ „)	2·8; Ghaziabad, ·7; Hapur, ·8; drizzle in Sardhana; very insufficient rain so far.	*Kharif* crops are being sown where there is sufficient moisture; weather hot, wind easterly; prices showing a further tendency to rise.
Kumaun („ „)	Fair rain in all parts of district, except in neighbourhood of Almora where scarcely any rain has fallen.	Crop prospects good; health fair; cattle-disease still continues; prices stationary.
Lucknow („ „)	1·9; Maliabad, 2·1; Mohanlalganj, 1·4.	Wind variable; *kharif* sowings in progress; prices steady; cholera disappearing.
Partabgarh („ „)	Sadr, 2·5; Khandwa, 3·3; Patti, 2·7.	Land being ploughed for *kharif* sowings; rice sown here and there; general health good; prices almost stationary.
Sitapur („ „)	1·0	Rainfall sufficient to prevent much harm, but rice sowings arrested in many places.
Fyzabad („ „)	Tahsil Bekapur, 1·9; Tanda, ·7; Akbarpur, 1·0.	Sowing of *kharif* crops nearly completed; small-pox and fever in parts of district; condition of cattle fair.
Cawnpore („ „)	·6 to 4·1 on 6th	A few cases of cholera; *kharif* sowings in progress; prices almost stationary.
Farukhabad („ „)	Rain slight in three tahsils.	Weather clear and cloudy; ploughing and sowing commenced; condition of people fair.
Rae Bareli („ 9th)	Good rain on 6th, average 2·5.	Sky cloudy; ploughing and sowing for *kharif* in progress; cholera abating; prices stationary.
		General Remarks.—Rain fell in all reporting districts during the week; ploughing and sowing are in progress, but several districts complain of the insufficiency of the rain, and the rice sowings have been stopped in Sitapur in consequence; cholera appears to be abating; prices are stationary in most districts, but are rising in a few.
Punjab—(July 10th)		
Delhi ...	·03	Health fair; prices fluctuating.
Hissar ...	.....	Weather cloudy; rain much needed; prices rising; sporadic cholera in Jhajjar tahsil; general health everywhere good.
Umballa ...	.....	No report received.
Jullundur ...	No rain	Health good; prices stationary.
Amritsar ...	Slight rain	Health good; prices stationary.
Sialkot ...	1·0	Health good; prices stationary.
Ferozepore ...	1·0	Health good; slight rise in prices.
Lahore ...	Slight rain	Twenty-five cases of cholera; prices steady.
Rawalpindi ...	·6	Health good; prices falling.
Mooltan ...	1·4	Health good; prices steady.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	·4	Health good; *rabi* harvesting over; prices steady.
Peshawar ...	1·3	Health good; prices rising.
		General Remarks.—Moderate rain in nearly every district, but more needed; health good, except in the Delhi and Lahore districts; *kharif* sowings in progress.
Central Provinces—		
Nagpur ...	2·85; heavy rain in early part of the week.	Weather cloudy and wet; cotton and *tur* being sown; cholera slight; prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...	3·88	Weather wet and cloudy; sowing progressing; small-pox lingering; wheat 21 and rice 14 seers per rupee.
Saugor ...	3·49	Sowings general; early sowings have germinated in places; prices steady; health good.
Seoni (July 10th)	14·16	Weather cloudy and wet; sowings progressing; 17 deaths from cholera; prices stationary.
Hoshangabad ...	5·28; heavy rain on 9th.	Weather cloudy and wet; *kharif* sowings continue; 2 deaths from small-pox; wheat 14 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	3·17	Weather cloudy; sowings nearly completed; 10 deaths from cholera; prices steady.
Raipur ...	2·24	Prospects good; health good; prices steady.
Sambalpur (July 7th)	12·14; very heavy rain during the week.	Early rice sowings almost finished; land being prepared for late rice sowings; break in the rains necessary; health good; common rice 45 seers per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Rain general and very seasonable; sowings continue; cholera still very severe in Wardha; prices steady.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—(July 11th)		
Akyab ...	5·48	Total up to date 71·72; 12 deaths from cholera in district and 3 in town and 7 deaths from small-pox in Koladan; cattle-disease in four townships, in others health of plough cattle good; ploughing wages from 15 to 40 baskets per man per season.
Rangoon ...	4·34	Total up to date 29·88; public health good; prices of paddy from Rs. 97 to Rs. 98 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	5·59	Total up to date 34·88; 2 deaths from cholera in town, otherwise public health good; 2 deaths of cattle in Bassein, 35 in Laymyethna, and 18 in Yaygyee townships; ploughing progressing.
Prome ...	2·77	Total up to date 21·21; public health and health of plough cattle good; ploughing progressing everywhere, about 20,000 acres already ploughed.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	6·57	Total up to date 61·58; 2 cases of cholera in one township, otherwise public health in Moulmein and district good; cattle-disease slight in Gyaingsalween and Zaya and severe in Baloogyoon and Martaban townships; ploughing progressing, about 60 per cent. of fields ploughed; health of plough cattle good; sowings progressing, about 10 per cent. of fields sown in Moulmein town and district; ploughing and sowing progressing, about 100 acres ploughed during the week; wages of ploughing labour 8 annas a day; crops being small, transplanting has not begun yet.
Toungoo ...	2·69	Total up to date 26·70; public health good; health of plough cattle good; ploughing progressing rapidly.
		General Remarks.—A little sporadic cholera and small-pox, otherwise health of province good; cattle-disease in various districts, everywhere slight, except in part of Amherst district where it is reported as severe; agricultural operations going on satisfactorily.
Assam—(July 11th)		
Gauhati ...	2·78 for week ending 10th instant.	Weather very hot; reaping of *ahu* paddy in progress; lands being ploughed for *sali* crop; public health fairly good; slight cholera in parts of interior.
Sylhet ...	3·38	Crop prospects improving; small-pox still prevalent in parts of the district.
Cachar ...	5·88	Weather intensely warm; cultivation of *sali* and transplanting of *aus* and sowing of *asra* crops progressing; common rice 16 seers per rupee; general health good.
Dibrugarh ...	2·49	Weather hot; transplanting of *sali dhan* progressing; cattle-disease still reported from North Lakhimpur; public health good.
Mysore and Coorg—(July 11th)		
Bangalore ...	1·41	Standing crops in good condition; preparations are being made for sowing dry crops; harvesting of *vysakh* paddy almost completed; prospects improved; public health good.
Mysore ...	·42	Standing crops need rain in some parts; prospects favourable; public health good.
Mercara ...	11·01	Standing crops doing well; labour coming in very slowly on coffee estates.
		General Remarks.—1·36 rain at Kolar slight rain in other districts; standing crops in good condition; prospects favourable; public health generally good; prices much the same as last reported.
Berar & Hyderabad—(July 11th)		
Amráoti ...	5·18	*Kharif* sowings continue; wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	9·06	*Kharif* sowings progressing.
Hyderabad ...	.....	No report received
Central India States—(July 11th)		
Indore ...	3·20	Weather seasonable, a break in the rains would now be advantageous; health good; prices steady.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	1·78	Health good; weather sultry.
Sutna ...	·16	Health good.
Sehore ...	2·2	Weather cloudy; crops and public health good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	·07	Weather seasonable; public health good.
Goona ...	·75	Weather cloudy; health good; wheat 24 seers per rupee; locusts have appeared in the Ragoogarh district.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	.....	No report received.
Nowgong ...	1·39	Weather seasonable; sowing operations progressing; health good; cholera prevalent in parts of Bundelkhand; prices rising.
Bhopawar ...	5·22	Health good; prices stationary; continuous rain retards sowing operations.
Manpur ...	.....	No report received.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Rajputana—		
Abu (July 11th)	6·29 during week	Total rainfall 25·0; weather cloudy and showery and occasionally close.
Sirohi („ 8th)	Rain slight at intervals during week; 1·04.	Weather cloudy; tanks partly full, wells full; health and crops good.
Marwar („ 6th)	·09	Tanks all empty, water obtained from wells with great difficulty; health good; crops in need of rain and in danger of being scorched up; sky overcast, but rain holds off; prices stationary.
Meywar („ 8th)	1·22	Tanks and wells fair; health good; crop prospects very good.
Harowti („ 7th)	Deoli, 1·23; Tonk, 1·90; Kotah, ·44; Shahpura, ·21: previous week—Kotah, 2·17; Shahpura, ·62.	Weather seasonable; sowings progressing; health good.
Jhallawar („ 6th)	·24	Heavy rain in some districts; weather cloudy and cool.
Ajmere („ 10th)	3·36	Sowings progressing favourably; health good.
Jeypore („ „)	1·58	Some cholera cases at capital and districts; sowings commenced; prices stationary.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (July 10th)	Average ·33	Strong westerly wind; prices rising; cholera in four tahsils.
Nepal—(July 6th)		
Katmandu ...	2·58	Agricultural prospects good; more rain is desired; rice transplanting is still going on.

MEMORANDUM ON THE WEATHER CHARACTERISTICS OF INDIA DURING MAY AND JUNE 1883.

No. 63 Met.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department (Meteorology), under date Simla, the 13th July 1883.

Read the following :—

Memorandum on the weather characteristics of India during the month of May 1883.

Throughout the Punjab and North-Western Provinces, from Mooltan to Benares, the telegraphic reports show that from the 1st to the 21st of May the atmosphere was exceptionally dry. This was most remarkable at the hill stations in the North-Western Himalaya, but over the whole region the air apparently became drier as the month advanced, till, on the 19th and 20th, at Chakrata the amount of moisture was about 45 per cent. below the average and equalled only 8 per cent. of saturation. During this time no rain fell, but on the 22nd there was a rapid increase in the dampness of the air, and from that date till the close of the month humidity was above the average, and frequent and rather heavy showers of rain fell. As usual, the temperature of the air varied inversely with its humidity. From the 1st to the 22nd it was above, and from the 23rd to 31st below, the average of the month. The hottest day was the 20th, when the average was exceeded—

by 14° at Dera Ismail Khan,
„ 12° at Rawalpindi, Delhi, Chakrata and Agra,
„ 11° at Ludhiana and Sirsa;

and the coolest day was the 28th, when the average was not reached—

by 23° at Murree,
„ 20° at Dera Ismail Khan and Sialkot,
„ 17° at Lahore, Sirsa and Agra.

The 20th May was probably the hottest day of the year over the whole of Northern India. Excluding Bengal and Chutia Nagpur, it appears that on that day there was a mean maximum temperature of 111° and a mean minimun temperature of 87°, making the approximate mean of the day as high as 99°. The highest reading recorded was 117°.

On the 28th, above noted as being the coolest day of the month in Northern India, there was a somewhat unusual fall of snow on the Himalaya. In Kashmir it was slight but general, but in the Chumba State a great deal of fresh snow fell which was only beginning to melt on June 7th; and in Kulu there was a fall of about 6 inches on May 28th and 29th. In Sikkim the snowfall of the month was above the average.

In Northern Bengal and Assam the conditions were nearly the reverse of the above. Here the humidity was above the average from the 1st to the 21st, and below it from the 22nd to the end of the month. The day of greatest humidity was apparently the 14th; and this date corresponds with the middle of that period of excessive precipi-

tation which gave Silchar 27 inches of rain in ten days, and produced disastrous floods, raising the river Barak 41½ feet above its zero level, and submerging the station of Silchar and all the country around. No such flood has been experienced since 1833. With the 21st the rainfall appears to have almost entirely ceased. As in the former case, the changes of temperature were the reverse of those of humidity, the readings of the thermometer being below the average from the 1st to 21st, and above it from the 22nd to the 31st, and the day of lowest temperature was that of greatest humidity, *viz.*, the 14th.

In the Central Provinces the conditions were similar to those of North-Western India, humidity being below and temperature above the average during the first 25 days, while dry westerly winds were blowing; but in this region the hottest day was the 19th. On the 26th a rapid change took place, the air becoming suddenly much damper and the temperature falling quickly, so that, while on the 19th at Jubbulpore and Saugor it had reached 111°, on the 28th it only amounted to 91° and 92° respectively.

In Rajputana, Sind, Cutch, Guzerat, &c., dry westerly winds prevailed almost throughout the month, the only exception being about a week in the middle of the period. Practically no rain fell over this region, but the temperature varied with that of the more northern provinces, being above the average from the 1st to the 21st. After the latter date it fell suddenly, and on the 27th the readings at Neemuch and Indore were respectively 22° and 19° below the average.

In the Peninsula and Burma the variations from the mean were irregular, and on the whole nowhere large. Over Burma the rainfall was more or less evenly distributed throughout the month, while over the Peninsula the amount of precipitation increased towards its close. In both regions the end of the month was marked by a somewhat sudden increase of humidity and fall of temperature—changes probably connected with the approach of the monsoon, which was apparently setting in at Cochin on the 28th.

A brief summary of the weather over the whole country shows that over the whole of North-Western India, *i.e*, the country north of the Satpuras and west of Behar, the first two-thirds of the month were exceptionally hot and dry and the last ten days damp, showery, cool and unsettled; that over Bengal and Assam the reverse was the case; and that over the Peninsula and British Burma the whole month presented conditions not widely differing from the average of past years.

Memorandum on the chief weather characteristics of India during the month of June 1883.

In Bengal, after some weeks of close cloudy weather, with occasional showers, the monsoon rains were ushered in on the 13th June with a little cyclonic storm formed apparently on the coast of the Sunderbunds. From the coast on the three following days, this storm passed inland on a north-west course, bringing heavy rain in its track as far west as Behar, and a moderate fall up to Allahabad, beyond which, for the time, the rains did not advance. The following are the maximum falls recorded each day:—

June 13th.—Cuttack	... ...	1·66 inches.
„ 14th.—Saugor Island	... ...	5·11 „
„ 15th.—Darjeeling	... ...	4·56 „
„ 16th.—Gya	... ...	8·95 „
„ 17th.—Mozufferpore	... ...	12·49 „

At Bombay it blew strongly on the 11th, 12th and 13th, but not from the monsoon quarter; and afterwards the wind fell light, and so continued till the 24th, when the monsoon set in steadily. But the rainfall has been light throughout the month, and at its close was 6 inches short of the normal average. On the 26th or 27th a second cyclone was formed at the head of the Bay of Bengal, causing heavy rain around the coasts, and especially on those of Orissa and Ganjam; then travelling westward, the centre reached Cuttack on the 30th June; Seoni on the 1st July; Indore on the 2nd, and lay between Rajkot and Kurrachee on the 3rd. It caused very heavy rain in Guzerat, flooding the rivers, and interrupting railway communication between Bombay and Baroda.

In the North-Western Provinces, with the exception already mentioned, the rains did not set in before the 26th, but throughout the month the wind was in general easterly, and occasional thunderstorms occurred. In the Punjab also the first rain fell between the 26th and 29th, but in the eastern half of the province the prevailing high temperature was mitigated by an occasional duststorm. The hottest days were the 4th, 25th and 26th, when the mean temperatures were approximately 92·8, 93·1 and 94·3 respectively.

In Northern Bengal, during the first half of the month, the humidity was below, and in the second half above, the mean, while in Assam the variations were slight and irregular. The rainfall in Northern Bengal was large, but it fell mostly in the latter half of the month, and was directly attributable to the depression of the 13th—16th. The number of rainy days in Assam and Northern Bengal was 18; but while the rainfall of Bengal was 5 inches in excess of the normal average, that of Assam was 5 inches deficient.

In Lower Bengal rain of importance fell on 22 days. The total fall of the month was 5 inches in excess.

In the Central Provinces rain fell on 18 days; the amounts on the 14th and 15th being large, and the average total amount exceeded the mean by 1½ inches.

In Rajputana, Sind, &c., the number of days on which rain fell was only 4, and the average total was less by ¾ of an inch than even the small amount which generally falls in this region in the month of June. In Rajputana the month was decidedly cool, but in Sind and Cutch the temperature was generally above the average.

In Bombay and Guzerat rain fell upon 19 days, but the falls were not heavy, and the total amount was 5 inches less than the normal. The temperature was below the average, the difference, over an area stretching from Bombay to Belgaum and from Poona to Secunderabad, being 2½°.

In Madras and Mysore the weather was cloudy; rain fell upon 26 days, the average fall exceeding the normal by ¾ of an inch. Under these circumstances the temperature was somewhat below the mean.

In Burma the largest number of wet days was recorded, *viz.*, 27, but the falls of rain were not very heavy, except between the 4th and 9th; so that, at the close of the month, there was an average deficiency of 6 inches. The thermometer was below the average throughout.

From the above it appears that over a large part of the country the monsoon so far has been weak. On the 28th of May it was reported to have burst at Cochin, and between that date and the 5th of June it appears to have spread along that coast as far north as Goa. In Bombay itself the weather has been showery, but there have been no very heavy falls of rain. On the Bengal side, on the contrary, the south and south-west winds have brought up even more than the normal amount of rain, and the weather at the head of the Bay has been somewhat exceptionally rough. In Northern India the monsoon current has been much delayed, and in parts of the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab continuous rain has hardly yet set in.

W. L. DALLAS,

Assistant Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the memorandum be inserted in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

T. W. HOLDERNESS,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House, Simla, on Wednesday, the 11th July, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.

Major the Hon'ble E. Baring, R.A., C.S.I., C.I.E.

Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.

The Hon'ble D. G. Barkley.

BIKRÁMA SINGH'S ESTATES BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to confirm and give effect to an award made by His Excellency the

Viceroy and Governor General regarding certain matters in dispute between Sardár Bikráma Singh and the Kapurthhala State.

EMIGRATION BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton be added to the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to the Emigration of Natives of India.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 18th July, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.

SIMLA;
The 11th July, 1883.

Printed and Published for the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA *at the Govt. Central Branch Press, Simla.*

SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India.

Nº 29. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* GAZETTE OF INDIA *will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.*

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE *may receive the* SUPPLEMENT *separately on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or nine Rupees if sent by Post.*

No Official Orders or Notifications, the publication of which in the GAZETTE OF INDIA *is required by Law, or which it has been customary to publish in the* CALCUTTA GAZETTE, *will be included in the* SUPPLEMENT. *For such Orders and Notifications the body of the* GAZETTE *must be looked to.*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

[TELEGRAPH.]

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 1883.

CLASS OF MESSAGES.	ROUTE. WEST. VIA TEHERAN. No.	VIA TEHERAN. Indian Value.	VIA TURKEY. No.	VIA TURKEY. Indian Value.	PERSIAN GULF. No.	PERSIAN GULF. Indian Value.	VIA SUEZ. No.	VIA SUEZ. Indian Value.	EAST. VIA AMOY. No.	VIA AMOY. Indian Value.	VIA MADRAS. No.	VIA MADRAS. Indian Value.	VIA RANGOON. No.	VIA RANGOON. Indian Value.	NATIVE BURMA. No.	NATIVE BURMA. Indian Value.	VIA PAUMBEN. No.	VIA PAUMBEN. Indian Value.	TOTAL. No.	TOTAL. Indian Value.
INDIAN.																				
Sent	3,403	₹ a. 34,915 13	67	₹ a. 193 0	48	₹ a. 184 11	4,233	₹ a. 6,925 9	30	₹ a. 158 12	667	₹ a. 8,863 2	152	₹ a. 606 5	462	₹ a. 606 0	1,763	₹ a. 3,112 0	10,925	₹ 55,685
Received	2,383	12,085 11	96	307 10	52	200 2	4,335	16,424 9	42	112 11	660	1,917 7	177	486 2	...	...	1,667	3,148 14	9,412	34,683
TOTAL	5,786	47,001 8	163	500 10	100	384 13	8,568	23,350 2	72	271 7	1,327	10,780 9	329	1,092 7	462	606 0	3,430	6,260 14	20,337	90,368
TRANSIT.																				
From East to West—																				
Recd. *Vid* Madras	269	1,809 0	3	12 0	8	23 10	4,119	16,523 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,399	18,367 12
Recd. „ Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Recd. „ Laingha	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Recd. „ Paumben	38	108 2	...	...	...	...	456	1,239 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	494	1,348 6
From West to East—																				
Sent. *Vid* Madras	920	4,620 11	84	251 10	2	1 2	3,088	11,938 14	6	27 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,100	16,839 9
Sent. „ Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sent. „ Laingha	2	3 10	...	...	...	...	2	8 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	11 12
Sent. „ Paumben	87	321 11	5	15 5	...	...	243	799 9	1	1 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	335	1,138
From West to West—																				
Recd. *Vid* Bombay	2	7 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7 8
Sent. *Vid* Bombay	...	...	1	6 12	2	7 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	13 14
From East to East—																				
Vid Paumben	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	91	333 8	1	1 8	...	...	...	...	92	339
„ Madras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67	258 1	67	258
TOTAL	[illegible]	6,876 10	93	285 11	12	31 14	7,907	30,507 15	7	29 11	91	333 8	1	1 8	...	...	67	258 1	9,495	38,523
GRAND TOTAL																			29,732	1,28,973

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC WITH INDIA BY THE INDO-EUROPEAN AND RED SEA ROUTES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 1883.

ROUTE.		NUMBER OF MESSAGES BY EACH ROUTE (EXCLUSIVE OF TRANSIT). To India.	From India.	TOTAL.	PERCENTAGE OF NUMBER. To India.	From India.	TOTAL.
INDO-EUROPEAN	*Vid* Teheran	2,383	3,403	5,786	34·71	43·90	39·53
INDO-EUROPEAN	„ Turkey	96	67	163	1·40	0·87	1·12
INDO-EUROPEAN	Persian Gulf *vid* Karachi	52	48	100	0·76	0·62	0·68
RED SEA	*Vid* Suez	4,335	4,233	8,568	63·13	54·61	58·62
	TOTAL	6,866	7,751	14,617	100·00	100·00	100·00

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 1st HALF OF JUNE 1883, PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1312 AND 1313 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 14th JULY 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight. S. C.	Wheat. Past fortnight. S. C.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S. C.	Barley. Present fortnight. S. C.	Barley. Past fortnight. S. C.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S. C.	Rice. Best sort. Present fortnight. S. C.	Rice. Best sort. Past fortnight. S. C.	Rice. Best sort. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S. C.	Rice. Common. Present fortnight. S. C.	Rice. Common. Past fortnight. S. C.	Rice. Common. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S. C.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight. S. C.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight. S. C.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of last year. S. C.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight. S. C.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight. S. C.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of last year. S. C.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kuvarai, Verageo, Skavarai, Cheena, Corsian, Murtiwa, Nagloo, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana,* &c. Present fortnight. S. C.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kuvarai, Verageo, Skavarai, Cheena, Corsian, Murtiwa, Nagloo, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana,* &c. Past fortnight. S. C.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kuvarai, Verageo, Skavarai, Cheena, Corsian, Murtiwa, Nagloo, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana,* &c. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S. C.	Gram. Present fortnight. S. C.	Gram. Past fortnight. S. C.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S. C.	Firewood. Present fortnight. S. C.	Firewood. Past fortnight. S. C.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S. C.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight. S. C.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight. S. C.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S. C.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight. S. C.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight. S. C.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S. C.
Mysore	Bangalore	12	4 11	15 11	14 13	7 13	1 12	11 10	2 10	2 10	0 10	15 11	2 11	7 27	1 30	3 25	0	7 18	0 20	0	32 11	33 3	25 8	30 8	30 8	33 1	84 12	96 0	84 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 11	11 0*
	Kolar	16	11 16	11 15	7 24	10 23	12 21	0 7	5 7	5 7	8 9	10 23	8 9	3 34	1 37	13 25	4	3 19	3 15	9	37 2	57 2	31 0	33 0	32 0	33 1	172 6	172 6	172 6	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 11	13 0*
	Tumkur	24	8 24	6 21	0 20	0 20	0 17	0 10	0 10	0 10	0 17	0 14	0 14	0 32	0 33	0 21	0	0 20	0 17	0	14 0	12 0	11 0	13 0	12 0	38 1	78 0	78 0	78 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 8	9 8*
	Mysore	23	6 23	3 21	0 42	13 41	14 33	12 8	0 8	0 8	0 17	16 19	0 18	14 34	5 35	2 35	0	5 32	0 24	0	25 0	27 0	19 0	32 0	32 0	38 1	80 0	80 0	80 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	8 8	8 8*
	Shimoga	14	11 15	12 14	11 16	13 15	12 11	9 11	9 10	8 10	8 15	12 14	11 14	10 37	12 35	8	4	1 38	0	0	33 1	38 1	28 0	33 0	32 0	38 1	80 0	80 0	80 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 7	9 7*
	Kadur	14	0 14	0 16	0 15	0 15	0 15	0 14	0 14	0 12	0 16	0 17	0 14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32 0	32 0	24 0	30 0	30 0	38 1	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0*
Central India	Indore	14	12 13	10 14	2 ...	... ...	... ...	9 ...	3 9	6 8	9 10	0 10	0 10	0 17	0 17	0 20	0	0 18	0	0	... ...	17 6	17 7	18 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0*
	Gwalior	16	11 16	11 15	7 24	10 23	12 21	0 7	5 7	5 7	8 9	10 23	8 9	3 24	1 24	2 19	0	3 19	3 15	9	... ...	23 5	22 14	21 0	127 12	127 12	109 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0*
	Goona	24	8 24	6 21	0 20	0 20	0 17	0 10	0 10	0 10	0 17	0 14	0 14	0 32	0 33	0 21	0	0 20	0 17	0	... ...	31 8	30 9	24 0	320 0	280 0	200 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0*
	Baglekhand (Sutna)	23	6 23	3 21	0 42	13 41	14 33	12 8	0 8	0 8	0 17	16 19	0 18	14 34	5 35	2 35	0	5 32	0 24	0	35 9	36 15	30 0	30 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0*

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Statistical Branch.)

* Sea Salt. † Earth Salt.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXIII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 17th June 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 16th June 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 17th June 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 16th June 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			R	*R*		*R*	*R*	*R*	*R*	*R*	*R*	*R*	*R*
	Guaranteed.												
23rd June 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	72,879	424	207	82,003	396	7,86,497	410	10,01,726	440	2,15,229	...
16th ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	95,472	175	547	1,15,293	211	12,89,836	211	15,19,748	253	2,29,912	...
23rd ditto .	Sind, Punjab & Delhi .	676	2,19,338	324	748	3,05,349	408	21,88,843	290	27,08,997	333	5,20,154	...
16th ditto .	Madras . . .	858	1,43,798	168	861	1,28,143	149	15,43,575	162	14,50,767	153	...	92,808
16th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	89,681	137	655	76,218	116	8,85,206	121	8,73,049	121	...	12,157
23rd ditto .	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	4,48,553	308	1,458	6,86,243	471	97,64,591	605	1,06,60,308	665	8,95,717	...
16th ditto .	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	2,25,581	489	461	2,63,657	572	30,05,570	585	34,09,353	672	4,03,783	...
	TOTAL .	4,827	12,95,302	268	4,937	16,56,906	336	1,94,64,118	363	2,16,23,948	399	21,59,830	...
	State.												
23rd June 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	8,78,760	583	1,509	11,04,475	732	1,00,51,512	598	1,18,13,336	712	17,61,824	...
16th ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	33	2,313	70	56	5,780	103	36,670	113	65,618	117	28,948	...
23rd ditto .	Nalhati . .	27	1,305	48	27	1,724	64	15,661	52	18,497	62	2,836	...
16th ditto .	Northern Bengal .	233	36,300	156	230	36,000	157	4,01,689	155	4,38,102	173	36,413	...
23rd ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	85	11,111	131	166	17,783	107	1,51,002	160	1,97,278	110	46,276	...
19th May 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	9,282	163	...	(*a*)	...	(*b*)77,336	190	(*c*)78,420	197	1,084	...
23rd June 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	1,737	60	29	2,478	85	27,208	84	29,708	93	2,500	...
23rd ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	6,096	70	87	7,464	86	73,765	76	74,990	78	1,225	...
23rd ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	908	76	12	981	82	13,028	97	13,939	106	911	...
23rd ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	2,22,255	199	1,117	2,74,250	246	25,31,827	204	30,80,551	251	5,48,724	...
23rd ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	7,671	170	45	10,546	234	1,48,797	297	1,80,595	365	31,798	...
23rd ditto .	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	6,023	61	149	24,041	161	1,96,145	180	4,94,844	302	2,98,699	...
23rd ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawadi Valley . .	161	23,662	147	161	20,981	130	3,86,936	216	3,72,144	210	...	14,792
23rd ditto .	Sindia	75	6,005	80	75	6,228	83	71,539	85	71,400	87	...	139
23rd ditto .	Punjab Northern .	412	55,633	135	419	53,730	128	6,64,509	151	6,67,567	144	3,058	...
23rd ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	81,601	124	660	2,17,073	329	9,06,669	123	17,70,190	244	8,63,491	...
23rd ditto .	Muttra-Achnera .	23	1,187	51	23	1,210	52	13,698	53	17,362	69	3,664	...
16th ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	1,224	38	32	1,773	55	18,705	53	21,829	62	3,124	...
23rd ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	8,940	100	...	...	74,481	76	74,481	...
	TOTAL .	3,186	4,74,313	149	3,377	6,90,982	205	57,35,214	162	76,67,515	203	19,32,301	...
	Native States.												
16th June 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	18,700	96	193	19,945	103	2,97,568	138	3,32,021	156	34,453	...
23rd ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	14,326	118	121	15,409	127	1,86,008	138	1,68,886	127	...	17,122
16th ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	4,046	47	86	4,960	58	54,986	57	55,626	59	640	...
23rd ditto .	Jodhpore . . .	...	...	...	19	550	29	...	...	8,425	40	8,425	...
	TOTAL .	401	37,072	92	419	40,864	98	5,38,562	120	5,64,958	123	26,396	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,921	26,85,447	271	10,242	34,93,227	342	3,57,89,406	325	4,16,69,757	368	58,80,351	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,64,63,127	149	2,00,01,483	177	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS * .	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,93,26,279	176	2,16,68,274	191	23,41,995	...

(*a*) Return not received. (*b*) Total receipts from 1st April to 20th May 1882. (*c*) Total receipts from 1st April to 19th May 1883.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 14th July 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 1st HALF OF JUNE 1883, PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1312 AND 1313 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 14th JULY 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice. Best sort.			Rice. Common.			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bajrah Millet (Cumbo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, *Ragi*, &c. (Kararu, Verageo, Sawee, Cheena, Coralee, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.		
		Present fortnight.	Last fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Last fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Last fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Last fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Last fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Last fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Last fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Last fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Last fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Last fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Last fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.
		S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
Central India.	Indore	14	12	13	14	13	7	13	12	11	10	15	11	2	11	7	27	1	30	3	25	0	31	8	4	8	4	8	9	7	8	6	10
	Gwalior	16	11	16	11	15	7	24	10	23	12	21	0	7	24	15	20	2	19	3	15	9	7	24	15	20	2	19	3	15	9	7	11
	Goona	24	8	24	9	21	0	20	9	20	0	17	0	10	0	19	8	0	24	0	21	0	20	0	20	0	20	0	20	0	20	0	11
	Baglelkhand (Sutna)	23	6	23	3	21	0	42	13	41	14	33	12	8	0	8	0	8	0	5	35	2	35	0	31	5	32	0	31	5	32	0	31
Mysore.	Bangalore	12	4	11	15	11	14	13	7	13	12	11	10	9	3	9	6	8	9	10	0	10	15	11	2	11	7	27	1	30	3	25	0
	Kolar	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	2	11	11	2	11	7	5	7	5	7	5	9	8	9	3	15	13	15	3	14	13	15	3	14	13
	Tumkúr	14	0	14	0	14	8	13	0	13	0	13	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	12	0	12	0	12	8
	Mysore	11	0	11	12	11	0	...	...	...	12	0	11	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	12	0	10	0	12	0	10	0	12
	Shimoga	14	11	15	12	14	11	16	13	16	13	15	12	11	9	11	9	10	8	15	12	14	11	14	11	14	3	34	10	37	13	25	4
	Kadur	14	0	14	0	16	0	15	0	15	0	15	0	14	0	14	0	12	0	16	0	17	0	14	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

* Sea Salt.

† Earth Salt.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXIII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 17th June 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 16th June 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 17th June 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 16th June 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
23rd June 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	72,879	424	207	82,003	396	7,86,497	410	10,01,726	440	2,15,229	...
16th ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	95,472	175	547	1,15,293	211	12,89,836	211	15,19,748	253	2,29,912	...
23rd ditto .	Sind, Punjab & Delhi .	676	2,19,338	324	748	3,05,349	408	21,88,843	290	27,08,997	333	5,20,154	...
16th ditto .	Madras . . .	858	1,43,798	168	861	1,28,143	149	15,43,575	162	14,50,767	153	...	92,808
16th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	89,681	137	655	76,218	116	8,85,206	121	8,73,049	121	...	12,157
23rd ditto .	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	4,48,553	308	1,458	6,86,243	471	97,64,591	605	1,06,60,308	665	8,95,717	...
16th ditto .	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	2,25,581	489	461	2,63,657	572	30,05,570	585	34,09,353	672	4,03,783	...
	TOTAL .	4,827	12,95,302	268	4,937	16,56,906	336	1,94,64,118	363	2,16,23,948	399	21,59,830	...
	State.												
23rd June 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	8,78,760	583	1,509	11,04,475	732	1,00,51,512	598	1,18,13,336	712	17,61,824	...
16th ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	33	2,313	70	56	5,780	103	36,670	113	65,618	117	28,948	...
23rd ditto .	Nalhati . .	27	1,305	48	27	1,724	64	15,661	52	18,497	62	2,836	...
16th ditto .	Northern Bengal .	233	36,300	156	230	36,000	157	4,01,689	155	4,38,102	173	36,413	...
23rd ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	85	11,111	131	166	17,783	107	1,51,002	160	1,97,278	110	46,276	...
19th May 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	9,282	163	...	(*a*)	...	(*b*)77,336	190	(*c*)78,420	197	1,084	...
23rd June 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	1,737	60	29	2,478	85	27,208	84	29,708	93	2,500	...
23rd ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	6,096	70	87	7,464	86	73,765	76	74,990	78	1,225	...
23rd ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	908	76	12	981	82	13,028	97	13,939	106	911	...
23rd ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	2,22,255	199	1,117	2,74,250	246	25,31,827	204	30,80,551	251	5,48,724	...
23rd ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	7,671	170	45	10,546	234	1,48,797	297	1,80,595	365	31,798	...
23rd ditto .	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	6,023	61	149	24,041	161	1,96,145	180	4,94,841	302	2,98,699	...
23rd ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . .	161	23,662	147	161	20,981	130	3,86,936	216	3,72,144	210	...	14,792
23rd ditto .	Sindia . . .	75	6,005	80	75	6,228	83	71,539	85	71,400	87	...	139
23rd ditto .	Punjab Northern .	412	55,633	135	419	53,730	128	6,64,509	151	6,67,567	144	3,058	...
23rd ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	81,601	124	660	2,17,073	329	9,06,669	123	17,70,190	244	8,63,491	...
23rd ditto .	Muttra-Achnera .	23	1,187	51	23	1,210	52	13,698	53	17,362	69	3,664	...
16th ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	1,224	38	32	1,773	55	18,705	53	21,829	62	3,124	...
23rd ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	8,940	100	...	...	74,481	76	74,481	...
	TOTAL .	3,186	4,74,313	149	3,377	6,90,982	205	57,35,214	162	76,67,515	203	19,32,301	...
	Native States.												
16th June 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	18,700	96	193	19,945	103	2,97,568	138	3,32,021	156	34,453	...
23rd ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	14,326	118	121	15,409	127	1,86,008	138	1,68,886	127	...	17,122
16th ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	4,046	47	86	4,960	58	54,986	57	55,626	59	640	...
23rd ditto .	Jodhpore . . .	...	...	...	19	550	29	...	...	8,425	40	8,425	...
	TOTAL .	401	37,072	92	419	40,864	98	5,38,562	120	5,64,958	123	26,396	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,921	26,85,447	271	10,242	34,93,227	342	3,57,89,406	325	4,16,69,757	368	58,80,351	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,64,63,127	149	2,00,01,483	177	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS * .	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,93,26,279	176	2,16,68,274	191	23,41,995	...

(*a*) Return not received.

(*b*) Total receipts from 1st April to 20th May 1882.

(*c*) Total receipts from 1st April to 19th May 1883.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 14th July 1883.

No. XXIV OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 24th June 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 23rd June 1883. Total.	Per mile open	Total receipts from 1st April to 24th June 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total receipts from 1st April to 23rd June 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
23rd June 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	83,381	485	207	82,768	400	8,69,878	416	10,84,494	437	2,14,616	...
23rd ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund.	547	79,069	145	547	1,12,378	205	13,68,905	206	16,32,126	249	2,63,221	...
23rd ditto .	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	676	1,81,789	269	748	3,14,892	421	23,70,632	289	30,18,970	340	6,48,338	...
23rd ditto .	Madras . . .	858	1,43,500	167	861	1,18,571	138	16,87,074	162	15,69,338	152	...	1,17,736
23rd ditto .	South Indian . .	655	81,435	124	655	76,422	117	9,66,641	122	9,50,038	121	...	16,603
30th ditto .	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	5,35,053	367	1,458	5,35,628	367	1,02,99,643	585	1,11,88,162	639	8,88,519	...
23rd ditto .	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	2,01,318	437	461	2,37,824	516	32,06,888	573	36,47,177	659	4,40,289	...
	TOTAL .	4,827	13,05,545	270	4,937	14,78,483	299	2,07,69,661	355	2,30,90,305	390	23,20,644	...
	State.												
30th June 1883	East Indian. . .	1,507	8,06,310	535	1,509	11,34,814	752	1,08,57,822	594	1,29,48,150	715	20,90,328	...
16th ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	33	7,486	227	...	(a)	...	(b)36,670	113	(c)65,618	177	28,948	...
30th ditto .	Nalhati . . .	27	1,466	54	27	1,551	57	17,127	52	20,048	62	2,921	...
16th ditto .	Northern Bengal. .	233	47,275	203	...	(a)	...	(b)4,01,689	155	(c)4,38,102	173	36,413	...
30th ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	85	8,144	96	166	5,919	36	1,59,146	154	2,03,292	104	44,146	...
26th May 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	7,867	138	...	(a)	...	(d)85,832	185	(e)86,503	190	671	...
30th June 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	1,498	52	29	2,335	81	28,707	81	32,044	92	3,337	...
30th ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	5,646	65	87	7,665	88	79,411	75	82,656	79	3,245	...
30th ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur.	12	820	68	12	910	76	13,848	95	14,874	100	1,026	...
30th ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	2,15,095	193	1,117	2,66,350	238	27,46,922	202	33,81,000	249	5,84,078	...
30th ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	9,312	207	45	9,663	215	1,58,109	289	1,90,654	353	32,545	...
30th ditto .	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh . . .	98	6,363	65	149	16,093	108	2,02,508	170	5,10,938	286	3,08,430	...
30th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . . .	161	23,593	147	161	20,771	129	4,10,529	210	3,92,440	208	...	18,089
30th ditto .	Sindia. . . .	75	7,051	94	75	6,875	92	78,590	86	78,690	87	100	...
30th ditto .	Punjab Northern. .	412	55,556	135	419	56,453	135	7,20,065	150	7,24,020	143	3,955	...
30th ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . .	660	1,12,025	170	660	2,15,717	327	10,18,724	127	20,06,714	253	9,87,990	...
30th ditto .	Muttra-Achnera . .	23	1,268	55	23	1,136	49	14,966	54	18,492	67	3,526	...
30th ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	1,133	35	32	1,673	52	19,838	51	23,561	61	3,723	...
30th ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	7,070	79	...	...	76,322	71	76,322	...
	TOTAL .	3,186	5,11,598	161	3,091	6,20,181	201	61,92,681	161	82,95,968	202	21,03,287	...
	Native States.												
23rd June 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	15,125	78	193	14,823	77	3,12,694	133	3,51,424	152	38,730	...
23rd ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	19,322	160	121	15,153	125	2,05,330	140	1,84,108	127	...	21,222
16th ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	5,266	61	...	(a)	...	(b)54,986	57	(c)55,626	59	640	...
30th ditto .	Jodhpore . . .	(f)3	(g)6	...	19	770	41	(g)6	...	9,267	41	9,261	...
	TOTAL .	404	39,719	98	333	30,746	92	5,73,016	118	6,00,425	119	27,409	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,924	26,68,172	268	9,870	32,64,224	331	3,83,93,180	320	4,49,34,848	364	65,41,668	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,76,60,863	147	2,15,68,727	175	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS .	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,07,32,317	173	2,33,66,121	189	26,33,804	...

(a) Return not received.
(b) Total receipts from 1st April to 17th June 1882.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 16th June 1883.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 27th May 1882.
(e) Total receipts from 1st April to 26th May 1883.
(f) 19 miles opened on 24th June 1882.
(g) The receipts for one day ending 24th June 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R. E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 14th July 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

RULES FOR THE FILLING UP OF VACANCIES IN THE CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT OFFICES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, AND THE DEPARTMENTS DIRECTLY ATTACHED TO THEM, BY COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION.

No. $\frac{26}{953\text{-}963}$.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Public),—under date Simla, the 19th July 1883.

Read again—

Home Department Resolution Nos. 31—1161-66, dated the 21st July 1880, on the subject of raising the standard of ability among clerks attached to the Secretariats connected with the Government of India.

Read—

Home Department Resolution Nos. 31—1298-1308, dated the 31st August 1882.
Home Department Resolution No. 1847, dated the 24th November 1882.
Home Department Resolution Nos. 10—381-390, dated the 12th March 1883.

OBSERVATIONS.

The Governor General in Council has reconsidered the rules laid down in the Home Department Resolution, Nos. 31—1298-1308, dated the 31st August 1882, for the admission of clerks into the Secretariat Offices attached to the Government of India by a system of competitive examinations, and is pleased to direct the issue and publication of the following revised—

RESOLUTION.

The Governor General in Council has for some time past had under consideration the question of the best mode of filling up vacancies in the clerical establishments of the Secretariat Offices of the Government of India, and securing a reasonably high standard of qualification among the assistants employed.

2. The recognised difficulty in all Government Offices is to obtain men fit for the superior duties, such as those of drafting, précis-writing, preparing statistical returns, and the like. The pay provided for the superior appointments is in itself sufficient to give adequate remuneration for the proper performance of duties of this class; but the complaint is general that the standard of work done is at present often very inferior. It has been too much the rule to promote men from the lower grades as a matter of course; and as no test of qualification is applied either on admission to those lower grades, or on advancement beyond them, promotion has come to depend at least as much on seniority and the absence of misconduct as upon any merit or positive fitness for superior duty.

3. The Governor General in Council has decided that the first step towards reform must be to draw a marked line of distinction between the superior and inferior classes of appointments, and that for this purpose the Secretariat Clerical Service shall for the future be separated into an Upper and a Lower Division,—the former comprising all appointments the pay of which is Rs. 200 and upwards, the latter all appointments (other than those of mere copyists) the pay of which is below that sum. No clerk will be entitled to promotion from the Lower to the Upper Division as a matter of course, or otherwise than in accordance with the rules laid down in this Resolution.

4. As regards the mode of recruiting both Upper and Lower Divisions, the Governor General in Council has come to the conclusion that the only satisfactory principle to follow is that of free and open competition,* modified as regards the Upper Division by conditions favourable to persons at the present time actually

* Except in the case of the appointments of Registrars of Offices, Superintendents of Branches, or Head Assistants, for filling up which an absolute power of selection must remain with the Head of the Office concerned.

serving in the Lower Division. The plan of filling up vacancies in the Government Offices by competitive examination has worked satisfactorily in the Home Civil Service, and in the few instances where it has been tried in this country. It does away at once with many abuses and difficulties, and seems peculiarly adapted to the circumstances of Indian Offices, the responsible heads of which have necessarily no intimate acquaintance with the personal qualifications of candidates for admission, and are driven to rely upon the partial recommendations of subordinates or the certificates of irresponsible outsiders.

5. It has therefore been determined for the future to hold in Calcutta, and such other places as may be hereafter appointed for the purpose, an examination on the 15th January of each year (or on the day following if the 15th be a holiday) for the purpose of selecting candidates for appointments in the Secretariat Offices of the Government of India. The arrangements for the examinations will be made by the Board of Examiners, Fort William, who will be assisted by paid examiners, and act in communication with the Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department.

6. The nature of the examination will be as follows:—

A.—For all candidates.

(1) Dictation and Handwriting.

This will be a preliminary test, which all candidates, whether for the Upper or Lower Division, must satisfy. No marks will be assigned; but a high standard of proficiency will be insisted upon. The papers of candidates will be examined as soon as possible after this examination, and the examiners will require any candidate who fails to pass this test to withdraw from the further examination.

B.—For candidates for appointments in the Upper Division.

		Marks.
*(1)	Arithmetic, Algebra, and the Geometry of the Straight Line and Circle ... Two papers will be set of a character to test intelligence and application of knowledge rather than memory and acquaintance with book-work.	500
(2)	History (English and Indian) and Geography ... ... Two papers will be set in these subjects.	500
(3)	English Composition	500
(4)	Précis-writing and letter-drafting	500

No candidate will be credited with marks in any subject unless he obtains at least one-sixth of the full number of marks for that subject. Subject to this proviso, successful candidates will be placed in the order of their aggregate of marks.

C.—For candidates for appointment in the Lower Division.

		Marks.
*(1)	Arithmetic; Algebra up to Quadratic Equations (inclusive); Euclid, Books I—IV (Book work and riders). Two papers will be set.	500
(2)	History (English and Indian) and Geography ... ... Two papers will be set.	500
(3)	English Composition	500
(4)	Docketing and letter-drafting	500

In subjects (1), (2), and (3) any candidate obtaining less than one-fourth of the full marks will be disqualified. In subject (4) no candidate will be credited with marks unless he obtains at least one-sixth of the total number; but

* Candidates will not be eligible for the Lower Division of the Financial Department, for the Office of the Accountant General, Public Works Department, or for the Office of the Director General of Railways, unless they obtain at least one-third of the full number of marks in this subject.

The Financial Department further reserves the right of providing that in any year 500 extra marks shall be assigned by the examiners for special proficiency in mathematics, or that an extra paper shall be set in that subject carrying that number of marks. These marks will not be counted in the aggregate of marks regulating the placing of successful candidates, but the Financial Department will be guided in its selection of candidates by the number of such extra marks obtained, and may select a candidate not on the list of successful candidates on the ground of his special proficiency in mathematics as evidenced by the award of such extra marks. Notice of the intention of the Financial Department [illegible] provision will be given before each annual examination.

failure will not disqualify a candidate. Subject to these conditions, successful candidates will be placed in the order of their aggregate of marks.

7. Every candidate for an appointment in the Lower Division must send a written application for permission to appear at the examination to the Secretary to the Board of Examiners between the 1st and 15th days of December (inclusive). The application should be in the form given on the margin, and be accompanied by a treasury receipt for the sum of Rs. 10, which the candidate is required to pay into the treasury nearest his place of residence, by way of examination fee. With the application must also be forwarded—

[FORM.]

To the Secretary to the Board of Examiners,
Fort William.

SIR,

I request permission to present myself at the ensuing examination of candidates for appointments in the Lower Division of Government Clerkships. If successful, I should elect to serve in the office of the . A treasury receipt for the fee of Rs. 10 is forwarded herewith.

I am, &c.

(1) Evidence that the candidate is not less than 18 and not more than 24 years of age.

(2) A certificate that the candidate is of good moral character from the head of the institution in which he has last been educated, or (when a year or more has elapsed since his education terminated) from some respectable householder, to whom he is well known in private life, and who is himself personally known to the head of some Government Office,—this last fact being certified by the countersignature of the officer in question.

8. Every candidate for an appointment in the Upper Division must in the same way send a written application for permission to appear at the examination to the Secretary to the Board of Examiners between the dates above specified. The application should be in the form given on the margin, and be accompanied by a treasury receipt for the sum of Rs. 20 by way of examination fee. Candidates must forward with the application the evidence of age and the certificate of moral character prescribed in paragraph 7 above.

[FORM.]

To the Secretary to the Board of Examiners,
Fort William.

SIR,

I request permission to present myself at the ensuing examination of candidates for appointments in the Upper Division of Government Clerkships. If successful, I should elect to serve in the office of the . A treasury receipt for the fee of Rs. 20 is forwarded herewith.

I am, &c.

9. The number of candidates to be selected by the Examiners for each Division will be notified in the *Gazette of India* by the Home Department on or before the 30th November. This number will be determined, in communication with the heads of the offices concerned, with reference to the number of vacancies existing or estimated as likely to occur within the course of the following year (and which it is not intended to fill under the provisions of paragraphs 12 or 13 below), *plus* a margin of 10 per cent. for casualties. In each year after the first the number of appointments to be notified will be reduced by the number of selected candidates remaining on the list from former years who may not yet have received appointments.

10. Persons who have at any time held a permanent appointment in any of the offices affected by the Resolution, but who may have lost such appointment owing to its abolition or on reduction of establishment, may present themselves for examination under these rules without payment of fee, provided they are under 40 years of age.

11. Clerks in the Lower Division of an office who are under 40 years of age, may, with the permission of the head of the office, present themselves for examination for appointments in the Upper Division without payment of fee.

12. Except as provided in paragraph 13 below, there will, after the 1st April 1887, be no promotion from the Lower to the Upper Division. But (to meet the case of clerks who are [illegible] date of the issue of this Resolution serving in the Lower Division) [illegible] 1st April 1887 every alternate vacancy in the Upper Division of [illegible] office [illegible] be filled by the head of the office, by the promotion of clerks who [illegible] in the Lower Division of that office on the 1st January 1883, in accordance with the results of a departmental examination or otherwise as the [illegible] may think fit.

13. After the 1st April 1887, every third vacancy occurring in the Upper Division of an office may be filled up by the head of the office, if he thinks fit, in accordance with the results of a departmental examination of clerks already in the Lower Division of that office.

14. As soon as practicable after the open competitive examinations, the Board of Examiners will report the result to the Home Department, which will circulate a list of selected candidates to the heads of the offices concerned. Candidates will be given their choice of Departments as far as possible, and the Home Department will intimate such choice, if made, to the head of each office, who will offer the vacant appointments at his disposal to the candidates electing his office in the order in which they stand on the list, and thereafter to the other candidates in the same order, through the Home Department. It will be open to the head of an office to select in preference to other successful candidates for the Upper Division any candidate on the list of selected candidates who already belongs to the Lower Division of that office. Priority of selection as between the heads of different offices will be regulated by such orders as the Governor General in Council may from time to time make in this behalf. In the case of the Foreign Office, the Secretary will be at liberty to select any candidate on the list. No candidate not already in Government service should, however, be actually employed in any office unless he produces a certificate from a Government Medical officer of or above the rank of Assistant Surgeon that he is in good health and of a sound constitution. It will be open to a selected candidate to decline any particular appointment offered him, and his name will not on that account be removed from the list; but the name of no outside candidate will be retained on the list for either division after he has attained the age of 25 years, or for more than two years after the date of his being entered as a selected candidate.

15. All selected candidates receiving appointments will be on probation for twelve months; and if at the close of that period their work has not been found to give satisfaction, they will receive their discharge, and will have no claim to gratuity or compensation on that account. This rule will not apply to clerks selected for the Upper Division who were previously permanent clerks in the Lower Division.

16. Candidates accepting appointments must understand that their future promotion in their office within the Division to which they belong will depend entirely upon their work and merits. No clerk will have any claim as of right to rise beyond the grade upon which he may have been brought in, though in ordinary course clerks who satisfy the head of their Office will receive promotion to vacancies in the Division as they occur, new entrants being, as a rule, though not as a matter of course, brought in on the lower grades.

17. Transfers from the Upper Division of one Government Office to that of another, or from the Lower Division of one Office to that of another, may be arranged by the heads of the offices concerned; but no transfer by arrangement from the Lower Division of one Office to the Upper Division of another can be allowed in future.

18. These orders will apply to the Secretariat Offices of the Government of India, and the Offices of—

The Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India.
The Surgeon-General with the Government of India.
The Inspector General of Forests.
The Accountant General, Public Works Department.
The Director General of Railways.
The Surveyor General of India.
The Superintendent of the Geological Survey.
The Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.
The Accountant General, Military Department.
The Commissary General.
The Inspector General of Ordnance.
The Surgeon-General, Her Majesty's Forces.
The Director General of Telegraphs.

19. On the occurrence of any vacancy hereafter in any office to which this Resolution applies, when no candidate qualified under these rules is available to fill such vacancy, temporary arrangements may be made by the Head of the Office to carry on the work until the results of the next examination are known.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of the above Resolution be forwarded for information and guidance to all the Departments of the Government of India and to the Heads of Offices* under the Home Department, and that the Resolution be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

* Surgeon-General with the Government of India.
Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India.
Secretary to the Board of Examiners.
Registrar of the Calcutta University.

FEES TO BE CHARGED AND FORMS TO BE USED BY NOTARIES PUBLIC APPOINTED UNDER THE NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS ACT, XXVI OF 1881.

No. $\frac{17}{1030\text{-}1039}$, dated Simla, the 19th July 1883.

From—A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India,
To—All Local Governments and Administrations.

I am directed to forward, for adoption, the accompanying table of fees, which have been approved by the Governor General in Council, to be charged by persons appointed to perform the functions of Notaries Public under the Negotiable Instruments Act, XXVI of 1881. I am to add that Government servants who are appointed Notaries Public should not be allowed to appropriate such fees as they may receive in that capacity, but should credit them to Government. I am also to forward a set of eleven forms for use by Notaries Public appointed under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

2. The Act only requires Notaries Public to register the declarations of acceptors or payers for honour (sections 109 and 113); but the Governor General in Council considers it desirable that the Notaries Public appointed under the Act should, following the practice existing in the Presidency Towns, also register notings and protests made by them. No particular form of register is necessary for these purposes. It will be sufficient if each Notary Public be instructed to keep a substantial blank book in which to enter copies of all the letters he may write presenting bills for acceptance or payment; of all bills noted or protested, or accepted or paid for honour, together with all endorsements thereon (including that made by himself, to the effect that the bill has been noted or protested for non-payment or non-acceptance); of all protests made by himself and of all declarations made by acceptors or payers for honour. It will further be necessary that the Notary should, after examination of each entry in the book, affix his signature thereto.

3. Lastly, I am to point out that Notaries Public appointed under the Act ought to have a seal. A plain circular seal with the name of the Notary and the circumscription "Notary Public" is all that appears to be required.

4. This circular and annexures will be published in the *Gazette of India*.

Table of fees to be charged by persons appointed by the Governor General in Council under Section 3 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, to perform the functions of a Notary Public under that Act.

TABLE.

1. *For noting an instrument—*

	Rs.
If the amount of the instrument does not exceed Rs. 200 ...	1
If it exceeds Rs. 200, but does not exceed Rs. 1,000 ...	2
If it exceeds Rs. 1,000, but does not exceed Rs. 5,000 ...	3
If it exceeds Rs. 5,000, but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 ...	5
If it exceeds Rs. 20,000, but does not exceed Rs. 30,000 ...	6
If it exceeds Rs. 30,000, but does not exceed Rs. 50,000 ...	7
If it exceeds Rs. 50,000	8

		Rs.
2. *For protesting an instrument*—		
If the amount of the instrument does not exceed Rs. 200	...	5
If it exceeds Rs. 200, but does not exceed Rs. 1,000	...	6
If it exceeds Rs. 1,000, but does not exceed Rs. 5,000	...	7
If it exceeds Rs. 5,000, but does not exceed Rs. 20,000	...	10
If it exceeds Rs. 20,000, but does not exceed Rs. 30,000	...	11
If it exceeds Rs. 30,000, but does not exceed Rs. 40,000	...	12
If it exceeds Rs. 40,000, but does not exceed Rs. 50,000	...	13
If it exceeds Rs. 50,000, but does not exceed Rs. 60,000	...	14
If it exceeds Rs. 60,000, but does not exceed Rs. 70,000	...	15
If it exceeds Rs. 70,000, but does not exceed Rs. 80,000	...	16
If it exceeds Rs. 80,000, but does not exceed Rs. 90,000	...	17
If it exceeds Rs. 90,000, but does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000	...	18
If it exceeds Rs. 1,00,000	...	22
3. For recording an acceptance or payment for honour	...	2-8
4. Duplicate protests, half the charge for the original.		

I.

FORM OF NOTING.

(See section 99.)

(To be made upon the instrument, or upon a paper attached thereto, or partly upon each.)

Date of dishonour

Reason, if any, assigned for dishonour (or, if the instrument has not been expressly dishonoured, reason why holder treats it as dishonoured).

(Signed) A. B.,

Notary Public.

Notary's Charges.

II.

FORM OF PROTEST OF BILL OF EXCHANGE FOR NON-ACCEPTANCE.

(See section 101.)

Know all men that I, *A. B.*, a Notary Public appointed under section 3 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, of , *in the* Presidency / Province *of* , in British India, at the request of *C. D.*, of , did on the day of 188 , at , demand acceptance of the bill of exchange hereto annexed (or "a literal transcript whereof and of everything written or printed thereupon is hereto annexed") from *E. F.*, to which demand he made answer (*state terms of the answer, if any*) (or "to which demand he gave no answer"); wherefore I now, in the presence of *M. N.* and *O. P.*, witnesses, do protest the said bill of exchange.

(Signed) *A. B.*,

Notary Public.

M. N., *O. P.* } Witnesses.

NOTE.—When, after a bill is protested and before the protest is drawn up, it is accepted for honour, the protest should further state the name of the person by whom, of the person for whom, and the manner in which, such acceptance was offered and effected.

III.

FORM OF PROTEST OF BILL OF EXCHANGE FOR NON-ACCEPTANCE WHEN THE DRAWEE CANNOT BE FOUND.

(See section 101.)

Know all men that I, *A. B.*, a Notary Public appointed under section 3 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, of , in the Presidency / Province of , in British India, at the request of *C. D.*, of , did on the day of , 188 , make reasonable search at for *E. F.*, in order to demand from him acceptance of the bill of exchange hereto annexed (or "a literal transcript whereof and of everything written or printed thereupon is hereto annexed"), but was unable to find him there; wherefore I now, in the presence of *M. N.* and *O. P.*, witnesses, do protest the said bill of exchange.

(Signed) *A. B.*,

Notary Public.

M. N., *O. P.* } Witnesses.

NOTE.—When, after a bill is protested and before the protest is drawn up, it is accepted for honour, the protest should further state the name of the person by whom, of the person for whom, and the manner in which, such acceptance was offered and effected.

IV.

FORM OF PROTEST OF PROMISSORY NOTE OR BILL OF EXCHANGE FOR NON-PAYMENT.

(See section 101.)

Know all men that I, *A. B.*, a Notary Public appointed under section 3 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, of , in the Presidency / Province of , in British India, at the request of *C. D.*, of , did on the day of , 188 , at , demand payment of the promissory note (or "bill of exchange," as the case may be) hereto annexed (or "a literal transcript whereof and of everything written or printed thereupon is hereto annexed") from *E. F.*, to which demand he made answer (*state the terms of his answer, if any*) (or "to which demand he gave no answer"); wherefore I now, in the presence of *M. N.* and *O. P.*, witnesses, do protest the said promissory note (or "bill of exchange," as the case may be).

(Signed) *A. B.*,

Notary Public.

M. N., *O. P.* } Witnesses.

NOTE.—When, after a bill is protested and before the protest is drawn up, it is paid for honour, the protest should further state the name of the person by whom, of the person for whom, and the manner in which, such payment was offered and effected.

V.

PROTEST OF PROMISSORY NOTE OR BILL OF EXCHANGE FOR NON-PAYMENT, WHEN THE MAKER, DRAWEE OR ACCEPTOR (AS THE CASE MAY BE) CANNOT BE FOUND.

(See section 101.)

Know all men that I, *A. B.*, a Notary Public appointed under section 3 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, of , in the Presidency / Province of , in British India, at the request of *C. D.*, of , did on the day of 188 , make reasonable search at for *E. F.*, in order to demand from him payment of the promissory note (or "bill of exchange," as the case may be) hereto annexed (or "a literal transcript whereof and of everything written or printed thereupon is hereto annexed"), but was unable to find him there; wherefore I now, in the presence of *M. N.* and *O. P.*, witnesses, do protest the said promissory note (or "bill of exchange," as the case may be).

(Signed) *A. B.*,

Notary Public.

M. N., *O. P.* } Witnesses.

NOTE.—When, after a bill is protested and before the protest is drawn up, it is paid for honour, the protest should further state the name of the person by whom, of the person for whom, and the manner in which, such payment was offered and effected.

VI.

FORM OF PROTEST OF BILL OF EXCHANGE FOR BETTER SECURITY.

(See section 101.)

Know all men that I, *A. B.*, a Notary Public appointed under section 3 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, of , in the Presidency/Province of , in British India, at the request of *C. D.*, of , did on the day of 188 , at , demand better security for the bill of exchange hereto annexed (or "a literal transcript whereof and of everything written or printed threupon is hereto annexed") from *E. F.*, in consequence of his having become insolvent (or "his credit having been publicly impeached," as the case may be), to which demand he made answer (*state the terms of his answer, if any*) (or "to which demand he gave no answer"); wherefore I now, in the presence of *M. N.* and *O. P.*, witnesses, do protest the said bill of exchange.

(Signed) *A. B.*,

Notary Public.

M. N. } Witnesses.
O. P. }

Note.—When, after a bill is protested and before the protest is drawn up, it is accepted for honour, the protest should further state the name of the person by whom, of the person for whom, and the manner in which, such acceptance was offered and effected.

VII.

FORM OF PROTEST OF BILL OF EXCHANGE FOR BETTER SECURITY WHEN THE ACCEPTOR CANNOT BE FOUND.

(See section 101.)

Know all men that I, *A. B.*, a Notary Public appointed under section 3 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, of , in the Presidency/Province of , in British India, at the request of *C. D.*, of , did on the day of , 188 , make reasonable search at for *E. F.*, in order to demand better security for the bill of exchange hereto annexed (or "a literal transcript whereof and of everything written or printed thereupon is hereto annexed"), in consequence of his having become insolvent (or "his credit having been publicly impeached," as the case may be), but was unable to find him there; wherefore I now, in the presence of *M. N.* and *O. P.*, witnesses, do protest the said bill of exchange.

(Signed) *A. B.*,

Notary Public.

M. N. } Witnesses.
O. P. }

Note.—When, after a bill is protested and before the protest is drawn up, it is accepted for honour, the protest should further state the name of the person by whom, of the person for whom, and the manner in which, such acceptance was offered and effected.

VIII.

FORM OF NOTICE OF PROTEST TO DRAWER TO BE GIVEN BY A NOTARY PUBLIC.

(See section 102.)

Take notice that a bill of exchange for Rs. drawn by you under date the on and payable at has been dishonoured by non-acceptance (or non-payment, as the case may be) and protested, and that you are held responsible therefor.

(Signed) *A. B.*,

Notary Public.

IX.

FORM OF NOTICE OF PROTEST TO INDORSER, TO BE GIVEN BY A NOTARY PUBLIC.

(See section 102.)

Take notice that a bill of exchange for Rs. drawn by under date the on and payable at , and bearing your endorsement, has been dishonoured by non-acceptance (or non-payment, as the case may be) and protested, and that you are held responsible therefor.

(Signed) *A. B.*,

Notary Public.

X.

FORM OF DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY AN ACCEPTOR FOR HONOUR.

(See section 109.)

Know all men that I, *A. B.*, of , in the Province of , in British India, do hereby, on the day of , 188 , in the presence of C. D., Notary Public appointed under section 3 of the Indian Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, of , in the Presidency/Province of , in British India, declare that I accept under protest the protested bill of exchange hereto annexed (or "a literal transcript whereof and of everything written or printed thereupon is hereto annexed") for the honour of *(here insert the name of the drawer or indorser for whose honour the bill is accepted)* (or "for honour").

(Signed) *A. B.*

In the presence of *C. D.*,

XI.

FORM OF DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY A PAYER FOR HONOUR.

(See section 113.)

Know all men that I, *A. B.*, of , in the Province of , in British India, hereby, on the , day of , 188 , in the presence of *C. D.*, a Notary Public appointed under section 3 of the Indian Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, of , in the Presidency/Province of , in British India, declare that I will pay the protested bill of exchange hereto annexed (or "a literal transcript whereof and of everything written or printed thereupon is hereto annexed") for the honour of (*here insert the name of the party for whose honour the payment is to be made*).

(Signed) *A. B.*

In the presence of *C. D.*,

Notary Public.

A. MACKENZIE,

Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House, Simla, on Wednesday, the 18th July, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.
His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjáb, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.
Major the Hon'ble E. Baring, R.A., C.S.I., C.I.E.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble D. G. Barkley.

BIKRÁMA SINGH'S ESTATES BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to confirm and give effect to an award made by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General regarding certain matters in dispute between Bikráma Singh and the Kapúrthhala State be taken into consideration.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

BURMA LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the law relating to Local Self-government in British Burma. He said:—

"The Government of India has for some time had under consideration the question of amending the law relating to municipalities in British Burma, so as to bring it more completely into harmony with those principles of local self-government which have been recently laid down by the Government of India, and generally adopted in other provinces. The Bill which I am now asking for leave to introduce has been prepared for the purpose of making such amendments in the existing Municipal Act for British Burma (Act VII of 1874) as are needed for the purpose of giving effect to this object. We have found it convenient to repeal this Act, and opportunity has been taken to introduce various improvements in matters of minor detail, such as arrangement, drafting and so forth, which the experience of the last eight or nine years has suggested.

"I do not propose to trouble the Council with any detailed account of the Bill, the provisions of which are fully explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. It will be sufficient to refer very shortly to one or two of the more important alterations which it will make in the law.

"In the first place, the Local Government is empowered by the Bill to include, within the limits of a municipality, not merely a town, but also any tract of country adjoining a town. This provision is not suited to the circumstances of the larger seaport towns, but it will enable a small town to be made the nucleus of some kind of organization for the neighbouring rural district. Where the provision is applied, it will be necessary to supplement the municipal fund from rural sources, and also to give such additional powers to the municipal authorities as will be requisite to enable them to deal with rural questions. Provisions having these objects in view have accordingly been introduced into the Bill.

"Then, as to the constitution of the municipal authority. Under the existing law, the municipal committee may be either elected or appointed. As a matter of fact, I believe the members of municipal committees are at present appointed in every place except Rangoon and Maulmain, where the elective system has been recently introduced. Under the Bill, at least three-fourths of the municipal board, as the authority is to be hereafter called, must be elected, except in places where the Chief Commissioner is of opinion that no suitable system of election can be devised. The chairman of a municipal board will be elected, except in places which the Local Government excludes by notification from the operation of this rule.

"The Bill does not reproduce the provision of the existing law which requires a municipality to maintain out of its funds an establishment of police. Police charges will now be borne by the Government, and a considerable amount of money will thus be set free for the purposes of general improvement.

"Under the existing Act, the Chief Commissioner has absolute power to cancel, suspend or limit any of the acts, proceedings or rules of any municipal committee. For this power the Bill proposes to substitute a carefully modified system of control similar to that established by the Local Self-government Bills recently introduced for other provinces. Again, under the existing law, the Chief Commissioner has full discretionary power to determine by rule the limits within which the local authorities are to be empowered to execute public works. This discretion is limited by the Bill, which provides that the four largest municipalities may undertake, of their own authority, works for which the estimates do not exceed Rs. 20,000, and that other municipalities may in like manner undertake works for which the estimates do not exceed Rs. 10,000."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also introduced the Bill.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the *Gazette of India* and in the *British Burma Gazette* in English and in such other languages as the Local Government might think fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

EMIGRATION BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley be added to the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to the Emigration of Natives of India.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 25th July, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.

SIMLA;
The 20th July, 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 17th JULY 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Heavy rain fell during the past week along the Western Ghats from Travancore as far north as Baroda and Surat. At Baroda the river overflowed its banks stopping communication and damaging property. A break is much wanted in Surat and neighbourhood. In Sind prospects are improving with the rise of the river. Seasonable weather prevails over the Carnatic, but in parts of Mysore and of the Southern Mahratta Country more rain is needed. General, and in most places sufficient, rain has fallen throughout the Berars, the Central India States, and Rajputana. The tanks in Marwar continue empty and water is scarce, but the recent rain has much improved prospects. The rainfall has been generally less in Assam and Burma, and slightly increased in Bengal compared with the previous week. More rain is however required in some districts of Bengal for the rice crop. In the Central Provinces there has been heavy rain at Jubbulpore, and the weather continues generally favourable to agricultural operations. Rain fell during the week throughout the North-Western Provinces and Punjab, but in most districts it has been slight and insufficient. The latest weather telegrams report rain from most stations, except in the north of the Punjab.

There is hardly any change to record in agricultural operations. Harvesting is going on in Madras and Mysore, transplanting of rice on the western coast and throughout Bengal, Assam, and Burma. In parts of Bengal and Assam it is retarded for want of sufficient rain. Early rice and jute are being gathered in some districts of the former province. Ploughing and sowing for the *kharif* are approaching completion in Bombay, the Berars, and Central Provinces, and are in general progress in Northern India, although delayed in parts by insufficient rain.

Young locusts are appearing in the Deccan districts and form an increasing source of danger to the young crops. Some destruction has been caused in Baroda by floods. In Orissa the damage apprehended from excessive rain has proved slight and partial.

The public health is generally good, but the mortality from cholera is still severe in two districts of the Bombay Presidency.

Prices show a further rise in the North-Western Provinces.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(July 18th)		
Bellary ...	·99. (average of six stations).	Standing crops good; harvest paddy, yield average.
Kurnool ...	1·91 (average of eight stations).	Small-pox in one and cattle-disease in five taluks.
[illegible] ...	2·83 (average of fifteen stations).	Standing crops red gram, gingelly, and sugarcane thriving; cholera slight in Chicacole.
[illegible] ...	1·0 (average of thirteen stations).	Agricultural operations progressing; fever, guinea-worm, small-pox, and cattle-disease slight.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	1·26 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops good where water available; harvest *kar*, paddy, &c., yield half; cholera in parts of one taluk; small-pox and cattle-disease slight in parts of one taluk.
Coimbatore ...	1·10 (average of ten stations).	Standing crops good, except *cholum*, in parts of three taluks; harvest *cholum* and *cumboo* in parts, yield average; cholera in parts of two taluks, 8 deaths.
Tanjore ...	·29 (average of six stations).	Standing crops generally good, except in one taluk; but not flourishing for want of sufficient rain; cholera in two taluks, 35 deaths; cattle-disease slight in one taluk.
Madura ...	·44 (average of two stations).	Standing crops fair, except in two taluks; harvest dry crops and paddy in parts.
Malabar ...	11·50 (average of fourteen stations).	First crops progressing in all taluks; small-pox slight in nine taluks; fever and cattle-disease in parts, latter slight.
Travancore ...	5·447	Paddy in good condition; fever prevails.
		General Remarks.—General prospects fair.
Bombay—(July 18th)		
Kurrachee ...	2·95; average of twelve other stations, 2·02.	Small-pox disappeared from Kurrachee, now prevalent in nine villages in the districts, 39 fresh cases, 2 deaths, 24 remaining sick; river at Kotri on 16th, 16 feet 10 inches, against 17 feet on same date last year; fever in five talukas; *kharif* sowings progressing and rice transplanting commenced; wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 26, 32 and 38, in Dadur 32 and 48, in Tatta 26, 28 and 36, and in Sujawal 26, 34 and 40 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	Average of nine talukas, 1·10.	River rising daily; want of water felt in taluka Badin; small-pox in seven talukas; wheat 25, *bajri* 39, *juari* 50, red rice 28, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	2·30	Total rainfall 14·19; sowing progressing; wheat 26 and *bajri* 30 lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	10·23	Total rainfall 31·60; river flooded its banks on 10th, communication between camp and city and railway station stopped for some hours, some damage to property; health good; *bajri* 27 and rice 24 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Surat ...	11·18	Total rainfall 36·52, break wanted; sowing recommenced in some talukas; cattle-disease in Olphad; fever in Surat, Balsar, and Pardi; *juari* 35¾ and *nagli* 43½ lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	Heavy rain throughout the district.	Cholera still prevails in almost all talukas; transplanting of rice, *nagli*, and *wari* in Dangi villages in progress and in others sowing of *tusar* pulse crops nearly completed; old locusts still to be seen in a few places, young locusts in Niphad, Sinnar, and Yeola; wheat 25, *bajri* 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Heavy rain daily, except on 17th; total of week 24·17.	Total rainfall up to date 51·97, being 16·42 above average; abnormal temperature from 4° cool to 2° warm, vapour in air normal; abnormal wind northerly till 15th, afterwards wind normal.
Poona ...	Maximum 5·56; minimum ·32 at Indapur.	Cholera cases 705, fatal 284; *bajri* 37 and *juari* 45 lbs. per rupee, in Poona *bajri* 32 and *juari* 39 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	3·66 in Rahuri; 2·99 in Sangamner; 1·85 in Kopergaon; 1·46 in Jamkhed; slight in other talukas.	Sowing of *kharif* in progress everywhere; cholera 1,286 attacks, 623 deaths; cattle-disease in Karjat; *juari*—maximum 66 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 42 in Kopergaon; *bajri*—maximum 54 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 33 in Kopergaon.
Sholapur ...	·40	Total rainfall 13·30; *kharif* sowings nearly completed; *juari* 62 and *bajri* 51 lbs. per rupee; cholera cases 305, deaths 100.
Dharwar ...	Slight rain in eastern talukas, heavy in western talukas; maximum at Hangal, 6·43; in Kalghatgi and Kod above 5·0 and in Dharwar above 3·0.	Sowing retarded in eastern talukas for want of rain; break desired in the western talukas; rice, sugarcane, and other standing crops promising; rice fields in Hangal and Kalghatgi being weeded; *juari* being sown in some places; fever prevails in Hangal and Mundargi; maximum prices—*juari* 74 lbs. in Kod and rice 40 lbs. per rupee in Hangal; scarcity of drinking-water in villages of Nargund petta as before.
Kanara ...	In Karwar, 23·43; in Kumpta, 22·87; in Sirsi, 19·63; in Hallial, 8·70.	Transplanting and weeding continue; rice plants and garden crops healthy; small-pox in Karwar, Bhatkal, and Sirsi, 1 death; slight fever continues in some places; common rice in Karwar 12¼ seers per rupee, in district average 13¾ seers per rupee.
Rajkot ...	8·30	Total rainfall 21·0; weather close and hot, except when rain is actually falling; general health fair; sowing operations continue; cholera in Morvi; *bajri* 29 and *juari* 25 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Rain throughout the Presidency and Sind, heavy in Guzerat, but wanted in parts of the Southern Mahratta Country; sowing and transplantation of rice still in general progress; locusts in Nasik, Khandesh, Tanna, Ratnagiri, and Satara; cholera in Nasik, Poona, Ahmednagar, Sholapur, Khandesh, Tanna, and Kaladgi; small-pox in a few places; fever and cattle-disease in a few districts.
Bengal—(July 18th)		
Chittagong ...	2·12	Weather hot, with occasional rain; transplanting of *aus* rice almost over; sowing of *amun* rice continues; prospects fair; prices steady; cholera and cattle-disease still reported.
Dacca ...	6·87	*Sail* paddy being sown, *aus* paddy being harvested; in Nawabgunge *aus* and jute damaged, crops in Tonghi also damaged; sugarcane and *amun* promising.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	2·14	Prospects of crops good; transplanting of *amun* paddy going on; public health good.
Moorshedabad ...	·54	More rain much wanted for transplanting operations; prospects of *bhadoi* crop favourable; public health generally good.
Rajshahye ...	·95, a good fall of rain	Weather cloudy; crops doing fairly, but require more rain.
Burdwan ...	1·82	Rainfall insufficient for transplanting, especially in Cutwa; prospects of *amun* crops unfavourable; public health fair.
Rungpore ...	3·52	Prospects of crops favourable; transplanting of *amun* going on; cholera still prevalent in some parts of the district.
Bhagalpur ...	1·98	Prospects good; *bhadoi* crops promising; *murwa* and *aghani* paddy being transplanted in north; public health good.
Purneah ...	1·17	Rain now falling was wanted; prospect of crops good; public health good.
Patna ...	1·39	Ploughing and sowing going on; prospects of crops good.
Durbhunga ...	·51	More rain badly wanted; transplanting checked; prices rising slightly; health good.
Hazaribagh ...	·28	Weather warm and cloudy; prospects of crops continue good; a few cases of cholera reported; general health good.
Cuttack ...	2·41	Weather warm, alternate clouds and sunshine; *beali* rice being weeded; *sarad* being reploughed; prices of rice stationary; public health good; crops on low lands in some parts of Jawajpore and Kendrapara sub-divisions suffered slightly from recent floods.
		General Remarks.—General rain fell during the week, but in many districts the fall was slight; in several places transplanting of *amun* rice is retarded for want of sufficient rain; early crops are still generally reported to be good, but are in want of rain in some places; the floods in Orissa have caused but little and partial damage to crops on low lands; *aus* rice and jute are being gathered in some districts; general health is good though cholera still lingers in certain places, and fever is reported from a few districts.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (July 17th)	·9 ; Chandausi, ·5	*Kharif* sowings in progress ; no sickness of men or cattle ; prices steady.
Allahabad („ 18th)	Rain almost nothing till 17th, when ·4 fell at Sadr.	Sky now overcast, giving hopes of more rain which is much wanted for the crops ; *kharif* sowings delayed for want of rain ; cholera diminished ; prices risen.
Gorakhpur („ 16th)	No rain	Weather muggy ; *kharif* sowings in progress ; no epidemic ; prices steady.
Jhansi („ „)	1·6 ; Mau, 2·8 ; Moth, 1·5 ; Garotha, 9·2.	Sowing of seed in progress ; cotton and *juari* germinating ; prices stationary ; health good.
Agra („ 17th)	·9 to 3·5 in six parganas.	More rain needed in some parts of the district where very little has fallen ; *kharif* sowings continue ; fever in two and small-pox in one pargana ; sporadic cholera in four parganas ; prices rising slightly.
Bareilly („ „)	Rain fairly general, but unequally distributed.	Sowings continue ; rice in places backward ; prices almost stationary ; health satisfactory.
Meerut („ „)	Mawana, 1·6 ; Ghaziabad, ·6 ; Bagpat, ·4 ; Hapur. ·8.	Good rain fell this morning (17th) ; agricultural operations delayed for want of rain ; cotton generally sown, but only half the ordinary autumn crop ; health good ; prices unchanged.
Kumaun („ „)	Rain insufficient	Local crops doing pretty well, but on the point of being injured by drought in a few places ; general health good ; cattle-disease continues ; prices stationary.
Lucknow („ „)	·1 ; Maliabad, ·6 ; Mohanlalganj, *nil*.	More rain urgently required ; prices steady ; health of men and cattle good.
Partabgarh („ „)	Sadr, ·2 ; Khandwa, ·2 ; Patti, ·3.	Rain to-day (17th) ; crops coming on fairly, but more rain wanted ; general health good ; prices have risen slightly.
Sitapur („ „)	·8 ; Biswan, ·1 ; Misrikh, ·2.	Rain more urgently required in two tahsils ; crops reported to be drying up ; no sickness ; prices rising.
Fyzabad („ „)	Sadr, ·4 ; Bikapur, 1·9 ; Akbarpur, 1·8 ; Tanda, ·2.	Sowing of *kharif* crops completed ; fever and small-pox in parts of district ; cattle-disease at Akbarpur.
Rae Bareli („ 16th)	·2 ; and ·04	Weather cloudy and sultry ; *kharif* sowings arrested for want of rain ; prices rising.
Cawnpore („ 17th)	·7 average in five parganas.	Fever and cholera diminished ; *kharif* ploughing and sowing in progress ; prices almost stationary.
Farukhabad („ „)	Slight showers only have fallen west of the Ganges since the close of the week reported on ; good rain has fallen at head-quarters, and appears to have been pretty general.	Cultivators anxious about insufficiency of rain ; slight rise in prices.
		General Remarks.—Rain fell in all reporting districts, except Gorakhpur, but the fall was generally slight, and in many districts more is wanted ; agricultural operations have been delayed in places owing to scarcity of rain, on the other hand in Moradabad 12 inches, and in Jhansi 9 inches, of rain have fallen ; cholera is mentioned only in the Allahabad, Cawnpore, and Agra reports, it has decreased in the two former districts ; prices rose in many districts during the week.
Punjab—(July 17th)		
Delhi ...	1·1	Health fair ; prices fluctuating.
Hissar ...	.....	No report received.
Umballa ...	·8	Health fair ; prices stationary.
Jullundur ...	·2	Health good ; prices rising.
Amritsar ...	1·0	Health good ; prices stationary.
Sialkot ...	3·0	Health good ; prices stationary.
Ferozepore ...	2·8 at Sadr, less elsewhere.	Health good ; prices stationary.
Lahore ...	·8	Health good ; slight rise in prices.
Rawalpindi ...	4·3	Health good ; fall in prices.
Mooltan ...	·3	Health good ; prices fluctuating.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	·8	Health good ; prices steady.
Peshawar ...	1·0	A few cases of small-pox ; prices almost stationary.
		General Remarks.—Rain throughout the province, but more needed ; health good, except in the Delhi, Umballa, and Peshawar districts ; *kharif* sowings in progress.
Central Provinces—(July 17th)		
Nagpur ...	2·3	Weather oppressive and showery ; cotton sowings completed ; *juari* sowings in progress ; a break would be beneficial ; cholera slight ; prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...	10·39	Weather cloudy and wet, but seasonable and beneficial to crops ; common and other sowings continue ; small-pox lingering ; wheat 22 and rice 14 seers per rupee.
Saugor ...	1·39	*Kharif* sowings general ; cotton being weeded ; other crops favourable ; prices steady ; health good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces— *contd.*		
Seoni (July 17th)	5·77	Break in rain much wanted ; *kharif* sowings progressing ; 8 deaths from cholera ; prices steady.
Hoshangabad ...	1·61	Weather cloudy and rainy ; sowings continue ; cotton being weeded ; 2 deaths from small-pox ; wheat 14, rice 9, and *juari* 21 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	4·88	Weather cloudy and rainy ; sowing almost completed ; field destroyed by locusts being resown ; 40 deaths from cholera ; wheat 16, *juari* 18¾, and rice 14⅞ seers per rupee.
Raipur ...	1·13	Weather hot and oppressive ; prospects good ; prices steady.
Sambalpur ...	3·21	Weather seasonable ; prospects good ; prices steady.
		General Remarks.—Weather cloudy and rainy ; sowings continue ; prospect of crops very favourable ; prices steady.
British Burma—(July 19th)		
Akyab ...	2·82	Total rainfall up to date 74·54 ; 9 deaths from cholera in town and 17 in district, otherwise public health good ; 167 buffaloes and 13 cows died in four townships ; health of plough cattle good, except in five townships ; about 206,000 acres ploughed ; sowing commenced in some places ; ploughing wages from 15 to 40 baskets per man per season.
Rangoon ...	3·12	Total rainfall up to date 33·00 ; public health good ; price of paddy from Rs. 101 to Rs. 103 per 100 baskets ; prices falling again.
Bassein ...	4·08	Total rainfall up to date 38·96 ; 1 death from cholera in town, otherwise public health good ; 53 deaths of cattle in two townships ; ploughing progressing.
Prome ...	1·60	Total rainfall up to date 22·81 ; public health good ; health of plough cattle good, except at Mahathaman where 21 deaths are reported ; estimated area ploughed 24,000 acres ; more rain is required in the Shwaylay township ; average ploughing wages Rs. 2-8 per acre.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	9·04	Total rainfall up to date 70·62 ; public health in Moulmein and district good ; 398 deaths of cattle in two townships ; about 80 per cent. fields ploughed ; health of plough cattle good ; sowing progressing, about 15 per cent. fields sown ; nurseries healthy in Moulmein town ; ploughing and sowing progressing, about 150 acres ploughed during the week ; health of cattle good ; about 50 acres of crops destroyed by crabs ; transplanting commenced ; transplanting wages 8 annas per day.
Toungoo ...	2·02	Total rainfall up to date 28·72 ; public health good ; 1 death of cattle in Myoma township ; ploughing progressing rapidly ; health of plough cattle good.
		General Remarks.—Public health keeps good ; slight cattle-disease in most districts, but nowhere severe, and not on the increase ; ploughing and sowing progressing ; price of paddy fairly steady.
Assam—(July 18th)		
Gauhati ...	·81	Weather hot ; public health fairly good ; reaping of *ahu dhan* in progress ; rain wanted for transplanting *sali dhan*.
Sylhet ...	3·38	Crop prospects favourable ; small-pox unabated.
Cachar ...	3·92	Weather cloudy, with rain ; transplanting *aus* crops progressing and that of *sali* commenced ; rice 16 seers per rupee ; public health fair ; small-pox still reported from Halikandi.
Dibrugarh ...	4·76	Weather cloudy ; transplanting of *sali* crops progressing ; public health good ; cattle-disease reported.
Mysore and Coorg—(July 18th)		
Bangalore ...	·66	More rain wanted in some taluks ; sowing operations in progress ; standing crops in good condition ; prospects favourable ; public health good.
Mysore ...	·25	Standing crops in good condition ; prospects favourable ; public health good.
Mercara ...	15·21	Weather stormy ; transplanting of rice commenced ; serious inconvenience felt on coffee estates from want of labour ; health good ; prices of food-grains have fallen considerably owing to abundance of supply in Mysore market.
		General Remarks.—Good rain in Shimoga and Kadwi districts, light rain in other districts ; standing crops in good condition ; prospects favourable ; no material change in prices.
Berar & Hyderabad—(July 18th)		
Amraoti ...	1·84	*Juari* sowings in progress ; wheat 15 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	9·79	*Kharif* sowings completed.
Hyderabad (July 13th)	·1 average during week.	Total rainfall from 1st January 9·29 ; *kharif* sowings completed, and ground being prepared for *abi* crops ; cholera continues in one taluk, but in a very mild form ; prices—wheat 14, coarse rice 10½, white *juari* 24, yellow *juari* 27, and *tur* 23 seers per current sicca rupee.
Hyderabad („ 19th)	2·15	Total rainfall from 1st January 11·44 ; *kharif* prospects good ; *abi* sowings commenced ; weather cloudy, with high winds ; cholera in one taluka ; prices—wheat 15, coarse rice 11, white *juari* 22, yellow *juari* 28½, and *tur* 25 seers per current sicca rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central India States—(July 18th)		
Indore ...	1·35	Weather normal; season favourable; health good.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	1·5	Health good; weather sultry and cloudy.
Sutna ...	4·42	Rain not yet general; health good.
Rutlam ...		During week ending 6th 13 cases, 5 deaths at Surkhera Sitaman; public health otherwise good.
Sehore ...	6·40	Weather cloudy; crops and public health good.
Neemuch ...	2·53	Weather seasonable; public health good; crops in progress.
Goona ...	1·7	Weather cloudy; *kharif* sowings continue; health fair; wheat 23 seers 8 chittacks per rupee.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	3·8	Seventy-six cases of cholera, 41 fatal; in city of Agar from 5th instant, 1 fatal case.
Nowgong ...	5·13	Weather seasonable; *kharif* prospects good; public health fair; prices steady.
Rajputana—		
Abu (July 18th)	7·77	During week heavy rain, high wind.
Sirohi („ 15th)	1·83	Tanks and wells full; health and crop prospects good.
Marwar („ 13th)	1·04	Rain general though unequal throughout Marwar, more copious in districts, but slight in Jodhpur, consequently no water brought into empty tanks; tanks all empty; water obtained from wells with great difficulty; health good; crop prospects much improved since the recent rains; prices stationary.
Meywar („ 15th)	3·54	Tanks and wells good; health and crop prospects very good; weather seasonable.
Harowti („ 14th)	Deoli, 3·21; Tonk, ·41	Crops thriving; health good.
Jhallawar ...	.....	No report received.
Ajmere (July 17th)	5·20	Weather seasonable; tanks filling up; health fairly good.
Jeypore („ „)	4·06	Sowings active; cholera in capital and districts abating; prices stationary.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (July 17th)	Average 1·64	Sowings continue; cholera continues in four tahsils; prices steady.
Nepal—(July 13th)		
Katmandu ...	5·81; constant rain	Agricultural prospects good; transplanting of rice finished.

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OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JUNE 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).		
	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.
	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
Madras.									
Ganjam	11 13	10 5	11 13	...	...	...	17 13	17 13	17 13
Vizagapatam	14 0	13 8	8 0	...	...	...	9 8	8 6	9 0
Godavery	...	10 13	12 10	...	...	...	...	10 14	13 14
Kistna	8 13	9 5	14 11	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 3
Nellore	9 0	5 13	13 8	...	...	...	13 6	11 14	15 13
Cuddapah	12 8	14 11	14 11	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	11 14
Anantapur	13 6	13 6	14 6	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	15 0
Bellary	16 5	17 5	16 5	...	...	...	12 5	12 5	12 5
Kurnool	12 6	13 5	13 6	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	9 14
Madras	11 5	11 5	10 2	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 8
Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 14	14 3	15 0
North Arcot	9 11	9 11	11 14	...	...	...	14 6	14 6	15 0
South Arcot	10 14	10 8	10 2	...	...	...	16 8	16 2	15 11
Tanjore	11 6	11 0	11 0	...	...	...	17 13	17 6	18 5
Trichinopoly	10 10	10 10	9 14	...	...	...	15 13	15 13	16 3
Madura	12 2	12 8	11 11	...	...	...	16 0	16 6	15 8
Tinnevelly	9 14	9 14	9 3	...	...	...	15 2	16 5	15 8
Coimbatore	14 13	13 14	12 5	...	...	...	14 6	13 14	13 8
Nilgiris	10 10	10 10	9 14	...	...	...	11 3	11 3	9 10
Salem	14 6	14 6	12 11	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	14 10
South Canara	8 3	8 3	8 10	...	...	...	9 11	9 11	9 11
Malabar	8 10	8 10	7 3	...	...	...	14 10	14 10	15 0
Bombay.									
Bombay	10 11	10 9	10 2	25 8	23 11	16 12	8 3	8 2	7 7
Ahmedabad	12 0	12 0	12 8	19 8	20 0	...	7 8	7 8	6 8
Kaira	11 7	11 7	11 7	21 5	21 5	20 0	9 11	9 11	9 2
Surat	11 1	11 6	11 9	12 5	12 7	7 7	7 8	7 9	7 7
Broach	12 4½	12 4½	12 5	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 6½
Tanna (Salsette)	9 12	9 12	9 12	...	...	...	8 2	8 2	8 3
Colába (Alibág)	9 0	9 0	10 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	7 0
Khandesh (Dhulia)	14 0	14 0	14 9	...	...	...	7 10	8 1	7 4
Násik	14 4	14 4	15 8	...	...	...	7 7	7 7	7 7
Ahmednagar	13 6	13 2	14 0	...	...	...	9 6	9 3	10 0
Poona	12 8	12 10	12 10	9 4	9 4	...	9 13	9 13	11 0
Sholápur	14 8	14 8	14 1	...	...	...	10 6	10 15	10 7
Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	17 8	18 12	19 0	15 8	17 0	15 0	6 12	6 12	6 8
Satara	11 0	12 1	12 1	...	...	...	8 9	8 14	9 11
Belgaum	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...
Dharwar (Hubli)	23 0	23 0	21 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	10 0
Ratnágiri	9 14	9 14	10 9	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	7 13
Kanara (Karwar)	11 8	11 8	9 0	1 6	1 6	...	7 0	7 0	8 0
Pánch Maháls (Godhra)	11 6	11 6	11 6	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	11 6
Aden	9 5	9 5	8 0	...	...	...	6 3	6 3	6 3
Asirgarh	13 6	13 9	14 0	...	...	...	12 8	12 2	11 0
Baroda	9 5	9 5	10 8	14 0	15 3	14 0	7 14	8 3	8 12
Disa	13 8	13 8	13 4	...	...	...	6 14	6 14	6 6
Nimach	15 4	15 4	14 0	21 0	21 0	16 8	9 0	9 0	8 8
Nasirabad	16 12	16 8¾	16 1	23 6½	23 0	21 11¼	6 0	6 0	6 0
Rájkot	13 12	14 2	12 4	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8
Upper Sindh Frontier	14 4	14 4	14 4	25 8	25 8	26 0	12 4	13 4	11 4
Karachi	13 0	13 13	12 5	23 0	22 0	21 8	9 5	9 0	9 8
Haidarabad (Nakur)	16 0	16 0	16 0	30 0	35 0	25 0	13 0	13 0	12 0
Shikarpur	14 6	14 2	13 14	27 9	25 12	25 10	12 4	12 13	13 2½
Sukkur	14 8	14 8	14 12	29 8	29 8	28 8	12 8	12 8	11 12
Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	14 0	14 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bengal. *Western Districts.*									
Burdwan	16 0	15 8	14 0	20 0	30 0	40 0	18 12	19 0	21 5
Bancoorah	13 12	14 0	13 12	19 0	19 0	17 0	18 8	18 12	28 8
Beerbhoom	15 0	15 12	14 0	...	...	...	18 0	16 8	21 0
Midnapore	14 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	17 0	...	18 0	18 0	20 0
Hooghly	13 8	13 8	18 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0
Howrah	13 4	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	13 4	14 8	16 0

Districts.	Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*		
	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.
	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
Madras.									
Ganjam	22 13	22 13	19 10	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vizagapatam	11 5	11 5	11 5	25 14	24 13	21 10	21 13	23 13	19 13
Godavery	...	14 0	17 0	...	23 0	27 13	...	...	...
Kistna	14 11	14 11	16 13	20 5	17 3	25 0	...	...	...
Nellore	...	15 0	18 0	20 10	20 3	33 10	18 11	...	...
Cuddapah	13 5	13 5	13 5	28 6	28 6	26 14	30 6	31 14	31 1[illegible]
Anantapur	12 5	12 5	16 3	30 14	30 14	30 14	30 2	30 2	18 15
Bellary	13 8	13 8	13 8	36 0	35 0	31 14	29 2	28 8	25 6
Kurnool	11 6	11 13	11 6	32 14	32 14	27 6	30 0	30 0	22 8
Madras	15 2	15 2	15 2	21 10	21 10	23 0	25 2	25 2	26 6
Chingleput	15 8	15 8	15 14	...	...	...	21 2	21 2	...
North Arcot	16 14	17 14	16 14	29 2	29 2	32 13	26 6	28 0	29 11
South Arcot	17 2	17 2	16 10	...	...	...	26 3	25 13	27 11
Tanjore	...	...	...	31 13	35 0	35 13	30 6	31 14	31 14
Trichinopoly	16 5	16 5	16 11	...	...	28 0	26 11	30 8	27 14
Madura	16 8	17 11	16 0	40 8	32 6	30 13	35 5	32 5	30 14
Tinnevelly	16 0	17 10	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Coimbatore	15 6	14 14	14 8	26 2	27 0	26 2	28 10	27 0	35 0
Nilgiris	12 0	12 0	11 8	20 0	20 0	20 0	19 10	21 0	19 10
Salem	16 0	16 0	15 10	29 2	29 2	29 2	26 8	26 8	23 13
South Canara	11 13	11 13	13 11	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malabar	15 13	15 13	15 6	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay.									
Bombay	11 4	12 6	12 13	19 4	18 15	19 8	15 5	15 1	15 12
Ahmedabad	12 0	12 0	8 0	17 8	17 0	17 0	15 0	15 0	14 0
Kaira	16 0	16 0	14 9	16 0	17 12	16 0	14 4	14 14	14 [illegible]
Surat	8 7	8 7	8 5	19 1	19 1	14 14	14 1	14 8	14 1[illegible]
Broach	11 7	11 7	12 9	16 0	16 0	15 4	18 14	18 14	18 10
Tanna (Salsette)	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 10	18 10	18 10	15 0	15 0	15 0
Colába (Alibág)	12 8	14 0	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Khandesh (Dhulia)	9 15	12 10	10 15	16 0	16 0	23 13	14 4	14 4	18 14
Násik	13 6	13 6	12 0	22 6	22 6	...	15 5	15 5	21 [illegible]
Ahmednagar	13 12	12 2	12 6	22 0	21 14	27 6	17 6	16 12	22 [illegible]
Poona	11 0	11 10	12 4	19 9	19 9	21 12	16 2	16 2	18 [illegible]
Sholápur	11 5	11 5	11 5	26 12	25 14	31 1	22 0	20 8	23 1[illegible]
Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	10 12	10 12	9 0	25 8	27 0	33 0	24 0	26 0	29 [illegible]
Satara	10 6	11 7	11 7	17 0	16 5	25 5	15 14	15 8	22 [illegible]
Belgaum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dharwar (Hubli)	16 0	16 0	11 0	24 0	23 0	24 0	26 0	24 0	28 [illegible]
Ratnágiri	14 2	14 2	12 11	...	20 13	18 3	13 8	14 11	14 11
Kanara (Karwar)	12 4	12 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...
Pánch Maháls (Godhra)	15 0	15 0	15 0	22 13	22 13	22 8	16 0	16 0	16 0
Aden	7 0	7 0	7 0	12 7	12 7	11 3	11 3	11 3	9 5
Asirgarh	14 4	14 8	12 0	18 0	18 6	23 11	17 14	18 5	24 0
Baroda	11 10	11 11	11 10½	15 2	15 3	16 5½	13 6	13 7	14 0
Disa	9 0	9 0	8 11	17 0	17 0	17 13	16 13	17 0	16 [illegible]
Nimach	10 0	9 4	10 0	20 0	19 0	17 0	12 0	12 0	16 8
Nasirabad	7 0	7 0	7 0	22 8	22 10	23 5½	17 8	17 8	17 4
Rájkot	9 0	10 12	11 0	17 6	17 8	14 0	14 0	14 0	12 1[illegible]
Upper Sindh Frontier	16 4	17 8	20 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	28 [illegible]
Karachi	16 0	17 0	15 0	23 0	24 0	22 0	18 0	17 0	18 [illegible]
Haidarabad (Nakur)	20 0	18 0	20 0	28 0	30 0	26 0	25 0	26 0	25 [illegible]
Shikarpur	19 0	19 0	20 0	30 0	30 0	25 7	31 8	30 0	29 [illegible]
Sukkur	19 8	19 8	19 8	29 8	29 8	27 8	27 8	26 8	24 [illegible]
Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	14 0	14 0	13 15	...	...	...	16 8	16 8	18 1[illegible]
Bengal. *Western Districts.*									
Burdwan	23 13	24 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bancoorah	24 0	24 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Beerbhoom	22 8	21 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Midnapore	24 0	24 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hooghly	18 8	18 8	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
Howrah	19 8	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...

Districts.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murnwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.		
	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.
	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
Madras.									
Ganjam	35 3	35 3	35 3	40 0	40 0	26 10	215 13	215 13	215 13
Vizagapatam	21 3	22 3	21 3	32 13	32 13	24 10	87 8	87 8	93 5
Godavery	...	29 2	28 3	...	31 8	25 3	...	194 6	194 6
Kistna	26 8	23 8	35 5	26 13	27 6	25 2	145 13	145 13	145 13
Nellore	23 11	28 3	36 6	23 2	23 2	27 5	93 5	93 5	186 10
Cuddapah	30 0	31 8	31 8	34 6	34 6	27 8	194 6	194 6	194 6
Anantapur	31 0	31 0	30 8	38 2	38 2	35 13	...	...	...
Bellary	33 0	34 14	29 2	33 10	35 13	28 0	94 13	94 13	97 3
Kurnool	...	32 3	...	26 3	28 8	24 6	186 10	179 13	202 3
Madras	26 0	26 0	27 6	26 8	26 8	26 2	86 5	86 5	81 6
Chingleput	24 11	24 11	27 6	25 0	25 11	24 13	92 5	92 5	92 5
North Arcot	30 13	32 8	32 8	30 14	31 8	28 10	140 0	140 0	140 0
South Arcot	27 0	26 10	30 3	29 5	28 13	28 13	201 11	201 11	201 11
Tanjore	26 3	36 8	39 5	28 0	29 11	29 11	194 6	194 6	194 6
Trichinopoly	32 11	32 11	32 11	30 13	32 5	33 14	97 3	97 3	97 3
Madura	41 13	40 5	32 8	37 6	38 5	42 11	155 8	155 8	170 2
Tinnevelly	...	...	...	39 10	39 10	29 11	70 0	70 0	81 10
Coimbatore	29 0	31 3	32 13	32 5	32 5	30 6	131 3	131 3	131 3
Nilgiris	21 10	21 10	20 3	23 3	24 14	20 11	161 13	161 13	121 8
Salem	32 8	32 8	30 13	39 6	39 6	35 8	151 10	151 10	151 10
South Canara	17 10	17 10	22 0	22 8	22 3	21 3	111 13	111 13	116 10
Malabar	21 14	21 14	19 11	26 14	26 14	24 6	121 8	121 8	121 8
Bombay.									
Bombay	13 4	15 4	21 4	16 0	15 13	16 12	62 6	62 6	71 10
Ahmedabad	...	...	...	14 8	16 0	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
Kaira	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
Surat	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
Broach	...	...	...	13 14	13 14	16 0	106 0	106 0	106 0
Tanna (Salsette)	25 11	25 11	25 11	13 4	13 4	14 15	71 1	71 1	71 0
Colába (Alibág)	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	14 0	120 0	120 0	120 0
Khandesh (Dhulia)	...	...	...	15 2	16 0	17 1	140 0	140 0	140 0
Násik	20 11	20 11	30 0	17 0	17 0	18 0	128 0	128 0	128 0
Ahmednagar	...	...	...	18 6	18 10	19 7	79 12	89 4	91 5
Poona	15 6	15 6	...	16 2	16 2	17 4	68 0	68 0	68 0
Sholápur	...	...	...	20 1	19 8	20 13	64 0	74 2	85 0
Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	...	...	...	16 8	18 0	15 8	100 0	100 0	110 0
Satara	...	...	...	16 14	16 14	14 5	116 8	116 8	110 15
Belgaum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dharwar (Hubli)	28 0	28 0	28 0	17 0	18 0	12 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
Ratnágiri	18 13	21 2	21 2	14 11	14 0	14 0	150 0	150 0	120 0
Kanara (Karwar)	16 0	16 0	21 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	213 5	213 5	213 5
Pánch Maháls (Godhra)	26 10	26 10	23 0	22 13	22 13	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0
Aden	...	...	...	9 5	9 5	9 5	65 5	65 5	65 5
Asirgarh	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0
Baroda	17 8	...	...	14 9	15 3	17 8	...	...	81 10½
Disa	...	...	...	16 9	17 0	18 8	137 8	137 8	137 8
Nimach	...	...	...	20 0	19 8	18 0	160 0	160 0	160 0
Nasirabad	...	...	...	25 6½	25 0	22 8¼	80 0	80 0	85 0
Rájkot	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 4	75 0	85 0	80 0
Upper Sindh Frontier	60 0	60 0	40 0	24 8	24 8	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0
Karachi	11 0	9 8	11 0	18 8	18 0	17 0	105 0	105 0	105 0
Haidarabad (Nakur)	24 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	22 0	15 0	320 0	320 0	480 0
Shikarpur	...	...	...	22 0	23 12	20 0	220 0	260 0	280 0
Sukkur	...	...	...	23 8	23 8	17 8	120 0	120 0	120 0
Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	160 0
Bengal. *Western Districts.*									
Burdwan	...	...	...	22 0	21 0	23 8	120 0	120 0	120 0
Bancoorah	...	...	...	18 0	18 8	20 0	320 0	320 0	320 0
Beerbhoom	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	23 8	160 0	200 0	160 0
Midnapore	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	19 0	155 0	155 0	160 0
Hooghly	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	21 0	120 0	120 0	120 0
Howrah	...	...	...	16 8	17 0	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0

Districts.	Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.			Average Wages per Month.		
	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Able-bodied Agricultural Labourer.	Syce or Horse-keeper.	Common Mason, Carpenter or Blacksmith.
	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.
Madras.									
Ganjam	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	13 13	3 12 0	6 0 0	12 0 0
Vizagapatam	14 10	14 10	15 3	14 5	14 5	14 10	5 0 0	6 0 0	11 0 0
Godavery	...	13 8	14 10	...	13 8	14 10	...	...	...
Kistna	15 11	15 11	16 0	15 3	15 3	15 11	6 0 0	7 0 0	15 0 0
Nellore	15 13	15 14	14 13	15 13	15 14	14 13	3 0 0	5 0 0	13 5 4
Cuddapah	17 2	17 2	16 10	16 10	16 10	16 3	7 8 0	7 8 0	15 0 0
Anantapur	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	...	...	...
Bellary	15 13	15 13	15 13	15 8	15 8	15 8	4 0 0	5 0 0	15 0 0
Kurnool	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 0	14 0	14 0	3 0 0	5 0 0	15 0 0
Madras	16 14	16 14	16 11	16 8	16 8	16 3	5 0 0	5 8 0	13 9 6
Chingleput	17 13	17 13	17 0	17 5	17 5	16 5	4 0 0	5 0 0	13 5 4
North Arcot	15 6	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 5	5 0 0	8 0 0	15 0 0
South Arcot	18 6	17 8	19 5	18 0	16 10	18 14	5 10 0	5 0 0	13 2 0
Tanjore	14 11	15 10	15 10	14 11	14 11	15 3	1 15 4	4 0 0	11 4 0
Trichinopoly	17 13	17 13	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	4 0 0	6 8 0	10 8 0
Madura	17 5	17 13	16 2	16 13	16 13	15 14	4 0 0	7 8 0	20 0 0
Tinnevelly	18 11	18 11	18 11	18 5	18 5	18 5	6 4 0	6 0 0	14 6 0
Coimbatore	15 2	15 2	14 2	14 10	14 10	13 10	7 8 0	7 8 0	18 12 0
Nilgiris	13 0	13 0	11 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	27 8 0
Salem	16 0	16 0	15 6	15 6	15 6	14 5	2 8 0	6 0 0	23 2 0
South Canara	15 6	15 6	11 0	14 11	14 11	10 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	21 4 0
Malabar	14 6	14 6	14 6	13 8	13 8	13 8	9 6 0	11 4 0	18 12 0
Bombay.									
Bombay	14 6	16 12	14 5	14 6	14 6	14 5	9 8 5	11 0 0	32-8 to 4[illegible]-0
Ahmedabad	16 8	16 8	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	7 8 0	8 0 0	25 0 0
Kaira	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	7 8 0	8 0 0	7-8 to 15-0
Surat	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	4-0 to 7-0	6-0 to 12-0	15-0 to 25-0
Broach	15 9	15 9	15 4	14 8¾	14 8¾	15 4	5 0 0	8 0 0	16 0 0
Tanna (Salsette)	14 5	14 5	14 5	13 4	13 4	12 12	9 0 0	10 0 0	25-0 to 30-0
Colába (Alibág)	15 0	14 8	12 0	14 8	14 0	11 0	7 8 0	10 0 0	20 0 0
Khandesh (Dhulia)	15 0	16 0	15 2	14 14	15 4	15 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	15 0 0
Násik	15 8	15 8	14 6	15 5	15 5	14 2	8 0 0	6 0 0	15-0 to 22-0
Ahmednagar	14 14	14 10	14 9	14 10	14 6	14 7	6 0 0	9 0 0	15 0 0
Poona	13 10	13 10	13 10	13 6	13 6	13 6	6 0 0	10 0 0	12-0 to 15-0
Sholápur	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 4	12 0	6 0 0	9 0 0	20-0 to 25-0
Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	11 0	11 2	11 4	10 8	10 12	11 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	15 0 0
Satara	13 2	13 13	12 6	12 6	13 2	11 10	6 0 0	10 0 0	10-0 to 18-0
Belgaum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dharwar (Hubli)	8 12	9 8	8 12	8 0	9 0	8 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	12-0 to 20-0
Ratnágiri	14 6	14 6	11 13	14 4	14 4	11 10	5 8 0	9 0 0	14 0 0
Kanara (Karwar)	12 0	12 8	11 8	11 0	11 8	10 8	8 7 0	7 8 9	18-12 to 22-8
Pánch Maháls (Godhra)	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	5 10 0	7 0 0	18 12 0
Aden	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	32 0	...	...	...
Asirgarh	11 14	12 0	12 4	11 14	12 0	12 4	6 0 0	6 0 0	15 0 0
Baroda	14 6	14 5	14 4¾	14 0	14 0	14 0	7 8 0	7 0 0	22 8 0
Disa	12 8	12 8	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	5 10 0	7-0 to 8-0	18 12 0
Nimach	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	11 0	...	...	...
Nasirabad	16 2	16 2	16 6¾	15 8	15 8	16 0	6-0 to 7-0	6-0 to 9-0	10-0 to 15-0
Rájkot	60 0	60 0	50 0	50 0	50 0	48 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	15-0 to 22-8
Upper Sindh Frontier	12 12¾*	12 12¾*	12 5*	12 8*	12 8*	12 4*	...	...	...
Karachi	17 12	17 13	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	5-0 to 8-0	8-0 to 11-0	25 0 0
Haidarabad (Nakur)	14 8	14 8	14 0	14 8	14 8	14 0	...	...	...
Shikarpur	13 14	13 8	13 2	13 12	13 6	13 0	...	...	...
Sukkur	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 0	13 0	13 0	10 0 0	8 0 0	30 0 0
Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	14 12	14 12	10 11	14 12	14 12	10 11	7-8 to 11-4	18-12 to 37-8	18-12 to 37-8
Bengal. *Western Districts.*	Prices per md. of 40 seers.								
	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.						
Burdwan	3 1 0	3 1 3	2 13 0	12 4 a	12 0	13 12	7 8 0	6 8 0	10-0 to 14-0
Bancoorah	3 3 6	3 3 6	3 4 0	12 0 b	12 0	12 1	6-0 to 9-0	4-8 to 6-8	7-8 to 12-0
Beerbhoom	3 12 6	3 10 3	3 4 0	10 0 c	10 8	12 8	4 0 0	5 0 0	10 0 0
Midnapore	2 14 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	13 0 d	13 0	13 8	6 1 6	6 0 0	7-8 to 10-0
Hooghly	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 9 e	13 9	13 9	...	...	...
Howrah	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	7 8 0	6 8 0	14 0 0

a In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Culna 13-8 seers, Cutwa 11 seers and Raneegunge 13 seers.
b Retail price of salt at Raipore 11 seers, Sonamukhi 12 seers, and Mejia, Bishenpore, Indas and Kotulpore 13 seers.
c In the interior retail prices of salt range from 9 to 13 seers.

* In common use.
d In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Ghattal 12-8 seers, and Tumlook and Contai 11 seers.
e In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Serampore 13-5 seers and Jehanabad 13-8 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JUNE 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgnum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgnum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgnum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagkeel, *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagkeel, *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagkeel, *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Average wages per month. Able-bodied Agricultural Labourer.	Syce or Horse-keeper.	Common Mason Carpenter, or Blacksmith.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.
	Central Districts.																																					
	Calcutta	14 0	14 4	14 0	20 0	19 6	26 8	10 5	10 5	10 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	20 0	20 0	20 0		...	...	...	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 8 0	14 0	14 0	14 9	15 0 0	7 0 0	12 0 0
	24-Pergunnahs	13 5	13 5	12 0	16 0	16 0	21 4	8 0	8 0	10 0	16 12	14 0	17 0	...	...	20 0	...	...		...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 12 0	13 5*f*	13 5	14 8	...	...	...
	Nuddea	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	16 0	25 0	25 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 1 11	2 12 1	11 10½*g*	11 10½	12 13½	6 0 0	6 0 0	7-8 to 15-0
	Khoolna	14 8	14 8	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 12	22 12	22 12	24 8	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	160 0	180 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	10 8*h*	11 0	11 0	9-0 to 12-0	6-0 to 8-0	10-0 to 15-0
	Jessore	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	16 0	25 0	25 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	10 12*i*	11 0	11 8	7 8 0	6 0 0	13-0 to 15-0
	Moorshedabad	15 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	17 12	19 0	19 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	240 0	240 0	240 0	...	3 12 9	3 4 0	11 4*l*	10 8	12 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	7-0 to 15-0
	Dinagepore	13 8	11 0	13 0	...	11 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	24 0	19 8	20 6	27 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	110 0	110 0	135 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 5 3	11 14*m*	11 14	11 8	...	...	...
	Rajeshaye	16 8	16 8	13 8 to 18 0	30 0	30 0	46 12	13 8 to 16 0	13 8 to 16 0	18 0 to 18 12	17 4 to 18 0	17 4 to 18 0	21 12 to 24 12	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	67 8	67 8	67 8	3 8 0	3 6 8	3 2 8	10 8	10 8	12 0	5-0 to 6-0	6 0 0	10-0 to 15-0
	Rungpore	11 7	11 7	16 0	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	16 0	17 3	17 3	20 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 4 0	3 5 0	3 0 0	12 0*n*	11 4	12 0	6-0 to 7-0	6-0 to 7-8	11-0 to 20-0
	Bogra	15 0	15 0	17 4	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	16 8	24 0	24 0	28 2	...	...	...	...	...		9 0	9 0	8 0	128 0	128 0	160 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	8 0*o*	8 0	8 0	...	...	...
	Pubna	19 8	19 8	18 12	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 0	19 8	17 4	24 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0*p*	11 0	11 0	7 8 0	7 0 0	15-0 to 20-0
	Darjeeling	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	4 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	9 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jalpaiguri	10 0	10 0	9 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	11 8	13 4	16 0	16 0	18 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0*p*	11 0	11 0	7 8 0	7 0 0	15-0 to 20-0
	Eastern Districts.																																					
	Dacca	12 4	14 8	12 4	18 12	19 0	32 0	15 8	15 12	22 0	19 4	19 4	26 12	...	...	...	19 0	...		...	...	...	91 4	90 0	100 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	2 15 0	12 0*q*	12 4	13 5	5-0 to 6-0	5-0 to 6-0	8-0 to 20-0
	Furreedpore	20 0	20 0	22 0	30 0	30 0	35 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	18 0	18 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	120 0	120 0	...	3 7 0	3 5 0	3 5 4	11 8*r*	12 0	11 0	8 8 0	7 0 0	15 0 0
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	20 0	21 0	21 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	120 0	120 0	100 0	2 11 0	2 11 0	3 11 0	13 0*s*	13 0	10 9	7 8 0	6 0 0	8-0 to 15-0
	Mymensingh	11 8	12 0	11 8	...	...	...	16 0	13 0	22 8	17 8	17 8	29 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	12 0*t*	12 4	12 8	8-0 to 9-0	6 0 0	12-0 to 30-0
	Tipperah	11 6	12 12	11 8	...	...	...	18 8	17 8	22 0	19 4	20 0	28 8	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	3 6 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 8*u*	12 4	12 8	6-0 to 9-0	5-0 to 7-0	7-0 to 16-0
	Chittagong	12 0	12 0	9 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	40 0	40 0	80 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	2 14 0	9 0*v*	9 0	13 0	7-8 to 11-4	6-0 to 7-8	7-8 to 10-8
	Noakholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	27 0	22 0	22 0	31 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 2 0	10 0*w*	10 0	11 0	...	...	...
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 4	12 8	16 0	13 5	13 4	17 12	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	6 0 0	6 0 0	3 8 0	6 4	6 1	10 0	...	...	...
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	17 0	16 0	24 0	20 0	20 0	32 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 6 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	7 8 0	6 0 0	18 0 0
	Behar.																																					
	Patna	17 8	17 8	16 8	32 0	32 0	34 0	14 0	14 0	11 8	19 0	19 0	21 8	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	180 0	180 0	180 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 2 0	10 8	10 8	10 9	...	...	...
	Gya	20 8	20 0	17 0	26 0	27 0	28 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	15 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	180 0	180 0	180 0	...	3 5 0	3 4 0	12 0*x*	12 0	11 8	2-8 to 3-0	3-0 to 5-0	6-0 to 8-0
	Shahabad	17 0 to 18 0	17 0 to 18 0	15 15½ to 17 0	25 0	27 0	30 0	11 0 to 12 0	11 8 to 12 0	20 0 to 21 0	15 0 to 16 0	15½ 0 to 16 0	22 0	...	25 0	...	32 0	30 0		...	...	...	23 8	25 0	26 0	27 0 to 28 0	28 1	30 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 0 0	12 8*y*	12 8	13 0	4 0 0	5-0 to 6-0	6-0 to 7-8
	Durbhunga	17 0	17 0	14 0	37 0	35 0	35 0	13 8	13 0	14 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...		30 0	40 0	33 0	24 0	25 0	25 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	...	10 0*z*	10 0	11 0	3-0 to 5-0	3-8 to 5-0	4-8 to 10-0
	Mozufferpore	18 0	17 0	16 0	30 0	28 0	30 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	16 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	23 0	25 0	25 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 2 0	11 8*z*1	11 8	12 8	...	...	...
	Sarun	17 0	17 0	15 8	27 0	27 0	30 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	21 0	30 0	29 0	32 0	...	...		30 0	30 0	31 0	26 0	27 0	28 0	3 6 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	11 0*z*2	11 0	11 0	4-12 to 7-8	4-0 to 6-0	6-0 to 10-6
	Chumparun	19 0	19 0	18 0	36 0	40 0	36 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	17 0	18 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 8 0	11 0*z*3	11 8	10 8	6 0 0	4 0 0	6 0 0
	Monghyr	18 10	18 14	16 12	27 14	31 8	34 9	13 14	14 10	15 12	15 12	16 12	19 15	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 10 0	3 6 0	...	11 0*z*3	11 8	10 8	6 0 0	4 0 0	6 0 0
	Bhágalpur	16 6	16 6	14 8	27 12	27 8	30 4	15 2	15 12	18 15	17 10	17 10	22 12	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	126 0	126 0	126 0	3 2 3	3 2 3	3 1 0	12 0*z*4	12 1	12 10	3 12 0	4 0 0	5-10 to 7-8
	Purneah	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	20 0	18 0	19 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	151 8	151 8	151 8	3 0 6	3 3 1	...	12 10*z*5	12 10	12 10	4-0 to 5-0	4-0 to 5-0	6-0 to 10-0
	Maldah	17 0	17 8	16 0	...	...	...	14 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	4 10 0	10 0*z*6	10 0	8 0	4-11 to 5-10	4-0 to 5-0	7-0 to 16-0
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	14 0	14 0	13 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	22 0	22 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	120 0	160 0	120 0	3 4 0	3 7 0	3 0 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	...	...	...
	Orissa.																						200 0	200 0	200 0	...	4 7 0	...	10 0	9 0	10 8	...	...	...
	Cuttack	13 2	11 13	14 7	...	...	...	13 2	14 7	17 1	22 5*	23 10	27 9	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pooree	13 2	13 2	11 4	...	...	...	20 0	21 0	22 0	23 10	23 10	25 0	...	...	...	...	...		14 7	13 2	14 7	80 0	80 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	5 10 0	4 0 0	7-8 to 10-0
	Balasore	14 0	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	26 0	28 0	28 0	32 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	104 0	104 0	100 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	14 0*z*7	14 0	14 8	7 0 0	5 0 0	8-0 to 10-0
																							14 0	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	9 2*z*8	8 0	13 0	...	...	...
	CHOTA NAGPORE.																																					
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																																					
	Hazáribágh	16 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	22 0	24 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	16 0	16 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...		80 0	80 0	83 0	19 0	18 0	21 0	3 15 3	3 15 3	3 12 9	9 0*z*9	9 0	10 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	8 0 0
	Lohardugga	16 0	17 0	18 0	22 0	22 0	26 0	18 0	18 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...		29 0	29 0	38 0	14 0	14 0	19 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	4 0 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	3-0 to 4-8	3-8 to 5-0	6-0 to 12-0
	Singbhoom	18 0	20 0	20 0	32 0	32 0	28 0	36 0	32 0	36 0	40 0	36 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	24 0	24 0	24 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 7 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	3 0 0	4 8 0	5-0 to 12-0
	Manbhoom	13 0	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	17 0	18 0	19 0	27 0	27 0	34 0	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	17 0	17 0	17 0	3 9 0	3 7 0	3 12 0	10 8*z*10	10 0	11 0	4 11 0	4 0 0	10 0 0

* In the interior retail prices of common rice vary from 31-8 to 39-6 seers.
f In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Baraset and Bussirhat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 10-8 seers, Barrackpore 12-12 seers, and Dum-Dum 12 seers.
g In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kooshtea 12-12 seers, Meherpore 12 seers and Choondanga 12-8 seers and Ranaghat 13 seers.
h In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Satkhira and Bagirhat 11 seers.
i In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers, and Bongong 13 seers.
k In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Lalbagh 11 seers, Jungipore 10 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.
l In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Nattore and Nowgong retail price of salt 12 seers.
m Retail prices of salt at Baigunge 11-8 seers and Neetpore 12 seers.
n In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Gaibanda 10 seers, Nilphamari 12 seers.
o In Serajgunge retail price of salt 12 seers.
p Retail price of salt at Kurseong 8 seers and Silligoree 10 seers.
q Retail Price of salt at Fallacotta in Alipore sub-divisiou 10 seers.
r In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Manickgunge 11 seers, Moonshegunge 10 seers 10-11 chittacks, and Naraingunge 13-4 seers.
s In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Goalundo 10-8 seers, Madaripore 12 seers, Bhanga 11 seers, and Gopalgunge 12-12 seers.
t In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 10-10 seers, Ferozepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.
u In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishoregunge 10-10 seers, Attea 12 seers, Jamalpore 11 seers, and Nitrokona 13-5 seers.

* In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Brahmunberriah 12 seers and Chandpore 13-8 seers.
v Retail price of salt at Kumeriah 10 seers, and Hathazaree and Cox's Bazar 8 seers.
w In the interior retail prices of salt range from 8 to 12-4 seers.
x In Nowada retail price of salt 10 seers.
y In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are 10-8 to 11 seers.
z In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madhubani 9 seers and Tajpur 12 seers.
*z*1 In the interior retail prices of salt range from 9 to 12 seers.
*z*2 In the sub-divisions retail price of salt are as follow:—Sewan 11-4 seers, and Gopalgunge 12 seers.
*z*3 In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 12 seers.
*z*4 In the sub-divisions retail price of salt are as follow:—Begusarai 10 seers and Jamui 11 seers.
*z*5 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Banka and Soopoie 11 seers and Muddehpoora 10 seers.
*z*6 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kissengunge 8 seers and Arrareah (at Raneegunge) 11 seers.
*z*7 In Khoorda retail price of salt 13 seers.
*z*8 Retail price of salt at Bhadrak 10 seers.
*z*9 Retail price of salt at Chutra 10 seers and Khurrackdiha 11-8 seers.
*z*10 Retail price of salt at Baghanathpore 11 seers, and Burrabazar 10-8 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JUNE 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar). *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra). *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coralloo, Murhwa, Nuglee). *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.			AVERAGE WAGES PER MONTH. Able-bodied Agricultural Labourer.	Syce or Horse-keeper.	Common Mason, Carpenter, or Blacksmith.
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.			
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a.	R a. p.	R a. p.
Assam.	Sylhet	No return received																																				
	Cachar																																					
	Goálpárá																																					
	Gáro Hills																																					
	Kámrúp																																					
	Darrang																																					
	Nowgong																																					
	Sibságar																																					
	Lakhimpur																																					
	Khásí & Jaintiá Hills																																					
	Nága Hills																																					
N. W. Provinces.	Dehra Dún	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Saháranpur	20 15½	20 15½	19 5½	31 3	32 4	27 15	8 9½	8 9½	9 11	11 13	11 13	12 14	26 14	26 14	25 13	17 3	17 3	23 10½	...	...	...	26 14	27 15	23 10½	150 8	150 0	150 0	12 14½	12 14½	12 6	12 10½	12 9	12 1	...	5 0 0	...	...
	Muzaffarnagar	19 4	19 12	17 0	35 0	35 5	29 11	6 9	6 9	6 9	12 2	12 2	14 5	33 0	33 0	24 6	26 6	26 6	22 0	...	...	...	27 8	27 8	22 0	110 0	110 0	132 0	12 6	12 6	11 8	11 8	11 10	11 4	12 0 0	5 0 0	4 0 0
	Meerut	18 0	18 8	18 0	30 0	30 0	24 0	7 0	7 0	6 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	29 0	29 0	25 0	20 0	21 0	21 0	...	...	...	26 0	26 8	21 0	110 0	110 0	110 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	5 0 to 6-0	5 0 0	8-0 to 10-0
	Bulandshahr	19 0	19 14	19 4	23 0	27 8	23 4	6 0	6 0	6 0	10 0	10 5	11 0	26 0	28 0	23 0	16 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	24 12	25 0	21 2	130 0	140 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	...	...	...	3 0 0	5 0 0	...
	Aligarh	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kumaun	15 0	15 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 8	12 8	12 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	4-0½ to 8-0p	5 0 0	8-0½ to 10-0
	Garhwál	22 0	22 0	23 8	23 0	23 0	25 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...	30 0*	30 0*	30 0*	10 0	10 0	9 0	280 0	280 0	200 0	8 8	8 8	8 0	7 13	7 13	7 0	8-0 to 10-0	5 0 0	8-0 to 10-0	
	Bijnor	19 13	20 4	16 0	31 12	31 12	24 3	16 11	10 4	11 4	12 2	11 13	12 6	23 10	24 12	21 6	21 6	21 6	18 0	23 1	23 12	20 15	135 0	135 0	135 0	...	...	...	10 13	11 4	10 2	4 0 0	4 0 0	7 8 0			
	Moradabad	19 11	20 5	18 12	30 10	31 4	25 0	10 10	10 10	9 6	13 12	13 12	13 12	23 2	23 2	23 12	14 6	14 6	19 6	23 6	23 11	18 4½	125 0	125 0	162 8	12 10	12 10	12 0	12 8	12 8	11 14	5 0 0	5 0 0	...			
	Budaun	19 8	19 8	17 6	29 6	30 0	21 9½	8 6	8 6	9 9½	13 3	14 1½	15 0	...	...	16 12½	...	...	...	23 6	23 11	18 4½	192 0	192 0	192 0	11 6	11 6	11 4	10 12½	11 1½	10 3	...	4 0 0	...			
	Bareilly	18 2	18 2	16 14	25 10	26 4	25 0	7 8	7 8	8 2	13 2	13 2	13 12	23 12	23 12	20 0	18 12	18 12	20 10	22 8	22 8	20 0	100 0	125 0	125 0	12 8	12 8	11 14	11 14	11 14	11 4	2-8 to 3-0	4 0 0	6-0 to 8-0			
	Shahjahánpur	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tarái Pergunnahs	21 4	23 0	19 0	32 8	37 8	30 0	8 12	8 12	7 8	14 0	12 13	13 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	22 0	17 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	14 0	15 0	11 4	13 8	14 0	11 0	4 0 0	6 0 0	10 0			
	Muttra	17 0	18 0	16 12	24 8	25 8	21 8	7 0	7 0	...	12 0	12 0	14 8	22 0	22 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	24 8	25 0	21 4	140 0	140 0	120 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	4 8 0	5 0 0	...			
	Agra	16 12	16 8	16 12	24 0	23 8	20 8	5 12	5 12	6 0	12 0	12 0	14 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	21 0	21 0	20 0	24 0	24 0	20 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	3-0 to 4-0	4 0 0	7-0 to 10-0			
	Farukhabad	18 4½	19 0½	16 7	26 6	27 11	21 1	7 2	7 2	8 3	12 9½	12 9½	14 10	26 12	26 7	21 13½	20 5	20 3	20 7½	24 0	24 0	20 0	156 8	156 8	156 8	12 4	12 4	11 3½	11 6	11 6	10 12	...	...	...			
	Mainpuri	18 0	18 10	18 0	24 8	27 8	21 0	4 0	4 8	5 0	10 0	10 8	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	20 0	160 0	160 0	140 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	12 0	12 5	...	...	...			
	Etáwah	17 0	17 0	17 0	20 8	20 8	22 8	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 8	12 8	14 8	24 0	24 0	16 0	22 8	22 8	16 0	23 0	23 8	20 0	160 0	160 0	140 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	12 8	11 14	4 0 0	5 0 0	...			
	Etah	19 6	19 4	19 0	27 0	27 0	23 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	22 0	22 0	...	22 0	20 8	18 0	23 0	23 0	20 0	140 0	140 0	120 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	10 0	10 0	3 0 0	5 0 0	8 0 0			
	Jalaun	18 0	19 0	19 0	20 0	22 0	20 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	13 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	22 0	23 0	22 0	27 0	28 0	24 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 14	10 0	10 0	4 0 0	6 0 0	...			
	Jhánsi	21 9½	23 0	21 4	38 14	40 0	33 3	10 0	10 0	8 8	17 0	17 0	15 0	33 6	35 0	27 2½	...	...	...	27 14	31 6	27 4½	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	3 0 0	5 0 0	...			
	Lalitpur	21 0	22 0	21 8	40 0	40 0	37 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	12 0	36 0	38 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	26 0	33 0	33 8	32 0	160 0	160 0	140 0	13 4	13 4	12 12	13 0	13 0	12 8	...	5-0 to 6-0	...			
	Cawnpore	18 4	18 8	17 8	26 8	28 0	24 8	10 0	10 0	10 8	14 0	14 0	15 0	27 0	28 0	24 0	23 0	23 0	24 0	27 8	29 0	23 8	145 0	145 0	140 0	13 4	13 4	12 12	13 0	13 0	12 8	...	3-8 to 4-0	...			
	Fatehpur	16 10	17 6	16 2	25 0	26 0	21 10	11 4	11 4	11 4	15 8	15 8	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 4	28 4	21 10	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	9 10	10 12	10 12	9 6	2-0 to 2-8	3-8 to 4-0			
	Bánda	23 0	23 0	17 8	34 0	34 0	25 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	14 8	14 8	13 8	33 0	34 0	30 0	33 0	33 0	...	28 0	28 0	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 0	11 0	10 12	...	5 0 0	...			
	Allahabad	17 10	18 2	16 10	28 8	29 8	24 0	10 8	10 0	11 8	16 0	17 8	17 8	32 0	32 0	28 0	31 0	30 8	27 0	29 4	29 4	23 2	180 0	180 0	180 0	10 11	11 13	10 11	9 11	10 0	10 0	...	...	...			
	Hamirpur	18 4	19 2	15 0	17 0	...	22 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	...	...	...	28 2	24 0	22 0	...	...	...	29 4	28 0	26 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	10 12	11 13	10 12	9 11	10 10	10 10	4 0 0	...	...			
	Jaunpur	20 8	20 8	18 5	31 12	32 12	28 15	7 12	7 12	8 7	14 2	14 2	16 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 4	31 1	25 7	148 12	148 12	169 8	10 12	10 12	9 11	10 10	10 10	9 9	3 0 0	4 0 0	...			
	Gorakhpur	18 14	18 14	18 0	25 3	27 0	27 3	13 1	12 9½	14 6½	16 3	16 3	18 13	...	28 13	...	...	...	22 9	31 1	31 1	25 7	148 12	148 12	169 8	10 12	10 12	...	10 6½	10 13	10 6½	3-0 to 4-0	...			
	Basti	18 6	19 0	18 0	32 0	36 0	23 0	13 12	13 12	16 0	16 0	16 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 11	28 13	26 0	160 0	160 0	140 0	8 8	8 8	8 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	3 4 6	3 12 0	6 9 0			
	Azamgarh	18 6	18 6	19 3	25 1	25 14	30 4	10 5	10 5	8 14	14 12	14 12	17 11	29 8	29 8	...	20 10	20 10	20 10	30 0	30 0	26 0	150 0	150 0	140 0	9 3	9 3	9 3	9 3	9 13	8 8	3 4 3	3 8 0	4-11 to 5-12-56			
	Mirzapur	17 0	17 8	16 8	26 0	27 0	23 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	14 8	14 8	18 0	29 0	29 0	26 0	27 0	28 0	26 0	26 13	25 13	25 1	147 8	147 8	147 8	11 0	11 0	...	10 0	10 0	8 0	3 4 0	4 0 0	4 8 0			
	Benares	16 4	17 1½	16 13	25 8	25 4	25 6	10 9	11 11	12 7	16 4	17 5½	18 15½	28 12	28 12	28 3	28 12	28 12	28 11½	27 0	27 0	22 0	90 0	90 0	100 0	9 4	...	11 4	10 2	10 2	10 2	3 4 0	4 8 0	...			
	Gházipur	19 5	19 5	19 5	27 0½	27 0½	27 11	9 0	9 0	10 15½	16 1½	16 1½	20 15½	25 12	25 12	23 7½	26 6½	26 6½	25 12	25 8½	25 8	23 5	110 0	110 0	120 0	11 4	11 4	10 5	10 5	10 5	9 10½	1 12 0	...	...			
	Ballia	18 4	18 12	16 4	27 8	28 4	26 4	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 12	18 12	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 15½	28 15½	27 11	128 12	128 12	103 0	10 15½	10 15½	10 5	10 5	10 5	9 10½	...	...	...			
	Pilibhít	20 8	21 2	17 10	35 8	36 4	29 12	15 0	15 0	14 8	16 4	16 8	16 4	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	28 12	28 12	28 12	90 0	100 0	100 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	10 0	10 0	10 0	4 0 0	7 8 0				
	Lucknow	18 1	18 9½	16 7	28 12	27 14	33 9	6 0	6 0	6 0	13 12	13 2½	14 1½	30 10	30 8	22 8	24 10	24 8	23 4	23 12	23 12	18 8	150 0	150 0	150 0	13 8	13 8	12 12	12 12	12 12	11 12	3-0 to 4-0	4 0 0	7 8 0			
	Unáo	18 8	18 8	17 0	24 0	26 0	24 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	28 0	30 0	...	23 0	24 0	...	24 7½	24 11½	20 11	115 0	115 0	120 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 0	10 8	9 8	3 0 0	4 0 0	7 8 0			
	Bára Banki	18 0	18 8	16 4	28 0	29 0	24 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	14 0	15 0	15 0	32 0	33 0	31 0	21 0	22 0	20 0	26 0	27 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	3 0 0	4 0 0	7 8 6			
	Sitapur	21 14½	22 4	20 0	36 0	35 0	27 2	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	17 0	32 0	32 0	20 0	26 0	26 0	19 0	27 8	27 8	20 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 7	12 4	12 0	11 8	11 4	10 8	4 0 0	4 0 0			
	Hardui	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kheri	22 8	24 0	19 0	35 0	36 0	28 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	14 0	16 0	15 0	45 0	45 0	30 0	...	...	...	27 8	28 0	18 8	160 0	160 0	200 0	12 0	12 0	11 4	11 0	11 0	10 0	4 0 0	5 8 0	6 0 0			
	Fyzabad	17 8	18 0	17 0	29 8	29 0	25 0	10 0	10 0	11 4	17 0	17 0	17 8	36 0	36 0	...	23 0	24 0	...	28 0	28 0	22 12	120 0	120 0	120 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	1-14 to 3-12	3-8 to 5-4	7-8 to 9-6			
	Bharaich	19 0	19 0	17 0	42 0	42 0	38 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	17 0	17 0	18 0	37 0	38 0	32 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	28 0	28 0	27 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	...	...	11 8	9 8	9 8	9 0	3 0 0	4-0ʃ to 5-0ʃ	8-0 to 9-0			
	Gonda	22 4	22 9½	19 8	41 12	42 0	34 8	13 14	14 4	15 12	16 0	16 2	17 8	41 0	41 12	36 8	23 4	23 12	24 4	30 0	33 6	26 12	200 0	200 0	240 0	11 12	11 10	11 8	11 8	11 6	11 0	2 13 0	3 8 0	8-10			
	Rai Bareli	18 12	19 4	18 6	26 8	27 8	22 14	...	...	...	15 4	15 6	15 12	...	...	28 0	22 0	20 0	18 0	24 8	25 4	19 12	200 0	200 0	160 0	...	...	...	10 0	9 8	9 0	2 0 0	3-0 to 3-8	6-0 to 7-8			
	Sultánpur	28 8	21 8	19 12	32 0	32 0	29 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	17 0	17 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	31 8	31 0	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 4	12 0	11 12	12 0	11 12	3 0 0	5 0 0	7 8 0			
	Partábgarh	20 8	20 11	18 7	30 13	32 9	27 7	16 0	15 10	15 6	17 5	17 5	16 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 13	27 8	23 3	200 0	200 0	200 0	...	...	11 0	10 10	10 11	10 11	...	...	...			
Punjab.	Delhi																																					
	Gurgaon																																					
	Karnál																																					
	Hissar																																					
	Rohtak																																					
	Sirsa	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Umballa																																					
	Ludhiána																																					
	Simla																																					
	Jullundur																																					
	Hoshiárpur																																					
	Kangra																																					

* Mandwa.

Stands for Blacksmith. ¢ Stands for Carpenter. ʃ Stands for Grasscutter. i Stands for labourer. p Stands for Ploughman. s Stands for Syce.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JUNE 1883—*continued*.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorgum*.			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*.			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c.			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt.						AVERAGE WAGES PER MONTH.		
																													Wholesale.			Retail.					
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Able-bodied Agricultural Labourer.	Syce or Horse-keeper.	Common Mason, Carpenter, or Blacksmith.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.
Punjab—*continued*.	Amritsar Siálkot Gurdáspur Lahore Ferozepore Gujránwála Ráwalpindi Jhelum Gujrát Shahpúr Mooltan Jhang Montgomery Muzaffargarh Dera Ismail Khán Dera Gházi Khán Bannu Pesháwar Kohát Házára	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Central Provinces.	Nágpur Bhandára Chánda Wardha Bálaghát Jubbulpore Saugor Damoh Seoni Mandla Betúl Chhindwára Hoshangabad Narsinghpur Nimár Raipur Sambalpur Biláspur	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
British Burma.	*Arakan Division.* Akyab Northern Arakan Kyoukpyoo Sandoway *Pegu Division.* Rangoon Town Tharrawaddy Prome *Irrawaddy Division.* Henzada Bassein Thonegwa Thayetmyo *Tenasserim Division.* Moulmein Town & Amherst Tavoy Mergui Toungoo Shwaygyin Salween	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	14 13	15 8	16 5	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	6 13	10 3	10 3	9 13	23 0	23 14	23 14	27 0	27 0	...	9 9	29 9	...	16 12	16 12	17 4	130 0	130 0	125 0	10 14	10 14	10 8	10 6	10 6	10 0	...	...	...
	Bolarum	16 9	18 1	16 11	...	...	...	7 11	7 11	7 1	9 5	9 5	8 12	25 11	28 5	23 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 2	19 15	17 13	116 14	116 14	116 14	...	...	...	10 12	10 12	10 12	...	...	...
	Chudderghat	14 0	14 0	13 0	...	...	...	7 5	7 8	6 0	9 8	9 8	8 0	25 0	24 0	24 0	33 0	33 0	33 0	...	...	...	17 0	17 8	17 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	9 8	...	...	...
	Amráoti	16 0	16 0	16 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	26 0	25 0	26 0	15 0	15 0	20 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	20 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	15 0	11 8	4 0 0	7 0 0	15 0 0
	Akola	17 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	25 0	28 0	30 0	21 0	21 0	24 0	9 0	8 0	7 0	17 0	18 0	21 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	7 8 0	7 0 0	22 8 0
	Ellichpur	15 0	15 0	14 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	8 0	8 0	6 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	23 0	22 0	22 0	21 0	22 0	20 0	...	...	...	17 0	18 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	6 0 0	7 0 0	15 0 0
	Buldána	18 0	18 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	24 0	24 0	32 0	21 0	20 0	28 0	...	...	...	17 0	18 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	5 10 0	7 8 0	22 8 0
	Wún	19 0	19 0	14 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 8	7 0	13 8	13 8	10 8	29 4	31 4	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	22 0	300 0	300 0	100 0	...	...	...	11 4	11 8	8 0	5 10 0	7 0 0	15 0 0
	Básim	21 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 0	13 0	14 0	13 0	28 0	27 0	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	21 0	25 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	11 0	10 12	9 8	10 0	10 0	9 0	6 0 0	6 8 0	20 0 0

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JUNE 1883 —*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Average Wages per Month. Able-bodied Agricultural Labourer.	Syce or Horse-keeper.	Common Mason, Carpenter, or Blacksmith.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*
Mysore.	Bangalore	11 7	12 4	12 2	12 12	13 7	13 1	9 14	10 2	10 2	10 15	10 15	11 1	27 12	27 1	24 12	...	...	...	29 12	30 8	29 4	84 0	84 12	96 0	13 0	13 0	12 4	12 12	12 12	11 11	...	...	...
	Kolar	...	...	...	11 2	11 2	12 0	11 11	11 11	13 15	15 3	15 3	15 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 15	33 0	31 15	172 6	172 6	172 6	13 8	13 8	12 10	13 3	13 3	12 5	...	...	...
	Túmkúr	14 0	14 0	14 8	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	34 0	33 0	36 0	340 0	340 0	340 0	8 8	10 0	11 0	8 0	9 8	10 8	...	...	...
	Mysore	10 8	11 0	10 4	...	...	...	10 8	12 0	10 12	12 0	13 0	11 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	27 0	75 0	78 0	72 0	8 12	8 12	8 4	8 8	8 8	8 0	...	...	...
	Hassan	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Shimoga	14 11	14 11	12 10	16 13	16 13	14 11	11 9	11 9	10 8	15 12	15 12	12 10	34 10	34 10	27 5	...	...	...	32 1	33 1	27 14	480 0	480 0	480 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	9 7	9 7	10 0	...	...	...
	Kadur	14 0	14 0	16 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	25 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...
	Chitaldroog	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Coorg	Coorg	9 5	8 15	7 15	10 2	10 1	8 7	13 1	14 5	10 11	18 0	17 14	13 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 4	24 13	19 7	110 0	110 0	110 0	9 7	9 13	9 7	8 15	9 10	8 10	...	...	...
Rajpootana.	Jeypore	16 8	16 8	16 8	23 0	23 0	22 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	22 0	24 0	20 0	19 0	20 0	19 0	21 4	21 4	17 8	...	...	...	14 8	14 8	13 8	14 4	14 4	13 0	4 0 0	5-0 to 6-0	8-0 to 10-0
	Kishengurh	17 8	15 12	15 8	22 8	23 8	22 0	11 0	8 0	7 0	12 0	9 8	8 0	23 0	24 0	22 0	17 0	18 4	19 0	24 0	23 8	21 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	15 12	16 0	4 0 0	5-0 to 6-0	8-0 to 10-0
	Kerrowlee	19 6	18 6	17 0	26 14	26 13	20 0	12 8	12 8	13 8	13 12	13 12	15 0	26 14	26 13	20 0	22 8	23 0	17 0	25 10	27 8	19 0	...	...	...	13 14	...*	13 10	13 0	*	13 8	...	...	...
	Ulwur	19 3	19 7	17 0	26 9	26 11	21 8	8 10	8 10	8 0	10 10	10 10	11 11	23 7	24 12	22 2	22 14	23 8	16 0	26 6	27 15	20 15	...	...	...	15 12	15 12	15 13	15 0	15 0	15 6	...	...	...
	Bhurtpore (City)	18 1	19 8	17 8	28 4	29 12	22 8	7 12	8 0	6 8	9 6	9 13	11 0	27 4	27 8	23 8	22 12	21 8	19 0	26 0	27 8	20 8	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	14 8	13 0	13 0	14 0	...	...	...
	Ajmere	15 8	15 0	14 8	23 0	21 12	21 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	19 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	23 0	23 0	20 8	70 0	70 0	70 0	17 0	17 0	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...
	Deoli Cantonment	19 4	19 2	16 0	25 6	25 4	19 5	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	10 8	23 0	23 4	20 0	18 0	18 0	16 0	25 5	25 3	19 2	...	...	...	13 12	14 0	...	13 8	13 8	13 1	...	...	...
																										R a. p.	*R a. p.* per md.	*R a. p.*						
	Erinpura	16 0	16 6	16 10	27 8	27 6	29 0	...	...	...	8 2	9 0	8 0	20 0	20 0	25 0	19 0	20 0	23 0	20 4	20 6	23 0	160 0	160 0	170 0	2 13 9	2 13 9	3 1 2	13 0	13 0	12 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	12 0 0
	Sirohee	13 4	14 0	17 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	8 0	8 4	18 0	18 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	21 0	18 0	18 0	20 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 5 0	12 5	12 5	11 7	4 11 0	...	9 6 0
	Abu	12 0	12 0	15 6	18 12	18 12	22 12	6 12	6 10	6 8	8 4	8 10	8 0	...	...	...	14 7	14 8	18 0	16 0	16 0	18 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 12 0	11 8	11 8	10 8	...	...	...
	Anadra	13 4	13 4	17 2	21 4	21 12	26 4	7 8	7 4	7 0	9 0	9 4	9 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	21 0	17 8	17 4	21 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 8 0	12 4	12 4	11 8	...	...	...
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	20 0	20 0	18 8	26 0	26 0	26 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	23 0	24 0	†	‡	‡	3 10 0	3 10 0	...	11 0	11 0	10 8	...	...	...
																										S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.						
	Meywar (Oodeypore)	13 10½	13 4½	14 1	17 15½	16 12½	18 5½	10 2½	10 8¾	10 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 3	16 6½	16 12½	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 9	9 9	10 2½	9 6	9 6	9 12¼	...	...	...
																										R a. p.	*R a. p.* per md.	*R a. p.*						
	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Partábgarh („)	15 11½	15 0½	15 5	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 15	11 4	11 4	13 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 15	20 5	19 11	...	...	...	2 6 9	...	...	16 9	17 0	10 0	6 0 0	4 13 0	12-0 to 16-0
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	15 10	15 5	14 11	20 10	20 0	20 0	6 4	6 4	6 4	7 8	7 8	6 14	21 4	20 0	20 0	18 4	17 13	17 8	20 0	19 6	18 2	...	...	...	2 9 0	2 9 0	2 9 0	15 10	15 5	15 0	...	...	...
																										S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.						
	Bikaneer	11 11	11 11	12 0	...	...	...	3 8	3 8	3 1	6 4	6 4	6 8	...	...	...	19 12	19 12	17 10	17 8	17 8	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	...	...	...
	Boondee	21 0	21 4	16 8	30 8	30 0	25 8	10 0	10 0	9 8	11 0	10 8	10 0	25 0	...	26 0	...	...	...	31 8	29 0	24 8	160 0	160 0	140 0	12 4	12 8	11 12	12 0	12 4	11 8	5 10 0	5 10 0	7-8 to 15-0
	Kotah	20 0	20 0	16 4	25 0	25 0	21 0	10 0	10 0	8 12	13 0	13 0	11 0	26 0	26 0	20 0	15 0	15 0	16 0	28 0	28 0	23 8	240 0	240 0	240 0	12 12	14 0	12 4	12 4	13 8	11 12	...	...	...
	Tonk	19 0	19 0	13 14	25 4	26 0	19 6	7 8	7 0	7 0	8 8	9 12	10 0	25 8	26 0	20 15	...	...	16 0	26 0	26 8	18 15	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 8	13 4	12 10	12 0	13 0	12 7	3 12 0	2 13 0	7-8 to 15-0
	Jhallawar	18 8	19 14	16 4	23 9	23 9	15 2	...	...	...	8 13	8 13	8 13	23 7	23 7	16 4	17 2	18 5	18 0	24 12	25 14	20 1	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	9 13	10 4	10 4	9 11	...	...	...
	Shahpoora	17 7	17 2	17 12	23 4	30 0	21 0	13 12	13 15	10 0	16 3	17 0	13 8	18 3	19 0	18 0	17 0	16 4	17 0	23 8	23 0	19 6	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 2	13 14	13 8	13 0	13 6	13 4	4 11 0	4 11 0	9 6 0
	Dholpur	17 2	17 9	16 8	25 12	25 12	21 9	10 2	10 2	10 2	11 4	11 4	12 6	23 10	23 8	20 10	23 8	22 5	18 12	25 1	25 9	20 10	...	...	...	12 15	12 15	12 15	12 2	12 2	12 3	...	...	...
Central India.	Indore	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gwalior																																	
	Goona																																	
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)																																	

* Not received. † Ten pies per bundle. ‡ Eight pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Comparative Statement of the Nett Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenue) for the first three months of the official year 1883-84, and of the twelve preceding years.

(In thousands of Rupees.)

YEAR.	FOR THE THREE MONTHS, APRIL TO JUNE.																				YEAR.
	Bengal.			Madras.			Bombay.			Sindh.			British Burma.			Total British India.					
	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	Total Import Revenue.	Export Revenue.	Total Revenue.	
1871-72 .	2,46	16,87	5,35	24,68	94	2,99	3,89	7,82	2,37	7,46	1,11	10,94	35	1,11	6,69	8,15	6,39	28,67	35,06	17,36	52,42	1871-72.
1872-73 .	3,19	15,58	5,68	24,45	1,03	3,37	3,16	7,56	1,52	10,34	1,09	12,95	91	1,37	11,85	14,03	6,91	30,78	37,69	22,57	60,26	1872-73.
1873-74 .	2,24	15,12	3,85	21,21	1,05	3,42	3,86	8,33	1,69	8,65	1,12	11,46	90	1,19	11,04	13,13	6,18	28,53	34,71	20,16	54,87	1873-74.
1874-75 .	3,06	16,42	3,38	22,86	91	3,70	3,21	7,82	1,70	8,74	1,01	11,45	1,11	1,79	8,09	10,99	7,08	30,76	37,84	15,95	53,79	1874-75.
1875-76 .	3,08	19,81	4,36	27,25	1,13	3,60	3,92	8,65	1,88	10,38	2,88	15,14	1,10	1,08	14,60	16,78	7,47	35,15	42,62	26,42	69,04	1875-76.
1876-77 .	3,38	15,70	2,66	21,74	1,47	3,30	2,26	7,03	2,08	9,12	44	11,64	1,30	1,40	9,92	12,62	8,57	29,66	38,23	15,35	53,58	1876-77.
1877-78 .	3,80	19,07	3,06	25,93	1,35	1,85	48	3,68	2,61	10,90	47	13,98	1,38	1,56	8,49	11,43	9,69	33,60	43,29	12,63	55,92	1877-78.
1878-79 .	3,39	16,13	3,24	22,76	1,51	2,60	1,14	5,25	2,27	10,62	58	13,47	2,12	1,84	9,96	13,92	9,77	31,30	41,07	15,01	56,08	1878-79.
1879-80 .	2,89	15,23	1,93	20,05	1,30	1,91	1,30	4,51	2,40	8,32	63	11,35	1,34	1,46	12,40	15,70	9,14	27,13	36,27	16,33	52,60	1879-80.
1880-81 .	3,33	12,19	1,85	18,17	1,41	2,49	2,44	6,34	2,29	10,75	53	13,57	1,21	25	8	1,54	9,56	28,35	37,91	17,54	55,45	1880-81.
1881-82 .	3,59	13,46	3,15	20,20	1,24	2,51	2,14	5,89	2,85	10,95	58	14,28	1,14	36	11	1,61	10,72	29,09	39,81	19,80	59,61	1881-82.
1882-83 .	3,85	1	3,42	7,28	1,42	...	1,11	2,53	3,02	—68*	60	2,84	92	2	18	1,12	11,53	—64*	10,89	24,20	35,09	1882-83.
1883-84 .	3,62	3	4,81	8,46	1,28	1	1,55	2,84	2,33	14	34	3,31	97	1	16	1,14	10,95	24	11,19	22,42	33,61	1883-84.

* The amount refunded is greater than the duty collected.

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
STATISTICAL BRANCH;
Calcutta, 23rd July 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXV OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 1st July 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 30th June 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 1st July 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 30th June 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
7th July 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	96,394	560	207	1,12,365	543	9,66,272	428	12,01,243	446	2,34,971	...
7th ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	1,10,009	201	547	1,06,779	195	14,78,914	206	17,36,301	244	2,57,387	...
7th ditto .	Sind, Punjab & Delhi .	676	2,18,996	324	748	2,89,091	386	25,89,629	291	33,07,119	344	7,17,490	...
30th June 1883	Madras . . .	858	1,94,549	227	861	1,30,061	151	18,81,623	167	17,07,276	153	...	1,74,347
30th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	1,05,151	161	655	85,758	131	10,71,792	125	10,37,776	122	...	34,016
7th July 1883	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	4,89,385	336	1,458	5,37,004	368	1,07,89,029	566	1,17,13,414	618	9,24,385	...
30th June 1883	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	3,06,309	664	461	1,74,085	378	35,13,198	580	38,22,698	638	3,09,500	...
	TOTAL .	4,827	15,20,793	315	4,937	14,35,143	291	2,22,90,457	351	2,45,25,827	382	22,35,370	...
	State.												
7th July 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	8,44,197	560	1,509	11,55,469	766	1,17,02,020	591	1,40,90,792	719	23,88,772	...
7th ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	33	11,595	351	56	7,695	137	55,751	146	80,964	120	25,213	...
7th ditto .	Nalhati . .	27	1,582	59	27	1,897	52	18,708	53	21,491	61	2,783	...
7th ditto .	Northern Bengal .	233	46,361	199	230	42,833	186	4,95,325	162	5,28,106	177	32,781	...
7th ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	65	11,035	130	166	13,538	82	1,70,182	153	2,16,830	102	46,648	...
2nd June 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	9,477	166	...	(a)	...	(b)94,551	181	(c)93,015	181	...	1,536
7th July 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	2,746	95	29	2,287	79	31,453	83	34,493	91	3,040	...
7th ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	10,190	117	87	7,506	86	89,601	78	90,223	80	622	...
7th ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	1,039	87	12	817	68	14,888	94	15,691	101	803	...
7th ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	3,61,944	324	1,117	2,76,200	247	31,08,867	212	36,07,200	248	4,98,333	...
7th ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	24,966	555	45	20,413	454	1,83,075	309	2,11,067	361	27,992	...
7th ditto .	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	11,197	114	149	15,033	101	2,13,705	166	5,25,271	271	3,11,566	...
7th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . .	161	26,992	168	161	22,173	138	4,37,520	207	4,14,614	198	...	22,906
7th ditto .	Sindia	75	7,414	99	75	6,147	82	86,004	88	84,837	87	...	1,167
7th ditto .	Punjab Northern .	412	88,853	216	419	58,159	139	8,09,918	155	7,85,237	143	...	23,681
7th ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	1,15,715	175	660	2,16,312	328	11,34,439	131	22,23,025	259	10,88,586	...
7th ditto .	Muttra-Achnera .	23	1,850	80	23	1,090	47	16,817	55	19,582	65	2,765	...
7th ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	1,188	37	32	1,673	52	21,026	50	25,256	61	4,230	...
7th ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	8,900	100	...	...	84,617	73	84,617	...
	TOTAL .	3,186	7,84,144	230	3,377	7,02,173	208	69,80,830	167	90,61,519	203	20,80,689	...
	Native States.												
7th July 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	12,978	67	193	15,846	82	3,25,672	127	3,67,270	146	41,598	...
30th June 1883	Nizam's . . .	121	33,553	277	121	15,117	125	2,38,883	150	1,98,693	126	...	40,190
23rd ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	18,841	213	...	(a)	...	(d)60,453	57	(e)60,829	59	576	...
7th July 1883	Jodhpore . . .	19	29	2	19	670	35	(f)35	...	10,056	41	10,021	...
	TOTAL .	420	64,901	155	333	31,633	95	6,24,843	118	6,36,848	117	12,005	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,940	31,64,085	318	10,156	33,24,418	327	4,15,98,150	319	4,83,14,986	361	67,16,836	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,91,35,149	147	2,31,91,193	173	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS .	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,24,63,001	172	2,51,23,793	188	26,60,792	...

(a) Return not received.
(b) Total receipts from 1st April to 3rd June 1882.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 2nd June 1883.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 24th June 1882.
(e) Total receipts from 1st April to 23rd June 1883.
(f) Total receipts from 24th June to 1st July 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

Simla,
The 24th July 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS IN BENGAL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1883-84.

Areas leased for Irrigation up to the end of April 1883.

Circle.	District.	Canal.	Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilized.	Approximate area of land under irrigation during month.	Approximate area of land under irrigation last year at same time.	DETAILS OF AREAS LEASED.								RAINFALL, 1883-84.		RAINFALL, 1882-83.		Remarks.
								Five years. All crops.	Five years. Khurreef.	ANNUAL LEASES. Khurreef.	Rubbee.	Sugar-cane.	Bhadoi.	* Hot weather.	Total.	Grand Total.	During month.	Up to end of month.	During month.	Up to end of month.	
			C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	
Orissa	Cuttack	Kendrapara	1,269	289·50	89·06	180	746	...	...	...	48	...	...	20	68	68					
		Gobri	372·82	218·09	109·23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
		Pattamoondee	1,042	27·80	20	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	4	6	6					
		High Level, Section I	675	158·50	13	5	...	...	...	...	67	...	...	1	68	68	0·03	0·03	1·69	1·69	The khurreef leases expired with the official year 1882-83.
		Taldunda, 1st Reach	1,300	188·00	188	267	152	...	...	...	23	...	...	...	23	23					
		Ditto, 2nd do.	650	44·00	44			...	...	...		...	...	...							
		Matchgong	650	98·00	98	21	596	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
	Balasore	High Level, Section II	727·16	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
		Ditto do. III	727·16	189·44	...	122	144	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
		Total	...	...	...	611	1,638	...	...	...	140	...	...	25	165	165	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	123,823	...	...	5	...	...	5	123,828	...	...	...	...	
South-Western.	Midnapore	Midnapore	1,411	67	...	...	...	...	53,455	...	...	...	...	...	...	53,455	3·41	3·41	2·68	2·68	Leases for 36,833 acres expired on the 31st March 1883.
	Howrah	Panchkoorah	522	19	...	...	...	...	9,801	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,801	2·00	2·00	1·51	1·51	
	Total		...	...	...	...	...	...	63,256	...	...	...	...	...	...	63,256	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	103,862	...	...	...	...	...	...	103,862	...	...	...	...	
Bonc.	Shahabad	Western Main	4,342	788	*	1,286	389	3,633	...	...	...	396	...	...	396	4,029					** No part of the discharge in the Buxar Division was utilized for irrigation during month. Main Western Canal series were closed from 6th to 16th April 1883.
		Buxar	1,226	71	*	2,505	641	11,036	...	...	...	2,089	...	...	2,089	13,125	...	...	...	...	
		Arrah	1,660	462	387	10,060	6,606	51,852	...	...	...	1,375	...	2,464	3,839	55,691	...	...	0·05	0·05	
	Patna and Gya	Eastern Main	1,486	71	58	...	93	214	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	214	0·18	0·18	...	...	
		Patna				65	2,415	10,918	...	...	...	8	...	65	73	10,991					
	Total		...	...	...	13,916	10,144	77,653	...	...	...	3,868	...	2,529	6,397	84,050	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	44,041	...	...	...	11,667	...	...	11,667	55,708	...	...	...	...	
	Grand Total		...	...	...	14,527	11,782	77,653	63,256	...	140	3,868	...	2,554	6,562	147,471	...	...	...	...	
	Grand total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	44,041	227,685	...	...	11,672	...	...	11,672	283,398	...	...	...	...	

The 2nd July 1883.

G. F. E. S. NEILL, *Major, M.S.C.,*
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
P. W. Department.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF IN THE PUNJAB FOR 1883-84 UP TO 31st MAY 1883.

CANAL DIVISION.	WATER DISTRIBUTED DURING MAY 1883. Depth in Canal at Regulating Gauge. Full supply.	Depth in Canal at Regulating Gauge. Actual throughout.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Estimated full supply.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Actual average throughout.	NAVIGATION RETURN CANAL. Principal items of Traffic. Up.	Down.	LAND IRRIGATED (APPROXIMATE). Zila.	Acres.	RAINFALL. Average.	During month.	CHIEF CROPS (APPROXIMATE). Name.	Area in acres.	REMARKS.
Bári Doáb Canal. 1st Division	4·9	4·5	3,073·60	1,071	...	...	Gurdáspur	7,017	1·0	0·5	Cotton	16,633	On the Bári Doáb Canal the demand for water during the month was moderate, owing to the cultivators having been occupied in harvest operations. The prospects of the present crop are favorable. There is a decrease of 819 acres as compared with the corresponding period of last year.
2nd Division, Main Branch, Lower	4·6	4·0		996	...	...	Amritsar	17,003	1·1	2·0	Rice	933	
2nd do., Lahore Branch	3·35	3·1		635	...	...	Lahore	26,846	1·3	4·7	Sugarcane	8,969	
Passed out of Escapes	...	...	...	110	...	...	... ...	...	...	...	Others	24,331	
Total Bári Doáb Canal	...	...	3,073·60	2,812	...	...	... ...	50,866	...	...	... ...	50,866	
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	3,073·60	2,451·88	...	...	... ...	51,685	...	...	... ...	51,685	
Western Jumna Canal. Karnál Division	4·33	4·51	2,546	486	...	321,614 kurries, bullies, &c.; 4,664 maunds firewood; and 11,863 cubic feet wood.	Umballa	307	0·79	1·97	Cotton	13,879	The operations on the Western Jumna Canal during the month show a decrease of 15,417 acres as compared with those of May 1882; the difference averages nearly 3,100 acres for each of the five following districts: Karnál, Hissár, Jínd, Rohtak, and Delhi. There is a total decrease of 13,377 acres of sugarcane in the whole Circle as compared with last year, which is attributed to the low price of sugar prevailing, owing to the large crop of last year.
Delhi do.	5·70	5·83		845			Karnál	7,385	1·37	1·22	Rice	140	
Hánsi do.	9·00	7·78		870			Delhi	17,137	0·60	0·90	Sugarcane	31,278	
Do. Bulla Head	8·80	7·41		245			Rohtak	16,004	0·45	1·10	Others	7,417	
Passed out of Escapes	...	...	...	250	...		Hissár	8,601	0·50	1·00	... ...	...	
							Jhínd	2,904	0·20	0·80	... ...	...	
							Bíkaner	298	...	...	... ...	...	
							Kalsia State	78	...	...	... ...	...	
Total Western Jumna Canal	...	...	2,546	2,696	...	321,614	... ...	52,714	...	...	... ...	52,714	
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	2,546	2,612	...	109,024	... ...	68,131	...	...	... ...	68,131	
Inundation Canals. Upper Sutlej Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lahore	600	...	...	Detail not obtainable for want of establishment.	...	On the Inundation Canal there is a decrease of 100.816 acres as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year, which is wholly due to the low state of the rivers during the month.
Lower Sutlej and Chenab Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	Montgomery	1,600	...	...		...	
Indus Canals	...	...	...	...	...	...	Mooltan	34,565	0·4	1 5		...	
Muzaffargarh Canals	...	...	...	...	...	...	Dera Gházi Khan	4,143	0·54	...	... ...	...	
							Muzaffargarh	52,344	...	...	... ...	...	
Total Inundation Canals	...	...	...	...	...	...	... ...	93,252	...	...	... ...	93,252	
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	... ...	194,068	...	...	... ...	194,068	
Perennial Canals, Grand Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	... ...	103,580	...	...	... ...	103,580	
Do. corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	... ...	119,816	...	...	... ...	119,816	

J. E. CATTON,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., Punjab, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House, Simla, on Wednesday, the 25th July, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.
Major the Hon'ble E. Baring, R.A., C.S.I., C.I.E.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble D. G. Barkley.

BOMBAY PORT-DUES BILL.

Major the Hon'ble E. BARING moved that the Bill to give power to reduce port-dues in the Port of Bombay be taken into consideration.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

Major the Hon'ble E. BARING also moved that for the enacting clause of the Bill the following be substituted, namely:—

"In the Indian Ports Act, 1875, first schedule, for the first entry in the third column in respect of the Port of Bombay, the following shall be substituted, namely:—

'Not exceeding four annas per ton for each class of vessels as the Trustees incorporated under the Bombay Port Trust Act, 1879, may, from time to time, direct.'"

He said that the Motion was a purely formal one. The Bill in its new form would have the same effect as the Bill as it was originally introduced, that is to say, it would allow the Bombay Port Commissioners to levy duty at less than two annas per ton, which they could not do under the existing law. The change of form was suggested by the Solicitor of the Bombay Government and approved by that Government. The present proposal was intended to give effect to their proposals.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

Major the Hon'ble E. BARING also moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

BURMA LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Bill to amend the law relating to Local Self-government in British Burma be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Sir Steuart Bayley, the Hon'ble Messrs. Hope, Quinton and Barkley, and the Mover.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 8th August, 1883.

SIMLA;
The 27th July, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

EXECUTION OF DEEDS, CONTRACTS, &c., ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

No. 1082.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Judicial), —dated Simla, the 26th July 1883.

A letter from the Government of the Punjab, No. 172, dated the 16th June 1883, to the address of the Government of India in the Revenue and Agricultural Department.

RESOLUTION.

In exercise of the power conferred by the thirty-third and thirty-fourth of Vic., Cap. fifty-nine, Section two, the Governor General in Council is pleased to declare that the undermentioned class of deeds, contracts, and other instruments referred to in the twenty-second and twenty-third of Vic., Cap. forty-one, Section two, may, in the territories under the administration of the Government of the Punjab, be executed as follows:—

By Deputy Commissioners { Agreements for the recovery of advances under Act X of 1879 (The Northern India Tuccavi Act) [illegible] with interest on the same.

Nos. 1083-84.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Resolution be communicated to the Government of the Punjab and to the Revenue and Agricultural Department, and that it be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

A. MACKENZIE,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 24th JULY 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Although a general break in the rains seems now to have set in, yet during the early part of the week to which the reports relate good rain fell throughout India, except in some districts of the Punjab. In Bombay the fall was heavy along the Western Ghats, but some deficiency is reported in parts of the Southern Mahratta Country. In Baroda and Surat the excessive rainfall of previous weeks has been succeeded by light showers. A break would be beneficial in parts of Central India. In Rajputana the rainfall has been light, but favourable; and the tanks have generally a sufficiency of water, except in Marwar where they are empty.

In Burma the rainfall though below average has been generally sufficient. Good rain has fallen all over Bengal; at Burdwan the fall was exceptionally heavy, [illegible] some parts of that district and in Rajshahye, Rungpur, and Purneah more is needed for transplanting of rice. Rain continues to hold off in Gauhati; elsewhere in Assam the fall has been sufficient. Seasonable weather prevails over the Central Provinces, and prospects there are very favourable. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh ample rain fell in all reporting districts up to the 21st instant, and the crops are reported to be doing well. In the Punjab the fall has been very partial, and more rain is much wanted in several districts.

Harvesting continues in the Madras Presidency, and standing crops are generally in good condition, except in patts of Coimbatore and Tanjore where they are suffering from want of rain. Sowings for the *kharif* have nearly been completed in the Bombay Presidency, Central India, and the Central Provinces, and are in full progress in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Punjab. The cotton crop is being weeded in the Central Provinces and Berar and promises well. Transplanting is being pushed on in Bengal and Assam. In the former province harvesting of early rice continues, and indigo manufacture has been commenced. Planting is nearly finished in Burma, and rice seedlings are being transplanted.

The crops in the Deccan are seriously threatened by locusts. Cattle-disease is reported from most districts.

Cholera appears to be prevalent in Bombay, the Central Provinces, and parts of Bengal; and a severe epidemic is said to exist in the city of Agar in Central India.

Prices are fluctuating.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(July 25th)		
Bellary	[illegible] (average of six stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, yield average.
Kurnool	[illegible] (average of eight stations).	Standing crops good; small-pox in one and cattle-disease in six talukas.
Ganjam ...	[illegible] (average of sixteen stations).	Standing crops red gram, gingelly, and sugarcane thriving; cholera slight at Chicacole; cattle-disease slight at Berhampur.
Kistna ...	1·25 (average of twelve stations).	Standing crops promising; fever, guinea-worm, small-pox, and cattle-disease slight.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	1·66 (average of ten stations).	Standing crops good where water available; harvest *kar*, paddy, &c., yield half; small-pox and cattle-disease slight in two taluks; cholera in one village, 1 death.
Coimbatore ...	·13 (average of six stations).	Condition of wet crops good; dry crops in parts of three taluks suffering for want of rain, and in parts of two taluks attacked by insects; harvest *cholum* and *cumboo* in parts, yield average; *cheena* in one taluk; 5 deaths from fever in parts of two taluks.
Tanjore ...	·43 (average of six stations).	Standing crops generally good, except in parts of one taluk not flourishing for want of sufficient rain; 37 deaths from cholera; cattle-disease in parts of [illegible]s.
Madura ...	·58 (average of four stations).	Standing crops [illegible]; harvest paddy and dry crops in parts.
Malabar ...	5·67 (average of fourteen stations).	First crop progressing in all taluks; small-pox slight in all taluks; fever and cattle-disease in parts, latter slight; cholera in Palghat, 6 deaths.
Travancore ...	·555	Paddy in good condition; fever prevails. *General Remarks.*—General prospects fair.
Bombay—(July 25th)		
Kurrachee ...	·30; average of ten other stations, 2·39.	Small-pox in eight villages in districts, 12 fresh cases, 3 deaths, 10 remaining sick; river at Kotri on 23rd 18 feet 2 inches, against 17 feet 11 inches on same date last year; fever in five talukas; *kharif* sowings progressing; wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 26, 32 and 36, in Manjhand 32, 24 and 48, in Sakro 16, 28 and 38, and in Mirpur Botoro 22, 30 and 34 lbs. per rupee respectively.
Hyderabad ...	Rain in ten talukas—average fall 2·33.	River 3 inches more than on same date last year; small-pox in seven and cattle-disease in two talukas; prices of food-grains steady since last week.
Ahmedabad ...	·58	Total rainfall 14·77; sowing progressing; wheat 26½ and *bajri* 30 lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	·56	Total rainfall 32·16; sowing of *kharif* in progress; transplantation of rice in Kadi division commenced; health good; *bajri* 27 and rice 24 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Surat ...	·84	Total rainfall 37·36; sowing operations continue; cattle-disease in Olpad; cholera in Bardoli and Bulsar; *juari* 38 and *nagli* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	At Igatpuri, 12·30; at Peint, 7·79; slight in other places.	Cholera in all talukas except Malegaon, Baglan, and Peint, deaths 99; *kharif* sowings progressing vigorously; wheat 25, *bajri* 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee; young locusts appearing in several talukas, old ones still in a few.
Colaba (Bombay)	Light rain daily; total of week 1·42.	Total rainfall to date 53·39, being 12·53 above average; abnormal temperature 2° warm; vapour in air slightly in excess of normal; abnormal wind northerly from 20th to 23rd, wind normal on all other days.
Poona	Rain in four talukas—maximum 5·0 in Mawal, minimum ·57 in Khed.	Cholera cases 510, fatal 205; *bajri* 37 and *juari* 46 lbs. per rupee, in Poona *bajri* 32 and *juari* 41 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar	Slight rain in all talukas, except Shrigonda, Karjat, and Rahuri.	Cholera cases 1,355, 663 deaths; cattle-disease in Karjat and Parner; *juari*—maximum 66 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 45 lbs. in Kopargaon; *bajri*—maximum 54 lbs per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 33 lbs. in Kopargaon.
[illegible]pur	·41	Total rainfall 13·71; *kharif* sowings nearly completed; *juari* 62 and *bajri* 52 lbs. per rupee; cholera cases 745, deaths 352.
Dharwar	2·59 in Hangal; 1·94 in Hubli; slight elsewhere.	Crops good; sowings retarded in Kalghatgi and Hangal by excessive moisture and in Navalgand and Ron by want of rain; public health good; 1 case of cholera in Ron; slight cattle-disease in Kalghatgi; *juari* 74 lbs. per rupee in Ranibennur and Kod, 48 to 63 lbs. per rupee elsewhere; rice 32 and wheat 43 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara	In Karwar, 12·80; in Kumpta, 20·20; in Sirsa, 10·06; in Hallial, 4·0.	Total rainfall 95·68; weeding continues, also transplanting in some places; sugarcane and garden crops healthy; small-pox in Karwar, Kumpta, Bhatkal, and Sidapur; fever in some places; cattle-disease in Sidapur; common rice in Karwar 12¼ seers per rupee, in district average 13⅛ seers.
Rajkot ...	·25	Total rainfall 21·25; weather cool; general health fair; sowing operations continue; cholera in some villages of Halar; *bajri* 29 and *juari* 35 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Rain throughout the Presidency and Sind, wanted in parts of the Southern Mahratta Country; sowing and transplanting of rice still in general progress; locusts in Nasik, Khandesh, Tanna, Colaba, and Ratnagiri; cholera in all districts of the Deccan, in Tanna, Colaba, Surat, and Kaladgi; small-pox, fever, and cattle-disease in a few districts.
Bengal—(July 25th)		
Chittagong ...	13·28	Weather seasonable; prospects of crops fair; *amun* doing well; prices stationary; cattle-disease still reported; general health good.
Dacca ...	[illegible]	Paddy being sown; *aus* paddy being harvested; *amun* paddy, sugarcane and other crops thriving well; jute damaged by worms in Nawabgunge.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	4·76	Prospects good; early crops promise well; *amun* being transplanted; public health generally good; rivers rising.
Moorshedabad ...	5·9	Transplanting operations being pushed on vigorously owing to recent rain; *aus* also much benefited by it; health on the whole good; cattle-disease has broken out in thana Shamshergunge.
Rajshahye ...	2·58, good rain during week.	Paddy being transplanted; more rain necessary for transplanting; some fever reported.
Burdwan ...	14·40; Culna 9·32, Cutwa 5·3.	Transplanting in progress; prospects favourable except in Cutwa, where more rain wanted; public health fair.
Rungpore ...	1·27	Weather hot; *aus* rice and jute being harvested; prospects of *amun* rice and sugarcane good; more rain wanted; cholera still somewhat prevalent in some parts of district.
Bhagalpur ...	2·68, fair rainfall	Everywhere prospects of crops good.
Purneah ...	3·65	More rain required for transplanting winter rice; health fair; slight fever; rivers rising again.
Patna ...	4·55	Ploughing and sowing going on rapidly; prospects of crops good.
Durbhunga ...	3·9	Transplanting progressing well; prices stationary; health good.
Hazaribagh ...	5·50; ample rain during week.	Weather cloudy and seasonable; prospects of crops good; public health good.
Cuttack ...	3·27	*Sarad* rice progressing well; *beali* rice being weeded; public health good; a few cases of cholera in the town.
		General Remarks.—Rain in varying quantities fell throughout these provinces during the week; it has generally been pretty good for agricultural purposes, though certain districts still complain of its insufficiency; state of the early crops has been improved, and transplanting of late rice is now being carried on with vigour; harvesting of early rice and jute is going on in parts of Central and Eastern Bengal, and indigo manufacture has commenced in Behar; in Orissa re-sowing is being made on the flooded tracts from which the waters have now receded; cholera is still prevalent in Gya, and is epidemic in one thana of Lohardugga, otherwise the public health is reported to be fair.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (July 24th)	11·7; Chandausi, 10·5; Gangapur, 7·7.	The late rains have done immense good to the *kharif* crops; no sickness of men or cattle; prices steady.
Allahabad („ 25th)	Abundant and constant rain in all tahsils, except Bara; general average, 5·6; Bara, 1·4.	[illegible]*rif* sowings nearly completed and crops doing well; cholera diminished in district, but has appeared in city in mild form; prices generally fallen.
Gorakhpur („ 23rd)	Rain general, 3·9 since the 17th instant.	*Kharif* sowings in progress; some cattle-disease; prices rising.
Jhansi („ „)	·7; Mau, ·5; Moth, 2·0; Garotha, ·2.	Sowing in progress; health good; people [illegible] field work.
Agra („ 24th)	From 2·9 to 8·1 in all parganas.	*Kharif* sowings continue; fever in two parganas; sporadic cholera in one pargana; prices steady.
Bareilly („ „)	Ample and general rain.	Sowings everywhere progressing; slight fall in the price of barley and wheat, *juari* and *arhar* risen; health remains satisfactory.
Meerut („ „)	3·0; Shardana, 3·4; Bagpat, 5·4; Mowana, 3·2; Ghaziabad, 2·2; Hapur, 3·1.	Weather seasonable; *kharif* crops sown; health good; prices stationary.
Kumaun („ „)	Rain not heavy, but sufficient and general.	Crops very good; general health good; cattle-disease continues; prices stationary.
Lucknow („ „)	10·8; Maliabad, 5·1; Mohanlalganj, 8·0.	Prices steady; prospects favourable; public health good.
Partabgarh („ „)	Sadr, 4·0; Kunda, 5·5; Patti, 4·3.	*Kharif* sowings [illegible] general health [illegible] Prices stationary.
Sitapur („ „)	General rain throughout district; average, 8·0.	Weeding going on; public health good; cattle-disease in part of district.
Fyzabad („ „)	Sadr, 5·5; Akbarpur, 8·1; Bikapur, 4·7; Tanda, 5·4.	Weather cloudy; agricultural operations in progress; prices stationary.
Rae Bareli („ 23rd)	Good rain all over the district; Sadr, 4·1 and ·09.	Cholera decreasing; *kharif* sowings in progress all over the district; prices almost stationary.
Cawnpore („ 24th)	Average in nine parganas, 5·4.	The sowing of the early *kharif* crops nearly completed, and the land is in good condition for sowings of [illegible] and *bajri*.
[illegible] („ „)	Abundant and well distributed rain fell throughout the week.	*General Remarks.*—Rain has fallen in all reporting districts during the [illegible] much good; the *kharif* sowings are progressing [illegible] nearly completed in a number of districts; the general [illegible] is good and cholera seems to be abating; prices are fluctuating.
Punjab—(July 24th)		
Delhi ...	1·60	Health good; *kharif* ploughings in progress; slight rise in prices.
Hissar ...	.....	Health good; *kharif* sowings in progress; crop prospects good; prices falling.
Umballa ...	3·70	More rain wanted [illegible] rain; *kharif* sowings in progress; prices stationary.
Jullundur ...	·50	More rain much wanted; health fair; crops backward; prices stationary.
Amritsar ...	4·90	Health good; prices steady.
Sialkot ...	1·0	More rain wanted; *kharif* sowings in progress; health good; slight fall in prices.
Ferozepore ...	3·60 at tahsil Zira, less elsewhere.	Health good; *kharif* ploughings and sowings in progress; prices rising.
Lahore ...	No rain	Rain wanted; health good; prices stationary.
Rawalpindi ...	1·0	A few cases of fever in Kahuta tahsil; *kharif* sowings completed; prices rising.
Mooltan ...	.....	Health good; crop prospects favourable; prices slightly falling.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	·1	Health good; *kharif* sowings commenced; prices steady.
Peshawar ...	1·90	Health good; prices stationary.
		General Remarks.—Rain has fallen in nearly every district, but more is needed; health good, except in the Umballa, Jullundur, and Rawalpindi districts; *kharif* sowings in progress.
Central Provinces—(July 25th)		
Nagpur ...	1·73	Weather cloudy, with light showers; sowings almost completed; cholera prevalent throughout the district, 776 cases, 360 deaths; cattle-disease prevalent; prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...	4·77	Weather cloudy and rainy; *kharif* sowings continue; weeding of cotton commenced; prospects favourable; prices stationary.
[illegible] ...	3·42	Rainfall deficient; sowings almost finished; weeding in progress; prospects good; prices steady; health good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces— *contd.*		
Sambalpur (July 21st)	10·91	Weather wet but seasonable; prospects good; health good; common rice 45 seers per rupee.
Seoni („ 24th)	Heavy rain since 23rd after break of one week.	Transplanting of rice commenced; 10 deaths from cholera; prices stationary.
Hoshangabad ...	3·21	Weather cloudy and rainy; weeding in progress; 7 deaths from small-pox; wheat 15 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	·30	Prospects good; 62 deaths from cholera in Burhanpur; wheat 15, *juari* 20, and rice 15 seers per rupee.
Raipur ...	2·91	Prospects good; 4 deaths from cholera at Nandgaon. *General Remarks.*—Weather cloudy, with light rain; prospects of crops very favourable; prices steady; severe cholera in some places.
British Burma— (July 26th)		
Akyab ...	20·46	Total rainfall up to date 95·00; 6 deaths from cholera in town and three in district, otherwise public health good; 147 deaths of cattle in three townships, in others health of plough cattle good; ploughing nearly completed; sowing commenced.
Rangoon ...	3·23	Total rainfall up to date 36·23; public health good; price of paddy from Rs. 88 to Rs. 89 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	6·85	Total rainfall up to date 45·81; 2 deaths from cholera in Bassein township, otherwise public health good; 44 deaths of cattle in two townships; ploughing progressing; transplanting begun in parts of the district.
Prome ...	3·68	Total rainfall up to date 26·49; public health good; 14 deaths of plough cattle in Shwaydoung; about 32,500 acres already ploughed; more rain wanted in a few circles in the Shwaylay and Shwaydoung townships.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	10·76	Total rainfall up to date 81·38; 2 deaths from cholera in one township, otherwise public health in Moulmein and district good; 938 deaths of cattle in five townships; about 90 per cent. fields ploughed; health of plough cattle generally good; sowing progressing; about 30 per cent. fields sown; crop prospects favourable; nurseries, health, ploughing, and sowing somewhat disturbed on account of high water; health of cattle good; [illegible] crabs; transplanting progressing; stock of supply of seedlings for transplanting fair.
Toungoo ...	6·78	Total rainfall up to date 35·50; public health good; health of plough cattle good; ploughing progressing rapidly; price of paddy Rs. 64 per 100 baskets.
Kyoukpyoo (July 26th)	12·26	Total rainfall up to date 78·32; public health and health of cattle good; half the district ploughed; a fourth of the district sown; cost of ploughing per acre, inclusive of hire of cattle and wages of labour, Rs. 6.
Sandoway („ „)		Total rainfall up to date 95·11; public health good; ploughing and sowing progressing; about 4,218 acres ploughed; reports of area sown out in nurseries not received; ploughing wages Rs. 4-8 in northern township.
Hanthawaddy („ „)	.....	Public health and health of cattle good; ploughing progressing; price of paddy varying from Rs. 80, 85 and 95 per 100 baskets.
Pegu („ „)		Total rainfall up to date 54·41; public health good; slight cattle-disease in Pounglin township; ploughing and sowing progressing; price of paddy from Rs. 75 to Rs. 80 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy („ „)	6·60	Total rainfall up to date 48·02; public health good; 38 deaths of cattle in two townships; health of plough cattle in all other townships good; ploughing and sowing progressing; ploughing wages from 30 to 70 baskets per man; price of paddy from Rs. 90 to Rs. 95 per 100 baskets.
Thonegwa („ „)	5·58	Total rainfall up to date 38·53; public health good; 1 death of cattle in Daybayeh township, otherwise health of plough cattle good; ploughing continues; some damage caused by crabs to nurseries in two townships.
Henzada („ „)	6·69	Total rainfall up to date 39·13; public health good; 7 deaths of cattle in Zaloon township; ploughing progressing, about one-half ploughed, one-seventh transplanted; general appearance of young plants good.
Thayetmyo („ „)	1·33	Total rainfall up to date 19·50; public health good; ploughing continues; transplanting going on.
Shwaygyin („ „)	11·82	Total rainfall up to date 66·75; public health good; 55 deaths of cattle in Zokeehake circle; ploughing progressing rapidly; area ploughed five-eighths of whole; sowing commenced generally; price of paddy Rs. 75 per 100 baskets. *General Remarks.*—Rainfall steady, but up to date less than recorded at same time last year; public health good; cattle-disease mild, and not on increase except in Amherst, where mortality is heavy; ploughing nearly completed; sowings well in hand and transplanting commenced; prices keeping steady.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Assam—(July 25th)		
Gauhati ...	·74	Weather hot and sultry; public health fair; cattle-disease in the interior; *aku* paddy being reaped; rain much wanted for transplanting of *sali* paddy.
Sylhet ...	5·02	State and prospects of crops favourable; public health good; small-pox in part of the district.
Cachar ...	4·19	Weather very warm; transplanting *aus* crops nearly finished and that of *sali* crops progressing; common rice 16 seers per rupee; small-pox still reported; general health good.
Dibrugarh ...	4·93	Weather seasonable; transplanting of *sali* crop progressing; public health good.
Mysore and Coorg— (July 25th)		
Bangalore ...	2·5	Standing crops in good condition; prospects favourable; public health good.
Mysore ...	1·0	Standing crops in good condition; prospects and health good.
Mercara ...	Heavy rain, 14·80	The Cauvery river in full flood; *ragi* crop in Nanjarajapatna taluk thriving; transplantation of rice commenced; second blossom of coffee failed; labour still scarce; work on coffee estates backward; price of food-grains stationary; public health good, save in Nanjarajapatna taluk where small-pox prevails. *General Remarks.*—Rain more or less in all districts; standing crops in good condition; prospects favourable; public health generally good; no material change in prices.
Berar & Hyderabad— (July 25th)		
Amraoti ...	·29	*Kharif* crops thriving; prospects good; wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	2·44	Cotton being weeded, other crops progressing favourably.
Hyderabad ...	Average of week ·80	Total rainfall from 1st January 12·24; *kharif* crops prospering; *abi* sowings in some places commenced, in others ground being prepared; tanks have not yet received sufficient water; cholera prevails in two talukas—Asfnagar and Shahabad; no cattle-disease; prices of wheat 15, coarse rice 10¾, white *juari* 22½, yellow *juari* 28¼, and *tur* 24¼ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (July 25th)		
Indore ...	·99	A break in the rains is desirable; a few cases of cholera, otherwise health good.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	2·98	Health good; weather cloudy and cool.
Sutna ...	4·46; rain general	Health good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Sehore ...	2·18	Weather cloudy, with [illegible] showers; crops and public health good.
Neemuch ...	·43	*Makka* and *juari* [illegible] in progress; weather seasonable; public health good.
Goona ...	·62	Weather cloudy; *kharif* sowings completed; health good; wheat 24 seers per rupee.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	.....	A severe epidemic of cholera in the Agar city.
Nowgong ...	3·71	Weather seasonable; *kharif* prospects good; cholera prevalent in parts; prices steady.
Bhopawar ...	.....	Prospects good; a break [illegible] required.
Rajputana—		
Abu (July 25th)	3·64	Total rainfall to date [illegible]; heavy clouds and high winds.
Sirohi („ 22nd)	1·78; satisfactorily light showers, but of frequent occurrence.	Tanks and wells full; health and crop prospects good; weather pleasant.
Marwar („ 20th)	·98	Tanks all empty, water obtained from wells with difficulty; health and crops good; weather still close and sultry; prices stationary.
Meywar („ 22nd)	·76	Tanks, wells, and health good; crop prospects very good; weather seasonable.
Harowti („ 21st)	Dimoli, 2·47; Tonk, 2·11; Kotah, ·98; previous week Kotah, 1·87; Shahpura, 1·58.	Few cases of sporadic cholera; sowings nearly completed; prospects favourable; health good; prices falling.
Jhallawar („ 20th)	1·35	*Makka* crops doing well; health fair.
Ajmere („ 24th)	·15	Crops looking well; a few cases of cholera and slight cattle-disease.
Jeypore („ „)	·70	Cholera abating; prices almost stationary.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwar (July 24th)	Average, 2·64	Tanks and wells filling; 34 deaths from cholera in Ramgurh tahsil, in other tahsils cholera decreasing; *kharif* sowings continue.
Nepal—(July 20th)		
Katmandu ...	1·57	Agricultural prospects good; weather seasonable.

T. W. HOLDERNESS,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* GAZETTE OF INDIA *will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.*

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENTS OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 1st HALF OF MAY 1883 AND 2nd HALF OF JUNE 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1176, 1177, 1360, 1361, 1364, 1365, 1366, 1367, 1368 AND 1369 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 9th JUNE AND 28th JULY 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice. Best sort.			Rice. Common.			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.			Average wages per month. Able-bodied Agricultural Labourer.	Syce or Horse-keeper.	Common Mason, Carpenter, or Blacksmith.
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.			
	1st half of May 1883.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.
Central Provinces.	Nágpur	18 8	18 8	17 4	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	8 8	16 0	18 4	16 0	28 12	29 12	24 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 12	23 12	23 8	150 0	150 0	150 0	0 12	8 12	8 11	4 12	4 12	4 11	0	...	...	...
	Bhandára	21 4	22 8	22 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 4	24	20 0	21 4	58 12	35 0	24 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 8	26 4	31 4	...	...	...	11 8	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 8	10 8		...	...	...
	Chánda	21 0	20 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	12 8	31 0	31 0	32 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	27 8	360 0	360 0	360 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 8	11 0		...	...	...
	Wardha	19 0	19 0	21 8	...	...	...	12 0	10 0	8 12	14 0	14 0	12 12	26 0	30 0	34 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	22 0	22 12	150 0	155 0	135 0	13 0	13 0	10 12	12 0	12 8	10 8		...	...	...
	Bálaghát	20 0	22 0	25 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	17 8	26 0	27 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	35 0	275 0	275 0	275 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 8	10 8	10 0		...	...	...
	Jubbulpore	20 0	20 8	19 0	25 0	26 0	26 0	12 0	13 0	11 8	17 0	18 0	18 0	29 0	27 0	23 0	20 0	21 0	18 0	...	...	...	27 0	28 0	30 0	140 0	140 0	120 0	11 12	11 8	11 4	11 4	11 0	11 0		...	...	...
	Saugor	25 0	25 0	22 8	30 0	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	...	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 0	30 0	29 0	180 0	180 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	9 0	10 12	10 8	8 12		...	...	...
	Damoh	30 0	29 0	26 8	30 0	30 0	...	14 8	14 8	12 12	15 8	15 8	13 12	...	48 0	...	...	...	...	...	48 0	41	41 0	41 0	39 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	10 8	10 8	9 0	10 0	10 0	8 12		...	...	...
	Seoni	22 8	23 0	24 0	...	...	...	12 8	12 8	13 8	17 0	18 0	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	30 0	220 0	220 0	220 0	11 4	11 4	9 0	11 0	11 0	8 8		...	...	...
	Mandla	26 0	28 0	28 8	...	...	...	15 8	16 0	16 0	18 5	19 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	32 0	43 12	45 0	50 0	256 0	256 0	256 0	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	8 0		...	...	...
	Betúl	17 0	17 0	18 8	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	9 0	12 0	11 0	10 0	20 0	19 0	24 0	...	...	...	13 8	18 8	18 8	17 0	17 0	20 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	11 8	11 0	9 8	11 0	10 8	9 0		...	...	...
	Chhindwára	23 0	21 0	22 0	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	9 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	30 0	30 0	28 0	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	20 0	30 0	29 0	27 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	8 8	8 0		...	...	...
	Hoshangabad	14 15	15 2	15 8	...	...	...	4 0	4 8	4 8	10 2	10 11	11 4	...	21 0	27 0	...	19 4	22 10	...	...	...	23 14	23 14	23 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	7 14	10 12	10 12	7 0		...	...	...
	Narsinghpur	19 8	19 8	19 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 8	10 0	12 8	12 0	13 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	26 0	31 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	9 0	10 8	10 8	8 8		...	...	...
	Nimár	16 0	16 10	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	11 8	19 10	22 4	29 7	19 10	22 4	25 5	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	22 6	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 0	13 0	13 8	12 12	12 12	13 0		...	...	...
	Raipur	23 0	22 0	31 8	...	...	...	22 0	20 0	21 8	26 0	32 0	38 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	32 0	32 0	60 0	70 0	70 0	11 8	11 8	9 0	11 0	11 0	8 12		...	...	...
	Sambalpur	22 0	22 0	28 0	...	...	...	38 0	38 0	36 0	52 8	52 8	52 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	20 0	28 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	11 0	11 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	8 8		...	...	...
	Bilaspur	36 0	36 0	54 0	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	36 0	49 0	50 0	63 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	125 0	36 0	42 0	48 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0		...	...	...
	2nd half of June 1883.																																				
Madras.	Godavery (*revised.*)	10 13	10 13	12 10	...	...	...	11 14	10 14	13 14	14 0	14 0	17 0	23 0	23 0	27 13	...	...	...	29 2	29 2	28 3	31 8	31 8	25 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	14 10	13 8	14 10	14 10	13 8	14 10		...	...	...
Punjab.	Delhi	18 12	19 12	18 8	29 0	29 0	24 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	15 0	26 0	27 0	24 0	19 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	25 0	24 8	22 12	80 0	80 0	100 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 0	12 0	11 8	5 0	0	6 0	0	11 4	0
	Gurgaon	20 0	21 0	19 4	27 0	31 0	24 0	...	...	...	10 0	13 0	13 0	24 0	26 0	22 0	22 0	23 0	20 0	...	...	...	25 0	26 4	20 0	120 0	140 0	140 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	5 10	0	5 0	0	9 6	0
	Karnal	20 0	21 0	18 8	33 0	34 0	29 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	13 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	22 0	22 0	16 0	...	...	...	28 0	29 8	23 8	140 0	140 0	160 0	11 4	11 8	11 14	11 0	11 0	11 8	4 11	0	4 8	0	10 4	0
	Hissar	20 0	20 0	17 0	30 0	34 0	30 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	30 0	34 0	30 0	25 0	27 0	26 0	...	...	...	30 0	32 0	28 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	12 8	12 8	10 8	12 0	12 0	10 0	5 12	0	5 0	0	10 0	0
	Rohtak *a*	20 0	21 0	17 8	27 0	30 0	25 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	26 0	27 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	21 0	...	...	...	26 0	27 0	24 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 12	11 3	11 0	12 4	10 10	5 0	0	5 0	0	9 0	0
	Sirsa *b*	23 0	24 8	22 0	40 0	45 8	38 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	13 0	38 0	44 0	38 0	30 0	33 0	30 8	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	23 0	90 0	90 0	90 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 8	14 8	14 8	6 12	0	6 12	0	16 8	0
	Umballa	24 0	24 8	21 4	34 0	38 0	30 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	24 0	28 0	28 0	...	...	...	32 0	30 8	26 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	14 10	14 12	15 0	14 0	14 8	14 4	6 0	0	5 0	0	12 0	0
	Ludhiana	26 0	26 0	23 0	41 0	41 0	32 0	...	...	...	12 0	11 8	12 0	41 0	41 0	37 0	25 0	25 0	30 0	...	...	...	35 0	37 0	28 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 0	14 14	14 14	14 8	14 8	14 8	5 0	0	5 0	0	10 0	0
	Simla *c*	17 0	...	14 8	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 4	21 8	16 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	19 0	11 0	10 1	9 6	10 7	9 4	8 0	0	6 0	0	12 0	0
	Jullundur *d*	25 0	25 0	24 8	40 0	40 0	36 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	42 0	44 0	32 0	28 0	28 0	22 0	...	...	...	35 0	35 0	28 0	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 4	13 8	13 8	13 8	6 0	0	5 0	0	10 0	0
	Hoshiárpur	25 6	25 8	25 0	40 0	40 0	35 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	23 0	23 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	4 0	0	6 0	0	15 0	0
	Kangra	28 6	28 0	24 0	36 0	36 0	40 0	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	12 0	40 0	39 0	25 8	25 8	25 8	23 8	...	...	...	33 4	39 4	32 4	80 0	80 0	80 0	14 14	15 6	14 13	14 6	14 14	14 7	6 0	0	6 0	0	13 5	0
	Amritsar *e*	25 8	25 0	24 8	38 0	39 0	37 4	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0	37 0	36 8	27 0	35 0	37 0	24 0	...	...	...	34 0	34 0	27 8	130 0	130 0	140 0	15 4	16 0	15 4	14 12	15 8	15 0	5 8	0	5 8	0	11 0	0
	Sialkot	26 8	26 8	26 0	40 0	40 0	41 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0	36 0	36 0	27 0	35 0	35 0	20 0	...	...	...	36 0	36 0	32 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 8	13 8	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	4 0	0	5 0	0	10 0	0
	Gurdáspur	30 0	30 0	30 0	38 0	38 0	40 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	35 0	35 0	28 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	38 0	38 0	30 0	90 0	90 0	80 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	5 0	0	6 0	0	15 0	0
	Lahore	22 8	23 0	23 0	39 0	38 0	35 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	10 0	40 0	40 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	22 0	...	...	...	38 0	38 0	28 0	95 0	95 0	95 0	14 12	15 0	15 4	14 8	14 12	15 0	3 0	0	5 0	0	9 6	0
	Firozepore	22 0	23 0	23 0	50 0	50 0	35 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 0	45 0	45 0	32 0	36 0	36 0	35 0	...	...	...	42 0	42 0	32 8	90 0	90 0	65 0	13 12	13 12	13 0	13 8	13 8	13 0	5 2	0	5 8	0	12 0	0
	Gujránwala	24 4	24 0	24 4	42 0	45 0	40 0	...	...	...	14 8	14 12	7 12	32 0	32 0	21 0	42 0	45 0	23 0	...	...	...	34 8	35 8	22 14	120 0	100 0	90 0	15 6	15 4	15 0	15 4	15 0	14 12	8 0	0	8 0	0	11 6	0
	Ráwalpindi	28 8	28 0	21 4	40 0	40 0	31 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 0	32 0	32 0	23 0	37 0	37 0	20 0	...	...	...	34 0	32 0	23 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	16 8	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	6 0	0	7 0	0	15 0	0
	Jhelum	27 0	25 0	23 0	37 0	37 0	30 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 0	32 0	32 0	23 0	37 0	37 0	20 0	...	...	...	36 12	35 8	26 2	100 0	100 0	100 0	*	*	*	16 0	16 0	15 0	4 0	0	5 0	0	10 0	0
	Gujrát *g*	29 0	28 8	27 5	42 0	42 8	39 8	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	12 0	50 0	50 0	21 0	50 0	50 0	28 0	...	...	...	56 0	49 0	24 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	4 8	0	5 8	0	13 8	0
	Shahpúr	32 0	32 0	20 0	55 0	53 0	31 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	13 0	44 0	44 0	19 0	48 0	48 0	19 0	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	23 0	90 0	90 0	90 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 8	14 8	14 8	6 12	0	6 12	0	16 8	0
	Moultan *h*	16 12	16 12	16 8	37 0	29 0	24 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	30 0	30 0	25 0	27 0	27 0	24 0	...	...	...	32 0	30 8	26 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	14 10	14 12	15 0	14 0	14 8	14 4	6 0	0	5 0	0	12 0	0
	Jhang *i*	22 8	23 0	21 0	32 0	34 0	31 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	12 0	30 0	35 0	14 0	33 0	32 0	18 0	...	...	...	33 0	24 0	26 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	13 0	13 0	11 8	12 0	12 0	10 8	6 0	0	6 0	0	12 8	0
	Montgomery	19 0	20 0	19 8	32 0	32 0	27 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 8	30 0	30 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	26 0	19 0	100 0	100 0	80 0	*	*	*	14 0	14 0	13 0	7 8	0	7 8	0	16 14	0
	Muzaffargarh	20 0	20 0	18 8	29 0	29 0	27 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 0	25 0	25 0	18 0	25 0	25 0	18 0	...	...	...	33 9	33 2	24 0	125 0	125 0	100 0	50 0	50 0	55 0	47 0	48 0	53 0	5 10	0	6 0	0	15 0	0
	D. I. Khan	23 12	23 4	17 15	38 0	26 12	26 7	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	8 12	8 2	31 6	42 8	27 8	38 12	37 14	23 12	...	...	25 10	25 0	20 10	100 0	100 0	100 0	28 14	26 4	28 12	27 8	25 0	26 4	5 0	0	6 0	0	15 0	0
	D. G. Khan *j*	18 12	18 12	18 2	33 12	35 0	25 10	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	7 8	40 0	40 0	22 8	40 0	40 0	20 0	...	...	...	40 0	38 12	25 10	80 0	80 0	80 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	100 0	100 0	80 0	5 10	0	6 0	0	17 0	0
	Bannu	35 0	36 4	27 8	47 8	51 4	40 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	52 8	52 8	28 12	42 8	42 8	22 8	...	...	...	30 4	30 4	18 0	96 0	86 0	91 0	54 10	54 10	55 4	52 0	52 0	53 0	7 0	0	7 0	0	26 4	0
	Peshawar	25 10	24 10	18 4	42 0	41 8	36 2	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	9 8	39 0	38 0	27 12	31 8	33 0	12 10	...	...	...	29 5	28 11	17 14	102 0	114 12	76 8	91 12	91 12	109 0	61 0	61 0	95 0	9 0	0	8 0	0	22 8	0
	Kohát *k*	23 9	22 10	15 5	45 4	44 10	31 14	...	...	...	15 5	15 5	12 2	40 13	42 0	22 14	40 13	40 13	20 6	...	...	...	28 0	...	19 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	...	...	13 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	6 0	0	6 0	0	15 0	0
	Hazára	27 0	...	19 8	41 0	...	32 0	...	...	...	16 0	18 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	32 0	...	16 0	...	...																	
British Burma.	**Arakan Division.**																																				
	Sandoway	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 2	...	27 7	19 2	...	33 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	469 11	...	469 11	...	...	...	39 0	28 6	...	12 0	0	10 0	0	15 0	0
	Pegu Division.																																				
	Rangoon Town	11 2	11 2	16 4	...	...	...	11 0	12 0	13 13	11 8	12 8	15 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 7	20 4	19 7	320 0	320 0	324 0	50 11	50 11	50 11	22 10	22 10	22 10	15 0	0	12 to 15	0	30 0	0
	Tharrawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 2¾	7 2¾	4 4¼	7 14¼	7 14¼	7 14¼	17 2¾	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 13¾	17 13¾	16 5½	535 11¾	535 11¾	540 11¾	...	...	...	15 10¾	32 7¾	32 7¾	27 7¾	30 0	0	12 0	0	30 0	0
	Prome	12 2	12 2	28 3	...	...	...	12 3	12 3	12 14	7 14	7 17	12 14	7 17	2 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 9	12 7	17 12	139 11	139 11	139 11	25 5	25 5	29 9	16 9	16 9	18 10	17 8	0	13 8	0	45 0	0

* No wholesale salt sold.

(*a*) Wheat, barley, jowár, gram, and salt have risen.

(*b*) Salt (retail) fallen. Wheat, barley, bájra, jowár and gram risen. The great rise in barley and jowár is due to the grains being largely purchased and stored in granaries.

(*c*) Prices generally fallen.

(*d*) Jowár rising.

(*e*) Wheat and jowár falling; gram and salt rising.

(*f*) Rice, bájra, and gram rising; wheat, salt, and wood falling.

(*g*) A slight fall in wheat and gram. Barley rising.

(*h*) Barley rising.

(*i*) Wheat, barley, jowár, and salt rising; bájra and gram falling.

(*j*) Barley. jowár, bájra rising; gram and salt falling.

(*k*) The prices of rabi crops are falling, and those of jowárand firewood have risen slightly.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENTS OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 1st HALF OF MAY 1883 AND 2nd HALF OF JUNE 1883, PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1176, 1177, 1360, 1361, 1364, 1365, 1366, 1367, 1368 AND 1369 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 9th JUNE AND 28th JULY 1883—*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Best sort. Present fortnight.	Rice. Best sort. Past fortnight.	Rice. Best sort. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Common. Present fortnight.	Rice. Common. Past fortnight.	Rice. Common. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verragoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verragoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verragoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Average wages per month. Able-bodied Agricultural Labourer.	Average wages per month. Syce or Horse-keeper.	Average wages per month. Common Mason, Carpenter, or Blacksmith.
		S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*
	2nd half of June 1883.																																				
British Burma—*contd.*	Irrawaddy Division.																																				
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 15	11 15	14 15	15 10	15 10	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	183 8	183 8	183 8	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	19 8	29 9	15 0	0 12	0 0	22 0	0 0
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 14	11 11	19 12	13 9	13 13	22 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 9	11 9	14 0	237 0	237 0	172 11	26 0	26 0	25 6	19 8	35 7	29 5	14 0	0 13	0 0	45 0	0 0
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 6	9 6	11 9	12 3	12 3	14 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 6	18 6	16 13	123 0	123 0	184 8	39 6	39 6	39 6	35 7	18 15	35 7	20 0	0 15	0 0	30 0	0 0
	Thayetmyo	10 1	10 1	...	...	...	...	8 10	10 3	..	11 13	12 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 12	15 3	...	245 0	245 0	...	25 5	25 5	28 0	18 15	...	24 5	...	...	...	...
	Tenasserim Division.																																				
	Moulmein	12 2	...	10 0	...	...	...	12 8	...	12 10	13 14	...	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	12 2	...	11 1	220 0	...	220 0	32 5	...	47 7	22 12	16 1	35 8	...*	12 0	0 25	0 0
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	13 12	17 15	17 15	22 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	399 3	399 3	399 3	24 2	24 2	24 2	16 1	14 7	16 1	15 0	0 12	0 0	10 to	30
	Mergui	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 6	16 4	17 5	20 3	21 12	21 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	428 0	428 0	428 0	24 5	24 5	36 8	14 7	18 12	29 3	15 0	0 15	0 0	30 0	0 0
	Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	12 13	18 15	14 3	14 3	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 9	12 9	12 9	240 0	240 0	210 0	25 2	29 6	...	18 12	18 14	...	10 0	0 12	0 0	45 0	0 0
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 13	9 13	12 12	10 6	11 5	15 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	250 0	250 0	250 0	25 4	32 3	32 3	18 14	...	18 14	15 0	0 12	0 0	60 0	0 0
Coorg	Coorg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 8	0 8	0 0	22 8	0
Raj. Pootana.	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	20 0	20 0	21 4	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	17 8	17 8	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 8	30 0	35 0	...	...	...	*R a. p.* per mau nd. 4 0	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 4	4 0 0	4 0 0	9 to	15
Central India.	Indore	14 2	14 12	14 12	24 0	24 0	20 9	7 5	7 5	5 9	2 9	8 9	10 22	13 23	7 19	3 18	4 19	3 15	9 ...	...	...	22 3	23 5	18 15	127 12	127 12	109 8	...	...	...	S. C. 11 5	S. C. 11 6	S. C. 11 5	4 11	0 5	0 10	0 0
	Gwalior	16 3	16 11	14 12	24 0	24 0	20 9	7 5	7 5	5 9	2 9	8 9	10 22	13 23	7 19	3 18	4 19	3 15	9 ...	...	...	22 3	23 5	18 15	127 12	127 12	109 8	...	...	...	11 5	11 6	11 5	4 11	0 5	0 10	0 0
	Goona	24 8	24 8	20 0	20 0	20 0	17 0	10 8	10 0	9 8	11 0	10 8	10 0	32 0	32 0	24 0	20 0	20 0	17 0	...	...	...	31 8	31 8	24 0	320 0	320 0	200 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	11 0	5 0	0 5	0 0	15 0	0 0
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	24 2	23 6	21 0	42 8	42 13	33 6	7 4	8 0	8 0	18 0	17 10	19 1	34 2	34 5	35 0	32 0	31 0	24 0	...	...	...	35 12	35 9	29 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 7	11 9	12 1	10 9	10 . 8	11 5	3 8	0 4	8 0	12 5	0

* R100 for a season.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS IN BENGAL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1883-84.

Areas leased for Irrigation up to the end of May 1883.

Circle.	District.	Canal.	Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilized.	Approximate area of land under irrigation during month.	Approximate area of land under irrigation last year at same time.	Details of areas leased. Five years. All crops.	Five years. Khurreef.	Annual leases. Khurreef.	Rubbee.	Sugarcane.	Bhadoi.	Hot weather.	Total.	Grand Total.	Rainfall, 1883-84. During month.	Rainfall, 1883-84. Up to end of month.	Rainfall, 1882-83. During month.	Rainfall, 1882-83. Up to end of month.	Remarks.
			C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	
Orissa	Cuttack	Kendrapara	1,389	...	...	...	...	...	440	...	48	..	...	20	68	508	[redacted]				
		Gobri	372·82	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
		Pattamoondee	1,042	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	4	6	6					
		High Level, Section I	675	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67	...	...	1	68	68					
		Taldunda, 1st Reach	1,300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	...	...	...	23	23	4·69	4·72	9·18	10·87	Canals were laid dry for clearance during the month. Five years' khurreef leases for 440 acres were completed during the month.
		Ditto, 2nd do.	650	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
		Matchgong	660	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
	Balasore	High Level, Section II	727·16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	129	...	...	129	129					
		Ditto do. III	727·16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
		Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	440	...	140	129	...	25	294	734	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	123,833	...	111	8	...	...	119	123,942	...	...	...	...	
South-Western.	Midnapore	Midnapore	1,411	37	...	...	...	...	53,855	...	...	...	...	...	...	53,855	1·21	4·62	7·27	9·95	
	Howrah	Panchkoorah	533	10	...	...	...	...	9,801	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,801	4·21	6·21	8·68	10·19	
	Total		...	...	...	...	...	...	63,656	...	...	...	...	...	...	63,656	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	103,862	...	...	...	...	...	...	103,862	...	...	...	...	
Bihar.	Shahabad	Western Main	4,343	773	...	598	189	3,752	...	...	...	381*	...	...	381	4,133	...	...	0·40	0·40	* The sugarcane areas returned last month were incorrect.
		Buxar	1,226	43	...	...	...	12,313	...	...	...	1,932*	...	...	1,932	14,245	...	...	1·57	1·62	
		Arrah	1,660	527	499	10,557	4,469	51,852	...	...	...	1,464	154	6,108	7,726	59,578	...	...	1·96	1·96	
	Patna and Gya	Eastern Main	1,496	...	...	... 67	73	214	...	...	...	... 8	...	... 67	... 75	214	...	0·18			
		Patna					2,571	10,916	...	...	...		...			10,993					
	Total		...	...	...	11,323	7,301	79,049	...	...	...	3,785	154	6,175	10,114	89,163	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	45,748	...	...	3,425	12,409	...	...	15,834	61,582	...	...	...	...	
	Grand Total		...	...	...	11,323	7,301	79,049	64,606	...	140	3,914	154	6,200	10,408	153,553	...	...	...	...	
	Grand total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	45,748	227,695	...	3,536	12,417	...	...	15,953	289,386	...	...	...	...	

The 26th July 1883.

C. W. ODLING,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
P. W. Department.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARATIVE RETURN OF TRAFFIC CARRIED ON THE UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS FOR THE HALF-YEARS ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER 1882 AND 1881.

	Demands.		Collections during current half-year.	Balance uncollected.	Corresponding period of previous year.		Nature of cargo.	Current half-year.			Corresponding period of previous year.			Tonnage.			Ton mileage.		Value of goods.		Number of Passengers.	
	Balance from previous half-year.	For current half-year.			Demands.	Collections.		Up.	Down.	Total.	Up.	Down.	Total.	1882.		1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.
														Upper Ganges Canal (Local).	Lower Ganges Canal (Local).	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through)	Upper Ganges Canal (Local).	Lower Ganges Canal (Local).	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through).	Upper Ganges Canal (Local).	Lower Ganges Canal (Local).	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals. (through).	Upper Ganges Canal (Local).	Lower Ganges Canal (Local).	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through).	Upper Ganges Canal (Local).	Lower Ganges Canal (Local).	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through).	Upper Ganges Canal (Local).	Lower Ganges Canal (Local).	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through).	Upper Ganges Canal (Local).	Lower Ganges Canal (Local).	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through).
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
Tollage.	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.																							
Private boats	781	6,400	7,095	87	6,892	6,859	Grain	35,286	78,308	113,594	24,538	29,053	53,591																					
Government boats.	...	588	588	...	415	415	Cotton	249	9,665	9,914	10	4,245	4,255																					
Rafts	...	2,261	2,261	...	1,932	1,932	Oilseeds	17,308	53,454	70,762	314	28,642	28,956																					
Carrying operations.							Salt	2,627	88,314	90,941	1,729	75,117	76,846																					
							Metals	11,947	5,353	17,300	21,631	3,103	24,734																					
							Miscellaneous goods	47,687	29,449	77,136	49,451	59,483	108,934																					
Boating	...	234	234	...	557	557	Building materials.	151,407	113,620	265,027	130,725	169,810	300,535	21,349	11,480	7,909	20,667	6,356	7,033	1,024,310	969,296	1,914,450	926,235	405,229	1,780,634	₹ 3,98,966	₹ 7,97,232	₹ 7,83,309	₹ 3,25,407	₹ 3,29,765	₹ 661,063	858	16	69	629	Nil	41
Fines and sundries.	...	134	134	...	48	48	Firewood	28,147	86,654	114,801	9,936	62,182	72,082																					
Ground-rent	...	193	193	...	185	185	Bamboos	51	248,520	248,571	278	141,170	142,144																					
							Timber	2,447	94,909	97,356	3,665	100,232	103,897																					
Total	781	9,810	10,505	87	10,029	9,996	Miscellaneous timber.	1,095	2,558	3,653	2,994	782	3,776																					
Upper Ganges Canal.	404	6,146	6,505	45	6,208	6,191																												
Lower ditto	377	3,664	4,000	42	3,821	3,805																												
Total	781	9,810	10,505	87	10,029	9,996	Total	298,251	810,804	1,109,055	245,932	673,819	919,750																					

Allahabad,
The 23rd May 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N. W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., I. B.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARATIVE RETURN OF TRAFFIC CARRIED ON THE AGRA CANAL FOR THE HALF-YEARS ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1882 AND 1881.

	Demands.		Collected during current half-year.	Balance uncollected.	Same period of previous year.		Nature of cargo.	Current half-year.			Corresponding period of previous year.			Tonnage		Ton mileage.		Value of goods.		Number of Passengers.	
	Balance from previous half-year.	For current half-year.			Demands.	Collections.		Up.	Down.	Total.	Up.	Down.	Total.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Tons.	Tons.	Miles.	Miles.	₹	₹	No.	No.
Tollage.																					
Private boats	...	643	643	...	725	725															
Government boats	...	364	364	...	343	343	Grains	1,100	14,950	16,050	100	38,640	38,740								
Rafts	...	...	...	...	1,086	1,086	Cotton	...	1,185	1,185	...	950	950								
							Oil-seeds	...	...	...	...	2,024	2,024								
Carrying operations.							Salt	...	...	...	100	...	100								
							Metals	...	...	...	...	...	...								
							Miscellaneous goods	1,395	7,775	9,170	4,189	3,375	7,564	2,686	3,900	286,379	533,700	1,02,429	1,73,572	Nil.	Nil.
							Building materials	39,227	4,695	43,922	50,315	300	50,615								
							Firewood	...	755	755	...	775	775								
Boating (Government)	...	408	408	...	1,296	1,296	Bamboos	...	235	235	...	...	...								
Fines	...	...	...	...	...	...	Timber	...	1,790	1,790	...	1,750	1,750								
Ground-rent	...	...	..	...	...	...	Miscellaneous materials	...	...	...	300	33,594	33,894								
Total	...	1,415	1,415	...	3,450	3,450	Total	41,722	31,385	73,107	55,004	81,408	136,412	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Allahabad,
The 23rd May 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N. W. P., P. W. D., I, B.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 31st JULY 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The rainfall of the past week has been deficient over the southern districts of the Madras Presidency. In Bombay rain is urgently wanted in parts of the Southern Mahratta Country; elsewhere the fall has been light, but sufficient for present wants. The Indus river has again fallen below its normal level in Sind, and a scarcity of water is felt in consequence. Throughout Rajputana and Central India the weather is generally favourable, but more rain is much needed in Marwar where the tanks continue empty. In Hyderabad also the tanks are not yet quite full, but the *kharif* crops are doing well. In British Burma the rainfall up to date in the Arakan and Tenasserim divisions is below that of the previous year, but so far appears to have been sufficient. In the Irrawaddy delta it exceeds the average. In parts of Assam and in two divisions of Bengal a deficiency in the rainfall is retarding the rice crop, but prospects are on the whole satisfactory. Except in Jubbulpore and Sambalpur, light rains have been generally prevalent in the Central Provinces during the week under report, and the weather continues cloudy and seasonable. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh hot westerly winds are reported from Meerut, and rain is urgently wanted in that district and in Saharanpore. In most other districts rain averaging from one to two inches fell during the week. The Punjab has been practically rainless, and rain is urgently required.

The standing crops in Madras and Mysore, except in two districts where the rainfall has been deficient, promise well, and are being harvested in some places. Rice is still being transplanted in Bombay. Some damage has resulted from excessive wet in Dharwar, and locusts are becoming more numerous in the Deccan. *Kharif* sowings have for the most part been completed in Hyderabad, Central India, Rajputana, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Central Provinces, and the young crops which are generally in good condition are being weeded. In the Punjab ploughing and sowing are still going on.

Transplanting of rice is being pushed forward in Assam and Bengal wherever the weather is favourable; and harvesting of early rice and jute has commenced. Ploughing is nearly finished in Burma, and transplanting and sowing are in progress.

Cattle-disease and cholera are generally more prevalent.

Prices continue to fluctuate, and are rising in parts of the North-Western Provinces and Punjab.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Aug. 1st)		
Bellary ...	·97 (average of five stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, yield average.
Kurnool ...	1·69 (average of nine stations).	Standing crops thriving; cattle-disease in six taluks.
Ganjam ...	2·8 (average of nineteen stations).	Standing crops red gram, gingelly, and sugarcane thriving; cattle-disease slight.
Kistna ...	1·07 (average of twelve stations).	Standing crops good; small-pox, guinea-worm, and cattle-disease slight.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	·39 (average of five stations).	Standing crops good where water available; harvest *kar*, paddy, &c., yield half; small-pox, measles, and cattle-disease slight in parts.
Coimbatore ...	·8 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops good, except dry crops suffering from want of rain, in parts of three taluks, and from insects in parts of three taluks; harvest *cholum*, *ragi*, and *cumboo* in parts; cholera in four taluks; 18 deaths; fever in two taluks.
Tanjore ...	·21 (average of five stations).	Standing crops generally good, except in parts of two taluks where they are not flourishing for want of sufficient rain; 23 deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	.....	Standing crops fair in four taluks; harvest paddy and dry crops in parts; cholera slight in one village.
Malabar ...	9·93 (average of fourteen stations).	First crop progressing in all taluks; small-pox slight in all taluks; fever and cattle-disease in parts, latter slight; cholera slight in Palghat, 3 deaths.
Travancore ...	7·61	Paddy in good condition; 1 death from small-pox, fever prevails. *General Remarks.*—General prospects fair; rain wanted in southern districts.
Bombay—(Aug. 1st)		
Kurrachee ...	*Nil;* average of five stations 1·0.	Strong monsoon winds; river at Kotri on 30th 17 feet 5 inches, against 18 feet 10 inches last year; small-pox in five villages in districts, 8 fresh cases, no deaths, 4 remain sick; *kharif* transplanting in progress and seed being sown; fever in five talukas; wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 26, 32 and 36, in Kotri 32, 32 and 32, in Ghorabari 20, 32 and 40, and in Jati 20, 32 and 44 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	In Kandiâri 1·10 on 15th.	River fallen, was 1 feet 5 inches lower on 30th July 1883 than on same date last year; small-pox in six and cattle-disease and fever in two talukas; prices of food-grains remain unchanged.
Ahmedabad ...	·14	Total rainfall 14·91; sowings continue; transplantation commenced; wheat 26½ and *bajri* 29½ lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	·06	Total rainfall 32·22; sowing of *kharif* continues; health good; *bajri* 27 and rice 24 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Surat ...	·54	Total rainfall 37·90; sowing operations continue; fever in Jalalpur and Pardi; cholera in Surat, 9 cases, 6 deaths and at Balsar 13 cases, 6 deaths; *juari* 36½ and *nagli* 42¾ lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	Igatpuri, 6·81; Peint, 2·39; slight elsewhere.	Cholera in ten talukas, but abating, deaths 111; *kharif* sowings continue; young locusts in six talukas, old in a few; wheat 27, *bajri* 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Very little rain—total of week ·59.	Total rainfall to date 53·98, being 8·24 above average; abnormal temperature 1° to 2° warm; vapour in air normal; abnormal wind northerly.
Poona ...	Rainfall in six talukas—maximum 6·0 at Mawal; minimum ·11 at Indapur.	Young crops good; cholera cases 734, fatal 196; *bajri* 37 and *juari* 46 lbs. per rupee; in Poona *bajri* 32 and *juari* [illegible] lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	Very slight rain in Sangamner, Akola, and Newasa talukas; *nil* in others.	Sowing of *kharif* completed in Shrigonda, Kopergaon, and Akola; cholera 1,089 attacks, 599 deaths; *juari*—maximum 66 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 45 lbs. in Kopergaon; *bajri*—maximum 54 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 33 lbs. in Kopergaon.
Sholapur ...	·31	Total rainfall 14·02; *kharif* sowings completed; *juari* 64 and *bajri* 53 lbs. per rupee; cholera 723 cases, 300 deaths.
Dharwar ...	Maximum in Hangal, 3·32; minimum in Navalgund, ·09	Rain badly wanted in Navalgund and Gadag talukas, including the two pettas Nargund and Mundargi and in Ron taluka, where sowing is hindered; standing young crops rice, *ragi*, *sawan*, and [illegible] good in other talukas, except in Hangal and Kalghatgi, where they have been slightly injured owing to excessive moisture and where therefore break is desired; *juari* sowing partly finished; slight fever in Mugud and Mundargi; two cholera cases in Ron; *juari* 57 and rice 33 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara ...	Karwar, 5·61; Kumpta, 11·43; Sirsi, 14·70; Hallial, 4·80.	Total rainfall 101·29; transplanting almost completed; weeding continues; rice plants and garden crops healthy; small-pox subsiding, slight fever throughout the district; cattle-disease in Siddapur; common rice in Karwar 12½ seers per rupee, in district average 13½ seers per rupee.
Rajkot ...	*Nil*	Weather cool and cloudy; general health fair; sowing operations completed; cholera in some villages of Halar; *bajri* 29 and *juari* 36 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain in all districts, except Sind owing to the river being low; want of water is generally felt in Sind; rain urgently wanted in parts of the Southern Mahratta Country; sowing and transplanting of rice still in progress; locusts in Nasik, Khandesh, Tanna, Colaba, Satara, and Ratnagiri; cholera in all districts of the Deccan and Konkan; small-pox, fever, and cattle-disease in a few districts.
Bengal—(Aug. 1st)		
Chittagong ...	4·84	Weather rainy and hot; prospects of crops fair; transplanting of *amun* commenced; prices steady; cholera and cattle-disease not yet ceased.
Dacca ...	3·50	Paddy being sown; *aus* paddy and jute being harvested; prospects good.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	5·17	Prospect of *aus* and *amun* crops satisfactory; transplanting of *amun* going on briskly; public health good; rivers rising.
Moorshedabad ...	1·70	Rain has done good to standing crops; transplanting of *amun* continues: public health generally good.
Rajshahye ...	·83	Moderate rain in north of district; crops doing well, but more rain will be required soon.
Burdwan ...	1·68	Rainfall generally sufficient; transplanting in progress; prospects fair; fever has begun to show itself.
Rungpore ...	1·03	Weather hot; more rain generally wanted for transplanting of *amun* rice; *aus* rice and jute still being cut; cholera reported from Kaligunge.
Bhagalpur ...	2·86	Prospects of crops good.
Purneah ...	1·06	Prospects of crops fair, but more rain now wanted; farming operations normal; health fair; rivers rising.
Patna ...	1·83	Prospects of crops good; transplanting of rice seedlings commenced; public health good.
Durbhunga ...	1·78	Prospects good; transplanting going on well; prices rising slightly; health good.
Hazaribagh ...	2·43	Weather cloudy and showery; transplanting operations commenced; prospects generally good; health good.
Cuttack ...	1·58	*Sarad* rice being transplanted; state of crops reported favourably; price of rice stationary; public health good.
		General Remarks.—The rainfall of the week has been generally moderate; in Calcutta and its neighbourhood there has been heavy rain for the last two days; want of more rain is still complained of in parts of Rajshahye and Bhagalpur Divisions and in Singbhoom, elsewhere cultivation of *amun* rice is proceeding well; prospects of all early crops and of sugarcane are generally reported to be favourable; harvesting of *aus* rice and jute is proceeding in some districts; in Gya cholera is still very prevalent, and in Lohardugga it is spreading, it also still lingers in some other districts; fever is said to be making its appearance in a few districts.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (July 31st)	2·1; Chandausi, 1·5; Gangapur, 3·0. Average 1·4	All *kharif* sowings, except of *aghani* rice, completed; no sickness of men or cattle; prices steady.
Allahabad (Aug. 1st)		Weather still cloudy; more rain wanted in Bara; *kharif* crops generally doing well; cholera much diminished; prices slightly fallen.
Gorakhpur (July 30th)	Fair rain	Cloudy sky; *kharif* sowings completed; a little cholera and some cattle-disease.
Jhansi („ „)	No rain for the last five days.	Weather cloudy; weeding of cotton and *juari* commenced; sowing of *til* in progress; transplanting of rice postponed for want of sufficient rain; prices fluctuating; health good.
Agra („ 31st)	1 to 3 in four parganas. Sufficient rain.	*Kharif* sowings continue; fever and small-pox in one pargana; sporadic cholera in two parganas; prices steady.
Bareilly („ „)		Sowings continue; prices nearly stationary; cattle-disease has appeared in north and south-east of districts; health of people continues good.
Meerut („ „)	Hapur, ·9; Mowana, 1·4; slight drizzle at Sardhana.	Westerly winds hot and dry; rain much wanted; irrigation from canals and wells being resorted to; *kharif* all sown and *rabi* ploughing commenced; health good; prices show a tendency to rise.
Kumaon („ „)	Less rain than last week.	Crops fair; general health good, except fever in one or two places; cattle-disease continues; prices unchanged.
Lucknow („ „)	Tahsil Lucknow, 4·8; Maliabad, 2·1; Mohanlalganj, 2·5.	*Kharif* sown; prospects very favourable; condition of the people and cattle good; prices of food-grains steady.
Partabgarh („ „)	Sadr, 2·0; Kunda, 4·8; Patti, ·7. Average 2·9	Prices stationary; *jarhan* being planted; outcrops doing well; general health good.
Sitapur („ „)		*Kharif* prospects good; health good.
[illegible]bad („ „)	Sadr, 1·7; Akbarpur, 1·8; Bikapur, [illegible] Tanda, 2·1.	Prospects of crops good; public health good.
[illegible]li („ 30th)	General rain throughout the district. Sadr, 2·6.	*Kharif* sowings in progress; health of men and condition of cattle good; prices steady.
Cawnpore („ 31st)	Average in nine parganas 2·4.	General health and prospects good; prices almost stationary.
Farukhabad („ „)	.....	Weather warm; sky slightly overcast; a good break in the rains has done much good; health good.
		General Remarks.—In most districts there has been a fair fall of rain during the week, and the prospects are generally good. In Meerut, however, the transplanting of rice has been postponed for want of rain, and in Meerut and Saharunpore more rain is urgently wanted; general health is good, and cholera seems to be disappearing; prices are rising in Meerut and Saharunpore, but are as a rule stationary.
Punjab—(July 31st)		
Delhi ...	No rain	Rain wanted; health good; *kharif* ploughings continue; slight rise in prices.
Hissar ...	No rain	Health good; *kharif* sowings continue; prices rising.
Umballa ...	·40	More rain wanted; health fair; *kharif* sowings in progress; prices rising.
Jullundur ...	No rain	Rain much wanted; health fair; crops backward; prices rising.
Amritsar ...	No rain	Health good; rise in prices.
Sialkot ...	No rain	Rain much wanted; health good; prices rising.
Ferozepore ...	No rain	Health good; *kharif* ploughings and sowings in progress; prices rising.
Lahore ...	Slight rain	More rain much wanted; health good; crop prospects unchanged; prices rising.
Rawalpindi ...	·5	Health good; *kharif* prospects favourable; fall in prices.
Mooltan ...	No rain	Health and crop prospects good; prices steady.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	No rain	Health good; *kharif* sowings in progress; prices stationary.
Peshawar ...	No rain	Health good; prices stationary.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain in a few districts, but much more wanted throughout the province; health good, except in the Umballa and Julludur districts; *kharif* sowings in progress; prices of food-grains have risen in many districts.
Central Provinces—(Aug. 1st)		
Nagpur ...	1·21	Weather cloudy; prospects good; 780 cases of cholera, 319 deaths in the district; prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...	5·62	Weather cloudy and rainy; sowings approaching completion; weeding continues; cotton and other crops thriving; cholera in places; wheat 21 and rice 14 seers per rupee.
[illegible] (July 31st)	1·4	Rain deficient; weeding of cotton and other crops in progress; prospects favourable; prices steady; health good.
[illegible] ...	·59	Weather cloudy; 10 deaths from cholera; wheat 22½ and rice 16½ seers per rupee.
[illegible]abad ...	.....	Weather cloudy and hot; weeding continues; small-pox 35 cases, 1 death; wheat 15 and rice 9 seers per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces— *contd.*		
Khandwa ...	·26	Weather cloudy; prospects good; cholera prevalent in Burhanpur, 257 cases, 96 deaths; wheat 16½, *juari* 18¼, and rice [illegible] seers per rupee.
Raipur ...	2·27	Prospects favourable; price [illegible] falling, of wheat rising.
Sambalpur (July 28th)	5·2	Weather stormy and rainy; prospects good; fever increasing; common rice 45 seers per [illegible]
		General Remarks.—[illegible] showers; prospects favourable; prices steady; cholera is still severe in some places.
British Burma— (Aug. 1st)		
Akyab ...	11·84	Total rainfall up to date 106·84; 4 deaths from cholera in town, 8 in district, 63 deaths of cattle in the townships; in other townships health of plough cattle good; ploughing nearly completed; sowings partly commenced.
Rangoon ...	8·32	Total rainfall up to date 44·55; public health good; price of paddy from Rs. 85 to Rs. 101 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	9·27	Total rainfall up to date 55·98; 2 deaths from small-pox in Bassein township, otherwise public health good; 82 deaths of cattle in five townships; ploughing much advanced; transplanting progressing.
Prome ...	·86	Total rainfall up to date 27·35; 5 deaths from small-pox in Thayetlay, otherwise public health and health of cattle good; [illegible] acres have been ploughed; seedlings in excellent condition.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	11·67	Total rainfall up to date 93·05; public health in Moulmein district good; 200 deaths of cattle in two townships; about [illegible] per cent. of fields ploughed; health of plough cattle generally good; [illegible] progressing; about 60 per cent. of fields sown broadcast; prospects of crops favourable; transplanting not begun; nurseries healthy. In Moulmein town high water prevents much progress in ploughing, sowing, and transplanting; 2 deaths of cattle reported; nurseries good; state of supply of seedlings for transplanting fair.
Toungoo ...	6·12	Total rainfall up to date 41·62; public health good; 2 deaths of cattle in Myoma township; ploughing progressing; health of plough cattle good.
Tharrawaddy ...	15·90	Total rainfall up to date 58·92; public health good; 25 deaths of cattle in Kama township, in all other township health of plough cattle good; ploughing and sowing progressing; price of paddy from Rs. 88 to Rs. 102 per 100 baskets.
Henzada ...	7·72	Total rainfall up to date 46·85; public health good; 11 deaths of cattle in Zalloon township; ploughing and transplanting progressing; supply of seedlings and general appearance of young plants good.
Thayetmyo ...	·60	Total rainfall up to date 20·10; public health good; 20 deaths of cattle in Rama township; ploughing continues, transplanting going on.
Shwaygyin ...	15·08	Total rainfall up to date [illegible]·83; public health good; 122 deaths of cattle in four circles of the Beelin township; ploughing progressing, except in some [illegible] which have been flooded; sowing and transplanting progressing; price of paddy [illegible] 90.
Kyoukpyoo ...	15·07	Total rainfall up to date 93·39; public health good; 242 deaths of cattle in four circles of the Myaybon township; cattle-disease has abated in all but the Daingbone Circle, where the greatest number of deaths occurred; two-thirds of the district ploughed, and about half sown; prices of paddy from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 per 100 baskets; rise in price expected.
[illegible]doway ...	29·42	Total rainfall up to date 1[illegible]·83; public health good; ploughing progressing; ploughing wages from Rs. 4-8 to Rs. 6 per acre.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health and health of cattle good, [illegible] slight foot-and-mouth disease among the cattle in the Twante township; ploughing and sowing progressing; ploughing wages [illegible] to 70 baskets of paddy per man; price of paddy from [illegible] to Rs. 105 per 100 baskets.
Pegu ...	16·76	Total rainfall up to date 71·17; public health and health of cattle fair: sowings well forward; price of paddy from Rs. 85 to Rs. 90 per 100 baskets.
[illegible] ...	18·[illegible]	Total rainfall up to date 110·[illegible]; public health and health of cattle [illegible] ploughing progressing; [illegible] appearance of plants good.
Mergui (14th July)	12·80	Total rainfall up to date 69·29; public health and health of cattle [illegible] ploughing and sowing progressing; price of paddy Rs. 75 per 100 baskets.
Mergui (21st „)	6·45	Total rainfall up to date 75·74; public health and health of cattle good; ploughing and sowing progressing; price of paddy Rs. 75 per 100 baskets.
		General Remarks.—Rainfall in the Irrawaddy delta in excess of last year up to date; in Arakan and Tenasserim rather below last year up to date; public health good; cattle-disease somewhat abated and nowhere severe; ploughing nearly completed; sowings and transplanting well forward; appearance of young crops favourable; price of paddy fairly steady.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Assam— (Aug. 1st)		
Gauhati ...	2·46 for week ending 31st ultimo.	Weather hot and sultry; public health fairly good; cattle-disease still in the interior; *ahu* paddy being reaped; transplanting of *sali* paddy retarded for want of rain.
Sylhet ...	3·62	State and prospects of crops continue good; some damage done by insects in the Sunamganj sub-division; small-pox still prevalent in Karimganj.
Cachar ...	1·62	Weather very hot; transplanting of *aus* crops not altogether finished, and that of *sali* crops continue; 2 deaths from cholera, 2 deaths from small-pox reported from Matigora, 1 from Lakhipur, and 1 from Sadr.
Dibrugarh ...	[illegible]	Weather seasonable; transplanting of *sali* crop vigorously pushing on; public health good.
Mysore and Coorg— (Aug. 1st)		
Bangalore ...	·65	Standing crops in good condition; prospects favourable; public health good.
Mysore ...	·53	Standing crops in good condition; prospects and health good.
Mercara ...	11·74	Crops getting on well; prices of food-grains stationary; public health good, though fever is slightly prevalent.
		General Remarks.—Light rain in Kolar district and a good fall in the other districts; standing crops in good condition; prospects favourable; public health generally good; average ruling prices—rice 13, *ragi* 32, and horse-gram 33 seers per rupee.
[illegible] Hyderabad— (Aug. 1st)		
[illegible]oti ...	[illegible]	Crops in good condition; prospects good; wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
[illegible]la ...	[illegible]	Crops thriving; prospects good.
Hyderabad ...	Average 1·[illegible]	Total rainfall from 1st July 13·40; *kharif* crops prospering and being weeded; water-supply in tanks not yet sufficient for *ahi* crops; cholera prevails in two talukas in a mild form; no cattle-disease; prices of wheat 15, coarse rice 19½, white *juari* 22½, yellow *juari* 28½, and *tur* 22 seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (Aug. 1st)		
Indore ...	·03	Weather seasonable; a few cases of cholera in the Indore city and Residency limits; agricultural prospects favourable.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	·38	Health good; crops flourishing.
Sutna ...	6·10	Prospects favourable; health good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	[illegible]	*Makka* crops in progress; general health good.
Goona ...	[illegible]	Health and crops good; wheat 24 seers per rupee.
Bhopal ...	[illegible]	No report received.
Agar ...	[illegible]	Seventy-six cases of cholera at Agar, of which 42 proved fatal; agricultural prospects good.
Sehore ...	[illegible]·10	Crops and public health good.
Nowgong ...	2·92	*Kharif* prospects good; cholera prevalent in parts; prices [illegible]
Bhojawar ...	·90	Weather seasonable.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Aug. 1st)	[illegible]1; rain slight	Weather cloudy and windy.
Sirohi (July 29th)	No rain	Tanks and wells full; health and crop prospects good; [illegible] able.
Marwar [illegible]7th)	No rain	Rain much needed; tanks all empty; water obtained from wells with difficulty; health good; crop prospects much improved by last rain; winds sharp; prices stationary.
Meywar („ 29th)	No rain	More rain wanted; tanks, wells [illegible] prospects good; health good.
Harowti („ 28th)	Deoli, [illegible]·25; Tonk, ·16; Shahpura, ·12; [illegible]dah, ·49.	Cholera continues, but confined to [illegible]. 18 deaths during progressing favourably; [illegible] closed, 14 cases, [illegible] choleraic diarrhœa [illegible], elsewhere healthy.
Jhalawar („ 27th)	[illegible]infall partial; Patan 2·89; Chaonda ·89.	Health good; prospects fair.
Ajmere ([illegible]st)	No rain	[illegible] weather; high winds; health fairly good.
Jeypore („ „)	·12	Sowings completed; cholera abating; prices falling.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Dholpur (July 31st)	Average 1·06	Cholera decreasing.
Nepal—(July 27th)		
Kathmandu ...	4·40	Agricultural prospects good; weather seasonable.

T. W. HOLDERNESS,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Indi[illegible]

SUPPLEMENT TO

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OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF JULY 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt.						DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
																											Wholesale.			Retail.							
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.		
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
MADRAS.	Ganjam	10 5	11 13	5 14	...	...	...	17 13	17 13	17 13	22 13	22 13	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 3	35 3	35 3	33 5	40 0	26 10	215 13	215 13	215 13	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	13 13	Ganjam	MADRAS.
	Vizagapatam	10 0	14 0	8 0	...	...	...	10 2	9 8	9 0	11 5	11 5	11 5	21 10	25 14	17 5	20 13	21 13	18 13	20 3	21 3	24 3	29 3	32 13	22 3	87 8	87 8	93 5	14 10	14 10	15 3	14 0	14 5	14 10	Vizagapatam	
	Godavery	9 14	10 13	12 10	...	...	...	12 14	11 14	13 14	14 0	14 0	17 0	23 0	23 0	27 13	...	...	...	29 2	29 2	33 10	32 8	31 8	25 6	194 6	194 6	194 6	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	Godavery	
	Kistna	8 13	8 13	14 11	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 3	14 11	14 11	17 2	18 11	20 5	23 6	...	...	...	25 0	26 8	33 13	26 3	26 13	21 6	145 13	145 13	145 13	15 11	15 11	16 0	15 3	15 3	15 11	Kistna	
	Nellore	9 14	9 0	13 3	...	...	...	12 14	13 6	15 13	...	...	17 8	21 2	20 10	33 10	18 5	18 11	...	25 8	23 11	36 6	23 2	23 2	27 5	93 5	93 5	186 10	14 13	15 13	14 13	14 13	15 13	14 13	Nellore	
	Cuddapah	11 13	12 8	12 8	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	11 14	13 5	13 5	13 11	29 3	28 6	26 0	29 0	30 6	31 14	30 0	30 0	31 8	35 5	34 6	29 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	17 2	17 2	16 10	16 10	16 10	16 3	Cuddapah	
	Anantapur	13 6	13 6	14 6	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	13 14	12 5	12 5	15 2	30 14	30 14	30 14	30 2	30 2	28 13	31 0	31 0	33 0	38 2	38 2	33 10	...	...	...	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	Anantapur	
	Bellary	16 5	16 5	15 0	...	...	...	12 5	12 5	12 5	13 8	13 8	13 8	41 3	36 0	33 0	30 2	29 2	32 13	36 14	33 0	31 0	34 11	33 10	28 0	94 13	94 13	97 3	15 13	15 13	15 13	15 8	15 8	15 8	Bellary	
	Kurnool	12 11	12 6	13 6	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 10	11 6	11 6	11 6	33 10	32 14	29 6	31 3	30 0	22 8	...	...	29 10	26 10	26 3	24 6	176 14	186 10	190 8	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 0	14 0	14 0	Kurnool	
	Madras	11 10	11 5	9 13	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 5	15 2	15 2	15 2	22 5	21 10	23 0	23 13	25 2	25 0	24 11	26 0	28 0	25 5	26 8	24 10	85 0	86 5	81 6	16 14	16 14	16 14	16 8	16 8	16 3	Madras	
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 14	13 14	15 0	15 2	15 8	15 14	...	...	...	24 2	21 2	...	24 11	24 11	27 6	25 0	25 0	23 6	92 5	92 5	92 5	17 5	17 13	17 5	17 0	17 0	17 0	Chingleput	
	North Arcot	10 3	9 11	11 6	...	...	...	13 2	14 6	14 0	14 8	16 14	17 5	27 5	29 2	32 3	29 3	26 6	28 14	32 0	30 13	33 5	28 10	30 14	26 10	140 0	140 0	140 0	15 6	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 5	North Arcot	
	South Arcot	10 14	10 14	10 2	...	...	...	15 11	16 8	15 11	16 10	17 2	16 10	...	...	...	25 6	26 3	26 14	26 8	27 0	28 6	29 11	29 11	29 11	201 11	201 11	201 11	18 6	18 6	19 5	18 0	18 0	18 14	South Arcot	
	Tanjore	11 6	11 6	11 0	...	...	...	17 13	17 13	17 13	...	...	...	31 13	31 13	36 10	30 6	32 10	...	36 3	36 3*	39 5	28 0	28 0	29 11	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 10	14 11	15 10	15 3	14 11	15 3	Tanjore	
	Trichinopoly	9 10	10 10	9 10	...	...	...	15 2	15 13	15 13	16 0	16 5	16 0	...	...	...	30 13	26 11	26 11	32 11	32 11	32 11	30 13	30 13	33 14	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 13	17 13	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	Trichinopoly	
	Madura	11 0	12 2	11 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 14	16 8	16 8	38 14	40 8	34 0	30 14	35 5	32 5	41 13	41 13	32 8	37 6	37 6	34 11	170 2	155 8	170 2	17 5	17 5	16 6	16 13	16 13	16 0	Madura	
	Tinnevelly	9 10	9 14	9 3	...	...	...	15 14	15 2	15 8	16 6	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 14	39 10	29 11	70 0	70 0	81 10	18 11	18 11	18 11	18 5	18 5	16 5	Tinnevelly	
	Coimbatore	13 14	14 13	11 8	...	...	...	13 14	14 6	13 8	15 6	15 6	14 8	27 0	26 2	27 13	27 0	23 10	31 13	27 14	29 0	31 5	31 5	31 3	31 3	131 3	131 3	131 3	15 2	15 2	14 2	14 10	14 10	13 10	Coimbatore	
	Nilgiris	10 10	10 16	9 14	...	...	...	11 3	11 3	9 10	12 0	12 0	11 3	21 10	20 0	20 0	21 0	19 10	19 10	21 10	21 10	23 3	23 3	22 6	22 6	161 13	161 13	161 13	13 0	13 0	11 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Nilgiris	
	Salem	13 10	14 6	12 11	...	...	...	13 14	15 0	14 10	15 0	16 0	15 10	32 13	29 2	29 2	26 8	26 8	23 13	30 18	32 8	30 13	35 8	39 6	35 8	151 10	151 10	151 10	16 0	16 0	16 6	15 6	15 6	15 5	Salem	
	South Canara	8 10	8 3	8 10	...	...	...	10 3	9 11	9 11	11 13	11 13	13 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 10	17 10	19 6	21 3	22 3	21 3	111 13	111 13	116 6	14 13	15 6	11 0	13 13	14 11	10 0	South Canara	
	Malabar	8 10	8 10	7 14	...	...	...	14 10	14 10	14 10	15 13	15 13	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 14	21 14	23 6	26 14	26 14	25 3	121 8	121 8	121 8	14 6	14 6	13 8	13 8	13 8	12 10	Malabar	
BOMBAY.	Bombay	10 7	10 11	10 4	22 14	25 8	17 10	7 15	8 3	7 9	12 13	11 4	11 5	18 8	19 4	18 15	14 4	15 5	15 11	12 6	13 4	19 13	15 4	16 0	16 4	59 9	62 6	64 14	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	Bombay	BOMBAY.
	Ahmedabad	12 0	12 0	12 8	19 8	...		7 8	7 8	31 0	12 8	12 0	8 0	17 0	17 8	17 0	15 8	15 0	14 8	...	...	...	14 8	14 8	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	16 8	16 8	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	Ahmedabad	
	Kaira	11 7	11 7	12 5	21 5	21 5	20 0	9 11	9 11	10 0	13 5	16 0	15 4	16 0	16 0	17 12	13 15	14 4	15 4	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	21 5	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	Kaira	
	Surat	11 8	11 1	12 8	12 5	12 5	7 11	7 8	7 8	8 1	8 7	8 7	8 12	19 1	19 1	15 9	14 1	14 1	14 14	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	106 0	106 0	106 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	Surat	
	Broach	12 4½	12 4½	12 5	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 6½	11 7	11 7	12 9	16 0	16 0	15 4	13 14	13 14	13 14	25 11	25 11	25 11	13 4	13 4	14 15	71 1	71 1	71 1	14 5	14 5	14 5	13 4	13 4	12 12	Broach	
	Tanna (Salsette)	9 12	9 12	9 12	...	...	...	8 2	8 2	8 3	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 10	18 1	18 10	15 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	14 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 8	14 8	11 0	Tanna (Salsette)	
	Colába (Alibág)	9 0	9 0	9 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	7 0	12 8	12 8	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 2	15 2	17 1	140 0	140 0	140 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 2	14 14	14 0	Colába (Alibág)	
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	14 0	14 0	14 2	...	...	...	7 10	7 10	7 4	9 15	9 15	10 15	16 0	16 0	23 13	14 4	14 4	18 14½	20 11	20 11	30 0	17 0	17 0	18 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	15 8	15 8	14 8	15 5	15 5	14 4	Khandesh (Dhulia)	
	Násik	14 4	14 4	15 8	...	...	...	7 7	7 7	7 7	13 6	13 6	12 0	22 6	22 6	...	15 5	15 5	15 19	15 6	15 6	15 6	18 6	18 6	19 10	79 12	79 12	91 5	14 1	14 14	14 9	13 13	14 10	14 7	Násik	
	Ahmednagar	14 1	13 6	14 1	...	...	...	9 6	9 6	9 9	13 12	13 12	11 12	22 1	22 0	28 0	17 7	17 6	23 8	...	...	...	16 2	16 2	17 4	68 0	68 0	68 0	13 10	13 10	13 1	13 6	13 6	12 13	Ahmednagar	
	Poona	12 10	12 8	12 10	9 4	9 4	...	9 13	9 13	11 0	11 5	11 5	11 5	28 7	26 12	31 15	22 0	22 0	23 13	15 6	15 6	15 6	20 1	20 1	20 1	61 0	64 0	85 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 4	12 12	Poona	
	Sholápur	14 8	14 8	14 1	...	...	...	10 6	10 6	10 7	11 7	11 7	11 7	18 10	17 0	25 0	16 13	15 14	22 6	...	...	...	18 8	16 8	14 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	10 0	11 0	11 8	9 8	10 8	11 0	Sholápur	
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	19 8	17 8	19 0	15 8	15 8	14 0	6 12	6 12	6 8	10 12	10 12	9 0	27 8	25 8	35 0	25 0	24 0	29 0	...	...	...	16 14	16 14	14 5	116 8	116 8	110 15	12 6	13 2	12 6	11 10	12 6	11 10	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	
	Satara	12 1	11 0	12 1	...	...	...	8 14	8 9	9 11	11 7	10 6	11 7	18 10	17 0	25 0	16 13	15 14	22 0	...	...	...	15 8	15 0	13 8	65 0	65 0	75 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Satara	
	Belgaum	16 8	16 8	19 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	15 11	15 13	27 0	18 0	18 0	24 0	19 0	19 0	35 0	15 8	15 0	13 8	65 0	65 0	80 0	8 12	8 12	8 12	8 0	8 0	8 0	Belgaum	
	Dharwar (Hubli)	23 0	23 0	22 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	12 0	23 0	24 0	25 0	26 0	26 0	23 0	33 0	28 0	28 0	18 0	17 0	11 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 2	14 6	11 13	12 15	14 4	11 10	Dharwar (Hubli)	
	Ratnágiri	8 14	9 14	10 9	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	7 13	13 7	14 2	12 11	...	...	18 3	13 8	13 8	14 1	18 13	18 13	18 13	18 13	18 13	14 0	150 0	150 0	120 0	13 2	14 6	11 13	12 15	14 4	11 10	Ratnágiri	
	Kánara (Karwar)	10 6	11 8	9 0	...	1 6	...	8 0	7 0	8 0	11 10	12 4	11 8	16 8	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	Kánara (Karwar)	
	Páneh Mahals (Godhra)	11 6	11 6	11 6	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	11 6	15 0	15 0	15 0	22 13	22 13	22 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	26 10	26 10	28 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	Páneh Mahals (Godhra)	
	Aden	7 0	9 5	8 0	...	...	...	6 3	6 3	6 3	7 0	7 0	7 0	12 7	12 7	11 3	11 3	11 3	9 5	...	...	...	18 2	18 0	19 13	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 10	11 14	12 1	11 10	11 14	12 1	Aden	
	Asirgarh	13 9	13 9	13 14	...	...	...	12 10	12 8	11 0	14 7	14 4	12 0	18 0	18 0	22 9	17 9	17 14	24 0	18 1	17 8	...	15 3	14 9	17 9	...	...	81 11	14 5	14 6	14 5	14 0	14 0	14 0	Asirgarh	
	Baroda	9 10	9 5	10 9½	14 0	14 0	14 12	8 3	7 14	8 12½	11 11	11 10	11 6	15 3	15 2	16 6	13 6	13 6	14 0	...	...	...	16 8	16 9	18 8	137 8	137 8	137 8	12 8	12 8	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	Baroda	
	Dísa	13 8	13 8	13 4	...	...	...	6 14	6 14	6 6	9 0	9 0	8 11	17 0	17 0	17 8	16 8	16 13	16 0	...	...	...	20 8	20 0	17 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	11 0	Dísa	
	Nimach	17 4	15 4	14 0	21 0	21 0	18 0	9 0	9 0	8 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 8	12 0	20 0	18 8	12 0	16 8	...	...	...	25 15	25 6½	22 3½	80 0	80 0	85 0	16 2	16 2	16 6½	15 8	15 8	16 0	Nimach	
	Nasirabad	16 13	16 12	16 8	23 9½	23 6½	22 3½	6 0	6 0	6 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	22 8	22 8	21 4½	17 8	17 8	16 8	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	70 0	75 0	77 8	60 0	60 0	55 0	50 0	50 0	48 0	Nasirabad	
	Rájkot	13 14	13 12	12 8	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	9 0	9 0	11 0	17 6	17 6	14 6	14 6	14 2	14 0	60 0	60 0	40 0	24 8	24 8	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 12½†	12 12½†	12 5†	12 8†	12 8†	12 4†	Upper Sindh Frontier	
	Upper Sindh Frontier	14 4	14 4	14 4	24 8	25 8	26 0	11 4	12 4	11 4	13 4	16 4	20 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	28 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	19 0	19 8	17 0	105 0	105 0	105 0	16 0	17 12	17 13	15 0	17 0	17 0	Karachi	
	Karachi	13 0	13 0	12 5	23 0	23 0	21 8	9 8	9 5	9 8	16 0	16 0	17 0	22 0	23 0	22 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	32 0	24 0	24 0	20 0	22 0	15 0	320 0	320 0	480 0	14 8	14 8	14 0	14 8	14 8	14 0	Haidarabad (Nakur)	
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	18 0	16 0	16 0	32 0	30 0	25 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	19 0	20 0	20 0	28 0	28 0	26 0	24 0	25 0	25 0	...	...	...	24 0	22 0	19 6	220 0	220 0	260 0	13 9	13 14	13 2	13 7	13 12	13 0	Shikarpur	
	Shikarpur	14 0	14 6	13 5	24 0	27 9	25 2	12 0	12 4	13 2½	19 0	19 0	21 8	30 4	30 0	25 2	30 0	31 8	27 8	...	...	...	23 8	23 8	19 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 0	13 0	13 0	Sukkur	
	Sukkur	14 8	14 8	14 8	29 8	29 8	28 0	11 8	12 8	11 4	17 8	19 8	18 8	29 8	29 8	29 8	27 8	27 8	24 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	160 0	13 11	14 12	10 11	13 11	14 12	10 11	Thar and Parkar (Umarkot)	
	Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	14 0	14 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 2	14 0	13 7	...	...	...	16 4	16 8	17 15										Prices per md. of 40 seers.							
BENGAL.	*Western Districts.*																												*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*				*Western Districts.*	BENGAL.
	Burdwan	16 0	16 0	14 0	30 0	20 0	45 0	17 4	18 12	22 0	22 8	23 13	24 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 8	22 0	23 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 0 8	3 1 0	2 13 0	12 4a	12 4	13 12	Burdwan	
	Bancoorah	14 12	13 12	14 0	16 0	19 0	16 0	19 0	18 8	25 0	25 0	24 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 12	18 0	18 0	280 0	320 0	280 0	3 3 6	3 3 6	3 0 0	12 0b	12 0	13 0	Bancoorah	
	Beerbhoom	15 12	15 0	13 8	...	...	...	16 8	18 0	18 0	21 0	22 8	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 8	21 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 12 6	3 12 6	3 3 0	10 0c	13 0	12 8	Beerbhoom	
	Midnapore	14 0	14 0	14 0	17 0	16 0	...	18 0	18 0	20 0	22 0	24 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	16 0	18 0	155 0	155 0	160 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	12 8d	13 0	13 8	Midnapore	
	Hooghly	13 8	13 8	18 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 8	18 8	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 9e	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
	Howrah	13 4	13 4	13 0	...	...	...	13 8	13 4	16 0	17 8	19 8	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 4	16 8	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	Howrah	

a In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Culna 13-8 seers, Cutwa 10-12 seers and Raneegunge 13-4 seers.
b In the interior retail prices of salt range from 11 to 15 seers.
c In the interior retail prices of salt range from 9 to 13-4 seers.

* The correct figure is now furnished.
† Common use.
d In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Ghattal 14-4 seers, and Contai 11 seers.
e In the Jehanabad retail price of salt is 8 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF JULY 1883 —*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagkeel, *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt.						DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
																												Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers.			Retail.							
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.			
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.			
BENGAL—*continued.*	*Central Districts.*																																	*Central Districts.*	
	Calcutta	14 4	14 0	14 0	19 6	20 0	23 2	10 12	10 5	10 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	...		18 13	17 12	21 5	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	14 0	14 0	14 9	Calcutta	
	24-Pergunnahs	13 5	13 5	12 12	17 8	16 0	22 8	8 0	8 0	10 0	16 0	16 12	18 0	...	...	22 8	...	...	13 12		...	...	17 8	18 12	18 0	80 0	90 0	90 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 12 0	13 5	13 5	13 5	24-Pergunnahs	
	Nuddea	14 8	14 8	14 8	26 0	...	26 0	15 4	15 4	16 13	17 4	16 13½	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	20 0	20 0	21 5½	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 14 1	11 10½	11 10½	12 13½	Nuddea	
	Khoolna	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	16 0	24 0	25 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	180 0	180 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	10 8½	10 8	11 0	Khoolna	
	Jessore	14 8	14 8	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	22 12	22 12	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	19 12	20 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	11 0	10 12	12 8	Jessore	
	Moorshedabad	15 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	17 12	19 0	19 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	23 0	23 0	25 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 6 0	...	3 4 0	10 0	10 0	12 8	Moorshedabad	
	Dinagepore	13 14	13 8	11 8	...	...	...	16 0	18 0	21 0	18 13	19 8	26 8	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	17 7	17 8	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 7 0	3 7 0	3 4 0	11 6½	11 8	12 0	Dinagepore	
	Rajshahye	17 4	16 8	13 8 to 16 8	30 0	30 0	45 0	15 0 to 16 8	13 8 to 16 0	13 8	17 4 to 18 12	17 4 to 18 0	21 0 to 24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	20 10	21 0	22 8 to 24 6	240 0	240 0	240 0	...	...	...	12 · 0½	11 4	12 0	Rajshahye	
	Rungpore	13 5	11 7	16 0	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	17 0	20 0	17 3	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	17 3	16 0	15 0	110 0	110 0	135 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 5 3	11 14½	11 14	11 8	Rungpore	
	Bogra	15 12	15 0	18 12	...	...	...	12 12	12 0	15 12	21 0	24 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	18 12	15 12	16 8	69 0	60 0	67 8	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 5 4	10 8	10 8	10 8	Bogra	
	Pubna	18 12	19 8	18 12	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 0	19 8	19 8	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	18 6	17 8	18 12	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 1 6	12 0½	12 0	12 12	Pubna	
	Darjeeling	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	4 0	4 0	6 0	8 0	8 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	128 0	128 0	160 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	8 0½	8 0	8 0	Darjeeling	
	Jalpaiguri	10 0	10 0	9 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	12 8	11 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	11 0½	11 0	11 0	Jalpaiguri	
	Eastern Districts.																																	*Eastern Districts.*	
	Dacca	12 4	12 4	12 4	19 0	18 12	40 0	15 12	15 8	24 0	19 0	19 4	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	19 0		...	...	18 8	18 8	21 0	120 0	100 0	106 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	2 15 0	12 0q	12 0	13 5	Dacca	
	Furreedpore	20 0	20 0	22 0	30 0	30 0	35 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	18 0	18 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	120 0	120 0	...	3 7 0	3 7 0	3 5 4	11 8r	11 8	11 0	Furreedpore	
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	20 0	21 0	21 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	18 0	18 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	2 11 0	3 11 0	3 11 0	13 0s	13 0	10 9	Backergunge	
	Mymensingh	11 0	11 8	11 0	...	...	...	15 8	16 0	22 8	19 8	17 8	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	15 8	15 9	16 0	...	...	...	...	3 4 0	...	12 8t	12 0	12 8	Mymensingh	
	Tipperah	11 6	11 6	12 0	...	...	...	17 0	18 8	23 0	22 12	19 4	28 4	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	16 0	12 12	18 0	...	...	...	3 5 0	3 6 0	...	12 0u	11 8	12 8	Tipperah	
	Chittagong	12 0	12 0	9 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 0	20 0	20 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	12 0	12 0	16 0	40 0	40 0	80 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	2 14 0	9 0v	9 0	13 0	Chittagong	
	Noakholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	27 0	22 0	22 0	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	14 0	...	...	...	3 2 0	3 6 0	3 2 0	10 0w	10 0	11 0	Noakholly	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 4	12 4	13 5	13 4	13 5	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	320 0	6 4 0	6 0 0	3 8 0	6 0	6 4	10 9	Chittagong Hill Tracts	
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	23 0	22 0	20 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 6 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Hill Tipperah	
	Behar.																																	*Behar.*	
	Patna	17 8	17 8	16 8	32 0	32 0	34 0	14 0	14 0	11 8	18 0	19 0	21 8	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	26 0	29 8	30 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 2 9	8	10 8	10 9	Patna	
	Gya	19 0	20 8	17 0	25 0	26 0	29 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	15 0	15 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	23 0	23 8	26 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	...	...	3 4 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Gya	
	Shahabad	17 0 to 17 8	17 0 to 18 0	17 0 to 16 8	24 0	25 0	28 0	11 0 to 11 8	11 0 to 12 0	17 0 to 20 0	15 0 to 17 0	15 0 to 16 0	21 0	...	...	...	28 0	32 0	...		...	...	27 0 to 28 0	27 0 to 28 0	29 0 to 30 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 0 0	12 8x	12 8	13 0	Shahabad	
	Durbhunga	18 0	18 0	16 0	29 0	30 0	30 0	12 0	13 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	28 0	28 0	30 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 4 6	10 0y	10 0	11 0	Durbhunga	
	Mozufferpore	17 0	17 0	15 0	26 0	27 0	28 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	28 0	30 0	29 0	...	...	...		30 0	30 0	24 0	24 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 7 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	11 0z	11 0	11 0	Mozufferpore	
	Sarun	19 0	19 0	18 0	34 0	36 0	36 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	17 0	17 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	22 0	23 0	25 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	11 0z1	11 0	11 0	Sarun	
	Chumparun	18 14	18 10	16 12	25 3	27 14	33 9	13 10	13 14	15 12	15 12	15 12	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	26 0	26 0	27 0	160 0	140 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	11 8z	11 0	10 8	Chumparun	
	Monghyr	16 6	16 6	15 2	27 12	27 12	30 4	15 2	15 2	17 11	17 10	21 7	21 7	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	28 0	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8z3	12 0	12 10	Monghyr	
	Bhagalpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	25 3	25 13	30 6	147 0	126 0	126 0	3 2 9	3 2 3	3 1 0	12 0	12 10	12 10	Bhagalpur	
	Purneah	20 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	20 0	18 0	17 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	24 0	24 0	28 6	138 6	126 8	126 4	3 1 0	3 0 0	3 0 6	12 10z	12 10	12 10	Purneah	
	Maldah	17 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	14 0	16 0	19 0	16 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	16 0	22 0	23 0	120 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	3 8 0	10 0z5	10 0	10 0	Maldah	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	14 0	14 0	13 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	22 0	22 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	21 0	22 0	25 0	160 0	120 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	12 0	11 0	12 0	Maldah	
	Orissa.																						20 0	21 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	...	...	3 12 0	10 0	10 0	10 8	Sonthal Pergunnahs	
	Cuttack	14 7	13 2	14 7	...	...	...	13 2	13 2	15 12	21 0*	22 5	24 15	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...												*Orissa.*	
	Pooree	13 2	13 2	10 8	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	21 0	23 10	23 10	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	14 7	13 2	14 7	80 0	80 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	Cuttack	
	Balasore	14 0	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	26 0	28 0	28 0	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	18 6	18 6	15 0	100 0	104 0	100 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	14 0z6	14 0	14 8	Pooree	
																							14 0	14 0	16 0	120 0	120 0	160 0	...	...	...	9 2z7	9 2	13 0	Balasore	
	CHOTA NAGPORE.																																	CHOTA NAGPORE.	
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																																	*South-Western Frontier Agency.*	
	Hazáribágh	15 0	16 0	15 0	20 0	18 0	...	10 0	10 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	18 8	19 0	19 0	240 0	240 0	180 0	4 2 0	3 15 8	3 11 3	9 0z8	9 0	10 0	Hazáribágh	
	Lohardugga	16 0	16 0	17 0	21 0	22 0	24 0	18 0	18 0	21 0	22 0	22 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	14 0	14 0	18 0	110 0	110 0	120 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	4 0 0	9 0z9	9 0	9 0	Lohardugga	
	Singbhoom	18 0	18 0	20 0	32 0	32 0	28 0	36 0	36 0	36 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	24 0	24 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	180 0	5 8 0	4 0 0	4 7 0	6 0	8 0	8 0	Singbhoom	
	Manbhoom	13 0	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	19 0	27 0	27 0	31 0	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	17 0	17 0	17 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 8 0	3 9 0	3 12 0	10 0z10	10 0	11 0	Manbhoom	

* In the interior retail prices of common rice vary from 28-14 to 39-6 seers.
f In the sub-division retail prices of salt are as follow:—Baraset and Bussirhat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 10-8 seers, Barrackpore 12-12 seers, and Dum-Dum 12 seers.
g In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kooshtea 12-8 seers, Meherpore 12 seers, Choora mara 12-8 seers and Ranaghat 13 seers.
h In Bagirhat retail price of salt 11 seers.
i In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers, and Bongong 13 seers.
j In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Laibagh 11 seers, Jungipore 10 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.
k Retail prices of salt at Raigunge 11-8 seers and Neetpore 12 seers.
l In Nattore retail price of salt 12 seers.
m In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Nilphamari 12 seers, and Kurigram and Gaibanda 10 seers,
n In Serajgunge retail price of salt 13 seers.
o Retail price of salt at Kurseong 8 seers and Silligoree 10 seers.
p Retail Price of salt at Pallacotta in Alipore sub-division 10 seers.
q In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madaripore 12 seers, Moonshegunge 10 seers 10-11 chittacks, and Naraingunge 13 seers.
r In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madaripore 12 seers, Bhanga 11 seers, and Gopalgunge 12-12 seers.
s In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 9 2 seers, Perozepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.
t In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishoregunge 10-10 seers, Attea 12 seers.

* In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Brahmunberriah 12 seers and Chandpore 12-8 seers.
* ... price of salt at Kumeriah 10 seers, and Hathazaree and Cox's Bazar 8 seers.
* ... interior retail prices of salt range from 8 to 12-4 seers.
* ... divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Buxar 11-8 seers, Sasseram 11 seers, and Bhola 10 seers.
* ... divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madhubani 10 seers and Tajpur 11-8 seers.
... divisions retail prices of salt in three reporting places 11 seers, and in one place 12 seers.
... sub-division retail prices of salt 12 seers.
... retail price of salt 12 seers.
... retail prices of salt range from 10 to 13 seers.
... retail prices of salt are as follow:—Begusarai 10 seers and Jamui 11 seers.
... retail prices of salt are as follow:—Banka 11 seers and Muddehpoors and Soopole 10 seers.
... retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kissengunge 8 seers and Arrareah (at Kaneegunge) 10 seers.
... price of salt 13 seers.
... of salt 10 seers.
... Chunda 8 seers and Kharruckdiha 11-8 seers.
... Kaneegunge 9 seers.
... 10 seers, and Johindpore 11 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF JULY 1883—*continued*.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	*R a.*	*R a.* per md.	*R a.*	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Assam.	Sylhet	13 4	13 4	11 12	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	17 0	17 8	17 8	35 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	13 4	16 0	108 0	108 0	108 0	3 5	3 5	3 6	12 0	12 0	11 12	Sylhet	
	Cachar	9 2	9 2	10 10	16 0	12 13	16 0	12 13	13 5	17 12	16 0	16 0	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	13 5	12 13	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 10	3 10	3 8	10 10	10 10	10 10	Cachar	
	Goálpárá	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	13 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	12 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 8	3 8	3 4	12 0	11 0	12 0	Goálpárá	
	Gáro Hills	4 0	4 0	4 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	13 0	10 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 6	5 6	5 6	6 6	6 6	6 6	Gáro Hills	
	Kámrúp	19 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	13 4	11 12	13 0	15 8	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 12	13 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8	3 8	3 2	11 8	11 8	12 0	Kámrúp	
	Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 6	9 12	8 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 12	4 8	3 12	8 0	8 0	8 0	Darrang	
	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Nowgong	
	Sibságar	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Sibságar	
	Lakhimpur	8 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	10 0	6 0	6 0	8 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	4 8	4 4	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Lakhimpur	
	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	11 0	10 0	11 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	
	Nága Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 0	2 0	2 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	Nága Hills	
N.-W. Provinces.	Dehra Dún	17 8	18 8	18 0	30 0	30 0	29 0	6 8	6 8	6 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	24 0	26 0	18 0	22 8	23 0	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 8	11 0	10 8	11 0	10 8	Dehra Dún	
	Saháranpur	19 5½	20 15½	19 5½	32 4	31 3	27 15	7 8½	8 9½	9 11	11 13	11 13	12 14	23 10½	26 1½	33 10½	21 8	17 3	24 8	27 15	27 14½	26 8	129 0	150 8	150 8	12 14½	12 14½	12 1	12 10½	12 10½	11 13	Saháranpur	
	Muzaffarnagar	19 0	19 4	18 4	33 0	35 0	29 11	6 9	6 9	6 9	12 2	12 2	14 5	30 12	33 0	26 6	26 6	26 6	33 0	26 6	27 8	23 2	110 0	110 0	132 0	12 6	12 6	11 10	11 8	11 8	11 4	Muzaffarnagar	
	Meerut	18 0	18 0	17 0	30 0	30 0	24 0	7 0	7 0	6 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	29 0	29 0	24 0	20 0	20 0	24 0	25 8	26 0	21 0	110 0	110 0	110 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Meerut	
	Bulandshahr	19 4	19 0	19 8	28 0	28 0	24 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	9 11	10 0	10 0	26 0	26 0	24 0	16 0	16 0	30 0	23 8	24 12	22 0	140 0	130 0	130 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	10 8	...	...	Bulandshahr	
	Aligarh	17 8	18 4	17 4	24 8	24 8	23 0	7 0	7 0	6 0	11 8	12 0	13 0	25 8	26 0	25 0	16 0	16 0	16 8	23 0	23 8	21 8	120 0	120 0	130 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Aligarh	
	Kumaun	14 0	15 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	Kumaun	
	Garhwál	22 0	22 0	23 8	23 0	23 0	25 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...	30 0*	30 0*	30 0*	12 0	12 0	11 8	280 0	280 0	200 0	8 8	8 8	8 0	7 13	7 13	7 0	Garhwál	
	Bijnor	18 8	19 13	16 9	30 15	31 12	26 2	10 6	16 11	11 0	12 2	11 13	22 4	23 10	21 6	21 14	21 6	18 9	23 1	23 1	20 9	135 0	135 0	135 0	...	...	...	10 11	10 13	10 7	Bijnor	
	Moradabad	19 1	19 11	18 2	28 12	30 10	23 12	9 1	10 10	9 6	13 12	13 12	13 12	23 2	23 2	23 12	15 10	14 6	18 12	22 8	23 2	20 10	125 0	135 0	137 8	12 10	12 10	12 0	12 8	12 8	11 14	Moradabad	
	Budaun	18 4½	19 8	17 11	28 3	29 6	22 0½	8 6	8 6	9 9½	13 3	13 3	14 11	...	...	18 0	...	...	18 0	22 12½	23 6	19 3	192 0	192 0	192 0	11 1½	11 6	10 15	10 12½	10 12½	10 3	Budaun	
	Bareilly	17 3	18 2	16 14	23 12	25 10	21 4	7 8	7 8	8 2	12 1⅛	13 2	14 6	33 12	33 12	21 4	17 8	18 12	21 4	21 14	22 3	19 6	192 0	200 0	125 0	12 3	12 8	11 14	11 14	11 14	11 4	Bareilly	
	Sháhjahánpur	20 4	20 4	18 4	33 0	32 8	30 0	8 8	8 12	8 8	14 0	14 0	18 0	17 0	...	17 8	18 0	...	17 8	24 0	24 0	20 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 0	13 0	12 4	11 0	11 4	10 8	Tarái Pergunnahs	
	Tarái Pergunnahs	20 0	21 4	20 0	30 0	32 8	30 0	8 8	8 8	8 8	14 0	14 0	18 0	17 0	...	17 8	18 0	...	17 8	24 12	24 8	22 0	120 0	140 0	120 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	11 8	13 8	12 0	Muttra	
	Muttra	17 8	17 0	17 0	24 8	24 8	21 8	7 0	7 0	...	12 8	12 0	14 0	18 0	22 0	22 0	18 0	20 0	18 0	23 0	24 0	21 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	Agra	
	Agra	16 8	16 12	17 0	23 0	24 0	21 0	5 12	5 12	6 8	12 0	12 0	14 0	22 0	24 0	22 0	20 8	21 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Farukhabad	
	Farukhabad	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 0	21 0	20 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	Mainpuri	
	Mainpuri	17 4	18 0	18 0	23 12	24 8	23 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 8	22 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	Etáwah	
	Etáwah	16 0	17 0	17 0	20 0	20 8	22 8	6 0	8 0	6 0	12 8	12 8	14 8	20 0	24 0	22 0	16 0	22 8	16 0	22 10	23 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	140 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	11 8	Etah	
	Etah	18 10	19 6	19 8	25 0	27 0	24 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	13 5	14 0	12 0	20 0	22 0	16 4	21 8	22 0	18 0	28 0	31 0	28 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Jalaun	
	Jalaun	18 0	18 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	25 0	25 0	23 0	22 0	22 0	20 0	26 10	27 14	25 9	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 8	10 0	10 8	Jhánsi	
	Jhánsi	20 8	21 9½	20 13½	33 9	38 14	32 0	9 0	10 0	8 8	16 0	17 0	15 0	30 4	33 6	27 0	...	...	...	33 0	33 0	33 0	180 0	160 0	140 0	13 4	13 4	12 0	13 0	13 0	12 6	Lalitpur	
	Lalitpur	21 0	21 0	21 8	40 0	37 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	12 0	13 0	36 0	36 0	31 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	25 8	27 8	23 12	145 0	145 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	9 14	10 12	10 12	9 10	Cawnpore	
	Cawnpore	18 0	18 4	17 4	26 8	26 8	25 0	10 0	10 0	11 4	13 8	14 0	15 0	26 0	27 0	23 8	23 0	22 0	23 0	26 0	28 4	24 2	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 12	10 0	10 12	10 12	Fatehpur	
	Fatehpur	16 4	16 10	16 12	24 12	25 0	23 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	15 0	15 8	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	27 0	25 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	10 4	11 0	11 12	11 0	12 0	11 0	Bánda	
	Bánda	22 0	23 0	18 0	32 0	34 0	25 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	15 0	14 8	18 4	32 0	33 0	30 0	33 0	...	...	34 0	37 0	31 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	11 0	12 0	11 0	Allahabad	
	Allahabad	17 4	17 10	16 12	26 10	28 8	24 8	10 0	10 8	11 8	15 0	16 0	17 0	30 8	32 0	27 8	29 0	21 0	26 8	26 0	29 4	23 4	120 0	130 0	130 0	11 4	10 11	11 4	9 0	9 11	10 10	Hamírpur	
	Hamírpur	16 8	18 4	16 0	...	17 0	22 8	10 0	10 0	10 12	...	...	...	22 0	28 2	25 4	20 0	...	...	26 0	29 4	26 8	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 4	10 11	11 4	9 0	9 11	10 10	Jaunpur	
	Jaunpur	19 0	20 8	18 0	30 0	31 12	29 10	7 12	7 12	7 1	14 2	14 2	15 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 10	31 1	23 4	148 12	148 12	169 8	10 12	10 12	9 11	10 10	10 10	9 9	Gorakhpur	
	Gorakhpur	18 14	18 14	18 0	25 3	25 8	28 13	12 9½	13 1	14 6½	16 3	16 3	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 11	29 11	27 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	10 9½	10 9½	11 3	10 6½	10 6½	10 6½	Basti	
	Basti	18 0	18 0	17 0	30 0	32 0	29 0	13 0	13 12	15 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	26 0	150 0	150 0	140 0	8 8	8 8	8 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Azamgarh	
	Azamgarh	17 11	18 7	19 3	25 15	25 15	30 4	10 5	10 5	8 14	14 12	14 12	18 7	29 8	29 8	...	20 10	20 10	20 10	25 0	27 0	22 0	60 0	90 0	100 0	9 14	9 3	9 3	9 14	9 3	8 8	Mirzapur	
	Mirzapur	16 0	17 0	16 8	25 0	26 0	23 0	8 0	10 0	12 0	14 8	16 0	26 0	29 0	27 0	24 0	27 0	24 0	27 0	25 8½	25 8½	23 5	110 0	110 0	140 0	10 0	10 6½	9 4	11 4	10 2	10 2	Benares	
	Benares	16 0	16 4	15 11½	23 14	25 8	24 6	10 9	10 9	12 7	17 1	16 4	16 13	27 2	28 12	28 3	28 12	28 12	26 8	28 0	28 15½	26 6½	128 12	128 12	130 0	10 15½	10 15½	9 10½	10 5	10 5	9 9	Gházipur	
	Gházipur	19 5	19 5	18 0	27 0	27 0	25 12	9 0	9 0	10 15½	16 1½	16 1½	19 15½	28 5	25 12	30 14½	26 6½	26 6½	30 9½	26 4	28 12	28 12	90 0	90 0	100 0	11 4	11 4	10 0	11 4	11 4	10 4	Balia	
	Balia	18 4	18 4	15 12	27 8	26 4	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 12	18 12	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	23 8	21 5	150 0	150 0	150 0	13 0	13 8	12 12	12 6	12 12	11 12	Pilibhít	
	Pilibhít	19 10	20 8	18 1	33 8	35 2	28 6	12 3½	15 0	15 0	14 8	16 4	16 4	18 1½	...	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
	Sultánpur	20 0	20 8	19 8	32 0	32 0	29 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	17 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	31 8	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	11 12	11 12	Sultánpur	
	Partábgarh	19 14	20 3	19 2	20 4	30 13	28 10	16 0	16 0	16 9	17 2	17 5	18 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 4	27 13	22 12	200 0	200 0	200 0	...	...	10 0	10 12	10 10	8 13	Partábgarh	
	Fyzabad	18 0	17 12	16 0	30 0	29 8	25 0	10 8	10 0	10 0	17 0	17 0	16 8	...	36 0	...	17 0	...	...	27 8	28 0	22 8	120 0	120 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Fyzabad	
	Kheri	22 12	22 8	19 0	35 8	35 0	28 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	45 0	45 0	30 0	...	...	...	28 8	28 8	18 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	11 0	11 4	Kheri	
	Lucknow	17 9	18 1	16 6½	28 0	28 12	23 9	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 10	13 12	13 14	29 8	30 10	22 7½	24 2	24 10	22 0	23 6	24 6	20 1½	115 0	115 0	115 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 8	10 8	9 8	Lucknow	
	Bára Banki	18 0	18 0	16 12	30 0	28 0	24 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	32 0	32 0	23 0	19 0	21 0	20 0	29 0	30 0	27 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Bára Banki	
	Bharaich	18 0	19 0	16 0	39 0	42 0	35 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	16 0	17 0	18 0	38 0	37 0	30 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	24 8	24 8	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	9 0	Bharaich	
	Rai Bareli	18 0	18 12	18 12	26 8	23 8	...	...	...	15 8	15 4	16 0	...	...	...	24 0	21 0	22 0	18 0	26 10	28 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 8	12 7	12 0	11 8	11 8	10 8	Rai Bareli	
	Sitapur	20 10	21 14½	19 4	34 12	36 0	27 6	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	17 0	28 12	32 0	20 0	24 12	26 0	19 0	34 0	34 0	28 0	200 0	200 0	240 0	11 4	11 12	11 8	11 0	11 8	11 4	Sitapur	
	Gonda	21 5	22 4	19 6	48 8	41 12	30 14	14 8	13 14	15 0	15 10	16 0	17 6	39 4	41 0	36 10	33 0	33 0	24 4	25 8	26 0	22 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	Gonda	
	Unáo	18 0	18 8	18 0	24 0	24 0	25 0	11 0	11 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	21 0	28 0	...	21 0	23 0	...	...	20 10	19 11	22 8	200 0	200 0	240 0	9 6	9 6	8 8	7 8	7 8	8 7	Unáo	
	Hardui	17 6	17 6	20 6	27 3	25 5	27 11	5 10	6 9	5 10	11 0	12 14	13 3	...	23 7	...	16 14	23 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Hardui	
Punjab.	Gujránwála(a)	25 8	24 4	24 4	42 0	42 0	37 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	33 0	36 0	23 0	35 0	35 0	20 0	40 0	38 8	28 0	95 0	95 0	95 0	14 8	14 12	15 4	14 0	14 8	15 0	Gujránwála (a)	
	Lahore	23 0	22 8	23 0	39 0	39 0	37 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	11 0	40 0	40 0	33 0	28 0	28 0	23 0	40 0	38 0	29 8	80 0	90 0	90 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Lahore	
	Ferozepore(b)	22 8	23 0	22 0	45 0	50 0	37 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 0	45 0	45 0	30 0	36 0	36 0	...	40 0	42 0	32 0	90 0	90 0	70 0	13 12	13 12	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 0	Ferozepore (b)	
	Sirsa(c)	23 0	23 0	21 4	40 0	40 0	38 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	13 0	32 0	33 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	38 0	38 0	35 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	11 0	12 8	12 8	10 8	Sirsa (c)	
	Hissar	20 0	20 0	17 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	30 0	30 0	26 0	26 0	25 0	26 0	30 0	30 0	27 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 8	12 0	10 0	Hissar	
	Rohtak(d)	20 0	20 0	18 8	26 0	27 0	25 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	28 0	24 0	24 0	24 8	26 0	24 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	10 10	11 8	11 0	10 9	Rohtak (d)	
	Gurgaon	19 0	18 12	17 12	28 0	29 0	23 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	14 0	26 0	26 0	24 0	20 0	19 0	18 0	24 8	25 0	21 0	120 0	120 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Gurgaon	
	Delhi	19 0	20 0	18 8	31 0	33 0	30 0	...	...	...	10 0	11 0	12 8	30 0	32 0	28 0	24 0	23 0	22 0	25 0	25 0	21 12	80 0	80 0	85 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 0	12 0	11 8	Delhi	
	Karnál(b)	22 8	24 0	21 8	35 0	34 0	29 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 8	30 0	32 0	28 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	36 0	28 0	22 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	11 8	11 4	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 12	Karnál (b)	
	Umballa	25 0	26 0	24 0	37 0	41 0	33 0	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	12 0	38 0	41 0	37 0	32 0	35 0	28 0	36 0	28 0	22 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	14 0	14 4	13 12	14 0	14 0	13 8	Umballa	
	Ludhiana	25 0	26 0	24 0	37 0	41 0	33 0	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	12 0	38 0	41 0	37 0	32 0	35 0	28 0	36 0	31 0	25 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 0	14 9	14 14	13 8	14 8	14 8	Ludhiana	
	Simla(e)	15 0	17 0	14 8	...	21 0	...	...	...	...	10 0	...	13 0	...	...	...	18 12	18 4	16 0	33 0	35 0	28 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	10 0	10 0	10 1	9 6	9 6	9 7	Simla (e)	

* Maudwa.

(a) Wheat, gram, jowar falling.

(b) Prices rising.

(c) Jowar risen.

(d) Barley, bajra, jowar and gram rising.

(e) Wheat and rice risen; gram fallen.

ERRATA.

Issue of Gazette of India, dated 15th June 1883, column 6, Rice (present fortnight), against Kohat, *for* 15 seers 15 chks. *read* 25 seers 6 chks.
Ditto ditto ditto column 12, Salt (present fortnight, retail sale), against Kohat, *for* 61 seers *read* 61 seers.
Ditto ditto ditto column 7, Jowar (present fortnight), against Gujranwala, *for* 30 seers *read* 36 seers.

Issue of Gazette of India, dated 30th June 1883, column 12 (average wages of Common Mason, &c.), against Gujránwála, *for* 32-0 *read* 32-4.
Ditto ditto ditto column 6, Rice (past fortnight), against Kohat, *for* 15-15 *read* 13-5.
Ditto ditto ditto column 13, Salt (past fortnight, retail sale), against Kohat, *for* 51-0 *read* 61-0.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF JULY 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
CENTRAL PROVINCES.	Kángra	23 0	23 0	24 0	34 0	36 0	38 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jullundur (*a*)	24 0	25 0	24 8	36 0	40 0	36 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	38 0	42 0	33 0	26 0	28 0	14 0
	Hoshiárpur	25 0	25 8	25 0	38 0	40 0	35 0	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	11 0	33 0	28 8	27 0	25 0	25 0	14 0
	Gurdáspur	30 0	30 0	30 0	38 0	38 0	40 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	35 0	35 0	28 0	14 0	14 0	14 0
	Amritsar (*b*)	25 8	25 8	25 0	39 0	39 0	39 0	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	12 0	39 0	40 0	26 8	25 8	25 8	28 8
	Siálkot	26 4	26 8	26 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0	32 0	37 0	19 0	30 0	35 0	21 0
	Gujrát (*c*)	30 0	29 0	27 4	44 0	42 0	40 8	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	12 0	38 8	50 0	21 0	50 0	50 0	28 0
	Jhelum	28 0	27 0	23 8	38 0	37 0	31 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	10 0	34 0	32 0	23 0	36 0	37 0	21 0
	Káwalpindi (*d*)	29 0	28 8	20 4	41 0	40 0	29 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 8	8 4	32 0	32 0	19 0	45 0	42 0	24 0
	Shahpór	34 0	32 0	20 0	55 0	55 0	32 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	13 0	40 0	44 0	19 0	45 0	48 0	19 0
	Jhang (*e*)	22 8	22 8	19 8	34 0	32 0	30 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	12 0	20 0	30 0	16 0	32 0	33 0	16 0
	Montgomery	19 0	19 0	20 0	32 0	32 0	24 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 8	30 0	30 0	20 0	...	...	...
	Mooltan (*f*)	17 0	16 12	16 12	28 0	27 0	26 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	29 0	30 0	25 0	28 0	27 0	24 0
	Muzaffargarh (*g*)	20 0	20 0	19 0	27 0	29 0	26 0	...	...	...	5 0	6 0	5 0	23 0	25 0	18 0	23 0	25 0	18 0
	Dera Gházi Khán	19 6	18 12	19 2	33 12	33 12	23 7	...	...	...	10 0	8 12	7 8	40 0	40 0	21 4	36 4	40 0	20 0
	Dera Ismail Khán	23 14	23 12	17 14	38 15	38 0	26 9	...	...	...	8 7	8 12	8 12	41 4	31 6	27 8	37 13	38 12	23 12
	Bannu	36 4	35 0	29 1	51 4	47 8	45 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 12	52 8	52 8	27 8	42 8	42 8	27 8
	Kohát (*h*)	21 0	23 9	14 15	44 0	45 4	29 4	...	...	...	12 12	15 5	12 2	43 6	40 13	21 10	42 0	40 13	20 6
	Pesháwar	23 12	25 10	18 0	40 10	42 0	34 0	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	9 8	38 0	39 0	27 12	31 8	31 8	12 10
	Házára	...	27 0	...	...	41 0	33 8	...	...	...	...	16 0	12 8	...	...	...	...	32 0	...
	Nágpur	19 4	17 4	17 0	...	...	...	10 0	9 12	8 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	31 12	31 12	24 12	...	...	...
	Bhandára	20 0	22 8	18 12	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 4	20 0	20 0	19 12	35 0	35 0	24 12	...	...	...
	Chánda	No r	eturn r	eceived	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Wardha	19 0	20 0	20 4	...	...	...	10 0	9 0	8 12	14 0	13 0	16 4	27 0	27 0	29 0	...	...	...
	Bálaghát	20 0	20 0	17 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0	36 0	26 0	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jubbulpore	19 0	19 0	16 8	20 0	22 0	20 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	15 0	16 0	15 0	22 0	26 0	...	18 0	19 8	16 0
	Saugor	23 0	23 0	19 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Damoh	26 0	26 0	23 0	...	...	...	12 8	14 0	12 12	13 0	14 8	13 12	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Seoni	21 8	23 0	18 0	...	...	...	11 8	12 0	11 8	18 0	18 0	15 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mandla	25 0	25 0	20 0	...	...	...	14 8	14 0	15 8	20 0	18 8	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Betúl	19 0	19 0	16 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	10 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	21 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...
	Chhindwára	25 0	25 0	18 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	8 0	14 0	11 0	14 0	32 0	30 0	23 0	...	...	...
	Hoshangabad	14 5	14 5	15 7	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	4 0	9 9	9 9	11 4	21 0	21 0	21 0	19 4	19 4	17 12
	Narsinghpur	18 0	18 0	14 8	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 8	12 8	12 8	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nimár	15 15	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	13 0	...	...	14 14	15 0	11 1	18 12	19 0	21 0	20 0	19 0	15 0
	Raipur	24 2	22 0	29 0	...	...	...	19 14	20 0	21 0	34 8	36 0	37 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sambalpur	17 0	17 8	24 0	...	...	...	31 8	36 0	35 0	45 0	40 0	42 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bilaspur	32 0	32 0	45 0	...	...	...	36 0	36 0	45 0	54 0	54 0	72 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
BRITISH BURMA.	*Arakan Division.*																		
	Akyab	6 6	...	6 6	...	...	...	8 0	...	14 8	11 0	...	15 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Northern Arakan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	9 0	...	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kyoukpyoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	...	18 0	9 8	...	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sandoway	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pegu Division.																		
	Rangoon Town	15 5	11 2	16 4	...	...	...	12 12	11 0	13 13	13 4	11 8	15 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hanthawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tharrawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 2½	7 2½	8 14½	7 14½	7 14½	14 4½	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Prome	9 2	12 2	18 3	...	...	...	12 3	12 3	12 12	13 1	14 7	17 2	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Irrawaddy Division.																		
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 15	11 15	14 5	15 10	15 10	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 13	16 14	16 7	13 11	13 9	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Thayetmyo	10 1	10 1	11 13	...	...	...	8 10	8 10	11 11	11 13	11 13	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tenasserim Division.																		
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	12 2	12 2	10 0	...	...	...	12 8	12 8	12 10	13 14	13 14	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mergui	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	12 13	18 5	14 3	14 3	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Shwegyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 1	9 13	12 12	10 6	10 6	15 9	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Salween	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
HYDERABAD AS.	Secunderabad	14 13	14 13	16 5	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	6 13	9 13	10 3	9 13	23 0	23 0	28 14	27 0	27 0	...
	Bolarum	16 2	16 9	17 12	...	...	...	7 11	7 11	7 6	9 1	9 5	8 11	25 11	25 11	27 0	...	...	...
	Chudderghat	15 6	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	7 6	7 8	7 0	9 8	8 0	8 0	27 0	25 0	26 0	33 0	33 0	32 8
	Amraoti	15 8	16 0	16 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	25 0	26 0	26 0	14 0	15 0	13 0
	Akola	16 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	8 0	13 0	13 9	10 0	23 0	25 0	30 0	21 0	21 0	24 0
	Ellichpur	15 0	15 0	14 0	12 0	12 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	6 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	22 0	25 0	21 0	23 0	21 0	24 0
	Buldána	18 0	18 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	26 0	24 0	25 0	23 0	21 0	24 0
	Wún	18 0	19 0	14 0	...	...	...	8 0	10 0	7 0	13 0	13 8	10 8	29 4	29 4	30 0	...	...	...
	Basim	21 0	21 0	20 8	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 0	14 0	13 0	12 0	26 0	28 0	24 0	...	...	...

* No wholesale salt sold.

(*a*) Wheat, barley and gram falling; jowar rising. (*b*) Wheat, barley and bajra falling; gram rising. † Rs. 5 per 100 maunds wholesale.

INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF JULY 1883—*continued.*

IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Muruwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c.			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt.								
											Wholesale.			Retail.					
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.			
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.			
CENTRAL PROVINCES.	Kángra	...	...	...	22 0	23 0	20 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Kángra		
	Jullundur (*a*)	...	...	...	33 0	35 0	28 0	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	Jullundur (*a*)		
	Hoshiárpur	...	...	...	33 12	35 0	27 0	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 8	14 0	14 12	13 12	13 12	13 8	Hoshiárpur		
	Gurdáspur	...	...	...	36 0	36 0	32 6	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 0	13 0	12 8	Gurdáspur		
	Amritsar (*b*)	...	...	...	37 4	38 4	32 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	14 14	14 14	15 0	14 6	14 6	14 10	Amritsar (*b*)		
	Siálkot	...	...	...	35 8	34 0	27 8	120 0	130 0	130 0	15 0	15 4	15 0	14 8	14 12	14 12	Siálkot		
	Gujrát (*c*)	...	...	...	39 0	36 12	26 4	100 0	100 0	100 0	*	*	*	15 8	16 0	15 0	Gujrát (*c*)		
	Jhelum	...	...	...	34 0	33 0	24 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	16 8	16 8	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	Jhelum		
	Káwalpindi (*d*)	...	...	...	34 8	34 8	22 14	100 0	120 0	90 0	15 4	15 6	14 12	15 0	15 4	14 10	Riwalpindi (*d*)		
	Shahpór	...	...	...	52 0	56 0	24 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	Shahpór		
	Jhang (*e*)	...	...	...	30 8	32 0	24 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	14 4	14 10	15 0	13 12	14 0	14 12	Jhang (*e*)		
	Montgomery	...	...	...	33 0	33 0	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Montgomery		
	Mooltan (*f*)	...	...	...	29 0	28 0	23 0	90 0	90 0	90 0	15 0	15 0	15 8	14 8	14 8	15 0	Mooltan (*f*)		
	Muzaffargarh (*g*)	...	...	...	26 0	26 0	19 0	100 0	100 0	80 0	*	*	*	14 0	14 0	13 0	Muzaffargarh (*g*)		
	Dera Gházi Khán	...	...	...	26 4	25 10	20 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	28 14	28 14	28 12	27 8	27 8	25 0	Dera Gházi Khán		
	Dera Ismail Khán	...	...	...	35 0	33 9	23 10	125 0	125 0	100 0	53 2	50 0	55 0	50 0	47 0	53 0	Dera Ismail Khan		
	Bannu	...	...	...	38 12	40 0	30 10	80 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	120 0	120 0	80 0	100 0	100 0	Bannu		
	Kohát (*h*)	...	...	...	28 1	29 5	13 3	89 4	102 0	76 0	71 6	91 12	102 0	66 5	61 0	88 0	Kohát (*h*)		
	Pesháwar	...	...	...	29 5	30 4	18 0	96 0	96 0	91 0	45 8	54 10	55 4	44 0	52 0	53 0	Pesháwar		
	Házára	...	...	...	32 0	28 0	19 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	...	...	13 0	11 8	12 0	12 0	Házára		
	Nágpur	...	...	...	21 12	23 12	22 0	150 0	150 0	130 0	12 8	12 8	11 8	12 4	12 4	11 4	Nágpur		
	Bhandára	...	...	...	26 8	26 8	22 4	110 0	180 0	...	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 12	Bhandára		
	Chánda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Chánda		
	Wardha	...	...	...	22 0	25 0	24 0	120 0	118 0	125 0	12 0	10 8	12 4	11 0	10 0	12 0	Wardha		
	Bálaghát	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	28 0	275 0	275 0	275 0	9 4	9 4	10 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	Bálaghát		
	Jubbulpore	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	28 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	9 8	11 4	12 0	9 0	11 0	11 8	Jubbulpore		
	Saugor	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	9 0	9 8	8 8	8 8	9 4	8 4	Saugor		
	Damoh	...	...	...	26 0	26 0	23 8	220 0	220 0	210 0	8 8	10 12	10 12	8 0	10 8	10 8	Damoh		
	Seoni	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	240 0	...	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 8	Seoni		
	Mandla	...	...	...	42 0	42 0	35 0	256 0	256 0	240 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 8	9 0	Mandla		
	Betúl	25 0	25 0	25 0	42 0	42 0	35 0	256 0	256 0	240 0	10 8	11 0	9 8	10 0	10 8	9 0	Betúl		
	Chhindwára	13 8	13 8	15 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	320 0	320 0	240 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	9 0	8 0	9 0	Chhindwára		
	Hoshangabad	17 0	19 0	18 0	32 0	29 0	23 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	9 0	8 0	9 0	Hoshangabad		
	Narsinghpur	...	...	...	21 11	21 11	23 10	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	8 14	11 0	10 8	Narsinghpur		
	Nimár	...	...	...	24 4	24 8	26 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	Nimár		
	Raipur	...	...	...	18 7	19 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	13 4	12 12	12 12	13 0	Raipur		
	Sambalpur	...	...	...	29 8	30 0	32 0	64 0	64 0	60 0	10 6	9 8	8 4	10 0	9 0	7 12	Sambalpur		
	Bilaspur	...	...	...	18 0	19 8	30 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Bilaspur		
BRITISH BURMA.	*Arakan Division.*																		
	Akyab	120 0	120 0	150 0	36 0	36 0	48 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	...	...	...	...	9 0	7 0	Akyab		
	Northern Arakan	...	...	...	24 4	24 8	26 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	Northern Arakan		
	Kyoukpyoo	...	...	...	18 7	19 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	13 4	12 12	12 12	13 0	Kyoukpyoo		
	Sandoway	...	...	...	29 8	30 0	32 0	64 0	64 0	60 0	10 6	9 8	8 4	10 0	9 0	7 12	Sandoway		
	Pegu Division.																		
	Rangoon Town	...	...	...	19 7	19 7	19 7	320 0	320 0	324 0	50 11	50 11	50 11	22 10	22 10	22 10	Rangoon Town		
	Hanthawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Hanthawaddy		
	Tharrawaddy	...	...	...	16 5½	17 13½	14 4½	535 11½	535 11½	535 11½	...	...	...	29 12½	32 7½	29 12½	Tharrawaddy		
	Prome	...	...	...	15 9	15 9	17 12	139 11	139 11	139 11	25 5	25 5	29 9	16 9	16 9	18 10	Prome		
	Irrawaddy Division.																		
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	183 8	183 8	183 8	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	Henzada		
	Bassein	...	...	...	11 9	11 9	14 8	265 7	237 0	159 12	28 9	26 0	35 7	21 4	19 8	25 6	Bassein		
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Thonegwa		
	Thayetmyo	...	...	...	14 12	14 12	18 7	245 0	245 0	245 0	25 5	25 5	20 13	18 15	18 15	14 2	Thayetmyo		
	Tenasserim Division.																		
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	...	...	...	12 2	12 2	11 1	220 0	220 0	220 0	32 5	32 5	47 7	22 12	22 12	35 8	Moulmein Town & Amherst		
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Tavoy		
	Mergui	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Mergui		
	Toungoo	...	...	...	12 8	12 9	12 9	24 0	24 0	24 0	30 12	25 2	30 12	18 12	18 12	18 12	Toungoo		
	Shwegyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	250 0	250 0	32 3	25 4	32 3	18 14	18 14	18 14	Shwegyin		
	Salween	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Salween		
HYDERABAD AS.	Secunderabad	29 9	29 9	...	16 12	16 12	17 12	130 0	130 0	125 0	10 14	10 14	10 11	10 6	10 6	10 3	Secunderabad		
	Bolarum	...	...	...	18 10	19 2	18 15	116 14	116 14	116 14	...	...	...	10 12	10 12	10 12	Bolarum		
	Chudderghat	...	...	...	18 0	17 0	18 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	9 8	Chudderghat		
	Amraoti	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	20 0	60 0	64 0	64 0	12 8	13 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Amraoti		
	Akola	8 0	8 0	7 8	18 0	17 0	22 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Akola		
	Ellichpur	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	Ellichpur		
	Buldána	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	Buldána		
	Wún	...	...	...	18 0	19 0	22 0	300 0	300 0	100 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 4	8 0	Wún		
	Basim	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	26 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 8	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	Basim		

(*a*) Wheat, bajra, jowar, gram and salt rising; barley falling. (*f*) Jowar rising; wheat, barley, bajra and gram falling. (*g*) Barley, jowar and bajra rising.
(*h*) Wheat, barley and gram rising.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF JULY 1883—*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
Mysore	Bangalore	11 11	11 7	11 5	12 13	12 12	13 0	9 13	9 14	9 9	11 0	10 15	11 0	21 7	27 12	22 14	...	...	...	29 15	29 12	29 6	84 0	84 0	96 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 12	12 12	12 12*	Bangalore	Mysore
	Kolar	...	...	...	11 2	11 2	12 0	12 14	11 11	13 15	15 3	15 3	15 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 13	31 7	25 13	172 6	172 6	172 6	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 3	13 3	13 3*	Kolar	
	Túmkúr	14 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	13 8*	13 0	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 2	37 2	28 13	340 0	*340 0	340 0	11 0	10 8	11 0	10 8	10 0	10 8*	Túmkúr	
	Mysore	10 8	10 8	10 4	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	10 12	12 0	12 0	11 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	39 0	40 0	30 0	34 0	34 0	36 0	8 8	8 12	8 4	8 4	8 8	8 0*	Mysore	
	Hassan	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	20 0	32 0	32 0	28 0	75 0	75 0	72 0	...	...	...	No return received		Hassan	
	Shimoga	14 11	14 11	11 9	14 11	16 13	13 10	11 9	11 9	10 8	16 13	15 12	12 10	35 11	34 10	25 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	480 0	480 0	480 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	9 7	9 7	10 0*	Shimoga	
	Kadur	14 0	14 0	16 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	34 11	32 1	31 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 0*	Kadur	
	Chitaldroog	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Chitaldroog	
Coorg	Coorg	8 11	9 5	7 12	9 14	10 2	8 8	13 0	13 1	10 10	17 8	18 0	13 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 1	24 4	19 14	25 11	26 5	20 14	110 0	110 0	110 0	9 12	9 7	9 1	9 3	8 15	8 12	Coorg	Coorg
Rajpootana	Jeypore	17 0	16 8	16 8	22 8	23 0	21 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	24 0	22 0	20 0	20 8	19 0	18 4	...	...	...	22 0	21 4	17 0	...	...	...	14 8	14 8	14 0	14 4	14 4	13 8	Jeypore	Rajpootana
	Kishengurh	17 4	17 8	16 0	23 4	22 8	21 8	10 0	11 0	8 0	11 0	12 0	9 0	26 0	23 0	21 0	18 4	17 0	17 0	...	...	...	24 4	24 0	20 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	Kishengurh	
	Kerrowlee	20 0	19 6	16 0	25 0	26 14	18 8	12 8	12 8	12 8	13 12	13 12	13 8	25 0	26 14	18 8	21 4	22 8	16 0	...	...	...	25 0	25 10	18 8	...	...	...	13 1	13 14	13 10	12 12	13 0	13 8	Kerrowlee	
	Ulwur	19 3	19 3	17 15	25 12	26 9	22 3	8 10	8 10	8 0	11 0	10 10	11 10	22 14	23 7	22 0	22 4	22 14	16 3	...	...	...	25 8	26 6	21 2	...	...	...	15 12	15 12	15 13	15 0	15 6	Ulwur	
	Bhurtpore (City)	18 11	18 1	17 8	27 4	28 4	23 8	7 12	7 12	6 8	9 6	9 6	11 8	21 8	27 4	20 8	22 12	22 12	17 8	...	...	...	26 0	26 0	21 0	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	14 4	12 13	13 0	14 0	Bhurtpore (City)	
	Ajmere	15 8	15 8	15 0	22 8	23 0	21 8	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	19 0	16 0	18 0	16 0	14 0	18 0	...	...	...	24 0	23 0	21 0	70 0	70 0	70 0	17 0	17 0	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	Ajmere	
	Deoli Cantonment	19 6	19 4	16 7	25 14	25 6	20 6	...	...	...	13 0	13 8	10 8	25 0	23 0	20 0	18 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	25 14	25 5	20 5	...	...	...	13 4	13 12	...	12 12	13 8	13 0	Deoli Cantonment	
																													R a. p. per md.	R a. p. per md.	R a. p.					
Meywar	Erinpura	16 0	16 0	16 10	27 8	27 8	29 0	...	...	...	8 2	8 2	8 0	20 0	20 0	25 0	19 0	19 0	23 0	...	...	...	20 4	20 4	23 0	160 0	160 0	170 0	2 13 9	2 13 9	3 1 2	13 0	13 0	12 0	Erinpura	Meywar
	Sirohee	13 4	13 4	17 8	25 0	25 0	28 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	21 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 5	12 5	12 5	Sirohee	
	Abu	12 8	12 0	15 2	19 2	18 12	22 12	6 12	6 12	6 8	8 4	8 4	8 0	...	...	...	14 14	14 7	18 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 12 0	11 8	11 8	10 8	Abu	
	Anadra	13 12	13 4	17 0	21 12	21 4	26 0	7 8	7 8	7 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	...	...	...	16 8	16 0	21 0	...	...	...	17 0	17 8	20 12	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 8 0	12 4	12 4	11 8	Anadra	
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	20 0	20 0	20 0	27 0	26 0	28 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	24 0	25 0	†	†	‡	3 10 0	3 10 0	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	
																													S. Ch. per md.	S. Ch. per md.	S. Ch.					
	Meywar (Oodeypore)	13 10½	13 10½	14 10½	18 0¾	17 15½	19 8½	10 2¼	10 2¼	10 2¼	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 9¼	17 3	17 15½	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 9 R a. p. per md.	9 9 R a. p. per md.	10 8¾ R a. p. per md.	9 6	9 6	10 2½	Meywar (Oodeypore)	
	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	
	Partábgarh („)	16 6½	15 11½	16 1	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 15	11 4	11 4	13 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 9	20 15	20 0	...	...	...	2 6 6	...	...	16 11	16 9	10 0	Partábgarh („)	
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	15 15	15 10	15 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	6 4	6 4	5 0	7 8	7 8	6 14	20 0	21 4	17 8	17 8	18 4	18 12	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	18 12	...	...	...	2 10 0 S. Ch. per md.	2 9 0 S. Ch. per md.	2 9 0 S. Ch. per md.	15 5	15 10	15 0	Marwar (Jodhpore)	
Rajpootana	Bikaneer	11 1	11 11	12 0	...	...	...	3 8	3 8	3 2	5 12	6 4	6 8	...	...	...	19 6	19 12	17 4	...	...	...	19 8	17 8	16 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	Bikaneer	Rajpootana
	Boondee	21 0	21 0	16 8	30 0	30 8	25 12	10 0	10 0	9 8	10 8	11 0	10 0	27 0	25 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	31 8	25 0	160 0	160 0	140 0	11 4	12 4	11 12	11 0	12 0	11 8	Boondee	
	Kotah	20 0	20 0	15 12	25 0	25 0	20 0	10 0	10 0	8 12	13 0	13 0	11 0	26 0	26 0	19 8	15 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	22 12	240 0	240 0	240 0	12 0	12 12	12 4	11 8	12 4	11 12	Kotah	
	Tonk	18 12	19 0	14 0	24 8	25 4	20 0	7 0	7 8	7 0	7 8	8 8	10 0	26 0	25 8	21 6	...	...	16 5	...	...	...	24 8	26 0	19 9	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 8	12 4	12 0	12 0	12 0	Tonk	
	Jhallawar	17 14	19 13	14 9¼	23 10	23 10	15 14	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	8 14	22 10	23 6	16 8¼	17 1	18 6	13 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 2	10 8	9 15½	9 14	10 4	9 11½	Jhallawar	
	Shahpoora	20 0	17 7	17 1	23 7	23 4	21 5	13 8	13 12	9 8	16 0	16 3	13 8	17 0	18 3	18 4	17 0	17 0	16 1	...	...	...	23 11	25 13½	20 11	...	...	...	12 7	13 2	13 2	12 5	13 0	13 0	Shahpoora	
	Dholpur	17 1	17 2	16 13	24 13	25 12	22 8	10 2	10 2	10 2	11 4	11 4	12 6	23 6	23 10	21 6	21 1	22 8	21 8	...	...	...	23 12	23 3	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 8	12 15	12 15	12 10	12 2	12 3	Dholpur	
																							23 14	25 1	21 7	...	...	...								
Central India	Indore	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Indore	Central India
	Gwalior																																		Gwalior	
	Goona																																		Goona	
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)																																		Baghelkhand (Sutna)	

* Sea Salt.

† Ten pies per bundle.

‡ Eight pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JUNE 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1360, 1361, 1362, 1363, 1364 AND 1365 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 28th JULY 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Divisions.	Districts.	Rice. Best sort. Present forthright. S. C.	Past forthright. S. C.	Correspondg. fortht. of last year. S. C.	Common. Present forthright. S. C.	Past forthright. S. C.	Correspondg. forthright of last year. S. C.	Barley. Present forthright. S. C.	Past forthright. S. C.	Correspondg. forthright of last year. S. C.	Wheat. Present forthright. S. C.	Past forthright. S. C.	Correspondg. forthright of last year. S. C.	Salt. Retail. Present forthright. S. C.	Past forthright. S. C.	Correspondg. forthright of last year. S. C.	Wholesale. Present forthright. S. C.	Past forthright. S. C.	Correspondg. forthright of last year. S. C.	Firewood. Present forthright. S. C.	Past forthright. S. C.	Correspondg. forthright of last year. S. C.	Gram. Present forthright. S. C.	Past forthright. S. C.	Correspondg. forthright of last year. S. C.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kiraro, Varagu, Cheena, Sawan, Morhva, Nuggle, &c.), Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c. Present forthright. S. C.	Past forthright. S. C.	Correspondg. forthright of last year. S. C.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), Penicillaria Spicata. Present forthright. S. C.	Past forthright. S. C.	Correspondg. forthright of last year. S. C.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), Holcus Sorghum. Present forthright. S. C.	Past forthright. S. C.	Correspondg. forthright of last year. S. C.	AVERAGE WAGES PER MONTH. Able-bodied Agricultural Labourer. R. a. p.	Syce or Horse-keeper. R. a. p.	Common Mason, Carpenter, or Blacksmith. R. a. p.
Godavery																																																	
Guntapur																																																	
Eastern Districts.																																																
Hooghly																																																	
Central Districts.																																																	
24-Pergunnahs																																																	
Rungpore																																																	
Darjeeling																																																	
Eastern Districts.																																																	
Nowakholly																																																	
Chittagong																																																	
Hill Tracts																																																	
Behar.																																																	
Patna																																																	
Mozufferpore																																																	
Maldah																																																	
Southal Pergunnahs																																																	
Orissa.																																																	
Balasore																																																	
Sylhet		13	13	14	17	17	17	14	13	...	4	11	12	3	5	6	6	6	6	108	108	108	4	11	16	13	13	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	0	0	12	0	0	15 to 30	7 to 6	12 to 30
Cachar		9	9	20	16	16	16	13	13	...	2	10	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	80	80	80	5	10	15	13	13	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0	12	0	0	15 to 20	7 to 6	15 to 20
Goalpárá		20	20	20	16	16	16	5	5	...	2	2	0	3	3	3	3	3	3	120	120	120	8	10	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0	12	0	0	12 to 15	7 to 6	15 to 22
Garo Hills		4	4	4	16	16	16	5	5	...	0	4	0	3	3	3	3	3	3	160	160	160	8	10	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0	12	0	0	15 to 30	7-8 to 6	7-8 to 45
Kámrúp		18	18	18	16	16	16	6	6	...	0	16	0	3	3	3	3	3	3	160	160	160	8	10	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0	12	0	0	18 to 30	8-0 to 8	0 to 0
Darrang		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	3	3	3	3	160	160	160	8	10	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0	12	0	0	8 to 30	10 to 7	8 to 30
Nowgong		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	3	3	3	3	120	100	120	8	10	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0	12	0	0	8 to 30	10 to 7	8 to 30
Sibságar		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	3	3	3	3	80	80	80	8	10	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0	12	0	0	12 to 30	9 0 0	20 to 50
Lakhimpur		8	8	8	16	16	16	7	7	...	0	8	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	160	160	160	8	10	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0	12	0	0	20 to 50	10 4 0	20 to 50
Khási and Jaintiá Hills		8	8	8	16	16	16	7	7	...	0	8	0	4	4	4	4	4	4	160	160	160	8	10	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0	12	0	0	15 to 30	11 4 0	15 to 30
Naga Hills		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	5	5	5	5	120	120	120	10	10	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0	12	0	0	30 to 60	20 to 7	30 to 60
																																										12 to 30	12 to 10	
																																										15 to 20	15 to 9	
																																										15 to 30	20 to 9	

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENTS OF IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF THE RABI CROP OF 1882-83 IN THE PUNJAB.

STATEMENT No. I.

Comparative Abstract of Irrigation and Rainfall in Canal Districts of the Punjab.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
DISTRICTS.	Area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	AREA IRRIGATED.		COMPARISON WITH LAST CROP.		RAINFALL IN RABI MONTHS.													
			Rabi, 1882-83.	Rabi, 1881-82.	Increase.	Decrease.	October.		November.		December.		January.		February.		March.		TOTAL.	
							1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1882-83.	1881-82.
Umballa	1,641,819	951,890	794	769	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3·8	2·8	...	2·0	1·5	0·1	5·3	4·9
Karnal	1,533,990	680,319	47,940	33,116	14,824	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2·3	2·6	0·1	1·9	1·2	...	3·6	4·5
Rohtak	1,159,350	906,022	40,229	26,263	13,966	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·7	2·1	...	1·0	0·8	...	1·5	3·1
Delhi	801,033	525,676	30,773	21,938	8,835	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·8	0·9	...	0·7	1·6	...	3·4	1·6
Hissár	2,265,428	1,161,761	46,054	26,685	19,369	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·9	2·3	...	0·5	2·4	...	4·3	2·8
Jind	...	...	35,473	23,448	12,025	...	...	0·3	...	...	...	...	5·5	2·6	...	0·3	0·1	...	5·6	3·2
Bikaner	...	...	227	605	...	378	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL W. J. CANAL	(1) 7,408,550	(1) 4,225,668	201,190	132,824	69,044	378	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gurdáspur	1,168,314	856,230	11,213	12,087	...	874	...	0·30	...	...	...	...	2·94	2·98	0·15	1·31	1·65	0·11	4·74	4·70
Amritsar	1,006,798	766,773	82,330	95,937	...	13,607	...	...	...	...	...	...	3·30	2·57	...	1·83	0·30	0·12	3·60	4·52
Lahore	2,334,552	1,164,921	113,602	133,106	...	19,504	...	...	...	...	...	...	2·90	1·70	0·10	1·30	0·30	...	3·30	3·00
TOTAL B. D. CANAL	4,509,664	2,787,924	207,145	241,130	...	33,985	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lahore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Montgomery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mooltan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dera Gházi Khan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL INUNDATION CANALS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL	(2) 11,918,214	(2) 7,013,592	408,635	373,954	69,044	34,363	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

	Acres.
Area irrigated 1882-83	408,635
Ditto ditto 1881-82	373,954
Net Increase	34,681

(1) These figures differ from those shown in the returns for rabi 1881-82, in consequence of the omission of Gurgaon from this statement, in which district no irrigation is shown.
(2) These figures differ from those shown in return for corresponding crop of previous year, in consequence of the omission of the Inundation Canals from the present return.

STATEMENT No. II.

Statement in Acres of Crops irrigated in Canal Districts.

DESCRIPTION OF CROPS.	Umballa.	Karnal.	Rohtak.	Delhi.	Hissár.	Jind.	Bikaner.	Gurdáspur.	Amritsar.	Lahore.	Montgomery.	Mooltan.	Dera Ghazi Khan.	Shahpur.	Muzaffargarh	TOTAL.
Wheat	277	39,909	33,088	22,939	35,628	23,092	138	6,876	57,240	91,938	...	...	...	...	...	308,125
Barley	25	816	139	5	1,189	620	7	391	693	643	...	...	...	...	...	4,534
Mixed Grain	...	4,032	5,714	4,067	5,112	5,751	65	448	1,595	1,126	...	...	...	...	...	27,820
Others	402	6,183	1,288	3,762	4,125	6,004	17	3,498	22,892	19,895	...	...	...	...	...	68,156
TOTAL RABI, 1882-83	704	47,940	40,229	30,773	46,054	35,473	227	11,213	82,330	113,602	...	...	...	...	...	408,635
TOTAL RABI, 1881-82	769	33,116	26,263	21,938	26,685	23,448	605	12,087	95,937	133,106*	...	...	...	...	...	* 373,954*

* These figures differ from those shown in return for corresponding crop of previous year, in consequence of the omission of the Inundation Canals from the present return.

STATEMENT No. III.

Statement in Acres of Crops irrigated in Canal Divisions.

DESCRIPTION OF CROPS.	WESTERN JUMNA CANAL.				BARI DOAB CANAL.			Upper Sutlej Division Inundation Canals.	Lower Sutlej and Chenab Division Inundation Canals.	Dera Ghazi Khan Division Indus Canals.	Shahpur Canals.	TOTAL.
	Karnal Division.	Hansi Division.	Delhi Division.	TOTAL.	1st Division.	2nd Division.	TOTAL.					
Wheat	7,279	77,112	67,686	152,077	25,632	130,422	156,054	...	...	...	...	308,131
Barley	558	2,244	6	2,807	440	1,287	1,727	...	...	...	...	4,534
Mixed Grain	...	15,073	9,668	24,741	939	2,140	3,079	...	...	...	...	27,820
Others	2,179	12,767	6,925	21,871	10,576	35,709	46,285	...	...	...	...	68,156
TOTAL RABI, 1882-83	10,010	107,196	84,284	201,490	37,587	169,558	207,145	...	...	...	...	408,635
TOTAL RABI, 1881-82	9,030	68,878	54,916	132,824	45,795	195,335	241,130	...	...	...	...	373,954*

* These figures differ from those shown in return for corresponding crop of previous year, in consequence of the omission of the Inundation Canals from the present return.

R. HOME, *Colonel, R.F*
Joint-Secretary to Govt., Punjab, P. W. D., gation Branch.

D

GOVERNMENT

OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Comparative Statement of Irrigation and Rain-fall on Canals in the Deccan and Gujarát for the Year 1882-83.

Number.	Collectorate.	Name of Work.	Area under Command.		Area Irrigated.						Rain-fall.			Remarks.
					Fusl Kharif, 1882-83.			*Fusl* Rabi, 1882-83.			Whole Year 1882-83.			
			Gross Acres.	Irrigable Acres.	Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.		Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.		Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.		
						Increase.	Decrease.		Increase.	Decrease.		Increase.	Decrease.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11	12	13	14	15	20
1	Ahmedabad.	Hátmati Canal	36,000	31,231	1,043	...	470	915	...	93	1,958	...	563	
2	Ahmedabad.	Khari Cut	3,890	3,890	378	300	...	...	...	...	378	300	...	
3	Khándesh.	Hartala Tank	584	527	13	...	6	88	88	...	101	82	...	
4	Khándesh.	Mukti Reservoir (*Lower Pánjhra River Works.*)	13,117	12,627	311	...	99	693	167	...	1,004	68	...	
5	Khándesh.	Mhasva Tank	4,093	3,912	58	...	30	129	78	...	187	48	...	
6	Khándesh.	Jamda Canals	46,288	40,185	142	...	267	938	186	...	1,080	...	81	
7	Násik.	Palkher Canals (*Kádwa River Works.*)	26,031	19,188	480	...	108	413	...	22	893	...	130	
8	Násik.	Wadáli Canal (*Kádwa River Works.*)	2,739	2,152	124	...	60	82	40	...	206	...	20	
9	Násik.	Ojhár Tambat Canal (*Kádwa River Works.*)	6,730	5,212	81	...	8	61	50	...	142	42	...	At Niphád.
10	Ahmednagar.	Ojhár Canal (*Pravara River Works.*)	23,624	20,088	914	...	382	1,494	...	808	2,408	...	685	Rain-fall at Ashwi.
11	Ahmednagar.	Lákh Canal (*Pravara River Works.*)	29,913	22,760	110	...	24	127	...	55	237	...	79	
12	Ahmednagar.	Bhátodi Tank	14,738	12,485	430	55	...	593	188	...	1,023	238	...	
13	Poona.	Mutha Canals	88,087	44,800	5,394	938	...	3,695	...	822	9,059	116	...	Figures of rain-fall are those of Civil Hospital at Poona. The fall at Urúli at 38th mile of Mutha Right Bank Canal was, 1881-82, K. 6·96, R. 1·50, T. 8·46; 1882-83, K. 13·43, R. 1·99, T. 15·42, the rain-fall at Kásurdi, the 44th mile, and at Khadgaon, the 61st mile, is given opposite Kásurdi and Máloba Tanks respectively.
	Poona.	Kásurdi Tank	597	478	37	37	...	123	79	...	160	116	...	

Percentage of Increase or Decrease.	1881-82 Inches.	1882-83 Inches.	Percentage of Increase or Decrease in 1882-83.
22	K. 41·04 R. 0·04 T. 41·08	19·35 0·3 19·38	112
79	K. 33·74 R. ·10 T. 33·84	31·10 0·0 31·10	9
431	K. 15·35 R. ·62 T. 15·97	21·17 0·60 21·77	36
7	K. 12·32 R. 1·10 T. 13·42	26·09 0·32 26·41	97
35	K. 14·47 R. 2·20 T. 16·67	31·54 0·0 31·54	89
7	K. 16·21 R. 3·24 T. 19·45	20·09 0·22 20·31	4
13	K. 16·26 R. 3·06 T. 19·32	44·48 1·95 46·43	140
9	K. 15·46 R. 1·64	29·86 ·70	
42	T. 17·10	30·56	78
22	K. 9·43 R. 1·09 T. 10·52	24·83 1·37 26·20	149
25	K. 13·37 R. 4·50 T. 17·87	17·22 1·24 18·46	8
30	K. 14·26 R. 2·73 T. 16·99	29·77 1 23 31·00	82
1	K. 17·61 R. 4·38 T. 21·99	27·33 4 35 31·68	44
264	K. 6·11 R. 2·98 T. 9·09	18·61 2·69 21·30	134

Comparative Statement of Irrigation and Rain-fall

Number.	Collectorate.	Name of Work.	Area under Command.		Area Irrigated.					
					Fasl Kharif, 1882-83.			*Fasl* Rabi, 1882-83.		
					Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.		Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.	
			Gross Acres.	Irrigable Acres.		Increase.	Decrease.		Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11	12
15	Poona.	Mátoba Tank	10,700	7,133	621	310	...	1,311	387	...
16	Poona.	Sirsuphal Tank	4,500	2,500	...	...	109	200	199	...
17	Poona.	Bhadalvadi Tank	1,900	1,520	47	...	62	84	45	...
18	Sholápur.	Ekrúk Tank	17,149	15,318	786	...	21	520	97	...
19	Sholápur.	Ashti Tank	6,940	6,047	137	60	...	111	29	...
20	Sátára.	Revári Canal	3,812	3,682	160	...	40	359	161	...
21	Sátára.	Yearla Canals	7,580	7,160	403	...	34	346	...	136
22	Sátára.	Pingli Tank (Upper Mán River Works.)	3,470	3,066	118	90	...	182	89	...
23	Sátára.	Gondoli Canal (Upper Mán River Works.)								
24	Sátára.	Maini Tank	4,876	4,625	467	...	238	275	69	...
25	Sátára.	Chikhli Canal	1,870	1,477	179	...	15	38	38	...
26	Sátára.	Krishna Canal	28,131	27,075	1,498	...	1,875	1,525	552	...
27	Dhárwár.	Dambal Tank	3,955	3,885	21	21	...	...	...	...
28	Dhárwár.	Madag Tank	2,045	2,024	321	...	128	161	...	32
		Total	3,93,354	3,05,047	14,278	...	2,165	14,463	1,074	...

on Canals in the Deccan and Gujarát for the Year 1882-83—continued.

Irrigated. Whole Year, 1882-83.			Percentage of Increase or Decrease.	Rain-fall.		Percentage of Increase or Decrease in 1882-83.	Remarks.
Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82. Increase.	Decrease.		1881-82 Inches.	1882-83 Inches.		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
				K. 8·36 R. 4·21	11·85 1·65		
1,932	697	...	56	T. 12·57	13·50	7	
				K. 10·06 R. 3·54	11·10 2·32		
200	90	...	82	T. 13·60	13·42	1	
				K. 9·75 R. 4·67	23·12 1·12		
131	...	17	11	T. 14·42	24·24	68	Work opened for first time in 1881.
				K. 17·38 R. 3·10	36·79 2·28		
1,306	76	...	6	T. 20·48	39·07	90	
				K. 15·09 R. 5·24	23·60 4·93		
248	89	...	56	T. 20·33	28·53	40	
				K. 15·44 R. 7·24	34·95 3·22		
519	121	...	30	T. 22·68	38·17	68	
				K. 11·67 R. 7·21	30·06 3·68		
749	...	170	18	T. 18·88	33·69	78	
				K. 10·48 R. 4·76	21·27 1·99		
				T. 15·24	23·26	52	Pingli rain-fall.
				K. 9·54 R. 5·11	18·81 1·98		
300	179	...	148	T. 14·65	20·79	41	Gondoli ditto.
				K. 11·97 R. 10·76	24·23 1·18		
748	...	169	19	T. 22·73	25·41	11	
				K. 10·34 R. 4·58	31·71 3·65		
217	28	...	12	T. 14·92	37·36	150	
				K. 11·15 R. 3·74	41·32 2·48		
3,023	...	1,333	30	T. 14·89	43·80	194	
				K. 8·04 R. 8·71	16·36 3·36		
21	21	...	21	T. 16·75	19·72	17	
				K. 7·63 R. 5·16	36·66 1·26		
482	...	160	25	T. 12·79	37·92	196	
23,726	...	1,091	5		*18·08	69	* Average of 27 Stations.

Note.—Figures in black in columns 15 and 16 show percentage of decrease.

J. LeMESURIER, *Colonel, R.E.,*
Offg. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXVI OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 8th July 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 7th July 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 8th July 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 7th July 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
14th July 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	56,011	326	207	72,450	350	10,22,283	420	12,70,757	438	2,48,474	...
7th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	72,329	132	547	89,668	164	15,51,243	200	18,25,969	239	2,74,726	...
7th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi .	676	1,77,494	263	749	2,72,803	364	27,67,123	289	35,79,922	344	8,12,799	...
7th ditto	Madras . . .	861	1,31,165	152	861	1,32,068	153	20,12,788	165	18,47,786	153	...	1,65,002
7th ditto	South Indian . .	655	78,502	120	655	72,610	111	11,50,294	124	11,12,080	121	...	38,214
14th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	4,46,668	306	1,451	3,51,894	243	1,11,40,923	543	1,20,58,454	594	9,17,531	...
7th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	1,36,377	296	461	98,263	213	36,49,575	559	39,31,165	609	2,81,590	...
	TOTAL .	4,830	10,98,546	227	4,931	10,89,756	221	2,32,94,229	342	2,56,26,133	372	23,31,904	...
	State.												
14th July 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	7,69,686	511	1,509	10,60,804	703	1,24,71,706	535	1,51,52,008	717	26,80,302	...
14th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	33	2,611	79	56	4,990	89	58,362	137	86,115	116	27,753	...
14th ditto	Nalhati . .	27	1,097	41	27	1,381	51	19,805	52	23,058	61	3,253	...
14th ditto	Northern Bengal .	283	28,029	99	289	24,860	104	5,18,354	157	5,63,894	175	45,540	...
14th ditto	Tirhoot . . .	82	11,055	135	166	15,846	95	1,81,297	151	2,33,787	101	51,490	...
9th June 1883	Patna-Gya . .	57	7,027	123	...	(*a*)	...	(*b*)1,02,446	177	(*c*)99,297	174	...	3,149
14th July 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	1,496	52	29	1,593	55	32,949	80	36,464	90	3,515	...
14th ditto	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	5,113	59	87	6,031	69	94,714	77	96,618	79	1,904	...
15th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	574	48	12	943	79	15,462	91	16,539	98	1,077	...
14th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	1,64,373	147	1,117	2,15,500	193	32,73,240	207	38,24,095	244	5,50,855	...
7th ditto	Wardha Coal . .	45	1,430	32	45	12,840	285	1,84,505	290	2,23,643	355	39,138	...
7th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	4,589	47	149	10,118	68	2,18,294	157	5,35,389	258	3,17,095	...
7th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawadi Valley .	161	17,357	108	161	20,723	129	4,54,877	200	4,35,466	193	...	19,411
7th ditto	Sindia . . .	75	5,701	76	75	7,030	94	91,705	86	82,014	78	...	9,691
7th ditto	Punjab Northern .	412	50,043	121	419	59,558	142	8,58,961	153	8,44,795	144	...	14,166
7th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	1,07,220	162	660	1,88,468	286	12,41,659	133	23,77,406	257	11,35,747	...
7th ditto	Muttra-Achnera .	23	935	41	23	1,090	47	17,752	54	20,672	64	2,920	...
14th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	1,240	39	32	2,058	64	22,266	48	27,399	61	5,133	...
14th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	8,400	94	...	...	93,017	74	93,017	...
	TOTAL .	3,183	4,04,890	127	3,386	5,81,429	172	73,86,588	165	96,18,608	200	22,32,020	...
	Native States.												
7th July 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	10,366	53	193	8,584	44	3,86,088	122	3,78,363	140	42,335	...
7th ditto	Nizam's . . .	121	10,795	89	121	12,960	107	2,49,678	146	2,10,810	124	...	38,868
30th June 1883	Mysore . . .	86	4,286	50	...	(*a*)	...	(*d*)74,308	65	(*e*)68,112	61	...	6,196
14th July 1883	Jodhpore . . .	19	8	...	19	570	30	(*f*)42	...	10,626	40	10,584	...
	TOTAL .	420	25,455	61	333	22,114	66	6,60,066	116	6,97,911	119	7,845	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,940	22,98,577	231	10,159	27,54,103	271	4,38,12,589	313	5,10,64,660	354	72,52,071	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,03,78,890	145	2,48,40,997	172	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS .	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,34,33,699	168	2,62,23,663	183	27,89,964	...

(*a*) Return not received.
(*b*) Total receipts from 1st April to 10th June 1883.
(*c*) Total receipts from 1st April to 9th June 1883.
(*d*) Total receipts from 1st April to 30th June 1883.
(*e*) Total receipts from 1st April to 30th June 1883.
(*f*) Total receipts from 24th June to 8th July 1883.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, Major, R.E.,
Offg. Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

No. XXVII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest Return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 15th July 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 14th July 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 15th July 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 14th July 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
21st July 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	70,649	411	207	72,173	349	10,92,933	419	13,42,930	433	2,49,997	...
14th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhund .	547	92,763	170	547	91,014	166	16,44,006	199	19,14,087	233	2,70,081	...
14th ditto	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	676	1,70,226	252	749	2,33,310	311	29,37,349	287	38,13,233	343	8,75,884	...
14th ditto	Madras . . .	861	1,34,887	157	861	1,34,624	156	21,47,675	165	19,91,714	154	...	1,55,961
14th ditto	South Indian . .	655	61,709	94	655	77,497	118	12,12,003	122	11,89,577	121	...	22,426
21st ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	3,51,278	241	1,451	3,16,348	218	1,15,86,975	527	1,23,74,802	566	7,87,827	...
14th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	1,13,496	246	461	54,337	118	37,63,071	539	39,74,874	575	2,11,803	...
	TOTAL .	4,830	9,95,008	206	4,931	9,79,303	199	2,43,84,012	334	2,66,01,217	360	22,17,205	...
	State.												
21st July 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	8,26,210	548	1,509	9,75,953	647	1,32,97,916	582	1,61,21,713	713	28,23,797	...
14th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern . .	33	2,434	74	56	4,610	82	60,796	134	1,01,274	130	40,478	...
21st ditto	Nalhati . . .	27	1,101	41	27	1,422	53	20,906	51	24,839	61	3,933	...
14th ditto	Northern Bengal .	283	33,075	142	289	32,760	137	5,51,430	156	5,86,605	169	35,175	...
21st ditto	Tirhoot . . .	82	11,951	146	166	17,079	103	1,93,187	150	2,53,801	103	60,614	...
9th June 1883	Patna-Gya . .	57	6,953	122	...	(*a*)	...	(*b*)1,02,446	177	(*c*)99,297	174	...	3,149
21st July 1883	Muttra-Hathras .	29	1,586	55	29	1,561	54	34,535	78	38,169	88	3,634	...
21st ditto	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	6,405	74	87	5,346	61	1,01,120	77	1,01,964	78	844	...
14th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur .	12	659	55	12	674	56	16,121	89	17,193	96	1,072	...
21st ditto	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	1,27,603	114	1,117	1,12,900	101	34,10,843	202	39,59,367	286	5,48,524	...
21st ditto	Wardha Coal . .	45	991	22	45	10,772	239	1,85,496	272	2,34,185	347	48,689	...
14th ditto	Nagpore and Chhattisgarh . .	98	2,951	30	149	10,236	69	2,21,245	149	5,45,543	244	3,24,298	...
14th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawadi Valley .	161	18,505	115	161	20,592	128	4,73,382	194	4,56,163	189	...	17,219
14th ditto	Sindia . . .	75	7,429	99	75	6,905	92	99,134	87	99,062	88	...	72
14th ditto	Punjab Northern .	412	51,961	126	419	52,321	125	9,10,923	150	9,05,235	143	...	5,688
14th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	75,701	115	660	1,41,616	215	13,17,360	132	24,47,033	247	11,29,673	...
21st ditto	Muttra-Achnera .	23	873	38	23	1,090	47	18,625	53	22,026	64	3,401	...
21st ditto	Kaunia-Dharla . .	32	1,157	36	32	1,662	52	23,428	48	28,972	60	5,549	...
21st ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	5,520	62	...	...	1,02,161	77	1,02,161	...
	TOTAL .	3,183	3,61,335	114	3,386	4,27,066	126	77,40,972	161	1,00,22,889	194	22,81,917	...
	Native States.												
14th July 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	8,329	43	193	10,380	54	3,44,366	117	3,90,356	135	45,990	...
14th ditto	Nizam's . . .	121	13,676	105	121	16,109	133	2,62,354	148	2,27,297	125	...	35,057
7th ditto	Mysore . . .	86	4,917	57	...	(*a*)	...	(*d*)79,206	65	72,716	60	...	6,490
21st ditto	Jodhpur . . .	19	33	2	19	440	23	(*f*)74	...	11,459	40	11,385	...
	TOTAL .	420	25,955	62	333	26,929	81	6,86,000	112	7,01,828	112	15,828	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,940	22,08,508	222	10,159	24,09,251	237	4,61,08,900	307	5,34,47,647	346	73,38,747	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,19,33,548	146	2,48,76,607	161	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS .	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,41,75,352	161	2,85,71,040	185	43,95,688	...

(*a*) Return not received.
(*b*) Total receipts from 1st April to 10th June 1883.
(*c*) Total receipts from 1st April to 9th June 1883.
(*d*) Total receipts from 1st April to 8th July 1883.
(*e*) Total receipts from 1st April to 7th July 1883.
(*f*) Total receipts from 21st June to 16th July 1883.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, Major, R.E.,
Offg. Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

RULES FOR THE LEVY AND EXPENDITURE OF FEES ON MASONRY GRAVES AND MONUMENTS IN CEMETERIES AND CHURCHES THROUGHOUT INDIA.

No. $\frac{5}{196-212}$.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Home Department (Ecclesiastical),—dated Simla, the 9th August 1883.

Read again—

Home Department Resolution Nos. 4—218-63A., dated the 27th December 1882, sanctioning certain alterations in Rule II of Section II of the Rules contained in Home Department Notification, dated 12th December 1877, for the levy and expenditure of fees on masonry graves and monuments in cemeteries and churches throughout India.

Read also—

A letter from the Government of the Punjab, No. 1527, dated the 2nd ultimo, bringing to notice an alleged inconsistency in revised Rule II.

RESOLUTION.

The Governor General in Council is pleased to decide that revised Rule II of the Rules referred to in the preamble shall run as follows:—

"A further fee of one rupee per square foot shall be levied for the erection of a masonry monument in a burial ground, reduced to eight annas per square foot when the monument is of stone or marble, provided that the minimum fee payable for a monument shall be Rs. 5. No monument shall in any case be more than 3 feet in height. For a simple headstone or flat slab of stone or marble not more than 3 feet 6 inches in height and 2 feet in width a fee of Rs. 5 shall be payable. A fee of Rs. 75 shall be levied on a faculty for the erection of a monument in a church."

Notes.—(1) A tablet on the wall of a cemetery shall be regarded as a monument.

(2) "Simple headstone."—A cross of not greater height or length than 3 feet 6 inches is included in this description.

(3) In the case of a monument erected over a masonry grave, the aggregate of the fees under this Rule and Rule I will be one and a half rupees for each square foot of ground occupied.

(4) The term "stone or marble" does not include "slate."

(5) The fee of Rs. 75 levied on a faculty, drawn in the case of non-Government churches by the present incumbents of the office of Registrar of the Diocese in Calcutta and Bombay, shall cease on a vacancy occurring in that appointment. The money is to be spent in charity as in the case of Government churches.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Resolution be forwarded to the Government of the Punjab, with reference to the letter thence, No. 1527, dated the 2nd July 1883, and to other Local* Governments and Administrations for information; to the Public Works and Military Departments and the Department of Finance and Commerce; to the Bishop's Chaplain, the Venerable the Archdeacon of Calcutta, and the Senior Chaplain of the Church of Scotland.

*Madras.	Central Provinces.
Bombay.	British Burma.
Bengal.	Assam.
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	Coorg.
	Hyderabad.

Ordered further, that the Resolution be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

The following is published for general information :—

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TRANSPORT OF PILGRIMS FROM CAMARAN TO JEDDAH.

BRITISH EMBASSY ;
Therapia, 27th June 1883.

To

His Excellency the Viceroy of India, &c., &c., &c.

MY LORD,—With reference to my telegram of the 25th instant, I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that a contract, of which a copy is herewith enclosed, was signed on the 25th instant between the Vice-President of the Board of Health of Constantinople and the Agent of the Egyptian Khedivial Steam Boat Company, by which the latter engage to carry pilgrims from Camaran to Jeddah, after they have accomplished their term of quarantine, on payment of 25 shillings a head.

This service will commence as soon as the Camaran Lazaret is organized, and will cease 10 days before the Comban Bairam.

I have, &c.,

(Sd.) HUGH WYNDHAM,
Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires.

CONVENTION

Between the Sanitary Administration of the Ottoman Empire, represented by His Excellency Aarif Bey, Vice-President, and the Hon'ble Ternan Bey, Director of the Administration of the Mail Steamers Khedivieh, duly authorized, the following has been agreed on and stipulated with effect for the pilgrimage of 1883 :—

1. The Administration of the Khedivieh Steamers engage to transport from the Camaran island to the port of Jeddah all pilgrims who have finished their quarantine, and who have observed all the formalities and sanitary rules, with the sole exception of pilgrims carried from Camaran to Jeddah by the same boats which brought them to Camaran.

It is to be distinctly understood that a foreign boat can only carry those pilgrims from Camaran to Jeddah who have been brought to Camaran by that boat.

2. At first only one boat belonging to the Administration of the Khedivieh Steamers and capable of carrying at least one thousand pilgrims will be designed for this service.

If later on experience should show that this vessel is insufficient, a second ship belonging to the Administration will be designed for this service, so as not to delay the regular passage of those pilgrims who have finished their quarantine.

3. The service will begin as soon as the sanitary camps have been established in Camaran, of which the Administration of the Khedivieh will be informed by telegraph, and it will end 10 days before the beginning of the Bairam festival.

4. Each pilgrim will before leaving Camaran pay to the Administration 25 shillings for his passage from the Camaran bridge to Jeddah. If a pilgrim refuses to pay this sum, which has been fixed according to agreement with the Sanitary Council at Constantinople, the Administration will be entitled to refuse him a passage. Poor pilgrims, who are exempted from sanitary taxes, and who receive free rations during their stay in Camaran, will, when they show a certificate from Dr. Duca, Chief of the Sanitary Service, be recognized as such by the Administration of the Khedivieh, and they will obtain free passage on the Khedivieh steamers from Camaran to Jeddah.

5. Pilgrims who want first or second class accommodation must arrange for the cost with the Agent of the Khedivieh in Camaran.

6. The Administration of the Khedivieh Steamers has the exclusive right of carrying pilgrims from Camaran island to Jeddah. Competition will be formally prevented by the sanitary authorities in Camaran, with the exception mentioned in paragraph 1, of vessels which have been waiting for the pilgrims they have taken to Camaran.

7. The ships performing this special service and their pilgrim passengers will, unless cholera should have broken out during the passage, have free access to Jeddah and to all other Ottoman ports in the Red Sea.

In case cholera should break out during the passage between Camaran and Jeddah, ships and pilgrims will return to Camaran, and be subject to the quarantine of observation required by existing rules.

Constantinople, twenty-fifth of June, eighteen hundred and eighty-three (25th June U. S. 1883).

With the authorization of the General Direction of the Khedivieh Steamers.

The Vice-President of the Sanitary Council.
(Sd.) ARIF.

The Director at Constantinople.
(Sd.) TERNAN.

A. MACKENZIE,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 7th AUGUST 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The break in the rains noticed last week still continues ; and except in Bengal, Assam and Burma, the rainfall of the week has been generally light and insufficient. In the Madras Presidency the unirrigated crops of three districts are suffering from want of rain, but elsewhere agricultural prospects are on the whole good. In the Southern Mahratta districts of the Bombay Presidency continued dry weather is beginning to wither the crops, and rain is urgently wanted : along the western coast, where the fall has hitherto been heavy, the recent light rains have been favourable, but elsewhere in the Presidency more rain is wanted. In Sind the lowness of the river is causing anxiety. Little or no rain has fallen during the week in Hyderabad, Central India and Rajputana, and serious injury to crops is anticipated, particularly in Rajputana, if the break continues.

In Burma, Bengal, and Assam there has been sufficient, and in some places heavy, rain and prospects are favourable. Dry weather prevails over the Central Provinces ; the crops are still doing well, but more rain is wanted for the rice. In the eastern districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh there has been good rain, but elsewhere the fall has been scanty ; irrigation is being resorted to in the Meerut and Agra districts ; and except in Saharanpur, crop prospects are still good. Light showers have fallen in several districts of the Punjab, but rain is urgently wanted throughout that province.

Harvesting is in progress in Madras and later *kharif* sowings and transplanting of rice in Bombay. Young locusts are appearing in most of the Deccan districts, and vigorous measures are being taken to destroy them. In Hyderabad, Central India, Rajputana, the Central Provinces, and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh *kharif* sowings have been completed and the crops are being weeded. In the Punjab sowing is still going on.

In Burma ploughing is nearly finished ; sowing and transplanting are in progress, and the young crops promise well. Early rice is being reaped in Assam and Bengal and transplanting of late rice is going on. In parts of Bengal transplanting operations are retarded by excessive rain, and heavy floods have damaged the crops in parts of Cuttack.

Cattle-disease of a mild type continues to be generally prevalent. Cholera appears to be abating in Northern India, but is still severe in parts of Bombay and the Central Provinces.

Prices are rising in tracts where the rainfall has been unfavourable.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Aug. 8th)		
Bellary ...	·22 (average of five stations).	Standing crops—wet generally good, dry crops suffering ; harvest paddy, yield average.
Kurnool ...	·42 (average of four stations).	Standing crops thriving ; cattle-disease in six taluks.
Ganjam ...	1·0 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops red gram, gingelly, and sugarcane thriving ; cattle-disease slight.
Kistna ...	·4 (average of four stations).	Standing crops generally good ; small-pox, fever, guinea-worm, and cattle-disease slight.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	·53 (average of ten stations).	Standing crops good where water available ; harvest *kar*, paddy, &c., yield half ; small-pox and cattle-disease slight in three taluks.
Coimbatore ...	·39 (average of five stations).	Standing crops dry ; crops suffering from insects and want of rain in parts, elsewhere good ; harvest *cholum* and *cumboo* in parts, yield about average ; cholera in two taluks, 5 deaths ; fever slight in parts.
Tanjore ...	·36 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops generally good, except dry crops in parts of two taluks not flourishing for want of sufficient rain ; 40 deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	1·61 (average of four stations).	Standing crops fair in four taluks ; harvest paddy and dry crops in parts ; cholera slight in one village.
Malabar ...	1·63 (average of fourteen stations).	First crops progressing in all taluks ; small-pox slight in all taluks ; fever in four taluks ; cattle-disease slight in parts ; 14 deaths from cholera in two taluks.
Travancore ...	·088	Paddy in good condition and ripening ; fever prevails. *General Remarks.*—General prospects fair.
Bombay—(Aug. 8th)		
Kurrachee ...	*Nil*	More rain expected ; river at Kotri on 6th 15 feet 2 inches, against 19 feet 7½ inches on same date last year ; fever in five talukas ; small-pox in two villages in Sehwan and Ghorabari talukas, 6 fresh cases, 8 remaining sick ; wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 32 and 36, in Dadu 32 and 48, in Tatta 26, 29 and 36, and in Shahbandar 18, 36 and 40 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	.....	River greatly fallen, was 4 feet 5 inches lower on 6th than on same date last year, is causing much anxiety ; high winds prevail ; fever in one, cattle-disease in three, and small-pox in eight talukas ; wheat 25, *bajri* 40, *juari* 50, red rice 28, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	.....	Transplantation delayed in places for want of rain ; sowings continue ; wheat 26½ and *bajri* 29½ lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	*Nil*	Public health fair ; cholera of mild type appeared in Patan and Sidhpur of Kadi division and in Baroda city, there were 3 deaths ; rice and sugarcane in good condition ; prices risen ; *bajri* 23½ and rice 23 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Surat ...	·17	Total rainfall 38·07; sowing operations nearly completed; rain wanted; slight cholera in Surat, Olpad, and Bardoli, in all 19 cases, 10 deaths; *juari* 36½ and *nagli* 43½ lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	Igatpuri, 2·28; Peint, 1·84; slight elsewhere.	*Kharif* sowings vigorously continue; young locusts in eleven talukas; cholera in nine talukas, attacks 171, deaths 77; wheat 27, *bajri* 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Very little rain—total of week ·35.	Total rainfall to date 54·33, being 5·78 above average; abnormal temperature 1° to 2° warm; vapour in air normal; wind normal.
Poona ...	Slight showers during the week.	Cholera cases 346, fatal 151; insects supposed to be wing locusts appearing; *bajri* 37 and *juari* 47 lbs. per rupee, in Poona *bajri* 32 and *juari* 41 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	From ·04 to ·15 in Jamkhed, Newasa, Sangamner, and Akola; *nil* in the remaining talukas.	*Kharif* crops withering in Shrigonda, Karjat, and Sheogaon from want of rain; cholera 673 attacks, 352 deaths; *bajri*—maximum 51 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 33 lbs. in Akola; *juari*—maximum 66 lbs. per rupee in Karjat, minimum 36 lbs. in Akola.
Sholapur ...	·10	Total rainfall 14·12, more rain wanted; *juari* 63 and *bajri* 52 lbs. per rupee; cholera 788 attacks, fatal 304.
Dharwar ...	Maximum in Mugud, ·83; minimum in Mundargi, Navalgund, Nargund, and Ron, ·06.	Rain very badly wanted at the eastern talukas; standing crops promising, except in Ron where through absence of moisture they are withering; *juari* sowings still in progress; lands being prepared for sowing cotton in Dharwar, Hubli, Bankapur, and Kod; public health fair; *juari* 81 lbs. per rupee in Kod, elsewhere 73 to 42 lbs.; rice from 25 to 40 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara ...	In Karwar, 2·61; Kumpta, 3·66; Sirsi, 2·40; Hallial, ·99.	Total rainfall 103·90; rice plants, sugarcane, and garden crops healthy; small-pox in Sidhapur, Sirsi, and Kumpta, 3 deaths; common rice in Karwar 12½, in district average 13½ seers per rupee.
Rajkot ...	*Nil*	General health fair; weather cool and cloudy; rain wanted; crops thriving; cholera in some villages of Halar; *bajri* 30 and *juari* 33 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain in a few districts, more wanted everywhere, urgently in the Southern Mahratta Country; river very low in Sind; sowing and transplantation still in progress; locusts in Nasik, Khandesh, Poona, Colaba, and Ratnagiri; cholera in all districts of the Deccan and in Tanna, also slight in Colaba and parts of Guzerat and the Southern Mahratta Country; small-pox, fever, and cattle-disease in a few districts.
Bengal—**(Aug. 8th)**		
Chittagong ...	8·04	Weather seasonable; prospects of crops fair; transplanting of *amun* continues; prices steady; cholera and small-pox still reported.
Dacca ...	5·95	*Roachia* paddy being sown; *aus* paddy and jute being cut; prospects good; in Nawabgunge prospects of *aus* on low lands not so favourable.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	2·16	Prospects of both early and *amun* crops satisfactory; transplanting of *amun* going on briskly all over the district; price of common rice stationary; general health of people good; rivers rising.
Moorshedabad ...	2·14	Transplanting operations still in progress; *aus* and other crops doing well; public health generally good.
Rajshahye ...	1·62; heavy rain at Nattore.	Crops doing well; more rain wanted for *amun* crop.
Burdwan ...	8·42; heavy rain throughout district.	Transplanting progressing; prospects fair.
Rungpore ...	7·59	Weather hot and cloudy; prospects of crops good; harvesting of *aus* and transplanting of *amun* going on; cholera still prevalent in Kaligunge station.
Bhagalpur ...	8·91; weather rainy throughout district.	Prospects of autumn crops very good; transplanting of *aghani* paddy going on.
Purneah ...	3·23	Prospects of crops improved; transplanting operations proceeding; health fair; rivers rising.
Patna ...	3·46	Prospects of crops fair; transplanting of rice seedlings commenced; public health good.
Durbhunga ...	5·98	All prospects good; health fair; prices stationary.
Hazaribagh ...	4·64	Weather cloudy and rainy; transplanting of rice continues; prospects everywhere favourable; cholera still prevails in some parts of the district; general health good.
Cuttack ...	·96	Weather cloudy; low land *sarad* crops submerged owing to heavy floods in Jajpore and Kindrapara; public health good; sporadic cases of cholera reported from interior.
		General Remarks.—There has been sufficient rain in all parts of the province during the week, except in parts of Central Bengal where more rain is still needed; transplanting operations are in full progress, but are being retarded in some places by excessive rainfall; in parts of Cuttack the low land crops are said to have been submerged owing to heavy floods; prospects of all autumn crops and of sugarcane are generally reported to be very favourable; harvesting of *aus* rice and *jute* is proceeding in Central and Eastern Bengal, generally with a fair outturn; manufacture of indigo is going on in Nuddea and Sarun; fever has appeared in a few districts and cholera, though abating, is still prevalent in some places; small-pox and cattle-disease still linger in two or three districts.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Aug. 7th)	6·2 ; Chandausi 2·3	Sufficient rain has now fallen for the transplanting of *aghani* rice ; all other crops are doing well ; no sickness of men or cattle ; prices steady.
Allahabad („ 8th)	Slight rain—average in seven tahsils, 1·0.	Weather fine just now, apparently a break ; a few more cholera cases, some in cantonments of a mild type ; prices easy.
Gorakhpur („ 6th)	Good rain, especially in south.	Transplantation of rice commencing ; cattle-disease in east of district.
Jhansi ...	.....	Weather continuously cloudy, but rainfall scarcely sufficient ; crops in *mar* soil are prospering, those on *rakar* land want rain ; sowing of *til* and *bajri* in progress ; prices fluctuating ; health of people and cattle good.
Agra (Aug. 7th)	No rain	Well irrigation resorted to ; fever in one pargana ; sporadic cholera in three parganas ; prices steady.
Bareilly ...	.....	Scarcely any rain ; crops satisfactory ; prices remain steady ; cattle-disease diminished ; health of people good.
Meerut ...	No rain	Wind variable ; weather often cloudy ; no injury to crops as yet ; irrigation freely resorted to ; health good ; labour obtainable ; supplies sufficient ; prices steady.
Kumaun ...	Heavy rain doing much good.	Crops generally good ; health good ; cattle-disease increasing ; prices falling.
Lucknow („ „)	1·1	Weather fair ; good rains are reported to be very favourable for the *kharif* ; condition of the people and cattle normal ; prices of food-grains steady.
Partabgarh („ „)	Sadr, ·2 ; Patti, ·9	Prospects of crops good ; slight small-pox in Kunda tahsil ; general health good.
Sitapur („ „)	No rain at Sadr ; average in three tahsils, ·3.	Health good ; prospects good.
Fyzabad („ „)	Sadr, ·8 ; Akbarpur, ·4 ; Bikapur, ·6 ; Tanda ·7.	*Kharif* prospects good ; public health good ; cattle-disease in part of tahsil Akbarpur ; prices steady.
Rae Bareli („ 6th)	·1 average	Weather cloudy ; *kharif* crops doing well ; general health good ; prices steady.
Cawnpore („ 7th)	Average in five parganas, 1·2.	Prospects good ; health good ; prices stationary.
Farukhabad ...	.....	Weather clear, with hot sun ; health and condition of people generally good, but little fever prevails in the canal-watered tracts ; more rain desirable within a week.
		General Remarks.—There has been little rain during the week, except in Benares and Gorakhpur, but in most districts the prospects of the crops are still good ; more rain however is wanted in several districts and in Saharanpur some of the crops have begun to wither ; no injury has yet been caused to the crops in Meerut, where as in Agra irrigation is being resorted to ; the general health is good ; some cases of cholera of a mild type have occurred in Allahabad cantonments, and the disease is reported also from Agra and Saharanpur ; prices are generally steady.
Punjab—(Aug. 8th)		
Delhi ...	.....	Rain much wanted ; health good ; *kharif* sowings completed ; slight rise in prices.
Hissar ...	.....	Rain much wanted ; health good ; prices rising.
Umballa ...	·30	More rain wanted ; health fair ; *kharif* sowings in progress ; prices of food-grains rising owing to deficient rain.
Jullundur ...	·30	Health good ; crops backward ; prices rising.
Amritsar ...	.....	Rain much wanted ; health good ; prices rising.
Sialkot ...	2·0	More rain expected ; crop prospects improved ; health good ; fall in prices expected.
Ferozepore ...	.....	Rain wanted ; health good ; crops backward ; prices rising.
Lahore ...	.....	Rain much wanted ; crop prospects gloomy ; prices high.
Rawalpindi ...	·90	Fever and cattle-disease in Murree tahsil, health elsewhere good ; *kharif* prospects improved ; rise in prices.
Mooltan ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good ; prices rising.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	·40	Health good ; *kharif* sowings continue ; prices steady.
Peshawar ...	.....	Rain needed ; health good ; prices rising.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain in a few districts, but more is much wanted throughout the province ; health good, except in the Umballa district and in the Murree tahsil of the Rawalpindi district ; crop prospects, especially in the south, causing anxiety ; prices of food-grains rising.
Central Provinces—(Aug. 8th)		
Nagpur ...	.....	Weather close ; rain wanted for *juari* ; *tur* and cotton thriving ; 453 cases of cholera, 194 deaths ; prices firm.
Jubbulpore ...	.....	Weather cloudy, but no rain ; break beneficial for weeding ; crops thriving ; prices stationary.
Saugor (Aug. 7th)	.....	Rain much wanted for paddy especially, which is stunted ; cotton and other crops thriving ; prices steady ; health good.
Raipur ...	·24	Break too long, has retarded rice transplanting ; cholera increasing, 53 cases, 29 deaths ; price of wheat stationary, of rice slightly risen.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces— *contd.*		
Hoshangabad ...	.....	Weather clear and hot, cloudy occasionally ; prospects good ; weeding continues ; fever in Seoni tahsil ; small-pox slight ; wheat 16 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	·13	More rain wanted, weather cloudy occasionally ; prospects fair ; 352 cases of cholera, 149 deaths ; rice 16, wheat 16½, and *juari* 18¾ seers per rupee.
Raipur ...	·40	Weather very hot ; prospects favourable, but more rain urgently needed ; slight cholera in Rajnandgaon ; prices steady.
Sambalpur ...	.....	No report received.
		General Remarks.—Rain much wanted for rice and in less degree for millets ; prospects on the whole are favourable ; prices steady ; cholera continues severe in some places.
British Burma— (Aug. 8th)		
Akyab ...	12·99	Total rainfall up to date 119·83 ; 5 deaths from cholera in town, 6 in district ; ploughing nearly completed ; supply of seedlings for transplanting good ; 4 deaths of cattle in one township, in others health of plough cattle good.
Rangoon ...	2·21	Total rainfall up to date 46·76 ; 1 death from small-pox, otherwise public health good ; price of paddy from Rs. 85 to Rs. 93 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	·65	Total rainfall up to date 55·93 ; 2 deaths from cholera in town and 5 in one township, otherwise public health good ; 63 deaths of cattle in five townships ; ploughing much advanced ; transplanting suspended owing to small rainfall.
Prome ...	·84	Total rainfall up to date 28·19 ; 3 deaths from cholera in two townships, otherwise public health good ; 60 deaths of cattle in two townships ; ploughing and sowing progressing ; seedlings in good condition ; more rain required in some parts of Poungde.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	4·62	Total rainfall up to date 97·67 ; public health in Moulmein and district good ; 201 deaths of cattle in one township ; ploughing nearly completed ; health of plough cattle generally good ; sowing progressing ; crop prospects good ; nurseries healthy in Moulmein town ; ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing ; health of cattle good ; nurseries good ; state of supply of seedlings for transplanting fair.
Toungoo ...	6·26	Total rainfall up to date 47·88 ; public health good ; health of plough cattle good ; ploughing progressing ; ploughing wages six baskets of paddy per acre ; price of paddy Rs. 64 per 100 baskets.
Kyoukphyoo ...	5·35	Total rainfall up to date 98·74 ; extensive fever in Cheduba, otherwise public health and health of cattle good ; ploughing almost finished ; half district sown ; price of paddy risen to Rs. 30 per 100 baskets.
Sandoway ...	10·84	Total rainfall up to date 135·37 ; public health good ; agricultural prospects favourable ; wages of sowing and transplanting Rs. 1-8 per acre in central township ; seedlings for transplanting good.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health and health of cattle good, except slight foot-and-mouth disease among the cattle in Twantay ; ploughing and sowing progressing ; wages of ploughing from 60 to 100 baskets of paddy per man, and hire of cattle from 100 to 150 baskets per pair ; price of paddy varying from Rs. 95 to Rs. 105 per 100 baskets.
Pegu ...	2·35	Total rainfall up to date 71·52 ; public health fair ; slight cattle-disease in Hlaigoo and Pegu townships, but not fatal ; floods abated ; sowings quickly progressing ; paddy Rs. 90 to Rs. 95 per 100 baskets ; season favourable at present.
Tharrawaddy ...	6·52	Total rainfall up to date 65·44 ; public health good ; 30 deaths of cattle in two townships ; in all the other townships health of plough cattle good ; ploughing and sowing progressing ; supply of seedlings and general appearance of young plants good ; ploughing wages from 70 to 80 baskets per man to time of harvest ; price of paddy from Rs. 88 to Rs. 102 per 100 baskets.
Thongwa ...	5·49 for week ending 28th July ; 2·17 for week ending 4th August.	Total rainfall up to date 46·19 ; 3 deaths from small-pox in three townships, otherwise public health good ; 31 deaths of cattle in two townships ; health of plough cattle good in all other parts of the districts ; ploughing progressing ; some damage done to the nurseries in Thongwa township from floods ; general prospects good ; price of paddy from Rs. 80 to Rs. 85 per 100 baskets.
Henzada ...	1·38	Total rainfall up to date 48·23 ; public health good ; 4 deaths of cattle in one township ; ploughing and transplanting progressing ; supply of seedlings and general appearance of young plants good.
Thayetmyo ...	·53⅓	Total rainfall up to date 20·64 ; public health good ; ploughing continues ; transplanting half done.
Shwaygyin ...	6·12	Total rainfall up to date 87·95 ; public health and health of cattle fair ; ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing ; price of paddy Rs. 70.
Tavoy (July 20th)	8·62	Total rainfall up to date 118·70 ; public health and health of cattle good ; ploughing and sowing progressing ; general appearance of the young plants good, except in low lands where they have suffered from inundation.
Tavoy (Aug. 4th)	2·60	Total rainfall up to date 121·30 ; public health and health of cattle good ; ploughing and sowing completed ; general appearance of the plants good, except in Shwaygyoon where rats have destroyed the plants.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Mergui ...	8·55	Total rainfall up to date 84·29 ; public health and health of cattle good ; ploughing and sowing progressing ; 30 baskets of paddy for every pair of ploughing cattle employed.
		General Remarks.—Rainfall for the week less than corresponding week last year, and total rainfall from 1st January less than total rainfall registered up to date last year ; public health good ; cattle-disease reported in a mild form in most districts, but severe only in Amherst ; ploughing nearly finished ; sowing and transplanting progressing, and the young crops are reported healthy ; prices steady, but with a slight downward tendency.
Assam—(Aug. 8th)		
Gauhati ...	2·73	Weather hot and sultry ; public health fair ; cattle-disease still prevalent in the interior ; *ahu* paddy being reaped ; sowing of *sali* paddy commenced.
Sylhet ...	3·57	Prospects of crops favourable ; public health generally good.
Cachar ...	4·0	Weather rainy ; transplanting of *aus* crops finished and that of *sali* crop progressing ; common rice 16 seers per rupee ; 1 death from small-pox from Katigora reported ; general health good.
Dibrugarh ...	4·33	Weather rainy ; transplanting of *sali dhan* in progress ; cattle-disease reported from North Lakhimpur ; public health good.
Mysore and Coorg— (Aug. 8th)		
Bangalore ...	·42	Standing crops in good condition ; prospects favourable ; a few cases of cholera in the town of Bangalore.
Mysore ...	·62	Standing crops in good condition ; prospects and health good.
Mercara ...	2·63	The break which has taken place in the monsoon is favourable to agricultural operations ; transplanting of rice progressing ; want of labour impedes work on coffee estates.
		General Remarks.—Light rain in districts ; standing crops in good condition ; prospects favourable ; public health generally good ; no material change in prices.
Berar & Hyderabad— (Aug. 8th)		
Amraoti ...	.....	Crops in good condition ; weeding commenced ; wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	·13	Crops progressing favourably ; prospects good.
Hyderabad ...	No rain	*Kharif* crops prospering ; *ahi* sowings continue ; rain wanted ; cholera prevails in two talukas in a mild form ; no cattle-disease ; prices of wheat 15, coarse rice 10½, white *juari* 23, yellow *juari* 28, and *tur* 24½ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (Aug. 8th)		
Indore ...	.....	Rain is now wanted ; if the present break is prolonged, the later sown *kharif* crops will suffer ; cholera continues in the Indore city, but there is no epidemic ; prices have a downward tendency ; weather cool and pleasant.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	·07	Health good ; weather cloudy.
Sutna ...	·82	Health and prospects good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	·30	Prices rising ; high winds ; crops will suffer if rain does not fall shortly ; public health good.
Goona ...	.....	Health and crops good ; prices stationary.
Sehore ...	*Nil*	Weather cloudy ; crops and public health good.
Agar ...	.....	Cholera is abating at Agar ; rain is now much wanted.
Nowgong ...	·05	*Kharif* prospects favourable ; public health fair ; prices steady.
Manpur ...	.....	No report received.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Aug. 8th)	·11 ; rain very slight	More rain wanted ; clear week, with clouds and frequent and continual strong winds.
Sirohi („ 5th)	No rain	Tanks about half full ; fair amount of water in wells ; health good ; crops fair ; prices rising slightly owing to long break in rains ; fields being watered from wells ; rain much wanted.
Marwar („ 3rd)	No rain	Tanks all empty ; water obtained from wells with difficulty ; health good ; weather cloudy ; want of rain much felt and causes anxiety to people ; crops suffering for want of rain ; prices stationary.
Meywar („ 5th)	No rain	Tanks, wells, and health good ; crop prospects fair ; more rain badly wanted, weather cloudy.
Harowti („ 4th)	No rain	Prospects as yet favourable, but rain urgently needed ; 14 deaths from cholera at Kotah during week, disease spreading to villages on south-east of town, health elsewhere good ; prices rising.
Jhallawar („ 3rd)	.....	Rain wanted in some parts ; high west winds ; health good.
Ajmere („ 7th)	No rain	Clouds appear morning and evening ; state of crops critical ; cholera increasing in city.
Jeypore („ „)	*Nil*	Weather cloudy ; crops need rain ; cholera still present ; prices rising.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Aug. 7th)	.....	Rain urgently wanted to save crops ; 19 deaths from cholera in four tahsils ; cattle-disease in three tahsils ; prices steady ; weather cloudy.
Nepal—(Aug. 3rd)		
Katmandu ...	1·85 ; frequent showers of rain.	Agricultural prospects good ; weather rather hot.

No. 68 Met.

Extract from the proceedings of the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, (Meteorology), under date Simla, 10th August 1883.

Read the following:—

Memorandum of the chief weather characteristics of the month of July 1883 in India.

Except in the North-Western and at a few Central stations, the rainfall of the month shows on the whole comparatively little departure from the average.

After the disappearance of the storm noticed in the June summary, which passed from the Bay of Bengal across India, and during the first two days of the present month, still lay over the western half of the country, there occurred a general rise of the barometer, a corresponding decrease in the humidity of the atmosphere and a cessation of the rainfall over a large tract of country for two or three days. On the 5th or 6th, however, rain recommenced generally and continued for some time. In the eastern half of the North-Western Provinces, Assam, Bengal, Burma and the south of the Peninsula, it fell more or less on every day until the close of the month, but over Western and North-Western India, the fall ceased about the 19th, and from that date until the end of the month a decided break in the rains occurred, and fine weather set in.

On the plains of the Punjab there were only 11 wet days, the break in the rains, which commenced on the 19th being very decided in this province. In consequence, the amount of rain for the month, and, except in the Indus Valley, the total since the 1st June, was several inches below the average. With this cessation of rainfall the skies cleared, and the temperature rose, so that, on the Punjab plains, the mean temperature of the nine final days of the month was 96°, the average maximum temperature being 105°, and the average minimum 81°.

The weather in the western half of the North-Western Provinces was similar to that experienced in the Punjab, but in the eastern half it was wetter, the number of rainy days being 19. In the Meerut division, 5 inches less than the average amount fell during the month, while at Lucknow 8 inches, and at Allahabad 1½ inches more than the average was registered.

In Assam, the number of wet days was 17, the rain being distributed over nearly the whole month. Except at Dhubri, the total fall from the 1st June to the end of July about equalled that of an average season, though, during July, the amount measured was somewhat deficient at Silchar, and excessive at Sibsagar.

In Lower Bengal and parts of Behar, the rainfall was several inches above the July average; while in Purneah, Patna and Orissa it was deficient. The average number of wet days was 26, and no break in the rains of any consequence occurred within these provinces.

In the Central Provinces the number of wet days was only 18, and the fall of rain below the average of the month, except at Khandwa. Two decided breaks occurred over this region, the first after the passage of the storm in the early part of the month, the second occurring with the general break after the 26th. Estimated from the beginning of June, the total amount of rain exceeds the average by about 5 inches.

Berar had only 10 wet days, and no rain fell after the 19th, but the few falls previously experienced had been heavy, and the total amount is 10 inches above the normal average.

In Central India only 15 days were rainy, and except at Sutna the amount of rain was below the average. The break in this province occurred after the 26th.

In Rajputana the rainfall was about the average amount, and occurred on 13 days; scarcely any fell after the 17th.

Bombay had 17 wet days, and the break commenced here 2 days later than in Rajputana. The amount of rainfall at the stations in the Deccan was below the average, but along the coast and in Sind it was excessive. At Jacobabad it was 300%, at Malegaon 50%, and at Bombay and Goa between 30 and 40% above the local averages.

Over the southern parts of the Peninsula rain fell on 22 days, and the amount was above the average.

In the Carnatic rain fell on 13 days; there was no decided break, and the amounts were small and varied considerably.

The largest number of wet days, *viz.*, 30, was experienced in British Burma, but notwithstanding this constant precipitation, the total at the end of the month was somewhat below the usual amount.

The following table gives in a summarised form the above information :—

	Rainy days.	Date of break.	Amount compared with average.
Punjab	11	19th ...	Below.
North-Western Provinces	19	None ...	Variable.
Assam	17	None ...	Equal.
Bengal	26	None ...	Above.
Central Provinces	18	26th ...	Below.
Berars	10	19th ...	Above.
Central India	15	24th ...	Below.
Rajputana	13	17th ...	Equal.
Bombay	17	19th ...	Above.
Southern Peninsula	22	None ...	Above.
Ceylon	9	24th ...	Below.
Carnatic	13	None ...	Variable.
British Burmah	30	None ...	Below.

The largest total fall of rain was at Mercara, 53 inches, the smallest at Negapatam 0·29 inch, while the largest excessive departure from the average was 15 inches at Bombay, and the largest deficiency 9 inches at Saugor (Central Provinces).

W. L. DALLAS,
Asst. Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.

ORDER.—Ordered that the memorandum be inserted in the supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

T. W HOLDERNESS,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House, Simla, on Wednesday, the 8th August, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.
The Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjáb, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.
Major the Hon'ble Sir E. Baring, R.A., K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble D. G. Barkley.

BURMA PILOTS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the grant of licenses to Pilots in British Burma and for investigating certain charges against them.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 22nd August, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.

SIMLA;
The 9th August, 1883.

Printed and Published for the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA *at the* GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS, *Simla.*

SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India.

Nº 33. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* GAZETTE OF INDIA *will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.*

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE *may receive the* SUPPLEMENT *separately on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or nine Rupees if sent by Post.*

No Official Orders or Notifications, the publication of which in the GAZETTE OF INDIA *is required by Law, or which it has been customary to publish in the* CALCUTTA GAZETTE, *will be included in the* SUPPLEMENT. *For such Orders and Notifications the body of the* GAZETTE *must be looked to.*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE CURRENCY DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR 1882-83.

No. 117, dated Calcutta, the 24th July 1883.
From—The Head Commissioner of Paper Currency,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Finance and Commerce.

I have the honour to submit the report upon the operations of the Currency Department for the year 1882-83.

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No. VI.—Issues and Receipts of Home Notes.
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„ VIII.—Value of Notes in circulation from 1862.
„ IX.—Details of ditto 1871.

OFFICERS IN CHARGE.

2. Mr. J. Westland was Head Commissioner, but Mr. E. T. Atkinson officiated for him during April, May, and till 28th June. In Madras Mr. H. F. Clogstoun

was Commissioner, and in Bombay Mr. A. C. Tupp was Commissioner for the first eight months (till 29th November) and Mr. E. Gay for the rest of the year.

NEW PAPER CURRENCY ACT.

3. A New Indian Paper Currency Act (XX of 1882) received the assent of His Excellency the Governor General upon 26th October 1882. Its immediate object was to permit of the establishment of a Currency Circle for Burma, without attaching to Burma notes the condition of convertibility in Calcutta; but the necessary amendments were incorporated with the old Act, so as to produce a new Act covering the whole subject. No other amendment was made beyond the conversion of the name of the Department, from the somewhat technical one of "Department of Issue" to the more customary one of "Department of Paper Currency," and similarly the Commissioners became "Commissioners of Paper Currency." Opportunity was taken also to give express legal sanction to what are known as Currency Agencies,—that is, offices subsidiary to the offices of issue, where notes may be issued and encashed, but where such issue and encashment is not legally demandable.

4. The arrangements for opening the Burma office of issue at Rangoon were not completed during the year as some unexpected difficulties arose in their progress.

ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT.

5. The monthly audits of the accounts have been duly reported, for each office, to the Comptroller General, and the following special audits have also been made :—

Accounts of	Auditing officer.	Date of report.	Period under Audit.
Calcutta . .	Inspector of Local Accounts.	7th May 1883 .	Jan. 1882 to Mar. 1883.
Madras . . .	Ditto ditto .	15th January 1883 .	Jan. to Dec. 1882.
Calicut . .	Dr. Cline, Asst. Acct. Genl., Madras.	17th October 1882	15th April to 14th Oct. 1882.
		14th April 1883 .	15th Oct. 1882 to 14th April 1883.
Bombay . .	Inspector of Local Accounts.	5th February 1883	Jan. to Dec. 1882.
Allahabad . .	Ditto ditto .	23rd ,, ,,	Ditto ditto.

CIRCULATION.

6. The following figures show the state of the *net* circulation :—

	Gross Circulation.	Retired by other offices.	Net Circulation.
1st April 1882 . .	14,43,08,415	52,36,635	13,90,71,780
31st March 1883 . .	14,98,49,685	47,85,610	14,50,64,075

It must be explained that a note is in "gross circulation" when it is not yet returned to the original office of issue, but if it has meantime been paid off by another office of issue, and is held by it pending return to the original office of issue, then it has ceased to be in "net circulation," though it is still part of the gross circulation.

7. The details of the net circulation of March 31st, 1883, are as follows :—

	Number of Notes for Rupees								Total.	
	5	10	20	50	100	500	1,000	10,000	Pieces.	Value.
Calcutta . . .	263,539	1,333,784	87,438	57,844	126,676	13,122	19,604	1,698	1,903,705	7,51,09,095
Allahabad . . .	16,578	22,900	15,111	12,884	14,168	2,701	2,626	152	87,180	81,72,210
Lahore . . .	13,949	34,308	20,110	14,427	14,446	2,949	2,286	57	102,532	73,11,475
Bombay . . .	134,497	475,906	96,385	56,988	75,151	5,323	10,468	450	855,168	3,53,53,245
Kurrachee . . .	6,700	23,811	10,604	4,404	5,826	597	1,539	...	53,541	31,24,290
Madras . . .	32,846	57,030	31,108	23,822	62,004	3,743	1,566	294	212,413	1,51,25,690
Calicut . . .	7,288	7,282	4,063	2,763	3,314	78	69	10	24,867	8,68,070
Total for Mar. 31st, 1883	475,457	1,955,081	264,819	173,132	301,585	28,513	38,158	2,661	3,239,406	14,50,64,075
Total for Mar. 31st, 1882	470,288	1,519,549	507,935	157,659	268,432	28,404	38,488	2,395	2,993,150	13,90,71,780
Total for Mar. 31st, 1881	429,075	1,428,993	530,582	164,592	261,098	28,362	42,100	1,638	2,883,442	13,40,17,365

There is a noteworthy decrease of 20-rupee notes and corresponding increase of 10-rupee notes in the Calcutta Circle, which will be afterwards alluded to, but otherwise the statistics are very nearly those of last year, with an addition of 2,000 thousand-rupees and 270 ten-thousand-rupees notes in the Calcutta Circle.

8. From these figures it will be found that the average value of each note in circulation on the last day of the year compared with the past two years, was—

	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
Calcutta Circle .	39	40	39
Allahabad . .	85	108	94
Lahore . .	67	72	71
Bombay . .	44	44	41
Kurrachee . .	66	56	58
Madras . . .	62	69	71
Calicut . . .	61	43	34

The high averages in such places as Allahabad and Lahore indicate the degree in which the notes are held by Banks as their reserve, rather than by the public in active circulation.

9. The variations in the net Circulation of each circle are shown in the following table, omitting 000 :—

Last day of	Calcutta.	Allahabad.	Lahore.	Bombay.	Kurrachee.	Madras.	Calicut.	Total.
	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
March 1882 . . .	688·04	86·57	73·95	350·13	30·73	148·11	13·17	1390·72
April ,, . . .	687·23	57·53	80·16	389·37	34·88	154·73	16·09	1419·99
May ,, . . .	672·87	61·98	77·01	452·00	34·16	156·43	12·81	1467·26
June ,, . . .	680·98	81·94	71·82	457·64	29·93	150·30	18·44	1491·11
July ,, . . .	691·21	93·22	74·59	475·13	29·15	143·61	21·96	1528·88
August ,, . . .	721·29	82.59	90·82	464·64	30·33	126·09	13·09	1528·85
September ,, . . .	693·16	79·83	96·16	490·15	31·42	117·35	19·85	1527·92
October ,, . . .	690·97	89·14	107·04	531·55	32·83	116·16	14·09	1581·79
November ,, . . .	759·74	81·35	69·97	560·14	28·34	110·86	15·04	1625·49
December ,, . . .	789·40	96·75	70·98	491·83	37·72	120·65	8·82	1616·14
January 1883 . . .	748·75	103·89	65·41	442·89	35·76	132·41	7·69	1536·80
February ,, . . .	701·01	99·95	64·35	399·34	32·77	136·83	7·78	1442·03
March ,, . . .	751·09	81·72	73·11	353·53	31·24	151·26	8·68	1450·64
Average of last 12 figures .	715·64	84·16	78·45	459·02	32·38	134·73	13·69	1518·07
,, of 1881-82 . .	643·82	72·20	81·32	369·69	33·31	134·76	15·36	1350·46
,, of 1880-81 . .	654·06	53·48	92·55	381·54	34·61	135·27	14·78	1366·29

10. On these the following remarks are offered :—

First, for Calcutta, I show for the last two years the figures of the circulation (in lakhs of Rupees) excluding the Reserve Treasury of Government—

Last day of	1881-82.	1882-83.	Last day of	1881-82.	1882-83.
April	580	554	October	556	627
May	566	540	November	531	535
June	569	546	December	533	549
July	590	523	January	536	656
August	527	538	February	543	603
September	591	557	March	549	586

The normal state of the circulation in Calcutta I described two years ago as "a low range of circulation from April to September, a sudden increase of over 1½ crores in the opening of the cold weather, and a rapid diminution in February." And I attributed these features chiefly to the preparations of the Banks for the cold weather trade, and their subsequent withdrawals of silver for the Burma and other inland trade. The interruption of the normal figures shown in the months of November and December is, perhaps, connected with the receipts on account of the four per cent. loan, which necessarily had for the time the effect of transferring large sums of money from the Banks to the Government Treasury.

11. The same figures for Bombay and Madras are—

	Bombay.	Madras.
1882, April	344	126
„ May	406	116
„ June	394	117
„ July	389	105
„ August	388	108
„ September	457	110
„ October	450	112
„ November	399	111
„ December	323	117
1883, January	400	127
„ February	386	123
„ March	345	123

The general features of these are the same as before,—namely, in Bombay an increase to a maximum in September and October, and in Madras a minimum about the same season.

12. The following figures show, in lakhs and thousands, the gross circulation in the head circles of notes not exceeding Rs. 100 each:—

Last day of	Calcutta.	Bombay.	Madras.
April 1882	303·71	167·83	89·24
May „	298·80	178·14	82·37
June „	293·74	169·21	87·79
July „	295·62	174·26	74·70
August „	284·22	170·93	75 98
September „	280·91	173·60	74·81
October „	296·24	176·84	75·40
November „	289 61	178·62	79·68
December „	291·58	172·77	83·43
January 1883	305·36	168·67	86·29
February „	318·09	174·47	86·61
March „	322·67	179·00	89·06

Calcutta and Madras both show the usual tendency to a minimum about September; but Bombay shows little seasonal variation.

ANALYSIS OF CIRCULATION.

13. The following statement analyses the outstandings on 31st December 1882 by years of issue.

As explained in former reports, the amount thus shown is necessarily much greater than the circulation of the date in question, as it includes, among other things, balances of notes held in the currency offices themselves for issue to the public :—

Outstandings of Notes.

Calendar year of issue.	Amount issued in official year.	Value outstanding on 31st December 1881.	Value outstanding on 31st December 1882.
	₹	₹	₹
1862	6,72,55,500	3,41,670	3,38,530
1863	4,72,01,000	1,10,540	1,07,520
1864	4,53,00,110	1,19,430	1,15,970
1865	10,10,04,920	1,02,540	99,790
1866	26,80,12,150	1,22,620	1,16,570
1867	33,06,49,710	1,29,290	1,07,710
1868	44,00,73,020	1,91,820	1,65,040
1869	49,34,48,480	2,00,750	1,73,260
1870	56,63,62,620	3,43,390	2,92,060
1871	62,25,21,200	3,77,400	3,03,350
1872	57,39,09,525	4,17,140	3,43,285
1873	61,69,24,575	5,30,195	4,35,805
1874	68,25,78,760	7,98,575	6,69,395
1875	62,69,70,815	10,91,920	9,06,555
1876	78,77,51,185	11,45,410	8,36,540
1877	99,52,50,980	18,73,510	14,19,185
1878	86,09,06,930	30,03,440	19,21,180
1879	81,51,93,855	59,04,540	36,14,155
1880	85,23,94,490	2,19,68,375	93,84,600
1881	*a* 71,68,22,915	13,15,58,530	2,21,53,165
1882	73,71,65,755	.....	14,84,03,280
TOTAL	.....	17,03,31,085	19,19,06,945

a Corrected since last year's report by deduction of 6 32,535.

THE RESERVE.

14. The value held against the net circulation upon 31st March 1883 was as follows :—

	₹	a.	p.	₹	a.	p.
SILVER COIN—						
At Calcutta*	1,22,01,675	11	7			
„ Allahabad	99,36,540	0	0			
„ Lahore	1,24,19,100	0	0			
„ Bombay*	3,46,78,402	7	3			
„ Kurrachee	29,54,855	0	0			
„ Madras	87,93,610	0	0			
„ Calicut	3,15,300	0	0			
				8,12,99,483	2	10
SMALL SILVER COIN—						
At Bombay	3,76,000	0	0			
„ Kurrachee	7,800	0	0			
„ Madras	9,10,000	0	0			
				12,93,800	0	0
SILVER BULLION—						
At Calcutta	13,72,008	6	1			
„ Bombay	10,98,817	8	9			
				24,70,825	14	10
Invested in Government Securities				5,99,99,965	14	4
TOTAL AGREEING WITH THE NET CIRCULATION				14,50,64,075	0	0

* Including a fractional balance in copper.

15. The half-yearly verifications of the reserve balances were held as follows:—

	1st half.	2nd half.
CALCUTTA	Sept. 30, 1882	See below.
Allahabad	„ 29, „	March 30, 1883.
Lahore	„ 28, „	„ 29, „
BOMBAY	„ 30, „	„ 31, „
Kurrachee	„ 30, „	„ 31, „
MADRAS	„ 5, „	„ 31, „
Calicut	„ 30, „	April 14, „

16. The verifications are reported in each case to agree with the balances recorded upon the accounts, but the procedure is defective in not working up precisely to the balances shown upon 30th September and 31st March; and I have taken measures to correct this in future so that I may be able to report an actual verification of the reserve balance reported in the annual account.

17. In Calcutta there was no verification for 31st March; on that date a transfer of charge from the former treasurer to his successor was about to be carried out, and it was considered advisable to make the verification contemporaneous with, and part of the business of, this transfer. The verification has since been made, along with the transfer of charge, and in very great detail.

THE INVESTMENT.

18. No alteration has been made during the year in the amount of the invested Reserve, which is in my custody in the form of certificates of book debt of the Public Debt Office.

		₹	₹
No. 59 of 4 per cent. Loan of 1842-43 for		5,00,00,000	
„ 72	„ „ „	1,00,00,000	
„ 73	„ „ „	24,62,900	
„ 92	„ „ „	74,800	
			6,25,37,700

The book-value of the whole investment—that is, the actual price at which it has been purchased—is ₹5,99,99,965-14-4 (within ₹35 of the legal limit), and is at the average value ₹95·94 per cent.

PROFITS OF CIRCULATION.

19. Our account with the Treasury was clear at the date of last year's report. Since then there has fallen due—

	₹	a.	p.
A year's interest on ₹6,25,37,700	25,01,508	0	0

which amount has been duly realized and paid into the Treasury.

TRANSACTIONS WITH THE PUBLIC.

Issue and Receipt of Notes.

20. The following are the gross statistics of the year, the details by circle being shown in Statement VI:—

	₹	₹
Gross Circulation, 1st April 1882		14,43,08,415
ISSUES—		
a—Over the counter	71,39,40,275	
b—At agencies	1,21,99,940	
c—In remittance transactions	1,10,25,540	
		73,71,65,755
TOTAL		88,14,74,170
Carried over		88,14,74,170

	₹	₹
Brought forward		88,14,74,170
RECEIPTS—		
d—Over the counter	54,57,40,005	
e—At agencies	28,22,800	
f—From Currency circles	10,54,01,635	
g—In remittance transactions	7,76,60,045	
		73,16,24,485
Balance, being gross circulation, March 31, 1883 (*vide* para. 6)		14,98,49,685

EXPLANATIONS.

a and *d*—These are the ordinary issues and receipts in exchange for other notes or for coin.

b and *e*—These are exchange transactions with treasuries, as the agencies do not deal direct with the public, but only enable the treasuries to do so to a greater extent than would otherwise be the case.

f—This figure represents notes cashed at other currency circles from March 16th, 1882, to March 15th, 1883, and returned during the year under report to the circles to which they belong.

c and *g*—These remittances are for the most part payments and receipts of one currency office, in consideration of receipts or payments at another.

COMPARISON.	Issues. ₹	Receipts. ₹
1882-83	73,71,65,755	73,16,24,485
1881-82	71,68,22,915	71,06,97,175
1880-81	85,23,94,490	84,04,84,390

21. The aggregate issues and receipts of the several denominations of notes at both offices of issue and agencies during the year, were as follows:—

	Number of notes for Rupees								TOTAL.	
	5	10	20	50	100	500	1,000	10,000	Number.	Value.
Issues	804,003	3,411,756	537,194	407,002	811,327	147,975	274,844	23,797	6,417,898	73,71,65,755
Receipts	798,043	2,969,590	780,511	391,269	777,207	147,928	276,290	23,479	6,164,367	73,16,24,485
More issues	5,960	442,166	...	15,733	34,120	47	...	318	498,344	1,18,53,610
Receipts	...	...	243,317	...	...	...	1,446	...	244,763	63,12,340

The only considerable figures here are the diminution of about 48 lakhs of circulation in 20-rupee notes and the corresponding increase of 10-rupee notes, of which an explanation will be given in connexion with the forgeries of the year.

22. So far as regards the three principal offices, the average number of notes that passed over the counters on each working day during the past three years, and the daily average of cancellations during the same period, has been—

	Notes cashed.			Notes issued.			Notes cancelled.		
	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
At Calcutta	14,013	11,877	12,595	14,339	12,112	13,275	9,122	6,925	8,661
„ Bombay	4,932	4,625	5,009	5,265	5,111	5,475	2,624	3,113	3,170
„ Madras	1,732	1,897	2,036	1,703	1,960	2,036	1,360	1,559	1,749

ENCASHMENT OF FOREIGN NOTES.

23. The following is the foreign note account of the circles in aggregate :—

	₹	₹
Balance held on April 1st . . .	...	52,36,635
Received over the counter . . .	10,49,15,800	...
From other circles	1,10,31,110	...
At Agencies	50,000	...
		11,59,96,910
TOTAL .		12,12,33,545
Remitted to the circles concerned		11,64,47,935
Balance held on March 31st		47,85,610
TOTAL .		12,12,33,545

24. The following statement shows the statistics of the encashment of foreign circle notes, giving for the year an aggregate total, as just mentioned, of ₹10,49,15,800 :—

Statement of Foreign Circle Notes cashed during the year 1882-83.

CASHED BY	Calcutta.	Allahabad.	Lahore.	Bombay.	Akola.	Nagpur.	Kurrachee.	Madras.	Calicut.	Coconada.	TOTAL.
	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
Calcutta . .	...	2,06,39,180 (c)	2,04,69,395 (c)	1,47,55,190	2,750	9,005	3,43,260	16,34,980	4,95,695	3,315	5,83,52,770
Allahabad .	46,90,835	...	7,63,765	1,20,33,690	425	2,825	66,765	10,94,955	15,415	2,010	1,86,70,685
Lahore . .	11,53,940	3,83,750	...	22,34,965	470	1,930	11,11,235 (c)	3,66,380	4,140	135	52,56,945
Bombay . .	16,07,755	6,21,900	27,25,155	...	...	...	22,49,755 (c)	20,77,830	3,11,160	4,285	95,97,840
Kurrachee .	11,530	8,245	1,03,685	1,03,975	645	95	...	22,050	710	...	2,50,935
Madras . .	1,67,370	18,070	22,710	24,79,865	1,715	2,670	18,440	...	67,93,050 (c)	...	95,03,890
Calicut . .	28,545	6,455	3,910	21,12,915	220	950	7,370	11,21,210	...	1,160	32,82,735
TOTAL .	76,59,975	2,16,77,600	2,40,88,620	3,37,20,600	6,225	17,475	37,96,825	63,17,405	76,20,170	10,905	10,49,15,800

The letter (c) marks the cases in which the Foreign Notes are legally encashable.

25. The comparison for these years is as follows :—

NOTES CASHED AT	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	₹	₹	₹
Calcutta	3,89,08,405	4,96,15,610	5,83,52,770
Allahabad	5,155	1,47,67,030	1,86,70,685
Lahore	...	16,57,705	52,56,945
Bombay	1,65,13,125	1,92,27,615	95,97,840
Akola	11,030	715	...
Nagpur	59,215	3,05,295	...
Kurrachee	27,540	14,970	2,50,935
Madras	50,54,520	74,48,725	95,03,890
Calicut	26,53,800	23,09,210	32,82,735
Coconada	13,55,805	4,91,000	...
TOTAL .	6,45,88,595	9,58,37,875	10,49,15,800

26. Thus under the requirements of the law, the amount of notes issued by each sub-circle and cashed at its head office were in—

	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	₹	₹	₹
Calcutta	1,96,83,500	4,11,89,990	4,11,08,575
Bombay	53,79,320	86,64,445	22,49,755
Madras	42,22,140	51,28,345	67,93,050
	2,92,84,960	5,49,82,780	5,01,51,380

27. A feature worthy of notice is the large encashment of Bombay notes at Allahabad and at Calcutta.

28. Both of these are the result of a demand on the part of the public for remittance from Bombay to Calcutta. When such demand exists, it is partly met by remittance of Bombay notes to Calcutta, which come into the Government Treasury in payment of opium and other revenue, and are then passed on to the Currency Department. As Government, in my opinion, gains both in respect of Treasury and in respect of Currency circulation, by this remittability of notes, I do not in any way attempt to limit or control this class of transaction. The other remittances, made through Allahabad, are not of so legitimate a character, being in fact a side effect of the legal encashability of Allahabad notes at Calcutta. As every Allahabad note encashed at Calcutta leaves its silver representative in the Currency reserve at Allahabad, the reserve there constantly tends to surplus, which by a working rule of the Department is considered available for the encashment of foreign notes. Accordingly a person who wishes to remit from Bombay to Calcutta, has only to present Bombay notes for encashment at Allahabad, take Allahabad notes in lieu, and present them for payment at Calcutta. As the only object of the working rule referred to, is the dispersion of surplus cash by encashment of foreign notes, I have withdrawn it at Allahabad and Lahore, and do not permit them to encash foreign notes when the only practical result is to change a demand realizable at Bombay into one realizable at Calcutta.

ISSUE AND RECEIPT OF COIN.

29. The transactions in coin are as follows (for details by circles refer to Statement VII) :—

	Coin. ₹	a.	p.	Small Coin. ₹	a.	p.
Balance, April 1st, 1882 . .	6,94,06,550	6	8	12,80,400	0	0
RECEIPTS—						
Over the counter . . .	14,45,86,750	0	0			
From small coin account . .	10,74,235	0	0			
At Agencies	1,73,74,540	0	0			
In remittance transactions .	4,75,77,240	0	0			
From Treasury on account of Mint certificates	1,540	12	8			
By sale of securities . .	.....					
From coin account . . .	.....			10,87,635	0	0
TOTAL RECEIPTS .	21,06,14,305	12	8	10,87,635	0	0
TOTAL OF BALANCE AND RECEIPTS	28,00,20,856	3	4	23,68,035	0	0
ISSUES—						
Over the counter . . .	13,04,58,430	0	0			
At Agencies	1,86,13,400	0	0			
In remittance transactions .	4,84,47,280	0	0			
For Bullion and for melting fees	1,14,628	0	6			
To small coin account . .	10,87,635	0	0			
In purchase of securities . .	.....					
To coin account . . .	.....			10,74,235	0	0
TOTAL ISSUES .	19,87,21,373	0	6	10,74,235	0	0
BALANCE, MARCH 31ST, 1883 (see para. 14)	8,12,99,483	2	10	12,93,800	0	0

	Receipts. ₹	Issues. ₹
Comparison, 1882-83	21,06,14,305	19,87,21,373
1881-82	19,99,91,984	20,26,68,389
1880-81	21,29,05,056	19,63,95,076

STATE OF THE COINAGE.

30. We have continued during the year the policy of receiving shroff-marked and notched coin, at par, for remittance to the mints for re-coinage. At the opening of the year, the North-Western Provinces held 27½ lakhs ready for remittance, and Bombay held 14, mostly collected in the Punjab.

31. The following figures show the operations during the year (in thousands of rupees) :—

	Balance, April 1.	Receipts from the Public.	Remitted to Mints.	Balance.
India Treasuries	2,00	1	1,79	22
Central Provinces	25	36	38	23
Burma	2	6	...	8
Assam	3	4	...	7
Bengal	65	66	61	70
North-Western Provinces . . .	27,52	27,36	46,07	8,81
Punjab	3,19	24,33	22,56	4,96
Madras	1,11	52	1,02	61
Bombay	14,01	2,23	15,90	34

It will be seen from the above statement that the receipts from the public are almost confined to the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab, a few also coming in in Bombay.

32. The following shows the operation of the cutting clauses of the Coinage Act during 1882 :—

Statement showing the number of coins cut and broken under the Coinage Act in Treasuries throughout India during the calendar year 1882.

Name of Province.	Number of Treasuries in which coins were cut.	Believed to have lost by reasonable wear more than a per cent. in weight.				Believed to be counterfeit.				Believed to have been reduced in weight otherwise than by reasonable wear.				Considered unfit for further circulation by reason of obliteration of device or for other causes.			
		₹	½ ₹	¼ ₹	⅛ ₹	₹	½ ₹	¼ ₹	⅛ ₹	₹	½ ₹	¼ ₹	⅛ ₹	₹	½ ₹	¼ ₹	⅛ ₹
Government of India	4	153	...	...	...	444	15	4	2	1,187	162	...	...	...	...	...	...
Central Provinces	15	4,939	214	...	...	49	...	...	...	223	17	...	...	...	...	...	...
British Burma	14	322	...	...	...	689	1	1	...	844	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assam	7	...	...	...	...	147	2	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bengal	39	1,064	78	12	2	1,110	60	20	12	1,726	154	37	10	...	...	...	...
N.-W. P. and Oudh	43	4,631	369	...	...	251	12	7	4	4,182	85	1	2	...	...	...	...
Punjab	21	1,634	325	...	...	369	6	...	...	58,181	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madras	25	2,44,246	77,411	...	...	376	53	25	6	1,421	54	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay	19	81,798	1,255	3	20	1,080	62	31	19	(a)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	3,39,592	79,652	15	22	4,515	211	88	43	67,772	481	38	12	...	...	...	...

(a) I omit this figure as it obviously refers to the operation of the rules about shroff-marked coin.

33. The Madras figures will be enquired about; if they are right, the coin in that Presidency seems to be in a comparatively unsatisfactory state.

34. During the year a new resolution was issued (F. D. No. 2849, dated 25th November 1882) giving the power of cutting coin to the principal officers of the Banks and of Presidency Corporations.

EXCHANGE OF SMALL COIN.

35. The receipts and issues of small change at the Currency Offices during the year were the following :—

	Receipts. ₹	a.	Issues. ₹	a.	Net Issues. ₹	a.
Half Rupees	1,30,140	0	7,36,418	0	6,06,278	0
Quarter Rupees	37,204	8	9,64,083	4	9,26,878	12
One-eighth Rupees	34,465	8	8,37,409	12	8,02,944	4
Copper	915	0	32,033	0	31,118	0
Total .	2,02,725	0	25,69,944	0	23,67,219	0
Total, 1881-82 .	1,50,707	8	22,44,759	6	20,94,051	14

BULLION.

36. The following figures show the operation of the bullion clauses of the Currency Act,—that is, the amount of bullion received by the Mint Masters on account of the Currency Offices at Calcutta and Bombay, for the issue of certificates payable at the currency offices in notes or coin :—

	Calcutta. ₹	a.	p.	Bombay. ₹	a.	p.
Balance of bullion on April 1st, 1882 . .	31,02,035	15	1	52,82,827	11	11
Receipts of bullion at 979 per mille—						
April 1882	27,57,368	3	0	85,41,646	7	9
May ,, ...	11,86,806	8	0	1,35,85,943	9	3
June ,, ...	5	6	0	46,82,373	9	7
July ,, ...	2,039	10	0	1,53,557	9	8
August ,, ...	12,11,910	1	0	32,87,608	11	9
September ,, ...	1,99,306	6	0	34,97,254	9	10
October ,, ...	...			48,19,490	12	6
November ,, ...	7,85,273	7	0	26,24,461	0	5
December ,, ...	12,12,409	9	0	9,24,087	13	7
January 1883	1,97,576	0	0	3,39,181	5	0
February ,, ...	5,190	11	0	15,023	3	8
March ,, ...	3,72,941	4	0	3,980	8	3
Total of 12 Months .	79,30,827	1	0	4,24,74,609	5	3
Additional, 1 per mille credited on account of melting fees paid out of Currency Reserve .	9,507	9	4	49,604	0	11
Total Receipts .	79,40,334	10	4	4,25,24,213	6	2
Total Receipts and Balance .	1,10,42,370	9	5	4,78,07,041	2	1
Mint Certificates realised from Treasury . .	96,70,362	3	4	4,67,08,223	9	4
Balance of bullion on 31st March 1883 (see para. 14)	13,72,008	6	1	10,98,817	8	9

37. The receipts for the last four years have been—

	Calcutta.	Bombay.	Total.
	₹	₹	₹
1879-80 . . .	2,06,60,058	7,24,62,050	9,31,22,111
1880-81 . . .	56,21,217	2,55,86,599	3,12,07,816
1881-82 . . .	59,87,643	1,53,84,809	2,13,72,452
1882-83 . . .	79,40,334	4,25,24,213	5,04,64,547

38. The heavy receipts of the current year are due to the practical stoppage for some months of Council Bills. This caused a flow of silver from London to India, and as Bombay is the nearer port, and silver is coined on precisely the same terms at Bombay as at Calcutta, the silver from London necessarily accumulated at Bombay.

39. This caused no small strain upon the Currency Department, for as the Bombay office was bound to issue notes for bullion at Bombay, and the money was really wanted by the importers at Calcutta as well as at Bombay, they used the means of remittance which have already been alluded to, and the result was quickly shown in accumulation of the silver reserve at Bombay and corresponding depletion at Calcutta. It was necessary, at the end of the year, to make very heavy remittances from Bombay to Eastern India, to bring things to a comparatively safe level; but the accumulation at Bombay is still a marked feature in the distribution of the reserve, although in the present efficient state of communication it is not worth while to remove the surplus, so long as there is no evidence of any demand upon it elsewhere.

40. The operation of the bullion clauses of the Currency Act is shown in the following monthly figures:—

Thousands of rupees.

	Receipts at the Mint of Bullion on account of the Currency Department.			Balance at end of month, of Bullion paid for by Currency Department and held as part of its Reserve.			Balance of Bullion held on Treasury Account, that is, the amount by which the deliveries of new coin failed to meet the Mint certificates, payable by Treasury to Currency.		
	Calcutta.	Bombay.	Total.	Calcutta.	Bombay.	Total.	Calcutta.	Bombay.	Total.
	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
April . . .	28,17	90,31	1,18,48	34,78	76,40	1,11,18	28,09	18,23	46,32
May . . .	12,11	1,37,17	1,49,28	42,52	84,71	1,27,22	51,47	47,79	99,26
June . . .	0	43,21	43,21	37,29	15,19	52,48	31,97	69,04	1,01,01
July . . .	2	1,57	1,59	30,28	1,54	31,82	14,14	30,23	44,37
August . . .	12,38	35,06	47,44	16,66	25,23	41,89	14,85	14,78	29,63
September . .	2,03	36,51	38,54	6,46	33,37	39,83	12,20	16,92	29,12
October . . .	0	49,01	49,01	2,82	35,16	37,98	10,41	18,00	28,41
November . . .	8,02	24,79	32,81	10,67	30,08	40,75	30,73	22,62	53,35
December . . .	14,28	9,41	23,69	22,51	19,51	42,02	26,07	18,21	44,28
January . . .	14	3,54	3,68	19,47	10,79	30,26	23,67	25,47	49,14
February . . .	3	8	11	14,59	10,95	25,54	25,94	18,69	44,63
March . . .	3,81	4	3,85	13,72	10,98	24,70	23,37	16,70	40,07

AGENCIES.

41. The following are the transactions at the Agencies:—

	No. of Agencies.	Issues of Notes.	Receipts of Notes.
Agencies of the Calcutta Circle . . .	15	7,75,300	7,85,300
Ditto Allahabad Circle . . .	4	97,000	55,000
Ditto Lahore Circle . . .	11	91,44,000	3,73,000
Ditto Bombay Circle . . .	2	14,07,650	11,03,500
Ditto Madras Circle . . .	2	7,75,990	5,06,000
	34	1,21,99,940	28,22,800

42. The following are the Agencies enumerated in the above figures:—

Calcutta Circle.	Allahabad Circle.	Lahore Circle.	Bombay Circle.	Madras Circle.
1. Backergunge.	1. Fyzabad.	1. Amritsar.	1. Nagpore.	1. Coconada.
2. Bhaugulpore.	2. Meerut.	2. Ferozepore.	2. Akola.	2. Vizagapatam.
3. Cachar.	3. Moradabad.	3. Kohat.		
4. Champaran.	4. Roorkee.	4. Mooltan.		
5. Dacca.		5. Peshawar.		
6. Darjeeling.		6. Rawal Pindi.		
7. Hazareebaugh.		7. Simla.		
8. Lohardugga.		8. Umbala.		
9. Monghyr.		9. Bannu.		
10. Moorshedabad.		10. Jhelam.		
11. Patna.		11. Dera Ismail Khan.		
12. Rajshahye.				
13. Sarun.				
14. Shillong.				
15. Sylhet.				

CLAIMS ON LOST NOTES.

43. The following is the statement of lost and mutilated notes paid during the year on bond of indemnity.

	Nature of loss.	Number of Notes for Rupees								Total.	
		5	10	20	50	100	500	1,000	10,000	Number.	Value.
Half notes	Lost by post . .	24	130	70	34	80	8	6	...	352	22,520
	Lost accidentally . .	49	74	54	29	92	6	6	...	310	21,715
	Mutilated . . .	7	20	8	9	12	1	...	...	57	2,545
		80	224	132	72	184	15	12	...	719	46,780
Whole notes	Lost by post . .										
	Lost accidentally . .										
	Mutilated . . .	3	5	1	1	7	1	...	...	18	1,335
		3	5	1	1	7	1	...	...	18	1,335
	Mismatched notes . .	39	39	20	4	2	...	...	...	104	1,385
	Total, 1882-83 . .	122	268	153	77	193	16	12	...	841	49,500
	,, 1881-82 . .	224	493	309	170	278	36	15	...	1,525	81,530
	,, 1880-81 . .	422	660	408	210	395	25	17	...	2,137	96,370

44. The diminution in the annual amount is more nominal than real. As I mentioned in last year's report, we had instituted a new procedure with reference to these cases, one feature of which was the interposition of a stated interval between provisional acceptance of claim and payment. The first result of this change is the occurrence of an interval on which few claims are paid, so that the payments made within the year cover less than a normal year's instances.

45. So far as my observation has gone, the new rules have worked satisfactorily; certainly, to me, more so than the old rules.

FORGERY AND FRAUD.

46. There was one new case of forgery—namely, one of twenty-rupee notes of the Calcutta series. The forgery was rather better executed than usual, the notes being quite good enough to pass muster when not separately examined.

47. The first two of them were presented at the Calcutta Office on August 2nd, 1882, and were at once detected. A warning was immediately issued to the

public, which was followed by a singular panic, the Currency Office being crowded every day for some time with people anxious to get rid of their twenty-rupee notes. In this process five more notes of the same forgery came in, and since then four more have been received.

48. The total number received up to date is as follows :—

No.	Date of Presentation.	No.	Date of Presentation.
$\frac{O}{87}$80722	August 2	80721	August 12
80681	,,	80675	October 10
80659	,, 3	80823	March 8
80676	,, 4	*At Bombay*—	
80684	,, 7	80648	April 1883
80694	,, 10	80657	,, ,,

49. The effect of this forgery upon the circulation of twenty-rupee notes was very marked; it has already been alluded to in paras. 7 and 21 above, but the following figures show it in greater detail :—

Calcutta Notes.		Ten-rupee Notes.	Twenty-rupee Notes.
		Value.	Value.
Circulation	March 31, 1882	93,21,610	67,62,620
,,	July 31, 1882	89,60,120	64,23,260
,,	August 31, 1882	97,62,440	35,81,840
,,	September 30, 1882	1,02,04,330	28,48,640
,,	October 31, 1882	1,14,41,510	25,54,680
,,	March 31, 1883	1,34,19,310	17,61,400

50. The public very naturally connected the forgery with the remarks made in the last Currency Report, paras. 29 to 32, about some changes in our procedure with reference to small notes. This, however, was a mistake; we had merely stopped a procedure, amply proved to be useless, in the examination of small notes against notices of stoppage; but as forged notes are not under any notice of stoppage, they are unaffected by the change.

51. The forgery in this case has not yet been brought home to any one; the difficulty in pursuing the investigations being due to the fact that the public rarely keep record of the numbers of small notes passing through their hands. We have, however, one consolation in the circumstance that the forgery can hardly have been successful as a paying speculation, as apparently only R200 or 300 in all have been put in circulation.

52. In Bombay, two more notes of the M—24 series of forgeries (one hundred rupees) came in: one, No. 67543 on 4th January 1883, and the other, No. 54367, on 19th March 1883. These notes are not good enough to deceive any ordinarily careful person. The forgers of them were convicted in 1877.

53. Another attempt at fraud is reported from Bombay,—namely, that of a man who, coming into possession of a mismatched note, divided the halves and claimed on each of them, on the allegation that he had possessed the entire notes and lost the other halves. The case is still with the Law Officers.

REMITTANCES OF SILVER.

54. The following is the detail of silver remittances :—

	₹
Allahabad to Calcutta	63,73,450
Lahore to Bombay	80,00,000
Calicut to Madras	10,00,000
Kurrachee to Bombay	18,25,000
Bombay to Calcutta	1,00,00,000

It is always difficult to say how much of silver remittance is due to Currency

work proper (*i.e.*, to the fact of our accepting, either in Treasury or in Currency notes which are not legal tender at the place where received) and how much to Treasury.

55. Of the above remittances, the Allahabad and the Lahore ones were largely made in coin sent for re-mintage, but besides conveying that sum to the Calcutta and Bombay mints, they served to transfer silver from places where it was in excess to places where there was less than a proper proportion.

56. The Bombay to Calcutta remittances were made at the end of the year, and served to transfer to Calcutta some of that excess of silver received at Bombay from Europe in Banks' remittances, and paid over at once to Currency Department under the Bullion Clauses of the Act. Half the remittance was made by an operation through the Treasury, whereby we supplied the Burma trade with 50 lakhs shipped straight from Bombay, and thus abated a demand which otherwise would have fallen on the silver reserve of Calcutta. The other half was brought over by railway from Bombay to Calcutta.

57. The Lahore to Bombay remittance was made in the beginning of the year, before we had any knowledge of the circumstances that afterwards brought about an excess accumulation at Bombay.

TREASURY STATISTICS.

58. The transactions in notes at the several Treasuries in India during 1880-81, 1881-82, and 1882-83 have been as follows :—

	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	₹	₹	₹
Receipts from the public in payment of Government dues.	7,96,68,115	8,00,32,905	7,07,94,540
Do. from the public in exchange for silver	3,84,21,600	3,21,81,910	3,33,44,155
Do. from the public for other notes	90,82,085	32,39,375	17,92,155
TOTAL RECEIPTS	12,71,71,800	11,54,54,190	10,59,30,850
Issues to the public in payment of Government dues.	4,01,75,835	3,31,34,065	3,25,26,280
Do. to the public in exchange for silver	4,09,53,405	2,91,08,445	3,22,30,285
Do. to the public for other notes	90,82,085	32,39,375	17,92,155
TOTAL ISSUES	9,02,11,325	6,54,81,885	6,65,48,720

59. The total transactions in notes during the last three years have been as follows (in lakhs of rupees) :—

	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
Government of India	263	172	256
Central Provinces	28	45	36
British Burmah	14	9	7
Assam	44	51	62
Bengal	426	484	536
North-Western Provinces and Oudh	297	173	160
Punjab	646	328	209
Madras	286	268	267
Bombay	150	258	174
Hyderabad	19	21	18
TOTAL	2,173	1,809	1,725

60. Statement IV classifies the Treasuries of the Government of India as follows:—

	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
Where notes were cashed throughout the year to the extent of the public demand	135	155	163
Where notes were ordinarily cashable, but not always .	56	30	24
Where notes were not usually cashable	19	20	20
TOTAL .	210	205	207

61. Statement V shows the proportion of Treasury and Bank balances which in each province was held in the form of currency notes. The state of the Reserve Treasuries greatly affects the comparisons in this statement.

Including Reserve Treasuries the proportions of balances held in notes are—

	1882.	1881.
Calcutta Circle	51	38
Bombay ,, ...	66	32
Madras ,, ...	57	27

But if Reserve Treasuries were omitted the figures would be—

	1882. Balance in		1881. Balance in		Proportion of Notes.	
	Notes.	Cash.	Notes.	Cash.	1882.	1881.
Calcutta Circle . . .	38,68	96,34	24,76	107,26	29	19
Bombay ,, . . .	10,27	90,32	10,04	62,08	10	14
Madras ,, . . .	9,68	76,73	5,82	50,13	11	10

As the distribution of notes or coin in the Reserve Treasuries is quite arbitrary, they ought, I think, to be omitted in the statistics of Statement V.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

62. The receipts and expenditure of the Department is set forth in Statement III. They can at present be stated only as approximate figures. I have no correction to report in the figures given under this head in last year's report; that is, though they were then given as only approximate, they were quite correct.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. WESTLAND,

Head Commissioner, Paper Currency.

STATEMENTS.

No. I.

Statement of the Value of Government Currency Notes in circulation throughout India during 1882-83 and previous year.

Date.	Calcutta. Value of Notes in circulation.	Calcutta. Monthly increase + or decrease −.	Allahabad. Value of Notes in circulation.	Allahabad. Monthly increase + or decrease −.
	R	R	R	R
March 1882	6,88,04,550	.....	86,57,430	.....
April „	6,87,22,540	− 82,010	† 57,52,650	− 29,04,780
May „	† 6,72,86,710	− 14,35,830	61,98,420	+ 4,45,770
June „	6,80,97,900	+ 8,11,190	81,94,225	+ 19,95,805
July „	6,91,21,495	+ 10,23,595	93,22,320	+ 11 28,095
August „	7,21,29,285	+ 30,07,790	82,59,160	− 10,63,160
September „	6,93,15,985	− 28,13,300	79,82,800	− 2,76,360
October „	6,90,97,210	− 2,18,775	89,14,340	+ 9,31,540
November „	7,59,74,475	+ 68,77,265	81,34,895	− 7,79,445
December „	* 7,89,39,695	+ 29,65,220	96,74,495	+ 15,39,600
January 1883	7,48,75,005	− 40,64,690	* 1,03,88,740	+ 7,14,245
February „	7,01,00,950	− 47,74,055	99,95,495	− 3,93,245
March „	7,51,09,095	+ 50,08,145	81,72,210	− 18,23,285
Total	85,87,70,345	.....	10,09,89,750	.....
				Average for each
1862-63	2,42,30,000	.....	.....	.....
1863-64	2,49,50,000	.....	.....	.....
1864-65	2,80,55,141	.....	11,39,468	.....
1865-66	2,90,43,282	.....	25,61,730	.....
1866-67	2,83,91,438	.....	25,93,184	.....
1867-68	2,93,11,382	.....	32,48,513	.....
1868-69	3,96,45,643	.....	33,74,186	.....
1869-70	4,14,57,428	.....	30,97,881	.....
1870-71	3,50,93,392	.....	41,34,122	.....
1871-72	4,30,33,469	.....	36,60,324	.....
1872-73	4,78,04,952	.....	52,18,260	.....
1873-74	4,70,29,742	.....	73,86,899	.....
1874-75	4,84,38,619	.....	62,57,664	.....
1875-76	4,93,96,846	.....	69,67,957	.....
1876-77	4,99,71,204	.....	72,07,479	.....
1877-78	6,13,25,010	.....	54,65,639	.....
1878-79	6,43,65,560	.....	63,73,527	.....
1879-80	6,26,55,985	.....	47,91,777	.....
1880-81	6,54,05,717	.....	53,48,142	.....
1881-82	6,43,82,370	.....	72,19,658	.....
1882-83	7,15,64,195	.....	84,15,813	.....
Increase (+) or decrease (−) in 1882-83, as compared with 1881-82	+ 71,81,825	.....	+ 11,96,155	.....
Percentage on average circulation, 1881-82	+ 11·155	.....	+ 16·568	.....

Date.	Madras.		Calicut.	
March 1882	1,48,10,605		13,17,300	
April „	1,54,73,420	+ 6,62,815	16,09,370	+ 2,92,070
May „	* 1,56,43,185	+ 1,69,765	12,81,475	− 3,27,895
June „	1,50,35,750	− 6,07,435	18,43,690	+ 5,62,215
July „	1,43,61,325	− 6,74,425	* 21,95,520	+ 3,51,830
August „	1,26,08,585	− 17,52,740	13,09,375	− 8,86,145
September „	1,17,35,310	− 8,73,275	19,84,760	+ 6,75,385
October „	1,16,16,010	− 1,19,300	14,09,105	− 5,75,655
November „	† 1,10,85,745	− 5,30,265	15,04,100	+ 94,995
December „	1,20,65,345	+ 9,79,600	8,81,925	− 6,22,175
January 1883	1,32,41,080	+ 11,75,735	† 7,69,045	− 1,12,880
February „	1,36,82,885	+ 4,41,805	7,77,995	+ 8,950
March „	1,51,25,690	+ 14,42,805	8,68,070	+ 90,075
Total	16,16,74,330	.....	1,64,34,430	.....
				Average for each
1862-63	41,35,714	.....	.....	.....
1863-64	66,50,000	.....	.....	.....
1864-65	61,81,761	.....	61,755	.....
1865-66	63,07,003	.....	4,21,160	.....
1866-67	67,97,750	.....	5,54,549	.....
1867-68	62,19,398	.....	5,56,109	.....
1868-69	71,21,806	.....	8,16,466	.....
1869-70	73,46,017	.....	7,70,240	.....
1870-71	87,56,321	.....	8,63,419	.....
1871-72	1,10,63,042	.....	11,96,533	.....
1872-73	1,07,03,116	.....	18,10,467	.....
1873-74	1,22,14,342	.....	22,08,618	.....
1874-75	99,92,176	.....	21,48,859	.....
1875-76	1,28,83,331	.....	25,38,768	.....
1876-77	1,36,59,999	.....	20,86,198	.....
1877-78	1,67,54,482	.....	21,89,207	.....
1878-79	1,52,45,085	.....	17,66,917	.....
1879-80	1,29,92,638	.....	18,00,536	.....
1880-81	1,35,26,580	.....	14,78,377	.....
1881-82	1,34,77,339	.....	15,35,584	.....
1882-83	1,34,72,861	.....	13,69,536	.....
Increase (+) or decrease (−) in 1882-83, as compared with 1881-82	− 4,478	.....	− 1,66,048	.....
Percentage on average circulation, 1881-82	− ·033	.....	− 10·813	.....

* Highest.

Date.	Lahore. Value of Notes in circulation.	Lahore. Monthly increase + or decrease −.	Bombay. Value of Notes in circulation.	Bombay. Monthly increase + or decrease −.	Kurrachee. Value of Notes in circulation.	Kurrachee. Monthly increase + or decrease −.
	R	R	R	R	R	R
	73,95,105		3,50,13,580		30,73,210	
	80,16,515	+ 6,21,410	3,89,36,600	+ 39,23,020	34,88,085	+ 4,14,875
	77,01,180	− 3,15,335	4,51,99,590	+ 62,62,990	34,15,380	− 72,705
	71,81,590	− 5,19,590	4,57,64,325	+ 5,64,735	29,92,990	− 4,22,390
	74,59,430	+ 2,77,840	4,75,13,285	+ 17,48,960	29,14,675	− 78,315
	90,81,765	+ 16,22,335	4,64,64,010	− 10,49,275	30,33,225	+ 1,18,550
	96,15,805	+ 5,34,040	4,90,15,145	+ 25,51,135	31,42,285	+ 1,09,060
	* 1,07,04,130	+ 10,88,325	5,31,55,460	+ 41,40,315	32,82,980	+ 1,40,695
	69,97,180	− 37,06,950	* 5,60,13,770	+ 28,58,310	† 28,33,975	− 4,49,005
	70,97,530	+ 1,00,350	4,91,83,235	− 68,30,535	* 37,72,090	+ 9,38,115
	65,40,865	− 5,56,665	4,42,88,830	− 48,94,405	35,76,365	− 1,95,725
	† 64,34,665	− 1,06,200	3,99,33,590	− 43,55,240	32,76,940	− 2,99,425
	73,11,475	+ 8,76,810	† 3,53,53,245	− 45,80,345	31,24,290	− 1,52,650
	9,41,42,130	.....	55,08,21,085	.....	3,88,53,280	
year from 1862-63.						
	.....	.....	1,58,28,571	.....	.....	
	.....	.....	2,07,25,000	.....	.....	
	7,81,033	.....	3,26,00,958	.....	.....	
	29,51,182	.....	3,50,64,905	.....	9,08,721	
	25,00,558	.....	4,80,41,935	.....	10,13,765	
	24,05,652	.....	4,95,18,959	.....	15,90,835	
	25,81,546	.....	4,59,48,670	.....	19,67,010	
	22,52,897	.....	4,92,93,254	.....	24,73,060	
	26,74,301	.....	4,43,51,094	.....	22,59,591	
	52,34,625	.....	4,77,36,435	.....	22,33,014	
	47,59,828	.....	5,63,13,434	.....	20,30,310	
	47,77,161	.....	3,56,37,322	.....	21,97,823	
	53,43,460	.....	3,27,94,374	.....	17,28,919	
	66,21,276	.....	3,33,00,831	.....	17,87,612	
	62,40,332	.....	3,54,10,793	.....	18,40,533	
	54,70,648	.....	3,90,98,730	.....	21,98,696	
	48,60,418	.....	3,67,78,984	.....	25,13,693	
	65,49,450	.....	3,65,20,379	.....	26,72,268	
	92,54,536	.....	3,81,54,498	.....	34,61,504	
	81,32,364	.....	3,69,68,543	.....	33,30,384	
	78,45,178	.....	4,59,01,757	.....	32,37,773	
	− 2,87,186	.....	+ 89,33,214	.....	− 92,611	
	− 3·531	.....	+ 24·164	.....	− 2·780	

Date.	Total.
	13,90,71,780
	† 14,19,99,180
	14,67,25,940
	14,91,10,470
	15,28,88,050
	15,28,85,405
	15,27,92,090
	15,81,79,235
	* 16,25,44,140
	16,16,14,315
	15,36,79,930
	14,42,02,520
	14,50,64,075
	1,82,16,85,350
year from 1862-63.	
	4,41,94,285
	5,23,25,000
	6,88,20,116
	7,72,57,983
	8,98,93,179
	9,28,50,848
	10,14,55,327
	10,66,90,777
	9,81,32,240
	11,41,57,442
	12,86,40,367
	11,14,51,907
	10,67,04,071
	11,35,26,621
	11,64,16,538
	13,25,02,472
	13,19,05,084
	12,79,83,033
	13,66,29,354
	13,50,46,242
	15,18,07,113
	+ 1,67,60,871
	+ 12·411

† Lowest.

No. II.

Statement of Notes Issued, Received, and Cancelled during 1882-83.

Circle.	Nature of work.	5 Rupees.		10 Rupees.		20 Rupees.		50	100 Rupees.		500 Rupees.		1,000 Rupees.		10,000 Rupees.		Total.	
		No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Calcutta	Notes issued	422,193	21,10,965	2,290,502	2,29,05,020	220,761	44,15,220	184,556	391,898	3,91,89,800	84,341	4,21,70,500	168,912	16,89,12,000	6,937	6,93,70,000	3,770,100	35,83,01,305
Allahabad	,,	14,750	73,750	25,567	2,55,670	18,714	3,74,280	15,957	22,701	22,70,100	9,794	48,97,000	10,495	1,04,95,000	1,053	1,05,30,000	119,031	2,96,93,650
Lahore	,,	16,958	84,790	50,778	5,07,780	39,913	7,98,260	28,024	31,759	31,75,900	11,873	59,36,500	15,563	1,55,63,000	469	46,90,000	195,337	3,21,57,430
Bombay	,,	259,455	12,97,275	858,115	85,81,150	144,835	28,96,700	100,478	1,87,755	1,87,75,500	13,321	66,60,500	58,603	5,86,03,000	13,410	13,41,00,000	1,635,972	23,59,38,025
Kurrachee	,,	4,115	20,575	21,821	2,18,210	10,228	2,04,560	4,391	6,689	6,68,900	1,212	6,06,000	4,163	41,63,000	26	2,60,000	52,645	63,60,795
Madras	,,	75,312	3,76,560	152,585	15,25,850	95,422	19,08,440	67,208	159,396	1,59,39,600	26,669	1,33,34,500	16,502	1,65,02,000	1,285	1,28,50,000	594,379	6,57,97,350
Calicut	,,	11,220	56,100	12,388	1,23,880	7,321	1,46,420	6,388	11,129	11,12,900	765	3,82,500	606	6,06,000	617	61,70,000	50,434	89,17,200
Total	...	804,003	40,20,015	3,411,756	3,41,17,560	537,194	1,07,43,880	407,002	811,327	8,11,32,700	147,975	7,39,87,500	274,844	27,48,44,000	23,797	23,79,70,000	6,417,898	73,71,65,755
Percentage on total issues	...	**12·53**	...	**53·17**	...	**8·37**	...	**6·34**	...	**12·64**	...	**2·30**	...	**4·28**	...	**·37**	...	**100**
	...	...	**·54**	...	**4·63**	...	**1·46**	...		**11·01**		**10·04**		**37·28**		**32 28**		**100**
Calcutta	Notes received	423,623	21,18,115	1,880,733	1,88,07,330	470,824	94,16,480	174,203	370,025	3,70,02,500	84,482	4,22,41,000	166,453	16,64,53,000	6,669	6,66,90,000	3,577,012	35,14,38,575
Allahabad	,,	11,601	58,005	22,275	2,22,750	18,340	3,66,800	14,507	21,489	21,48,900	8,020	40,10,000	14,285	1,42,85,000	903	90,30,000	111,420	3,08,46,805
Lahore	,,	19,044	95,220	51,224	5,12,240	40,190	8,03,800	26,165	29,420	29,42,000	12,887	64,43,500	16,119	1,61,19,000	504	50,40,000	195,553	3,32,64,010
Bombay	,,	249,352	12,46,760	829,042	82,90,420	138,294	27,65,880	96,678	177,346	1,77,34,600	12,934	64,67,000	58,358	5,83,58 000	13,490	13,49,00,000	1,575,494	23,45,96,560
Kurrachee	,,	4,868	24,340	21,406	2,14,060	8,934	1,78,680	5,660	7,506	7,50,600	1,389	6,94,500	4,024	40,24,000	29	2,90,000	53,816	64,59,180
Madras	,,	77,666	3,88,330	150,939	15,09,390	95,827	19,16,540	66,766	158,361	1,58,36,100	27,389	1,36,94,500	16,448	1,64,48,000	1,241	1,24,10,000	594,637	6,55,41,160
Calicut	,,	11,889	59,445	13,971	1,39,710	8,102	1,62,040	7,290	13,060	13,06,000	827	4,13,500	603	6,03,000	643	64,30,000	56,385	94,78,195
Total	...	798,043	39,90,215	2,969,590	2,96,95,900	780,511	1,56,10,220	391,269	777,207	7,77,20,700	147,928	7,39,64,000	276,290	27,62,90,000	23,479	23,47,90,000	6,164,317	73,16,24,485
Percentage on total receipts.	...	**12·95**	...	**48·18**	...	**12·66**	...	**6·35**	...	**12·60**	...	**2·40**	...	**4·48**	...	**·38**	...	**100**
	...	...	**·56**	...	**4·05**	...	**2·13**	...		**10·62**		**10·10**		**37·77**		**32·09**		**100**
Calcutta	Notes cancelled	303,807	15,19,035	1,217,403	1,21,74,030	376,717	75,34,340	116,552	266,077	2,66,07,700	59,032	2,95,16,000	117,723	11,77,23,000	2,532	2,53,20,000	2,459,843	22,62,21,705
Allahabad	,,	10,106	50,530	19,255	1,92,550	16,556	3,31,120	13,876	20,267	20,26,700	7,198	35,99,000	12,131	1,21,31,000	625	62,50,000	100,014	2,52,74,700
Lahore	,,	14,763	73,815	43,298	4,32,980	33,872	6,77,440	23,396	27,930	27,93,000	12,577	62,88,000	14,152	1,41,52,000	347	34,70,000	170,335	2,90,57,535
Bombay	,,	181,324	9,06,620	513,992	51,39,920	91,890	18,37,800	62,452	111,703	1,11,70,300	9,825	49,12,500	32,443	3,24,43,000	3,182	3,18,20,000	1,006,811	9,13,52,740
Kurrachee	,,	4,475	22,375	19,098	1,90,980	8,090	1,61,800	5,182	6,602	6,60,200	1,313	6,56,500	2,884	28,84,000		2,00,000	47,664	50,34,955
Madras	,,	71,943	3,59,715	134,582	13,45,820	82,751	16,55,020	52,338	136,428	1,36,42,800	21,193	1,05,96,500	10,390	1,03,90,000	1,008	1,00,80,000	510,633	5,06,86,755
Calicut	,,	11,063	55,315	12,972	1,29,720	7,322	1,46,440	6,087	10,836	10,83,600	497	2,48,500	266	2,66,000	614	61,40,000	49,657	83,73,925
Total	...	597,481	29,87,405	1,960,600	1,96,06,000	617,198	1,23,43,960	279,883	579,843	5,79,84,300	111,655	5,58,17,500	189,989	18,99,89,000	8,328	8,32,80,000	4,344,957	43,60,02,315
Percentage on total cancellation.	...	**13·75**	...	**45·12**	...	**14·21**	...	**6·44**	...	**13·35**	...	**2·57**	...	**4·37**	...	**·19**	...	**100**
	...	...	**·69**	...	**4·49**	...	**2·83**	...		**13·30**		**12·80**		**43·58**		**19·10**		**100**
Percentage on total cancellation on receipts.	...	**74·87**	...	**66·02**	...	**79·08**	...	**71·53**	...	**74·60**	...	**75·47**	...	**68·76**	...	**35·47**	...	**70·48**	**59·59**

Abstract of all Circles from 1861-62 to 1882-83.

Year.	Notes issued.		Notes received.		Notes cancelled.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
1861-62	3,67,200	4,20,00,000	2,000	10,00,000	...	...
1862-63	2,95,015	2,52,55,500	82,820	1,49,55,500	52,520	1,10,05,500
1863-64	3,36,201	4,72,01,000	2,48,582	4,17,01,000	240,478	3,74,51,000
1864-65	5,98,260	4,53,00,110	2,53,708	3,37,69,900	214,290	3,15,66,660
1865-66	9,60,150	10,10,04,920	8,54,111	9,98,39,180	386,174	3,90,71,620
1866-67	1,968,688	26,80,12,150	1,917,381	25,36,97,220	831,631	7,50,95,040
1867-68	2,790,745	33,06,49,710	2,424,319	30,72,64,270	998,679	10,85,26,500
1868-69	3,117,050	44,00,73,020	2,936,353	44,69,90,180	1,553,433	14,25,85,600
1869-70	3,396,828	49,34,48,480	3,353,591	48,70,24,340	1,906,794	22,30,04,250
1870-71	3,855,477	56,63,62,620	3,728,082	56,66,28,810	2,005,842	24,79,56,750
1871-72	4,045,118	62,25,21,200	3,813,861	60,48,10,940	1,894,516	25,64,60,160
1872-73	4,480,446	57,39,09,525	4,194,129	59,96,88,825	2,150,039	25,00,27,590
1873-74	4,915,365	61,69,24,575	4,620,018	62,64,55,900	2,565,890	26,20,42,890
1874-75	5,145,682	68,25,78,760	4,762,530	63,66,57,570	3,094,083	28,68,65,125
1875-76	5,325,790	62,69,70,815	5,269,541	62,17,81,655	3,500,318	29,62,56,840
1876-77	5,777,514	78,77,51,185	5,702,046	77,87,26,475	3,661,384	37,89,18,425
1877-78	6,251,704	99,52,50,980	6,120,202	96,25,97,735	4,399,755	45,50,76,735
1878-79	5,853,587	86,09,06,930	6,036,955	90,75,19,920	4,115,911	42,84,16,310
1879-80	6,252,415	81,51,93,855	6,067,688	80,79,23,265	3,889,150	35,31,49,630
1880-81	6,731,153	85,23,94,490	6,625,315	84,04,84,390	4,172,534	38,61,13,350
1881-82	6,066,875	71,68,22,915	5,954,017	71,06,97,175	3,855,555	37,95,01,280
1882-83	6,417,898	73,71,65,755	6,164,317	73,16,24,485	4,344,957	43,60,02,315

No.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the Department

	Calcutta.	Allahabad.
	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.
RECEIPTS.		
1882-83. Interest realized on Government Securities	12,99,594 0 0	1,11,108 0 0
SUNDRY CASH RECEIPTS.		
Miscellaneous	28 0 0	3 10 0
Permium realized on Bills	.....	.....
Value of unclaimed Currency Notes	.....	.....
TOTAL RECEIPTS DURING 1882-83	12,99,622 0 0	1,11,111 10 0
DISBURSEMENTS.		
Salaries	22,043 5 4	.....
Establishment	59,401 3 5	10,856 3 10
Temporary Establishment	8,199 13 9	745 0 0
Charges for Remittance	832 15 0	6,408 7 3
Stationary	2,248 6 0	11 15 0
Printing Charges	2,075 9 0	.....
Service Telegrams	294 8 0	7 1 0
Purchase of Service Stamps	393 15 0	290 12 0
House, Lighting, Police and Water-rate	4,500 0 0	.....
Cost of Note Forms	1,50,355 13 4	.....
One-third Freight on Europe Stores	.....	.....
Pensions and Gratuities	2,624 10 8	.....
Cost of Repairs and Currency Buildings	2,177 0 0	.....
Cost of Chests, Bags and Locks	14 3 6	187 8 0
Contingencies	5,200 15 11	681 12 1
Travelling Allowances	.....	.. ..
Dead Stock, Cost of Office Furniture	1,099 0 5	62 14 3
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS DURING 1882-83	2,61,461 7 4	19,251 9 5
PROFIT	10,38,160 8 8	91,860 0 7

ABS

	Calcutta.		Allahabad.	
	₹	a. p.	₹	a. p.
RECEIPTS.				
In 1861-62	.....		.....	
,, 1862-63	1,52,316	10 2	... ..	
,, 1863-64	3,27,731	5 4	.....	
,, 1864-65	9,69,318	4 4	.....	
,, 1865-66	6,05,285	1 8	46,281	6 0
,, 1866-67	6,91,286	13 6	49,784	0 0
,, 1867-68	5,32,863	9 9	45,617	9 4
,, 1868-69	5,81,265	0 9	49,442	8 3
,, 1869-70	6,50,288	12 3	48,310	9 8
,, 1870-71	5,36,277	7 6	62,787	2 7
,, 1871-72	5,38,378	2 9	45,512	7 6
,, 1872-73	8,91,423	8 3	96,879	10 9
,, 1873-74	10,04,194	6 0	1,56,749	4 0
,, 1874-75	11,87,241	11 6	89,036	0 0
,, 1875-76	10,92,800	4 6	1,13,676	0 0
,, 1876-77	10,74,581	8 0	1,09,322	0 0
,, 1877-78	11,80,679	7 8	1,12,726	0 0
,, 1878-79	12,35,775	6 10	85,487	2 0
,, 1879-80	13,93,856	3 11	99,873	6 0
,, 1880-81	12,55,051	0 0	89,304	0 0
,, 1881-82	12,65,842	12 2	85,948	4 0
,, 1882-83	12,99,622	0 0	1,11,111	10 0
TOTAL	1,84,66,079	8 10	14,97,849	0 1
DISBURSEMENTS.				
In 1861-62	2,639	2 7	.....	
,, 1862-63	3,06,205	8 3	.....	
,, 1863-64	1,40,049	4 11	.....	
,, 1864-65	34,145	8 6	20,329	12 2
,, 1865-66	4,00,080	5 2	17,824	12 9
,, 1866-67	5,27,735	4 11	13,488	3 2
,, 1867-68	90,086	0 0	17,230	12 10
,, 1868-69	5,71,781	12 9	14,792	14 4
,, 1869-70	99,909	12 7	14,991	8 11
,, 1870-71	1,30,679	3 7	15,505	1 4
,, 1871-72	1,02,321	6 2	14,457	12 6
,, 1872-73	1,27,751	14 3	20,576	5 10
,, 1873-74	1,65,462	14 5	51,683	12 7
,, 1874-75	1,36,395	6 10	21,920	7 4
,, 1875-76	1,26,771	7 8	44,446	5 4
,, 1876-77	1,47,884	0 11	19,322	1 0
,, 1877-78	1,82,693	11 4	13,346	14 3
,, 1878-79	2,38,041	12 0	16,616	9 5
,, 1879-80	1,41,472	1 5	14,744	12 3
,, 1880-81	1,21,867	0 0	14,910	0 0
,, 1881-82	1,48,717	0 3	21,755	1 10
,, 1882-83	2,61,461	7 4	19,251	9 5
TOTAL	42,04,152	1 10	3,87,194	13 3
PROFIT	1,42,61,927	7 0	11,10,654	2 10

III.

of Issue of Paper Currency for the year 1882-83.

Lahore.	Bombay.	Kurrachee.	Madras.	Calicut.	TOTAL.
₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.
1,24,281 0 0	6,82,822 0 0	54,736 0 0	2,14,113 0 0	14,854 0 0	25,01,508 0 0
206 8 6	9 3 0	.....	247 6 10	.....	494 12 4
.....	.....	.....	187 8 0	.....	187 8 0
.....	.....	.....	375 0 0	.....	375 0 0
1,24,487 8 6	6,82,831 3 0	54,736 0 0	2,14,922 14 10	14,854 0 0	25,02,565 4 4
3,200 0 0	8,642 0 0	1,200 0 0	.....	1,200 0 0	36,285 5 4
9,020 10 8	49,289 8 11	4,228 11 10	17,782 15 9	3,252 0 0	1,53,831 6 5
.. ...	1,410 0 0	.....	.....	.....	10,354 13 9
.....	14,008 8 6	1,614 13 4	31 3 8	1,020 11 9	24,516 11 6
.....	691 3 9	.....	385 2 10	.....	3,336 11 7
392 6 0	980 1 11	.....	428 4 3	.....	3,876 5 2
110 10 0	392 3 0	68 2 0	65 8 0	89 6 0	1,027 6 0
200 0 0	460 8 0	65 0 0	164 13 0	80 6 0	1,655 6 0
83 6 1	66 1 0	.....	.....	.....	4,649 7 1
.....	.....	.....	9,388 10 0	661 11 4	1,60,406 2 8
.....	2 0 0	.....	... ..	... ..	2 0 0
.....	1,030 6 11	.....	1,081 13 0	.....	4,736 14 7
151 7 1	2,564 14 9	.....	263 8 0	.....	5,156 13 10
.....	.....	.....	415 2 4	.....	616 13 10
773 1 11	3,019 12 2	342 8 0	1,501 7 3	80 6 2	11,599 15 6
.....	158 4 0	.....	248 2 4	67 0 8	473 7 0
701 4 11	126 0 0	34 0 0	755 11 6	.....	2,778 15 1
14,632 14 8	83,441 8 11	7,553 3 2	32,512 5 11	6,451 9 11	4,25,304 11 4
1,09,854 9 10	5,99,389 10 1	47,182 12 10	1,82,410 8 11	8,402 6 1	20,77,260 9 0

TRACT.

Lahore.	BOMBAY.		MADRAS.		TOTAL.
	Bombay.	Kurrachee.	Madras.	Calicut.	
₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,52,316 10 2
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,27,731 5 4
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16,54,979 0 8
.....	5,11,746 13 6	.....	1,73,913 14 10	3,268 2 0	16,78,391 10 6
31,484 2 0	8,19,518 4 3	4,637 7 9	1,67,917 2 10	4,400 0 0	16,62,849 10 11
31,517 0 0	7,43,596 2 1	23,870 0 0	1,18,395 11 4	4,137 1 3	13,45,815 4 8
28,944 4 9	5,92,489 15 5	20,677 12 5	1,21,084 15 9	11,963 12 11	14,86,972 11 8
37,827 13 5	6,73,293 8 10	28,822 15 1	1,04,357 0 5	12,011 10 11	16,67,871 9 0
35,133 4 11	7,69,001 5 11	38,566 11 1	1,14,559 2 3	13,113 3 5	14,93,867 10 9
40,616 1 1	6,73,769 3 4	34,317 10 3	1,32,986 14 7	14,877 11 0	14,25,965 7 11
65,087 5 3	5,93,668 4 7	27,765 4 9	1,40,676 4 1	33,612 4 0	23,92,227 6 4
88,368 10 6	10,45,520 1 7	37,693 12 6	1,98,729 6 9	46,866 10 3	23,71,584 0 6
1,01,370 14 0	7,56,230 12 9	46,985 0 3	2,59,187 1 3	49,770 0 0	23,69,994 8 1
1,10,593 7 3	6,77,999 6 4	35,660 12 0	2,19,693 3 0	55,570 0 0	23,67,517 14 5
1,28,291 10 9	6,87,503 6 6	36,340 0 0	2,53,336 8 8	39,443 0 0	23,68,799 4 8
1,34,781 10 0	7,01,084 13 8	40,050 1 6	2,69,536 3 6	37,865 0 0	24,49,647 12 3
1,11,997 10 9	6,59,869 12 10	35,533 13 0	3,10,976 0 0	27,938 0 0	23,95,495 12 2
94,621 11 0	6,52,369 0 4	47,607 0 0	2,51,697 8 0	35,592 0 0	27,96,825 10 1
1,31,198 12 3	7,72,780 3 3	54,105 0 0	3,09,420 0 8	22,785 0 0	25,14,818 0 0
1,69,020 0 0	6,96,539 0 0	62,088 0 0	2,20,031 0 0	24,016 0 0	25,02,999 15 0
1,55,632 3 6	6,64,791 11 11	60,126 0 0	2,46,642 15 5	14,854 0 0	25,02,565 4 4
1,24,487 8 6	6,82,831 3 0	54,736 0 0	2,14,922 14 10	4,52,083 7 9	3,99,29,236 9 5
16,20,974 1 11	1,33,74,603 2 1	6,89,583 4 7	38,28,064 0 2	.....	5,885 5 10
.....	2,494 10 0	.....	751 9 3	.....	5,30,812 8 10
.....	1,73,996 6 6	.....	50,610 10 1	.....	3,65,408 10 4
.....	1,66,720 11 11	.....	58,638 9 6	.....	3,96,594 6 11
17,539 13 0	2,61,955 7 8	.....	59,511 2 3	3,112 11 4	8,45,092 5 9
21,500 13 3	3,06,084 4 8	9,596 11 8	79,872 13 10	11,132 8 5	9,92,303 2 9
16,999 6 3	3,58,829 8 3	8,632 0 0	61,950 15 6	4,667 12 8	3,09,306 6 7
20,862 13 7	1,29,160 8 5	10,509 12 11	36,798 8 6	4,657 14 4	7,60,938 11 0
15,285 6 4	1,12,952 8 4	10,517 15 3	30,912 2 6	4,695 15 6	2,89,860 3 4
16,687 14 6	1,12,816 11 10	7,711 15 0	33,335 4 5	4,407 0 1	3,36,231 1 7
13,726 6 9	1,21,404 7 7	5,922 4 1	44,446 15 1	4,546 11 2	2,85,394 9 5
19,870 1 1	1,02,736 7 5	6,038 0 2	34,553 0 1	5,417 14 0	3,13,515 6 5
11,243 6 6	99,551 13 8	7,225 11 5	39,798 3 9	7,367 15 0	4,55,976 2 0
14,189 4 7	1,64,282 3 4	9,157 11 10	45,101 5 3	6,098 14 0	3,89,843 9 8
22,072 3 8	1,50,860 9 2	6,097 0 2	43,460 9 0	9,037 5 6	3,35,327 11 2
13,937 10 8	1,02,627 5 0	6,670 11 3	35,306 1 0	5,568 2 3	3,13,656 14 9
10,443 14 9	86,264 8 2	7,635 7 6	35,215 10 6	6,891 3 11	4,84,992 15 5
18,445 5 1	2,23,222 6 1	7,100 7 0	33,239 12 8	6,944 7 0	5,18,910 3 4
14,376 5 0	1,92,575 6 9	8,534 5 8	41,871 7 1	6,894 5 5	3,23,801 13 1
15,044 15 6	1,00,247 4 8	7,456 6 8	39,214 6 8	5,621 13 11	2,78,136 0 0
14,851 0 0	82,161 0 0	5,716 0 0	33,697 0 0	4,934 0 0	3,24,762 10 11
17,482 14 9	78,796 0 4	7,703 4 4	42,480 1 4	7,828 4 1	4,25,304 11 4
14,632 14 8	83,441 8 11	7,553 3 2	32,512 5 11	6,451 9 11	
3,09,192 9 11	32,13,181 14 8	1,39,779 0 1	9,12,278 10 2	1,16,276 8 6	92,82,055 10 5
13,11,781 8 0	1,01,61,421 3 5	5,49,804 4 6	29,15,785 6 0	3,35,806 15 3	3,06,47,180 15 0

No. IV.

Classification of Treasuries according to encashment of Notes.

A.—Treasuries which were able throughout the year to cash Notes at all times to the extent of the public demand on them.	B.—Treasuries ordinarily able to cash Notes on presentation.	C.—Treasuries at which this accommodation could not usually be given.	A.	B.	C.
		INDIA.			
Ajmere. Coorg. Gwalior. Indore. Sambhar.	Beluchistan. Bhopal. Nowgong (Bundelkhand).	Katmandoo.	5	3	1
		CENTRAL PROVINCES.			
Balughat. Betul. Bhandara. Bilaspur. Chanda. Damoh. Hoshangabad. Jubbulpore. Mandla. Nursinghpur. Sambulpur.	Chhindwara. Nimar. Raipur. Saugor. Seoni. Wardha.		11	6	0
		BRITISH BURMA.			
Kyouk Phyoo. Sandoway. Bassein. Tharrawaddy. Henzada. Prome. Mergui. Tavoy.	Maoobeng. Thayetmyo. Shoagyeen. Tounghoo.		8	4	0
		ASSAM.			
Nil.	*Nil.*	Cachar. Darrang. Garo Hills. Goalpara. Kamrup. Khasi Hills. Lakhimpur. Manipur. Naga Hills. Nowgong. Sibsagor. Sylhet.	0	0	12
		BENGAL.			
Burdwan. Bankura. Beerbhoom. Midnapur. Hooghly. 24-Parganas. Nuddea. Jessore. Moorshedabad. Dinagepur. Rajshahi. Rungpur. Bogra.	Manbhoom. Maldah.	Darjeeling.	13	2	1
		Carried over	24	13	13

No. IV—*continued.*

Classification of Treasuries according to encashment of Notes—continued.

A.—Treasuries which were able throughout the year to cash Notes at all times to the extent of the public demand on them.	B.—Treasuries ordinarily able to cash Notes on presentation.	C.—Treasuries at which this accommodation could not usually be given.	A.	B.	C.
		Brought forward	24	13	13
		BENGAL—*continued.*			
		Brought forward	13	2	1
Pubna. Jalpaiguri. Dacca. Furreedpore. Bakargunge. Mymensing. Tippara. Chittagong. Noakhalli. Patna. Gya. Shahabad. Mozufferpore. Durbhunga. Sarún. Champaran. Monghyr. Bhagalpore. Purnea. Nya Doomka. Pooree. Balasore. Hazaribagh. Lohardugga. Singhbhoom. Cuttack.			39	2	1
		N.-W. PROVINCES AND OUDH.			
Aligarh. Azamgarh. Bareilly. Banda. Baraich. Bara Banki. Bijnor. Budaon. Etah. Farukhabad. Fatehpur. Fyzabad. Ghazipur. Gorakpur. Gonda. Hamirpur. Jhansi. Jalaun. Jaunpur. Kheri. Lalitpur. Meerut. Moradabad. Mainpuri. Muthra. Pilibhit. Partabgarh. Rae Bareli. Roorkee. Saharanpur. Shahjehanpur. Sultanpur.	Bulandshahar. Busti. Etawah. Hurdoi. Muzaffarnuggar. Mirzapore. Sitapur. Unao.	Dehra Dun. Kumaun.	32	8	2
		Carried over	95	23	16

No. IV—*continued.*

Classification of Treasuries according to encashment of Notes—continued.

A.—Treasuries which were able throughout the year to cash Notes at all times to the extent of the public demand on them.	B.—Treasuries ordinarily able to cash Notes on presentation.	C.—Treasuries at which this accommodation could not usually be given.	A.	B.	C.
		PUNJAB.			
		Brought forward .	95	23	16
Amritsar.	*Nil.*	*Nil.*			
Bannu.					
Dera Ghazi Khan.					
Dera Ismail Khan.					
Ferozepore.					
Gujranwalla.					
Gujrat.					
Gurdaspur.					
Gurgaon.					
Hissar.					
Hoshiarpur.					
Hazara.					
Jhang.					
Jhelam.					
Jullundur.					
Kangra.					
Kohat.					
Karnal.					
Ludhiana.					
Mooltan.					
Montgomery.					
Muzaffargarh.					
Peshawar.					
Rawalpindi.					
Rohtak.					
Sirsa.					
Sealkote.					
Shapur.					
Simla.					
Umballa.			30	0	0
		MADRAS.			
Vizagapatam.	South Arcot.	Bangalore.			
Kistna.					
Nellore.					
Kurnool.					
Anantapur.					
Cuddapah.					
Chingleput.					
North Arcot.					
Salem.					
Trichinopoly.					
Tanjore.					
Madura.					
Tinnevelly.					
Coimbatore.					
Travancore.			15	1	1
		BOMBAY.			
Ahmednagar.		Dharwar.			
Belgaum.		Kaladgi.			
Colaba.		Kutch.			
Hyderabad.					
Kaira.					
Kanara.					
Khandesh.					
Nasik.					
Ratnagiri.			9	0	3
		Carried over .	140	24	17

No. IV—*concluded.*

Classification of Treasuries according to encashment of Notes—concluded.

A.—Treasuries which were able throughout the year to cash Notes at all times to the extent of the public demand on them.	B.—Treasuries ordinarily able to cash Notes on presentation.	C.—Treasuries at which this accommodation could not usually be given.	A.	B.	C.
		Brought forward .	140	24	17
		BOMBAY—*concluded.*			
		Brought forward .	9	0	3
Satara.					
Shikarpur.					
Sholapur.					
Surat.					
Thana.					
Kathiawar.					
Aden.					
Baroda.			17	0	3
		HYDERABAD.			
Akola.					
Amraoti.					
Bassim.					
Buldana.					
Ellichpur.					
Wun.			6	0	0
		TOTAL .	163	24	20
		TOTAL OF A. B. C. .		207	

No. V.

Statistics of Treasury and other Balances on 31st December 1882.

	Denomination of Notes.									Total.		Percentage of Notes.	
	₹5.	₹10.	₹20.	₹50.	₹100.	₹500.	₹1,000.	₹10,000.	Foreign Circle Notes.	Notes.	Cash.	Total.	Dec. 31, 1882.	Dec. 31, 1881.
Treasuries and Branch Banks.														
Calcutta Circle	51,445	2,55,720	2,09,040	2,85,350	12,22,200	4,97,000	12,88,000	2,40,60,000	65,155	2,79,33,910	2,65,97,165	5,45,31,075	51	38
Allahabad „	28,330	42,860	69,300	1,20,850	1,52,000	1,56,000	94,000	...	12,67,680	19,31,020	1,74,53,378	1,93,84,398	10	9
Lahore „	19,115	51,940	91,580	93,100	1,42,100	2,13,500	8,74,000	30,000	2,66,760	17,82,095	76,75,679	94,57,774	19	10
Bombay „	16,355	1,12,130	74,880	1,32,250	2,57,700	1,18,000	2,98,000	1,68,70,000	19,705	1,78,99,000	90,31,613	2,69,30,613	66	32
Akola „	4,830	29,030	22,840	14,750	56,700	9,500	15,000	...	7,430	1,16,080	23,33,219	24,93,299	6	26
Nagpur „	3,155	11,090	14,240	36,300	68,600	16,500	56,000	...	25,705	2,31,590	50,61,186	52,92,776	4	9
Kurrachee „	13,680	32,650	35,060	45,950	98,300	1,10,500	14,86,000	10,000	18,300	18,50,440	13,78,786	32,29,226	57	27
Madras „	23,995	62,640	68,820	93,750	3,36,200	1,10,000	75,000	3,10,050	2,28,735	13,09,140	82,14,823	95,13,963	14	33
Calicut „	8,300	11,100	15,260	27,050	60,300	19,500	18,000	...	2,42,840	4,02,360	12,50,412	16,52,772	24	10
Central India	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,21,210	6,21,210	62,61 101	68,82,311	9	16
British Burma	6,480	6,900	4,660	1,650	9,400	8,500	11,000	...	...	48,590	56,05,698	56,54,288	8	2
	1,75,665	6,16,070	6,05,680	8,51,000	24,03,500	12,59,000	42,15,000	4,12,80,000	27,63,520	5,41,69,435	9,08,53,060	14,50,22,495	37	23
(Presidency Banks Head Offices.)														
Bank of Bengal	15,345	1,49,600	34,140	1,24,550	3,52,300	4,55,000	12,69,000	3,00,000	42,28,715	69,28,650	10,54,000	79,82,650	87	87
Do. of Bombay	22,515	87,410	53,400	1,59,200	5,24,700	1,26,000	7,62,000	4,50,000	2,460	21,87,685	36,93,171	58,80,856	37	66
Do. of Madras	4,615	23,140	14,400	33,900	1,34,500	60,500	1,15,000	...	1,00,000	4,86,055	17,48,181	22,34,236	22	76
	42,475	2,60,150	1,01,940	3,17,650	10,11,500	6,41,500	21,46,000	7,50,000	43,31,175	96,02,390	64,95,352	1,60,97,742	59	76

No. VI.

Issues and Receipts of Home Notes at each Circle.

	Circles.							Total.
	Calcutta.	Allahabad.	Lahore.	Bombay.	Kurrachee.	Madras.	Calicut.	
Circulation on 1st April 1882	6,91,24,655	99,14,080	93,42,575	3,59,26,380	33,83,605	1,51,40,825	14,76,295	14,43,08,415
ISSUES.								
Over the Counter	35,75,26,005	2,95,96,650	2,30,13,430	22,43,76,835	57,88,795	6,47,21,360	89,17,200	71,39,40,275
At Agencies	7,75,300	97,000	91,44,000	14,07,650	...	7,75,990	...	1,21 99,940
In Remittance transactions	...	...	...	1,01,53,540	5,72,000	3,00,000	...	1,10,25,540
Total Issues	35,83,01,305	2,96,93,650	3,21,57,430	23,59,38,025	63,60,795	6,57,97,350	89,17,200	73,71,65,755
Total of Balance and Issues	42,74,25,960	3,96,07,730	4,15,00,005	27,18,64,405	97,44,400	8,09,38,175	1,03,93,495	88,14,74,170
RECEIPTS.								
Over the Counter	31,91,32,165	84,46,280	77,79,340	14,87,25,115	25,12,890	5,73,97,955	17,46,260	54,57,40,005
At Agencies	7,85,300	55,000	3,73,000	11,03,500	...	5,06,000	...	28,22,800
From other Currency Circles	71,01,690	2,23,45,525	2,51,11,670	3,27,77,320	39,46,290	63,87,205	77,31,935	10,54,01,635
In Remittance transactions	2,44,19,420	...	...	5,19,90,625	...	12,50,000	...	7,76,60,045
Total Receipts	35,14,38,575	3,08,46,805	3,32,64,010	23,45,96,560	64,59,180	6,55,41,160	94,78,195	73,16,24,485
Balance in Circulation on 31st March 1883	7,59,87,385	87,60,925	82,35,995	3,72,67,845	32,85,220	1,53,97,015	9,15,300	14,98,49,685

No. VII.

Issues and Receipts of Coin at each Circle.

	Circles.							
	Calcutta.	Allahabad.	Lahore.	Bombay.	Kurrachee.	Madras.	Calicut.	Total.
	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.
Balance on April 1882	1,54,34,998 2 7	1,24,39,855 0 0	1,61,70,955 0 0	1,23,37,257 4 1	37,22,285 0 0	82,84,105 0 0	10,17,095 0 0	6,94,06,550 6 8
Receipts—Over the Counter	2,77,53,125 0 0	94,24,595 0 0	1,95,29,740 0 0	6,98,29,475 0 0	36,93,740 0 0	92,36,900 0 0	51,19,175 0 0	14,45,86,750 0 0
„ From Small Coin Account	...	...	...	7,80,000 0 0	34,235 0 0	2,60,000 0 0	...	10,74,235 0 0
„ At Agencies	6,14,400 0 0	97,000 0 0	1,50,94,000 0 0	10,69,150 0 0	...	4,99,990 0 0	...	1,73,74,540 0 0
„ In Remittance transactions	2,46,75,000 0 0	...	1,18,66,000 0 0	98,28,960 0 0	...	12,07,280 0 0	...	4,75,77,240 0 0
„ For Mint Certificates	942 3 4	...	...	598 9 4	...	...	...	1,540 12 8
„ By sale of Securities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Receipts	5,30,43,467 3 4	95,21,595 0 0	4,64,89,740 0 0	8,15,08,183 9 4	37,27,975 0 0	1,12,04,170 0 0	51,19,175 0 0	21,06,14,305 12 8
Total of Balance and Receipts	6,84,78,465 5 11	2,19,61,450 0 0	6,26,60,695 0 0	9,38,45,440 13 5	74,50,260 0 0	1,94,88,275 0 0	61,36,270 0 0	28,00,20,856 3 4
Issues—Over the Counter	5,56,42,680 0 0	69,44,910 0 0	95,52,595 0 0	4,62,41,120 0 0	6,68,770 0 0	1,01,77,385 0 0	12,30,970 0 0	13,04,58,430 0 0
„ At Agencies	6,24,400 0 0	55,000 0 0	1,58,89,000 0 0	17,65,000 0 0	...	2,80,000 0 0	...	1,86,13,400 0 0
„ In Remittance transactions	...	50,25,000 0 0	2,48,00,000 0 0	1,00,00,000 0 0	38,25,000 0 0	2,07,280 0 0	45,90,000 0 0	4,84,47,280 0 0
„ For bullion delivered and for melting fees	9,709 10 4	...	...	1,04,918 6 2	...	...	...	1,14,628 0 6
„ To Small Coin Account	...	...	...	10,56,000 0 0	1,635 0 0	30,000 0 0	...	10,87,635 0 0
„ In purchase of Securities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Issues	5,62,76,789 10 4	1,20,24,910 0 0	5,02,41,595 0 0	5,91,67,038 6 2	44,95,405 0 0	1,06,94,665 0 0	58,20,970 0 0	19,87,21,373 0 6
Balance of Coin, March 31st, 1883	1,22,01,675 11 7	99,36,540 0 0	1,24,19,100 0 0	3,46,78,402 7 3	29,54,855 0 0	87,93,610 0 0	3,15,300 0 0	8,12,99,483 2 10

No. VIII.

Value of Currency Notes in Circulation on the last day of each month. (In Lakhs of Rupees.)

	1862-63.	1863-64.	1864-65.	1865-66.	1866-67.	1867-68.	1868-69.	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1873-74.	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
April	4,10	5,13	5,68	7,48	7,02	7,84	8,92	9,80	9,65	10,13	13,34	11,01	9,27	10,75	10,73	11,13	13,30	11,27	12,89	12,86	14,20
May	4,13	5,01	6,04	7,46	7,87	8,19	10,04	10,38	8,68	10,49	13,49	11,21	9,96	11,06	10,70	11,55	13,09	11,17	13,10	13,01	14,67
June	4,21	5,09	5,99	8,34	8,60	8,53	10,04	10,80	8,70	10,83	13,51	11,83	10,16	11,29	11,59	12,67	13,87	11,82	13,64	13,72	14,91
July	4,26	5,11	6,31	8,58	8,67	8,72	10,06	10,53	9,12	10,72	13,47	11,95	10,73	11,18	11,54	12,85	14,07	12,24	13,91	14,04	15,29
August	4,28	5,16	6,37	8,69	8,48	9,39	10,13	10,21	9,45	11,29	13,22	12,05	10,87	11,19	11,91	12,15	14,27	12,74	13,75	14,22	15,29
September	4,29	5,26	6,48	8,87	9,28	9,53	10,41	10,18	10,07	11,32	13,35	12,09	10,60	11,77	11,75	12,39	14,06	13,33	13,47	13,55	15,28
October	4,58	5,63	7,09	7,84	10,16	9,96	10,61	10,76	10,19	11,31	13,00	12,06	10,88	12,04	11,45	13,19	13,70	13,58	13,55	13,39	15,82
November	4,49	5,16	7,13	7,83	10,10	10,21	10,41	11,33	10,27	11,09	13,30	11,73	11,02	11,69	11,93	14,74	13,46	13,75	14,50	13,07	16,25
December	4,52	5,11	7,48	7,40	9,96	10,32	10,30	11,31	10,35	10,87	12,88	10,91	11,08	11,22	11,97	15,05	12,69	13,80	14,38	13,15	16,16
January	4,56	5,15	7,39	6,91	8,68	10,11	10,20	11,42	10,76	13,08	12,16	9,98	11,10	11,77	12,44	15,64	12,15	14,23	14,12	13,39	15,37
February	4,71	5,08	7,40	6,87	8,87	9,56	10,68	10,82	10,07	12,69	11,52	9,69	11,13	11,28	12,07	14,07	12,20	13,28	13,25	13,74	14,42
March	4,93	5,35	7,43	6,90	8,09	9,07	9,96	10,47	10,44	13,17	11,14	9,25	11,24	11,00	11,62	13,57	11,42	12,36	13,40	13,91	14,51
Average	4,42	5,19	6,73	7,76	8,82	9,28	10,15	10,67	9,81	11,42	12,86	11,15	10,67	11,35	11,64	13,25	13,19	12,80	13,66	13,50	15,18
Net Imports of Silver	12,55	12,80	10,08	18,67	6,96	5,59	8,60	7,32	94	6,52	71	2,49	4,64	1,55	7,20	14,68	3,97	7,87	3,89	5,38	...
Net Amount borrowed in India	...	—34	—2	—99	60	79	—35	2,18	1,22	1,16	—1,51	—4	3,43	2,92	—85	3,03	3,88	4,03	3,09	2,79	...
Currency Investment on 31st March	67	2,49	3,57	3,98	3,25	3,25	3,91	3,60	3,23	5,91	5,69	5,69	5,69	5,69	6,00	5,69	6,00	6,00	6,00	6,00	6,00
Profits of Paper Currency Department	—4	...	13	8	7	10	7	14	12	11	21	19	20	20	21	20	19	25	23	22	...

No. IX.

Currency Notes in Circulation in India, in Lakhs and Thousands of Rupees.

Last day of	Calcutta.	Allahabad.	Lahore.	Bombay.	Akola.	Nagpur.	Kurrachee.	Madras.	Calicut.	Vizagapatam.	Trichinopoly.	Total.
1871.												
January	391·50	65·76	36·36	391·84	25·65	32·80	24·96	89·43	9·73	3·44	4·03	1075·53
February	335·21	54·96	45·07	408·40	21·48	24·20	24·14	74·77	10·81	3·39	4·84	1007·33
March	354·30	54·38	44·80	431·94	18·73	26·53	23·20	72·77	9·83	3·73	3·48	1043·72
April	354·85	55·86	57·32	383·79	19·47	20·48	22·48	80·08	11·08	3·91	3·71	1013·06
May	364·55	33·49	40·28	385·97	37·89	29·03	21·68	118·94	11·06	3·03	3·50	1049·46
June	394·17	32·82	49·90	390·50	36·45	32·94	16·50	111·89	11·89	2·61	3·22	1082·95
July	393·42	34·48	39·25	374·12	46·75	34·23	22·28	110·98	10·57	3·10	2·90	1072·14
August	425·53	35·57	44·12	397·15	42·63	34·68	18·82	115·85	10·20	3·51	1·15	1129·25
September	418·81	31·00	46·93	404·11	41·75	41·02	20·64	110·41	10·97	3·05	3·01	1131·75
October	429·93	33·74	42·00	380·13	52·55	43·69	21·10	107·31	12·31	3·75	4·14	1130·71
November	417·78	33·60	48·84	369·88	47·76	41·69	24·27	104·41	12·58	3·82	4·09	1108·77
December	412·32	34·39	55·59	372·65	41·21	36·22	17·20	98·37	11·46	3·10	4·35	1086·90
1872.												
January	510·74	36·59	69·33	498·35	10·99	15·43	44·94	100·15	12·25	3·66	5·62	1308·11
February	512·58	38·31	64·76	487·59	7·04	15·89	20·63	99·45	13·62	3·39	5·64	1268·96
March	529·28	39·33	69·77	529·99	7·52	16·67	17·38	82·46	15·53	3·42	5·40	1316·79
April	520·70	33·29	55·62	568·93	12·75	16·62	16·98	84·15	16·80	3·35	4·28	1333·52
May	511·56	30·99	50·70	583·94	13·20	25·79	16·19	89·56	17·90	4·62	4·74	1349·23
June	512·37	31·45	48·09	563·70	20·08	34·65	16·69	98·00	15·68	4·66	5·39	1350·80
July	501·43	38·95	43·86	572·19	20·56	28·67	14·76	100·28	16·23	4·48	5·74	1347·21
August	473·58	42·55	50·39	554·74	21·44	30·38	20·61	100·99	16·58	5·00	6·04	1322·36
September	483·33	47·71	55·70	543·28	21·73	32·69	19·57	100·97	19·19	6·57	4·53	1335·31
October	491·36	53·24	47·40	485·48	22·37	42·12	27·66	99·67	20·63	5·40	4·42*	1299·80
										Coconada.		
November	471·59	61·19	49·18	529·08	19·27	44·96	26·23	105·20	19·36	3·70	...	1329·86
December	444·51	68·26	43·59	519·88	19·29	43·70	20·38	106·60	19·96	4·34	...	1287·55
1873.												
January	450·53	70·71	43·92	468·89	5·53	35·13	17·59	100·59	18·60	4·07	...	1215·61
February	433·16	60·43	45·64	432·48	5·99	25·27	23·15	104·14	17·69	4·04	...	1152·03
March	445·41	87·38	37·03	368·22	4·49	19·96	23·78	103·37	18·58	5·24	...	1113·50
April	446·47	58·63	34·06	354·93	21·80	21·54	31·17	105·94	20·17	5·91	...	1100·66
May	454·59	60·51	51·23	349·10	22·78	19·57	29·70	103·16	23·21	6·67	..	1120·56
June	458·56	89·83	56·43	326·15	27·11	31·41	29·64	136·53	19·92	7·31	...	1182·93
July	457·93	83·16	58·46	316·29	37·44	41·28	21·52	151·27	20·60	7·08	...	1195·08
August	469·20	75·93	57·71	336·56	29·17	41·62	19·19	146·92	20·78	7·79	...	1204·92
September	486·53	74·99	54·23	341·70	31·53	38·67	19·51	130·87	21·68	8·92	...	1208·67
October	490·06	92·85	48·35	328·00	36·09	44·25	23·95	113·54	22·10	6·39	...	1205·63
November	495·31	87·32	45·63	305·01	32·35	45·38	26·91	100·39	27·13	7·78	...	1173·25
December	472·28	96·64	43·41	261·91	29·58	29·95	18·98	105·13	25·11	8·03	....	1091·07
1874.												
January	461·46	80·01	42·46	237·33	5·16	24·96	16·51	100·11	22·90	6·94	...	997·88
February	469·07	43·75	41·43	228·64	11·51	32·88	13·93	98·64	21·89	6·76	...	968·55
March	482·06	42·75	39·81	217·61	5·86	11·17	12·67	85·71	19·48	7·81	...	924·97
April	467·11	34·00	42·20	244·95	5·42	8·43	14·29	75·94	19·73	15·30	...	927·43
May	465·25	38·05	43·20	305·08	5·56	9·64	13·58	77·46	21·91	16·64	...	996·43
June	474·52	38·05	46·86	303·15	8·01	11·95	19·72	79·77	19·00	14·42	...	1015·49
July	538·74	43·71	46·58	294·71	6·72	15·57	17·42	77·71	19·27	12·91	...	1073·38
August	487·40	68·53	54·74	315·95	6·90	17·14	17·46	87·39	19·16	12·74	...	1087·45
September	451·82	71·29	56·34	319·65	8·45	16·56	17·60	86·36	20·09	11·76	...	1059·98
October	452·05	85·43	54·20	319·37	16·48	18·72	20·68	86·71	22·50	12·07	...	1088·26
November	460·83	80·23	59·17	329·13	17·10	15·07	17·23	91·68	23·56	7·87	...	1101·90
December	474·84	82·22	57·52	321·89	15·77	11·05	19·27	93·40	22·47	9·64	...	1108·12
1875.												
January	515·76	80·88	59·90	293·87	7·44	9·37	16·72	92·71	21·93	11·06	...	1109·69
February	505·51	67·84	59·29	304·31	5·80	19·84	16·70	95·94	22·73	14·65	...	1112·67
March	518·75	60·63	61·16	307·33	7·30	11·47	16·73	94·96	25·43	19·85	...	1123·64
April	484·64	49·01	57·79	290·27	13·18	10·65	20·12	100·39	25·52	23·82	...	1075·44
May	481·44	56·06	61·80	308·91	6·72	15·52	18·23	104·78	25·76	26·53	...	1105·79
June	488·88	64·26	58·01	309·15	12·31	16·70	17·78	107·57	25·16	28·62	...	1128·51
July	476·19	70·69	64·85	294·26	14·44	17·72	18·19	109·11	24·23	28·26	...	1117·99
August	488·57	70·70	71·11	279·20	14·03	24·73	17·10	100·07	25·44	28·21	...	1119·21
September	511·88	71·73	87·04	302·15	13·74	25·27	15·67	98·91	25·84	24·49	...	1176·76
October	510·63	81·36	79·85	330·68	15·09	27·34	17·86	95·37	23·96	21·45	...	1203·63
November	513·05	82·70	75·35	301·77	15·47	27·46	18·79	89·88	25·22	19·35	...	1169·08
December	494·77	76·16	60·23	297·53	15·39	18·94	19·03	92·38	27·42	19·70	...	1121·58
1876.												
January	511·47	76·75	60·04	329·15	12·53	19·24	17·76	101·61	24·07	24·35	...	1177·01
February	495·87	70·92	55·30	291·47	11·80	14·11	17·63	115·33	26·00	29·67	...	1128·15
March	470·17	69·36	63·12	281·20	7·29	10·51	16·29	120·64	25·96	35·40	...	1099·99
April	451·89	67·88	61·38	271·98	9·11	9·67	17·87	119·50	26·36	37·50	...	1073·19
May	438·33	72·20	63·65	283·49	9·31	10·76	18·94	113·12	24·71	35·83	...	1070·38
June	495·78	76·56	65·59	301·36	11·17	15·44	19·19	113·88	23·76	33·80	...	1158·58
July	478·89	76·81	64·85	315·20	15·22	15·18	17·16	113·47	23·96	33·03	...	1153·81
August	480·24	90·20	68·27	360·07	16·34	15·94	16·32	103·77	18·82	20·96	...	1190·98
September	504·96	83·19	69·87	320·46	18·68	18·31	17·40	102·22	24·62	15·44	...	1175·20
October	494·29	75·81	62·14	316·42	18·43	17·65	17·09	113·36	21·07	8·78	...	1145·07
November	494·07	72·86	62·68	354·73	12·21	15·04	18·96	133·62	20·42	8·45	...	1193·07
December	506·17	76·02	56·07	375·15	5·47	13·41	20·23	119·46	17·32	7·86	...	1197·19

* Trichinopoly circulation incorporated with that of Madras from November 1872.

No. IX—*concluded.*

Currency Notes in Circulation in India, in Lakhs and Thousands of Rupees.

Last day of	Calcutta.	Allahabad.	Lahore.	Bombay.	Akola.	Nagpur.	Kurrachee.	Madras.	Calicut.	Coconada.		Total.
1877.												
January	566·48	70·48	55·24	374·25	5·24	9·00	20·54	114·65	16·12	11·88	...	1243·62
February	540·01	58·18	63·99	356·84	5·26	13·94	20·32	116·56	17·02	14·91	...	1207·07
March	545·36	44·66	55·05	323·06	5·55	9·80	17·09	119·80	16·11	25·25	...	1161·78
April	478·19	49·57	57·43	323·54	5·17	8·00	14·39	134·44	18·79	23·48	...	1113·05
May	525·68	45·67	63·74	323·81	4·92	8·53	17·64	118·03	23·21	23·23	...	1154·52
June	576·24	47·88	57·41	361·03	16·08	10·86	19·33	138·65	21·12	18·79	...	1267·43
July	537·81	49·49	62·11	394·50	13·44	12·47	22·13	160·56	24·68	7·96	...	1285·20
August	531·67	60·06	60·67	325·86	7·89	10·34	24·92	154·87	29·90	8·69	...	1214·91
September	627·76	45·74	58·93	256·74	12·12	10·47	26·05	167·87	24·76	8·68	...	1239·17
October	584·24	63·42	58·48	344·45	14·11	10·27	24·72	184·54	25·16	9·36	...	1318·78
November	702·65	57·51	52·09	425·02	8·13	8·60	24·84	164·62	21·52	9·16	...	1474·21
December	705·61	57·55	46·18	482·45	4·11	6·28	22·04	149·91	18·09	12·35	...	1504·62
1878.												
January	730·40	62·42	46·16	498·15	4·10	6·93	22·88	152·96	21·24	18·28	...	1563·56
February	674·52	58·42	45·35	393·53	15·28	7·48	22·64	146·03	18·85	25·16	...	1407·31
March	684·18	58·10	47·86	344·71	5·57	6·70	22·19	144·27	15·34	28·51	...	1357·47
April	661·95	60·64	53·34	319·65	12·74	7·16	25·26	142·22	14·19	32·77	...	1329·94
May	641·18	74·61	46·31	326·39	12·25	11·03	23·26	141·89	12·84	19·31	...	1309·12
June	700·55	82·62	45·83	305·11	15·17	17·84	22·27	161·27	16·60	19·36	..	1386·68
July	724·76	77·81	43·50	304·94	16·65	25·52	22·97	146·45	20·70	23·64	...	1407·03
August	712·25	84·32	47·74	333·00	19·58	24·33	21·89	131·46	20·55	32·23	...	1427·40
September	629·05	73·60	63·01	386·22	22·65	23·32	22·23	131·91	21·63	32·40	...	1406·06
October	630·69	58·21	49·79	391·58	23·31	20·30	27·47	117·99	20·24	30·61	...	1370·23
November	618·11	38·83	47·19	411·34	23·30	19·89	30·60	106·21	19·21	31·16	...	1345·91
December	612·58	49·49	45·09	332·50	22·58	17·91	30·64	111·34	18·18	28·26	...	1268·61
1879.												
January	584·38	66·74	45·82	324·49	5·97	11·70	25·37	113·35	16·58	20·51	...	1214·97
February	643·83	51·16	48·53	282·91	5·92	11·07	26·59	111·98	16·31	21·92	...	1220·25
March	564·48	46·73	47·04	295·90	18·44	10·59	23·03	111·66	14·93	9·51	...	1142·36
April	537·92	47·99	48·59	318·62	7·71	10·92	20·06	109·36	17·63	8·31	...	1127·14
May	515·22	40·05	53·73	326·76	8·77	13·27	22·02	108·89	17·47	9·99	...	1117·12
June	555·94	52·00	69·30	309·18	19·98	19·58	23·86	105·95	17·32	8·95	...	1182·11
July	614·42	50·52	63·51	282·47	23·63	27·78	25·55	108·76	17·78	9·72	...	1224·19
August	660·47	48·92	68·04	264·58	26·74	28·11	26·59	121·88	19·68	9·01	...	1274·05
September	709·09	51·81	67·20	272·23	27·44	26·95	25·88	125·07	18·71	8·55	...	1332·98
October	701·04	36·76	65·63	301·33	27·85	26·31	27·90	137·70	25·99	8·37	...	1358·71
November	677·27	51·02	71·77	331·74	27·99	24·08	32·10	121·03	21·53	16·18	...	1374·75
December	667·84	49·16	70·79	368·55	27·60	20·60	28·55	118·68	18·69	9·25	...	1379·76
1880.												
January	710·12	50·71	64·83	391·22	14·99	16·05	26·24	123·32	14·11	11·29	...	1422·93
February	602·25	45·87	68·25	403·66	12·91	14·14	29·81	123·43	13·91	13·91	...	1328·19
March	567·08	50·14	74·24	333·97	11·93	12·63	31·15	123·99	13·19	17·41	...	1235·77
April	598·41	46·61	86·22	323·67	11·98	13·21	34·66	145·32	13·91	14·49	...	1288·52
May	594·13	45·59	84·26	338·32	14·69	23·53	29·12	149·72	14·72	15·55	...	1309·70
June	629·69	43·45	82·70	333·88	25·50	29·18	33·25	157·40	13·67	15·26	...	1364·03
July	642·81	43·01	78·98	346·46	28·26	30·96	33·79	156·02	14·45	16·40	...	1391·18
August	588·13	47·81	145·98	347·94	30·07	30·06	32·19	124·76	14·62	13·33	...	1374·94
September	626·31	50·78	86·64	355·86	29·72	29·44	35·05	103·03	16·43	13·60	...	1346·92
October	665·63	41·89	97·03	333·13	29·80	28·92	37·91	95·98	17·95	7·13	..	1355·43
November	747·71	52·26	94·69	332·28	29·81	32·15	38·26	98·53	17·12	6·95	...	1449·80
December	745·92	59·04	88·18	324·99	28·52	29·00	39·38	101·13	14·32	7·20	...	1437·68
1881.												
January	698·62	73·09	85·04	356·17	18·65	15·70	33·55	113·80	10·69	6·82	...	1412·13
February	654·75	71·46	94·25	299·09	16·98	15·64	33·81	116·60	11·69	10·70	...	1324·97
March	656·54	66·76	86·52	313·50	17·07	14·26	34·35	119·55	17·78	13·84	...	1340·17
April	597·25	49·02	96·02	309·53	17·27	13·62	33·63	136·16	16·06	17·02	...	1285·58
May	600·41	40·61	97·82	337·84	22·48	16·15	31·74	122·14	15·54	16·26	...	1300·99
June	639·19	51·34	91·85	365·36	22·46	19·72	34·13	113·29	17·27	17·42	...	1372·03
July	652·70	47·24	88·84	372·35	22·31	23·46	39·32	125·06	14·59	18·40	...	1404·27
August	673·68	67·38	77·80	397·17	9·73	15·63	31·66	128·87	12·67	7·96	...	1422·55
September	628·25	84·45	78·62	371·16	5·35	11·31	34·42	123·20	13·48	4·54	...	1354·77
October	639·25	68·82	74·08	377·93	4·54	8·44	32·40	118·97	11·35	3·33	...	1339·11
November	630·20	83·43	74·16	334·52	3·24	7·30	32·69	121·92	17·09	2·91	...	1307·46
December	635·57	82·04	75·23	322·32	2·57	4·60	40·07	129·42	20·12	2·79	...	1314·75
1882.												
January	654·53	98·69	74·11	337·68	2·07	3·17	30·44	119·08	16·90	2·45	...	1339·13
February	686·80	106·76	73·41	320·31	1·77	2·71	28·41	135·62	16·02	2·36	...	1374·16
March	688·04	86·58	73·95	345·89	1·64	2·62	30·73	146·04	13·17	2·07	...	1390·70
April	687·23	57·53	80·16	389·37	...	...	34·88	154·73	16·09	...	...	1419·99
May	672·87	61·98	77·01	452·00	...	...	34·15	156·43	12·81	...	...	1467·25
June	680·98	81·94	71·82	457·64	...	...	29·93	150·36	18·44	...	...	1491·11
July	691·22	93·22	74·59	475·13	...	...	29·15	143·61	21·96	...	...	1528·88
August	721·29	82·59	90·82	464·64	...	...	30·33	126·09	13·09	...	...	1528·85
September	693·16	79·83	96·16	490·15	...	...	31·42	117·35	19·85	...	...	1527·92
October	690·97	89·14	107·04	531·56	...	...	32·83	116·16	14·09	...	...	1581·79
November	759·74	81·35	69·97	560·14	...	...	28·34	110·86	15·04	...	...	1625·44
December	789·40	96·74	70·98	491·83	...	...	37·72	120·65	8·82	...	...	1616·14
1883.												
January	748·75	103·89	65·41	442·89	...	...	35·76	132·41	7·69	...	...	1536·80
February	701·01	99·95	64·35	399·34	...	...	32·77	136·83	7·78	...	...	1442·03
March	751·09	81·72	73·12	353·53	...	...	31·24	151·26	8·68	...	...	1450·64

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, FOR THE RABI SEASON, 1882-83 (1st OCTOBER TO 31st MARCH).

No. 2133 I., dated Allahabad, 16th July 1883.

RESOLUTION—By His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

Read—

Statements A. 16, B. 16, and C. 16, showing Irrigation Operations for Rabi 1882-83 of Canals in the North-Western Provinces.

OBSERVATIONS.—A comparatively dry September and absence of rain in December caused a good demand for canal water. The large area, however, which had to be maintained under sugarcane (a "kharif" crop) limited the amount of water available for the "rabi." On 25th and 26th January, when water was no longer needed for sugarcane, there was very heavy rain, in almost every district, which stopped all demand for artificial irrigation. In spite of this there was an increase, over last year, of 24,403 in acreage, and of R67,765 in assessments, under occupiers' rate. The irrigated area, 1,234,226 acres, is the largest on record; and is 158,274 acres in advance of that of 1878-79, a year of drought, when the returns exceeded those ever previously attained. The results are particularly striking when compared with the figures of some years back. In 1862-63 the irrigated area in *both* fasls was 473,157 acres, and even in 1872-73 but 940,586 acres. As compared with 1881-82 the largest increase is in the five divisions of the Upper Ganges Canal. There is a slight falling off in the old divisions of the Lower Ganges Canal and also on the Eastern Jumna Canal. The Agra Canal has made a small advance, and the Rohilkhand and other minor irrigation schemes have maintained their usual figures.

2. Table I shows in detail the areas of the principal crops irrigated during the last four years :—

TABLE I.

CANAL.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Upper Ganges	557,937	642,324	475,747	520,465
Lower Ganges	29,744	116,250	426,633	406,902
Agra	36,286	105,378	96,106	103,624
Eastern Jumna	142,201	128,408	150,689	142,030
Dun	8,804	6,867	8,138	9,448
Rohilkhand	66,277	29,985	48,544	46,844
Bijnor	1.730	2,041	2,137	3,207
Hamírpur Lakes	908	442	1,300	1,111
Jhánsi Lakes	443	315	529	595
TOTAL	844,330	1,032,010	1,209,823	1,234,226

The increase in area on the Upper Ganges Canal is about 45,000 acres. The Northern Division shows a falling off of 6,000 acres, while the rise in the Anúpshahr, Meerut, Bulandshahr, and Aligarh Divisions has been 13,000, 6,000, 12,000, and 20,000 acres respectively.

On the Lower Ganges Canal there is a falling off of 20,000 acres. The Narora Division shows no fluctuation, the Mainpuri a decrease of 2,000 acres and the Bhognipur an advance of 4,000 acres, so that the new divisions are slightly in advance of last year's total. The falling off in the old terminal divisions—*viz.*, Cawnpore and Etáwah has been 4,000 and 18,000 acres respectively. This defect in the latter division is said to be due to the fact that during the previous kharif an unusually large area was shown with the lighter food grains and was not cultivated during the rabi. The chief crop which hindered rabi irrigation being "arhar."

The smaller acreage obtained on the Eastern Jumna is due to the large area of sugarcane which, owing to scanty rainfall, had to be maintained during the early part of the rabi season.

The area on the Agra Canal was able to show an advance on last year owing to some late sown gram requiring water late in the season.

The rain in January is the cause of the smaller area obtained on the Rohilkhand Canals.

Table II gives the areas of the principal crops irrigated for six successive years :—

TABLE II.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Other grains.	Pulses.	Opium and drugs.	Total area.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1877-78	415,659	138,627	59,912	64,328	10,823	729,845
1878-79	586,776	266,472	115,914	66,901	15,371	1,075,952
1879-80	482,703	210,959	83,861	33,401	15,104	844,330
1880-81	545,364	261,813	130,011	55,222	18,309	1,032,010
1881-82	726,332	261,602	102,549	77,238	18,203	1,209,823
1882-83	727,740	266,604	146,662	76,349	16,871	1,234,226

This shows that wheat, barley, and pulses have attained almost exactly the same figures as last year. The area covered by the two former crops alone was nearly one million acres.

Table III shows the percentage by Canals of wheat to the total area irrigated :—

TABLE III.

	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	
					Area.	Percentage of wheat to whole area.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Upper Ganges	296,106	194,083	228,773	321,868	342,663	·66
Terminal Divisions	88,553	101,356	113,237	122,135	87,831	·38
Lower Ganges	5,959	15,078	45,282	87,974	88,099	·59
Agra	14,521	11,767	27,431	28,206	27,392	·26
Eastern Jumna Canal	149,834	122,506	111,274	131,891	121,965	·86
Rohilkhand Canals	24,330	29,979	13,120	26,549	32,496	·69

Table IV compares the assessments under occupiers' rates with those of the three preceding years :—

TABLE IV.

CANAL.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	R	R	R	R
Upper Ganges	6,68,455	7,61,523	10,21,817	11,22,533
Terminal Divisions	4,86,820	4,67,609	8,56,183	8,62,631
Lower Ganges	68,537	2,62,339		
Agra	90,530	2,86,736	2,59,530	2,85,152
Eastern Jumna	2,99,508	2,71,905	3,17,217	2,94,760
Rohilkhand	36,796	11,581	28,043	25,586
Bijnor	1,803	2,037	2,069	3,114
Dun	10,044	8,281	9,379	10,526
Bundelkhand Lakes	2,242	1,606	3,046	2,840
TOTAL	16,51,524	21,09,061	25,39,377	26,07,142

The rate per acre is R2·11, and is therefore slightly better than that of last year which was R2·09.

ORDER.—Ordered, that copies of this Resolution be submitted to the Government of India, for information, that it be circulated as usual to other Governments and Departments, and that it be published in the *Government Gazette*.

By Order, &c.,

J. G. FORBES, *Lt.-Col., R.E.*,
Joint-Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh,
P.W.D., I.B.

No. A16.—Rabi Statement.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL RABI, 1882-83.

Comparative Statement of Irrigation and Rainfall in Canal Districts of the North-Western Provinces.

Zila.	Area in acres.	Cultivable acres.	Areas irrigated.		1882-83 as compared with 1881-82.		Rainfall for six months, October to March, 1883.												Total.	
							October.		November.		December.		January.		February.		March.			
			Rabi, 1881-82.	Rabi, 1882-83.	Increase.	Decrease.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1881-82.	1882-83.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.														
Saháranpur	1,418,880	805,120	65,327	54,807	...	10,520	...	...	...	...	...	...	2·2	3·6	·7	...	...	1·9	2·9	5·6
Muzaffarnagar	1,061,989	699,622	106,984	102,272	...	4,712	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·3	3·5	...	·1	...	1·5	1·3	5·1
Meerut	1,510,664	1,071,493	180,734	193,443	12,709	...	0·2	...	...	...	...	...	1·4	2·5	...	...	...	1·0	1·6	3·5
Bulandshahr	1,222,400	875,520	121,785	140,444	18,659	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	·25	2·8	...	...	...	1·0	·25	3·8
Aligarh	1,256,775	919,880	100,340	118,141	17,801	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	·2	2·8	·2	...	...	·5	·4	3·3
Muttra	1,031,538	827,843	38,117	39,777	1,660	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2·8	·1	...	...	·1	·1	2·9
Agra	1,230,819	873,976	31,319	31,074	...	245	...	...	...	...	...	...	·2	1·4	...	...	...	...	·2	1·4
Etah	967,680	620,800	74,667	73,520	...	1,147	...	...	...	...	...	...	·2	2·3	...	...	...	·2	·2	2·5
Mainpuri	1,085,626	607,409	118,211	109,989	...	8,222	...	...	...	...	...	...	·2	2·3	·05	...	...	·6	·25	2·9
Farukhabad	1,116,633	687,361	44,869	47,221	2,352	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	·1	1·4	·1	...	...	·3	·2	1·7
Etáwah	1,274,240	563,200	121,279	109,280	...	11,999	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	1·9	...	...	...	·6	...	2·5
Cawnpore	1,495,576	865,065	117,115	118.045	930	...	...	·7	...	...	...	...	...	3·1	·2	·1	...	1·1	·2	5·0
Delhi	817,280	532,480	322	304	...	18	...	·1	...	...	...	...	·3	1·8	·7	...	...	1·6	1·0	3·5
Gurgaon	1,267,200	967,680	28,106	34,704	6.598	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	·3	·8	·1	...	...	1·2	·4	2·0
Dehra Dún	653,271	82,248	8,138	9.448	1,310	...	...	·2	...	·2	...	...	2·9	4·8	·5	...	·4	1·2	3·8	6·4
Bijnor	1,217,886	663,135	2,137	3,207	1,070	...	...	·3	...	...	...	...	1·5	2·3	...	...	...	1·0	1·5	3·6
Tarai	588,793	144,230	3,370	3,470	100	...	...	·3	...	...	...	...	·8	4·1	1·5	...	...	1·1	2·3	5·5
Pilibhít	873,094	1,228,040	8,555	8,085	...	470	...	·1	...	...	...	...	·3	4·0	·1	...	...	1·4	·4	5·5
Bareilly	1,037,416		36,619	35,289	...	1,330	...	...	...	...	...	...	·4	2·7	·2	...	...	1·7	·6	4·4
Jhánsi	1,002,880	482,560	529	595	66	...	·7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·4	·1	...	...	...	·8	1·4
Hamirpur	1,463,424	800,128	1,300	1,111	...	189	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·8	·1	·1	...	·1	·1	2·0
Total	23,594,064	14,317,790	1,209,823	1,234,226	63,255	38,852														
				Net increase		24,403														

Allahabad,
The 16th July 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to the Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D.

No. B16.—Rabi Statement.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL RABI, 1882-83.

Statement in acres of Crops irrigated in Canal Zilas.

Nature of Crops.	Saharanpur.	Muzaffarnagar.	Meerut.	Bulandshahr.	Aligarh.	Muttra.	Agra.	Etah.	Mainpuri.	Fatehgarh.	Etawah.	Cawnpore.	Delhi.	Gurgaon.	Dun.	Bijnor.	Tarai.	Pilibhit.	Bareilly.	Jhansi.	Hamirpur.	Total.
Gardens and orchards	751	617	2,178	1,651	1,281	183	351	587	685	342	977	778	2	70	607	...	31	30	392	2	29	11,344
Sugarcane	11	19	72	35	8	...	3	2	1	...	5	...	...	2	...	10	...	...	11	...	1	180
Cereals — Wheat	46,975	85,970	145,160	96,544	62,772	10,346	10,370	41,863	60,772	19,330	54,117	43 152	93	7,914	7,293	2,284	2,779	5,784	23,933	221	68	727,740
Cereals — Barley	2,254	5,046	24,331	13,731	25,910	5,618	3,340	11,055	35,689	21,560	44,581	67,577	22	1,555	439	567	270	455	2,170	7	397	266,604
Cereals — Oats	603	...	·239	131	29	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	580	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,595
Cereals — Chena	...	...	96	·400	337	8	15	270	228	2	20	3	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1,391
Other grains	303	987	2,878	699	609	16	24	1,188	1,612	1,104	493	1,227	1	7	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	11,452
Mixed	300	23	1,499	15.830	22,194	13,250	12,017	16,324	5,577	432	...	...	105	12.345	...	346	222	1,098	6,695	172	516	108,945
Pulses — Gram	1,495	3,125	4,089	2,766	2,075	10,029	4,771	907	843	113	1,889	1,493	80	12,725	42	...	38	488	1,128	176	84	48,356
Pulses — Peas	21	3,612	9,863	6,837	66	65	31	...	7	12	270	957	...	...	...	...	3	2	6	...	...	21,752
Pulses — Arhar	...	...	9	15	1,060	24	5	360	144	12	528	99	...	14	...	...	...	43	12	...	...	2,325
Pulses — Masur	1,191	1,028	1,128	44	28	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	138	...	50	84	205	15	...	3,916
Fodder crops	71	1,054	1,062	170	29	...	10	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2,407
Fibres, cotton	9	367	683	910	1,161	23	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,164
Other fibres	...	...	1	26	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Dyes, indigo	...	...	6	18	3	4	...	1	...	...	...	17	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Other dyes	...	...	5	599	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	605
Drugs, opium	...	...	...	...	58	...	6	571	3,372	3,734	6,067	2,424	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	16,233
Other drugs	7	...	7	4	36	8	7	27	51	8	43	11	...	4	215	...	1	6	189	...	14	638
Oil-seeds	611	163	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	334	...	76	95	542	...	...	1,855
Miscellaneous	175	261	136	33	482	171	120	349	1,005	272	290	299	1	49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,643
Total Rabi, 1882-83	54,807	102,272	193,443	140,444	118,141	39,777	31,074	73,520	109,989	47,221	109,280	118,045	304	34,704	9,448	3,207	3,470	8,085	35,289	595	1,111	1,234,226
Total, 1881-82	65,327	106,984	180,734	121,785	100,340	38,117	31,319	74,667	118,211	44,869	121,279	117,115	322	28,106	8,138	2,137	3,370	8,555	36,619	529	1,300	1,209,823

Allahabad,
The 16th July 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D.

No. C16.—Rabi Statement.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL RABI, 1882-83.

Statement in Acres of Crops irrigated by canals in Canal Divisions.

	Ganges Canal.						Lower Ganges Canal.						Eastern Jumna Canal.	Agra Canal.	Rohilkhand Canals.	Dun Canals.	Bundelkhand Irrigation Works.		Bijnor Canals.	Grand Total.
	Northern.	Anupshahr.	Meerut.	Bulandshahr.	Aligarh.	Total.	Narora.	Mainpuri.	Cawnpore.	Etawah.	Bhognipur.	Total.					Jhansi.	Hamirpur.		
Gardens and orchards	258	681	795	1,394	2,037	5,165	45	360	967	1,185	176	2,733	1,984	571	453	407	2	29	...	11,344
Sugarcane	11	32	32	45	1	121	...	1	...	...	5	6	26	5	11	...	...	1	10	180
Cereals — Wheat	38,327	58,335	75,407	87,218	83,376	342,663	15,680	44,241	35,606	69,653	28,178	193,358	121,965	27,392	32,496	7,293	221	68	2,284	727,740
Cereals — Barley	1,903	5,675	24,147	9,317	34,084	75,126	4,232	18,025	58,794	71,718	20,996	173,765	3,136	10,272	2,895	439	7	397	567	266,604
Cereals — Oats	...	91	109	158	54	412	...	...	...	...	...	...	603	...	...	580	...	...	...	1,595
Cereals — Chena	...	2	...	460	842	1,304	...	30	1	7	18	56	1	28	...	...	2	...	...	1,391
Other grains	159	84	1,329	1,198	2,051	4,821	1	1,132	2,656	724	...	4,513	2,103	11	3	...	...	1	...	11,452
Mixed grains	4	8,384	...	5,763	40,109	54,260	4,922	3,119	...	...	...	8,041	319	37,276	8,015	...	172	516	346	108,945
Pulses — Gram	2,971	1,167	1,270	3,973	1,355	10,736	190	395	245	1,188	2,548	4,566	3,576	27,522	1,654	42	176	84	...	48,356
Pulses — Peas	1,604	10,617	...	4,415	...	16,636	...	...	736	432	78	1,246	3,763	96	11	...	...	...	...	21,752
Pulses — Arhar	...	24	...	18	1,355	1,397	105	95	36	10	585	831	...	42	55	...	...	...	...	2,325
Pulses — Masur	961	40	44	78	28	1,151	...	1	...	...	...	1	2,272	...	339	138	15	...	...	3,916
Fodder crops	12	37	1,698	186	24	1,957	...	...	8	...	...	8	429	10	3	...	...	...	...	2,407
Fibres, cotton	4	101	168	748	1,406	2,427	...	1	...	...	...	1	703	33	...	...	...	...	...	3,164
Other fibres	...	...	...	29	...	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Dyes, indigo	...	25	3	...	...	28	...	...	17	...	...	17	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	52
Other dyes	...	605	...	...	...	605	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	605
Drugs, opium	...	...	...	...	110	110	356	2,696	5,418	6,415	1,237	16,122	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	16,233
Other drugs	...	...	7	2	69	78	2	19	13	66	9	109	7	19	196	215	...	14	...	638
Oil-seeds	138	2	...	...	...	140	...	...	...	...	...	...	666	2	713	334	...	...	...	1,855
Miscellaneous	87	6	...	25	1,181	1,299	97	541	360	372	159	1,529	477	338	...	...	...	...	...	3,643
Total Rabi, 1882-83	46,439	85,908	105,009	115,027	168,082	520,465	25,630	70,656	104,857	151,770	53,989	406,902	142,030	103,624	46,844	9,448	595	1,111	3,207	1,234,226
Total, 1881-82	52,192	72,094	99,601	103,543	148,317	475,747	26,152	72,288	108,454	169,967	49,772	426,633	150,689	96,106	48,544	8,138	529	1,300	2,137	1,209,823

Allahabad,
The 16th July 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D.

No. A17.—Annual Statement.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF THE YEAR 1882-83.

Comparative Statement of Irrigation and Rainfall for the years 1881-82 and 1882-83 in Canal Districts of the North-Western Provinces.

Zila.	Area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Area Irrigated. Kharif, 1882-83. Total area.	Kharif, 1882-83. In comparison with Kharif, 1881-82. Increase.	Kharif, 1882-83. In comparison with Kharif, 1881-82. Decrease.	Rabi, 1882-83. Total area.	Rabi, 1882-83. In comparison with Rabi, 1881-82. Increase.	Rabi, 1882-83. In comparison with Rabi, 1881-82. Decrease.	Whole year, 1882-83. Total area.	Whole year, 1882-83. In comparison with 1881-82. Increase.	Whole year, 1882-83. In comparison with 1881-82. Decrease.	Rainfall. Percentage of increase or decrease.	Rainfall. 1881-82.	Rainfall. 1882-83.	Rainfall. Percentage of increase or decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Saháranpur	1,418,880	805,120	57,019	4,546	...	54,807	...	10,520	111,826	...	5,974	−5·3	29·2	42·1	+40·7
Muzaffarnagar	1,061,989	699,622	86,325	9,394	...	102,272	...	4,712	188,597	4,682	...	+2·4	22·9	33·8	+47·6
Meerut	1,510,664	1,071,493	137,061	23,722	...	193,443	12,709	...	330,504	36,431	...	+11·0	28·6	28·8	+0·7
Bulandshahr	1,222,400	875,520	88,942	10,905	...	140,444	18,659	...	229,386	29,564	...	+12·8	19·5	23·5	+20·5
Aligarh	1,256,775	919,880	56,456	...	766	118,141	17,801	...	174,597	17,035	...	+9·7	25·7	27·1	+5·5
Muttra	1,031,538	827,843	22,863	...	3,968	39,777	1,660	...	62,640	...	2,308	−3·6	28·6	28·3	−1·0
Agra	1,230,819	873,976	13,998	...	1,617	31,074	...	245	45,072	...	1,862	−4·1	36·5	28·5	−21·9
Etah	967,680	620,800	37,192	1,163	...	73,520	...	1,147	110,712	16	...	+·01	33·5	26·5	−20·9
Mainpuri	1,085,626	607,409	48,591	...	860	109,989	...	8,222	158,580	...	9,082	−5·7	42·9	28·8	−32·4
Farukhabad	1,116,633	687,361	22,083	590	...	47,221	2,352	...	69,304	2,942	...	+4·2	25·6	25·1	−1·2
Etáwah	1,274,240	563,200	60,265	2,148	...	109,280	...	11,999	169,545	...	9,851	−5·8	29·5	26·8	−9·1
Cawnpore	1,495,576	865,065	52,398	...	8,983	118,045	930	...	170,443	...	8,053	−4·7	37·3	33·2	−10·9
Delhi	817,280	532,480	27	1	...	304	..	18	331	...	17	−5·1	24·4	26·4	+8·1
Gurgaon	1,267,200	967,680	16,211	1,336	...	34,704	6,598	...	50,915	7,934	...	+15·5	20·0	15·9	−20·5
Dehra Dún	653,271	82,248	5,520	205	...	9,448	1,310	...	14,968	1,515	...	+10·1	84·4	57·6	−36·6
Bijnor	1,217,886	663,135	1,678	...	1,216	3,207	1,070	...	4,885	...	146	−2·9	38·4	40·2	+4·6
Terai	588,793	144,230	3,749	157	...	3,470	100	...	7,219	257	...	+3·5	45·2	68·2	+50·8
Pilíbhit	873,094	1,228,040	4,055	...	2,324	8,085	...	470	12,140	...	2,794	−23·01	24·0	51·0	+112·5
Bareilly	1,037,416		24,859	...	1,092	35,289	...	1,330	60,148	...	2,422	−4·0	35·1	51·3	+46·1
Jhánsi	1,002,880	482,560	42	13	...	595	66	...	637	79	...	+12·4	44·7	48·5	+8·5
Hamírpur	1,463,424	800,128	76	31	...	1,111	...	189	1,187	...	158	−13·2	27·4	33·0	+20·5
Total	23,594,064	14,317,790	739,410	54,211	20,826	1,234,226	63,255	38,852	1,973,636	100,455	42,667	...	...	...	...
			Net increase		33,385	Net increase		24,403	Net increase		57,788				

Allahabad,
The 16th July 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D

No. B17.—Annual Statement.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF THE YEAR 1882-83.

Statement in Acres of Crops Irrigated by Canal Districts.

NATURE OF CROPS.	Saháranpur.	Muzaffarnagar.	Meerut.	Bulandshahr.	Aligarh.	Muttra.	Agra.	Etah.	Mainpuri.	Farukhabad.	Etáwah.	Cawnpore.	Delhi.	Gurgaon.	Dehra Dún.	Bijnor.	Terai.	Pilibhit.	Bareilly.	Jhánsi.	Hamírpur.	TOTAL.
Gardens and orchards	1,790	1,249	3,417	2,685	2,013	439	1,278	1,596	1,467	638	1,683	1,899	5	135	664	8	48	36	608	3	60	21,721
Sugarcane	19,254	46,887	74,559	9,890	1,339	1,454	1,768	3,849	5,650	2,818	9,085	5,218	9	2,276	1,201	1,541	458	2,136	8,712	33	21	198,158
Cereals — Rice	30,674	23,098	11,944	189	371	...	2	157	952	276	1,826	1,982	1	...	3,915	139	3,274	1,911	15,618	3	25	96,357
Cereals — Bajra	2	...	...	51	13	85	27	14	2	...	16	1	...	56	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	271
Cereals — Joar	...	...	23	511	953	535	540	402	368	16	275	243	1	1,018	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	4,833
Cereals — Maize	1,877	4,263	16,572	5,581	1,661	24	82	475	517	352	205	1,608	...	135	7	...	...	...	16	...	...	33,411
Cereals — Wheat	46,975	85,970	145,160	96,544	62,772	10,346	10,370	41,863	60,772	19,330	54,117	43,152	93	7,914	7,293	2,284	2,779	5,784	23,933	221	68	727,740
Cereals — Barley	2,254	5,046	24,331	13,731	25,910	5,648	3,340	11,055	35,689	21,560	44,581	67,577	22	1,555	439	567	270	455	2,170	7	397	266,604
Cereals — Oats	603	...	239	131	29	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	580	...	...	...	...	...	..	1,595
Cereals — Chena	...	...	96	400	337	8	15	270	228	2	20	3	...	10	...	...	..	...	...	2	...	1,391
Other Grains	700	1,799	3,255	1,690	740	50	32	1,556	2,722	1,720	1,442	1,274	1	42	1	...	...	...	23	...	1	17,048
Mixed Grains	300	23	1,499	15,830	22,194	13,250	12,017	16,324	5,577	432	...	...	105	12,345	...	346	222	1,098	6,695	172	516	108,945
Pulses (kharif) urd or mash and moth	25	123	3	80	7	110	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	30	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	386
Pulse (rabi) — Gram	1,495	3,125	4,089	2,766	2,075	10,029	4,771	907	843	113	1,889	1,493	80	12,725	42	...	38	488	1,128	176	84	48,356
Pulse (rabi) — Peas	21	3,612	9,863	6,837	66	65	31	...	7	12	270	957	...	...	...	...	3	2	6	...	...	21,752
Pulse (rabi) — Arhar	...	...	9	15	1,060	24	5	360	144	12	528	99	...	14	...	...	...	43	12	...	...	2,325
Pulse (rabi) — Masur	1,191	1,028	1,128	44	28	...	..	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	138	...	50	84	205	15	...	3,916
Fodder crops	363	2,537	7,013	1,890	132	21	11	328	...	...	...	8	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	12,337
Fibres — Cotton	1,073	4,556	10,641	8,573	4,504	10,581	1,304	914	286	...	47	88	13	9,900	2	...	...	2	7	2	...	52,493
Fibres — Other fibres	21	20	1	27	6	46	42	129	102	7	13	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	422
Dyes — Indigo	* 1,645	4,326	16,159	60,405	47,249	8,868	8,775	27,445	37,230	17,280	43,879	40,220	...	2,407	...	...	...	...	257	...	...	316,145
Dyes — Other dyes	...	...	44	994	41	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,084
Drugs — Opium	...	...	...	...	58	...	6	571	3,372	3,734	6,067	2,421	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	16,233
Drugs — Other drugs	70	23	54	59	43	10	7	82	76	70	50	43	...	4	348	...	1	6	189	2	14	1,151
Oil-seeds	646	163	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	334	...	76	95	542	...	...	1,860
Miscellaneous	847	749	374	462	930	1,040	649	2,395	2,544	932	3,612	2,154	1	340	1	...	...	...	12	..	...	17,102
TOTAL YEAR, 1882-83	111,826	188,597	330,504	229,386	174,597	62,640	15,072	110,712	158,580	69,304	169,545	170,413	331	50,915	14,968	4,885	7,219	12,140	60,148	637	1,187	1,973,636
TOTAL YEAR, 1881-82	117,800	183,915	294,073	199,822	157,562	64,948	46,934	110,696	167,662	66,362	176,306	178,496	348	42,981	13,453	5,031	6,962	14,034	62,570	558	1,345	1,915,848

ALLAHABAD,
The 16th July 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D.

No. C17.—Canal Statement.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF THE YEAR 1882-83.

Statement in acres of Crops irrigated by Canals in Canal Divisions.

NATURE OF CROPS.	GANGES CANAL.						LOWER GANGES CANAL.						Eastern Jumna Canals.	Agra Canals.	Rohilkhand Canals.	Dún Canals.	BUNDELKHAND IRRIGATION WORKS.		Bijnor Canals.	GRAND TOTAL.
	Northern	Anupshahr.	Meerut.	Bulandshahr.	Aligarh.	TOTAL.	Narora.	Mainpuri.	Cawnpore.	Etáwah.	Bhognipur.	TOTAL.					Jhánsi.	Hamírpur.		
Garden and Orchards	505	1,209	1,445	2,293	3,460	8,912	360	877	1,987	2,240	498	5,962	3,646	1,774	692	664	3	60	8	21,721
Sugar-cane	28,645	25,415	42,882	8,868	3,451	1,09,261	1,499	3,518	6,406	8,464	4,404	24,291	45,032	5,472	11,306	1,201	33	21	1,541	1,98,158
Rice	17,367	1,647	8,001	569	528	28,112	28	115	836	4,047	9	5,035	38,324	1	20,803	3,915	3	25	139	96,357
Bajra	1	9	...	12	56	78	3	...	1	16	...	20	1	168	4	...	...	...	...	271
Joar	...	...	...	406	1,621	2,027	34	58	119	447	78	736	...	2,062	8	...	...	...	...	4,833
Maize	810	769	9,191	5,950	1,652	18,372	183	419	1,971	244	60	2,877	11,921	218	16	7	...	...	...	33,411
Wheat	38,327	58,335	75,407	87,218	83,376	3,42,663	15,680	44,241	35,606	69,653	28,178	1,93,358	1,21,965	27,392	32,496	7,293	221	68	2,284	7,27,740
Barley	1,903	5,675	24,147	9,317	34,084	75,126	4,232	18,025	58,794	71,718	20,996	1,73,765	3,136	10,272	2,895	439	7	397	567	2,66,604
Oats	...	91	109	158	54	412	...	...	...	...	...	...	603	...	...	580	...	...	...	1,595
Chena	...	2	...	460	842	1,304	...	30	1	7	18	56	1	28	...	...	2	...	...	1,391
Other grains	866	458	1,603	2,301	2,391	7,619	1	1,703	3,088	2,125	23	6,940	2,377	87	23	1	...	1	...	17,048
Mixed grains	4	8,384	...	5,763	40,109	54,260	4,922	3,119	...	...	...	8,041	319	37,276	8,015	...	172	516	346	1,08,945
Pulses (kharif) Urd or Mash Moth	143	80	...	...	11	234	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	140	...	3	1	...	...	386
Pulses (rabi) — Gram	2,971	1,167	1,270	3,973	1,355	10,736	190	395	245	1,188	2,548	4,566	3,576	27,522	1,654	42	176	84	...	48,356
Pulses (rabi) — Peas	1,604	10,617	...	4,415	...	16,636	...	...	736	432	78	1,246	3,763	96	11	...	...	...	...	21,752
Pulses (rabi) — Arhur	...	24	...	18	1,355	1,397	105	95	36	10	585	831	...	42	55	...	...	...	...	2,325
Pulses (rabi) — Masur	961	40	44	78	28	1,151	...	1	...	...	...	1	2,272	...	339	138	15	...	...	3,916
Fodder crops	335	1,541	5,641	1,958	40	9,515	312	...	8	...	...	320	2,466	33	3	...	...	...	...	12,337
Fibres — Cotton	1,056	1,428	4,876	9,036	6,570	22,966	7	16	74	117	58	272	7,478	21,764	9	2	2	...	...	52,493
Fibres — Other fibres	...	...	...	29	19	48	111	76	7	40	3	237	41	96	...	...	...	...	...	422
Dyes — Indigo	809	23,179	8,059	46,333	62,594	1,40,974	11,105	27,551	40,145	53,728	18,064	1,50,593	4,927	19,394	257	...	...	...	...	3,16,145
Dyes — Other dyes	...	605	...	479	...	1,084	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,084
Drugs — Opium	...	...	...	...	110	110	356	2,696	5,418	6,415	1,237	16,122	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	16,233
Drugs — Other drugs	...	24	30	42	78	174	38	60	103	72	9	282	114	21	196	348	2	14	...	1,151
Oilseeds	138	2	...	...	...	140	...	...	...	...	...	...	671	2	713	334	...	...	...	1,860
Miscellaneous	87	755	...	66	1,816	2,724	1,444	1,908	1,394	3,004	2,716	10,466	1,872	2,027	12	1	...	...	...	17,102
TOTAL YEAR, 1882-83	96,532	1,41,456	1,82,705	1,89,742	2,45,600	8,56,035	40,610	1,04,903	1,56,975	2,23,967	79,562	6,06,017	2,54,513	1,55,887	79,507	14,968	637	1,187	4,885	19,73,636
TOTAL YEAR, 1881-82	94,032	1,21,682	1,60,410	1,68,138	2,28,039	7,72,301	38,715	1,04,986	1,63,008	2,53,458	71,038	6,31,205	2,54,886	1,52,603	84,466	13,453	558	1,345	5,031	19,15,848

ALLAHABAD,
The 16th July 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, 1883, UP TO 31st MAY 1883.

Canal Division.	Water distributed during June, 1883: Depth in Canal at Regulating Gauge in Feet. Full supply.	Depth in Canal at Regulating Gauge in Feet. Actual average throughout.	Gross Consumption, Cubic Feet per Second. Allotted discharge.	Gross Consumption, Cubic Feet per Second. Actual average throughout.	Total area of irrigation during current fasl.	Total area for the corresponding period of last year.
Upper Ganges. Northern	10·00	9·50	950	402	34,810	40,665
Upper Ganges. Anúpshahr	7·00	6·24	1,100	889	44,400	53,250
Upper Ganges. Meerut	8·10	7·62	925	1,443	50,433	58,368
Upper Ganges. Bulandshahr	7·20	6·72	925	911	60,107	57,226
Upper Ganges. Aligarh	5·50	5·17	1,300	1,037	67,048	71,299
Lower Ganges. Narora	9·00	6·78	975	370	13,220	13,351
Lower Ganges. Mainpuri	7·00	4·84	600	470	27,083	33,677
Lower Ganges. Cawnpore	8·20	5·79	825	742	43,717	46,923
Lower Ganges. Etáwah	5·80	3·2	975	980	56,666	63,316
Lower Ganges. Bhognipur	7·00	5·90	950	849	24,557	21,072
Total, Upper and Lower Ganges Canals	...	...	9,525	8,093	421,641	459,147
Eastern Jumna Canal	4·74	3·72	1,300	993	54,037	60,868
Agra Canal	8·50	7·4	1,300	949	37,173	41,671
Rohilkhand	...	...	...	...	6,751	13,787
Bijnor	...	...	...	...	757	1,273
Dún	...	...	...	...	2,216	2,362
Jhánsi	...	...	...	...	22	23
Hamírpur	...	...	...	...	51	27
Total	...	...	...	...	522,648	579,158

Zila.	Land irrigated (approximate). Sugarcane.	Indigo.	Rice.	Cotton.	Other food-grains.	Fodder crops.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Rain-fall. Total from 1st April to end of June, 1883.	Rain-fall. Average of ten previous years for the same period.
Saháranpur	16,496	1,763	4,230	252	39	163	1,122	24,065	5·6	3·9
Muzaffarnagar	41,693	4,468	8,598	632	26	364	2,417	58,198	9·0	3·3
Meerut	63,094	17,370	1,793	3,983	235	946	2,314	89,735	2·5	2·7
Bulandshahr	6,082	52,701	13	7,293	1,164	781	1,347	69,381	5·1	2·8
Aligarh	588	44,844	118	2,194	708	22	1,334	49,808	6·9	2·3
Muttra	1,110	9,564	...	5,633	31	...	1,163	17,501	4·4	2·2
Agra	1,271	4,253	3	817	91	56	415	6,906	1·9	2·3
Etah	1,3 2	25,831	75	480	428	52	1,076	29,244	3·3	3·2
Mainpuri	2,784	33.256	129	383	1,339	105	1,378	39,374	2·1	4·0
Fatehgarh	2,232	14,757	345	162	503	143	79	18,221	0·9	4·0
Etáwah	5,250	41,524	84	9	457	77	723	48,124	0·9	2·2
Cawnpore	4,846	40,459	1,235	7	687	...	1,398	48,632	0·8	3·3
Delhi	...	30	...	11	...	...	25	66	5·2	3·2
Gurgaon	1,021	4,638	14	7,554	82	37	250	13,596	3·4	2·9
Dehra Dún	768	...	1,153	...	...	...	295	2,216	14·2	9·7
Bijnor	755	...	2	...	...	...	...	757	6·5	4·3
Tarái	1,270	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,270	2·2	6·0
Pilibhit	813	...	...	...	...	...	...	813	5·7	5·1
Bareilly	4,668	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,668	2·2	4·5
Jhánsi	13	...	...	7	...	...	2	22	3·1	3·4
Hamírpur	10	...	4	...	...	...	37	51	2·5	4·8
Total	156,066	295,458	17,796	29,417	5,790	2,746	15,375	522,648	...	..
Total for the same period last year	190,109	302,566	26,165	34,865	6,846	3,659	14,948	579,158	...	...
Increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	427	...	...	...
Decrease	34,043	7,108	8,369	5,448	1,056	913	...	56,510	...	...

Remarks.

	Cubic feet per second.
Supply—	
Entering head of Ganges Canal	6,284
„ Lower Ganges Canal	2,744
	9,028
Expended—	
Ganges Canal	4,682
Lower Ganges Canal	3,411
	8,093
Escaped—	
Anúpshahr Branch, Ganges Canal	95
Meerut Division, ditto	43
Bulandshahr ditto, ditto	13
Narora ditto, Lower Ganges Canal	133
Mainpuri ditto, ditto	62
Cawnpore ditto, ditto	308
Etáwah ditto, ditto	8
Percolation from Narora Division	231
„ Mainpuri ditto	42
	935
	9,028

Executive Engineer, Northern Division, Ganges Canal, reports that there has been a steady demand throughout the month, all sugar has been secured, the area is 5,000 acres less than last year, and that rice cultivation is in full sowing. The rains broke on the 30th of June.

Executive Engineer, Anúpshahr Branch, Ganges Canal, reports that the causes of decrease were explained last month.

Executive Engineer, Meerut Division, Ganges Canal, reports that a maximum demand existed up to 30th June, when rain fell all over the division, stopping all irrigation save rice. The people, up to the last, hung back from taking cotton water and 4th class crop paleo. All agricultural operations are late, hence the deficiency in rice compared with last year.

Executive Engineer, Bulandshahr Division, Ganges Canal, reports that with the rain of 27th May a good deal of cotton was sown, which has come under irrigation this month.

Executive Engineer, Aligarh Division, Ganges Canal, reports that the monsoon broke on the morning of the 25th, stopping the demand for canal water and enabling cultivators to sow their kharif crops: 5 inches of rain were registered in Aligarh during the last week of June.

Executive Engineer, Narora Division, Lower Ganges Canal, remarks that the irrigation up to the end of June is about the same as that up to the end of the same month of the previous year.

Executive Engineer, Mainpuri Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that there was a steady demand for water throughout the month; some rain fell on the 15th, but not enough to affect irrigation; the new irrigation done during the month is 6,852 acres, against 5,342 acres in the same month of the previous year.

Executive Engineer, Cawnpore Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the decrease is due to reasons given in the return for May.

Executive Engineer, Etáwah Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the decrease in area of indigo is due to the high price of seed and lateness of rabi harvest, and that in sugar to the low price of gur.

Executive Engineer, Bhognipur Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that there was a steady demand for indigo and sugarcane watering up to 23rd, from which date to end of the month cloudy weather prevailed and light showers were reported from several stations.

Executive Engineer, Eastern Jumna Canal, reports that the deficiency of 4,100 acres of cane will not be made up; the remainder of the deficiency is only a matter of season crops in good order. Ample supply in the river, but the canal had to be closed for five days to clear out trees blown in by the storm of the 5th June.

Executive Engineer, Agra Canal, reports that demand continued very slack in the 3rd sub-division both on account of showers and of small sowings. Indigo-seed seems to have failed generally, and has also been very dear. The total estimate is 4,500 acres less than that for June last year, though the 2nd Sub-division estimate is somewhat above last year's, there having been no rain in that Sub-division and there being more room for development of kharif irrigation.

Executive Engineer, Rohilkhand Canals, reports that from half to one inch of rain fell on the 3rd and 4th and stopped demand for a time, and about the same quantity fell again on the 14th and 15th and heavy rain fell in the district on 29th and 30th, but at Bareilly itself there is no appearence of the monsoon having burst yet. Water was in fair demand for rice and sugarcane.

Executive Engineer, Dún Canals, reports that heavy showers in every weak of June caused a falling off in irrigation of 2nd class rice. Regular rains set in on 27th June, 1883.

Allahabad,
The 26th July 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON THE AGRA CANAL FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1883.

Nature of Traffic.	Agra Canal. Principal items of Traffic. Up. Mds.	Up. No.	Down. Mds.	Down. No.	Total up and down. Mds.	Total up and down. No.
Grains—						
Wheat	...	...	13,630	...	13,630	...
Gram	...	...	1,950	...	1,950	...
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paddy or dhán	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bejhar or mixed grain	...	...	2,475	...	2,475	...
Dál—						
Urd	...	...	...	...	...	...
Múng	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arhar	...	...	...	...	...	...
Masúri	...	...	...	...	...	...
Juár	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bájra	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maize or Indian-corn	...	...	...	...	...	...
Barley	...	...	350	...	350	...
Total	...	...	18,405	...	18,405	...
Cotton	...	...	200	...	200	...
Oil-seeds	...	...	350	...	350	...
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	...
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	...
Building materials	18,950	...	...	...	18,950	...
Miscellaneous goods	...	...	8,000	...	8,000	...
Firewood	...	...	300	...	300	...
Bamboos	...	...	...	...	...	...
Timber—						
Poles and unsquared timber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Karis and squared timber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Logs	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous timber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Live-stock	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total	18,950	...	27,255	...	46,205	...
Total during corresponding period of last year	14,762	...	15,155	...	29,917	...
Increase	4,188	...	12,100	...	16,288	...
Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...

Remarks.

Particulars.	Agra Canal. 1883.	Agra Canal. 1882.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	1,697	1,099
Ton mileage	271,423	117,474
Value of goods R	72,953	46,089
Number of passengers	*Nil.*	*Nil.*

Allahabad,
The 11th July 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1883.

	UPPER GANGES CANAL. Principal items of Local Traffic.						LOWER GANGES CANAL. Principal items of Local Traffic.						UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS. Principal items of Through Traffic.						UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS. Principal items of Local and Through Traffic.						Remarks.
	Up.		Down.		Total up and down.		Up.		Down.		Total up and down.		Up.		Down.		Total up and down.		Up.		Down.		Total up and down.		
Grains.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	
Wheat	350	...	5,345	...	5,695	...	...	...	4,373	...	4,373	...	1,032	...	10,700	...	11,732	...	1,382	...	20,418	...	21,800	...	
Gram	650	...	...	...	650	...	1,335	...	...	...	1,335	...	2,211	...	...	...	2,211	...	4,196	...	...	...	4,196	...	
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Paddy or dhán	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Bejhar or mixed grain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	...	70	...	...	...	70	...	70	...	
Dál (Urd)	...	...	250	...	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	...	90	...	...	...	340	...	340	...	
Dál (Múng)	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	60	...	221	...	...	...	221	...	281	...	...	...	281	...	
Dál (Arhar)	...	...	...	...	...	...	314	...	...	...	314	...	1,184	...	...	...	1,184	...	1,498	...	...	...	1,498	...	
Dál (Masúri)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Juár	...	...	30	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	30	...	
Bájra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Maize or Indian-corn	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Barley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	100	...	...	...	100	...	100	...	
Total	1,000	...	5,625	...	6,625	...	1,709	...	4,373	...	6,082	...	4,648	...	10,960	...	15,608	...	7,357	...	20,958	...	28,315	...	
Cotton	...	...	204	...	204	...	...	...	514	...	514	...	...	...	2,279	...	2,279	...	...	...	2,997	...	2,997	...	
Oil-seeds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,921	...	5,921	...	1,616	...	1,073	...	2,689	...	1,616	...	6,994	...	8,610	...	
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	376	...	376	...	...	...	48,270	...	48,270	...	...	...	48,646	...	48,646	...	
Metals	627	...	35	...	662	...	711	...	...	...	711	...	2,126	...	370	...	2,496	...	3,464	...	405	...	3,869	...	
Building materials	45,565	...	17,441	...	63,006	...	6,441	...	9,800	...	16,241	...	...	...	3,600	...	3,600	...	52,006	...	30,841	...	82,847	...	
Miscellaneous goods	292	...	1,826	...	2,118	...	119	...	60,887	...	61,006	...	4,060	...	10,434	...	14,494	...	4,471	...	73,147	...	77,618	...	
Firewood	2,250	...	76,133	...	78,383	...	1,615	...	33,175	...	34,790	...	1,164	...	...	...	1,164	...	5,029	...	109,308	...	114,337	...	
Bamboos	...	...	51,326	1,026,520	51,326	1,026,520	78	1,560	10,721	214,420	10,799	215,980	...	...	...	...	...	...	78	1,560	62,047	1,240,940	62,125	1,242,500	
Timber. Poles and unsquared timber.	...	...	10,384	10,384	10,384	10,384	175	175	163	163	338	338	385	385	...	...	385	385	560	560	10,547	10,547	11,107	11,107	
Timber. Karis and squared timber.	200	267	26,309	46,925	26,509	47,192	...	...	226	226	226	226	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	267	26,535	47,151	26,735	47,418	
Timber. Logs	...	...	480	24	480	24	65	3	...	...	65	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	3	480	24	545	27	
Miscellaneous timber	192	384	2,821	5,642	3,013	6,026	50	100	...	...	50	100	398	796	...	...	398	796	640	1,280	2,821	5,642	3,461	6,922	
Live-stock	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Grand Total	50,126	651	192,584	1,089,495	242,710	1,090,146	10,963	1,838	126,156	214,809	137,119	216,647	14,397	1,181	76,986	...	91,383	1,181	75,486	3,670	395,726	1,304,304	471,212	1,307,974	
Total during corresponding period of last year.	20,602	211	102,409	898,714	123,011	898,925	18,534	310	69,179	89,240	87,713	89,550	13,875	97	77,479	...	91,354	97	53,011	618	249,067	987,954	302,078	988,572	
Increase	29,524	440	90,175	190,781	119,699	191,221	...	1,528	56,987	125,569	49,406	127,097	522	1,084	...	...	29	1,084	22,475	3,052	146,659	316,350	169,134	319,402	
Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,571	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	493	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

Particulars.	Upper Ganges Canal (local).		Lower Ganges Canal (local).		Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through).		Total, Upper and Lower Ganges Canals.	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	4,519	8,916	3,222	5,037	3,356	3,357	11,097	17,310
Ton mileage	342,116	367,537	228,517	233,438	808,301	769,639	1,378,934	1,370,614
Value of goods R	1,13,771	1,20,780	2,48,994	1,46,333	3,58,462	2,79,752	7,21,227	5,46,865
Number of passengers	259	289	...	...	10	...	269	289

Allahabad,
The 21st July 1883.

W. P. V. HORST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. & Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 1st HALF OF JULY 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1406 AND 1407 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 11th AUGUST 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Province.	District.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Best sort. Present fortnight.	Rice. Best sort. Past fortnight.	Rice. Best sort. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Common. Present fortnight.	Rice. Common. Past fortnight.	Rice. Common. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of last year.
		S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	*R a. p.* per maund.	*R a. p.* maund.	*R a. p.*	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
Rajpootana.	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	21 14	20 0	21 4	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	17 8	17 8	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 8	32 8	35 0	...	...	...	4 0 0	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 4

Department of Finance and Commerce,
(Statistical Branch.)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXVIII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 22nd July 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 21st July 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 22nd July 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 21st July 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
21st July 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	74,705	434	207	69,894	338	11,67,638	421	14,13,345	427	2,45,707	...
21st ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	82,053	150	547	88,142	161	17,26,059	195	20,02,814	229	2,76,755	...
28th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	1,75,115	259	749	2,14,139	286	31,12,464	285	40,05,289	337	8,92,825	...
21st ditto	Madras	861	1,28,701	149	861	1,18,219	137	22,76,376	165	21,09,933	153	...	1,66,443
21st ditto	South Indian	655	59,344	91	655	72,884	111	12,71,347	120	12,65,557	121	...	5,790
28th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,456	3,08,721	212	1,451	3,47,357	239	1,18,95,696	508	1,27,15,223	546	8,19,527	...
21st ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	99,292	215	461	58,639	127	38,62,363	519	40,31,513	547	1,69,150	...
	TOTAL	4,828	9,27,931	192	4,931	9,69,274	197	2,53,11,943	325	2,75,43,674	349	22,31,731	...
	State.												
28th July 1883	East Indian	1,507	9,00,852	598	1,509	8,24,433	546	1,41,98,768	583	1,69,35,582	702	27,36,814	...
21st ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	2,425	73	56	4,760	85	63,221	130	96,009	115	32,788	...
21st ditto	Nalhati	27	1,055	39	27	1,164	43	21,962	50	26,210	61	4,248	...
21st ditto	Northern Bengal	230	29,504	128	239	35,710	149	5,80,934	155	6,22,315	168	41,381	...
21st ditto	Tirhoot	52	10,614	129	166	14,355	86	2,03,801	151	2,68,740	102	64,939	...
16th June 1883	Patna-Gya	57	5,999	105	...	(*a*)	...	(*b*)1,11,727	176	(*c*)1,04,496	167	...	7,231
21st July 1883	Muttra-Hathras	29	1,510	52	29	2,349	81	36,045	77	40,363	87	4,318	...
21st ditto	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	7,491	86	87	5,538	64	1,08,611	77	1,06,243	76	...	2,368
21st ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	667	56	12	610	51	16,788	87	17,817	93	1,029	...
28th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,117	1,37,164	123	1,117	95,860	86	35,48,007	197	40,76,816	228	5,28,809	...
21st ditto	Wardha Coal	45	1,550	34	45	8,802	196	1,87,046	258	2,43,736	339	56,690	...
21st ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	3,893	40	149	9,932	67	2,25,138	142	5,55,422	233	3,30,284	...
28th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	16,571	103	161	20,088	125	4,89,953	188	4,74,850	184	...	15,103
21st ditto	Sindia	75	5,138	68	75	4,735	63	1,04,272	86	1,02,697	85	...	1,575
21st ditto	Punjab Northern	412	52,450	127	419	54,777	131	9,63,373	149	9,68,659	144	5,286	...
21st ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	91,263	138	660	96,640	146	14,08,623	132	25,43,673	241	11,35,050	...
28th ditto	Muttra-Achnera	23	960	42	23	1,210	53	19,585	53	23,252	63	3,667	...
28th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	940	29	32	1,529	48	24,363	47	30,501	59	6,138	...
28th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	...	89	4,700	53	...	...	1,06,185	75	1,06,185	...
	TOTAL	3,180	3,69,195	116	3,386	3,62,759	107	81,13,449	159	1,04,07,984	190	22,94,535	...
	Native States.												
21st July 1883	Bhavnagar-Goudal	194	8,899	46	193	9,200	48	3,53,265	113	3,95,899	128	42,634	...
21st ditto	Nizam's	121	15,166	125	121	16,803	139	2,77,520	142	2,43,116	126	...	34,404
21st ditto	Mysore	86	5,603	65	86	4,393	51	89,726	64	82,195	60	...	7,531
28th ditto	Jodhpore	19	89	5	19	410	22	(*d*)163	...	11,791	39	11,628	...
	TOTAL	420	29,757	71	419	30,806	74	7,20,674	110	7,33,001	109	12,327	...
	GRAND TOTAL	9,935	22,27,735	224	10,245	21,87,272	213	4,83,44,834	302	5,56,20,241	338	72,75,407	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,32,96,075	145	2,62,03,916	159	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,50,48,759	157	2,94,16,325	179	43,67,566	...

(*a*) Return not received.
(*b*) Total receipts from 1st April to 17th June 1882.
(*c*) Total receipts from 1st April to 16th June 1883.
(*d*) Total receipts from 24th June to 22nd July 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 11th August 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

[TELEGRAPH.]

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC FOR THE YEAR 1882-83.

CLASS OF MESSAGES.	ROUTE. West. Via Teheran. No.	Via Teheran. Indian Value.	Via Turkey. No.	Via Turkey. Indian Value.	Persian Gulf. No.	Persian Gulf. Indian Value.	Via Suez. No.	Via Suez. Indian Value.	East. Via Amur. No.	Via Amur. Indian Value.	Via Madras. No.	Via Madras. Indian Value.	Via Rangoon. No.	Via Rangoon. Indian Value.	Native Burma. No.	Native Burma. Indian Value.	Via Paumben. No.	Via Paumben. Indian Value.	TOTAL. No.	TOTAL. Indian Value.
		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.
INDIAN.																				
Sent	42,088	1,64,220 14	1,272	3,786 5	430	1,740 2	39,220	1,21,254 12	130	333 6	9,801	38,737 13	1,864	5,544 13	5,079	9,108 14	20,361	38,113 6	120,245	3,82,816 5
Received	31,953	1,60,219 6	1,808	6,099 12	564	2,171 2	40,465	1,56,085 7	204	965 12	9,929	28,695 9	2,354	6,504 15	...	...	20,520	39,461 4	107,857	4,00,203 3
TOTAL	74,041	3,24,440 4	3,140	9,886 1	994	3,917 4	79,685	2,77,340 3	334	1,299 2	19,730	67,433 6	4,218	12,049 12	5,079	9,108 14	40,881	77,574 10	228,102	7,83,040 8
TRANSIT.																				
From East to West—																				
Recd. *Vid* Madras	16,454	69,906 10	47	161 5	103	258 10	39,715	1,48,714 2	35	119 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56,354	2,19,159 13
Recd. ,, Rangoon	6	35 8	...	...	1	13 8	159	551 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	166	600 11
Recd. ,, Lainglia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Recd. ,, Paumben	2,836	8,868 7	14	52 13	3	75 9	2,604	8,108 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,457	17,104 15
From West to East—																				
Sent. *Vid* Madras	26,270	1,07,784 11	1,015	3,340 15	38	115 10	25,398	96,137 11	80	266 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52,801	2,07,645 8
Sent. ,, Rangoon	4	21 12	...	...	...	...	2	8 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	30 11
Sent. ,, Lainglia	1	5 7	3	8 15	...	...	10	44 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	58 12
Sent. ,, Paumben	1,858	7,209 3	93	338 7	1	2 12	2,380	8,398 0	1	8 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,333	15,957 0
From West to West—																				
Vid Bombay & Karachi.	4,309	16,655 13	31	148 6	35	165 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,375	16,969 11
Vid Karachi & Bombay.	2,750	11,317 5	120	806 13	28	107 15	...	...	47	478 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,945	12,710 10
From East to East—																				
Vid Paumben	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	780	3,173 2	15	47 1	...	...	...	...	795	3,220 3
,, Madras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	532	2,139 15	532	2,139 15
,, Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	29 11	120	484 0	131	513 11
TOTAL	54,488	2,21,804 12	1,323	4,857 10	209	739 8	70,268	2,61,962 15	163	872 14	780	3,173 2	15	47 1	11	29 11	652	2,622 15	1,27,909	4,96,110 8
																		GRAND TOTAL	3,56,011	12,79,160 0

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC WITH INDIA BY THE INDO-EUROPEAN AND RED SEA ROUTES FOR THE YEAR 1882-83.

ROUTE.	Number of Messages by each Route (exclusive of Transit). To India.	From India.	Total.	Percentage of Number. To India.	From India.	Total.
INDO-EUROPEAN *Vid* Teheran	31,953	42,088	74,041	42·69	50·70	46·90
INDO-EUROPEAN ,, Turkey	1,868	1,272	3,140	2·50	1·53	1·99
INDO-EUROPEAN Persian Gulf *vid* Karachi	564	430	994	0·75	0·52	0·63
RED SEA *Vid* Suez	40,465	39,220	79,685	54·06	47·25	50·48
TOTAL	74,850	83,010	157,860	100·00	100·00	100·00

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 14th AUGUST 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The break in the monsoon, which is causing considerable anxiety, still continues in Northern, Central, and Western India. Between one and two inches of rain fell in the Madras Presidency, and although prospects there are generally fair the dry crops in several districts stand urgently in need of more rain. In Mysore the weather has been favourable, and the crops are doing well. In the Bombay Presidency there has been little or no rain, and the crops are said to be withering in many districts. Even along the Western Coast the rainfall of the week has been very light. The river in Sind is still below its normal level for the season of the year, and partial injury to crops has taken place, but the river is reported to be rising again. The Berars, Central India, and Rajputana have been practically without rain, and in the two last-mentioned tracts much anxiety as to the crops is felt. Rain in varying and generally sufficient quantities has fallen in Bengal, Assam, and Burma, and prospects are on the whole good in those provinces. More rain is however required in parts of the Rajshahye and Bhagalpur divisions in Bengal and the Sylhet district of Assam. In Burma the rainfall, though a good deal below that of last year, has been favourable, and the crops are thriving. Beyond slight showers in four districts, no rain is reported from the Central Provinces, and a failure of the rice crop in the eastern districts is feared. Less injury has as yet been sustained by other crops; but rain is urgently wanted. The same remarks are applicable to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, though here the need for rain is even greater. The eastern districts are still doing well, but in the west prospects are unpromising. Light showers have fallen in a few districts of the Punjab, but without benefiting the south-eastern districts, where serious fears are entertained of a complete failure of the crops on unirrigated land if rain holds off for another week.

There is little change to notice in the position of agricultural operations. Harvesting is in progress in the Madras Presidency, and late *kharif* sowings and transplanting are being completed in the Deccan where locusts are still reported. In Central India, Rajputana, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and Central Provinces the *kharif* crops are being weeded, and in the Punjab sowing is nearly finished. In Bengal early rice and jute are being harvested. Some damage has been done in Behar by excessive rain. In Burma ploughing and sowing are almost over, and transplanting of rice is well advanced.

Cholera continues severe in several districts of the Bombay Presidency and the Central Provinces, but is said to be abating in the latter. Cattle-disease is generally prevalent.

Prices rule high.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Aug. 15th)		
Bellary ...	1·21 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops, wet generally good; dry crops suffering from insects, and want of rain in half the district.
Kurnool ...	·98 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops good, but rain wanted in parts. Cattle-disease in six taluks.
Ganjam ...	1·83 (average of sixteen stations).	Standing crops, red gram, gingelly, and sugarcane thriving. Fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease slight.
Kistna ...	·79 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops good, but rain wanted in several taluks. Fever, small-pox, guinea-worm, and cattle-disease slight.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	1·27 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops good where water available; harvest of *kar*, paddy, &c., yield half. Small-pox slight in three taluks. Cattle-disease slight in some villages.
Coimbatore ...	2·15 (average of sixteen stations).	Standing crops generally good, but paddy and dry crops suffering in parts; harvest of dry crops, yield average. 43 deaths from cholera in five taluks; fever in parts.
Tanjore ...	1·25 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops generally good, but dry crops in one taluk want rain. 25 deaths from cholera. Cattle-disease in parts of one taluk.
Madura ...	1·12 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops fair in four taluks; harvest of paddy and dry crops in parts.
Malabar ...	·95 (average of fourteen stations).	First crop progressing; harvesting in two taluks. Small-pox slight in most taluks; fever in five taluks; cholera slight in Palghat, 3 deaths. Cattle-disease slight in parts.
Travancore ...	1·034	Paddy ripening in parts; harvesting has begun. Fever prevails. *General Remarks.*—General prospects fair.
Bombay—(Aug. 15th)		
Kurrachee ...	*Nil*	River on 13th 16 feet against 20 feet 4 inches last year. Damage expected to crops from low river. Small-pox prevalent in four villages in district; 8 fresh cases, 2 deaths, 6 remaining sick; fever in five talukas. Cattle-disease in Sakro taluka. Wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee, 24, 32 and 40; in Sehwan 32 and 40; in Sakro 16, 28 and 38; and in Sujawal 26, 34 and 40 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	.....	River has commenced to rise since last week, but was 4 feet 6 inches lower on 13th August than on same date last year. Fever in three, cattle-disease in five, and small-pox in four talukas. Wheat 24, *bajri* 39, *juari* 48, red rice 26, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	.....	Rain wanted throughout the district. Crops withering. Cholera in the city, 2 cases, 1 fatal; slight fever in Viramgaon. Cattle-disease in Parantej. *Bajri* 29 and wheat 20½ lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Baroda ...	*Nil*	Cholera in mild form continues in Sidhpur, Patan, and Baroda, and has appeared in Naosari taluka, 3 deaths in Baroda city. Crops generally withering for want of rain. *Bajri* 27 and rice 24 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 38·07 ; more rain wanted. Cholera in Surat, Bulsar, and Bardoli, in all 11 cases, 8 deaths. Cattle-disease in Olpbad. Fever in Pardi. *Juari* 36 and *nagli* 40½ lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	*Nil*; except in Peint and Igatpuri.	More rain urgently wanted; *kharif* sowing and rice transplanting vigorously continue; *tasar* crops withering for want of rain. Cholera in eight talukas, 141 attacks, 72 deaths; small-pox in Niphad taluka. Locusts in eleven talukas, but no damage done. *Bajri* 28, wheat 28½, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Very little rain; total of week, ·19.	Total rainfall up to date 51·52, being 2·47 above average. Abnormal temperature 3° warm ; vapour in air deficient. Monsoon wind weak ; barometer high.
Poona ...	.....	Rain much wanted for young crops. Cholera cases 238, fatal 150. *Bajri* 37 and *juari* 46 lbs. per rupee ; in Poona *bajri* 34 and *juari* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	*Nil*	*Kharif* crops withering. Rain urgently wanted. Cholera 411 attacks, 207 deaths. *Bajri*—maximum 51 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 33 lbs. in Akola ; *juari*—maximum 60 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 39 lbs. in Akola.
Sholapur ...	1·52	Total rainfall 15·64. Crops withering for want of rain. *Juari* 62 and *bajri* 52 lbs. per rupee. Cholera 477 cases, 223 deaths.
Dharwar ...	Good rain in Navalgund, Gadag, and Ron talukas, where it was badly wanted; maximum 2·56 at Navalgund.	More rain is required in Navalgund, Gadag, and Ron talukas as well as in others. Standing crops generally fair. Sowings of *juari*, *sawan*, &c., still proceeding in some parts, and lands being prepared for *rabi* sowings. Public health good. *Juari* from 81 lbs. in Kod to 42 lbs. in Dharwar, and rice 41 to 25 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara ...	In Kumpta, 1·47 ; Sirsi, 1·51 ; Hallial, ·55 ; Kanara, *Nil*.	Rice crops in ear near Karwar. Weather fine. Rain wanted. Small-pox in Honawar, Siddapur, Sirsi, and Akola, 1 death. Common rice in Karwar 12½ seers and in district average 13½ seers per rupee.
Rajkot ...	.....	General health fair. Weather cloudy and hot. Rain wanted. Cholera in Dhoraji, Und, and Gondal. *Bajri* 29 and *juari* 36 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Rain much wanted throughout the Presidency. In many districts crops withering. Rice low lands [illegible] also crops are partially injured for want of [illegible] Khandesh, Satara, Colaba, and Ratnagiri. [illegible] the Deccan and in Kanara also, in Colaba and the [illegible] Gujerat, and the Southern Mahratta Country to a slight extent, fever small-pox, and cattle-disease in a few districts.
Bengal—(Aug. 15th)		
Chittagong ...	7·55	Weather seasonable. Transplanting in progress. Prospects fair; outturn of *aus* rice good. Prices stationary. Cattle-disease still reported.
Dacca ...	1·61	*Aus* paddy and *jute* being cut, *roachia* paddy being sown. Prospects good.
Alipore Farms (Calcutta)	2·13	Prospects of both early and late rice good. Transplanting of late rice going on. Price of common rice stationary. Public health generally good. Cases of cattle-disease reported from Burdwan. Rivers rising.
Moorshedabad ...	3·60	*Bhadoi* being harvested in some places. Transplanting of *aman* continues; other crops doing well. Health of people on the whole good.
Rajshahye ...	1·96	Crops doing well. More rain wanted.
Burdwan ...	2·16	Transplanting going on. Prospect of all crops favourable. Public health fair.
Rungpur ...	2·74	Prospects of crops favourable. More rain wanted. Public health good.
Bhagalpur ...	·76	Prospects of crops good.
Patna ...	2·24	Prospects of early rice good, late rice improved by late rain. Farming operations normal. Health normal. Rivers rising.
Gya ...	1·08	Prospects of *bhadoi* good. Transplanting of paddy going on. Cholera reported from Barrh and Behar sub-divisions.
Darbhunga ...	2·57	Weather cool. *Bhadoi* suffering from excessive moisture; greater part of town inundated. Health fair. Prices rising slightly.
Hazaribagh ...	·15	Weather warm and cloudy. Crops doing well. Transplanting operations in progress. A few cases of cholera reported from Sadr station; general health good.
Cuttack ...	2·32	Weather cloudy. *Beali* and *sarad* crops progressing well, in some places *beali* in ear. Owing to rising of river Kharsica low lands in the neighbourhood inundated. Public health good.
		General Remarks.—Rain in varying quantities fell in all districts during the week; more rain is still wanted in parts of Rajshahye and Bhagalpur divisions. Prospects of all early crops generally favourable, though in Behar *bhadoi* has suffered from excessive rain in many places. Orissa has been flooded in places, but no injury to crops has been reported. Transplanting operations are still being carried on generally. Sugarcane continues to be very favourably reported of. Harvesting of early rice and jute is proceeding. In Central and Eastern Bengal jute is said to be poor in Pubna and Mymensing. Cholera still lingers in some districts, and fever has appeared in a few.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Aug. 14th)	Benares, *Nil*; Chandausi, 9.	*Kharif* prospects good. No sickness of men or cattle. Prices steady.
Allahabad („ 15th)	.....	Hot and dry west wind blowing. Rain urgently needed. Crops beginning to suffer from drought. Cholera still hanging about. Prices fairly steady.
Gorakhpur („ 13th)	No rain	Crops promising. Some cattle-disease. Prices steady.
Jhansi ...	No rain	Crops on *rakar* land drooping for want of rain, those on *mar* soil still good. If no rain falls within the present week, minor crops will be greatly injured. Health good. Prices rising.
Agra (Aug. 14th)	No rain	Rain greatly wanted every where. Well irrigation continues. Crops beginning to wither. Sporadic cholera in three parganas; fever in four parganas. Prices rising.
Bareilly („ „)	A few light showers	Prices slightly rising. Cattle-disease has spread considerably. Fever is some what prevalent.
Meerut ...	No rain, except a slight shower on 11th.	Weather often cloudy, but wind still westerly. No injury done to irrigated crops. Supplies sufficient of grain and fodder. Prices rising. Health good.
Kumaun (Aug. 14th)	.....	Bright hot weather and westerly wind; storm on the 12th. Crops still good. Health fair. Prices stationary. Cattle-disease prevalent
Lucknow („ „)	No rain	Weather clear. Crops favourable, but rain is much wanted now for the rice crops which are in good condition at present. Condition of cattle normal. Prices same as last week.
Partabgarh („ „)	.....	Reports from Partabgarh and Patti are exceedingly favourable. Crops getting on well, but rice crops are in want of rain. Health good; from Kunda a few cases of small-pox are reported.
Sitapur („ „)	Sidhouli, .2	Rain urgently required. Crops drying up.
Fyzabad („ „)	No rain	Rain required for *kharif* crops. Public health good. Cattle-disease in parts of tahsil Akbarpur.
Rae Bareli („ 13th)	No rain, except ·2 at Dalmau Salon.	Weather cloudy; [illegible] early. *Kharif* crops suffering for want of rain. Health [illegible] and condition of cattle good. [illegible]
Cawnpore („ 14th)	No rain	Present break of rain if prolonged will injure [illegible] health good, but few cases of cholera and [illegible] Cattle-disease reported in three parganas. Prices steady.
Farukhabad („ „)	.....	Sky unclouded; slight haze as in the hot weather; sun powerful. Westerly wind blowing warm and rather strong. Slight fever in few localities. Cattle-disease in two tahsils. Crops beginning to suffer seriously from want of rain. No complaint of insufficient supply, but prices rising.
		General Remarks.—The only district in which there appears to have been a general fall of rain is Saharanpur, where [illegible] showers the weather has been dry, and hot westerly winds [illegible] up the crops. More rain is very urgently wanted. Cholera is reported from Allahabad, Cawnpore, Aligarh, Agra and Saharanpore. Several districts also report cattle-disease which is spreading considerably in Bareilly. Prices are rising in several districts.
Punjab—(Aug. 15th)		
Delhi ...	.....	Rain urgently wanted. Health good. Crops suffering from want of rain. Prices rising.
Hissar ...	.....	Rain much needed. Crops withering. Health good. Prices rising.
Umballa ...	·50	More rain much wanted. Health fair. *Kharif* sowings nearly finished. Prices rising.
Jullundur ...	.....	Rain much wanted. Health good. Crops suffering in some localities. Prices rising.
Amritsar ...	·90	More rain much needed. Health good. Prices rising.
Sialkot ...	2·0	Health good. Crop prospects improving. Prices falling.
Ferozepore ...	.....	Rain much wanted. Health good. Crops backward. Prices rising.
Lahore ...	.....	Rain much wanted. Crop prospects bad. Prices high. Weather threatening.
Rawalpindi ...	1·70	A few cases of cattle-disease in Murree tahsil; health otherwise good. *Kharif* prospects good. Slight rise in prices.
Multan ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices stationary.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	·14	Health good. Crop prospects fair. Prices slightly [illegible]
Peshawar ...	.....	Slight rain, but more is much wanted. Fever prevalent. Prices steady.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain has fallen [illegible] districts, but more is much wanted, except in the north and [illegible] in the south-east are causing much anxiety, and [illegible] of a complete failure on unirrigated lands in the Delhi and [illegible] divisions, unless rain falls within a week. Prices of food-grains rising. Cattle-disease is prevalent in the Murree tahsil and fever in Peshawar. Health of the province is generally good.
Central Provinces—(Aug. 15th)		
Nagpur ...		[illegible] weather close. Rain much needed for rice and *juari*. 568 deaths from cholera. Prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...		[illegible] and cloudy occasionally. Rain much wanted. Crops thriving. Wheat 21 and rice 14 [illegible]
Saugor (Aug. 14th)	.....	Weeding [illegible] Crops languishing for want of rain. Rain needed. Prices rising. Health good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces— *contd.*		
Seoni ...	·22	Weather clear and hot. More rain urgently wanted for rice. 27 deaths from cholera. Prices rising.
Hoshangabad ...	.....	Weather very close. All crops suffering for want of rain. Fever prevalent. Wheat 16 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	.....	Weather close, with occasional clouds. Prospects depend on rain, which is urgently wanted. 261 deaths from cholera. Prices rising.
Raipur ...	·6	Crops seriously suffering from want of rain; about one-fourth of rice lost. Prices rising. 7 deaths from cholera in Rajnandgaon.
Sambalpur ...	1·26	Rain deficient towards north and west. Prospects good. Fever increasing. Common rice 42 seers per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Rain much wanted for rice and in a less degree for other crops. Prospects still favourable, except in the eastern districts where the rice crop is reported to have already suffered considerably. Cholera continues, severe in some places, but is on the whole abating. Prices rising.
British Burma—(Aug. 15th)		
Akyab ...	7·49	Total rainfall up to date 127·32. 7 deaths from cholera and 1 from small-pox in town, and 5 from cholera in district. Health of plough cattle good, except in two townships in which 124 cattle died. Ploughing not yet completed. Sowing progressing. Transplanting commenced. Nurseries healthy.
Rangoon ...	2·88	Total rainfall up to date 49·64. 3 deaths from small-pox, otherwise public health good. Price of paddy from Rs. 96 to 97 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	2·22	Total rainfall up to date 58·15. 1 death from cholera in town and 1 in Bassein township, otherwise public health good. 55 deaths of cattle in five townships. Ploughing progressing. Transplanting resumed.
...	·36; rainfall scanty in Pongde.	Total rainfall up to date 28·55. 1 death from cholera in one township, otherwise public health good. 92 deaths of cattle in three townships, otherwise health of plough cattle good. Ploughing and transplanting going on. Seedlings in good condition. Transplanting wages Rs. 1-8 per acre.
(Moulmein) ...	5·62	Total rainfall up to date 103·29. Public health in Moulmein and district good; 43 deaths of cattle in one township. Ploughing and broadcast sowing over. Transplanting ... Transplanting wages 12 annas per man per day. Plants for transplanting plentiful. Appearance of crops very good. In Moulmein town ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Health of cattle good. Nurseries good. State of supply of seedlings for transplanting fair.
Toungoo ...	4·15	Total rainfall up to date 82·03. Public health good. Health of plough cattle good. Ploughing continues; sowing and transplanting commenced. Prices of paddy Rs. 65 per 100 baskets.
...	10·99	Total rainfall up to date 109·73. 8 deaths from cholera in the jail, otherwise public health good. Cattle-disease much abated. A few deaths in Daingbone circle, Myaybone township, exact number not reported. Three-fourths of district sown. Price of paddy stationary.
Sandoway ...	6·44	Total rainfall up to date 141·81. Public health good. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Wages of sowing and transplanting Rs. 7 per mensem in northern townships and Rs. 10 in southern townships.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing progressing. Ploughing wages from 60 to 100 baskets of paddy per ... Price of paddy from Rs. 95 to Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
Pegu ...	5·15	Total rainfall up to date 78·67. Public health fair. ... disease in Hlegu. Sowing continues. Transplanting ... price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 95. Season favourable.
Thayetmyo ...	1·05	Total rainfall up to date 66·49. Public health ... of cattle in three townships; health of plough ... ships good. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Supply of seedlings and the general appearance of young plants good, except in one township, where a little rust has appeared in seedlings. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 102 per 100 baskets.
Thongwa ...	2·06	Total rainfall up to date 48·25. 5 deaths from small-pox in one township, otherwise public health good. 38 deaths of cattle in two townships; health of cattle good in all other parts of the district. Ploughing nearly completed. Transplanting from nurseries going on. Price of paddy from Rs. 80 to 85 per 100 baskets. Cultivation on Maoobin Island progressing very favourably.
Henzada ...	2·41	Total rainfall up to date 50·64. Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing and transplanting progressing. Supply of seedlings and general appearance of young plants good in Henzada sub-division, but rather poor in Myanoung sub-division.
Thayetmyo ...	...	Total rainfall up to date ... Public health good. 20 deaths of cattle in Myaydah ... Ploughing continues. Transplanting going on.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Shwaygyin ...	5·10	Total rainfall up to date 93·05. Public health fair. Some cattle-disease in Kyoukhmaw creek, leading to non-cultivation of fields. Ploughing approaching completion. Sowing and transplanting progressing. Price of paddy Rs. 70.
Tavoy ...	3·98	Total rainfall up to date 125·28. Public health and health of cattle good. General appearance of the plants good. About 150 acres of the crops in low land have been destroyed by inundation and in Shwaygyoon circle young plants in some of the fields have been destroyed by rats, extent unknown as yet.
Mergui (Aug. 4th)	1·65	Total rainfall up to date 85·94. Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing and sowing progressing. Price of paddy Rs. 75 per 100 baskets.
		General Remarks.—Slight cholera in Akyab and Kyoukphyoo, otherwise public health good. Rainfall considerably less than last year up to date. Ploughing and broadcast sowing nearly finished. Transplanting in progress. Prospects of the crops up to date encouraging. Price of paddy steady.
Assam—(Aug. 15th)		
Gauhati ...	1·92	Weather cool and favourable for transplanting operations. Public health fair. Cattle-disease still prevalent in the interior.
Sylhet ...	14·44	Prospects continue favourable. More rain required. In south of district small-pox lingers.
Cachar ...	4·91	Weather rainy. Reaping of *dumahi* and *murali* crops commenced; transplanting of *sali* crops continues. Common rice 17¾ seers per rupee. Small-pox still reported from Hailakandi.
Dibrugarh ...	4·09	Weather cool. Transplanting of *sali dhan* commenced. Public health good.
Mysore and Coorg—(Aug. 15th)		
Bangalore ...	3·75	Standing crops in good condition. ... cholera in the town of Bangalore.
Mysore ...	3·50	Standing crops and health good. Prospects ...
Mercara ...	2·11	Transplanting of rice continues. More rain ... of coffee. Prices of food-grains falling. Prospects ...
		General Remarks.—1 to 3½ inches rain in the districts. ... crops in good condition. Prospects favourable. Public health ... erally good. Prices stationary.
Berar & Hyderabad—(Aug. 15th)		
Amraoti ...	.....	Rain wanted. Crops in good condition. Prices of wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	.....	*Kharif* crops in good condition. Rain wanted.
Hyderabad (Aug. 16th)	·42 average	Total rainfall from 1st January 13·62. *Kharif* crops benefited by the rain; *abi* sowings postponed, as the tanks have not yet received sufficient water. Weather hot. Prices of wheat 35½, coarse rice 10, white *juari* 23½, yellow *juari* 27½, and ... per Government sicca rupee.
Central India States—(Aug. 15th)		
Indore ...	.....	Rain is urgently required if the *kharif* crop now on the ground is to be saved. Cholera continues in the Indore city; otherwise health good. Prices are rising. Weather cool at nights, but close during the day.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	*Nil*	Cholera in Lashkar and Gwalior. Rain much wanted. Heat great. Prices of food-grains slightly rising. Health of European troops good.
...	*Nil*	Dry weather causing injury to crops. Health good.
...	.....	No report received.
...	*Nil*	Crops withering. Days hot, nights moderately cool. Public health good.
...	*Nil*	Weather hot. Prices rising. Health good.
...	.....	No report received.
...	.....	Rain urgently required for crops. Epidemic of cholera at Agar has abated.
Sehore ...	*Nil*	Weather clear. Rain needed for *juari*. Public health good.
Nowgong ...	·13	Rain wanted. *Kharif* prospects favourable. Health fair. Prices steady.
Manpur ...	.....	No report received.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Aug. 15th)	*Nil*	Rain badly wanted. Heavy clouds and sharp winds indicative of rain which however ... off.
Sirohi („ 12th)	.....	No rain since 18th July. Tanks nearly dry; fair amount of water in wells. Crops nearly dry; fields being watered from wells. More rain wanted. Health good.
Marwar („ 11th)	Nil	Tanks all empty; water obtained from wells with great difficulty. Crops being scorched for want of rain. Weather partially cloudy. Great anxiety prevails. If the rains still hold off for a ... of the existing crops will perish. Prices rising rapidly. Health good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Rajputana—*contd.*		
Meywar (Aug. 12th)	*Nil*	Tanks and wells fair. Prospects of crops doubtful. Grass burnt up. More rain wanted. Weather cool. Health good.
Harowti („ 11th)	*Nil*	Crops suffering. Rain most urgently needed. Wind westerly. 25 deaths from cholera at Kotah during week; elsewhere health good. Prices rising.
Jhallawar („ 10th)	*Nil*	Strong cool west wind. Anxiety about *kharif* crops. Health good.
Ajmere („ 14th)	*Nil*	High winds. Crops and grass drying up. Rain urgently required. Cholera increasing.
Jeypore („ „)	*Nil*	Rain much wanted as crops are withering. Cholera still prevalent and slightly on the increase. Prices rising.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Aug. 14th)	No rain	Strong west wind. Crops suffering. Tanks and wells failing. Prices rising. Cholera continues.
Nepal—(Aug. 10th)		
Katmandu ...	6·74; heavy and prolonged showers.	Agricultural prospects good.

T. W. HOLDERNESS,
for *Secy. to the Govt. of India.*

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JULY 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Madras.	Ganjam	10 5	10 5	8 13	...	...	...	17 0	17 13	17 13	17 14	22 13	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 3	32 3	35 3	33 5	33 5	26 10	215 13	215 13	215 13	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	13 13	Ganjam	Madras.
	Vizagapatam	9 8	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	9 8	10 2	9 0	11 5	11 5	11 5	24 13	21 10	21 10	22 13	20 13	20 13	22 3	20 3	26 5	32 13	29 3	25 11	87 8	87 8	93 5	14 10	14 10	15 3	14 0	14 0	14 10	Vizagapatam	
	Godavery	10 13	9 14	12 10	...	...	...	11 14	12 14	13 14	14 0	14 0	17 0	23 0	23 0	26 13	...	...	...	29 2	29 2	29 2	31 8	32 8	26 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	Godavery	
	Kistna	8 13	8 13	13 3	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 3	14 11	14 11	16 13	18 11	18 11	24 14	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	35 3	27 6	26 3	21 11	145 13	145 13	145 13	15 11	15 11	16 5	15 3	15 3	15 11	Kistna	
	Nellore	9 6	9 14	13 3	...	...	...	13 6	12 14	15 13	14 0	...	17 8	20 3	21 2	33 10	...	18 5	...	25 8	25 8	36 6	23 2	23 2	23 2	93 5	93 5	186 10	15 14	14 13	14 13	15 6	14 13	14 13	Nellore	
	Cuddapah	12 14	11 13	12 8	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	11 14	13 5	13 5	13 11	29 3	29 3	26 0	31 14	29 0	31 14	31 8	30 0	31 0	35 5	35 5	29 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	17 8	17 2	17 2	17 2	16 10	16 10	Cuddapah	
	Anantapur	13 6	13 6	14 6	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	13 14	12 5	12 5	15 2	30 14	30 14	30 14	30 2	30 2	18 13	31 0	31 0	31 0	38 2	38 2	31 5	...	...	...	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	Anantapur	
	Bellary	*	16 5	14 6	...	...	...	*	12 5	12 5	*	13 8	13 8	*	41	33 0	*	30 2	24 6	*	36 14	27 3	*	34 11	28 0	*	94 13	97 3	*	15 13	15 3	*	15 8	14 13	Bellary	
	Kurnool	12 2	12 11	12 11	...	...	...	10 10	11 0	11 6	11 6	11 6	12 2	35 10	33 10	30 2	31 3	31 3	22 8	...	...	29 10	30 0	26 10	26 3	182 11	176 14	198 3	14 13	14 6	14 13	14 6	14 0	14 6	Kurnool	
	Madras	11 10	11 10	10 2	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 5	15 2	15 2	15 2	22 5	22 6	24 8	23 13	23 13	25 0	24 11	24 11	28 0	25 5	25 5	24 10	85 0	85 0	81 6	16 14	16 14	16 11	16 8	16 8	16 3	Madras	
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 8	13 14	15 0	15 2	14 5†	15 14	...	...	...	24 2	24 2	...	25 5	24 11	27 6	25 0	25 0	23 6	92 5	92 5	92 5	17 5	17 5	17 5	17 0	17 0	17 0	Chingleput	
	North Arcot	9 11	10 3	10 8	...	...	...	13 8	13 2	15 0	16 14	14 8	16 14	...	27 5	30 14	29 11	29 3	27 3	32 8	32 8	32 0	34 3	28 10	28 10	140 0	140 0	140 0	15 6	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 5	North Arcot	
	South Arcot	10 14	10 14	9 6	...	...	...	14 13	15 11	15 11	14 14	16 10	16 10	...	...	...	25 6	25 6	27 11	26 3	26 3	28 6	25 10	29 11	30 3	201 11	201 11	201 11	18 0	18 6	19 5	17 8	18 0	18 14	South Arcot	
	Tanjore	11 13	11 6	10 5	...	...	...	17 13	17 13	16 3	...	...	...	31 0	31 13	34 3	31 14	30 6	30 6	36 3	36 3	34 0	28 0	28 0	28 14	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 3	15 10	15 10	14 11	15 3	15 3	Tanjore	
	Trichinopoly	9 10	9 10	...	...	...	...	15 13	15 2	13 11	16 11	16 0	14 2	36 6	...	25 3	27 14	26 11	25 6	34 2	32 11	27 8	30 13	30 13	33 14	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 13	17 13	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	Trichinopoly	
	Madura	11 11	11 0	11 11	...	...	...	16 6	16 0	15 8	16 14	16 6	16 0	38 14	38 14	31 10	32 5	30 14	30 14	40 5	41 13	31 0	35 10	37 6	34 11	170 2	170 2	145 13	17 5	17 5	17 5	16 13	16 13	16 13	Madura	
	Tinnevelly	9 14	9 14	9 3	...	...	...	15 14	15 14	15 8	16 6	16 6	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 14	37 14	29 11	70 0	70 0	81 10	18 11	18 11	18 11	18 5	18 5	16 5	Tinnevelly	
	Coimbatore	13 2	13 14	10 11	...	...	...	14 6	13 14	13 8	15 6	15 6	14 8	27 13	27 0	26 2	27 13	27 0	28 10	27 14	27 14	27 14	34 3	33 3	31 5	131 3	131 3	131 3	15 2	15 2	14 2	14 10	14 10	13 10	Coimbatore	
	Nilgiris	10 16	10 10	9 14	...	...	...	13 10	11 3	9 10	12 0	12 0	11 3	23 2	21 10	23 2	22 6	21 0	22 6	28 0	21 10	20 13	24 14	23 4	22 6	161 13	161 13	161 13	13 0	13 0	11 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Nilgiris	
	Salem	13 10	13 10	12 11	...	...	...	14 0	13 14	14 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	32 13	32 13	29 2	26 8	26 8	19 11	30 13	30 13	29 0	35 8	35 8	33 8	151 10	151 10	151 10	17 8	16 0	18 0	16 14	15 6	16 13	Salem	
	South Canara	8 10	8 10	8 10	...	...	...	10 3	10 3	9 3	12 8	11 13	11 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 10	17 10	19 6	21 3	21 3	21 3	111 13	111 13	116 6	14 13	14 13	11 0	13 13	13 13	10 0	South Canara	
	Malabar	8 10	8 10	7 3	...	...	...	15 6	14 10	13 5	16 10	15 13	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 3	21 14	21 14	26 14	26 14	25 3	121 8	121 8	121 8	14 6	14 6	13 8	13 8	13 8	12 10	Malabar	
Bombay.	Bombay	No return received																																	Bombay	Bombay.
	Ahmedabad																																		Ahmedabad	
	Kaira																																		Kaira	
	Surat																																		Surat	
	Broach																																		Broach	
	Tanna (Salsette)																																		Tanna (Salsette)	
	Colába (Alibág)																																		Colába (Alibag)	
	Khandesh (Dhulia)																																		Khandesh (Dhulia)	
	Násik																																		Násik	
	Ahmednagar																																		Ahmednagar	
	Poona																																		Poona	
	Sholápur																																		Sholápur	
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)																																		Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	
	Satara																																		Satara	
	Belgaum																																		Belgaum	
	Dharwar (Hubli)																																		Dharwar (Hubli)	
	Ratnágiri																																		Ratnágiri	
	Kanara (Karwar)																																		Kanara (Karwar)	
	Pánch Mahála (Godhra)																																		Pánch Mahals (Godhra)	
	Aden																																		Aden	
	Asirgarh																																		Asirgarh	
	Baroda																																		Baroda	
	Disa																																		Disa	
	Nimach																																		Nimach	
	Nasirabad																																		Nasirabad	
	Rájkot																																		Rájkot	
	Upper Sindh Frontier	14 4	14 4	14 5	25 8	24 8	26 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	13 4	13 4	20 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	...	32 0	28 0	...	64 0	40 0	24 8	24 8	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 12‡	12 12‡	12 5‡	13 8‡	12 8‡	12 4‡	Upper Sindh Frontier	
	Karachi	13 8	13 0	12 5	23 0	23 0	21 8	9 4	9 8	9 8	16 0	16 0	17 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	19 0	18 0	18 0	10 7	10 0	11 0	18 8	19 0	17 0	100 0	105 0	105 0	16 0	16 0	17 13	16 0	15 0	17 0	Karachi	
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	18 0	18 0	16 0	27 0	32 0	26 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	19 0	19 0	21 0	28 0	28 0	26 0	25 0	24 0	25 0	24 0	32 0	24 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	320 0	320 0	480 0	14 8	14 8	14 0	14 8	14 8	14 0	Haidarabad (Nakur)	
	Shikarpur	14 2	14 0	14 0	23 12	24 0	24 0	8½ 12 0	12 0	13 2½	17 10	19 0	20 0	28 5	30 4	30 4	28 5	30 8	29 12	...	...	...	22 0	24 0	19 11	200 0	220 0	280 0	13 4	13 9	14 0	13 0	13 7	13 8	Shikarpur	
	Sukkur	15 8	14 8	14 0	29 0	29 8	29 8	11 8	11 8	12 12	12 8	17 8	19 8	29 0	29 8	29 8	28 0	27 8	26 4	...	...	...	24 0	23 8	19 0	110 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	13 0	13 0	Sukkur	
	Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	13 5	14 0	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	13 4	...	...	...	16 4	16 4	18 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	160 0	13 11	13 11	10 15	13 11	13 11	10 15.	Thar and Parkar (Umarkot)	
	Western Districts.																												Prices per md. of 40 seers.						*Western Districts.*	
																													R a. p.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*		
Bengal.	Burdwan	16 8	16 0	14 0	20 0	30 0	30 0	17 4	17 4	24 0	22 12	22 8	26 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 4	21 8	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 0 8	3 0 8	2 15 0	12 10*a*	12 4	13 8	Burdwan	Bengal.
	Bancoorah	14 12	14 12	13 8	16 0	16 0	15 0	19 0	19 0	22 8	25 0	25 0	29 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 12	17 12	18 0	280 0	280 0	240 0	3 3 6	3 3 6	3 3 0	12 0*b*	12 0	12 0	Bancoorah	
	Beerbhoom	15 0	15 12	13 4	...	...	...	16 8	16 8	18 12	21 0	21 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 8	20 0	100 0	160 0	180 0	3 8 3	3 12 6	3 7 0	10 8*c*	10 0	11 8	Beerbhoom	
	Midnapore	14 0	14 0	14 0	17 0	17 0	...	18 0	18 0	21 0	22 0	22 0	24 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	14 0	17 0	155 0	155 0	160 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 13 0	12 0*d*	12 8	13 8	Midnapore	
	Hooghly	13 0	13 8	18 0	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	10 0	15 0	18 8	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 9*e*	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
	Howrah	13 4	13 4	13 4	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	16 0	17 8	17 8	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 4	16 4	19 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	13 8	13 0	13 0	Howrah	

* Not received. † The figure now given is correct. ‡ In common use.

a In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Culna 13-8 seers, Cutwa 11-8 seers, and Raneegunge 13-4 seers.
b Retail prices of *salt* at Balpore 11 seers, at Onda 15 seers, at Sonamukhi 12 seers, and at Bishenpore, Indas, and Kotulpore 13 seers.
c In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 13 seers.
d In Ghattal retail price of salt 14-4 seers.
e In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Serampore 13 seers and Jehanabad 13-8 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JULY 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgaum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgaum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgaum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
	Central Districts.																																*Central Districts.*	
	Calcutta	14 9	14 4	13 5	18 13	19 6	21 5	10 12	10 12	10 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	...	17 12	18 13	21 5	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	14 0	14 0	14 9	Calcutta	
	24-Pergunnahs	13 5	13 5	11 12	16 0	17 8	20 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	20 0	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	17 8	80 0	80 0	90 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	13 5/	13 5	13 5	24-Pergunnahs	
	Nuddea	14 8	14 8	14 8	...	26 0	26 0	15 4	15 4	16 13	17 4	17 4	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	22 15	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	11 10½	11 10½	11 10½	Nuddea	
	Khoolna	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	24 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	180 0	180 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	10 8½	10 8	11 0	Khoolna	
	Jessore	13 4	14 8	14 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	17 0	21 4	22 12	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	19 12	16 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	11 0/	11 0	12 8	Jessore	
	Moorshedabad	15 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	16 0	20 0	19 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	23 0	22 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 8 0	3 6 0	...	11 0/	10 0	12 8	Moorshedabad	
	Dinagepore	16 0	13 14	11 0	17 8	...	17 0	16 12	16 0	16 0	19 0	18 13	19 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	17 7	20 0	160 0	160 0	180 0	3 7 0	3 7 0	...	11 8/	11 6	12 8	Dinagepore	
	Rajshahye	16 8	17 4	13 8 to 15 0	30 0	30 0	45 0	12 0 to 15 0	15 0 to 16 8	15 0 to 19 0	17 4 to 18 0	17 4 to 18 12	19 4 to 21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	20 10	19 4 to 21 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 2 6	3 2 6	...	12 0/	12 0	12 0	Rajshahye	
	Rungpore	13 5	13 5	16 0	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	16 0	20 0	20 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 3	17 3	15 0	110 0	110 0	130 0	3 5 3	3 5 0	3 5 3	11 14m	11 14	11 8	Rungpore	
	Bogra	15 0	15 12	16 8	...	...	...	12 0	12 12	15 12	21 0	21 0	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 8	18 12	15 12	71 4	69 0	67 8	3 2 0	3 8 0	3 5 4	12 0	10 8	10 8	Bogra	
	Pubna	18 12	18 12	17 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 0	19 8	19 8	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 4	18 6	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 3 6	12 0n	12 0	12 0	Pubna	
	Darjeeling	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	12 0	8 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	128 0	128 0	160 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	8 0o	8 0	8 0	Darjeeling		
	Jalpáiguri	10 0	10 0	9 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	12 8	12 8	14 0	17 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	9 0	8 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	11 8p	11 0	11 0	Jalpáiguri	
	Eastern Districts.																															*Eastern Districts.*	
	Dacca	12 8	12 4	13 5	23 0	19 0	40 0	16 8	15 12	29 0	22 0	19 0	32 0	...	...	...	19 8	...	...	17 4	18 8	20 0	110 0	120 0	106 8	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 3 0	12 4q	12 0	12 4	Dacca	
	Furreedpore	20 0	20 0	22 0	30 0	30 0	35 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	18 0	18 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	120 0	120 0	...	3 7 0	3 7 0	2 13 9	11 8r	11 8	11 0	Furreedpore	
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	20 0	21 0	21 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	2 11 0	2 11 0	3 11 0	13 0s	13 0	10 9	Backergunge	
	Mymensingh	11 0	11 0	10 8	...	...	...	13 5	15 8	22 0	19 0	19 8	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 8	15 8	16 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	...	...	12 4t	12 8	12 8	Mymensingh	
	Chittagong	10 0	12 0	9 0	...	...	...	14 0	13 0	16 0	21 0	20 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	16 0	40 0	40 0	80 0	...	4 0 0	2 14 0	10 0u	9 0	13 0	Chittagong	
	Noakholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	26 0	22 0	22 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	...	...	...	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	10 0o	10 0	11 0	Noakholly	
	Tipperah	11 6	11 6	11 8	...	...	...	18 12	17 0	22 8	22 8	22 12	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	3 5 0	3 5 0	...	12 0w	12 0	12 8	Tipperah	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 4	12 4	13 5	13 4	13 4	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	320 0	6 0 0	6 4 0	3 4 0	6 0	6 0	10 9	Chittagong Hill Tracts	
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	22 0	20 0	22 0	29 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 6 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Hill Tipperah	
	Behar.																															*Behar.*	
	Patna	21 0	17 8	18 8	29 12	32 0	34 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	16 0	18 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	26 0	30 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	Patna	
	Gya	18 8	19 0	17 8	24 0	25 0	29 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	15 0	15 0	18 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 0	23 0	25 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	3 6 0	...	...	11 0x	12 0	12 8	Gya	
	Shahabad	16 8 to 17 0	17 0 to 17 8	14 8 to 16 0	25 0	24 0	25 0	11 0 to 11 8	11 0 to 11 8	16 0 to 19 0	15 0 to 16 0	15 0 to 17 0	20 8	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	...	27 0 to 28 0	27 0 to 28 0	28 0 to 29 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	12 8y	12 8	12 8	Shahabad	
	Durbhunga	16 0	18 0	14 0	...	30 0	32 8	13 0	12 0	14 8	16 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 8	24 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 4 6	10 0z	10 0	10 4	Durbhunga	
	Mozufferpore	18 0	18 0	16 0	28 0	29 0	30 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 6 0	3 7 0	3 4 0	11 0z1	11 8	12 0	Mozufferpore	
	Sarun	17 0	17 0	15 0	26 0	26 0	27 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	30 0	28 0	30 0	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	31 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	11 0z1	11 0	11 0	Sarun	
	Chumparun	19 0	19 0	18 0	32 0	34 0	35 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	17 0	17 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	3 8 0	11 8z3	11 8	11 0	Chumparun	
	Monghyr	18 9	18 14	15 12	27 14	25 3	31 8	13 15	13 10	14 10	16 0	15 12	18 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 11	25 3	26 4	126 0	147 0	126 0	3 1 9	3 2 9	3 1 0	12 9z4	11 8	12 10	Monghyr	
	Bhágalpur	16 6	16 6	14 8	24 0	27 12	30 4	15 2	15 2	17 11	17 10	17 10	21 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 11	24 0	25 14	126 8	138 6	136 4	3 0 0	3 1 0	2 15 11½	12 10z5	12 10	12 10	Bhágalpur	
	Purneah	18 0	20 0	14 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	20 0	17 0	18 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	16 0	22 0	160 0	120 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	10 0z6	10 0	10 0	Purneah	
	Maldah	16 8	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	14 8	16 0	15 0	17 0	19 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 8	22 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Maldah	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	14 0	14 0	13 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	22 0	22 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	20 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	...	...	3 12 0	10 0	10 0	10 8	Sonthal Pergunnahs	
	Orissa.																															*Orissa.*	
	Cuttack	13 2	14 7	13 2	...	...	...	13 2	13 2	15 12	21 0*	21 0	27 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 6	17 1	21 0	80 0	80 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	Cuttack	
	Pooree	13 0	13 2	10 0	...	...	...	21 0	20 0	20 0	23 10	23 10	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 1	18 6	14 0	90 0	100 0	100 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	14 0z7	14 0	14 8	Pooree	
	Balasore	14 0	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	26 0	28 0	28 0	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	13 0	120 0	120 0	140 0	4 6 0	4 6 0	...	8 0z8	9 2	13 0	Balasore	
	CHOTA NAGPORE.																															CHOTA NAGPUR.	
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																															*South-Western Frontier Agency.*	
	Hazáribágh	14 0	15 0	12 0	20 0	20 0	...	9 0	10 0	10 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	32 0	240 0	240 0	200 0	3 13 0	4 2 0	3 11 3	10 0z9	9 0	10 10	Hazáribágh	
	Lohardugga	15 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	21 0	24 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	32 0	100 0	110 0	120 0	4 7 0	4 2 0	4 4 0	8 8z10	9 0	9 0	Lohardugga	
	Singbhoom	18 0	18 0	20 0	32 0	32 0	28 0	36 0	36 0	32 0	40 0	40 0	36 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	180 0	5 8 0	5 8 0	4 7 0	5 8	6 0	8 0	Singbhoom	
	Manbhoom	13 0	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	18 0	25 0	27 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	17 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 10 0	3 8 0	...	10 0z1	10 0	11 0	Manbhoom	

BENGAL—continued.

* In the interior retail prices of common rice vary from 29-14 to 39-6 seers.

f In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Baraset and Bussirhat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 10-8 seers, Barrackpore 13-13 seers, and Dum-Dum 12 seers.

g In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kooshtea 12-12 seers, Meherpore 11 seers, Choondanga 15 seers and Ranaghat 12 seers.

h In Satkhira and Bagirhat retail price of salt 11 seers.

i In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers, and Bongong 13 seers.

j In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Laibagh 11 seers, Jungipore 10 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.

k Retail prices of salt at Raigunge 10-8 seers and Neetpore 12 seers.

l Retail price of salt at Nattore and Nowgong 12 seers.

m In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Gaibanda 10 seers, and Nilphamari and Kurigram 12 seers.

n In Serajgunge retail price of salt 13-4 seers.

o Retail price of salt at Kurseong and Silliguree 8 seers.

p In Alipore (at Fallacotta) retail price of salt 10 seers.

q In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Maniekgunge 12 seers, and Narraingunge 13 seers.

r In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Goalundo 10-8 seers, Madaripore 12 seers, Bhanga 11 seers, and Gopalgunge 12-12 seers.

s In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 9-2 seers, Perozepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.

t In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishoregunge 10-10 seers, Attea 12 seers, Jamalpore 11 seers, and Netrokona 12-5 seers.

* Retail price of salt at Kumeriah 10 seers, and Hathazaree and Cox's Bazar 8 seers.

v In the interior retail prices of salt range from 8 to 12-4 seers.

w In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Brahmunderiah 12 seers, and Chandpore 13 seers.

x In Nowada retail price of salt 10 seers.

y In sub-division retail prices of salt are as follow:—Buxar 11-8 seers, and Bhubooa 10-8 seers.

z In the sub-divisions retail price of salt are as follow:—Madhubani 10 seers, and Tajpur 11-8 seers.

a1 In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 12 seers.

a2 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Sewan 12-12 seers, and Gopalgunge 12 seers.

a3 In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 12-8 seers.

a4 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Begusarai 10 seers, and Jamui 11 seers.

a5 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Banka 11 seers, and Muddenpoora and Soopole 10 seers.

a6 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kissengunge 8 seers and Arrareah (at Raneegunge) 10 seers.

a7 In Khoorda retail price of salt 13 seers.

a8 In retail price of salt (at Bhubaneswar) 10 seers.

a9 Retail price of salt at Chatrokdiha 11-8 seers.

a10 Retail price of salt at Saltongunge 9 seers.

a11 Retail price of salt at Rajmahunathpore 11-8 seers, Burrabazar 10 seers, and Jobindpore 11 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JULY 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

(All values in S. Ch.)

Provinces	Districts	Wheat: Present fortnight	Wheat: Past fortnight	Wheat: Corresponding fortnight of 1882	Barley: Present fortnight	Barley: Past fortnight	Barley: Corresponding fortnight of 1882	Rice (best sort): Present fortnight	Rice (best sort): Past fortnight	Rice (best sort): Corresponding fortnight of 1882	Rice (common): Present fortnight	Rice (common): Past fortnight	Rice (common): Corresponding fortnight of 1882	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*: Present fortnight	Great Millet: Past fortnight	Great Millet: Corresponding fortnight of 1882	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*: Present fortnight	Bulrush Millet: Past fortnight	Bulrush Millet: Corresponding fortnight of 1882
Assam	Sylhet	13 4	13 4	10 8	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	17 0	17 8	17 8	35 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cachar	9 2	9 2	9 2	16 0	16 0	16 0	22 13	12 13	20 0	16 0	16 0	22 12	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Goálpárá	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	20 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gáro Hills	4 0	4 0	4 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kámrúp	18 0	19 0	16 0	...	...	...	13 12	13 4	12 8	15 8	15 8	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	13 8	13 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sibságar	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lakhimpur	8 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	10 0	6 0	6 0	8 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Khásí & Jaintiá Hills	...	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	8 0	9 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nága Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
N. W. Provinces	Dehra Dún	17 8	17 8	18 0	30 0	30 0	29 0	6 8	6 8	6 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	24 0	24 0	18 0
	Sahápanpur	19 5½	19 5½	19 5½	30 1½	32 4	27 15	7 8½	7 8½	7 9	11 13	11 13	12 14½	23 10½	23 10½	26 14	21 8	21 8	21 8
	Muzaffarnagar	18 2	19 0	18 11	33 0	33 0	29 11	6 9	6 9	6 9	12 2	12 2	14 5	30 12	30 12	27 8	26 6	26 6	22 0
	Meerut	17 8	18 0	17 8	30 0	30 0	25 0	7 0	7 0	6 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	29 0	29 0	26 0	20 0	20 0	21 0
	Bulandshahr	19 8	19 4	19 0	27 0	28 0	24 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	10 0	9 11	10 0	26 0	26 0	24 0	16 0	16 0	22 0
	Aligarh	17 4	17 8	17 4	24 8	24 8	23 0	7 0	7 0	6 0	11 8	11 8	13 0	25 8	25 8	25 0	16 0	16 0	16 8
	Kumaun	14 0	14 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Garhwál	22 0	22 0	23 8	23 0	23 0	25 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...	30 0*	30 0*	30 0*
	Bijnor	18 9	18 8	16 14	30 6	30 15	25 10	10 2	10 6	10 2	11 4	11 0	12 6	23 1	22 4	22 8	21 6	21 14	19 11
	Moradabad	19 11	19 1	18 12	30 0	28 12	23 12	9 1	9 1	9 6	13 12	13 12	13 2	23 2	23 2	24 6	15 10	15 10	20 0
	Budaun	19 3	18 4½	17 8½	28 12½	28 0	22 12½	7 3	8 6	9 9½	12 0	13 3	13 12½	19 3	...	20 6	18 0	...	20 6
	Bareilly	17 13	17 3	16 14	25 0	23 12	21 4	7 8	7 8	7 8	13 2	12 13	13 12	23 12	23 12	21 4	16 4	17 8	20 0
	Sháhjahánpur	19 8	20 4	18 6	33 0	33 0	24 4	9 12	10 0	9 4	15 8	15 8	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tarái Pergunnahs	22 8	20 0	20 0	37 8	30 0	30 0	8 12	8 8	7 8	14 0	14 0	14 0	20 0	17 0	20 0	17 0	18 0	20 0
	Muttra	17 8	17 8	17 8	24 8	24 8	22 0	7 0	7 0	...	12 8	12 8	14 0	24 0	18 0	25 0	18 0	18 0	20 0
	Agra	16 12	16 8	17 0	23 0	23 0	23 0	5 12	5 12	6 8	12 0	12 0	14 0	23 0	22 0	23 0	21 0	20 8	20 0
	Farukhabad	17 15	17 15	17 11½	24 14	25 5	22 0½	7 2	7 2	7 0	12 10½	12 9½	13 7	24 4	25 11	22 2	21 6	20 11	20 12½
	Mainpuri	17 8	17 4	18 8	23 8	23 12	24 8	4 0	4 0	4 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Etáwah	16 12	16 0	17 0	20 8	20 0	23 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 8	12 8	14 8	20 0	20 0	25 0	18 0	18 0	16 0
	Etah	19 0	18 10	18 8	24 13	25 0	22 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	13 3	13 5	13 0	15 0	20 0	20 0	19 11	21 8	19 0
	Jalaun	18 8	18 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	20 0	22 0	22 0
	Jhánsi	20 12	20 8	22 0	29 14	33 9	32 2	9 0	9 0	8 8	16 0	16 0	15 0	30 0	30 4	27 0	...	...	...
	Lalitpur	20 12	21 0	22 0	40 0	40 0	37 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	36 0	36 0	32 0	30 0	30 0	26 0
	Cawnpore	18 0	18 0	17 8	27 0	26 8	26 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	13 8	13 8	15 0	27 8	26 0	25 8	23 8	23 0	25 8
	Fatehpur	16 10	16 4	16 12	24 12	24 12	24 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	15 8	15 0	15 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bánda	22 0	22 0	18 0	33 0	32 0	25 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	14 8	15 0	13 8	34 0	32 0	33 0	30 0	30 0	30 0
	Allahabad	16 14	17 4	17 8	27 12	26 10	25 8	10 8	10 0	11 8	15 8	15 0	17 0	30 0	30 8	29 0	29 8	29 0	28 12
	Hamírpur	18 4	16 8	16 0	17 14	...	20 0	10 12	10 0	9 0	...	...	...	25 14	22 0	25 0	23 1	20 0	24 0
	Jaunpur	19 13	19 0	18 10	31 1	30 0	30 11	7 12	7 12	7 1	14 2	14 2	15 8	...	...	...	...	...	22 9
	Gorakhpur	18 14	18 14	16 3	25 3	25 3	24 8	12 9½	12 9½	12 9½	15 5	16 3	16 3	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Basti	19 0	18 0	15 8	32 0	30 0	38 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Azamgarh	17 11	17 11	18 7	25 1	25 1	27 5	10 5	10 5	8 14	14 12	14 12	17 11	29 8	29 8	...	20 10	20 10	20 10
	Mirzapur	16 0	16 0	17 0	26 0	25 0	22 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	18 0	26 0	26 0	27 0	24 0	24 0	26 0
	Benares	17 1	16 0	15 11½	25 0	23 14	24 15	10 13½	10 9	11 15	16 0	17 1	16 8	26 0	27 2	26 8½	27 10	28 12	27 10
	Gházipur	19 5	19 5	18 0	27 0	27 0	25 12	9 0	9 0	10 15½	16 1½	16 1½	19 15¼	28 5	28 5	30 14½	26 6¼	26 6¼	20 9¼
	Balia	18 12	18 4	15 0	27 8	27 8	25 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 12	18 12	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pilibhít	19 7	19 10	18 6	32 4½	33 3	28 4	13 1½	12 13½	15 0	14 8	14 8	16 0	20 0	18 12	16 4	...	...	...
Oudh	Sultánpur	20 0	20 0	19 4	32 0	32 0	29 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Partábgarh	19 9	19 14	19 6	31 0	20 4	28 13	15 5	16 0	16 6	17 0	17 2	17 9	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Fyzabad	17 8	18 0	16 4	27 0	30 0	26 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	15 8	17 0	16 0	...	...	29 8	17 0	17 0	...
	Kheri	22 8	22 12	19 4	35 8	35 8	27 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	45 0	45 0	31 0	...	...	...
	Lucknow	17 6	17 9	16 8	27 9	28 0	23 6¼	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 10	12 10	14 0	28 8	29 8	22 4	23 7½	24 2	22 0
	Bára Banki	18 0	18 0	17 0	28 0	30 0	24 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	30 0	32 0	29 0	21 0	19 0	19 0
	Bharaich	19 0	18 0	16 0	38 0	39 0	34 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	38 0	38 0	30 0	20 0	20 0	13 0
	Rai Bareli	18 10	18 0	19 4	26 2	26 0	24 8	...	...	...	15 12	15 8	16 8	...	...	24 0	22 0	21 0	18 0
	Sitapur	20 10	20 10	19 4	33 14	34 12	26 14	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	17 6	27 12	28 12	20 12	23 10	24 12	19 12
	Gonda	21 10	21 5	19 0	43 0	43 8	31 8	14 8	14 8	15 8	15 12	15 10	17 8	37 8	39 4	36 0	21 8	23 0	24 0
	Unáo	18 0	18 0	18 0	25 0	24 0	25 0	11 0	11 0	13 8	14 0	14 0	15 0	28 0	21 0	...	21 0	21 0	...
	Hardui	17 2	17 6	20 6	26 12	27 3	27 11	5 10	5 10	5 10	11 4	11 0	12 14	...	23 7	...	16 14	16 14	...
Punjab	Gujránwála (a)	22 4	25 8	24 4	42 0	42 0	36 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	13 0	40 0	38 0	22 0	35 0	35 0	20 0
	Lahore	21 0	23 0	23 8	35 0	39 0	37 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	11 0	40 0	40 0	23 0	28 0	28 0	22 0
	Ferozepore (b)	21 0	22 8	22 0	42 0	45 0	36 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 0	45 0	45 0	36 0	...	36 0	...
	Sirsa (c)	21 0	23 0	21 8	38 0	40 0	38 8	...	...	...	12 0	14 0	14 0	35 0	32 0	40 0	28 0	30 0	31 0
	Hissar (b)	19 0	20 0	18 0	29 0	30 0	32 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	28 0	30 0	30 0	25 0	26 0	21 0
	Rohtak (d)	20 0	20 0	18 4	24 0	26 0	25 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	23 0	24 0	25 0	22 0	23 0	22 0
	Gurgaon	20 0	20 0	18 8	28 8	28 0	23 12	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	13 0	24 0	24 0	22 8	22 0	22 0	20 0
	Delhi	18 8	19 0	18 4	28 0	28 0	24 4	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	14 0	26 8	26 0	24 8	21 0	20 0	20 8
	Karnál (b)	19 0	19 0	19 0	30 0	31 0	31 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 0	23 0	25 0	27 0	22 0	22 0	16 0
	Umballa	22 0	22 8	22 0	32 0	35 0	30 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 8	32 0	30 0	28 0	24 0	24 0	26 0
	Ludhiána	24 4	25 0	23 0	38 4	37 0	33 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	39 8	38 0	35 0	24 0	25 0	25 0
	Simla (b)	14 0	15 0	14 8	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	16 0	...

(Salt wholesale: R. a. per md. for Assam; S. Ch. for other provinces. All other values in S. Ch.)

Districts	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.*: Present fortnight	Lesser Millets: Past fortnight	Lesser Millets: Corresponding fortnight of 1882	Gram: Present fortnight	Gram: Past fortnight	Gram: Corresponding fortnight of 1882	Firewood: Present fortnight	Firewood: Past fortnight	Firewood: Corresponding fortnight of 1882	Salt Wholesale: Present fortnight	Salt Wholesale: Past fortnight	Salt Wholesale: Corresponding fortnight of 1882	Salt Retail: Present fortnight	Salt Retail: Past fortnight	Salt Retail: Corresponding fortnight of 1882	Provinces
Sylhet	...	...	...	16 12	16 0	16 8	108 0	108 0	108 0	3 6	3 5	3 6	11 12	12 0	11 12	Assam
Cachar	...	...	...	12 13	12 13	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 10	3 10	3 10	10 10	10 10	10 10	
Goálpárá	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	14 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 6	3 8	3 4	12 0	12 0	12 0	
Gáro Hills	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 6	5 6	5 6	6 6	6 6	6 6	
Kámrúp	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	13 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8	3 8	3 8	11 8	11 8	11 8	
Darrang	...	...	...	9 9	9 6	8 13	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	
Nowgong	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	4 8	4 12	3 12	8 0	8 0	9 0	
Sibságar	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	4 8	4 8	4 4	8 0	8 0	8 8	
Lakhimpur	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	4 8	4 8	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	
Khásí & Jaintiá Hills	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	
Nága Hills	...	...	...	2 0	2 0	2 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	16 0	13 0	13 0	2 8	3 0	3 0	
Dehra Dún	...	...	...	22 0	22 8	19 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	N. W. Provinces
Sahápanpur	...	...	...	25 13	27 15	24 11½	129 0	129 0	150 8	12 14½	12 14½	12 1	12 10½	12 10½	11 13	
Muzaffarnagar	...	...	...	25 13	26 6	23 10	110 0	110 0	132 0	12 6	12 6	11 10	11 8	11 8	11 4	
Meerut	...	...	...	25 0	25 8	21 8	110 0	110 0	110 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	
Bulandshahr	...	...	...	23 0	24 0	22 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	12 0	12 0	10 0	...	...	...	
Aligarh	...	...	...	23 0	23 0	21 8	120 0	120 0	130 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	
Kumaun	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	
Garhwál	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 0	280 0	280 0	200 0	8 8	8 8	7 8	7 13	7 13	7 0	
Bijnor	...	...	...	21 15	23 1	20 13	135 0	135 0	135 0	...	...	...	10 13	10 11	10 4	
Moradabad	...	...	...	23 2	22 8	21 4	125 0	125 0	137 8	12 10	12 10	12 12	12 8	12 8	11 14	
Budaun	...	...	...	24 0	22 12½	19 3	192 0	192 0	192 0	11 6	11 1½	10 15	10 12½	10 12½	10 3	
Bareilly	...	...	...	22 8	21 14	19 6	100 0	100 0	125 0	12 8	12 3	11 14	11 14	11 14	11 4	
Sháhjahánpur	...	...	...	23 8	24 0	20 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 0	13 0	12 6	11 0	11 0	10 8	
Tarái Pergunnahs	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	17 0½	120 0	120 0	120 0	11 4	14 0	11 0	10 0	13 8	11 0	
Muttra	...	...	...	25 8	24 12	22 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	
Agra	...	...	...	23 8	23 0	22 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	
Farukhabad	...	...	...	22 5	24 5	21 9½	156 8	156 8	156 8	12 4	11 11	12 4	11 9	11 4	11 9	
Mainpuri	...	...	...	21 8	22 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	
Etáwah	...	...	...	23 8	24 0	23 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	11 0	11 0	10 0	
Etah	...	...	...	22 13	22 10	20 8	139 0	160 0	160 0	12 3	12 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	11 0	
Jalaun	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	28 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	
Jhánsi	...	...	...	27 2	26 10	26 6	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 8	10 0	10 0	10 8	
Lalitpur	...	...	...	31 4	33 0	33 0	180 0	180 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 4	10 8	10 4	
Cawnpore	...	...	...	26 0	25 8	23 12	135 0	145 0	140 0	13 4	13 4	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	
Fatehpur	...	...	...	27 12	26 0	24 6	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	10 2	10 12	10 12	9 14	
Bánda	...	...	...	37 0	34 0	32 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	10 4	12 4	11 0	10 0	12 0	
Allahabad	...	...	...	29 0	29 4	24 8	120 0	120 0	140 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 0	11 0	10 12	
Hamírpur	...	...	...	31 8	26 0	26 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 4	11 4	11 13	10 0	9 0	10 0	
Jaunpur	...	...	...	31 1	29 10	24 11	148 12	148 12	169 8	10 12	10 12	9 11	10 10	10 10	9 9	
Gorakhpur	...	...	...	29 11	29 11	21 9½	160 0	160 0	160 0	10 9½	10 9½	10 6½	10 6¼	10 6½	10 6½	
Basti	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	26 0	150 0	150 0	130 0	8 8	8 8	9 8	8 0	8 0	7 0	
Azamgarh	...	...	...	25 15	25 15	23 10	147 8	147 8	147 8	10 8	10 8	10 8	9 14	9 14	10 0	
Mirzapur	...	...	...	26 0	25 0	22 0	60 0	60 0	100 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	
Benares	...	...	...	24 6	25 8½	22 4	100 0	110 0	120 0	10 6½	10 6⅓	11 4	10 2	10 2	10 2	
Gházipur	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	26 6½	128 12	128 12	130 8	10 15½	10 15½	9 10½	10 5	10 5	9 0	
Balia	...	...	...	26 4	26 4	25 0	90 0	90 0	100 0	11 4	11 4	10 0	11 4	11 4	10 4	
Pilibhít	...	...	...	21 6	23 0	18 8	150 0	150 0	150 0	12 8	13 0	12 12	12 0	12 6	11 12	
Sultánpur	...	...	...	31 0	31 0	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 12	11 12	11 0	Oudh
Partábgarh	...	...	...	27 5	27 4	23 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	...	11 0	10 10½	10 12	10 10	
Fyzabad	...	...	...	26 0	27 8	23 0	120 0	120 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 0	10 0	
Kheri	...	...	...	27 0	28 8	18 8	120 0	160 0	160 0	10 12	11 0	11 4	10 8	11 0	10 0	
Lucknow	...	...	...	22 10½	23 6	20 11	115 0	115 0	115 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 8	10 8	9 8	
Bára Banki	...	...	...	25 0	27 0	22 0	130 0	120 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	
Bharaich	...	...	...	30 0	29 0	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 0	
Rai Bareli	...	...	...	24 8	24 8	20 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	10 0	9 0	9 0	
Sitapur	...	...	...	27 8	26 10	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	11 8	11 8	10 9½	
Gonda	...	...	...	33 10	34 0	27 8	200 0	200 0	240 0	11 4	11 4	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 4	
Unáo	...	...	...	26 0	25 8	25 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	
Hardui	...	...	...	20 10	20 10	22 8	200 0	200 0	240 0	9 6	9 6	8 8	7 8	7 8	8 7	
Gujránwála (a)	...	...	...	32 0	40 0	28 0	95 0	95 0	95 0	15 0	14 8	15 4	14 8	14 0	15 0	Punjab
Lahore	...	...	...	30 0	40 0	29 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	14 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	
Ferozepore (b)	...	...	...	33 0	38 0	32 8	95 0	90 0	70 0	13 4	13 12	13 4	13 0	13 8	13 0	
Sirsa (c)	...	...	...	37 0	38 0	37 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 0	13 0	11 8	11 8	12 8	11 0	
Hissar (b)	...	...	...	29 0	30 0	28 0	120 0	80 0	80 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	11 8	11 8	10 0	
Rohtak (d)	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	24 12	100 0	100 0	100 0	11 12	12 0	7 2	11 8	11 8	6 8	
Gurgáon	...	...	...	24 8	24 8	21 2	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	
Delhi	...	...	...	23 0	25 0	22 8	80 0	80 0	85 0	12 12	13 0	12 8	11 0	12 0	11 8	
Karnál (b)	...	...	...	25 0	26 0	24 8	140 0	140 0	160 0	12 0	11 8	11 0	11 8	11 0	10 12	
Umballa	...	...	...	28 0	30 0	25 12	140 0	140 0	160 0	13 10	14 0	13 10	13 8	14 0	13 8	
Ludhiána	...	...	...	33 4	33 0	28 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 1	14 0	14 14	14 0	13 8	14 4	
Simla (b)	...	...	...	17 8	18 12	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	9 4	10 0	10 0	8 10	9 6	9 7	

* Maudwa.

(a) Wheat, rice (common) and gram rising; jowar and salt falling.

(b) Prices rising.

(c) Jowar falling; wheat, barley, rice, bajra, gram and salt rising.

(d) Barley, bajra, jowar and gram rising.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE

Provinces	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sorts). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sorts). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sorts). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
Punjab—continued.	Kángra	23 0	23 0	24 0	34 0	34 0	38 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jullundur (*a*)	22 0	24 0	24 0	36 0	36 0	36 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	36 0	38 0	34 0	26 0	26 0	23 0
	Hoshiárpur*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gurdáspur (*b*)	28 0	30 0	30 0	38 0	38 0	40 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	32 0	35 0	22 0	14 0	14 0	14 0
	Amritsar (*c*)	22 0	25 8	25 0	36 0	39 0	39 0	...	...	...	12 8	13 8	12 0	36 0	39 0	27 8	26 8	25 8	23 8
	Siálkot	26 0	26 4	26 0	40 0	40 0	39 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0	40 0	32 0	26 0	32 0	30 0	22 0
	Gujrát (*d*)	29 8	30 0	26 8	44 0	44 0	39 8	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	12 0	42 0	38 8	22 8	50 0	50 0	28 0
	Jhelum	25 8	28 0	24 0	40 0	38 0	31 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	10 0	40 0	34 0	25 0	49 0	36 0	24 0
	Ráwalpindi (*e*)	24 0	29 0	20 8	40 0	41 0	29 8	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	8 4	50 0	32 0	22 0	38 0	45 0	24 0
	Shahpúr	34 0	34 0	20 0	55 0	55 0	32 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	13 0	40 0	40 0	19 0	48 0	45 0	19 0
	Jhang (*f*)	22 0	22 8	19 8	37 8	34 0	30 0	...	...	...	12 0	11 0	12 0	24 0	20 0	16 0	32 0	32 0	16 0
	Montgomery	19 0	19 0	20 0	32 0	32 0	24 0	...	...	...	5 8	6 0	5 8	32 0	30 0	20 0	0 ...	...	16 0
	Mooltan(*g*)	17 0	17 0	17 0	29 0	28 0	26 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	1 0	29 0	29 0	25 0	28 0	28 0	25 0
	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	20 0	20 0	20 0	27 0	27 0	26 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	7 0	21 0	23 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	18 0
	Dera Ghazi Khán	19 1	19 6	17 8	33 12	33 12	20 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	7 8	40 0	40 0	15 0	36 0	436	4 17 8
	Dera Ismail Khán	24 1	23 14	18 2	39 6	38 15	26 14	...	...	...	8 7	8 7	8 12	41 14	41 4	25 5	36 14	37 13	21 9
	Bannu	38 12	36 4	31 14	56 4	51 4	46 4	...	...	...	8 12	10 0	8 12	35 0	52 8	27 8	10 0	42 8	28 12
	Kohát (*i*)	23 9	21 0	15 15	44 10	44 0	30 9	...	...	...	12 12	12 12	12 12	43 6	43 6	21 10	42 0	42 0	19 2
	Pesháwar	24 4	23 12	19 0	43 8	40 10	35 12	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	9 8	36 11	38 0	27 4	31 8	31 8	12 10
	Házára	28 8	...	...	42 8	...	40 0	...	...	...	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	32 0	...	...
	Nágpur	19 4	19 4	17 4	...	...	...	8 4	10 0	8 8	16 0	16 0	16 4	31 12	31 12	25 0	...	...	...
	Bhandára	21 4	20 0	17 8	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 8	18 21	20 0	19 0	35 0	35 0	23 0	...	...	...
	Chánda	19 0	19 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	13 8	14 0	27 8	27 8	21 0	...	...	...
	Wardha	No r	eturn r	eceived	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bálaghát	20 0	20 0	17 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0	26 0	26 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jubbulpore	19 8	19 0	17 0	20 0	20 0	24 0	10 0	9 0	10 8	15 0	15 0	14 0	21 0	22 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	15 8
	Saugor	23 0	23 0	19 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Damoh	26 0	26 0	24 0	...	...	...	12 4	12 8	14 0	13 4	13 0	15 0	34 0	...	...	...	...	...
	Seoni	21 8	21 8	19 0	...	...	...	12 8	11 8	12 8	15 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mandla	25 0	25 0	20 0	...	...	...	14 8	14 8	15 8	19 0	20 0	20 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Betúl	18 0	19 0	16 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	9 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	20 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...
	Chhindwára	25 0	25 0	18 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 0	8 0	14 6	14 0	13 0	31 1	32 0	23 0	...	...	...
	Hoshangabad	15 5	14 5	15 7	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	4 8	9 9	9 9	10 13	21 0	21 0	23 14	19 4	19 4	18 0
	Narsinghpur	18 0	18 0	14 8	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 8	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 8	...	...	...	...	...
	Nimár	16 8	15 15	14 0	...	...	...	13 10	13 0	...	15 15	14 14	11 8	18 12	18 12	21 0	18 0	20 0	21 0
	Raipur	24 0	24 2	29 8	...	...	...	17 8	19 14	21 0	36 0	34 8	45 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sambalpur	17 0	17 0	24 0	...	...	...	31 8	31 8	32 8	40 4	45 0	36 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Biláspur	31 0	32 0	45 0	...	...	...	32 0	36 0	40 0	50 0	54 0	72 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Arakan Division.																		
	Akyab	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Northern Arakan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kyoukpyoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sandoway	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pegu Division.																		
	Rangoon Town	11 2	15 5	16 4	...	...	...	10 6	12 12	14 6	12 0	13 4	13 2	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hanthawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tharrawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 2½	7 2½	10 13½	7 14 5/32	7 14 5/32	13 6½	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Prome	9 2	9 2	18 3	...	...	...	12 3	12 3	12 12	13 1	13 1	17 2	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Irrawaddy Division.																		
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 15	11 15	14 5	15 10	15 10	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 5	11 13	16 12	12 14	13 11	18 7	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 6	...	11 9	10 7	...	14 11	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Thayetmyo	9 4	10 1	10 15	...	...	...	10 3	8 10	11 11	11 13	11 13	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tenasserim Division.																		
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	12 2	12 2	10 0	...	...	...	12 8	12 8	12 10	13 14	13 14	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mergui	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 6	...	17 15	17 11	...	21 12	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	12 13	18 5	14 3	14 3	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 13	9 1	12 12	15 9	10 6	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Salween	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madras	Secunderabad	16 5	14 13	16 5	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	6 13	10 3	9 13	9 13	23 0	23 0	23 14	27 0	27 0	...
	Bolarum	16 14	16 2	16 6	...	...	...	7 11	7 11	8 1	9 1	9 1	9 9	25 11	25 11	24 7	...	...	...
	Chudderghat	14 8	15 0	14 0	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	7 0	9 8	9 8	8 0	27 0	27 0	26 0	33 0	33 0	33 0
	Amráoti																		
	Akola																		
	Ellichpur	No r	eturn r	eceived	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Buldána																		
	Wún																		
	Básim																		

* Statement not received. † No wholesale sale held.

(*a*) Prices rising. (*b*) Wheat rising.

INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JULY 1883—*continued.*

IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces	Districts.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veraru, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veraru, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veraru, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
Punjab—continued.	Kángra	...	...	...	22 0	22 0	20 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	10 8	11 8	10 8	10 0	11 0	10 0
	Jullundur (*a*)	...	...	...	28 0	33 0	28 0	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	13 8	13 8	13 8
	Hoshiárpur*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gurdáspur (*b*)	...	...	...	36 0	36 0	32 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 0	13 0	13 0
	Amritsar (*c*)	...	...	...	31 4	37 4	32 12	80 0	80 0	80 0	14 13	14 14	14 12	14 6	14 6	14 6
	Siálkot	...	...	...	34 2	35 8	27 4	120 0	120 0	130 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 8	14 8	14 8
	Gujrát (*d*)	...	...	...	38 0	39 0	26 4	100 0	100 0	100 0	†	†	†	15 8	15 8	15 0
	Jhelum	...	...	...	34 0	34 0	24 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	15 4	16 8	16 8	15 0	16 0	16 0
	Ráwalpindi (*e*)	...	...	...	32 0	34 8	22 14	100 0	100 0	90 0	13 8	15 4	14 12	13 0	15 0	14 10
	Shahpúr	...	...	...	52 0	52 0	24 8	320 0	320 0	320 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	16 0	16 0
	Jhang (*f*)	...	...	...	32 0	30 8	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	14 12	14 4	15 0	14 8	13 12	14 8
	Montgomery	...	...	...	33 0	33 0	26 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0
	Mooltan(*g*)	...	...	...	29 0	29 0	23 0	90 0	90 0	90 0	15 0	15 0	15 8	14 8	14 8	15 0
	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	...	...	...	27 0	26 0	20 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	†	†	†	14 0	14 0	13 0
	Dera Ghazi Khán	...	...	...	27 8	26 4	18 12	100 0	100 0	100 0	29 8	28 14	28 12	28 2	27 8	25 0
	Dera Ismail Khán	...	...	...	35 10	35 0	22 11	125 0	125 0	100 0	42 0	53 2	55 0	40 0	50 0	53 0
	Bannu	...	...	...	43 2	38 12	28 12	80 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	80 0	80 0	100 0
	Kohát (*i*)	...	...	...	28 1	28 1	15 15	89 4	89 4	76 8	71 6	71 6	89 4	66 5	66 5	75 0
	Pesháwar	...	...	...	30 3	29 5	17 3	96 0	96 0	96 0	47 8	45 8	58 8	46 0	44 0	56 0
	Házára	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	...	140 0	140 0	140 0	†	†	†	11 0	11 8	12 0
	Nágpur	...	...	...	22 4	21 12	22 0	110 0	150 0	130 0	12 8	12 8	11 8	12 4	12 4	11 4
	Bhandára	...	...	...	25 0	26 8	23 0	96 0	110 0	...	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8
	Chánda	...	...	...	21 8	23 0	25 0	360 0	360 0	360 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	10 0
	Wardha	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No r	eturn r	eceived
	Bálaghát	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	25 0	275 0	275 0	275 0	9 4	9 4	10 0	9 0	9 0	10 0
	Jubbulpore	...	...	...	26 0	25 0	28 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	10 0	9 8*	11 12	9 8	9 0	11 8
	Saugor	...	...	...	28 0	27 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	9 8	9 0	8 8	9 0	8 8	8 4
	Damoh	...	...	...	43 0	43 0	35 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 4	9 0	8 8	9 0	8 8
	Seoni	...	...	...	27 0	26 0	24 0	220 0	220 0	210 0	10 0	8 8	11 0	9 8	8 0	10 8
	Mandla	...	...	...	41 0	42 0	35 0	256 0	256 0	240 0	...	...	...	8 8	9 8	9 8
	Betúl	25 0	25 0	25 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	320 0	320 0	240 0	9 8	10 8	9 0	9 0	10 0	8 8
	Chhindwára	13 8	13 8	14 0	31 14	32 0	23 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	9 0	9 0
	Hoshangabad	17 12	17 0	18 0	26 7	21 11	25 5	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	9 8	11 0	11 0	9 0
	Narsinghpur	...	...	...	24 8	24 4	26 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 0
	Nimár	...	...	...	19 5	18 7	22 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	13 13	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 12	12 12
	Raipur	...	...	...	28 8	29 8	31 8	80 0	64 0	60 0	10 4	10 6	8 9	10 0	10 0	8 6
	Sambalpur	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	29 4	120 0	120 0	120 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	9 0	9 0
	Biláspur	120 0	120 0	150 0	31 0	36 0	42 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	7 0
	Arakan Division.															
	Akyab	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Northern Arakan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kyoukpyoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sandoway	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pegu Division.															
	Rangoon Town	...	...	...	19 7	19 7	21 1	320 0	320 0	324 0	50 11	50 11	50 11	22 10	22 10	22 10
	Hanthawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tharrawaddy	...	...	...	16 5 13/40	16 5 13/40	13 9 37/40	535 11 3/7	535 11 3/7	535 11 3/7	...	...	...	35 11 3/8	29 12 4/31	27 7 31/61
	Prome	...	...	...	15 9	15 9	17 12	139 11	139 11	139 11	25 5	25 5	29 9	16 9	16 9	18 10
	Irrawaddy Division.															
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	183 8	183 8	183 8	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9
	Bassein	...	...	...	13 0	11 9	15 9	265 7	265 7	175 11	28 9	28 9	35 7	19 8	21 4	30 2
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	16 13	...	16 13	184 8	...	184 8	33 12	...	44 5	32 4	...	39 6
	Thayetmyo	...	...	...	13 13	14 12	18 7	245 0	245 0	245 0	25 5	25 5	20 13	18 15	18 15	14 2
	Tenasserim Division.															
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	...	...	...	12 2	12 2	11 1	220 0	220 0	220 0	32 5	32 5	47 7	22 12	22 12	35 8
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mergui	...	...	...	...	...	...	428 0	...	428 0	24 5	...	36 8	14 7½	...	29 3
	Toungoo	...	...	...	12 9	12 8	12 9	24 0	24 0	24 0	27 1	30 12	30 12	18 12	18 12	18 12
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	250 0	...	250 0	29 8	32 3	32 3	18 14	18 14	18 14
	Salween	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madras	Secunderabad	...	29 9	...	18 4	16 12	17 4	125 0	130 0	125 0	10 14	10 14	10 11	10 6	10 6	10 3
	Bolarum	...	...	...	19 2	18 10	20 9	116 14	116 14	116 14	...	...	...	10 12	10 12	9 8
	Chudderghat	...	...	...	18 8	18 0	18 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	9 8
	Amráoti															
	Akola															
	Ellichpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No	return	receiv	ed
	Buldána															
	Wún															
	Básim															

(*a*) Wheat, barley, rice, jowar, and gram rising; bajra, falling. (*d*) Wheat and gram rising; jowar falling. (*e*) Wheat, barley, bajra, gram and salt rising; jowar falling.
(*f*) Barley, rice, jowar, gram and salt falling. (*g*) Barley falling. (*h*) Jowar rising; gram falling. (*i*) Wheat and barley falling.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JULY 1883 —*concluded.*

IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholam, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholam, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholam, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi &c. (Kavarn, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Cornon, Murhwa, Naglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi &c. (Kavarn, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Cornon, Murhwa, Naglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi &c. (Kavarn, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Cornon, Murhwa, Naglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
MYSORE.	Bangalore																													Bangalore	MYSORE.
	Kolar																													Kolar	
	Túmkúr																													Túmkúr	
	Mysore	No return received																		...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received				Mysore	
	Hassan																													Hassan	
	Shimoga																													Shimoga	
	Kadur																													Kadur	
	Chitaldroog																													Chitaldroog	
COORG.	Coorg	8 9	8 11	7 15	10 0	9 14	8 8	13 1	13 0	10 9	17 6	17 8	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 1	19 9	26 4	25 11	20 7	110 0	110 0	110 0	9 10	9 12	9 0	9 2	9 3	8 6	Coorg	COORG.
RAJPOOTANA.	Jeypore	17 4	17 0	16 12	22 8	22 8	21 8	6 0	6 0	7 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	22 8	24 0	18 8	21 0	20 8	19 0	...	...	...	21 0	22 0	18 0	...	...	...	14 8	14 8	14 4	14 4	14 4	14 0	Jeypore	RAJPOOTANA.
	Kishengurh	17 0	17 4	16 0	23 12	23 4	21 8	9 0	10 0	8 0	10 0	11 0	9 0	24 8	26 0	21 0	17 8	18 4	17 0	...	...	...	24 8	24 4	20 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 4	16 0	16 0	Kishengurh	
	Kerrowlee	19 6	20 0	16 0	25 10	25 0	18 8	12 0	12 8	12 8	13 0	13 12	13 8	25 10	25 0	19 0	21 9	21 4	16 0	...	...	...	25 5	25 0	18 8	...	...	...	13 9	13 1	13 1	12 12	12 13	13 0	Kerrowlee	
	Ulwur	19 4	19 3	18 7	26 1	25 12	23 5	8 10	8 10	8 0	11 0	11 0	11 8	24 11	22 14	23 5	23 2	22 4	17 0	...	...	...	25 11	25 8	22 8	...	...	...	15 12	15 12	15 13	15 0	15 0	15 0	Ulwur	
	Bhurtpore (City)	18 13	18 11	17 7	27 4	27 4	22 13	7 12	7 12	6 12	9 6	9 6	11 4	21 11	21 8	20 11	22 8	22 12	17 11	...	...	...	26 4	26 0	21 7	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	12 0	13 0	12 13	12 8	Bhurtpore (City)	
	Ajmere	15 8	15 8	15 0	23 0	22 8	22 8	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	19 0	19 0	18 0	17 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	21 8	70 0	70 0	70 0	17 0	17 0	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	Ajmere	
	Deoli Cantonment	19 9	19 6	16 5	26 9	25 14	20 7	...	...	...	13 8	13 0	10 8	25 8	25 0	20 0	18 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	26 8	25 14	19 10	...	...	...	13 4	13 4	...	12 12	12 12	12 13	Deoli Cantonment	
																													R a. p.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*					
	Erinpura	16 9	16 0	16 4	25 4	27 8	28 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 2	8 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	20 0	19 0	22 0	...	...	...	21 1	20 4	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	2 15 0	2 13 9	3 1 2	12 9	13 0	12 0	Erinpura	
	Sirohee	13 8	13 4	17 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	21 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 5	12 5	12 5	Sirohee	
	Abu	12 15	12 8	15 6	19 12	19 2	22 12	6 10	6 12	6 8	8 2	8 4	8 0	...	...	...	15 12	14 14	18 0	...	...	...	16 2	16 0	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	Abu	
	Anadra	14 4	13 12	17 8	22 8	21 12	26 0	7 4	7 8	7 8	9 0	9 0	9 0	...	...	...	17 8	16 8	21 0	...	...	...	17 4	17 0	21 2	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4	12 4	12 4	Anadra	
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	20 8	20 0	22 0	26 0	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	25 0	26 0	†	†	‡	3 10 0	3 10 0	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Meywar (Oodeypore)	14 1	13 10¾	15 2¼	20 5	18 0¾	19 14¾	10 2¼	10 2¼	10 2¼	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 12	17 9¼	17 9¼	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 9	9 9	9 12½	9 6	9 6	9 9	Meywar (Oodeypore)	
																													R a. p.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*					
																														per md.						
	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	22 8	21 14	22 8	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	17 8	17 8	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43 12	37 8	35 0	...	...	...	3 12 0	...	...	10 10	10 10	11 4	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	
	Partábgarh („)	18 7	16 6½	16 11	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 15	11 4	11 4	13 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 9	21 9	20 15	...	...	...	2 6 0	...	...	16 14	16 11	10 0	Partábgarh („)	
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	15 15	15 15	15 15	22 8	20 0	21 4	6 4	6 4	6 4	8 12	7 8	7 8	20 10	20 0	22 8	18 12	17 8	18 12	...	...	...	19 11	20 0	19 6	...	...	...	2 10 0	2 10 0	2 9 0	15 0	15 5	15 0	Marwar (Jodhpore)	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Bikaneer	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Bikaneer	
	Boondee	21 0	21 0	17 0	30 0	30 0	27 0	9 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	10 8	9 8	26 0	27 0	28 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	31 0	28 4	160 0	160 0	120 0	11 4	11 4	11 12	11 0	11 0	11 8	Boondee	
	Kotah	21 0	20 0	16 8	25 0	25 0	19 4	10 0	10 0	8 12	13 0	13 0	11 0	26 0	26 0	20 4	14 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	24 8	240 0	240 0	240 0	12 0	12 0	12 4	11 8	11 8	11 12	Kotah	
	Tonk	18 4	18 12	14 0	24 8	24 8	20 14	6 8	7 0	7 0	8 8	7 8	10 0	26 8	26 0	22 6	...	...	17 8	...	...	...	24 8	24 8	20 6	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 4	12 0	11 12	12 0	11 12	Tonk	
	Jhallawar	17 8½	17 14	16 1	23 10	23 10	15 14	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	8 14	23 7	22 10	16 4	17 1	17 1	13 6	...	...	...	24 4	23 11	20 1	...	...	...	10 2	10 2	9 15	9 14	9 14	9 11½	Jhallawar	
	Shahpoora	19 0	20 0	16 0	23 12	23 7	21 8	12 2	13 8	9 4	16 4	16 0	13 2	16 8	17 0	17 0	16 4	17 0	16 4	...	...	...	24 0	23 12	19 3	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 7	12 7	13 8	12 5	12 5	13 4	Shahpoora	
	Dholpur	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Dholpur	
CENTRAL INDIA.	Indore	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Indore	CENTRAL INDIA.
	Gwalior																																		Gwalior	
	Goona																																		Goona	
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)																																		Baghelkhand (Sutna)	

† Ten pies per bundle.

‡ Eight½ pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 1st HALF OF JULY 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1406 AND 1407 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 11th AUGUST 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Province.	District.	Wheat. Present fortnight. S.	C.	Wheat. Past fortnight. S.	C.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S.	C.	Barley. Present fortnight. S.	C.	Barley. Past fortnight. S.	C.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S.	C.
Central India.	Indore	13	11	14	2	15	0	...		...		...	
	Gwalior	15	15	16	3	15	7	23	5	24	0	20	1
	Goona	23	8	24	8	20	8	20	0	20	0	17	0
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	24	0	24	2	21	0	40	0	42	8	32	10

District.	Rice, Best sort. Present fortnight. S.	C.	Rice, Best sort. Past fortnight. S.	C.	Rice, Best sort. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S.	C.	Rice, Common. Present fortnight. S.	C.	Rice, Common. Past fortnight. S.	C.	Rice, Common. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S.	C.
Indore	9	3	9	3	8	9	10	0	10	0	10	0
Gwalior	7	5	7	5	7	5	9	2	9	2	9	10
Goona	10	0	10	8	9	12	10	8	11	0	10	4
Baghelkhand (Sutna)	7	0	7	4	8	0	18	0	18	0	17	12

District.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Present fortnight. S.	C.	Past fortnight. S.	C.	Corresponding fortnight of last year. S.	C.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight. S.	C.	Past fortnight. S.	C.	Corresponding fortnight of last year. S.	C.
Indore	17	7	18	0	20	0	17	2	18	0	20	0
Gwalior	23	1	22	13	18	12	18	12	18	4	15	9
Goona	32	0	32	0	25	0	20	0	20	0	17	0
Baghelkhand (Sutna)	38	12	34	2	32	10	30	2	32	0	24	0

District.	Lesser Millets, Bagi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Present fortnight. S.	C.	Past fortnight. S.	C.	Corresponding fortnight of last year. S.	C.	Gram. Present fortnight. S.	C.	Gram. Past fortnight. S.	C.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S.	C.
Indore	...		...		...		18	0	17	7	19	3
Gwalior	...		...		...		21	15	22	3	18	12
Goona	...		...		...		31	8	31	8	24	8
Baghelkhand (Sutna)	...		...		...		36	5	35	12	30	0

District.	Firewood. Present fortnight. S.	C.	Firewood. Past fortnight. S.	C.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S.	C.	Salt, Wholesale. Present fortnight. S.	C.	Salt, Wholesale. Past fortnight. S.	C.	Salt, Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S.	C.	Salt, Retail. Present fortnight. S.	C.	Salt, Retail. Past fortnight. S.	C.	Salt, Retail. Corresponding fortnight of last year. S.	C.
Indore	100	0	100	0	100	0	12	0	12	0	11	8	11	0	10	14	10	14
Gwalior	127	12	127	12	91	4	...		...		...		11	7	11	5	11	7
Goona	200	0	320	0	200	0	11	8	12	0	11	8	11	0	11	8	11	0
Baghelkhand (Sutna)	160	0	160	0	160	0	10	4	11	7	12	5	9	10	10	9	11	8

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXIX OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 29th July 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 28th July 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 29th July 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 28th July 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
4th Aug. 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	96,253	560	207	69,293	335	12,63,891	428	14,75,950	419	2,12,059	...
28th July 1883	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	66,582	122	547	67,373	123	17,92,641	191	20,66,744	222	2,74,103	...
4th Aug. 1883	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	1,49,871	222	749	1,95,981	262	32,62,335	281	41,76,018	331	9,13,683	...
28th July 1883	Madras	861	1,46,596	170	861	1,22,033	142	24,22,972	165	22,34,769	153	...	1,88,203
28th ditto	South Indian	655	55,007	84	655	71,291	109	13,26,354	118	13,39,943	120	13,589	...
4th Aug. 1883	Great Indian Peninsula	1,450	3,84,958	265	1,451	3,17,515	219	1,22,80,654	494	1,30,29,431	526	748,777	...
28th July 1883	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	1,21,877	264	461	93,740	203	39,84,240	504	41,26,231	527	1,41,991	...
	TOTAL	4,822	10,21,144	212	4,931	9,37,229	190	2,63,33,087	319	2,84,49,086	339	21,15,999	...
	State.												
4th Aug. 1883	East Indian	1,507	8,19,538	544	1,509	7,94,777	527	1,50,18,307	581	1,77,02,579	690	26,84,272	...
4th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	4,693	142	56	6,350	113	67,914	132	1,02,296	114	34,382	...
4th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,154	43	27	1,389	51	23,116	50	27,398	60	4,282	...
4th ditto	Northern Bengal	230	34,594	150	239	43,170	181	6,15,528	154	6,65,486	169	49,958	...
28th July 1883	Tirhoot	78	12,077	155	166	13,622	82	2,15,878	150	2,80,019	100	64,141	....
30th June 1883	Patna-Gya	57	6,947	122	...	(a)	...	(b)1,28,067	173	(c)1,19,253	161	...	8,814
28th July 1883	Muttra-Hathras	29	1,667	57	29	2,033	70	37,712	76	42,136	85	4,424	...
28th ditto	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	6,190	71	87	6,382	73	1,14,801	77	1,10,906	75	...	3,895
4th Aug. 1883	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	577	48	12	611	51	17,365	85	18,312	90	947	...
4th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,117	1,15,599	103	1,117	1,55,630	139	36,63,606	191	42,00,604	221	5,36,998	...
4th ditto	Wardha Coal	45	2,629	58	45	8,327	185	1,89,675	246	2,52,561	330	62,886	...
4th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	4,755	49	149	8,512	57	2,29,893	137	5,65,267	223	3,35,374	...
4th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	17,504	109	161	18,738	116	5,07,457	184	4,93,196	180	...	14,261
4th ditto	Sindia	75	5,790	77	75	4,845	65	1,10,062	85	1,05,577	83	...	4,485
28th July 1883	Punjab Northern	409	51,580	126	419	59,980	143	10,14,953	148	10,35,876	145	20,923	...
28th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	95,510	145	660	1,14,219	173	15,04,133	133	26,41,216	235	11,37,083	...
4th Aug. 1883	Muttra-Achnera	23	1,206	52	23	1,100	48	20,791	53	24,342	62	3,551	...
4th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	1,295	40	32	1,508	47	25,658	47	32,009	59	6,351	...
4th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	...	89	4,280	48	...	...	1,10,465	73	1,10,465	...
	TOTAL	3,173	3,63,767	115	3,386	4,50,696	133	84,86,609	156	1,08,26,919	186	23,40,310	...
	Native States.												
28th July 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal	194	9,322	48	193	9,360	48	3,62,587	109	4,04,680	123	42,093	...
4th Aug. 1883	Nizam's	121	14,878	123	121	15,693	130	2,92,398	141	2,58,008	125	...	34,390
28th July 1883	Mysore	86	6,538	76	86	5,125	60	96,264	65	87,320	60	...	8,944
4th Aug. 1883	Jodhpore	19	98	5	19	400	21	(d)261	3	12,316	38	12,055	...
	TOTAL	420	30,836	73	419	30,578	73	7,51,510	108	7,62,324	107	10,814	...
	GRAND TOTAL	9,922	22,35,285	225	10,245	22,13,280	216	5,05,89,513	298	5,77,40,908	333	71,51,395	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,46,62,878	145	2,75,06,542	159	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,59,26,635	153	3,02,34,366	174	43,07,731	...

(a) Return not received.
(b) Total receipts from 1st April to 30th June 1882.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 30th June 1883.
(d) Total receipts from 24th June to 29th July 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 18th August 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Comparative Statement of the Net Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenue) for the first four months of the official year 1883-84, and of the twelve preceding years.

(In thousands of Rupees.)

YEAR.	For the four months, April to July.																								YEAR.
	Bengal.			Bombay.				Sind.				Madras.			British Burma.			Total British India.						
	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	Export Revenue.	Total Import Revenue.	Total Revenue.	
1871-72 .	3,38	21,67	7,18	2,81	10,10	1,33	14,24	41	32	41	1,14	3,94	3,94	4,94	10,07	45	1,36	7,73	9,54	8,24	37,39	21,59	45,63	67,22	1871-72.
1872-73 .	4,37	21,36	6,57	1,80	12,99	1,21	16,00	39	29	80	1,48	4,28	4,00	9,68	1,13	1,67	14,56	17,36	9,09	40,59	27,54	49,68	77,22	1872-73.
1873-74 .	3,63	20,85	5,26	2,15	11,54	1,26	14,95	42	21	36	99	4,59	4,93	10,84	1,20	1,55	12,41	15,16	8,72	38,74	24,22	47,46	71,68	1873-74.
1874-75 .	4,04	24 63	4,40	2,19	12,28	1,34	15,81	43	16	39	98	4,89	4,56	10,62	1,48	2,35	8,57	12,40	9,31	44,31	19,26	53,62	72,88	1874-75.
1875-76 .	3,88	27,24	5,90	2,41	13,70	3,25	19,36	44	31	80	1,55	5,07	5,25	11,81	1,23	1,45	15,72	18,40	9,45	47,77	30,92	57,22	88,14	1875-76.
1876-77 .	4,32	20,54	3,64	2,76	10,94	45	14,15	41	18	8	67	4,20	3,10	9,22	1,65	1,74	10,62	14,01	11,06	37,40	17,89	48,46	66,35	1876-77.
1877-78 .	5,14	25,71	3,72	3,13	13,21	48	16,82	75	25	14	1,14	2,52	63	4,86	1,81	1,94	8,87	12,62	12,54	43,63	13,84	56,17	70,01	1877-78.
1878-79 .	4,51	21,09	4,61	2,88	12,57	70	16,15	63	14	9	86	3,47	1,52	6,99	2,68	2,36	10,99	16,03	12,70	39,63	17,91	52,33	70,24	1878-79.
1879-80 .	3,95	19,59	2,76	3,03	10,36	73	14,12	1,00	29	7	1,36	2,78	1,74	6,25	2,39	1,84	14,45	18,68	12,10	34,86	19,75	46,96	66,71	1879-80.
1880-81 .	4,46	17,54	3,01	2,90	13,71	63	17,24	1,50	34	9	1,93	3,42	3,33	8,53	1,67	2,37	14,33	18,42	12,31	37,38	21,41	49,69	71,13	1880-81.
1881-82 .	4,66	17,46	4,62	3,56	13,30	60	17,46	1,37	50	12	1,99	3,43	2,54	7,73	2,34	2,35	16,77	21,46	13,69	37,04	24,65	50,73	75,38	1881-82.
1882-83 .	4,93	...	4,90	3,64	—88*	51	3,27	1,17	2	20	1,39	...	1,30	3,18	2,98	3	22,75	25,76	14,51	—83*	29,75	13,68	43,43	1882-83.
1883-84 .	4,84	3	6,24	3,66	16	41	4,23	1,26	1	16	1,43	1,76	2	1,99	2,83	7	17,10	20,00	14,35	29	25,90	14,64	40,54	1883-84.

* The amount refunded is greater than the duty collected.

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
STATISTICAL BRANCH;
Calcutta, 23rd August 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 21st AUGUST 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The past week has been marked by a gradual and favourable change in the weather over Northern India, an easterly breeze having taken the place of the hot west winds. In Central and Western India also the latest barometric readings indicate a return of the monsoons.

Good rain fell during the week in most of the districts of the Madras Presidency and Mysore, greatly benefiting the standing crops on unirrigated lands. More rain is still needed in some places, but on the whole the crops are in good condition. In the Bombay Presidency moderate showers fell in parts of the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country, but the rainfall is generally insufficient, and the crops have suffered much from the drought. In Sind the river remains low, and injury to the *kharif* is feared. Nearly three inches of rain are reported from Hyderabad, and the crops are doing well. In the Berars the rainfall has been slight; but although more rain is needed, the crops have not suffered. Timely and beneficial rain, moderate in quantity but generally sufficient to remove immediate apprehension, has fallen in Indore and Neemuch and at Sutna. In most of the Central India States, however, there was no rain during the week under report, and great anxiety is felt for the crops, though later reports are somewhat more favourable. In Rajputana the condition of the crops is daily becoming more critical. Except for very slight showers, rain continues to hold off, and in Serohi half the crop is reported to be irretrievably lost. Scarcity of fodder is also anticipated.

From British Burma, Bengal, and Assam the reports continue favourable. In Burma the rainfall has been less than that of the previous year, but sufficient. More rain is still wanted in Hazaribagh, Lohardugga and Gya of Bengal, and Gauhati in Assam; elsewhere in those provinces the fall has been ample and in some places in Bengal heavy. In the Central Provinces the break has been succeeded by a general fall varying from half an inch to three inches, but more is required. The rice crop has suffered considerably, but prospects are on the whole still good. Over the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the rainfall has been light and insufficient, but easterly winds and cloudy weather prevail. So far there is no immediate cause for anxiety. In the Punjab, Sialkot, Ferozepore, Rawalpindi, and Dera Ismail Khan are the only stations from which rain is reported, and in the south-eastern districts a failure of the *kharif* is imminent should dry weather continue.

Agricultural operations remain for the most part unchanged. Harvesting is in progress in Madras. Later *kharif* sowings continue in parts of the Bombay Presidency, and preparations for the *rabi* have commenced in the Central Provinces. Ploughing has been nearly completed in Burma, and transplanting of rice seedlings is well advanced. Early rice and jute are being harvested in Bengal, with a fair outturn generally, and transplanting of later rice is going on.

Locusts are still reported from the Deccan, and excessive rain has injured the *ragi* crops in Mercara. Floods have also caused some loss in Durbhunga, Champarun, and other districts of Bengal.

Cattle-disease of a mild type is generally prevalent, and a scarcity of fodder is beginning to be felt in parts of the North-Western Provinces, Punjab, and Rajputana.

Cholera has abated, but fever is on the increase in several provinces.

Prices are rising.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Aug. 22nd)		
Bellary ...	2·08 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops generally good. Rain especially heavy where most needed.
Kurnool ...	2·0 (average of nine stations).	Standing crops thriving. Cattle-disease in six taluks.
Ganjam ...	1·96 (average of sixteen stations).	Standing crops, red gram, gingelly, and sugarcane thriving. Fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease continue. One death from cholera in Chicacole taluk.
Kistna ...	1·38 (average of twelve stations).	Standing crops partly recovering, but rain still needed. Fever, small-pox, guinea-worm, and cattle-disease slight.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	·86 (average of four stations).	Standing crops good where water available; harvest *kar*, paddy, &c., yield half. Small-pox slight in one taluk. Cattle-disease slight in parts of three taluks.
Coimbatore ...	2·12 (average of fifteen stations).	Standing crops suffering from want of sufficient rain and from insects in parts. Much dry land waste in two taluks for want of rain. Fever and small-pox in parts; 6 deaths from cholera in parts of two taluks.
Tanjore ...	1·57 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops generally good; dry crops in parts of one taluk want rain. Thirty deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	1·25 (average of six stations).	Standing crops fair except in three taluks. Harvest paddy and dry crops in parts.
Malabar ...	3·73 (average of fourteen stations).	First crop progressing. Harvest commenced in four taluks. Small-pox slight in nine taluks; fever in four taluks; 2 deaths from cholera at Palghat. Cattle-disease slight in two taluks.
Travancore ...	3·278	Paddy ripening; harvest begun in parts. Fever and diarrhœa to some extent prevalent. *General Remarks.*—General prospects good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—(Aug. 22nd)		
Kurrachee ...	No rain in Kurrachee; slight showers in Shahbunder and Tatta.	Rain at Kotri on 20th 16 feet 6 inches against 20 feet 1½ inches last year. Damage to *kharif* crops feared from low state of river. Small-pox in six villages, 19 fresh cases, 1 death, 5 remaining sick; fever in nine talukas. Cattle-disease in Sujawal. Wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 32 and 36, in Manjhand 32, 24 and 48, in Ghorabari 20, 32 and 40, and in Sakro 20, 32 and 40 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	.....	River has risen 6 inches since last week, but was 3 feet 7 inches lower on 20th instant than on same date last year. Rice crops are reported to have suffered from blight in Badin. Fever in two, cattle-disease in three, and small-pox in seven talukas. Wheat 24, *bajri* 39, *juari* 44, red rice 26, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	.....	Crops withering for want of rain throughout the district. Prices of grain rising. Cholera in the city, 12 cases, 9 deaths; slight fever in Viramgaon and Dhakrol talukas. Cattle-disease in Parantej. *Bajri* 26¼ and wheat 23½ lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	.....	Want of rain felt everywhere. Crops withering. Locusts have appeared in Songad mahal of Naosari division. Health fair. Cholera in mild form continues in Patan, Sidhpur, Naosari, and Moha talukas. Three deaths in Baroda city. *Bajri* 22 and rice 23 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	*Nil*	Crops withering. Cattle-disease in Olphad and fever in Pardi. Cholera in Surat, 5 cases, 5 deaths. *Juari* 36 and *nagli* 41 lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	*Nil*	Crops withering for want of rain. Locusts throughout the district. *Kharif* sowing continues. Cholera has disappeared in Nasik, elsewhere subsiding, 65 attacks, 22 deaths. *Bajri* 28, wheat 28½, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Slight rain on four days; total of week 1·13.	Total rainfall up to date 55·65, being ·53 above average. Abnormal temperature 4° to 0° warm. Vapour in air normal. Monsoon wind weak.
Poona ...	.....	Young crops withering for want of rain. Cholera 257 cases, fatal 89. *Bajri* 37 and *juari* 45 lbs. per rupee; in Poona *bajri* 32 and *juari* 39 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	Nagar, 1·07; Jamkhed, ·20; Sheogaon, ·15; none in the remaining talukas.	*Kkarif* crops are withering from want of rain. Cholera in the district 265 attacks, 152 deaths. *Bajri*—maximum 49 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 33 lbs. in Akola; *juari*—maximum 58 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed; minimum 36 lbs. in Akola.
Sholapur ...	·01	Total rainfall 15·65. Crops withering for want of rain. *Juari* 39 and *bajri* 50 lbs. per rupee. Cholera 239 cases, 115 deaths.
Dharwar ...	Karajgi, 4·0; Navalgund, 3·94; Nargund, Mundargi, and Ron above 1·0; none at Hangal; elsewhere very slight.	Rain wanted thoughout the district. Standing crops fair; sowing of late *juari*, cotton, and other *rabi* crops commenced in some parts. Average prices, *juari* 60 and rice 32 lbs. per rupee. Public health good.
Kanara ...	In Karwar, ·13; Kumpta, ·75; Sirsi, ·64; Hallial, ·61.	Total rainfall 104·03. Rice plants in ear on coast; weeding going on above Ghats. Rain wanted. One death by small-pox in Kumpta. Common rice in Karwar 12 seers per rupee, in district average 14 seers.
Rajkot ...	.....	General health fair. Weather hot. Rain much wanted. Cholera in Dhoraji, Und, and Gondal. *Bajri* 28 and *juari* 34 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain in parts of Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country, but crops withering in many places for want of rain and in Sind owing to the low level of the river. Locusts in Nasik, Khandesh, Satara, Ratnagiri, Colaba, and Tanna. Cholera subsiding in the Deccan and prevalent in a mild form in many other parts of the Presidency; fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease in a few districts.
Bengal—(Aug. 22nd)		
Chittagong ...	·20	Weather generally hot. Transplanting continues. Prospects fair Prices steady. Cattle-disease not abated.
Dacca ...	·40	*Roachia* paddy, *moog*, and *maskalai* being sown; *aus* paddy and jute being cut. Prospects good.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	1·0	Prospects of both early and late crops good; transplanting of *amun* rice going on. Price of common rice stationary. Public health good.
Moorshedabad ...	2·83	*Bhadoi* crops being harvested; *amun* rice still being transplanted; prospects of crops favourable. Public health generally good.
Rajshahye ...	2·36	Crops promise well. Fever bad in three police stations.
Burdwan ...	5·23	Good rain throughout the district. Transplanting still going on; prospects good. Public health fair.
Rungpore ...	2·35	Weather hot and cloudy. *Amun* being transplanted; *aus* and jute being cut with fair outturn. Prices of food-grains stationary. Public health good.
Bhagalpur ...	3·22	Prospects of crops good. Low lands flooded, and some damage to crops apprehended.
Purneah ...	2·81	Prospects of crops now good; farming operations normal. Floods in some parts of district. Health fair.
Patna ...	2·67	Transplanting of paddy in progress; prospects of *bhadoi* crops favourable in Barrh sub-division, but not so in Sadr and Behar sub-divisions, where damage has been caused by inundation. Cholera prevailing in the interior.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—*contd.*		
Durbhunga ...	1·49	Inundation still continues causing considerable damage to crops. Health good.
Hazaribagh ...	1·77	Weather warm and cloudy. Rain during week has done much good towards transplanting of paddy, but more required. Cholera appears to be disappearing; general health good.
Cuttack ...	3·11	Weather cloudy and rainy. *Beali* rice in ear; *sarad* rice promising; cotton being plucked; sugarcane and turmeric doing well. Price of rice stationary. Public health good.
		General Remarks.—Heavy rainfall reported from certain districts during the week, but the fall generally was moderate; more rain is still wanted in Hazaribagh, Lohardugga, and Gya. General prospects of the crops are favourable, except in Durbhunga, Mozufferpore and Chumparun where considerable damage is said to have been caused by high floods; some loss from floods is also reported from parts of Patna, Bhagalpur, Purneah, and Howrah. Transplanting operations are still proceeding almost generally; *aus* rice and jute harvest is in progress with fair outturn. Jute is said to be rather poor in Patna, and both *aus* rice and jute are only moderate in Mymensingh. Cholera and fever reported from a few districts only; general health is satisfactory for the season.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Aug. 21st)	No rain	Rain required for *kharif* crops. Health of men and condition of cattle good. Prices steady.
Allahabad („ 22nd)	·6 average in six tahsils on 19th and 20th.	Rain still much wanted. Wind east, and heat less. *Kharif* crops all sown; crops suffering from drought. Cholera increased in city and station, but remains only in one village in district. Prices steady.
Gorakhpur („ 20th)	2·6	Weather close and cloudy. Crops flourishing. Cattle-disease in two tahsils. Prices steady.
Jhansi („ „)	Slight shower on the 19th.	Rain hardly sufficient to do much good to the crops. The weather since then cloudy. *Shama*, *kooni*, *phikar*, and rice, &c., are beginning to suffer from want of rain; no injury has yet been done to *juari*, cotton, and *til*. Prices rising rapidly. Grass scarce. Health of people and cattle good.
Agra („ 21st)	No rain at Sadr, except a few drops on 21st; rain also fell elsewhere on the 20th.	Crops in great need of rain. Well irrigation continues. Fever in three and sporadic cholera in five parganas. Prices rising.
Bareilly („ „)	Rain fell on 20th partially, but promises to be general.	Prices mostly risen. Cattle-disease continues. Fever is increasing.
Meerut („ „)	Rain fell on 21st moderately, but steadily with every prospect of continuing.	Wind changed to the east on 20th. As rain has fallen, very little damage will have been done to the crops. Prices had risen, but will fall at once. Wheat was on the 20th, 16 seers and gram 15 seers per rupee.
Kumaun („ „)	.....	Rain has fallen which will benefit the crops. Rice was beginning to suffer, otherwise crops good. Health good. Cattle-disease continues. Prices stationary.
Lucknow („ „)	Fair rain on 20th, Lucknow, ·3; Maliahabad, 3·0; Mohanlalganj, ·2.	Rain was much wanted, more rain still required. Condition of people good and of cattle normal. Prices have risen during the past fifteen days.
Partabgarh („ „)	Sadr, ·97; Kunda, ·4; Patti, ·5; reports of very heavy rain in several parts of the district.	Prices stationary. Health good. Crops doing exceedingly well.
Sitapur („ „)	No rain except ·9 at Sadr.	More rain required. Prices slightly higher. Health good.
Fyzabad („ „)	No rain	Crops suffering from drought. Health good. Condition of cattle normal.
Cawnpore („ „)	Beneficial rain fell on 19th and 20th; fall appears general.	Condition of crops fair, but more rain wanted. General health of people good, but fever and cholera in a mild form still prevailing. Cattle-disease in two parganas continues. Prices steady.
Farukhabad („ „)	Rain began to fall on the afternoon of the 20th and registered up to 12 A.M. on the 21st instant, 3·6	Weather continues cloudy. Condition of people and the cattle generally good.
Rae Bareli („ 20th)	Sadr, 1·2	Weather cloudy. *Kharif* crops suffering from drought in tahsil Digbijaiganj. General health good. Prices slightly rising.
		General Remarks.—Rain, but by no means in sufficient quantity, fell in almost all districts, towards the close of the week. The west wind has given place to the east, and there is some hope of more rain which is still much wanted. A good deal of damage has been done to the crops by drought, and prices have generally risen. Fever and cattle-disease are reported from several districts, and cholera which seems to be decreasing is reported from five.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Punjab—(Aug. 22nd)		
Delhi ...	.....	Rain urgently wanted. Crops suffering. Health good. Prices rising.
Hissar ...	.....	Rain urgently wanted. Crops withering fast. Health good. Prices rising.
Umballa ...	.....	Health fair. Crops suffering from want of rain. Prices rising.
Jullundur ...	.....	Health good. Crops suffering. Fodder very scarce. Sudden rise of prices on 16th which has not been maintained.
Amritsar ...	.....	Health good. Crops withering. Prices rising.
Sialkot ...	Sadr, 1·0	More rain much wanted. Health good. Prices high and fluctuating.
Ferozepore ...	Zira, ·6; Moga, 1·40; Muktsar, ·5.	More rain much wanted. Health good. Crops backward. Prices rising.
Lahore ...	No rain	Rain much wanted. Crops suffering; prospects bad. Health good. Prices rising.
Rawalpindi ...	1·0	*Kharif* prospects in Attock and Fatehjung tahsils average, elsewhere good. Fever in Kahuta tahsil, health elsewhere good. Prices rising.
Mooltan ...	.....	Health good and crop prospects fair. Canal running low. Prices rising.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	·40	Health good. Crop prospects fair. Prices rising.
Peshawar ...	.....	Rain much wanted. Fever prevalent. Prices rising.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain has fallen in a few districts, but more is much wanted in the south-east, where the crop prospects are causing much anxiety. Health good, except in the Umballa and Peshawar districts, and in the Kahuta tahsil of the Rawalpindi district.
Central Provinces—(Aug. 22nd)		
Nagpur ...	·56	Weather cloudy and close. Recent rain has benefited *khang* crops; rice has suffered from deficient rain. 293 deaths from cholera. Price of wheat rising.
Jubbulpore ...	·52	Weather cloudy and hot. Crops suffering from want of rain, those in uplands have dried up in many places. Wheat 18 and rice 13 seers per rupee. Health good,
Saugor (Aug. 21st)	1·55	Crops have suffered from the long break and deficient rainfall. Prices falling. Health good.
Seoni ...	1·32; heavy rain on 19th.	Weather cloudy and [illegible]. More rain is urgently needed. Nine deaths from cholera. Prices rising.
Hoshangabad ...	3·17	Weather cloudy and rainy. *Juari* and cotton promising; other crops have suffered from long break. Fever prevalent; small-pox slight. Wheat 15 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	3·95	Weather cloudy and rainy. Prospects fair. 41 deaths from cholera. Prices steady.
Raipur ...	·76	Crops on high lands have suffered severely, those on low lands [illegible] good; loss from deficient rainfall is calulated at one-third. Preparations for *rabi* sowings proceeding. Prices rising; common rice 30, and wheat 19 seers per rupee.
Sambalpur (Aug. 18th)	2·84	More rain wanted towards the west, where rice on high lands is suffering. Prospects fair. Health good. Prices rising; common rice 40 seers per rupee.
		General Remarks.—More rain wanted for rice which has suffered considerably. Prospects are still favourable. Cholera abating, though severe in some places. Prices rising.
British Burma—(Aug. 22nd)		
Akyab ...	9·39	Total rainfall up to date 136·71. 12 deaths from cholera in town, 19 in district. 160 deaths of cattle in three townships, elsewhere health of plough cattle good. Sowing progressing. Prospects of crops good.
Rangoon ...	5·72	Total rainfall up to date 55·36. One fatal case of small-pox, otherwise public health good. Price of paddy form Rs. 85 to Rs. 89 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	2·64	Total rainfall up to date 60·19. One death from cholera in town, otherwise public health good. 54 deaths of cattle in two townships. Ploughing and planting out progressing.
Prome ...	1·49	Total rainfall up to date 30·04. Public health good. 56 deaths of cattle in three townships. Ploughing and sowing progressing; seedlings and plants in good condition.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	9·56	Total rainfall up to date 112·85. Public health in Moulmein district good. 106 deaths of cattle in Wagaroo township. Transplanting progressing. Crops healthy in Moulmein town and transplanting progressing. Health of cattle good. Nurseries good. Supply of seedlings for transplanting fair.
Toungoo ...	6·28	Total rainfall up to date 58·31. Public health good. Ploughing continues; sowing and transplanting progressing. Health of plough cattle good. Average prices of paddy Rs. 65 per 100 baskets.
Sandoway ...	8·27	Total rainfall up to date 150·08. Public health good. About three-fourths of culturable area ploughed and about one-third sown and transplanted.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing progressing. Ploughing wages from 60 to 100 baskets of paddy per man. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to Rs. 105 per 100 baskets.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Pegu ...	3·80	Total rainfall up to date 82·45. Public health good. Slight cattle-disease in Hlegu. Sowing and transplanting continue. Season at present favourable. Prices of paddy from Rs. 90 to Rs. 95 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy ...	2·10	Total rainfall up to date 68·59. Public health good. 22 deaths of cattle in two townships; health of plough cattle good in all other townships except Gyobingouk and Minhla townships, where slight disease prevails. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting in progress. Want of rain complained of in Tapun and parts of Gyobingouk. Price of paddy from Rs. 92 to 105 per 100 baskets.
Thonegwa ...	3·53	Total rainfall up to date 51·78. Public health good. 20 deaths of cattle in two townships; health of cattle good in all other parts of the district. Transplanting of seedlings progressing, but retarded in some parts by insufficiency of rain. Wages for transplanting Re. 1, or one basket of paddy per man per day. Crops generally good all over the district.
Henzada ...	2·18	Total rainfall up to date 52·82. Public health and health of cattle good. About 90 per cent. ploughed; about 80 per cent. transplanted. Supply of seedlings and general appearance of young plants good in all townships except Kyangin.
Thayetmyo ...	1·13	Total rainfall up to date 22·65. Public health good. 30 deaths of cattle in Myaydet sub-division. Ploughing nearly completed; transplanting about two-thirds done. Crops most promising, but more rain wanted especially in Mindone.
Shwaygyin ...	3·31	Total rainfall up to date 96·36. Public health fair. 32 deaths of cattle in two townships. Ploughing nearly completed; sowing transplanting progressing. Prices of paddy Rs. 72 per [illegible] baskets.
Tavoy ...	7·53	Total rainfall up to date 132·81. Public health and health of cattle good. General appearance of the plants good. The damaged crops are being replaced.
		General Remarks.—Except some deaths from cholera in Akyab town and district, public health of province is satisfactory. A few deaths of cattle in Akyab, Tharawaddy, Prome, Bassein, Thonegwa, Amherst, and Shwaygyin districts, elsewhere cattle healthy. Rainfall for week fair, but total to date for season considerably below last year in several districts. Agricultural operations elsewhere advancing.
Assam—(Aug. 22nd)		
Gauhati ...	·29	Weather sultry and hot. Transplanting of *sali* crop in progress. More rain wanted. Public health fair. Cattle-disease reported from the interior.
Sylhet ...	6·50	State and prospects of crops good. Public health generally good; small-pox lingers.
Cachar ...	4·01	Weather warm. Transplanting of *sali* crop and reaping of *dumahi* and *murali* crops progressing. Common rice 17¾ seers per rupee. Eight deaths from small-pox reported from Sadr.
Dibrugarh ...	3·61	Weather hot. Transplanting *sali dhan* in progress. Public health good.
Mysore and Coorg—(Aug. 22nd)		
Bangalore ...	3·12	Crops in good condition; prospects fair. Health good. Rice 11, *ragi* 29½, and gram 30 seers per rupee.
Mysore ...	1·38	Crops and public health good. Rice 12½, *ragi* 29½, and gram 33 seers per rupee.
Mercara ...	6·20	Another burst of the monsoon has taken place which was much needed in South Coorg for planting coffee, and transplanting of rice. *Ragi* crop in Nanjarajapatna taluk has suffered from the excessive rain of last month. Prices of food-grains falling. Public health good.
		General Remarks.—Rain general in all districts from 2·0 to 6·0. Sowing operations active. Public health good. Prospects favourable. Prices rule easy.
Berar & Hyderabad—(Aug. 22nd)		
Amraoti ...	·66	Weather cloudy. *Kharif* crops in good condition. Wheat 16 seers and *juri* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	.....	Crops in good condition. Rain wanted.
Hyderabad (Aug. 21st)	Average 2·68; no rain in one taluk.	Total rainfall from 1st January 16·50; rainfall proved beneficial to standing crops. *Abi* sowings recommenced; crops stand undamaged Tanks in two talukas received considerable quantity of water. General health fair. Weather cloudy. Prices of wheat 15½, coarse rice 10¾, white *juari* 24, yellow *juari* 27, and *tur* 24 seers per current sicca rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central India States— (Aug. 22nd)		
Indore ...	1·45	The fall of rain has removed immediate apprehensions. Cholera continues in Indore city, otherwise health good. Prices steady. Agricultural prospects fair; *makka* has suffered much from the long break in rain; *juari*, a later crop, has received less damage.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	*Nil*	Rain urgently needed. Cholera in Gwalior and a few cases in the fortress.
Sutna ...	1·0	More rain required. Prospects improved. Break in rain apparently ended.
Sehore ...	*Nil*	Rain much needed for crops. Health good.
Neemuch ...	1·3	More rain urgently needed. Public health good.
Goona ...	·38	Health good. Wheat 20 seers per rupee.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	No rain during the week, with exception of slight showers on 20th.	No cases of cholera in city or cantonments. Crops much in need of rain.
Nowgong ...	*Nil*	*Kharif* crops withering in consequence of hot dry winds. Prices rising. Health fair.
Manpur ...	Slight showers	Sky cloudy, giving prospects of more rain which is much needed Health good. Pices stationary.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Aug. 22nd)	No rain	Clear week with occasional clouds. Rain much wanted. Prices rising.
Sirohi („ 19th)	No rain	Fair amount of water in wells. Health good. Prospects of crops bad; owing to want of rain the crops have dried up so that at least half the crop is irretrievably lost. Hot bright weather with high winds. No sign of rain, much needed.
Marwar („ 17th)	No rain	Tanks all empty; water obtained from wells with great difficulty. Health good. Crops withering. Week almost clear with no clouds. No sign of rain. Great anxiety prevails. If the break continues the prospects will be alarming. Prices rising. Winds south-west.
Meywar („ 19th)	·20	Tanks and wells fair. Health good. Crop prospects bad. Barometer falling. [illegible]
Harowti („ 18th)	Kotah, ·25; elsewhere *Nil*.	Rain urgently required to save crops. [illegible] Health good, save 21 cholera deaths at Kotah.
Jhallawar („ 17th)	No rain	Anxiety about *kharif* continues. Wells and tanks low. Health good.
Ajmere („ 21st)	No rain	High cool winds continue. Heat increased, but clouds appear sometimes. Grass withering. Crops suffering from want of rain. Cholera continues.
Jeypore („ „)	Drops on 20th	Westerly wind. Crop prospects causing much anxiety. Cholera continues. Prices rising.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Aug. 21st)	No rain	Prospects bad. Crops withering. Tanks and wells failing. Prices fluctuating. Cholera decreasing.

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Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

[TELEGRAPH.]

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1883.

CLASS OF MESSAGES.	ROUTE. WEST. VIA TEHERAN. No.	VIA TEHERAN. Indian Value.	VIA TURKEY. No.	VIA TURKEY. Indian Value.	PERSIAN GULF. No.	PERSIAN GULF. Indian Value.	VIA SUEZ. No.	VIA SUEZ. Indian Value.	EAST. VIA AMUR. No.	VIA AMUR. Indian Value.	VIA MADRAS. No.	VIA MADRAS. Indian Value.	VIA RANGOON. No.	VIA RANGOON. Indian Value.	NATIVE BURMA. No.	NATIVE BURMA. Indian Value.	VIA CEYLON. No.	VIA CEYLON. Indian Value.	TOTAL. No.	TOTAL. Indian Value.
INDIAN.																				
Sent	3,613	₹ a. 16,381 14	86	₹ a. 244 7	23	₹ a. 74 3	3,802	₹ a. 18,305 1	2	₹ a. 3 10	735	₹ a. 6,833 15	158	₹ a. 539 5	353	₹ a. 497 5	1,886	₹ a. 3,536 6	10,656	₹ a. 46,416 2
Received	2,280	11,644 4	132	485 5	28	99 12	4,026	14,441 11	23	54 4	770	2,189 13	127	304 14	...	...	1,780	3,470 2	9,166	32,680 1
TOTAL	5,893	27,026 2	218	729 12	51	173 15	7,828	32,746 12	25	57 14	1,505	9,023 12	283	934 3	353	497 5	3,666	7,006 8	19,822	79,096 3
TRANSIT.																				
From East to West—																				
Recd. Vid Madras	295	2,167 14	6	19 14	6	11 10	4,374	17,090 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,681	19,289 7
Recd. „ Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Recd. „ Lahgha	1	3 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3 2
Recd. „ Ceylon	27	111 5	...	...	...	...	447	1,233 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	474	1,344 8
From West to East—																				
Sent. Vid Madras	1,085	5,147 3	124	342 12	4	13 14	2,878	10,985 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,091	16,489 10
Sent. „ Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sent. „ Lahgha	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sent. „ Ceylon	97	374 6	5	21 3	...	...	215	799 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	317	1,195 1
From West to West—																				
Recd. Vid Bombay	...	...	...	...	6	13 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	13 4
Sent. Vid Bombay	1	3 6	2	7 14	2	4 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	15 12
From East to East—																				
Recd. Vid Madras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47	173 7	47	173 7
Recd. „ Ceylon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	250 8	8	24 11	...	...	...	...	73	275 3
TOTAL	1,506	7,807 4	137	391 11	18	43 4	7,914	30,108 9	...	...	65	250 8	8	24 11	...	...	47	173 7	9,095	38,799 6
GRAND TOTAL																			29,517	1,17,895 9

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC WITH INDIA BY THE INDO-EUROPEAN AND RED SEA ROUTES FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1883.

ROUTE.	NUMBER OF MESSAGES BY EACH ROUTE (EXCLUSIVE OF TRANSIT). To India.	From India.	TOTAL.	PERCENTAGE OF NUMBER. To India.	From India.	TOTAL.
INDO-EUROPEAN { *Vid* Teheran	2,280	3,613	5,893	35·26	48·02	42·12
INDO-EUROPEAN { „ Turkey	132	86	218	2·04	1·14	1·56
INDO-EUROPEAN { Persian Gulf *vid* Karachi	28	23	51	0·43	0·31	0·37
RED SEA *Vid* Suez	4,026	3,802	7,828	62·27	50·53	55·95
TOTAL	6,466	7,524	13,990	100·00	100·00	100·00

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JULY 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1482, 1483, 1488, 1489, 1490 AND 1491 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 25th AUGUST 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice. Best sort.			Rice. Common.			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nugiee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.
		S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
Madras.	Bellary (*Revised*)	16 5	16 5	14 6	...	...	...	11 13	12 5	12 5	13 0	13 8	13 8	37 2	41 3	33 0	28 3	30 2	24 6	35 14	36 14	27 3	33 10	34 11	28 0	94 13	94 13	97 3	15 13	15 13	15 3	15 8	15 8	14 13
Bombay.	Bombay	10 0	10 7	10 9	21 13	22 14	16 5	7 12	7 15	7 8	13 1	12 13	10 13	17 0	18 8	20 0	13 9	14 4	15 15	12 2	12 6	18 0	15 1	15 4	15 15	58 3	59 9	61 7	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 6
	Ahmedabad	12 0	12 0	13 8	19 8	19 8	...	7 0	7 8	7 0	12 0	12 8	8 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	15 0	15 8	16 8	...	...	...	14 8	14 8	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	16 8	16 8	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0
	Kaira	11 7	11 7	13 5	22 13	21 5	20 0	10 0	9 11	10 0	13 5	13 5	16 0	17 12	16 0	20 0	14 8	13 15	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	22 14	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0
	Surat	11 8	11 8	12 8	12 5	12 5	7 11	7 8	7 8	8 3	8 7	8 7	8 12	19 1	19 1	15 9	14 1	14 1	14 14	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9
	Broach	12 4½	12 4½	12 5	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 6½	11 7	11 7	12 9	16 0	16 0	15 4	13 14	13 14	13 10	...	...	...	13 14	13 14	16 0	106 0	106 0	106 0	15 9	15 9	15 4	14 8½	14 8½	15 4
	Tanna (Salsette)	9 12	9 12	9 12	8 2	8 2	8 3	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 10	18 10	18 10	15 0	15 0	15 0	25 11	25 11	25 11	13 4	13 4	14 15	71 1	71 1	71 1	14 5	14 5	14 5	13 4	13 4	12 12	13 4	13 4	12 12
	Colába (Alibág)	8 8	9 0	10 0	...	...	...	7 8	8 0	7 0	12 8	12 8	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	14 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 8	15 0	12 0	13 0	14 8	11 0
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	14 0	14 0	14 2	...	...	...	7 10	7 10	7 4	10 13	9 15	10 15	16 14	16 0	23 13	14 4	14 4	18 14½	...	...	...	15 2	15 2	17 1	140 0	140 0	140 0	15 0	15 0	14 2	14 14	14 14	14 0
	Násik	14 4	14 4	15 8	...	...	...	7 7	7 7	7 7	13 6	13 6	12 0	22 6	22 6	... 15	5 15	5 19	6 20	11 20	11 30	0 17	0 17	0 18	0 128	0 128	0 128	0 15	8 15	8 14	8 15	5 15	5 14	4
	Ahmednagar	13 14	14 1	13 12	...	...	...	9 6	9 6	9 7	11 13	13 12	12 5	22 6	22 1	31 5	17 8	17 7	24 1	...	...	...	18 6	18 8	19 12	79 12	79 12	91 5	13 9	14 1	14 9	13 7	13 13	14 7
	Poona	12 10	12 10	12 10	9 4	9 4	...	9 13	9 13	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 4	20 11	19 9	23 15	16 2	16 2	18 6	15 6	15 6	...	16 2	16 2	17 4	68 0	68 0	68 0	13 10	13 10	13 1	13 6	13 6	12 13
	Sholápur	15 6	14 8	12 11	...	...	...	11 7	10 6	10 11	12 6	11 5	11 8	29 5	28 7	35 6	23 14	22 0	24 13	...	...	...	21 0	20 1	18 11	75 0	64 0	80 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 4	12 8
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	19 8	19 8	19 0	15 8	15 8	14 8	6 12	6 12	6 8	10 12	10 12	12 9	29 0	27 8	35 0	27 5	25 0	31 0	...	...	...	18 8	18 8	14 0	100 0	100 0	130 0	10 0	10 0	11 3	9 8	9 8	11 0
	Satara	12 6	12 1	12 1	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	9 11	11 7	11 7	11 7	18 10	18 10	26 10	16 13	16 13	22 0	...	...	...	17 8	16 14	15 10	116 8	116 8	110 15	12 6	12 6	12 6	11 10	11 10	11 10
	Belgaum	16 8	16 8	19 0	14 8	14 0	13 0	10 15	10 8	9 8	11 7	11 0	10 0	17 7	15 11	27 0	18 0	18 0	24 0	19 0	19 0	35 0	15 8	15 8	13 0	65 0	65 0	75 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0
	Dharwar (Hubli)	23 0	23 0	23 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	13 0	24 0	23 0	26 0	25 0	26 0	23 0	28 0	33 0	28 0	17 0	18 0	11 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	8 12	8 12	8 12	8 0	8 0	8 0
	Ratnágiri	9 4	9 14	10 9	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	7 13	13 7	13 7	12 11	...	...	18 3	13 8	13 8	14 11	18 13	18 13	21 2	14 11	14 11	14 0	120 0	150 0	120 0	13 2	13 2	11 13	12 15	12 15	11 10
	Kanara (Karwar)	9 0	10 6	9 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 0	11 10	11 8	16 0	16 8	16 0	...	...	...	18 0	16 8	21 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	213 5	213 5	213 5	11 8	12 0	11 8	11 0	11 8	10 8
	Pánch Mahális (Godhra)	11 6	11 6	11 6	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	11 6	15 0	15 0	15 0	22 13	22 13	22 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	26 10	26 10	23 0	22 13	22 13	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4
	Aden	7 0	7 0	8 0	...	...	...	6 3	6 3	6 3	7 0	7 0	7 0	12 7	12 7	11 3	11 3	11 3	9 5	...	...	...	9 5	9 5	9 5	65 5	65 5	65 5	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	32 0
	Asirgarh	13 12	13 9	13 12	...	...	...	12 10	12 10	11 1	14 10	14 7	11 12	17 13	18 0	22 14	17 12	17 12	9 24	0	...	...	18 8	18 8	2 19	8 160	0 160	0 160	0 11	13 11	10 12	0 11	13 11	10 12
	Baroda	9 14	9 10	10 4½	14 0	14 0	14 10½	8 12	8 3	9 2	11 1	11 11	11 6	15 12	15 3	16 7	13 6	13 6	14 10½	18 1	18 1	...	14 14	15 3	17 10	80 0	...	82 4	14 15	14 15	14 11½	14 0	14 0	14 10½
	Diza	14 0	13 8	13 13	...	...	...	6 14	6 14	6 6	9 0	9 0	8 11	16 0	17 0	17 8	16 8	16 8	16 0	...	...	...	16 8	16 8	17 0	137 8	137 8	137 8	12 8	12 8	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 0
	Nimach	17 8	17 4	15 0	23 0	21 0	18 0	9 0	9 0	8 12	10 0	10 0	10 0	21 12	22 0	19 8	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	20 8	20 8	18 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	11 0
	Nasirabad	17 0½	16 13	16 2½	24 0½	23 9½	22 12½	6 0	6 0	6 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	20 12½	22 8	23 3½	17 8	17 8	16 2½	...	...	...	26 1	25 15	22 10	80 0	80 0	81 9	16 2	16 2	16 6½	15 8	15 8	16 0
	Rájkot	14 6	13 14	13 2	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	9 0	9 0	11 0	17 14	17 6	14 15	14 10	14 2	13 7	...	...	...	16 2	16 0	16 14	70 0	70 0	73 8	60 0	60 0	55 0	47 8	50 0	48 8
Bombay.	Amráoti	16 0	15 8	16 0	10 0	10 0	8 11	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	26 0	25 0	26 0	16 0	14 0	18 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	20 0	64 0	60 0	64 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8
	Akola	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	10 0	23 0	23 0	30 0	21 0	21 0	24 0	8 0	8 0	7 8	18 0	18 0	22 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0
	Ellichpur	15 0	15 0	14 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	8 0	8 0	6 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	23 0	22 0	20 0	22 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0
	Buldana	19 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	26 0	26 0	32 0	24 0	23 0	28 0	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 0
	Wún	18 0	18 0	13 8	...	...	...	8 8	8 0	7 0	12 0	13 0	10 0	29 4	29 4	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	18 0	20 0	300 0	300 0	300 0	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	8 0
	Basim	21 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 4	14 0	14 0	11 0	28 0	26 0	34 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	20 0	26 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 8	10 8	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0
Mysore.	Bangalore	11 3	11 3	10 15	12 12	12 13	12 12	10 2	9 13	9 11	11 0	11 0	11 2	21 10	21 7	23 6	...	...	...	29 11	30 13	25 13	30 2	29 15	29 2	84 0	84 0	96 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 12	12 12	12 12
	Kolar	...	...	...	10 10	11 2	10 6	12 14	12 14	12 14	15 3	15 3	15 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 2	37 2	29 5	31 15	31 15	30 13	172 6	172 6	172 6	13 8	13 8	12 7	13 3	13 3	12 2
	Túmkúr	14 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	13 8	13 8	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	40 0	39 0	32 0	34 0	34 0	37 0	340 0	340 0	340 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8
	Mysore	11 0	10 8	11 0	...	...	...	10 4	10 8	11 0	11 12	12 12	11 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	20 0	33 0	32 0	30 0	75 0	75 0	72 0	8 12	8 8	8 8	8 8	8 8	8 4
	Shimoga	14 11	14 11	11 9	14 11	14 11	13 10	14 11	11 11	9 10	8 16	13 16	13 13	10 37	13 35	11 26	4 ...	...	...	36 12	34 11	30 7	31 8	29 6	29 6	480 0	480 0	480 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 8	9 7	10 0
	Kadur	14 0	14 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	25 0	30 0	30 0	23 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 0
Raj-pootana.	Bikaneer	11 0	11 1	12 0	...	...	...	3 8	3 8	3 1	6 4	5 12	6 8	...	...	...	18 6	19 6	17 10	...	...	...	19 8	19 8	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8
	Dholpur	17 3	17 1	17 5	25 5	24 13	23 15	10 2	10 2	10 2	11 4	11 4	12 6	21 15	23 6	21 8	21 12	21 1	20 6	...	...	...	24 7	23 14	22 9	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	12 15	12 10	12 10	12 2
Central India.	Indore	14 2	13 11	14 1	...	...	...	9 3	9 3	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	17 12	17 7	20 0	18 7	17 2	20 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	19 9	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 6
	Gwalior	15 15	15 15	15 11	22 14	23 5	21 0	7 7	7 5	7 5	9 2	9 2	9 11	22 13	23 1	20 1	18 12	18 12	18 4	...	...	...	21 15	21 15	19 9	127 12	127 12	91 4	...	...	...	11 7	11 7	11 7
	Goona	24 0	23 8	21 0	20 0	20 0	17 0	10 0	10 0	9 12	11 0	10 8	10 0	33 0	32 0	26 0	20 0	20 0	17 0	...	...	...	32 0	31 8	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	23 11	24 0	21 0	40 0	40 0	32 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	17 11	18 0	18 0	40 12	38 12	32 0	29 0	30 2	24 0	...	...	...	34 15	36 5	30 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 2	10 4	12 5	10 6	9 10	11 10

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXX OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 5th August 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 4th August 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 5th August 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 4th August 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
11th Aug. 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	1,16,794	679	207	74,284	359	13,80,685	442	15,54,451	417	1,73,766	...
4th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	74,117	135	547	84,727	155	18,66,758	188	21,51,471	219	2,84,713	...
4th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	1,49,993	222	749	2,01,320	269	34,12,328	278	43,15,376	325	9,33,048	...
4th ditto	Madras	861	1,38,302	161	861	1,10,388	128	25,61,274	164	23,49,187	152	...	2,12,087
4th ditto	South Indian	655	61,227	94	655	69,208	106	13,87,581	117	14,10,893	120	23,312	...
11th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,450	4,35,124	300	1,451	4,15,234	286	1,27,15,778	483	1,34,41,334	513	7,25,556	...
4th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	1,07,503	233	461	1,98,547	431	40,91,743	489	43,33,787	522	2,42,044	...
	TOTAL	4,822	10,83,060	225	4,931	11,53,708	234	2,74,16,147	314	2,95,86,499	338	21,70,352	...
	State.												
11th Aug. 1883	East Indian	1,507	8,26,370	548	1,509	8,53,785	566	1,58,44,676	580	1,85,61,093	683	27,16,417	...
4th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	2,707	82	56	4,230	76	70,621	130	1,06,242	111	35,621	...
11th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,119	41	27	1,333	49	24,235	50	28,763	59	4,533	...
4th ditto	Northern Bengal	230	35,276	153	237	35,000	146	6,50,804	154	7,22,947	173	72,143	...
11th ditto	Tirhoot	75	10,216	136	166	16,141	97	2,26,094	148	2,94,138	100	68,044	...
7th July 1883	Patna-Gya	57	6,515	114	...	(*a*)	...	(*b*)1,36,098	169	(*c*)1,25,215	157	...	10,883
11th Aug. 1883	Muttra-Hathras	29	1,673	58	29	1,814	63	39,385	75	43,760	84	4,375	...
11th ditto	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	4,831	56	87	5,875	68	1,19,632	76	1,16,027	74	...	3,605
11th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	545	45	12	595	49	17,910	83	18,826	87	916	...
11th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,117	1,36,756	122	1,117	2,32,990	209	38,00,362	188	44,12,172	219	6,11,810	...
11th ditto	Wardha Coal	45	1,441	32	45	9,201	204	1,91,116	234	2,61,767	323	70,651	...
11th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	3,145	32	149	8,290	56	2,33,038	131	5,73,084	214	3,40,046	...
11th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	17,761	110	161	18,120	113	5,25,218	180	5,09,430	176	...	15,788
11th ditto	Sindia	75	3,990	53	75	5,865	78	1,14,052	84	1,11,076	82	...	2,976
4th ditto	Punjab Northern	409	45,782	112	419	56,187	134	10,60,735	146	11,05,270	146	44,535	...
4th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	58,109	88	660	1,35,490	205	15,62,242	130	28,02,556	236	12,40,314	...
11th ditto	Muttra-Achnera	23	1,079	47	23	1,040	45	21,870	52	25,274	61	3,404	...
4th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	1,226	38	32	2,105	66	26,884	46	33,580	58	6,696	...
11th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	...	89	6,700	75	...	...	1,13,920	71	1,13,920	...
	TOTAL	3,170	3,32,171	105	3,386	5,40,976	160	88,20,296	153	1,14,04,052	185	25,83,756	...
	Native States.												
4th Aug. 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal	194	8,988	46	193	9,708	50	3,71,575	106	4,13,757	119	42,182	...
4th ditto	Nizam's	121	14,334	119	121	14,204	117	3,06,732	140	2,70,626	124	...	36,106
4th ditto	Mysore	86	4,788	56	86	4,020	47	1,01,052	65	91,527	59	...	10,525
11th ditto	Jodhpore	19	333	18	19	620	33	(*d*)594	5	12,910	38	12,316	...
	TOTAL	420	28,443	68	419	28,552	68	7,79,953	104	7,88,820	105	8,867	...
	GRAND TOTAL	9,919	22,70,044	229	10,245	25,77,021	252	5,28,61,072	294	6,03,40,464	328	74,79,392	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,60,48,529	145	2,90,88,178	158	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,68,12,543	149	3,12,52,286	170	44,39,743	...

(*a*) Return not received.
(*b*) Total receipts from 1st April to 8th July 1882.
(*c*) Total receipts from 1st April to 7th July 1883.
(*d*) Total receipts from 24th June to 5th August 1882.

SIMLA,
The 25th August 1883.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS IN BENGAL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1883-84.

Areas leased for Irrigation up to the end of June 1883.

Circle.	District.	Canal.	Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilized.	Approximate area of land irrigated during the year up to the end of the month.	Approximate area of land matured for irrigation up to the same date last year.	DETAILS OF AREAS LEASED. Annual leases. Five years. All crops.	Five years. Khurreef.	Khurreef.	Annual leases. Rubbee.	Sugar-cane.	Bhadoi.	Hot weather.	Total.	Grand Total.	Rainfall, 1883-84. During month.	Rainfall, 1883-84. Up to end of month.	Rainfall, 1882-83. During month.	Rainfall, 1882-83. Up to end of month.	Remarks.
			C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	
Orissa	Cuttack	Kendrapara	1,260	295·62	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	20	2,470	...	...	...	...	
		Gobri	37·82	20·73	20·73																
		Pattamoondee	1,043	20·73	20·73											356					
		High Level, Section I	675	155·63	...									4	6	888					
		Taldunda, 1st Reach	1,300	316	316									16	83	23					
		Ditto, 2nd do.	660	81	81										23	943					
		Machkund	660	155	155										...	129					
		High Level, Section II	727·16	99·99	99·99																
	Balasore	Ditto do. III	727·16	Not taken during the month.	...																
		Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	140	129	40	309	4,809						
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	54,237	...	4,500	...	708	22	...	730	124,563						
South-Western.	Midnapore		1,411	168	469											61,918					
	Howrah	Panchkoorah	522	11	7				139,823							10,136					
	Total		...	...	...	...	...	...	61,916	...	...	...	...	...	...	72,052					
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	10,136	...	...	...	...	...	...	85,535					
Sone	Shahabad	Western Main	4,343	815	123	816	278	4,028	...	...	66	361	66	...	4,475		6·34	11·47	2·80	3·20	Whole month discharging.—Utilized for nine days. Thirteen days discharging.—Utilized for six days.
		Behar	1,226	68	62	1,705	...	12,466	...	...	100	1,982	100	...	2,101						
		Arrah	1,660	448	336	35,765	26,943	61,863	...	...	202	1,994	202	4	6,943						
	Patna and Gya	Eastern Main	1,466	...	...	67	73	214	...	...	...	8	...	67	76		11·43	11·42	4·10	5·72	
		Patna					2,625	11,143									11·78	11·96	8·68	10·64	
		Total	...	...	...	37,853	28,818	80,712	...	366	...	3,485	368	7,139	11,466	92,176	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	47,585	675	3,425	10,759	154	...	14,889	62,474	...	...	...	...	
	Grand Total		...	...	...	...	...	80,712	76,562	368	140	3,954	154	7,179	11,775	166,039	...	...	...	...	
	Grand total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	256,943	675	4,133	10,811	...	...	15,619	275,562	...	...	...	...	

C. W. ODLING,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
P. W. Department.

The 13th August 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF RABI OR KHARIF IN THE PUNJAB FOR 1883-84 UP TO 30th JUNE 1883.

CANAL DIVISION.	WATER DISTRIBUTED DURING JUNE 1883. Depth in Canal at Regulating Gauges. Full supply.	Actual throughout.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Estimated full supply.	Actual average throughout.	NAVIGATION RETURN CANAL. Principal items of Traffic. Up.	Down.	LAND IRRIGATED (APPROXIMATE). Zila.	Acres.	RAINFALL. Average.	During month.	CHIEF CROPS (APPROXIMATE). Name.	Area in acres.	REMARKS.
BARI DOAB CANAL. 1st Division	4·9	4·51	3,073·60	996·59	...	...	Gurdáspur	12,397	2·77	1·0	Cotton	20,919	On the Bari Doab Canal there is a decrease of 4,395 acres as compared with last year, which is mainly due to the occurrence of rain in May 1883. It is probable that some of the crops sown on the rain-fall will yet require water before being harvested.
2nd Division, Main Branch, Lower	4·6	3·9		926·00	...	...	Amritsar	29,097	3·3	...	Rice	6,535	
2nd do., Lahore Branch	3·35	3·3		713·00	...	...	Lahore	37,072	1·5	0·3	Sugarcane	9,159	
Passed out of Escapes	...	...	...	221·00	...	...	...	...	...	...	Others	41,953	
TOTAL BÁRI DOÁB CANAL	...	...	3,073·60	2,856·59	...	...	...	78,566	...	...	...	78,566	
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	3,073·60	2,947·73	...	...	...	82,961	...	...	...	82,961	
WESTERN JUMNA CANAL. Karnál Division	4·33	4·79	2,546	480	...	546,703 kurlies, 3,11,156, &c.; 12,000 maunds fire wood; and 34,631 cubic feet wood.	Umballa	335	4·50	2·58	Cotton	49,362	On the Western Jumna Canal the operations during the month show a decrease, as compared with the corresponding month of last year, of 6,595 acres, which is due to the large decrease in the cultivation of sugarcane amounting to 12,238 acres as compared with last year.
Delhi do.	5·70	5·72		818	...		Karnál	14,585	3·58	2·32	Rice	2,599	
Hánsi do.	9·00	8·68		1,190	...		Delhi	22,370	2·60	4·30	Sugarcane	34,897	
Nos. Bulls Head	8·80	8·80		337	...		Rohtak	25,742	2·25	1·40	Others	19,237	
Passed out of Escapes	...	...	...	89	...		Hissár	25,173	1·90	0·70	...	...	
							Jhind	17,442	3·00	...	...	...	
							Bikaner	268	...	...	...	...	
							Kalsia State	80	...	...	...	...	
TOTAL WESTERN JUMNA CANAL	...	...	2,546	2,914	...	546,703	...	106,095	...	...	...	106,095	
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	2,546	2,706	...	189,748	...	112,680	...	...	...	112,680	
INUNDATION CANALS. Upper Sutlej Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lahore	1,106	...	...	Detail not obtainable for want of establishment.	...	On the Inundation Canals there is a decrease of 169,560 acres as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, which is wholly due to the low state of the rivers during the early part of the season.
Lower Sutlej and Chenab Division	...	...	...	...	...		Montgomery	3,060	...	...		...	
Indus Canals	...	...	...	...	...		Mooltan	133,915	0·42	...		...	
Muzaffargarh Canals	...	...	...	...	...		Dera Ghází Khan	54,792	0·83	0·60		...	
							Muzaffargarh	82,920	...	...		...	
TOTAL INUNDATION CANALS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	275,793	...	...	...	275,793	
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	445,353	...	...	...	445,353	
PERENNIAL CANALS, GRAND TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	184,661	...	...	...	184,661	
Do. corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	195,641	...	...	...	195,641	

J. E. CATTON,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., Punjab, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 28th AUGUST 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The favourable change in the weather noticed last week has been maintained during the one under report. A fresh burst of the monsoon on the Western Ghats has brought good and opportune rain to the districts of the Konkan, Deccan, and Southern Mahratta Country. Parts of these tracts, however, continue in need of rain, and in Guzerat, where the fall was very slight, it is urgently needed. In Sind, according to latest reports, the river is 6 feet below last year's level, and the crops have suffered from scarcity of water. From Bombay the monsoon has extended to the Berars, Hyderabad, and Central India. In the former prospects are excellent, in the latter very much improved, and all cause for immediate anxiety is removed in most of the States. Rajputana is still for the most part without rain, and in many States much anxiety is felt as to crops and fodder.

In the Madras Presidency the weather continues favourable, although in Madura, Tanjore, and Coimbatore the unirrigated crops need more rain.

In British Burma the generally insufficient rainfall compared with the past year is beginning to affect the rice crop in the midland districts, but elsewhere prospects are good. Rain is also wanted in the Gauhati district of Assam. In the Cachar district lying to the south-east of Gauhati a heavy fall has again caused considerable damage. In Bengal the rainfall of the week has been generally good, and though more is required in places, prospects are good. In a few localities floods have done some damage. Good rain in the Central Provinces has greatly benefited the standing crops, which now offer hopes of a fair yield. Rice, though much retarded by the long break, is expected to return only a quarter below the average outturn if favourable weather continues. More rain is wanted in the Saugor, Damoh, and Jubbulpore districts. In North-Western Provinces and Oudh the rainfall of the week though fairly general has been insufficient and unequal. The eastern as well as the western districts are now in need of rain, and the *kharif* crops are being irrigated where possible. Rain continues to hold off in the Punjab, and the crops on unirrigated lands in the south-eastern districts are reported to be rapidly failing. The supply of grass and fodder is also running short.

Agricultural operations remain unchanged. Ploughing and sowing are nearly completed in Burma, and transplanting is well advanced. Rice and jute are being reaped in Bengal, and rice in Assam. Early *kharif* grains are coming into the market in Northern India. Harvesting is going on in Madras. Locusts are still reported from the Deccan.

Cholera is generally on the decrease, but would appear to be severe at present in Nagpur. Fever is spreading, and small-pox is reported in several districts. Cattle-disease in mild form continues generally prevalent.

Prices are for the most part stationary, except in Rajputana where they are rising.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Aug. 29th)		
Bellary ...	1·88 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops generally good. Agricultural operations in progress.
Kurnool ...	2·76 (average of nine stations).	Standing crops thriving. Cattle-disease in six taluks.
Ganjam ...	3·49 (average of seventeen stations).	Standing crops, red gram, gingelly, and sugarcane thriving. One death from cholera in Berhampore; fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease slight.
Kistna ...	1·45 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops generally good. Small-pox, guinea-worm, and cattle-disease slight.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	1·11 (average of ten stations).	Standing crops good where water available. Small-pox and cattle-disease slight in parts of three taluks.
Coimbatore ...	·36 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops suffering from want of sufficient rain and from insects in parts. Much dry land waste in one taluk. Harvest dry crops in parts, yield below average. Eleven deaths from cholera; fever in three taluks and small-pox in parts.
Tanjore ...	·89 (average of five stations).	Standing crops generally good, but one taluk wants rain. Thirty-two deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	.....	Standing crops fading, except in three taluks. Harvest paddy and dry crops in parts.
Malabar ...	4·14 (average of fourteen stations).	Harvesting continues in five taluks, elsewhere first crop in good condition. Four deaths from cholera in Palghat; small-pox slight in all taluks, fever in four taluks; cattle-disease slight in one taluk.
Travancore ...	·92	Harvest progressing. One death from small-pox; fever and dysentery prevail. *General Remarks*—No rain in Madura. General prospects good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—(Aug. 29th)		
Kurrachee ...	*Nil*	River very low at Kotri on 27th 13 feet against 19 feet on same date last year. Fever in five talukas. Cattle-disease in four talukas; some deaths among cows and buffaloes at Sakro and Mirpur Botoro. Wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 28 and 36, in Sehwan 32 and 40, in Tatta 28, 28 and 36, and in Shahbandar 20, 36 and 40 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	.....	River has fallen 3 feet 3 inches since last week and was 6 feet lower on 27th than on same date last year. Crops reported to have suffered. from want of water throughout the district. Days hot, nights cool Small-pox in eight, fever in three, cattle-disease in four talukas. Wheat 24, *bajri* 35, *juari* 44, red rice 26, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	.....	Rain urgently wanted throughout the district. Crops withering. Cholera in the city, 24 cases, 20 deaths; slight fever in Viramgaum. Cattle-disease in Parantej abating. *Bajri* 24⅓ and wheat 21¼ lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	·46	Total rainfall 32·68. Crops withering for want of rain. Public health generally fair; cholera in mild form continues in Pantan and Sidhpur in Kadi division and in the city of Baroda; outbreak of the epedimic reported during the week in Petland and Charanda mahals of the Baroda division; gradually disappearing from Naosari and Moha mahals of Naosari division. *Bajri* 22½ to 24¼ and rice 21 and 22 lbs. per current sicca rupee.
Surat ...	·26	Total rainfall 38·33. Slight improvement in crops. Fever in Jalalpur; cholera in Surat, 2 cases fatal and in Bulsar 16 cases, 10 deaths. *Juari* 37 and *nagli* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	Good rain throughout the district.	Crops thriving. *Kharif* sowing still continues. Locusts in all talukas doing no particular damage at present. Cholera subsiding, 62 attacks, 34 deaths; small-pox in the Niphad taluka. *Bajri* 28, wheat 28½, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Rain daily; heavy on 27th; total of week 5·89.	Total rainfall to date 61·54, being 4·33 above average. Abnormal temperature 1° to 4° cool. Vapour in air excessive on 28th. Abnormal wind south-easterly and strong on 25th and 26th. Barometer low.
Poona ...	Opportune rain throughout the district; maximum 5·10 at Indapur.	Cholera subsiding, 122 cases, fatal 45. *Bajri* 37 and *juari* 46 lbs. per rupee, in Poona *bajri* 32 and *juari* 41 lbs.
Ahmednagar ...	Jamkhed, 7·73; Sheogaon, 7·38; Newasa, 6·95; Karjat, 6·57; Nagar, 6·53; Rahuri, 5·76; Shrigonda, 5·13; Kopergaon, 4·70; Parner, 3·63; Akola, 3·12; Sangamner, 4·11.	The rainfall has benefited the *kharif* crops. Cholera 110 attacks, 55 deaths. *Bajri*—maximum 49 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 33 lbs. in Akola; *juari*—maximum 60 lbs. per rupee in Newasa, minimum 36 lbs. in Akola.
Sholapur ...	8·0 ...	Total rainfall 23·65. Crops improved. *Juari* 59 and *bajri* 50 lbs. per rupee. Cholera 104 cases, 40 deaths.
Dharwar ...	Heavy rain; Navalgund, 4·98; in other eastern talukas between 2·21 at Nargund and ·66 at Ron; Hubli, 2·42; elsewhere slight.	More rain urgently required for rice in Hangal and Kod talukas and Mugud Petha. Standing crops promising. *Rabi* sowing in progress in some parts, and fields being prepared for it in others. Public health good. *Juari* 60 and rice 42 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara ...	Karwar, 8·27; Kumpta, 7·19; Sirsi, 2·57; Hallial, 3·32.	Total rainfall 112·30. Sugarcane, rice plants, pepper, and cardamoms flourishing. Sowing of *ragi, coolti*, &c., continues above ghat. Partial fever above ghat. Common rice in Karwar 12 seers per rupee, in district average 14¼ seers.
Rajkot ...	.....	General health fair. Weather hot. Rain much wanted. Crops withering. Cholera in Chabhadia and Dhoraji. *Bajri* 28 and *juari* 33 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Good and opportune rain in the Deccan, Konkan and greater part of Southern Mahratta Country, in parts of which and in most districts of Guzerat it is urgently wanted. River very low in Sind, and crops injured by want of rain. Locusts in Nasik, Khandesh, Ahmednagar, Tanna, Colaba, Ratnagiri. Cholera subsiding in the Deccan and prevalent in a mild form in Guzerat and Konkan; fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease in a few districts.
Bengal—(Aug. 29th)		
Chittagong ...	1·69	Weather hot with occasional rain. Harvesting of early rice proceeding with fair outturn; transplanting of late rice still in progress. Prices steady. Public health good.
Dacca ...	·94	*Roachia* paddy being sown; *aus* paddy and jute being cut. Prospects good.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	1·22	Prospects of both early and late crops satisfactory; transplanting of *amun* paddy still going on in some parts of district; *aus* paddy harvest has begun. Price of common rice stationary. Public health good. Rivers rising.
Moorshedabad ...	.....	No report received.
Rajshahye ...	1·08	*Aus* paddy and jute good. Much rain wanted for *amun* paddy. Fever prevalent in some villages.
Burdwan ...	·95	Transplanting continues. Prospects favourable. Fever prevalent.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—*contd.*		
Rungpore ...	3·21	Weather hot and cloudy. Prospects of crops good. Transplanting of rice in low lands nearly finished; harvesting of *aus* rice and jute going on. Cholera not entirely disappeared from Kaligunge; fever increasing in Sadr sub-division. Public health generally good.
Bhagalpur ...	·33	Prospects of crops generally good. Some damage has been done by floods in north of district.
Purneah ...	1·37	Prospects of crops good. Farming operations normal. Health normal. Rivers in flood.
Patna ...	·81	Prospects of *bhadoi* crops seem favourable; transplanting of paddy continues. Cholera still reported from the interior.
Durbhunga ...	·10	Inundation has abated. Crops generally doing well, except where damaged by inundation. Health good.
Hazaribagh ...	·10	Weather close. Sky cloudy. Crops seem to suffer for want of rain in several parts of district. Prices rising rapidly. General health good.
Cuttack ...	2·45	Weather hot and cloudy. *Beali* rice flowering; *sarad* rice being transplanted. Price of rice stationary. Public health good. Scattered cases of cholera in the interior.
		General Remarks.—Rain in varying quantities fell all over the province during the week, but the rain was generally very moderate. In some places more rain is still needed. Transplanting operations are still being carried on in almost all districts. *Aus* rice and jute are being harvested generally with fair results. The inundation in the Patna division is subsiding, it has caused considerable damage to the crops particularly in Mozufferpore. Some damage has been also done by floods in Bhagalpur, Midnapore, and Howrah. Fever has appeared in some districts and seems to be gradually spreading, but the public health is still generally good.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Aug. 28th)	Benares, ·6; Chandausi, ·3.	Drought beginning to be felt. Health of men and condition of cattle good. Prices steady.
Allahabad („ 29th	Meja, 1·0 on 24th August; ·50 in four tahsils on 21st and 26th August. ...	Easterly wind with clouds and heat, but little rain. Some good done, especially in Bara, but more rain wanted. Rice crops suffering from drought. Irrigation going on. Cholera rather less. Prices rising slightly; barley risen 2 seers 7 chittacks.
Gorakhpur („ 27th)		Weather close and sultry. Rain wanted. Early *kharif* crops beginning to come into market. Prices steady. Prospects still excellent. Slight cattle-disease.
Jhansi („ „)	Fall on the 20th and 21st August.	The rain has been most beneficial to the crops; more rain wanted, especially in pargana Jhansi, where the soil is *rakar*. Prices falling. Health good. Rain has begun to fall again.
Agra („ 28th)	·1 to 3·3 in four parganas on the 22nd August, but not general or nearly sufficient.	*Bajri* and maize much injured; cotton, indigo, and other rain crops considerably injured. Well irrigation continues. Fever in three and sporadic cholera in five parganas. Prices stationary.
Bareilly („ „)	Rain general throughout district, varying from 1·0 to 2·0.	Prices have slightly fallen. Crops promising well, but rice requires more rain. Cattle-disease diminishing. Fever still prevalent.
Meerut („ „)	Meerut, ·8; Mowana, 1·3; Hapur, ·5; no rain in rest of district; no rain since 21st August.	Wind easterly. Rain urgently needed. Irrigated crops doing well; unirrigated suffering greatly from want of rain. Slight cholera in tahsil Ghaziabad, otherwise health good. Prices fell after the fall of rain, but are again rising.
Kumaun („ „)	Rain partial and insufficient.	Crops suffering. General health good. No change in prices. Cattle-disease continues.
Lucknow („ „)	Lucknow, 1·6; Maliahabad, 1·0; no rain at Mohaulalganj.	Weather dry. *Mash* and *moth* are being sown. Rain sadly wanted for the drying rice and *kodo* crops. Condition of people good and of cattle normal. Prices steady.
Partabgarh („ „)	Sadr, ·4; Kunda, ·5; Patti, 1·0.	More rain is urgently required. Rice, *kakun*, and other crops being irrigated from tanks. General health good. Prices stationary.
Sitapur („ „)	Sidhouli, ·8; Misrik, 1·4 on the 21st August; Biswan, 2·1 on 24th August.	Prices slightly better than last week.
Fyzabad („ „)	Sadr, 4·4; Akbarpur, 4·3; Bikapur, 1·9; Tanda, 1·2.	Prospects good. More rain required at Tanda tahsil. Health good. Cattle-disease in parts of three tahsils.
Rae Bareli (Aug. 27th)	Sadr, ·4	Wind changed to east; clouds gather and disperse. Crops suffering from drought. Rain much wanted. General health good. Prices rising.
Cawnpore („ 28th)	.....	Weather cloudy and wind easterly. Rain much wanted. Crops commencing to suffer from drought. Health fair, but there is some cholera in Sheorajpur, Akbarpur, and the Sadr tahsil; and fever is still prevalent. Cattle-disease in two parganas, but not virulent. Prices slightly risen.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—*contd.*		
Farukhabad (Aug. 28th)	Good rain in the early part of the week.	Bright sunshine after rain; sky now again overcast. Condition of the crops greatly improved. Condition of the people and cattle generally good. *General Remarks.*—A little rain has fallen in all districts, but more is much wanted, and the effects of the drought are beginning to be felt even in Benares. There was heavy rain in Fyzabad, and the weather prospects there and in Gorakhpur are good, but in most other districts the crops have suffered. Irrigation is being extensively resorted to where possible. Prices have changed little, their tendency during the week was generally to fall. Cholera continues to decrease.
Punjab—(Aug. 29th)		
Delhi ...	.....	Crops withering for want of rain. Anxiety felt regarding fodder supplies. Health good. Prices falling, but still high.
Hissar ...	.....	Rain urgently wanted. Crops withering. Health good. Prices fluctuating.
Umballa ...	No rain	Crops have suffered from continued drought. Health fair. Prices stationary.
Jullundur ...	·20	Health good. Crops suffering. Dearth of fodder causing alarm. Prices risnig.
Amritsar ...	.....	Health good. Crops withering. Prices falling, but still high.
Sialkot ...	Daska, 1·50; Pasem, 1·0; Zattarwal, ·30.	More rain is urgently wanted all over the district. Health good. Prices stationary.
Ferozepore ...	.....	Rain urgently wanted. Health good. Crop prospects bad. Prices falling, but still high.
Lahore ...	.....	Rain wanted. Health good. Crops suffering. Prospects bad. Prices high.
Rawalpindi ...	·65	Fever in Kahuta and Pindi Gheb tahsils, health elsewhere good. *Kharif* prospects in Rawalpindi and Futtehgunj tahsils average, elsewhere good. Prices rising.
Mooltan ...	.....	Health good. Crops want rain. Prices stationary.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	.....	Rain much wanted. Health good. Crop prospects fair. Prices slightly falling.
Peshawar ...	.....	Rain much wanted. Fever continues and is spreading. Prices falling. *General Remarks.*—Slight rain in a few districts, but more is much needed throughout the province, especially in the south-east where the crops of unirrigated lands are rapidly failing, and anxiety is being felt regarding the supply of grass and fodder. The fall in prices of food-grains in some of the districts is due to the demand for export to Bombay having ceased.
Central Provinces—(Aug. 29th)		
Nagpur ...	5·60	Rain has been most beneficial to *kharif* crops. Cholera 426 deaths. Prices of rice and pulse rising, of wheat falling.
Jubbulpore ...	1·97	Weather cloudy and hot. More rain wanted to improve the crops. Prices stationary. Health good.
Saugor (Aug. 28th)	1·41	Rain still deficient, especially in Banda where crops are backward and drooping. Prices steady. Health good.
Seoni ...	3·21	Weather cloudy and oppressive. Crops reviving, but more rain wanted. Five deaths from cholera. Wheat 21⅓ and rice 13⅓ seers per rupee.
Hoshangabad ...	7·44	Weather cloudy and rainy. Prospects improving. Recent rain has greatly benefited the crops. Health good. Wheat 15 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	5·92	Weather cloudy and rainy. Prospects good. Fourteen deaths from cholera. Prices rising.
Raipur ...	4·11	Prospects much improved; two-thirds of the *kharif* crops will be saved if rain continues. Cholera declining at Rajnandgaon. Prices falling.
Sambalpur (Aug. 25th)	·62	Rain much wanted in west and north and also for transplanting rice which is suffering on high lands. Land for *rabi* sowings not breaking up well. Health good. Common rice 40¼ seers per rupee. *General Remarks.*—Good rain has fallen except in the Saugor, Damoh, and Jubbulpore districts where more is wanted, elsewhere the *kharif* crops have greatly benefited and with the exception of rice, offer hopes of an average harvest. The rice crop has suffered in the eastern and southern districts, and transplanting has been greatly delayed, but there has been heavy rain since in these districts, and if the weather continues favourable the rice crop should not fall short of a twelve-anna one.
British Burma—(Aug. 29th)		
Akyab ...	5·04	Total rainfall up to date 141·75. Four deaths from cholera in the jail, 9 in Rathaidoung township. Health of plough cattle good, except in two townships, where 92 cattle died. Ploughing completed; sowing nearly over; general appearance of young plants healthy.
Rangoon ...	1·85	Total rainfall up to date 57·21. One fatal case of cholera, otherwise public health good. Price of paddy from Rs. 88 to Rs. 91 per 100 baskets.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Bassein ...	4·59	Total rainfall up to date 65·38. Five deaths from cholera in town and 5 in Thigwin township, otherwise public health good. Fifty-six deaths of cattle in four townships. Ploughing and planting out progressing; about four-fifths ploughed.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	7·80	Total rainfall up to date 120·65. Public health and health of cattle in Moulmein town and district good. Transplanting progressing; about 95 per cent. transplanted. Crops healthy in Moulmein town. High water prevents much progress of ploughing, sowing, and transplanting. Nurseries good. Supply of seedlings for transplanting good.
Toungoo ...	1·97	Total rainfall up to date 60·28. Public health and health of plough cattle good. Ploughing continues; sowing and transplanting progressing. Average price of paddy Rs. 65 per 100 baskets.
Kyoukphyoo ...	For week ending 18th August, 11·68; for week ending 25th August, 2·92.	Total rainfall up to date 124·33. Public health good, except 2 deaths from cholera in the jail, and an outbreak of cholera in Kyoukphyoo township. Health of cattle good. Sowing almost completed.
Sandoway ...	4·01	Total rainfall up to date 154·09. Public health good. Ploughing completed; half cultivable area sown and transplanted.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing progressing. Ploughing wages from 60 to 100 baskets of paddy per man. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to Rs 100 per 100 baskets.
Pegu ...	3·71	Total rainfall up to date 86·18. Public health good. Slight cattle-disease in Hlegu, no deaths. Transplanting continues. Second flood in river, but not so high as first. Season up to date favourable. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 95 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy ...	4·40	Total rainfall up to date 72·99. Public health good. Thirty-eight deaths of cattle in three townships. Health of plough cattle good in all other townships, except in the Gyobingouk and Minhla townships, where slight disease prevails. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Want of rain complained of in Tapun. Price of paddy from Rs. 95 to Rs. 105 per 100 baskets.
Prome ...	·50	Total rainfall up to date 30·54. Thirty-five deaths from small-pox in Mahatlawan and Poungde, otherwise public health good. Health of cattle good. 1,25,500 acres ploughed; 1,12,500 acres planted. Rainfall has been scanty in several places and seedlings have died for want of sufficient rain and will have to be replanted. Price of paddy Rs. 84 per 100 baskets.
Thonegwa ...	7·56	Total rainfall up to date 59·34. Five deaths from cholera in one township, otherwise public health good. One death of cattle in Donabya township; health of plough cattle in all other parts of the district good. Ploughing completed in Pyapone township; progressing in all the other townships. Transplanting progressing. Supply of seedlings and general appearance of young plants good, except in Shwayloung township, where a little damage has been caused by rats. Transplanting wages Re. 1 on one basket of paddy per day. General prospects good. Price of paddy from Rs. 80 to Rs. 85 per 100 baskets.
Henzada ...	6·14	Total rainfall up to date 58·96. One death from small-pox in Henzada township, otherwise public health good. Health of cattle good. About 95 per cent. ploughed, about 85 per cent. transplanted. Seedlings and plants in good condition in all townships, except Kyangin, where the former owing to want of early rain are very scarce.
Thayetmyo ...	1·35	Total rainfall up to date 23·96. Public health good. Thirty-six deaths of cattle in Thamboola and 15 in Allanmyo. Ploughing nearly finished; transplanting about three-fourths done. Crops in some places promising, but more rain wanted.
Shwaygyin ...	4·89	Total rainfall up to date 101·25. Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing almost completed; sowing and transplanting about two-thirds finished. Ploughing wages per acre per buffaloe 9 baskets, per bullock 5 baskets, per man 6½. Sowing and transplanting wages 1⅓ baskets if specially hired; one basket a day or 60 baskets for the whole sowing. Supply of seedlings adequate. Price of paddy Rs. 70 per 100 baskets.
Tavoy ...	19·15	Total rainfall up to date 151·96. Public health of cattle good. General appearance of the plants good. Total area damaged not known as the cultivators are busy replanting.
Mergui ...	2·80 for week ending 11th August and 6·21 for week ending 18th August.	Total rainfall up to date 94·95. Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing and sowing progressing. Price of paddy Rs. 75 per 100 baskets. *General Remarks.*—Rainfall all over the province insufficient compared with last year. Complaints of insufficient rain in the tract where the Henzada, Tharrawaddy, and Prome districts meet in the north part of the Irrawaddy delta. Public health good, with the exception of slight cholera in Arakan, and small-pox in parts of Prome. Health of cattle keeps good. Ploughing and sowing almost finished; transplanting is well forward. Price of paddy keeps up.
Assam—(Aug. 29th)		
Gauhati ...	3·70	Weather seasonable. More rain urgently wanted. Transplanting of *sali* crop retarded for want of rain. Public health fair. Cattle-disease still prevalent in the interior.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Assam—*contd.*		
Sylhet ...	3·50	State and prospects of crops favourable. Small-pox reported from Karimganj and Sunaganj
Cachar ...	9·54; heavy rains at night.	Rivers Barak, Sonai, and Katakhal are full to brink. Low-lying lands and several paddy fields are flooded over. Damage done to the standing crops in several villages of Katigora and Hailakandi. Apprehension of further damage all over the district. Reaping of *dumahi* and *murali* progressing.
Dibrugarh ...	2·86	Weather seasonable. Transplanting *sali dhan* in progress. Cattle-disease reported. Public health good.
Mysore and Coorg—(Aug. 29th)		
Bangalore ...	·26	Crops, season, prospects, and public health good.
Mysore ...	Rainfall general throughout the district.	Crops and prospects favourably reported on.
Mercara ...	14·86	Monsoon continues. Crops doing well. Prices show tendency to fall considerably, consequent on prospects of good crop in Mysore. More labour needed on coffee estates.
Berar & Hyderabad—(Aug. 29th)		*General Remarks.*—Rainfall from ·80 to 2·50 in districts. *Ragi*, horse gram, and other dry crops have been sown. Public health good and prospects favourable. Prices continue easy.
Amraoti ...	4·33	Crops much benefited by recent rain. Wheat 16 seers and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	3·0	*Kharif* crops in excellent condition.
Hyderabad ...	Average 4·34.	Total rainfall from 1st January 20·84. Rain has benefited standing crops. Rain in one taluka being very heavy, nearly 14·0 in three days, has damaged *kharif* crops to some extent. Weather cloudy. Prices—wheat 16, coarse rice 10¼, white *juari* 23¾, yellow *juari* 28¼, and *tur* 24 seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States—(Aug. 28th)		
Indore ...	1·35	Prospects have much improved and the apprehensions which existed regarding scarcity are for the present in this part of Malwa almost at an end. The grass crop is reviving and the *kharif* promises a moderate yield. Cholera still lingers in Indore city, otherwise health good. Prices are steady.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	1·92	More rain still wanted. Cholera decreasing. Prospects generally improved.
Sutna ...	1·91	Weather hot. Health good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	1·85	Crops somewhat improving. Health good.
Goona ...	·33	More rain much wanted. Wheat 21 seers 4 chittacks per rupee.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	1·88	Crops much improved throughout Western Malwa. Health good.
Sehore ...	3·25	Prospects of crops favourable. Health good.
Nowgong ...	·88	Crops sufferring for want of rain. Health fair. Prices rising.
Manpur ...	2·0	Prospects of crops improving.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Aug. 29th)	.....	Rains still hold off and greatly needed. Clouds gathering latterly. Prices rising.
Sirohi („ 26th)	No rain	Some tanks dry. Fair amount of water in wells. Health good. Grain getting dearer every day.
Marwar („ 24th)	No rain	Weather clear. Tanks at Jodhpore all empty. Water obtained with great difficulty and at high price. Health good. Crops drying up. No signs of immediate rains which are greatly needed. Greater anxiety prevails, and prospects are more gloomy. Prices rising rapidly.
Meywar („ 26th)	No rain	Tanks and wells fair. Health very good. Crop prospects bad, suffering much from want of rain. A few slight showers felt in districts.
Harowti („ 25th)	Deolee, ·04; Tonk, ·43; Kotah, ·34.	Some very slight local showers. Unirrigated crops still grass largely lost. Prices rising. Heat very great. Seven deaths from cholera in Kotah and a few cases in Sangode; elsewhere health good.
Jhallawar („ 24th)	·53	Sultry days. Prospects improved.
Ajmere („ 28th)	No rain	Intense heat. Clouds constantly gather, but disperse again. *Kharif* crops in *baranes* lands lost, elsewhere much stunted. Fodder failing. Cattle-disease and cholera continue.
(„ „)	Rain on 21st, [illegible] on 22nd heavy shower.	
[illegible]	.....	ceived.
(Aug. [illegible])	.....	...ng day by day. Tanks and wells failing. Prices slight-... Wheat 15, barley 20, *bajri* 18, *juari* 21, and gram 20 ... Cholera increasing in one tahsil, otherwise decrease.

ABSTRACT SHOWING THE RESULT OF EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL 1883.

No. I.—As to age and sex.

	Fiji.				Natal.				Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Grand Total.
Under 2 years	7	5	12	44·84 to every 100 men.	17	11	28	41·03 to every 100 men.	24	16	40
From 2 to 10 years	29	13	42		47	48	95		76	61	137
„ 10 „ 20 „	114	47	161		97	49	146		211	96	307
„ 20 „ 30 „	213	81	294		176	74	250		389	155	544
„ 30 „ 40 „	2	6	8		39	22	61		41	28	69
„ 40 „ 50 „	...	1	1		18	3	21		18	4	22
Above 50	...	...	...		...	...	...		...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	365	153	518		394	207	601		759	360	1,119

No. II.—As to places whence emigrants come to Calcutta for embarkation.

	Fiji.			Natal.			Total.		
Orissa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Western Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Central ditto	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1
Eastern ditto	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Behar	10	1	11	50	15	65	60	16	76
North-Western Provinces	177	74	251	87	35	122	264	109	373
Oudh	123	59	182	33	11	44	156	70	226
Central India	6	6	12	9	6	15	15	12	27
Punjab	40	7	47	5	1	6	45	8	53
Nepal	7	6	13	8	3	11	15	9	24
Mixed, Madras & Bombay, &c.	2	...	2	202	135	337	204	135	339
GRAND TOTAL ...	365	153	518	394	207	601	759	360	1,119

No. III.—As to caste and religion.

	Fiji.			Natal.			Total.		
Brahmins, high caste	108	44	152	53	23	76	161	67	228
Agriculturist ... ... } Hindoos ...	111	30	141	51	13	64	162	43	205
Artisans ... ... }	18	9	27	11	4	15	29	13	42
Low castes ... ... }	81	33	114	256	156	412	337	189	526
Musulmans	47	37	84	23	11	34	70	48	118
Christians	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	365	153	518	394	207	601	759	360	1,119

Memo.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
1. Hindoos ...	689	312	1,001
2. Musulmans	70	48	118
3. Christians	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	[illegible]	360	1,119

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

STEPS FOR GIVING GREATER PUBLICITY TO LEGISLATIVE MEASURES.

Nos. 1104-14, dated the 23rd August, 1883.

From—D. FITZPATRICK, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department,

To—Local Governments and Administrations.

I AM now directed to acknowledge your letter No. , dated and to communicate the further decision of the Government of India on certain points referred to in my Circular Nos. 1030-40, dated 9th September, 1882, on the subject of giving greater publicity to legislative measures.

2. The matters now remaining to be settled are the following:—

(a) the publication of Bills, Statements of Objects and Reasons, Reports of Select Committees and Debates of the Legislative Council in a cheap form for sale and gratuitous distribution (paragraph 4 of the Circular);

(b) the question of the steps to be taken for the sale and gratuitous distribution of such papers, both English and Vernacular copies (paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Circular);

(c) the question of improving the translations of Bills and connected documents (paragraph 5 of the Circular);

(d) the question of preparing an Urdu translation in the Legislative Department for general use (paragraph 6 of the Circular).

3. In regard to the first of these points, it has been arranged to print English copies of Bills and the other documents referred to on cheap paper and to sell them at the rate of three pies per sheet (of four pages) or part of a sheet, except in the case of papers running over sixty-four pages, which will be sold at a special price calculated at a rate decreasing as the number of pages increases. The whole set of papers published in a year will also be made available to annual subscribers at the rate of two rupees, exclusive of postage. The papers will be printed by the Superintendent of Government Printing at Calcutta or Simla, as the case may be, and the price of each collection to casual purchasers will be noted on each copy issued.

The copies printed in this style will also be supplied for gratuitous distribution.

4. In regard to the second point, namely, the steps to be taken for the sale and gratuitous distribution of these papers, I am to say that the Governor General in Council, having considered the proposals made by the several Local Governments, is content to leave the matter in their hands. I am accordingly to enquire what number of copies of the English reprints mentioned in paragraph 3 of this letter [the Governor in Council / His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor / you] would wish to be ordinarily supplied for sale and for gratuitous distribution (otherwise than to the Press) in [the Madras Presidency / the Bombay Presidency / Bengal / the North-Western Provinces and Oudh / the Panjáb / the Central Provinces / British Burma / Ajmer-Merwára / Coorg / Assam / the Haidarábád Assigned Districts]. The distribution to the Press will be made by the Legislative Department of the Government of India, a copy of each collection of papers being forwarded to the Editor of each of the newspapers mentioned in the list forwarded with your letter No. , dated

In connection with the supply of these papers to the Press, it is observed that in several of the communications received from local officers and private persons it is proposed that they should be supplied gratuitously to all newspapers without distinction. This, however, is, the Governor General in Council considers, more than could reasonably be expected. Ephemeral papers are constantly being started and dropping off, which can have no claim to consideration, and it will be sufficient to supply copies of legislative papers to those papers only which have succeeded in thoroughly establishing themselves. It will, of course, be understood that the selection of newspapers for this purpose will be in no sense a matter of favour, but will turn entirely on the importance of the paper. These principles should be borne in mind in making any additions to the list of newspapers in [the Madras Presidency / the Bombay Presidency / Bengal / the North-Western Provinces and Oudh / the Panjáb / the Central Provinces / British Burma / Coorg / Assam] which are to be supplied with copies.

5. Cheap reprints of translations of Bills and connected documents prepared under the orders of Local Governments should be published, made available for sale to the public and distributed gratuitously in the same manner as the English reprints above referred to, and I am to request that the necessary steps may be taken for effecting this in [the Madras Presidency / the Bombay Presidency / Bengal / the North-Western Provinces and Oudh / the Panjáb / the Central Provinces / British Burma / Coorg / Assam / the Haidarábád Assigned Districts].

6. In connection with the supply of legislative papers to the public, I am directed to observe that it appears from some of the replies to the Circular of the 9th September, 1882, that local officers sometimes neglect to ascertain the opinions of the people around them on Bills which are forwarded to them. It was assumed in paragraph 2 of the previous Circular that District and Sub-divisional Officers were fully aware of the importance attached to this matter; and I am now to request that measures may be taken to prevent its falling out of sight.

7. I am also to state for [the information of the Governor in Council / the information of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor / your information] that, in order to give wide notice of the time at which Bills circulated for opinion will be taken up again, the date, where one is fixed, will be printed on the Bill itself.

8. In regard to the third point noted above, namely, the question of improving the translations of Bills and connected documents, it would appear from the replies to the Circular that while, as might be expected in the case of a matter of such difficulty, errors are from time to time detected and there is room for improvement, the work is on the whole fairly well done. The chief charge made against the translators is the unnecessary use by them of foreign words. It is probable that this charge is, to a certain extent, well-founded; but, on the other hand, it must be remembered that it is, as observed in several of the opinions received, impossible to translate such papers as Bills into certain Indian languages without borrowing to some extent from Persian, Arabic or Sanskrit,—sometimes the translator will find it best even to use English words and phrases. If such words and phrases are used in moderation and with discrimination, they would probably not be found to present any difficulty to persons sufficiently educated to read Bills, especially as the words and phrases so used must constantly recur and must accordingly soon become familiar, if they have not already become familiar, to persons of that class. The difficulty might, however, be effectually removed by appending an explanatory footnote, as has been suggested in some of the opinions received, whenever an unfamiliar word or phrase is unavoidably used in a

translation; and I am to request that this plan may be adopted in the translations prepared under the orders of the Governor in Council / the orders of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor / your orders.

It must not, however, be supposed that the Governor General in Council underrates the importance of having all translations expressed in the plainest and simplest language possible; and I am to request that you will impress upon the translators in the necessity of avoiding the use of words and phrases, whether Persian, Arabic, Sanskrit or English, which are not in common use among the class of people for whose benefit the translations are made.

9. It is suggested in some of the opinions received that the translations of Bills should be free and not literal, but this suggestion does not commend itself to the Governor General in Council. No doubt, Bills of a technical character may not be easily understood by the majority even of educated people, and it is for this reason that it was proposed to make Statements of Objects and Reasons fuller and more explanatory; but it is indispensable that whatever is published as a translation (as distinguished from an explanation) of a Bill should be a close and literal translation. A person attempting to make a free translation of a Bill would have to contend not only with the difficulties of a translator but also with those of a draftsman, and would run a very great risk of producing something differing from the original Bill in material particulars; therefore, translations of Bills should be exact, but translations of Statements of Objects and Reasons, Reports of Select Committees and Debates in Council might with advantage be made free.

10. The translations prepared in this Department, to be presently referred to, will be made on the principles set forth in paragraphs 8 and 9 above.

11. As regards the local translating staffs, their organization must be left to the Local Governments; but the Governor General in Council would observe that the translators should, when possible, be persons possessing a fair knowledge of law.

12. In regard to the fourth point noted in paragraph 2 above, I am to inform you that it has been determined, in accordance with the opinions received in answer to the former Circular, to issue Urdu or Hindustaní translations of Bills, Statements of Objects and Reasons, Reports of Select Committees and Debates from this Department for general use, and also transliterated versions of the same in the Nágrí character. Arrangements will be set on foot for preparing these translations and transliterations, and, meanwhile, I am to enquire how many copies of each would ordinarily be required for distribution and sale in

- the Madrás Presidency
- the Bombay Presidency
- Bengal
- the North-Western Provinces and Oudh
- the Panjáb
- the Central Provinces
- British Burma
- Coorg
- Assam
- the Haidarábád Assigned Districts

These translations and transliterations are, it is hardly necessary to say, not intended to supersede translations into any other languages which the Local Governments may find it necessary to issue.

13. Translations of Acts into Urdu or Hindustaní, and transliterated versions in the Nágrí character, will also be prepared in this Department, and I am to enquire how many copies of these would be required in

- the Madras Presidency
- the Bombay Presidency
- Bengal
- the North-Western Provinces and Oudh
- the Panjáb
- the Central Provinces
- British Burma
- Ajmer-Merwára
- Coorg
- Assam
- the Haidarábád Assigned Districts

D. FITZPATRICK,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House, Simla, on Wednesday, the 29th August, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding.*
His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjáb, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble D. G. Barkley.

BURMA PILOTS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the grant of licenses to Pilots in British Burma and for investigating certain charges against them be taken into consideration. He said:—

"My Lord, this Bill was introduced by the Hon'ble Mr. Whitley Stokes in March, 1882, and its main object, as explained by him, was to give the force of law to certain rules which, under existing circumstances, rest exclusively on the authority of executive orders. It provided amongst other things for constituting special Courts of Inquiry for investigating charges against pilots. When I took up the Bill I felt some doubts whether it had been drawn up on the most appropriate lines, and it appeared to me that some of its provisions were open to rather serious objections. For instance, every charge against a pilot, however simple, had to be sent for trial before an elaborately and expensively constituted Court, including in its number assessors drawn from various classes of experts. Now, a Court of this kind is probably necessary for investigating charges which cannot be properly investigated except by persons possessing nautical or other special knowledge; but it would be absurd to summon such a Court to consider whether a pilot was or was not drunk on some particular day. Again, the Bill covered part of the same ground which is occupied by the Merchant Shipping Acts, and Hon'ble Members will remember that our latest Merchant Shipping Act, which is modelled on a corresponding English Statute, provides for the holding of Courts of Inquiry to investigate shipping casualties, and enables those Courts to try charges preferred against masters, mates and engineers in connection with those casualties. The result would be that there might be sitting at the same time, at the same place, and in connection with the same casualty two separate and independent Courts—one constituted under the Merchant Shipping Act and investigating a charge against the master of a ship, and the other constituted under the Pilots Act and investigating a charge against the pilot. Furthermore, I could not help thinking that there was a good deal of force in the objection taken by two of the Burma pilots, namely, that the power given to the Chief Commissioner to dismiss, suspend and degrade was somewhat arbitrary. I agree with them in thinking that this power should not be exercised without some preliminary judicial investigation.

Lastly it seemed to me worth while enquiring whether any special Act was necessary for British Burma at all, and whether the objects of the Bill might not appropriately be met by an amendment of the Merchant Shipping Act and the Indian Ports Act. We referred this point to the maritime Local Governments, but were satisfied with the replies we received that whilst special legislation is necessary for British Burma, yet the difficulty which this Bill was intended to meet is either not likely to arise in other parts of British India, or could be more suitably dealt with under the provisions of the existing law.

"This being so, we determined to proceed with the Bill, but to amend it in such a way as to remove the objections to which I have referred. The Bill in its present form provides for the grant of licenses to pilots, and enables the Chief Commissioner to make rules regulating the conduct of licensed pilots. Breach of these rules is punishable by fine or imprisonment. If a pilot is charged with an offence of a simple nature, such as drunkenness or refusing to take charge of a ship, he goes before the ordinary Courts, and is dealt with in the ordinary way. If, on the other hand, the Local Government thinks there are grounds for charging him with incompetency or misconduct in the discharge of his duties as pilot, or with a breach of rules made under the Act, and that the charge is of such a nature that it cannot be satisfactorily investigated by an ordinary Court, provision is made for summoning a special Court with duly qualified assessors. This Court will submit their report to the Chief Commissioner, but will have no power to punish. With the Chief Commissioner will rest the power to dismiss, suspend or degrade a pilot in the following cases :—

(*a*) if the pilot is found guilty by a Criminal Court of any offence punishable under the rules, or of any other offence the commission of which, in the opinion of the Chief Commissioner, shows him to be unfit to discharge the duties of a pilot; or

(*b*) if, on considering a report submitted by a special Court under the Act, or transmitted under section 17 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1883, the Chief Commissioner is of opinion that the pilot is incompetent or has been guilty of any misconduct in the discharge of his duty as pilot or of any breach of a rule under section 5.

"It will be observed that it is proposed to empower the Chief Commissioner to act on the report of an investigation into a casualty under the Merchant Shipping Act, and I presume that, in cases in which the pilot has been allowed a full opportunity of defending himself in the course of such an investigation, the Chief Commissioner would act on that report and dispense with any special enquiry under the Pilots Act. But the Committee have suggested, and I should like to emphasise the suggestion, that, for the purpose of facilitating this proceeding and preventing the necessity for summoning two Courts, it is very desirable to amend the Merchant Shipping Act in such a way as to enable a Court of Inquiry held under that Act to formulate and try a charge against a pilot in somewhat the same manner as it can formulate and try a charge against a master, mate or engineer."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

UNIVERSITIES DEGREES BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Bill to authorize the Universities of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay to grant certain honorary degrees be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Messrs. Gibbs and Reynolds and the Mover. He said :—

"This Bill was introduced by the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbs last February, and the only order passed upon it was that it should be published in the official Gazettes. On looking into the papers, however, it seemed desirable to make one or two minor amendments which could be more conveniently dealt with by a Select Committee. But no action will be taken upon the Bill until Mr. Gibbs returns."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

MÚLTÁN LAWS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved for leave to introduce a Bill to declare the law in force in certain lands which have been, or hereafter may be, ceded by the Baháwalpúr State for occupation by the Indus Valley State Railway. He said that, under an existing Act (Act X of 1880), the law in force in the Múltán District was declared to be in force in certain lands which had been before the passing of that Act ceded for the purpose of the Indus Valley State Railway and annexed to the Múltán District. Since the passing of the Act of 1880 certain other lands had been ceded for the same purpose and annexed to Múltán, and it was obvious that the Act could not apply to them. Under these circumstances, it was thought convenient to repeal the Act and re-enact it in a more general form, so as to declare the law which was to be in force in all lands either already ceded, or hereafter to be ceded, for the purposes of this Railway, and which had been or might be annexed to Múltán or any other district of the Panjáb.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

BENGAL TENANCY BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY moved that the Hon'ble Mr. Hunter be added to the Select Committee on the Bill to amend and consolidate certain enactments relating to the law of Landlord and Tenant within the territories under the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 5th September, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.

SIMLA;
The 31st August, 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

SANITARY MEASURES TO BE APPLIED TO SHIPS PROCEEDING FROM INDIA, INDO-CHINA, CEYLON, MALTA, AND CYPRUS ON THEIR ARRIVAL IN THE FRENCH PORTS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN, THE OCEAN, AND THE CHANNEL.

The following is published for general information :—

Dated Calcutta, the 15th July 1883.

From—MONSIEUR G. LEMAIRE, Consul-General for France at Calcutta,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs has informed me by telegraph that the following sanitary measures will, until the issue of new orders, be applied to ships coming from India, Indo-China, Ceylon, Malta, and Cyprus on their arrival in the French ports of the Mediterranean, the ocean, and the channel :—

1st.—In the French Mediterranean ports suspected vessels, *i.e.*, vessels coming from India, Indo-China, Ceylon, Malta, and Cyprus will be submitted to a quarantine of seven days, as far as crew and passengers are concerned. Disinfection and sanitary unloading of the ships are obligatory.

In case of established infection the quarantine will last ten days, and the disinfection will be carried out with the greatest severity.

2nd.—In the French ports on the ocean and in the channel the quarantine of observation will be applied to all vessels coming from India, Egypt, Malta, and Cyprus.

Any infected vessel will be submitted to a quarantine of seven days. Disinfection of the ships is in any case obligatory.

A. MACKENZIE,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Printed and Published for the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA *at the Govt. Central Branch Press, Simla.*

SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India.

Nº 36.} CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* GAZETTE OF INDIA *will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.*

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GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF FIN

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT

OF INDIA.

ANCE AND COMMERCE.

INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF AUGUST 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE

IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Madras.	Ganjam	10 5	10 5	7 6	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	17 13	17 14	17 14	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 8	32 3	35 3	33 5	33 5	26 10	215 13	215 13	215 13				13 1	13 13	13 13	Ganjam	Madras.
	Vizagapatam	9 8	9 8	10 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 0	11 14	11 5	11 5	21 10	24 13	...	22 13	22 13	22 13	22 3	22 3	25 5	33 14	32 13	23 6	83 10	87 8	93 5	14 10	14 10	15 3	14 0	14 0	14 0	Vizagapatam	
	Godavery	10 8	10 13	11 11	...	...	...	10 14	11 14	13 14	14 0	14 0	17 0	23 0	23 0	28 13	...	...	...	29 2	29 2	29 2	31 8	31 8	26 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	Godavery	
	Kistna	8 13	8 13	12 3	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 11	14 11	14 11	16 5	20 13	18 11	24 14	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	32 5	29 10	27 6	21 11	145 13	145 13	145 13	15 11	15 11	16 5	15 3	15 3	15 11	Kistna	
	Nellore	9 14	9 6	12 10	...	...	...	13 14	13 6	15 13	15 0	14 0	17 0	24 8	20 3	29 11	...	...	...	25 8	25 8	32 13	22 10	23 2	22 2	93 5	93 5	186 10	14 13	15 14	15 6	13 13	15 6	14 13	Nellore	
	Cuddapah	12 14	12 14	12 8	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	11 14	13 5	13 5	13 11	28 6	29 3	26 0	31 3	31 14	31 14	30 0	31 8	31 8	34 6	35 5	29 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	17 2	17 8	17 2	16 10	17 2	16 10	Cuddapah	
	Anantapur	13 6	13 6	13 6	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	12 13	12 5	12 5	15 2	30 14	30 14	30 14	30 2	30 2	18 13	31 0	31 0	31 0	33 10	33 10	29 2	94 13	94 13	97 3	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	Anantapur	
	Bellary	16 5	16 5	15 5	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	12 5	13 0	13 0	13 8	37 2	37 2	35 0	28 3	28 3	22 10	35 14	31 0	33 10	33 10	29 2	94 13	94 13	97 3	15 13	15 13	15 11	15 8	15 8	15 6	Bellary	
	Kurnool	12 2	12 2	12 6	...	...	...	10 10	10 10	10 10	11 6	11 6	11 6	35 10	35 10	31 8	31 3	31 3	28 3	...	...	29 10	30 0	30 0	26 3	182 11	182 11	190 8	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 6	14 6	14 6	Kurnool	
	Madras	11 5	11 10	9 13	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 5	15 2	15 2	15 2	22 5	22 5	23 0	23 13	23 13	25 0	24 11	24 11	28 0	25 5	25 5	24 10	85 0	85 0	81 6	16 14	16 14	16 11	16 8	16 8	16 3	Madras	
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 8	15 2	15 2	15 2	...	...	...	...	24 2	...	26 0	25 5	27 6	25 0	25 0	24 10	92 5	92 5	92 5	17 5	17 5	17 5	17 0	17 0	17 0	Chingleput	
	North Arcot	9 11	9 11	10 8	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 6	16 14	16 14	16 14	...	...	34 10	31 5	29 11	28 2	32 8	32 8	33 5	28 10	28 10	24 10	140 0	140 0	140 0	15 6	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 5	North Arcot	
	South Arcot	9 6	10 14	9 0	...	...	...	13 14	14 13	15 11	14 14	14 14	16 3	...	...	...	28 8	25 6	28 8	29 6	26 3	30 3	25 10	25 10	30 3	201 11	201 11	201 11	19 5	18 0	19 5	18 6	17 8	18 14	South Arcot	
	Tanjore	11 13	11 13	9 10	...	...	...	17 13	17 13	15 13	...	...	...	31 0	31 0	28 10	31 14	31 14	26 8	36 3	36 3	30 3	28 0	28 0	28 0	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 10	15 3	15 10	15 3	14 11	15 10	Tanjore	
	Trichinopoly	9 10	9 10	8 8	...	...	...	15 13	15 13	14 0	16 11	16 11	14 8	30 13	36 6	26 10	30 8	27 14	24 2	34 2	34 2	28 13	30 13	30 13	30 13	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 13	17 13	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	Trichinopoly	
	Madura	12 8	11 11	11 5	...	...	...	16 0	16 6	15 2	16 14	16 14	15 10	38 14	38 14	31 10	32 5	32 5	30 14	38 11	40 5	33 5	35 10	35 10	34 11	170 2	170 2	170 2	17 5	17 5	16 13	16 13	16 13	16 6	Madura	
	Tinnevelly	10 10	9 14	8 0	...	...	...	16 5	15 14	15 6	16 13	16 6	15 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 2	37 14	27 5	70 0	70 0	81 10	18 11	18 11	18 11	18 5	18 5	16 5	Tinnevelly	
	Coimbatore	13 2	13 2	11 8	...	...	...	14 6	14 6	13 2	15 6	15 6	14 8	27 18	27 13	27 13	27 13	27 13	13 35	29 8	27 14	27 14	34 3	34 3	32 13	131 3	131 3	131 3	15 2	15 2	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 2	Coimbatore	
	Nilgiris	10 10	10 10	9 14	...	...	...	11 3	13 10	10 6	12 0	12 0	11 3	21 10	23 2	24 10	19 10	22 6	22 6	21 10	23 0	20 3	24 2	24 14	20 11	161 13	161 13	161 13	13 0	13 0	11 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Nilgiris	
	Salem	12 11	13 10	11 14	...	...	...	14 10	14 0	14 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	32 13	32 13	29 2	27 2	26 8	24 10	29 2	30 13	29 14	35 10	35 8	34 6	151 10	151 10	151 10	17 8	17 8	18 0	16 14	16 14	16 13	Salem	
	South Canara	7 11	8 10	8 10	...	...	...	9 11	10 8	9 8	12 8	12 8	11 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 8	17 10	19 6	21 3	21 3	20 3	109 5	111 13	116 6	18 6	14 13	11 5	17 3	13 13	10 8	South Canara	
	Malabar	8 10	8 10	7 3	...	...	...	15 0	15 6	13 13	15 13	16 10	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 14	18 3	21 14	26 14	26 14	25 3	121 8	121 8	121 8	14 6	14 6	13 8	13 8	13 8	12 10	Malabar	
Bombay.	Bombay	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...																Bombay	Bombay.
	Ahmedabad																																		Ahmedabad	
	Kaira																																		Kaira	
	Surat																																		Surat	
	Broach																																		Broach	
	Tanna (Salsette)																																		Tanna (Salsette)	
	Colába (Alibág)																																		Colába (Alibág)	
	Khandesh (Dhulia)																																		Khandesh (Dhulia)	
	Násik																																		Násik	
	Ahmednagar																																		Ahmednagar	
	Poona																																		Poona	
	Sholápur																																		Sholápur	
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)																																		Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	
	Satara																																		Satara	
	Belgaum																																		Belgaum	
	Dharwar (Hubli)																																		Dharwar (Hubli)	
	Ratnágiri																																		Ratnágiri	
	Kanara (Karwar)																																		Kanara (Karwar)	
	Pánch Mahals (Godhra)																																		Pánch Mahals (Godhra)	
	Aden																																		Aden	
	Asirgarh																																		Asirgarh	
	Baroda																																		Baroda	
	Disa																																		Disa	
	Nimach																																		Nimach	
	Nasirabad																																		Nasirabad	
	Rájkot																																		Rájkot	
	Upper Sindh Frontier	14 0	14 4	13 0	24 8	25 8	25 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	13 4	13 4	20 0	30 0	30 0	32 0	32 0	...	26 0	50 0	...	40 0	22 8	24 8	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 12½*	12 12½*	10 5*	12 8*	12 8*	10 0*	Upper Sindh Frontier	
	Karachi	13 1	13 8	12 5	22 0	23 0	21 8	9 8	9 4	9 8	15 0	16 0	18 0	21 8	22 0	22 0	18 0	19 0	18 4	11 0	10 7	11 0	17 0	18 8	17 0	100 0	100 0	105 0	16 0	16 0	17 13	16 0	16 0	17 0	Karachi	
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	18 0	18 0	14 0	24 0	27 0	26 0	12 0	13 0	13 0	17 0	19 0	16 0	26 0	28 0	30 0	24 0	25 0	20 4	20 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	20 0	12 0	320 0	320 0	480 0	14 0	14 8	14 0	14 0	14 8	14 0	Haidarabad (Nakur)	
	Shikarpur	12 0	14 2	12 8½	23 8	23 12	25 5	12 0	12 0	12 0	18 0	17 10	18 0	28 8	28 5	28 5	30 8	28 5	26 0	...	...	21 8	22 0	18 4	200 0	200 0	270 0	14 0	13 4	9 2	13 14	13 0	9 0	Shikarpur	
	Sukkur	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received				Sukkur	
	Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	13 0	13 5	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	13 4	...	...	...	19 0	16 4	19 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	160 0	14 13	13 11	11 5	14 13	13 11	11 5	Thar and Parkar (Umarkot)	
																													Prices per md. of 40 seers.								
																													R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.		
Bengal.	*Western Districts.*																																		*Western Districts.*	Bengal.
	Burdwan	15 0	16 8	13 0	21 0	20 0	32 8	17 4	17 4	23 4	22 12	22 12	25 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 8	20 4	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 0 8	3 0 8	2 15 0	12 10a	12 10	13 8	Burdwan	
	Bancoorah	14 8	14 12	13 8	16 0	16 0	15 0	19 0	19 0	20 0	24 8	25 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 12	17 12	18 0	240 0	280 0	240 0	3 3 6	3 3 6	3 3 0	12 0b	12 0	12 0	Bancoorah	
	Beerbhoom	15 0	15 0	13 0	...	...	...	16 8	16 8	18 0	21 0	21 0	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	19 8	160 0	160 0	170 0	3 7 0	3 8 3	3 10 0	11 4c	10 8	11 8	Beerbhoom	
	Midnapore	14 0	14 0	14 0	17 0	17 0	...	18 0	18 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	17 0	155 0	155 0	160 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 13 0	12 0d	12 0	13 8	Midnapore	
	Hooghly	13 0	13 0	15 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	16 0	15 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 -0	16 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 9e	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
	Howrah	13 4	13 4	13 4	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	16 0	17 8	17 8	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	16 4	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 0	13 8	13 0	Howrah	

a In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Culna 13-8 seers, Cutwa 11-8 seers, and Ranéegunge 13 seers.
b Retail prices of salt at Raipore 11 seers, at Onda 15 seers, at Sonamukhi 12 seers, and at Mejia, Bishenpore, Indas, and Kotulpore 13 seers.
c In the interior retail prices of salt range from 11 to 13-5 seers.

* In common use.
d In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Ghattal 14-4 seers and Contai 11 seers.
e In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Serampore 13 seers and Jehanabad 13-8 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF AUGUST 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicilliaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicilliaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Baira), *Penicilliaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
BENGAL—continued.	*Central Districts.*																															*Central Districts.*	BENGAL—continued.
	Calcutta	14 9	14 9	13 5	19 6	18 13	26 8	10 12	10 12	10 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	21 5	...	...	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	17 12	17 12	22 10	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	13 5	14 0	14 9	Calcutta	
	24-Pergunnahs	13 5	13 5	12 9	16 0	16 0	20 0	8 0	8 0	9 8	16 0	14 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 8	18 12	80 0	80 0	80 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	13 5*f*	13 5	13 5	24-Pergunnahs	
	Nuddea	14 8	14 8	14 8	...	...	...	15 4	15 4	16 0	17 4	17 4	19 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	22 15	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	11 10*g*	11 10½	11 10½	Nuddea	
	Khoolna	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	180 0	180 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	10 8*h*	10 8	11 0	Khoolna	
	Jessore	13 4	13 4	14 8	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	14 12	21 4	21 4	23 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	16 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	12 0*i*	11 0	12 0	Jessore	
	Moorshedabad	15 0	15 0	14 8	...	...	...	14 0	15 0	14 8	20 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	23 0	23 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 2 0	11 0*j*	11 0	12 0	Moorshedabad	
	Dinagepore	16 0	16 0	14 0	17 8	17 8	16 0	18 0	16 12	18 0	20 0	19 0	19 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	19 0	17 8	80 0	160 0	160 0	3 6 0	3 7 0	3 3 0	11 8*k*	11 8	12 0	Dinagepore	
	Rajshahye	15 4	16 8	13 8 to 15 0	33 0	30 0	32 0	14 0 to 16 0	12 0 to 15 0	12 0 to 17 4	18 0	17 4 to 18 0	18 0 to 21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 0	21 0	18 12 to 19 11	240 0	240 0	320 0	3 0 0	3 2 6	3 2 0	13 0*l*	12 0	12 12	Rajshahye	
	Rungpore	13 5	13 5	16 0	...	...	...	12 5	13 5	16 0	18 0	20 0	21 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 3	17 3	15 0	110 0	110 0	130 0	3 5 3	3 5 0	3 5 3	11 14*m*	11 14	11 8	Rungpore	
	Bogra	15 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 8	21 0	21 0	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	16 8	15 6	81 0	71 4	67 8	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 5 4	12 0	12 0	11 4	Bogra	
	Pubna	18 12	18 12	16 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 0	18 12	19 8	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 8	18 4	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 3 6	12 0*n*	12 0	12 0	Pubna	
	Darjeeling	8 0	8 0	11 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 0	128 0	128 0	160 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	8 0*o*	8 0	8 0	Darjeeling	
	Jalpáiguri	10 0	10 0	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	13 0	12 8	14 0	16 0	17 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	4 4 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	11 8*p*	11 8	11 0	Jalpáiguri	
	Eastern Districts.																															*Eastern Districts.*	
	Dacca	12 8	12 8	13 5	23 0	23 0	40 0	16 8	16 8	25 0	23 0	22 0	33 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 4	17 4	20 0	110 0	110 0	106 8	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 3 0	12 4*q*	12 4	12 4	Dacca	
	Furreedpore	21 0	20 0	22 0	30 0	30 0	30 8	18 0	16 0	23 0	20 0	18 0	24 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	16 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	...	3 5 0	3 7 0	2 15 0	12 0*r*	11 8	11 12	Furreedpore	
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	19 0	19 0	21 0	21 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	2 11 0	2 11 0	2 15 0	13 0*s*	13 0	13 0	Backergunge	
	Mymensingh	11 8	11 0	10 0	...	...	...	15 0	13 5	22 0	19 0	19 0	29 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	15 8	16 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 8 0	12 4*t*	12 4	11 12	Mymensingh	
	Chittagong	8 0	10 0	9 0	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	16 0	18 0	21 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 0	40 0	40 0	80 0	4 0 0	...	2 14 0	9 8*u*	10 0	13 0	Chittagong	
	Noakholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	26 0	22 0	22 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	3 6 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	10 0*v*	10 0	10 0	Noakholly	
	Tipperah	12 4	11 6	11 8	...	...	...	17 4	18 12	28 0	21 12	22 8	28 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	12 0*w*	12 0	12 4	Tipperah	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 4	12 4	18 5	13 4	13 4	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	320 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	3 4 0	6 4	6 0	10 9	Chittagong Hill Tracts	
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	22 0	20 0	20 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 6 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Hill Tipperah	
	Behar.																															*Behar.*	
	Patna	19 0	21 0	18 8	25 0	29 12	34 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 8	26 0	30 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	3 1 6	3 0 0	3 0 0	9 12	10 8	10 8	Patna	
	Gya	18 8	18 8	17 0	24 0	24 0	27 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	15 0	15 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	22 0	23 0	160 0	180 0	180 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 6	11 0*x*	11 0	11 8	Gya	
	Shahabad	15 0 to 16 0	16 8 to 17 0	15 0 to 17 0	26 0	25 0	23 0	10 0	11 0 to 11 8	16 0 to 18 0	15 0 to 16 0	15 0 to 16 0	19 0 to 16 0	...	...	...	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	26 0 to 27 0	27 0 to 28 0	25 8 to 26 0	100 0	120 0	120 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	12 8*y*	12 8	12 8	Shahabad	
	Durbhunga	15 8	16 0	15 0	28 0	33 0	12 8	13 0	14 8	16 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	32 8	35 0	22 8	22 8	22 8	160 0	160 0	140 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	10 0*y*1	10 0	11 0	Durbhunga	
	Mozufferpore	18 0	18 0	16 0	30 0	28 0	30 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	25 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 8 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	11 0*z*	11 0	12 4	Mozufferpore	
	Sarun	17 0	17 0	14 8	26 0	26 0	24 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	29 0	30 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	28 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	11 0*a*1	11 0	11 0	Sarun	
	Chumparun	19 0	19 0	18 0	32 0	32 0	31 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	17 0	17 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	28 0	25 0	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	11 8*z*2	11 8	11 0	Chumparun	
	Monghyr	19 10	18 9	15 12	26 4	27 14	31 8	13 10	13 15	16 13	15 3	16 0	18 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126 0	126 0	126 0	3 0 9	3 1 9	3 1 0	12 9*z*2*a*	12 9	12 2	Monghyr	
	Bhágulpur	16 6	16 6	13 14	30 4	24 0	31 9	15 2	15 2	17 11	17 10	17 10	18 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	151 8	126 8	151 8	3 0 6	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 15 11*b*	12 10*z*3	12 10	12 10	Bhágulpur	
	Purneah	17 0	18 0	14 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	20 0	18 0	17 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 11	22 11	25 4	151 8	126 8	151 8	3 0 6	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 15 11*b*	12 10*z*3	12 10	12 10	Purneah	
	Maldah	17 8	16 8	16 0	...	...	...	15 0	14 8	17 0	18 0	17 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 0 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	9 0*z*4	10 0	10 0	Maldah	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	12 0	14 0	13 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	17 0	23 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 8	22 8	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 3 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Sonthal Pergunnahs	
	Orissa.																					18 0	19 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 11 6	...	3 10 0	10 8	10 0	10 8		
	Cuttack	13 2	13 2	15 12	...	...	...	13 2	13 2	17 1	22 5*	21 0	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	*Orissa.*										*Orissa.*	
	Pooree	11 13	13 0	11 4	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	20 0	23 10	23 10	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 6	18 6	14 7	18 6	18 6	21 0	80 0	80 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	Cuttack	
	Balasore	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	22 0	28 0	28 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 4	17 1	17 8	90 0	90 0	120 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	14 0*z*5	14 0	13 4	Pooree	
																						...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Balasore	
																						14 0	14 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	140 0	4 2 0	4 6 0	3 2 0	9 3*z*6	8 0	13 0		
	CHOTA NAGPORE.																															CHOTA NAGPUR.	
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																															*South-Western Frontier Agency.*	
	Hazáribágh	15 0	14 0	12 0	20 0	20 0	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	15 8	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	30 0	30 0	18 0	18 0	17 8	240 0	240 0	200 0	3 8 6	3 13 0	3 10 0	10 0*z*7	10 0	10 0	Hazáribágh	
	Lohardugga	15 0	15 0	15 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	32 0	15 0	14 0	15 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	4 10 0	4 7 0	4 2 0	8 0	8 8	9 0	Lohardugga	
	Singbhoom	18 0	18 0	20 0	24 0	32 0	28 0	32 0	36 0	36 0	36 0	40 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	24 0	180 0	160 0	180 0	5 11 0	5 8 0	4 9 0	6	5 8	8 0	Singbhoom	
	Manbhoom	13 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	16 0	25 0	25 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	17 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	10 0*z*8	10 0	10 8	Manbhoom	

* In the interior retail prices of common rice range from 28-14 to 39-6 seers per rupee.
f In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Baraset and Bussirat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 10-8 seers, Barrackpore 12-12 seers, and Dum-Dum 12 seers.
g In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kooshtea 12-12 seers, Meherpore 11-8 seers, Chooadanga 13 seers and Ranaghat 12 seers.
h In Satkhira and Bagirhat sub-divisions retail price of salt 11 seers.
i In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers, and Bongong 13 seers.
j In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Lalbagh 11 seers, Jungipore 11-6 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.
k Retail prices of salt at Rangunge 10-8 seers and Nestpore 12 seers.
l In Nattore retail price of salt 12 seers.
m In the sub-division retail prices of salt are as follow:—Gaibanda 10-5 seers, and Nilphamari and Kurigram 12 seers.
n In Serajgunge retail price of salt 12-8 seers.
o Retail price of salt at Kurseong and Silliguree 8 seers.
p Retail price of salt at Fallacotta in the Alipore sub-division 10 seers.
q In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Manickgunge 12 seers, Moonsheegunge 10 seers 10½ chittacks, and Naraingunge 13 seers.
r In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Goalundo 10-8 seers, Madaripore 12 seers, and Gopalgunge 12-12 seers.
s In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 9-2 seers, Perozepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.
t In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishoreegunge 10-10 seers, Attea 12 seers, Jamalpore 11 seers, and Netrokona 12-5 seers.

u Retail price of salt at Kumeriah 10 seers, and Hathazaree and Cox's Bazar 8 seers.
v In the interior retail prices of salt range from 8 to 12-4 seers.
w In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Brahmundberiah 12 seers, and Chandpore 13 seers.
x In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Aurungabad 11 seers, and Nowada 9-8 seers.
y In sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Buxar 11-8 seers, Bhuboon 10-8 seers and Sasseram 11 seers.
*y*1 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madhubani 10 seers, and Tajpur 11-8 seers.
z In the Hajeepore sub-division retail prices of salt range from 10 to 12 seers.
*z*1 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Sewan 11-8 seers, and Gopalgunge 12 seers.
*z*2 Retail price of salt at Madhubani and Kesauria 12 seers, at Gobindgunge 12-8 seers, at Chorasan 10-4 seers, at Dhaka and Bugaha 10 seers, and at Bettiah 11 seers.
*z*2*a* In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Begusarai 11-8 seers, and Jamui 11 seers.
*z*3 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Banka 11 seers, Muddehpoora 10-8 seers, and Soopole 10 seers.
*z*4 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kissengunge 8 seers and Arrareah (at Maneeguge) 10 seers.
*z*5 In Khoorda retail price of salt 13 seers.
*z*6 Retail price of salt at Bhadrak 8 seers.
*z*7 Retail price of salt at Chaira 8 seers, and Khurruckdiha 11-8 seers.
*z*8 Retail price of salt at Raghunathpore 11-8 seers, Burrabazar 10 seers, and Jobindpore 11 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF AUGUST 1883—*continued*.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces	Districts	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari). *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari). *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari). *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra). *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra). *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra). *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts	Provinces
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a.	R a. per md.	R a.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Assam.	Sylhet	11 0	13 4	10 8	...	...	...	11 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	17 8	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	16 12	17 12	108 0	108 0	108 0	3 4	3 6	3 4	11 0	11 12	12 4	Sylhet	Assam.
	Cachar	9 2	9 2	9 2	12 13	16 0	13 5	16 13	22 13	20 0	17 12	16 0	24 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	12 13	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 8	3 10	3 9	10 10	10 10	11 10	Cachar	
	Goálpárá	20 0	20 0	22 12	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	13 5	21 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	14 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 4	3 6	3 4	12 0	12 0	12 4	Goálpárá	
	Gáro Hills	4 0	4 0	4 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	16 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 6	5 6	5 6	6 6	6 6	6 6	Gáro Hills	
	Kámrúp	18 0	18 0	13 0	...	...	...	11 12	13 12	13 0	15 8	15 8	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 12	11 8	13 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8	3 8	3 8	11 8	11 8	11 8	Kámrúp	
	Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	10 0	12 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	9 9	9 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Darrang	
	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 8	10 0	13 8	13 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	120 0	100 0	120 0	4 0	4 8	3 12	8 0	8 0	9 0	Nowgong	
	Sibságar	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 8	Sibságar	
	Lakhimpur	8 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	10 0	6 0	6 0	9 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	4 8	4 8	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Lakhimpur	
	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	6 10	...	8 0	...	...	...	6 10	8 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	...	10 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	
	Nága Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 0	2 0	2 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	16 0	16 0	13 0	2 8	2 8	3 0	Nága Hills	
N. W. Provinces.	Dehra Dún	17 0	17 8	18 0	26 0	30 0	29 0	6 8	6 8	6 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	24 0	22 0	21 0	22 0	19 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	S. Ch. 11 0	S. Ch. 11 0	S. Ch. 11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	Dehra Dún	N. W. Provinces.
	Saháranpur	18 4½	19 5½	18 5	27 15	30 11½	32 5	7 8½	7 8½	9 11	11 13	11 13	12 14½	29 0½	23 10½	32 5	21 8	21 8	21 9	24 11½	25 13	22 1	129 0	129 0	116 0	12 14½	12 14½	12 1	12 5	12 10½	11 13	Saháranpur	
	Muzaffarnagar	17 10	18 2	18 2	30 12	33 0	29 11	6 9	6 9	6 9	12 2	12 2	14 5	30 12	30 12	27 8	26 6	26 6	22 0	23 2	25 13	22 8	110 0	110 0	132 0	12 6	12 6	11 13	11 8	11 8	11 4	Muzaffarnagar	
	Meerut	17 0	17 8	17 0	27 0	30 0	25 0	6 8	7 0	6 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	27 0	29 0	25 0	20 0	20 0	21 0	23 0	25 0	22 0	110 0	110 0	110 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Meerut	
	Bulandshahr	17 8	19 8	18 8	26 0	27 0	24 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	10 0	10 0	10 5	26 8	26 0	24 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	22 8	23 0	21 8	120 0	120 0	130 0	12 4	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Bulandshahr	
	Aligarh	17 0	17 4	17 8	23 8	24 8	24 8	7 0	7 0	6 0	11 0	11 8	13 0	24 8	25 8	25 0	16 8	16 0	17 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	6 0	Aligarh	
	Kumaun	15 0	14 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	11 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 0	280 0	280 0	280 0	8 8	8 8	7 0	7 13	7 13	6 4	Kumaun	
	Garhwál	20 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	23 0	24 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...	30 0*	30 0*	25 0*	19 11	21 15	19 6	135 0	135 0	135 0	...	...	...	11 4	10 13	10 9	Garhwál	
	Bijnor	16 14	18 9	16 8	26 7	30 6	24 7	9 9	10 2	11 13	10 11	11 4	12 15	20 4	23 1	22 8	20 4	21 6	18 9	21 14	23 2	21 4	125 0	125 0	137 8	12 10	12 10	12 0	12 8	12 8	11 14	Bijnor	
	Moradabad	18 7	19 11	18 7	29 6	30 0	28 12	8 12	9 1	9 6	12 12	13 12	13 2	26 14	28 2	25 0	15 4	15 10	18 2	21 9½	24 0	19 3	192 0	192 0	192 0	11 6	11 6	10 12½	10 12½	10 12½	10 3	Moradabad	
	Budaun	17 11	19 8	17 1½	25 8	28 12½	21 9½	6 0	7 3	9 9½	12 0	12 0	13 3	...	19 3	18 0	...	18 0	18 0	21 14	22 8	19 6	125 0	100 0	125 0	12 3	12 8	11 14	11 14	11 14	11 14	Budaun	
	Bareilly	17 8	17 13	16 14	24 6	25 0	21 14	7 8	7 8	7 8	12 13	13 2	13 2	32 12	28 14	28 2	18 12	16 4	21 4	23 8	23 8	20 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 0	13 0	12 6	11 0	11 0	10 8	Bareilly	
	Sháhjahánpur	19 0	19 8	18 4	32 0	33 0	24 8	9 12	9 12	9 4	15 8	15 8	14 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	10 8	10 0	11 0	Sháhjahánpur	
	Tarái Pergunnahs	21 0	22 8	21 0	35 0	37 8	30 0	8 12	8 8	7 8	13 12	14 0	16 0	30 0	30 0	25 0	10 0	10 0	25 0	22 0	25 0	20 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	14 0	14 0	12 8	13 0	12 0	Tarái Pergunnahs	
	Muttra	15 8	17 8	16 12	22 0	24 8	21 8	7 0	7 0	...	11 8	12 8	14 8	22 0	24 0	25 0	19 0	18 0	21 8	21 0	23 8	22 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	Muttra	
	Agra	15 4	16 12	16 12	21 8	23 0	22 8	5 12	6 8	11 8	12 8	14 0	14 8	31 0	23 0	22 0	20 0	21 0	21 0	22 0	23 8	22 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	Agra	
	Farukhabad	17 10½	17 15	17 11	23 15½	24 14	22 9½	7 4	7 2	6 13	12 10	12 10½	13 15	23 10	24 4	22 9½	21 8	21 6	21 2½	21 14	22 5	21 11	145 0	156 8	156 8	12 4	13 4	12 8	11 9	11 9	11 9	Farukhabad	
	Mainpuri	16 4	17 8	18 4	22 0	23 8	23 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 8	21 8	21 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Mainpuri	
	Etáwah	15 0	16 12	17 8	20 0	20 8	22 8	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 0	12 8	14 8	40 0	20 0	24 0	18 0	18 0	16 0	21 0	23 8	23 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	11 0	11 0	10 0	Etáwah	
	Etah	17 1	19 0	18 12	23 0	24 13	22 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 5	13 3	18 0	16 0	15 0	20 8	17 0	19 11	19 0	21 0	22 13	20 8	167 0	139 0	160 0	12 0	12 3	11 8	11 8	12 8	12 8	Etah	
	Jalaun	18 8	18 8	20 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	28 0	28 0	29 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	Jalaun	
	Jhánsi	20 3	20 12	22 0	29 14	29 14	32 10	8 8	9 0	8 3	14 8	16 0	15 0	29 8	30 0	23 0	...	...	...	27 3	27 2	26 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 8	10 0	10 0	10 8	Jhánsi	
	Lalitpur	19 0	20 12	21 0	33 0	40 0	37 0	9 0	9 0	11 0	13 0	18 0	12 0	29 0	36 0	32 0	24 0	30 0	27 0	28 0	31 4	34 0	180 0	180 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 4	10 8	Lalitpur	
	Cawnpore	18 0	18 0	17 8	26 8	27 0	26 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	13 8	13 8	14 8	26 8	27 8	25 8	23 0	23 8	25 8	26 0	24 0	24 0	145 0	135 0	140 0	13 4	13 4	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	Cawnpore	
	Fatehpur	16 10	16 10	16 4	24 8	24 12	23 12	11 4	11 4	11 4	14 8	15 8	15 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 12	27 12	23 6	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	10 4	10 12	10 12	10 0	Fatehpur	
	Bánda	22 0	22 0	18 0	31 0	33 0	28 0	9 0	8 0	9 0	13 8	14 8	13 8	37 0	34 0	33 0	31 0	30 0	30 0	36 0	37 0	32 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 8	12 4	10 8	11 0	12 0	Bánda	
	Allahabad	16 14	16 14	17 8	27 10	27 12	25 0	11 0	10 8	12 0	15 0	15 8	17 8	30 0	30 0	32 0	29 12	29 8	29 0	29 4	29 0	24 8	120 0	120 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 0	11 0	10 8	Allahabad	
	Hamirpur	16 0	18 4	16 14	...	17 14	20 4	8 0	10 12	12 6	...	...	...	22 0	25 14	27 0	20 0	23 1	23 7	25 0	31 8	29 4	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 4	11 4	12 6	10 0	10 0	11 12	Hamirpur	
	Jaunpur	19 13	19 13	19 0	31 12	31 1	29 10	7 12	7 12	7 1	14 2	14 2	14 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 1	31 1	24 11	148 12	148 12	120 0	10 12	10 12	9 11	10 10	10 10	9 9	Jaunpur	
	Gorakhpur	18 14	18 14	17 1½	28 13	25 3	24 3	12 9½	12 9½	12 9½	16 3	15 5	16 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 11	29 11	24 3	160 0	160 0	160 0	10 9½	10 9½	11 13	10 6½	10 6½	9 8	Gorakhpur	
	Basti	20 0	19 0	16 8	34 0	32 0	30 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	25 0	150 0	150 0	140 0	9 0	8 8	10 0	8 0	8 0	9 8	Basti	
	Azamgarh	17 11	17 11	17 11	25 13	25 13	28 0	10 5	10 5	11 1	14 12	14 12	17 11	29 8	29 8	...	20 10	20 10	20 10	25 13	25 15	22 2	147 8	147 8	147 8	10 8	10 8	10 10	9 14	9 14	7 12	Azamgarh	
	Mirzapur	16 0	16 0	15 0	25 0	26 0	20 0	10 0	8 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	18 0	26 0	26 0	27 0	24 0	24 0	26 0	24 6	22 4	24 0	90 0	100 0	140 0	10 6½	11 4	10 2	10 2	10 2	10 2	Mirzapur	
	Benares	17 1	17 1	16 4	26 0	25 0	24 15	10 13½	10 13½	11 15	16 0	16 0	16 13	26 0	26 0	26 8½	27 10	27 10	27 10	26 11½	28 0	24 7½	128 12	128 12	130 0	10 15½	10 15½	10 5	9 10	9 10½	9 10½	Benares	
	Gházipur	19 5	19 5	17 6½	27 11	27 0	23 13½	9 0	9 0	10 15½	15 7	16 1½	16 1½	25 12	28 5	25 12	25 12	26 6½	20 9½	26 4	26 4	25 0	90 0	90 0	100 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 8	Gházipur	
	Balia	18 12	18 12	15 10	27 8	27 8	18 12	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 12	18 12	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 3	24 6	18 1	150 0	150 0	150 0	13 0	12 8	12 12	12 12	12 0	11 12	Balia	
	Pilibhít	19 4	19 7	19 2	34 8	32 4½	28 3	13 8	13 8	13 1½	15 0	15 0	14 8	16 4	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Pilibhít	
Oudh.	Sultánpur	20 0	20 0	19 0	32 0	32 0	39 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	31 0	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 12	11 12	11 4	Sultánpur	Oudh.
	Partábgarh	20 11	19 9	19 5	31 1	31 0	29 2	15 4	15 5	16 2	16 13	17 0	17 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 8	27 5	22 14	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 14	10 10½	10 8	Partábgarh	
	Fyzabad	18 0	17 8	17 0	28 0	27 0	26 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	15 0	15 8	16 6	...	...	30 0	19 0	17 0	...	28 0	26 0	23 0	120 0	120 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 8	10 0	Fyzabad	
	Kheri	23 4	22 8	18 8	36 0	35 8	27 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	15 0	14 0	16 0	45 0	45 0	27 0	...	...	...	29 0	27 0	18 8	120 0	120 0	160 0	10 8	10 12	11 0	10 0	10 8	10 8	Kheri	
	Lucknow	17 10	17 6	16 7½	27 14	27 9	23 7½	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 15	12 10	14 4½	29 0	28 8	22 4	28 1	23 7½	22 ...	23 7	22 10½	21 0	115 0	115 0	115 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 8	10 8	9 8	Lucknow	
	Bára Banki	18 0	18 0	17 0	30 0	28 0	25 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	14 0	15 0	16 0	30 0	30 0	31 0	22 0	21 0	21 0	25 0	25 0	22 0	130 0	120 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Bára Banki	
	Bharaich	17 0	19 0	16 0	36 0	33 0	32 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	16 0	16 0	17 0	38 0	33 0	30 0	22 0	20 0	18 0	32 0	30 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 0	Bharaich	
	Rái Bareli	19 4	18 10	19 0	26 8	26 8	27 0	...	...	...	15 12	15 12	16 8	...	...	24 0	22 0	22 0	20 0	24 8	24 0	21 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 0	Rái Bareli	
	Sitapur	20 9	20 10	18 3	37 7	33 14	24 10	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	15 8	28 0	27 12	22 0	25 0	23 10	20 0	28 0	27 8	20 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 8	12 8	11 8	11 8	11 8	11 8	Sitapur	
	Gonda	21 1	21 10	18 9	43 0	43 0	30 4	14 8	14 8	15 8	15 10	15 12	17 4	37 8	37 8	33 4	21 8	21 8	24 0	33 14	33 10	26 12	200 0	200 0	240 0	11 4	11 4	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 4	Gonda	
	Unáo	17 8	18 0	17 8	28 0	25 0	24 8	10 0	11 0	13 0	14 0	15 8	28 0	28 0	...	23 0	21 0	...	...	24 8	26 0	22 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	Unáo	
	Hardui	16 14	17 2	20 6	27 11	26 12	27 11	5 10	5 10	5 10	11 4	11 4	12 14	...	23 7	...	16 14	16 14	16 14	20 14	20 10	22 8	200 0	200 0	240 0	9 6	9 6	8 8	7 8	7 8	8 7	Hardui	
Punjab.	Gujránwála (a)	22 4	22 4	24 8	40 0	42 0	38 0	...	...	...	13 0	15 0	13 0	40 0	40 0	22 0	28 0	35 0	20 0	32 0	32 8	28 0	95 0	95 0	95 0	15 4	15 0	15 4	15 0	14 8	15 0	Gujránwála (a)	Punjab.
	Lahore	21 0	21 0	23 8	36 0	36 0	36 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	11 0	40 0	40 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	24 0	30 0	30 0	29 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	13 0	14 0	14 0	Lahore	
	Ferozepore	20 0	21 0	21 8	35 0	42 0	32 0	...	...	...	14 0	12 0	11 0	36 0	45 0	35 0	...	...	...	33 0	33 0	29 0	100 0	95 0	80 0	12 12	13 4	12 8	12 8	13 0	12 8	Ferozepore	
	Sirsa (b)	19 0	21 0	19 12	32 0	38 0	33 4	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	31 0	35 0	33 8	25 0	28 0	27 12	31 0	37 8	33 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	11 0	Sirsa (b)	
	Hissar (c)	16 0	19 0	17 0	28 0	29 0	30 0	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	10 0	24 0	28 0	28 0	22 0	25 0	26 0	22 0	26 0	24 0	120 0	120 0	80 0	12 0	12 0	9 8	11 8	11 8	9 0	Hissar (c)	
	Rohtak (d)	17 4	20 0	17 0	23 0	24 0	23 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	23 0	23 0	23 0	21 0	22 0	22 0	21 12	24 0	23 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	11 8	11 12	11 0	10 8	11 8	10 0	Rohtak (d)	
	Gurgaon	16 8	20 0	17 8	22 0	28 0	22 8	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	13 0	20 0	24 0	24 0	19 0	22 0	19 0	19 0	24 0	20 8	130 0	130 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Gurgaon	
	Delhi	16 0	18 8	17 8	23 0	28 0	24 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	14 0	22 0	26 8	25 0	18 0	21 0	20 0	19 8	18 8	21 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	12 8	12 12	12 8	11 8	11 8	11 8	Delhi	
	Karnál (e)	17 0	19 0	17 0	26 0	30 0	27 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 0	21 0	23 0	27 0	22 0	22 0	16 0	22 0	28 0	24 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 12	11 8	11 4	Karnál (e)	
	Umballa	20 0	22 0	21 0	28 0	32 0	26 0	...	...	...	11 8	12 0	12 0	28 0	32 0	27 0	18 0	24 0	18 0	24 0	28 0	24 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	13 12	13 10	13 10	13 4	13 8	13 8	Umballa	
	Ludhiana	21 0	24 4	23 0	30 0	38 4	31 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	32 0	39 8	30 0	24 0	24 0	25 0	33 4	33 4	27 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 1	14 1	14 10	14 0	14 0	14 4	Ludhiana	
	Simla (e)	14 0	...	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 8	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	10 8	9 4	10 1	9 11	8 10	9 7	Simla (e)	

* Maudwa.

(a) Barley, rice and bajra, slightly rising, salt falling.

(b) Prices rising.

(c) Wheat, barley, bajra, gram and salt rising; the great rise in barley and gram is due to the suspension of rain and the exportation of the grains towards Delhi.

(d) Wheat, barley, bajra, gram and salt rising.

(e) Salt falling.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF AUGUST 1883 —*continued*.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgum*. Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgum*. Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgum*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Rági, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murnwa, Nugeel, *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Rági, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murnwa, Nugeel, *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Rági, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murnwa, Nugeel, *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Punjab—*continued*.	Kángra	22 0	23 0	24 0	34 0	34 0	38 0	...	...	...	14 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	Kángra	Punjab—*continued*.
	Jullundur (*a*)	20 0	22 0	22 0	32 0	36 0	32 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	36 0	36 0	32 0	26 0	26 0	20 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 0	13 8	13 0	13 8	Jullundur (*a*)	
	Hoshiárpur	20 8	21 12	23 0	31 0	23 8	31 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	11 0	31 0	31 0	27 0	20 0	22 0	17 0	...	...	...	14 8	14 0	13 12	13 12	13 0	13 8	Hoshiárpur	
	Gurdáspur	25 0	28 0	30 0	32 0	38 0	40 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	32 0	32 0	24 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 8	13 4	12 0	13 0	13 0	Gurdáspur	
	Amritsar (*b*)	22 0	22 0	24 8	35 0	36 0	39 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 8	11 8	36 0	36 0	29 4	26 8	26 8	23 8	...	...	...	14 13	14 13	14 12	14 6	14 6	14 6	Amritsar (*b*)	
	Siálkot	24 4	26 0	24 8	36 15	40 0	40 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0	39 11	40 0	27 0	32 12	32 0	22 0	...	...	...	15 0	*	*	14 8	14 8	14 8	Siálkot	
	Gujrát (*c*)	25 0	29 8	25 12	45 0	44 0	39 8	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	12 0	42 0	42 0	25 0	40 0	50 0	28 0	...	...	...	*	*	*	14 8	15 8	15 0	Gujrát (*c*)	
	Jhelum	22 0	25 8	24 0	37 0	40 0	31 0	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	10 0	38 0	40 0	25 0	35 0	40 0	24 0	...	...	...	28 0	34 0	24 0	31 8	32 14	38 0	Jhelum	
	Ráwalpindi (*d*)	21 8	24 0	20 8	39 0	40 0	29 0	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	8 4	40 0	50 0	30 0	35 0	38 0	24 0	...	...	...	25 0	32 0	22 0	32 14	38 0	25 0	Ráwalpindi (*d*)	
	Shahpúr	28 0	34 0	20 12	52 0	55 0	32 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	13 0	42 0	40 0	20 0	44 0	48 0	19 0	...	...	...	40 0	52 0	23 0	32 0	34 0	25 0	Shahpúr	
	Jhang (*e*)	20 0	22 0	19 8	32 0	37 8	31 0	...	...	...	10 0	12 0	10 8	28 0	24 0	16 0	28 0	32 0	16 0	...	...	...	29 8	32 0	23 0	28 0	32 0	24 0	Jhang (*e*)	
	Montgomery	18 8	19 0	20 8	32 0	32 0	24 0	...	...	...	6 0	5 8	5 8	32 0	32 0	20 8	...	...	16 0	...	...	...	31 0	33 0	27 0	31 0	31 0	27 0	Montgomery	
	Mooltan (*f*)	16 8	17 0	17 0	28 0	29 0	27 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	29 0	29 0	27 0	28 0	28 0	23 0	...	...	...	34 11	35 10	24 3	125 0	125 0	100 0	Mooltan (*f*)	
	Muzaffargarh (*g*)	20 0	20 0	20 0	28 0	27 0	26 0	...	...	...	6 0	5 0	7 0	21 0	21 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	18 0	...	...	...	40 0	43 2	29 11	80 0	80 0	80 0	Muzaffargarh (*g*)	
	Dera Ghází Khán	18 12	19 1	17 8	33 12	33 12	20 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	7 8	37 8	40 0	20 0	36 4	36 4	20 0	...	...	...	28 1	28 1	17 14	102 0	89 4	76 0	Dera Ghází Khán	
	Dera Ismail Khán	23 7	24 1	18 13	39 1	39 6	27 1	...	...	...	8 7	8 7	8 12	41 4	41 14	25 13	37 8	36 14	21 8	...	...	...	27 4	30 3	17 3	96 0	96 0	96 0	Dera Ismail Khán	
	Bannu	35 10	38 12	30 10	51 14	56 4	45 0	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	8 12	42 8	35 0	25 0	40 0	40 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Bannu	
	Kohát (*h*)	23 4	23 9	16 4	43 6	44 10	31 14	...	...	...	12 12	12 12	12 2	43 6	43 6	24 3	42 0	42 0	19 2	...	...	...	27 4	30 3	17 3	96 0	96 0	96 0	Kohát (*h*)	
	Pesháwar	23 10	24 4	19 0	40 10	43 8	36 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	9 8	35 6	36 11	28 0	30 3	31 8	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Pesháwar	
	Házára	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Házára	
Central Provinces.	Nágpur	18 12	19 4	17 4	...	...	...	9 12	8 4	8 12	16 0	16 0	17 4	31 0	31 12	25 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nágpur	Central Provinces.
	Bhandára	20 0	21 4	19 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 4	20 0	18 12	20 0	35 0	35 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Bhandára	
	Chánda	19 0	19 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	14 0	14 0	27 8	27 8	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	26 0	25 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	Chánda	
	Wardha	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 8	28 0	23 8	180 0	160 0	160 0	Wardha	
	Bálaghát	19 0	20 0	17 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	15 0	26 0	26 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39 0	39 0	43 0	37 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	Bálaghát	
	Jubbulpore	18 0	19 8	16 8	20 0	20 0	23 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	14 0	15 0	14 12	22 0	21 0	17 8	18 0	18 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	24 0	27 0	22 8	220 0	220 0	210 0	Jubbulpore	
	Saugor	20 0	23 0	18 0	...	...	...	8 0	9 0	8 0	9 0	10 0	9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	25 0	40 0	41 0	35 0	256 0	Saugor	
	Damoh	24 0	26 0	23 0	...	...	...	11 4	12 4	14 0	12 8	13 4	14 8	...	34 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	320 0	Damoh	
	Seoni	18 8	21 8	19 0	...	...	...	11 8	12 8	12 0	14 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 7	17 12	18 0	30 14	31 14	23 0	200 0	Seoni	
	Mandla	25 0	25 0	19 0	...	...	...	15 0	14 8	13 0	19 0	19 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 15	26 7	24 0	120 0	160 0	160 0	Mandla	
	Betúl	18 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	9 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 8	24 8	25 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	Betúl	
	Chhindwára	25 0	25 0	18 0	...	...	...	8 8	9 8	8 0	13 8	14 6	13 0	31 12	31 12	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 7	19 5	19 5	160 0	160 0	93 0	Chhindwára	
	Hoshangabad	16 2	15 6	15 7	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	4 8	9 9	9 9	10 13	21 0	21 0	18 0	19 4	19 4	18 0	...	...	...	28 8	28 8	28 0	64 0	80 0	70 0	Hoshangabad	
	Narsinghpur	18 0	18 0	15 4	...	...	...	9 8	9 0	10 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	29 4	120 0	120 0	120 0	Narsinghpur	
	Nimár	15 7	16 8	14 0	...	...	...	13 10	13 10	...	14 14	15 15	11 9	18 12	18 12	22 0	20 0	18 0	21 0	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	150 0	28 0	31 0	40 0	Nimár	
	Raipur	20 0	24 0	24 0	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	20 0	33 0	36 0	42 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...							Raipur	
	Sambalpur	17 0	17 0	21 0	...	...	...	31 8	31 8	32 0	35 0	40 4	36 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...							Sambalpur	
	Bilaspur	27 0	31 0	45 0	...	...	...	27 0	32 0	36 0	50 0	50 0	45 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...							Bilaspur	
British Burma.	*Arakan Division.*																												*Arakan Division.*	British Burma.
	Akyab	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Akyab	
	Northern Arakan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Northern Arakan	
	Kyoukpyoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Kyoukpyoo	
	Sandoway	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sandoway	
	Pegu Division.																												*Pegu Division.*	
	Rangoon Town	11 2	11 2	15 5	...	...	...	11 6	10 6	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 7	19 7	21 1	320 0	320 0	320 0	Rangoon Town	
	Hanthawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Hanthawaddy	
	Tharrawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 2½	7 2½	10 13½	7 14⅝	7 14⅝	13 6½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 5 11/16	16 5 11/16	13 9 33/64	535 11⅜	535 11⅜	535 11⅜	Tharrawaddy	
	Prome	10 6	9 2	18 3	...	...	...	9 9	12 3	12 3	13 1	13 1	15 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 9	15 9	17 12	139 11	139 11	139 11	Prome	
	Irrawaddy Division.																												*Irrawaddy Division.*	
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 7½	12 5	15 5	14 7	12 14	16 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 3⅔	13 0	13 8	275 12	265 7	181 15	Bassein	
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 15	11 15	14 5	15 10	15 10	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	183 8	183 8	183 8	Henzada	
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 6	8 6	...	10 7	10 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 13	16 13	...	246 0	184 8	...	Thonegwa	
	Thayetmyo	9 4	9 4	10 15	...	...	...	10 3	10 3	11 11	11 13	11 13	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	18 7	245 0	245 0	245 0	Thayetmyo	
	Tenasserim Division.																												*Tenasserim Division.*	
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	12 2	12 2	10 0	...	...	...	9 0	12 8	12 10	12 8	13 14	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 3	12 2	11 1	220 0	220 0	220 0	Moulmein Town & Amherst	
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Tavoy	
	Mergui	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 6	15 6	...	17 11	17 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	428 0	428 0	...	Mergui	
	Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	12 13	18 5	14 3	14 3	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 9	12 9	12 9	24 0	24 0	24 0	Toungoo	
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 13	9 13	12 12	11 5	15 9	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	250 0	250 0	250 0	Shwaygyin	
	Salween	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Salween	
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	16 5	16 5	16 12	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	7 2	10 3	10 3	9 13	23 0	23 0	23 14	27 0	27 0	27 0	29 9	...	...	17 12	18 4	17 12	125 0	125 0	125 0	Secunderabad	Hyderabad Assigned Districts.
	Bolarum	17 8	16 14	18 1	...	...	...	8 1	7 11	7 6	9 10	9 1	9 1	27 0	25 11	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 10	19 2	19 7	116 14	116 14	116 14	Bolarum	
	Chudderghat	14 8	14 8	13 8	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	7 0	9 8	9 8	9 8	27 0	27 0	27 0	34 0	33 0	33 0	...	...	...	18 8	18 8	18 9	80 0	80 0	80 0	Chudderghat	
	Amraoti	16 0	16 0	16 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	24 0	26 0	26 0	16 0	16 0	19 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	20 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	Amraoti	
	Akola	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	10 0	23 0	23 0	26 0	21 0	21 0	21 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	21 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	Akola	
	Ellichpur	14 0	15 0	15 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	22 0	23 0	24 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	15 0	16 0	18 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	Ellichpur	
	Buldána	18 0	19 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	26 0	26 0	32 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	22 0	...	...	...	Buldána	
	Wún	17 0	18 0	13 8	...	...	...	7 8	8 8	7 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	28 0	29 4	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	19 0	20 0	200 0	300 0	100 0	Wún	
	Mánim	20 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 4	13 0	14 0	12 0	28 0	28 0	34 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	21 0	26 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	Basim	

(*a*) Barley, rice and gram rising. (*b*) Barley, rice and gram rising. (*c*) Wheat, bajra, and gram rising; barley falling. (*d*) Wheat, barley, rice, bajra, jowar and gram rising, and salt falling. (*e*) Wheat, barley, rice, bajra, gram and salt rising; jowar falling. (*f*) Wheat, barley, and gram rising. (*g*) Barley falling; gram rising. (*h*) Wheat and barley rising.

* No wholesale salt sold.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF AUGUST 1883 —*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veraeu Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee). *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veraeu Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee). *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veraeu Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee). *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Mysore	Bangalore	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Bangalore	Mysore
	Kolar																														Kolar	
	Tumkur																														Tumkur	
	Mysore																														Mysore	
	Hassan																														Hassan	
	Shimoga																														Shimoga	
	Kadur																														Kadur	
	Chitaldroog																														Chitaldroog	
Coorg	Coorg	8 10	8 9	8 8	9 11	10 0	8 8	13 11	13 1	10 13	18 5	17 6	12 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 1	25 0	19 10	27 13	26 4	19 10	110 0	110 0	110 0	9 13	9 10	8 13	9 9	9 2	8 4	Coorg	Coorg.
Rajpootana.	Jeypore	16 0	17 4	16 4	20 0	22 8	20 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	8 8	9 0	9 0	20 0	22 8	17 0	19 0	21 0	19 0	...	...	...	19 0	21 0	18 0	...	...	...	14 8	14 8	14 4	14 4	14 4	14 0	Jeypore	Rajpootana.
	Kishengurh	17 8	17 0	17 8	23 8	23 12	25 8	8 0	9 0	8 0	9 0	10 0	10 8	25 4	24 8	21 8	17 12	17 8	19 0	...	...	...	25 0	24 8	21 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 4	16 4	16 4	Kishengurh	
	Kerrowlee	15 10	19 6	16 0	19 11	25 10	18 8	11 14	12 0	12 8	12 8	13 0	13 8	19 11	25 10	19 0	17 8	21 9	16 0	...	...	...	20 0	25 5	18 8	...	...	...	13 12	13 9	13 1	13 8	12 12	13 0	Kerrowlee	
	Ulwur	18 2	19 6	18 12	24 10	26 1	24 0	8 10	8 10	8 0	11 0	11 0	11 10	23 8	24 11	23 8	22 6	23 2	17 13	...	...	...	23 14	25 11	23 3	...	...	...	15 12	15 12	15 13	15 0	15 0	15 4	Ulwur	
	Bhurtpore (City)	16 5	18 13	17 7	23 11	27 4	22 13	7 12	7 12	6 12	9 12	9 6	11 4	20 0	21 11	20 11	21 0	22 8	17 11	...	...	...	23 0	26 4	21 7	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	12 0	13 0	13 0	11 8	Bhurtpore (City)	
	Ajmere	13 8	15 8	16 0	19 8	23 0	22 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 0	19 0	18 0	16 0	17 0	18 0	...	...	...	21 8	24 0	21 0	70 0	70 0	70 0	17 0	17 0	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	Ajmere	
	Deoli Cantonment	18 11	19 9	16 0	25 9	26 9	20 15	...	...	...	13 0	13 8	10 8	24 13	25 8	20 0	18 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	25 9	26 8	19 8	...	...	...	13 8	13 4	...	12 12	12 12	12 12	Deoli Cantonment	
																													R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.					
																													per md.							
	Erinpura	16 9	16 9	16 4	25 4	25 4	28 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	21 1	21 1	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	2 15 0	2 15 0	3 1 2	12 9	12 9	12 0	Erinpura	
	Sirohee	13 4	13 8	17 8	25 0	25 0	29 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	21 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 5	12 5	12 5	Sirohee	
	Abu	11 5	12 15	15 12	20 0	19 12	23 0	6 8	6 10	6 8	7 4	8 2	8 0	...	...	...	15 6	15 12	18 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 2	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	Abu	
	Anadra	12 8	14 4	17 12	23 0	22 8	26 0	7 0	7 4	7 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	...	...	...	17 4	17 8	21 0	...	...	...	18 0	17 4	22 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4	12 4	12 4	Anadra	
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	19 0	20 0½	22 0	27 0	26 0	28 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 0	3 4 0	26 0	*	†	*	3 10 0	3 10 0	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Meywar (Oodeypore)	14 1	14 1	15 3½	19 2½	20 5	20 11½	10 2½	10 2½	10 2½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 15½	18 12	16 0½	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 9	9 9	10 2½	9 6	9 6	9 12½	Meywar (Oodeypore)	
																													R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.					
																													per md.							
	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	21 14	22 8	22 8	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	17 8	17 8	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 8	43 12	40 0	...	...	...	3 13 0	...	...	10 10	10 10	11 4	Bánswára (Meywar Agency	
	Partábgarh („)	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Partábgarh („)	
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	14 11	15 15	15 15	20 0	22 8	22 8	6 4	6 4	6 4	7 8	8 12	7 8	18 12	20 10	22 8	16 14	18 12	20 0	...	...	...	18 2	19 11	19 11	...	...	...	2 10 0	2 10 0	2 9 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	Marwar (Jodhpore)	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Bikaneer	10 12	11 0	11 8	...	...	...	3 8	3 8	3 4	5 12	6 4	6 12	...	...	...	18 9	18 6	18 0	...	...	...	19 8	19 8	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	Bikaneer	
	Boondee	19 8	21 0	17 0	27 8	30 0	27 0	9 0	9 0	9 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	25 0	26 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 8	31 0	24 8	160 0	160 0	120 0	11 4	11 4	11 12	11 0	11 0	11 8	Boondee	
	Kotah	22 0	21 0	16 12	25 0	25 0	19 4	10 0	10 0	8 12	13 0	13 0	11 12	25 0	26 0	21 8	14 8	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	29 0	28 0	24 12	240 0	240 0	240 0	12 8	12 0	12 12	12 0	11 8	12 4	Kotah	
	Tonk	17 8	18 4	14 4	23 0	24 8	20 5	6 0	6 8	7 0	8 0	8 8	9 12	23 12	26 8	22 12	...	...	18 0	...	...	...	23 8	24 8	20 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	11 12	11 12	Tonk	
	Jhallawar	18 1	17 8½	16 1	23 10	23 10	15 14	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	8 14	23 6	23 7	17 4	17 1	17 1	13 6	...	...	...	23 6	23 11	21 4	...	...	...	9 12	10 2	9 15	9 8	9 14	9 11½	Jhallawar	
	Shahpoora	18 4	19 0	16 1	23 3	23 12	20 6	11 12	12 2	10 4	16 4	16 4	14 8	18 0	16 8	16 8	15 0	16 4	16 5	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 1	12 7	13 8	12 12	12 5	13 4	Shahpoora	
	Dholpur	16 12	17 8	17 9	24 4	25 5	24 3	10 2	10 2	10 2	11 4	11 4	12 6	21 12	21 15	21 10	21 1	21 12	21 15	...	...	...	23 10	24 7	23 1	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	12 15	12 10	12 10	12 2	Dholpur	
Central India.	Indore	14 8	14 2	15 0	...	...	...	9 3	9 3	10 0	10 14	10 0	12 0	20 13	17 12	21 5	19 8	18 7	20	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	19 9	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	10 14	11 0	11 11	Indore	Central India.
	Gwalior	15 11	15 15	15 9	22 3	22 14	18 12	7 9	7 7	7 7	9 2	9 2	9 10	23 1	22 13	20 1	18 10	18 12	19	...	...	...	21 2	21 15	20 1	127 12	127 12	100 6	...	...	...	11 7	11 7	11 10	Gwalior	
	Goona	20 4	24 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	17 0	10 0	10 0	9 8	10 8	11 0	10 0	30 0	33 0	24 0	20 0	20 0	16 0	...	...	...	29 0	32 0	24 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 0	11 8	11 8	11 4	11 0	11 0	Goona	
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	24 0	23 11	21 1	38 7	40 0	32 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	18 0	17 11	18 0	38 13	40 12	32 0	28 0	29 0	24	...	...	...	36 6	34 15	30 2	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 1	11 2	12 7	11 5	10 6	11 10	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	

* Eight pies per bundle. † Ten pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXXI OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 12th August 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 11th August 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 12th August 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 11th August 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84
	Guaranteed.		₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
18th Aug. 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	1,26,676	736	172	(a)63,236	368	15,07,360	458	(a)15,96,557	489	89,197	...
11th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	63,185	116	547	79,545	145	19,29,943	184	22,28,777	214	2,98,831	...
11th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	1,27,771	189	749	2,15,344	288	35,35,317	273	45,54,360	323	10,19,043	...
11th ditto	Madras	861	1,28,354	149	861	1,07,355	125	26,64,447	162	24,62,315	151	...	2,02,132
11th ditto	South Indian	655	61,463	94	655	65,958	101	14,49,044	116	14,76,816	119	27,772	...
18th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,450	4,66,551	322	1,451	4,39,919	303	1,31,82,330	475	1,38,79,314	502	6,96,984	...
11th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	1,05,675	229	461	1,88,430	409	41,97,417	475	45,27,070	517	3,29,653	...
	TOTAL	4,822	10,79,675	224	4,896	11,59,787	237	2,84,65,858	309	3,07,25,209	330	22,59,351	...
	State.												
18th Aug. 1883	East Indian	1,507	7,83,890	520	1,509	8,97,334	595	1,66,28,566	576	1,94,58,498	679	28,29,932	...
11th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	2,523	76	56	4,440	79	72,747	127	1,10,969	110	38,222	...
18th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,116	41	27	1,375	50	25,351	48	28,76	55	3,417	...
11th ditto	Northern Bengal	230	35,189	153	239	30,000	126	6,85,992	155	7,49,043	169	63,051	...
18th ditto	Tirhoot	75	10,892	145	116	14,888	90	2,36,985	149	3,09,025	99	72,040	...
14th July 1883	Patna-Gya	57	6,624	116	...	(b)	...	(c)1,43,051	166	(d)1,31,453	154	...	11,598
11th Aug. 1883	Muttra-Hathras	29	1,889	65	29	2,436	84	41,274	75	46,196	88	4,922	...
18th ditto	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	5,725	66	87	6,762	78	1,25,356	76	1,22,789	74	...	2,567
18th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	458	38	12	655	55	18,368	80	19,361	85	993	...
18th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,117	1,48,210	133	1,117	2,10,300	188	39,45,573	185	46,27,727	218	6,79,154	...
18th ditto	Wardha Coal	45	13,098	291	45	10,915	243	2,04,214	287	2,72,652	319	68,468	...
18th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	4,213	43	149	9,301	62	2,37,251	127	5,82,386	206	3,45,135	...
18th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	17,169	107	161	15,480	96	5,42,387	176	5,23,800	171	...	18,587
18th ditto	Sindia	75	4,321	58	75	4,801	64	1,18,372	83	1,15,792	81	...	2,580
11th ditto	Punjab Northern	409	41,930	102	419	53,313	127	11,12,493	144	11,58,594	145	46,101	...
18th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	33,818	51	660	1,16,411	176	15,87,758	126	29,32,235	234	13,44,477	...
18th ditto	Muttra-Achnera	23	1,003	44	23	1,260	55	20,724	47	26,647	61	5,923	...
11th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	1,115	35	32	1,272	40	27,997	46	35,907	59	7,910	...
18th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	...	89	5,870	66	...	...	1,18,222	70	1,18,222	...
	TOTAL	3,170	3,29,293	104	3,386	4,89,479	145	91,45,893	151	1,19,11,596	183	27,62,703	...
	Assisted Company.												
21st July 1883	Bengal Central	...	...	...	...	(b)	...	...	...	(e)34,978	62	34,978	...
	Native States.												
11th Aug. 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal	194	8,534	44	193	9,181	48	3,80,146	102	4,22,939	115	42,793	...
11th ditto	Nizam's	121	15,281	126	121	12,272	101	3,22,012	139	2,94,410	128	...	27,602
11th ditto	Mysore	86	4,329	50	86	4,259	50	1,05,381	64	96,943	59	...	8,438
18th ditto	Jodhpore	19	335	18	19	620	33	(f)930	7	13,431	37	12,501	...
	TOTAL	420	28,479	68	419	26,332	63	8,08,469	104	8,27,723	104	19,254	...
	GRAND TOTAL	9,919	22,21,337	224	10,210	25,72,932	252	5,50,51,786	290	6,29,58,004	322	79,06,218	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,73,84,865	144	3,06,82,732	157	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,76,66,921	146	3,22,75,272	165	46,08,351	...

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the B. C. Railway (estimated for period subsequent to 21st July 1883).
(b) Return not received.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 15th July 1882.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 14th July 1883.
(e) Total receipts from 1st April to 21st July 1883.
(f) Total receipts from 24th June to 12th August 1883.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 1st September 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 4th SEPTEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The weather during the past week has been generally favourable all over India. In the Bombay Presidency good rain has fallen in Guzerat and the Deccan, and prospects are greatly improved. In Sind the rain has been light and partial, and there is a scarcity of water for irrigation owing to the low level of the river, which is injuriously affecting the crops. There has been a copious fall of rain in the Berars and crops there are flourishing. In Hyderabad the tanks have been replenished and prospects are also good. Timely and in most parts sufficient rain is reported throughout Central India, and fears are no longer entertained of a failure of the crops.

At Nowgong, however, the fall was little more than half an inch, and more rain is needed. In the Rajputana States the rainfall though general has been very unequal. Only a few light showers have fallen in Marwar and the crops continue to wither, but more rain is expected and later reports are much more favourable. In Meywar there was abundant rain during the week, but unfortunately too late to benefit standing crops. Prospects in other parts of Rajputana have greatly improved.

In the Kurnool and Ganjam districts of the Madras Presidency, and in Travancore and Coorg, some injury has been done to ripening crops by excessive rain. In the Karnatic, on the other hand, the fall has been deficient in parts, and more is needed. On the whole, however, prospects continue favourable in the Madras Presidency, Coorg and Mysore.

In Burma the rainfall of the week has been generally heavy and some injury has been caused in several districts by inundations, otherwise the rice crops are flourishing. In Assam there has been more extensive destruction of crops from the same cause, particularly in Cachar where one-third of the standing crop is estimated to have been damaged; the flood however is now subsiding. In Bengal prospects are fair, but the rainfall of the week has been light, and more is wanted for transplanting of rice. The recent floods have caused considerable loss in Behar and Howrah.

Heavy rain has fallen throughout the Central Provinces except Sambalpur, and prospects are generally favourable. In Sambalpur more rain is needed for the rice crop. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the rain has been very unequally distributed, and in many places it was too light to benefit the crops. Prospects are on the whole improved, but the unirrigated *kharif* crops in several districts have suffered severely, especially in the western half of the province.

Except in the frontier districts on the North-West, good rain fell during the week all over the Punjab and prospects are much brighter, but more rain is still wanted generally.

Harvest operations continue in the Madras Presidency. In the Deccan preparations for the *rabi* have been delayed by heavy rain. The damage by locusts to standing crops has not yet been great. Young locusts have also appeared in the Manpur State, Central India.

In the Central Provinces and North-Western Provinces and Oudh the early *kharif* crops are being harvested and the fields are being prepared for the *rabi*.

In Bengal harvesting of jute and early rice is still in progress, and late rice is being transplanted. In Burma transplanting and sowing are almost over.

Cholera continues to decrease, except in Nagpur and Wardha where it is severe.

Cattle-disease of a mild type is reported from most provinces, but the fall of rain has much improved the pasturage where fodder was getting scarce.

Prices are generally on the decline.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Sept. 5th)		
Bellary ...	·64 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops generally good.
Kurnool ...	1·07 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops generally good. Too much rain in a few places. Cattle-disease continues in six taluks.
Ganjam ...	2·18 (average of seventeen stations).	Standing crops red gram, sugarcane, and cotton thriving. Gingelly injured by excessive rain. Fever and small-pox continue. Cattle-disease slight.
Kistna ...	·74 (average of thirteen stations).	Rain wanted. Standing crops good, except in one taluk. Fever, small-pox, guinea-worm, and cattle-disease slight.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	·34 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops good where water available. Small-pox slight in some villages of two taluks. Cattle-disease slight in parts of three taluks.
Coimbatore ...	·51 (average of three stations).	Standing crops *cholum* damaged by insects in two taluks. Four taluks want rain. Harvest dry crops in parts, yield average. Cholera in two taluks, 12 deaths; fever in one taluk.
Tanjore ...	·40 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops generally good, but one taluk wants rain. Harvest *ragi, cumboo,* and paddy, yield below average. 36 deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	·31 (average of two stations).	Standing crops fading except in three taluks. Harvest paddy and dry crops in parts. Small-pox slight in parts of one taluk.
Malabar ...	10·4 (average of fourteen stations).	Harvest progressing in six taluks; elsewhere first crop in good condition. Cholera in two taluks, 20 deaths; small-pox slight in nine taluks; fever in four taluks. Cattle-disease slight in one taluk.
Travancore ...	5·91	Crops damaged and harvest impeded by untimely rain. Two deaths from small-pox; fever prevails to some extent. *General Remarks.*—General prospects good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—(Sept. 5th)		
Kurrachee ...	*Nil*	Rain expected soon. Fever in six talukas. Cattle-disease in three talukas. River at Kotri on 3rd 12 feet 10 inches against 17 feet 3 inches on same date last year. Want of water greatly felt. Wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 26 and 34, in Dadu 32 and 48, in Sakro 16, 24 and 36, and in Sujawal 26, 34 and 40 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	Rain in three talukas, average fall ·48.	River has fallen 2 inches since last week and was 4 feet 5 inches lower on 3rd instant than on same date last year. Small-pox in four, fever in four, and cattle-disease in three talukas. Wheat 24, *bajri* 34, *juari* 42, red rice 28, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	2·41	Total rainfall 17·32. Prospects greatly improved. Cholera in Ahmedabad, 24 cases, 13 deaths; slight fever in Viramgam. *Bajri* 25½ and wheat 24 lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	4·48	Total rainfall 37·26. Crops reviving in Naosari, Baroda, and Kadi divisions. Cholera disappeared in Naosari and Baroda divisions, but continues in mild form in Patan and Wadaoli. *Bajri* 26 and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	3·13	Total rainfall 41·46. Crops continue improving. Cholera in Bulsar, 5 cases, 1 death. Slight damage by locusts in Chikli and Peta Mahal Valore. Fever in Jalalpur and Pardi. *Juari* 40 and *nagli* 42 lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	Rain continues	Break in rain wanted. *Kharif* crops healthy. Locusts throughout the district, some damage to *urd*, ground-nut, and rice. In Kaluan slight cholera, 27 attacks, 14 deaths; small-pox in Niphad. *Bajri* 28, wheat 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Rain daily, heavy on 30th, 31st and 4th; total of week 8·74.	Total rainfall to date 70·28, being 10·33 above average. Abnormal temperature 2° to 5° cool; vapour in air normal. Monsoon wind strong on 3rd and 4th. Barometer low.
Poona ...	Maximum 2·82 at Mawal, manimum ·23.	Standing crops thriving. Cholera 113 cases, 50 fatal. *Bajri* 39 and *juari* 47 lbs. per rupee; in Poona *bajri* 39 and *juari* 41 lbs.
Ahmednagar ...	Jamkhed, 3·55; Akola, 2·55; Kopargaon, 2·48; Sangamner, 2·07; Rahuri, 1·91; Shrigonda, 1·48; Karjat, 1·40; Sheogaon, 1·14; Parner, ·64; Newasa ·53; Nagar, ·51.	Rainfall has done good to the *kharif* crops which are in a flourishing state. Owing to abundant rainfall sowing of *rabi* has not commenced. Cholera 70 attacks, 39 deaths. *Bajri*—maximum 48 lbs. per rupee in Jamkhed, minimum 33 lbs. in Kopargaon; *juari*—maximum 66 lbs. in Newasa, minimum 39 lbs. in Akola.
Sholapur ...	8·25 ...	Total rainfall 31·90. *Kharif* crops good; *rabi* sowings delayed by rain. Locusts in small numbers in Madha, Karmala, and Sangola talukas. Cholera 96 cases, 45 deaths. *Juari* 60 and *bajri* 50 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar ...	Slight rain throughout the district; maximum at Dharwar, 2·03; Mugud, Hubli, Nargund, and Hangal above 1·0; minimum at Mundargi, ·21.	Agricultural prospects promising. Preparations for *rabi* sowings in progress. No disease among men or cattle. Average prices—*juari* 62 and rice 31 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara ...	Karwar, 9·06; Kumpta, 7·53; Sirsi, 5·25; Hallial, ·30.	Total rainfall 121·36. Rice plants healthy and in ear on coast. Common rice in Karwar 12 seers 14 chittacks per rupee; district average 14 seers.
Rajkot ...	1·02 ...	Total rainfall 22·27. General health good. Weather close and hot. Cholera continues slightly in Dhoraji and now appeared in Dhrol. *Bajri* 27 and *juari* 33 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Rain throughout the Presidency, opportune in Guzerat. Prospects generally good; in Sind, however, owing to the low level of the river the crops are suffering from want of water. Little damage reported from locusts. Cholera in most districts of the Presidency, but of a mild type; fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease in a few districts.
Bengal—(Sept. 5th)		
Chittagong ...	·89	Weather hot. More rain wanted in some parts. Prospects fair. Transplanting almost over. Prices somewhat high. Cattle-disease still reported.
Dacca ...	·94	*Roachia* paddy being sown; *aus* paddy and jute being cut. Prospects good. Jute in Nawabgunge damaged.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	1·90	Harvesting of early rice commenced. Transplanting of late rice still going on in some parts. Prospects good. Public health generally good.
Moorshedabad ...	.....	No report received.
Rajshahye ...	·89; slight rain	Weather cloudy. Crops good. Rain wanted. Health fair.
Burdwan ...	1·21	Crops doing well. Transplanting finished. Prospects fair. Fever prevalent.
Rungpore ...	·36	Weather cloudy. Prospects of crops favourable. Harvesting of *aus* rice nearly finished. Jute still being cut. Cholera at Kaligunge has abated; fever prevalent.
Bhagalpur ...	·59	Prospects good. Transplanting of *aghani* rice still going on. More rain wanted, especially in Sadr sub-division.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—*contd.*		
Purneah ...	1·31	Prospects of crops good. Farming operations normal. Public health normal. Floods subsiding.
Patna ...	·33	Prospects of *bhadoi* crops seem favourable, More rain wanted. Transplanting of paddy progressing. Cholera still reported from Barrh and Behar sub-divisions.
Durbhunga ...	·72	Prospects of *bhadoi* crops fair, except where inundation has spoilt them. More rain required for transplanting paddy. Health good.
Hazaribagh ...	1·45	Weather seasonable with alternate rain and sunshine. Rain has done considerable good to the suffering rice crops. Some *bhadoi* crops being harvested. Some isolated cases of cholera and small-pox still reported from the interior. Public health good.
Cuttack ...	5·74	Weather seasonable. Early rice ripening and in some places being reaped. Late rice thriving well. Public health generally good.
		General Remarks.—General rain fell during the week, but the fall was slight in most parts of the province. Transplanting of late rice is still being carried on, but more rain is wanted in several districts. Early rice and jute are being harvested generally with fair results. In Behar prospects of *bhadoi* crops are good, except in Mozufferpore and other places where they have been spoilt by floods. In Howrah damage caused by floods is estimated at one and a half lakhs of rupees. Sugarcane is generally reported to be very satisfactory. Fever is said to be making its appearance in some districts and cholera still lingers in a few; but public health is generally fair.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Sept. 4th)	1·25	A heavy shower on 3rd instant passed across the district from north to south covering 8 to 10 miles on each side of the Ganges. No sickness, except fever due to abnormal heat of the weather. Condition of cattle good. Prices on the whole fairly steady.
Allahabad („ 5th)	Showers of rain in all nine tahsils averaging 1·80 over the whole week.	Prospects somewhat improved. Cholera disappearing. Prices slightly fallen.
Gorakhpur („ 3rd)	Very little rain during week.	Prospects still good; though the early rice is beginning to suffer; early *kharif* crop being gathered; outturn very good. Prices steady.
Jhansi („ „)	Partial but frequent showers have fallen during past week.	More rain is wanted. Prospects are however improving. Weeding of crops continues. *Juari*, cotton, and *til* are generally in fair condition. Health good.
Agra („ 4th)	Rain in all parganas varying from ·40 to 3·70.	Rain has much improved prospects. Fever in three and sporadic cholera which is abating in four parganas. Prices falling slightly. No cattle-disease.
Bareilly („ „)	Rain in five tahsils	More rain required. Crops except rice still of average promise. Prices steady.
Meerut („ „)	Meerut, ·40; Sardhana, 2·10; Bagpat, 1·70; Hapur, ·80; Mowana, 1·20; Ghaziabad, *nil*; but good rain in outlying villages.	Much benefit where rain has fallen. General condition improved, but unirrigated crops are suffering much; irrigated crops, canes, maize, and cotton doing well. Supplies sufficient, but fodder becoming scarce. Prices unchanged in Meerut and half a seer easier in tahsils.
Kumaun („ „)	Good rain during week.	Crop prospects much improved. Early rice being cut. Health fair. Prices stationary. Cattle-disease continues.
Lucknow („ „)	Lucknow, ·40 on 30th; slight falls also at Maliahabad and Mohanlalganj, but below measure limit.	Weather cloudy. Strong easterly wind throughout the week. *Juari*, *kakun*, *mendwa*, and *sawan* crops have been damaged to some extent; rice crop is getting dry and if there is no rain very soon this and the *hewats* crops which have already been sown will all seriously suffer. Condition of people and cattle normal. Markets fairly supplied. Prices steady.
Partabgarh („ „)	Sadr, ·15; Patti, ·20; Kunda, 1·30; heavy rain reported in some parts of district.	In Patti and Partabgarh rice and other crops being watered from tanks and wells. Slight cattle-disease reported. General health good.
Sitapur („ „)	Sidhouli, ·50; no rain elsewhere.	*Juari*, *kodo*, and *dhan* in *ganjar* lands still healthy; sugarcane not much hurt; other crops in three tahsils greatly suffering. Wheat, *gujai*, *urd*, and *sawan* somewhat cheaper.
Fyzabad („ 3rd)	Sadr, ·30; Bikapur, ·30; no rain in other tahsils during week.	Rice suffering somewhat from the drought. Public health good.
Rae Bareli („ „)	Some good rain during the week all over district; Sadr, 3·20; Dalman, 1·10; Salon, 2·10; Digbijaiganj, 2·90.	*Kharif* crops recovering. More rain wanted for *dhan*. General health good. Prices slightly rising.
Cawnpore („ 4th)	Partial showers during week, but in places sufficiently heavy to do good.	Weather cloudy. Early rain crops have severely suffered. Health of people on the whole good and cholera decreasing. Cattle-disease in two parganas continues. Prices fairly low.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—*contd.*		
Farukhabad (Sept. 4th)	Few slight local showers during week.	Light clouds steadily passing westward. Benefit of rain almost inappreciable. Condition of district generally fair. *General Remarks.*—Rain has again fallen in most districts, in some copiously, in others in too small quantities to be of any use. Prospects of the crops have improved during the week, but much damage has already been caused to unirrigated crops; the early *kharif* crops are being gathered in Gorakhpur and the outturn is very good. Prices are steady or falling. The general health is good, and cholera continues to decrease.
Punjab—(Sept. 5th).		
Delhi ...	3·3	Health good. Crop prospects much improved. Prices stationary.
Hissar ...	.....	Rain general throughout the Hissar and Sirsa districts; slight fall in Rohtak. Health good. Prices fluctuating.
Umballa ...	2·2	Crops have much suffered from continued drought, but recent fall of rain will somewhat improve them. Health good. Prices falling.
Jullundur ...	·40	Health good. Crop prospects improving. Prices falling.
Amritsar ...	2·1	Health good. Prices fluctuating.
Sialkot ...	4·0	Crop prospects much improved. Health good. Prices falling.
Ferozepore ...	Sadr, ·40; Ferozepore city, ·30; Zira, ·70; Moga, 3·7; Muktsar, 1·8; Jalalabad, ·20.	Health good. Prices falling.
Lahore ...	2·4	Health good. Crop prospects improved. Prices falling, but still high.
Rawalpindi ...	2·2	Fever in Attock and Kahuta tahsils. *Kharif* prospects in Rawalpindi, Attock, and Gujar Khan tahsils average, below average in Fatehjung, elsewhere good. Prices falling.
Mooltan ...	2·0	Health good. Prospects improved. Prices fluctuating.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	.....	Rain wanted. Health good. Prices slightly falling.
Peshawar ...	.....	Rain much wanted. Fever continues and is spreading. Prices falling. *General Remarks.*—Good rain has fallen throughout the province, except in the north-west, and has much improved the crop prospects; more however is still needed. The general health is good. The fall in prices of food-grains is due to the demand for export to Bombay having ceased, and to the fall of rain during the week.
Central Provinces—(Sept. 5th)		
Nagpur ...	10·0	Weather very rainy. Prospects good. Cholera 648 cases, 439 deaths. Prices slightly risen.
Jubbulpore ...	6·22	Weather cloudy and rainy. Cotton and other *kharif* crops greatly benefited by late rains. Wheat 20 and rice 13 seers per rupee.
Saugor ...	3·44	Recent rain has benefited the crops and prospects are much improved Prices steady. Health good.
Seoni ...	6·80	Weather rainy. Prospects much improved. Prices slightly fallen. Two deaths from cholera.
Hoshangabad ...	7·15; heavy rain on 3rd.	Weather cloudy and rainy. *Kharif* crops promising. Fields ready for *rabi* sowings. Health good. Wheat 15 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	3·70	Weather cloudy. Prospects good. Two deaths from small-pox. Prices stationary.
Raipur ...	2·77	Prospects much improved by recent rain, except in Singa where rain is deficient. Eight deaths from cholera in Drug. Prices steady.
Sambalpur ...	1·36	More rain much wanted. Rice dried up in Phuljhur and Borasamter, languishing in Sarangarh and Chundarpper. Transplanted rice in *khalsa* needs more rain. *General Remarks.*—Heavy rain has fallen throughout the provinces, and prospects are generally favourable. Cholera continues severe in the Nagpur and Wardha districts.
British Burma—(Sept. 1st)		
Akyab ...	6·78	Total rainfall 148·53. Three deaths from cholera in the jail, 6 in Menbya, otherwise public health good. Sixty deaths of cattle in two townships, elsewhere health of plough cattle good. Sowings in progress, standing crops progressing; increase in area under cultivation expected in nearly all the townships.
Rangoon ...	4·23	Total rainfall 61·44. One death from small pox, otherwise public health good. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 93 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	3·52	Total rainfall 68·90. One death from cholera in Bassein township, otherwise public health good. Seventeen deaths of cattle in Yegyi township. Ploughing and transplanting progressing. Ploughing wages 5 baskets of paddy per acre; transplanting wages one basket of paddy per man per day. Price of paddy from Rs. 80 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Prome ...	4·95	Total rainfall 35·49. Public health good. One hundred and nine deaths of cattle in three townships; 125,500 acres ploughed, 112,500 acres planted. More rain has fallen, and plants are doing well. Crops on 500 acres in Paboung reported as destroyed by floods. Price of paddy Rs. 90 per 100 baskets.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	11·11	Total rainfall 131·76. Public health in Moulmein and district good. 216 deaths of cattle in Hlaingbone township. Crops healthy. Transplanting ceased. In Moulmein town ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Health of cattle good. Nurseries and state of supply of seedlings for transplanting good.
Toungoo ...	2·48	Total rainfall 62·76. Public health and health of plough cattle good. Ploughing almost completed; transplanting progressing. Average price of paddy Rs. 65 per 100 baskets.
Kyoukphyoo ...	.....	No report received.
Sandoway ...	11·67	Total rainfall 165·76. Public health good. Agricultural prospects favourable; crops healthy; about three-fourths of culturable area sown and transplanted.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health good. Slight cattle-disease in Hlaing township, elsewhere good. Ploughing progressing. Wages of ploughing labour from 60 to 100 baskets of paddy per man. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Pegu ...	8·88	Total rainfall 95·06. Public health and health of cattle good. Transplanting continues. Flood in river abating. Season favourable. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 95 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy ...	5·85	Total rainfall 74·07. Public health good. Thirty-two deaths of cattle in two townships; health of plough cattle good in all other townships, except Gyobingouk where slight disease prevails. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Crops on about 1,100 acres of paddy land have been destroyed in the Tapun and Gyobingouk townships; the bund of the Htugyohng having burst owing to the flood, some lands were inundated in Shabindu circle, and paddy crops more or less destroyed. Price of paddy from Rs. 92 to 105 per 100 baskets.
Thonegwa ...	4·02	Total rainfall 63·36. Public health and health of cattle good. Damage to crops reported from Thonegwa and Shweloung townships; crops in the Dayday and Pyapon townships not affected by floods. Flood level of the Irrawaddy higher than has been ever known; two or three breaches in the bund south of Maybin, but these have been repaired. Price of paddy from Rs. 75 to Rs. 95 per 100 baskets.
Henzada ...	4·69	Total rainfall 63·65. Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing almost completed. Transplanting progressing, seedlings and plants in good condition in all townships, except Kyangin where seedlings are scarce.
Thayetmyo ...	.....	No report received.
Shwaygyin ...	11·96	Total rainfall 113·21. Public health fair. 37 deaths of cattle in Kyankki township. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Some fields in the Kyaukmow circle reported to be flooded. Price of paddy Rs. 70 per 100 baskets.
Tavoy ...	10·62	Total rainfall 162·58. Public health and health of cattle good. General appearance of plants good. Total area damaged not known as yet.
Mergui ...	.....	No report received. *General Remarks.*—Rainfall still deficient for the period of the year. Public health good. Health of cattle good, except in part of Amherst, but no appearance of any stoppage of agricultural operations in consequence of death or disease of cattle. Ploughing almost finished; nearly all the paddy has been sown or transplanted, and the prospects are good. The price of paddy keeps fairly steady.
Assam—(Sept. 5th)		
Gauhati ...	3·17 week ending 4th instant.	Weather hot. Transplantation in progress. Public health fair. Cattle-disease still in the interior.
Sylhet ...	3·15	Some damage done to crops by heavy rains, which have however done good to tea estate, and prospects of crops on the whole good. Fever reported in Lakhai; small-pox lingers.
Cachar ...	8·60	Weather warm. About one-third of the standing crops damaged by the late floods. Rivers falling. No small-pox reported.
Dibrugarh ...	1·46	Weather hot. Transplanting of *sali dhan* nearly finished. Cattle-disease reported. Public health good.
Mysore and Coorg—(Sept. 5th)		
Bangalore ...	·11	Crops in good condition. Prospects favourable. Pasturage ample.
Mysore ...	·91	Standing crops and prospects of season favourably reported on.
Mercara ...	5·04	Monsoon continues to prevail. Transplantation of rice seedlings completed; *ragi* coming into ear in the Nanjarajapatna taluk, but has suffered from heavy rains. Cardamom crop almost ripe. Heavy fall in price of food-grains. Labour market still inadequately supplied. *General Remarks.*—General rain more or less in all districts. Agricultural operations active in all parts. Prospect favourable and public health generally good. Prices much the same as last reported.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Berar & Hyderabad— (Sept. 5th)		
Amraoti ...	9·32	Crops in excellent condition. Wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	12·50	Rain during the week has been most beneficial to the *kharif* crops.
Hyderabad ...	Average during week 2·04; total from 1st January 22·88.	Rain benefited *kharif* crops. *Abi* sowings commenced. Tanks have received sufficient quantity of water, some have breached. No sickness. Prices—wheat 16, coarse rice 10½, white *juari* 23¾, yellow *juari* 28½, and *tur* 23¾ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (Sept. 5th)		
Indore ...	2·50	Prospects everywhere in Malwa much improved.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	4·16	Cholera decreasing in Gwalior; Morar free from disease. Prices falling. Grain crops promising. Grass safe.
Sutna ...	2·31	Health and prospects good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	3·44	Prospects greatly improved. Health good.
Goona ...	2·67	Prices falling. Health good.
Bhopal ...	3·22	Prospects of crop good. Health good.
Agar ...	2·5	Prospects much improved. *Juari* and *mukka* crops scarcely damaged. Health good.
Nowgong ...	·56	*Kharif* prospects more favourable, but more rain wanted. Health fair.
Manpur ...	4·25	Prospect much improved. Young locusts appearing in Manpur and Bagod.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Sept. 5th)	7·13 during week	Rains again commenced from 30th August, much more expected as clouds are heavy and it is very close. Prices falling.
Sirohi („ 2nd)	·76	Tanks fair. Wells good. Prospects of crops fair. Prices falling Health good. Weather cloudy and warm.
Marwar (Aug. 31st)	·02; sprinkling on 30th and 31st.	All tanks in Jodhpore city empty, and water obtained with difficulty; elsewhere supply fair. Health good. Crops dying out. Weather very cloudy. More rain expected. Prospects will doubtless brighten if copious and general showers fall. Prices falling.
Meywar (Sept. 2nd)	8·18	Tanks and wells good. Health good. Crop prospects bad, for although heavy rain fell during week it was too late to save the crops to any extent.
Harowti („ 1st)	Deolee, 1·53; Tonk, 3·68; Shahpura, ·38; Kotah, 1·60; second timely rainfall since 29th August.	Prospects favourable. Stocks good. Prices normal. General rain since 29th; still falling. Hopes revived. Slight cholera in parts of Boondee and Kotah. Prices fallen.
Jhallawar (Aug. 31st)	4·36	Prospects decidedly improved. Health good.
Ajmere (Sept. 4th)	2·02	Prospects considerably improved. Health fair.
Jeypore („ „)	3·08; still raining	Crop prospects more favourable. Cholera much diminished. Prices fallen.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Sept. 4th)	·85 average on week ending September 1st; good rain this week, 1 50.	Crops somewhat benefited. Cholera disappearing.

Memorandum of chief weather characteristics of the month of August 1883 in India.

THE month just elapsed was one of very deficient rainfall throughout India, except in the Provinces of Madras, Berar, and Assam. The break in the rains, which, during the latter half of July, was very general in North-Western, and parts of Central India, became even more pronounced, throughout that region, during the first three weeks of the month under review, and extended, though in a modified degree, to Behar and a large part of Bombay. The drought was apparently at its height both as regards extent and intensity during the second week in August. The reports received on the 9th, 15th, and 16th ultimo, show that, with the exception of quite insignificant showers at two or three stations, no rain whatever fell in that part of India, lying north of Belgaum, and west of Benares. On the 19th, however, a change commenced, the air became slowly damper over the Cnetral and North-Western Provinces, and the sky more cloudy; and very gradually these changes spread, till, at the close of the month, rain had extended to the Punjab, Rajputana and Gujarat; in Rajputana, and a large part of the Punjab, and the North-Western Provinces, it was only on the last two days of the month that rain began to fall, and, even then, only in small amounts.

Consequently on the absence of rain, the temperature of North-Western India was excessive; but less so than in August, 1877, in which year the drought was not, as in present year, preceded by general rain in July. Thus, the mean temperature of all stations in the Punjab and North-Western Provinces on the three days, the 1st, 14th and 28th, give a general mean of 89·3°, which is 3·8° above the normal average. In August 1877, the excess was 5°.

The humidity of the air was greatly below the average almost everywhere, the deficit being as much as 22 per cent. of saturation at Delhi, and 21 per cent. at Meerut and Agra.

The number of days on which rain fell in the Punjab was 17, but on no one was the fall general. On five days it was restricted to the hill stations, and on the other 12, slight local showers only occurred at widely separated stations. On the 31st, the change of weather, which had already taken place in other parts of the country, was just setting in in the Punjab.

In the North-Western Provinces, the number of rainy days was also 17; *viz.*, seven days on which the rainfall was entirely confined to the hills, and ten on which local showers and storms were reported. In these Provinces, however, the rainfall of the 30th and 31st was much more general and steady than that on the same dates in the Punjab. The average deficiency over this region was 6½ inches; the largest being 15 inches at Mussooree.

In Assam, the number of wet days was 24,—a slight and partial interruption of the rainfall having occurred between the 14th and 20th. The total August fall exceeded the average; so that the excess for the season, which was noticed in the July summary, has been still further increased.

In Bengal, rain fell on every day of the month, but the total amount was below the average, except at the stations of Darjeeling, Burdwan and False Point. In other parts of the Province, the rainfall was deficient by amounts, varying between 2 and 6½ inches.

In the Central Provinces, Berar, and Central India, the general weather characteristics were alike in many respects. From the 1st to the 19th, the drought held without intermission; but, after that date, the change noticed above set in simultaneously throughout the whole of these Provinces, and from that time onward, rain was more or less of daily occurrence. But while, in the Central Provinces and Central India, the amounts which fell after the 19th were but moderate, the rainfall in Berar was so heavy as to more than compensate the deficiency of the first part of the month, and to produce an excess, at the end of the month, of nearly 6 inches.

In Rajputana, rain was experienced on only two days, *viz.*, the 30th and 31st of the month. At Jeypore, only about ½ an inch, and at Ajmere only 1½ inches fell; while at Mount Abu, the total fall in the month was only 1¾ inches, or 23 inches below the average. In Sind, Cutch, and Gujarat, there was practically no rain.

In Bombay, there were 19 rainy days. From the first to the 7th, rain fell pretty constantly, but between the 7th and 20th, there followed a decided break, when the only rain was slight and local. After the latter date, rain recommenced and continued steadily till the end of the month. The monthly total was below the average, except at Malegaon and Sholapore.

In the Peninsula and Ceylon, rain fell on about 23 days, and the amount was generally above the average; the excess varying from about 13 inches at Colombo to about 1 inch in the Carnatic.

In Burma, the number of wet days was 29, and occasionally there were heavy falls; but except at Diamond Island, the total fall was below the monthly mean. The total amount of this Province for the three months is below that of an average season.

The largest total fall in the month was at Akyab 32 inches. The largest excess above the average was 13½ inches at Colombo, and 13 inches at Moulmein.

W. L. DALLAS,
Assistant Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.

SIMLA;
The 6th September 1883.

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Statement of receipts and expenditure on account of the Burma Coast lights since the introduction of Act IX of 1879 to the 31st March 1883. (Published in accordance with section 16 of Act IX of 1879, an Act to amend the law relating to Coast lights in the eastern part of the Bay of Bengal.)

Receipts.						Expenditure.											
1879-80.			1880-81.			Lights.			1879-80.		1880-81.		1881-82.		1882-83.	Total.	
Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	
						Oyster Reef	...	...	4,244		15,184		10,686		8,370	38,484	
						Savage Island	...	...	341		312		628		...	1,281	
						Terribles Reef	...	...	...		...		...		3,595	3,595	
						Algnada Reef	...	...	6,568		13,751		16,842		19,197	56,658	
						Krishna Shoal	{ S. V. *Colombo*	...	20,096		35,732		22,805		30,186	1,09,269	
							{ L. S. *Star*	...	*2,846		9,677		...		...	12,523	
						Table Island, Cocos		...	5,903		7,737		12,853		13,115	39,608	
						China Buckeer		...	1,374		...		930		7,901	10,205	
						Eastern Grove		...	...		...		...		5,376	5,376	
						Double Island		...	...		...		...		154	154	
						{ Reef Island		...	1,125		...		...		...	1,611	
						{ Tavoy or Table Island		...	...		...		...		5,704	5,704	
						Schooner *Dauntless*		...	...		...		...		...	...	
						Light Ship *Alguada*		...	3,034		...		...		...	3,034	
						Relief Establishment		...	...		...		...		667	667	
						Allowance to Superintendent of Light-houses and Public Works Expenditure		...	2,714		2,918		5,566		4,609	15,807	
								...	4,674		2,592		283		1,621	9,170	
1,14,582	11	6	1,66,995	0	3	Total		...	52,919		87,903		70,915		1,01,095	3,12,832	
1,14,582	11	6	1,66,995	0	3	1,56,802	9	4	1,96,213	7	5	6,34,593	12	6			

* Incurred on account of preliminary surveys in connection with the reconstruction of the Krishna Shoal Light-house.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE;
Simla, the 8th September 1883.

D. M. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House, Simla, on Wednesday, the 5th September, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding.*
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble D. G. Barkley.

MÚLTÁN DISTRICT LAWS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT introduced the Bill to declare the law in force in certain lands which have been or hereafter may be ceded by the Baháwalpur State for occupation by the Indus Valley State Railway.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill be taken into consideration at the next meeting.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

N.-W. P. AND OUDH LOCAL BOARDS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the constitution of Local Boards in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

N.-W. P. AND OUDH MUNICIPALITIES BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON also presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to make better provision for the Organization and Administration of Municipalities in the North-Westen Provinces and Oudh.

PANJÁB MUNICIPAL BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY moved for leave to introduce a Bill to make better provision for the Organization and Administration of Municipalities in the Panjáb. He said:—

"My Lord, when the Panjáb Local Self-government Bill was introduced about three months ago, it was explained that the legislation which might be required with regard to municipalities had been reserved for separate consideration.

"Some of the Panjáb municipalities may be said to have arrived at the age of majority, as they were originally established 21 years ago, and many more were formed before the passing of Act XV of 1867, which was the first Act of the Legislature passed with special reference to them. A few, such as Delhi and Simla, had been formed under the provisions of a General Act, XXVI of 1850,

relating to improvements in towns; but the majority received no legal recognition before the passing of Act XV of 1867. That was a temporary Act, its duration having been originally limited to five years, and afterwards extended for one year more by an Act passed in 1872. Its place was taken in 1873 by Act IV of 1873, which contains the law now applicable to all municipalities in the Panjáb.

"Act IV of 1873 is a short Act consisting of only 23 sections, being less than half the number of sections contained in the similar Act passed in the same year for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh; and though its provisions have been supplemented by rules framed under it by the Local Government and rules and bye-laws made by committees with the sanction of the Local Government, it has been found to be defective in many particulars in regard to which the Municipal Acts in force in other parts of India contain express provisions. These defects were brought to the notice of the Panjáb Government so long ago as 1876 by Mr. Plowden, now the senior Judge of the Chief Court, who was then Government Advocate; and, though it was not found necessary to ask for legislation at the time, the experience of the last few years shews that steps must now be taken to remedy them.

"While it would have been possible to give effect to the proposals for the extension of local self-government in municipalities made by the Local Government in its Resolution No. 1777, dated 7th September, 1882, by rules under the existing Act, the amendment of that Act appeared to be a more suitable mode of effecting this purpose. The present Bill has accordingly been framed, both with this object and with a view to remove the defects known to exist in the law now in force. It is proposed to repeal Act IV of 1873, so that the whole of the law applicable to municipalities in the Panjáb may be included in one Act.

"The provisions of the Bill are fully explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, and I do not therefore propose to do more than notice some of the more important alterations which it will make in the law.

"By the rules in force under Act IV of 1873, committees are divided into three classes, but the orders and proceedings of committees of the third class are subject to the confirmation of the Deputy Commissioner before they can take effect. The classification of municipalities is now provided for by the Bill, but only two classes are retained, it being thought that any municipalities, the committees of which cannot with advantage be placed in a position of greater independence than that of the third class committees at present, had better be abolished, while those which are fit for higher powers can be transferred to the second class.

"Except in a few of the more important municipalities, in which a portion of the members have hitherto been elected, all the members of municipal committees have hitherto been nominated. It is now proposed to give the committees a more representative character, and for this purpose to have recourse to election where this can properly be done. There are cases, especially on the frontier, in which no form of election would be suitable, and the section relating to the constitution of committees therefore provides either for election or for appointment in the same way as in the Local Self-government Bill, defining, as far as possible, the circumstances under which the system of election, when once introduced, may be departed from. It also raises the proportion of members other than salaried officers of Government from two-fifths to two-thirds of the committee, unless when such officers are elected as members.

"Though, under the existing Act committees might be empowered to elect their chairman, the rules under the Act make the Deputy Commissioner chairman of all municipal committees in his district, and it is only in a few recent instances that any committees have been empowered to elect. Under the Bill, the chairman will be elected, subject to the approval of the Local Government, except where that Government may by notification otherwise direct, but the committee, instead of electing, may apply to the Local Government, to appoint a chairman from among its members. In some cases it is believed that committees will prefer this course to having to make the choice of one of their members as chairman themselves.

"A section has been introduced, enabling the chairman, or in his absence the vice-chairman, in cases of emergency, to exercise all powers of the committee which the Act does not require to be exercised by the committee at a meeting.

"When a paid secretary is appointed, his appointment, removal and salary are made subject to the sanction of the Commissioner of the division. The office is one for which it is highly important to secure the appointment of a competent man, and such a man might not care to accept office under a committee without some guarantee against arbitrary dismissal. Other servants may be employed by the committee, the Deputy Commissioner being given such powers of control as are necessary to prevent improper appointments or the employment of too large or too expensive an establishment, subject to appeal to the Commissioner. It was at the suggestion of one of the most important municipal committees in the province—that of Delhi—that this check was made applicable to all committees, and not, as originally intended, to second class committees only.

"The subject of taxation is much more fully dealt with in Chapter III than in the corresponding sections (7 to 9) of the existing Act. Those sections contained no description of the taxes which might be imposed. This has now been supplied, and other taxes than those mentioned cannot be imposed without the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council. In the case of taxes on immoveable property, a maximum rate has been fixed. The rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on annual value, with the additional rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. which may be imposed for special objects, may appear high, but this was necessary to cover the rate of 10 per cent. on annual value now sanctioned in Simla. Similarly, the rate of three rupees per running foot of frontage which may be imposed as an alternative to the tax on annual value is the present rate in the main bázár of Simla. It may be regarded as certain that rates so high as these will only be sanctioned in very exceptional cases like that of Simla.

"Some of the taxes enumerated are not now levied in any municipality in the province, but have been included, as it may in some cases be necessary to provide a substitute for the octroi tax, which is the chief source of income of almost all Panjáb municipalities, but which cannot be continued where it is not possible to prevent it from operating as a tax upon through trade. In the case of tolls, which are not allowed by existing rules, it is provided that they may be imposed only where no octroi is levied.

"Instead of section 8 of the present Act, which prohibits the collection of any tax until the assessment has been confirmed as prescribed by rules made by the Local Government—a provision which is clearly inapplicable to direct taxation like the octroi tax—express rules have been laid down for the assessment, confirmation and collection of taxes on immoveable property, and for the collection of the octroi tax, and the Local Government has been empowered to make rules for the assessment and collections of other taxes. Appeals against taxes or assessments have also been provided for.

"Under the existing Act, municipal taxes may be recovered as arrears of land-revenue. For this a power to recover arrears by distress and sale under the orders of a Magistrate is substituted, and provision is also made for seizing articles on which any octroi tax or toll is chargeable in default of payment of the charge.

"Chapter IV, which relates to the powers and duties of committees, is also in much more detail than the corresponding sections 11 to 17 of the existing Act.

"While the cost of the municipal police is made, as before, a first charge on the municipal fund, provision is made for the Local Government relieving the committee of such charges on its agreeing to undertake services within the municipality, the cost of which has hitherto been borne by Government, and not exceed the cost of the establishment ordinarily employed on police duty within the municipality. When the municipal police consists of a body

of watchmen, it is proposed to place that body under the orders of the District Superintendent of Police, and provision is made for putting its members on a footing similar to that of members of the general police force, so far as is consistent with their not being enrolled in that force and subjected to general service nor brought under the same rules as to pay and pension.

"Section 67 enables committees, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, to make rules for the prohibition, prosecution or punishment of acts or omissions of a similar character to those punishable as public nuisances under the Indian Penal Code, and of offences against public decency. Its form resembles that adopted in the committee on the North-Western Provinces Bill for the similar section in that Bill. Sections 68 to 70 give powers for the prohibition of nuisances, and enable the Local Government to confer powers to issue conditional orders for the removal of nuisances which committees in the Panjáb have not hitherto possessed. These are taken, with some modification, from the Municipal Acts in force in the North-Western Provinces and in British Burma.

"In addition to the general powers given to committees to make rules, subject to the sanction of Government, binding on the public, for purposes which are stated more at length in the Bill than in the Act now in force, section 72 gives a special power to committees in hill stations to make rules for the regulation of traffic, and for the prevention of acts likely to cause serious injury, unless proper precautions are taken, being done without the permission of the committee. Examples of such acts are quarrying or making excavations and cutting down forest trees on private grounds. The general law is, of course, sufficient to prevent such acts being done on public property without proper authority.

"Sections 74 to 85 give certain powers of interference with objectionable trades and with private property, which it has been thought better to include in the Bill than to leave to depend upon the authority of bye-laws, as has hitherto been the case. In this respect the Bill follows the precedent of the Municipal Acts of the local Legislatures of Madras, Bombay and Bengal, though it does not go so far as those Acts do in defining the acts and omissions which should be prohibited within municipal limits.

"Section 89 enables the Local Government to give a power which it is thought may be found convenient in places like Simla, of accepting a small composition for petty nuisances out of Court instead of prosecuting, when the offender consents to pay such composition.

"The sections relating to control in Chapter V are similar to those in the Local Self-government Bill, and take the place of the wide power the Local Government possesses, under the existing law, to suspend or limit all or any of the powers of any committee, and to cancel any of their proceedings or rules. Some of the gentlemen consulted have thought that the powers given to local officers are too great, and have proposed that, in the case of first class committees at least, these powers should be exercised only by the Local Government, but the cases in which interference would be most necessary would generally be of such a nature as to call for prompter action than would be possible if nothing could be done until the facts had been reported to the Local Government, and time had been allowed for such enquiry as would satisfy Government that interference was called for.

"Section 94, which requires the orders of the Deputy Commissioner and Commissioner under the preceding sections to be forthwith reported to Government with a statement of the reasons for making them, and with any explanation which the committee may wish to offer, affords a check which should prevent any capricious or unnecessary interference; and this experience, which the more important municipal committees have already gained, should preserve them from falling into errors which would render interference necessary. But a sufficient power of control must be reserved to protect the public interests against the effects of negligence or ill-judged action on the part of committees, even though the cases may rarely occur in which any interference with the

functions of the committee will be necessary. It is only subject to this condition that committees can be given greater freedom of action than they have hitherto had, but experienced committees, well informed as to the wants of the public, and willing to exert themselves to supply them, so far as the means at their disposal allow, have no cause to fear that they will be exposed to any undue interference.

"The power to make rules to supplement the provisions of the Act given to the Local Government by section 97 and the provisions of the concluding chapters of the Bill call for no remark."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY also introduced the Bill.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the *Gazette of India* and in the *Panjáb Government Gazette* in English and in such other languages as the Local Government might think fit.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 12th September, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,

SIMLA; *The 7th September, 1883.*

Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

Printed and Published for the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA *at the Govt. Central Branch Press, Simla.*

SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India.

Nº 37.} CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* GAZETTE OF INDIA *will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.*

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE *may receive the* SUPPLEMENT *separately on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or nine Rupees if sent by Post.*

No Official Orders or Notifications, the publication of which in the GAZETTE OF INDIA *is required by Law, or which it has been customary to publish in the* CALCUTTA GAZETTE, *will be included in the* SUPPLEMENT. *For such Orders and Notifications the body of the* GAZETTE *must be looked to.*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

RETURNS OF ACCIDENTS ON INDIAN RAILWAYS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1883.

No. 933 R. T., dated Simla, the 27th August 1883.

OBSERVATIONS—By the Government of India, Public Works Department.

Read again—

Public Works Department Resolution No. 725R. T., dated the 20th July 1882.

Public Works Department Resolution No. 623R. T., dated the 2nd June 1883.

Read also—

Returns of Accidents to trains, &c., on the open lines of railway in India for the quarter ending 31st March 1883.

OBSERVATIONS.—As compared with the corresponding quarter of the previous year with an increase of 248 miles, or 2·51 per cent. in the open mileage, and of 272,088 miles, or 2·72 per cent. in the train mileage, the number of accidents to trains, rolling-stock, permanent-way, &c., shows an increase of 20, or 2·87 per cent. The following are the railways on which the numbers chiefly vary:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	12	...
Punjab Northern	15	...
Indus Valley and Kandahar	35	...
Rajputana-Malwa	...	18
Wardha Coal	...	20
Northern Bengal	11	...
Mysore	...	16

2. On the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway the increase chiefly took place under "miscellaneous accidents," the number being 8 against 18.

3. On the Punjab Northern and Indus Valley and Kandahar State Railways the cases of fire in trains increased from 5 to 25, and 8 to 25 respectively. The number of cattle "accidents on the latter line also rose from 26 to 33, and that of cases of trains running over obstructions" from 1 to 7.

4. The number of cases in which trains ran over cattle on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway was 23 against 29, and that of "broken rails" 10 against *nil*. Under "fire in trains" and "miscellaneous" there were no accidents, while in the corresponding period of 1882 the accidents under these heads numbered 4 and 8 respectively.

5. Of the decrease of 20 accidents on the Wardha Coal Railway, 8 occurred under "failure of tyres" and 9 under "fire in trains."

6. The increase on the Northern Bengal Railway, and decrease on the Mysore Railway, call for no particular remark.

7. The total number of accidents on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway was 87 against 95, but it appears from the details that, while there was an increase of 17 accidents under "goods trains or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails," there was a decrease of 21 accidents under "fire in trains."

8. On the Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railway there were 6 cases of "failure of couplings" against *nil* in the corresponding quarter of 1882; the number of "miscellaneous accidents" increased from 1 to 20, but owing to decreases under other heads, there was a total increase of 5 accidents only on this line.

9. The casualties resulting from accidents to trains, &c., exhibit a very large reduction, being, among passengers, 4 injured against 14 killed and 31 injured, and, among servants, 2 killed and 6 injured against 2 killed and 10 injured. The decrease in the casualties to passengers is accounted for by the fact that in the corresponding quarter of 1882 13 men were killed and 15 injured in a single accident on the East Indian Railway at Shikohabad, caused by an up-mail train coming into collision with an up-goods train which it was following, and 13 men slightly injured in an accident on the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway, caused, through the carelessness of the pointsman, by an up-mail train colliding with some wagons standing on a siding at the Viramgam station.

10. The following table exhibits the number of accidents under the different classes, and the number of persons killed and injured thereby:—

Description of Accidents.	Number of accidents.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines, and vehicles standing foul of the line	16	...	...	1	...	1	...
Collisions between goods trains or parts of goods trains	15	...	4	...	1	....	
Collisions between light engines	4	...	...	1	...	1	...
Passenger trains or parts of passenger trains leaving the rails	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
Goods trains or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	72	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trains running over cattle on the line	210	...	...	...	...	...	...

Description of Accidents.	Number of accidents.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Trains running over obstructions on the line	37	*1	*1	...	...	1	1
Do. do. through gates at level crossings	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	19	...	...	...	...	...	...
The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	66	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. of tyres	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. of wheels	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. of axles	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. of brake apparatus	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. of couplings	31	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Broken rails	16	...	...	...	...	...	...
The flooding of portions of permanent-way	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fire in trains	95	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fire at stations or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents	77	...	...	...	5	...	5
Total	716	1	5	2	6	3	11

11. The number of derailments of "goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c.," has increased from 53 to 72. This increase appears to be due to there being 26 accidents of this description against 9 in the corresponding quarter of 1882 on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, and 9 against 1 on the East Indian Railway.

12. The cattle accidents were, as previously noticed, numerous on the South Indian, Indus Valley and Kandahar, and Rajputana-Malwa Railways. There were out of a total of 210 accidents, 43 on the South Indian, 33 on the Indus Valley and Kandahar, and 23 on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway.

13. The cases of "bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines" numbered 19, of which 11 occurred on the Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railway, and 8 on the Indus Valley and Kandahar. As compared with the corresponding previous quarter, there was a reduction of 11 accidents under this head.

14. The number of "failures of machinery, springs, &c., of engines" was the largest on the Indus Valley and Kandahar Railway, being 35 out of a total of 66.

15. There was only one case of "failure of tyres" against 10 in the corresponding quarter of 1882.

16. There were 14 cases of "failure of axles," 31 cases of "failure of couplings," and 16 cases of "broken rails." Of these numbers 8, 11 and 10 respectively occurred on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway alone.

17. Of 95 cases of "fire in trains" 21 took place on the Great Indian Peninsula, 25 on the Punjab Northern, and 25 on the Indus Valley Railway. On the Great Indian Peninsula, as already noted in a previous paragraph, there was a decrease of 21 accidents under this class.

* Not passengers: see footnote to Table No. II of Abstract.

18. The casualties to passengers from causes other than accidents to trains, &c., were :—

	Killed.	Injured.
From falling between carriages and platforms	...	2
Falling on to the platform, ballast, &c., when getting into or out of trains	1	4
Falling out of carriages during the travelling of trains	4	15
Other accidents	1	6
TOTAL	6	27

19. And the accidents to servants in the employ of Railways or of contractors, whilst performing duties connected directly with the transit of passengers and goods, from causes other than accidents to trains, &c., were :—

	Killed.	Injured.
During shunting operations	3	11
Falling off engines, vans, wagons, &c.	5	5
Coming in contact with overbridges, &c., during the travelling of trains	1	...
Getting on or off trains, engines, &c.	5	6
Whilst loading, unloading or sheeting	1	8
Whilst braking, spragging or chocking wheels	...	1
Whilst working at cranes or capstans	...	2
Whilst working on the permanent-way or in sidings	2	2
Whilst walking along the line on the way home or to work	1	...
Whilst walking, crossing or standing on the line	7	11
Whilst attending to the machinery of engines, cleaning them, &c.	...	2
Whilst attending to gates at level crossings	2	...
Falling off ladders, scaffolds, platforms, &c.	...	2
By falling of lamps, wagon doors, timber, weights, &c.	1	6
Whilst coupling or uncoupling wagons	3	6
Miscellaneous	6	14
TOTAL	37	76

20. Of other persons killed and injured by running trains, &c., 4 were killed and 2 injured whilst passing over the line at level crossings; 21 were killed and 4 injured whilst trespassing on the line; 3 committed suicide; and 2 were killed and 4 injured from miscellaneous causes.

21. The following table shows the total number of persons killed and injured from causes connected with the working of trains, as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1882 :—

	1st QUARTER 1882.		1st QUARTER 1883.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Passengers.				
From causes beyond their own control	14	29	...	4
From misconduct or want of caution	10	28	6	27
Servants.				
From causes beyond their own control	3	25	4	11
From misconduct or want of caution	40	85	35	71
Others.				
Whilst passing at level crossings	3	1	4	2
Trespassers, including suicides	29	6	24	4
Other persons	2	2	2	4
TOTAL	101	176	75	123

22. In addition to the above, 14 persons are reported to have been killed and 44 injured in yards, workshops, &c., and 91 passengers to have met death in carriages and at stations from causes unconnected with the working of trains.

RESOLUTION.—The attention of the Government and Officers concerned should be invited to the increase in the numbers of derailments of "goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c.," on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, and cases of "fire in trains" on the Punjab Northern and Indus Valley State Railways.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Resolution, together with the abstract returns compiled by the Government of India, be communicated to the Governments, Administrations, and Officers noted in the margin for information.

The Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab.
The Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Assam, and British Burma.
The Residents, Hyderabad and Mysore.
The Agents to the Governor General for Rajputana, Central India, and Biluchistan.
The Director General of Railways.
The Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways.

Ordered also, that copies be forwarded to the Secretary of State for information of Her Majesty's Government.

Ordered further, that this Resolution, with the abstract returns, be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.*,
Offg. Under-Secretary.

TABLE No. 1.

GENERAL TOTAL.

NUMBER of PERSONS reported during the First Quarter of 1883, as KILLED or INJURED on the several RAILWAYS open for Traffic in INDIA, distinguishing between PASSENGERS, RAILWAY SERVANTS, and OTHER PERSONS; and distinguishing also, in the case of the two former Classes, between ACCIDENTS happening from Causes beyond their own Control, and ACCIDENTS happening otherwise.

Mean Mileage open.	RAILWAYS.		PASSENGERS.						RAILWAY SERVANTS, OR SERVANTS OF CONTRACTORS.						OTHER PERSONS.								TOTAL ALL CLASSES.	
			From Causes beyond their own Control.		From their own Misconduct or want of Caution.		Total.		From Causes beyond their own Control.		From their own Misconduct or want of Caution.		Total.		Whilst passing over Railways at Level-Crossings.		Trespassers and Suicides.		Miscellaneous not included in preceding Columns.		Total.			
			Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
(a) 1,652	East Indian	1882	13	16	6	9	19	25	1	16	6	30	7	46	1	...	10	...	...	...	11	...	37	71
1,653		1883	...	4	3	14	3	18	2	1	4	15	6	16	1	...	13	2	2	1	16	3	25	37
	Guaranteed.																							
858	Madras	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	9	4	9	...	...	1	1	1	...	2	1	6	10
861		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
(b) 655	South Indian	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	1	2	...	...	...	2	1	2	3
655		1883	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	3	...
(c) 1,446½	Great Indian Peninsula	1882	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	9	18	9	19	1	...	2	...	...	1	3	1	12	21
1,457½		1883	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	8	18	8	20	...	...	3	1	...	...	3	1	11	22
(d) 450½	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	1882	1	13	...	2	1	15	...	...	6	5	6	5	...	...	2	1	...	...	2	1	9	21
461		1883	...	...	...	3	...	3	1	1	3	7	4	8	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	5	11
(h) 172½	Eastern Bengal	1882	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	1	4	1	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	4	4
(e) 192½		1883	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	3	2	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
(f) 663½	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	1882	...	...	1	4	1	4	...	1	3	2	3	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	5	7
663½		1883	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	2	6	13	6	15	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	9	15
547	Oudh and Rohilkhand	1882	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	3	1	3	...	...	2	...	...	1	2	1	3	5
546½		1883	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	2	2	4
	Imperial State.																							
367½	Punjab Northern	1882	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	2	1	3	3
422		1883	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	2	2	5	3
641.	Indus Valley and Kandahar	1882	...	...	1	3	1	3	1	3	4	1	5	4	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	8	7
660		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	3	2	1	1	...	...	...	3	1	3	4
(g) 1,139½	Rajputana-Malwa	1882	...	...	...	6	...	6	...	...	2	2	2	2	...	...	2	2	1	...	3	2	5	10
1,138½		1883	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	5	3	5	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	6	5
45	Wardha Coal	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
45		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...
	Provincial State.																							
28	Calcutta and South-Eastern	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
43		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27½	Nalhâti	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27½		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
233	Northern Bengal	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	3	...
230		1883	...	...	1	2	1	2	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
32½	Kaunia-Dhurla	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
32½		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
85	Tirhoot	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
134½		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29	Muttra-Háthras	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
29		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
86½	Cawnpore-Farukhabad	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
86½		1883	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
98	Nágpur and Chhattísgarh	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
128		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
161	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	1882	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	7	1	7	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	9
161		1883	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	1	3	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6
	Native States.																							
192½	Bhavnagar-Gondal	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
193		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
59½	Gaekwar of Baroda's	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
59½		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
121	Nizam's	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
121		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
67	Mysore	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
86		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	Jodhpore	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9,858½	TOTAL	1882	14	29	10	28	24	57	3	25	40	85	43	110	3	1	29	6	2	...	34	9	101	176
10,106½		1883	...	4	6	27	6	31	4	11	35	71	39	82	4	2	24	4	2	4	30	10	75	123

(a) Includes the Sindia, Dildarnagar-Ghazipur and Patna-Gya State Railways, and 3 miles, Barh Branch of the Tirhoot State Railway.
(b) Excludes Pondicherry Branch.
(c) Inclusive of the Branch State lines worked by the Company.
(d) Ditto Patri Branch, worked by the Company.
(e) Includes the Poradaha Branch of the Northern Bengal State Railway and Ranaghat-Bongong Section of the Bengal Central Railway.
(f) Excludes 13 miles of the East Indian Railway from Ghaziabad to Delhi, worked over by the Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railway Company.
(g) Includes the Muttra-Achnera line, worked as a branch of this system.
(h) Inclusive of the Poradaha Branch of the N. B. S. Railway.

TABLE No. 2.

NUMBER of PERSONS reported during the First Quarter of 1883, as KILLED or INJURED on the several RAILWAYS open for Traffic in INDIA, distinguishing between PASSENGERS, RAILWAY SERVANTS, and OTHER PERSONS; and classifying, as far as practicable, the Nature and Causes of the Accidents occasioning the Death or Injury.

PASSENGERS.

RAILWAYS.	From accidents to trains, &c. See Table No. 4. Killed.	Injured.	1.—From falling between carriages and platforms. Killed.	Injured.	2.—Falling on to the platform, ballast, &c., when getting into or out of trains. Killed.	Injured.	3.—Whilst crossing the line at Stations. Killed.	Injured.	4.—By closing of carriage doors. Killed.	Injured.	5.—Falling out of carriages during the travelling of trains. Killed.	Injured.	6.—Other accidents. Killed.	Injured.	TOTAL. Killed.	Injured.	TOTAL PASSENGERS. Killed.	Injured.
East Indian	...	4	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	8	1	4	3	14	3	18
Guaranteed.																		
Madras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Great Indian Peninsula	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3	...	3
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Sind, Punjab and Delhi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	2	...
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Imperial State.																		
Punjab Northern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Indus Valley and Kandahar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rajputana-Malwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	2
Wardha Coal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Provincial State.																		
Calcutta and South-Eastern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nalháti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	2	1	2
Kaunia-Dhurla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muttra-Háthras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Native States.																		
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mysore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL 1883	...	4	...	2	1	4	...	...	...	...	4	15	1	6	6	27	6	31
TOTAL 1882	14	21	3	2	1	5	2	...	...	...	4	18	...	1	10	26	24	57

SERVANTS. (FROM CAUSES OTHER THAN ACCIDENTS TO TRAINS, &c.)

RAILWAYS.	From accidents to trains, &c. See Table No. 4. Killed.	Injured.	1.—During shunting operations. Killed.	Injured.	2.—Falling off engines, vans, wagons, &c. Killed.	Injured.	3.—Coming in contact with over-bridges, &c., during the travelling of trains. Killed.	Injured.	4.—Coming in contact while shunting, with vehicles, &c., standing in adjoining lines. Killed.	Injured.	5.—Getting on or off trains, engines, &c. Killed.	Injured.	6.—Whilst loading, unloading or sheeting. Killed.	Injured.
East Indian	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	1
Guaranteed.														
Madras	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Great Indian Peninsula	...	2	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Sind, Punjab and Delhi	...	1	1	4	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	3
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Imperial State.														
Punjab Northern	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indus Valley and Kandahar	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Rajputana-Malwa	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Wardha Coal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Provincial State.														
Calcutta and South-Eastern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nalháti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kaunia-Dhurla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muttra-Háthras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	...	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Native States.														
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mysore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL 1883	2	6	3	11	5	5	1	...	...	...	5	6	1	8
TOTAL 1882	2	10	1	8	8	9	1	2	1	...	5	7	1	14

SERVANTS (continued). (FROM CAUSES OTHER THAN ACCIDENTS TO TRAINS, &c.)

RAILWAYS.	7.—Whilst breaking, sprag-ging or chocking wheels. Killed.	Injured.	8.—Whilst working at cranes or capstans. Killed.	Injured.	9.—Whilst working on the permanent-way, or in sidings. Killed.	Injured.	10.—Whilst walking along the line on the way home or to work. Killed.	Injured.	11.—Whilst walking, crossing, or standing on the line. Killed.	Injured.	12.—Whilst passing between vehicles. Killed.	Injured.	13.—Whilst attending to the machinery of engines, cleaning them, &c. Killed.	Injured.
East Indian	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	4	...	...	...	...
Guaranteed.														
Madras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
South Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Great Indian Peninsula	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Sind, Punjab and Delhi	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Imperial State.														
Punjab Northern	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Indus Valley and Kandahar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rajputana-Malwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wardha Coal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Provincial State.														
Calcutta and South-Eastern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nalháti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kaunia-Dhurla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muttra-Háthras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Native States.														
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mysore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL 1883	...	1	...	2	2	2	1	...	7	11	...	...	...	2
TOTAL 1882	...	1	1	2	4	2	4	2	9	6	1	...	...	6

SERVANTS (continued).

RAILWAYS.	14.—Whilst attending to gates at level-crossings. Killed.	Injured.	15.—Falling or being caught between vehicles and platforms. Killed.	Injured.	16.—Falling off ladders, scaffolds, platforms, &c. Killed.	Injured.	17.—By falling of lamps, wagon-doors, timber, weights, &c. Killed.	Injured.	18.—Whilst coupling or uncoupling wagons. Killed.	Injured.	19.—Miscellaneous. Killed.	Injured.	TOTAL. Killed.	Injured.	TOTAL SERVANTS. Killed.	Injured.
East Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	3	5	16	6	16
Guaranteed.																
Madras	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	5
South Indian	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Great Indian Peninsula	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	3	2	5	8	18	8	20
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	3	7	4	8
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	3	2
Sind, Punjab and Delhi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	1	6	14	6	15
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	1	1
Imperial State.																
Punjab Northern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...
Indus Valley and Kandahar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3
Rajputana-Malwa	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	3	5	3
Wardha Coal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Provincial State.																
Calcutta and South-Eastern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nalháti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kaunia-Dhurla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muttra-Háthras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	5	1	5
Native States.																
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Mysore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL 1883	2	...	...	...	...	2	1	6	3	6	6	14	37	76	39	82
TOTAL 1882	1	...	1	1	1	1	...	3	3	6	4	30	41	100	43	110

OTHERS.

RAILWAYS.	Whilst passing over the line at level-crossings. Killed.	Injured.	Trespassers. Killed.	Injured.	Suicides. Killed.	Injured.	Miscellaneous. Killed.	Injured.	TOTAL OTHERS. Killed.	Injured.	TOTAL ALL CLASSES. Killed.	Injured.
East Indian	1	...	11	2	2	...	2	1	16	3	25	37
Guaranteed.												
Madras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
South Indian	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	3	...
Great Indian Peninsula	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	3	1	11	22
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	5	11
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Sind, Punjab and Delhi	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	9	15
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	2	4
Imperial State.												
Punjab Northern	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	2	5	3
Indus Valley and Kandahar	2*	1†	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	3	4
Rajputana-Malwa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	6	5
Wardha Coal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Provincial State.												
Calcutta and South-Eastern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nalháti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Kaunia-Dhurla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Tirhoot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muttra-Háthras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6
Native States.												
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Mysore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL 1883	4	2	21	4	3	...	2	4	30	10	75	123
TOTAL 1882	3	1	25	6	4	...	2	2	34	9	...	176

* 1 Cartman was killed by an accident to trains, whilst the cartman was crossing the line with a loaded cart, not entered in column "From accidents to trains, &c., see Table No. 4" of this table under "Passengers."
† Injured by ditto ditto ditto ditto.

TABLE No. 3.

ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the First Quarter of 1883, as having occurred on the several RAILWAYS open for Traffic in INDIA, distinguishing the different Classes of Accidents, and the Number of Passengers and others, and of Railway Servants, KILLED or INJURED in each Class of Accidents.

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

	EAST INDIAN.							GUARANTEED. MADRAS.							SOUTH INDIAN.							GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA.						
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	5	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	4	...	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1
4. Collisions between light engines	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Trains running over cattle on the line	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	1	...	1
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	57	...	4	1	...	1	4	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	87	...	...	...	2	...	2
Number of Passenger-miles	209,985,436							49,688,649							31,799,788							96,281,452						
„ of Servants employed	27,100							5,686							7,320							22,331						
Train-mileage of all descriptions	2,538,561							462,265							370,777							2,420,754						

TABLE No. 3.—ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the First Quarter of 1883, &c.—*continued.*

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

GUARANTEED—*concluded.*

	BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA.							EASTERN BENGAL.							SIND, PUNJAB AND DELHI.							OUDH AND ROHILKHAND.						
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Collisions between light engines	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Trains running over cattle on the line	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. *Ditto* over obstructions on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	18	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	33	...	...	1	1	1	1	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	64	...	...	...	1	...	1	11	...	...	...	...	...	...
Number of Passenger-miles	53,198,511							25,642,427							54,055,568							30,438,769						
„ of Servants employed	6,309							6,542							12,844							4,870						
Train-mileage of all descriptions	479,924							202,515							748,812							417,452						

TABLE No. 3.—ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the First Quarter of 1883, &c.—*continued.*

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

IMPERIAL STATE.

	PUNJAB NORTHERN.							INDUS VALLEY AND KANDAHAR.							RAJPUTANA-MALWA.							WARDHA COAL.						
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Collisions between light engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Trains running over cattle on the line	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	1*	1*	...	...	1	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	..	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	126	1	1	...	2	1	3	72	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
Number of Passenger-miles	21,159,009							19,200,276							75,309,208							816,586						
„ of Servants employed	3,034							4,847							9,509							402*						
Train-mileage of all descriptions	218,537							485,501							1,072,876							21,717						

PROVINCIAL STATE.

	CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN.																											
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Collisions between light engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains leaving the rails	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Trains running over cattle on the line	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Number of Passenger-miles	2,853,454																											
„ of Servants employed	236																											
Train-mileage of all descriptions	20,013																											

* Not passengers. See Foot-note to Table No. II.

TABLE No. 3.—ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the First Quarter of 1883, &c.—*continued.*

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

PROVINCIAL STATE—*continued.*

	NALHATI.							NORTHERN BENGAL.							KAUNIA-DHUBLA.							TIRHOOT.						
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Collisions between light engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Trains running over cattle on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Number of Passenger-miles	701,924							8,544,125							342,264							5,679,756						
„ of Servants employed	154							1,672							148							1,128						
Train-mileage of all descriptions	9,954							189,137							6,246							89,092						

TABLE No. 3.—ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the First Quarter of 1883, &c.—*continued.*

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

	PROVINCIAL STATES—*concluded.*																								NATIVE STATES.							
	MUTTRA-HATHRAS.							CAWNPORE-FARUKHABAD.							NAGPUR AND CHHATTISGARH.							RANGOON AND IRRAWADDY VALLEY.							BHAVNAGAR-GONDAL.						
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Collisions between light engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Trains running over cattle on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Number of Passenger-miles				1,782,707							4,191,809							4,189,266							14,344,656							7,677,588			
„ of Servants employed				96							343							2,464							1,231							522			
Train-mileage of all descriptions				11,207							33,391							119,452							175,627							67,107			

TABLE No. 3.—ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the First Quarter of 1883, &c.—*concluded.*

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

	NATIVE STATES—*concluded.*																								TOTAL ALL RAILWAYS.							
	GAEKWAR OF BARODA'S.							NIZAM'S.							MYSORE.							JODHPORE.												
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	1	...	1	...
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	4	...	1	...	5
4. Collisions between light engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	1	...	1	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Trains running over cattle on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	210	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	1*	1*	...	...	1	1
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	66	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	95	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	...	...	5	...	5	
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	716	1	5	2	6	3	11
Number of Passenger-miles				1,390,601							5,914,482							2,702,144							(a)							727,890,455			
„ of Servants employed				285							715							663							(a)							120,514			
Train-mileage of all descriptions				17,244							74,847							24,030							(a)							10,277,038			

* Not passengers. See Foot-note to Table No. II.

(a) Figures not received.

No. 4.

First Quarter of 1883, distinguishing the different Classes of ACCIDENTS, the Number of PASSENGERS and OTHERS VANTS Killed or Injured thereby.

TABLE

ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., on the several RAILWAYS open for Traffic in INDIA during the and the Number of RAILWAY SER

RAILWAYS.	1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains.	2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line.	3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains.	4. Collisions between light engines.	5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails.	6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails.	7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points.	8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed.	9. Trains running over cattle on the line.	10. Trains running over obstructions on the line.	11. Trains running through gates at level-crossings.	12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines.	13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines.	14. The failure of tyres.	15. The failure of wheels.	16. The failure of axles.	17. The failure of brake apparatus.	18. The failure of couplings.	19. The failure of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	20. Broken rails.
East Indian	...	5	4	2	...	9	2	...	18	6	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...
Guaranteed.																				
Madras	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	18	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
South Indian	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	43	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Great Indian Peninsula	...	1	2	...	5	26	...	...	14	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	...	4	...	1	...	5	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Eastern Bengal	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Sind, Punjab and Delhi	...	1	2	...	...	9	1	...	4	1	...	11	5	...	...	...	...	6	...	...
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Imperial State.																				
Punjab Northern	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	6	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indus Valley and Kandahar	...	2	1	...	2	...	2	...	33	7	2	8	35	...	...	...	1	4	...	...
Rajputana-Malwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	23	5	2	...	9	...	...	8	...	11	...	10
Wardha Coal	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Provincial State.																				
Calcutta and South-Eastern	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	8	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nalhâti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal	...	2	1	1	...	4	...	...	9	2	...	...	7	...	...	3	...	1	...	...
Kaunia-Dhurla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muttra-Háthras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	5	4	1	...	3	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Native States.																				
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mysore	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL 1883	...	16	15	4	9	72	9	2	210	37	15	19	66	1	1	14	1	31	1	16
TOTAL 1882	1	13	25	7	17	53	24	4	202	26	17	30	69	10	1	10	...	29	...	6

21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way.	22. Slips in cuttings or embankments.	23. Fire in trains.	24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts.	25. Other accidents.	Total all Classes.	NUMBER OF PASSENGERS AND OTHERS. Killed.	NUMBER OF PASSENGERS AND OTHERS. Injured.	NUMBER OF SERVANTS. Killed.	NUMBER OF SERVANTS. Injured.	TOTAL ALL CLASSES. Killed.	TOTAL ALL CLASSES. Injured.	Mean miles of Railway open.	Number of Passengers carried.	Train-mileage of all descriptions.	Passenger-mileage.	PER MILE OPEN. Number of Passengers carried.	PER MILE OPEN. Train-mileage of all descriptions.	PER MILE OPEN. Passenger-mileage.	TOTAL PASSENGERS. PER MILLION OF PASSENGERS. Killed.	TOTAL PASSENGERS. PER MILLION OF PASSENGERS. Injured.	TOTAL PASSENGERS. PER MILLION OF PASSENGER MILES. Killed.	TOTAL PASSENGERS. PER MILLION OF PASSENGER MILES. Injured.
...	...	2	...	6	57	...	4	1	...	1	4	1,653	2,917,293	2,538,561	209,985,436	1,765	1,536	127,033	...	1·371	...	0·019
...	...	5	...	...	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	861	1,070,053	462,265	49,688,649	1,243	537	57,710	...	...	...	...
...	...	5	...	1	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	655	1,109,191	370,777	31,799,788	1,693	566	48,549	...	...	...	...
...	...	21	...	11	87	...	...	...	2	...	2	1,457¾	1,625,201	2,420,754	96,281,452	1,115	1,660	66,036	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	18	33	...	...	1	1	1	1	461	1,931,442	479,924	53,198,511	4,189	1,041	115,398	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	1	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	192½	701,812	202,515	25,642,427	3,646	1,052	133,207	...	...	...	...
...	...	4	...	20	64	...	...	...	1	...	1	663¼	961,937	748,812	54,055,568	1,450	1,129	81,470	...	...	...	...
...	...	1	...	2	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	546¾	583,479	417,452	30,438,769	1,067	763	55,672	...	...	...	...
1	...	25	...	3	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	422	441,550	218,537	21,159,009	1,046	518	50,140	...	...	...	...
...	...	25	2	2	126	*1	*1	...	2	1	3	660	860,001	485,601	19,200,276	545	736	29,091	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	72	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,138½	1,291,870	1,072,876	75,309,208	1,134	942	66,133	...	...	...	...
...	...	3	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	81,180	21,717	816,586	693	483	18,146	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	7	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	43	238,244	20,013	2,853,454	5,633	465	66,359	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	27½	34,247	9,954	701,924	1,257	365	25,759	...	...	...	...
...	...	3	1	...	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	230	181,694	189,137	8,544,125	790	822	37,148	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	32½	28,835	6,246	342,264	878	193	10,613	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	134½	150,985	89,092	5,679,756	1,120	661	42,150	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	90,431	11,207	1,782,707	3,118	386	61,473	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	86½	141,677	33,391	4,191,809	1,638	386	48,466	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	128	175,956	119,452	4,189,266	1,375	933	32,729	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	4	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	161	474,632	175,627	14,344,656	2,948	1,091	89,097	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	193	182,560	67,107	7,677,588	946	348	39,780	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	59½	73,989	17,244	1,390,601	1,254	292	23,570	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	121	96,020	74,847	5,914,482	794	619	48,880	...	...	...	...
...	...	1	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	86	78,636	24,030	2,702,144	914	279	31,420	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	†	†	†	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	95	4	77	716	1	5	2	6	3	11	10,106½	14,971,915	10,277,038	727,890,455	1,484	1,019	72,159	...	1·371	...	0·019
2	...	100	7	41	606	14	31	2	10	16	41	9,885½	14,177,406	10,004,950	737,223,059	1,438	1,014	79,852	0·987	2·186	0·013	0·039

* Not passengers. See Foot-note to Table No. II. † Figures not received.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 1st HALF OF AUGUST 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1522, 1523, 1530 AND 1531 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 8th SEPTEMBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS	Rice. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Rice. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Common. Present fortnight.	Rice. Common. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Beat sort. Present fortnight.	Beat sort. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.
BOMBAY.	Bombay	10 5 10	0 9 13	21 3 11	0 11 4	12 12 8	9 8 10	2 10 0	10 0 11	0 11 4	12 12 8	9 14 11	13 9 14	15 6 18	28 3 29	11 26 0	28 7 30
	Ahmedabad	11 0 12	0 13 0	19 7 11	13 20 0	22 13 20	0 9 11	10 0 7	0 7 0	8 12 8	0 11 4	12 13 8	19 8 15	18 0 14	27 3 31	17 0 14	30 7 31
	Kaira	11 0 11	0 11 7	18 7 11	13 20 0	22 13 20	0 9 11	10 0 10	0 7 0	8 12 8	0 11 4	12 13 8	19 8 15	18 0 14	27 3 31	17 0 14	30 7 31
	Surat	11 4 11	8 12 8	12 4 12	5 7 11	7 6 7	8 8 8	5 8 11	7 7 6	8 12 8	0 11 4	12 13 8	19 8 15	18 0 14	27 3 31	17 0 14	30 7 31
	Broach	12 4 12	4 12 5	7 11 7	10 0 10	0 9 6	11 7 10	0 11 4	11 13 12	3 21 14	22 6 31	4 18 23	15 10 23	16 2 16	23 6 23	14 2 18	24 6 23
	Tanna (Salsette)	9 12 9	12 10 5	8 4 12	5 9 4	9 4 11	8 7 10	0 11 4	11 13 12	3 21 14	22 6 31	4 18 23	15 10 23	16 2 16	23 6 23	14 2 18	24 6 23
	Colába (Alibág)	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8	8 8 8
	Khándesh (Dhulia)	14 0 14	0 15 0	15 0 14	0 15 0	15 0 14	0 15 0	15 0 14	0 15 0	15 0 14	0 15 0	15 0 14	0 15 0	15 0 14	0 15 0	15 0 14	0 15 0
	Násik	14 4 14	4 14 4	14 4 14	4 14 4	14 4 14	4 14 4	14 4 14	4 14 4	14 4 14	4 14 4	14 4 14	4 14 4	14 4 14	4 14 4	14 4 14	4 14 4
	Ahmednagar	14 6 13	14 13 13	13 9 10	12 9 4	9 4 9	4 9 4	9 4 9	4 9 4	9 4 9	4 9 4	9 4 9	4 9 4	9 4 9	4 9 4	9 4 9	4 9 4
	Poona	11 8 12	10 12 10	9 4 12	5 7 11	7 6 7	8 8 8	5 8 11	7 7 6	8 12 8	0 11 4	12 13 8	19 8 15	18 0 14	27 3 31	17 0 14	30 7 31
	Sholápur	15 6 15	6 13 2	10 5 11	7 6 7	8 8 8	5 8 11	7 7 6	8 12 8	0 11 4	12 13 8	19 8 15	18 0 14	27 3 31	17 0 14	30 7 31	17 0 14
	Kaládgi (Bágalkot)	19 8 19	8 21 0	16 0 15	8 14 11	8 6 12	8 11 8	6 12 8	11 8 10	0 15 4	13 18 12	21 11 23	15 10 23	16 2 16	23 6 23	14 2 18	24 6 23
	Sátára	13 6 12	6 12 1	7 6 11	6 7 6	11 6 11	6 7 6	11 6 11	6 7 6	11 6 11	6 7 6	11 6 11	6 7 6	11 6 11	6 7 6	11 6 11	6 7 6
	Belgaum	16 8 16	8 19 0	14 8 14	8 13 0	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4
	Dhárwar (Hubli)	23 0 23	0 23 0	14 7 14	0 14 2	8 3 8	12 10 9	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4
	Ratnágiri	9 4 9	4 10 9	13 7 14	0 14 8	6 14 6	14 6 9	6 9 11	1 11 1	11 0 9	0 8 11	14 8 16	0 17 8	15 12 17	10 12 13	6 15 14	16 5 17
	Kánara (Kárwár)	9 0 9	0 10 8	9 4 10	8 8 11	8 9 8	9 7 13	3 13 7	12 11 4	12 0 9	0 8 11	14 8 16	0 17 8	15 12 17	10 12 13	6 15 14	16 5 17
	Panch Mahals (Godhra)	11 6 11	6 11 6	11 6 11	6 11 6	11 6 11	6 11 6	11 6 11	6 11 6	11 6 11	6 11 6	11 6 11	6 11 6	11 6 11	6 11 6	11 6 11	6 11 6
	Aden	7 0 7	0 8 0	7 0 7	0 7 0	7 0 7	0 7 0	7 0 7	0 7 0	7 0 7	0 7 0	7 0 7	0 7 0	7 0 7	0 7 0	7 0 7	0 7 0
	Ashirgarh	13 12 13	12 13 7	13 12 13	7 13 7	13 12 13	7 13 7	13 12 13	7 13 7	13 12 13	7 13 7	13 12 13	7 13 7	13 12 13	7 13 7	13 12 13	7 13 7
	Baroda	9 5 9	14 10 9	13 7 14	0 14 2	8 3 8	12 10 9	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4	11 8 10	0 11 4
	Diss	13 14 14	0 14 8	... ...	... ...	6 14 6	14 6 9	6 9 11	1 11 1	11 0 9	0 8 11	14 8 16	0 17 8	15 12 17	10 12 13	6 15 14	16 5 17
	Nimach	15 6 17	8 15 0	20 9 23	0 18 0	8 12 9	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0	0 10 0
	Nasirabad	16 8½ 17	0 16 0	24 2 24	0 23 0	6 6 6	8 6 6	6 6 6	8 6 6	6 6 6	8 6 6	6 6 6	8 6 6	6 6 6	8 6 6	6 6 6	8 6 6
	Rájkot	14 8 14	6 13 4	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...
MYSORE.	Bangalore	10 5 11	3 11 0	11 4 12	12 12 8	9 8 10	2 10 0	10 0 11	0 11 4	12 12 8	9 14 11	13 9 14	15 6 18	28 3 29	11 26 0	28 7 30	2 30 7
	Kolar	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	10 10 10	6 12 14	12 14 13	15 15 15	15 15 15	15 15 15	15 15 15	15 15 15	15 15 15	15 15 15
	Túmkúr	14 0 14	0 14 0	12 0 12	0 12 0	12 0 12	0 12 0	12 0 12	8 13 0	13 0 12	0 13 8	13 0 13	8 13 0	13 0 12	0 13 8	13 0 13	8 13 0
	Mysore	11 0 11	0 11 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	10 4 10	4 11 0	12 0 11	0 11 4	12 11 4	11 12 11	4 11 12	11 4 11	12 11 4	11 12 11
	Shimoga	14 11 14	11 12 10	15 12 14	11 13 10	13 10 14	11 11 9	16 13 10	37 13 28	6	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...
	Kadur	14 0 14	0 15 0	15 0 15	0 14 0	16 0 14	0 11 4	12 0 11	0 11 4	12 0 11	0 11 4	12 0 11	0 11 4	12 0 11	0 11 4	12 0 11	0 11 4
RAJPUTANA.	Partabgarh (Meywar Agency)	15 12 18	7 17 6	... ...	... ...	10 0 10	0 10 15	11 4 11	4 12 13	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verakoo, Oraloo, Murhwa, Nuchnee, &c.), Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verakoo, Oraloo, Murhwa, Nuchnee, &c.), Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verakoo, Oraloo, Murhwa, Nuchnee, &c.), Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c. Corresponding fortnight of last year.
BOMBAY.	Bombay	16 7½	16 14 10	0 96	0 84	0 84	7 30	2 30	7 30	28	11 26	0 28
	Ahmedabad	...	...	6 172	6 172	6 172	15 31	15 31	15 31	31	2 30	5 31
	Kaira	...	...	6 172	6 172	6 172	15 31	15 31	15 31	31	2 30	5 31
	Surat	...	...	6 172	6 172	6 172	15 31	15 31	15 31	31	2 30	5 31
	Broach	...	...	0 340	0 340	0 340	0 37	0 34	0 33	33	0 33	0 33
	Tanna (Salsette)	...	...	0 340	0 340	0 340	0 37	0 34	0 33	33	0 33	0 33
	Colába (Alibág)	...	...	0 480	0 480	0 480	0 52	0 48	0 47	47	0 47	0 47
	Khándesh (Dhulia)	...	...	0 64	0 64	0 64	0 7	0 6	0 6	6	0 6	0 6
	Násik	...	...	0 96	0 84	0 84	7 30	2 30	7 30	28	11 26	0 28
	Ahmednagar	...	...	6 172	6 172	6 172	15 31	15 31	15 31	31	2 30	5 31
	Poona	...	...	6 172	6 172	6 172	15 31	15 31	15 31	31	2 30	5 31
	Sholápur	...	...	0 340	0 340	0 340	0 37	0 34	0 33	33	0 33	0 33
	Kaládgi (Bágalkot)	...	...	0 480	0 480	0 480	0 52	0 48	0 47	47	0 47	0 47
	Sátára	...	...	0 64	0 64	0 64	0 7	0 6	0 6	6	0 6	0 6
	Belgaum	...	...	0 96	0 84	0 84	7 30	2 30	7 30	28	11 26	0 28
	Dhárwar (Hubli)	...	...	6 172	6 172	6 172	15 31	15 31	15 31	31	2 30	5 31
	Ratnágiri	...	...	0 340	0 340	0 340	0 37	0 34	0 33	33	0 33	0 33
	Kánara (Kárwár)	...	...	0 480	0 480	0 480	0 52	0 48	0 47	47	0 47	0 47
	Panch Mahals (Godhra)	...	...	0 64	0 64	0 64	0 7	0 6	0 6	6	0 6	0 6
	Aden	...	...	0 96	0 84	0 84	7 30	2 30	7 30	28	11 26	0 28
	Ashirgarh	...	...	6 172	6 172	6 172	15 31	15 31	15 31	31	2 30	5 31
	Baroda	...	...	6 172	6 172	6 172	15 31	15 31	15 31	31	2 30	5 31
	Diss	...	...	0 340	0 340	0 340	0 37	0 34	0 33	33	0 33	0 33
	Nimach	...	...	0 480	0 480	0 480	0 52	0 48	0 47	47	0 47	0 47
	Nasirabad	...	...	0 64	0 64	0 64	0 7	0 6	0 6	6	0 6	0 6
	Rájkot	...	...	0 96	0 84	0 84	7 30	2 30	7 30	28	11 26	0 28
MYSORE.	Bangalore	...	...	6 172	6 172	6 172	15 31	15 31	15 31	31	2 30	5 31
	Kolar	...	...	0 340	0 340	0 340	0 37	0 34	0 33	33	0 33	0 33
	Túmkúr	...	...	0 480	0 480	0 480	0 52	0 48	0 47	47	0 47	0 47
	Mysore	...	...	0 64	0 64	0 64	0 7	0 6	0 6	6	0 6	0 6
	Shimoga	...	...	0 96	0 84	0 84	7 30	2 30	7 30	28	11 26	0 28
	Kadur	...	...	6 172	6 172	6 172	15 31	15 31	15 31	31	2 30	5 31
RAJPUTANA.	Partabgarh (Meywar Agency)	...	...	6 172	6 172	6 172	15 31	15 31	15 31	31	2 30	5 31

† Sea Salt.

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENTS OF IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL RABI OF 1882-83 IN THE PUNJAB.

STATEMENT No. I.

Comparative Abstract of Irrigation and Rainfall in Canal Districts of the Punjab.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
DISTRICTS.	Area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Area irrigated.		Comparison with last Crop.		Rainfall in Rabi Months.													
							October.		November.		December.		January.		February.		March.		Total.	
			1882-83.	1881-82.	Increase.	Decrease.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1882-83.	1881-82.
Umballa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Karnal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rohtak	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Delhi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hissár	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jind	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bikaner	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL W. J. CANAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gurdáspur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Amritsar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lahore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL B. D. CANAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lahore	2,334,552	1,164,921	24,208	26,235 (1)	...	2,027	...	...	...	...	...	..	2·29	1·55	...	0·60	1·16	...	3·45	2·15
Montgomery	3,567,750	357,622	64,006	81,423	...	17,417	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·50	1·50	...	1·40	0·20	...	1·70	2·90
Mooltan	3,763,200	799,360	155,546	146,505 (1)	9,041	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1·00	0·40	...	0·20	0·20	...	1·20	0·60
Dera Ghází Khan	2,801,280	1,008,000	48,976	62,020	...	13,044	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·60	0·05	...	0·60	0·05	...	0·55	0·65
Shahpur	3,007,422	624,988	4,805	4,385	420	...	...	1·1	...	...	...	...	2·7	1·4	...	...	...	...	2·7	2·5
Muzaffargarh	2,607,819	397,529	124,237	114,248	9,989	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·30	0·15	...	0·20	...	0·10	0·30	0·45
TOTAL INUNDATION CANALS	(2) 17,477,033	(2) 4,252,420	421,778	434,816	19,450	32,488	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

	Acres.
Area irrigated, 1882-83	421,778
Ditto ditto 1881-82	434,816
Net decrease	13,038

(1) These figures differ from those shown in the return for corresponding crop of 1881-82, in consequence of the areas remitted before the preparation of demand statements which were included in the figures shown in statement for rabi, 1881-82, having been excluded from those entered in the present return.
(2) These figures differ from those shown in the return for rabi, 1881-82, in consequence of the inclusion for those of Lahore in the present return.

STATEMENT No. II.

Statement in Acres of Crops irrigated in Canal Districts.

DESCRIPTION OF CROPS.	Umballa.	Karnál.	Rohtak.	Delhi.	Hissár.	Jind.	Bikaner.	Gurdáspur.	Amritsar.	Lahore.	Montgomery.	Mooltan.	Dera Ghazi Khan.	Shahpur.	Muzaffargarh	TOTAL.
Wheat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,612	39,054	114,320	44,698	3,699	70,818	285,201
Barley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	109	641	1,346	49	236	867	3,248
Mixed Grain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,796	7,806	...	1,282	520	8,091	24,295
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,691	16,705	39,880	2,947	350	44,461	109,034
TOTAL RABI, 1882-83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24,208	64,006	155,546	48,976	4,805	124,237	421,778
TOTAL RABI, 1881-82	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,235*	81,423*	146,505	62,020	4,385	114,248	434,816

* These figures differ from those shown in the return for corresponding crop of 1881-82, the cause of which is explained in note appended to Statement No. I.

STATEMENT No. III.

Statement in Acres of Crops irrigated in Canal Divisions.

DESCRIPTION OF CROPS.	Western Jumna Canal. Karnal Division.	Western Jumna Canal. Hansi Division.	Western Jumna Canal. Delhi Division.	Western Jumna Canal. Total.	Bari Doab Canal. 1st Division.	Bari Doab Canal. 2nd Division.	Bari Doab Canal. Total.	Upper Sutlej Division Inundation Canals.	Lower Sutlej and Chenab Division Inundation Canals.	Dera Ghazi Khan Division Indus Canals.	Shahpur Canals.	Muzaffargarh Canals.	TOTAL.
Wheat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51,666	114,320	44,698	3,699	70,818	285,201
Barley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	750	1,346	49	236	867	3,248
Mixed Grain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,402	...	1,282	520	8,091	24,295
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,396	39,880	2,947	350	44,461	109,034
TOTAL RABI, 1882-83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	88,214	155,546	48,976	4,805	124,237	421,778
TOTAL RABI, 1881-82	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107,658*	146,505	62,020	4,385	114,248	434,816

* These figures differ from those shown in the return for corresponding crop of 1881-82, the cause of which is explained in note appended to Statement No. I.

R. HOME, *Colonel, R.E.*,
Joint-Secretary to Govt., Punjab, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, 1883-84, UP TO 31st JULY 1883.

Canal Division.		Water distributed during July, 1883. Depth in Canal at regulating gauge in feet. Full supply.	Actual average throughout.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Allotted discharge.	Actual average throughout.	Total area of irrigation during current fasl.	Total area for the corresponding period of last year.
Upper Ganges.	Northern	10·00	7·17	950	97	43,583	45,585
	Anúpshahr	7·00	4·47	1,100	288	44,169	54,280
	Meerut	8·10	5·41	925	1,214	54,902	63,012
	Bulandshahr	7·20	5·28	925	93	60,107	59,676
	Aligarh	5·50	4·50	1,300	484	70,172	71,986
Lower Ganges.	Narora	9·00	4·43	975	93	13,459	13,351
	Mainpuri	7·00	3·13	600	174	28,212	33,953
	Cawnpore	8·20	5·55	825	430	43,955	46,923
	Etáwah	5·80	2·99	975	416	59,986	63,870
	Bhognipur	7·00	5·39	950	450	25,445	21,072
Total, Upper and Lower Ganges Canals		...	...	9,525	3,679	443,990	473,708
Eastern Jumna Canal		4·74	3·71	1,300	969	66,400	75,383
Agra Canal		8·50	6·7	1,300	178	45,104	42,904
Rohilkhand		...	...	...	...	14,126	19,537
Bijnor		...	...	...	...	970	1,296
Dún		...	...	...	...	4,215	4,524
Jhánsi		...	...	...	...	22	23
Hamírpur		...	...	...	...	51	27
Total		...	...	...	...	574,908	617,402

Land irrigated (approximate).

Zila.	Sugarcane.	Indigo.	Rice.	Cotton.	Other food-grains.	Fodder crops.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
Saháranpur	16,774	1,794	15,329	367	61	218	1,181	35,724
Muzaffarnagar	41,867	4,571	15,888	1,151	106	398	2,570	66,551
Meerut	63,248	17,493	4,588	5,830	776	1,207	2,355	95,497
Bulandshahr	6,082	53,039	14	7,447	1,191	781	1,353	69,907
Aligarh	588	45,504	196	2,780	986	28	1,455	51,537
Muttra	1,111	9,956	...	9,419	98	19	1,247	21,850
Agra	1,278	4,450	3	1,038	104	94	462	7,429
Etah	1,306	26,217	140	742	701	71	1,100	30,277
Mainpuri	2,890	34,257	309	611	1,997	154	1,543	41,761
Fatehgarh	2,234	14,831	376	210	623	159	86	18,519
Etáwah	5,273	42,484	262	86	971	168	883	50,127
Cawnpore	4,846	41,337	1,290	23	688	...	1,399	49,583
Delhi	...	30	...	11	...	...	32	73
Gurgaon	1,025	4,796	14	10,335	84	141	264	16,659
Dehra Dún	768	...	3,176	...	...	...	301	4,245
Bijnor	948	...	22	...	...	...	...	970
Tarái	1,270	...	1,325	...	...	...	...	2,595
Pilibhit	813	...	1,306	...	...	...	...	2,119
Bareilly	4,668	...	4,744	...	...	...	...	9,412
Jhánsi	13	...	...	7	...	...	2	22
Hamírpur	10	...	4	...	...	...	37	51
Total	157,012	300,759	48,986	40,057	8,386	3,438	16,270	574,908
Total for the same period last year	190,943	304,377	52,136	40,302	8,600	5,285	15,759	617,402
Increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	511	...
Decrease	33,931	3,618	3,150	245	214	1,847	...	42,494

Rainfall.		
	Total from 1st April to end of July, 1883.	Average of ten previous years for the same period.
Saháranpur	9·9	15·3
Muzaffarnagar	13·2	14·6
Meerut	6·7	12·1
Bulandshahr	10·8	12·2
Aligarh	15·3	11·0
Muttra	12·1	12·2
Agra	12·8	13·6
Etah	8·9	12·3
Mainpuri	9·8	15·2
Fatehgarh	8·1	14·6
Etáwah	10·6	12·0
Cawnpore	10·6	10·8
Delhi	8·0	13·2
Gurgaon	9·5	13·0
Dehra Dún	27·3	36·1
Bijnor	11·6	17·5
Tarái	14·2	20·9
Pilibhit	16·6	22·7
Bareilly	9·7	20·2
Jhánsi	10·3	14·7
Hamírpur	16·9	15·2
Total	...	..
Total for the same period last year	...	...
Increase	...	...
Decrease	...	...

Remarks.

Supply— *Cubic feet per second.*

Entering head of Ganges Canal		4,237
„ Lower Ganges Canal		1,428
		5,665

Expended—

Ganges Canal	2,116	
Lower Ganges Canal	1,563	
	3,679	

Escaped—

Anúpshahr Branch, Ganges Canal	283	
Meerut Division, ditto	113	
Bulandshahr ditto, ditto	152	
Narora ditto, Lower Ganges Canal	210	
Mainpuri ditto, ditto	104	
Cawnpore ditto, ditto	532	
Etáwah ditto, ditto	429	
Bhognipur ditto, ditto	274	
Percolation from the Narora Division	62	
	2,158	
		5,837
Deduct drainage water		172
		5,665

Executive Engineer, Northern Division, Ganges Canal, report that "during the early part of July, there was fair rain; on the 17th of July there was a fall of 9·6 inches at Roorkee, but only 1·8 inches at Muhamadpur, 12 miles below Roorkee. Rice crops only took water till very nearly the end of the month, when a general demand commenced; without early rain crops will suffer."

Executive Engineer, Meerut Division, Ganges Canal, reports that "north of Meerut the rainfall has been very deficient and a drought is commencing. South of Meerut up to end of month there was hardly any demand. the rajbahas all running into escapes to maintain supply at a fair navigable height above mile 80. The rice crop has largely expanded in the northern half of the Division and is very nearly what it was last year."

Executive Engineer, Bulandshahr Division, Ganges Canal, reports that "all irrigation stopped on the 9th, the volume in rajbahas and Mat branch was escaping after the 8th. The water taken in the early days of the month was for sugarcane and indigo; no new irrigation was done this month."

Executive Engineer, Mainpuri Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that there was a partial demand for water up to the 18th. After that date there was no demand. The new irrigation done during the month is 1,129 acres against 267 in July 1882. The average rainfall over the division during the month has been 6·3"; the maximum 10·7 inches fell at Chibramau, zila Farukhabad, and the minimum 2·35 inches at Bilon, zila Mainpuri.

Executive Engineer, Cawnpore Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the decrease is due to the reasons noted in the return for May.

Executive Engineer, Etáwah Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the decrease in indigo and sugarcane is due to reasons given in previous returns.

Executive Engineer, Bhognipur Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that very little new irrigation was effected during the month. Weather cloudy with occasional showers up to the 15th, and heavy general rain between the 16th and 25th stopped all demand for the remainder of the month.

Executive Engineer, Eastern Jumna Canal, reports that rice planting is very late for want of rain: there had been no rain since the 17th. Demand is now at its height and the canal is running all it can carry. It was closed for four days to repair two successive breaches at Gandewar. Crops not suffering yet.

Executive Engineer, Agra Canal, reports that irrigation ceased about the 10th July. Owing to late rains and the opening of several new minors the increase in the upper part of the Canal has made up for the slack season lower down, the total for the month being 2,000 acres above that for last July.

Executive Engineer, Rohilkhand Canals, reports, that there was a steady demand for rice up to the 6th, when there was general rain, and again on the 9th, but water was still in steady demand up to the 18th and 19th, when heavy rain fell. The kutcha dams in Baror, Dhora, and Sankha were all breached, and the Sissoora dam on the Bahgul. Heavy rain, total of about 6 inches, fell from the 23rd to the 29th, and water only in slight demand. The rivers as yet have only had moderate floods.

Executive Engineer, Dún Canals, reports that very slight rain fell during the month, and a long break of nearly a fortnight in the latter half ceased canal water to be in great demand for 1st class rice.

Officiating Collector of Hamirpur reports that there was no new irrigation effected this month.

ALLAHABAD,
The 23rd August 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON THE AGRA CANAL FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1883.

AGRA CANAL.

Principal items of Traffic.

Nature of Traffic.	Up. Mds.	Up. No.	Down. Mds.	Down. No.	Total up and down. Mds.	Total up and down. No.
Grains—						
Wheat	...	...	11,275	...	11,275	...
Gram	...	...	525	...	525	...
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paddy or dhán	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bejhar or mixed grain	...	...	3,525	...	3,525	...
Dál—						
Urd	...	...	...	...	...	...
Múng	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arhar	...	...	...	...	...	...
Masúri	...	...	...	...	...	...
Juár	...	...	900	...	900	...
Bájra	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maize or Indian-corn	...	...	...	...	...	...
Barley	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	...	...	16,225	...	16,225	...
Cotton	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oil-seeds	...	...	650	...	650	...
Salt	150	...	...	...	150	...
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	...
Building materials	23,985	...	...	...	23,985	...
Miscellaneous goods	180	...	2,475	...	2,655	...
Firewood	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bamboos	...	...	...	...	...	...
Timber—						
Poles and unsquared timber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Karis and squared timber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Logs	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous timber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Live-stock	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total	24,315	...	19,350	...	43,665	...
Total during corresponding period of last year	10,890	...	9,205	...	20,095	...
Increase	13,425	...	10,145	...	23,570	...
Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...

Remarks.

Particulars.	Agra Canal. 1883.	1882.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	1,604	738
Ton mileage	175,724	71,647
Value of goods	56,403	17,894
Number of passengers	*Nil.*	*Nil.*

ALLAHABAD,
The 23rd August 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1883.

Grains.	Upper Ganges Canal. Principal items of Local Traffic. Up. Mds.	Up. Nos.	Down. Mds.	Down. Nos.	Total up and down. Mds.	Total up and down. Nos.	Lower Ganges Canal. Principal items of Local Traffic. Up. Mds.	Up. Nos.	Down. Mds.	Down. Nos.	Total up and down. Mds.	Total up and down. Nos.	Remarks.
Wheat	80	...	7,705	...	7,785	...	80	...	14,175	...	14,255	...	
Gram	2,151	...	...	...	2,151	...	5,608	...	...	...	5,608	...	
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...	42	...	...	...	42	...	
Paddy or dhán	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Bejhar or mixed grain	...	...	1,331	...	1,331	...	...	...	1,331	...	1,331	...	
Dál { Urd	...	...	726	...	726	...	124	...	825	...	949	...	
Dál { Múng	125	...	...	...	125	...	...	...	...	...	352	...	
Dál { Arhar	50	...	...	...	50	...	2,010	...	...	...	2,010	...	
Dál { Masúri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Juár	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	14	...	
Bájra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Maize or Indian-corn	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Barley	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	40	40	...	
Total	2,406	...	7,761	...	10,167	...	2,668	...	526	...	3,193	...	
Cotton	...	...	219	...	219	...	...	...	537	...	537	...	
Oil-seeds	80	...	...	...	80	...	...	...	950	...	950	...	
Salt	650	...	...	...	650	...	25	...	...	...	25	...	
Metals	499	...	236	...	735	...	94	...	...	...	94	...	
Building materials	34,249	...	12,097	...	46,346	...	6,573	...	9,184	...	15,757	...	
Miscellaneous goods	659	...	9,513	...	10,172	...	206	...	1,878	...	2,084	...	
Firewood	4,271	...	4,762	...	9,033	...	3,232	...	18,125	...	21,357	...	
Bamboos	163	163	15,968	319,360	15,968	319,360	345	6,900	3,891	77,820	4,236	84,720	
Timber. Poles and unsquared timber.	333	418	3,881	5,136	4,044	5,299	99	198	...	...	99	198	
Timber. Karis and squared timber.	...	...	6,049	6,466	6,382	6,884	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Timber. Logs	...	...	190	10	190	10	82	4	...	...	82	4	
Miscellaneous timber	601	1,202	1,529	3,058	2,130	4,260	351	702	...	...	351	702	
Live-stock	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Grand Total	43,911	1,783	62,205	334,030	1,06,116	335,81[illegible]	13,675	7,804	35,090	77,820	48,765	85,[illegible]	
Total during corresponding period of last year.	62,598	17	29,753	170,582	92,351	170,599	13,948	1,768	50,221	60,440	64,169	62,2[illegible]	
Increase	...	1,766	32,452	163,448	13,765	165,214	...	6,036	...	17,380	...	23,4[illegible]	
Decrease	18,687	...	...	...	...	...	273	...	15,131	...	15,404	...	

Particulars.	Upper Ganges Canal (local). 1882.	Upper Ganges Canal (local). 1883.	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through). 1882.	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through). 1883.	Total, Upper and Lower Ganges Canals. 1882.	Total, Upper and Lower Ganges Canals. 1883.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	3,392	3,898	1,813	7,502	6,131	7,502
Ton mileage	69,329	1,70,487	3,98,266	6,89,339	3,55,741	6,89,339
Value of goods	31,797	65,289	1,30,452	2,28,824	1,45,167	2,28,824
Number of passengers	91	211	...	211	91	211

ALLAHABAD,
The 23rd August 1883.

W. P. V. HORST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. & Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

In the last column of the Upper and Lower Ganges Canal Traffic statement for June, 1883, printed at page 759, Part II., of the Gazette of North-Western Provinces and Oudh Gazette, dated 28th July, 1883, for "decrease 319,402" read "increase 319,402."

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXXII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 19th August 1882. Total.	Receipts for week ending 19th August 1882. Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 18th August 1883. Total.	Receipts for week ending 18th August 1883. Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 19th August 1882. Total.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 19th August 1882. Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 18th August 1883. Total.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 18th August 1883. Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84
	Guaranteed.		₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
25th Aug. 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	1,17,499	683	172	(a)63,556	317	16,24,859	469	(a)16,41,937	477	17,078	...
18th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	70,071	128	547	90,326	165	20,00,014	181	23,16,932	212	3,16,918	...
25th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	1,45,179	215	749	2,08,961	279	36,80,496	270	47,37,576	319	10,57,080	...
18th ditto	Madras	861	1,10,311	128	861	1,13,799	132	27,99,939	162	25,98,460	151	...	2,01,479
18th ditto	South Indian	655	66,920	102	655	66,506	102	15,15,371	115	15,58,613	119	43,242	...
25th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,450	3,54,604	245	1,451	4,79,283	330	1,35,36,934	463	1,43,63,928	494	8,26,994	...
18th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	1,16,623	253	461	1,67,082	362	41,88,478	451	47,00,856	510	5,12,378	...
	Total	4,822	9,81,207	203	4,896	11,89,513	243	2,93,46,091	301	3,19,18,302	326	25,72,211	...
	State.												
25th Aug. 1883	East Indian	1,507	6,71,114	445	1,509	8,85,461	587	1,72,99,680	570	2,02,93,167	672	29,93,487	...
18th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	2,350	71	56	4,630	83	75,097	124	1,15,599	109	40,502	...
25th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,115	41	27	1,443	53	26,466	48	31,556	58	5,090	...
18th ditto	Northern Bengal	230	23,708	103	239	26,380	110	7,09,700	152	7,75,423	166	65,723	...
18th ditto	Tirhoot	75	11,887	158	166	17,093	103	2,48,872	149	3,26,177	99	77,305	...
21st July 1883	Patna-Gya	57	7,511	132	...	(b)	...	(c)1,49,019	162	(d)1,36,913	150	...	12,136
18th Aug. 1883	Muttra-Hathras	29	2,084	72	29	2,357	81	43,358	74	48,447	84	5,089	...
18th ditto	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	4,756	55	87	6,161	71	1,30,112	75	1,28,736	74	...	1,376
18th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	384	32	12	682	57	18,752	78	20,005	83	1,253	...
25th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,117	1,60,699	144	1,117	2,00,850	180	41,09,271	183	48,28,577	216	7,19,306	...
18th ditto	Wardha Coal	45	4,700	104	45	12,869	286	2,08,914	230	2,85,600	317	76,686	...
25th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	4,230	43	149	8,993	60	2,41,481	123	5,91,104	198	3,49,623	...
25th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	16,298	101	161	16,354	102	5,58,685	172	5,40,154	167	...	18,531
18th ditto	Sindia	75	5,643	75	75	6,832	91	1,24,016	82	1,22,249	81	...	1,767
18th ditto	Punjab Northern	409	43,325	106	419	58,087	139	11,55,818	143	12,16,681	145	60,863	...
25th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	22,209	34	660	1,26,562	192	16,09,967	121	30,45,529	231	14,35,562	...
25th ditto	Muttra-Achnera	23	1,128	49	23	1,460	63	21,852	47	28,144	61	6,292	...
18th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	965	30	32	1,556	49	28,962	45	37,463	58	8,501	...
25th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	...	89	7,380	83	...	...	1,26,822	71	1,26,822	...
	Total	3,170	3,12,992	99	3,386	4,99,689	148	94,60,372	148	1,24,05,179	183	29,44,807	...
	Assisted Company.												
4th Aug. 1883	Bengal Central	...	...	...	...	(b)	...	...	...	(e)38,927	62	38,927	...
	Native States.												
25th Aug. 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal	194	7,573	39	193	9,664	50	3,87,719	99	4,31,587	111	43,868	...
18th ditto	Nizam's	121	14,038	116	121	14,288	118	3,36,050	137	3,08,698	127	...	27,352
18th ditto	Mysore	86	4,284	50	86	4,832	56	1,09,665	63	1,01,775	59	...	7,890
18th ditto	Jodhpore	19	300	16	19	600	32	(f)1,229	8	14,089	37	12,860	...
	Total	420	26,195	62	419	29,384	70	8,34,663	99	8,56,149	102	21,486	...
	GRAND TOTAL	9,919	19,91,508	201	10,210	26,04,047	255	5,69,40,806	285	6,55,11,724	320	85,70,918	...
	Gross Estimated Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,85,37,167	143	3,22,38,330	158	...	...
	Net Receipts	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,84,03,639	142	3,32,73,394	162	48,69,755	...

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway (estimated for period subsequent to 4th August 1883).
(b) Return not received.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 22nd July 1883.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 21st July 1883.
(e) Total receipts from 1st April to 4th August 1883.
(f) Total receipts from 24th June to 19th August 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 8th September 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 11th SEPTEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The rainfall continues general throughout India. In the Deccan, Konkan and Guzerat the *kharif* crops are thriving; but in Sind, where the river is still low and the rainfall has been slight, the scarcity of water is much felt. In Hyderabad more rain is said to be wanted, while in parts of the Berars a break in the weather would be beneficial. Throughout Central India and Rajputana there has been good rain; more is yet needed in a few places, and the *kharif* crops have not escaped the late drought without considerable injury, but prospects are greatly improved and all fears of scarcity have passed away. In Mysore and Coorg the weather continues generally favourable and the crops are doing well, but in Madras several districts want rain for unirrigated crops.

In Burma the rainfall of the week has been abundant, except in Thayetmyo, where owing to insufficient rain the rice crop is very backward. Floods have damaged the crops in the Cachar and Sylhet districts of Assam and the rainfall has been unequal, but prospects are on the whole fair. In the Central Provinces, Bengal and Behar more rain is needed for rice, while in Chittagong, Orissa and Chota Nagpur the fall has been sufficient. Heavy rain fell in the Central Provinces during the week benefiting the crops. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh there has been good rain in several districts and prospects are fair, but more rain is still required. A general and abundant fall throughout the Punjab has removed all cause for anxiety in that province.

Harvesting continues in Madras, and sowing of later *kharif* crops in Bombay. No serious damage has as yet been caused by locusts in the Deccan. The early *kharif* crops are being cut in the North-Western Provinces and elsewhere, and harvesting of early rice and jute is going on in Bengal. Sowings of rice have been completed in Burma, where some injury has been done by floods and other causes; but on the whole the prospects of the crop are favourable.

Cholera still lingers in several places, but is abating in the Central Provinces, and the public health is generally much improved.

Prices are returning to their normal average with improving prospects.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Sept. 12th)		
Bellary ...	·47 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops generally good.
Kurnool ...	·51 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops generally good. Harvest indigo, yield fourteen annas. Cattle-disease in seven taluks.
Ganjam ...	2·38 (average of eighteen stations).	Standing crops red and black gram, sugarcane, and cotton thriving. Gingelly damaged by excessive rains. Fever and small-pox continue.
Kistna ...	1·05 (average of twelve stations).	Standing crops generally good, except in three taluks. Rain wanted; canal supply insufficient. Fever, small-pox, dysentery, guinea-worm, and cattle-disease in parts.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	·44 (average of five stations).	Standing crops good, except in one taluk. Harvest *kar* paddy, &c., yield three-fourths. Small-pox slight in three taluks. Cattle-disease slight in parts.
Coimbatore ...	·28 (average of five stations).	Standing crops *cholum* damaged by insects in one taluk. Dry crops want rain in seven taluks. Harvest dry crops in parts, yield average. Cholera in three taluks, 4 deaths; fever in parts.
Tanjore ...	·20 (average of two stations).	Standing crops generally good, except in three taluks. Rain much wanted everywhere. Harvest paddy and *cumboo*, yield below average. Thirty-five deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	.....	Standing crops fading, except in one taluk. Harvest paddy in two taluks, and dry crops in one.
Malabar ...	3·02 (average of fourteen stations).	Harvest continues in eight taluks. First crop in good condition. Cholera in two taluks, 13 deaths; small-pox slight in nine taluks; fever in five taluks.
Travancore ...	·038	Harvesting progressing. Fever prevails. *General Remarks.*—No rain in Madura. General prospects good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—(Sept. 12th)		
Kurrachee ...	Slight rain in Kurrachee, Manjhand, Sakro, Jerruck, and Tatta.	River at Kotri on 10th 14 feet 6 inches against 17 feet 9 inches on same date last year. Want of water much felt. Fever in six talukas. Cattle-disease in six talukas, some deaths among sheep and goats in Jati. Small-pox in five villages, in districts 26 fresh cases, 1 death, 6 remaining sick. Wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 26 and 34, in Manjhand 22, 28 and 40, in Ghorabari 20, 28 and 36, and in Mirpur Botoro 22, 30 and 34 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	Rain in eight talukas, average fall 1·22.	River has risen 1 foot and 8 inches since last week, and was lower by 3 feet and 3 inches on 10th instant than on same date last year. Small-pox in two, fever in four, and cattle-disease in three talukas. Wheat 24, *bajri* 35, *juari* 46, red rice 26, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	1·96	Total rainfall 19·28. Crops healthy. Cholera in Ahmedabad, 15 cases, 9 deaths, in Veramgam, 4 cases, 1 death. *Bajri* 27 and wheat 24½ lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	5·93	Total rainfall 43·19. Crops thriving. Cholera disappeared everywhere, except in Patan and Wadaoli where it continues in a mild form. *Bajri* 27 and rice 21 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	4·74	Total rainfall 46·20. Crops healthy. Cholera in Surat, 3 cases, 2 deaths, in Olphad, 2 cases fatal; slight fever in Jalalpur and Pardi. Locusts appeared in a few villages of Bardoli, Chikli, and Pardi talukas, and steps are being taken for their destruction. *Juari* 37 and *nagli* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	*Nil*	Partial break in the rain. *Kharif* crops in fair condition. Locusts throughout the district, doing no damage, save in Calvan. Cholera disappeared. Wheat 28, *bajri* 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	1·31; light rain daily	Total rainfall to date 71·59, being 9·04 above average. Abnormal temperature 0° to 2° cool. Vapour in air normal. Monsoon wind strong.
Poona ...	Maximum at Mawal 7·0.	Standing crops healthy. Cholera 32 cases, 22 fatal. *Bajri* 39 and *juari* 47 lbs. per rupee, in Poona *bajri* 34 and *juari* 41 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	1·32 in Newasa and from ·23 to ·95 in all the remaining talukas.	*Kharif* crops are in good condition. Cholera 35 attacks, 16 deaths. Sowing operations of *rabi* have not yet commenced. *Bajri*—maximum 48 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 36 lbs. in Akola; *juari*—maximum 66 lbs. in Newasa, minimum 39 lbs. in Akola.
Sholapur ...	·88	Total rainfall 32·78. *Kharif* crops good; *rabi* sowings commenced in places; no damage done by locusts. Cholera 88 cases, 30 deaths. *Juari* 60 lbs. and *bajri* 50 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar ...	Slight rain in eastern talukas, pretty heavy in western talukas; maximum 4·30 in Hangal; 3·08 in Kalghatgi; 2·48 in Mugud; 2·10 in Bankapur; 1·80 in Kod.	More rain is required for rice. Sowing of cotton and other late crops progressing. Ague prevails to a small extent in Mugud, Hangal, and Kalghatgi talukas, and slight cattle-disease in Hangal. *Juari* 63 lbs. and rice 32 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara ...	Karwar, 8·42; Kumpta, 7·61; Sirsi, 11·27; Hallial, 2·32.	Total rainfall 129·78. Weeding and transplanting of rice continue above ghat; cardamums ripening. Small-pox in Kumpta and Honawar. Common rice in Karwar 12¼ seers, district average 14½ seers.
Rajkot ...	2·39 ...	Total rainfall 24·66. General health fair. Weather cool. Small-pox in Limrala. *Bajri* 28 lbs. and *juari* 33 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Good rain has fallen in most districts of the Presidency. Crops healthy. Light rain, and slight rise in the river in Sind, where the crops have improved in consequence. Little damage from locusts. Cholera abating; slight fever and small-pox, and cattle-disease in a few places.
Bengal—(Sept. 12th)		
Chittagong ...	3·56	Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aus* rice nearly completed; *amun* rice still being planted in some places. Prospects favourable. Prices stationary. Cholera abating. Cattle-disease still continues.
Dacca ...	·79	*Aus* rice and jute being cut; *roachia* paddy being sown. Prospects good.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	1·81	Prospects of both early and late rice good. Early rice being harvested; transplanting of late rice still going on in some parts of districts. Cases of fever and of cattle-disease reported from Bassirhat sub-division. Public health good.
Moorshedabad ...	.....	No report received.
Rajshahye ...	1·83	Weather seasonable and prospects good. *Aus* rice a fair crop. Fever reported bad over a limited area only.
Burdwan ...	·45	*Aus* rice being reaped; outturn fair. Prospects of all other crops favourable. Fever prevalent.
Rungpore ...	.....	No report received.
Bhagalpur ...	·51	More rain wanted for winter rice. *Bhadoi* crops being cut, outturn 8 to 12 annas.
Purneah ...	·18	Prospects of crops generally fair. Farming operations normal. Rain wanted. Rivers falling. Health normal.
Patna ...	·64	*Makai* commenced to be cut; transplanting of paddy going on. More rain wanted. Cholera still reported from Behar sub-division.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—*contd.*		
Durbhunga ...	·30	Very much more rain than has fallen is required. Crops are suffering. General health good.
Hazaribagh ...	3·45	Weather seasonable. Good rain. Prospects of rice crop improving. Harvesting of *bhadoi* crops continues. Some isolated cases of small-pox and cattle-disease reported. General health good
Cuttack ...	5·10	Weather seasonable. Early rice being reaped with prospects of fair outturn; late rice being weeded and reploughed. Price of rice stationary. Public health good.
		General Remarks.—General rain fell during the week, but except in Orissa and Chota Nagpore the fall was generally slight. In Central Bengal and Behar the rice crop is suffering from want of rain. In several places elsewhere prospects of this crop are reported to be favourable. Early rice and jute are being reaped with fair results, but in Patna, Julpigoree, and Mymensingh the jute is said to be a poor crop. In Behar harvesting of *bhadoi* crops has commenced generally with expectation of a fair outturn, except in Mozufferpore where they have been greatly destroyed by inundation. Cholera lingers and fever has appeared in some districts, but the general health of the province is still fair.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Sept. 11th)	Average ·20	More rain wanted to improve crop prospects. Fever continues. Condition of cattle good. Prices steady.
Allahabad („ 12th)	Good rain ranging from 1·20 to 3·30 in all nine tahsils.	Harvest prospects improved. Rice crops somewhat damaged; early *kharif* crops being harvested. Only 4 deaths from cholera reported. *Bajri* and *juari* fallen; *arhar, dhan,* and *kuari* risen; other prices fairly steady.
Gorakhpur („ 9th)	About 1·0 in four tahsils on 5th.	The rain which has fallen has done much good. Prices steady. More rain required.
Jhansi („ 10th)	Jhansi, 1·0; Mau, ·50; Moth, ·80; Garotha, 1·50.	Weather cloudy with occasional showers. Crops are looking well, their prosperity depends on more rain. Locusts are said to have appeared in pargana Mau, particulars are under enquiry. Prices falling. Health good.
Agra („ 11th)	Rain in all parganas from 1·20 to 3·30.	Sporadic cholera and fever in three parganas. Prices falling slightly. Prospects generally much brighter. No cattle-disease reported. Cholera abating.
Bareilly („ „)	Weather showery	Crops improving. Early *kharif* harvest begun in places. Cholera reported in one village.
Meerut („ „)	Meerut, 3·50; Sardhana, 4·10; Bagpat, 3·20; Ghaziabad, 2·60; Hapur, 5·20; Mowana, 1·50.	Prospects immensely improved. Even unirrigated crops will be revived and yield probably an eight-anna crop at least. Health good, a few cases of supposed cholera in Begumabad. Supplies sufficient. Prices easy.
Kumaun („ „)	.....	Weather seasonable. Early rice being cut; outturn poor. Some slight fever, otherwise general health good. No change in prices. Cattle-disease continues.
Lucknow („ „)	Lucknow, ·30; Mohanlalganj, ·170.	Weather cloudy for the greater part of the week. Wind easterly. Unirrigated rice crops and that sown in *uparhars* are dying; large *juari* has also suffered; no injury as yet to the *hewet* crops. Condition of people generally good and of cattle normal. Markets well supplied. Prices steady except at Mohanlalganj, where they are said to be rising a little.
Partabgarh („ „)	Sadr, 2·80; Kunda, ·40; Patti, ·90.	Crops doing fairly well. More rain wanted. *Makka* and *kakun* being cut. Prices steady. Health good.
Sitapur („ „)	Sitapur, ·70; Sidhouli in parts, 1·70; Biswan, ·40; Misrikh, ·80.	More than half the rice crops lost; crops on low lands still good. *Bajri* and *juari* in three tahsils healthy.
Fyzabad („ 10th)	Sadr, ·10; Akbarpur, ·70; Bikapur, 1·30; Tanda, 2·10.	The rain in Tanda has somewhat improved prospects in that tahsil; rain still much wanted in all tahsils for the *aghani* crops.
Rae Bareli („ „)	Sadr, 2·80; Salon, 2·60; Dalman, ·30; Digbijaiganj, 1·0.	Prospects of the *kharif* crops have improved; *makka, kodon, juari, bowra, mothi, mash,* and *sawan* specially benefited, and from which a fair crop may now be anticipated. More rain required for *dhan*. General health good. Supplies sufficient. Prices steady.
Cawnpore („ 11th)	Average rainfall of nine tahsils, 1·70.	The rain has done much good, but more rain is desirable to prevent injury to crops. Fever prevalent and cholera decreasing except in a few localities and at Bithur, where fresh cases reported. Cattle-disease almost entirely disappeared. Prices slightly lower.
Farukhabad („ „)	Light scattered rain	Weather cloudy. Save *maize* and in less degree rice, all crops promise well; some very well; cotton very fine, but too forward and likely to be damaged by later rains.
		General Remarks.—There has been a fair fall of rain during the week which has materially improved the prospects of the later *kharif* crops, but more rain is still wanted. The rice crops especially have suffered severely in Lucknow and Sitapur; the early *kharif* harvest has begun in places. Locusts are reported to have appeared in Jhansi, but no particulars regarding them are yet known. Cholera has appeared in Meerut and Bareilly. Prices are steady or falling

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Punjab—(Sept. 11th).		
Delhi ...	4·4	Health good. Crop prospects much improved. Prices falling.
Hissar ...	.....	Rain throughout the district. Health good. Agricultural prospects much improved. Prices falling.
Umballa ...	2·8	Health good. Crop prospects much improved, but yield expected to be below the average. Prices stationary.
Jullundur ...	5·8	Health good. Crop prospects improving. Prices falling.
Amritsar ...	7·8	Health good. Prices falling.
Sialkot ...	6·0	Health and harvest prospects good. Prices falling
Ferozepore ...	Sadr, 9·2; Zira, 4·8; Moga, 3·2; Muktsar, 3·4; Jalalabad, 7·0.	Health good. Crop prospects improved. Prices falling.
Lahore ...	8·4	Health good. Crop prospects much improved. Prices falling.
Rawalpindi ...	1·8	Health good Prospects good in four tahsils and average in three others. Prices falling.
Mooltan ...	No rain	Health and crop prospects good. Prices falling.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	·20	Health good. Prices steady.
Peshawar ...	·20	Health good. Prices falling.
		General Remarks.—Rain throughout the province. Crop prospects much improved. Health good. Prices falling.
Central Provinces—(Sept. 12th)		
Nagpur ...	·97	Weather cool. Prospects good. Cholera 404 cases, 181 deaths. Prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...	8·87	Weather cloudy and rainy. Heavy rain on the 9th. Cotton and other *kharif* crops thriving. Prospects improved. Wheat 21 and rice 14 seers per rupee. Fever prevalent.
Saugor (Sept. 11th)	4·90	Prospects much improved. Prices steady. Health good.
Seoni ...	7·60	Heavy rain throughout the week. Crops much benefited. Cholera slight. Prices falling.
Hoshangabad ...	.....	Weather rainy and cloudy. Nerbudda and Tawa rivers flooded, and crops on the river banks seriously damaged. Fever in Sohagpur. Wheat 15 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	5·20	Weather showery. Prospects good. Prices steady.
Raipur ...	1·41	Prospects favourable, except at Simoga where the rainfall has been deficient. Prices steady. Preparations for *rabi* sowings in progress.
Sambalpur ...	6·76	Good rain throughout the week towards the east; rain towards north and west still deficient. Prospects good, except in north and west where slight loss is expected. Fever increasing. Common rice 36 seers per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Rain has continued to fall very generally throughout the provinces, the falls being heaviest in the northern districts. Prospects are favourable. Cholera rapidly abating.
British Burma—(Sept. 8th)		
Akyab ...	12·22	Total rainfall to date 160·75. Two deaths from cholera in the jail and 1 in district, and 4 deaths from small-pox in Koladan. 58 deaths of cattle in three townships, elsewhere health of plough cattle good. Transplanting continues. Crop prospects favourable. Transplanting wages from 6 to 8 annas per day.
Rangoon ...	4·71	Total rainfall to date 66·15. Two deaths from small-pox, otherwise public health good. Price of paddy from Rs. 85 to 94 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	6·50	Total rainfall to date 75·40. Public health good. Three deaths of cattle in Kangyidoung township. Ploughing nearly finished, about two-thirds transplanted. Price of paddy from Rs. 85 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Prome ...	2·59	Total rainfall to date 38·08. Public health good. Eighty-nine deaths of cattle from small-pox in two townships, elsewhere health of cattle good. 148,360 acres ploughed. 134,500 acres planted. Young plants in good condition. Price of paddy Rs. 93 per 100 baskets.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	10·88	Total rainfall to date 142·44. Public health in Moulmein and district good. 224 deaths of cattle in Hlaingbwey township. Crops healthy in Moulmein town. Few holdings remain unploughed. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. State of supply of seedlings for transplanting and general appearance of crops fair. No damage from drought, flood or insects.
Toungoo ...	3·65	Total rainfall to date 66·41. Public health and health of plough cattle good. Transplanting progressing. Average price of paddy Rs. 65 per 100 baskets.
Kyoukphyoo (1st Sept.)	8·90	Total rainfall to date 133·23. Three deaths from cholera in Pouktoodoung village, Myabone township; one in old Kyoukphyoo, otherwise public health good. Health of cattle good. Only a few acres remain unploughed. Transplanted paddy progressing favourably; broadcast paddy in good condition.
Kyoukphyoo (8th „)	9·53	Total rainfall to date 142·76. Two deaths from cholera in Kinechoung doubtful; two deaths in Kalanto village, Kyoukphyoo township; cholera also reported from Ramree township. Health of cattle good. Sowings completed.
Sandoway ...	15·99	Total rainfall to date 181·75. Public health good. Sowing and transplanting finished. Crops looking healthy.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing progressing. Ploughing wages 60 baskets of paddy in Hlaing township. Paddy crops in three circles of the Hlaing township inundated. Price of paddy from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Pegu ...	6·15	Total rainfall to date 101·21. Few deaths from fever in town, otherwise public health good. Transplanting nearly completed. Flood in river not so high as first. Season favourable. Price of paddy from Rs. 85 to Rs. 90 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy ...	...	No report received.
Thonegwa ...	6·02	Total rainfall to date 69·38. Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing progressing. Damage to crops from floods in the Thayein circle, Donabyoo township, and in the Kyouspouk and Kyonepadouk circles, Shwayloung township. Young crops are slightly damaged by insects in the Papone and Daydayeh townships. Supply of seedlings insufficient in the flooded parts of the Shwayloung township. Transplanting not progressing in the Kyonemangeh circle, Thonegwa township, on account of high water. Wages of labourers for sowing and transplanting one basket of paddy or one rupee per day. Price of paddy from Rs. 85 to Rs. 90 per 100 baskets.
Henzada ...	5·63	Total rainfall to date 69·28. Public health and health of cattle good. Transplanting progressing. Seedlings and plants in good condition; in Zaloon township plants in 2,580 acres damaged by floods, replanting going on and 350 acres damaged by insects. Information from Myanoung sub-division up to 3rd only.
Thayetmyo (Sept. 1st)	1·15	Total rainfall to date 25·11. Public health good. Ploughing going on. Rainfall hitherto insufficient. Prospects bad in western half of district, only about one-third of land planted yet, in some places seedlings killed by drought.
Thayetmyo („ 8th)	1·35	Total rainfall to date 26·46. Public health good. 30 deaths of cattle from small-pox in Syndoke, 10 in Myoma and 139 in Thabala circles. Cultivation still very backward for want of rain, about half of the total of paddy land planted. Price of paddy risen from Rs. 95 to Rs. 110 per 100 baskets.
Shwaygyin ...	6·64	Total rainfall to date 119·85. Public health and health of cattle fair. Ploughing nearly finished, except in low tracts which are flooded. Transplanting and sowing progressing. Some fields in low tracts flooded. Prices of paddy Rs. 74 per 100 baskets.
Tavoy ...	8·48	Total rainfall to date 171·06. Public health and health of cattle good. General appearance of the plants good. Area ascertained to have been damaged in western township, 150 acres by inundations and 50 acres by rats.
Mergui (Aug. 25th)	11·00 for week ending 25th August.	Total rainfall to date 105·95. Public health and health of cattle good. Area ploughed 33,000 acres and seed sown. Crops healthy. Price of paddy Rs. 75 per 100 baskets.
Mergui (Sept. 1st)		*General Remarks.*—Rainfall up to date still remains less than last year, but appears gradually making up. Public health good. No increase of cattle-disease and no serious mortality among cattle reported. Sowings completed. Transplanting except in overflooded tracts and in parts of Thayetmyo, where the rainfall has been insufficient, nearly completed. Prospects of crops reported favourable. Price of paddy keeps fairly steady.
Assam—(Sept. 12th)		
Gauhati ...	·21 week ending 11th instant.	Weather sultry and hot. Transplanting of *sali* paddy in progress. Public health fair. Cattle-disease still prevalent in the interior.
Sylhet ...	0·46	State and prospects of crops on the whole good; some damage done to *aus* in south of district by floods. Small-pox prevalent in Karimganj.
Cachar ...	.....	No report received.
Dibrugarh ...	4·42	Weather seasonable. Transplanting of *sali dhan* nearly finished. Cattle-disease reported. Public health good.
Mysore and Coorg—(Sept. 12th)		
Bangalore ...	·68	Standing crops in good condition. Prospects fair. Public health good.
Mysore ...	·15	Crops thriving. Prospects favourable. Sowing operations continue.
Mercara ...	6·22	A break in the monsoon needed in the western taluks. Prospects of coffee and cardamum crops good. Public health good. No change in prices of food-grains which rule low.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain in all districts. Sowings active. Standing crops and public health favourably reported on. Prices stationary.
Berar & Hyderabad—(Sept. 12th)		
Amraoti ...	1·53	Crops in good condition. A break in the weather is now necessary. Wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	2·53	Crops in good condition.
Hyderabad ...	1·75; total from 1st January 24·63.	Rain very uneven in Hyderabad district. In some places tanks have breached, and crops slighty damaged. In others rain still wanted. No sickness. Prices stationary.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central India States—(Sept. 12th)		
Indore ...	2·08	Prospects good.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	1·21	Prospects good. Cholera decreasing in Gwalior. Prices of food-grains falling.
Sutna ...	2·46	Prospects good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	1·49	Agricultural prospects improved. Public health good.
Goona ...	3·9	Health good.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	.....	No report received.
Nowgong ...	1·45	*Kharif* prospects improved. More rain is wanted. Prices steady. Public health fair.
Manpur ...	.....	Prospects improving.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Sept. 12th)	5·47	Good rain has fallen and still more is expected, as the clouds are very heavy. Prices falling.
Sirohi („ 9th)	2·97	Tanks and wells full. Health good. Crop prospects fair. Weather cloudy.
Marwar („ 7th)	3·11	Four months' supply of water in Jodhpore city; tanks and wells filling up. Health good. *Bajri* crops which had escaped the drought reviving; *moth* and *til* being sown. Rains being general and more copious in districts have dispelled fears of famine. Prospects of *rabi* much brighter. Prices falling. More rain expected as the weather is still cloudy.
Meywar („ 9th)	4·33	Tanks and wells filling fast. Health good. *Kharif* crop injured by late drought. Rain daily.
Harowti („ 8th)	Tonk, 2·19	Good rainfalls everywhere. Prospects improved. Health good.
Jhallawar („ 7th)	3·46	Good rain has fallen in all the districts. Prospects much improved. Health good.
Ajmere („ 11th)	2·28	Prospects favourable. Sufficient rain has fallen for standing crops, but considerably heavier falls are required to fill tanks, except in Merwara where the falls have been heavier. Health improving.
Jeypore („ „)	4·96	Crops thriving. Prospects favourable. Prices falling. Cholera almost stopped.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Sept. 11th)	Average 3·30	Prospects greatly improved. Prices falling. Health good.
Nepal—(Sept. 6th)		
Katmandu ...	2·80	Generally cloudy; frequent showers. Prospects good.

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

EXECUTION OF DEEDS, CONTRACTS, &c., ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

No. 1234.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Judicial),—under date Simla, the 12th September 1883.

Read the following papers relating to the execution of deeds, contracts, &c, on behalf of the Secretary of State :—

Home Department Resolution No. 1750, dated the 2nd November 1876.

Ditto ditto No. 684, dated the 31st May 1878.

Read also—

Letter from the Government of Madras, No. 10, dated the 9th January 1883.

„ to Director of Indian Marine, No. 164, dated the 31st January 1883.

„ from Director of Indian Marine, No. 588, dated the 7th February 1883.

„ to Solicitor to the Government of India, No. 245, dated the 20th February 1883.

„ from Solicitor to the Government of India, No. 386, dated the 28th March 1883.

„ to Solicitor to the Government of India, No. 386, dated the 1st May 1883.

„ from Solicitor to the Government of India, No. 624, dated the 25th May 1883.

„ to Government of Madras, No. 892, dated the 20th June 1883.

„ from Government of Madras, No. 373, dated the 16th July 1883.

RESOLUTION.

In exercise of the power conferred by the thirty-third and thirty-fourth of Victoria, Cap. fifty-nine, section two, the Governor-General in Council is pleased to declare that the undermentioned classes of contracts referred to in the twenty-second and twenty-third of Victoria, Cap. forty-one, section two, may be executed as follows in the territories of the Government of India :—

Contracts for the engagement of crews of Indian Government vessels, whether belonging to the Imperial or to Local Governments.	By the officers in command of such vessels.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Resolution be communicated to the Military (Marine) Department, and that it be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

A. MACKENZIE,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Printed and Published for the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA *at the Govt. Central Branch Press, Simla.*



SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India.

Nº 38.} CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* GAZETTE OF INDIA *will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.*

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE *may receive the* SUPPLEMENT *separately on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or nine Rupees if sent by Post.*

No Official Orders or Notifications, the publication of which in the GAZETTE OF INDIA *is required by Law, or which it has been customary to publish in the* CALCUTTA GAZETTE, *will be included in the* SUPPLEMENT. *For such Orders and Notifications the body of the* GAZETTE *must be looked to.*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS IN BENGAL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1883-84.

Areas leased for Irrigation up to the end of July 1883.

Circle.	District.	Canal.	Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilized.	Approximate area of land irrigated during the year up to the end of the month.	Approximate area of land under irrigation up to the same date last year.	DETAILS OF AREAS LEASED.									Rainfall, 1883-84.		Rainfall, 1882-83.		Remarks.
								Five years. All crops.	Five years. Khurreef.	Annual leases.						Grand Total.	During month.	Up to end of month.	During month.	Up to end of month.	
										Khurreef.	Rubbee.	Sugar-cane.	Bhadoi.	Hot weather.	Total.					
			C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	
Orissa	Cuttack	Kendrapara	1,269	293·95	33·24	2,097	48,525	...	5,532	...	682	31	...	66	779	6,311	11·06	33·64	25·39	42·42	
		Gobri	372·82	146·18	56·33	...	4,096	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					
		Pattamoondee	1,042	19·86	7·47	90	13,809	...	350	...	2	...	...	15	17	367					
		High Level, Range I	675	100·72	14·58	490	14,260	...	1,032	...	67	3	...	16	86	1,118					
		Taldunda, 1st Reach	1,300	135	135	...	9,954	...	...	...	202	20	...	...	222	222					
		Ditto, 2nd do.	650	38	38	...															
		Matchgong	650	67	67	1,561	22,309	...	2,015	...	200	29	...	...	229	2,244					
	Balasore	High Level, Section II	727·16	226·35	226·35	72	235	...	...	...	...	440	...	...	440	440					
		Ditto do. III	727·16	209·16	209·16	252	1,373														
		Total	...	...	...	4,562	114,561	...	8,929	...	1,153	523	...	97	1,773	10,702	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	123,823	...	1,477	169	...	...	1,646	125,469	...	...	...	...	
South-Western.	Midnapore	Midnapore	1,411	744	616	69,014	82,713	...	72,427	...	...	...	...	...	...	72,427	10·03	21·50	13·69	32·65	Whole month discharging.
	Howrah	Panchkoorah	522	164	91	9,894	9,786	...	10,174	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,174	18·61	30·69	7·35	25·79	Eighteen days discharging.
		Total	...	...	...	78,908	92,499	...	82,601	...	...	...	...	...	...	82,601	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	92,797	...	...	...	...	...	...	92,797	...	...	...	...	
Sone.	Shahabad	Western Main	4,342	1,266	189	5,331	1,950	4,434	...	1,190	...	381	...	...	1,571	6,005	14·83	21·17	4·72	7·92	
		Buxar	1,226	287	237	14,147	6,815	14,220	...	3,945	...	1,932	...	69	5,946	20,166					
		Arrah	1,160	799	666	41,611	33,114	51,852	...	5,913	...	1,502	154	7,003	14,572	66,424	8·91	20·33	7·34	13·06	* Excludes area irrigated under five years' leases.
	Patna and Gya	Eastern Main	1,466	564	481	... *	94	214	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	214	12·53	24·49	7·46	18·00	
		Patna				648*	3,111	13,254	...	3,098	...	8	...	67	3,173	16,427					
		Total	...	...	...	61,737	45,084	82,974	...	14,146	...	3,823	154	7,139	25,262	108,236	...	...	...	...	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	56,548	17,067	3,425	9,925	...	...	30,417	86,965	...	...	...	...	
	Grand Total		...	...	...	146,207	252,144	82,974	91,630	14,146	1,153	4,346	154	7,236	27,035	201,539	...	...	...	...	
	Grand total of the corresponding period of last year.		...	...	...	...	...	...	273,168	17,067	4,902	10,094	...	...	32,063	305,231	...	...	...	...	

The 4th September 1883.

G. F. E. S. NEILL, *Major., M.S.C.,*
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
P. W. Department.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF IN THE PUNJAB FOR 1883-84 UP TO 31st JULY 1883.

Canal Division.	Water distributed during July 1883. Depth in Canal at Regulating Gauge. Full supply.	Depth in Canal at Regulating Gauge. Actual throughout.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Estimated full supply.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Actual average throughout.	Navigation return canal. Principal items of Traffic. Up.	Navigation return canal. Principal items of Traffic. Down.	Land irrigated (approximate). Zila.	Land irrigated (approximate). Acres.	Rainfall. Average.	Rainfall. During month.	Chief crops (approximate). Name.	Chief crops (approximate). Area in acres.	Remarks.
Bari Doab Canal. 1st Division	4·9	4·92	3,073·6	1,471·25	...	...	Gurdáspur	15,213	10·49	1·7	Cotton	21,518	On the Bári Doáb Canal there is a decrease of 1,299 acres as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year. The prospects of the crop continue to be very favorable. The usual rains having in a great measure failed, water is in great demand both for new and old sowings.
2nd Division, Main Branch, Lower	4·6	3·8		899·00	...	...	Amritsar	38,419	10·7	9·0	Rice	17,472	
2nd do., Lahore Branch	3·35	3·5		764·00	...	...	Lahore	47,738	8·8	2·7	Sugarcane	9,192	
Passed out of Escapes	...	...	...	229·00	...	...	... ...	...	...	...	Others	53,188	
Total Bári Doáb Canal	...	...	3,073·6	3,363·25	...	...	... ...	101,370	...	...	... ...	101,370	
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	3,073·6	2,484·52	...	...	... ...	102,669	...	...	... ...	102,669	
Western Jumna Canal. Karnál Division	4·33	4·13	2,546	176	...	631,372 kurries, bullies, &c.; 12,478 maunds firewood; and 44,186 cubic feet wood.	Umballa	1,259	12·33	8·23	Cotton	63,546	The operations of the month on the Western Jumna Canal show an increase in area irrigated of 45,913 acres, and of 4,505 acres as compared with the corresponding period of last year. There is an increase of 13,372 acres in the area of cotton, and a decrease of 12,865 acres in that of sugarcane, as compared with last year. The increase in the former is attributed to the scanty rainfall during the month, which is nearly 50 per cent. under the average.
Delhi do.	5·70	4·96		600	...		Karnál	26,689	8·52	4·63	Rice	28,979	
Hánsi do.	9·00	8·50		1,125	...		Delhi	28,911	10·20	2·80	Sugarcane	35,076	
Do. Bulla Head	8·80	6·70		223	...		Rohtak	34,007	5·85	4·30	Others	24,407	
Passed out of Escapes	...	...	...	289	...		Hissár	34,360	5·40	4·10	... ...	...	
							Jhind	25,807	10·40	3·50	... ...	...	
							Bikaner	201	...	...	... ...	...	
							Kalsia State	774	...	...	... ...	...	
Total Western Jumna Canal	...	...	2,546	2,413	...	631,372	... ...	152,008	...	...	... ...	152,008	
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	2,546	1,925	...	190,654	... ...	147,503	...	...	... ...	147,503	
Inundation Canals. Upper Sutlej Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lahore	12,168	...	...	Detail not obtainable for want of establishment.	...	On the Inundation Canals there is a decrease of 89,653 acres as compared with last year, which is due to the short supply in the Canals owing to the low state of the rivers.
Lower Sutlej and Chenab Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	Montgomery	15,875	...	...		...	
Indus Canals	...	...	...	...	...	...	Mooltan	170,255	2·3	1·8		...	
Muzaffargarh Canals	...	...	...	...	...	...	Dera Gházi Khan	102,856	2·7	0·10		...	
							Muzaffargarh	123,150	...	3·3		...	
Total Inundation Canals	...	...	...	...	...	...	... ...	424,304	...	...	... ...	424,304	
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	... ...	513,957	...	...	... ...	513,957	
Perennial Canals, Grand Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	... ...	253,378	...	...	... ...	253,378	
Do. corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	... ...	250,172	...	...	... ...	250,172	

J. E. CATTON,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., Punjab, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXXIII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 26th August 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 25th August 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 26th August 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 25th August 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
25th Aug. 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	1,53,036	890	172	(a)72,069	419	17,77,895	489	(a)17,48,647	484	...	29,24[illegible]
25th ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	80,695	148	547	88,263	161	20,80,709	180	24,04,916	209	3,24,207	...
1st Sept. 1883	Sind, Punjab & Delhi .	676	1,45,062	215	749	2,04,399	273	38,25,558	267	49,37,033	316	11,11,475	...
1st ditto .	Madras . . .	861	1,51,837	176	861	1,18,168	137	29,23,241	161	27,24,001	151	...	1,99,240
1st ditto .	South Indian . .	655	73,835	113	655	72,299	110	15,89,206	115	16,31,850	118	42,644	...
1st ditto .	Great Indian Peninsula	1,450	3,62,108	249	1,451	3,95,772	273	1,38,99,042	453	1,47,64,951	483	8,65,909	...
1st ditto .	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	1,22,643	266	461	1,58,606	344	43,11,122	442	48,62,691	502	5,51,569	...
	TOTAL .	4,822	10,89,216	226	4,896	11,09,576	226	3,04,06,773	298	3,30,74,089	322.	26,67,316	...
	State.												
1st Sept. 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	6,51,484	432	1,509	8,00,808	531	1,79,51,164	564	2,10,92,427	666	31,41,263	...
1st ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	33	4,456	135	56	5,300	95	79,553	121	1,20,619	108	41,066	...
1st ditto .	Nalhati . .	27	1,120	41	27	1,668	62	27,586	48	33,294	59	5,708	...
1st ditto .	Northern Bengal .	230	35,338	154	239	37,350	156	7,45,038	152	8,21,642	168	76,604	...
1st ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	75	15,448	206	166	16,491	99	2,64,320	153	3,42,187	99	77,867	...
28th July 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	6,296	110	...	(b)	...	(c)1,55,997	160	(d)1,42,015	147	...	13,982
1st Sept. 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	2,557	88	29	2,378	82	43,915	75	50,421	86	4,540	...
1st ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	5,062	58	87	6,599	76	1,35,174	74	1,34,839	74	...	335
1st ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	523	44	12	616	51	19,276	76	20,555	82	1,279	...
1st ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	1,50,039	134	1,117	2,05,950	184	42,59,311	180	50,30,163	214	7,70,852	...
1st ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	8,997	200	45	13,407	298	2,17,912	229	2,98,981	316	81,069	...
1st ditto .	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	4,369	45	149	9,243	62	2,45,849	119	6,02,648	*193	3,56,799	...
1st ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . .	161	18,164	113	161	18,359	114	5,76,850	169	5,58,309	165	...	18,541
1st ditto .	Sindia . . .	75	4,672	62	75	5,005	67	1,28,686	81	1,27,151	81	...	1,535
1st ditto .	Punjab Northern .	409	47,994	117	421	60,943	145	12,03,812	142	12,83,141	145	79,329	...
1st ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	63,728	97	660	1,07,335	163	16,73,696	120	31,67,484	229	14,93,788	...
1st ditto .	Muttra-Achnera .	23	1,458	63	23	1,730	75	25,460	52	29,795	62	4,335	...
1st ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	1,479	46	32	1,162	36	30,441	45	38,625	57	8,184	...
1st ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	10,130	114	...	...	1,36,813	73	1,36,813	...
	TOTAL .	3,370	3,71,700	117	3,388	5,03,666	149	98,34,876	147	1,29,38,725	179	31,03,849	...
	Assisted Company.												
11th Aug. 1883	Bengal Central . .	...	...	...	...	(b)	...	...	...	(e)40,805	61	40,805	...
	Native States.												
25th Aug. 1883	Bhavnagar-Goudal .	194	11,366	59	198	9,875	51	3,99,085	97	4,41,837	109	42,752	...
25th ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	13,799	114	121	11,970	99	3,49,849	137	3,18,914	125	...	30,935
25th ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	5,499	64	86	5,021	58	1,15,164	63	1,06,796	59	...	8,368
1st Sept. 1883	Jodhpore . . .	19	320	17	19	660	35	(f)1,550	9	14,730	37	13,180	...
	TOTAL .	420	30,984	74	419	27,526	66	8,65,648	100	8,82,277	100	16,629	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,919	21,43,384	216	10,212	24,41,576	239	5,90,58,461	281	6,80,2[illegible],323	314	89,69,862	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,98,28,937	142	3,37,78,455	156	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS .	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,92,29,524	139	3,42,54,868	158	50,25,344	...

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway (estimated for period subsequent to 11th August 1883).
(b) Return not received.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 29th July 1882.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 28th July 1883.
(e) Total receipts from 1st April to 11th August 1883.
(f) Total receipts from 24th June to 26th August 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House, Simla, on Wednesday, the 12th September, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding.*
His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Panjáb, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble D. G. Barkley.

MÚLTÁN DISTRICT LAWS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Bill to declare the law in force, in certain lands which have been or hereafter may be ceded by the Baháwalpur State for occupation by the Indus Valley State Railway be taken into consideration.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH LOCAL BOARDS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the constitution of Local Boards in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh be taken into consideration. He said:—

"MY LORD, in moving for leave to introduce this Bill in May last, I explained to the Council that it embodied the views of the Local Government as to the degree to which the principles of local self-government already recognised in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh should be extended, as to the mode in which the existing machinery of district committees should be utilized for that purpose, and as to the steps considered necessary to supplement that machinery in order to carry out the object in view. I showed that the proposals of Sir Alfred Lyall were the result of careful deliberation and of consultation with all persons likely to be able to give an opinion of value on the subject, and that those proposals had received the assent of the Government of India in the Executive Department.

"The Bill, after its introduction, was published in the usual way for the information of the public, and was referred back to the Local Government for further opinion on its details. Divisional and district officers of the united provinces were again consulted, a committee was again assembled at Naini Tal, presided over by the senior member of the Board of Revenue, and having as its members one Commissioner from the North-Western Provinces, one from Oudh, three officers of the Secretariat, of whom two had not long ago been in

charge of districts, and four Native gentlemen, including a member of this Council, the Hon'ble Rájá Siva Prasád.

"The opinions of the Local Government and of the officers consulted by it, the report of the Naini Tal Committee, and the criticisms of the English and Vernacular newspapers which discussed the measure, have been carefully weighed by the Select Committee; alterations, which it is hoped are amendments, have been made in the Bill in accordance with many of the suggestions emanating from these different sources; and I have to ask the Council to pass it into law to-day, after taking our report into consideration.

"I do not propose to detain the Council by discussing, or even enumerating, all the alterations which we have made. They will be found set forth at length in our report, but I shall confine myself to explaining a few of the more important changes.

"The Bill as introduced made no reference to towns in the united provinces in which Act XX of 1856 is in force. As the Council is doubtless aware, that Act provid s for the appointment and maintenance of police chaukídárs in towns other than agricultural villages. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, where small towns are numerous, many have been brought under the Act, being too small as yet to constitute municipalities. The cost of watchmen, and in some places of sweepers for conservancy purposes, is raised by an assessment on persons or property within a limited maximum. The assessment is made by a panchávat, and in no cases does it exceed double the charge for watchmen; in many it falls short of that amount. The surplus, when there is any, is spent in petty improvements in the town—generally in making or repairing roads or surface-drains—by the Magistrate, who is directed to consult the wishes of the rate-payers. Sir Alfred Lyall considers that these embryo municipalities should be left as they are for the present outside the jurisdiction of district boards, a discretional authority being given to the Local Government to treat exceptionally any case that may seem to call for such treatment.

"Section 3 of the Bill as amended accordingly excludes from sub-districts formed under that section, unless the Local Government otherwise directs, the portions of the district in which Act XX of 1856 is in force.

"We have made a change in the mode of appointing nominated members of district boards in those districts where the central board will consist only of delegates from the local boards. Instead of leaving such members to be chosen by the local boards, which we considered might give rise to complications and difficulty in maintaining the prescribed proportion of nominated and elected members on the district board, we have, in section 6, given to the Local Government the power of appointing the proper number of nominated members to the district boards from among the nominated members of the local boards.

"On the mode of appointing chairmen of local and district boards, a constitutional question of great importance, I dwelt at some length on the occasion to which I have before alluded, and need only now say that no change has been made on this point, and that section 14 has been very carefully drawn, so as to give effect to the proposals of Sir Alfred Lyall.

"The Bill as introduced limited the term of office of chairmen of local boards to one year, in accordance with the suggestion of the Local Government. It was believed that this would give boards the opportunity within a reasonable time of ridding themselves of chairmen who turned out to be inefficient, but the Lieutenant-Governor and many of the officers consulted, on reconsideration of the question, have urged that the term is too short; and the Select Committee agrees with His Honour that annual elections of chairmen might keep agitation constantly alive, might deter competent men from accepting office, and might tend to prevent the acquisition of that knowledge of the rules and of business which it is essential that a chairman should possess. The preponderance of argument turned the scale in favour of the later opinion, and sections 13 and 16 accordingly provide that the term of office of an elected chairman shall coincide with that of his term of office as a member of the board.

"For chairmen who are not elected the term of office will be fixed by the Local Government, but is in no case to exceed three years, the term of office for

members. District boards will thus be able at reasonable intervals to review their determination not to elect their own chairmen.

"Questions may arise occasionally in which residents of military cantonments and district committees are jointly interested, and on which it is well that each party should have an opportunity of hearing the views of the other and stating its own. With this object, section 27 enables district boards to form a joint committee with the cantonment authorities whoever they may be. We have not specified cantonment committees, of which no mention is to be found in Act III of 1880, the latest enactment which amends the law relating to cantonments; but it will rest with the military authorities to determine in what form the residents of cantonments shall be represented in the joint committees.

"Some of the local officers consulted took strong exception to the clause of section 24 which enabled district boards to establish and maintain relief-works in times of scarcity or famine, urging in effect that undivided responsibility was essential to the successful conduct of a famine-campaign, and that this could not be expected from district boards. They appear to have overlooked, or to have thought insufficient, the qualification in the first sentence of section 24, which applies to all that follows, 'subject to such exceptions and conditions as the Local Government may from time to time make and impose.' There is no doubt of the general truth of the proposition on which the objection is based, where a widespread and severe famine has to be dealt with, but periods of scarcity frequently occur which do not require the universal application of official agency; and during such periods, or even occasionally in more serious famines, the services of the boards may often be utilised with advantage in administering relief-works of a subsidiary character. To meet such cases, the provision was inserted. It was intended by it not to empower the Local Government to divest itself of the responsibility for famine-administration, but to enlarge the armoury of weapons at the disposal of the Government for employment against the common enemy. The clause has been re-drafted so as to make this clear.

"In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, and in my speech when I asked leave to introduce this Bill, it was explained that the measure proposed to extend the financial independence of local bodies; and this object was secured by the provision which vested boards with the district fund. A suggestion of the Naini Tal Committee, supported by the Lieutenant-Governor, that 'unexpended balances of yearly income should be credited to the boards subject to such conditions as the Lieutenant-Governor might impose,' was carefully considered by the Select Committee, which felt compelled, for the reasons given in the Report, to reject it. Such a condition appeared to the Select Committee to be fatal to that financial independence which it is the object of the Bill to confer on every district board. Section 13 of Act III of 1878 and section 12 of IV of 1878, which left unexpended balances of the allotments at the disposal of the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner, have been accordingly repealed and not re-enacted.

"The sections respecting the appointment of officers and servants have been recast. As regards the appointment of the secretary, no substantial change has been made; but we have rendered subject to rules made by the Lieutenant-Governor appointments to offices requiring professional skill. The supply of candidates for professional employments is limited, and the boards to be constituted under this Bill will not, at least for some time to come, be well adapted to judge without guidance of professional qualifications and scientific acquirements, whereas the selection of competent professional servants is of the utmost importance to the success of their administration.

"Two sections (36 and 37) have been added respecting the grants by boards to their servants of gratuities, pensions and leave-allowances. Here also it was felt that boards should be enabled to resist the pressure to which they will no doubt be largely subjected, and that the law should strengthen their hands in refusing to burden the rate-payers with extravagant charges.

"We have empowered the Local Government (clause (8), section 47) to make rules for the guidance of the boards in conducting litigation, but have

struck out altogether the section of the Bill as introduced which conferred upon district boards and their officers and servants the privileges which the Secretary of State for India or a public officer has under Chapter XXVII of the Code of Civil Procedure. As stated in the Report, the tendency of recent legislation in England has been to remove special protection in the case of legal proceedings against public bodies, and, except that boards might possibly be placed at a disadvantage in the conduct of their legal business by the delay necessitated by the reference to Government under the rules, there appeared no good reason for continuing such protection to the boards for which we are now legislating. Such delay would, we think, be always accepted by the Courts as a good and sufficient reason for granting a postponement under the ordinary provisions of the Code.

"It also appeared to us that a provision for special notice of an intention to institute a suit against a board was uncalled for. Cases will rarely, if ever, occur in which persons thinking themselves aggrieved will not apply for redress to the boards before bringing them into a Court of law; and plaintiffs who fail to make such an application would doubtless be made, or, probably my hon'ble friend of the Chief Court will agree with me, ought to be made, to pay for their laches by being mulcted in the costs of the suit.

"I also propose to ask the Council to pass an amendment to section 40 of the Bill. Section 47 gives the Local Government the very necessary power of making rules as to the manner in which the accounts of the boards shall be audited; but section 40, which specifies and limits the charges and expenses to which the funds of the board can be legally applied, makes no provision for payment of the expense of auditing those accounts, so that the Local Government has the power of making rules for the performance of a duty the cost of which the board is under no obligation to pay.

"Section 47, clause (12), enables the Local Government to make rules as to the language of the board. This power was originally given to the district board, but on further consideration we adopted the view of the Lieutenant-Governor that, if this matter were left to the decision of the members, much controversy might be the result, and in some districts business might be seriously and uselessly retarded. My hon'ble friend the President of the Education Commission will, I am sure, bear me out in saying that the use of Hindí or Urdu as an official language has in many places become a burning question, and that opposite sides are frequently taken by Hindus and Muhammadans more from a desire to secure a badge of race-ascendancy than from considerations of the public convenience.

"The Bill, my Lord, will thus confer on the people of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh a substantial, though not an unsafe, measure of local self-government: it is a move, and a decided, but not a rapid move, in that direction. For a somewhat centralized system of administration of local funds, it establishes local bodies appointed mainly by such a form of election as is considered by those best acquainted with the provinces most suitable to their present condition, presided over by chairmen of their own choice, charged with the performance of definite duties, vested with the control of their own funds, and possessed of the local knowledge and local interest which it is the tendency of centralised departments in their zeal for improvement sometimes arbitrarily to override. It is not to be expected that large results will at once be apparent from the passing of the Act, or that a population composed chiefly of peasants and petty landholders, engaged in a hard struggle for existence, of whom not quite 6 per centum have acquired the arts of reading and writing, will suddenly manifest a great amount of public spirit, will display an unselfish interest in commercial affairs and develop a conspicuous genius for administration; but we may reasonably hope that in these respects a promising start will be made, and a steady rate of progress gradually attained, under the guidance of a body of divisional and district officers second to none in India in sympathy with, and knowledge of, the agricultural classes, controlled by a Lieutenant-Governor who has so thoroughly familiarised himself with the ideas and principles underlying the structure of Indian society."

The Hon'ble MR. HUNTER said:—"My Lord, after the exhaustive statement made by my Hon'ble friend in charge of the Bill, it is not needful that I should enter into further details connected with this measure. But a question arose in the Select Committee with regard to which it is expedient that, by your Excellency's permission, I should ask my Hon'ble friend for a fuller explanation in Council. The Bill provides, among other things, for the Local Government making over 'the control and administration' of schools to the Local Boards. No definition is given of the class of schools thus to be transferred, but they are placed in a list ending with the words 'and other public institutions.' It may therefore be inferred that the schools to be placed under Local Boards are of the nature of State schools. But perhaps the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill will, at the close of this debate, make it clear that the schools to be handed over 'to the control and administration' of the Local Boards, at the discretion of the Local Government, are not intended to include aided schools, or schools managed by European or Native associations or by similar bodies. It would be particularly unfortunate at the present juncture, if an unfounded surmise should get abroad that Government intends to interfere in any way with private enterprise in education. From what passed in the Select Committee, I am aware that there is no such intention; and I have a perfect confidence that the Local Government will prevent any injustice by the rules to be framed under this Act. I also agree that it is inexpedient to attempt a definition of the schools now to be tranferred to Local Boards, as the whole question of popular education and of educational legislation is shortly to come before your Excellency's Government. Nor do I ask for any pledge in regard to schools which the Boards may themselves establish. But it seems desirable that it should be made clear to managers of schools, and to European or Native associations engaged in school work, that the present Bill will not infringe on their private rights. I shall, therefore, with your Excellency's permission, ask my Hon'ble friend for an assurance that nothing in this Bill is intended to interfere with the powers at present exercised by individual managers, or by public associations, over aided or other non-Government schools; or to transfer their management to 'the control and administration' of the Local Boards.

"Two objections of a more general character have been brought against the control and administration of those Boards. On the one hand, it has been urged that the powers entrusted to the Boards go too far in the direction of local self-government; on the other hand, it is complained that they do not go far enough. As an independent member of the Council, not pledged by responsibilities to your Lordship's Executive Government, I desire to state my own opinion in regard to these two categories of complaint. The first class of critics seem to suppose that this and similar measures now before the Council, have been modelled upon institutions, and are built up on theories, foreign to India. But if there was ever a series of measures free from the charge of *doctrinaire* legislation, it is the series to which the present Bill belongs. Every one of that series has been based upon existing institutions, and in each one of them the development of those institutions is strictly carried out on lines laid down by the District Officers and the Local Government. The Bill for the Central Provinces starts from the village school committees, characteristic of that part of India, and links them through Local Boards with the District Councils. In Burma, such rural mechanism is comparatively wanting, and the Burmese Bill now before the Council, practically confines its scope to municipalities or townships and the areas attached. In the Panjáb, different tracts vary widely in their circumstances. The Panjáb Bill refrains, therefore, from any attempt to bring that Province under uniform provisions, and it allows the largest liberty to the Local Government in regard to the rules by which the system will be worked in each district. The North-Western Provinces form a more homogenous territory. But, while the provisions of the present Bill are consequently made applicable to them as a whole, these provisions are based upon local experience and local advice collected from the separate Districts. It embodies the views arrived at by the North-Western Government upon the recommendations of a Committee of its own District Officers. It has been carried through this Council by a gentleman of exceptional experience in

the management of North-Western Districts. At each stage of the Bill, the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces has been sought; and to that opinion more than one member of the Select Committee has, on particular clauses, yielded his own. Whatever may be the defects or the merits of this Bill, they are not the merits or defects of *doctrinaire* legislation.

"The Bill accepts the existing system of District Boards in the North-Western Provinces, and provides them with Local Boards as agents acting under them. But, in thus giving hands to the District Board with which to do its work, we are told that the Bill has deprived the District Board of its head. The meaning of this is, that the Chairman of the District Board will no longer be necessarily an official appointed by Government, but may, under certain conditions, be elected by the Board itself. Those conditions, however, afford ample security against evil results from so moderate a change. In the first place, a District Board must, at a meeting of not less than three-fourths of its whole members, determine whether the Chairman shall be elected by the Board, or be appointed by the Local Government. The condition requiring an attendance of three-fourths of the whole members, although an effective safeguard against hasty or partial elections, seemed, to me at any rate, to be unduly stringent. But, after the careful consideration given to this question by the Local Government, and as local experience shows that this safeguard can be practically carried out in the North-Western Districts, I think that no true friend of self-government should withhold his assent from a condition which those best acquainted with the North-West believe to be requisite for the successful working of self-government in those Provinces. The second safeguard consists in the circumstance that, when a Chairman has been elected, the approval of the person so selected rests with the Local Government; and, in the event of an unsuitable election, the Local Government shall appoint as Chairman such person as it thinks fit. The third safeguard resides in the right reserved to Government of nominating a portion of the members of the Local Board, not exceeding one-fourth of the whole. The fourth safeguard is to be found in the provision that every resolution passed by a District Board shall, within ten days, be forwarded to the Magistrate of the District. A fifth safeguard rests in the efficient but well-guarded powers of inspection, suspension and control vested in the Commissioner of the Division, and eventually in the Local Government. I do not think that any one can carefully read this Bill without the conviction that its provisions represent the best results of local experience, and that they take ample security against any dangers which might arise from the increased responsibilities now assigned to the District Boards.

"Those responsibilities are of a very real character. The list of duties made over to the District Boards include much of the daily work of rural administration. The evils of the undivided responsibility borne by Indian officials, have long been recognised, and have received fresh illustration in the most able of popular accounts of India by Mr. J. S. Cotton, which has just reached this country. But, in regard to the duties and powers of District Boards, this Bill has been based on the past experience of District officers in the North-West, not upon theories or first principles. The construction and maintenance of public roads, wells, waterworks and certain local buildings; the management and inspection of schools, hospitals, markets, cattle-pounds, staging-houses and public ferries; the regulation of encamping grounds for travellers; the licensing of stage-carriages; the conduct of local works likely to promote the public health, comfort or convenience; and the relief of the people in time of scarcity or famine, are among the duties entrusted by the Bill to the District Boards, under rules and conditions to be laid down by the Local Government. Some of these duties have already been conducted by District Boards; but hereafter the District Boards will have an inducement to efficiency and economy which they did not possess before. For, any balance unexpended at the end of the year from the sums allotted to them by the Local Government, will no longer be swept back into the Provincial Treasury. Such balances will form a fund to enable the District Board still more efficiently to carry out its duties; and the more economically it performs its work each year, the better will be its financial position at the beginning of the next.

"With the responsibility for many branches of the rural administration, will come, I believe, an increased appreciation of the difficulty of the task. The British Government has, during the past twenty years, accepted responsibilities for the continuous welfare of its subjects which no previous Government of India admitted. The State now interposes its efforts between the calamities of nature and the people. When it fails in its almost insuperable task, the people are apt to blame, not the calamities of nature, but the efforts of the State. No one has so clearly described the result of this condition of things as the present Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces. 'Cholera, famines and great sea-inundations,' writes Sir Alfred Lyall in one of his brilliant essays, 'when they are not made the text of invectives against the British Government, do at least, in some confused way, bring upon it great discredit; not apparently from the idea that the gods are angry with the Government, but upon the dim feeling that the Government has undertaken the gods' business and is breaking down.' The best remedy for such a state of things is to make the people themselves share the difficulty of the task; and I believe that the Bill to be passed to-day for the territories over which Sir Alfred Lyall presides, is the most important legislative step yet taken in that direction.

"We have lately heard much of the great influence exercised by the small but highly educated Native communities in the towns. It is complained that that influence is altogether disproportionate to the number of the persons who wield it, or to the pecuniary stake which they have in the country. Without pronouncing as to the justice of this view, I think that the present measure affords a new and valuable guarantee against the evil complained of. For this Bill creates effective mouthpieces for public opinion outside the great towns, such as the rural population never possessed before. Public opinion exists in the village as it does in the town; but under previous Indian Governments the village was separated by wide untraversed tracts from the ruler. This separation has stamped itself in the language of the people. The terms for the village and its internal life are almost everywhere taken from the vernacular Indian speech; but beyond the village stretched the Persian *zilá* or District, and beyond the *zilá* the Persian *subah* or Province, whose capital formed the residence of the remote Government or Persian *sarkár*. My Hon'ble friend in charge of the Bill, has mentioned that the language to be used by the Local Boards is a burning question at the present day; that is to say, whether the language is to be the native Hindí of India, or the naturalised Urdu derived from its former foreign rulers. He has dealt, I think, very wisely with that question. But the Bill which he has to-day conducted to a successful issue, goes to the root of the evil which bequeathed to us this and similar difficulties in the rural administration. Indian history discloses scarcely anything of the nature of a political institution between the village and the Central Government; and after the downfall of each successive dynasty the village alone survives, raising its head above the waste of anarchy like the Lower Bengal hamlets in time of flood. This absence of cohesive institutions has always been a source of political weakness in India. The present Bill, with the series of measures to which it belongs, takes the village, the indestructible unit of the Indian social system, and links it to the Central Government. My Hon'ble friend has truly said that the progress of local self-government must at first be slow. But the progress, such as it is, will be steadily in the right direction. The peasant landholders and the village heads will be represented on the Local Board. The Local Boards will, either directly or by election, constitute the District Board; and the District Boards will be in immediate communication with the responsible representatives of the Government. The old indestructible element of organization in India, the village, will no longer stand out as a solitary unit, but will be incorporated into a well-knit system of rural administration.

"I think the local Government of the North-Western Provinces, as well as the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, is to be congratulated on the passing of this measure. I believe it to be an honest effort to carry out the policy of local self-government laid down in your Excellency's Resolutions, and to

carry out that policy with due safeguards against the risks which must attend all administrative changes in India."

His Honour the LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said :—"My Lord, I was not aware that any difficulty had arisen in connection with those provisions of section 24 of the Bill which refer to the control and management of schools made over to local bodies. No mention of any such difficulty has been made in the report of the Select Committee, and therefore I have not come prepared to discuss the principle at any length. Nor do I clearly understand what is the particular difficulty in respect to aided schools to which my hon'ble colleague Mr. Hunter has referred. Perhaps when the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill comes to answer the appeal which has been made to him, some further light may be thrown upon the subject. But if it is asked that a pledge be given that the clause in the Bill shall apply only to Government schools and in no respect to aided schools,—that is to say, that grants-in-aid are to be given only from provincial finances and not from local funds, that all examinations in aided schools are to be conducted by provincial and not local establishments, and that local boards and committees are to have no concern with aided schools,—I sincerely trust no such pledge will be given. As far as the Panjáb is concerned, I distinctly contemplate, under the provisions of the Panjáb Bill, now before a Select Committee of this Council, to give certain powers to local boards in connection with aided schools, as well as Government schools. In regard to the Bill now before us, I think that the clause in the first part of section 24 which makes the provisions of the section subject 'to such exceptions and conditions as the Local Government may, from time to time, impose,' provides an ample check against any arbitrary or unwise interference with aided schools. Altogether, the matter is one which should be left to the discretion of the Local Government."

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY said :—"My Lord, I cannot anticipate the answer which my hon'ble friend Mr. Quinton will give to the question asked him by the Hon'ble Mr. Hunter in regard to the control and management of aided schools, but I am of opinion that it is undesirable that any definite pledge should be given in their case. It seems to me that there is a principle underlying the question which may enable the Local Government to come to a decision in the matter; and that, in regard to schools for the higher education, where these schools are in the main private institutions and can only be called public in consideration of the grants-in-aid they receive, they would hardly come under the wording of the section. Where, for instance, private persons or associations have invested time and money in starting a school on the faith of a system of grants-in-aid administered by Government, there is a *primâ facie* reason for not making over such schools to local bodies without the consent of those persons and associations. I think that might be the guiding principle, but at the same time much must be left to the discretion of Local Governments, and it would be unsafe to give anything like a definite pledge."

The Hon'ble Mr. QUINTON said :—"The question raised by my hon'ble friend Mr. Hunter is no doubt one reasonably suggested by the wording of section 24 of the Bill, and, as it also arises in the Municipal Bill, I shall deal with both at the same time.

"It was found impossible to lay down by law a precise classification of the schools which should be placed under the control and administration of the boards, and the decision was accordingly left to the Local Government, while we indicated by a general qualification in the section the principles on which such decision should be based.

"The section runs—'Every district board shall, so far as the funds at its disposal will permit, but subject to such exceptions and conditions as the Local Government may, from time to time, make and impose, provide, among other things, for the establishment, management, maintenance and visiting of schools.'

"It was not the intention that boards should have anything to do with schools other than those maintained or aided from the district or municipal funds.

"Schools which in future accept grants-in-aid from boards will of course be bound by the conditions on which such grants are given, and must make their own terms.

"Schools which at present receive grants-in-aid from Provincial funds are in a different position. Government may find it convenient to transfer the charges for such grants-in-aid to the funds of the boards; but, as the schools were often established on the faith of the continuance of the grants-in-aid by Government, as stated by my hon'ble friend Sir Steuart Bayley, the latter would doubtless, before taking action, we presume, consult the wishes of the managers of the institutions, and, if they objected to being rendered subject to the control of the boards, would probably either not make the transfer at all, or attach to it such 'exceptions and conditions' as would satisfy the reasonable objections of the proprietors or managers of the schools. I cannot give any assurance beyond this. We have left the matter to the Local Governments with every confidence that the discretion will not be abused."

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT said :—"My Lord, we are much indebted to our hon'ble friend Mr. Quinton for the great care and skill with which he has conducted this measure through Council, and for the fulness of his explanations. It clearly appears from what he has said that, with respect both to the details and to the principles of this measure, we have adhered as closely as possible to the views and suggestions expressed by the Local Government; and I have every reason to believe that this measure will lay down the lines of a useful and effective system of local self-government. To what has been already said, I need only add a very few words, and those will be in explanation of the financial clauses of the Bill. In defining the funds and sources of income to be placed at the disposal of local boards, we have endeavoured to keep in view three considerations. First, for the purpose of securing the requisite amount of elasticity in the adjustment of provincial and local revenue and expenditure, we have found it necessary to reserve to the Local Government a certain amount of discretion with regard to the funds to be allotted. We have done this by providing in section 38 of the Bill that the arrangements specified in that section are to be subject to such conditions and exceptions as may be made and imposed by the Local Government. Secondly, it has been thought desirable to give the Local Government, by express words, the power of reserving from the local rates fund such amounts as may be necessary for expenditure on matters of the district which it may be necessary to place under provincial as distinguished from local administration. We have provided for this by a sub-section, which will be found in section 56 of the Bill, amending the Local Rates Act of 1878. Whilst conferring these discretionary powers, we hope and believe that they will be exercised in accordance with fixed rules, and in such a manner as not to cripple the independence and responsibility we intend to give to local bodies. In connection with this point, I have to express my entire concurrence in the principle of leaving unexpended balances in the hands of those bodies. Lastly, it is necessary that local bodies should pay the expenses of such services as may be rendered to them by the officers of Provincial Departments, and we have accordingly charged the district fund with the payment of such amount as may be held to be equitably due in return for such services."

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said :—"The remarks which have been made by the hon'ble members on this and previous occasions at the several stages of the Bill have so fully explained the objects and purposes of this and the sister measure which will be passed, I trust, in a few minutes, and I myself have had so many occasions of expressing my views on the question of local self-government in India, that I need not now occupy the time of the Council. But I cannot let those two Bills pass without expressing my hope that they will prove to be measures calculated to make a substantial advance in the development of local self-government; and it is a great satisfaction to me that these Bills should be passed by this Council during the time I have the honour to preside over it."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON also moved that, in section 40, sub-section (*1*), after the words "payment of" the following be inserted, namely:—"the expenses incurred in auditing the accounts of the district and local boards, and".

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON also moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH MUNICIPALITIES BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON also moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to make better provision for the organization and administration of Municipalities in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh be taken into consideration. He said:—

"The printed report of the Select Committee enumerates at length the changes, except amendments in matters of minor detail, which have been made in the Bill as introduced, and gives briefly the reasons for each. It also states that, in making those alterations, the Select Committee was guided by the opinions of the local authorities, which in the case of a Bill of this nature appeared to be specially deserving of attention.

"The changes as regards terms of office of chairman of the board, the appointment of joint committees with the cantonment authorities, the language of the board and the appointment of officers and servants, the grant of pensions, gratuities and leave-allowances and special privileges in conducting litigation, correspond with those made in the Local Boards Bill; and, as I have dwelt on the reasons for these changes in the remarks I have just made on that measure, I need not weary the Council by going over the same ground.

"Towns in which Act XX of 1856 is in force were not alluded to in the Bill as introduced, but, as the Local Government is enabled to apply the Municipalities Act when passed to any town or group of towns, we have provided that, when a town in which Act XX of 1856 is in force is brought under the Municipalities Act, the former enactment shall cease to have effect therein, and every panchâyat constituted under it for the local area in which such town is situated shall cease to exist. The maintenance of a proper establishment for watch and ward will then become the duty of the municipal board.

"The maximum term of office of members of the board was originally fixed at two years, but the local authorities and Native gentlemen consulted considered this period too short, especially where the system of retirement by rotation is in operation—a system which has worked satisfactorily and is well understood. In deference to these views, we have extended the period to three years.

"The Bill as introduced practically allowed a board to elect as its chairman any person whatever: 'one of its own members or some other person' was the language used. Exception was taken to this as throwing open the chairmanship in a manner inconsistent with ordinary rule and practice elsewhere, and as allowing a person who had not stood for election, or who, having stood, had not been elected, to be brought in to preside over the board's deliberations as chairman. It was urged that, although the power might occasionally be used to bring in a man of peculiar ability or aptitude, the probability was much stronger that it might be misused for purposes of private interest, and that it might foster dissension, especially if a candidate who had been defeated at the election for board membership were nominated.

"The Select Committee has given full weight to these considerations; but, looking to the fact that *all* elections are subject to the approval of the Local Government, has decided not to narrow the field from which chairmen may be chosen, except by the single restriction that they must possess the qualifications which would enable them to stand for election as members of the boards. These qualifications will be prescribed by rules made by the Local Government under section 9 of the Bill. This will prevent the election of an outsider who has no interest in the municipality, while the Local Government will be able,

by withholding its approval, to cancel the election to the office of a person obviously improper or unfit.

"To prevent municipal administration coming to a standstill by the neglect of a board to fill up the chairmanship within a reasonable time after the occurrence of a vacancy, we have enabled the Local Government to appoint a chairman when the office is allowed to remain vacant for three months. The control of the ordinary business of the committee will rest in a great degree with the chairman, and inconvenience to the public would result from its being interrupted. I shall leave to my hon'ble and learned friend Mr. Ilbert to explain the grounds on which we have altered the sections giving power to the board to make rules regarding nuisances. The principle involved is one of general application, and will doubtless regulate litigation on the point in other provinces than those to which this Bill relates. No power was given to the Local Government in the Bill as introduced to alter the limits of a municipality. The law now in force, Act XV of 1873, section 5, does enable the Local Government to effect this by notification, and on the suggestion of the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh we have inserted a section (74) to make provision for future cases in which it may be necessary to alter municipal limits.

"The object of this Bill, my Lord, like that of the Bill just passed, is to develop in the direction of local self-government institutions already in exsistence; and I may say that the institutions to which it applies have attained a much more advanced stage of development, and call for much less radical changes, than those with which we were dealing earlier in the day.

"Some degree of local self-government in municipal affairs existed in the North-Western Provinces since 1850, when Act XX of that year enabled residents of towns to apply for the extension of the Act to the town in which they lived, and to form committees for the purpose of taxing themselves and administering the funds raised by such taxation.

"As to Oudh, a Municipal Act for Lucknow and other towns to which it might be extended by the Governor General in Council was passed in 1864; and the Governor General in Council was subsequently empowered to extend to any towns in Oudh the Panjáb Municipal Act of 1867. In 1868, a new Municipal Act was passed for the North-Western Provinces, and was keenly debated in this Council; the opposition, headed by Sir H. Durand and Sir W. Mansfield, being opposed to granting to the Lieutenant-Governor power to apply the Act to any town irrespective of the wishes of the inhabitants and to the preponderance on the committee of official members, and the influence which it was likely they would exercise.

"Finally, in 1873, a fresh Act, No. XV of that year, being the law now in force, was passed for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, in order to provide for municipalities in Oudh governed by the Panjáb Municipal Act, then about to expire, and to make alterations and amendments in some small matters, to which experience had shown to be required, to the North-Western Provinces Act, regarding which the mover, Mr. (now Sir) Arthur Hobhouse, stated his belief that it had worked in a very satisfactory manner. By this Act all municipalities in both provinces are now regulated, and a brief account of its operation, taken from the printed Administration Report of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh for the year ending on the 31st of March, 1882, may interest the Council, as showing the stage of advancement which municipal institutions have there reached.

"There were in that year in the united provinces 109 municipalities, with a population slightly in excess of 3,000,000. Members were appointed in some places by election only, in others by nomination only, and in others again by election and nomination combined. There were 438 *ex officio* members, against 1,022 nominated or chosen by election. An income of Rs. 23,30,834 was raised by taxation, of which 88 per cent. was derived from octroi-duties, and the average incidence of taxation per head was 12 annas.

"The first charge on the net income was for police, of which an establishment consisting of 2,802 constabulary and 4,006 non-constabulary

forces was entertained. I may say here that, by the present Bill, municipalities will be entirely relieved from the cost of the former, under the obligation of devoting the funds thereby set free to purposes of education, medical relief and the like. Conservancy, maintenance and construction of roads and buildings, drainage, sanitation, charitable and educational grants, absorbed most of the remaining funds.

"Any one conversant with the condition of the towns and cities of Upper India five-and-twenty years ago, who compares it with their present state, must admit that the improvement effected by municipal administration in matters affecting the public health, safety and convenience is immense. I may perhaps be permitted to mention the cities of Lucknow, Allahabad and Cawnpore, of which I have personal knowledge, and in the two former of which a considerable portion of my official life has been spent. These cities are now distinguished by wide and handsome streets, excellent roads, comparatively good drainage, which is being daily improved, and efficient conservancy; all brought about by municipal committees, in whose proceedings some of the leading and most intelligent citizens took an active part. In Lucknow, my friend Nazim Agha Alí Khán Bahádur, commonly known as the Agha Sahib, and the late Daroga Wajíd Alí, so conspicuous for his loyal services to the British Government during the Mutiny, interested themselves above others in municipal affairs, and rendered invaluable assistance in municipal administration.

"Similar public spirit to that manifested by these gentlemen and others was not universal, and the system, under which the satisfactory results I have just alluded to were obtained, depended largely for its success in the first instance on the presence on committees of *ex officio* members. The number, however, of non-official residents of towns and cities who evince an intelligent interest in municipal business has been gradually increasing, and it is believed that the time has now come when the co-operation of officials on most municipal boards is no longer needed. The provisions of the present Bill have accordingly been framed with the view of giving to residents of the cities and towns to which it applies the sole management of their own municipal affairs, under rules for securing due attention to the public health, safety, convenience and interests generally—objects which no Government can suffer to be neglected. Some few places will still require the guiding hand of an official president, and in all a judicious exercise of the control from without established by the Bill cannot be safely dispensed with; but, with these exceptions, the State practically withdraws from the management of municipal affairs, in the expectation that the boards will prove themselves equal to the fresh responsibilities thrown upon them, and carry on with zeal and efficiency to ever advancing stages of development the system of municipal government, which has already conferred such substantial benefits on the united provinces."

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY said:—"My Lord, there is only one point to which I wish to refer in connection with this Bill. I have no desire to oppose the passing of the Motion now before the Council, but it will be observed that I have qualified my assent to the Report of the Select Committee by expressing a doubt whether it was expedient to dispense with the notice now required before a suit can be brought against a committee or its officers for compensation for any thing done under the Municipalities Act. This question is likely to arise again with reference to other Bills now before this Council, and I may therefore briefly explain my reasons for considering it desirable that the law should require notice of such suits to be given.

"The principal reason is the tendency of such notice to reduce the number of cases in which municipal committees need be concerned as litigants. The object of the notice is to give them an opportunity of offering amends out of Court; and section 43 of Act XV of 1873 goes on to provide that, if sufficient amends are tendered before suit is brought, the plaintiff shall not recover. A similar provision is to be found, I believe, in all Municipal Acts now in force throughout India, those of the Presidency-towns included, and there is reason to believe that it has often led to claims being adjusted out of Court. It is said in the Report that the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure on the subject

are sufficient; but the only notice before suit required by that Code is that provided by Chapter XXVII before suing Government or public officers. It was decided in Committee that it was not desirable to make Chapter XXVII of the Code, as originally proposed in the Bill, applicable to municipal committees; but, while I agree in considering the provisions of that chapter unsuitable, I still think that it would have been desirable to retain a provision similar to that contained in section 43 of the existing Act. Claims may of course still be adjusted out of Court, either after suit, or, if sufficient notice is given, before suit; but in cases of the former description the costs of bringing the suit must be paid by one party or other; and, if no notice is prescribed by law, cases of the latter description will be rare, as formal notice before suing is rarely given in India, and a plaintiff will think that he has done more than is necessary if he has told a member or servant of the committee that he intends to sue.

"My hon'ble friend Mr. Quinton has suggested that the Court would decree costs against the plaintiff if no formal notice had been given, but it is quite possible that the Court might think it harsh to throw all costs upon the plaintiff if he had given an informal warning to a member or servant of the committee.

"It appears that a similar provision which has long existed in English law has recently been found unnecessary, but the circumstances of England are very different from those of the interior of India, and I am unwilling to deprive municipal boards, which are bodies appointed to discharge a public duty, and are, like individuals, liable to err, of a protection which is given to public officers.

"A minor reason is that, as the protection has hitherto been given by law to municipal committees, it does not seem desirable to withdraw it just at the time when it is proposed to give them a more representative character and place them in a more independent position than before. This would not be a very strong reason if the protection served no useful purpose, but, from what has been already said, it will be seen that I think it is beneficial.

"But, as the Local Government has been informed that the Select Committee did not think that Chapter XXVII of the Procedure Code should be made applicable, and has not suggested that a provision similar to section 43 of the existing Act should be substituted, and the subject is one closely connected with local administration, I have not thought myself called upon to propose an amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT said:—"My Lord, my hon'ble friend Mr. Quinton has asked me to explain, somewhat more fully than it has been found possible to do in the Report of the Select Committee, the principles by which we have been guided in framing section 55 of the Bill, which delegates to municipal authorities the power to frame bye-laws. It is obvious that a power of this kind ought to be very carefully guarded and its exercise as carefully watched. Experience has shown that similar bodies have not unfrequently framed bye-laws which are either unnecessary, vexatious or in excess of their powers. This remark, I need hardly say, applies not only to India, but also to England. For the purpose of preventing similar abuses, it has been suggested that we ought to take away from municipal authorities the power of framing bye-laws, except those which are necessary for the regulation of their own proceedings, and to insert an exhaustive list of acts and omissions punishable within municipal limits, and of the penalties to be imposed for them. I do not think, however, that such a suggestion is practicable. I have examined carefully the different Indian Municipal Acts, and I find that, whilst they differ from each other materially with respect to the extent to which they define offences in the Act itself, or leave them to be defined by bye-laws, they all agree in reserving to local authorities a supplementary power of framing bye-laws for the prevention and punishment of petty municipal offences. The English Public Health Act, which goes into greater detail than is usual in Indian Acts, is framed on similar principles, and reserves to local sanitary authorities extensive powers of making bye-laws. This is a matter with respect to which I should be disposed to leave a reasonable amount of discretion to the Local Governments. I have not yet had an opportunity of minutely

examining the Panjáb Municipal Bill, but it appears to have been framed with great care, and it contains provisions apparently borrowed from the Bombay, Bengal and Madras Acts, which specify in some detail the offences punishable under the Act. The North-Western Provinces Bill, however, has been framed on somewhat different lines, and the reason for this difference probably is, that the North-Western Provinces Government have already framed a model Code of bye-laws which, as I understand, has been put in force, with local modifications, in a good many municipalities in the Province, which has been found to work well, and which, I presume, the Local Government would wish to continue in force with as little alteration as possible. Under these circumstances, the Select Committee have not thought it necessary to insert in the Bill provisions which had not been suggested by the Local Government, and the suitability of which they would not have had sufficient opportunity for considering. At the same time, we thought that the bye-laws clause which appeared in the Bill as introduced was susceptible of improvement. This clause appeared to me to be open to two objections. In the first place, it gave to municipal authorities the power to interpret the term 'public nuisance'—a power which should properly be left to the Courts of law; and secondly, it gave, by implication, to those authorities the power of creating offences punishable by so heavy a penalty as a fine of Rs. 200. I have gone through the offences which are punishable under the model Code of bye-laws now in use in the North-Western Provinces, and I find that, with few exceptions, the offences dealt with under them can be brought under one of two categories. They are either offences which might properly be treated as belonging to the same class as those defined as public nuisances by section 268 of the Penal Code, or else they are offences which might be appropriately dealt with under that chapter of the Code (Chapter XIV) which contains this section, and which is headed 'Of offences affecting the public health, safety, convenience, decency or morals.' We have accordingly, by the first sub-section, given a general power to municipal authorities to frame bye-laws for the prevention and punishment of offences belonging to either of these two categories, and we have added sub-sections dealing specifically with offences about which a doubt might be entertained whether they were sufficiently covered by the general words of the first sub-section. And, in order to avoid an artificial extension of the term 'public nuisance,' we have not given that name to offences against municipal bye-laws as such. Of course, there are many offences which might be punishable both under the Penal Code and under a municipal bye-law. In these cases, the prosecutor will have the option of proceeding either under the one or under the other, subject to a proviso, which will be found in section 70 of the Bill, and which provides that no person shall be punished twice for the same offence.

"Then, we have provided sundry safeguards against the possibility of municipal committees exceeding or abusing their powers. In the first place, the maximum penalty for an offence against a municipal rule is limited to Rs. 50, with a proviso for the case of continuing offences; next, a draft of the proposed rules must, under section 68, be published, and objections and suggestions from persons interested must be invited before the rules are passed; and, lastly, the rules are made subject to the approval of the Local Government. This procedure is substantially the same as that prescribed in the case of bye-laws under the English Public Health Act. All such bye-laws require the sanction of the Local Government Board, and the course adopted by that Board in dealing with such bye-laws is this. They have drawn up a model Code of bye-laws containing all such provisions as have been shewn by experience to be necessary and sufficient, and they do not allow local authorities to depart from this model except for special reasons to be assigned in each case. I think that, if Local Governments in India adopt a somewhat similar course, and employ a reasonable amount of care in framing their model Code of bye-laws, there can be no ground for apprehension that the powers entrusted to municipalities are likely to be abused or exceeded.

"So much for bye-laws. Next, as to the point which my hon'ble friend Mr. Barkley has raised, with respect to the propriety of omitting the provision which

requires a month's notice before the institution of legal proceedings against a municipal committee. As my hon'ble friend Mr. Quinton has explained, we have, in omitting this provision, followed the most recent precedents of English legislation. Protective clauses of a similar kind to that which we now propose to omit are to be found scattered up and down in great abundance in the English Statute-book. I once had occasion to make an exhaustive examination of these clauses for the purpose of seeing whether they could not be enacted once for all in a generalized form. I found that they had a long history, and that some of the forms now in use contained provisions which dated from the time of James I, and had been copied mechanically from one Statute into another, though they had long ceased to be of any practical utility. When the English Army Act was being framed, the most suitable form of such a clause was carefully considered, and the conclusion come to was that the requirement of a month's previous notice of action was likely to do more harm than good, and had better be omitted; the reason being that no person of ordinary prudence begins legal proceedings against an individual or a body of individuals for acts done under colour of statutory authority without taking the precaution of previously sending a lawyer's letter or in some similar way affording an opportunity of settling the matter without litigation; and that, if any person was so foolish as to dispense with this precaution, he would probably be mulcted in costs, even if he won his case. It appeared to me that, notwithstanding the differences between English and Indian circumstances to which Mr. Barkley has referred, the same considerations applied in India also; and, though I am fully impressed with the importance of protecting persons in office from vexatious litigation, yet I am very reluctant to increase the number of formalities of which proof must be furnished before a suit can be maintained, or to make any addition to the number of the existing opportunities for delay and procrastination which our civil procedure affords. Moreover, if such a provision as this is really required, it ought to be embodied in a general Act, which should grant the necessary kind of protection to all persons acting under statutory or other similar authority. These were the reasons which induced me to advise the Committee to omit the clause in question from the Bill."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON also moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

PANJÁB MUNICIPALITIES BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY moved that the Bill to make better provision for the organization and administration of Municipalities in the Panjáb be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Messrs. Gibbs, Ilbert, Hope, Hunter and Quinton and the Mover. He said:—"My hon'ble friend Sir Steuart Bayley has mentioned to me that the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbs would shortly relieve him of the charge of the Home Department, and asked me to substitute Mr. Gibbs' name for his. I have altered the Motion accordingly, and if this alteration is not objected to, I desire to move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the hon'ble members abovenamed."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 19th September, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,

SIMLA; *Secretary to the Government of India,*

The 18th September, 1883. *Legislative Department.*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House, Simla, on Wednesday, the 19th September, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.

Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.

The Hon'ble D. G. Barkley.

PROTECTION OF INVENTIONS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill for the protection of inventions exhibited in the Exhibitions of India.

NATIVE PASSENGER SHIPS ACT, 1876, AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Native Passenger Ships Act, 1876.

LEGAL PRACTITIONERS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, and the Indian Stamp Act, 1879. He said:—

"The object of this Bill is to amend the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, in certain respects in which experience has shown that the existing law is defective.

"Section 13 of the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, contains a provision that the High Court may suspend or dismiss any pleader who takes instructions in any case except from the party on whose behalf he is retained, or from a private servant of such party, or from some person who is the recognized agent of such party within the meaning of the Code of Civil Procedure. It has been brought to the notice of the Government that the practical operation of this provision is in certain cases attended with inconvenience to litigants and pleaders. In litigation in which pardánashín women are concerned, instructions must often, as a matter of necessity, be given through their near relatives. Again, there are cases in which male litigants, who have not the means of employing private servants, are unable from various causes, such as physical incapacity or old age, to instruct their pleaders in person. In such cases, it seems right to allow the relatives of the litigants to instruct pleaders on their behalf. Section 3 of the Bill accordingly adds a proviso to section 13 of the Act enabling pleaders to take instructions from a relative of the party deputed by him or her to instruct the pleader when the party is a pardánashín woman or unable for any sufficient cause to instruct the pleader in person.

"Under the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, an advocate not ordinarily practising in his own province must, if he wishes to practise in such a province as the Central Provinces, for example, where the Judicial Commissioner has at present no power of enrolling advocates, first enrol himself as a pleader. As this state of the law is felt by certain persons to be a grievance, a new section has been added to the Act, empowering all High Courts not established by Royal Charter to enrol advocates as the Chief Court of the Panjáb is at present empowered to enrol them. As the power of suspension or removal would, except in the case of the Panjáb Chief Court, be vested in a single officer if it were conferred absolutely on the High Court, it has been thought well to make every order by any High Court other than the Panjáb Chief Court suspending or removing an advocate subject to confirmation by the Local Government.

"The new section 42, which section 5 of the Bill adds to the Act, provides for the repeal of Acts I of 1846 and XX of 1853 in all places to which that section may be extended. The Madras High Court has noticed that these Acts have not as yet been expressly repealed in that Presidency, though a great portion of the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, has been brought into operation there. These Acts are, it is believed, already repealed in all the provinces to which the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, extends *proprio vigore;* but it is possible that they may be still unrepealed in some of the other provinces to which the Act either has already been or may hereafter be extended under the power conferred by its first section. The new section 42, taken with section 1 of the Act, will enable the Local Government of any such province to repeal the Acts if still in force in it.

"Lastly, section 6 of the Bill amends article 27 of schedule I and article 11 of schedule II of the Indian Stamp Act, 1879, by omitting the words which confine their operation to advocates of the chartered High Courts. As section 41 of the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, empowers the Chief Court of the Panjáb to enrol advocates, and as the Bill will confer similar powers on the other non-chartered High Courts, the words in question are, as represented by the North-Western Provinces High Court, out of place, so far as advocates are concerned, and should therefore be omitted."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Thursday, the 4th October, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,

Secretary to the Government of India,

Legislative Department.

SIMLA;

The 20th September, 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 18th SEPTEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—In the Carnatic, Travancore and parts of the Southern Mahratta Country the rainfall of the past week has been somewhat deficient, and more rain is wanted for unirrigated crops; otherwise the prospects in Southern India are fair. There has been a slight rise in the river in Sind, but it remains below its usual level; at Kurrachee, however, it is reported to be higher than last year. In Hyderabad and the Berars the crops are generally in excellent condition and throughout Central India and Rajputana good, and in some places abundant rain has greatly benefited the *kharif* and improved the pasturage.

In Burma, Assam and Bengal crop prospects are on the whole favourable, although some damage has been done by past floods, and more rain is wanted in parts of Behar and Central Bengal. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and Central Provinces the rice crop has suffered from the long break in August, but other crops are doing well and the rainfall of the week under report has been general and very beneficial. Hardly any rain fell during the week in the Punjab, but prospects there have materially improved.

Harvesting is still in progress in Madras. Ploughing and sowing for the *rabi* has begun in the Bombay Presidency, Rajputana, the Central Provinces and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the early *kharif* crops are being cut. Reaping of early rice and jute continues in Bengal, the outturn being generally fair. In Burma rice sowings have been finished and transplanting is nearly completed.

Cattle-disease in mild form is reported from most districts; in Burma the mortality has slightly increased.

Cholera still exists in Bombay, the Central Provinces and Northern India, but is decreasing. The usual autumnal fevers prevail.

Prices are keeping steady.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Sept. 19th)		
Bellary ...	·18 (average of three stations).	Standing crops generally good.
Kurnool ...	·05	Rain still needed in four taluks; standing crops elsewhere good. Harvest of indigo in parts, yield 14 annas. Cattle-disease in seven taluks.
Ganjam ...	·93 (average of twelve stations).	Standing crops generally thriving. Fever and small-pox exist.
Kistna ...	·55 (average of four stations).	Rain needed throughout. Dry crops fading. *Cholum* suffering from grub in one taluk. Harvest of gingelly, yield below half. Fever, small-pox, guinea-worm, and cattle-disease in parts.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	·95	Standing crops withering, except in one taluk for want of water. Harvest of *kar*, paddy, &c., yield half. Small-pox slight in three taluks; measles in one taluk. Cattle-disease slight in all taluks.
Coimbatore ...	·89 (average of six stations).	Standing crops *cholum* damaged by insects in one taluk. Dry crops in eight taluks want rain. Harvest of *cholum* and *ragi*, yield average. Fever and small-pox in parts; cholera in one taluk, three deaths.
Tanjore ...	1·17 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops generally good, but dry crops in four taluks want rain. Harvest paddy and gingelly, yield below average. Twenty-six deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	1·33 (average of four stations).	Standing crops withering, except in two taluks. Harvest of paddy and dry crops in parts.
Malabar ...	1·18 (average of thirteen stations).	Standing crops good. Harvesting continues. Second crop cultivation begun in seven taluks. Small-pox slight in nine taluks; fever in three taluks; cholera in two taluks, 5 deaths.
Travancore ...	·177	Harvesting continues. Preparations for next cultivation begun. Fever and dysentery prevail; 1 death from small-pox. Rain needed in several districts. *General Remarks.*—General prospects fair.
Bombay—(Sept. 19th)		
Kurrachee ...	·88, being average of fourteen stations.	River at Kotri on 17th 14 feet 7 inches against 13 feet 9 inches on same date last year. Fever in five talukas. Cattle-disease in five talukas, some loss among cows and buffaloes. Coughs and dysentery at Koti. Wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 28 and 34, in Shewan 32 and 40, in Tatta 24, 28 and 36, and in Jati 20, 32 and 40lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	Rain in two talukas, average fall ·90.	River has risen 1 inch since last week, but was 3 feet lower on 17th instant than on same date last year. Crops are reported to have suffered from blight and rats in taluka Badin. Small-pox in one, fever in two, and cattle-disease in three talukas. Wheat 24, *bajri* 36, *juari* 46, red rice 26, and white rice 20 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Ahmedabad ...	·40	Total rainfall 19·68. Crops healthy. Cholera abating, 5 cases, 3 deaths; slight fever in Aholka, Modasa, and Viramgaum. *Bajri* 26¾ and wheat 24½ lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	·74	Total rainfall 43·93. Crops in good condition. Locusts in Songhad, Mahuva, and Vyara talukas of Naosari division. *Bajri* 27 and rice 21 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	·54	Total rainfall 46·74. Condition of crops good. Cholera in Bulsar, 18 cases, 14 deaths; slight fever in Pardi. Locusts in some talukas. *Juari* 37 and *nagli* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	.....	Break in rain. Sowings of *kharif* completed. Heavy and continuous rain slightly damaged the *kharif* crops in places. Land is being prepared for *rabi*. No cholera. Cattle-disease in two villages of Dindori. Locusts throughout the district doing no damage, save in Kalwan. Wheat 28, *bajri* 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Very little rain; total of week ·55.	Total rainfall to date 72·14, being 7·20 above average. Abnormal temperature 0° to 1° cool. Vapour in air defective. Wind normal. Barometer high.
Poona ...	Light showers in all talukas.	Nine deaths from cholera. *Bajri* 39 and *juari* 47 lbs., in Poona *bajri* 34 and *juari* 41 lbs.
Ahmednagar ...	Very light rain in four talukas and none in the rest.	*Kharif* crops are doing well; sowing of *rabi* has commenced in all the talukas except Parner, Jamkhed, and Sangamner. Cattle-disease prevails to some extent in Karjat. Cholera 17 attacks, 5 deaths. *Bajri*—maximum 60 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 36 in Kopargaon, *juari*—maximum 72 in Jamkhed, minimum 45 in Kopargaon.
Sholapur ...	No rain	*Kharif* crops good; *rabi* sowings commenced in places. No damage by locusts. Cholera 76 cases, 31 deaths. *Juari* 61 and *bajri* 53 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar ...	Slight rain at eight stations; maximum ·79 at Hubli.	Rain wanted in Gadag, Ron and some other places. Standing crops good. Sowing of cotton progressing in some places, and in others lands are being prepared for it and for sowing wheat, gram, and other *rabi* crops. Public health good. *Juari* 84 lbs. per rupee in Ranibennur to 47 lbs. in Mugud petta and rice 40 lbs. in Hangal to 25 lbs. in Mundargi.
Kanara ...	Karwar, 1·32; Kumpta, 5·84; Sirsi, 8·95; Halial, 3·80.	Total rainfall 131·10. Plucking cardamoms commenced. Rice plants healthy. Three cases of small-pox in Hanawar. Common rice in Karwar 13, in district average 14½ seers per rupee.
Rajkot ...	·43	Total rainfall 25·09. Weather hot and cloudy. General health good. *Bajri* 28 and *juari* 34 lbs. per rupee. *General Remarks.*—Slight rain in some districts, more wanted in parts of the Southern Mahratta Country. *Kharif* crops generally good. Preparations for *rabi* in progress. Little damage from locusts. Cholera in many districts, but of a mild character. Slight fever and cattle-disease in a few places.
Bengal—(Sept. 19th)		
Chittagong ..	3·49	Weather seasonable. Transplanting of late rice nearly finished. Prospects good. Prices stationary. Cattle-disease still reported.
Dacca ..	·45	*Rochia* paddy being sown; *aus* and jute being cut. Prospects good.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	·30	Prospect of crops good. Harvesting of early rice still going on, outturn above average. Transplanting of late rice finished. Price of common rice stationary. Public health generally good, though cases of fever reported from Baraset and Bassirhat subdivisions.
Moorshedabad ...	·40	Weather sultry. Rain much wanted for late rice. Other crops doing well. Public health good.
Rajshahye ...	1·10	Weather clear and hot. Crops doing well. More rain wanted. *Aus* rice being harvested.
Burdwan ..	·33	*Aus* rice being reaped, outturn fair; *amun* rice promises fairly. Public health tolerable.
Rungpore ...	5·76	Weather cloudy and rainy. Prospects of crops good. Cutting of *jute* proceeding. Fever prevalent; cholera at Kaligunge.
Bhagalpur ...	1·11	More rain wanted for winter rice.
Purneah ...	2·25	Prospects of crops good. Farming operations normal. Health fair. Rivers normal.
Patna ...	2·20	*Bhadoi* crops promising. Transplanting of paddy still going on. Cholera reported from several thanas of Behar sub-division.
Durbhunga ..	·43	More rain wanted, but crops have certainly improved, and prospects are not unfavourable.
Hazaribagh ...	1·91	Weather warm and seasonable. Prospects of rice crop continue favourable. *Bhadoi* crops still being harvested. General health good.
Cuttack ...	·36	Weather seasonable. Early rice being cut; late rice being reploughed and thriving well. Price of rice has risen a little high. Public health good. *General Remarks.*—There has been general rain during the week; it has done much good in Behar, but more is still much wanted there, as well as in Central Bengal, for late rice especially on high lands. Early rice, jute, and other autumn crops are being harvested, and promise to give a general fair outturn, though in some districts it will be under an average. Fever is said to be prevalent in some districts, but the general health of the province is still very fair.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Sept. 18th)	Benares, 3·50; Chandausi, 1·30.	Crop prospects much improved. Fever continues. Cattle-disease of a very mild type reported in places. Prices steady.
Allahabad („ 19th)	Good rain everywhere except at Sadr, where only ·70 has fallen; in the remaining eight tahsils the average is 2·30.	Harvest prospects good. Health generally good. Cholera, 5 deaths. *Bajri*, *juari*, and *arhar* risen in price and *dhan* and *kuari* fallen, other prices steady.
Gorakhpur („ 16th)	Rain more or less abundant all over district on 13th and 14th; Maharajgunj, 3·50; Deoria, 1·90; Bansgaon, 1·20.	Prospects much improved. Sharp outbreak of cholera in jail, prisoners moved into camp; one or two cases also in city.
Jhansi („ 17th)	Jhansi, ·80; Mau, 2·90; Moth, 2·70; Garotha, 1·00.	Rice and minor crops somewhat damaged for want of rain. *Juari*, *bajra*, *tili*, and cotton are looking well. Prices fluctuating. Health of men and cattle good.
Agra („ 18th)	Rain in all parganas from ·10 to 1·80.	Sporadic cholera in two and fever in three parganas. Prices slightly falling. More rain wanted. No cattle-disease.
Rae Bareli („ 17th)	Rain during week—Sadr, 5·74; Digbijaiganj, 3·70; Dalman, 1·30; Salon, ·80.	Prospects of *kharif* crop greatly improved. General health good. Supplies sufficient. Prices steady.
Meerut („ 18th)	Meerut, 1·00; Bagpat, 1·40; Hapur, ·70; Mowana, ·40; rain has fallen in outlying villages of Ghaziabad.	Though recent rain most beneficial, more would be advantageous. West wind blowing and symptoms of approaching cold season. Prospects fair. Health good. No cholera. Labour abundant. Supplies sufficient. Prices steady.
Kumaun („ „)	.....	Fine weather is now required for the crops, sufficient rain having fallen. Health of people fair. Cattle-disease continues. Prices unchanged.
Lucknow („ „)	Abundant and general rain during week; Lucknow, 4·50; Maliabad, 3·40; Mohanlalganj, 3·20.	Heavy clouds still overhanging. Rice crop has suffered to some extent, but it is now improving; *hewat* crops are doing very well. Condition of people and cattle good. Markets well supplied. Prices stationary.
Partabgarh („ „)	Sadr, 1·00; Kunda, 3·60; Patti, ·60.	Prices steady. Rice suffering from drought in a small tract in Patti tahsil. Prospects elsewhere good. *Kuari*, rice, *kakun*, *makra*, and *sawan* being cut. Health good.
Sitapur („ „)	Sitapur, 1·50; Sidhouli, 3·20; Biswan, 4·70; Misrikh, 6·90.	Marked improvement in prospects. Fall in prices of all grains, except *dhan* and *kodon* which is stationary and *sawan* which has risen.
Fyzabad („ „)	Sadr, 3·00; Bikapur, 3·20; Akbarpur, 1·20; Tanda, ·60.	Prospects improved. Public health good.
Bareli („ „)	Passing showers	Weather cloudy. *Kharif* fully average, except rice and indigo. Cholera confined to original locality.
Cawnpore („ „)	Good rain throughout the district, though varying considerably.	Weather favourable. Prospects improved. General health of the people good. Slight cattle-disease in one pargana only. Prices slightly fallen.
Farukhabad („ „)	.....	Sky slightly overcast and favourable for all crops and for preparation of *rabi* sowings. Later *kharif* crops very promising, except rice. *General Remarks.*—The improvement in the crop prospects noted last week continues, rain having fallen freely in most districts. Prices have not changed much. Cholera has broken out in Gorakhpur jail, and there have been 5 deaths from this disease in Allahabad.
Punjab—(Sept. 18th).		
Delhi ...	.....	Health good. Crop prospects improved. Prices stationary.
Hissar ...	Slight rain	Crops thriving. Health good. Prices stationary.
Umballa ...	.....	Health good. Crop prospects much improved, but yield expected to be below the average. Prices rising.
Jullundur ...	.....	Health good. Crop prospects improving. Prices falling.
Amritsar ...	.....	Health good. Prices falling.
Sialkot ...	.....	Health and harvest prospects good. Prices falling.
Ferozepore ...	Zira, ·50	Health good. Crop prospects improved. Prices steady.
Lahore ...	.....	Health good. Crop prospects much improved. Prices stationary.
Rawalpindi ...	·30	Health good. Crop prospects good. Prices falling.
Mooltan ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices stationary.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	.....	Heath good. Rain needed. Crops suffering. Prices steady.
Peshawar ...	.....	Health and harvest prospects good. Rain wanted. Prices falling. *General Remarks.*—Slight rain in one or two districts. General health good. Crop prospects improving.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces—(Sept. 19th)		
Nagpur ...	·95	Weather rainy. Prospects good. 118 deaths from cholera. Prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...	·20	Weather cloudy and occasionally sunny; weather seasonable; Crops much benefited, but more rain is wanted for rice. Prices stationary.
Saugor (Sept. 18th)	·86	Weather cloudy with light rain. Crops much improved. Prices steady. Health good.
Seoni ...	2·59	Heavy rain on 19th followed by cloudy damp weather. Crops flourishing. 9 deaths from cholera. Prices stationary.
Hoshangabad ...	3·63	Weather rainy and cloudy. Weeding and preparation for *rabi* sowings stopped by continuous rain. Health good. Wheat 15 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	·3	Weather occasionally cloudy. Prospects good. Minor crops being reaped. 9 deaths from cholera. Prices steady.
Raipur ...	2·17	Prospects favourable. More rain wanted for rice, especially in Simoga. Health good. Prices steady.
Sambalpur (Sept. 15th)	1·0	Weather favourable. Rice improving, but loss to the extent of 4 annas is expected. Health good. Common rice 36 seers per rupee. *General Remarks.*—Prospects continue favourable, and the injury caused by the long break in the rains has been in a great measure repaired, except in respect to rice, which appear to have suffered permanent damage to the extent of one-quarter of the crop in some parts of the provinces.
British Burma—(Sept. 19th)		
Akyab ...	6·48	Rainfall to date 167·23. Three deaths from cholera in Koladan, 3 in Writoung east, otherwise public health good. Seventy-four deaths of cattle in Menbya and Writoung east, elsewhere health of plough cattle good. Transplanting continues. Crops promising.
Rangoon ...	4·20	Rainfall to date 70·35. One death from small-pox, otherwise public health good. Price of paddy from Rs. 86 to 88 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	4·21	Total rainfall to date 79·61. Four deaths from cholera in Kyangidoung township, one from small-pox in Thabyahla circle, otherwise public health good. Sixty-five deaths of cattle in four townships. Ploughing finished except in some low lands. Transplanting about four-fifths finished. Paddy plants thriving. Price of paddy from Rs. 85 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	10·02	Total rainfall to date 153·50. Public health and health of cattle in Moulmein and district good. Crops healthy in Moulmein. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Seedlings and crops good.
Toungoo ...	3·42	Total rainfall to date 69·83. Public health and health of plough cattle good. Transplanting progressing. Average price of paddy Rs. 65 per 100 baskets.
Kyoukphyoo ...	.....	No report received.
Sandoway ...	.....	No report received.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health and health of cattle good. 30,640 acres have been ploughed. Some of the crops in the Aingkaloung Bawley and Myoungtanga circles, Hlaing township, have been destroyed by floods. Transplanting going on in the Hlaing and Tamanoing townships. Ploughing wages 60 baskets of paddy per man in the Hlaing township. Price of paddy from Rs. 80 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Pegu ...	8·55	Rainfall to date 109·76. Public health good. 14 deaths of cattle in Kyouktan. Slight cattle-disease in Pagandoung. Transplanting finished. Season continues most favourable.
Tharrawaddy (Sept. 8th)	9·00	Rainfall to date 83·07. Public health good. 74 deaths of cattle in the Tapun and Minhla townships. Health of plough cattle good in all other townships, except Gyobingouk where slight disease prevails. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Crops on 2,000 acres in Sangwey township reported as destroyed by floods, the damaged crops last reported are being replaced. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 95 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy („ 15th)	2·70	Rainfall to date 85·77. Public health good. 17 deaths of cattle in Minhla and Tapun townships. Health of plough cattle in all the other townships good, except Gyobingouk where *haingt* disease prevails. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Crops on 600 acres in the Tapun township have been destroyed by floods, in the Sanjyo township the floods have subsided, and there is a prospect of the flooded land being successfully cultivated; about 200 acres of paddy land still remain under water. Price of paddy from Rs. 93 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Prome ...	1·24	Rainfall to date 39·32. One death from cholera in Mahathaman, otherwise public health good. Health of cattle good, except at Mahathaman, where 6 deaths from small-pox are reported. 100,380 acres ploughed and 142,370 planted. More rain wanted in the southern circle of Shweydoung township; reports from other townships favourable. Price of paddy Rs. 92 per 100 baskets.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Thonegwa ...	1·35	Rainfall to date 70·73. Two deaths from cholera in Donathyoo township, otherwise public health good. Health of cattle good. Ploughing nearly completed. Transplanting progressing. Young crops destroyed by floods in parts of Donathyoo and Thonegwa townships. Supply of seedlings sufficient. General appearance of young plants good, except in parts of the Donathyoo and Thonegwa townships. Transplanting wages one rupee or one basket of paddy per day. Price of paddy from Rs. 85 to 90 per 100 baskets.
Henzada ...	6·10	Rainfall to date 75·37. Three deaths from small-pox in Henzada township, otherwise public health good. Health of cattle good. Transplanting almost completed in the Henzada sub-division and progressing in the Myanoung sub-division. Seedlings and plants in good condition.
Thayetmyo ...	1·44	Rainfall to date 27·90. Public health good. 57 deaths of cattle in Myandeh sub-division. Crops still suffering from want of more rain, but there has been rain and prospects are improved.
Shwaygyin ...	3·10	Rainfall to date 122·95. Four deaths from small-pox in Mone circle, otherwise public health fair. 49 deaths of cattle in Mone circle, and cattle-disease in Kyoukhyi. Ploughing finished, except in flooded parts. Transplanting and sowing nearing completion. Price of paddy Rs. 76 per 100 baskets.
Tavoy ...	3·92	Rainfall to date 174·98. Public health and health of cattle good. General appearance of the plants good.
Mergui ...	.....	No report received.
		General Remarks.—Rainfall still deficient compared with last year, but agricultural prospects on the whole favourable. Transplanting approaching completion. Sowings finished. Public health good. Cattle-disease in parts of Akyab, Tharrawddy, Bassein, Thayetmyo, and Shwaygyin and slight increase of mortality. Price of paddy continues steady.
Assam—**(Sept. 19th)**		
Gauhati ...	·68	Weather hot. Transplanting of *sali* paddy in progress. Public health fair. Cattle-disease still in the interior.
Sylhet ...	11·19	Floods gone down. Crop prospects good. Public health fair except in Karimganj, where small-pox is bad.
[illegible]char ...	7·64	Weather warm with heavy rains at intervals. Transplanting of *sali* crops nearly finished; reaping of *aus* crops commenced. Public health good. Small-pox still reported from Hailakandi.
[illegible] ...	4·31	Weather showery. Transplanting of *sali dhan* finished. Public health good.
Mysore and Coorg—**(Sept. 19th)**		
Bangalore ...	·20	Standing crops in fair condition. More rain needed. Prospects favourable.
Mysore ...	·10	Prospects promising. Standing crops generally good.
Mercara ...	·57	Cessation of monsoon on the 14th advantageous to crops. Cardamoms have ripened and the green coffee berries will shortly do so. Paddy seedlings have been planted out. The *ragi* crop is coming into ear. Public health good. Prices of food-grains low and almost stationary.
		General Remarks.—Rainfall in districts from ·10 to 1·50. Sowing operations continue. Standing crops generally in good condition. Public health in the province good. Prices—rice from 10 to 24 seers, *ragi* from 30 to 48 seers, and horse gram from 29 to 36 seers per rupee.
Berar & Hyderabad—**(Sept. 19th)**		
Amraoti ...	·60	A break in the weather during the week has benefited the crops. Wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	·64	Crops in good condition.
Hyderabad ...	·20	Total rainfall from 1st January 24·83. Standing crops flourishing. Reaping of *kharif* crop commenced. Cholera broken out in one taluka. No cattle-disease. Prices—wheat 16, coarse rice 10¾, white *juari* 24, yellow *juari* 27¼, and *tur* 24 seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States—**(Sept. 19th)**		
Indore ...	Slight showers	Health fair. Prices of food-grains stationary.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	1·43	Prospects good. Cholera disappeared. Prices falling.
Sutna ...	2·89	Prospects good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	[illegible]·86	Prospects and public health good.
Goona ...	11·76	Health and crops good. Prices stationary.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	10·9	Crops abundant.
Sehore ...	12·34	Prospects and public health good.
Nowgong ...	1·28	*Kharif* prospects much improved. Prices falling. Grass safe. Health fair.
Manpur (Bhopawar) ...	[illegible]·00	Weather favourable. Crops promising.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Sept. 19th)	·99	Break in weather with light clouds. Seasonable weather.
Sirohi („ 16th)	1·76	Water-supply and health good. Crop prospects fair.
Marwar („ 14th)	Jodhpore, ·05; good showers in districts.	Crops and grass reviving. Fresh sowings thriving. Prices stationary.
Meywar („ 16th)	2·42	Water-supply very good. Prospects improved. Prices falling. Health good.
Harowti („ 15th)	Deoli, 1·73; Tonk, 2·71; Shahpura, 1·65; Kotah, 8·92.	*Kharif* materially improved. *Rabi* and grass need more rain. Prices further fallen. Health excellent, excepting 5 deaths from cholera at Kotah.
Jhallawar ...	.....	No report received.
Ajmere („ 18th)	.....	No rain. Prospects favourable. *Maize* harvest commencing. Health fair.
Jeypore („ „)	·46	Prospects favourable. Health fair. Prices steady.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Sept. 15th)	1·57	Prospects improved. *Rabi* cultivation commenced. Prices falling. Health good. Good supply of water in tanks and wells.
Nepal—**(Sept. 13th)**		
Katmandu ...	2·80; frequent rain in the last few days.	Constant and heavy clouds. Prospects good.

ABSTRACT SHOWING THE RESULT OF EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA DURING THE MONTH OF MAY 1883.

No. I.—As to age and sex.

	Natal.				Mauritius.				Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Grand Total.
Under 2 years	6	7	13	41·09 women to every 100 men.	...	5	5	40 women to every 100 men.	6	12	18
From 2 to 10 years	29	12	41		11	13	24		40	25	65
„ 10 „ 20 „	64	30	94		43	13	56		107	43	150
„ 20 „ 30 „	196	76	272		96	37	133		292	113	405
„ 30 „ 40 „	13	3	16		21	13	34		34	16	50
„ 40 „ 50 „	2	4	6		...	...	...		2	4	6
Above 50	...	...	...		...	1	1		...	1	1
GRAND TOTAL ...	310	132	442		171	82	253		481	214	695

No. II.—As to places whence emigrants come to Calcutta for embarkation.

	Natal.			Mauritius.			Total.		
Orissa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Western Bengal	...	...	...	2	2	4	2	2	...
Central ditto	...	1	1	2	6	8	2	7	
Eastern ditto	3	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	
Behar	58	21	79	69	37	106	127	58	
North-Western Provinces	138	57	195	58	27	85	196	84	
Oudh	39	12	51	27	9	36	66	21	87
Central India	13	7	20	3	...	3	16	7	23
Punjab	10	2	12	...	...	...	10	2	12
Nepal	13	1	14	[illegible]	[illegible]	11	23	2	25
Mixed, Madras & Bombay, &c.	36	31	67	...	...	...	36	31	67
GRAND TOTAL ...	310	132	442	171	82	253	481	214	695

No. III.—As to caste and religion.

		Natal.			Mauritius.			Total.		
Brahmins, high caste		48	16	64	34	15	49	82	31	113
Agriculturist ... ... Hindoos ...		81	27	108	53	27	80	134	54	188
Artisans ... ... Hindoos ...		16	4	20	4	1	5	20	5	25
Low castes ... ... Hindoos ...		119	66	185	50	24	74	169	90	259
Musulmans		42	19	61	30	15	45	72	34	106
Christians		4	...	4	...	...	...	4	...	4
Grand Total ...		310	132	442	171	82	253	481	214	695

Memo.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
1. Hindoos ...	405	180	585
2. Musulmans ...	72	34	106
3. Christians ...	4	...	4
Total ...	481	214	695

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF AUGUST 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces	Districts	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts	Provinces
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Madras	Ganjam	9 10	10 5	7 6	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	17 13	17 14	17 14	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	13 13	35 3	32 3	35 3	33 5	33 5	26 10	215 13	215 13	215 13	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	13 13	Ganjam	Madras
	Vizagapatam	10 0	9 8	10 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 0	11 14	11 14	11 5	23 13	21 10	21 10	23 13	23 13	23 13	14 0	14 0	14 0	23 14	22 3	25 5	32 13	33 14	23 6	83 10	83 10	93 5	14 10	14 10	15 3	14 0	14 0	14 0	Vizagapatam	
	Godavery	10 13	10 13	11 11	...	...	...	10 14	10 14	13 14	14 0	14 0	17 0	23 0	23 0	28 13	...	...	...	14 10	14 10	14 10	30 14	29 2	29 2	32 8	31 8	26 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	Godavery	
	Kistna	8 13	8 13	12 11	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 11	14 11	14 11	16 5	20 13	20 13	24 14	...	...	...	15 11	15 11	16 5	25 0	25 0	32 5	29 10	29 10	21 11	145 13	145 13	145 13	15 11	15 11	16 5	15 3	15 3	15 11	Kistna	
	Nellore	10 13	9 14	12 10	...	...	...	13 14	13 14	15 13	15 0	15 0	17 0	21 10	24 8	29 11	...	...	...	14 13	14 13	15 6	25 8	25 8	32 13	24 2	22 10	22 2	93 5	93 5	186 10	14 13	14 13	15 6	14 13	13 13	14 13	Nellore	
	Cuddapah	12 14	12 14	13 3	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	11 14	13 5	13 5	13 11	29 3	28 6	26 13	31 3	31 3	31 14	16 10	16 10	16 10	30 0	30 0	31 8	33 8	34 6	27 2	194 6	194 6	194 6	17 2	17 2	17 8	16 10	16 10	16 10	Cuddapah	
	Anantapur	13 6	13 6	13 6	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	12 13	12 5	12 5	15 2	30 14	30 14	30 14	30 2	30 2	28 3	14 5	14 5	14 5	31 0	31 0	31 0	38 2	38 2	31 5	...	...	...	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	Anantapur	
	Bellary	17 5	16 5	16 5	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	12 5	13 0	13 0	13 8	37 2	37 2	35 0	30 2	28 3	26 5	15 8	15 8	15 6	34 14	33 0	33 10	29 2	29 2	29 2	94 13	94 13	97 3	15 13	15 13	15 11	15 8	15 8	15 6	Bellary	
	Kurnool	12 2	12 2	12 11	...	...	...	10 10	10 10	10 10	11 6	11 6	11 6	37 0	35 10	31 8	31 14	31 3	22 8	14 13	14 13	14 13	...	...	...	29 10	30 11	30 0	175 0	182 11	178 13	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 6	14 6	14 6	Kurnool	
	Madras	11 5	11 5	9 13	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 8	15 2	15 2	15 2	22 5	22 5	23 0	23 13	23 13	25 0	24 11	24 11	28 0	25 5	25 5	24 10	30 13	30 13	30 0	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 13	17 13	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	Madras	
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 10	15 2	15 2	15 14	...	...	...	31 5	31 5	29 11	24 10	24 10	24 10	26 0	26 0	27 6	25 0	25 0	24 10	92 5	92 5	92 5	17 5	17 5	17 5	17 0	17 0	17 0	Chingleput	
	North Arcot	9 11	9 11	9 5	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 11	16 14	16 14	16 14	...	...	34 10	28 8	28 8	23 8	32 8	32 8	33 5	28 10	28 10	25 10	25 10	25 10	29 5	140 0	140 0	140 0	14 13	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 5	North Arcot	
	South Arcot	9 6	9 6	9 0	...	...	...	13 14	13 14	15 11	14 14	14 14	16 3	...	...	33 10	29 6	29 6	30 3	25 10	25 10	29 5	201 11	201 11	201 11	29 6	29 6	30 3	25 10	25 10	29 5	19 5	19 5	19 5	18 6	18 6	18 14	South Arcot	
	Tanjore	11 13	11 13	8 13	...	...	...	17 13	17 3	15 13	...	...	...	33 6	31 0	31 13	42 0	31 14	29 0	36 11	36 3	31 11	28 0	28 0	27 2	89 5	36 3	31 11	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 3	15 3	15 10	Tanjore	
	Trichinopoly	9 10	9 10	9 3	...	...	...	15 13	15 13	14 6	16 11	16 11	14 14	33 10	30 13	25 3	30 8	30 8	25 6	34 2	28 13	30 13	30 13	30 0	38 11	38 11	33 5	35 10	35 10	32 14	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 13	17 13	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	Trichinopoly	
	Madura	12 8	12 8	12 0	...	...	...	15 8	16 0	14 5	16 0	16 14	14 13	38 14	38 14	34 0	32 5	32 5	32 5	17 5	17 5	14 0	16 13	16 13	13 2	170 2	170 2	145 13	17 5	17 5	14 0	16 13	16 13	13 2	17 5	17 5	14 0	Madura	
	Tinnevelly	10 10	10 10	8 0	...	...	...	16 5	16 5	15 6	16 13	16 13	15 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 11	18 11	18 11	18 5	18 5	16 5	70 0	70 0	81 10	18 11	18 11	18 11	18 5	18 5	16 5	18 11	18 11	18 11	Tinnevelly	
	Coimbatore	13 2	13 2	11 8	...	...	...	14 6	14 6	13 8	15 6	15 6	14 14	27 13	27 13	24 5	30 3	27 13	28 10	...	...	...	29 8	29 8	27 14	33 3	34 3	32 5	131 3	131 3	131 3	15 2	15 2	14 11	14 10	14 10	14 10	Coimbatore	
	Nilgiris	10 10	10 10	7 2	...	...	...	11 3	11 3	9 10	12 0	12 0	11 3	20 0	21 0	20 0	21 0	19 10	18 3	21 10	21 10	20 3	23 3	24 2	19 14	161 13	161 13	161 13	13 0	13 0	11 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Nilgiris	
	Salem	12 11	12 11	10 3	...	...	...	14 0	14 10	13 2	14 11	15 0	14 2	32 13	32 13	27 5	29 8	27 2	28 13	30 13	29 2	27 5	35 10	35 10	31 8	151 10	151 10	151 10	17 8	17 8	18 0	16 14	16 14	16 13	17 3	17 3	14 10	Salem	
	South Canara	7 11	7 11	8 10	...	...	...	9 11	9 11	8 11	12 3	12 3	11 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 6	18 8	19 6	22 3	21 3	20 3	109 5	109 5	116 6	18 6	18 6	15 3	17 3	17 3	14 10	South Canara	
	Malabar	8 10	8 10	7 14	...	...	...	15 6	15 0	13 13	16 3	15 13	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 14	21 14	21 14	26 14	26 14	25 3	121 8	121 8	121 8	14 6	14 6	13 8	13 8	13 8	12 10	Malabar	
Bombay	Bombay	10 0	10 5	10 1	16 5	21 4	18 9	7 5	7 7	7 10	11 3	12 1	10 7	17 14	18 5	20 10	15 15	14 10	14 15	17 0	16 9	10 15	14 7	15 7	16 0	62 6	62 6	61 7	14 6	14 6	14 6	12 9	12 9	12 9	Bombay	Bombay
	Ahmedabad	12 0	11 0	14 8	13 8	16 0	16 0	15 0	20 0	18 8	25 0	24 8	23 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	14 8	19 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	16 0	16 8	14 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	Ahmedabad	
	Kaira	10 10	11 0	11 13	20 0	20 0	20 0	9 11	9 11	10 0	13 5	13 0	16 0	13 5	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	15 4	16 0	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	Kaira	
	Surat	11 4	11 4	12 8	12 4	12 4	7 11	7 6	7 6	8 3	8 5	8 5	8 12	19 2	19 2	15 9	14 0	14 0	13 8	14 0	14 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	Surat	
	Broach	12 4	12 4½	13 5½	...	...	...	9 15½	10 0	11 1	12 12	12 11	12 9	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 9½	13 14	13 14	13 14	14 0	14 0	106 0	106 0	106 0	14 8½	15 9	15 4	14 8½	15 4	14 8½	15 4	14 8½	15 4	Broach	
	Tanna (Salsette)	9 12	9 12	10 5	...	...	...	7 13	7 13	8 3	8 2	8 2	10 0	18 10	18 10	18 10	15 0	15 0	15 0	12 12	13 4	14 15	71 0	71 1	71 0	14 5	14 5	14 5	13 4	13 4	13 13	13 4	13 4	13 13	Tanna (Salsette)	
	Colába (Alibág)	8 8	8 8	8 8	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	7 9	8 6	8 6	8 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	13 8	12 0	12 0	12 8	13 0	11 0	11 0	Colába (Alibág)	
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	14 0	14 0	15 0	...	...	...	7 9	7 9	7 4	10 13	10 13	10 15	16 14	16 14	16 14	23 13	14 4	14 4	15 2	15 2	11½	140 0	140 0	140 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	14 2	13 14	13 14	14 0	Khandesh (Dhulia)	
	Násik	14 4	14 4	14 4	...	...	...	7 7	7 7	7 7	13 6	13 6	12 0	...	22 6	...	15 6	15 5	14 4	17 6	17 6	17 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	15 8	15 8	14 8	15 5	15 5	14 4	15 8	15 8	14 8	Násik	
	Ahmednagar	13 4	14 6	14 6	...	...	...	8 6	9 10	9 11	10 9	11 4	12 0	23 6	21 14	30 9	17 6	18 9	24 0	19 10	18 12	19 12	79 12	79 12	91 5	13 3	12 14	14 9	13 1	12 12	14 7	13 3	12 12	14 7	Ahmednagar	
	Poona	12 10	11 8	12 10	9 4	9 4	...	9 13	9 13	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 4	20 11	19 9	25 0	17 2	16 2	19 9	21 14	21 14	20 1	89 0	75 0	80 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 4	12 12	12 8	Poona	
	Sholápur	14 10	15 6	13 9	...	...	...	10 6	11 6	10 5	12 4	12 4	11 5	27 10	28 14	36 4	22 15	23 6	27 9	19 8	19 0	13 0	100 0	100 0	130 0	10 11	10 6	11 0	10 0	9 8	10 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Sholápur	
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	19 8	19 8	22 0	16 8	16 0	14 8	6 8	6 8	6 8	11 8	11 8	11 0	31 0	28 8	30 0	24 0	26 8	36 0	18 3	18 3	15 10	116 8	116 8	110 15	13 2	13 2	12 6	12 6	12 6	11 10	20 11	20 11	27 9	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	
	Satara	13 6	13 6	12 1	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	9 11	11 7	11 7	11 7	20 0	19 5	26 10	18 2	18 12	22 0	16 8	16 0	12 7	65 0	65 0	75 0	13 0	13 0	12 13	12 0	12 0	12 8	19 0	18 0	35 0	Satara	
	Belgaum	16 8	16 8	19 0	14 8	14 8	13 0	11 8	11 8	9 13	12 0	11 11	10 5	17 8	17 0	27 12	19 0	18 0	24 6	17 6	17 6	14 11	80 0	80 0	80 0	8 6	8 6	9 2	8 0	8 0	9 0	15 6	16 14	16 8	Belgaum	
	Dharwar (Hubli)	23 0	23 0	23 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	13 0	25 0	24 0	29 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	18 13	18 13	21 2	14 11	14 11	12 10	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 8	13 2	11 10	12 0	12 15	11 10	Dharwar (Hubli)	
	Ratnágiri	9 4	9 4	10 9	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	7 13	13 7	13 7	12 11	...	...	18 3	13 8	13 8	14 11	18 0	18 0	20 0	12 0	12 0	12 4	213 5	213 5	213 5	12 0	13 0	11 8	11 0	12 0	10 8	Ratnágiri	
	Kanara (Karwar)	9 0	9 0	10 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 0	12 4	11 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	20 0	26 10	23 0	20 0	22 13	32 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	Kanara (Karwar)	
	Pánch Mahals (Godhra)	10 8	11 6	11 6	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	11 6	13 5	15 0	15 0	20 0	22 13	32 0	12 13	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	9 5	9 5	9 5	65 5	65 5	65 5	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	32 0	Pánch Mahála (Godhra)	
	Aden	7 0	7 0	8 0	...	...	...	6 3	6 3	6 3	7 0	7 0	7 0	12 7	12 7	9 5	11 3	11 3	8 0	17 8	17 8	17 8	18 5	18 5	19 0	169 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	11 14	11 0	11 0	11 14	Aden	
	Asirgarh	13 12	13 12	14 0	14 0	...	...	11 14	12 0	10 15	14 0	14 0	12 4	17 9	18 0	24 5	17 12	17 12	23 0	16 5	16 5	16 5	12 13	14 0	16 7	80 0	80 0	84 4	14 1	14 1	14 11	14 0	14 0	14 10	Asirgarh	
	Baroda	9 5	9 5	10 9	14 0	13 7	14 2	8 12	8 3	8 13	11 1	11 1	11 11	14 9	15 3	17 12	12 13	12 13	16 7	...	...	...	13 11	15 8	19 15	137 8	137 8	137 8	12 8	12 8	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	Baroda	
	Diisa	12 2	13 14	14 8	...	...	...	6 14	6 14	6 6	9 0	9 0	8 11	14 8	14 8	8 8	11 14	14 15	17 7	...	...	...	19 0	18 10	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	11 0	Diisa	
	Nimach	16 12	15 6	16 0	22 0	20 0	17 0	8 12	8 12	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	22 0	19 8	21 0	12 0	12 12	16 0	...	...	...	21 13¼	25 7	23 6	80 0	80 0	80 0	16 2*	16 2*	16 6¾*	15 8*	15 8*	16 0*	Nimach	
	Nasirabad	14 11½	16 8½	16 5½	20 7	24 2	23 3	6 0	6 0	6 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	18 5	20 0	22 15	15 4	17 8	16 5	...	...	...	14 10	15 14	17 4	70 0	70 0	71 0	50 0	55 0	55 0	40 0	43 8	48 0	Nasirabad	
	Rájkot	13 0	14 8	13 8	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	9 0	9 0	11 0	16 0	18 0	15 8	13 8	14 12	16 0	...	...	...	22 8	22 8	17 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 12¾	12 12¾	12 10½	12 8	12 8	8 8	Rájkot	
	Upper Sindh Frontier	13 12	14 0	13 0	23 8	24 8	24 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	13 4	13 4	20 0	27 12	30 0	32 0	23 8	32 0	32 0	58 0	50 0	40 0	20 12	22 8	17 8	90 0	100 0	105 0	18 0	16 0	17 13	16 0	16 0	17 0	Upper Sindh Frontier	
	Karachi	12 8	13 1	12 5	23 0	22 0	20 0	9 0	9 8	9 8	14 0	15 0	18 0	20 4	21 8	22 0	16 0	13 0	15 0	10 0	11 0	16 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	240 0	320 0	480 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Karachi	
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	13 4	18 0	14 0	24 8	24 0	26 0	11 8	12 0	13 0	24 0	17 0	16 0	25 0	26 0	30 0	21 0	24 0	26 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	21 8	18 4	22 0	220 0	200 0	280 0	13 12	14 0	10 4	13 8	13 14	10 2	Haidarabad (Nakur)	
	Shikarpur	13 0	13 0	12 6	25 0	23 8	24 0	11 10	12 0	12 6	17 0	18 0	19 0	25 14	28 8	27 0	25 14	30 8	28 11	20 0	20 0	24 0	20 0	19 8	23 0	110 0	110 0	85 0	12 12	13 0	13 0	12 4	12 8	12 8	Shikarpur	
	Sukkur	13 8	14 0	14 0	25 8	27 8	30 8	10 0	11 8	11 12	11 8	13 0	17 8	25 8	28 8	26 12	23 0	26 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	160 0	14 12	14 13	11 5	14 12	14 13	11 5	Sukkur	
	Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	12 13	13 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	13 0	13 4	...	...	...	16 1	19 0	21 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Prices per md. of 40 seers.						Thar and Parkar (Umarkot)	
Bengal	*Western Districts.*																												*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*				*Western Districts.*	Bengal
	Burdwan	15 0	15 0	13 0	22 8	21 0	32 8	17 8	17 4	21 12	22 11	22 12	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	19 8	21 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 0 8	3 0 8	2 15 0	12 10a	12 10	13 8	Burdwan	
	Bancoorah	13 0	14 8	13 8	16 0	16 0	15 0	20 0	19 0	18 8	25 0	24 8	23 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 12	18 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 3 6	3 3 6	3 2 6	12 0b	12 0	13 0	Bancoorah	
	Beerbhoom	15 8	15 0	13 0	...	...	...	16 8	16 8	17 0	21 0	21 0	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	20 0	160 0	160 0	180 0	3 7 0	3 7 0	3 6 6	11 4c	11 4	11 0	Beerbhoom	
	Midnapore	13 0	14 0	13 0	17 0	17 0	...	17 0	18 0	21 0	24 0	22 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	16 0	18 0	155 0	155 0	155 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	12 8d	12 0	13 8	Midnapore	
	Hooghly	13 0	13 0	15 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	17 0	16 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 9e	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
	Howrah	13 4	13 4	13 4	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	16 0	17 8	17 8	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	21 4	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	Howrah	

a In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Culna 13-8 seers, Cutwa 11-5 seers, and Raneegunge 13-4 seers.
b Retail prices of salt at Balasore 11 seers, at Onda 15 seers, at Mejia, Bishenpore, and Indas, 13 seers, at Sonamukhi and Kotulpore 12 seers.
c Retail prices of salt range from 11 to 13-5 seers.
* Sambhur.
d In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Ghattal 13-4 seers and Contai 12 seers.
e In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Serampore 18 seers and Jehanabad 13-3 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF AUGUST 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
	Central Districts.																													*Central Districts.*	
	Calcutta	15 5	14 9	14 0	20 10	19 6	26 8	10 12	10 12	10 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	23 0	21 5	...	21 5	20 0	...	...	...	...	16 0	...	...	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	13 5	13 5	14 9	Calcutta	
	24-Pergunnahs	13 5	13 5	12 5	17 12	16 0	20 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	13 5	...	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	90 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	3 0 0	13 5*r*	13 5	13 5	24-Pergunnahs	
	Nuddea	14 8	14 8	13 14	22 15	...	...	15 4	15 4	15 4	17 4	17 4	18 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	21 5½	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	11 10½	11 10½	11 10½	Nuddea	
	Khoolna	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	180 0	180 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	10 8*k*	10 8	11 0	Khoolna	
	Jessore	12 4	13 4	13 4	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	21 4	21 4	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	12 0*i*	12 0	11 8	Jessore	
	Moorshedabad	15 0	15 0	14 8	...	...	...	15 0	14 0	14 8	22 0	20 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	23 0	23 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 8 0	3 2 0	12 8*j*	11 0	12 0	Moorshedabad	
	Dinagepore	16 0	16 0	13 0	17 8	17 8	14 8	18 0	18 0	19 4	20 0	20 0	23 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	*16 0*	80 0	80 0	140 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	11 8*k*	11 8	12 0	Dinagepore	
	Rajshahye	15 4	15 4	13 8	29 0	33 0	33 12	14 0 to 15 4	14 0 to 16 0	13 8	20 0 to 22 0		18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 8	22 0	13 8	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 5 3	12 4*l*	13 0	12 0	Rajshahye	
	Rungpore	13 5	13 5	16 0	...	...	...	13 5	12 5	15 0	19 0	18 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 3	17 3	15 0	110 0	110 0	130 0	3 5 3	3 5 3	3 5 3	11 14*m*	11 14	11 8	Rungpore	
	Bogra	15 0	15 0	18 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	15 12	22 8	21 0	28 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 4	18 0	16 8	82 8	81 0	67 8	...	3 2 0	3 2 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Bogra	
	Pubna	18 12	18 12	13 0	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	10 0	18 12	18 12	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	18 8	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 3 0	3 4 0	3 3 0	12 0*n*	12 0	12 0	Pubna	
	Darjeeling	8 0	8 0	10 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	5 8	4 0	5 0	13 0	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 0*p*	11 8	11 0	Darjeeling	
	Jalpáiguri	10 0	10 0	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	12 8	13 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	17 4	20 0	97 0	110 0	106 8	...	3 4 0	3 0 0	12 8*q*	12 4	12 12	Jalpáiguri	
	Eastern Districts.																													*Eastern Districts.*	
	Dacca	13 5	12 8	13 14	22 12	23 0	32 0	17 12	16 8	21 4	20 0	23 0	26 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	12 0*r*	12 0	12 8	Dacca	
	Furreedpore	21 0	21 0	22 0	30 0	30 0	30 8	18 0	18 0	20 0	21 0	20 0	26 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	2 11 0	2 11 0	2 15 0	13 0*s*	13 0	13 0	Furreedpore	
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	19 0	21 0	21 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	...	12 4*t*	12 4	12 4	Backergunge	
	Mymensingh	11 8	11 8	10 0	...	...	...	14 5	15 0	22 8	20 0	19 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 0	40 0	40 0	80 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	2 14 0	9 8*u*	9 8	13 0	Mymensingh	
	Chittagong	11 4	8 0	9 0	...	...	...	16 0	13 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	3 2 0	3 6 0	3 2 0	10 0*v*	10 0	10 0	Chittagong	
	Noakholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	20 0	24 0	21 0	22 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 5 0	12 0*w*	12 0	12 0	Tipperah	
	Tipperah	11 12	12 4	11 8	...	...	...	18 12	17 4	20 12	22 12	21 12	29 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	360 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	3 4 0	6 4	6 4	10 9	Chittagong Hill Tracts	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 5	12 4	13 5	13 4	13 4	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 6 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Hill Tipperah	
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...														
	Behar.																													*Behar.*	
	Patna	21 0	19 0	18 8	25 0	25 0	34 0	15 0	14 0	12 0	15 8	16 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 8	30 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	3 1 6	3 1 6	3 0 0	9 12	9 12	10 8	Patna	
	Gya	17 8	18 8	16 8	23 0	24 0	24 0	12 0	12 0	13 8	14 0	15 0	18 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 8	21 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	11 0*x*	11 0	11 8	Gya	
	Shahabad	15 0 to 16 0	15 0 to 16 0	15 0 to 16 0	26 0	26 0	25 0	11 0 to 12 0	10 0	16 0 to 18 0	14 0 to 16 0	15 0 to 16 0	18 0 to 19 0	...	...	...	26 0	27 0	...	24 0 to 25 0	26 0 to 27 0	28 0 to 29 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	12 8*y*	12 8	12 8	Shahabad	
	Durbhunga	15 0	15 8	15 0	...	28 0	30 0	12 8	13 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	22 8	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	10 0*z*	10 0	11 0	Durbhunga	
	Mozufferpore	17 0	18 0	16 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	15 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	24 0	25 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 6 0	3 8 0	3 4 0	11 0*z1*	11 0	12 0	Mozufferpore	
	Sarun	16 0	17 0	15 8	25 0	26 0	27 0	10 0	10 0	9 8	18 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	28 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0*z2*	11 0	11 0	Sarun	
	Chumparun	19 0	19 0	18 0	32 0	32 0	31 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	17 0	17 0	18 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	26 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	3 0 0	11 8*z3*	11 8	11 0	Chumparun	
	Monghyr	18 18	19 10	16 12	28 1	26 4	29 5	12 9	13 10	15 12	15 12	15 3	18 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 3	24 14	29 6	126 0	126 0	126 0	2 15 6	3 0 9	3 1 0	12 9*z4*	12 9	12 10	Monghyr	
	Bhágalpur	15 12	16 6	14 8	24 0	30 4	37 14	15 2	15 2	17 11	17 10	17 10	18 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	22 11	26 8	126 4	151 8	138 14	3 1 0	3 0 6	3 3 0	12 10*z5*	12 10	12 10	Bhágalpur	
	Purneah	17 0	17 0	14 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	20 0	18 0	18 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 8 0	9 0*z6*	9 0	10 0	Purneah	
	Maldah	17 0	17 8	16 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	16 0	20 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	22 8	16 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	3 2 0	3 3 0	3 4 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Maldah	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	12 0	12 0	12 8	...	...	...	17 0	16 0	16 0	24 0	23 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	18 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 11 6	3 11 6	3 10 0	10 8*z7*	10 8	10 8	Sonthal Pergunnahs	
	Orissa.																													*Orissa.*	
	Cuttack	13 2	13 2	17 1	...	...	...	13 2	13 2	15 12	22 5*	22 5	24 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 12	18 6	13 2	80 0	80 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	Cuttack	
	Pooree	11 13	11 13	11 0	...	...	...	19 11	21 0	20 0	23 10	23 10	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 1	16 4	16 4	90 0	90 0	120 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	13 0*z8*	14 0	13 4	Pooree	
	Balasore	14 0	14 0	13 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	22 0	28 0	28 0	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	3 2 0	9 3*z9*	9 8	11 10½	Balasore	
	CHOTA NAGPORE.																													CHOTA NAGPUR.	
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																													*South-Western Frontier Agency.*	
	Hazáribágh	14 0	15 0	12 8	21 0	20 0	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	15 0	15 8	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	24 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	5 11 0	5 11 0	4 5 0	6 0	6 0	8 0	Hazáribágh	
	Lohardugga	16 0	15 0	15 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	17 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 12 0	10 0*z12*	10 0	10 12	Lohardugga	
	Singbhoom	18 0	18 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	32 0	32 0	36 0	36 0	36 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...													Singbhoom	
	Manbhoom	13 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	26 0	25 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...													Manbhoom	

BENGAL—*continued.*

PUNJAB—*continued.*

* In the interior retail prices of common rice range from 26-4 to 32-6 seers per rupee.
f In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Baraset and Bussirhat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 10-8 seers, Barrackpore 12-13 seers, and Dum-Dum 12 seers.
g In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Khoosh tea 12-12 seers, Meherpore 11-8 seers, Chooadanga 13 seers and Kanaghat 12 seers.
h In Satkhira and Bagirhat sub-divisions retail price of salt 11 seers.
i In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers, and Bongong 13 seers.
j In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—*Lalbagh 11 seers*, Jungipore *11-6 seers*, and Kandi 11-8 seers.
k Retail prices of salt at Raigunge 10-8 seers and Nestpore 12 seers.
l In Rangpore and Nowgong retail price of salt 12 seers.
m In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kurigram and Nilphamari 12 seers, and Gaibanda 10-8 seers.
n In Serajgunge retail price of salt 13-8 seers.
o Retail price of salt at Kurseong 8 seers, and Silliguree 10 seers.
p In Alipore sub-division at Fallscotte retail price of salt 10 seers.
q In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Manickgunge 12 seers, Moonsheegunge 10 seers 10½ chittacks, and Naraingunge 13 seers.
r In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Goalundo 10-8 seers, Madaripore 12 seers, and Gopalgunge 12-12 seers.
s In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 9-2 seers, Perozepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.
t In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishoreegunge 10-10 seers, Attea 12 seers, Jumalpore 11-4 seers, and Netrokona 12-5 seers.
u Retail price of salt at *Kumeriah* 10 seers, and Hathazaree and Cox's Bazar 8 seers.
v In the interior retail prices of salt range from 8 to 12-4 seers.
w In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Brahmunberiah 12 seers, and Chandpore 12-8 seers.
x In Nowada retail prices of salt 10 seers.
y In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Buxar 11-8 seers, Sasseram 11 seers, and Bhubooa 10-8 seers.
z In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madhubani 10 seers, and Tajpur 11-8 seers.
z1 In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10-8 to 12 seers.
z2 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Sewan 11-4 seers, and Gopalgunge 12 seers.
z3 In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 12-8 seers.
z4 In the sub-divisions retail *prices of salt are as follow*:—*Begusarai 11-8 seers*, and Jamui 11 seers.
z5 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Banka 11 seers, Muddehpoora 10-8 seers, and Soopole 10 seers.
z6 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kissengunge 9 seers and Arraeah (at Maneegunge) 10 seers.
z7 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Deoghur 12 seers, Godda 11 seers.
z8 In Khoorda retail price of salt 13 seers.
z9 In Bhadruck retail price of salt 8 seers.
z10 Retail price of salt at Chatra 10 seers, and Khurruckdiha 11-8 seers.
z11 Retail price of salt at Daltongunge 9-8 seers.
z12 Retail price of salt at Raghunathpore 11-8 seers, Burrabazar and Jhaldah 10 seers and Gobindpore 11 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF AUGUST 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee). *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee). *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee). *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1883.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	℞ a.	℞ a. per md.	℞ a.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Assam.	Sylhet	12 0	11 0	10 8	...	...	...	10 0	11 0	14 0	17 0	16 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 4	14 0	17 12	108 0	108 0	108 0	3 4	3 4	3 4	12 0	11 0	12 8	Sylhet	Assam.
	Cachar	9 2	9 2	8 14	12 13	12 13	...	12 13	16 13	16 13	16 0	17 12	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	12 13	15 4	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 8	3 8	3 7	10 10	10 10	11 2	Cachar	
	Goálpárá	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	13 4	13 0	13 0	22 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 4	13 0	14 0	65 0	120 0	120 0	3 4	3 4	3 4	12 0	12 0	12 8	Goálpárá	
	Gáro Hills	4 0	4 0	4 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	17 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	160 G	5 6	5 6	5 6	6 6	6 6	6 6	Gáro Hills	
	Kámrúp	16 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	13 4	11 12	13 0	17 0	15 8	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 4	11 12	13 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8	3 8	3 5	11 8	11 8	12 0	Kámrúp	
	Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 0	10 0	9 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Darrang	
	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	9 8	13 8	16 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	120 0	120 0	80 0	4 0	4 0	3 12	8 0	8 0	9 0	Nowgong	
	Sibságar	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	14 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 8	Sibságar	
	Lakhimpur	8 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	10 0	8 0	6 0	8 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	4 8	4 8	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Lakhimpur	
	Khásí & Jaintiá Hills	...	6 10	8 0	...	...	...	8 0	6 10	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	10 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Khásí & Jaintiá Hills	
	Nága Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 0	2 0	2 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	16 0	16 0	13 0	2 8	2 8	3 0	Nága Hills	
N. W. Provinces.	Dehra Dún	17 8	17 0	18 0	24 0	26 0	27 0	6 8	6 8	6 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	22 0	24 0	24 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	...	19 8	21 0	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	Dehra Dún	N. W. Provinces.
	Saháranpur	17 3	18 4½	20 7	23 10½	27 15	32 4	7 8½	7 8½	9 11	11 13	11 13	12 14½	29 0½	29 0½	32 4	21 8	21 8	21 8	...	21 8	24 11½	24 11½	129 0	129 0	129 0	12 14½	12 14½	12 1	12 5	12 5	11 13	Saháranpur	
	Muzaffarnagar	17 10	17 10	18 15	28 11	30 12	28 11	6 9	6 9	6 9	12 2	12 2	14 5	26 6	30 12	28 0	22 0	26 6	22 0	...	19 12	23 2	23 2	110 0	110 0	132 0	12 6	12 6	11 13	11 8	11 8	11 4	Muzaffarnagar	
	Meerut	17 0	17 0	18 8	25 0	27 0	26 0	6 8	6 8	6 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	26 0	27 0	27 0	19 0	20 0	21 0	...	20 0	23 0	23 0	110 0	110 0	110 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Meerut	
	Bulandshahr	18 0	17 8	19 12	26 0	26 0	25 12	6 0	6 0	6 0	10 0	10 0	10 5	26 0	26 8	24 0	16 0	16 0	21 0	...	22 0	23 0	23 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	12 0	11 8	...	...	...	Bulandshahr	
	Aligarh	17 0	17 0	18 0	23 8	23 8	24 8	7 0	7 0	6 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	23 8	24 8	25 0	16 8	16 8	17 0	...	21 0	22 8	22 8	120 0	120 0	130 0	12 4	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Aligarh	
	Kumaun	15 0	15 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	Kumaun	
	Garhwál	20 0	20 0	24 0	22 0	22 0	24 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	15 0	15 0	17 8	...	...	...	30 0*	30 0*	35 0*	...	13 0	13 0	9 0	280 0	280 0	320 0	8 8	8 8	7 8	7 13	6 14	...	Garhwál	
	Bijnor	18 4	16 14	17 7	28 2	26 7	27 0	9 4	9 9	11 4	9 8	10 11	12 15	...	20 4	21 6	...	20 4	21 6	...	19 2	19 11	20 4	135 0	135 0	135 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 4	...	Bijnor	
	Moradabad	19 1	18 7	18 7	27 8	29 6	23 2	9 0	8 12	9 6	12 12	12 12	13 2	26 14	26 14	25 0	15 4	15 4	18 2	...	21 14	21 14	21 4	125 0	125 0	137 8	12 10	12 10	12 0	12 8	12 8	11 14	Moradabad	
	Budaun	18 14	17 11	17 6	27 9½	25 3	22 8	6 0	6 0	9 9½	12 0	12 0	13 12½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 12½	21 9½	18 14½	192 0	192 0	192 0	11 6	11 6	10 12½	11 1½	10 12½	10 3	Budaun	
	Bareilly	18 12	17 8	16 14	25 0	24 6	21 14	7 8	7 8	8 2	13 2	12 13	13 12	25 0	23 12	22 8	18 12	18 12	20 10	...	21 14	21 14	19 6	125 0	125 0	125 0	12 3	12 3	11 14	11 14	11 14½	11 4	Bareilly	
	Sháhjahánpur	19 4	19 0	18 8	31 0	32 0	24 12	9 12	9 12	9 4	15 4	15 8	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 8	20 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 0	10 8	11 0	Sháhjahánpur	
	Tarái Pergunnahs	23 0	21 0	21 0	35 0	35 0	30 0	8 12	8 12	7 8	13 8	13 12	16 0	25 0	30 0	25 0	20 0	10 0	25 0	...	19 8	22 0	23 8	120 0	120 0	100 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	Tarái Pergunnahs	
	Muttra	15 8	15 8	17 8	20 8	22 0	23 0	7 0	7 0	...	11 8	11 8	13 8	22 0	21 0	23 0	19 0	19 0	22 0	...	20 8	21 0	23 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	Muttra	
	Agra	15 8	15 4	17 8	21 0	31 8	23 0	5 8	5 8	6 8	11 8	11 8	14 0	20 0	21 0	23 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	20 8	22 0	23 8	145 0	145 0	156 8	12 4	12 4	12 2½	11 9	11 9	10 14	Agra	
	Farukhabad	17 5	17 10½	17 9	22 14	23 15½	22 0	7 4	7 4	6 13	12 10	12 10	13 4	22 7½	23 10	22 4	21 8	21 8	21 4½	...	22 12	23 8	22 13	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	Farukhabad	
	Mainpuri	16 8	16 4	19 0	22 0	22 0	25 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 4	20 8	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	Mainpuri	
	Etáwah	16 0	15 0	18 0	22 0	20 0	22 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 0	12 0	14 8	23 0	20 0	25 0	19 0	18 0	16 0	...	22 0	21 0	25 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	Etáwah	
	Etah	18 0	17 1	18 12	24 8	23 0	24 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 0	12 5	12 0	18 0	16 0	18 0	16 0	17 0	19 0½	...	20 15	21 0	21 0	180 0	167 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	11 0	11 8	11 0	Etah	
	Jalaun	18 8	18 8	19 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	12 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	28 0	28 0	29 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	10 0	10 0	Jalaun	
	Jhánsi	18 0	20 3	20 10½	26 5	29 14	32 10	8 0	8 8	8 0	12 8	14 8	15 0	25 15	29 8	27 4	...	...	...	...	22 0	27 3	26 13	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 2½	10 0	10 0	10 2½	Jhánsi	
	Lalitpur	20 8	19 0	21 0	32 0	33 0	37 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	11 0	13 0	14 0	29 0	29 0	32 0	22 0	24 0	26 0	...	25 11	27 8	28 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 10	Lalitpur	
	Cawnpore	18 0	18 0	18 0	25 8	26 8	26 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	13 8	13 8	14 0	25 0	26 8	26 0	23 0	23 0	25 0	...	27 8	28 0	33 0	145 0	145 0	140 0	13 4	13 4	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	Cawnpore	
	Fatehpur	16 10	16 10	16 14	24 8	24 8	25 12	10 12	11 4	11 4	13 10	14 8	15 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 8	26 0	24 8	145 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	10 4	10 12	10 12	10 0	Fatehpur	
	Bánda	22 0	22 0	18 0	31 0	31 0	21 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	12 8	13 8	14 0	36 0	37 0	33 0	30 0	31 0	30 0	...	27 0	27 12	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	10 4	11 0	10 8	12 0	Bánda	
	Allahabad	16 12	16 14	17 8	27 8	27 10	25 8	10 8	11 0	11 8	16 0	15 0	17 0	30 8	30 8	30 8	30 0	29 12	29 8	...	26 0	27 0	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 4	11 4	11 0	11 0	11 0	Allahabad	
	Hamírpur	17 0	16 0	15 4	...	...	20 4	8 0	8 0	10 0	...	...	...	21 0	22 0	25 0	...	20 0	24 0	...	28 4	29 4	24 4	120 0	120 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	10 0	Hamírpur	
	Jaunpur	19 13	19 13	19 0	31 1	31 12	30 5	7 12	7 12	7 1	14 2	14 2	14 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	25 0	27 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 4	11 4	11 0	10 0	10 0	9 9	Jaunpur	
	Gorakhpur	18 14	18 14	18 0	27 14	28 13	27 0	13 1	12 9½	14 6½	16 3	16 3	18 0	30 9½†	...†	41 6½†	...	...	...	...	31 1	31 1	31 1	148 12	148 12	120 0	10 12	10 12	9 11	10 10	10 10	9 9	Gorakhpur	
	Basti	20 0	20 0	16 8	34 0	34 0	30 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0½	29 11	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	9 8	8 0	Basti	
	Azamgarh	17 11	17 11	17 11	25 1	25 13	27 5	10 5	10 5	11 9	14 12	14 12	17 10	29 8	29 8	...	20 10	20 10	18 6	...	30 0	30 0	25 0	150 0	150 0	140 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	9 5	9 5	8 0	Azamgarh	
	Mirzapur	16 0	16 0	15 0	25 0	25 0	20 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	16 0	26 0	26 0	26 0	24 0	24 0	25 0	...	25 15	25 15	22 2	147 8	147 8	181 0	10 8	10 8	11 13	9 5	9 5	9 5	Mirzapur	
	Benares	16 13	17 1	16 13	25 8½	26 0	24 15	10 13½	10 13½	11 6	16 13	16 0	16 4	26 0	26 0	26 8½	27 2	27 10	27 10	...	24 0	24 0	21 0	70 0	60 0	100 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Benares	
	Gházipur	19 5	19 5	18 0	27 11	27 11	27 0	9 0	9 0	10 15½	15 7	15 7	16 1½	25 12	25 12	25 12	25 12	25 12	20 9½	...	28 5	25 14½	22 4	90 0	90 0	100 0	10 6½	10 6½	11 4	10 2	10 2	10 2	Gházipur	
	Balia	18 12	18 12	16 4	27 8	27 8	27 8	10 10	10 10	10 10	17 8	18 12	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 11	26 14	25 0	90 0	90 0	100 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	Balia	
	Pilibhít	19 13	19 4	19 0	34 8	34 8	27 4	12 2	13 8	15 0	14 12	15 0	16 4	...	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	26 4	24 8	17 11	150 0	150 0	150 0	13 0	13 0	11 12	12 8	12 12	12 12	Pilibhít	
Oudh.	Sultánpur	20 0	20 0	19 0	32 0	32 0	39 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	31 0	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	13 12	Sultánpur	Oudh.
	Partábgarh	20 2	20 11	19 5	33 5	31 1	26 5	15 0	15 4	16 2	16 2	16 13	17 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 2	27 8	21 10	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 10	10 14	10 8	Partábgarh	
	Fyzabad	17 8	18 0	16 12	26 8	28 0	27 0	10 4	10 8	10 8	13 8	15 0	17 4	33 0	...	31 0	18 8	19 0	...	...	26 0	28 0	22 12	120 0	120 0	140 0	11 2	11 0	11 0	10 4	10 0	10 0	Fyzabad	
	Kheri	22 8	23 4	19 4	36 0	36 0	27 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	14 0	15 0	16 0	45 0	45 0	29 0	29 0	...	...	...	29 0	29 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	160 0	10 10	10 8	11 0	10 10	10 0	10 0	Kheri	
	Lucknow	17 5	17 10	16 9	27 0	27 14	23 4	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 9½	12 15	14 2	27 12	29 0	23 10	23 0	28 1	22 13	...	28 1	23 7	21 0	115 0	115 0	115 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	9 8	9 8	Lucknow	
	Bára Banki	18 0	18 0	17 8	29 0	30 0	25 0	9 0	10 0	11 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	29 0	30 0	31 0	21 0	22 0	20 0	...	29 0	25 0	22 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Bára Banki	
	Bharaich	17 0	17 0	16 0	36 0	36 0	32 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	16 0	16 0	17 0	33 0	33 0	34 0	23 0	22 0	13 0	...	32 0	32 0	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 0	Bharaich	
	Rai Bareli	18 0	19 4	19 0	25 8	26 8	25 0	...	...	...	15 6	15 12	16 8	...	...	24 0	22 0	22 0	20 0	...	24 0	24 8	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	11 0	10 0	9 0	Rai Bareli	
	Sitapur	20 14	20 9	19 2	33 6	37 7	25 5	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	15 6	28 0	28 0	...	25 0	25 0	20 0	...	27 14	28 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 8	12 8	11 8	11 8	11 8	10 8	Sitapur	
	Gonda	20 8	21 1	19 10	43 8	43 0	31 0	14 4	14 8	15 12	15 10	17 12	38 12	37 8	36 14	22 6	21 8	23 8	23 12	...	33 6	33 14	26 13	200 0	200 0	240 0	11 4	11 4	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 4	Gonda	
	Unáo	18 0	17 8	18 0	24 0	23 0	26 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	14 0	13 0	15 0	28 0	28 0	0	...	21 0	23 0	...	24 8	24 8	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	12 0	11 8	11 0	11 0	Unáo	
	Hardui	16 14	16 14	20 6	28 2	27 11	27 11	5 10	5 10	5 10	11 4	11 4	13 14	...	28 7	...	14 5	16 14	...	...	20 10	20 14	22 8	200 0	200 0	240 0	9 6	9 6	8 8	7 8	7 8	8 7	Hardui	
Punjab.	Gujránwála	19 4	22 4	24 0	33 0	40 0	38 0	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	13 0	33 0	40 0	22 0	28 0	28 0	20 0	...	26 4	32 0	26 4	95 0	95 0	95 0	15 4	15 4	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	Gujránwála	Punjab.
	Lahore	18 0	21 0	23 0	27 0	36 0	36 0	...	...	...	11 0	13 0	11 0	29 0	40 0	28 0	24 0	28 0	24 0	...	25 0	31 0	28 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	15 0	14 0	15 0	14 0	13 0	14 0	Lahore	
	Ferozepore (a)	16 8	20 0	22 8	26 0	35 0	33 0	...	...	...	10 0	11 0	11 0	28 0	36 0	35 0	...	...	...	...	25 0	33 0	32 0	100 0	100 0	80 0	12 12	12 12	13 8	12 8	12 8	13 0	Ferozepore (a)	
	Sirsa (b)	19 0	19 0	21 0	28 0	32 0	38 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	28 0	31 0	36 0	25 0	25 0	30 0	...	25 0	31 0	30 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	11 0	Sirsa (b)	
	Hissar	16 8	16 0	17 0	26 0	28 0	30 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	24 0	24 0	30 0	25 0	22 0	26 0	...	29 0	31 0	37 0	120 0	120 0	80 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	11 8	11 8	10 0	Hissar	
	Rohtak (c)	17 0	17 4	17 12	21 0	23 0	25 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	20 0	23 0	25 0	19 0	21 0	25 0	...	25 0	22 0	26 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	11 8	11 8	11 1	10 0	10 8	10 5	Rohtak (c)	
	Gurgaon	18 0	16 8	19 0	24 8	22 0	25 0	...	...	...	10 0	12 0	13 0	23 0	30 0	25 0	20 0	19 0	22 0	...	20 8	21 12	25 0	140 0	130 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Gurgaon	
	Delhi	16 12	16 0	17 4	23 0	23 0	22 8	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	13 8	21 0	22 0	24 0	18 0	18 0	18 8	...	19 12	19 8	21 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	11 8	11 8	11 8	Delhi	
	Karnál (a)	16 12	17 0	19 0	24 8	26 0	28 0	...	...	...	10 0	12 0	13 0	24 0	26 0	27 0	21 0	22 0	18 0	...	21 8	22 0	25 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	12 4	12 0	11 8	12 0	11 12	11 4	Karnál (a)	
	Umballa (a)	17 8	20 0	22 8	26 0	28 0	28 0	...	...	...	10 0	11 8	13 0	24 0	28 0	27 0	16 0	18 0	25 0	...	21 8	25 0	26 8	140 0	140 0	100 0	14 1	14 1	13 10	13 4	13 4	13 8	Umballa (a)	
	Ludhiána (d)	18 8	21 0	26 0	27 0	30 0	34 0	...	...	...	10 0	12 0	12 0	28 0	32 0	40 0	18 0	24 0	25 0	...	23 6	33 4	30 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 11	14 10	14 0	14 0	14 8	13 8	Ludhiána (d)	
	Simla (e)	12 8	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	...	16 12	80 0	80 0	80 0	10 5	10 8	10 12	9 11	9 11	10 1	Simla (e)	

* Mandwa. † Jondhari. (a) Prices rising. (b) Barley, jowar and gram rising. (c) Wheat, barley, jowar, bajra and gram rising. (d) Wheat, barley, rice, bajra, jowar and gram rising; salt falling. (e) Prices steady.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF AUGUST 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nugtee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nugtee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nugtee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Punjab—*continued.*	Kángra (*a*)	18 0	22 0	24 0	28 0	34 0	40 0	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	21 0	21 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	Kángra (*a*)	Punjab—*continued.*
	Jullundur (*b*)	17 0	20 0	23 0	26 0	32 0	37 0	...	...	...	6 0	8 0	8 0	22 0	36 0	32 0	24 0	26 0	20 0	23 0	26 8	28 8	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 4	13 8	13 8	13 12	Jullundur (*b*)	
	Hoshiárpur (*c*)	17 8	20 8	24 8	28 0	31 0	35 0	...	...	...	11 8	13 0	11 0	...	31 0	29 0	16 0	20 0	22 0	23 0	27 0	28 8	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 0	14 8	14 0	13 12	13 12	13 12	Hoshiárpur (*c*)	
	Gurdáspur	20 0	25 0	30 0	26 0	32 0	40 0	...	...	...	14 0	16 0	16 0	28 0	32 0	24 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	23 0	32 0	32 6	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	13 4	12 0	12 0	13 0	Gurdáspur	
	Amritsar (*d*)	19 8	22 0	24 8	29 4	35 0	39 0	...	...	...	10 8	12 0	11 8	24 8	36 0	29 4	25 8	26 8	22 8	24 4	31 0	30 4	80 0	80 0	80 0	15 5	14 13	14 12	14 13	14 6	14 6	Amritsar (*d*)	
	Siálkot	21 0	24 4	24 0	32 0	36 15	39 0	...	...	...	12 0	16 0	15 0	33 0	39 11	27 0	32 0	32 12	21 0	25 0	31 15	24 0	130 0	130 0	140 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 8	14 8	Siálkot	
	Gujrát (*e*)	22 4	25 0	24 12	42 0	45 0	41 9	...	...	...	13 8	14 0	12 0	39 0	42 0	25 0	34 0	40 0	28 0	28 4	32 14	24 4	100 0	100 0	100 0	†	†	†	14 2	14 8	15 0	Gujrát (*e*)	
	Jhelum*	20 0	22 0	24 0	27 0	37 0	31 0	...	...	...	11 0	13 0	10 0	36 0	38 0	25 0	31 0	35 0	24 0	24 4	31 8	22 6	80 0	100 0	80 0	15 0	14 12	14 12	14 8	14 8	14 8	Jhelum*	
	Ráwalpindi (*f*)	20 8	21 8	20 0	32 0	39 0	30 0	...	...	...	8 8	13 0	8 12	33 0	40 0	30 12	30 8	35 0	24 0	30 4	33 0	30 8	320 0	320 0	320 0	16 0	17 0	17 0	15 0	16 0	16 0	Ráwalpindi (*f*)	
	Shahpúr (*b*)	22 0	28 0	20 12	36 0	52 0	32 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	13 0	34 0	42 0	20 0	34 0	44 0	20 0	30 4	34 0	32 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	14 4	14 8	15 2	14 0	14 0	15 0	Shahpúr (*b*)	
	Jhang (*g*)	17 8	20 0	19 0	28 8	32 0	32 0	...	...	...	8 0	10 0	11 0	27 0	28 0	24 0	30 0	28 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	23 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Jhang (*g*)	
	Montgomery (*b*)	16 0	18 8	19 0	23 0	32 0	24 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 8	...	32 0	20 0	...	...	16 0	21 0	21 0	18 0	90 0	90 0	90 0	14 4	14 5	14 12	13 12	14 8	14 8	Montgomery (*b*)	
	Mooltan (*h*)	14 8	16 8	17 0	25 0	28 0	28 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	26 0	29 0	28 0	26 0	28 0	24 0	23 0	23 0	18 0	90 0	100 0	120 0	†	†	†	13 8	14 0	12 0	Mooltan (*h*)	
	Muzaffargarh (*i*)	17 12	20 0	18 8	27 0	28 0	26 0	...	...	...	5 0	6 0	7 0	21 0	21 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	18 0	23 0	26 8	21 0	90 0	100 0	120 0	†	†	†	13 8	14 0	12 0	Muzaffargarh (*i*)	
	Dera Gházi Khán (*j*)	16 14	18 12	17 8	30 0	33 12	20 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	7 8	32 8	37 8	21 4	32 8	36 4	20 0	22 8	28 12	19 6	100 0	100 0	100 0	31 4	30 4	31 4	28 12	28 2	28 12	Dera Gházi Khán (*j*)	
	Dera Ismail Khán	20 10	23 7	19 4	32 3	39 1	27 14	...	...	...	8 7	8 7	8 12	40 0	41 4	30 0	32 8	37 8	22 8	22 8	28 12	19 6	100 0	100 0	100 0	50 0	51 1	55 0	47 8	48 12	53 0	Dera Ismail Khán	
	Bannu*	29 6	35 10	30 0	42 8	51 14	41 14	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	8 12	50 0	42 8	37 8	37 8	40 0	25 0	29 6	34 11	25 0	125 0	125 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	Bannu*	
	Kohát (*b*)	19 12	23 4	17 8	31 14	43 6	31 14	...	...	...	11 8	12 12	12 2	36 15	43 6	22 14	35 11	42 0	21 10	36 4	40 0	29 6	80 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	100 0	99 8	66 5	66 5	85 0	Kohát (*b*)	
	Pesháwar (*k*)	18 10	23 10	19 8	30 3	40 10	35 12	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	9 8	25 4	35 6	29 0	22 0	30 3	14 0	25 8	28 1	15 15	102 0	102 0	76 0	71 6	71 6	99 8	48 0	46 0	56 0	Pesháwar (*k*)	
	Házára‡	...	27 8	23 4	...	45 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	15 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	32 0	...	21 8	27 4	16 8	96 0	96 0	100 0	44 3	47 8	58 8	...	11 0	12 0	Házára‡	
																				...	28 0	20 0	...	140 0	80 0	...	12 0	12 0	...				
Central Provinces.	Nágpur	17 12	18 12	17 0	...	...	...	9 4	9 12	8 10	16 0	16 0	16 4	28 12	31 0	25 4	...	...	...	20 12	22 4	19 4	110 0	110 0	150 0	12 0	12 8	11 8	11 12	12 4	11 4	Nágpur	Central Provinces.
	Bhandára	20 0	20 0	19 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 8	20 0	20 8	35 0	35 0	24 0	...	...	...	25 0	26 8	22 8	118 0	110 0	...	10 8	11 8	11 0	10 0	11 0	10 12	Bhandára	
	Chánda	19 0	19 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	12 0	27 8	27 8	23 0	...	...	...	21 8	21 8	24 0	360 0	360 0	360 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 8	Chánda	
	Wardha	20 0	20 0	18 8	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 12	14 0	14 0	14 12	27 0	27 0	23 0	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	24 0	120 0	120 0	125 0	12 0	12 0	12 4	11 0	11 0	12 0	Wardha	
	Bálaghát	18 0	19 0	17 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	28 0	26 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	28 0	32 0	275 0	275 0	275 0	9 4	9 4	10 0	8 8	8 8	10 0	Bálaghát	
	Jubbulpore	18 8	18 0	16 12	19 0	20 0	22 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	14 8	14 0	14 0	21 0	22 0	17 0	17 0	18 0	15 0	25 8	26 0	25 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	11 0	11 8	11 12	10 8	11 0	11 8	Jubbulpore	
	Saugor	22 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	26 8	28 8	160 0	160 0	...	...	9 8	8 12	9 0	9 0	8 8	Saugor	
	Damoh	25 4	24 0	22 0	...	...	...	10 8	11 4	13 12	11 8	12 8	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 0	39 0	34 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 4	9 12	9 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Damoh	
	Seoni	20 8	18 8	19 0	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	13 0	15 0	14 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	24 0	16 0	220 0	220 0	210 0	10 8	10 0	11 0	10 0	9 12	10 12	Seoni	
	Mandla	25 0	25 0	19 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	14 8	19 0	19 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	256 0	256 0	256 0	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	9 8	Mandla	
	Betúl	18 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	9 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	19 8	20 0	20 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	40 0	40 0	35 0	320 0	320 0	240 0	9 0	9 8	9 0	8 8	8 8	8 8	Betúl	
	Chhindwára	25 0	25 0	17 0	...	...	...	9 8	8 8	8 0	14 8	13 8	12 0	32 12	31 12	22 0	15 0	13 8	14 0	18 8	18 0	16 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	Chhindwára	
	Hoshangabad	15 7	16 2	15 7	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	4 8	9 9	9 9	10 13	21 0	21 0	21 6	14 8	15 7	17 0	30 0	30 14	21 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	9 8	11 0	11 0	9 0	Hoshangabad	
	Narsinghpur	18 4	18 0	15 8	...	...	...	9 4	9 8	10 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 6	23 15	22 10	160 0	120 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 0	Narsinghpur	
	Nimár	16 8	15 7	14 10	...	...	...	12 9	13 10	...	14 14	14 14	12 0	20 10	18 12	27 7	20 0	20 0	22 4	25 0	24 8	25 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	13 0	13 0	12 12	Nimár	
	Raipur	20 0	20 0	26 0	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	20 0	31 8	33 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 4	18 7	18 0	160 0	160 0	92 8	13 13	13 13	13 13	9 6	9 0	8 12	Raipur	
	Sambalpur	17 0	17 0	22 12	...	...	...	31 8	31 8	35 0	35 0	35 0	44 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 8	28 8	30 0	64 0	64 0	70 0	10 0	10 4	10 4	9 8	9 8	9 0	Sambalpur	
	Biláspur	25 0	27 0	45 0	...	...	...	23 0	27 0	45 0	39 0	50 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	28 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	9 8	7 0	Biláspur	
																				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0		
																				118 0	120 0	150 0	34 0	28 0	40 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	...	...	...		
British Burma.*	*Arakan Division.*																															*Arakan Division.*	British Burma.*
	Akyab																															Akyab	
	Northern Arakan																															Northern Arakan	
	Kyoukpyoo																															Kyoukpyoo	
	Sandoway																															Sandoway	
	Pegu Division.																															*Pegu Division.*	
	Rangoon Town																															Rangoon Town	
	Hanthawaddy																															Hanthawaddy	
	Tharrawaddy																															Tharrawaddy	
	Prome																															Prome	
	Irrawaddy Division.																															*Irrawaddy Division.*	
	Bassein	No return received																								No return received						Bassein	
	Henzada																															Henzada	
	Thonegwa																															Thonegwa	
	Thayetmyo																															Thayetmyo	
	Tenasserim Division.																															*Tenasserim Division.*	
	Moulmein Town & Amherst																															Moulmein Town & Amherst	
	Tavoy																															Tavoy	
	Mergui																															Mergui	
	Toungoo																															Toungoo	
	Shwaygyin																															Shwaygyin	
	Salween																															Salween	
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	16 5	16 5	17 4	...	...	...	7 14	7 8	7 8	10 3	10 3	9 13	23 0	23 0	24 14	27 0	27 0	27 0	29 9	29 9	...	125 0	125 0	125 0	11 10	11 10	11 10	10 3	10 3	10 3	Secunderabad	Hyderabad Assigned Districts.
	Bolarum	18 0	17 8	18 10	...	...	...	8 1	8 1	7 6	9 10	9 10	9 4	29 9	27 0	25 4	...	...	...	17 12	17 12	18 4	116 14	116 14	116 14	...	...	...	10 12	10 12	10 12	Bolarum	
	Chudderghat	14 0	14 8	13 8	...	...	...	7 0	7 8	7 0	9 0	9 8	9 8	27 0	27 0	27 0	34 0	34 0	33 0	20 4	19 7	20 4	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	9 8	Chudderghat	
	Amráoti	15 8	16 0	16 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	25 0	26 0	26 0	14 0	15 0	20 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	60 0	64 0	64 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Amráoti	
	Akola	16 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	7 0	13 0	13 0	10 0	24 0	23 0	28 0	21 0	21 0	21 0	18 0	18 0	22 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Akola	
	Ellichpur	15 0	14 0	15 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	25 0	22 0	22 0	21 0	20 0	22 0	15 0	15 0	18 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	Ellichpur	
	Buldána	18 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	26 0	26 0	32 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	Buldána	
	Wún	18 8	17 0	13 8	...	...	...	8 0	7 8	7 0	13 0	12 0	10 8	31 8	28 0	28 0	...	...	...	17 0	20 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	100 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 8	8 0	Wún	
	Básim	20 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 4	13 0	14 0	12 0	28 0	28 0	34 0	...	...	...	20 0	21 0	26 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	Básim	

(*a*) Prices rising except that of salt. (*b*) Prices rising. (*c*) Prices rising except that of salt (retail.) (*d*) Wheat, barley, rice, bajra, jowar and gram rising; salt falling.
(*e*) Prices falling. (*f*) Prices rising except that of wholesale salt. (*g*) Wheat, barley, rice, jowar, gram and salt wholesale rising and bajra falling.
(*h*) Wheat, barley, bajra, jowar, gram and salt rising. (*i*) Wheat, barley, rice, gram, salt and firewood rising. (*j*) Wheat, barley, bajra, jowar, gram rising; salt falling. (*k*) Prices rising except that of rice. * Statement for present fortnight not received. † No wholesale salt sold. ‡ Statement returned for correction.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF AUGUST 1883 —*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Mysore	Bangalore, Kolar, Túmkúr, Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga, Kadur, Chitaldroog	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Bangalore, Kolar, Túmkúr, Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga, Kadur, Chitaldroog	Mysore
Coorg	Coorg	8 7	8 10	8 14	9 10	9 11	8 6	13 11	13 11	10 13	18 9	18 5	13 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 9	27 1	20 13	28 6	27 13	21 5	110 0	110 0	110 0	9 14	9 13	8 10	9 11	9 9	8 3	Coorg	Coorg
Rajpootana	Jeypore	15 8	16 0	16 0	21 0	20 0	22 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	8 8	8 8	9 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	19 4	19 0	19 0	...	...	...	20 8	19 0	18 0	...	...	...	15 0	14 8	14 4	14 12	14 4	14 0	Jeypore	Rajpootana
	Kishengurh	15 4	17 8	17 0	20 0	23 8	24 8	9 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	19 8	25 4	24 0	14 8	17 12	20 8	...	...	...	21 8	25 0	21 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 4	16 0	Kishengurh	
	Kerrowlee	*	15 10	16 0	*	19 11	18 8	*	11 14	12 8	*	12 8	13 8	*	19 11	19 0	*	17 8	16 0	...	...	...	*	20 0	18 8	...	...	...	*	13 12	13 1	*	13 8	13 0	Kerrowlee	
	Ulwur	16 4	18 2	19 1	20 9	24 10	26 3	8 10	8 10	9 0	10 8	11 0	11 14	21 12	23 8	23 8	19 4	22 6	19 5	...	...	...	20 6	23 14	24 3	...	...	...	15 7	15 12	15 13	14 12	15 0	15 6	Ulwur	
	Bhurtpore (City)	16 0	16 5	17 8	22 9	23 11	23 8	7 12	7 12	6 8	9 6	9 12	11 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	20 8	21 0	17 8	...	...	...	21 8	23 0	22 8	...	...	...	12 4	13 5	12 1	12 0	13 0	11 8	Bhurtpore (City)	
	Ajmere	14 8	13 8	15 8	20 8	19 8	23 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	13 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	...	22 0	21 8	21 8	70 0	70 0	70 0	17 0	17 0	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	Ajmere	
	Deoli Cantonment	16 1	18 11	16 1	22 15	25 9	20 5	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	10 8	22 0	24 13	20 0	18 0	18 0	20 12	...	...	...	23 3	25 9	20 4	...	...	...	13 4	13 8	...	12 12	12 12	12 12	Deoli Cantonment	
																													R a. p.	*R a. p.* per md.	*R a. p.*					
	Erinpura	13 12	16 9	16 12	20 12	25 4	28 9	...	...	...	7 13	8 0	8 0	19 0	20 0	20 9	17 10½	20 0	24 15	...	...	...	18 7	21 1	22 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 1 8	2 15 0	3 1 2	12 0	12 9	12 0	Erinpura	
	Sirohee	11 4	13 4	17 0	22 0	25 0	28 0	6 8	7 0	7 0	7 8	8 0	8 0	14 0	18 0	17 0	15 0	18 0	21 0	...	...	...	17 0	18 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 5	12 5	12 5	Sirohee	
	Abu	11 0	11 5	15 10	17 10	20 0	23 0	6 6	6 8	6 8	7 6	7 4	8 0	...	...	...	13 2	15 6	18 0	...	...	...	14 4	16 0	21 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	Abu	
	Anadra	12 2	12 8	17 12	20 14	23 0	26 0	6 14	7 0	7 0	7 14	8 0	9 0	...	...	...	14 8	17 4	20 8	...	...	...	15 12	18 0	24 12	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4	12 4	12 4	Anadra	
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	15 0	19 0	20 0	24 0	27 0	24 0	...	...	...	13 0	15 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	23 0	23 0	†	†	†	4 0 0	3 10 0	...	10 0	11 0	10 0	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Meywar (Oodeypore)	13 7½	14 1	15 8	17 15½	19 2½	19 14½	9 6	10 2½	10 2½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 3	17 15½	16 0½	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 6	9 9	9 14½	8 15½	9 6	9 12	Meywar (Oodeypore)	
																													R a. p. per md.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*					
	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	20 0	21 14	21 14	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	17 8	17 8	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	37 8	35 0	...	...	...	3 13 0	...	...	10 10	10 10	11 4	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	
	Partábgarh („)	17 15½	15 12½	17 10	...	...	...	9 6	10 0	10 5	10 10	11 4	12 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 3	21 4	21 9	...	...	...	2 7 0	...	...	16 7½	16 7½	9 11	Partábgarh („)	
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	12 13	14 11	16 4	17 8	20 0	21 4	6 4	6 4	6 4	7 8	7 8	7 8	18 12	18 12	22 8	15 10	16 14	20 0	...	...	...	16 9	18 2	20 0	...	...	...	2 10 0	2 10 0	2 9 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	Marwar (Jodhpore)	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Bikaneer	9 5	10 12	12 0	...	...	...	3 6	3 8	3 8	4 5	12 5	12 7	12 ...	...	...	15 8	18 9	19 0	...	...	...	16 4	19 8	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	Bikaneer	
	Boondee	19 4	19 8	16 8	30 0	27 8	27 0	8 8	9 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	10 8	27 0	25 0	26 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	25 8	27 0	155 0	160 0	120 0	11 8	11 4	11 8	11 4	11 0	11 0	Boondee	
	Kotah	20 0	22 0	16 12	25 0	25 0	18 8	8 0	10 0	8 12	11 0	13 0	11 12	22 0	25 0	22 0	12 8	14 8	15 0	...	...	...	27 0	29 0	24 12	240 0	240 0	240 0	12 8	12 8	12 12	12 0	12 0	12 4	Kotah	
	Tonk	17 0	17 8	13 7	22 8	23 0	21 5	6 0	6 0	7 0	8 0	8 0	9 4	24 0	23 12	23 5	...	...	18 6	...	...	...	23 8	23 8	20 14	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 4	11 12	11 12	Tonk	
	Jhallawar	16 8	18 1	15 4	20 14	23 10	15 14	...	...	...	7 14	8 14	10 2	21 14	23 6	19 1	17 1	17 1	18 6	...	...	...	21 4	23 6	21 4	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	9 15	9 8	9 8	9 11½	Jhallawar	
	Shahpoora	15 8	18 4	16 0	19 0	23 8	20 6	10 8	11 12	11 2	15 4	16 4	14 8	19 2	18 0	16 12	15 0	15 0	16 2	...	...	...	25 0	24 0	19 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 1	13 1	13 7	12 13	12 12	13 3	Shahpoora	
	Dholpur	15 6	16 12	16 10	21 11	24 4	20 4	10 2	10 2	7 14	11 4	11 4	11 12	21 3	21 12	20 8	9 5	21 1	17 14	...	...	...	21 0	23 10	18 15	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	10 11	12 10	12 10	10 0	Dholpur	
Central India.	Indore	14 8	14 8	15 8	...	...	...	9 3	9 3	8 9	10 14	10 14	10 0	20 0	20 13	20 13	18 7	19 3	20 0	...	...	...	17 7	18 0	18 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 6	10 14	...	Indore	Central India.
	Gwalior	15 0	15 11	15 11	21 8	22 3	18 12	7 5	7 9	7 11	9 2	9 2	9 13	21 15	23 1	19 12	18 12	18 10	19 1	...	...	...	20 1	21 2	20 14	127 12	127 12	100 6	...	...	...	11 7	11 7	11 14	Gwalior	
	Goona	21 4	20 4	20 4	20 0	20 0	19 0	9 0	10 0	9 8	9 8	10 8	10 0	12 0	30 0	28 0	20 0	20 0	16 0	...	...	...	30 0	29 0	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 8	11 4	11 0	Goona	
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	22 4	24 0	21 0	35 12	38 7	32 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	17 8	18 0	18 0	35 0	38 13	32 0	30 0	28 0	24 0	...	...	...	30 13	36 6	30 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 5	12 1	12 5	11 4	11 5	11 12	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	

* Not received.

† Eight pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Comparative Statement of the Nett Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenue) for the first five months of the official year 1883-84, and of the twelve preceding years.

(IN THOUSANDS OF RUPEES.)

YEAR.	FOR THE FIVE MONTHS, APRIL TO AUGUST.																YEAR.
	BENGAL.			MADRAS.			BOMBAY.			SIND.			TOTAL BRITISH INDIA.				
	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	Export Revenue.	Total Import Revenue.	
1871-72	4,48	28,91	8,81	1,45	5,22	6,30	1,40	14,29	1,58	49	37	54	10,58	50,49	25,77	61,07	1871-72.
1872-73	5,66	28,14	9,03	1,66	5,03	4,98	2,23	15,63	1,35	47	38	89	11,38	51,09	32,66	62,47	1872-73.
1873-74	4,20	28,20	6,75	1,58	5,50	6,25	2,54	13,97	1,38	51	25	48	10,20	49,80	27,95	60,00	1873-74.
1874-75	4,96	31,23	5,16	1,45	5,96	5,64	2,69	16,55	1,49	53	25	66	11,38	56,68	22,01	68,06	1874-75.
1875-76	5,28	32,25	6,67	1,79	6,11	6,24	2,78	16,79	3,37	52	35	85	11,82	57,31	33,54	69,13	1875-76.
1876-77	5,56	25,98	4,83	2,46	5,56	3,81	3,49	13,64	48	57	25	9	14,07	47,58	21,03	61,65	1876-77.
1877-78	6,21	32,73	4,94	2,27	3,25	73	3,74	16,84	49	92	30	15	15,24	55,36	15,55	70,60	1877-78.
1878-79	5,62	27,50	5,65	2,43	4,14	1,80	3,49	15,08	85	81	20	10	15,56	49,69	20,34	65,25	1878-79.
1879-80	4,86	24,46	3,39	2,20	3,59	2,12	3,70	12,70	80	1,21	33	8	14,95	43,44	21,98	58,39	1879-80.
1880-81	5,52	23,25	3,93	2,03	4,35	4,16	3,53	17,23	69	1,77	42	9	17,23	48,27	25,53	63,19	1880-81.
1881-82	5,69	23,43	5,93	2,15	4,29	2,85	4,25	16,54	65	1,60	54	13	16,54	47,81	29,64	64,40	1881-82.
1882-83	5,99	1	6,25	2,23	1	1,78	4,36	—98*	55	1,39	3	21	4,36	—90*	34,13	16,55	1882-83.
1883-84	5,97	4	7,82	2,19	3	2,40	4,47	17	45	1,50	1	19	4,47	33	28,69	17,81	1883-84.

* The amount refunded is greater than the duty collected.

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
STATISTICAL BRANCH;
Calcutta, 24th Sept. 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENTS OF IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF OF 1882-83 IN THE PUNJAB.

STATEMENT No. I.

Revised Comparative Abstract of Irrigation and Rainfall in Canal Districts of the Punjab.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
DISTRICTS.	Area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	AREA IRRIGATED.		COMPARISON WITH LAST CROP.		RAINFALL IN KHARIF MONTHS.													
							April.		May.		June.		July.		August.		September.		TOTAL.	
			1882-83.	1881-82.	Increase.	Decrease.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882-83.	1881-82.
Umballa	1,644,849	951,890	2,798	2,287	511	...	0·15	0·40	0·30	1·52	6·00	3·35	17·96	8·17	13·03	11·30	2·70	3·05	40·14	27·79
Karnál	1,533,990	680,319	39,095	36,367	2,728	...	1·67	0·21	0·64	0·78	2·57	3·74	6·91	8·26	2·76	7·57	4·95	...	19·40	20·58
Rohtak	1,150,360	906,023	35,530	32,626	2,904	...	...	0·15	0·20	...	2·20	3·10	5·50	10·70	2·80	5·70	2·20	...	12·90	19·65
Delhi	804,933	525,678	34,300	28,964	5,336	...	...	0·20	0·40	0·10	2·30	2·20	12·20	11·50	3·50	8·80	5·50	0·60	23·90	23·40
Hissár	2,265,428	1,161,761	33,919	38,963	...	5,044	0·10	1·20	...	...	0·30	0·40	12·20	7·50	0·50	5·80	3·10	...	16·30	14·90
Jind	...	...	26,887	28,273	...	1,386	...	1·00	...	1·00	1·20	3·00	15·80	9·20	0·60	8·40	1·50	...	19·10	22·60
Bikaner	...	...	224	241	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL W. J. CANAL	7,408,550	4,225,668	172,753	167,721	11,479	6,447	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gurdáspur	1,168,314	856,230	18,619	17,069	1,550	...	0·40	0·48	...	0·95	0·61	7·63	8·20	19·26	6·05	15·33	5·80	1·60	21·06	45·25
Amritsar	1,006,798	766,773	52,525	41,769	10,756	...	0·80	0·20	0·40	1·90	0·90	13·20	13·00	23·60	10·80	25·30	11 30	4·90	37·20	69·10
Lahore	2,334,552	1,164,921	75,326	68,035	7,291	...	1·20	1·10	0·20	0·95	0·60	0·60	17·20	12·20	8·60	6·35	10·50	...	38·30	21·20
TOTAL B. D. CANAL	4,509,664	2,787,924	146,470	126,873	19,597	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lahore	Given	above.	9,922	(1) 16,215 (2)	...	6,293	...	...	...	...	...	...	Given	above.	...	...	...	...	...	(4) ...
Montgomery	3,567,750	357,022	31,666	55,705	...	24,039	...	...	...	...	0·50	0·60	5·10	10·20	1·40	2·90	5·00	...	12·00	13·70
Mooltan	3,763,200	799,380	207,480	199,773	7,707	...	...	...	...	...	0·20	...	6·80	1·00	0·80	1·50	...	...	7·80	2·50
Muzaffargarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	(5) ...
Dera Gházi Khan	2,007,819	397,529	135,148	134,350 (3)	798	...	0·05	0·20	...	...	...	...	5·35	0·8	0·50	3·0	1·50	...	7·40	3·00
Shahpur	2,801,280	1,008,000	141,644	138,783	12,861	...	0·70	0·50	...	0·60	0·90	...	9·40	2·15	0·10	3·20	0·60	...	11·70	6·45
	3,002,432	524,988	7,826	7,138	688	...	0·9	1·00	0·5	0·20	...	4·40	10·5	3·70	1·8	2·40	9·0	1·10	22·5	12·80
TOTAL INUNDATION CANALS	15,142,481	3,087,499	533,686	541,964	22,054	30,322	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL	(6) 27,060,695	(6) 10,101,091	852,909	836,558	53,130	36,779	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

	Acres.
Area irrigated in kharif, 1882-83	852,909
Ditto ditto 1881-82	836,558
Net decrease	16,351

(1) and (2) These figures differ from those shown in the return for kharif, 1881-82, in consequence of the exclusion from the present statement of the remissions granted before the preparation of Demand Statement.
(3) The difference between the area shown in the present return and that given in the statement for kharif, 1881-82, is due to the deduction of the land submerged by flood or waste water.
(4) and (5) These figures represent the correct rain-fall during kharif, 1881-82, and differ from those in the returns for that crop submitted last year.
(6) These figures differ from those shown in the returns for kharif, 1881-82, in consequence of the omission of Gurgaon from this return, in which District no irrigation is shown.

STATEMENT No. II.

Statement in Acres of Crops irrigated in Canal Districts.

DESCRIPTION OF CROPS.	Umballa.	Karnál.	Rohtak.	Delhi.	Gurgaon.	Hissár.	Jind.	Bikaner.	Gurdáspur.	Amritsar.	Lahore.	Montgomery.	Mooltan.	Dera Ghazi Khan.	Shahpur.	Muzaffargarh	TOTAL.
Sugar cane	409	3,959	16,538	18,068	...	438	2,773	...	4,613	4,796	2,840	78	3,218	86	86	6,411	69,320
Rice	2,150	16,071	3,448	7,589	...	6,163	7,589	...	10,304	20,629	10,387	5,042	14,525	15,726	9	28,167	149,749
Cotton	4	8,331	11,108	3,649	...	20,439	9,606	42	883	9,350	24,107	5,138	31,641	26,295	4,361	17,753	172,707
Indigo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	80,735	24,770	...	49,739	155,245
Others	235	3,735	4,446	5,024	...	6,369	6,939	182	2,819	17,750	47,914	21,399	77,361	74,767	3,370	33,079	306,888
TOTAL KHARIF, 1882-83	2,798	38,095	35,530	34,300	...	33,919	26,887	224	18,619	52,525	85,248	31,968	207,480	141,644	7,826	135,148	852,909
TOTAL KHARIF, 1881-82	2,287	36,367	32,626	28,964	...	38,963	28,273	241	17,069	41,769	84,259*	55,705*	199,773	128,783*	7,138	134,350	836,558

* These figures differ from those shown in the return for kharif of 1881-82, the cause of which is explained in note appended to Statement No. I.

STATEMENT No. III.

Statement in Acres of Crops irrigated in Canal Divisions.

DESCRIPTION OF CROPS.	WESTERN JUMNA CANAL.				BARI DOAB CANAL.			UPPER SUTLEJ DIVISION INUNDATION CANALS.	LOWER SUTLEJ AND CHENAB DIVISION INUNDATION CANALS.	DERA GHAZI KHAN DIVISION INDUS CANALS.	SHAHPUR CANALS.	MUZAFFARGARH CANALS.	TOTALS.
	Karnal Division.	Hansi Division.	Delhi Division.	TOTAL.	1st Division.	2nd Division.	TOTAL.						
Sugar-cane	1,331	7,964	37,889	47,184	5,348	6,893	12,241	94	3,218	86	86	6,411	69,320
Rice	9,916	17,256	17,788	44,960	11,392	28,549	39,931	6,431	14,525	15,726	9	28,167	149,749
Cotton	1,446	38,549	13,184	53,179	5,961	27,391	33,352	6,126	31,641	26,295	4,361	17,753	172,707
Indigo	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	80,735	24,770	...	49,739	155,245
Others	2,181	16,579	8,670	27,430	11,249	49,696	60,945	28,937	77,361	74,767	3,370	33,078	306,888
TOTAL KHARIF, 1882-83	14,874	80,348	77,531	172,753	33,941	113,529	146,470	41,588	207,480	141,644	7,826	135,148	852,909
TOTAL KHARIF, 1881-82	13,641	85,927	68,153	167,721	31,790	95,083	126,873	71,220*	199,773	128,783*	7,138	134,350	836,558

* These figures differ from those shown in the return for kharif of 1881-82, the cause of which is explained in note appended to Statement No. I.

R. HOME, *Colonel, R.E.,*
Joint-Secretary to Govt., Punjab, P. W. D. Irrigation Branch.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXXIV OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 2nd September 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 1st September 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 2nd September 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 1st September 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
8th Sept. 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	1,71,270	996	172	(a)81,028	471	19,49,165	512	(a)18,29,826	484	...	1,19,339
1st ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	73,936	135	547	96,643	177	21,54,645	178	24,99,429	208	3,44,784	...
8t ditto .	Sind, Punjab & Delhi .	676	1,51,542	224	749	1,79,670	240	39,77,100	266	51,13,493	312	11,36,393	...
1st ditto .	Madras . . .	861	1,29,878	151	861	1,06,739	124	30,53,119	160	28,36 059	150	...	2,17,060
1st ditto .	South Indian . .	655	76,024	116	655	72,999	111	16,65,230	115	17,05,7 05	118	40,475	...
25th Aug. 1883	Great Indian Peninsula	1,450	3,51,832	243	...	(b)	...	c1,38,99,042	453	d1,47,61,601	484	8,62,560	...
1st Sept. 1883	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	1,19,215	259	461	1,31,115	284	44,30,337	434	49,90,205	492	5,59,868	...
	TOTAL .	4,822	10,73,697	223	h3,445	6,68,194	194	3,11,28,638	291	3,37,36,318	314	26,07,680	...
	State.												
8th Sept. 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	6,76,990	449	1,509	7,92,224	525	1,86,28,154	558	2,18,97,308	660	32,69,154	...
1st ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	33	2,639	80	56	4,430	79	82,192	120	1,26,343	108	44,151	...
8th ditto .	Nalhati . .	27	1,352	50	27	1,674	61	28,938	48	35,118	59	6,180	...
1st ditto .	Northern Bengal .	230	37,289	162	239	30,750	129	7,82,327	153	8,53,385	166	71,058	...
1st ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	75	11,896	159	166	14,516	87	2,76,216	152	3,55,447	99	79,231	...
4th Aug. 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	6,726	118	...	(b)	...	(e)1,62,512	157	(f)1,47,281	143	...	15,231
8th Sept. 1883	Muttra-Hathras . .	29	2,665	92	29	3,440	119	48,580	76	54,678	86	6,093	...
8th ditto .	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	6,313	73	87	6,658	77	1,41,487	73	1,40,528	73	...	959
8th ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	662	55	12	687	57	19,937	75	21,194	80	1,257	...
8th ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,117	1,16,157	104	1,117	1,64,240	147	43,75,468	177	51,61,193	210	7,85,725	...
8th ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	6,692	149	45	5,592	124	2,24,603	225	3,06,649	310	82,046	...
8th ditto .	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	3,892	40	149	5,494	37	2,49,741	115	6,07,648	185	3,57,907	...
8th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . .	161	17,325	108	161	18,716	116	5,94,174	167	5,90,255	167	...	3,919
8th ditto .	Sindia	75	4,504	60	75	5,045	67	1,33,190	80	1,31,965	80	...	1,225
1st ditto .	Punjab Northern .	409	44,609	109	421	55,676	132	12,48,407	140	13,32,422	144	84,015	...
1st ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	80,051	121	660	97,710	148	17,53,747	120	32,81,533	226	15,27,786	...
8th ditto .	Muttra-Achnera .	23	1,757	76	23	1,380	60	27,217	53	31,733	63	4,516	...
1st ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	1,382	43	32	1,770	55	31,823	45	40,698	58	8,875	...
8th ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	8,590	97	...	...	1,44,769	74	1,44,769	...
	TOTAL .	3,170	3,45,911	109	i3,388	4,26,368	126	1,01,80,559	145	1,33,62,834	177	31,82,275	...
	Assisted Company.												
8th Sept. 1883	Bengal Central . .	...	...	...	35	1,918	55	...	...	46,712	61	46,712	...
	Native States.												
1st ditto .	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	9,830	51	193	11,476	59	4,08,915	95	4,53,531	107	44,616	...
1st ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	17,626	146	121	11,934	99	3,67,475	137	3,31,464	125	...	36,011
1st ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	4,307	50	86	4,840	56	1,19,471	63	1,11,636	59	...	7,835
8th ditto .	Jodhpore . . .	19	449	24	19	1,010	53	(g)2,000	10	15,763	37	13,763	...
	TOTAL .	420	32,212	77	419	29,260	70	8,97,861	99	9,12,394	99	14,533	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,919	21,28,810	215	k8,796	19,17,964	218	6,08,35,212	277	6,99,55,566	309	91,20,354	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,09,12,755	141	3,43,35,193	154	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS .	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,99,22,457	136	3,56,20,373	155	50,97,916	...

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway.
(b) Return not received.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 26th August 1883.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 25th August 1883.
(e) Total receipts from 1st April to 5th August 1882.
(f) Total receipts from 1st April to 4th August 1883.
(g) Total receipts from 24th June to 2nd September 1882.
(h) Excludes mileage of G. I. P. Railway (1,451).
(i) Excludes mileage of Patna-Gya Railway (57).
(k) Excludes mileages of G. I. P. and Patna-Gya Railways (1,451+57).

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS, 1882-83.

Comparative Statement of Irrigation and Rain-fall for the years 1881-82 and 1882-83 in the Canal Districts of the Punjab.

Districts.	Population.	Area in acres.	Cultivated area in acres.	Kharif 1882-83. Total acres.	Kharif 1882-83. In comparison with 1881-82. Increase.	Kharif 1882-83. In comparison with 1881-82. Decrease.	Rabi 1882-83. Total acres.	Rabi 1882-83. In comparison with 1881-82. Increase.	Rabi 1882-83. In comparison with 1881-82. Decrease.	Area Irrigated. Whole year 1882-83. Total acres.	Area Irrigated. Whole year 1882-83. In comparison with 1881-82. Increase.	Area Irrigated. Whole year 1882-83. In comparison with 1881-82. Decrease.	Percentage of increase or decrease in 1882-83.	Rain-fall. 1881-82.	Rain-fall. 1882-83.	Rain-fall. Percentage of increase or decrease in 1882-83.	Remarks.
WESTERN JUMNA CANAL.																	
Umballa	1,067,263	1,644,849	951,990	2,798	511	...	16,819	1,550	...	19,622†	2,061†	...	+39·3	32·6	45·4	+39·3	
Karnál	622,831	1,533,990	680,319	99,095	2,732	...	52,535	10,766	...	34,300	7,707	...	—8·0	25·0	23·0	—8·0	
Delhi	643,515	804,933	626,676	34,300	5,336	...	75,326	7,291	...	141,644‡	12,861	...	+9·2	25·0	27·3	+9·2	
Rohtak	553,609	1,169,350	806,022	35,530	2,904	...				7,326	688	...	—36·6	22·7	14·4	—36·6	
Hissar	504,183	2,285,428	1,161,761	33,919	...	...				135,146	798	...	+9·6	17·8	19·5	+9·6	
Jind	251,231	...	...	26,897	...	...							—4·3	25·7	21·7	—4·3	
Bikaner	...	...	...	224	...	...							...	...	...	...	
TOTAL WESTERN JUMNA CANAL	3,642,422*	7,408,550	4,225,668	172,763	11,479	...	144,680	19,607	...	338,038	24,055	...	+ 24·52	...	...	...	
BARI DOAB CANAL.																	
Gurdáspur	823,695	1,188,314	856,230	18,619	1,550	...	52,535	10,766	...	71,154	12,316	...	+ 2·32	49·95	25·80	—48·35	
Amritsar	883,266	1,006,798	796,773	52,535	10,766	...	75,326	7,291	...	127,861	18,057	...	+ 4·84	73·62	40·80	—44·58	
Lahore	924,106	2,384,552	1,164,921	75,326	7,291	...				75,326	7,291	...	— 0·69	24·20	41·90	+71·90	
TOTAL BARI DOAB CANAL	2,631,067	4,569,664	2,787,924	146,470	19,597	...	127,861	18,057	...	274,331	37,654	...	— 3·91	...	...	...	
TOTAL PERENNIAL CANALS	5,273,489	11,978,214	7,013,592	319,233	31,076	...	272,541	37,664	...	612,369	61,709	...	+ 8·87	...	...	...	
INUNDATION CANALS.																	
Lahore	Given above.	3,567,760	357,623	9,922†	...	...							— 19·60	16·00	13·70	Given above.	
Montgomery	426,629	3,763,200	799,360	207,480	...	7,707							—30·23	3·10	9·00	— 17·47	
Mooltan	551,964	2,801,380	1,006,000	141,644‡	7,707	...							+ 4·84	3·10	12·25	+190·32	
Dera Ghazi Khan	363,346	3,002,432	624,988	7,326	688	...							+ 0·69	1·40	2·50	+ 77·34	
Shahpur	421,508	3,007,319	397,529	135,146	798	...							+ 6·32	1·20	2·70	+ 72·46	
Muzaffargarh	338,605	...	...	...	...	...							++ 4·34	13·45§	7·70	+123·19	
TOTAL INUNDATION CANALS	2,101,952	15,142,481	3,087,499	533,686	22,054	...							— 2·18	...	...	...	
GRAND TOTAL	8,395,441	27,060,695	10,101,091	852,919	53,130	...							+ 2·31	...	...	...	
NET INCREASE	...	...	...	...	...	...							...	...	...	...	

* These figures differ from those given in the statement of Irrigation and Rain-fall for 1881-82, in consequence of the omission of Gurgaon from the present return.
† In these cases the comparison has been made with the figures shown in half-yearly statements of Irrigation operations for kharif and rabi 1882-83, and not with those entered in the Annual Statement of Irrigation and Rain-fall for 1881-82, as the former give the correct acreage for 1881-82, *vide* foot notes attached thereto.
‡ In this case also the comparison has been made with the figures shown in the Revised Statements of Irrigation operations for kharif 1882-83, and not with those given in Annual Statement of Irrigation and Rain-fall for 1881-82.
§ This is the correct rain-fall and differs from that shown in the comparative statement of Irrigation and Rain-fall for the years 1880-81 and 1881-82.

R. HOME, *Colonel, R.E.,*
Joint-Secy. to Govt., Punjab, P. W. D., Irrign. Branch.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 1st HALF OF JUNE 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1310 AND 1311 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 14th JULY 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Best sort. Present fortnight.	Rice. Best sort. Past fortnight.	Rice. Best sort. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Common. Present fortnight.	Rice. Common. Past fortnight.	Rice. Common. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Great Millet (Cholam, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholam, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholam, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coralee, Muthwa, Nugtee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana,* &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coralee, Muthwa, Nugtee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana,* &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coralee, Muthwa, Nugtee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana,* &c. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of last year.
	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
CENTRAL PROVINCES.																													
Nagpur	17 4	17 4	17 4	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	8 8	0 16	0 14	0 12	12 31	12 29	12 24	...	...	...	23 12	23 12	24 12	0 150	0 150	0 130	0 120	0 120	0 120	4 11	4 11	4 11
Bhundara	22 4	21 4	20 4	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 4	8 20	8 20	8 16	8 35	8 35	8 35	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	25 0	0 360	0 360	0 360	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Chanda	20 4	20 4	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 14	8 15	8 16	0 29	0 31	0 29	...	...	...	23 0	24 0	24 0	0 130	0 130	0 130	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 10	0 10	0 10
Wardha	20 4	20 4	20 4	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	8 12	8 14	8 15	8 16	0 28	0 26	0 28	...	...	...	21 0	20 0	21 0	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 10	0 10	0 10
Balaghat	20 4	20 4	17 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	15 0	8 17	8 18	8 16	0 26	0 26	0 26	...	...	...	25 0	23 0	25 0	0 140	0 140	0 130	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Jubbulpore	19 0	19 0	17 0	0 23	0 26	0 22	9 0	10 0	8 10	8 17	8 19	8 16	0 29	0 28	0 29	0 19	0 18	8 18	8 29	8 29	8 29	0 160	0 160	0 160	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Saugor	24 0	24 0	23 0	0 28	0 30	0 28	14 0	12 0	9 0	8 19	8 21	8 19	0 35	0 35	0 35	...	...	...	25 0	24 0	25 0	0 200	0 200	0 200	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 10	0 10	0 10
Damoh	26 0	26 0	24 0	0 30	0 30	0 28	12 0	13 0	10 0	8 18	8 21	8 18	0 32	0 32	0 32	...	...	...	26 0	25 0	26 0	0 220	0 220	0 200	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 10	0 10	0 10
Seoni	22 0	22 0	20 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	12 0	8 20	8 20	8 20	0 35	0 35	0 35	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	25 0	0 256	0 256	0 256	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Mandla	25 0	25 0	20 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	15 0	8 18	8 18	8 18	0 31	0 31	0 29	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	25 0	0 240	0 240	0 240	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Betul	17 0	17 0	17 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	8 15	8 17	8 15	0 26	0 24	0 26	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	25 0	0 200	0 200	0 200	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Chhindwara	25 0	24 0	20 0	...	...	...	10 0	11 0	9 0	8 17	8 18	8 17	0 26	0 26	0 26	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	25 0	0 160	0 160	0 160	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Hoshangabad	14 0	14 0	14 0	0 22	0 22	0 22	4 0	4 0	4 0	8 20	8 20	8 20	0 30	0 30	0 30	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	21 0	0 160	0 160	0 160	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Narsinghpur	18 0	18 0	15 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	8 15	8 15	8 15	0 32	0 32	0 32	...	...	...	25 0	24 0	25 0	0 140	0 140	0 140	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Nimar	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	19 0	8 14	8 16	8 14	0 32	0 32	0 32	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	19 0	0 160	0 160	0 160	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Raipur	23 0	23 0	19 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	10 0	8 19	8 20	8 19	0 30	0 28	0 30	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	28 0	0 160	0 160	0 160	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Sambalpur	19 0	21 0	19 0	...	...	...	36 0	36 0	36 0	8 12	8 12	8 12	0 28	0 28	0 28	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	19 0	0 160	0 160	0 160	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11
Bilaspur	30 0	32 0	30 0	0 54	0 32	0 40	32 0	32 0	32 0	8 20	8 20	8 20	0 32	0 32	0 32	...	...	...	35 0	35 0	35 0	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 120	0 11	0 11	0 11

Secretary to the Government of India.

H. BARBOUR,

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE, (Statistical Branch.)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No. 862R.C., dated 24th September 1883.

ORDER—By the Government of India, Public Works Department.

Preliminary Report on the reconnaissance survey of the country between Moghal Sarai and Daltonganj, in connection with the projected Benares-Cuttack-Poorce Railway.

Read the following papers :—

(1) Letter from the Government of India, Public Works Department, to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Public Works Department, No. 1044R.C., dated 9th December 1882.

(2) Letter from the Government of India, Public Works Department, to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Public Works Department, No. 521R.C., dated 13th June 1883.

(3) Letter from the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Public Works Department, to the Government of India, Public Works Department, No. 1275W.R., dated 14th July 1883, and two enclosures (*a* and *b*).

(*a*) Letter from Engineer-in-Chief, Provincial Railways, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, to Chief Engineer, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, No. 1161W.R., dated 29th June 1883.

(*b*) Report on reconnaissance survey from Moghal Sarai to Daltonganj.

(4) Letter from the Government of India, Public Works Department, to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Public Works Department, No. 733R.C., dated 18th August 1883; and note by Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for State Railways, dated 4th August 1883.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the papers quoted be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India* for general information.

No. 1044R.C., dated 9th December 1882.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department,

To—The Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Public Works Department.

I am directed to inform you that the Government of India is anxious to have a reconnaissance of the country between Benares and Cuttack made with a view to determining whether a fairly direct railway communication between the two places is practicable at a reasonable cost, and to request that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will afford such assistance towards the exploration of the country during the present cold season as he may be able.

2. The route *viâ* the Grand Trunk Road into Chota Nagpur is fairly well known, but the adoption of this line involves the serious undertaking of bridging the Sone river at or near Baroon, the cost of which is virtually prohibitory. It is, however, believed that the passage of this river will be found less formidable if attacked at some point higher up in its course; and it is in the investigation of a route which seems to promise well in respect to an easy crossing, and some 70 miles of which will probably lie within the North-Western Provinces, that His Excellency the Governor General in Council will be glad of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor's co-operation.

3. The route which has been suggested for examination starts from Mogulserai station, East Indian Railway, and runs in a nearly southerly direction towards Nowgarh on the upper reaches of the Karamnasa river. From there the line runs to the east of the fort Bijegarh through the range of hills by the Omlah or other convenient ghât to a probable crossing of the Sone river at Chukureea. After that the direction will be more easterly, and, passing near Kon Khas, will follow the general direction of the road through Untari, Miral, Garhwa to the left bank of the Koel river opposite Daltonganj.

4. So little, however, is known of the country which will be traversed by the proposed route that the Government of India does not wish the examination to be restricted to it exclusively. The object is to ascertain if a line of railway with reasonable gradients and following generally the line indicated above, but not necessarily confined to it, and leading up to

a good crossing of the Sone, is economically practicable. I am to request therefore that the officers whom His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor may be able to depute for this reconnaissance may be instructed to exercise their discretion freely in the choice of routes, selecting those for more detailed investigation which may promise best to serve the end in view.

5. The junction of the survey with those now being undertaken by the Government of Bengal will probably be somewhere in the neighbourhood of Daltonganj, but the officer in charge of the reconnaissance should place himself in communication with Mr. Parker, Engineer-in-Chief, Chota Nagpur Railway Surveys, Hazaribagh, as to the route to be followed eastward of Garhwa.

6. I am also to add that a small grant to meet the expenses of the party will be made if desired.

7. As a part of the route lies through country under the Government of Bengal, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has been consulted in the matter. Mr. Rivers Thompson has no objection whatever to an officer of your Government making the survey of that part of the line in Bengal, and in order that that Government may be fully aware of the facts of the case, a copy of this letter will be forwarded to them for information and for further action.

No. 1045R.C.

Copy to Secretary to Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, for information and for such further action as may be necessary.

No. 521R.C., dated 13th June 1883.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department,

To—The Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Public Works Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 745W.R. of the 21st May 1883 forwarding progress reports of the Benares and Palamow Railway Survey for the months of April and May 1883.

2. These reports, and those for February and March 1883, received with your letter No. C.665R. of the 5th May 1883, establish that the Sone river is easily approachable from the north with moderate grades; that a good crossing of the Sone is practicable only 3,100 feet wide with rock foundations; and that the country from the Sone to Daltonganj presents no serious difficulties to railway construction. I am to express the satisfaction of the Government of India at the receipt of this information, and to say that the final reports of the reconnaissance are awaited with interest.

3. I am also to request that, with the permission of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the Government of India may be furnished with a full account of the character, productiveness, &c., of the country between Mogulserai and the Sone, accompanied by an expression of His Honor's opinion as to the advantage generally to the North-Western Provinces of a line from Mogulserai to Daltonganj and the Aurunga and Kurumpura coal fields, and thence through Chota Nagpur and Chyebassa to Cuttack and Pooree.

Copy, with copy of the progress reports of the Benares and Palamow Railway Survey for the months of February, March, April, and May 1883, forwarded to the Government of Bengal, in continuation of previous correspondence ending with Public Works Department letter No. 1094R.C. of the 20th December 1882, for information and communication to Messrs. Burn and Company.

No. 1275W.R., dated 14th July 1883.

From—The Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Public Works Department, Railway Branch,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department.

Letter No. 1161W.R., dated 29th June 1883, from the Engineer-in-Chief, Provincial Railways, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, to the Chief Engineer, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.
Report, together with index plan, by the Executive Engineer, Benares, to Palamow Survey.

I am directed to forward copies of the correspondence marginally noted in reference to your No. 521R.C., dated 12th June, and in continuance of this office No. 745W.R., dated 21st May.

2. I am to remark that, although the route suggested by the Government of India was not found practicable, it is satisfactory to find that the construction of a line of railway between Benares and Chota Nagpur is feasible, and His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, North-Western Provinces, considers that much credit is due to Mr. G. A. Campbell, Executive Engineer, for the

manner in which he has in four or five months explored the difficult country between Mogulserai and Daltonganj.

3. I am also to enquire whether any more information is required beyond the section of such portion of the line as was taken and that called for in your No. 521R.C., dated 12th June.

No. 1161W.R., dated 29th June 1883.

From—The Engineer-in-Chief, Provincial Railways, North-Western Provinces and Oudh,

To—The Chief Engineer, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Public Works Dept.

Mr. Campbell, the Executive Engineer, engaged on the Benares and Palamow Survey, has lately returned to Allahabad, and I have had an opportunity of talking to him on the subject of the railway reconnaissance, and I find that the monthly reports he sent in were more favorable than the circumstances of the case justified.

2. I therefore asked him to prepare and send in at once a preliminary plan and report, which are forwarded herewith.

3. In the tracing 1″ = 1 mile, the line which Mr. Campbell recommends is shown in full red; the other lines shown are those which were examined and found not possible.

4. The principal points established were—

(*a*) That it is not possible to take the line, as shown dotted, along the banks of the Chandar Parbah river, and so ascend gradually to the plateau which occupies the whole country north of the Sone river. The Chandar Parbah issues out of the hills through a narrow gorge, with almost perpendicular banks, which are intersected with huge ravines.

(*b*) That once the top of the plateau is reached, there is no difficulty in taking a railway across it in any direction.

(*c*) That the only possible way of descent from the plateau to the Sone river is by the gorge of the Ghaggur river.

(*d*) That after crossing the Sone river, it is not possible to reach Daltonganj *viâ* Untari, as suggested by the Government of India, owing to a continuous range of hills, about 400 feet high and two or three miles wide, which stops the way. By making a detour of about three miles, and leaving Untari on the south of the line, a perfectly feasible line can, however, be obtained.

5. The full red line shown in the tracing 1″ = 1 mile is that recommended for adoption, and from the foregoing it will be, I trust, plain that the principal points of difficulty are—

(1) The ascent from the Ganges valley up to the plateau about 20 miles south of Benares.

(2) The descent from the plateau *viâ* the gorge of the Ghaggur river into the Sone valley.

(3) The crossing of the Sone river.

6. The ascent from the Ganges valley to the plateau is dealt with in paragraphs 99 to 101 of the Executive Engineer's report. The difference of level between the plain and the top of the plateau is here said to be about 300 feet, and the Executive Engineer proposes to make the ascent by winding along the slopes of the hills which are said to be very easy at the top, and more difficult towards the bottom. It is assumed that in this way it will be possible to obtain a gradient of 1 in 200′, but I do not think, without the actual survey being made, it will be safe to assume that a better gradient than 1 in 100 can be obtained without going in for excessively heavy works. Even with a 1 in 100 grade there will be a continuous rise for nearly 6 miles, and it is very seldom that ground can be got that will fit into this.

7. The descent from the plateau to the Sone river through the gorge of the Ghaggur river is dealt with in paragraphs 84 to 93 of Executive Engineer's report. The general proposal is to cross the Ghaggur on a bridge from 90 to 100 feet high at the position shown by the full red line; to continue thence along the hills sloping into the river on continuous grades, varying from 1 in 150 to 1 in 200, till the level of the plain of the Sone is reached about 300 feet below. The hills over the Ghaggur river on the south side are described as of rock, with easy slopes, but it is plain that a railway made thus along the sides of hills must be a very expensive undertaking, and I fear that here again better gradients than 1 in 100 will not be found possible.

8. With respect to the Sone crossing, the river, 3,000 feet wide, is confined well within rocky banks, but without borings it is impossible to offer an opinion as to whether the foundations will be difficult or not. The crossing of the Sone is described in paragraphs 37 to 42 of Executive Engineer's report.

9. The conclusions I arrive at are—

(1) From Mogulserai to the foot of the plateau the line will be very easy.

(2) The ascent of the plateau will be with gradients probably not less than 1 in 100, and the works will be rather heavy for about 6 or 7 miles.

(3) Across the plateau the works will be ordinary and easy.

(4) The descent from the plateau to the Sone river through the gorge of the Ghaggur river will have grades of not less than 1 in 100 for 6 or 7 miles, and the works will be very heavy and costly.

(5) The crossing of the Sone river will entirely depend upon the depth of sand before rock is reached, and this cannot be told without borings.

(6) From the Sone river to Daltonganj the works will be moderate with moderate gradients, probably not exceeding 1 in 200.

10. The plotting of such sections as were taken is now in hand, and will be submitted, when ready, together with a report on the probable traffic.

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.

PROVINCIAL RAILWAYS.

BENARES AND PALAMOW RAILWAY SURVEY.

Preliminary report on reconnaissance survey from Mogulserai to Daltonganj.

1. The Government of India being desirous of ascertaining whether or not fairly direct railway communication was possible between Benares and Cuttack at a reasonable cost, directed the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh to have a reconnaissance survey made from the nearest convenient point to Benares, *i.e.*, Mogulserai on the East Indian Railway to Daltonganj in the Palamow subdivision of the Lohardugga District.

2. The Benares and Palamow Railway Survey Division was accordingly formed with the object of carrying out the wishes of the Government of India as above quoted.

3. Lines were laid down on the 1 inch to the mile maps by the Engineer-in-Chief, Provincial Railways, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, as nearly as possible in the direction suggested by the Government of India in G. O. No. 1044R.E., dated 9th December 1882, from Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, to the Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Public Works Department, for general guidance, but which were not necessarily to be adhered to if easier country could be found on a different line.

4. The chief difficulties apprehended were the passage through the Kaimur range, miles 50 to 60; the crossing of the Sone river, mile 67; and the passage, miles 85 to 91, through the hills north of Untari (mile 93) on the borders of the Lohardugga District.

5. The above mileage is that of the line surveyed which is shown in the accompanying map in a red dotted line.

6. Survey work was commenced on the 2nd February 1883 from the Mogulserai station, and the line was carried in a southerly direction for 43 miles to the point whence two alternative lines diverged—one to the east, and the other to the west—of the more direct southerly route passing close to the fort of Bijegarh. This latter, shown in *green* on map, was examined and found, owing to the great height of the hills, the steepness of their approaches, and their great breadth on the top, to offer no likelihood of getting a line either over or through the range.

7. From enquiries made it was ascertained that the line shown in *blue* on map to the east of the direct southerly route was impracticable owing to the great and very abrupt fall on the south side of the Kaimur hills. It was therefore considered desirable to first examine the westerly route which appeared to afford a feasible passage through a natural gap in the hills. This was accordingly done with the result that a possible, though difficult and expensive, line has been found through the Kaimur range leading to a crossing over the Sone river near the Sasnai Ghât almost due south of Bijegarh Fort.

8. After crossing the Sone, the line takes an easterly direction, and, passing Maidiha mile 72, Ramgarh mile 75, Kon Khas mile 79, Baghasoti mile 85, Untari mile 93, Miral mile 110, and Garhwa mile 116, runs to Shahpur, mile 135, on the left bank of the Koel river opposite Daltonganj.

9. A more detailed description of the country passed over will now be given.

10. On leaving Mogulserai, the country was found to be very flat for 15 miles, the difference of level being only 2 feet per mile. Over this portion the gradients would of course be very easy, and with the exception of the Garaiya, mile 9, which would require a 20 feet bridge, 10 feet to springing, 130 feet of waterway per mile would be sufficient to pass the drainage. Abundance of kunkur for lime and ballast is obtainable, as also is brick clay. The foundation of the culverts would be in clay.

11. The foot of the plateau which crosses the Mirzapur District from east to west is now reached, and the features of the country are entirely changed.

12. The ground is undulating, very rocky and barren, and with a steady rise southwards amounting to 40 feet in 4 miles. Owing to the undulating nature of the country few culverts are required, and the banks and cuttings would be comparatively light. The cuttings would, however, be mostly all rock, which is chiefly sandstone. One bridge of 30 feet span with clay

foundation over a deep artificial stream, and one of 3-20 feet spans with rock foundations in the 17th mile, would be required; the remainder of the drainage could be passed by 2-10 feet culverts per mile. Brick clay and stone for building purposes and ballast are available.

13. The line now crosses some cultivated land of the villages of Hetampur and Niwazganj, mile 20, and enters the jungle at the foot of the hill at 20¼ miles. The ground is steadily rising with intervening undulations. One stream requiring a 15 feet, or at the most a 20 feet, culvert, is crossed.

14. The line now winds along, and up the hill some very rough broken ground is passed over. The soil is an admixture of coarse gravel and loam. Some streams are crossed, but they are not of importance, and might be avoided altogether by taking the line a little higher up the hill. At mile 19 the reduced level is 272·00, at 20 it is 291·00, at 21 it is 271·00. Between miles 20 and 21 there is a small spur which could be skirted.

15. Immediately to the right (or west) of mile 21 there is a large and deep ravine, along which the line could wind, with a rising gradient of 1 in 125 or 1 in 150.

16. In mile 22 some large ravines are crossed — 2 of 60 feet span, 2 of 50 feet, and 1 of 80 feet; the reduced level of 22nd mile is 414·00, or 143 feet above mile 21. The ascent is very rapid, and the hill sides are precipitous.

17. In the next mile (23) there are one ravine of 30 feet, one of 50 feet span, 3 of 60 feet, and 2 of 80 feet. They are all very deep, varying from 40 feet to 80 feet. The reduced level at mile 23 is 603, or 189 feet above mile 22, and 332 feet above mile 21.

18. In mile 24 there is one very large ravine, 50 feet wide at bottom, about 400 feet wide at top, and 135 feet deep, running into the Chandar Parbah river, which is about 15 chains to east of the line. About ¼ mile beyond this ravine the summit of the high land at reduced level (691) is reached at mile 23¾, or 420 feet above mile 21, or 188 feet per mile. From this it is clear that, as there is not sufficient space in which to curve about in order to get practicable gradients, this route is not feasible.

19. The banks of the Chandar Parbah all along opposite mile 23 and part of mile 24, are almost perpendicular for over 200 feet in depth. In fact they overhang in places; they are all solid rock, and it would therefore be quite impossible to cut a line along the face of this rock.

20. From the top of the high land, which is a plateau extending westwards beyond Mirzapur and Allahabad, the line passes over easy undulating ground for 25 miles *viâ* Dhusuria mile 25, Narkati mile 30, Majhgaen mile 35, Pachpudia mile 41, Poornan mile 44, and Sidhi mile 47, to the vicinity of the Ghaggur river. The Chandar Parbah is crossed at mile 28½; at this point it is 100 feet wide with a rock bed, well defined banks 15 feet deep. The reduced level of the bed of the river, which is here 500 feet above the bed opposite the 19th mile of this line, is 711·00, and the flood level is said to be 20 feet high. A bridge of 3 spans of 50 feet each would be sufficient.

21. The only other stream of importance is the Belan ("Balun" and "Biland" in the maps), mile 42. In itself it is a small stream, but it would require a bridge of 3-30 feet spans, as it has a wide shallow valley. About 8 miles to the west (down stream), where this stream is crossed by the Ahraora and Robertsganj road opposite mile 43, the bridge over it is 1 span of 37 feet, 2 of 27 feet, and 2 of 15 feet.

22. Besides the above two rivers, three culverts per mile of 10 feet span, 5 feet of springing, should pass all the drainage.

23. The gradients over this portion will be fairly easy, 1 on 200 being the steepest that is likely to be required. The banks and cuttings will be on the average 6 feet, with the exception of a few places, where, in the long undulations which are a characteristic feature of this part of the country, ridges between the depressions will have to be cut through. The cutting in these places will probably be from 20 to 30 feet deep.

24. The land along the most part of the line will not be expensive, as it is chiefly jungle. In fact from mile 21 to mile 41 it is, with few exceptions, nothing but dense jungle the whole way. From mile 41 the line emerges into cultivation, which extends up to mile 47½.

25. The most difficult part of the line is now reached, *i.e.*, the approaches to and crossing of the Ghaggur river, mile 51.

26. This river flows from east to west in a very deep channel 275 feet below the summit of the high land on the north side, and 250 feet below the top of the hills on the south.

27. The banks of the river are steep and rocky for heights varying from 50 to 300 feet, the latter height being reached some distance below the crossing, where the river has cut up to the hills. The north or right bank is much steeper than the left one, which is more or less shelving all the way from Bijegarh to where the river turns to the south towards the Sone.

28. The course of the river is fairly straight for 4 miles down stream from Bijegarh. Thence it becomes very tortuous, the fall of the bed increases, and, after another two miles, it is merely a gorge between precipitous and rocky banks. There is a tributary stream on the right bank which might afford a means of getting down to a favorable crossing of the river. Another stream which lies to the west of Sidhi, mile 47, and south of Urauli opposite mile 47, and which is the only other one that might have been of service in enabling an easy crossing of the river to be made, suddenly stops at the high bank on the right, and discharges

its waters down a fall of about 200 feet. The selection of a good site for a bridge over this river is a matter of great difficulty, owing mainly to the very close proximity of the hills on each side and their great height above the river bed.

29. A crossing can be got by approaching the stream immediately south of the village of Sidhi with a heavy cutting, say 60 feet deep, at the edge of the high ground on the north bank of the river.

30. From this point the line would be carried westward along the face of the slope which is at an angle of about 45° for about a mile, when a semi-detached hill is met, round which the line could be carried. It would then cross a small ravine and continue its westerly course for ¾ of a mile to a point, one mile to the west of the point, where the river is crossed by survey line, and where there is a fairly good site for a bridge.

31. The best form of bridge for spanning this stream would be a single girder of about 150 feet span. The height of the bridge would be from 100 to 120 feet. The abutments would have very good foundations on the rocky banks of the river, and the wing walls could be stepped back into the hill sides. The embankment would require a revetment wall for about 500 feet, and would be composed of rough stone blocks with interstices filled in with earth.

32. The gradient would be very heavy, 1 in 125 being required to get down from the high land on the north to the bridge. The work would chiefly be rock cutting, but there would be some embankments where ravines were crossed. Four bridges would be required — one of 30 feet, two of 50 feet, and one of 60 feet span.

33. The line would then curve away to the west and wind along the north face of the hill, on the left bank of the river, till its western extremity was reached at mile 57½ on *proposed* line (not dotted or survey line). Then turning round the spur, it would take a south-easterly direction up to mile 60 on proposed line along the southern face of the hill, which is much steeper on this side than it is on the north face. The slope is from 45° to 60°. The work would consist almost exclusively of rock cutting, and the gradient would be 1 in 125 and 1 in 150. Some four or five small ravines would be crossed requiring culverts of 10 feet span.

34. The line actually run has a westerly course from Sidhi, mile 47 (70° west of south), for 2¼ miles. Thence it turns southwards and crosses a bridge the summit of which is at reduced level 992, mile 50. It thence passes down a deep ravine, crosses the river bed of which is at reduced level 715. Thence it passes up a rocky ravine and over the summit of the hills on the left bank of the river at their lowest point, *i.e.*, reduced level 979, mile 51. The line then winds along the south-east face of the hill, and reaches comparatively level ground at reduced level 600 in a little over two miles at 52nd mile on survey line and mile 60 on proposed line.

35. The ground now reached, though fairly level, is very much broken up by ravines and streams which come down from Kaimur hills on the left and fall into the Ghaggur on the right.

36. Some of these streams are very wide and deep, varying 20′ × 10′ to 200′ × 60′. They are also very tortuous, and have very swift currents. They will, however, not be found so very difficult to deal with at first sight as they appear.

37. The line passes under Mangesur peak and Kunda Pahar, and reaches the bank of the Sone at mile 62½ opposite the village of Kandhaora. It then turns eastward, and, running roughly parallel with the Sone for 4 miles, crosses the river a little above Sasnai Ghât at mile 67, where there is room between the river banks and the hills to get a curve of at least 1,000 feet radius.

38. There is a point higher up the river at which a more advantageous crossing could be made as regards the room for curved approaches up to the bridge, but this would necessitate bridging the Kanhar river, a large stream about 2,000 feet wide.

39. The Sone river is 3,000 feet wide at the point where it is crossed, and it is the same width for four or five miles up and down stream from that point. The banks are 28 feet high above low water and 33 feet above bed. Highest known flood level is 40 feet above river bed. The banks are rocky all along from the junction of the Ghaggur opposite Chopan to Chakaria Ghât, which is the extent of the river examined.

40. The clearage of the strata on the northside of the river is nearly horizontal, while that on the south side is nearly vertical, *i.e.*, it forms an angle of 75° to 80° with the horizon. The bed of the river between these rocks is all sand mixed with large pebbles up to 3″ and 4″ diameter.

41. It is roughly estimated that the bridge over the Sone should be at least 15 spans of 200 feet each. This would give 3,000 feet clear water-way, which is the present unobstructed width of the river. Two land arches of 50 span might with advantage be given on each side. The height from river bed to flood is 40 feet; there should be about 15 feet between high flood level and bottom of girder to allow of brushwood and trees passing freely underneath without the risk of their being caught in the girders and causing an accumulation of debris, which might have disastrous results—40 + 15 = 55, and assuming 17 feet from bottom of girder to rail level = 72 feet, above bed of river, reduced level of bed of river is 456, which + 72 = 528·00, or reduced level of rails over bridge.

42. From the rocky nature of the banks and the close proximity of the hills on each side it is presumed that rock suitable for foundations will be found at no very great depth

below river bed. The bridge would of course be all stone, except the girders, and good building stone can be had in the hills on either side.

43. After crossing the Sone the line passes through a gap in the hills, and takes a more or less easterly course along the foot of the small hills which run nearly parallel to the Sone.

44. Ramgarh, mile 76, is passed at mile 75, and Kon Khas at mile 79. Between the Sone and Maidiha, mile 72, some very bad ground is passed over, numerous small streams come down from the hills on the left, cutting up the ground in all directions, but the streams and ravines are not very deep or wide like those north of the Sone, and generally the surface is fairly level. In miles 72 and 73 the line is well up the slope of the hill, which is chiefly composed of flint rocks. Two large streams are crossed in mile 70, and two in mile 71, each requiring bridges of 100 × 30 feet of water-way.

45. From Maidiha, mile 72, onward to Kon, mile 79, the country is chiefly cultivation until the immediate vicinity of Kon is reached, where the ground is again broken up into ravines by the streams coming down from the hills to the south of the line. The soil is loose red muram and cuts up readily. A short distance from this broken ground the Panda river, mile 79, is met. This is a large stream, which will require a bridge of about 3-50 feet spans. About a mile and half beyond the Panda, along which portion the line skirts the low hills south of Kon, the line takes a more southerly direction, and, passing over fairly easy ground, reaches Baghasoti in the 85th mile, 6 miles from Kon.

46. At this point another serious difficulty is encountered in following the route sketched out by the Government of India letter No. 1044R.C. of 9th December 1882. A range of hills runs across the line bounded on the west by the Kanhar river and running eastward until the neighbourhood of Koel river is reached. At the point where the line crosses this range, the hills rise in less than a mile to 400 feet high on the north side. The breadth of the range is 2 to 2½ miles, and on the south side the plains about Untari, mile 93, are 500 feet below the top of the hills; this fall occupying a distance of less than 2 miles.

47. The ascent and descent are so abrupt that it would be only at great difficulty and expense that a line could be got through or across the range. In fact, the only feasible project is a tunnel of about 3 miles in length.

48. This route being for the above reasons considered quite out of the question, the towns of Untari and Miral, mile 110, must be left out in choosing another route, and for the same reasons it is considered unnecessary to give a detailed account of the route followed from the hills to Garhwa, mile 116. It will be sufficient to say that the line was carried over fairly easy country to the north-east of Nagar (Untari) *viâ* Adhaora mile 94, Parasoan mile 98, Ramna mile 100, Gonda mile 109, south of Miral mile 110, Sugman mile 111, Potman mile 112, to Sahan Jadna mile 116, a village about ½ mile south of Garhwa and on the left bank of the Danro river, mile 116.

49. This is a large stream 600 feet wide. It is very shallow, being only 12 feet deep, and the highest flood mark reported by the villagers is only 15 feet above river bed. The current is reported to be very rapid; but as the bed is sand, and exhibits no indications of deep scour, it may be safely assumed that the current is not more than 6 feet per second. This river would require a bridge at least of 6 spans of 100 feet each, 30 feet from river bed to bottom of girder. The crossing is a good one in a long straight reach.

50. After crossing the Danro the line passes over fairly easy country, passing the villages of Jhura mile 120, Haraiya mile 121, and Tildag mile 121. Thence it crosses the Tahleh river, mile 124, which is a rocky stream 600 feet wide, and which would require a bridge similar to that proposed for the Danro. The depth of the river, height of flood, and fall of bed, are similar to that river.

51. From the Tahleh river the line passes through jungle and easy ground, *vid* Baroon mile 128 and Bansdih mile 132, to Shahpur, mile 135, opposite Daltonganj on the left bank of the Koel river, where, according to the instructions received, work was stopped.

52. The bridges for the Danro and the Tahleh have been referred to above. Besides these, one of 3-50 would be required over the Birha, mile 118, and one of 3-30 over another stream. For the remainder of the drainage two culverts of 10 feet span per mile would be sufficient to carry off the drainage.

53. The gradients will be on the average 1 in 500, nothing heavier than 1 in 200 being anticipated. The country is undulating and hilly, and affords facilities for an easy and cheap line. The bridges, culverts, and stations would be of stone as would also be the ballast.

54. Limestone and kunkur are procurable. The embankments and cuttings are likely to be an average of 3 or 4 feet; the latter will probably be all rock.

55. On the return march from Daltonganj the country was further examined with the view of getting a better line than that actually run, and one which, in the event of the survey operations being resumed next season, could be recommended for detailed survey.

56. This new line is shown on the accompanying map in a *full* red line to distinguish it from the route surveyed, which is shown by a *dotted* red line.

57. Between Daltonganj and Garhwa the proposed line does not differ very much from the original line, but from the latter place, with the object of avoiding the hills north of Untari, quite a new direction is taken.

58. Starting from Garhwa, mile 116 on survey line and mile 129 on proposed line, the proposed line runs north and north-east for about 5 miles, when, after passing Ukargurwa, mile 125 on proposed line, it turns due north to a gap between two detached hills to the west of Chapparbar, mile 122 on proposed line. The ground passed over up to this point is not difficult.

59. At Garhwa, mile 129 on proposed line, there is a stream called the Sarosati nala 200 feet wide, to be crossed. It has a rocky bed and flood height of 15 feet. A bridge of 3-70 feet girders would suffice to pass the highest flood. The next stream, mile 129, is one of 60 feet in width, where a single 60 feet girder or 3-20 feet spans could be given. The latter would be preferable, as the embankment at this point would be low, and there would not be room for a deep girder.

60. The ground gradually rises steadily from Garhwa to the gap, mile 122, before mentioned. A short length of low land opposite Dalele and Ukhargarwa, mile 125, would have to be crossed with about a 15 feet bank and a 10 feet culvert. Beyond this and up to the gap there is broken ravine ground, in which some 3 or 4 culverts will be required.

61. North of the gap, through which a cutting for ½ a mile of an average depth of 10 feet and maximum of 35 feet will be required, the ground falls again gently to the Banki river, mile 117.

62. Three streams, one requiring a 10 feet and the other two 20 feet culvert each, are required before reaching the Banki. This stream has 250 feet width of bed and 350 feet between tops of banks.

63. The bed is sand, but at short intervals rock is visible in large masses. It is therefore believed that rock, foundations may be calculated upon for this bridge, which should be 5 spans of 70 or 7 of 50 girders. The flood height is 15 feet above bed; the bottom of girders should therefore be 20 or 22 feet above bed river.

64. A little beyond the river another 20 feet bridge is wanted, after which no culverts are required up to Laka village, mile 115. Immediately north of Laka the Pipardaha, mile 115, is crossed. This requires a 30-feet bridge, and two other streams between this and Bardiha, mile 113, require a 20-feet and 2-30 feet span bridges respectively. From this the line would skirt the hills up to within ½ a mile of Magardih, mile 110, where a sharp curve to the west is necessary.

65. The gradients from Garhwa up to Magardih are not likely to be more in any part than 1 in 200, or at the steepest 1 in 150, possibly in the gap, and the banks will not exceed an average of 5 feet.

66. The culverts and bridges that have been enumerated should suffice to pass all the drainage. Lime and building stone and ballast can all be got from the adjoining hills.

67. The land passed through is almost entirely jungle.

68. At Magardih, mile 110, the hills, which are the obstacle to the more direct line originally proposed *viâ* Untari and Miral to Garwah, become detached, are much diminished in height, and have long flat slopes instead of the abrupt and almost perpendicular sides which characterise the more westerly portions of this range. A favorable opening through which the line can pass exists at Magardih.

69. Search was made along the hills for a practicable gap south of Magardih. There is just the possibility that a line might be found from Chowrasi, about 3 miles south from mile 102, in a south-easterly direction, emerging from the hills north of Kachia Pahar about 5 miles south-east of Chowrasi. Another route might be found near and south of Saramjara Hill, 4 miles south of mile 107, but this is very improbable.

70. It is believed that the route *viâ* Magardih is the best that can be found.

71. From Magardih the line will take a westerly course, and will skirt the spur of the hill for a short distance, after which it will strike out into open country.

72. From Magardih to Arsali, mile 104, there is some very rough broken ground, and several streams will have to be crossed between Magardih and Kailan (Kallean on the map), mile 108. One stream will require a 20 feet bridge. From Kailan to Arsali three streams, requiring respectively, one 10, one 20, and one 30 feet bridge.

73. West of Buka, mile 103, a large stream 60 feet wide is crossed. Again south of Makri, 1½ mile north of mile 101, a stream 50 feet wide is crossed. East of Jagra, 1 mile north of mile 98 a stream 70 feet, and west of the same place a stream 40 feet wide, and at Rohinia, mile 96, a stream 15 feet wide, are crossed; all of the above streams will require bridges of at least the full width of the stream as stated.

74. The works will not be heavy except in the broken ground between Magardih and Arsali, *i. e.*, from miles 103 to 109. The gradients over this length will not exceed 1 in 200. There will be high banks crossing some of the large ravines, but on the average the banks will not exceed 10 feet for this portion.

75. From Arsali westwards to Rohinia and beyond Majgawan, opposite and north of mile 95, Umnara opposite and north of mile 94, and Budar opposite and north of mile 90, to the south of which places line would run, the ground is fairly easy. The embankments will not be heavy here. There will be some rock cuttings, but nothing very extensive. Gradients are not likely to be heavier than 1 in 200. The streams already mentioned will, it is believed, pass all the drainage.

76. The Jhurwa, mile 93, is the largest stream over this portion, and would require a bridge of 3-30 feet spans.

77. A slight change of the orignal route is made here, *viz.*, instead of running to the south of Kon it would pass to the north of it and of Ramgarh in 81th mile on proposed line, and turning through a gap in the hills, in 83rd mile on proposed line, about 1¾ to 2 miles west of Ramgarh, it would pass along the hill slopes facing the Sone river up to the village of Hardi, mile 76, and the crossing of the Sone, mile 75, originally proposed.

78. This new portion was inspected on the return journey, and will give a better line than that first run.

79. The Panda nala, mile 88, near Kon, previously mentioned as requiring 3-50 feet bridge, will of course have to be crossed; and although the new crossing is lower down stream than that on the first line, there is not much additional drainage collected by the river in that distance.

80. Between the gap in the hills west of Ramgarh and the village of Hardi a large stream, mile 79, 200 feet wide, falls into the Sone. This would require a bridge of about 3-70 spans. Three other streams are met—one of 20, one of 30, and one of 40 feet width, each of which would require bridges of the spans noted, and another large stream of 150 feet width, mile 78, would require a bridge of 3-50 spans.

81. Along this portion, the work would be chiefly cutting the formation out of the side of the hills. This cutting is not likely to be anywhere more than 15 to 20 feet on the hill side, and for the most part would be only levelling off the formation width.

82. Culverts, aggregating $20 \times 5 = 100$ feet of water-way per mile, besides the larger streams already noticed, will pass all the drainage. The line can be nearly level all the way, with the exception of the portion through the gap, where there will be a gradient of, say, 1 in. 150 through the cutting, which is very short, and need not be more than 20 feet deep. It is all rock.

83. After crossing the Sone the original line is very closely adhered to all along the river bank round the Mangesur Peak and Kunda Pahar, and northwards to the foot of the hills south of the Ghaggur river.

84. From this point, mile 60, instead of going over the hills, which is impracticable, owing to the heavy grades and works that would be required, the line takes a north-westerly course along and up the southern face of the hill rising on a gradient of 1 in 150 to 1 in 200.

85. This westerly course continues for 2½ to 3 miles, mile 57, till the end of the spur is reached, when the line curves round in a semi-circle, and takes an easterly course along the northern slope of the same spur for 4 miles in a straight line, but the distance with the unavoidable windings will not be less than 5 to 5½ miles.

86. The work over the greater part of this length, from where the line diverged to the north-west round the spur and along the north face of the hills, will be rock cutting.

87. The rock is chiefly gneiss and iron-stone. The cuttings will be for the most part shallow, but in places they will be 20 or 30 feet deep on the hill side, where the line turns round small spurs. On the average, however, the cuttings are not likely to be more than 4 or 5 feet.

88. The gradient will be very heavy all the way, *viz.*, 1 in 150 and 1 in 200, with occasionally short pieces of level to ease the engines when working up the incline.

89. At about ½ mile from the point at which the Ghaggur river is crossed a large stream, or rather ravine, is met in mile 55. This is a torrent in the rains, with a very steep fall, and the water comes down in large quantities with a great rush, bringing large stones and boulders with it. The best form of bridge will be a single span, which will have to be about 100 feet. The abutment and approaches will require heavy pitching, the stone for which is at hand in abundance.

90. We now come to the new crossing of the Ghaggur river, mile 52½, which is 2½ miles in a straight line, and along the windings of the stream probably 3 miles higher up stream. The fall of the bed of the river is from 30 to 40 feet per mile; the level of the bed at the new crossing is therefore from 90 to 120 feet higher than it is at the original crossing, the reduced level of which is 715·00. Taking an average between 90 and 120 feet, we have 105 feet as the difference between the old and new crossings, which, added to 715·00, gives 820·00 as the reduced level of the new crossing. The high bank on the north side is about reduced level 950·00, or 130 feet above the river bed.

91. This, though a considerable height, can be overcome by having a cutting 30 to 40 feet deep at the edge of the high ground on the north bank and running back at one in 200 for about 1¼ mile until the level ground south of Sidhi is reached

92. The bridge would thus require to be from 90 to 100 feet high, which, considering the very difficult nature of the country, is not an extravagant proposal.

93. The hills on the south have long flat slopes, which admit of curving a way to the west with a thousand feet radius. A single span of about 120 feet will be the best form of bridge for crossing this river.

94. After crossing the Ghaggur another alternative line was examined passing to the east of Robertsganj mile 47, Hinduhari mile 44, Madhupur miles 37, Sukrat mile 32, and Ahrohara mile 19.

95. This route possesses many advantages over the original line. The undulations are much larger and flatter, the streams are less numerous, and there is much less necessity for rock cuttings.

96. The Belan river, mile 46, would be crossed at a point lower down stream, but it is believed that the bridge originally proposed, *viz.*, 3-30 feet spans, or at the most 3-35 feet, would be sufficient. This river is crossed, as has been already noticed, on the Robertsganj and Ahraohra road, which is some miles below the river crossing by a bridge of 1-37′ span, 2-27′, and 2-15′, aggregating 121 lenial feet of water-way. A bridge of 3-35 will therefore be ample.

97. The Chandar Parbah river, mile 38, is crossed at a point 8 miles above the original crossing, at which latter a bridge of 3-50 feet spans was proposed. It is estimated that 3-40 feet spans will be quite sufficient at the new crossing.

98. From the Chandar Parbah the line runs north-west and north until the descent from the plateau into the plains on the north is met.

99. The hills at this point are not so high as they are over to the east along the Chandar Parbha river. They have long flat slopes in the first part of the descent affording facilities for fairly easy gradients, and it is only the hills immediately bordering the plain that any difficulty will be encountered.

100. The difference of level between the plain and the top of the plateau is roughly 300 feet, and it is proposed to overcome this difficulty by starting at the top with a cutting 30 feet deep, winding along the hills for 10 miles with a constantly falling gradient of 1 in 200, making a total fall of 264 feet in the 10 miles from mile 19 to mile 29, and having a 25 to 30 feet embankment at the foot of the hills. This appears to be the only feasible method of getting over the difficulty.

101. The difference between the plain and plateau is shown above as 300 feet, and the total of the cutting gradient and embankment is 324 feet The 24 feet in excess could be very advantageously utilised in easing off the gradients, and making short level breaks in the otherwise continuous gradient.

102. After leaving the hills the line would run in a north-easterly direction for 5 miles, and then run due north till it joined the original line just south of the village Gasraori (locally called Usraori) at mile 6½ from Mogulserai, and following it up to Mogulserai.

103. The work along this portion will be very light and similar in all respects to that along the original line.

104. The length of the line proposed for detailed survey is between 13 and 14 miles longer than that surveyed.

The causes of this increase are as follows :—

I.—The necessity for making the line where it ascends the Sukrat-Robertsganj plateau sufficiently long to obtain a practicable gradient. This adds nearly 4 miles to the length of the more direct but impracticable route.

II.—A like necessity in descending from that plateau to cross the Ghaggur river and reach the low land bordering the Sone. This accounts for about 5 miles of the increase.

III.—The detour which has to be made between Kon and Garhwa in order to avoid the hills north of Untari. This increases the length between these two points by about 5 miles.

105. A map of the country from Mogulserai to Daltonganj on a scale of 1 inch to the mile, showing the lines originally laid down for examination and the line proposed for detailed survey, and a section across the Sone river on a scale of 400 to an inch, accompany this report.

No. 733R.C., dated 18th August 1883.

From—The Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department,

To—The Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Public Works Depaetme nt.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1275W.R. of the 14th July 1883 forwarding a report of the railway reconnaissance between Mogulserai and Daltonganj, and in reply to express the satisfaction of the Government of India at this confirmation of the information contained in the progress reports of the Benares-Palamow Railway Survey for the months of April and May 1883.

2. I am to request that the Government of India may be furnished on an early date with sections and an approximate estimate, under main heads, of the line reconnoitred, and also with all available information as to probable traffic, and with a full reply to paragraph 3 of Public Works Department No. 521R.C. of the 12th June 1883.

3. I am also to request that arrangements may be made for a complete survey next cold season, and in this connection I am to forward extract from a note, dated the 4th August 1883, by the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for State Railways, and copy of tracing referred to.

Note dated 4th August 1883, by the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for State Railways.

I think that the ascent and descent of the plateau somewhat to the west of the proposed line might be examined to ascertain whether a shorter ascent, than that proposed might be made following up the valley from Lutteefpore, and whether there is no lower gap in the southern edge of the plateau, through which the line might pass and creep down the face of the hills which appear to be not very rugged instead of crossing the Ghaggur at high level. I think also that the neck of hills close to the Surun Jurra Hill might be reconnoitred with the view of ascertaining whether a short tunnel at that point might not enable the line to be carried through the range into the valley of the Bonkee somewhat in the direction of the blue lines which I have marked on the tracing scale 1 mile to the inch.

W. S. TREVOR, *Colonel, R.E.,*
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 25th SEPTEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—During the week under report the weather has been fair over the greater part of India, and the rainfall correspondingly light. In the Madras Presidency and Mysore the dry crops in several districts are suffering from want of rain. In the Bombay Presidency the fall has been light and unequally distributed, and more is needed in Guzerat and the Southern Mahratta Country. In Hyderabad and the Berars, on the other hand, the rainfall has been excessive, and a break would be beneficial. No rain fell in Sind during the week, and the river was, on the 24th September, 5 feet below the previous year's level. In Central India and Rajputana light but general rain continues, and prospects are improving. In British Burma, Assam, and Bengal the rainfall has been light, but the weather continues seasonable, and rice and other crops are progressing favourably, except in Behar and Central Bengal, where the crops on high lands need more rain. Heavy rain fell in the southern and eastern districts of the Central Provinces, and benefited the rice crop, but slightly injured cotton and millets. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the rainfall has been generally light, and confined to the early part of the week. The weather is now clear, and in several districts more rain is needed, but on the whole agricultural prospects are fair. No rain appears to have fallen during the week in the Punjab, but prospects there are reported to be fair or good.

Harvesting of millets and oil-seeds continues in Madras and Mysore, rice and the earlier *kharif* crops are being cut in Bombay, and the land is under preparation for the *rabi*. The damage from locusts in the Deccan has not proved as serious as was anticipated. Reaping of the *kharif* and ploughing and sowing for the *rabi* are also more or less in progress throughout North-Western and Central India. In Bengal the harvesting of early rice and jute is nearly finished, the outturn being, with some exceptions, fair.

Cattle-disease is decreasing in Burma, and is slight elsewhere.

A few deaths from cholera are still reported, and fever is somewhat prevalent, otherwise the public health has much improved.

Prices are either stationary or falling.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Sept. 26th)		
Bellary ...	·11 (average of two stations).	Standing crops wet generally good. Dry crops suffer from want of rain.
Kurnool ...	1·15 (average of six stations).	Standing crops withering in five taluks from want of rain, elsewhere good. Harvest *cumboo* and indigo, yield half to three-fourths. Cattle-disease in seven taluks.
Ganjam ...	1·59 (average of thirteen stations).	Standing crops generally thriving. Fever and small-pox continue slight.
Kistna ...	·96 (average of six stations).	Standing crops dry generally withering. *Cholum* suffering from grub in one taluk. Rain wanted throughout. Harvest of indigo, yield half to three-fourths. Small-pox general ; fever, guinea-worm, and cattle-disease slight in parts.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	·22 (average of three stations).	Standing crops withering for want of rain in all but one taluk. Harvest of *kar*, paddy, &c., yield quarter. Small-pox and cattle-disease slight in parts.
Coimbatore ...	·38 (average of ten stations).	Standing crops *cholum* damaged by insects in one. Rain wanted in eight taluks. Four deaths from cholera in two taluks; fever and small-pox in parts.
Tanjore ...	·92 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops generally good, but rain wanted in four taluks. Harvest paddy, *cholum*, *cumboo*, and gingelly, yield below average. Twenty-nine deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	·96 (average of six stations).	Standing crops fading, except in two taluks. Harvest paddy and dry crops in parts.
Malabar ...	·23 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops good. Harvesting continues. Second crop cultivation progressing. Small-pox in nine taluks ; fever in three taluks ; 5 deaths from cholera in one taluk.
Travancore ...	.....	Harvesting continues. Preparations for next cultivation partly begun. Fever and dysentery continue. Rain generally wanted for dry crops. *General Remarks.*—General prospects favourable.
Bombay—(Sept. 26th)		
Kurrachee ...	No rain	Weather cool with high winds. River at Kotri on 24th 11 feet 8 inches against 17 feet 5 inches on same date last year. Small-pox in four villages in district, 9 fresh cases, 1 death, 5 remaining sick ; fever in nine talukas. Cattle-disease in five talukas Wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 28 and 36, in Dadu 32 and 32, in Sakro 15, 27 and 36, and in Shahbandar 20, 32 and 42 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	.....	River has fallen 2 feet 11 inches since last week and was 5 feet lower on 24th instant than on same date last year. Small-pox in three, fever in six, and cattle-disease in three talukas. Wheat 25, *bajri* 37, *juari* 48, red rice 26, and white rice 20 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Ahmedabad ...	.....	Crops healthy. Rain wanted for rice. Cholera, only 1 death; slight fever in some talukas. *Bajri* 27 and wheat 23 lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	·46	Total rainfall 44·39. Crops in good condition, except in Kadi division where more rain is wanted. Health good. Cholera in mild form in parts of Naosari division. Cattle-disease in parts of Kadi division. *Bajri* 26 and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	1·09	Total rainfall 47·83. Crops healthy. Slight cholera in Bulsar and Pardi. Locusts are being destroyed. *Juari* 37 and *nagli* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	Rain throughout the district.	*Bajri*, cotton, and third crops have suffered in places owing to continuous and heavy rain. Cattle-disease in two villages of Dindori taluka. Cholera in parts, 5 attacks, 2 deaths. Locusts throughout the district doing no damage, except in a few villages of Sinnar, Baglan, Kalwan, and Peint. Wheat 28, *bajri* 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	4·99 from 23rd to 25th; heavy rain on 25th.	Total rainfall 77·13, being 10·15 above average. Abnormal temperature 1° warm to 4° cool. Vapour in air defective, except on 25th. Abnormal wind from north-west on 25th.
Poona ...	Light showers during the week.	Six deaths from cholera. *Bajri* 39 and *juari* 48 lbs., in Poona *bajri* 34 and *juari* 44 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	Rain in all talukas—maximum at Newasa, 3·52; minimum at Jamkhed, ·11.	*Kharif* crops in good condition. Sowings of *rabi* in progress throughout the district. Cholera 19 attacks, 11 deaths. *Bajri*—maximum 60 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 36 in Kopargaon, and *juari*—maximum 72 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 48 in Kopargaon.
Sholapur ...	·44	Total rainfall 33·22. *Kharif* crops good. *Rabi* sowings commenced in places. No damage by locusts. Cholera 69 cases, 31 deaths. *Juari* 62 and *bajri* 52 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar ...	No rain except at Hangal, where only ·10 fell.	Rain badly wanted as crops, especially rice, are withering. Cotton sowings still in progress. *Sawan* and *ragi* being cut in Hangal and Kod talukas. In Nargund, Gadag, Und, and Bankapur lands being prepared for sowing of wheat, gram, &c. Public health good. Slight cattle-disease in Hangal and Kalghatgi. *Juari* 84 to 49 lbs. and rice 41 to 26 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara ...	Karwar, ·34; Kumpta, ·6; Sirsi, ·33; Hallial, ·13.	Total rainfall 131·44. Rice plants in ear above ghat. Rice harvest begun on coast. Plucking betelnut commenced. Small-pox, 1 death each in Kumpta and Honawar. Common rice in Karwar 12½, in district average 14½ seers per rupee.
Rajkot ...	·28	General health fair. Weather cool and cloudy. Total rainfall 25·37. *Bajri* 29 and *juari* 32 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain in a few districts, more wanted in parts of Guzerat and Southern Mahratta Country. River low in Sind. *Kharif* crops good generally. Preparations for *rabi* continue. Little damage from locusts, measures for the destruction of which are in progress in all the districts affected. Cholera further abated; slight fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease in a few places.
Bengal—(Sept. 26th)		
Chittagong ...	1·22	Weather hot. Prospects good. Outturn of *aus* rice fair. Transplanting of *amun* rice finished. Prices steady. Cattle-disease still continues.
Dacca ...	·57	Prospects of crops good. *Aus* rice and jute being cut.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	*Nil*	Prospects of both early and late rice good; early rice being harvested; yield estimated at twelve-anna average crop. Transplanting of late rice finished. More rain necessary in parts of district. Price of common rice stationary. Health of people generally good. Fever reported from Baraset and Basirhat sub-divisions.
Moorshedabad ...	*Nil*	Weather very hot and close. Harvest rice suffering much for want of rain. *Bhadoi* harvest almost completed. Outturn expected to be fair. Public health good.
Rajshahye ...	·02	Weather dry with light clouds. Crops want rain, especially in the north. Public health with some exceptions good for the time of year.
Burdwan ...	*Nil*	Rain much wanted, especially for crops on high land. Public health fair.
Rungpore ...	1·53	Weather cloudy. Prospects of crops fair. Fever prevalent.
Bhagalpur ...	·43	Prospects favourable. More rain wanted. Autumn crops have yielded eight to ten annas.
Purneah ...	2·06	Prospects of crops improved by rain. Fever slightly increased.
Patna ...	2·73	Transplanting of paddy over. Rain much wanted in South Behar. *Bhadoi* crops nearly gathered. Cholera and fever prevalent. Season unhealthy.
Durbhunga ...	·94	Crops doing well, but more rain wanted. Transplanting still going on. *Bhadoi* crops being harvested with fair outturn. Prices of food-grains stationary. Public health fairly good.
Hazaribagh ...	·55	Weather warm and close. *Bhadoi* harvest nearly completed. Rice prospects favourable. General health good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—*contd.*		
Cuttack ...	1·31	Weather cloudy. Early rice being reaped with prospects of average outturn. Late rice being weeded and thriving well. Public health good.
		General Remarks.—Rain fell in almost all districts during the week; it has done much good in Behar, where more is still wanted. In Bengal proper, it has been generally very slight, except in Julpigorie and Cooch Behar, and the rice crop on the higher lands has begun to suffer in several parts. In Orissa and Chota Nagpore the rainfall has been adequate, and agricultural prospects are favourable. Early rice and jute have almost been gathered in with a fair outturn, except in some places where they are said to have yielded much below average crops. In Behar reaping of *bhadoi* crops is being pushed on generally with expectation of a good average outturn, except in Mozufferpore where they were greatly destroyed by the late inundation. Fever is reported to be prevalent in some districts, but the general health of the province is still fair.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Sept. 25th)	*Nil*	More rain required; none having fallen during the week. Fever continues amongst men. Prices stationary.
Allahabad („ 26th)	*Nil*	Rain ceased on 22nd, since which date the weather has been fine and not dry.
Gorakhpur („ 23rd)	Rain in all tahsils during the week varying from 6·8 in Deoria to ·3 in Sadr tahsil.	Crops flourishing; prospects excellent. Cholera in jail abating; no fresh cases for the last three days, several cases in the city during the week, otherwise general health exceptionally good. Prices steady.
Jhansi („ 24th)	Good rain everywhere except Sadr.	*Kharif* prospects fair, but a little more rain will do good. Prices falling. Health of people and cattle good.
Agra („ 25th)	*Nil*	No cholera; fever in two parganas. Prices steady. No cattle-disease reported. More rain required.
Bareilly („ „)	*Nil*	Crops good, except rice. Harvest progressing. Cholera almost disappeared; some fever prevails.
Meerut („ 26th)	*Nil*	West wind. Cool nights and mornings. *Rabi* ploughings in active progress. Some peas and carrots already sown. A few cases of cholera in Mowana, otherwise health good. Labour abundant. Supplies sufficient and prices steady.
Kumaun („ 25th)	Rain on 21st	Weather fair. *Madua* has begun to be reaped in some places. Health good. Cattle-disease continues. Prices unchanged.
Lucknow („ „)	·1 at Malihabad on the 20th instant.	State of crops good; *hewat* crops doing very well. Condition of people and cattle good. Markets well supplied. Prices stationary.
Partabgarh („ „)	Sadr, ·7; Kunda, 2·3; and Patti, ·3.	Prices of grain falling. The recent rain has saved the rice in Patti. Prospects good. Slight fever reported, but general health good.
Sitapur („ „)	·4; Sidhouli, ·6; Biswan, 1·9; Misrikh, ·3.	Prospects good; wheat and rice somewhat dearer; barley and *sawan* cheaper.
Fyzabad („ „)	*Nil*	Prospects of *aghani* crops good. Condition of cattle and public health good.
Rae Bareli („ „)	Sadr, 5·3; Digbijaiganj, ·7; Dalman, 2·7; Salon, ·8.	Weather favourable. Harvest prospects good. Prices slightly falling. Supplies sufficient. General health good.
Cawnpore („ „)	Good fall on 15th and 16th in all tahsils.	Weather good. Crops except rice doing well. General health of people good. Cattle-disease still reported in Sarh and Salempur, but of a mild nature. Prices stationary.
Farukhabad („ „)	.....	Weather bright and rather hot sun. Nights and mornings much cooler; rainy season apparently closed. An outbreak of fever in Chibramau tahsil.
		General Remarks.—There was a fall of rain in some districts in the early part of the week, but the weather in the latter part seems to have been clear and sunny generally, and the rainy season appears to be over. More rain is however wanted in many districts. The prospects of the crops are on the whole fair. The cholera in Gorakhpur jail has abated, but there have been cases in the city.
Punjab—(Sept. 25th).		
Delhi ...	.....	Health good. Prices slightly fallen.
Hissar ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* crops thriving. *Rabi* sowings commenced. Prices stationary.
Umballa ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* yields expected to be below the average. Rain wanted. Prices stationary.
Jullundur ...	.....	Health and *kharif* prospects good. Prices falling.
Amritsar ...	.....	Health good. Prices stationary.
Sialkot ...	.....	Health and harvest prospects good. Prices falling.
Ferozepore ...	.....	Health and *kharif* prospects good. Prices falling.
Lahore ...	.....	Health and *kharif* prospects good. *Rabi* ploughing commenced. Prices stationary.
Rawalpindi ...	.....	Fever in two tahsils, health elsewhere good. Crop prospects average. Prices falling.
Mooltan ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices stationary.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	.....	Health good. Crops suffering. Prices steady.
Peshawar ...	.....	Health good. Rain wanted. Prices falling.
		General Remarks.—There has been no rain during the week. Health and *kharif* prospects are generally good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces—(Sept. 26th)		
Nagpur ...	4·80	Weather cloudy and hot. Recent heavy rain following upon the long drought has done some injury to *kharif* crops. A break needed. Cholera abating.
Jubbulpore ...	·50	Weather clear with bright sunshine. Crops thriving. Wheat 22 and rice 14 seers per rupee. Health good.
Saugor (Sept. 25th)	.....	Weather clear and hot. Prospects favourable. Rain required for ploughing operations for *rabi* sowings. Prices stationary. Health good.
Seoni ...	3·9; rain daily	Weather unusually hot. Cotton and other *kharif* crops thriving. Minor crops being reaped. Four deaths from cholera. Prices falling.
Hoshangabad ...	·91	Weather hot and cloudy. *Kharif* crops thriving. Weeding continues. Health good. Wheat 15 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	1·33; occasional rain	Prospects good. Minor crops nearly reaped. Eleven deaths from cholera. Prices steady.
Raipur ...	5·5	Prospects favourable. A few cases of cholera in town and cantonments. Prices steady.
Sambalpur (Sept. 22nd)	2·71	Weather favourable. Rice on high lands stunted. Fever increasing. Rice 36 seers per rupee.
		General Remarks.—There has been heavy rain in the south and east of the provinces which has been very favourable to rice, but has done some injury to the cotton and *millet* crops; in Nagpur and Wardha in the north of the provinces rain has been slight and these crops are reported to be promising well.
British Burma—(Sept. 26th)		
Akyab (Sept. 22nd)	4·18	Total rainfall 171·41. Eight deaths from cholera in district, three in town, otherwise public health good. 75 deaths of cattle in two townships, elsewhere health of plough cattle good. Transplanting nearly over. Season favourable. Crops healthy.
Rangoon ...	0·64	Total rainfall 70·99. Five deaths from small-pox, otherwise public health good. Price of paddy from Rs. 97 to Rs. 87 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	1·01	Total rainfall 80·62. Public health good. 14 deaths of cattle in Thegwin township and 7 in Bassein township. Plants in good condition. Prices of paddy from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	6·42	Total rainfall 159·98. Public health and health of cattle good. Crops healthy. In Moulmein town public health and health of cattle good. Progress and general appearance of crops good. No damage from drought, floods or insects.
Toungoo ...	2·17	Total rainfall 72·0. Public health and health of plough cattle good. Transplanting progressing.
Kyoukphyoo (Sept. 15th)	9·07	Total rainfall 151·83. Four deaths from cholera. 15 heads of cattle died in the Myabin township. Price of paddy Rs. 25 per 100 local baskets. Paddy plants healthy.
Sandoway („ „)	12·50	Total rainfall 194·25. Public health good. Crops healthy.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing and sowing progressing. Some of the crops in the Aingkaloung, Bawley, and Moungtanga circles, and Hlaing township have been destroyed by floods Transplanting going on in Tamanoing and Hlaing townships. Ploughing wages 60 baskets of paddy per man in Hlaing township. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
Pegu ...	1·57	Total rainfall 111·33. Public health good. Slight cattle-disease in Kaonbaw circle and Paunglin township. No deaths returned. Crops well forward. Season most favourable. Prices of paddy Rs. 85 to Rs. 90 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy ...	1·40	Total rainfall 87·17. Public health good. 29 deaths of cattle in Tapun and Sangwe townships. Health of plough cattle in all other townships except Gyobingouk where slight disease prevails, good. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. The damaged crops last reported are being replaced. More rain wanted in northern circle of Gyobingouk township. Price of paddy from Rs. 93 to Rs. 100 per 100 baskets
Prome ...	0·28	Total rainfall 39·60. Public health good. Health of cattle also good. Only 12 deaths from small-pox reported. Ploughing and planting progressing. Transplanting nearly finished. Paddy crop in good condition. Prices of paddy Rs. 92 per 100 baskets.
Thonegwa ...	·39	Total rainfall 71·12. Public health good. Health of cattle good. 3,500 acres reported to be destroyed by floods in Thayein circle, Donabyoo township. Destruction of crops by floods also reported from Shawayloung, Pantanaw, Zandoon, and Thonegwa townships. Supply of seedlings for replanting insufficient. Prospects in Dadajeh and Pyapoon townships good. Prices of paddy from Rs. 90 to Rs. 95 per 100 baskets.
Henzada ...	·73	Total rainfall 76·11. Three deaths from small-pox in Henzada township, otherwise public health and health of cattle good. Transplanting completed in Henzada sub-division and progressing in Myanoung sub-division. Seedlings and plants in good condition.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Thayetmyo ...	·67	Total rainfall 28·57. Public health good. Fifty-three deaths of cattle in Myede. About half rice crops promise fairly, remainder has suffered much from drought and though plentiful rain fell last night cannot wholly recover.
Shwaygyin ...	5·34	Total rainfall 128·89. Public health and health of cattle fair. Ploughing finished. Transplanting and sowing about five-sixths done.
Tavoy ...	4·42	Total rainfall 179·40. Public health and health of cattle good. General appearance of crops good. Price of paddy Rs. 65 per 100 baskets.
Mergui (Sept. 8th & 15th)	Week ending 1st September 1883, 8·50; week ending 8th September 1883, 13·15; week ending 15th September 1883, 7·40.	Total rainfall 135·0. Public health and health of cattle good. Area ploughed 34,000 acres and seed sown. Crops healthy. Prices of paddy Rs. 75 per 100 baskets.
		General Remarks.—Public health good. Cattle deaths on the decrease. Rainfall for the week all over the province except the Tenasserim division, less than the rainfall for the corresponding week last year and total rainfall up to date considerably less than last year. Agricultural operations progressing favourably and prospects of crops reported good. In parts of the Thonegwa district the crops have suffered from flood, and in parts of Thayetmyo the crops have suffered from drought. Price of paddy slightly fallen.
Assam—(Sept. 26th)		
Gauhati ...	*Nil*	Weather seasonable. Mornings cool and occasionally foggy. Transplanting of *sali* paddy nearly over. Prospects of other crops favourable. Public health fair. Cattle-disease still prevalent.
Sylhet ...	3·68	Crop prospects favourable except in the case of sugarcane, which is backward in places. Cholera and small-pox reported in parts, but public health generally good.
Cachar ...	1·41	Weather cloudy with slight rain, Transplanting of *sali* crops finished. Reaping of *aus* crops progressing. Common rice 16$\frac{13}{16}$ seers per rupee. No small-pox reported.
Dibrugarh ...	3·79	Weather rainy. Prospects of *sali dhan* good. Public health good.
Mysore and Coorg—(Sept. 26th)		
Bangalore ...	·15	Dry crops in the district in urgent need of rain. Prospects dependent on early rainfall. Health good.
Mysore ...	·10	Standing crops generally in fair condition, but in need of rain. Harvesting of *kar*, *ragi*, paddy, oilseed, &c., in progress. Prospects fair.
Mercara ...	·28	Prospect of crops good. Cutting of *ragi* crop commenced in North-East Coorg. Prices falling.
		General Remarks.—Little or no rain during the week. Crops withering in parts of Tumkur and Kolar districts. In Shimoga and Kadur districts standing crops reported in good condition and agricultural operations continue. Prospects fair and general health good. No material change in prices.
Berar & Hyderabad—(Sept. 26th)		
Amraoti ...	3·70	Crops have suffered from excessive rain. A break is necessary. Wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	3·63	Crops generally in good condition, but a break in weather is needed.
Hyderabad ...	1·25	Total rainfall from 1st January 26·8. Standing crops prospering. Reaping of *kharif* crop continues. Chillie crop damaged by excessive rain. Cholera broke out in a few villages of one taluka; fever and ague prevail in another taluka. Prices—wheat 16, coarse rice 10½, white *juari* 24, yellow *juari* 27, and *tur* 24 seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States—(Sept. 26th)		
Indore ...	·36	Weather warm. Prospects good.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	0·48	Fever in Lashkar. Prospects good. Prices stationary.
Sutna ...	4·67	Prospects good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	*Nil*	Reaping of *makka* in progress. Weather warm. Public health good.
Goona ...	*Nil*	Health and crops good. Wheat 23 seers 8 chittacks per rupee.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	*Nil*	Weather clear. Agricultural prospects satisfactory.
Sehore ...	0·38	Weather fine with occasional clouds. Prospects and public health good.
Nowgong ...	1·84	Prospects favourable. Health good. Prices stationary.
Manpur (Bhopawar) ...	.....	No report received.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Sept. 26th)	·23	Weather clear and seasonable.
Sirohi („ 23rd)	·07	Tanks and wells full. Health good. Prospects fair. Weather warm.
Marwar („ 21st)	No rain	Four months' water in Jodhpore city. Tanks and wells filling up. Health good. Crops good. Weather partially cloudy, warm, and close. Prospects favourable. Another general fall of rain would vastly improve the new and the damaged crops, and ensure a tolerably good harvest. Prices stationary.
Meywar („ 23rd)	·26	Slight showers. Tanks and wells very good. Health good. Crops good,
Harowti („ 22nd)	*Nil*	*Rabi* operations in progress. More rain wanted. Weather clear. Heat great. Health good. Prices stationary.
Jhallawar („ 14th)	11·21	Tanks full ; wells nearly so.
Do. („ 21st)	·13	Sufficient rain reported from all districts. Health good.
Ajmere („ 25th)	No rain	Heat excessive. Ground being prepared for *rabi*. Health good.
Jeypore („ „)	*Nil*	*Kharif* prospects improved. More rain wanted in Kishanghur for wells and tanks. Health good. Prices steady.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Sept. 25th)	No rain	Preparations for *rabi* commenced. Prices falling. Health good.
Nepal—(Sept. 20th)		
Katmandu ...	1·91	Weather constantly cloudy and showery with some thunder. Prospects good.

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* GAZETTE OF INDIA *will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.*

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

[TELEGRAPH.]

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1883.

CLASS OF MESSAGES.	ROUTE. West. Via Teheran. No.	Via Teheran. Indian Value.	Via Turkey. No.	Via Turkey. Indian Value.	Persian Gulf. No.	Persian Gulf. Indian Value.	Via Suez. No.	Via Suez. Indian Value.	East. Via Amur. No.	Via Amur. Indian Value.	Via Madras. No.	Via Madras. Indian Value.	Via Rangoon. No.	Via Rangoon. Indian Value.	Native Burma. No.	Native Burma. Indian Value.	Ceylon. No.	Ceylon. Indian Value.	TOTAL. No.	TOTAL. Indian Value.
		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.
INDIAN.																				
Sent	3,325	15,170 14	75	147 11	32	125 14	3,214	8,644 4	...	...	161	391 14	938	3,495 2	392	544 9	1,629	2,902 6	9,766	31,422 10
Received	2,018	9,617 15	153	593 3	35	124 11	3,578	12,330 0	...	...	146	409 2	852	2,969 3	...	...	1,571	2,905 7	8,353	28,948 9
TOTAL	5,343	24,788 13	228	740 14	67	250 9	6,792	20,974 4	...	...	307	800 0	1,790	6,464 5	392	544 9	3,260	5,807 13	18,119	60,371 3
TRANSIT.																				
From East to West—																				
Rcd. *Vid* Madras	42	301 2	2	8 4	1	4 14	770	8,015 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	815	7,701 6
Rcd. „ Rangoon	247	1,255 8	1	1 2	10	24 12	3,918	15,666 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,176	17,318 2
Rcd. „ Laingha	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rcd. „ Paumben	37	164 6	...	...	...	...	414	1,178 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	451	1,343 7
From West to East—																				
Sent. *Vid* Madras	164	808 2	24	113 4	1	2 4	545	1,998 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	734	2,921 10
Sent. „ Rangoon	868	3,898 2	74	288 12	3	9 6	2,797	10,847 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,739	15,043 14
Sent. „ Laingha	...	...	2	7 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7 3
Sent. „ Paumben	107	417 14	13	36 14	...	...	217	851 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	337	1,306 4
From West to West—																				
Rcd. *Vid* Bombay sent *vid*.	...	...	...	...	3	9 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	9 4
From East to East—																				
Rcd. *Vid* Paumben sent *vid*.	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	52 3	49	133 6	...	...	...	...	65	185 9
Rcd. „ Madras sent *vid*.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	44 14	10	44 14
Rcd. „ Rangoon sent *vid*.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	221 15	48	221 15
TOTAL	1,462	7,115 2	116	455 7	18	50 8	8,661	22,526 5	...	...	14	52 3	49	133 6	...	...	58	266 13	10,376	30,599 12
GRAND TOTAL																			28,497	90,970 15

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC WITH INDIA BY THE INDO-EUROPEAN AND RED SEA ROUTES FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1883.

ROUTE.	Number of Messages by each Route (exclusive of Transit). To India.	From India.	Total.	Percentage of Number. To India.	From India.	Total.
Indo-European { *Vid* Teheran	2,018	3,325	5,343	34·89	50·08	42·99
Indo-European { „ Turkey	153	75	228	2·65	1·13	1·83
Indo-European { Persian Gulf *vid* Karachi	35	32	67	0·60	0·48	0·54
Red Sea *Vid* Suez	3,578	3,214	6,792	61·86	48·36	54·64
TOTAL	5,784	6,646	12,430	100·00	100·00	100·00

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXXV OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 9th September 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 8th September 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 9th September 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 8th September 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
15th Sept. 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	1,65,499	962	172	(a)92,867	540	21,14,664	531	(a)19,22,693	486	...	1,91,971
8th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	72,238	132	547	87,399	160	22,26,884	176	25,89,784	206	3,62,900	...
8th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	1,58,624	235	749	1,61,970	216	41,35,724	265	52,57,068	307	11,21,344	...
8th ditto	Madras	861	1,19,773	139	861	1,12,185	130	31,72,892	160	29,51,831	149	...	2,21,061
8th ditto	South Indian	655	75,964	116	655	78,377	120	17,41,194	115	17,85,777	119	44,583	...
15th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,450	3,04,815	210	1,451	3,03,825	209	1,45,55,190	433	1,53,41,870	459	7,86,680	...
8th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	1,07,638	233	461	1,10,053	239	45,37,974	426	51,05,818	482	5,67,844	...
	TOTAL	4,822	10,04,051	208	4,896	9,46,676	193	3,24,84,522	291	3,49,54,841	311	24,70,319	...
	State.												
15th Sept. 1883	East Indian	1,507	6,59,136	437	1,509	8,06,621	535	1,92,87,291	553	2,27,08,916	654	34,21,625	...
8th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	2,731	83	56	4,550	81	84,923	115	1,31,812	108	46,889	...
15th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,262	47	27	1,530	57	30,201	48	37,082	60	6,881	...
15th ditto	Northern Bengal	230	34,294	149	239	35,200	147	8,16,621	152	8,88,585	165	71,964	...
15th ditto	Tirhoot	75	9,277	124	166	16,793	101	2,85,492	151	3,72,457	99	86,965	...
11th Aug. 1883	Patna-Gya	57	7,099	125	...	(b)	...	(c)1,69,136	155	(d)1,53,249	141	...	15,887
8th Sept. 1883	Muttra-Hathras	29	3,275	113	29	2,948	102	51,856	77	57,808	87	5,952	...
8th ditto	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	7,912	91	87	6,996	80	1,49,399	74	1,49,924	75	525	...
15th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	569	47	12	646	54	20,507	74	21,783	79	1,276	...
15th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,116	1,57,980	141	1,117	1,57,620	141	45,33,448	175	53,19,967	207	7,86,519	...
8th ditto	Wardha Coal	45	8,443	188	45	10,378	231	2,33,046	224	3,16,165	305	83,119	...
15th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	3,755	38	149	5,646	38	2,53,496	112	6,13,293	179	3,59,797	...
8th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	15,676	97	161	20,828	129	6,09,851	164	6,10,991	165	1,140	...
15th ditto	Sindia	75	4,523	60	75	4,390	59	1,37,713	79	1,36,488	79	...	1,225
8th ditto	Punjab Northern	409	47,177	115	421	46,923	111	12,95,584	139	13,79,345	143	83,761	...
8th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	1,05,580	160	660	83,099	126	18,59,327	122	33,62,288	221	15,02,961	...
8th ditto	Muttra-Achnera	23	2,480	108	23	1,880	82	29,697	56	33,710	64	4,013	...
15th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	1,316	41	32	1,993	62	33,139	45	42,720	58	9,581	...
8th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	...	89	6,890	77	...	...	1,51,061	74	1,51,061	...
	TOTAL	3,169	4,13,349	130	e3,388	4,08,310	121	1,05,93,436	144	1,37,78,728	174	31,85,292	...
	Assisted Company.												
15th Sept. 1883	Bengal Central	...	...	...	35	1,782	51	...	...	48,498	60	48,498	...
	Native States.												
8th ditto	Bhavnagar-Gondal	194	8,240	42	193	7,457	39	4,17,155	93	4,53,155	102	36,000	...
8th ditto	Nizam's	121	17,745	147	121	11,748	97	3,85,220	138	3,43,007	123	...	42,213
8th ditto	Mysore	86	5,319	62	86	4,881	57	1,24,790	63	1,16,517	59	...	8,273
8th ditto	Jodhpore	19	1,080	57	19	480	25	(f)3,079	15	16,320	37	13,241	...
	TOTAL	420	32,384	77	419	24,566	59	9,30,244	98	9,28,999	96	...	1,245
	GRAND TOTAL	9,918	21,08,920	213	(e)10,247	21,87,955	213	6,32,95,493	276	7,24,19,982	306	91,24,489	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	...@	...	...	...	...	...	3,24,13,526	142	3,64,23,175	154	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,08,81,967	134	3,59,96,807	152	51,14,840	...

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway.
(@) Returns not received.
(b) Total receipts from 1st April to 12th August 1883.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 11th August 1883.
(d) Exclusive mileage of Patna-Gya Railway (57).
(e) Total receipts from 24th June to 9th September 1883.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS AND STAPLES FOR THE 2nd HALF OF AUGUST 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1614 AND 1615 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 29th SEPTEMBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts:	Rice. Best sort.	Rice. Common.	Wheat.	Barley.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. Kawni, Varagu, Cholum, Murhwa, Nugles, &c.), *Paspalum Kora, Eleusine Coracana, &c.*	Gram.	Firewood.	Salt. Wholesale.	Salt. Retail.
		Present fortnight. / Past fortnight. / Corresponding fortnight of last year.										
		S. C. / S. C. / S. C.										
BRITISH BURMA.	ARRAKAN DIVISION.											
	Akyab	7 8 / ... / ...	15 0 / ... / ...	6 6 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	10 0 / ... / ...	0 220 / 0 220 / 0 220	40 0 / ... / ...	35 0 / ... / 32 0
	Kyouk-pyoo	8 0 / ... / ...	19 6 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	4 0 / ... / ...	0 320 / 0 320 / 0 320	... / ... / ...	30 0 / ... / ...
	Sandoway	17 2 / ... / ...	28 13 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	0 469 11 / 0 469 11 / 0 469 11	... / ... / ...	39 0 / ... / 28 6
	PEGU DIVISION.											
	Rangoon Town	10 8 / 11 6 / 12 3	15 10 / 15 12 / 13 2	2 15 10 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	19 2 19 / 17 13 5/16 / 15 9 15	0 320 / 0 320 / 0 320	50 11 50 / ... / ...	92 10 22 / 35 11 5/16 / 9 16 9
	Tharrawaddy	7 23 / 10 13 / 7 14	7 14 / 7 14 / 7 14	2 15 10 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	16 13 16 / 13 13 13	0 246 / 0 246 / 0 246	29 9 29 / 29 9 29 / 29 9 29	32 4 30 / 32 4 30 / 32 4 30
	Prome	9 9 / 9 12 / 9 12	13 13 / 13 13 / 13 13	6 12 2 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	13 13 11 / 13 13 11	0 245 / 0 245 / 0 245	29 9 29 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25	18 15 14 / 18 15 14 / 18 15 14
	IRRAWADDY DIVISION.											
	Henzada	11 15 11 / 8 6 8 / 10 3 10	15 10 15 / 10 7 10 / 11 13 11	6 12 10 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	12 3 12 / ... / ...	0 220 / 0 220 / 0 220	35 8 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25	35 5 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25
	Thongwa	15 6 15 / 8 6 10 / 8 3 11	14 5 15 / 12 10 12 / 10 11 10	6 12 10 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	16 13 16 / 13 13 13	0 246 / 0 246 / 0 246	29 9 29 / 29 9 29 / 29 9 29	29 9 29 / 32 4 32 / 32 4 30
	Thayetmyo	8 6 8 / 8 6 10 / 10 3 10	15 10 15 / 10 7 10 / 11 13 11	6 12 10 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	13 13 13 / 13 13 11	0 245 / 0 245 / 0 245	29 9 29 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 20	29 9 29 / 32 4 32 / 32 4 30
	TENASSERIM DIVISION.											
	Moulmein	9 0 9 / 12 6 15 / 12 13 12	12 10 12 / 17 15 17 / 17 11 17	2 12 10 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	12 3 12 / ... / ...	0 220 / 0 220 / 0 220	35 8 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25	35 5 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25
	Tavoy	9 0 9 / 12 6 15 / 12 13 12	12 10 12 / 17 15 17 / 17 11 17	2 12 10 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	12 3 12 / ... / ...	0 220 / 0 220 / 0 220	35 8 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25	35 5 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25
	Mergui	9 0 9 / 12 6 15 / 12 13 12	12 10 12 / 17 15 17 / 17 11 17	2 12 10 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	12 3 12 / ... / ...	0 220 / 0 220 / 0 220	35 8 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25	35 5 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25
	Tougoo	9 0 9 / 12 6 15 / 12 13 12	12 10 12 / 17 15 17 / 17 11 17	2 12 10 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	12 3 12 / ... / ...	0 220 / 0 220 / 0 220	35 8 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25	35 5 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25
	Shwaygyin	9 0 9 / 12 6 15 / 12 13 12	12 10 12 / 17 15 17 / 17 11 17	2 12 10 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	12 3 12 / ... / ...	0 220 / 0 220 / 0 220	35 8 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25	35 5 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25
	Salween	9 0 9 / 12 6 15 / 12 13 12	12 10 12 / 17 15 17 / 17 11 17	2 12 10 / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	... / ... / ...	12 3 12 / ... / ...	0 220 / 0 220 / 0 220	35 8 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25	35 5 35 / 25 5 25 / 25 5 25

* Rs. 46 per 100 maunds, wholesale.

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Statistical Branch.)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 2nd OCTOBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—In the Madras Presidency rain has fallen in varying quantities in all districts except Travancore, but more is still needed for dry crops in a few places. In Mysore the dry crops are withering in all districts from want of rain. In the Bombay Presidency rain has fallen in most districts, but more is urgently wanted in the Southern Mahratta Country. No rain fell in Sind during the week, and the river was on the 1st instant 2 feet 4 inches below the previous year's level. In Hyderabad and the Berars the rainfall has been again heavy and a break is needed. In Rajputana and the Central India States, light and fairly general rain fell during the week, and prospects are on the whole good. In British Burma rain has fallen in all districts and the agricultural condition of the province continues satisfactory. In Assam and Bengal the rainfall has been general, and the weather continues seasonable. More rain is however wanted in several places in the Bengal Presidency for the transplanted rice crop, especially on the high lands. Rain has continued in the southern and eastern districts of the Central Provinces, and the prospects of the rice crop are improving. A break is needed in Nagpur and Wardah for the cotton and millets and in the north of the provinces for preparation of ground for *rabi* sowings. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh no rain has fallen during the week, and the rainy season is believed to be over. Prospects are on the whole fair, but more rain would be beneficial in many districts. In the Punjab the rainfall of the week has been confined to three districts only, but prospects are on the whole good.

Harvesting of paddy, *cumboo*, *ragi*, gingelly, &c., continues in the Madras Presidency, and the *kharif* is being cut in a few places in the Bombay Presidency. *Rabi* sowing is also in progress in Bombay. The damage from locusts is reported to be slight. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Punjab, Rajputana, and the Central India States the *kharif* harvest is in progress and ploughing and sowing for the *rabi* are also commencing. In Bengal the early crops have been almost all harvested, with a generally fair outturn, though in some districts the jute crop is below the average.

There has been no increase of cattle-disease in British Burma, and elsewhere it is slight. A few deaths from cholera are still reported and seasonal fever is prevalent in some places, otherwise the public health is good.

Prices are either stationary or falling.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Oct. 3rd)		
Bellary ...	·43 (average of five stations).	Standing crops wet generally good. Dry withering in black and red soils.
Kurnool ...	1·85 (average of seven stations).	Rain still wanted in three taluks. Standing crops withered in Cumbum division; elsewhere good. Harvest *cumboo* and indigo, yield one-half to three-fourths. Cattle-disease in six taluks.
Ganjam ...	1·10 (average of seventeen stations).	Standing crops generally thriving.
Kistna ...	1·51 (average of twelve stations).	Dry crops generally recovering, but still need rain. Harvest *cumboo* and gingelly, yield below half. Small-pox and cattle-disease in parts.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	·51 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops withering for want of rain. Harvest *kar*, paddy, &c., yield one-fourth. Measles and cattle-disease slight in parts.
Coimbatore ...	·50 (average of three stations).	Dry crops want rain in nine taluks. In one improved from recent rain. Harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, and *cumboo* in parts, yield average. Nine deaths from cholera in two taluks. Fever and small-pox in parts.
Tanjore ...	·92 (average of four stations).	Standing crops generally good, but rain needed in all but three taluks. Harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, *cumboo*, and gingelly, yield below average. 32 deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	·53 (average of four stations).	Standing crops fading. Harvest paddy in two taluks, yield average in one and poor in the other.
Malabar ...	·27 (average of six stations).	Standing crops good. Harvest continues. Second crop cultivation progressing. Small-pox in nine taluks; fever in four. Cattle-disease slight in one taluk.
Travancore ...	.....	Harvesting almost over. One death from small-pox; fever and dysentery prevail. Rain still needed in parts. *General Remarks.*—General prospects fair.
Bombay—(Oct. 3rd)		
Kurrachee ...	No rain	River at Kotri on 1st 9 feet 10 inches against 12 feet 2 inches on same date last year. Rats doing some damage to rice crops in talukas Tatta and Shahbandar. *Kcon* worm still in Tatta. Fever in six talukas. Cattle-disease in four talukas. Small-pox prevalent in three villages, in districts 14 fresh cases, 5 deaths, 1 remaining sick. Wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 28 and 34, in Sehwan 32 and 35, in Ghorabari 20, 30 and 36, and in Shahbandar 20, 32 and 42 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	.....	*Kharif* harvesting in progress. River has fallen 1 foot 10 inches since last week and was 2 feet 4 inches lower on 1st October than on the same date last year. Small-pox in one, fever in three, and cattle-disease in three talukas. Wheat 25, *bajri* 39, *juari* 48, red rice 26, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Ahmedabad ...	·37	Total rainfall 20·05. Crops healthy. Slight fever in some talukas. *Bajri* 28 and wheat 25¼ lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	·72	Total rainfall 45·11. Crops in good condition. Public health fair. Cholera decreasing in Naosari division. *Bajri* 27 and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	4·01	Total rainfall 51·84. Crops healthy. Cholera in Pardi, 14 cases, 3 fatal, 11 recovered. Destruction of locusts carried on. *Juari* 40 and *nagli* 42 lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	Heavy and continuous rain throughout district.	Cotton, *bajri*, and *urd* damaged. *Rabi* sowings retarded for want of break. Locusts throughout the district doing damage to crops in rare cases. No cholera. Wheat 28, *bajri* 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Slight rain daily, 1·97.	Total rainfall to date 79·00, being 10·79 above average. Abnormal temperature 3° to 1° cool. Vapour in air normal. Abnormal wind northerly. Thunder on 27th and 29th.
Poona ...	Good rain throughout district.	Cholera has almost disappeared. *Bajri* 40 and *juari* 49, in Poona *bajri* 34 and *juari* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	Rain in all talukas—maximum at Shrigonda, 8·99; minimum at Sangamner, 3·05.	The excessive rain is reported to have injured the *bajri* crops in some places and to have retarded the sowing operations for the *rabi* crops. Cholera 45 attacks, 15 deaths. *Bajri*—maximum 60 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 36 in Kopargaon. *Juari*—maximum 72 in Jamkhed, minimum 48 in Kopargaon.
Sholapur ...	3·46	Total rainfall 36·68. *Kharif* crops in good condition. *Rabi* sowings commenced everywhere. Cholera 32 cases, 18 fatal. *Juari* 63 and *bajri* 51 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar ...	Slight rain at nine out of fourteen stations; maximum being ·60 at Hubli, and minimum ·12 at Karajgi.	Rain wanted urgently everywhere both to save standing crops which are withering and to enable late crops, including cotton, in some parts to be sown. *Ragi* and *sawan* being harvested in western talukas. Cotton seed has not germinated well in some talukas for want of sufficient moisture. Public health fair. Prices steady.
Kanara ...	Karwar, 4·63; Kumpta, 3·11; Sirsi, ·13; Hallial, ·16.	Total rainfall 136·07. Small-pox in Honawar. Rice harvest continues on coast. Common rice in Karwar 12¼, in district average 14¾ seers per rupee. Weather fair.
Rajkot ...	·60	Total rainfall 25·97. General health good. Weather cool. Cholera in Paprali, Und, and Chavangar. *Bajri* 29 and *juari* 34 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Rain in most districts of the Presidency. Heavy in some, but urgently wanted in the Southern Mahratta Country. River low in Sind. *Kharif* harvested in a few districts. *Rabi* sowing in progress. Little damage from locusts. Slight fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease in a few places.
Bengal—(Oct. 3rd)		
Chittagong ...	7·14	Weather seasonable. Prospects favourable. Rain has done good to standing crops. Prices steady. Cattle-disease still continues.
Dacca ...	1·26	*Aus* rice and jute being cut. Prospects of crops in Nawabgunge unfavourable owing to sudden rise of water.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	2·26	Prospects of late rice continue favourable, but more rain is required. Threshing of early rice still going on. Price of common rice stationary. Health of people generally good.
Moorshedabad ...	·57	Weather hot and cloudy with occasional slight showers. Rainfall during week very beneficial to late rice crop which has however suffered greatly from late drought. A good deal of fever in north of district
Rajshahye ...	·34; slight rain in north.	Weather generally clear. Rain urgently wanted for transplanted paddy. Sugarcane fair.
Burdwan ...	·43; Culna, 3·54; Cutwa, 2·69; Raneegunge, ·05.	Rice crops likely to suffer seriously if rain does not fall immediately, in Cutwa especially. Prospects are unfavourable. Public health fair.
Rungpore ...	·94	Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops fair. But more rain is wanted. Fever prevalent in some places.
Bhagalpur ...	*Nil*	Rain urgently wanted for high land paddy. Otherwise prospects favourable.
Purneah ...	·24	Prospects of crops fair. More rain wanted. Fever prevalent.
Patna ...	*Nil*	Gathering of *bhadoi* crops nearly completed. Much rain wanted in South Behar. Cholera still reported from Behar sub-division.
Durbhunga ...	·45	Weather hot. Rain badly wanted for rice crop which was looking very well. Outturn of *bhadoi* crops fair.
Hazaribagh ...	·05	Days warm. Mornings and evenings cool. *Bhadoi* crops harvested with a fair outturn. Fields being prepared for *rabi* crops. A general want of rain being felt for standing paddy crop. Public health good.
Cuttack ...	·71	Weather hot and clear. Early rice being reaped and gathered. Late rice growing well. Prospects of crops good. Public health good. Cattle-disease in some places in Kendrapara sub-division.
		General Remarks.—Rain in varying quantities fell in almost all districts during the week, but the fall in most parts of the province was very slight. More rain is very urgently wanted in several places for the transplanted rice crop, especially on the high lands. Early crops have been almost all gathered in generally with a fair outturn, though in some districts these crops especially jute have been under average. Fever is prevalent in some districts; otherwise public health is still pretty fair.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Oct. 2nd)	No rain	Anxiety beginning to be felt for want of rain. Fever continues. Prices steady. Condition of cattle good.
Allahabad („ 3rd)	.....	Rainy season over and autumnal commenced. Crops doing fairly well. Early rice being harvested. Cholera cases *nil*. Slight autumnal fever. Prices easy.
Gorakhpur (Sept. 30th)	.....	Weather bright and clear during the week. Crops flourishing, but more rain required to secure a full rice crop and for the *rabi* sowings. Prospects excellent. Prices steady with a tendency to fall. Cholera has disappeared from the jail, but is spreading in the city.
Jhansi (Oct. 1st)	No rain	Prospects good. More rain would be an advantage. *Bajri*, *tili*, and cotton are in flower. Prices stationary. Health of people and cattle good.
Agra („ 2nd)	No rain	Fever in four parganas. Prices stationary. Rain needed both for present crops and *rabi* sowings, none having fallen for more than two weeks.
Bareilly („ „)	.....	*Rabi* sowings begun. Rain badly wanted. Cholera almost gone.
Meerut („ „)	No rain	General condition favourable. *Rabi* ploughings in progress and gram being sown. Prices steady.
Kumaun („ „)	No rain	Weather seasonable. Reaping of *kharif* in progress. Outturn fair. Ploughing for *rabi* commenced. Prices stationary. Cattle-disease prevalent. Health good.
Lucknow („ „)	No rain	Weather clear. Rice is being cut and threshed. *Hewat* crops excellent. Condition of people good and of cattle normal. Markets well supplied. Prices steady.
Partabgarh („ „)	No rain	Prices almost stationary. *Kuari dhan* being cut; *jarhan* suffering from drought in parts of tahsil Patti. Slight fever reported in Kunda and cattle-disease in Sadr.
Sitapur („ „)	No rain	General health good. Gram sowings commenced, but west wind drying soil too quickly. Prices on the whole falling.
Fyzabad. („ „)	No rain	*Kharif* crops are being cut. Prospects good. Public health good.
Rae Bareli („ 1st)	No rain	Weather bright. Wind westerly. More rain wanted. Health of men and condition of cattle good. Supplies abundant. Prices steady.
Cawnpore („ 2nd)	No rain	Sky almost cloudless. Rain needed for *rabi* sowings. *Juari* and *bajri* will be about 12 annas. Rice almost entirely failed, but is not one of the staple crops. Cholera is reported from one police station only and fever is prevalent. Cattle-disease in parganas Akbarpur, Sarh, and Salempur. Prices slightly fallen.
Farukhabad („ „)	.....	Bright clear weather in early part of week, now very slightly overcast and warmer. Fever is prevalent in the parts which had the heaviest rainfall and where there is new canal irrigation.
		General Remarks.—No rain has fallen during the week and the rainy season appears to be over. More rain would be an advantage in many districts, but prospects are on the whole fair. Cholera has disappeared from Allahabad and almost disappeared from Bareilly, it is reported from one police station in Cawnpore, and is spreading in Gorakhpur city. Season fever is reported from several districts.
Punjab—(Oct. 2nd)		
Delhi ...	.....	Health good. Prices of barley and *juari* slightly risen. Prices of other food-grains stationary.
Hissar ...	.....	Health good. Rain required in Rohtak and Jhajjar. Crops elsewhere in good condition. Prices stationary.
Umballa ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* yield expected to be below the average. *Rabi* sowings delayed for want of rain. Prices stationary.
Jullundur ...	.....	Health and *kharif* prospects good. Prices falling.
Amritsar ...	.....	Health and condition of crops good. Prices falling.
Sialkot ...	.....	Health and harvest prospects good. Prices stationary.
Ferozepore ...	.....	Health and *kharif* prospects good. Prices falling.
Lahore ...	.....	Health and *kharif* prospects good. *Rabi* ploughings continue. Prices falling.
Rawal Pindi ...	.40	Fever in two tahsils. *Kharif* prospects good in four tahsils and average in four others. Prices rising.
Mooltan ...	.....	Health and *kharif* prospects good. Prices stationary.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	·70	*Kharif* crops in *daman* and *thall* lands average; in irrigated lands fair. *Rabi* ploughings commenced. Prices slightly rising.
Peshawar ...	·10	Rain much more wanted. Slight fever prevalent. Prices falling.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain has fallen in the Rawal Pindi, Dera Ismail Khan, and Peshawar districts. Seasonal fever in Rawal Pindi and Peshawar; health elsewhere good. The crop prospects are generally good, and the prices of food-grains are either falling or stationary.
Central Provinces—(Oct. 3rd)		
Nagpur ...	1·17	Weather cloudy. Clear weather needed for crops. Cholera abating. Prices of wheat and *juari* slightly fallen.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces— *contd.*		
Jubbulpore ...	.....	Weather clear with bright sunshine. Crops in fair condition. Cotton in flower and thriving. Rain wanted. Prices stationary. Health good.
Saugor (Oct. 2nd)	1·7	Rain not general. Weather hot. Prospects favourable. A few showers would be beneficial to crops and to *rabi* ploughings. Prices stationary. Health fair.
Seoni ...	.....	Weather cloudy and unusually hot. Sowings commenced. Fever prevalent. Wheat 22½ and rice 16 seers per rupee.
Hoshangabad ...	Occasional showers	Weather hot and cloudy. Prospects good. Land ready for *rabi* sowings. Health good. Wheat 15 and rice 9 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	·30	Weather occasionally cloudy. Seventeen deaths from cholera. Prices stationary.
Raipur ...	·38	Crops thriving, but more rain wanted. Grasshoppers numerous and destructive to rice in Simoga. Cholera in Raipur and a few villages in Droog.
Sambalpur (Sept. 29th)	3·91	Weather very favourable. Prospects in north and west improving. Fever increasing. Common rice 36 seers per rupee. *General Remarks.*—Rain has continued in the south and east of the provinces, and the prospects of the rice crops are improving. Clear weather is needed in Nagpur and Wardha for the cotton and millets, and to allow of the proper preparation of the ground for the *rabi* sowings in the north of the provinces. There has been little or no rain, and some moderate falls would be beneficial.
British Burma— (Sept. 29th)		
Akyab	3·28	Rainfall to date 174·69. One death from cholera in town, otherwise public health good. 114 deaths of cattle in Writtang and Minbya, elsewhere health of cattle good. Transplanting season over. General appearance of crops good. Season favourable.
Rangoon ...	2·34	Rainfall to date 73·33. One death from small-pox, otherwise public health good. Price of paddy from Rs. 79 to 88 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	1·72	Rainfall to date 82·34. Public health good. Slight cattle-disease in Lemyethna and Yegyi townships, 63 deaths in Keboung township. Paddy plants in good condition. Price of paddy Rs. 80 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	2·25	Rainfall to date 162·23. Public health good. 31 deaths of cattle reported from Hlaingbwey township. Crops healthy in Moulmein town. Public health good. Progress and general appearance of crops good. No damage from drought, flood, or insects. Health of cattle good.
Toungoo ...	1·64	Rainfall to date 73·64. Public health and health of cattle good. Transplanting progressing. Price of paddy Rs. 65 per 100 baskets.
Kyoukphyoo (Sept. 22nd)	0·82	Rainfall to date 152·65. The following deaths from cholera are reported:—Kyoukphyoo township, Thaludoung circle 2, Kinmugin 6, Rancree township, Myoma circle 8, Thinbegine 4, Hounnyouk 1, Ponsabgin 1, Cheduba township, Minbyin circle 2 and Dabyncha-ing circle 1. Health of cattle good. Crops progressing favourably.
Sandoway („ „)	1·62	Rainfall to date 195·87. Public health good. Crops continue healthy.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health and health of cattle good. Three-fourths of land has been ploughed in Hlaing township; ploughing has been completed in Hmajbi and Tamanding townships. Some of the crops in the Aingkaloung, Bawlé, and Myoungtungo circles, Hlaing township, have been destroyed by floods. Wages of ploughing labour 60 baskets of paddy per man in Hlaing township. Prices of paddy from Rs. 80 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Pegu ...	3·28	Rainfall to date 114·61. Four deaths from fever in Pegu, otherwise public health good. Slight cattle-disease in Kadanbaw circle and Syriam township, 2 deaths returned from latter. Prospects of crops good, although rain scanty. Price of paddy Rs. 80 to 85 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy ...	2·80	Rainfall to date 89·97. Public health good. Fifteen deaths of cattle in Minhla and Tapun townships; health of cattle in all other townships, except Gyobingouk where slight cattle-disease prevails, good. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Transplanting and sowing nearly completed. Crops healthy. Price of paddy Rs. 93 to 125 per 100 baskets.
Prome ...	1·28	Total rainfall to date 40·88. Public health and health of cattle good. Mahathaman however reports 5 deaths of cattle. Ploughing and planting progressing. More rain wanted in some places, but no loss owing to drought has been reported. Standing crops are in good condition. Price of paddy Rs. 90 per 100 baskets.
Thonegwa ...	4·27	Total rainfall to date 75·39. Public health and health of cattle good. 3,500 acres destroyed by flood in Thagain circle, Donabyoo township. Increase of cultivation in other parts of the township owing to protection offered by embankments. Area of crops destroyed in Shwayloung township not yet ascertained. Inquiries are being made. Slight damage to low lying crops in Pantanow township. Crops in Pyapon and Didaye townships good. Price of paddy Rs. 90 to 95 per 100 baskets. Seedlings for transplanting insufficient in Shwayloung township. Transplanting progressing in damaged areas of Thonegwa and Yandoon townships.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Henzada ...	0·2	Rainfall to date 76·72. Two deaths from small-pox in Henzada township, otherwise public health good. Plants in good condition in Henzada sub-division. Information from Myanoung not received.
Thayetmyo ...	0·90	Rainfall to date 29·47. Public health good. Forty-three deaths of cattle in Myede. Rice crop still suffers seriously for want of rain.
Shwaygyin ...	2·33	Rainfall to date 130·62. Public health fair. Fifty-two deaths of cattle reported from Mou and Kyankmaw circles. Transplanting and sowing nearly finished. General appearance of crops good. Crops suffer from floods in low ground, but on the whole a fair increase in total cultivation may be expected. Price of paddy Rs. 75 per 100 baskets.
Tavoy ...	2·40	Rainfall to date 181 80. Public health and health of cattle good. General appearance of crops good.
Mergui ...	.....	No report received. *General Remarks.*—Rainfall for the week considerably less than the corresponding week of last year, especially on the coast and in the interior of the Tennasserim division. Total rainfall up to date still deficient compared with last year, notably in Bassein and the Tennasserim coast districts. Public health good. No increase of cattle-disease with the exception of parts of Thyetmyo, in which the corps are suffering from want of rain and in parts of Thonegwa, where there have been destructive floods. The agricultural condition of the Province is satisfactory, and prospects good. Price of paddy keeps up.
Assam—(Oct 3rd)		
Gauhati ...	·79	Weather seasonable. Mornings and nights cool. Prospects of *sali* crops good. Public health fair. Cattle-disease still reported from the interior.
Sylhet ...	6·33	State and prospects of crops good. Public health also good.
Cachar ...	2·00	Weather warm. Prospects of *sali* crops good. Reaping of *aus* crops continues. Common rice 16 1/16 seers per rupee. Four deaths from small-pox reported from Sadr.
Dibrugarh ...	3·10	Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Public health good.
Mysore and Coorg— (Oct. 3rd)		
Bangalore ...	·38	Dry crops withering for want of rain. Prospects critical for dry crops Wet crops in good condition. Public health good.
Mysore ...	No rain	Dry crops withering. Prospects of season doubtful. Agricultural operations partly suspended.
Mercara ...	·55	Coffee crops ripening fast. Picking of cardamoms proceeding. Outturn good. Rice crops doing well. *Ragi* harvest commenced. Outturn under the average. Prices of food-grains continue to fall. Public health generally good. *General Remarks.*—Dry crops withering in all districts from want of rain. General health good. Prices stationary. Murrain prevalent in the Kadur district.
Berar & Hyderabad— (Octr. 3rd)		
Amraoti ...	2·23	Continuous rainfall has done some injury to cotton and millet crops. The break now in the weather, if it continues, will improve the crops. Wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	2·17	Crops in good condition. Generally a long break is now needed.
Hyderabad ...	Average rainfall 2·10	Total from 1st January 28·18. Standing crops flourishing. Reaping of *kharif* crops continues. Cholera prevails in one taluka and fever and ague in another. Prices—wheat 15¾, coarse rice 10¾, white *juari* 24, yellow *juari* 26½, and tur 23¼ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (Oct. 3rd)		
Indore ...	1·37	Prices slightly falling.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	*Nil*	Fever in Lashkar. Prospects good.
Sutna ...	0·32	Prospects good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	0·31	Reaping of *mukka* completed. Land being prepared for *rabi*. Agricultural prospects and public health good.
Goona ...	0·25	Wheat 23 seers 12 chittacks per rupee. Health and crops good.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	*Nil*	Crops and prospects good.
Sehore ...	*Nil*	Weather clear. Crops and public health good.
Nowgong ...	*Nil*	*Kharif* prospects fair. Prices steady. Health good.
Manpur (Bhopawar) ...	2·20	Prospects good. Late showers have helped to fill the tanks. Slight cholera reported at Barwani.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Oct. 3rd)	·72	Weather occasionally heavy and cloudy with thunderstorms and showers; otherwise clear and seasonable.
Sirohi (Sept. 30th)	·33; two or three heavy showers.	Tanks and wells full. Health and crop prospects very fair. Weather warm.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Rajputana—*contd.*		
Marwar („ 28th)	No rain	Four months' water in Jodhpore city. Tanks and wells filling up. Health and crops *good*. Sky daily clear and cloudless. Weather close and sultry. Prospects of rain. Prices stationary.
Meywar („ 29th)	·13	Tanks and wells full. Health good. Crops fairly good. ***Rabi*** sowings commenced.
Harowti („ „)	*Nil*	*Rabi* operations continue, but rain needed. Weather cloudy, heat great. Health good. Prices stationary. Small-pox among cattle in Kherar district.
Jhallawar („ 28th)	.....	Weather seasonable. Health and prospects good.
Ajmere (Oct. 2nd)	.....	*Kharif* being harvested. *Rabi* cultivation going on. Thunderstorm with slight rain on first.
Jeypore („ „)	Slight rain	Weather cloudy. More rain wanted for *rabi*. Prices steady. Fever prevalent.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Oct. 2nd)	No rain	Prices steady. Health good.

ABSTRACT SHOWING THE RESULT OF EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE 1883.

No. I.—As to age and sex.

	Natal.				Fiji.				Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Grand Total.
Under 2 years	10	8	18	38·37 women to every 100 men.	9	7	16	39·45 women to every 100 men.	19	15	34
From 2 to 10 years	24	19	43		11	9	20		35	28	63
„ 10 „ 20 „	73	27	100		106	34	140		179	61	240
„ 20 „ 30 „	162	59	221		217	87	304		379	146	525
„ 30 „ 40 „	21	10	31		7	10	17		28	20	48
„ 40 „ 50 „	2	3	5		2	...	2		4	3	7
Above 50	...	...	...		...	...	...		...	...	...
Grand Total ...	292	126	418		352	147	499		644	273	917

No. II.—As to places whence emigrants come to Calcutta for embarkation.

	Natal.			Fiji.			Total.		
Orissa	1	...	1	1	1	2	2	1	3
Western Bengal	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Central ditto	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eastern ditto	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Behar	64	12	76	9	6	15	73	18	91
North-Western Provinces	105	50	155	187	86	273	292	136	428
Oudh	42	8	50	98	45	143	140	53	193
Central India	6	6	12	13	1	14	19	7	26
Punjab	8	...	8	36	7	43	44	7	51
Nepal	6	1	7	7	1	8	13	2	15
Mixed, Madras & Bombay, &c.	59	49	108	1	...	1	60	49	109
Grand Total ...	292	126	418	352	147	499	644	273	917

No. III.—As to caste and religion.

	Natal.			Fiji.			Total.		
Brahmins, high caste ... ... }	35	17	52	108	39	147	143	56	199
Agriculturist ... ... }	77	13	90	88	31	119	165	44	209
Artisans ... ... } Hindoos ... {	13	5	18	10	10	20	23	15	38
Low castes ... ... }	147	81	228	100	40	140	247	121	368
Musulmans	20	10	30	46	27	73	66	37	103
Christians	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total ...	292	126	418	352	147	499	644	273	917

Memo.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
1. Hindoos ...	578	236	814
2. Musulmans ...	66	37	103
3. Christians ...	...	...	...
Total ...	644	273	917

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House, Simla, on Thursday, the 4th October, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Rájá Siva Prásád, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble D. G. Barkley.

PROTECTION OF INVENTIONS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill for the protection of inventions exhibited in the Exhibitions of India be taken into consideration. He stated that the Bill appeared to have been

generally accepted as useful and sufficient, and the only alterations made by the Committee were alterations of a verbal nature.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

NATIVE PASSENGER SHIPS ACT, 1876, AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Native Passenger Ships Act, 1876, be taken into consideration. He said:—

"The object of this Bill is to give effect to certain international arrangements with respect to the pilgrim-traffic in the Red Sea. On looking into the matter, it was found that most of what was required could be effected by means of alterations in the rules made under our Native Passenger Ships Act, but that it would also be necessary to make one or two amendments in the Act itself, and it was for this purpose, and this purpose only, that the present Bill was prepared.

"The local officers have directed attention to various points, other than those covered by the amending Bill, in which it appears to them that the Passengers Act is defective. We admit the existence of some of these defects, and the question as to the best mode of remedying them is at this moment under the consideration of the Home Department, and will shortly be brought under the consideration of the Legislative Department. But in the meantime, as the present Bill is urgently required, we think it desirable not to postpone its passing until the more general amending measure can be prepared and passed. I mention this in order that it may not be supposed that some of the very useful suggestions which we have received have been overlooked. Some of the criticisms which have been passed on the Bill seem to be based on an imperfect apprehension of the limited scope of the Act which we propose to amend. For instance, it has been suggested by some that the provisions of the Bill may interfere in an inconvenient manner with the traffic of cargo-ships trading to the Red Sea, and by others that we ought to obtain a more extensive control over all passenger-ships trading to or from ports in the Red Sea to British India or elsewhere. But if you look at section 2 of the Passengers Act, you will find that the scope and operation of the Act are restricted within very narrow limits. The Act extends to the whole of British India, and applies—

"to all subjects of Her Majesty within the dominions of Princes and States in India in alliance with Her Majesty;

"to all Native Indian subjects of Her Majesty without and beyond British India; and

"subject to the exceptions mentioned in section 2, to vessels carrying more than thirty passengers, being Natives of Asia or Africa."

"But the section expressly provides that nothing in the Act is to apply—

"to any ship of war or transport belonging to, or in the service of, Her Majesty;

"to any ship of war belonging to any Foreign Prince or State;

"to any sailing vessel not carrying as passengers more than thirty Natives of Asia or Africa;

"to any steamer not carrying as passengers more than sixty of such Natives; or

"to any sailing vessel or steamer not intended to convey passengers to [illegible] from any port in British India.

"The Act does not apply to mere cargo-ships; it does not apply to ships carrying passengers, other than Native passengers as defined by the Act; it does not apply even to those ships unless they carry a minimum number of such passengers, nor unless those passengers happen to be bound either to or [illegible] port in British India. Thus, the Act would not apply to a ship [illegible] passengers from Jeddah to Ceylon, or *vice versâ*, even though

the ship happened to touch at Aden on its way. Again, the section to which I have referred is so framed as to exclude from the operation of the Act those ships over which we have no jurisdiction, and over which our Indian legislature, with its limited powers, cannot give us jurisdiction. We have done our best to meet the difficulty arising from want of jurisdiction in such cases by requiring the owner, agent or master of every ship carrying Native passengers, and proceeding from a port in British India to the Red Sea, to execute a bond which is conditioned for the observance of the requirements of the Act both on the outward and on the homeward voyage, and which can be enforced in Indian Courts. We are only concerned with the pilgrim-traffic to and from British India, and I have been informed—though I cannot vouch for the accuracy of the information—that almost all the ships engaged in this traffic start from British Indian ports and sail under the British flag. If that is the case, I do not apprehend that there will be any practical difficulty in enforcing the provisions of the Act. But whether it is so or not, we cannot exceed the powers of our legislature, and if it should appear desirable to obtain more extensive control over foreign ships or over British ships when outside British Indian waters, we must seek the assistance of the British legislature, acting if necessary in concert with the Governments of foreign States. A precedent for legislation of the kind required will be found in the Imperial Merchant Shipping Act of 1876 (39 and 40 Vict., c. 80, s. 37).

"Under these circumstances, we have not thought it necessary to make more than two substantive alterations in the Bill as introduced. The first of the alterations which we have made relates to the power to be conferred on the Government to require an assurance as to the state of health of the passengers before embarkation. The Bill as introduced empowered the Government to require passengers to produce a medical certificate, but it has been pointed out that, while the obtaining of such certificates might in many cases involve considerable trouble and delay to those concerned, the certificate would not always afford a guarantee that the holder of it was not at the moment of embarkation free from disease. We have accordingly substituted for the power to require certificates a power to subject passengers to a medical inspection before embarkation, and to prevent the embarkation of any person who may appear to be suffering from any dangerously infectious or contagious disease.

"The other alteration which we have made consists in the addition to the Bill of a section empowering the Local Government, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, to exempt for sufficient reason any class of ships from any provision of the Act. This section has been inserted at the suggestion of the Bombay authorities, who represent that, under exceptional circumstances, some of the provisions of the Act as now amended might operate inconveniently; for instance, if at a time when steamers were being taken up for a military expedition and only sailing vessels could be procured for Native passenger-traffic, we were to insist rigidly on the condition as to a Native passenger-ship bound for the Red Sea being propelled principally by steam.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

LEGAL PRACTITIONERS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT introduced the Bill to amend the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, and the Indian Stamp Act, 1879, and moved that it be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Sir Steuart Bayley, the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton and the Mover.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the local official Gazettes in English and in such other languages as the Local Governments might think fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

CATTLE-TRESPASS ACT, 1871, AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Cattle-trespass Act, 1871.

PANJÁB LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to make better provision for Local Self-government in the Panjáb.

INDIAN PORTS ACT, 1875, AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Indian Ports Act, 1875. He explained that this was a small Bill which had been prepared at the suggestion of the Financial Department, and that its object was to amend section 47 of the Indian Ports Act, 1875, in such a way as to make it clear that the pensions of port-officers might be charged against the port-account.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 10th October, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,

Secretary to the Government of India,

Legislative Department.

SIMLA;
The 5th October, 1883.

Printed and Published for the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA *at the* GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS, *Simla.*

SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India.

Nº 41. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 2nd HALF OF JUNE 1883, PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1360 AND 1361 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 28th JUNE 1883.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	AVERAGE WAGES PER MONTH.		
		Able-bodied Agricultural Labourer.	Syce or Horse-keeper.	Common Mason, Carpenter, or Blacksmith.
		R a. p.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*
BOMBAY . . {	Neemuch	7 8 0	7 0 0	6-0 to 15-0
	Aden	...	10 0 0	30-0 to 37-8

D. BARBOUR,

Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch*).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice, (common). Present fortnight.	Rice, (common). Past fortnight.	Rice, (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Butrusn Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Butrusn Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Butrusn Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, sawee, Cheena, Coralou, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, sawee, Cheena, Coralou, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, sawee, Cheena, Coralou, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Grain. Present fortnight.	Grain. Past fortnight.	Grain. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.						
Madras.	Ganjam	8 13	9 10	8 2	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	17 13	17 14	17 14	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	15 8	215 13	215 13	215 13	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	15 8	Ganjam	Madras.
	Vizagapatam	9 8	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 8	9 0	11 5	11 14	11 5	24 13	23 13	...	23 13	23 13	23 13	32 3	35 3	35 3	33 5	33 5	26 10	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 0	Vizagapatam	
	Godavery	9 14	10 13	12 10	...	...	...	12 14	10 14	13 14	15 0	14 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	30 11	...	...	...	23 3	23 3	24 3	35 2	32 13	23 6	95 3	83 10	93 5	14 10	14 10	15 3	Godavery	
	Kistna	8 13	8 13	12 11	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 11	14 11	14 11	16 5	20 13	20 13	24 14	...	...	...	29 2	30 14	29 2	33 10	32 8	25 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	14 10	14 10	14 10	Kistna	
	Nellore	10 13	10 13	12 10	...	...	...	13 14	13 14	15 13	15 0	15 0	17 0	21 10	21 10	28 13	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	33 0	24 2	24 2	21 0	93 5	93 5	186 10	14 13	14 13	15 6	Nellore	
	Cuddapah	13 10	12 14	14 0	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	12 6	13 5	13 5	14 2	31 10	29 3	28 6	31 14	31 3	31 14	30 0	31 0	31 0	37 0	38 2	31 5	...	...	...	14 5	14 5	14 5	Cuddapah	
	Anantapur	13 6	13 6	13 6	...	...	...	12 13	11 13	12 13	14 0	12 5	14 0	33 0	30 14	30 14	30 2	30 2	18 13	34 14	34 14	34 14	35 13	35 13	29 2	94 13	94 13	85 0	15 13	15 13	15 11	Anantapur	
	Bellary	17 5	17 5	16 5	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	12 5	13 0	13 0	13 8	46 5	37 2	37 2	28 3	30 2	28 3	32 0	31 0	31 0	37 0	38 2	31 5	...	...	...	15 8	15 8	15 6	Bellary	
	Kurnool	12 2	12 2	12 2	...	...	...	10 10	10 10	10 10	11 6	11 6	11 6	37 0	37 0	32 3	33 11	31 14	21 3	...	...	...	157 0	175 0	186 10	14 0	14 13	14 13	13 10	14 6	14 6	Kurnool	
	Madras	11 0	11 5	10 8	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 5	15 2	15 2	15 2	22 5	22 5	23 13	23 13	23 13	25 0	24 11	24 11	28 0	26 3	25 5	25 0	85 0	85 0	86 5	16 14	16 14	16 11	Madras	
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 10	15 2	15 2	15 14	...	...	...	26 6	21 2	...	26 11	26 0	27 6	25 11	25 0	24 10	92 5	92 5	92 5	17 5	17 5	17 5	Chingleput	
	North Arcot	9 11	9 11	9 11	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	15 0	16 14	16 14	17 5	41 14	...	33 11	31 5	31 5	28 14	32 8	32 8	34 3	28 10	28 10	24 10	140 0	140 0	140 0	15 6	14 13	15 6	North Arcot	
	South Arcot	9 6	9 6	9 0	...	...	...	14 13	13 14	15 11	15 11	14 14	16 3	...	...	33 10	30 0	28 8	33 14	31 13	29 6	31 13	26 8	25 10	23 13	201 11	201 11	201 11	19 5	19 5	19 5	South Arcot	
	Tanjore	11 0	11 13	9 8	...	...	...	17 6	17 13	15 13	...	...	...	31 13	33 6	31 13	40 10	42 0	31 14	32 8	31 5	32 8	28 0	28 0	27 2	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 3	15 10	15 10	Tanjore	
	Trichinopoly	9 3	9 10	9 3	...	...	...	15 2	15 13	14 6	15 14	16 11	14 14	30 13	33 10	23 0	27 14	30 8	26 11	34 2	36 11	28 13	31 10	30 13	30 5	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 13	17 13	17 13	Trichinopoly	
	Madura	12 8	12 8	11 5	...	...	...	14 5	15 8	13 14	14 13	16 0	15 3	37 5	38 14	32 6	29 6	32 5	30 14	37 3	38 11	32 8	35 10	35 10	30 5	145 13	170 2	145 13	17 5	17 5	16 6	Madura	
	Tinnevelly	10 10	10 10	8 0	...	...	...	16 5	16 5	15 6	16 13	16 13	15 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 2	37 2	27 5	70 0	70 0	81 10	18 11	18 11	18 11	Tinnevelly	
	Coimbatore	13 2	13 2	10 11	...	...	...	14 6	14 6	13 8	15 6	15 6	14 14	27 13	27 13	26 2	31 13	30 3	28 10	32 13	29 8	27 14	34 3	33 3	30 6	131 3	131 3	131 3	15 2	15 2	14 11	Coimbatore	
	Nilgiris	10 10	10 10	7 2	...	...	...	11 3	11 3	9 10	12 0	12 0	10 6	20 0	20 0	20 0	21 0	21 0	19 10	21 10	21 10	20 3	23 3	23 3	20 11	161 13	161 13	161 13	13 0	13 0	11 0	Nilgiris	
	Salem	12 11	12 11	10 3	...	...	...	14 0	14 10	13 2	14 11	15 0	14 2	32 13	32 13	28 3	29 8	29 8	23 13	30 13	30 13	27 14	35 10	35 10	31 8	151 10	151 10	151 10	17 8	17 8	18 0	Salem	
	South Canara	7 8	7 11	8 10	...	...	...	9 11	9 11	9 11	18 8	18 8	19 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 8	19 6	17 10	21 3	22 3	20 3	109 5	109 5	116 6	18 6	18 6	15 8	South Canara	
	Malabar	8 10	8 10	7 3	...	...	...	15 6	15 6	14 10	16 3	16 3	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 14	21 14	21 14	26 14	26 14	22 11	121 8	121 8	121 8	14 6	14 6	13 8	Malabar	
Bombay.	Bombay	10 0	10 0	10 0	18 10	16 5	19 2	7 8	7 5	8 14	12 6	11 3	11 6	18 11	17 14	19 2	14 14	15 15	17 7	14 11	17 0	18 6	16 2	14 7	15 14	62 6	62 6	62 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	12 9	12 9	12 9	Bombay	Bombay.
	Ahmedabad	12 0	14 8	19 8	19 0	...	...	6 8	6 8	7 8	12 0	12 0	8 0	14 0	14 8	17 8	14 8	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	19 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	16 0	16 0	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	Ahmedabad	
	Kaira	10 10	10 10	11 13	20 0	20 0	20 0	9 11	9 11	10 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	13 5	13 5	17 12	13 5	12 12	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 4	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	Kaira	
	Surat	11 4	11 4	12 8	12 4	12 4	7 11	7 6	7 6	8 3	8 5	8 5	8 12	19 4	19 2	15 9	14 0	14 0	14 4	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	Surat	
	Broach	12 4	12 4	13 5½	...	...	...	9 15½	9 15½	11 1	12 12	12 12	12 9	16 0	16 0	16 0	13 14	13 14	15 4	25 11	25 11	25 11	13 4	13 4	14 15	71 0	71 0	71 0	15 12	14 5	14 5	15 10	13 0	12 8	Broach	
	Tanna (Salsette)	10 5	9 12	10 5	12 14	...	...	9 0	7 13	8 3	12 8	12 0	13 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	11 8	15 11½	140 0	140 0	140 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	8	12 8	11 0	Tanna (Salsette)	
	Colába (Alibag)	8 8	8 8	8 8	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	6 12	10 15	10 13	10 15	17 11	16 14	20 6	16 5	15 14	14 4	18 6	20 11	27 9	17 0	18 6	17 5	128 0	128 0	128 0	15 8	15 8	14 8	13 4	13 1	14 7	Colába (Alibag)	
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	14 14	14 0	15 0	...	...	...	7 9	7 9	7 4	12 0	13 6	12 0	...	...	...	16 5	15 14	19 13	...	...	...	18 6	16 2	17 5	79 12	79 12	91 5	13 6	13 3	14 9	13 6	13 6	12 13	Khandesh (Dhulia)	
	Násik	14 4	14 4	14 4	...	...	...	7 7	7 7	7 7	9 15	10 9	12 0	23 6	23 6	31 11	17 12	17 6	35 0	15 6	15 6	...	16 2	16 2	16 2	68 0	68 0	68 0	13 10	13 10	13 1	13 6	13 6	12 13	Násik	
	Ahmednagar	13 4	13 4	14 6	...	...	...	8 11	8 6	9 11	11 0	11 0	12 4	20 11	20 11	26 2	17 3	17 3	20 11	18 15	18 15	21 14	18 6	18 15	16 2	71 0	80 0	80 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 4	12 8	Ahmednagar	
	Poona	12 10	12 10	12 10	9 4	9 4	...	9 13	9 13	11 0	11 12	12 4	11 5	27 9	27 10	33 7	22 0	22 15	25 11	20 1	21 14	18 12	18 8	19 8	18 10	100 0	100 0	180 0	11 0	10 11	12 0	10 8	10 0	11 12	Poona	
	Sholápur	14 8	14 10	13 9	...	...	...	10 15	11 6	10 7	11 8	11 8	9 0	31 8	31 0	43 0	30 0	25 0	39 0	17 9	18 8	15 10	19 9	18 8	15 10	116 8	116 8	116 8	13 2	13 2	12 6	12 6	12 6	11 10	Sholápur	
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	19 8	19 8	22 0	16 8	16 8	14 8	6 8	6 8	6 12	11 7	11 7	11 7	20 0	20 0	26 10	18 2	18 2	22 0	19 0	18 6	16 8	16 0	16 0	15 6	65 0	65 0	75 0	12 3	13 0	13 8	11 3	12 0	13 0	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	
	Satara	13 6	13 6	12 1	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	9 11	10 0	10 0	10 8	17 13	17 8	33 0	19 0	19 0	25 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	8 6	8 6	9 2	8 0	8 0	9 0	Satara	
	Belgaum	15 15	16 8	19 0	14 0	14 8	14 0	11 8	11 8	10 0	12 0	12 0	14 0	26 0	25 0	32 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	18 13	18 13	21 2	14 11	14 11	12 10	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 2	13 2	11 10	12 15	12 15	11 10	Belgaum	
	Dharwar (Hubli)	23 0	23 0	24 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	12 0	13 7	13 7	12 11	...	...	18 3	18 3	18 3	22 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	12 8	12 12	12 0	213 5	213 5	213 5	11 8	12 0	11 8	10 8	11 0	10 8	Dharwar (Hubli)	
	Ratnágiri	9 4	9 4	10 9	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	7 13	12 0	12 0	10 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	20 0	20 0	26 10	20 0	20 0	32 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	Ratnágiri	
	Kanara (Karwar)	9 0	9 0	10 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 0	12 0	10 0	26 0	26 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 5	9 5	9 6	65 5	65 5	65 5	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	32 0	Kanara (Karwar)	
	Panch Mahals (Godhra)	10 8	10 8	11 6	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	11 6	13 5	13 5	15 0	20 0	20 0	32 0	13 13	13 13	18 17	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	Panch Mahals (Godhra)	
	Aden	7 0	7 0	8 0	...	...	...	6 3	6 3	6 3	7 0	7 0	7 0	12 7	12 7	11 3	11 3	11 3	8 0	...	...	...	14 0	12 13	16 11	80 0	80 0	83 10	13 9	14 1	14 11	13 7	14 0	14 10	Aden	
	Asirgarh	13 12	13 12	14 0	...	...	...	11 12	11 14	10 15	14 0	14 0	12 4	19 0	17 9	24 15	17 12	17 12	23 0	17 8	16 5	...	14 0	12 13	16 11	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	14 1	14 11	12 0	12 0	13 0	Asirgarh	
	Baroda	9 15	9 5	10 9	13 7	14 0	14 2	7 9	8 12	9 6	10 8	11 1	11 11	15 12	14 9	17 10	13 7	12 13	15 4	...	...	...	13 8	13 11	19 4	137 8	137 8	137 8	12 8	12 8	13 8	13 0	13 0	13 0	Baroda	
	Dísa	12 12	12 2	15 8	...	...	...	6 14	6 14	6 6	9 0	9 0	8 11	14 4	14 8	17 8	15 14	14 2	18 8	...	...	...	20 0	19 0	19 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	15 7½	15 8	16 0	Dísa	
	Nimach	17 4	16 12	16 8	23 0	22 0	18 0	9 0	8 12	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	25 0	22 0	22 0	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	25 6½	21 13½	24 6½	80 0	80 0	80 0	16 0½	16 2	16 6½	40 0	40 0	43 0	Nimach	
	Nasirabad	17 6½	14 11½	16 8	23 12½	20 7	23 10	6 0	6 0	6 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	18 0	18 0	22 0	14 8	15 4	16 0	14 2	14 10	17 4	70 0	70 0	70 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	50 0	50 0	55 0	40 0	40 0	43 0	Nasirabad	
	Rájkot	13 6	13 0	14 0	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	9 0	9 0	9 0	16 12	16 12	16 0	12 5	12 5	13 0	70 0	58 0	40 0	20 12	20 12	17 8	90 0	90 0	105 0	17 12	18 0	17 13	16 0	16 0	17 0	Rájkot	
	Upper Sindh Frontier	13 12	13 12	13 0	23 8	23 8	24 4	10 8	11 4	11 4	12 4	13 4	20 0	27 12	27 12	32 0	23 10	23 8	26 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	17 0	90 0	90 0	105 0	12 12½	13 12½	12 5	12 8	12 8	12 0	Upper Sindh Frontier	
	Karachi	12 13	12 8	12 5	24 0	23 0	20 0	9 0	9 0	9 8	15 0	14 0	18 0	23 0	20 4	23 0	17 0	16 0	19 0	26 0	24 0	21 0	20 0	20 0	14 0	320 0	240 0	480 0	14 4	14 0	14 0	14 4	14 0	14 0	Karachi	
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	15 0	13 4	14 0	26 0	24 8	26 0	12 0	11 8	14 0	16 0	17 0	19 6	25 12	25 14	28 8	25 0	25 0	27 0	...	...	...	20 0	20 8	18 14	240 0	220 0	300 0	14 0	13 12	13 10	13 12	13 8	13 2½	Haidarabad (Nakur)	
	Shikarpur	13 0	13 0	13 7½	23 0	25 0	25 0	11 8	11 10	12 4½	16 0	17 0	19 0	26 8	25 8	28 10	23 0	23 0	23 8	19 0	19 0	19 8	19 8	19 8	19 8	40 0	110 0	80 0	12 8	12 12	13 0	12 0	12 4	12 8	Shikarpur	
	Sukkur	13 8	13 8	14 0	26 8	25 8	29 8	10 0	10 0	11 12	15 8	11 8	17 8	26 8	25 8	28 10	23 0	23 0	23 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	120 0	160 0	14 12	14 12	11 5	14 12	14 12	11 5	Sukkur	
	Thar & Parker (Umarkot)	12 6	12 13	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 3	12 13	12 12	...	...	...	17 3	16 1	23 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Thar and Parker (Umarkot)	
	Western Districts.																																		*Western Districts.*	
	Burdwan	14 8	15 0	18 0	25 0	22 8	32 8	17 8	17 8	24 0	24 12	22 11	25 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	21 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	Prices per md. of 40 seers.						Burdwan	
	Bancoorah	13 0	13 0	13 8	16 0	16 0	18 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	25 0	25 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	18 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	R a. p. 3 0 0	R a. p. 3 0 8	R a. p. 2 15 0	12 13c	12 10	13 8	Bancoorah	
	Beerbhoom	15 0	15 8	13 0	16 0	...	...	16 8	16 8	17 0	21 0	21 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	20 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	3 5 3	3 7 0	3 8 0	11 4c	11 4	11 4	Beerbhoom	
	Midnapore	13 0	13 0	13 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	18 0	17 0	21 0	24 0	24 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	18 0	155 0	155 0	155 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	12 8d	12 8	13 5	Midnapore	
	Hooghly	13 0	13 0	15 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	18 0	17 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	18 9e	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
	Howrah	13 4	13 4	13 4	...	...	23 0	14 0	13 8	15 8	19 0	17 8	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 12	17 0	21 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 14 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	Howrah	

Bombay. Bengal.

c In Cuttack retail prices of salt are as follow:—Cuina 14 seers, Cuttack 12 seers, and Balasoongee 12-4 seers.
d In Contai retail prices of salt 11 seers.
e In Purnea pore retail prices of salt 15 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumnoo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt.						DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
																												Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers.			Retail.					
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.		
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
BENGAL—*continued.*	*Central Districts.*																																	*Central Districts.*	BENGAL—*continued.*
	Calcutta	15 0	15 5	14 9	20 10	20 10	26 14	10 12	10 12	10 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	20 10	23 0	...	21 5	21 5	...	...	...	...	18 13	16 13	22 10	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	13 5	13 5	14 9		Calcutta
	24-Pergunnahs	13 5	13 5	13 5	16 0	17 12	20 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	14 4	14 0	17 8	...	16 0	...	...	13 5	...	...	...	...	17 8	17 12	20 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	2 13 0	12 13*f*	13 5	14 4		24-Pergunnahs
	Nuddea	14 8	14 8	13 14	22 15	22 15	...	14 8	15 4	15 4	17 4	17 4	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 13	20 0	21 5½	...	...	...	3 1 11	3 0 0	3 0 0	11 10½*g*	11 10½	11 10½		Nuddea
	Khoolna	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	180 0	180 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	10 8½	10 8	11 0		Khoolna
	Jessore	13 0	12 4	13 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	17 0	21 4	21 4	25 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	18 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	11 0*i*	12 0	11 8		Jessore
	Moorshedabad	16 0	15 0	14 8	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	14 0	22 0	22 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 0	23 0	23 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	12 8*j*	12 8	12 0		Moorshedabad
	Dinagepore	17 4	16 0	13 0	16 0	17 8	14 0	14 4	18 0	19 0	23 0	20 0	23 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	18 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	160 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	11 0*k*	11 8	12 0		Dinagepore
	Rajshahye	15 4	15 4	13 8	29 0	29 0	32 0	15 4	14 0 to 15 4	13 4	22 0	20 0 to 22 0	19 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 8	21 8	20 13	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 2 0	12 0*l*	12 4	12 12		Rajshahye
	Rungpore	13 5	13 5	16 0	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	15 0	19 0	19 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 3	17 3	15 0	110 0	110 0	120 0	...	3 5 3	3 5 3	11 14*m*	11 14	11 8		Rungpore
	Bogra	24 0	15 0	18 12	...	...	...	12 12	12 0	15 12	21 12	22 8	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 2	17 4	15 12	62 8	82 8	67 8	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0		Bogra
	Pubna	18 12	18 12	17 4	...	...	...	8 4	8 8	10 0	19 0	18 12	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 12	19 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 4 0	3 3 0	3 1 6	12 0*n*	12 0	12 12		Pubna
	Darjeeling	8 0	8 0	11 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	5 0	5 8	5 0	12 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	10 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	8 0*o*	8 0	8 0		Darjeeling
	Jalpáiguri	10 0	10 0	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	12 8	12 8	14 0	18 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 0*p*	12 0	11 0		Jalpáiguri
	Eastern Districts.																																	*Eastern Districts.*	
	Dacca	13 5	13 5	13 5	22 10	22 12	32 0	17 0	17 12	21 4	20 0	20 0	26 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	20 0	97 0	97 0	106 8	...	...	3 0 0	12 10*q*	12 8	12 12		Dacca
	Furreedpore	21 0	21 0	20 0	30 0	30 0	37 8	20 0	18 0	19 4	22 0	21 0	20 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	12 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	12 0*r*	12 0	12 0		Furreedpore
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	19 0	21 0	21 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	2 11 0	2 11 0	2 15 0	13 0*s*	13 0	13 0		Backergunge
	Mymensingh	11 8	11 8	11 8	...	...	...	13 4	14 5	22 8	19 0	20 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4*t*	12 4	12 4		Mymensingh
	Chittagong	11 4	11 4	9 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	20 0	18 0	18 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	16 0	40 0	40 0	80 0	...	4 0 0	2 14 0	10 0*u*	9 8	13 0		Chittagong
	Noakholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	24 0	21 0	21 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	10 0*v*	10 0	10 0		Noakholly
	Tipperah	11 12	11 12	11 8	...	...	...	18 0	18 12	19 8	25 12	22 12	26 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	3 2 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	12 4*w*	12 0	12 0		Tipperah
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	12 5	13 5	14 0	18 4	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	320 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	3 4 0	6 4	6 4	10 9		Chittagong Hill Tracts
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	20 0	22 0	20 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	12 0	14 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0	11 0	10 0		Hill Tipperah
	Behar.																																	*Behar.*	
	Patna	21 0	21 0	19 0	29 0	25 0	34 0	15 0	15 0	12 0	18 0	15 8	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	27 0	30 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	3 0 0	3 1 6	3 0 0	13 5	9 12	10 8		Patna
	Gya	17 8	17 8	17 0	21 0	23 0	24 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	16 0	14 0	18 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	20 8	23 0	180 0	160 0	180 0	3 5 0	3 6 0	3 5 0	11 0	11 0	11 8		Gya
	Shahabad	15 0 to 15 8	15 0 to 16 0	16 0 to 17 0	25 0	26 0	28 0	10 0 to 11 0	11 0 to 12 0	16 8 to 18 0	15 0 to 16 0	14 0 to 16 0	19 0 to 19 8	27 0	...	...	25 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	24 0 to 25 0	24 0 to 25 0	28 0 to 29 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	12 8*x*	12 8	12 8		Shahabad
	Durbhunga	29 0	29 0	42 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	...	10 0*y*	10 0	11 0		Durbhunga
	Mozufferpore	...	...	...	28 0	23 0	27 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	16 0	17 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 4 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	12 0*z*	11 0	12 0		Mozufferpore
	Sarun	30 0	30 0	34 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	17 0	15 0	18 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0*z1*	11 0	11 0		Sarun
	Chumparun	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	26 0	...	...	...	3 6 0	...	3 5 0	11 0*z2*	11 8	11 0		Chumparun
	Monghyr	...	...	...	24 3	25 8	27 14	120 0	126 0	126 0	2 15 0	2 15 6	3 1 0	12 9*z3*	12 9	12 13		Monghyr
	Bhágalpur	...	...	...	22 11	24 0	26 8	151 14	126 4	138 4	3 2 0	3 1 0	2 15 6	12 10*z4*	12 10	12 10		Bhágalpur
	Purneah	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	...	9 0*z5*	9 0	10 12		Purneah
	Maldah	18 0	17 3	17 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	14 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	21 0	18 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	3 4 0	12 0	12 0	12 4		Maldah
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	13 0	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	18 0	17 0	16 0	23 8	24 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	18 0	19 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 12 0	3 11 6	3 7 0	10 0*z6*	10 8	11 4		Sonthal Pergunnahs
	Orissa.																																	*Orissa.*	
	Cuttack	11 13	13 2	14 7	...	...	...	13 2	13 2	15 12	21 0*	22 5	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 6	18 6	21 0	80 0	80 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	14 0	14 0	14 0		Cuttack
	Pooree	10 8	11 13	10 0	...	...	...	21 0	19 11	20 0	23 10	23 10	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 6	17 1	16 0	100 0	90 0	120 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	13 0*z7*	13 0	13 4		Pooree
	Balasore	16 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	20 0	28 0	28 0	32 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	14 0	16 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	3 2 0	9 3*z8*	9 3	12 14		Balasore
	CHOTA NAGPORE.																																	CHOTA NAGPUR.	
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																																	*South-Western Frontier Agency.*	
	Hazáribágh	14 0	14 0	13 0	17 0	21 0	24 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	15 0	15 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39 0	30 0	36 0	16 0	14 8	18 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 8 6	3 9 9	3 7 0	10 0*z9*	10 0	11 0		Hazáribágh
	Lohardugga	15 0	16 0	14 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	32 0	14 0	15 0	15 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 2 0	9 0	9 0	9 0		Lohardugga
	Singbhoom	18 0	18 0	20 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	32 0	32 0	36 0	36 0	36 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	24 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	4 7 0	5 11 0	4 5 0	8 0	6 0	8 0		Singbhoom
	Manbhoom	13 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	26 0	26 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 7 0	3 10 0	3 12 0	10 0*z10*	10 0	10 12		Manbhoom

* In the interior retail prices of common rice range from 6-4 to 39-6 seers per rupee.

f In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Baraset and Bussirhat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 10-8 seers, Barrackpore 12-12 seers, and Dum-Dum 12 seers.

g In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kooshtea 12-12 seers, Meherpore 11-8 seers, Choomdanga 13 seers and Ranaghat 12-14 seers.

h In the sub-divisions retail price of salt 11 seers.

i In Satkhira and Khoolna sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers, and Bongong 13 seers.

j In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Laibagh 11 seers, Jungipore 11-8 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.

k In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Raigunge 10-8 seers and Neetpore 12 seers.

l Retail prices of salt at Raigunge 10-8 seers and Nowgong retail price of salt 12 seers.

m In Naitore and Nowgong retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kurigram and Nilphamari 13 seers, and Gaibanda 10-4 seers.

n In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kurigram and Nilphamari 13 seers, and Gaibanda 10-4 seers.

o In Serajgunge retail price of salt 13 seers.

p In Serajgunge retail price of salt 13 seers, and Silligoree 10 seers.

q Retail price of salt at Kurseong 8 seers, and Silligoree 10 seers.

r Retail price of salt 10 seers.

s In Alipore sub-division at Fallacotta retail price of salt 10 seers.

t In Alipore sub-division at Fallacotta retail price of salt 10 seers.

u In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Manickgunge 12 seers, Moonsheegunge 10 seers 10½ chittacks, and Naraingunge 13-12 seers.

v In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Goalundo and Madaripore 12 seers, Bhanga 11-8 seers and Gopalgunge 12-12 seers.

w In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 9-2 seers, Perozepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.

x In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 9-2 seers, Perozepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.

y In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishoreegunge 10-10 seers, Mitton 12 seers, Jumalpore 11-4 seers, and Netrokona 12-5 seers.

z In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishoreegunge 10-10 seers, Mitton 12 seers, Jumalpore 11-4 seers, and Netrokona 12-5 seers.

* Retail price of salt at Kumeriah 10 seers, and Hathazaree 9 seers, and Cox's Bazar 8 seers.

e In the interior retail prices of salt range from 8 to 12-4 seers.

w In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Brahmunberiah 12-12 seers, and Chandpore 13 seers.

x In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Buxar and Saseeram 11-8 seers, and Bhubooa 10-8 seers.

y In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Tajpur 11-8 seers, and Madhubani 10 seers.

z In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 12 seers.

z1 In Sewan and Gopalgunge sub-divisions retail prices of salt 12 seers.

z2 In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 11-8 seers.

z3 In Jamui retail prices of salt 12 seers.

z4 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Banka 11 seers, Muddehpoora 10-8 seers, and Soopole 10 seers.

z5 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kissengunge 10 seers and Arrareah (at Raneeguuge) 11 seers.

z6 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Deoghur 12 seers, Rajmehal 11-8 seers, and Godda 13 seers.

z7 In Khoorda retail price of salt 13 seers.

z8 In Bhadruck retail price of salt 8 seers.

z9 Retail price of salt at Chatra 10 seers, and Khurruckdiha 11-8 seers.

z10 Retail price of salt at Raghunathpore 11-8 seers, Burrabazar 10 seers, and Gobindpore 11 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Cornloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Cornloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Cornloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a.	R a. per md.	R a.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Assam.	Sylhet	10 0	12 0	10 8	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	14 0	15 0	17 0	31 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108 0	108 0	108 0	3 4	3 4	3 2	11 0	12 0	12 12	Sylhet	Assam.
	Cachar	10 0	9 2	9 6	12 13	12 13	16 0	14 8	12 13	20 0	16 13	16 0	26 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 8	3 8	3 4	10 10	10 10	11 10	Cachar	
	Goálpárá	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	13 5	13 4	13 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	64 0	65 0	120 0	3 6	3 4	3 4	12 4	12 0	12 0	Goálpárá	
	Gáro Hills	4 0	4 0	4 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	18 0	17 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 6	5 6	5 6	6 6	6 6	6 6	Gáro Hills	
	Kámrúp	18 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	12 4	13 4	13 0	17 0	17 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	160 0	160 0	3 8	3 8	3 5	11 0	11 8	12 0	Kámrúp	
	Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 13	7 0	8 10	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Darrang	
	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	13 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	120 0	120 0	80 0	4 0	4 0	3 12	8 0	8 0	9 0	Nowgong	
	Sibságar	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	16 0	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 8	Sibságar	
	Lakhimpur	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	10 0	7 8	8 0	8 0	13 0	11 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	10 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	4 8	4 8	5 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	Lakhimpur	
	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	6 10	...	8 0	...	...	...	9 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	
	Nága Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	6 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 0	2 0	2 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	16 0	16 0	13 0	2 8	2 8	3 0	Nága Hills	
N. W. Provinces.	Dehra Dún	17 8	17 8	18 0	26 0	24 0	27 0	6 8	6 8	6 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	24 0	22 0	24 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	24 0	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	Dehra Dún	N. W. Provinces.
	Saháranpur	18 13	17 3	20 7	19 5½	23 10½	31 3	7 8½	7 8½	9 11	10 12	11 13	12 14½	26 14	29 0½	32 4	23 10½	21 8	23 10½	24 11½	21 8	24 11½	129 0	129 0	129 0	13 2½	12 14½	12 1	12 14½	12 5	11 13	Saháranpur	
	Muzaffarnagar	17 10	17 10	19 12	33 0	28 11	28 11	6 9	6 9	6 9	11 0	12 2	14 5	28 11	26 6	28 11	22 0	22 0	24 6	22 8	19 12	24 14	110 0	110 0	132 0	12 6	12 6	11 13	11 8	11 8	11 4	Muzaffarnagar	
	Meerut	17 8	17 0	19 0	25 0	25 0	27 0	6 0	6 8	6 0	13 0	14 0	15 0	26 0	26 0	27 0	19 0	19 0	21 0	22 8	20 8	23 12	110 0	110 0	110 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Meerut	
	Bulandshahr	18 8	18 0	19 8	26 0	26 0	26 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	9 11	10 0	10 5	26 0	26 0	24 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	21 0	22 0	23 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	...	...	...	Bulandshahr	
	Aligarh	17 4	17 0	18 4	23 0	22 8	24 0	6 0	7 0	6 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	24 0	23 8	24 0	16 0	16 8	20 0	21 0	21 0	22 0	120 0	120 0	130 0	12 4	12 4	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Aligarh	
	Kumaun	15 0	15 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	Kumaun	
	Garhwál	20 0	20 0	24 0	22 0	22 0	30 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	15 0	15 0	17 8	...	...	...	30 0*	30 0*	35 0*	10 0	10 0	9 0	280 0	280 0	320 0	8 8	8 8	6 14	7 13	7 13	6 4	Garhwál	
	Bijnor	18 14	18 4	17 7	29 4	28 2	27 0	9 9	9 4	11 4	10 11	9 8	12 6	22 8	...	21 6	...	...	19 2	21 6	19 2	20 13	135 0	135 0	135 0	...	...	...	11 4	11 0	11 0	Bijnor	
	Moradabad	20 0	19 1	19 6	28 2	27 8	23 12	9 0	9 0	9 6	13 0	12 12	13 2	25 8	26 14	25 0	15 4	15 4	18 2	21 14	21 14	21 4	125 0	125 0	137 8	12 10	12 10	12 0	12 8	12 8	11 14	Moradabad	
	Budaun	20 6	18 14	18 2	30 0	27 9½	23 6	6 0	6 0	9 9½	13 3	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	22 12½	19 12½	192 0	192 0	192 0	11 6	11 6	10 12½	11 1½	11 1½	10 7½	Budaun	
	Bareilly	19 6	18 12	17 3	24 6	25 0	22 8	7 8	7 8	8 2	13 2	13 2	13 12	26 4	25 0	24 6	20 0	18 12	21 4	22 8	21 14	20 0	125 0	125 0	125 0	12 3	12 3	11 14	11 14	11 14	11 4	Bareilly	
	Sháhjahánpur	19 6	19 4	19 0	33 0	31 0	24 12	9 12	9 12	9 4	15 4	15 4	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 12	22 12	21 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 0	13 0	12 4	10 12	11 0	10 12	Sháhjahánpur	
	Tarái Pergunnahs	20 4	23 0	21 4	40 0	35 0	35 0	8 12	8 12	10 0	14 0	13 8	15 0	25 0	25 0	...	22 8	20 0	...	20 0	20 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 0	11 0	Tarái Pergunnahs	
	Muttra	17 8	15 8	17 8	23 0	20 8	24 0	7 0	...	...	11 0	11 8	14 0	23 0	22 0	24 0	18 0	17 0	18 0	21 8	19 8	24 8	120 0	120 0	110 0	13 0	13 0	...	12 8	12 8	12 8	Muttra	
	Agra	16 8	15 8	17 4	23 0	21 0	25 0	5 8	5 8	6 0	11 8	11 8	14 0	22 0	20 0	26 0	18 0	20 0	23 0	22 8	20 8	24 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	Agra	
	Farukhabad	17 15	17 5	17 10	24 7	22 14	22 5½	7 4	7 4	6 13	12 8	12 10	13 2½	24 2	23 7½	23 1	22 4	21 8	21 13½	23 0	22 8	22 2	150 0	145 0	156 8	12 4	12 4	11 10	11 9	11 9	Farukhabad	
	Mainpuri	17 0	16 8	19 0	22 8	22 0	25 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	20 4	24 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Mainpuri	
	Etáwah	17 8	16 0	18 8	22 0	22 0	23 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 0	12 0	14 8	24 0	23 0	25 0	19 8	19 0	20 0	24 0	22 0	25 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	11 0	11 0	10 0	Etáwah	
	Etah	18 8	18 0	20 0	25 4	24 8	25 0	6 8	8 0	10 0	11 8	12 0	...	18 0	18 0	...	18 0	16 0	16 0	21 0	20 15	23 8	180 0	180 0	140 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 4	11 0	...	Etah	
	Jalaun	19 0	18 8	18 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	29 0	28 0	28 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	Jalaun	
	Jhánsi	19 7½	18 0	21 5	28 10	26 5	33 2½	7 8	8 0	8 0	11 2½	12 8	15 0	27 2½	25 15	28 0	...	...	...	27 9½	25 11	27 14½	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	12 6½	10 0	10 0	11 6½	Jhánsi	
	Lalitpur	20 8	20 8	21 0	35 0	32 0	37 0	9 0	9 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	13 0	31 0	29 0	32 0	22 0	22 0	26 0	30 0	27 0	28 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 10	Lalitpur	
	Cawnpore	18 8	18 0	18 8	27 0	25 8	26 8	10 0	10 0	11 0	13 8	13 8	14 0	27 0	25 0	27 0	24 0	23 0	25 0	27 0	25 8	25 8	145 0	145 0	140 0	13 8	13 4	13 0	13 0	12 8	Cawnpore		
	Fatehpur	16 10	16 10	16 10	25 4	24 8	25 12	10 12	10 12	13 8	13 8	13 10	15 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 12	27 0	25 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	10 4	10 12	10 12	10 0	Fatehpur	
	Bánda	22 0	22 0	18 0	31 0	31 0	21 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	12 0	12 8	14 8	37 0	36 0	33 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	37 0	36 0	34 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	11 0	11 0	12 0	Bánda	
	Allahabad	17 4	16 12	17 8	28 0	27 8	25 8	10 8	10 8	12 0	15 0	15 0	17 0	31 0	30 8	32 0	29 8	30 0	30 0	29 0	28 4	25 0	140 0	140 0	120 0	12 4	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Allahabad	
	Hamírpur	18 4	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	9 0	8 0	10 0	...	...	...	24 12	21 0	27 0	23 10	...	25 0	29 18	26 0	29 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 4	11 4	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Hamírpur	
	Jaunpur	19 13	19 13	19 0	31 1	31 1	30 5	7 12	7 12	7 1	12 12	14 2	15 8	...	...	...	...	...	19 12	29 10	31 1	24 0	148 12	148 12	120 0	10 12	10 12	9 11	10 10	10 10	9 9	Jaunpur	
	Gorakhpur	18 0	18 14	18 13	27 0	27 14	27 0	11 13	13 1	13 8	14 5½	16 3	18 0	39 9½	39 9½	36 0	...	...	...	27 14	30 9½	25 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	10 9½	10 9½	11 13	10 6½	10 6½	10 6½	Gorakhpur	
	Basti	18 0	20 0	18 8	30 0	34 0	28 0	12 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	30 0	25 0	150 0	150 0	140 0	8 8	9 0	10 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	Basti	
	Azamgarh	17 4	17 11	17 11	25 14½	25 13	27 5	10 5	10 5	11 9	13 4	14 12	17 10	29 8	...	...	...	...	20 10	25 15	25 15	22 2	147 8	147 8	181 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	9 14	9 14	7 14	Azamgarh	
	Mirzapur	16 0	16 0	15 0	25 0	25 0	21 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	15 0	26 0	26 0	26 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	21 0	70 0	70 0	100 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	Mirzapur	
	Benares	16 13	16 13	16 8	25 8	25 8½	25 3	10 13½	10 13½	11 6	17 1	16 13	16 4	26 0	26 0	26 0	26 0	27 2	27 2	23 14	28 5	21 11	90 0	90 0	140 0	10 6½	10 6½	11 4	10 2	10 2	10 2	Benares	
	Gházipur	18 10½	19 5	17 6	27 0½	27 11	27 11	9 0	9 0	10 15½	15 7	15 7	16 1½	33 7½	25 12	25 12	25 12	25 12	25 12	27 0½	27 11	25 12	128 12	128 12	130 0	10 15½	10 15½	11 0	10 5	10 5	9 10½	Gházipur	
	Balia	18 12	18 12	16 4	25 0	27 8	27 8	10 0	10 10	10 0	17 8	17 8	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 8	26 4	25 0	90 0	90 0	100 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 0	11 4	11 4	Balia	
	Pilibhít	20 8	19 13	18 13	35 8	34 8	28 0	13 12	12 2	15 0	15 4	14 12	17 9	...	...	25 0	...	...	...	24 7	23 8	18 12	150 0	150 0	150 0	13 0	13 0	12 12	12 8	12 8	11 12	Pilibhít	
Oudh.	Sultánpur	20 0	20 0	19 8	32 0	32 0	31 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	31 0	25 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 4	11 4	12 0	12 0	11 8	Sultánpur	Oudh.
	Partábgarh	19 14	20 2	19 1	32 5	33 5	29 13	15 5	15 5	16 7	17 2	16 2	17 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 10½	26 2	21 13	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 10	10 10	10 10	Partábgarh	
	Fyzabad	18 0	17 8	17 6	28 0	26 8	27 8	10 0	10 4	11 0	15 12	13 8	18 0	38 12	33 0	40 0	...	...	28 0	27 8	26 0	24 0	120 0	120 0	140 0	11 8	11 2	11 0	11 0	10 4	10 0	Fyzabad	
	Kheri	21 0	22 8	19 0	34 8	36 0	25 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	13 8	14 0	16 8	41 0	45 0	28 0	...	29 0	...	28 8	29 0	19 0	120 0	120 0	160 0	11 0	10 10	11 0	10 8	10 10	10 0	Khéri	
	Lucknow	17 11	17 5	17 4½	26 14	27 0	24 8	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 2	12 9½	14 11	27 0	27 12	23 8	23 4	23 0	23 14	23 0	23 1	21 6	115 0	115 0	110 0	11 2½	11 0	10 8	10 10½	10 8	10 0	Lucknow	
	Bára Banki	18 0	18 0	17 8	24 0	29 0	25 0	9 0	9 0	11 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	32 0	29 0	30 0	21 0	21 0	20 0	25 0	29 0	22 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Bára Banki	
	Bahraich	16 0	17 0	16 0	34 0	36 0	30 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	15 0	16 0	17 0	34 0	38 0	36 0	23 0	23 0	13 0	24 0	24 0	20 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 8	Bahraich	
	Rai Bareli	18 12	18 8	19 8	26 8	25 8	26 0	...	...	...	15 8	15 6	16 8	...	...	24 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	27 14	27 14	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	11 8	11 8	10 8	Rai Bareli	
	Sitapur	20 12	20 14	19 4	32 11	33 6	27 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	14 0	16 0	15 0	28 0	28 0	...	25 0	25 0	20 0	33 8	33 6	27 2	200 0	200 0	240 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 0	11 0	10 8	Sitapur	
	Gonda	20 15	20 8	19 12	42 0	43 8	29 8	14 4	14 4	16 0	15 10	15 12	18 2	39 0	38 12	36 0	22 0	23 6	24 0	25 0	24 8	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 8	Gonda	
	Unáo	18 0	18 0	18 8	26 0	24 0	26 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	13 0	14 0	14 8	28 0	28 0	60 0	21 0	21 0	...	21 9	20 10	22 8	200 0	200 0	240 0	9 6	9 6	9 6	7 8	7 8	7 8	Unáo	
	Hardui	16 14	16 14	20 6	27 3	27 11	27 11	5 10	5 10	5 10	11 4	11 4	12 4	...	23 7	...	...	...	16 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Hardui	
Punjab.	Gujránwála (a)	22 4	19 4	26 0	35 0	33 0	40 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	32 0	32 0	22 0	28 0	28 0	20 0	29 8	26 4	26 8	95 0	95 0	95 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	15 0	15 0	15 0	Gujránwála (a)	Punjab.
	Lahore (b)	20 0	18 0	24 0	32 0	27 0	38 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	32 0	29 0	32 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	29 0	25 0	29 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Lahore (b)	
	Ferozepore (b)	20 0	16 8	24 0	38 0	26 0	39 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 0	36 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	30 8	25 0	34 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 4	12 12	13 0	12 8	13 8	13 0	Ferozepore (b)	
	Sirsa (c)	21 0	19 0	21 0	35 0	28 0	39 0	...	...	...	11 0	12 0	12 0	32 0	28 0	40 0	28 0	25 0	32 0	33 0	29 0	38 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 8	11 8	10 8	Sirsa (c)	
	Hissar (b)	18 8	16 8	17 8	29 0	26 0	32 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	28 0	24 0	32 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	27 0	25 0	29 0	120 0	120 0	80 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	11 8	11 8	10 0	Hissar (b)	
	Rohtak (d)	18 8	17 0	17 12	24 0	21 0	25 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	22 0	20 0	25 0	21 0	19 0	25 0	23 0	20 8	25 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	11 8	11 1	11 0	10 0	10 5	Rohtak (d)	
	Gurgaon (b)	19 8	18 0	20 0	27 0	24 8	27 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	13 0	25 0	23 0	26 0	22 0	20 0	24 0	22 0	20 0	24 0	140 0	140 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Gurgáon (b)	
	Delhi (b)	17 8	16 12	18 8	24 8	23 0	24 8	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	23 8	21 0	26 0	19 0	18 0	20 0	21 0	19 12	22 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	11 8	11 8	11 8	Delhi (b)	
	Karnál (b)	18 0	16 12	20 8	26 8	24 8	31 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 0	24 0	23 0	30 0	22 0	21 0	18 0	24 0	21 8	26 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	12 0	12 4	11 8	11 12	12 0	11 4	Karnál (b)	
	Umballa (e)	20 8	17 8	23 0	30 0	26 0	30 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 0	12 0	32 0	24 0	32 0	15 0	16 0	26 0	27 0	21 8	27 12	160 0	140 0	140 0	14 2	14 0	13 12	14 0	13 4	13 8	Umballa (e)	
	Ludhiana (b)	23 0	18 8	24 0	32 0	27 0	34 0	...	...	...	...	10 0	12 0	30 0	28 0	38 0	19 0	18 0	20 0	29 0	23 0	30 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 0	14 11	14 10	14 0	14 0	14 8	Ludhiána (b)	
	Simla (f)	15 0	12 8	15 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 4	14 0	18 4	80 0	80 0	80 0	11 0	10 5	10 8	10 5	9 11	9 14	Simla (f)	

* Mandwa.

(a) Wheat, gram, barley falling.

(b) Prices falling.

(c) Wheat, barley, bajra, jowar and gram falling, rice rising.

(d) Prices have fallen except that of rice.

(e) Wheat, barley, jowar, and gram falling, bajra rising.

(f) Wheat, gram and salt falling.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883 —*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum*. Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum*. Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Punjab—*continued.*	Kángra	20 0	18 0	24 0	32 0	28 0	40 0	...	...	...	14 0	13 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	17 0	21 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	Kángra	Punjab—*continued.*
	Jullundur (*a*)	20 0	17 0	24 12	30 0	26 0	34 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	8 0	28 0	22 0	32 0	24 0	24 0	19 0	...	...	...	25 8	23 0	28 2	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 8	14 0	14 4	14 0	13 8	13 4	Júllundur (*a*)	
	Hoshiárpur (*b*)	20 0	17 8	25 8	24 0	28 0	25 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 8	11 0	...	...	30 0	20 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	...	24 0	23 0	28 6	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	13 12	13 12	13 12	13 8	Hoshiárpur (*b*)	
	Gurdáspur (*a*)	24 8	20 0	30 0	28 0	26 0	40 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	30 0	28 0	24 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	25 8	23 0	31 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	Gurdáspur (*a*)	
	Amritsar (*c*)	21 8	19 8	25 8	30 0	29 4	41 0	...	...	...	11 8	10 8	11 8	27 4	24 8	29 4	24 8	25 8	22 8	...	...	...	30 8	24 4	32 4	80 0	80 0	80 0	15 5	15 5	14 12	14 13	14 13	14 6	Amritsar (*c*)	
	Siálkot (*a*)	22 0	21 0	26 0	35 0	32 0	41 0	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	14 0	32 0	32 0	27 0	29 0	32 0	21 0	...	...	...	26 8	25 0	25 8	120 0	130 0	130 0	15 8	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	Siálkot (*a*)	
	Gujrát (*d*)	23 0	22 4	25 8	36 0	42 0	43 0	...	...	...	12 0	13 8	12 0	36 8	39 0	27 0	33 8	34 0	28 8	...	...	...	26 0	28 4	24 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	*	*	*	15 0	14 2	15 0	Gujrát(*d*)	
	Jhelum	21 0	20 0	28 8	28 0	27 0	32 0	...	...	...	10 0	11 0	10 0	33 0	36 0	25 0	29 0	31 0	24 0	...	...	...	25 0	22 0	23 8	120 0	120 0	160 0	16 0	16 0	16 8	15 8	15 8	16 0	Jhelum	
	Ráwalpindi (*e*)	23 0	20 8	21 8	32 0	32 0	33 0	...	...	...	7 8	8 8	11 8	36 8	33 0	31 0	35 8	30 8	24 0	...	...	...	29 0	24 4	23 4	88 0	80 0	95 0	15 4	15 0	14 12	14 12	14 8	14 8	Ráwalpindi (*e*)	
	Shahpúr	26 0	22 0	20 12	41 0	36 0	32 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	13 0	34 0	34 0	22 0	34 0	34 0	21 0	...	...	...	36 0	30 0	24 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	17 0	16 0	17 0	16 0	15 0	16 0	Shahpúr	
	Jhang (*f*)	21 4	17 8	20 0	30 0	28 8	31 0	...	...	...	9 4	8 0	11 0	26 11	27 0	20 0	30 0	30 0	18 0	...	...	...	26 11	24 0	22 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	14 0	14 4	15 4	13 12	14 0	15 0	Jhang (*f*)	
	Montgomery	17 0	16 0	20 0	26 0	23 0	24 0	...	...	...	5 8	6 0	5 8	...	...	20 0	...	...	16 0	...	...	...	27 0	23 0	26 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 0	13 0	12 0	11 0	12 0	11 0	Montgomery	
	Mooltan (*g*)	15 8	14 8	17 0	27 0	25 0	29 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	24 0	26 0	30 0	24 0	26 0	24 0	...	...	...	24 0	23 0	23 8	90 0	90 0	90 0	14 0	14 4	14 12	13 8	13 12	14 8	Mooltan (*g*)	
	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	17 0	17 12	18 8	25 0	27 0	26 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	7 0	21 0	21 0	18 0	16 0	23 0	18 0	...	...	...	21 0	23 0	19 8	90 0	90 0	120 0	*	*	*	13 8	13 8	12 0	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	
	Dera Gházi Khán	17 8	16 14	17 8	27 8	30 0	20 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	7 8	32 8	32 8	21 4	30 0	32 8	20 0	...	...	...	23 12	22 8	18 12	100 0	100 0	100 0	31 4	31 4	31 4	28 12	28 12	27 8	Dera Gházi Khán	
	Dera Ismail Khán (*i*)	21 4	20 10	19 3	35 0	32 3	27 8	...	...	...	8 2	8 7	9 1	40 0	40 0	30 6	30 0	32 8	25 1	...	...	...	30 0	29 6	24 0	125 0	125 0	100 0	55 0	50 0	55 0	47 8	47 8	53 0	Dera Ismail Khán (*i*)	
	Bannu	29 6	29 6	30 10	41 4	42 8	42 8	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	10 0	45 0	50 0	35 0	30 0	37 8	30 0	...	...	...	30 10	36 15	21 10	80 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	Bannu	
	Kohát (*j*)	19 10	19 12	17 8	31 14	31 14	31 14	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	30 10	36 15	21 10	30 10	35 11	21 10	...	...	...	25 8	25 8	16 9	102 0	102 0	102 0	71 6	71 6	96 15	66 5	66 5	84 0	Kohát (*j*)	
	Pesháwar (*k*)	20 8	18 10	19 0	32 0	30 3	35 12	...	...	...	11 5	12 0	9 8	23 6	25 4	27 0	27 4	22 0	14 0	...	...	...	24 0	21 8	16 8	105 0	96 0	96 0	44 3	44 3	55 4	43 0	48 0	53 0	Pesháwar (*k*)	
	Házára	25 0	24 0	...	40 0	37 0	40 0	...	...	...	12 0	14 0	13 0	34 0	30 0	...	28 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	24 0	28 0	28 0	140 0	140 0	70 0	*	*	*	11 0	11 8	12 0	Házára	
Central Provinces.	Nágpur	18 12	17 12	17 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 4	9 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	29 0	28 12	26 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 8	20 12	19 4	120 0	110 0	150 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 12	11 12	11 4	Nágpur	Central Provinces.
	Bhandára	20 0	19 0	18 4	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 8	20 0	18 8	21 4	35 0	35 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 8	20 12	19 8	96 0	118 0	...	10 0	10 8	11 0	9 12	10 0	10 12	Bhandára	
	Chánda	19 0	19 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	13 0	27 8	27 8	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 8	21 8	27 0	360 0	360 0	360 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 8	Chánda	
	Wardha	20 0	20 0	18 8	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 12	12 0	14 0	14 12	26 0	27 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	20 0	24 0	120 0	120 0	125 0	11 8	12 0	12 4	11 0	11 0	12 0	Wardha	
	Bálaghát	18 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	23 0	23 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	32 0	275 0	275 0	275 0	9 4	9 4	10 0	8 8	8 8	10 0	Bálaghát	
	Jubbulpore	19 0	18 8	16 0	20 0	19 0	21 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	15 0	14 8	13 0	23 0	21 0	16 0	17 8	17 0	15 0	...	...	...	26 0	25 8	25 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	11 4	11 0	11 12	10 12	10 8	11 8	Jubbulpore	
	Saugor	20 8	22 0	18 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	11 0	9 0	9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	27 0	23 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	9 8	...	8 12	9 0	9 0	8 8	Saugor	
	Damoh	26 8	25 4	22 8	...	...	...	10 12	10 8	14 8	12 0	11 8	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 0	37 0	35 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	10 0	9 4	9 12	9 12	9 0	9 8	Damoh	
	Seoni	21 0	20 8	19 0	...	...	...	12 8	11 8	13 8	16 0	15 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	26 0	16 0	220 0	220 0	210 0	10 8	10 8	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 12	Seoni	
	Mandla	25 0	25 0	19 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	14 0	18 8	19 0	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	25 8	40 0	40 0	35 0	256 0	256 0	256 0	...	...	...	Mandla	
	Betúl	18 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	9 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	19 8	19 8	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	25 8	40 0	40 0	35 0	256 0	256 0	256 0	...	...	...	Betúl	
	Chhindwára	25 8	25 0	17 0	...	...	...	8 8	9 8	8 0	14 8	14 8	13 0	31 0	32 12	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	14 0	18 0	18 0	15 0	320 0	320 0	240 0	8 8	9 0	8 8	Chhindwára	
	Hoshangabad	15 6	15 7	15 7	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	4 8	9 12	9 9	11 4	21 0	21 0	23 10	19 4	19 4	23 10	...	...	...	16 0	14 8	18 0	30 * 0	30 0	21 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Hoshangabad	
	Narsinghpur	17 8	18 4	15 8	...	...	...	9 0	9 4	10 0	11 8	12 8	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 7	21 6	21 6	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 8	11 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	Narsinghpur	
	Nimár	16 8	16 8	16 0	...	...	...	12 9	12 9	...	14 14	14 14	12 0	20 10	20 10	30 0	20 0	20 0	25 0	...	...	...	24 8	25 0	25 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	Nimár	
	Raipur	21 0	20 0	27 0	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	20 0	31 8	31 8	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 4	20 4	18 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	13 13	13 13	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 12	Raipur	
	Sambalpur	16 8	17 0	22 12	...	...	...	29 5	31 8	35 0	32 11	35 0	44 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 8	28 8	30 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 0	10 0	9 6	9 0	9 0	8 12	Sambalpur	
	Biláspur	25 0	25 0	45 0	...	...	...	33 4	23 0	54 0	44 0	39 0	84 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 13	18 0	28 8	120 0	120 0	110 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	8 15	9 8	9 0	Biláspur	
British Burma.	*Arakan Division.*																																		*Arakan Division.*	British Burma.
	Akyab	6 6	6 6	6 6	...	...	...	7 0	7 8	14 0	9 0	10 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	128 4	118 0	150 0	84 0	84 0	56 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	35 0	35 0	32 0	Akyab	
	Northern Arakan	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	...	11 0	...	...	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	160 0	120 0	160 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	35 0	35 0	32 0	Northern Arakan	
	Kyoukpyoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 11	8 0	18 0	10 3	9 7	19 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 0	...	8 0	Kyoukpyoo	
	Sandoway	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 2	17 2	22 14	19 2	19 2	26 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	4 0	50 0	50 0	160 0	...	...	...†	30 0	30 0	36 0	Sandoway	
	Pegu Division.																									469 11	469 11	469 11	...	...	...	39 0	39 0	28 6	*Pegu Division.*	
	Rangoon Town	11 0	12 2	15 5	...	...	...	11 10	10 8	12 3	12 8	12 8	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 2	19 2	19 7	320 0	320 0	320 0	50 11	50 11	50 11	22 10	22 10	22 10	Rangoon Town	
	Tharrawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 2¾	7 2¾	10 13¾	7-14¾	7-14¾	13 6¾	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 13¾	17 13¾	13 9$\frac{37}{64}$	535 11¾	535 11¾	535 11¾	...	...	...	27 7$\frac{31}{64}$	35 11¾	27 7$\frac{31}{64}$	Tharrawaddy	
	Prome	9 11	9 11	12 2	...	...	...	11 3	9 9	12 3	13 1	13 1	17 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 9	15 9	13 13	139 11	139 11	139 11	25 5	25 5	29 9	16 9	16 9	18 10	Prome	
	Irrawaddy Division.																									183 8	183 8	183 8	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	*Irrawaddy Division.*	
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 15	11 15	14 5	15 10	15 10	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 13	16 13	22 7	246 0	246 0	184 8	33 12	33 12	37 5	32 4	32 4	35 7	Henzada	
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 6	8 6	10 12	10 7	10 7	14 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	17 1	245 0	245 0	245 0	25 5	25 5	26 4	18 15	18 15	18 15	Thonegwa	
	Thayetmyo	9 4	9 4	10 1	...	...	...	10 3	10 3	10 13	11 13	11 13	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Thayetmyo	
	Tenasserim Division.																																		*Tenasserim Division.*	
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	12 2	12 2	10 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	12 10	12 8	12 8	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 3	12 3	11 1	220 0	220 0	220 0	35 8	35 8	47 7	25 5	25 5	35 8	Moulmein Town & Amherst	
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	18 12	17 15	17 15	23 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	399 3	399 3	399 3	24 2	24 2	24 2	16 1	16 1	16 1	Tavoy	
	Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 3	12 13	18 5	16 1	14 3	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 9	12 9	12 9	24 0	24 0	24 0	3 3	3 3	3 3	30 12	2 10	2 10	18 12	Toungoo	
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 1	10 10	12 7	11 5	12 7	18 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	250 0	250 0	250 0	35 6	35 6	32 3	18 14	18 14	18 14	Shwaygyin	
	Salween	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Salween	
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Secunderabad	Hyderabad Assigned Districts.
	Bolarum																																		Bolarum	
	Chudderghat																																		Chudderghat	
	Amraoti	16 0	16 0	16 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	26 0	28 0	28 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	19 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Amraoti	
	Akola	16 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	7 0	13 0	13 0	10 0	24 0	24 0	30 0	21 0	21 0	16 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	23 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Akola	
	Ellichpur	16 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	12 0	12 0	10 0	8 0	8 0	14 0	10 0	12 0	27 0	25 0	23 0	24 0	21 0	22 0	8 0	8 0	7 8	17 0	16 0	17 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	Ellichpur	
	Buldána	18 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	26 0	26 0	32 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	10 0	Buldána	
	Wún	18 8	18 8	14 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	7 0	13 0	13 0	10 0	31 8	31 8	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	100 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	8 0	Wún	
	Basim	21 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	5 12	6 0	5 0	13 0	13 0	13 8	27 0	29 0	34 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	25 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 8	10 8	9 8	10 0	10 0	9 0	Basim	

(*a*) Prices falling. (*b*) Prices rising. (*c*) Wheat, barley, rice, jowar, gram falling, bajra rising. (*d*) Barley, bajra, jowar, gram, salt, rice rising, wheat falling.
(*e*) Wheat, bajra, gram, jowar, salt and firewood falling, rice rising. (*f*) Wheat, barley, rice and gram falling, jowar, salt, rising. (*g*) Bajra, jowar, salt, rising; wheat, barley, gram falling.
(*h*) Wheat, barley, bajra, gram rising. (*i*) Wheat, barley and gram slightly falling; rice, bajra rising slowly. (*j*) Wheat, bajra, jowar rising. (*k*) Rice rising; wheat, barley, bajra and gram falling. * No wholesale salt sold. † R48 per 100 maunds wholesale.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883 —*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Mysore	Bangalore, Kolar, Túmkúr, Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga, Kadur, Chitaldroog	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received						Bangalore, Kolar, Túmkúr, Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga, Kadur, Chitaldroog	Mysore.
Coorg	Coorg	8 7	8 7	8 14	9 15	9 10	8 7	14 3	13 11	10 10	18 11	18 9	13 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 2	30 9	21 5	29 12	28 6	22 2	110 0	110 0	110 0	10 1	9 14	8 10	9 10	9 11	8 2	Coorg	Coorg
Rajputana	Jeypore	16 0	15 8	16 4	22 8	21 0	22 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	8 8	8 8	9 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	19 3	19 4	19 0	...	...	...	21 8	20 8	19 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	14 4	14 12	14 12	14 0	Jeypore	Rajputana.
	Kishengurh	16 12	15 4	17 0	23 4	20 0	24 8	9 0	9 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	22 8	19 8	24 0	16 8	14 8	20 8	...	...	...	23 8	21 8	21 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	Kishengurh	
	Kerrowlee	16 14	15 15	17 13	25 10	21 14	22 8	10 0	10 0	12 8	11 4	11 4	13 8	25 10	21 14	22 8	21 4	19 6	19 10	...	...	...	26 0	21 14	22 8	...	...	...	13 5	13 12	13 14	13 0	13 8	13 8	Kerrowlee	
	Ulwur	17 5	16 4	19 1	22 14	20 9	26 13	8 10	8 10	9 0	10 8	10 8	11 14	22 0	21 12	23 8	17 12	19 4	19 5	...	...	...	22 11	20 6	24 3	...	...	...	15 7	15 7	15 13	14 12	14 12	15 13	Ulwur	
	Bhurtpore (City)	*	16 0	18 3	*	22 9	26 0	*	7 12	6 8	*	9 6	11 0	*	20 0	22 3	*	20 8	17 3	...	...	...	*	21 8	23 0	...	...	...	*	12 4	12 4	*	12 0	12 0	Bhurtpore (City)	
	Ajmere	15 8	14 8	16 0	22 0	20 8	23 12	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	16 0	13 0	18 0	...	...	...	23 0	22 0	22 0	80 0	70 0	70 0	17 0	17 0	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	Ajmere	
	Deoli Cantonment	17 3	18 11	17 5	24 15	25 9	22 5	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	10 8	20 13	24 13	20 0	18 0	18 0	20 12	...	...	...	25 8	25 9	21 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 12	12 12	12 12	Deoli Cantonment	
																													R a. p.	R a. p. per md.	R a. p.					
	Erinpura	13 12	13 12	16 12	20 12	20 12	28 9	...	...	...	7 13	7 13	8 0	19 0	19 0	20 9	17 10½	17 10½	24 11	...	...	...	18 7	18 7	22 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 1 3	3 1 3	3 1 2	12 0	12 0	12 0	Erinpura	
	Sirohee	11 8	11 4	15 0	20 0	22 0	25 0	6 8	6 8	7 0	7 8	7 8	8 0	14 0	14 0	17 0	15 0	15 0	20 0	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 5	12 5	12 5	Sirohee	
	Abu	11 12	11 0	15 4	16 14	17 10	23 0	7 0	6 6	6 8	8 4	7 6	8 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 2	18 0	...	...	...	15 4	14 4	21 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	Abu	
	Anadra	11 14	12 2	17 0	17 14	20 14	26 0	6 14	6 14	7 0	8 2	7 14	9 0	...	...	...	13 8	14 8	20 0	...	...	...	15 8	15 12	24 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4	12 4	12 4	Anadra	
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	21 0	15 0	20 0	25 0	24 0	25 0	...	...	...	15 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	18 0	23 0	†	†	†	3 10 0	4 0 0	...	11 0	10 0	10 0	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Meywar (Oodeypore)	13 13½	13 7½	14 10½	17 9½	17 15½	19 8½	9 6	9 6	9 12½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 3½	17 3	16 0½	5 0	5 0	5 0	9 9	9 6	9 15½	9 6	8 15½	9 12½	Meywar (Oodeypore)	
																													R a. p.	R a. p. per md.	R a. p.					
	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	21 0	20 0	21 14	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 12	17 8	17 8	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35 0	30 0	35 0	...	...	...	3 13 0	...	...	10 10	10 10	11 4	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	
	Partábgarh („)	17 8	17 15½	18 0	...	...	...	8 7	9 6	10 5	9 6	10 10	12 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 5	21 3	21 9	...	...	...	2 7 6	...	...	16 4	16 7½	9 11	Partábgarh („)	
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	15 10	12 13	16 9	20 0	17 8	22 8	6 4	6 4	6 4	7 8	7 8	7 8	21 9	18 12	25 0	18 12	15 10	21 4	...	...	...	20 0	16 9	22 8	...	...	...	2 10 0	2 10 0	2 8 0	15 0	15 0	15 10	Marwar (Jodhpore)	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Bikaneer	10 6	9 5	13 8	...	...	...	3 6	3 6	3 4	5 12	5 12	6 8	...	...	...	18 0	15 8	20 8	...	...	...	17 12	16 4	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	Bikaneer	
	Boondee	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Boondee	
	Kotah	21 0	20 0	17 0	25 0	25 0	18 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	11 0	11 0	13 0	25 0	22 0	23 0	12 8	13 8	15 8	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	26 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	12 8	12 8	12 12	12 0	12 0	12 4	Kotah	
	Tonk	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Tonk	
	Jhallawar	17 5	16 3	14 2½	20 0	20 14	15 15	...	...	...	7 1	7 14	10 2	22 6	21 14	25 12	17 1	17 1	15 13	...	...	...	22 4	21 4	17 15	...	...	...	10 2	9 12	10 12	9 14	9 8	10 10	Jhallawar	
	Shahpoora	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Shahpoora	
	Dholpur	16 10	15 6	18 8	24 4	21 11	27 4	10 2	10 2	9 2	10 15	11 4	12 6	21 1	21 3	24 7	22 10	19 5	4 0	...	...	...	23 9	21 0	26 0	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 3	12 10	12 10	12 6	Dholpur	
Central India.	Indore	14 8	14 8	16 0	...	...	...	8 9	9 3	8 0	10 0	10 14	10 0	19 3	20 0	22 14	19 3	18 7	22 14	...	...	...	17 12	17 7	18 7	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	12 5	11 5	11 6	...	Indore	Central India.
	Gwalior	15 9	15 0	16 5	19 11	21 8	20 10	7 7	7 5	7 13	8 13	9 2	10 1	21 15	21 15	21 0	18 4	18 12	20 2	...	...	...	21 0	20 1	22 7	109 8	127 12	109 8	...	...	...	11 7	11 7	11 14	Gwalior	
	Goona	23 0	21 4	20 4	20 0	20 0	19 0	8 8	9 0	9 8	9 0	9 8	10 0	35 0	32 0	23 0	20 0	20 0	16 0	...	...	...	32 0	30 0	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 8	12 0	11 8	12 0	11 8	11 0	Goona	
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	24 3	22 4	21 0	39 0	35 12	32 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	17 6	17 8	18 0	37 0	35 0	32 0	30 6	30 0	24 0	...	...	...	33 10	30 13	30 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 15	11 5	12 4	11 4	11 4	11 10	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	

* Not received.

† Eight pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXXVI OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 16th September 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 15th September 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 16th September 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 15th September 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
22nd Sept. 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	1,69,927	988	172	(a)1,05,002	610	22,84,591	550	(a)20,29,095	492	...	2,55,496
15th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	69,307	127	547	94,879	173	22,96,190	174	26,84,978	205	3,88,788	...
15th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	1,34,105	198	749	1,61,443	216	42,69,829	262	54,20,564	304	11,50,735	...
15th ditto	Madras	861	1,33,140	155	861	1,19,529	139	33,06,032	159	30,61,519	148	...	2,44,513
15th ditto	South Indian	655	69,747	106	655	83,524	128	18,10,941	115	18,71,643	119	60,702	...
22nd ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,451	3,05,653	211	1,451	3,72,159	256	1,48,60,842	424	1,57,12,732	451	8,51,890	...
15th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	61,230	133	461	1,38,552	301	45,99,204	413	52,47,613	474	6,48,409	...
	TOTAL	4,823	9,43,109	196	4,896	10,75,088	219	3,34,27,629	287	3,60,28,144	307	26,00,515	...
	State.												
22nd Sept. 1883	East Indian	1,507	6,63,940	441	1,509	8,97,415	595	1,99,51,231	548	2,36,06,331	652	36,55,100	...
22nd ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	2,604	79	56	4,790	86	87,527	117	1,36,602	105	49,075	...
22nd ditto	Nalhati	27	1,081	40	27	1,390	51	31,282	48	38,628	59	7,346	...
22nd ditto	Northern Bengal	230	37,313	162	239	40,850	171	8,53,934	153	9,29,542	166	75,608	...
22nd ditto	Tirhoot	75	11,685	156	166	18,958	114	2,97,177	152	3,92,621	100	95,444	...
18th Aug. 1883	Patna-Gya	57	7,071	124	...	(b)	...	(c)1,76,648	154	(d)1,58,868	139	...	17,780
8th Sept. 1883	Muttra-Hathras	29	2,232	77	...	(b)	...	(e)51,856	77	(f)57,808	87	5,952	...
8th ditto	Cawnpore-Furrakhabad	87	5,320	61	...	(b)	...	(e)1,49,399	74	(f)1,49,924	75	525	...
22nd ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	864	72	12	585	49	21,370	73	22,308	77	938	...
22nd ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,116	1,67,318	149	1,117	1,66,900	149	47,00,766	174	55,29,176	208	8,28,410	...
22nd ditto	Wardha Coal	45	5,992	133	45	13,206	293	2,39,038	220	3,29,237	305	90,199	...
22nd ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	2,874	29	149	7,333	49	2,56,370	108	6,20,165	173	3,63,795	...
15th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	20,408	127	161	22,545	140	6,30,258	162	6,34,328	164	4,070	...
22nd ditto	Sindia	75	4,716	63	75	4,184	56	1,42,429	78	1,41,265	78	...	1,164
15th ditto	Punjab Northern	409	27,894	68	421	57,125	135	13,23,478	136	14,39,412	142	1,15,934	...
22nd ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	73,831	112	660	84,975	129	19,33,158	121	34,64,493	219	15,31,335	...
22nd ditto	Muttra-Achnera	23	1,610	70	23	1,810	57	31,307	57	35,113	63	3,806	...
22nd ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	1,506	47	32	3,151	98	34,645	45	45,938	60	11,293	...
22nd ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	...	89	7,180	81	...	...	1,57,225	74	1,57,225	...
	TOTAL	3,169	3,74,319	118	g3,272	4,34,482	133	1,09,60,642	143	1,42,82,653	178	33,22,011	...
	Assisted Company.												
22nd Sept. 1883	Bengal Central	...	...	...	35	1,636	47	...	...	50,504	60	50,504	...
	Native States.												
15th ditto	Bhavnagar-Gondal	194	9,332	48	193	10,033	52	4,26,487	91	4,70,091	101	43,604	...
15th ditto	Nizam's	121	12,626	104	121	14,707	121	3,97,846	136	3,57,309	123	...	40,537
15th ditto	Mysore	86	5,804	67	86	4,435	52	1,30,594	63	1,20,952	59	...	9,642
22nd ditto	Jodhpore	19	3,113	164	19	500	26	(h)6,192	28	16,820	87	10,628	...
	TOTAL	420	30,875	73	419	29,675	71	9,61,119	97	9,65,172	96	4,053	...
	GRAND TOTAL	9,919	20,12,243	203	(g)10,131	24,38,296	241	6,53,00,621	273	7,49,32,804	303	96,32,183	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,36,36,655	141	3,79,41,529	154	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,63,966	132	3,69,91,275	149	53,27,309	...

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway.
(b) Returns not received.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 9th August 1882.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 15th August 1883.
(e) Total receipts from 1st April to 9th September 1882.
(f) Total receipts from 1st April to 8th September 1883.
(g) Excludes mileages of Patna-Gya, Muttra-Hathras and Cawnpore-Furukhabad State Railways (57+29+87).
(h) Total receipts from 24th June to 16th September 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 9th OCTOBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Rain in fair quantity fell during the past week throughout the Madras Presidency and Mysore, which has revived the dry crops; but more is still needed in some parts. In the Bombay Presidency excessive rain has caused injury in three districts of the Deccan, while in others more rain would be beneficial. In Guzerat the crops are in good condition, but in Sind the river continues low. Some damage has also been done by heavy rain in Berar, but prospects there and in Hyderabad remain favourable. Good rain has fallen in Marwar, and lighter showers in other parts of Rajputana and the Central India States. The crops in both Rajputana and Central India promise fair, but rain is needed in Ulwar.

In Burma and Assam rice prospects are on the whole good, though in the former province the deficient rainfall of the season has injured the crop in three districts. Floods have also caused some destruction.

In Bengal, Central Provinces, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and Punjab there has been little or no rain during the week under report, and the late rice crop of Bengal is in a precarious state.

Harvesting of the *kharif* is going on in most parts of India, and ploughing and sowing for the *rabi* are also in general progress, though retarded in Bengal and Northern India by the early cessation of the rains. The outturn of the *kharif* is not yet known, but will probably be below average, especially in North-Western India.

The condition of cattle has improved, but mild cattle-disease still prevails.

Except for the prevalence of autumnal fever, the public health is fair.

Prices show a tendency to rise in Bengal, owing to the unseasonable weather. Elsewhere they are either stationary or falling.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Oct. 10th)		
Bellary ...	1·64 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops wet generally good. Dry recovering a little on account of recent rain. Harvest gingelly, yield below average.
Kurnool ...	1·99 (average of nine stations).	Standing crops fair. Week's rainfall sufficient. Excessive in parts. Harvest *cumboo, sajja,* and indigo, yield half to three-fourths. Cattle-disease in six taluks.
Ganjam ...	73 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops generally thriving.
Vizna ...	2·04 (average of thirteen stations).	Standing crops generally recovering. Rain still needed in some taluks. Harvest *maize* and *cumboo*, yield below half. Small-pox, fever, and cattle-disease in parts. Ten deaths from cholera.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	2 78 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops reviving in three taluks on account of recent rain. Withering in two taluks. Harvest *kar*, paddy, &c., yield half. Small-pox, measles, and cattle-disease in parts.
Coimbatore ...	·94 (average of fourteen stations).	Standing crops, dry crops want rain in five taluks and slightly improving in others from recent rain. Harvest paddy, *cholum, ragi,* and *cumboo* in parts, yield average. Eleven deaths from cholera in two taluks. Fever and small-pox in parts.
Tanjore ...	3·78 (average of thirteen stations).	Standing crops generally good. Rainfall general and beneficial. Harvest paddy, *cholum, ragi,* and *cumboo*, yield below average. Thirty deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	1·26 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops fading. Harvest paddy in two taluks, yield average in one and poor in the other.
Malabar ...	1·44 (average of fourteen stations).	Harvesting continues. Second crop cultivation progressing in nine taluks. Existing cultivation good. Small-pox in nine taluks, fever in four. Cattle-disease slight in one taluk.
Travancore ...	·051	Harvest almost over. Preparations for next year progressing. Fever and dysentery prevail. One death from small-pox. *General Remarks.*—Prospects good.
[illegible]—(Oct. 10th)		
[illegible] ...	No rain	River at Kotri on 8th 8 feet 11 inches against 10 feet 10 inches on same date last year. Fever in eight talukas. Cattle-disease in four talukas. Loss of 166 buffaloes and cows in Tatta. Small-pox in two talukas, 3 fresh cases, 1 death. Wheat, rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 26, 28 and 45, in Manjhand 22, 28 and 40, in Tatta 24, 30 and 37, and in Sujawal 24, 36 and 38 lbs. per rupee, respectively. *Kharif* harvesting still continues. River has fallen 11 inches since last week and was 1 foot 11 inches lower on 8th instant, than on same date last year. Fever in six, small-pox in one, and cattle-disease in three talukas. Wheat, 25, *bajri* 39, *juari* 48, red rice 26, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
[illegible] ...	.....	

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Ahmedabad ...	.....	Rain wanted for rice in some talukas. Crops healthy. Cholera in the city, 1 case fatal; slight fever in some talukas. *Bajri* 28 and wheat 25 lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	·15	Total rainfall 45·26. Crops in good condition. Cholera has disappeared *Bajri* 27 and rice 23 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	3·39	Total rainfall 55·77. Crops good and thriving. Cholera in Pardi, 27 cases, 3 fatal. *Juari* 38 and *nagli* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	Rain continuous	The heavy rain has damaged *bajri*, cotton, *urd*, and *mung* crops. *Rabi* sowings retarded for want of break. Locusts throughout the district doing damage to crops in places. Cholera in Kalwan taluka, 1 attack, 1 death. *Bajri* 31, wheat 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	·78; slight rain on 6th and 8th.	Total rainfall to date 79·88, being 10·48 above average. Temperature normal. Vapour in air excessive. Abnormal wind southerly on 3rd and 4th. Thunder and lightning daily.
Poona ...	Rain in all talukas	Standing crops good. *Rabi* sowings in progress. *Bajri* 40 and *juari* 50 lbs., in Poona *bajri* 34 and *juari* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	Rain in all talukas—maximum at Sangamner, 3·02; minimum at Karjat, ·58.	*Kharif* crops injured on account of excessive and continuous fall of rain, and *rabi* sowings retarded. Cholera 61 attacks, 15 deaths. Cattle-disease in Kopargaon and Sangamner. *Bajri*—maximum 57 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 39 in Akola. *Juari*—maximum 69 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 48 in Akola
Sholapur ...	·04	Total rainfall 36·72. *Kharif* crops in good condition. *Rabi* sowings nearly completed. Cholera 12 cases in Madha taluka, fatal none. *Juari* 65 and *bajri* 52 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar ...	There has been general rain throughout the district, the heaviest being at Bankapur, 4·2; between 2·0 and 3·0 at Dharwar, Navalgund, Gadag, Ron, and Kalghatgi; minimum ·88 at Nargund and Kod.	Crops which were withering are reviving, but more rain wanted for some crops, especially rice. Prospects promising. Slight ague and cattle-disease in three talukas. *Juari* 61 and rice 32 lbs. per rupee.
[illegible] ...	Karwar, ·48; Kumpta, 1·85; Sirsi, ·71; Hallial, 1·32.	Total rainfall 136·55. Small-pox 4 cases, 1 death in Siddapur. Plucking betelnut and cardamoms continues. Common rice at Karwar 14, in district average 15 seers per rupee.
[illegible] ...	1·66	Total rainfall 27·63. General health fair. Weather hot. *Bajri* and *juari* 34 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—River continues low in Sind. Rain in almost all the districts of the Presidency, still wanted in parts of Ahmedabad, Belgaum, and Dharwar. Crops in good condition in Guzerat, Poona, and Sholapur, but injured by excessive rain in Nasik, Khandesh, Ahmednagar, and part of Kuladgi. *Rabi* sowings in progress in some districts. Little damage from locusts. Cholera, fevers and cattle-disease in a few places.
[illegible] (Oct. 10th)		
[illegible] ...	·43	Weather seasonable. Outturn of *aus* rice fair. Prices stationary. Cattle-disease still continues.
[illegible] ...	*Nil*	*Aus* rice and jute still being cut. Harvesting of *ashini* paddy continues. Prospects of crops good.
[illegible] Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	*Nil*	Early crops harvested. Rice crop in low lands good, but rain much wanted for the crop in high lands. Public health good.
Moorshedabad ...	*Nil*	Weather hot and dry during the day, cool in the mornings. Rain much wanted for late rice which is gradually drying up; there is now very little hope of an average crop.
[illegible]hye ...	Culna, ·79; Ranegunge, ·35.	Weather hot and rainless. Late rice suffering much for want of rain. Some cholera reported.
[illegible] ...	*Nil*	Weather intensely hot for the time of the year. Rain much wanted everywhere. Prospects unfavourable.
[illegible] ...	*Nil*	Weather hot. Prospects of crops fair. Rain much wanted. Fever prevalent.
Bhagalpur ...	*Nil*	More rain wanted. Rice crop in high lands has suffered much from protracted drought. That in low lands still doing well. Preparation of lands for *rabi* sowings being delayed.
Purneah ...	*Nil*	Prospects of crops on high lands suffering for want of rain. Prices rising. Fever prevalent.
Patna ...	*Nil*	Rain much wanted for paddy, *juari*, and *rahar*. Sugarcane and cotton growing well. Plantation of potatoes going on. Cholera still reported from Barrh and Behar sub-divisions.
Durbhunga ...	*Nil*	Weather very hot. Prospects of crops becoming worse. Rain badly wanted and no indication of any coming. Public health generally good.
Hazaribagh ...	*Nil*	Days warm. Mornings and evenings cool. Paddy suffering in all parts of the district owing to absence of rain for a considerable time. Public health good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—*contd.*		
Cuttack ...	*Nil*	Early rice being threshed and gathered. Late rice being weeded, but rain urgently wanted. Price of rice stationary. Public health good.
		General Remarks.—Slight rainfall reported from Chittagong and parts of Burdwan, but none from the other reporting districts. Want of rain is generally much felt throughout the province. In several places the standing rice crop on high lands is suffering a great deal, but on low lands it is still generally doing well. Unless rain falls soon the general prospects of this crop will be seriously affected. The *bhadoi* crops have been gathered in, but there is no sufficient moisture in the soil to permit of the *rabi* crops being sown. In some districts prices show a marked tendency to rise owing to the apparent early cessation of the rains. Fever is prevalent in some districts, otherwise the general health is fair.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Oct. 9th)	No rain	Both *rabi* and *kharif* harvests will suffer from want of rain. Fever in places. Prices falling, except rice and barley.
Allahabad („ 10th)	.....	Weather hot and dry. Nights cool. More rain wanted for *rabi* sowings. Harvest of *sawan*, *kakun*, and *makra*, fair average. No sickness. Prices of *bajri* and *juari* risen and *arhar* slightly. Early rice fallen 4 seers, other prices easy.
Gorakhpur („ 7th)	.....	Cloudless weather. Rain wanted. Crops promising. Some cholera in the city and cattle-disease in east of district. Prices steady.
Jhansi („ 8th)	No rain	Heat great for this season of the year. *Kharif* crops doing well. Rain is much needed for sowing of *rabi*. Tanks and wells have not been filled as usual. Prices fluctuating. Health of people and cattle good. Grass deficient.
Agra („ 9th)	No rain	*Rabi* ploughings in progress and gram being sown, but want of rain drying soil quickly. *Kharif* crops reported to be drying up. Fever in four parganas. Prices steady.
Bareilly („ „)	.....	Crops suffering from drought and west wind. *Rabi* sowings and *kharif* harvest in progress. General health good.
Meerut („ „)	No rain	Prospects generally favourable, but more rain wanted for sowing of *rabi*. Ploughing for *rabi* in progress and gram being sown. Health good. Prices steady.
Kumaun („ „)	.....	Weather fair. Crops all cut. General health good. Cattle-disease continues. Prices unchanged.
Lucknow ...	.....	No report received.
Partabgarh (Oct. 9th)	No rain	Prices rising slightly. Owing to *rabi* sowings, the late rice *juari* is suffering from drought. Slight fever reported at [illegible]
Sitapur („ „)	.....	Rain wanted throughout. *Dhunkar* lands cannot [illegible] health good. Prices somewhat fluctuating.
Fyzabad („ „)	No rain	*Kharif* crops are being cut. Public health good.
Rae Bareli („ 8th)	No rain	Wind westerly. Fields are being prepared for *rabi*. *Kharif* harvested. General health good. Supplies plentiful and steady.
Cawnpore („ 9th)	No rain	For *rabi* sowings rain is very desirable. Some slight injury has been done to sugarcane and *bajri* by insects in pargana Sarh[illegible]. Fever and cholera still prevailing, but on the whole the health of the people is good. Cattle-disease in a few villages of two [illegible] continues. Prices almost stationary.
Farrukhabad („ „)	.....	Clear sky. Hot in the day time, cool mornings and evenings, almost cold at night. Fever severe where rainfall has been great and where is now canal irrigation *Bajri* and *juari* to some extent withering in the northern tahsils.
		General Remarks.—No rain has fallen. The *kharif* crops in some districts have suffered some injury from drought, while in others they are reported to be satisfactory. Rain is generally wanted for the *rabi* sowings. Cholera is reported in Gorakhpur and Cawnpore, and there is severe fever in parts of Farukhabad, otherwise the public health is good. Prices are generally steady.
Punjab—(Oct. 9th)		
Delhi ...	.....	Health good. Rain wanted. Prices of barley and [illegible] Prices of other food-grains stationary.
Hissar ...	.....	Health good. Crops thriving. Prices stationary.
Umballa ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* crops being harvested, yield expected to be below the average. Rain wanted for *rabi* sowings. Prices stationary.
Jullundur ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices stationary.
Amritsar ...	.....	Health and condition of crops good. Prices falling.
Sialkot ...	.....	Health and harvest prospects good. Prices falling.
Ferozepore ...	.....	Health and harvest prospects good. Prices falling.
Lahore ...	.....	No report received.
Rawal Pindi ...	·30	Health good. Crop prospects good and average. Prices fluctuating.
Mooltan ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* being harvested. Prices stationary.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	.....	*Kharif* crops in *daman* and *thall* lands average, in irrigated lands fair. *Rabi* ploughings in progress. Prices steady.
Peshawar ...	.....	Fever decreasing. *Kharif* crops suffering for want of rain. Prices falling.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain in the Rawal Pindi district. Health and *kharif* prospects are generally good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces— (Oct. 6th)		
Nagpur ...	[illegible]	Weather bright and sunny. Prospects fair. *Rabi* sowings begun. Health good. Prices steady.
[illegible] ...	*Nil*	Weather clear and hot. Crops in fair condition. Cotton in flower. More rain wanted. Prices stationary. Health good.
[illegible] (Oct. 8th)	*Nil*	Weather cloudy and threatening rain. A few showers would be beneficial to crops. Prospects favourable. The unsettled state of the weather is retarding the *rabi* sowings. Prices steady. Health fair.
Seoni ...	·91	Weather cloudy and oppressive. Reaping of minor crops in hand. *Rabi* sowings commenced. Fever prevalent. Prices stationary.
Hoshungabad ...	*Nil*	Weather hot and cloudy. Prospects good. Land ready for *rabi* sowings. Rice being harvested. Health good. Wheat 15 and rice 10 seers per rupee.
[illegible] ...	·44	Weather cloudy and close. Prospects good. Four deaths from cholera. Prices falling.
Raipur ...	*Nil*	Rain much wanted. *Rabi* sowings commenced. Cholera in Raipur and a few villages in Droog. Prices steady.
[illegible]lpur (Oct. 6th)	*Nil*	Weather very favourable. Later rice crops attacked by insects. Health good. Common rice 34 seers per rupee.
		General Remarks.—More rain would be beneficial in the northern districts, and is reported to be needed in the rice districts to the east of the provinces. Ground in excellent order for *rabi* sowings which have in some places been commenced.
British Burma— (Oct. 6th)		
Akyab ...	1·81	Total rainfall 176·50. Public health good. 44 deaths among cattle have occurred in three townships, elsewhere health of cattle good. Crop prospects favourable. An increase of about 4,700 acres expected in five townships.
[illegible]goon ...	2·00	Total rainfall 75·33. One death from small-pox, otherwise public health good. Prices of paddy from Rs. 84 to Rs. 91 per 100 baskets.
[illegible] ...	1·37	Total rainfall 83·71. Public health good. Eight deaths of cattle in Kyoupyau circle, 62 in Thadaung and 13 in Kangyidaung townships. Partial floods in Kyoukpyau and Myoma townships. Partial blight in a few circles on the whole. Paddy plants protesting. Price of paddy from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
[illegible]hest (Moulmein) ...	1·04	Total rainfall 163·27. Public health and health of cattle good. Crops healthy. In Moulmein town public health good. General appearance and progress of crops good. No damage from drought, flood or insects. Health of cattle good.
[illegible] ...	2·79	Total rainfall 79·52. One death from small-pox in Henzada township, otherwise public health good. Health good. Health of cattle good. Transplanting except in Kyangin completed. General appearance of crops good.
[illegible]myo ...	0·68	Total rainfall 30·15. Public health good. 72 deaths of cattle in Myedi. 18 cases of cow-pox in Kama. In Myedi the area planted is one-sixth less than last year. Rain wanted. Grain will be light in Thayetmyo township. Crops cannot exceed [illegible] of full crops, may be less in Kama. Paddy reported as withering from drought. In Mindon only half culturable area planted. Drought prevalent.
[illegible]wygyin ...	3·03	Total rainfall 133·65. Small-pox reported at Thayetpende and Kyaukkhy circle and Ahgu Yehla circle, otherwise public health good Health of cattle good. Sowing and transplanting completed Crops progressing favourably. Price of paddy Rs. 74 per 100 baskets.
Pegu ...	.....	No report received.
Tharawaddy ...	5·10	Total rainfall 95·07. Public health good. Eight deaths of cattle in two townships; health of cattle in all other townships, except Gyobingouk where slight cattle-disease prevails, good. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. 200 acres destroyed by floods in Gyobingouk township. Crops healthy. Price of paddy Rs. 90 to Rs. 125 per 100 baskets.
Prome ...	0·35	Total rainfall 41·24. Public health good. Twelve deaths of cattle in Padaung. Ploughing and planting progressing. Crops reported in good condition. Price of paddy Rs. 80 per 100 baskets.
Thonegwa ...	4·82	Total rainfall 80·21. Public health good. Twelve deaths of cattle in Dedaige township. 5,000 acres destroyed by floods in Kyoubauk circle, 1,000 acres in Kyoupadok circle, 8[illegible] township. Replanting going on in Kyonbauk and other circles of Shwelaung township. Crops good in Domethe, Kyangin and Dedaye township and Maubin. [illegible] Rs. [illegible] per 100 baskets.
Toungoo		[illegible] cattle good. Trans-
Kyoukphyoo (Sept. 29th)		Rs. 65 per 100 baskets.
		Myaubun, 5 in Ramoi, and 6 cholera. Health of cattle

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Kyoukphyoo (Oct. 6th)	0·05	Total rainfall 14·09. The following deaths from cholera are reported:—Ngakobyin circle 2, Kyoukphyoo 1, Sekkow 3, Muyin 7, Migyaungdet 1, Hoamyauk 1, Yaibadaig 5, Ramoi Myoma 3, Cheduba Myoma 1, Moyehaung 3, total 27. No deaths of cattle reported. Crops much in want of rain.
Sandoway (Sept. 29th)	4·51	Total rainfall 206·38. Three deaths from cholera in northern township, elsewhere public health good. No fresh cases of cholera reported. Crops flourishing.
Do. (Oct. 6th)	2·95	Total rainfall 203·33. Public health good. No fresh cases of cholera reported. Crops flourishing.
Hanthawaddy ...	*Nil*	Public health and health of cattle good. 14,300 acres have been ploughed in Hlaing township. Crops destroyed by flood in Hlaing township. In some parts replanting going on. Wages of ploughing labour 60 baskets of paddy per man in Hlaing township. Price of paddy from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
Mergui (Sept. 22nd)	4·95	Total rainfall 149·0. Public health good. Crops and cattle healthy. 34,500 acres ploughed and sown. Price of paddy Rs. 60 per 100 baskets.
Do. („ 29th)	9·05	
Tavoy ...	3·63	Total rainfall 185·43. Public health and health of cattle good. Prospects of crops good.
		General Remarks.—Rain up to date still deficient compared with the rainfall of last year, with the exception of a slight increase of cholera in Kyoukphyoo district. Public health good. No marked increase of cattle mortality. Agricultural prospects favourable, except in Thayetmyo where owing to continued drought crops are suffering seriously in Kyoukphyoo. The deficiency of rain is telling against the crops in parts of Hanthawaddy and Thonegwa. Considerable damage caused by floods. The price of paddy keeps up.
Assam—(Oct 10th)		
Gauhati ...	.....	No report received.
Sylhet ...	*Nil*	State and prospect of crops good. Public health also good.
Cachar ...	*Nil*	Weather warm. Prospects of *sali* crops good. More than half of *aus* crops reaped. Common rice 17$\frac{13}{16}$ seers per rupee. Public health good.
Dibrugarh ...	0·18	Weather seasonable. Prospects of *sali dhan* good. Ploughing for winter crops in progress. District healthy.
Mysore and Coorg— (Oct. 10th)		
Bangalore ...	3·69	Prospects of season improved owing to recent rains. Crops [illegible] in good condition.
Mysore ...	2·68	Crops in good condition. Prospects favourable. Sowing operations recommenced.
Mercara ...	4·18	Rainfall beneficial for rice crops, but injurious to drying of cardamoms. Coffee berries fast ripening. The *gid ragi* crop is being reaped. Prices stationary. Public health good.
		General Remarks.—Rain has fallen generally all over the provinces. Standing crops improved. Prospects favourable. Public health good. No material change in prices.
Berar & Hyderabad— (Oct. 10th)		
Amraoti ...	·25	Crops in good condition. Preparations for *rabi* sowings in progress. Wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	2·78	Crops slightly injured from excessive rain. The break now in the weather will be beneficial.
Hyderabad ...	Average rainfall ·70	Total from 1st January 28·88. Rainfall of the week benefited *abi* crops damaged and *kharif* crops to slight extent in one taluka. In general standing crops are prospering. Cholera continues in a mitigated form in one taluka. No cattle-disease reported by Nizam's Government, but foot and mouth disease has broken out amongst cattle of heavy field battery at Trimulgherry. Prices—wheat 15$\frac{3}{4}$, coarse rice 10$\frac{3}{4}$, white *juari* 23, yellow *juari* 27, and *tur* 22$\frac{3}{4}$ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (Oct. 10th)		
Indore ...	0·28	Weather close and cloudy. Rain apparently impending. Agricultural prospects favourable.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	*Nil*	Prospects good. *Rabi* sowings commenced.
Sutna ...	*Nil*	Prospects good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	*Nil*	Weather seasonable. Land being prepared for *rabi*. Public health good.
Goona ...	0·32	Health and prospects good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces—		
Bhopal ...	Manpur, 1·0	Prospects good. Thirteen cases of cholera reported from Barwani between 25th September and 1st October 1883, 5 fatal. Prices stationary.
Agar ...	0·9	Agricultural prospects satisfactory. Health good.
Sehore ...	0·5	Crops and public health good.
Nowgong ...	0·6	Agricultural prospects favourable. Health good. Prices falling.
Manpur (Bhopawar) ...	.....	No report received.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Oct. 10th)	2·39	Weather clear with occasional clouds and thunderstorm. Weather seasonable.
Sirohi („ 7th)	2·49	Tanks and wells full. Health good. Crop prospects good. Weather fine and warm. Very violent rain and thunderstorm on 2nd.
Marwar („ 5th)	3·30; splendid showers on 1st.	Eight months' water in Jodhpore city. Tanks and wells still filling up. Health good. Weather cloudy and rainy. Prospects fair. Prices stationary. More rain expected.
Meywar („ 6th)	·37	Tanks and wells full. Health good. A little fever prevalent. Crop prospects good. Showers during week beneficial for sowings of spring crops.
Harowti („ „)	Kotah, ·37; Tonk, ·60; Shahpura, ·01.	Prospects good. Weather sultry and close. Health good.
Jhallawar („ 5th)	·20	Health and prospects good.
Ajmere („ 9th)	No rain	Weather seasonable. Prospects unchanged.
Jeypore ...	.....	No report received.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Oct. 9th)	No rain	Crops suffering from want of rain. Gram and barley rising, otherwise prices steady. Health good.

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE PUNJAB OIL LANDS, BY BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, MINING ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

1. SITUATIN.
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1.—SITUATION.

The oil lands of the Punjab all lie between north latitude 32° 31′ and 33° 47′ and east longitude 71° 22′ and 73° 9′; say within a space of 102 miles long east and west, by 88 miles wide north and south, with Rawalpindi two miles inside the eastern edge and eleven miles inside the northern edge. Outside of these limits no lands can properly be called oil lands, although around Murree, and perhaps elsewhere, the lime rock is in many places impregnated with bitumen, and sometimes even has small drops of tar in it large enough to be seen.

The north-easternmost oil spring is the one near Rutta Otoor, 11 miles north by east of Rawalpindi; the next so-called oil spring is in the first Cheerpar Mountain near Runneeal, and eight miles south-west of Pindi; then comes the oil spring in the Seel River at the mouth of the Bussala near Moorut, and 10½ miles south-west by west of Pindi; then the Loondeegar asphalt and oil, also near Moorut, and 14 miles south-west of Pindi; the Gunda oil wells, 23 miles west of Pindi; the Chhurrut old oil boring at Chhurrut village, and 28 miles west of Pindi; the Boraree old oil well near Chhurrut and 32½ miles

west of Pindi; the Jafir old oil boring near Jafir, and 29 miles west of Pindi; the Dulla asphalt between Boota and Buttiot and 38½ miles west of Pindi; the Punnoba oil springs at Punnoba (Kohat District) near Shekh Khan, 25 miles east of Kohat, and 67 miles west of Pindi; the Aluggud asphalt and rock tar, on the Aluggud brook (Bunnoo District), ten miles and a half south of Eesa Khêl, and 124 miles south-west by west of Pindi; the Chhota Kutta oil springs near Jaba (Bunnoo District), 10 miles south-east of Kalabagh, and 59 miles south-west by west of Pindi; the Burra Kutta oil springs, half a mile south-east of the last; the Sadeealee rock tar near Nara (Jhelum District), and 90 miles south-west of Pindi; the Chinnoor rock tar near Murdowal (Shahpoor District), and 83 miles south-west of Pindi; the Hungooch rock tar near Dhuddur and Murkoom (Shahpoor District), and 81 miles south-west by south of Pindi; and the Dooma rock tar near Kubbukkee (Shahpoor District), and 77 miles south-west by south of Pindi.

Many of these are places where only very small and unimportant traces of oil or asphalt are found; yet they are well known to the inhabitants of the country for miles around, so familiar do they become in tending their flocks with almost every foot of ground in the mountains. As careful inquiry from them has brought to light no other traces even of oil, it is pretty certain that none such exist, except possibly a few quite insignificant ones.

The oil is commonly called by the natives "muttee ka têl" (earth oil), and at Jaba it is said "gunduk ka tel" (sulphur oil); the rock tar or blackened oil is called at Aluggud and at Jaba "kalapani"; at Sadeealee, "leleera"; at Hungooch and Dooma, "leloora"; the solid asphalt is often called "moomeeai," sometimes "meemeeai."

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The River Indus flows south-south-westerly from the northern edge of the region described to its south-western corner, falling in that space from about 800 feet above the sea to about 650. It is joined midway by the Sohan, which comes to it with a general west-south-westerly course from near Rawalpindi, where its waters are about 1,700 feet above the sea. The Jhelum River runs (about 700 feet above the sea) south-westerly across the very south-eastern corner past Pindi Dadun Khan. The Koorum empties into the Indus on the west just south of Eesa Khêl. A dozen miles north of Pindi are several parallel high ridges that run in a north-east and south-west direction on the edge of Rawalpindi and Hazara Districts. A dozen miles west of the meridian of Pindi these ridges die away; and half a dozen miles south of their end begin the Choor Hills, that run first westerly, and then west-north-westerly to the Indus, and are perhaps continued beyond in the hills of Punnoba; but these run south-westerly, and then west-south-westerly, and soon west again, and there are several parallel ranges south of them for 25 miles. At Moorut, near the Bussala and Loondeegar oil places, begins a ridge some 3,100 feet high above the sea, called the Khairee Moorut (often called Gibraltar in Pindi), which runs south-westerly for about 20 miles and dies away. Half a dozen miles east of Moorut are three or four parallel north-east and south-west ridges of 200 or 300 feet high, called the Cheerpar Mountains, running nearly to the meridian of Pindi. Along the southern edge of the region the Salt Range, rising in places even to 5,000 feet above the sea, runs at first west-south-westerly, then about the middle of the southern edge, which it just crosses, it turns sharply north-north-westerly to the Indus a few miles below the mouth of the Sohan, and continues the same course, and a more northerly one on the west of the Indus, until it meets the east and west ranges already mentioned. In the south-western corner the Kafirkot double range, with the Aluggud Valley between, rises to 2,200 feet above the sea, and runs southerly west of the Indus and south of the Koorum. The country south and south-west of the Salt Range is flat and about 700 feet above the sea; the country north of the Salt Range between the mountains and hills already mentioned, and few other small parallel ones, is comparatively flat, and from 1,200 feet above the sea on south and along the Indus to 1,800 feet on the north-east; of course the streams cut valleys in this comparative plain, making it a rolling country. The smaller narrow valleys as far south as the Sohan, even near its mouth, and this river,

also show a striking parallelism to the general course of the mountain ranges on either side.

3.—GEOLOGY.

a. Structure.—Almost all of the mountain ranges already mentioned seem to be formed of rocks that lie in saddle form, and most of the ranges have several such parallel ridges. The Cheerpar Mountains, however, are quite small, and, as they seem to have but one dip, are perhaps formed by only one-half of a saddle. The Salt Range has also been said by some to have on its southern edge a northerly dip, as if the southern half of a saddle were wanting, but this survey did not lead to an examination of that part of the range. The rocks, then, of the oil region lie in waves, the tops of the waves in certain places forming mountain ranges; but in the greater part of the region, both the tops of the waves and the hollows between them are covered over with nearly level layers of much newer rocks, of old alluvial age. Where the streams have cut down through these alluvial rocks, the older steep dipping rocks form ridges, and give to the smaller valleys the parallelism that has been already noticed. For a dozen or two dozen miles north of the Salt Range the dip of the older rocks, beginning with a steep dip, on the south, becomes quite gentle, and then nearly or quite level; so that the old alluvial rocks, if they rest upon them, are conformable to them, whereas further north these alone remain level, while the lower rocks have a steep dip, and the unconformability is striking. The axes of the saddles run south-westerly on the eastern edge of the region, westerly in the middle of it, then north-westerly and northerly, on the western edge; but in the north-western corner, south-westerly and then westerly. The dips are commonly quite steep, sometimes reversed as far as 70°, and seldom less than 45°, except along the northern side of the Salt Range near Dooma (6°), Hungooch (26½°), Chinnoor and Sadeealee, and at Aluggud (25°).

b. Rock Beds.—The following seems to be the section downward of the old alluvial rocks as exposed along the Seel River near Moorut:—

Concretionary lime rock or travertine	about 100	feet.
Coarse brown pebble rock	„ 3	„
Soft brown sand rock	„ 30	„
Coarse brown pebble rock	„ 2	„
In all	„ 135	feet.

In the banks of the Indus for a dozen miles above Mukhud and as many below it a much greater thickness of these older alluvial rocks seems to be exposed, including several thick but not persistent layers of very coarse (6-inch) pebble rock, varying sometimes very rapidly from a thickness of 100 feet in one bed to three separate layers of six feet.

The following seems to be the section downward of the portion of the older rocks that contains all the oil found in the Punjab:—

Soft gray sand rock estimated by some writers as much as 10,000 feet at Aluggud more at any rate than	about 100	feet.
Red and greenish gray clays, with a few layers of brown sand and pebble rock (Aluggud, Jaba, and whole northern side of western part of Salt Range)	„ 700	„
Coarse (up to six-inch) pebble rock, perhaps sometimes wanting (Aluggud)	„ 40	„
Brown sandy lime rock, with productus and other fossils; in some places becoming merely soft gray sand rock, with the oil of Aluggud brook (Aluggud)	„ 40	„
Soft gray sand rock (Aluggud)	„ 100	„
Brown and gray shales (Aluggud)	„ 180	„
Aluggud group	? 1,150	

Gray sand rock, with a few layers of pebble rock, and near the bottom some dark red shales, and with gray shale; tar of Dooma, Hungooch, Chinnoor, and probably Sadeealee near the bottom (Jaba and northern slope of Salt Range)	about	700 feet.	
Blue gray lime rock, with nummulites, echinoderms, and other fossils; oil of Chhota Kutta and Burra Kutta (Jaba) near the top; and oil of Rutta Otoor, Dulla, and Punnoba near the bottom	„	1,100	„
Jaba group .		?	1,800
Red sand rock and shales (the whole at Punnoba, the lower part at Gunda)	„	500	feet.
Brown sand rock and shales, with nummulites, oil of Gunda, and perhaps Cheerpar (Gunda, Chhurrut, Boraree)	„	100	„
Gray lime rock, with nummulites and gray shales, with some red shales near the bottom; oil of Chhurrut, Boraree, and perhaps Bussala and Loondeegar (Gunda, Chhurrut, and Boraree)	„	190	„
Red shales, salt (Gunda, Chhurrut, Boraree), perhaps more than	„	60	„
Gunda group .			850
In all .			3,800 ft.

As nummulites abound from the lime rock of the Gunda group up to the top of the lime rock of the Jaba group, all these rocks probably belong to the so-called nummulitic age, although the Gunda rocks seem to hold the place of rocks that in the Salt Range have commonly been assigned to a much older age. It should also be stated that the Gunda rocks may prove on more complete examination not to underlie the Jaba group, as here considered to be the case; but the absolute determination of this point was immaterial to the objects of the oil survey, and would have taken too much time for it to be on the whole desirable.

A like uncertainty exists in regard to the position of the lower 360 feet of the Aluggud group with reference to the Jaba group. The upper sand rock and clays (in all 800 feet) of the Aluggud group are undoubtedly the same that are found for many miles along the Salt Range at a distance of about a thousand feet above the Jaba lime rock; and the sand rock and shales of the bottom of the Aluggud group much resemble the sand rock and shales from 700 to 1,000 feet above the Jaba lime rock. The chief cause of doubt in the matter is the occurrence of the fossil productus, and perhaps other fossils as certain terebratulæ and spirifer) in the Aluggud lime rock—fossils which are universally reckoned far older than nummulites, and have given rise to the belief that this rock was carboniferous. In case it be carboniferous, there is a wide gap below the red and greenish gray clays, where at least the whole Jaba group should be together with 350 feet of gray sand rock and shales above it (to be seen at Jaba), in all over 2,000 feet that would be quite missing at Aluggud, all thinned out and disappeared within a distance of 30 miles (from Jaba), and that would be almost incredible. There would also seem to be no rocks below the Jaba lime rock in the Salt Range, though so near, that would correspond in appearance to the lower rocks of the Aluggud group. Indeed, those rocks below the Jaba lime rock, although from their fossils they have hitherto been reckoned oolitic, carboniferous, or older in age, resemble rather the Gunda rocks (with some variations not to be wondered at in a distance of 75 miles); but the Gunda rocks are full of nummulites. It seems absolutely necessary to admit either that the productus and its accompanying fossils are found in rocks far newer than the carboniferous, or else that the nummulites are found in rock much older than the tertiary. Possibly it will turn out that both these admissions must be made, and that all these rocks belong to an age between the carboniferous and tertiary.

Doctor Fleming reports finding in what he calls carboniferous limestone (not the rock at Aluggud, but of like age with it in his opinion) ceratites and "fossils bearing a considerable resemblance to belemnites," both of later age

than the carboniferous. There is also found in the pebble rock just above the Jaba lime rock, and apparently quite conformable with it, pebbles of a pink or flesh-colored lime rock that answers to Doctor Fleming's description of some of the carboniferous lime rock of the Salt Range; and in these pebbles are found nummulites.

The thousand feet of greenish gray sand rock and shales above the Jaba lime rock (at Jaba), and the red and greenish gray clays above that (both at Jaba and Aluggud), and the gray sand rock (called by some writers 10,000 feet thick or more) above that, have all hitherto been reckoned as of Sivalik age, without, however, the evidence of fossils. To the positive determination of that point this survey had no occasion to devote any time, and has no light to throw upon it. It is, however, clear that the steeply dipping rocks found at Gunda, Chhurrut, and at some other points, although they have been called Sivalik, cannot be so, for they abound in nummulites, to say nothing of the reasons for believing them to be even older than the great nummulitic lime rock of Jaba. As the mistake has therefore been made of supposing the Gunda group to belong to the sand rocks above the red and greenish gray clays, it is quite possible, to say the least, that the thickness of these upper sand rocks may prove to be after all much less than the unusual one of 10,000 feet. On the northern side of the Salt Range near Dooma, south-west of Tullagung, the red and greenish gray clays, and the sand rocks over them, dip very gently (about 5°) northerly, and the dip grows more and more gently northward until it is nearly or quite level. At some point not yet determined, but probably south of Tallagung, the sand rocks pass below the pebble and the sand rocks of the older alluvium; and these last keep a nearly level dip throughout their extent northward, while the so-called Sivalik sand rocks probably share the steeper dip of the lower rocks that is clearly shown by the valleys just north of the Sohan, as well as by the course of the Sohan itself. The outcrop of these sand rocks, then, just north of the Salt Range, with a very gentle dip, cannot probably be more than some 15 miles wide at most, and their thickness so exposed can hardly be more than 3,000 feet. It is barely possible, however, that this exposure may not show the whole thickness.

It would seem, then, from the section that what (the Aluggud lime rock) has until now been thought to be below the Jaba lime rock is really above it, while what (the Gunda group) has been thought to be above the Jaba lime rock is really below it. This matter is, however, quite unimportant with reference to the oil lands; for it must be borne in mind that the oil-bearing beds found at different points in the section are only very locally so, commonly for a distance of only a few yards or scores of yards,—rarely as on the Aluggud brook, for 500 yards or more, or, as at Jaba, for half a mile or more. Beyond these narrow limits the same beds are often seen in their outcrops to be quite barren of oil, and in other cases the absence of any discovered spring is commonly proof enough (in a country so minutely explored as this has been by the natives) that the beds can yield no oil. Not only therefore is it necessary to study each place separately for itself, but it is quite needless to trace out thoroughly the outcrop of each of these beds with the hope of finding oil by borings here and there all along it, or with the idea of boring say from any point in the Jaba group down to the oil-bearing beds of the Gunda group. Such a random attack upon even a bed that is known to be oil-bearing at some one place, though it might possibly prove successful, would have in its favor scarcely one chance in a thousand million.

4.—OIL, TAR AND ASPHALT.

a. Mode of occurrence.—The oil is in all cases in the Punjab of a dark green color when fresh, but turns black in drying or in becoming tar or asphalt; and the tar that melts in the sun from the asphalt is also black. At the Chhota Kutta and Burra Kutta (Jaba) main oil springs there is green oil to be seen that has freshly come from the rock, but it soon mixes with the black, partly dried tarry oil that surrounds it.

At Rutta Otoor, Dulla, Punnoba, Chhota Kutta, and Burra Kutta (Jaba), and partly at Aluggud, the oil (or asphalt) comes from the cracks in beds of

lime rock; in all other cases in the Punjab it oozes from sand rock or sandy shales, sometimes perhaps calcareous. In almost all cases the natural springs are at points where brooks cross the outcrop of the oil-bearing beds, and lay them bare; but the Gunda wells are in a little plain between the head of two brooks; the Aluggud oil comes partly from the face of a cliff high above the brook; and the Loondeegar asphalt is on a gently sloping hillside; not to speak of the trifling Cheerpar oil that comes from the roof of a small cave in the face of a cliff 70 feet above the plains.

In nearly all cases where liquid oil is found, it seems to flow with water from the rock, and in the springs is found floating upon it. In the Gunda boring No. 1, however, very little water is now found to come with the oil from the rock; and at Aluggud (where the so-called oil is, much of it, merely tar melted by the sun from a secondary or wash deposit of asphalt), although the tar is commonly found floating upon water in small holes in the bed of the brook, the two liquids did not come together from the rock. The water in this case is probably merely the common rain or spring water of the brook, protected from drying up by the layer of tar above it. The presence of some of the water in the other springs may be accounted for in the same way, and in some oil springs at certain seasons the presence of water may all be due to this cause.

The water that accompanies at least a part of the oil at the oil springs of Chhota Kutta and Burra Kutta (Jaba) is highly sulphureous, and it is possible that sulphur water may likewise be found at some of the other oil springs (more particularly at Punnoba), but the presence of sulphur is not noticeable in them.

The brook water near the oil springs of Punnoba is strongly salt (in the dry season), and there are traces of salt near the Chhurrut and Boraree oil wells, as also near the Chhota Kutta and Burra Kutta (Jaba) oil springs; but near the other oil springs very little or no salt is to be found.

Perhaps no point regarding rock oil is more commonly or more widely misunderstood than its mode of occurrence. Most men seem to be possessed with the idea that the oil has come to the place where it is found from a great depth below. Many believe that the oil is flowing hither or thither through vast fissures in the deep rocks, or fills large cavities or reservoirs in the bowels of the earth, whence it issues to the surface by small cracks at the springs above, and that you only need to bore deep enough there to tap these reservoirs, and get an indefinitely large supply. Even some professed geologists imagine that the oil has come to the rocks in which it is now found from the natural distillation of bituminous shales or coal below it. What is more strange is, that really eminent men of science have maintained that the oil is formed by the chemical reactions of certain purely mineral bodies in the interior of the earth, basing their views upon the established fact that similar products may be made by chemists from mineral bodies which may be believed to exist in the interior of the earth and also on the well-known presence of oil near mud vulcanoes. How much simpler and more natural than any of these far-fetched opinions is the now well-established fact, that the oil was first formed and has always remained in the same rock beds from which it now issues, and that it first came from the slow decomposition of plants and animals buried in the rock as it formed, just as marsh gas (kindred with oil) is formed by the slow decay of vegetable matter at the bottom of ponds. Plants that grow on the ground or in the air, having woody fibre, would in case of burial and slow decomposition leave bituminous coal, which, under favourable circumstances, might lose its bituminous or oily part without losing the woody part, and would then become anthracite. But plants that grow in the water (such, for example, as sea weeds of all kinds down to the most delicate and microscopic), having no woody fibre, leave in such a case only oil or bitumen (including gas), and a like result would come from the slow decomposition of the flesh of animals, which in some cases might have been buried, in vast quantities, though seldom probably comparable to the accumulations of weeds that are found even now-a-days in the sea. It is not, however, to be supposed that the plants or animals that gave rise to the oil in a thick bed of rock were all buried at once; the burial was in most cases probably very gradual, going on from year to year as the rock itself was formed

by the gradual dropping of sand or mud to the bottom of the sea. The frequent presence of salt in beds of rock near the oil is therefore not to be wondered at, for they may likewise have been formed, not merely at the bottom of salt sea water, and therefore naturally salt themselves, but may have been formed in a shallow bay or temporarily closed inlet, where the sun's heat so dried up the water as to leave layers even of crystallised salt. The presence of sulphur with the oil is of a piece with its presence in coal or other organic remains.

Mud volcanoes owe their eruptions merely to the oil gases that are buried under a covering of mud, and push their way out from time to time. The cases of fissures filled with oil that have seemed to some the channels by which the oil rose to the surface from the lowermost depths of the earth, and have seemed to others the vast reservoirs from which the springs above are supplied, are much rarer and more insignificant in size than is commonly thought. Of the thousands of oil wells in the world, scarcely a dozen (if so many) have each yielded a hundred thousand barrels of oil from such a source. Yet a hundred thousand barrels would not fill a fissure 200 feet long by 150 feet deep and half a foot wide; and it is more likely that a fissure of that capacity would be longer or deeper, and only an inch or two wide, and still more likely that such a yield would come from a network of much narrower cracks or seams in the rock. It is unlikely that some open fissures would extend to any great depth where the beds of hard rock are thin and separated at short distances by soft shales or clays (as is the case, for example, in the Gunda group of rocks.) A deep fissure, extending far below the oil-bearing bed, would be very sure to cross rocks containing water, as all porous rocks do below the drainage level of the region, and below the effects of the sun's drying power. This water would of course tend to fill the fissure, and the oil would float upon it; so that the hope of striking such an oil-field cavity at a considerable depth below the oil-bearing bed is not justifiable.

It has been maintained by some that a given oil-bearing bed yields most abundantly at the point where it forms the top of a saddle, because the oil is pushed upward through the pores and fissures of the rock by the water below, and because too the fissures would be most numerous at this point. Certain oil regions have been pointed to as confirming this view, by the fact that most of their wells are near the top of a saddle of the rocks. The real cause of this fact seems, however, to be merely that at a greater distance from the top of the saddle the oil-bearing bed is at a greater depth from the surface, and that boring into it is therefore less practicable. However true it may be that water in a fissure would have the oil floating upon it, and so push it upward until some obstruction was met, it is highly improbable that such pressure would cause the oil to pass through the pores of the rock, and give up its place in them to the water. Indeed, if such action took place even slowly, the steeply dipping rocks of the Punjab would no doubt, ages ago, have had all their oil thoroughly pushed out at their outcrops by the water rising from below.

As the oil was formed from materials gathered in the rock when this was lying flat at the bottom of a sea, it is clear that the position or shape of the oil-yielding part of the bed can have in general no reference in the present shape of the ground, hills or valleys. But it is possible that the part of the oil-bearing bed, which now lies high above the drainage level, may have lost some of its oil by drainage and by the drying effect of atmospheric influences; and this would account for the fact that almost all the Punjab oil springs are found just at the place where a brook crosses the outcrop of the bed, that is, at the lowest drainage level. The wells at Gunda even, which seems an exception, may be at the lowest point where the oil-bearing part of the bed crops out. Still, such a draining away and drying up of the oil must be extremely slow, and it is very likely that it has deprived of most of its oil only a narrow strip along the outcrop on the hillsides.

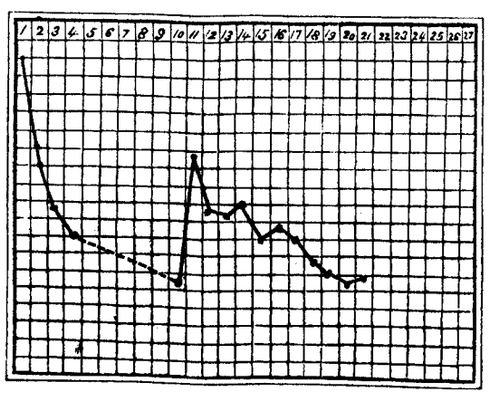
The outline of the oil-bearing part of the rock bed below the outcrop has of course no reference either to the present shape of the surface or dip of the rocks, and can only be determined by numerous borings or trial pits. As the outline depends on the shape of the original mass of materials (plants or ani-

mals) that formed it, and that upon the currents of the sea or winds, of the storms, or barriers of the shore, or depth of the bottom, it would not be possible to infer the shape of one deposit from the shape of another at a distance, especially if in a different bed of rock of a different age, as is almost always the case in the Punjab. The shape (in plan) of the original mass of materials for the oil in still-water, leaving the influence of the shore and bottom out of account, would probably be circular, but a current in the water or a storm would tend to lengthen this shape to an ellipse, and the shore or bottom might give this an ess shape, or otherwise irregular shape.

The length of the deposit along the outcrop may be known, at least roughly (for example, as great or little) by the absence of oil springs or noticeable traces of oil along it, even where well exposed and at low points of drainage. For this reason among others it is desirable to study out more or less exactly the course of the outcrop near a spring of oil. Whatever shape the original mass of oil-forming materials had, the present line of outcrop would plainly be as likely to cross it in one part as in another; the portion on one side of the line is that which has been swept away by the rains and rivers that have scooped out the hollows in the present surface; the other portion still lies underground. As the outcrop line is as likely to pass on one side of the centre of the original oil-bearing part of the bed as on the other, the width of the underground part at right angles with the outcrop may be taken as probably something like the half of the length of the outcrop.

b. Yield.—The chief yield of oil has been at the Gunda wells, where boring No. 1 and the dug well in which it is, have yielded all the oil, with perhaps a trifling exception. From the 8th of April 1870 to the 22nd October 1870, the whole yield here has been about 1,963 gallons, or an average of ten gallons a day; but from the 29th June to 1st August, 33 days, no oil was taken owing to the caving in of the well; and in general none was taken on Sundays, and three other days were lost, making the average for the days that oil was taken, 14⅘ gallons a day. The yield at the beginning of boring work (8th April) was about five gallons a day; on the 28th of May the yield was about fifty gallons, the greatest yield of any one day. From that time until the caving in the decrease in the daily yield was almost continuous, to about ten gallons a day. On the 1st of August the yield was again 10 gallons a day, but on the 10th of August a fixed pump had been put into the bore hole, and the yield rose to 30 gallons a day. From that time until the 22nd of October the daily yield has again gone with some fluctuations down to ten gallons a day. The yield in gallons in each full week of gathering the oil from 30th May to 22nd October was about 180, 120, 97, 80 (55, 128, 98), 94, 99, 79, 88, 79, 66, 58, 59; in the weeks "55, 128, 98," one day was lost from the work each week, besides Sunday.

A drawing to represent these variations of yield shows that the yield at the end of this year (1870) will probably be about 35 gallons a week, and that by the middle of next year it will be hardly a gallon a day, and that the whole



future yield will be about a thousand gallons, or one-half of the past yield since the boring was begun, making about 3,000 gallons in all that the well will have yielded. These results are a good illustration of the character of the yield of

oil wells in general greatest at first, then rapidly diminishing; after that diminishing more and more slowly until the yield finally becomes too small to pay for pumping. The curve representing this decrease is clearly a parabola.

The yield at all the other places is from natural springs. At the Chhota Kutta (Jaba) springs the oil yield is perhaps three quarts a day; at the Punnoba springs two quarts a day; at the Burra Kutta (Jaba) springs three pints a day; at the Rutta Otoor spring half a pint a day; at the Bussala springs one gill a day; at the Loondeegar, Chhurrut, and Boraree places a mere trace;—at all the rest no oil proper at all, making the whole oil yield of the springs perhaps seven quarts a day. Of asphalt there is at Loondeegar perhaps 1,000 cubic yards, or 1,500 tons; at Aluggud brook 350 cubic yards, or 550 tons; at Gunda 15 cubic yards, or 19 tons; at Chhurrut 15 cubic yards, or 19 tons; at Boraree brook six cubic yards, or seven and a half tons; at Dooma one-half cubic yard, or two tons; at Dulla half a cubic yard, or five-eighths of a ton; at the other places none at all to speak of, making in all perhaps 1,388 cubic yards, or 2,098 tons, capable at a rough guess of yielding as much gas as 700 tons of crude oil, that is, something more than 15 million cubic feet. Of rock tar there is at the Aluggud brook perhaps 100 gallons; at Dulla, Sadeealee, Chinnoor, Hungooch, and Dooma scarcely more than mere traces; and at the other places none at all to speak of.

c. Outcrop.—The Gunda group of rocks seems to crop out all along the southern edge of the Choor Hills, and most likely also on the northern edge, and further east to the southern edge of the hills at Rutta Otoor. They probably also appear here and there in the whole region between the Choor Hills and Khairee Moorut, and on the south-eastern side of the Khairee Moorut as far south as the Sohan River. South of this river, as well as in most of the country north of it, they seem to be covered up by rocks of older alluvial age, and only to reappear on the southern edge of the Salt Range.

The Jaba lime rock ("nummulitic limestone of the Salt Range") appears not only all along the Salt Range, but is probably the material of the Khairee Moorut, Choor Hills (including the hills of the Punnoba), and the hills about Rutta Otoor.

The Jaba sand rock (just above the lime rock) crops out all along the northern slope of the Salt Range, and perhaps is also to be found among the steep dipping rocks north of the Sohan and near Khooshialgurh, on the western side of the Indus. The upper part of this sand rock, just below the red and greenish gray clays, seems to be the same as the oil-bearing rocks of the Aluggud brook also skirting with its outcrop the western edge of the valley.

d. Working.—It would be hopeless, as already hinted, to bore or dig for oil along these outcrops, except very near to the places where oil springs, or at least asphalt deposits, are known. Indeed, the first borings should be as near as may be to these, not more than a few yards distant; and if they should prove successful, the oil-bearing bed may be tested in the same way to a greater and greater distance. As the bed near the surface may have been somewhat affected by ages of natural drainage and of atmospheric influences, it is desirable to test it at some depth, and to bore rather to the dip from the springs than along the outcrop, although this is not to be altogether neglected when the springs give encouragement. Still in boring to the dip it would not be well to make the first boring more than from fifty to a hundred feet deep, for the expense of such a shallow boring is less, and so is also the risk of striking the bed outside of the oil-bearing part of it. Other borings may afterwards be made still further to the dip, as well as to the right and left on the same level, that is, along the strike. It is commonly easy to measure the dip near the spring with the exactness enough to fix upon the place of a boring that would pass through the bed at a depth of from fifty to a hundred feet. After one or more borings are made, the dip will be still better known from them, so as to be a guide for other borings.

As the specific gravity of porous sand rock is about one-fifth less than that of quartz, it is plain that about one-fifth of the bulk of the rock is taken up by

pores or empty spaces between the grains of sand. One cubic foot of oil, then, say eight gallons, would fill the pores of five cubic feet of such sand rock, and 3,000 gallons (the whole past and future yield of Gunda boring, No. 1) would in the same way saturate in round numbers 2,000 cubic feet of rock. Capillary attraction, however, would prevent more than perhaps a tenth of the whole amount of oil in the rock from draining into a boring, but this proportion would depend on the coarseness of the rock. Only that part of the rock next the boring would, however, be fully drained at first, while that at the outer limits of drainage would be drained infinitely little; the average amount of drainage then would be perhaps only one-twentieth of what is in the rock. The 3,000 gallons then would drain from twenty times 2,000 cubic feet, or say 40,000 cubic feet, or 2,000 square feet of a bed (like that at Gunda), 20 feet thick, that is, a circle about 50 feet in diameter. According to this, the wells should not be nearer than 50 feet apart upon the oil-bearing bed; but something more might be allowed for the possibility of draining to a greater distance by reason of exceptional seams in the rock here and there; and if the rock seemed on trial to be rich in oil, intermediate wells might finally be placed half way between those of the first set, so as to drain more thoroughly the less perfectly drained part of the rock. After a season of rest, the better drained portions of the rock would tend to fill up partially again from the less drained portions.

It would not be well then to put the borings, at least at first, nearer to each other than some 50 or 100 feet, because not only does each bore-hole drain the rock more or less to some 25 feet or more all around it, but the exploration of the limit and yield of the oil-bearing part of the bed will go on more rapidly if the holes are not put too close together. It is better to bore than to dig shafts through the rock, partly because it is cheaper, especially for a mere exploratory test of the bed, and partly because the very explosive gases given out by the oil render the digging of a shaft of any depth highly dangerous, and the gases are likewise very dangerous to the life of the laborers, who breathe them in large quantity. Even artificial ventilation of such pits might well prove insufficient to remove these dangers.

As to the yield of future borings, it is clear from what has already been said of the nature of oil deposits, that it must be quite impossible to make anything better than the very roughest guess. The bore-hole may hit upon a portion of the deposit where the rock is much fissured or coarsely porous, so as to give a very large yield, or it may fall quite outside of the deposit. The yield of a natural spring, however, gives some little clue as to whether the yield of borings is likely to be great or little, although the spring may in running for ages have now nearly run dry, that is, drained all the oil from the adjoining rock, or the small cracks in the rock through which the spring is fed may have become so clogged as to allow only a very small yield compared with that of a bore-hole. As the bore-hole passes through the whole thickness of the oil-bearing bed, the yield of course is likely to be greater (other things being equal) the thicker the bed is. The oil-bearing bed at Chhota Kutta and Burra Kutta (Jaba) seems from the place of the different springs to be about 100 feet thick; the bed at the Aluggud brook seems to yield oil through a thickness of some 50 feet; that at Punnoba 20 feet; at Gunda 20 feet; at Rutta Otoor 15 feet; at the Bussala River 12 feet.

The order in which the different places deserve to be tried by boring, taking the oil-yielding merits of each into consideration, is this:—Gunda, Chhota Kutta, Aluggud, Punnoba, Burra Kutta, Rutta Otoor, Bussala, Loondeegar (at the asphalt). The other places do not deserve trial at all, except possibly Chhurrut and Boraree, which however derive their chief importance from the unsuccessful trials made there last year by Mr. Fenner.

But considering also the distance of each place from the points to which the oil is destined, and from the head-quarters of superintendence, the order of trial would be somewhat different. If the oil be destined to the Rawalpindi gas work alone, the trial would perhaps best be made in this order,—Gunda, Rutta Otoor, Chhota Kutta, Burra Kutta, Bussala, Punnoba, Aluggud, Loondeegar.

The boring No. 1 at Gunda yielded for six months an average of about

11 gallons a day. It would seem, then, that for the supply of the Rawalpindi gas works (100 gallons a day), about nine such wells would be needed at a time. But as boring No. 1 will probably go on yielding something (a trifle at least) for 9 or 12 months longer, making its future yield about 1,000 gallons more, or 3,000 in all in the course of 18 months, its whole yield will probably be about one-eighteenth of the whole amount needed for the gas works in the 18 months. It would need, then, but one such new well every month to keep up a supply of 100 gallons a day; but that supply would not begin until a number of wells were at work—indeed 18 of them, if they were sunk only so fast. But if the oil be allowed to accumulate at first, without being used, to the amount of about 4,000 gallons, or for about the four first months of the yield of such a series of wells, then the series would yield enough to keep up the supply until the full number of wells come to yielding altogether. But as the very possible failure of some attempted wells and other delays must be provided against, a stock of oil should also besides be on hand before beginning its use, enough to last say three months; or else, what is about the same thing, three wells of the afore-mentioned whole yield of 3,000 gallons each should have been bored before reckoning the series as begun, which, after storing up 4,000 gallons, is to yield regularly the desired supply. If then the boring of the wells should go on regularly once a month, and each should yield as much as the first one is yielding, it would take four months after the finishing of the fourth well (that is, until the eighth well has been bored) before it would be at all safe to begin the use of the oil—in other words, before an uninterrupted supply of 100 gallons a day could be counted upon with any reasonable likelihood.

It seems quite likely (to make a very rough guess) that the Chhota Kutta oil lands would yield 30 such wells; the Burra Kutta 20; the Aluggud 20; the Punnoba 20; the Gunda 5, and the Rutta Otoor, Bussala, and Loondeegar, all together 5, making 100 in all. Yet so uncertain is the matter that it might well turn out that Chhota Kutta alone would yield more than 100. And it would not be very astonishing if a single well here should yield 100 times as much as the Gunda boring No. 1, that has been taken as the standard; for although the limits of each little oil district are very narrow, the yield of single wells within those limits might be very large since a well draws its supply from so short a distance around it. Still the rough guess just given does not seem wild either in overrating or in underrating the prospects of the places.

A supply of 100 gallons of oil a day may then be counted on with some likelihood for 100 months, or some eight years. Although the supply may well prove to last much longer, it may also prove to be much less; and uncertain and probably small as it is, it would hardly be worth while to put up gas works for its use. As, however, the gas works have already been put up, it may on the whole (rather than remove them to another place where gas material is more abundant) be best to make the needful borings, and use the oil while it lasts. When the railroad reaches Rawalpindi, other gas material may perhaps be got from a distance.

The asphalt seems to be enough in quantity to supply as much gas as a 100 gallons of oil a day for three or four years, lengthening out the term of the gas works to 12 years. To use the asphalt alone, the present retorts of the works would probably be too small, but it is quite likely that the asphalt could be dissolved again in a small quantity of the rock oil, and so used in combination with it in the present retorts. At the same time the pebble and sand could be separated from the asphalt after it has been reduced to the liquid form by dissolving in the oil.

As the oil all belongs to the class of heavy oils, it would be (like Rangoon oil) especially well suited for lubricating purposes; and it may well be that its most profitable use will be in that way, particularly after the railroad is finished to Rawalpindi.

5.—SHIPMENT.

The Rutta Otoor oil spring is 13 miles by road from Rawalpindi, the first mile only a bridle path, the rest passable for carts, and eight miles of it a

good metalled road. The Bussala oil spring is 11 miles by road from Rawalpindi, two miles and a half of which are a bridle path, the rest nearly or quite passable to carts. The Loondeegar asphalt is 16 miles by road from Rawalpindi, about six miles a mere bridle path, the rest passable for carts. The Gunda wells are about 30 miles by a wagon road, mostly good, from Rawalpindi. The Punnoba oil springs are 87 miles by road from Rawalpindi; the dozen miles next the springs are not passable for carts, but the rest are. The Aluggud asphalt is 145½ miles by road from Rawalpindi, of which distance about 10 miles are quite impassable for carts, but the rest is nearly or quite passable for them. The Chhota Kutta and Burra Kutta (Jaba) oil springs are 102 miles by road from Rawalpindi, the first dozen miles or so quite impassable for carts, and the rest perhaps so in places. If the hire of a camel be taken as eight rupees a month, and his load 50 gallons of oil and a march as about a dozen miles, the carriage of a gallon of the oil by camels from each of these places would at least cost as follows:—Rutta Otoor and Bussala, 2⅓ pies; Loondeegar, 3 pies; Gunda, 7⅔ pies; Punnoba 1 anna 5¼ pies; Chhota Kutta and Burra Kutta (Jaba), 1 anna 7⅔ pies; Aluggud, 2 annas 3⅔ pies.

6.—REPORTS AND MAPS.

A special report has been written upon each of the places where oil, tar, or asphalt is found, and geological and topographical maps have been made for the Rutta Otoor, Bussala, Loondeegar, Gunda, Chhurrut, Boraree, Dulla, Punnoba, Aluggud, Chhota Kutta, and Burra Kutta oil lands. It was not thought worth while to map the other places, and even some of these derive their chief importance much less from their own merits than from the boring and digging that were formerly done at them.

The report for each place treats specially of the situation; the lay of the land; the geology, both the structure and the rock beds; the oil, its mode of occurrence, yield, outcrop and working; salt, sulphur or any other minerals found near the oil; the shipment; and finally, the books and papers that speak of each place. The aim has been to make the reports as full as may be, without giving needless and confusing details, and to give not only the observed facts, but the inferences drawn from them without, however, giving mere inferences as observed facts. All the reports, though final, have by requirement been wholly written in the jungle, as it were, and are therefore defective of course in some points where a reference to books and collections would be needed.

The maps of the Gunda, Chhurrut, Aluggud, Chhota Kutta, and Burra Kutta oil lands are based upon a rough survey; the others, mostly less important, are based upon a very rough survey, and are therefore called mere sketch maps. Each map shows a space of half a mile square with the oil springs in the centre, and by the side of the map are given an upright section of the rock beds and a long section of the basins and saddles. The maps are all on a scale $\frac{1}{500}$ or 500 feet to an inch, and show the shape of the ground by contour lines 10 feet apart in level, and the position of the oil-bearing bed of rock by what may be called its contour lines 100 feet apart in level, and the outcrop by a hatched line. The observed dips are shown by arrow heads, and the number of degrees attached. The basin section is on the same scale as the map, and with the same vertical as horizontal scale, so as not to distort the structure. The rock section is on a scale of $\frac{1}{1200}$ or 100 feet to the inch, so as to make it possible to show a bed of one foot in thickness, or even less. The aim has been to make the maps as full and as independent of the reports as possible, and, as in the reports, to state as fully as consistent with clearness, not only the observed facts, but also the inferences drawn from them; yet in such a way that the two classes of statement should not be confounded. The mere guess of one who has been on the ground and carefully studied the matter is of value to those who have not been there, provided it be given as a guess, and not as a positive observation. At the same time, if the original observations are truly given, nothing prevents others from drawing their own inferences independently of the observer's inferences.

Of course the rougher the survey has been, the less trustworthy in intricate cases will the inferences be; but that is indicated by the very title of the map ("sketch map" or "map of a rough survey"). In the maps in question it would not have been worth while to make the survey very minute and time-taking, because what is chiefly wanted is a guide in beginning borings, or a proof of the general nature of the geology and structure of the place. They will show not only the probable general course of the outcrops and underground position of the oil-bearing beds, that is, where to look for them, but will show where borings can best be begun. The errors of these indications are in general likely to be greater the farther a point is from the oil springs themselves; but for other reasons it is desirable to bore at first quite near to the springs, so that the errors are of less importance. The borings themselves as they advance will give more and more exact knowledge of the position of the oil-bearing bed. The maps indeed are not intended as finally accurate statements of the geology, but rather as guides to finding it out, and something on which to base the corrections furnished by further explorations.

7.—BOOKS AND PAPERS.

The Punjab oil springs are spoken of in a "Report on the Salt Range," by Doctor Andrew Fleming, Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Volume XVII, No. 23, November 1848, page 517; in a "Report on the Structure and Mineral Wealth of the Salt Range," by Doctor Andrew Fleming, Journal Asiatic Society, Bengal, Volume XXII, 1853, No. 3, pages 264 and 265, No. 4, page 347; in "Notes on the Geology of the Punjab Salt Range," by W. Theobald, junior, Journal Asiatic Society, Bengal, Volume XXIII, No. 7, 1854, page 669; in a "Memorandum on Petroleum in the Rawalpindi Division," by Colonel R. Maclagan, R.E., Secretary to the Punjab Government, Public Works Department, Supplement to the *Punjab Government Gazette*, 5th February 1862, pages 23, 28; in a "Memorandum on the Results of a Cursory Examination of the Salt Range, and parts of the Districts of Bunnoo and Kohat, with special view to the mineral resources of these Districts," by Thomas Oldham, D.D., Superintendent of Geological Survey of India, Calcutta, April 1864, reprinted in a Supplement to the *Gazette of India*, 24th August 1867, page 780; in a "Report on Petroleum Operations," by A. Fenner, Assistant Engineer, Proceedings of the Government of Punjab, Public Works Department, 17th June 1866, about five pages; in a "Letter on the Gunda Oil," by Doctor T. E. B. Brown, Chemical Examiner, Supplement to the *Punjab Government Gazette* for 7th February 1867 (about six pages of foolscap manuscript); in a paper on the "Geology of Cashmere, the Western Himalaya, and Afghan Mountains," by Doctor A. M. Verchère (or Verchere), Journal Asiatic Society, Bengal, Part II, No. 1, 1867, page 13; in a manuscript Memorandum, No. 220, by Major C. H. Hall, Deputy Commissioner, 5th February 1868, on file in the Public Works Department at Lahore, one page; in a "Report on Borings for Petroleum," by A. Fenner, Executive Engineer, Proceedings of the Government of Punjab, Public Works Department, July 1869, pages 2-6; in a manuscript "Report on the Jaba Petroleum Springs near Kalabagh," by Lieutenant J. A. Armstrong, Executive Engineer, December 1869, on file in the Public Works Department at Lahore, pages 1-4; in a "Note on the Petroleum Locality of Sudkal," by A. B. Wynne, F.G.S., Geological Survey of India, Records of the Geological Survey of India, Volume III, No. 3, 1870, pages 73-74; and in a manuscript Report of his last winter's field work in the Salt Range, by A. B. Wynne, F.G.S., Geological Survey of India, on file in the Office of the Geological Survey of India at Calcutta, 1870.

Report on the Rutta Otoor Oil Lands, Rawalpindi District, Punjab, accompanied by a Geological and Topographical Sketch Map, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The Rutta Otoor oil spring is 11 miles north by east from Rawalpindi, and 350 yards north of the hamlet of Rutta Otoor.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The hamlet lies upon a small brook called the Kutta, just in a gap in the most southerly of the several parallel ranges of high hills or mountains that border the Rawalpindi District on the north next to the Hazara District. The general course of the first range is north-easterly and south-westerly, while the brook here runs for some distance nearly due south. East of the hamlet the ridge is divided in two by a long hollow, with two or three smaller branches. At the northern foot of the northern half of the range, and about 100 yards east of the brook, is the oil spring on the northern bank of a small branch of the brook, about 2,000 feet above the sea. A little more than a quarter of a mile north of the spring is another high ridge, likewise cut through by the brook; and the space between that ridge and the first is pretty flat for a width of say 100 yards near the brook, but rises easterly and westerly to high hills.

3.—GEOLOGY.

a. Structure.—The rocks seem to form a saddle to the north of the oil spring, and a basin to the south of it, with a southerly dip of about 50° near the spring, a southerly one of about 85° at the hamlet, and a northerly one of about 88° some 50 yards south of the hamlet. It is probable that the axis of the saddle is not far north of the spring, perhaps 100 yards; and that the axis of the basin is at the southern edge of the hamlet.

b. Rock Beds.—The only rocks exposed about the spring and near the hamlet are a dark gray lime rock, with nummulites and other fossils, belonging therefore to the nummulitic formation. It is probably the same as the so-called nummulitic lime rock of the Salt Range, in which the Kutta oil springs near Jaba occur. There are probably here and there layers of gray or light brown shales between the layers of lime rock. The thickness of this lime rock, including the shales that go with it, must be at least 750 feet. Scarcely 200 yards southerly from Rutta Otoor on the road to Shah-ka-Noorpoor is exposed a gray slightly reddish sand rock that dips about 45° north-westerly, seeming to pass under the lime rock just mentioned, and 20 yards further south a similar sand rock contains a six-inch layer of reddish and gray sandy lime rock. This sand rock belongs probably a short distance above to the Gunda group of rocks, and would in that case be also of nummulitic age. Indeed, reddish, gray and red shales are exposed a mile or two south-east of Noorpoor that look extremely like some of the rocks near Gunda.

4.—OIL AND ASPHALT.

a. Mode of occurrence.—At the oil spring scarcely any digging at all has been done; the earth has merely been scooped out of a hole some two feet long and six inches wide, and at most some nine inches deep. This hole is commonly filled with water from a natural spring, and a thin layer of dark green oil rests upon the water, and flows very slowly away. The oil seems to come from the cracks of a bed of the lime rock, perhaps 15 feet thick, at a distance of some 250 feet above the highest sand rock. In the bed and sides of the small watercourse, about 40 yards below the oil spring, is some asphalt, partly in the wash, and partly in the cracks of the lime rock. It is merely dried oil that once flowed here from the cracks of the rock, as it still does at the spring. The heat of the sun softens it sometimes, and changes it into a black tar.

b. Yield.—The oil of the spring, if gathered every day, would amount perhaps to half a pint a day, perhaps even less. The asphalt extends for some two yards in length, with an average width of perhaps one yard and thickness of six inches, and amounts therefore to about a third of a cubic yard, and would weigh perhaps half a ton, as it is impure with earth.

c. Outcrop.—The outcrop of the oil-bearing bed of lime rock runs probably north-easterly and south-westerly from the spring and asphalt exposure, in a direction not far from straight, but bending round a little towards the north on account of the rise of the ground, combined with the south-easterly dip of the bed. Some 200 yards north of the spring would perhaps be found the corresponding outcrop of the same bed on the north-eastern side of the saddle, and it would likewise run north-easterly and south-westerly, with a corresponding southerly bend on either hand. Some 200 yards south-east of Rutta Otoor there would probably be another outcrop of the oil-bearing bed, with a course nearly parallel to the one of the springs. As these outcrops run along the hill-sides for long distances, and would no doubt give rise to the oil springs here and there if it continued to contain oil, it is probably quite barren of oil (beyond perhaps a trace of bitumen) except close about the spring.

d. Working.—In making borings, then, it would be advisable to make them at first very near the spring or asphalt. By boring south-easterly from the spring or asphalt the oil-bearing bed would be found at greater and greater depth, the greater the distance from those points. This depth would probably be 100 feet below the level of the spring for a distance from it of say 80 feet; 200 feet at a distance of 150 feet; 300 feet at a distance of 200 feet; 400 feet at a distance of 240 feet; 500 feet at a distance of 270 feet; and so on, growing rapidly greater until a depth of 1,000 feet is reached at a distance of about 350 feet. Of course, for the depth from the surface of the ground at any of these points, the height of that point above the level of the oil spring must be added to the depths just given. It would not be best to bore at first where the oil-bearing bed would be more than from 50 to 100 feet deep from the surface; and the result of the boring would be an additional guide, not merely as to the prospects of a deeper boring, but as to the dip and consequent probable position of the bed at greater depth. The yield of the spring at present would seem, on the whole, small as it is, to justify the Government in making the experiment of a boring not more than 50 or 100 feet deep.

5.—SHIPMENT.

In case oil should ever be found here in quantity, it could be carried on the backs of camels or other animals by a narrow bridle-path to Shah-ka-Noorpoor, one mile distant, and thence by a good unmetalled wagon road four miles to the Rawalpindi and Murree big road, and then on an excellent metalled road eight miles to Rawalpindi, making in all thirteen miles.

Report on the so-called Oil Spring in the Cheerpar Mountain, Rawalpindi District, Punjab, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The so-called oil spring in the Cheerpar Mountain, discovered by Udhul Moosulleo, is three-quarters of a mile south-west of the village of Musrot, which is a mile and a half south of Runneeal, a village on the Tullagunge road, six miles and a quarter south-west of Rawalpindi; in all therefore eight miles south-west of Rawalpindi.

SO-CALLED OIL.

a. Mode of occurrence.—The first Cheerpar Mountain (the most north-westerly of three or four) in its upper parts is very thin, and consists of yellowish brown sand rock, dipping about 80° south-easterly. At the point where the oil is said to be found, half-way up the steep, almost vertical southern side of the mountain, about 70 feet above the little plain below, there is, along a cleavage plane, a horizontal cave, in some places as much as six feet deep from the face of the rock and three or four feet high. It is said that in the hottest season, say in June or July, oil drips down from the roof of this cave, and forms white stalactites, six or eight inches long; but through the rest of the year, as at the time of this survey, there is nothing of the kind to be seen. In the rock of the roof there are three or four small dark discolored patches which seem to yield the oil. The largest one is of irregular shape, but at most about two yards long north-east and south-west, and two feet wide; and another two yards south-west of that is about two yards long by one foot wide, and has a still narrower spot alongside of its south-western end, and about a foot from it.

The white substance of the stalactites described is probably natural paraffine, which melts in the great heat of mid-summer and drips from the rock. The rock probably belongs to the age of the middle of the Gunda group, that is nummulitic.

d. Working.—The amount to be obtained from so small a deposit as this seems to me would be far too little to justify any expense in the way of further explorations, such as boring or digging. It seems in fact to be confined to the dark-colored patches just described, and the chances of hitting upon other like patches by digging or boring into the rock below are extremely small, and the likelihood of hitting upon a larger deposit of the kind there is still smaller.

Report on the Bussala Oil Lands, on the Seel River, Rawalpindi District, Punjab, accompanied by a Geological and Topographical Sketch Map, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The oil spring on the Seel River at the mouth of the Bussala in the Rawalpindi District of the Punjab is 10 miles and a half south-west by west of Rawalpindi, and one mile and three-quarters east of Moorut village.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

Both banks of the Seel and of the Bussala (here some 1,500 feet above the sea) are very steep, and much gullied with many precipices. Back from these the land lies nearly flat, rising to a height of 100 or 125 feet from the beds of the rivers; but it is broken up in many directions by the steepsided gullies of the smaller streams, and to the north-east are two or three small chains (two or three miles long) of low hills rising above the general level.

3.—GEOLOGY.

The older beds of rocks near the spring all dip about 75° south-easterly, with a strike of north 57° east; but the newer rocks rest upon these quite unconformably, and are nearly level or quite so.

These newer rocks are of older alluvial age, and consist at the top of a very much contorted concretionary lime rock or travertine, full of irregular holes and of hollow tubes, probably broken fossil stems of plants, and of fossil leaves; and this rests possibly here, as it clearly does elsewhere within three miles, on a very coarse pebble rock with pebbles of fist size or larger. The travertine is exposed on the eastern bank of the Bussala about 100 yards above the mouth in a cliff some eight feet high. The pebble rock is exposed on the east bank of the Seel about 60 yards above the mouth of the Bussala, and is from nothing up to three feet in thickness according to the erosion that had taken place in the underlying rocks before the deposition of the pebble rock. The cliffs, some 40 feet high along the banks of the two rivers, seem to consist mainly of a soft yellowish brown sand rock that rests immediately upon the coarse pebble rock where this is exposed. At the crossing of the Seel, about two miles north of this place, near the village of Tulheeun, the concretionary limestone to the thickness of 100 feet or so is seen resting upon the coarse pebble rock; and this about three feet thick, upon the soft brown sand rock which reaches to the water's edge—all of these with no dip or nearly none above steeply dipping rocks in the beds of the river. It is likely therefore that there are at least two layers of pebble rock, one between the travertine and soft sand rock and not seen at the oil spring, the other below the sand rock.

The older rocks at the oil spring are probably of the nummulitic formation, of the same age as the Gunda group; and the following section was noticed

there on the east bank of the Seel, about 60 yards north-east of the spring. Downward—

Shales	about	5 feet.
Limy sandy shales	„	8 „
Blue sandy, clayed, and (limy?) shales, with a thin layer of lime rock near the bottom like the next	„	15 „
Bluish gray lime rock, broken up into thin cross cleavage layers, nearly at right angles with the bedding	„	12 „
In all	about	40 feet.

The oil would seem to come from the blue shales. About 100 yards up the Bussala from its mouth there is a thin layered, almost slaty, light brown sand rock with a like dip, which must be therefore about 350 feet below the section just given, and on one of its blocks are a few spots of black, as if some body had spilt some tar there. It was pointed out as a deposit of mineral tar, but would seem not to be a natural one, nor to have the least importance in any case.

4.—OIL.

a. Mode of occurrence.—The oil rises up through the extremely shallow water of the river; one drop at a time every minute or two gives rainbow colors to the surface of the river for the space of a few inches, then floats away and disappears. At a distance of about 20 yards north-easterly, apparently on the outcrop of the same bed of shales, is another like show of oil; also at one or two other places between these extremes.

b. Yield and working.—The whole yield is plainly very small indeed, at most say a gill a day,—too little probably to justify any boring to test the bed, especially as this at its exposure on the bank close by seems to be quite barren of oil. Still it may at some time be thought worth while (more particularly on account of the nearness of Rawalpindi) to test the same bed at some little depth, and in that case it is clear where borings should be made. As this and other deposits of the kind in this Province seem to be of but very limited extent, perhaps a few yards only, it would not be well to make the first boring very far from the points where the oil and gas are seen to rise. As the bed dips some 75° to the south, 33° east, it will be needful to go in this direction 28 feet and two-thirds only to bore upon the bed at a depth of 100 feet below the river level, twice that distance for 200, and so on. Of course the height of the boring site above the rivers should be borne in mind as adding to the depth of the boring. In this way the bed can be bored upon at any desired depth, and the bed can be tested at the same depth below water level in a north-easterly or south-westerly direction, bearing in mind that the strike is north 57° east, and going in that direction from the point found out as just described for any given depth.

5.—SHIPMENT.

The place is quite accessible, as it is only two miles and a half from the big road that passes through Tulheeun south-eastward, and that road connects without any bad stream to cross with the Tullagung road south of Runneeal. The only bad place in respect to carriage is up the steep, gullied river bank, close by the oil spring; but this could easily be improved, and is already quite passable to horses and camels. The oil spring is by the road three miles and three quarters from Runneeal, and 11 miles from Rawalpindi.

Report on the Loondegar Oil Lands, near Moorut, Rawulpindi District, Punjab, accompanied by a Geological and Topographical Sketch Map, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The asphalt and oil places near the house called Loondegar, on the land of Goolab Shah, a Lumberdar of Moorut, Rawalpindi District, Punjab, are two miles and a half south-west by west of the main Moorut village, and 14 miles south-west by west of Rawalpindi.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The two places are about 1,550 feet above the sea near the head-waters of some small streams that flow south-easterly into a brook that comes down from

the southern side of the Khairee Moorut, and empties into the Seel River, and are about half-way between the mountain and the river. The asphalt place is on a gently sloping hillside; and the oil place, a quarter of a mile south-westerly of that, is on the bank of a small watercourse. Between the two is a ridge about 80 feet high, running north-west and south-east, and a couple of hundred yards north of the asphalt is a ridge of about the same height, running for some 300 yards east-north-easterly. North of that is a wide plain, and south of it the land is nearly flat, and slopes gently south-easterly. The land to the south-west of the oil place is also nearly flat, except where gullied by the small watercourse and its tributaries.

3.—GEOLOGY.

At the asphalt place the solid rocks are not at all exposed, so that the dip and strike are not to be seen, but at the oil place the strike is seen to be about north 55° east; and as the direction from one place to the other is the same, they are both probably on the outcrop of one bed. The dip at the oil place is about 85° north-westerly; but some 45 yards north of that, the dip, although in the same direction, is only about 60°. Some 10 yards still further north the rocks, with the same dip, are covered by a nearly or quite level bed of concretionary limestone or travertine, about two feet thick. This is plainly such travertine as that on the Bussala River near its mouth, and therefore of older alluvial age. The steeply dipping rocks are of the nummulitic formation (probably of the Gunda group), and many nummulites are to be found on the hillside east of the oil place. The rocks exposed at the oil place, and at 40 or 50 yards north of it, are all a coarse greenish gray soft sandstone, and it is the source apparently of all the oil that has flowed at either place.

4.—ASPHALT AND OIL.

a. Mode of occurrence and yield.—The asphalt occurs in the form of bituminous earth, or earthy asphalt, plainly the product of a natural spring of oil that has in former times flowed here, and whose oil in drying has become solid, and remained mixed with sand and small pebbles. It has been dug into at one point to the depth of two feet and a half or three feet without coming to the bottom of it, and extends over a surface, roughly a triangle in shape, about 60 yards long, and about 1,000 square yards in surface extent. Taking its average thickness at a yard (and it seems to be fully that, though not yet properly tested by digging), the amount would be about 1,000 cubic yards. No test of its capacity to yield oil or gas seems ever to have been made, although it is said that 10 maunds of it were taken by Government agents to Rawalpindi some two years ago. By mere guess it would seem likely to yield to the cubic yard at least as much gas as half a ton of oil, that is to say, some 11,000 feet. The specific gravity of the asphalt has not been tested either; but as it is earthy, a cubic yard would weigh perhaps a ton and a half, certainly not more than two tons, and probably not less than one ton. The whole thousand cubic yards would weigh then about 1,500 tons.

The oil occurs at both places in extremely small quantity, but chiefly at the asphalt place, and is found only in the hot weather, evidently the effect of heat upon the asphalt at the one place, and on the bituminous rock at the other place. This bituminous rock seems to be of very small extent, a mere blotch in the coarse green soft sand rock, some 15 yards long (north-west and south-east) and three yards wide (north-east and south-west), and only exposed to a depth of two feet by a small trial pit. There are four other such oily spots in the rock close by, all small ones, varying from two feet to two yards long.

d. Working.—The proper place to bore, or dig, to test the yielding capacity of the bed at any desired depth from the surface, is to the north-west ("to the dip") from either the asphalt or the oil place. As the bed dips at an angle of about 85° at the oil place, and perhaps at the same angle at the asphalt place, it will be needful to go only eight feet and three quarters to the dip to find the bed at a depth of 100 feet, or to go 17 feet and a half to find it at 200 feet, and so on. The bed at any such depth may be followed north-easterly or south-westerly by going in the direction of the strike, about north 55° east. There is, however, little or no encouragement to boring except close by the asphalt that seems to have come from a considerable deposit of oil in the rock which may not have been exhausted. It is plain that all such deposits in this region are, like the small ones at the oil place here, quite limited in extent, and it is therefore not best to bore far from a spot where oil is known to occur. A well elsewhere sunk at random on the bed might possibly hit upon a good deposit, but the chances are very greatly against it.

5.—SHIPMENT.

The places are by a road passable to horses and camels, but hilly two miles and a half from Moorut village, which is three miles by a good bridle-path from Tulheeun, and thence it is ten miles and a half by larger roads to Rawalpindi, or 16 miles in all. But it is only five miles from the asphalt and oil, over a pretty good country for making a road, to the Tallagung road at a point 10 miles and a half from Rawalpindi.

Report on the Gunda Oil Lands, Rawalpindi District, Punjab, accompanied by a Geological and Topographical Map of a Rough Survey, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The Gunda oil wells are on a tract of three acres and a half of land owned by the Government, about 100 yards west of the big road from Futtehjung to Campbellpoor, and two miles and a half north-west of Futtehjung, and are 23 miles slightly south of west of Rawalpindi. They are one mile south-south-east of Ajoowal, and one mile and three furlongs north-west of Sukal, and have by different writers been called by the name of each of these villages.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The wells, about 1,700 feet above the sea, lie in the middle of a plain about 300 yards wide north and south about 100 yards on the west from the head of a small stream flowing westward into the Bugwan, and 400 yards on the east from the head of another small stream flowing eastward and north-eastward to the Nundna. This plain is separated on the south by a ridge about 15 feet high from the wide plain that reaches several miles west of Futtehjung. On the north are three ridges, the highest some 40 feet above the wells, within about 300 yards between the little plain and the valley in which lies the village of Ajoowal. Easterly from the wells for half a mile the ground is little broken and slopes gently, but westward it is much broken by hills, rising 30 feet or so above the wells, and narrow valleys some 75 feet below the level of the wells.

3.—GEOLOGY.

a. Structure.—The little plain of the wells lies in a basin of the rocks which seems to extend for several miles both easterly and westerly. The first ridge north of the well is formed by a saddle in the rocks, but seems to lie within the main basin, which is bounded rather by the rock saddle of the double ridge, about 200 yards further north. The low ridge south of the wells seems to be composed of two or three chains of rock saddles, but to be in the main the northern half only of a large saddle, having the general dip of its rocks northerly. Subordinate to this main structure are many small saddles and basins, the larger ones in general parallel to each other and to the main basin, but the smaller ones filling up the spaces between each other and the larger ones with great variety and apparent irregularity in their directions. The general course of the main basin seems to be about north 80° east, but that of the larger of the small basins seems to be north 70°, or only 60° east. The dip is often quite steep, often in fact reversed (as far as 70°), and is seldom less than 45°. Owing to this, and the fact that there are so many small basins and saddles with various directions, it is very hard to form a good opinion as to the precise place of any given bed in almost any place where the rocks are unexposed for a few yards. But in the central part of the basin the rocks are somewhat less disturbed and irregular than at the sides.

b. Rock Beds.—The rocks that share the structure just described belong to the nummulitic formation, and are the only ones that are clearly in place within

200 yards of the oil wells. But a little more than a quarter of a mile south-west of them are exposed some rocks, probably of older alluvial age, lying nearly level upon steeply dipping nummulitic rocks, and capping the hills on the northern edge of the great plain. These rocks, of alluvial age, are a brown pebble rock, with pebbles of walnut and filbert size, some 10 feet thick, covered by a coarse concretionary light buff (but weathering dark bluish gray) limestone or travertine, full of irregular holes, perhaps five feet exposed. Many blocks of this same limestone are scattered on the hill tops between that and the wells, and in some places are seen also traces of the pebble rock, and some of this seems to be in place. In the little plain of the oil well there is also a thickness of a few feet (perhaps generally from three to a dozen or even more) of wash or soil and recent alluvium that covers the rocks in the hollows. Indeed, well No. 2 of this year has now been dug to a depth of over 111 feet before coming to solid rock, and a great part of this depth is probably in wash.

The following seems to be the section downward of all the rocks of nummulitic age exposed within a quarter of the oil wells, and perhaps also within a much greater distance, for the many saddles bring the rocks again to the surface, perhaps with some changes of texture, or hardness, or thickness, or color, in the same beds :—

Thin layered, reddish brown, fine grained, hard calcareous sand rock with softer, thinner, redder layers	about	12 feet.
Gray, slightly reddish, soft coarse sand rock	„	12 „
Red, coarse, calcareous, thin layered, sand rock, with white calc spar seams	„	8 „
Soft greenish gray, coarse sand rock	„	30 „
Coarse gray, slightly reddish sand rock	„	30 „
Coarse brown pebble rock, thinning out	„	5 „
Bright red shales, mostly soft, but with some hard layers	„	30 „
Brown shaly sand rock, thin layers, with shales between	„	4 „
Greenish gray shales and sand rock	„	2 „
Bright red shales (partly hidden)	„	4 „
Gray, slightly reddish, weathering dark brown, hard, rather coarse, compact, a little cross bedded sand rock	„	10 „
Bright red shale (partly hidden)	„	15 „
Bright red shale, with some layers of greenish gray (partly hidden)	„	8 „
Chiefly red or reddish gray sand rock and red shales		170
Light yellowish brown, soft, irregularly bedded sand rock, with some thin (six inch) layers of harder nodules and some brown shales	about	10 feet.
Yellowish brown, hard sand rock, extremely full of nummulites	„	3 „
Brown hard, nodular sand rock, made up of little and big nodules, very irregularly joined together	„	4 „
Very soft greenish gray and brown sand rock or shales, with some harder, six-inch, layers of brown sand rock, *oily or bituminous*	„	20 „
Brown, very coarse pebble rock; the pebbles are rounded, and mostly of sandstone, and some of them six inches long or more; some of them were of a brighter yellowish brown than the rest of the rock; a few small ones are of limestone, from two feet to six feet, say	„	4 „
Very light brown soft sand rock	„	7 „
Pebble rock like that just described	„	1 foot.
Light brown, very coarse soft sand rock	„	7 feet.
Fine pudding rock, full of nummulites, hard (calcareous?)	„	1 foot.
Very light brown soft sand rock or shales, with here and there a harder rib of the same, and perhaps some red near the bottom	„	20 feet.
Light brown or slightly brownish gray, very coarse thin layered shaly sand rock	„	3 „
Chiefly brown sand and pebble rocks		80
Red shales	about	2 feet.
Light brown calcareous sand rock or sandy lime rock in thin (four-inch) layers exposed	„	1 foot.
Red shales or clay, with about one foot of the same sandy lime rock, in thin layers, about two-thirds of the way down	„	20 feet.

Dove-colored rather pure-looking, thin layered lime rock	about	3 feet.
Red shales? hidden	„	2 „
Same lime rock as last, but irregularly bedded	„	2 „
Red shales or clay	„	15 „
Same but less pure-looking lime rock	„	3 „
Red clay? mostly hidden	„	2 „
Reddish and greenish hard calcareous shale	„	1 foot.
Red clay? hidden	„	9 feet.
Rather pure-looking dove-colored lime rock, such as above, and shales of a like kind, and softer shales, partly hidden and partly exposed, a succession of beds	„	100 „
Bright red clay or fine shales	„	10 „
Same succession of lime rock, hard and soft shales, partly hidden	„	20 „
Gray lime rock, red and gray shales		190
Bright red shales, perhaps		60
Whole series exposed		500

4.—OIL AND ASPHALT.

b. Yield.—The oil wells were first dug in 1866 by Mr. Fenner near a natural spring. There are seven or eight holes dug by him lying in a general north-east and south-west direction, and within 70 yards north-east and 50 yards south-west of the main well, and within about 20 yards of each other. Two or three of the holes are shallow, and most of them have fallen in, and seem never to have yielded oil. One however, 50 yards north-west of the main well, is said to yield a little oil, but much less than the main well, and it is therefore neglected. It is 13 feet deep, and goes something over half of that distance into the sold rock.

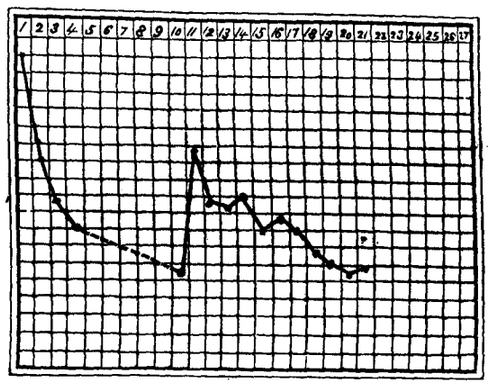
Another hole (now filled up), 20 yards south-west of the main well, yielded still less oil, and a few drops were seen upon the water that was there; one or two of the other holes show a trace of oil also at times. The main well was the most promising when all these holes were 15 feet deep, according to Mr. Fenner's report, and yielded "25 seers a day," about six gallons. It was therefore deepened by him in 1869 to 35 feet, and yielded then, he reported, "seven to nine *garrahs* every morning," which would be about 25 gallons, allowing a gallon or two for waste in the "wasteful manner of gathering" which he speaks of. At the end of March 1870 the same well yielded about five gallons a day (one *garrah* and a half to two *garrahs*) when the oil was gathered every day; but when the well had been neglected for a week, the yield would be about 30 gallons for the first day.

On the 8th of April 1870 a boring was begun in the bottom of this well, and was carried to a depth of 75 feet from the surface. The largest yield of the well and boring on any one day was 50 gallons on the 28th of May, just after the boring was finished. The whole yield of the well and boring since the 8th of April has been—

From the 8th of April 1870 to 28th of May 1870			about	500 gallons.
In the week ending	4th	June 1870	„	180 „
Do.	11th	„ „	„	120 „
Do.	18th	„ „	„	97 „
Do.	25th	„ „	„	80 „
On the 27th and	28th	„ „	„	23 „
In the week ending	6th	Aug. „	„	55 „
Do.	13th	„ „	„	128 „
Do.	20th	„ „	„	98 „
Do.	27th	„ „	„	94 „
Do.	3rd	Sept. „	„	99 „
Do.	10th	„ „	„	79 „
Do.	17th	„ „	„	88 „
Do.	24th	„ „	„	79 „
Do.	1st	Octr. „	„	66 „
Do.	8th	„ „	„	60 „
Do.	15th	„ „	„	58 „
Do.	22nd	„ „	„	59 „
				1,963

From the 28th of June to the end of July no oil was gathered owing to a caving in of the well. On the 9th of August a pump was fixed in the well for the first time, and the increased yield from about that time seems to be mainly due to frequent pumping, but partly perhaps also to the re-opening of crevices on the rocks by the water of the rains that soaked through them, and was pumped out by the borehole. The irregularity of the yield in the last weeks (which is still more striking in the daily record) may perhaps be owing either to irregularity of pumping or else to changes of weather not reported.

A diagram showing the foregoing weekly yield of the well gives what is



clearly a broken parabolic curve, and shows that the well will, at the end of this year (1870), yield some 30 or 40 gallons a week, and that the yield will continue worth pumping until 1st July or 1st October 1871, although very small at last. The diagram shows also that the future yield of the well will be about 1,000 gallons, making its whole yield about 3,000 gallons.

On the surface near the main well, and north-easterly from it towards the next best yieding hole, is a quantity of hardened mineral pitch or asphalt (called by the natives "moomeeai") upon the surface of the ground, clearly the result of the drying of oil that has flowed here naturally in past times. This asphalt covers a space about 30 yards long, and averaging say three yards wide, with perhaps an average thickness of six inches, and making the whole quantity some 15 cubic yards. It is in parts pretty pure, but in other parts much mixed with sand and gravel. It would probably weigh on the average something like a ton and a quarter to the cubic yard, or in all about 19 tons. Of gas it would yield to the cubic yard probably somewhat more than as much as half a ton of oil, or some 11,000 cubic feet.

c. Outcrop.—In the main well (or well No. 1) and in the hole close by it, and on the surface of the ground for a few yards north-east of it, is exposed a soft greenish gray sand rock, and the position of the asphalt shows that the oil issued from it, especially from cracks in it; but the whole rock seems impregnated with bitumen or dried oil, and looks brown on the inside, while weathered gray outside. There is also exposed near to this rock a hard, rather shaly (limy?) sand rock quite filled with nummulites. The soft greenish gray sand rock which contains the oil (perhaps from the decomposition of the soft parts of the bodies of the nummulites, so wonderfully numerous) seems to be the rock about 20 feet thick, noted as bituminous in the general section, about 17 feet below the top of the series of brown sand rocks and shales. The outcrop of this bed of rock runs probably about north 80° east from the wells, but is not exposed there within half a mile at least. Westward it runs nearly in the same direction, with some crooks for about a quarter of a mile, without any good exposure, and then turns northerly and then north-easterly around the middle of the basin. At this turn it is partly exposed, and seems to contain no bitumen, but from about 50 yards north-east of the turn for about 200 yards in that direction it is seen to be impregnated with bitumen in the same way as at the oil wells, and, although weathered greenish gray outside, looks brown

inside, and gives out a bituminous smell. This exposure of bituminous character is a quarter of a mile north-west of the main well, just below a dam across a small watercourse, and along the hillsides on either hand. No asphalt, apart from what impregnates the sand rock, is seen here. About 450 yards north-east of the turn northward the outcrop is cut short by a fault nearly at right angles with it, and thrown about 160 yards south-easterly to the ridge next north of the wells, and then runs north-east for half a mile or so at least. The oil-bearing bed crops out likewise along the brow (nearly east and west) of the second hill north of the oil wells, about 360 yards north of them, with a northerly dip, the northern side of a saddle. Another saddle, with so steep a southern dip as to amount to a fault in some places, brings up the same bed again along the brow of the nearly parallel ridge, some 60 yards still further to the north. But in all these outcrops, wherever exposed, it seems not to be bituminous, except in the places already mentioned. Indeed, the deposit of oil at the wells seems, like those found elsewhere in the district, to be of very limited extent—perhaps a few score yards at most.

d. Working.—It is clear, then, that any digging or boring should be made at first very near to the main well, so as not to fall quite outside of the deposit. As the rock just here dips steeply some 60° or more north-easterly, every 55 feet in that direction will find the bed at 100 feet greater depth if the dip should continue uniform. The rock however, as seen in the digging close to the oil well, changes its dip here two or three times within four or five yards, with little saddles and basins, so that its place at the distance of 55 feet cannot be counted on with certainty: still its most probable place is as just mentioned. It is possible that if the oil-bearing bed should be bored into at the depth of 100 feet or thereabouts, it might yield more oil there than at the present well; but it is not very probable.

The whole cost of the boring and digging of this year has, however, been at least equalled by the value of the oil taken; for that expense up to the end of September was about Rs. 1,200, or a little more, making the 2,000 gallons of oil cost about 10 annas a gallon. The cost in America of refining crude oil is about five annas or less a gallon; even if it were double that here, the cost of refined oil from this source would be but 20 annas a gallon, or less than half what it costs in the Rawalpindi market. If the crude oil yields 80 cubic feet of gas to the gallon as expected, the cost of this oil for gas would be at the rate of one anna for eight feet, or Rs. 7-13 for 1,000 feet.

On the 23rd May 1870 another well for a boring ("well No. 2") was begun at 50 feet north-west by west from boring No. 1 (by mistake this point was taken instead of "30 feet north-north-west," as directed); and on the 1st of October it had been dug to a depth of over 111 feet without coming to any solid rock on which to begin boring,—nothing but red and gray mottled clay. The object of the boring was to test the oil-bearing bed at a depth of 75 or 100 feet quite under cover, but not far from the first boring. The bed at the place taken for the well will, however, be somewhat deeper than that—say 150 feet to the bottom of it. If the dip should have grown steeper than at boring No. 1, or prove greater than 60 degrees, the depth may be still greater.

In August (contrary to the indications of this survey) a second boring was begun alongside of boring No. 1 in the same well; but, at the depth of about eight feet, was stopped by the sticking fast of a chisel that could not be removed. The boring of another hole so near the first was not advised, because the first would probably drain the rock of oil for some distance around it so thoroughly as to make another boring unlikely to pay its expense.

On the 24th September 1870 a third boring was begun at 88 feet east-north-easterly from boring No. 1, to be carried on at the same time with the digging of the second well, and to test the oil-bearing bed at a distance of 100 feet or so from the first well along the strike. On the 4th October 1870 a hole was likewise begun about 30 feet north-north-west of boring No. 3 to test the bed again at a depth of about 75 or 100 feet. If these holes should give encouragement, a hole might well be bored about 50 yards north-easterly from boring No. 1 near an old hole that has a show of oil in it; after that, if still

encouraged by the borings already made, one might be make at 30 feet north-north-west of this last, and so on, feeling the way along the strike north-easterly, and at the same time north-westerly to the dip. If these borings near the outcrop are successful, still deeper ones might be made to the dip. The borings themselves will give, as they go on, better and better information in regard to the course of the bed, both strike and dip, and be a guide to future borings.

5.—SHIPMENT.

As the well is close by the big road from Futtehjung to Campbellpoor, the oil or asphalt can be carried away either on camels or in bullock carts. The distance by the old road to Rawalpindi is 27 miles and a half; by the new road about 30 miles.

7.—BOOKS AND PAPERS.

The Gunda oil springs are spoken of in the "Report on Petroleum Operations" by A. Fenner, Assistant Engineer, Proceedings of the Government of Punjab, Public Works Department, 17th June 1866; in a letter on the Gunda Oil by Doctor T. E. B. Brown, Chemical Examiner, Supplement to the *Punjab Government Gazette* for 7th February 1867; in a manuscript Memorandum, No. 220, by Major C. H. Hall, Deputy Commissioner, 15th February 1868, on file in Public Works Department, Lahore; in a "Report on Borings for Petroleum by A. Fenner, Executive Engineer, Proceedings of the Government of Punjab, Public Works Department, July 1869, pages 2, 3, and 6; and in a "Note on the Petroleum Locality of Sudkal," by A. B. Wynne, F.G.S., Geological Survey of India, Records of Geological Survey of India, Vol. III, 1870, No. 3, pages 73 and 74.

Report on the Chhurrut Oil Lands, Rawalpindi District, Punjab, accompanied by a Geological and Topographical Map of a Rough Survey, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The Chhurrut oil well is 150 yards south-east of the village of Chhurrut, five miles and a half west by north of Futtehjung, and 28 miles in a straight line west of Rawalpindi.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The oil well is in the middle of a little valley that stretches with a flat bottom for 200 yards to the east and 125 yards to the west, with a width of 40 yards at the oil well, but of 60 yards further east. This little valley is separated only by a narrow ridge, 60 feet high, from the Bugwan River on the south, which is here about 1,500 feet above the sea, and has a general east and west course. The little valley, only 10 feet above the river in level, is drained into the river around the western end of this hill. On the south side of the river is a flat about eight feet above the river in level and 100 yards wide. South of that is a long double east and west ridge of 80 feet or more in height, followed on the south by a narrow plain and other parallel ridges. North and west of the oil well the land rises to a level of 40 or 50 feet above the river, and reaches back in a plain, 400 yards to the north, to a long east and west ridge, some 40 feet higher, followed closely by other parallel ridges to the north. The village is built on the southern edge of the plain just mentioned.

3.—GEOLOGY.

a. Structure.—The rocks of the first long ridges on the north and south are in the main the same and dip away from the river, giving the whole valley between the appearance of a rock saddle valley or anticlinal valley, of half a mile wide. But the saddle is not a simple one, and has within it some eight or ten smaller saddles, and perhaps the southernmost of them should rather be considered as giving an anticlinal character to the southern mountain, and possibly the corresponding anticlinal on the north, which is half hidden, should

cause the valley to be regarded rather as a rock basin with smaller rolls within it. At the oil well itself the rocks form, it seems, a very small saddle; 40 yards south is another, and about 140 yards south of that probably another, and 80 yards south of that is another, and 100 yards south of that still another. On the north there seem to be small saddles at 50, 110, and 210 yards north of the oil well, and perhaps still others at 290 and 400 yards north of it.

b. Rock Beds.—The rock beds exposed in this neighbourhood are in the main the same as those seen around the Gunda oil wells, three miles to the east, but with some variations, and are of nummulitic age, except perhaps near the bottom. The following sections are exposed near the Chhurrut place:—

In the double ridge south of the Bugwan very soft greenish gray sand rock	about	6 feet.
Rather hard greenish gray sand rock	„	10 „
Hidden	„	4 „
Greenish gray soft sand rock	„	30 „
Hard coarse gray sand and pebble rock	„	2½ „
Greenish gray soft sand rock	„	5½ „
Red shales	„	2 „
Greenish gray soft sand rock	„	5½ „
Hard pebble rock (brown pebbles up to two inches)	„	4½ „
Greenish gray very soft sand rock (only 2½ feet exposed at top)	„	20 „
Greenish gray soft, partly hard, sand rock	„	23 „
Greenish and brownish gray sand rock and shales		about 113
Gray nummulitic shale, and two (two-inch) layers of gray lime rock	about	4 feet.
Very light gray lime-rock, crystalline and nummulitic	„	0½ „
Gray shales, full of nummulites	„	2 „
Light gray thin layered lime rock	„	1 foot.
Nummulitic shaly lime rock	„	2½ feet.
Mottled, white, brown, red, but dark weathering lime rock	„	1 foot.
Brown shales	„	2½ feet.
Nummulitic shaly lime rock	„	3 „
Gray lime rock shales	about	17
A gap here of perhaps	„	50

Then on the north side of the same ridge—

Hard shaly lime rock with iron ore (brown hematite altered from pyrites) in small crystalline nodules	about	3 feet.
Brown shales	„	6 „
Hard gray shaly lime rock	„	4 „
Gray lime rock and shales		about 13
Here a gap of perhaps		„ 30

Then in the north-east corner of the little flat in which the oil wells lie—

Light and dark gray lime rock beds, with gray shales between (in these the oil occurs, and at the well at least the lime rock is sandy)	about	30 feet.
Red shales (thick)	„	? „

Likewise, probably, the lower part of this last section in the north bank of the Bugwan, just south of the oil well—

Gray lime rock	about	4 feet.
Grayish green shales or clay	„	10 „
Red shales or clay	„	8 „
Hidden	„	5 „
Dark purple shales	„	4 „
		31 feet.

OIL AND BITUMEN.

a. Mode of occurrence.—The oil seems to flow from the crevices of the sandy gray lime rock marked bituminous in the section, and from the more

sandy shales between the layers of lime rock, and to come then from the lower part of the sandy lime rock and shales of the Gunda section. The oil when fresh is dark green in color, but turns brown or black in the air.

b. Yield.—At the oil well a hole was dug by Mr. Fenner in 1869, 20 feet deep according to his report, and a bore hole sunk, he says, to the depth of 72 feet from the surface. He reports that the hole yielded two seers (or say half a gallon) of oil daily. The digging at the time of this survey (April 1870) was almost quite full of muddy water through which many bubbles of gas rose; but the amount of oil on the surface was extremely small, perhaps hardly a spoonful, and the villagers said that there had never been any more. As the oil does not seem to be gathered at all, the amount of it on the water must be the accumulation of a long time, so that the daily, or even monthly, yield would seem now to be extremely little.

On the surface of the ground and of the gray limestone rocks that crop out near the well are irregular deposits of solid mineral pitch or asphalt, sometimes a little softened in the heat of the sun, in some parts quite pure, but in others much mixed with sand and fine gravel. These deposits reach to 33 yards east of the well, and to 47 yards west of it, with a gap of 20 yards where none is exposed, just west of the well. The whole length then is about 60 yards; its average width is perhaps 1½ yards, and its average thickness ⅛ yard, making the whole amount 15 cubic yards. This impure asphalt would perhaps weigh a ton and a quarter to the cubic yard making 19 tons in all, and perhaps yield of gas as much to the cubic yard as half a ton of oil, or say 11,000 cubic feet. In the south bank of the Bugwan River, about 275 yards south-east of the oil well, are exposed within a space of 50 yards four deposits of solid impure asphalt, plainly thrown down by the river in a former bed. They are 1, 5, 3, and three yards long, and average about one-sixth of a yard in thickness, and reach into the bank perhaps one yard on the average, giving in all two cubic yards or 2½ tons. There would be then in all 17 cubic yards, or 21½ tons.

d. Working.—As the rocks here are in a saddle form, with a steep dip of about 70° on either side, it is necessary of course in boring to bore either along the top of the saddle, or within a short distance of it on either side. The northern dip of the saddle is the plainest, and the oil-bearing bed would be found at 100 feet greater depth for about every 17 feet of level distance in this direction. The small yield of the present holes, however, does not give encouragement to expect much oil from any deep borings. This oil deposit seems, in common with the others of the Punjab, to be of very limited extent; and it would therefore be necessary in boring to keep at the outset very near to the surface exposure of bitumen.

5.—SHIPMENT.

The bituminous earth or any oil that may hereafter be found could be carried either on camels or mules three miles to the big road at Gunda, and could thence be carried either in the same way or in carts 27 miles and a half to Rawalpindi, or 30 miles and a half in all by the old road, say 33 by the new.

7.—BOOKS AND PAPERS.

This oil place is spoken of in the "Report on Petroleum Operations," by A. Fenner, Assistant Engineer, Proceedings of the Government of Punjab, Public Works Department, July 1866; and in the "Report on Borings for Petroleum," by A. Fenner, Executive Engineer, Proceedings of Government of Punjab, Public Works Department, July 1869, pages 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Report on the Boraree Oil Lands, near Chhurrut, Rawalpindi District, Punjab, accompanied by a Geological and Topographical Sketch Map, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The Boraree well, Rawalpindi District, Punjab, is three quarters of a mile south-west of Chhurrut, 6½ miles west of Futtehjung and 28½ miles in a straight line west of Rawalpindi.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The oil well is in the bed of a very small brook, at its union with a somewhat larger brook called the Buraree Kussee, both coming from the west, and flowing 230 yards further east into a still larger brook that comes from the south, and flows 300 yards further northerly into the Bugwan River, just at a great bend it makes from running westward to running northward. The river here is about 1,500 feet above the sea-level, and the oil well some 15 feet higher. North of the oil well there are four or five ridges, rising from 50 to 70 feet above the river level, with narrow valleys between them, all within a distance of 300 yards. North of that the land is gently rolling for about 500 yards, with a general level of about 50 feet above the river, and then to the north are parallel ridges of some 50 feet high. South of the oil well rises steeply an east and west ridge, of 160 feet in height, followed on the south by a parallel ridge of some 90 feet above the river level, and then by a comparatively flat region with low parallel ridges. West of the oil well the land rises very steeply into two east and west ridges, 130 feet or more in height, or perhaps rather one ridge, with outliers on the south between it and the high ridge, just spoken of. To the east of the oil place the land is in parallel east and west ridges, some 60 or 80 feet high, with high rough valleys between.

3.—GEOLOGY.

a. Structure.—The high hill or mountain just south of the oil place seems to be made up of rocks in saddle form in the main, but with two subordinate rolls on the south side, and one or two others on the north side. South of these is perhaps another saddle, still within a quarter of a mile of the oil well; just south of the well seems to be another saddle, and some 40 yards north of the well a very sharp up-throw or fault of perhaps 50 yards, and at about 190 and 260 yards north of the oil well other saddles.

b. Rock Beds.—The rock beds exposed are the same as those to be seen near the oil well at Chhurrut, and in the main the same as those about the Gunda oil wells, four miles to the east, but with some variations, and are of nummulitic age. The following sections (downward) are exposed near the Boraree well. South of the mountain and south of the oil places—

Reddish and rock, with white calc spar seams, perhaps	about 50 feet.
Reddish gray soft shaly sand rock	„ 2½ „
Slightly reddish gray sand rock	„ 5½ „
Reddish sand rocks and shales	„ 58

On the north and south side of the same mountain—

Brown sand rock and shales? hidden	about 74 feet.
Red-pebbled pebble rock	„ 3 „
Gray (brown weathering) sand rock	„ 20 „
Brown and gray pebble rock, sandy	„ 12 „
Greenish gray, rather soft, sand rock	„ 3 „
Brown sand rock and shales	„ 112

On the south side of the same mountain, and at about two hundred yards east of the oil well—

Light gray lime rock	about 5 feet.
Gray nummulitic lime pudding rock	„ 20 „
Red shales, perhaps	„ 10 „
Greenish gray sand rock	„ 1 foot.
Gray (weathering brown) sandy lime rock (In parts a greenish gray sand rock, in other parts a pebble rock).	„ 5 feet.
Greenish gray sand rock	„ 20 „
Red shales	„ 8 „
Greenish gray shaly sand rock	„ 1 foot.
Red and green shaly clays, with salt and bitumen	„ 30 feet.
Gray lime rock and shales	100
	270

4.—OIL AND ASPHALT.

a. Mode of occurrence.—The asphalt here, then, seems to be near the upper part of the 190 feet of gray lime rock and shales of the Gunda section. For some 15 yards west of the digging the shales are bituminous, and 3 feet in thickness of them richly so. But the well (some 2½ yards in diameter, and, it is said, about six feet deep), although in line with these bituminous shales, exposes only a surface deposit of earthy asphalt, merely wash or alluvium that has been thrown down by the brook in its former bed. The whole is nearly full of muddy water, so that anything below this is hidden. Gas bubbles rise almost constantly in the water, especially in warm weather, seeming to be set free from the asphalt by the heat of the sun. The same heat likewise, as it seems, causes small streams of oil to flow from the edge of the same deposit of asphalt for a distance of some 18 yards east of the whole where the asphalt is covered by a bank of red earth on the north side of the bank. The amount of this asphalt seems to be about six cubic yards (9 yards long by 1⅔ yard average width, and ⅔ yard average depth); more may be hidden under the gravel and clay of the bank, which seems somewhat bituminous. The amount of oil is insignificant, perhaps a spoonful a day from the little streams on the bank; and in the whole there is on the water scarcely a trace of oil. About 175 yards east of the hole are exposed likewise in the north bank of the same stream, about two feet apart, to wash deposits of asphalt or bituminous red clay, oily in the sun's heat. They are each some 3 feet long by perhaps 18 inches wide and a foot thick, and would yield therefore about one-third of a cubic yard. These deposits of earthy asphalt on the Boraree Kussee would perhaps weigh a ton and a quarter on the average to the cubic yard, and yield perhaps as much gas to the cubic yard as half a ton of oil, or say 11,000 cubic feet.

b. Boring.—It is plain that any borings to be made to test the richness in oil of the main deposit must be made very closely along the line of outcrop, that is, about north 86° east and south 86° west of the present digging; for the dip here is almost vertical, say 87°. The dip is northerly, so that the borings should be made rather on that side of the outcrop than on the other; but with a dip of 87° the bed would sink 100 feet in about five feet of level distance northerly. The deposit, however, seems to be, like the others in the Punjab, one of very limited extent, as the same beds do not seem to be bituminous at any great distance, even 20 yards west of the digging, so that any borings should be made very near to the present hole. The prospect, however, is little encouraging for any such expense, and the better plan would be to dig the bituminous earth alone, and be satisfied with this easily won though at this point rather scanty source of oil and gas.

5.—SHIPMENT.

The bituminous earth could be carried only on the backs of animals by the present roads, either mules or camels, to Gunda, three miles and three quarters, and thence on the big roads either in the same way or by carts 27 miles and a half to Rawalpindi, in all say 31 miles, or by the new road 34 miles.

Report on the Jafir Oil Bore of 1869, Rawalpindi District, Punjab, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

The Jafir boring, made for oil in 1869 by Mr. A. Fenner, is on the east bank of the Ramora brook, one mile and a half north of Jafir, one mile and five-eighths south-west of Chhurut, six miles and a half west of Futtehjung, and 29 miles west of Rawalpindi. Mr. A. Fenner reports that he bored here 42 feet deep, chiefly or wholly in red sandstone, but that he found at most only a slight trace of oil. At present nothing is to be seen here but a hole, about four feet in diameter, nearly full of water, with a small exposure on one side of bluish gray soft shaly sand rock. The rock has a strike of about north 87°

east, and a dip of about 60° northerly. There is not the slightest trace of oil nor sign of its existence, and none is known ever to have been found there except the slight trace mentioned by Mr. Fenner. He does not think any further exploration here advisable, and certainly every thing seems to give strength to his opinion.

7.—BOOKS AND PAPERS.

The work at this place is described by Mr. A. Fenner, Executive Engineer, in his report on "Borings for Petroleum" in the Proceedings of the Government of Punjab, Public Works Department, July 1869, pages 5 and 6.

Report on the Dulla Oil Lands, Rawalpindi District, Punjab, accompanied by a Geological and Topographical Sketch Map, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The Dulla oil lands are 38 miles and a half due west of Rawalpindi, 16 miles west north-west of Futtehjung, three miles south south-west of Boota, and two miles and a half north-north-west of Buttiot.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The Dulla brook is a small stream that winds through the central parts of the Choor Mountains. Near the old Dulla trial pit the course of the brook is about north, and the pit is in the southern corner of a little flattish piece of ground, about 100 yards wide north and south, 300 yards long east and west. About 100 yards up-stream, south, is another flat of about the same size and parallel to the other, and through it the brook, and for a mile or more to the east, flows westerly; 200 yards north of the pit the brook turns from its northerly course, and flows again westerly for a mile or more, and then north-westerly; 600 yards west of the Dulla pit the Oodee brook, still smaller than the other, runs a little west of north into the Dulla brook, and at its mouth is another flat somewhat larger than the two already mentioned, and here is the deserted house that was once the Oodee salt chowkee. On the Oodee brook, a third of a mile west south-west of the Dulla pit, is the Oodee pit in a flat about 50 yards long and wide, and above this the brook has a north-easterly course, and is very small. Both pits are about 1,750 feet above the sea. The space between the two brooks and the two pits is filled by a steep hill, rising at one point to a height of about 270 feet above the pits, or perhaps 350 feet above the junction of the two streams. East and north of the Dulla pit are other steep hills of less height, and south and west of the Oodee pit are others still.

3.—GEOLOGY.

The rocks near the two trial pits lie in saddle form; those at the Dulla pit dip some 60° northerly, and those at the Oodee pit about as steeply southerly. Some 10 yards north of the Oodee pit the place of the axis is to be seen, and its dip seen to be some 20° westerly. The course of the axis is probably about north 83° east. The dip on the north side of the saddle seems to be gentler than that on the south, and, within a quarter of a mile of the axis, becomes about 30° only.

The chief rocks exposed are a bluish gray lime rock, in great part flaggy with perhaps some gray or light brown shales between the layers here and there. The whole thickness of these rocks would seem to be so nething more than 1,100 feet. No fossils have been found in it, but its age is probably the same as that of the Rutta Otoor lime rock, and also of the Punnoba lime rock, both nummulitic, and probably, too, the same as the main nummulitic lime rock of the Salt Range, as, for example, that of the Burra Kutta and Chhota Kutta oil springs near Jaba, a dozen miles east of the Indus.

Something more than 300 feet above the lowest exposed beds of rocks there is found a small amount of asphalt in the cracks of the lime rock through a thickness of some six feet.

Above the nummulitic lime rock, and uncomformable with it, are about five feet of a brown pudding rock and travertine, like those of Gunda and near the mouth of the Bussala River. It lies nearly or quite level, seems never to have been disturbed, and is of very small extent, only seen near the Dulla pit.

4.—OIL AND ASPHALT.

The asphalt is merely dried oil that was once liquid in this place, and might still be found so at a distance from the surface of the ground. It is exposed in both of the old trial pits, and in the heat of the sun a small portion of it melts, and becomes a black tar. There is also a small quantity of the asphalt in the wash near the Dulla pit, cementing together the rounded pebbles of the old bed of the brook. This deposit is some six feet long and about three feet thick at most, with an average thickness of say two feet, and a width of perhaps a yard though this is hidden in bank. Allowing one-half for the larger pebbles, there would be, then, some nine cubic feet of earthy asphalt. At the Oodee pit there is exposed in the cracks of the rock something like a cubic foot and a half of like asphalt. In all, counting some that is exposed in the rock of the Dulla pit, there is perhaps half a cubic yard of earthy asphalt, which would weigh say five-eighths of a ton.

There is no liquid oil exposed at all; the nearest approach to it is a few spoonfuls of black tar that has melted out of the asphalt in the sun's heat.

The outcrop of the oil-bearing or asphalt-bearing bed probably runs on the north side of the saddle is not far from a straight line from the Dulla pit to the Oodee pit, and near this turns and runs for a quarter of a mile at least a little south of east. East of the Dulla pit its course is about east.

As the outcrop of this bed through all this course has not been observed to be oil-bearing, it is highly probable that this character does not extend far from the pits in any direction. In order to test this point, therefore, by boring or deep digging, it would plainly be best to try at first only a very short distance from the pits, and then, if encouraged by success, to go further and further from them by degrees. The first boring ought to be, where the bed would lie, of not more than 50 or 100 feet deep below the surface of the ground, that is, not more than about 50 feet northerly from the Dulla pit, or 90 feet south-westerly from the Oodee pit. If the result of such a trial should be encouraging, a deeper boring might be made 120 feet northerly from the Dulla pit, or 150 feet south-westerly from the Oodee pit, so as to strike the oil-bearing bed about 200 feet below the surface. These borings would themselves show more precisely than is known at present the dip of the bed at either place, and would be a guide to further borings.

But the very unpromising amount of asphalt at either pit gives small encouragement for such borings, and the smallest of them would only be advisable on the part of the Government (never of any private individual) after meeting with fine success on other oil lands of the Punjab.

5.—SHIPMENT.

The inaccessibleness of the place is another drawback. It would be possible, however, to transport oil or asphalt down the Dulla brook, then up the Oodee brook, to the Oodee digging, a distance of three quarters of a mile; or a smoother road, but steeper, might be taken across the ridge between the two pits, rising to a height of 175 feet above them, but going a distance of only a third of a mile. From the Oodee pit the road leads south-westerly to Buttiot, a distance of three miles. Most of the distance from Dulla pit to Buttiot is by an extremely bad road, though a well-travelled one; it runs where possible through the bed of the water-courses, and is very narrow, and much encumbered with large stones. From Buttiot there is a bridle path eastward to Chhurrut, 11 miles and a half, and thence still eastward to Gunda, three miles. Thence south-easterly by big wagon road, two miles and a half to Futtehjung, and thence easterly by a big road, 25 miles to Rawalpindi, or 17 miles and a half of bridle-path from Oodee pit to Gunda, and 27 and a half of big road from Gunda to Rawalpindi, 45 miles in all. The big road might instead be struck at

Jafir, seven miles west of Futtehjunj, but the whole distance would still be about the same.

7.—BOOKS AND PAPERS.

The workings at Dulla are described in the report on "Borings for Petroleum," by Mr. A Fenner, Executive Engineer, in the Proceedings of the Government of Punjab, Public Works Department, July 1869, pages 4, 5 and 6.

Report on the Punnoba Oil Lands, Kohat District, Punjab, accompanied by a Geological and Topographical Sketch Map, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The Punnoba oil springs, in the Kohat District, are in a straight line, 67 miles due west of Rawalpindi, 25 miles due east of Kohat, three miles and a half north of Shekh Khan, the same distance west north-west of Choorlukkee Meeshuk, and half a mile south-east of the village of Punnoba, some five miles south-east of the boundary of the land of the Afreedees.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The springs, three in number, within 25 feet of each other, are about 1,150 feet above the sea in the eastern edge of the Punnoba brook, or close beside it just where the brook cuts through the first south-eastern high ridge of the mountains that separate British India in this region from Afreedeestan. This ridge runs north-easterly and south-westerly, is about 400 feet high, and has a quarter of a mile to the south-east a parallel ridge of about 70 feet high, and south of that a plain many miles wide. North-west of the main ridge, at a distance of a quarter of a mile, is another nearly parallel ridge, about 100 feet high; north-west of that is a narrow valley in which lies the very small village of Punnoba (deserted during the hot season, and without drinking water then), and north-west of that are high mountains in parallel ranges. The brook flows south-easterly from the village to the oil spring, then southerly for a quarter of a mile to the low ridge, then easterly 300 yards, then southerly around the eastern end of the ridge, and then easterly again. The slopes of the ridges are quite steep, especially where the brook breaks through the one by the oil springs.

3.—GEOLOGY.

The rocks at the oil spring dip steeply (70°) south-easterly; but it seems to be a reversed dip on the north-western side of a rock saddle that composes the high ridge, with a gentler dip on the other side. About 175 yards south-easterly from the oil springs there is another saddle in the rocks, with a dip of about 45° on the northerly side, and of about 80° or more on the southerly. Scarcely 30 yards south-easterly from this saddle the dip changes again to a steep northerly one, at first some 45°, then even 90°, then 70°, and at length, a quarter of a mile south of the oil springs, only 30°. The first ridge north-west of the oil springs is formed by a rock saddle with dips of about 45° on either side, and there seems to be but one basin between this and the oil springs.

The rocks all seem to be of nummulitic age; at the top some 500 feet of gray lime rock, mostly in thin much broken layers with some shales; below that some 500 feet of bright red sand rock and red shales, somewhat limy in the upper part, with white calc spar seams, and below that brown sand rock and brown shales, with some small pebble rock beds. The lime rock contains nummulites and other fossils, particularly a small bivalve shell, like an oyster, three quarters of an inch long, and it is probably the same as the great nummulitic lime rock of the Salt Range. The red sand rock and shales below seem to have no fossils, but closely resemble some of the red sand rocks at the top of Gunda group, to which they probably belong. The brown sand rock at bottom, with its pebble rock beds and shales, likewise resembles closely the brown sand rock, pebble rock, beds and shales of the Gunda group, and although less filled with fossils, what seemed an imperfect nummulite was found in it.

4.—OIL.

The oil of the springs seems to come from the cracks in the lime rock through a thickness of some 20 feet of the bed, at a distance of some 175 feet above the red rocks.

The three springs altogether would yield perhaps half a gallon a day if gathered daily; but it is only taken by the natives at odd times and with the help of wisps of grass, which sop it up, and are afterwards squeezed by the hand. They use it to burn in lamps; but it is so far inflammable that it can only be used with a lamp that has a tube expressly for the wick. If burned with the wick unprotected by such a tube (as the Gunda oil is burned safely), the oil all blazes up.

The outcrop of the oil-bearing layers of rock runs from the springs north-easterly and south-westerly, probably in nearly a straight line (say north 62°, east), with a very steep northerly dip or a quite vertical one, or a reversed southerly one. Some 250 yards north-westerly of this outcrop is probably another nearly parallel outcrop of the same rocks, with a south-easterly dip of say 45°, and consequently with bends to the north where the ground rises into hills. About 350 yards north-westerly of the oil springs is probably still another outcrop of the same layers, with a north-westerly dip of about 45° with corresponding bends to the south wherever the ground is high. No other oil springs have been discovered along these outcrops, even where they cross the brook; and is not likely that the oily character of the rocks extends to any great distance from the three springs. It is clear, therefore, that any borings to test the yield of the oil-bearing bed at some depth below the surface of the ground should be made to begin with as near as may be to the oil springs. As the dip there is some 70° south-easterly, a distance of about 36 feet in that direction would bring the bed to a depth of 100 feet deeper still, and so on. It is probable, however, that the dip of the bed in following it down soon changes to a northerly dip, which grows gentler and gentler to the middle of the basin where the bed is probably only about 500 feet below the level of the oil springs. It would be best, therefore, to make the first boring only 10 yards or so southerly from the oil spring, and it will probably strike the bed within 80 feet below the level of the spring, and follow it to a depth of 200 feet or more from the level of the springs. The bed can also be traced along by borings, say 100 feet north-easterly and south-westerly near the outcrop.

Salt.—The brook for a quarter of a mile above the springs and one-eighth of a mile below them, but especially within 75 yards above them, has a great many pools of very salt water, and even the village spring, about a quarter of a mile above the oil springs, is quite brackish at the end of April. The saltness of the water comes from that character in the rocks and shales from which it seems to have issued; the brook above and below is quite dry.

5.—SHIPMENT.

A bridle-path leads from the oil springs south-easterly to the big road about two miles and a half; and by this big road, very good for mules and camels, but hardly fit for carts, the distance is nine miles to the big wagon road that leads west 26 miles to Kohat, and east four miles and a half to the Indus at Khooshialgurh and thence 71 miles to Rawalpindi, and in all 37 miles and half to Kohat, and 87 to Rawalpindi.

Report on the Aluggud Oil Lands, Bunnoo District, Punjab, accompanied by a Geological and Topographical Map of a Rough Survey, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The Aluggud oil lands are on the Aluggud brook, about 10 miles and a half south of Eesa Khêl, Bunnoo District, Punjab, two miles north-west across the mountains from the ancient ruins of Kafir Kot, and 124 miles south-west by west of Rawalpindi.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The oil lands lie near the foot of a north-west and south-west ridge, about 500 feet high, that has a slope of nearly 25° on the south-western side, and is much steeper on the other. Between this and other parallel ridges on the south-west, from 100 to 200 feet high, the Aluggud brook (here about 750 feet above the sea) winds in a general northerly direction. It comes to the oil lands in a north-westerly course through gaps in these lower ridges, makes an oxbow 200 yards across towards the west, then, instead of cutting through a narrow neck of a ridge of clay, it makes a curious cut in oxbow shape again to the east, about 100 yards across through the lower part of the high ridge just mentioned in very hard rocks; the cut at first scarcely eight yards wide, afterwards 40, and then at the lower end half a dozen yards again, and throughout bordered by cliffs up to 150 feet or so in height. After that the brook flows half a mile or so westerly, and then north-westerly and northerly in a valley perhaps half a mile wide. The high ridge is cut through from east to west by three small valleys. The ridges east of the high one first mentioned are still higher, and rise to 2,200 feet above the sea.

3.—GEOLOGY.

The geological structure throughout these oil lands is extremely simple; the rocks all dip south-westerly, and a nearly uniform dip of about 25°, and they seem to form the westerly part of a great rock saddle.

The following is a section downwards of the beds of rock exposed here:—

Soft gray sand rock exposed here, say . . .	about	100	feet.
Red and greenish gray clays with a few layers of brown sand and pebble rock [at 202 feet from the top such a layer (sand and pebble) three feet thick; at 340 feet one (sand) three feet thick; at 370 feet one (sand and pebbles) three feet; at 380 feet one of three feet; at 400 feet one of three feet; at 450 feet one of five feet; and at 475 feet one (sand) of 10 feet] . .	„	700	„
Coarser (up to six inches) pebble rock, with pebbles of crystalline rocks of metamorphic red sand rock, of magnetite, especially for two feet at the bottom, and of cherty lime-stone, with imperfect encrinite (?) fossils	„	40	„
Brown sandy lime rock (with productus and other fossils, weathering gray, in places seeming to become merely a soft gray sand rock, in places richly bituminous)	„	40	„
Brown and gray shales	„	180	„
Soft gray sand rock, also bituminous in parts . .	„	100	„
Gray sand rock ??			
In all .	„	1,160	

The gray sand rock at the top of the section, and the 700 feet of red and gray clays below it, seem plainly to be the same as that at Jaba, in the Salt Range, near Kalabagh, and lie at some 1,100 feet above the nummulitic lime rock, and have commonly been called Siwalik in age. The coarse pebble rock and the underlying lime and sand rocks seem to hold the place of sand rocks of similar nature that lie at Jaba between those clays and the nummulitic lime rock. The rocks of the sections of the two places correspond in fact very well. But the productus and other fossils in the Aluggud lime rock seem to show these rocks to be of carboniferous age.

4.—ASPHALT, TAR AND OIL.

a. Mode of occurrence.—The oil that the oil-bearing rocks contained has partly oozed out of it where exposed in cliffs along the brook, and in drying has turned into a thin coating of black asphalt on the rock. At other places along the brook the oil in like manner formed pools that in drying became masses of asphalt. This asphalt partly melts in the heat of the summer sun, and small pools of black tar are formed, some of the smaller ones all of tar, but most of them a mere coating of tar from an eighth of an inch to an inch

deep upon pools of water which the tar protects from drying up. There is now no flow at all of oil proper.

b. Yield.—The asphalt deposits extend in spots for about a quarter of a mile along the east side of the brook, at most some 25 feet wide and one foot thick, and amount in all to about 350 cubic yards. It is somewhat impure from sand and pebbles mixed with it, and would weigh perhaps in all 550 tons. Of the liquid tar in the pools there was in May 1870 about 100 gallons; and this is likewise somewhat impure from leaves and sticks in it, and perhaps a little sand.

c. Outcrop.—The outcrop of the oil-bearing bed of rocks is to be seen in the cliffs along the brook in the oxbow cut in the lower part of the ridge mentioned as 500 feet high and rises to the top of this ridge on either side of the three narrow valleys that cut across it from east to west, that is, the outcrop has a general south-east and north-west course parallel to the strike of the rocks, but with these three long bends to the west where the rocks are cut through by small streams.

d. Working.—As the oil-bearing bed shows no signs of bearing oil, except near the exposures and asphalt deposits already mentioned, it is not likely that it continues bituminous to any great distance. A test by boring should therefore clearly be made as near as may be to these exposures. The most convenient places for the first borings would be in the little flats, just above where the brook enters the gorge in the high hill, and just below where it issues from the hill again. At both the entrance to this gorge and the issue from it the oil-bearing bed is near the water-level of the latter point, and dips south-westerly at such a rate as to be 100 feet lower below that level for about every 200 feet of distance. Owing to the thickness of the oil-bearing rocks, it seems highly probable that borings would meet with success as to the yield of oil. The great hardness, however, of the 40 feet bed of coarse pebble rock would make the boring slow and costly, and perhaps the pebbles by separating now and then from the sides of the bore hole (although they seem in general firmly cemented together) would cause vexatious and serious difficulties in the boring. Should this be found to be the case, it would be desirable to protect this part of the whole by tubing as soon as bored.

5.—SHIPMENT.

The asphalt, tar, or oil could be carried by a good bridle-path (that could at small expense be made passable even for carts) two miles and a half north to the mouth of the Aluggud Valley thence likewise by bridle-path either five miles south to the River Indus at Kafir Kot (whence it could be carried in boats up the river by towing, or down the river by drifting and rowing) or eight miles north to Eesa Khel; thence by wagon road north, 28 miles to Kalabagh, and thence likewise by wagon road (now out of repair near the Indus), 107 miles through Futtehjung to Rawalpindi, or in all 145½ miles to Rawalpindi.

7.—BOOKS AND PAPERS.

The oil place is mentioned in the "Report on the Geological Structure of the Salt Range," by Dr. A. Fleming, Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. XXII, 1853, No. 3, pages 264, 265, 268.

Report on the Chhota Kutta Oil Lands, near Jaba, Bunnoo District, Punjab, accompanied by a Geological and Topographical Map of a Rough Survey, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The oil springs on the Chhota Kutta brook, near Jaba, Bunnoo District, Punjab, are a mile and a half south by west of Jaba, 10 miles south-east of Kalabagh, and 95 miles south-west by west of Rawalpindi.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

Three or four oil springs lie within a distance of about 50 yards along the banks of the Chhota Kutta close beside the water's edge, at most some six feet above its level, which is about 1,450 feet above sea-level. The main spring is about midway between the uppermost and lowermost ones. They are just at the outlet (north-eastern end) of a narrow gorge square across the north-easternmost of the higher ridges of the Salt Range, running here north-westerly, and this ridge rises steeply on either side of the brook to a height of 600 or 700 feet, and within a mile or two to twice that height. The land north-east of the ridge is much broken into low hills, up to some 200 feet in height, growing gradually lower towards the great plain to the north-east. South-west of the main ridge there is a valley half a mile wide, bounded by a still higher ridge on the south-west, and the Chhota Kutta has its head in this valley up towards the north-west.

3.—GEOLOGY.

a. Structure.—The rocks that form the high ridge by the oil springs lie in the form of a saddle, with a dip of about 60° at the springs, and some 5° more in the gorge 60 yards south-west. The axis of the saddle crosses the brooks about 220 yards above the main oil-spring. A dozen yards from the axis the north-easterly dip is 54° and 25 yards from the axis on the other side the south dip is 73°. On either side, however, the dip soon lessens from the outcrop of the oil-bearing beds to 45°, and a third of a mile north-west of the oil springs even to 30°.

b. Rock Beds.—The following is a very rough section of the rocks exposed within a quarter of a mile of the oil spring. Downward :—

Greenish gray sand rocks and shales	about	190 feet.
Greenish gray sand and filbert pebble rock	„	10 „
Greenish gray sand rock (and shales?)	„	125 „
Brown pebble rock	„	4 „
Greenish gray sand rock and shales?	„	316 „
Greenish gray sand rock	„	30 „
Dark red shales	„	25 „
Greenish gray sand rock (with red shales at bottom)	„	75 „
Brown fine pebble rock	„	6 „
Red clay	„	6 „
Gray soft sand rock	„	3 „
Greenish sand rock and shales	„	10 „
Gray shales	„	25 „
Greenish gray sand and fine pebble rock	„	6 „
Red and greenish gray shales alternating	„	64 „
Blue gray (weathering brown filbert and larger pebble rock)	„	5 „
Greenish gray sand rock and shales, with some fine pebble rock and red shales	„	900
Blue gray lime rock (and perhaps some gray shales), with nummulites, echinoderms, and other fossils	„	500
In all	„	1,400

The top of the section is only some 150 feet below red and gray clays that seem to be the same as those of the upper part of the Aluggud group of rocks, and the greenish gray sand rock not only seems to hold the same place as the lower rocks of that group but to resemble them closely in appearance. But both the sand rock and the clays above have at Chhota Kutta been commonly called of Siwalik age, while the rocks below the clays at Aluggud have been called carboniferous.

The pebble rock, just above the lime rock, is made up in great part of limy concretions, many of these having water-worn pebbles, as a core. In at least one of these water-worn pebbles, of a pinkish lime-stone different from the gray concretions, was found a nummulitic.

The lime rock at the bottom of the section is the so-called nummulite lime-stone of the Salt Range.

4.—OIL.

a. Mode of occurrence.—The oil comes from the cracks of the gray lime rock through a space of about 100 feet, that is, from 50 to 150 feet below the top of the lime rock, and the main spring comes from about the middle of that thickness. There are three oil springs (the uppermost ones) on the eastern side of the brook near the water's edge (under water in the wet season it is said), and a fourth (the lowest one) on the western edge of the brook near where the brook leaves the upper edge of the lime rock; and perhaps some of the pools of the brook that are covered with a film of oil are supplied with it by other springs. These pools of water come from strong and very sulphury springs; and as the water is uninhabitable for fishes and other animals, the bottom and sides of the pools are covered with a thick white, pink, and red leathery fungus-like vegetable growth. The oil upon the pools of the brook is black, the color that comes from exposure to the air; but in the larger springs the oil can easily be seen to be green when it first rises, although even here there is much black or tarry oil. The oil in the springs rises with water, and floats upon it. At two or three of the larger springs holes have been dug, say a foot and a half across and two feet deep. At the main springs gas is constantly bubbling up.

b. Yield.—Last winter the oil from these springs and from those of the Burra Kutta, half a mile south-east, was gathered by a chowkidar every two or three days for three months and the whole amount, according to his account, was about 90 gallons, or an average of about a gallon a day. Since that, however, this gathered oil partly dried up or leaked away, so that there was only about two-thirds as much to be seen at the time of the survey, even if it was not over-estimated at first. It would seem, therefore, fair, on the whole, to take the average yield of Chhota Kutta springs, if skimmed daily, as about three quarts a day, for they yield decidedly more than the Burra Kutta springs.

c. Outcrop.—The outcrop of the oil-bearing bed runs in general north-west and south-east from the springs along the hill side, but with a bend to the north-east at the springs owing to the depth of the hollow there combined with the north-easterly dip of the rocks.

d. Working.—It would of course be best, as at the other Punjab oil springs, to make the first borings to test the oil-bearing bed as near as may be to the springs, but rather towards the dip. The dip of the bed is such that the middle of it lies at a depth of 100 feet at about 75 feet north-easterly from the main spring, 200 feet deep at about 160 feet from the spring, 300 feet deep at about 250 feet distant, 400 feet deep at about 350 feet distant, 500 feet deep at about 450 feet distant, 1,000 feet deep at about 1,000 feet north-easterly from the spring. As the oil-bearing beds amount to a thickness of 100 feet, the middle of them would be at 100 feet deep near the lowermost oil spring on the brook where the upper edge of the beds comes to the surface. This would be a good place to make the first boring, as it would be some 200 feet to the bottom of the beds, and this would be a good test of their capacity at no great distance from the springs nor from the surface, yet where the beds are wholly under cover. Afterwards other borings might be made either deeper and deeper to the dip, or along the outcrop south-eastward towards the oil springs of the Burra Kutta brook on the same beds. From the size of the springs, the thickness of the oil-bearing beds, and from the fact that they continue oil-bearing so far as the Burra Kutta, half a mile off, it seems highly desirable and worth while that borings should be made here.

Gypsum and Sulphur.—On the hill side on the either side of the brook at the springs there is a large quantity of a porous gypsum, seemingly produced by the action of the sulphur water upon the lime rock. It is said also that a great deal of sulphur was formerly gathered here, but none is now to be seen in the old holes on the hill side west of the springs. It is said to have been visible in small yellow particles in the gypsum, and is probably still to be found so below the surface in a fresh hole. There seem to be some thousands of tons of gypsum (perhaps 20); but the amount of native sulphur in it is quite unknown.

5.—SHIPMENT.

The oil gathered here could be carried on camels or mules a mile and a half by a very rough bridle-path (that would need improvement for at least 100 yards near the springs) to Jaba, thence by better and better roads, the worst of them very good for camels, and perhaps even passable for carts, 100 miles and a half to Rawalpindi, in all 102 miles. Calling this eight marches and a half for a camel, and a load of a camel 50 gallons, and his cost Rs. 8 a month, the carriage of oil to Rawalpindi would cost at least 1 anna and $7\frac{2}{3}$ pies a gallon.

7.—BOOKS AND PAPERS.

These springs are mentioned in a "Report on the Salt Range," by Doctor A. Fleming, Journal Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. XVII, November 1848, page 517; in a "Report on the Structure and Mineral Wealth of the Salt Range," by Doctor A. Fleming, Journal Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. XXII, 1853, No. 4, page 347; in "Notes on the Geology of the Punjab Salt Range," by W. Theobald, Junior, Journal Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol. XXIII, 1854, No. 7, page 669; in a "Memorandum on Petroleum in the Rawalpindi Division," by Colonel R. Maclagan, R. E., Secretary to Government, Punjab, Public Works Department, Supplement to the *Government Gazette*, 5th February 1862, page 23; in a "Paper on the Geology of Kashmir, Western Himalaya and Afghan Mountains," by Doctor A. M. Verchere, Journal Asiatic Society of Bengal, Part II, No. 1, 1867, page 13; in a "Manuscript Report on the Jaba Petroleum Springs near Kalabagh," by Lieutenant J. A. Armstrong, Executive Engineer, December 1869, on file in the Public Works Department at Lahore, 4 pages; and in a "Manuscript Report of his last season's Field Work in the Salt Range," by A. B. Wynne, F. G. S., Geological Survey of India, 1870, on file at the Office of the Geological Survey of India at Calcutta.

Report on the Burra Kutta Oil Lands, near Jaba, Bunnoo District, Punjab, accompanied by a Geological and Topographical Map of a Rough Survey, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The oil springs on the Burra Kutta brook, near Jaba, Bunnoo District, Punjab, are a mile and three quarters south of Jaba, 10 miles and a half south-east of Kalabagh, and 95 miles south-west by west of Rawalpindi.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The three or four springs lie within a distance of about 60 yards along the western bank of the Burra Kutta brook close to the water's edge at low water, and about on the same level with it, which is about 1,450 feet above sea-level. The main spring, a dozen yards south of the northernmost spring, is just at the outlet or northern end of a narrow gorge that cuts in a crooked but generally south-eastern direction across the north-easternmost of the higher ridges of the Salt Range, running here north-westerly; and this ridge rises on either side of the brook at first with high cliffs, and then steeply to a height of 600 or 700 feet, and within a mile or two to twice that height. The land north-east of the ridge is much broken into low hills, up to some 200 feet high growing rather lower towards the great plain to the north-east. The gap in the main ridge is just at a point where the ridge is double, the north-western part standing a little in advance (north-east) of the south-eastern part, which begins just behind it, and quickly rises to be the main ridge easterly, while the other dies away. The brook comes to the gorge in a south-easterly course after flowing round the western end of this south-western ridge, behind which to the south-east the brook takes its rise in a narrow valley between this ridge and a still higher ridge on the south-west.

3.—GEOLOGY.

a. Structure.—The rocks of the ridge at the oil springs lie in the form of a saddle, with a reversed south-westerly dip of about 80° on the north-eastern side

near the main spring, and a like dip in the same direction on the other side of the saddle, just south of the southernmost oil spring. This saddle seems to be the same that is seen at the Chhota Kutta oil springs, half a mile to the north-west, but is much narrower and sharper here than there, and seems to be dying away very fast to the south-east. The northerly dip here as there grows rapidly gentler to about 45°, which continues for a quarter of a mile, and then grows less and less until perhaps nearly level at a distance of a few miles. This saddle seems to be accompanied here on the south-west by a smaller saddle (with dips of 80° or more on the north-east, and 50° or 60° on the south-west), which rides upon the side of a larger saddle still further south-west, with dips of about 60° or more on the north-east, and perhaps 45° on the south-west. Both of these last saddles are within a quarter of a mile of the springs, and they seem to rise south-easterly and take the place of the northern saddle which dies away, and is crowded out by them.

b. Rock Beds.—The following is a very rough section of the rocks exposed within a quarter of a mile or a little more of the oil springs. Downwards:—

Red and greenish gray clays, in all perhaps	about	700	feet.
Greenish gray sand rock (and gray shales?) with some red shales, about 100 feet from the top, and with some layers of fine pebble rock	,,	825	,,
Dark red shales	,,	25	,,
Greenish gray sand rock (with red shales at bottom?)	,,	75	,,
Brown fine pebble rock	,,	6	,,
Red clay	,,	6	,,
Gray soft sand rock	,,	3	,,
Greenish gray sand rock and shales?	,,	10	,,
Gray shales?	,,	25	,,
Greenish gray sand and fine pebble rock	,,	6	,,
Red and greenish gray shales alternating	,,	64	,,
Blue gray (weathering brown) filbert and larger pebble rock	,,	5	,,
Greenish gray sand rock and shales, with some fine pebble rock and red shales	,,	1,750	,,
Blue gray lime rock (and perhaps some gray shales), with nummulites and other fossils	,,	250	,,
In all	,,	2,000	,,

The red and greenish gray clays at the top of the section are no doubt the same as those near the top of the Aluggud group of rocks; it has commonly been reckoned as of Siwalik age. The greenish gray sand rock and shales would seem to hold the same place as the similar sand rock of the Aluggud group below the clay; but this has been called hitherto carboniferous in age owing to the productus and other fossils found near its top at Aluggud. Here, however, although no fossils have been noticed in the rock, its age must be newer than that of the lime-stone below, and this has from its nummulites and other fossils been called the nummulitic lime-stone. If the Aluggud so-called carboniferous rock be really older than this nummulitic lime-stone, then not only that lime-stone, perhaps 1,100 feet thick in all, but the 1,050 feet of sand rock and shales above it and below the red and greenish gray clays, or more than 2,000 feet in all, must have thinned out and disappeared between Burra Kutta and Aluggud, a distance of only 30 miles.

4.—OIL.

a. Mode of occurrence.—The oil comes from the cracks of the gray lime rock through a space of about 100 feet in thickness, and the main spring comes from about 100 feet below the top of the lime rock. The oil is dark green in color at the main spring when quite fresh from the rock, but in the air quickly becomes dark brown or black and tarry, as it is at all the other places near. The main spring is some six feet long and a foot or two wide, and quite shallow, and other springs are only a foot or two wide. At high water the springs are no doubt quite overflowed. Near the oil springs, as on the Chhota Kutta, there are sulphur water springs, but not so strong ones as there.

b. Yield.—The yield of the springs here amounts perhaps altogether to three pints a day.

c. Outcrop.—The outcrop of the oil-bearing bed comes to these springs in a south-easterly course from the Chhota Kutta oil springs; it seems barely to cross the Burra Kutta brook, then to return westerly and north-westerly again towards the Chhota Kutta. There is perhaps also a small nearly circular outcrop of the bed on the Burra Kutta, about a furlong south-west of the spring.

d. Working.—The springs yield so much oil naturally, and the oil-bearing bed is so thick, that it seems quite worth while to test the oil-bearing bed by boring into it at some distance below the outcrop. Of course it would be best to make the first boring as near as may be to the springs, although the Chhota Kutta oil-springs on the same bed seem to show that it is oil-bearing throughout the space between the two sets of springs. Owing to the steepness, and even reversal, of the dip at the Burra Kutta main spring, a boring close by it would go through the oil-bearing bed for perhaps 200 feet. At a distance of only 60 feet north-easterly from the main spring the middle of the bed would be at a depth of about 200 feet; at a distance of 130 feet about 300 feet deep; at 240 feet distant about 400 feet deep; at 340 feet about 500 feet deep; and so on to 840 distant, where it would be about 1,000 feet deep. The strike of the bed towards the Chhota Kutta springs is about north 53° west, and borings in this direction would be likely to yield as well as at the Burra Kutta.

5.—SHIPMENT.

The oil gathered here could be carried on camels or mules about two miles by a very rough bridle path to Jaba, thence by road, quite good for camels, and growing better and better as you go on, 100 miles and a half to Rawalpindi, say 102 miles in all. Calling this eight marches and a half for a camel, and his load 50 gallons, and his cost R8 a month, the carriage of oil to Rawalpindi would cost at least 1 anna and $7\frac{2}{3}$ pies a gallon.

Report on the Sadeealee Rock Tar Spring, near Nara, Jhelum District, Punjab, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

The Sadeealee rock tar spring, in the Jhelum District, Punjab, is about 90 miles south-west of Rawalpindi, seven miles south-east of Lawa, four miles south east of Nara, and two miles east of a salt chowki. It was described by a chowkidar of Lawa, one of the very few in that region who had ever seen it, as yielding a very small quantity of a black liquid (tar) that the people there called "Leleera," of whose nature they were quite ignorant. He said that it floated upon the water of a small pool, and covered with a thin film a space of perhaps eight or ten inches in diameter; that he skimmed off some with a stick, and then held the stick over a fire, but that it would not burn, would only hiss and give out smoke. He and the chowkidar of the salt chowki (the latter of whom made little pretence of knowing the way to the spring) tried to show where the spring was, but on getting, as they said, very near to it, were quite unable to point it out. As the dark-colored liquid seemed at the time unlikely to be tar, but rather some vegetable scum upon water, and its quantity was at any rate extremely small, the search was abandoned. After a survey, however, of the Chinnoor, Hungooch, and Dooma rock tar springs, where the tar is called "Leloora," it was clear that the "Leleera" of Sadeealee was also tar; but as it was also clear that its quantity was quite unworkable, as at those places, it seemed plainly not worth while to try again to find the place. The chowkidars, in trying to find the spring, led to a spot where the gray sand rock was exposed below the red and greenish gray clays, and with a gentle dip northward, all precisely corresponding to what is seen at the other three places. The geological position of the Sadeealee tar and the mode of occurrence, as well as the yield, are beyond a doubt the same as at the other three places. Even if it should be desired to bore here at any future time, the circumstances are so pre-

cisely similar to those at the other three places, that the instructions given for them would also apply here, and no doubt could possibly arise as to the mode of proceedings.

Report on the Chinnoor Rock Tar Springs, near Murdawal, Shahpur District, Punjab, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

The Chinnoor rock tar springs, in the Shahpur District, Punjab, are 83 miles south-west of Rawalpindi, two miles and a half north-north-west of Murdowal, and one mile and a half west-south-west of the Hungooch rock tar.

The springs are near the union of two branches of the Chinnoor brook, one coming from the east, the other from the south, while the main stream flows northerly. Between the two forks of the stream the land rises southerly without any great hollows in it, but north of the easterly fork and west of the southerly fork, and on either side of the main stream, hills rise to a height of 300 or 500 feet, with very steep cliffy sides towards these streams, but with a much gentler slope northerly.

The dip of the rock is gentler northerly, perhaps 25°, and its uniformity is the cause of the uniformity and comparative gentleness of the slopes of the surface of the ground in that direction, while the slopes in other directions are extremely steep and irregular. The slope between the two forks of the stream is formed by almost the very uppermost surface of the great nummulitic (bluish gray) lime rock (that of the Jaba group and of the Salt Range generally). The hills on either side of the main stream are formed by the brownish gray sand rock which reaches up to the red and greenish gray clays, exposed a little further north, and is no doubt the same as the thick sand rock in a similar position in the Jaba group.

The rock tar (called here by the natives "Leloora") issues from the rock in these places on the easterly fork perhaps 200 yards above the union of the two forks, on a small branch of this fork about 150 yards west of the first place, and on the northerly fork about 50 yards west of the second place. The tar at the first (easternmost) of these places comes from the lime rock, but very close to its upper surface; at the two other places it comes from the brownish gray sand rock quite near to its lower surface.

The amount of tar at the eastern place is scarcely a tea-spoonful, at the middle place perhaps half a pint, and at the western place at the time of the survey none at all, although some white scum was to be found here like that to be seen with the tar at Hungooch.

The outcrop is easily to be traced along the junction of the said rock and lime rock in a general east and west course; and the uniformity of the dip, as well as its gentleness makes it easy to dig or bore upon the tar-yielding bed at some depth below the surface by going to a little distance northerly from the outcrop. It would, however, be the height of folly to go to the expense even of boring, for it is very clear that the deposit, or rather the three deposits are extremely small ones, limited to a few feet or even inches from the places observed.

Report on the Hungooch Rock Tar Springs, near Dhuddur, Shahpoor District, Punjab, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

The Hungooch rock tar springs, in the Shahpoor District, Punjab, are 81 miles south-west by south of Rawalpindi, and two miles and a half north-west of the village of Dhuddur.

The tar springs are only 25 feet apart in the bed of a brook which flows thence north-westerly. The land rises south and south-easterly of the springs in a comparatively gentle and uniform slope, but on the east and west it rises steeply, and with high cliffs to some 500 feet. From this height the hills slope down rather gently and uniformly northward.

These gentle and uniform northerly slopes correspond to the uniform dip, about 25° of the rocks in the same direction. The lowest rock exposed is the bluish gray nummulitic lime rock of the Jaba group, and it here also contains nummulites. It is exposed here and there all over the hill side south of the tar. Upon the lime-stone, and forming the high hills on either side of the brook is brownish gray sand rock, clearly the same as the great sand rock in the same position at Jaba, and there 1,000 feet thick or so. Above it half a mile north of the tar, is seen the red and greenish gray clays found just above the Jaba group and near the top of the Aluggud group.

The tar issues from the brownish gray sand rock within a few feet of its bottom, and the two springs come from layers about six feet apart. The one from the upper layer is owing to the northerly dip (rather steeper than the slope of the ground), the more northerly of the two, and is the larger, but the whole amount of both together is hardly a pint.

The outcrop of the tar-bearing bed has a general east and west course; but bends round to the south from the springs on either side owing to the presence of the high hills along whose foot it runs near the upper surface of the lime-stone that forms the gentle hill-side between.

As the sand rock that yields the tar is well exposed at the springs, it is plainly seen that the bituminous matter from which the tar comes must be a very small deposit, not only a very thin layer, but almost certainly of very limited horizontal extent. It would therefore be very unwise to make borings here in hopes of finding a greater yield; but uniformity of the dip shows very plainly where borings should be made if it should ever be wished to test the bed at any depth. The bed plunges beneath the surface of the ground at the springs, and would be found uniformly at a greater and greater depth in a northerly direction.

Report on the Dooma Rock Tar Springs, near Kubbukkee, Shahpoor District, Punjab, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

The Dooma rock tar springs are on the Wudda Dooma and Nikka Dooma brooks, within 40 yards of their union, which forms the Dooma brook. They are 77 miles south-west by south of Rawalpindi, and three miles and a half north-north-east of Kubbukkee.

The Nikka Dooma (the smaller of the two) comes to the springs from the south-east, and the Wudda Dooma comes from the south-west; the Dooma below the springs has, though crooked, a general northerly course for half a mile at least. The land between the two forks and on either side of the main stream is from 200 to 400 feet higher than the brooks, and has high cliffs along their borders, but above slopes gently northward, generally speaking.

The cause of this gentle and uniform northern slope is the uniform gentle dip (about 7°) of all the rocks in that direction. About a quarter of a mile southerly of the springs is seen the same bluish gray lime rock as that of Hungooch and Chinnoor, and the same as the great nummulitic lime rock of the Jaba group of rocks. It then passes below the greenish gray (brown weathering) sand rock, the same as that of Hungooch and Chinnoor, and as that of the Jaba group. The sand rock is much false-bedded, and in places pebbly. About three quarters of a mile north of the tar springs are seen resting upon the sand rock the red and greenish gray clays (perhaps 700 feet thick), which are seen at those other places, and also near the Aluggud oil springs.

The tar issues from the sand rock very near its bottom, perhaps within 30 feet of it, at four places on the Wudda Dooma within 40 yards of the union of the two brooks, and at one place 24 yards above that point on the Nikka Dooma. All the places are within a thickness of perhaps five feet of the rock, or even less. The tar seems to melt in the sun's heat from a small quantity of asphalt imbedded in the rock, but may perhaps issue first as oil, and then turn to black tar on exposure to the air. At two or three of the

places the tar has dried to asphalt, rather impure from pebbles and sand mixed with it.

There is perhaps a cubic yard and a half of this asphalt in all. The liquid tar amounts to scarcely a trace at the place on the Nikka Dooma to perhaps a gill at the lower place on the Wudda Dooma, to two spoonsful at the next place, to a quarter at each of the other two, making half a gallon in all. Although the yield here is more than at Hungooch, and is spread over a greater space, it seems clear that the yield to be hoped for from a boring would be far too little to pay for the expense.

The outcrop can, however, easily be followed along the base of the cliffs on either side of the streams until it gradually rises southward to their northern face, always close above the lime rock, and takes in general an east and west course.

To bore from the top of the high lands above the cliffs would be very costly owing to the height above the tar or oil-bearing bed; and the only place where it could be reached from a comparatively short distance (without going far from the springs) is in the channel of the Dooma below the tar. A boring, however, is in any case not at all likely to pay for its cost, and the deposit is to be looked on rather as analogous to the little coal beds, of no value, often seen formed by a single plant or two turned to coal.

BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN,

Mining Engr., P. W. Dept. of the Govt. of India.

Lahore, 5th November 1870.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE REPORT ON THE OIL LANDS OF THE PUNJAB.

Report on the Loonekee Kussee Sulphur Pits, Kohat District, Punjab, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The Lunekee Kussee (or salt brooks) sulphur pits, in the Kohat District, Punjab, are near the western bank of the Indus, about a mile south-west of Dundee, on the other bank, and about two miles north-east of Choorlukkee Meeshuk, and on the road from this village to Dundee. They are about 900 feet above the sea, and perhaps 100 above the Indus.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The pits are on the northern edge of what is in the main a great plain, but here it is very much cut down in steep-sided hollows, through one of which the Loonekee runs with a south-easterly course to the Indus. From this brook extends eastward for about 175 yards an oval-shaped hollow that is about 50 yards wide, and about 10 feet above the bed of the brook. Around the sides of this little hollow are traces of digging, and the sulphur is said to have been taken in large quantities from the earth here until the region came under British rule. North and south of the hollow the ground rises steeply to a height of 50 feet above the brook. About 150 yards north of the hollow is a low ridge of nodular lime rock; north of that still lower brown sand rock ridges or ledges, and north of them red sand rock and red shales.

5.—GEOLOGY.

The lime rock dips northerly some 60°, and therefore probably passes below the brown and red sand rocks. It seems, then, to hold the place of the lime rock of the Gunda group of rocks below brown and red sand rocks, which are no doubt the same that lie at the Punnoba oil springs in this order below what

seems to be the great nummulitic lime rock of the Salt Range. The lime rock of the ridge near the sulphur pits is grey, nodular, and thin-layered, and contains nummulites, and is therefore of nummulitic age.

But south of this ridge and at the sulphur pits the only rocks exposed lie nearly or quite level, and are plainly of the same older alluvial age as the rocks of the same position and appearance at Gunda along the Seel River, and along the Indus near Mukhud. The following section downwards is exposed in the banks of the Looneeke Kussee, just west of the surphur pits:—

Gray lime rock, full of holes, and with broken nummulitic lime rock pebbles, up to four inches long	about 5 feet.	
Pebble rock, in parts hard, in other parts soft	„ 10	„
Salt shales, in parts very rich in salt, and covered with a white crust	„ 10	„
In all	„ 25	„

In the bed of the brook is loose gravel containing also salt, and about a cubic yard of earthy asphalt scattered in spots for a distance of some 30 yards.

Sulphur.—The sulphur was got by sublimation from the loose earth (mostly red and mottled clay) of the pits, and probably occurred in the form of small yellow particles. None of it, however, is now to be seen in the surface earth, and it has probably disappeared by exposure to the weather for a little distance (a few inches at least) from the surface. In order, then, to determine its amount, it would be necessary to dig holes here and there, and to test the amount of sulphur that a given quantity of the earth would yield, and to extend these pits and trials until the limits of the deposit, both horizontally and vertically, had been made out. Such an examination would take more time than would have been compatible with the survey of the Punjab oil lands, to which this visit to the sulphur pits was merely incidental. The extent of the old pits and the traditions of the neighbourhood seem, however, to show that the amount of sulphur here is very large.

Gypsum.—Gypsum is exposed in little crystals in the earth here and there at the sulphur pits; but its amount has been left quite undetermined for similar reasons to the one just given. It would seem, however, to be quite a large amount; but the gypsum, so far as observed, was much mixed with clay and other impurities.

Salt.—The salt shales are exposed with their coating of salt for some 40 yards, and the salt seems to be gathered in all quantities by the country-people. There seems to be nothing approaching a bed of rock salt, and it seems highly unlikely that either the richness of the shale bed in salt or its extent will permit of the manufacture of salt here, except on a very small scale perhaps for the benefit of the immediate neighbourhood.

Asphalt.—The asphalt amounts (so far as exposed) to only about a cubic yard, and is therefore of trifling value. It seems to be a secondary deposit, washed here by the brook, and from what source it came does not appear. It no doubt issued somewhere from the solid rock as oil, then dried to solid asphalt, and then probably was washed by the brook from its original place to the little spots where it is now seen. It may even have formed at one time a small deposit in the older alluvium before this action of the brook, and in this case might be far removed from its original source, as far, say, as from Punnoba.

The amount of the asphalt is in any case so small as to give little encouragement to a search for the oil-bearing rock from which it first issued.

Report on the Punnoba Sulphur Pits, Kohat District, Punjab, by BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN, *Mining Engineer, Public Works Department of the Government of India.*

1.—SITUATION.

The Punnoba sulphur pits, Kohat District, Punjab, are about half a mile north-east of the Punnoba oil springs, about three quarters of a mile east of

Punnoba village, about four miles north-west of Choorlukkee Meeshuk, about four miles north of Shekh Khan, and about nine miles north of Khooshialgurh, on the Indus. They are about 1,500 feet above the sea, and about 350 feet above the oil springs.

2.—LAY OF THE LAND.

The pits are on the north-western side of the first (south-easternmost) high ridge of the mountains that border British Territory here next to Afreedeestan, the same ridge in which the oil springs occur at the gorge of the Punnoba brook. The general slope near the sulphur pits is north-westerly, but there are many small hollows cut down with steep sides by the small streams: and the pits are just at the top of a narrow "divide" between two heads of valleys at the point where the main ridge is joined by a small one that runs westerly from it.

3.—GEOLOGY.

This smaller ridge is formed by a saddle in the rocks, with dips of about 45° on either side. The rocks of the main ridge at the one or two points where they are exposed (about 150 yards south-west of the pits) dip about 45° south-easterly. Above the rocks that show these dips is in places a certain amount of loose earth or rock, with no dip that can be made out.

This loose stuff is partly bright red earth and partly gypsum, and perhaps partly gravel. The rocks that show the dips are gray limerock, no doubt the same as that of the Punnoba oil springs, of nummulitic age, and probably the same as the great nummulitic lime rock of the Salt Range.

Sulphur.—The sulphur has not been dug here for some 20 years, since the British rule began; but there are still traces of a number of small holes within a space of 15 or 20 yards across. The sulphur is not now to be seen in the earth here at the surface, but has probably disappeared merely from the action of the weather. It probably occurs in the form of small yellow particles scattered through the earth and gypsum, and it was formerly got from them by sublimation. The amount of sulphur that a given quantity of earth would yield is quite unknown, and the extent and depth through which the earth yields it is not known. Until these points are tested by digging at numerous points and trying the richness of the earth at each of them, it will be impossible to estimate the amount of sulphur that exists here. The delay of such an examination would have interfered far too much with the progress of the oil survey, and was therefore not undertaken. Although the holes seem much fewer, and within a narrower space than those of Loonekee Kussee, it may be chiefly owing to the less convenient accessibility of the place, and it is very likely that a large amount of native sulphur is scattered through the gypsum.

Gypsum.—Southerly from the sulphur pits and close to them rises upon the side of the main ridge a little hill that seems to be wholly made up of porous crystalline gypsum, similar to what is seen near the Chhota Kutta oil springs of Jaba in the Salt Range, about 10 miles east of the Indus. In both cases the origin of the gypsum is probably the same, namely, the effect of the water of a sulphur spring upon the gray nummulitic lime rock. This little hill of gypsum at the Punnoba sulphur pits rises some 75 feet above the pits, and the gypsum reaches to 100 yards or so south of them, and runs some 75 yards or more east and west. There are, then, perhaps 200,000 tons of gypsum here, but more of it may be hidden under loose gravel near by. The inhabitants of the region seem quite ignorant of the great value of the gypsum for its various uses, and it lies quite neglected.

BENJAMIN SMITH LYMAN,
Mining Engineer, P. W. Department.

Calcutta, the 25th November 1870.

No. 99, dated 12th October, 1866.

From—T. E. B. BROWN, Esq., M.D., Chemical Examiner, Punjab,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Punjab, in the Public Works Department.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your office letter No. 99C,

dated 19th July, and of the petroleum referred to in it, and to state concerning the latter, that I find it to be as follows:—

A greenish black fluid when examined in mass, but greenish red when looked at in thin layers, with a peculiar, rather unpleasant smell; its specific gravity is 931. It is not very inflammable, as it may be heated up to the temperature of 220°, or above the boiling point of water, without catching fire, even when a light is brought near it, but at 230° Fahrenheit it catches fire from any naked flame, and burns with a bright white light, giving off an abundant black smoke, which settles on any cool surface, forming carbon or lamp-black mixed with water. This proves that the substance is composed of carbon and hydrogen, but that it contains no oxygen is shown by the fact that not only is the metal potassium not ignited by contact with this petroleum, but that even if globules of potassium are thrown into a vessel containing both petroleum and water, they will be ignited by contact with the water, but immediately extinguished on rising into the petroleum.

The above experiment indicates that petroleum has great power in preventing oxidation in metals, or rusting, as it is called, when referring to iron, and combined with its oily qualities, indicates that it would be useful in lubricating machinery and preventing the corrosion of iron, and it has been found useful for lubricating machinery in America.

If the petroleum is heated to 230° Fahrenheit it will take fire on a light being applied, and burn with a bright flame, giving out much heat; this flame is not easily extinguished by the addition of water, but can be at once arrested by covering over the vessel, and thus stopping the influx of air. Petroleum has been largely used as a fuel in steamers. It is stated in the "Scientific American" that the volume of flame of petroleum was so great as to pass entirely through the tubes of the boiler and heat the smoke pipe red hot for several feet from the base.

The time of generating steam from water of equal temperature to 20lbs. pressure above the atmosphere was for the oil, an average of 20 minutes, and for the coal, 60 minutes, or in favour of the oil, 14 per cent. One of our iron-clads, by its successive use, would be able to keep the sea under steam three times as long with less labour and greater convenience as compared with the use of coal, equal weights of each on board being considered.

It is also stated that a frigate which can carry 10 days' coal costing about £1,000 could carry 20 days' petroleum costing £500.

If the petroleum be carefully distilled, a clear reddish fluid comes over, from which, if shaken with 5 to 10 per cent. of strong sulphuric acid and then allowed to rest for 24 hours, a dark fluid subsides, and the upper liquid becomes yellow; if this is then mixed with caustic lime and distilled, a nearly white volatile oil passes over, which has the appearance and all the properties of kerosine, and might be burnt instead of that substance in the proper lamps.

It is stated in the papers that kerosine lamps are ordered to be used in barracks in Bengal, and it is, without doubt, a clear, brilliant light and economic when the kerosine is procurable at a low price.

If the petroleum is allowed to flow slowly into an iron vessel heated to nearly redness, it is rapidly converted into a pure carburated hydrogen gas, which burns with a bright white flame; this I have prepared, and find that the process can be easily performed. It is stated also that the residue, after gas so obtained, contains much paraffine, and may be used for the preparation of candles, but I have not yet succeeded in effecting this, as it requires extreme cold to separate the paraffine.

It is also stated with respect to the American petroleum, that paint oils and varnishes are also prepared from it, and the benzine (*i.e.*, the liquid called kerosine) is used as a substitute for oil of turpentine. Some of the most beautiful and durable colours now worn are obtained from the waste petroleum, after refining, and after the separation of the naphtha; it has likewise been found a valuable substitute for pit oil in tanning, and produces a better and stronger quality of leather.

It is also recommended in medicine, to be used in skin diseases, and it has been employed at the hospital under my charge, with effect in some of these.

Mixed with powdered kunkur, it forms a solid substance which does not melt in a fierce sun, but can be spread by a red hot iron into a smooth surface, impervious to water. This deserves a trial on a roof, with respect to its powers of rendering houses water-proof in the Punjab, and if sufficient petroleum be sent I will have much pleasure in superintending this.

In cold climates, petroleum, boiled and mixed with lime, is used as a pavement, but I greatly doubt its applicability to this use under the burning sun of the Punjab.

Lastly, I would state that I believe there is little danger in storing petroleum of this kind, since it is stated that petroleum which does not ignite when poured on water heated to the temperature of 200°, and a flame applied, may safely be kept, while the specimen sent to me did not ignite even at 220°, but it is possible that other specimens may be more combustible than the above sample.

The experiment of pouring the oil on boiling water, and applying flame to it, can, however, easily be tried.

Dated 21st December, 1866.

From—T. E. B. BROWN, Esq., M.D., Chemical Examiner, Punjab,
To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, in the Public Works Department.

The constituents of American petroleum are numerous compounds of hydrogen and carbon, similar in composition to marsh gas, but most of them are liquids. It also contains paraffine, a solid of the same nature.

The Hydrocarbons are as follows:—C standing for Carbon, and H for Hydrogen.

		Specific gravity.	Boiling point.
Hydride of Ethyle,	C 4, H 6	Gas.	...
„ of Propyle,	C 6, H 8	„	...
„ of Butyle,	C 8, H 10	600	39·2
„ of Othyle,	C 10, H 12	628	86
„ of Caproyle,	C 12, H 14	669	154·4
„ of Oenontlylene,	C 14, H 16	669	198
„ of Capryle,	C 16, H 18	726	242
„ of Elaene,	C 18, H 20	741	278
„ of Paramylene,	C 20, H 22	757	320
Unnamed	C 22, H 24	766	361
	C 24, H 26	776	392
	C 26, H 28	792	422
	C 28, H 30	Not ascertained.	464
	C 30, H 32	„	500

Besides these, it contains paraffine, a solid hydrocarbon, which varies in composition, but is usually C 54, H 56.

It always contains two proportions of hydrogen more than the proportions of carbon, as the above series of liquid hydrocarbons do also.

2. I regret that I have not the means of separating these various substances at present, but from the different temperatures at which the Punjab petroleum boiled, and the fact that it contains carbon and hydrogen only, there is a great probability that most of these hydrocarbons would be found in this petroleum with the exception of the first three.

These all boil at a very low temperature, and are inflammable at the ordinary temperature of the air. I have never found any such vapours given off from the petroleum sent to me, but as that has probably been obtained from the surface, and therefore exposed to the high temperature of our summers, it is probable that the liquids which boil below 112° would be driven off, and it is quite possible that such easily inflammable vapours might be found in petroleum taken from a greater depth in the earth.

Note by MR. H. B. MEDLICOTT, *Superintendent, Geological Survey of India, dated 17th July 1883.*

Mr. Lyman's judgment on the Punjab petroleum can by no means be taken as final, except for the supply within shallow depths; although his apparent reserve upon the question of deep borings seems really to amount to an adverse opinion when looked at through the very dogmatic views he enunciates as to the origin and distribution of the oil. At page 8, paragraph 4 of his report (in India), he makes out that the average extent in depth would be only about half the length of the oil-bearing outcrop, and having found this in every case to be small, he implies that the extension in depth would correspond, but such a limitation of a fossiliferous (oil-producing) deposit is quite inadmissible.

In previous paragraphs he gives a crude discussion upon the mode of origin of petroleum, and announces as a "now well established fact" that the oil is only found in the holes in which it was first formed by the slow decomposition of organic remains. Now it is absolutely certain that petroleum and its derivative asphalt occur extensively in cracks and fissures in which it cannot have thus originated, and such a mode of distribution is all the more likely in rocks so disturbed as those of the Punjab oil region. For the same reason the lighter oils seldom occur in such rocks.

Mr. Lyman had probably only worked in the flat oil-measures of the Eastern States. The man to try the Punjab ground should have worked in troubled rocks, as in California.

Nothing but boring trials will decide the question.

The geological description of the ground will be found in Mr. Wynne's Salt Range reports, *viz.*:—

Trans-Indus.
Memoirs, G. S. I., Volumes XIV and XVII, Part 2.
Mr. Wynne's note on the tertiary zone and underlying rocks in North-West Punjab,—Records, Volume X, Part 3.

But Mr. Lyman's *original* report *with the 11 plans*, give the most practical view of the nature of the ground.

Note by MR. H. B. MEDLICOTT, *Superintendent, Geological Survey of India, dated 15th August 1883.*

The note I appended to the petroleum file points out not only that Mr. Lyman's report gives no direct opinion upon the main feature of the case, the occurrence at greater depths, but also that the theoretical views he records bearing upon that point are demonstrably erroneous, 1st, the accumulations of fossils in circular patches from which he deduces the rule that the local limit of depth of an oil-bearing bed is equal to half the length of its local outcrop—the notion is untenable; 2ndly, his contention that the occurrence of oil out of the bed in which it was formed is quite an exceptional phenomenon—is scarcely less opposed to nature and experience. That oil will remain indefinitely in its original bed so long as this is undisturbed is likely enough; but that in contorted and broken rocks oil will not obey the laws of fluids and go where pressure or gravitation leads it would be too much to expect, and the fact of its being extensively found in cracks and fissures is quite beyond question.

The oil rocks of the Punjab are greatly disturbed and broken, and I should think that scarcely any of the original oil beds have escaped the action of underground drainage.

What I say is, that Mr. Lyman's report leaves us no wiser than we were before as to the oil resources of the Punjab. Oil-forming conditions seem at least to have been very widespread there; and as well as I can judge from published accounts, oil has been found abundantly by deep boring where the surface symptoms were not better than those. I am therefore decidedly of opinion that Government should not abandon the investigation. Large sums have recently been spent there in a search for coal where the chances of success were indefinitely less, indeed, in my opinion, *nil*. As for recommending any particular site for boring, it will be understood from what I have said regarding its probably promiscuous mode of occurrence in broken ground, that scientific judgment would be of very little use. It is just the case where the instinct formed by experience would be the only guide, so it would be a pity not to give the undertaking the benefit of such experience.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXXVII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 23rd September 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 22nd September 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 23rd September 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 22nd September 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
29th Sept. 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	1,91,453	1,113	172	(a)1,19,587	695	24,76,044	573	(a)21,49,825	500	...	3,26,219
22nd ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	74,175	136	547	92,852	170	23,70,366	172	27,88,055	204	4,17,689	...
22nd ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	1,60,918	238	749	1,74,047	232	44,30,747	260	55,89,641	300	11,58,894	...
22nd ditto	Madras	861	1,31,492	153	861	1,21,827	141	34,37,524	159	31,87,622	148	...	2,49,902
22nd ditto	South Indian	655	70,688	108	655	77,179	118	18,81,579	115	19,51,367	119	69,788	...
29th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,451	4,08,604	282	1,451	4,34,405	299	1,52,69,446	419	1,61,53,208	445	8,83,762	...
22nd ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	75,955	165	461	1,48,731	323	46,75,159	403	54,03,403	469	7,28,244	...
	TOTAL	4,823	11,13,235	231	4,896	11,68,628	239	3,45,40,865	285	3,72,23,121	304	26,82,256	...
	State.												
29th Sept. 1883	East Indian	1,507	7,14,181	474	1,509	8,17,946	542	2,06,65,412	545	2,44,60,920	648	37,95,508	...
29th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	3,056	93	56	5,150	92	90,583	116	1,41,544	105	50,961	...
29th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,237	46	27	1,334	49	32,519	48	39,996	59	7,477	...
29th ditto	Northern Bengal	230	49,487	215	239	42,640	178	9,03,421	155	9,73,752	166	70,331	...
22nd ditto	Tirhoot	75	10,718	143	166	17,380	105	3,07,895	151	4,09,370	100	1,01,475	...
25th Aug. 1883	Patna-Gya	57	10,336	181	...	(b)	...	(c)1,82,944	152	(d)1,63,758	137	...	19,186
29th Sept. 1883	Cawnpore-Achnera	138	10,318	75	138	8,359	60	2,51,302	72	2,59,462	75	8,160	...
29th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	668	56	12	486	40	22,038	73	22,746	76	708	...
29th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,116	1,37,811	123	1,117	1,86,490	167	48,38,577	172	57,16,621	205	8,78,044	...
29th ditto	Wardha Coal	45	6,424	143	45	8,147	181	2,45,462	217	3,37,020	300	91,558	...
29th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	4,604	47	149	7,774	52	2,60,974	106	6,28,004	169	3,67,030	...
22nd ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	20,205	125	161	20,804	129	6,50,463	161	6,54,818	163	4,355	...
29th ditto	Sindia	75	4,583	61	75	4,667	62	1,47,012	78	1,45,801	78	...	1,211
22nd ditto	Punjab Northern	409	46,843	113	421	51,926	123	13,69,321	135	14,91,338	142	1,21,517	...
29th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	67,574	102	660	1,03,313	157	20,00,732	120	35,65,213	216	15,64,481	...
29th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	2,253	70	32	2,203	69	36,898	46	48,106	60	11,208	...
29th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	...	89	7,000	79	...	...	1,70,936	77	1,70,936	...
	TOTAL	3,168	3,75,617	119	e3,387	4,67,673	138	1,13,40,641	142	1,47,68,485	171	34,27,844	...
	Assisted Company.												
29th Sept. 1883	Bengal Central	...	...	...	35	1,938	55	...	...	52,528	60	52,528	...
	Native States.												
22nd Sept. 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal	194	11,113	57	193	10,545	55	4,37,600	90	4,78,660	99	41,060	...
22nd ditto	Nizam's	121	15,408	127	121	19,577	162	4,13,254	136	3,77,110	125	...	36,144
22nd ditto	Mysore	86	4,610	54	86	5,137	60	1,35,204	63	1,26,089	59	...	9,115
22nd ditto	Jodhpore	19	929	49	19	440	23	(f)7,121	29	18,684	39	11,563	...
	TOTAL	420	32,060	76	419	35,699	85	9,93,179	97	10,00,543	96	7,364	...
	GRAND TOTAL	9,918	22,35,093	225	(e)10,248	24,91,884	243	6,75,40,097	272	7,75,05,597	301	99,65,500	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,50,02,735	141	3,95,10,932	154	..	...
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,25,37,362	131	3,79,94,665	147	54,57,303	...

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway.
(b) Return not received.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 26th August 1882.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 25th August 1883.
(e) Excludes mileages of Patna-Gya State Railway (57).
(f) Total receipts from 24th June to 23rd September 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
the 18th October 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

BENGAL TENANCY BILL.

No. 484-116R., dated 1st May, 1883.

Office Memo. from—The Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India, Revenue and Agricultural Dept.,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

The undersigned is directed to forward, for consideration by the Select Committee in charge of the Bengal Rent Bill, copies of the papers noted in the margin, regarding rent rates in Darbhanga, Murshidábád, Sháhábád, &c.

Bengal Government No. $\frac{153}{200}$ L.R., dated 3rd March, 1883.
Do. „ $\frac{152}{200}$ L.R., dated 3rd March, 1883.
Do. „ $\frac{154}{200}$ L.R., dated 3rd March, 1883,
and enclosures.

Endorsement by the Officiating Under-Secretary to Government, Bengal,—(No. $\frac{153}{200}$ L.R., dated 3rd March, 1883).

Copy, with copies of the enclosures and the plan in original, submitted to the Government of India, in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, for information, in continuation of my endorsement No. $\frac{152}{200}$ L.R. of this date.

The return of the original plan is requested.

No. 121A., dated Calcutta, the 19th February, 1883.

From—H. J. S. COTTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L.P.,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

In continuation of the Board's letter No. 23A., dated 8th January, 1883, I am directed to submit copy of a report (with enclosures), dated 10th February, 1883, from Mr. M. Finucane, on the result of the enquiries made by him in the villages of the Narhun estate as well as in those belonging to other zamindars of pergunnah Sureysa, and to observe as follows:—

Hon'ble H. L. Dampier, C.I.E.

2. In paragraphs 4 and 5 of his report, Mr. Finucane has adopted the convenient plan of summarising his conclusions, and they need not be here repeated. The statements contained under head VI of paragraph 4 of the report justify all that has been said as to the evil effects of the Behar system of thikadari leases and the extortionate demands made under it.

3. It is impossible for the Court of Wards to interfere effectually on behalf of the ryots of the villages of the Narhun estate, which are leased to the manager of the Dalsingserai factory until the farming leases expire. The Commissioner might, however, remonstrate with the manager of the factory against his enhancements. The recent so-called temporary enhancement of rents, as explained by the manager in his letter, which is extracted in the margin of paragraph 11 of the memorandum on mouzah Tubka khas, seems to have been most inconsiderate. If the produce of the lands which paid their rents in kind was short, presumably the produce of the lands which paid money rents must have been short also, and the enhanced demand must have pressed severely on the ryots. Head IX of paragraph 5 of the report shows that the special measures, which have all along been recognized as necessary for Behar, are indeed required.

4. From clause 1 of paragraph 4 of the report it will be seen that the ryots are able to resist excessive enhancement of rents if they are well advised.

5. Head III of paragraph 5 of the report shows that there exist the same difficulties in the way of framing tables of rates in other estates as in those of the Narhun ward. It will be observed that the average rate of rent in the ward's estate is below that which prevails in neighbouring properties.

6. The remarks made in paragraph 6 of the report regarding village Jaezpotee show that lightness of the Government demand is no factor towards preventing excessive demands of rent.

7. Mr. Dampier agrees with Mr. Finucane that the state of things existing in North Behar, as brought out in his present report and compared with that existing in South Behar, Lower Bengal, and in the North-Western Provinces, calls for the introduction in the Rent Bill of a provision for a reduction of the existing rents where they are found to be excessive, and also for provision to check arbitrary enhancements. If the extension of this latter provision to any district, part of a district, estate or tract were left optional to the Government, the knowledge that such a power might be exercised would act as a check upon landlords inclined to excessive enhancement of rent. Such a check against arbitrary enhancement, as

is proposed, is provided in the twenty-second and following sections of the Chota Nagpore Landlord and Tenant Procedure Act I (B. C.) of 1879.

8. The most convenient method of making the landlords file jummabundis, as proposed in clause 1 of paragraph 7 of Mr. Finucane's report, would be to order a re-valuation of the district under the Road Cess Act, by which procedure the knowledge that cesses will be assessed on the jummabundi filed under that Act, provides a check against the insertion of rates in excess of what are really payable.

9. The Board are separately considering in the Wards Department whether any steps should be taken in the direction of reducing rents in the villages of the Narhun estate, which are held khas.

10. In paragraph 7 (*a*) of his letter Mr. Finucane writes that the ryot must take the initiative and assert his rights in courts before he can get the benefit of the restrictions on enhancements proposed by the Rent Law Commission. This is not strictly correct as a general proposition. Proceedings for the settlement of the land revenue show that the ryot has only to remain passive under the first demand of enhanced rent. The landlord must then sue him for the enhanced amount of rent, and the ryots would only have to plead those restrictions.

11. It is only in the case of enhanced rent recorded under the Bengal Settlement Act VIII of 1879 as payable to a landlord by a revenue officer in the course of proceedings for the settlement of the land revenue that the amount so recorded is binding against the ryot, unless he contests the enhancement in the courts. The suggestion made in paragraph 8 of the report, that the Board should be empowered to declare that the tables of rates or other authoritative declarations in connection with the determination of rents payable shall be in force for thirty years instead of ten, might also be adopted to meet the extreme cases contemplated by Mr. Finucane.

12. The line of distinction which Mr. Finucane in paragraph 9 of his report represents to exist in the minds of the Behar zamindars and ryots generally, between ryots of ancient standing and other ryots, is just what Mr. Dampier himself represented some twenty years ago in a report on the working of the Rent Act of 1859 from his experience as Collector of Tirhoot. He then said that thirty or forty years' tenancy rather than the twelve years period of the Rent Law might be taken as representing the ill-defined line of distinction which existed in the ideas of zamindars and their tenants between ancient ryots who are entitled to special consideration, and other ryots who are not entitled to any such consideration.

Dated Camp, the 10th February, 1883.

From—M. FINUCANE, Esq., C.S., on Special Duty,

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L. P.

I have the honour to report that, since submission to the Board of my last report, I have again gone over tract II, pergunnah Sureysa, of which I forwarded a map with my letter of the 18th December, and that I have made detailed enquiries regarding the history of enhancement of rent in each village, the facilities for communication and irrigation, number of non-occupancy and occupancy ryots, &c. I have also made enquiries from patwaris of villages appertaining to the estates of other proprietors, which are intermixed with Narhun villages, regarding amount and number of rates prevailing in them; but I have not gone into villages of this class for the purpose of making enquiries on the spot, as I have not been able to obtain the zamindar's consent to my doing so.

(1) Tubka Khas.
(2) Tubka Mughribee.
(3) Mahomedpore Sankura.
(4) Dalsingserai.
(5) Kooksa.
(6) Tubka Kishanpore.
(7) Raghopore.
(8) Gungowlee.

2. I now beg to forward copies of the notes which I have made on each of the villages noted in the margin.

3. It will be seen that two mehals included within the tract were brought under permanent settlement in 1242 to 1247 F.S. (1835 to 1840 A.D.)

Narhun villages.
(1) Tubka Khas.
(2) Surowlee.

Villages of other zamindars.
(1) Damodurpore.
(2) Jaezpotee.

The settlement papers which have been received from the Durbhanga Collectorate make it possible to institute a comparison between the rates and prices prevailing at the time of settlement (1840) and those prevailing at the present time. The areas under cultivation in 1840 A.D. in the villages noted in the margin are given in these papers, while in the case of other villages only the prevailing rates are given.

Facts established regarding Narhun villages.

4. The following facts seem to me to be established from the village reports and statements now submitted.

(*a*) As regards the rates and rentals of Narhun villages—

I.—That of the two villages of the Narhun estate, Tubka Khas and Surowlee, for which *data* for comparison are available, cultivation has extended during the past 45 years by 47 per cent. in one and by 39 per cent. in the other, while the gross rental has in the same period increased by 321 and 269 per cent. respectively. (*Report on village Tubka Khas appended.*)

II.—That while the average rise in prices of staple crops for the past forty-five years has been only 73 per cent., the increase in rent-rates in these villages has been respectively 188 and 164 per cent.

III.—That as regards all the villages in this tract appertaining to the Narhun estate (shown in statement 1), there has been an average increase in rates of 136 per cent. during the past forty-five years, the rise in prices in staple products during the same period being only 73 per cent. (*Statement I annexed to this report.*)

IV.—That there having been no increase in productiveness of soil, the only ground for enhancement of rent-rates was rise in prices.

V.—That the enhancement in gross rentals and in rent-rates has therefore far outrun the rise in prices.

VI.—That these enhancements were arbitrarily made by tikkadars during the lifetime of the late proprietor on each recurring septennial renewal of their tikka leases without reference to increase or decrease in prices, and that such enhancements were not regulated by law nor controlled by custom. (*For a specimen of the arbitrary way in which these enhancements were made, the annexed reports on Dalsingserai and Mahomedpore Sankura villages may be referred to.*)

VII.—That such arbitrary enhancements are even now being made by the manager of the Dalsingserai factory in villages leased to him. (*See annexed reports on villages Tubka Khas, Tubka Mughribee, Tubka Kishanpore, and Raghopore.*)

VIII.—That inasmuch as good lands near village sites have been taken up for indigo, and inasmuch as ryots' cultivation has, for that and other reasons, extended to inferior outlying lands, it follows that not alone are the rates all round now paid two to three times the rates paid forty-five years since, but these higher rates are paid for land which is, on an average, inferior to the land for which lower rates were formerly paid.

IX.—That this state of things is peculiar to North Behar, and has probably no parallel in any other part of India. (*See report on village Tubka Khas, section 9, headed "Determination of rates," and authorities quoted thereon.*)

If fair and equitable rates were now made out with reference to the rates of 1242-47, great reduction in existing rates necessary.

If fair and equitable rates were now to be fixed by reference to the standard of rates and prices prevailing in 1242 to 1247 F.S. (1835 to 1840 A.D.), existing rates would have to be reduced in the six villages (shown in statement III) by from 19 to 50 per cent. In one village in which the ryots resisted enhancements in court the rates are low, and would have to be enhanced. Taking the other villages together, the reduction would on an average be 39 per cent. on the existing rates.

But though the enhancements made since 1847 F.S. (1840 A.D.) are excessive and arbitrary, it would not be in accordance with law, and possibly it would not be in accordance with equity, to ignore them in now fixing fair rates. In Alapore pergunnah of North Durbhanga it was found that rates had been similarly enhanced out of all proportion to increase in prices within the last 40 years; but it was felt that it would be unjust to the proprietor to suddenly reduce them wholesale. A middle course was therefore adopted, and rates were reduced to the figure at which they stood in 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.) before recent enhancements were made. I would be disposed to adopt a similar procedure were I called upon to make a re-assessment in this estate.

Facts established regarding other estates.

5. The following facts seem to me to be established regarding estates which are not the property of the Narhun minor but in which enquiries have been made:—

I.—That the number of rates varies in one village from a maximum of 95 to a minimum of 4, and that the average number for eight villages is 34.

II.—That the amount of the rates varies from a maximum of ₹10 to a minimum of 10 annas in the same village, and for all eight villages from ₹15 to 2 annas per local beegah of 3,600 square yards.

III.—That therefore the same difficulties would arise in framing tables of rates as have arisen in the Narhun property.

IV.—That as regards two villages, Damodurpore and Jaezpotee (see statement II), for which alone the data for comparison exist, the area under cultivation has increased by 31 per cent. in the former village and decreased by 3·9 per cent. in the latter since 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.), while the rental of these villages has increased by 200 per cent. and 500 per cent. respectively in this same period.

V.—That while the average rate all round for Narhun villages is ₹3-6 per local beegah of land under cultivation, or ₹5-6-4 per acre, the average rate all round for the non-Narhun villages is ₹3 9-6 per beegah, or ₹5-12 per acre.

VI.—It follows that the rates in the Narhun estate are somewhat lower than in neighbouring villages, the owners of which, it is notorious, have been enhancing their rents in recent years.

Conclusions suggested by these facts.

6. The conclusions which suggest themselves to me from the facts disclosed in these reports, and from other facts connected with other estates in North Behar, of which the Board is cognizant, are:—

1st.—That provision should be made in the Rent Bill for reducing rents where they are clearly excessive.

2nd.—That provision should be made for the effectual prevention in future of arbitrary enhancement, and that such provision should not, in order to be effectual, depend on the ryot taking the initiative in court.

As the Rent Bill stands no provision is made for the reduction of excessive rents, except in the almost unheard-of cases in which the value of produce or productive power of the land has decreased since the rates were last fixed: ordinarily the rates when last fixed are presumed to be fair and equitable. Now it is obvious that if the rates when last fixed were rack-rent rates, as they are in many parts of North Behar, a Bill which makes no provision for the reduction of these rack-rent rates, but which does, on the contrary, make provision for their enhancement every ten years, is in reality a Bill *pro tanto* for the perpetuation of rack-rents. Take the instance of village Jaezpotee. The present proprietor of this village, Baboo Nundan Lal, has inherited it from his adoptive father, Baboo Brij Behari Lal, who was in possession when the permanent settlement of the mehal was made in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) The area then under cultivation was 106 beeghas, the then gross rental, which was taken as the basis of settlement, being Rs. 151, and the average all-round rate being Rs. 1-7 per beegha. The Government revenue was fixed on the basis of half assets: and, as the settlement records which I have examined show, the very moderate amount thus fixed was objected to by the present proprietor's father on the ground that the rental of Rs. 151, taken as the amount of assets, was more than the ryots really paid. The objection was, however, overruled, and the settlement was accepted in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)

First suggestion.
That in now fixing fair and equitable rates any former period which the court may deem equitable may be taken for the purpose of comparison, and not alone the period when rates were last fixed.

(*a*) After the lapse of 43 years what do we find in this village? We find that the area under cultivation has decreased by four beeghas, while the rental is now almost exactly six times the rental of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) In other words, the average rates all round have been enhanced by 500 per cent. in 43 years, the rise in prices during the same period being at most 73 per cent. There is reason to believe that the state of things existing in Baboo Nundan Lal's property is not very materially different from what exists in other properties in the Durbhunga, Mozufferpore, and other North Gangetic districts of Behar.

Area under cultivation in 1847, 106 beeghas.
Area now under cultivation shown in the jummabundi, 102 beeghas.
Rental in 1247 F.S., Rs. 151.
Present rental, Rs. 905.

The road cess papers show that the rental of Durbhunga generally, when the road cess papers were filed, was 7·2 times the Government revenue, of Mozufferpore 5·8 times, of Sarun 4·5, and of Chumparun 5·2 times the Government revenue. When it is remembered that the road cess papers probably understated the true rental, and ignored in many cases karchas and abwabs, it will be seen to what an enormous extent gross rental in these districts have increased since the permanent settlement. This enormous increase is, I think, mainly due to arbitrary enhancement in rent-rates, and not to extension of cultivation, for we are told that "Behar (at the time of the permanent settlement) was one of the most fertile, highly cultivated, and populous provinces of Hindustan in proportion to its extent of plain, arable land (*Supplement III, Historical and Comparative Analysis of the Finances of Bengal, by James Grant, 5th report, page 501, Madras edition.*) If the net income of zamindars was represented by one-tenth of Government revenue at the time of the permanent settlement, the road cess papers would show that, while the surplus now realised by a zamindar of Burdwan over his Government revenue is only five times, and that of a Dinagepore zemindar only twice the net income enjoyed by his predecessor at the time of the permanent settlement, the surplus realised by a zamindar of Durbhunga from his ryots is now thirty-eight times the surplus over Government revenue which was realized by his predecessor.

(*b*) When we find that the rents paid by occupancy ryots in Moorshedabad and Shahabad have not been changed for 40 years; that the rents in the Government estates of Khoorda, Majnamoota, and Jellamoota also have not been changed for 40 years; and that now, after 40 years' respite from enchancement, the ryots of these latter estates are asked for an enhancement in rates of only 50 per cent.; when we further find that the rates paid by occupancy ryots in the North-Western Provinces have also remained practically unaltered for 40 years; when we know that the Madras Government has not raised the assessments on its ryots to anything like the amount which would be justified by a rise in prices; when, in fine, we find this is the state of things in other provinces, and then, contrasting it with parts of North Behar, find that here the rents of occupancy and non-occupancy ryots alike have been raised by from 100 to 500 per cent. within the last 45 years, while prices have only risen by 73 per cent. during the same period, it is not unreasonable to conclude that some provision should be made for reducing excessive rents in Behar, and for giving the people rest from further harassment for a reasonably long period.

Mr. Tobin's and Baboo Parbutty Churn Roy's reports.

See report on village Tubka Khas appended hereto, and references there quoted.

(*c*) I would therefore suggest that some such provision as the following be inserted in section 25 of the Bill, as one of the grounds for the reduction of rent, namely, that rent may be reduced:—

> (4) "On the ground that the rent now bears a higher ratio to the value of the gross produce than the rent at any former period, which the court may think it equitable to take for the purpose of comparison, bore to the value of the gross produce at such former period."

The effect of such a provision in fixing rates in the case of Jaezpotee would be that the court might, taking the rates of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) for the purpose of comparison, now fix rates by allowing only an enchancement proportionate to the rise in prices since that time, instead of taking the rates last fixed as its starting point, as it is bound to do under the present Bill. Some such provision as I have suggested would enable the courts to do practical justice, while the Bill, as it stands, will only perpetuate present excessive rents and facilitate the enhancement of them.

7. On the second point, namely, the effectual prevention of arbitrary enhancements in future, I would suggest that to the limitations on enhancements, provided in section 23 of the Bill, the following be added:—

> That pending the completion of a cadastral survey the rates paid by occupancy ryots be now ascertained by making it compulsory on zamindars to file the jummabundis of one year in the Collector's office, and that the rates paid by the occupancy ryots when thus ascertained shall not be enhanced, except (*a*) by an order of a court, (*b*) or by a written agreement registered under the Registration Act.

Second suggestion.
That rates of occupancy ryots shall be enhanced only—
By an order of the court or under a written and registered agreement.

(*a*) Mr. Worsley proposed that this provision, which was taken from the Oudh Rent Act, should be extended to Behar, and the proposal was approved by the Behar Rent Committee. Though the proposal was considered of special importance by the Behar Committee, it was passed over without notice by the Bengal Rent Commission. I venture to think that it is the only limitation which is likely to have the least practical effect in preventing arbitrary enhancements in Behar. The limitations provided in the Bill of the Commission, namely, that (*a*) an enhanced rent shall in no case exceed 25 per cent. of the value of the gross produce, (*b*) that the new rent shall not be more than double the old rent, and so on, would have some effect in stopping arbitrary enhancements, if the ryot were a free agent, and were able to assert his rights in court. But if the ryot were thus capable of asserting his legal rights in court, is it possible that he would have submitted to the enhancements to which he has been subjected? Now, in order that the restrictions on enhancements proposed by the Bengal Commission may have any effect in preventing arbitrary enhancement, the ryot must take the initiative and assert his rights in Court; and as there is no more reason to suppose he will do this in the future than he has in the past, I am of opinion that these restrictions in enhancement will, for many years to come, have little or no practical effect in Behar in preventing arbitrary enhancements, which, being imposed at the will of the zamindar or tikkadar, are entered in the village papers by his mere order and without the ryot's consent. Zamindars and tikkadars would find arbitrary enhancements to be a different thing if they were bound to obtain a decree of court or to gather the ryots together at a Sub-Registrar's office and obtain their *bonâ fide* consent to future enhancements. The way in which enhancements are brought about at present is too well known to require description here. The assent of the village headmen and patwari is first procured by bribes and special concessions to them. The main body of the ryots, finding that their leaders have not resisted, ask: "Who are we that we should resist?" What is everybody's business is nobody's business, and so the enhancement is passively accepted. If, on the other hand, the ryots had to go to a public office and give their formal and individual assent to an enhancement, it would be found that they would refuse such express and formal assent, and arbitrary enhancements would thus be stopped. The principle of this proposal has been already accepted by the Government of India in legislating for Oudh. It was unanimously approved by the Behar Rent Committee: it is, I think, necessary in order to stop arbitrary enhancements in Behar. The only objections which I can conceive to it are that its adoption might be supposed to tend to prevent justifiable enhancements by mutual and friendly agreement, and that, inasmuch as the ryots are awaking to a knowledge of their rights, it may be supposed they will be able in future to protect themselves from arbitrary enhancements without such restrictions. It is not easy to see how the obligation of registering their agreements can prevent parties from entering into *bonâ fide* and amicable arrangements in the matter of fixing rents more than it does in agreements on other matters; and as for the supposed awaking of the ryots to a knowledge of their rights, I must say I fear there is not much evidence of the fact in this tract. Having made careful enquiries on the subject, it seems to me that those abuses on the one side and the same lethargy and helplessness on the other, which were commented on some five or six years since, still exist.

8. A third suggestion which I would offer for the restriction of arbitrary enchancements in Behar is that the Collector or Board of Revenue should be empowered to declare that tables of rates should be binding for such period not exceeding 30 years as may to the court appear equitable, instead of having such tables binding for only ten years (section 111 of the Bill). It is obviously inexpedient, and it would probably in many cases be unjust to the present proprietors, to reduce rents now to the figure at which they would stand, if enhancements had been made during the last fifty years, only on the ground and to the extent allowed by the law; but I think it is still more inexpedient, and it would be still more unjust, to perpetuate the present rates where they are excessive. In such cases I would therefore make a moderate reduction at present, and stop further enhancements for thirty years.

Third suggestion.
That the Board of Revenue be empowered to declare that the tables of rates in exceptional cases shall hold for thirty years instead of ten.

Number of occupancy and non-occupancy ryots.

9. Statement No. IV attached to this report shows that of a total number of 3,075 ryots in 23 villages, in which enquiries have been made, 2,646 have been in possession for twelve years or more, and 429 are now settlers or non-occupancy ryots. In other words, about 86 per cent. are occupancy, and 14 per cent. are non-occupancy ryots. These figures are founded on a comparison of the jummabundis, where they could be procured, and in other cases on the statements of the patwaris and jeth ryots. The distinction between ryots of twelve years' standing and those of less lengthened possession is not, however, in fact, understood by the ryots at all, either here or in any other part of the country to which my enquiries have extended. There is a general idea prevailing among the ryots that those of them who are of very ancient standing, or whose ancestors brought the village under cultivation, have a right to hold at privileged rates; but as for the mere right to possession, there is no distinction between a ryot of two years and a ryot of twelve years' standing. In the course of my enquiries, among some hundreds of thousands of ryots, I think I might truly say that I have not met ten ryots who understood the "magic of twelve years' possession." Every ryot believes himself entitled to hold possession of his ryoti as contradistinguished from the proprietor's *nij jote* or *khamar*, as long as he pays at the rates of rent current in his village; or where there are no village rates, as long as he pays at the rate originally agreed upon, together with such enhancements as are imposed from time to time in the village generally. I believe that this is not only the idea prevalent among the ryots, but it is also the idea prevalent among native zamindars also, with the exception of the few who have had an English education, or who have imbibed their ideas in our law courts. In confirmation of this view I may mention that at an interview between Mr. Reynolds and one of the most wealthy zamindars of Gya, at which I was present, the zamindar, while denouncing the proposal to confer occupancy rights generally, was asked, "if he ever ejected a tenant who was willing to pay his rent." His reply was: "Why should I do such an unjust act; I am not a person of that kind."

Sub-tenants.

10. There are very few sub-tenants. These few consist merely of farm-labourers, who are allowed by their employers to cultivate a beegah or so of their employer's land, either on the *battaia* system, or at the rates paid by the principal tenants themselves. The system of sub-letting ryot's land to indigo factories on what are called *kartouli* pattas, is, I am informed by the Sub-Registrar of Dalsingserai, being extended; but the cases of this kind which came under my notice were cases in which there was a dispute between the ryots and zamindar in villages held *khas*, and in villages held under lease they were cases in which it was alleged that the Dalsingserai factory wished to retain possession of *zerat* lands after the expiration of its lease, on the ground that such lands were sublet to it by the ryots.

Average produce of *dhan lands*.

11. This year's crop of rice, the produce of specimen fields of which was given in my report of the 18th December last, may, as far as I can learn, be taken as an average crop.

Amount and value of produce in bheet lands.

12. As I have not been able to have the produce of any *bheet* lands weighed in my presence, I cannot speak with any degree of certainty as to the average outturn of such lands. I have received estimates from patwaris, jeth ryots, and others, which are scarcely worth reproducing. The most trustworthy estimate which I have received is one from Mr. Crowdy, the manager of the Dowlatpore factory, who has had many years' experience of pergunnah Bhoosaree, and who has generally placed at my disposal all the information and papers he could. His estimate of the outturn and value of the average produce of the various kinds of bheet lands, calculated on the staple crops—barley, makai, murwa, and khodo—is given below:—

	Average produce of—		Rate at which ordinarily sold.		Value.	What Mr. Crowdy considers a fair rent for such land.	What Mr. Crowdy thinks to be on an average the existing rent.
		Mds.	Mds.	Srs.	R a. p.	R a.	
Bheet *aoul*, known as gauhera, soombee, mai, &c.	Rubbee in barley—						
	Bhadoi in makai—						
	Barley	12	1	10	22 14 11	5 0	From R 5 to R 8.
	Makai	20	1	20			
Bheet duim, known as pachusar, balguchar, &c., &c.	Barley for rubbee	8	1	10	17 9 7	4 0	„ „ 4 to „ 6.
	Murwa for bhadoi	14	1	10			
Bheet suim, known as usar	Rubbee in barley—						
	Bhadoi in khodo—						
	Barley	4	1	10	8 14 7	2 8	„ „ 1-8 to „ 4.
	Khodo	10	1	30			

Difficulty in fixing soil class rates.

13. I have nothing to add to what I have already stated on this subject. In order, however, to illustrate more clearly the difficulties already described, I append a rate-map of village "Tubka Mughribee." The village is sub-divided into blocks according to quality of soil, the boundaries of the lands comprised in each quality being shown by lines of different colour. A glance at the map will show the enormous variety of rates prevailing in each block for lands of the same quality.

I.—Statement showing increase in rates and rentals in villages of the Narhun Estate, pergunnah Sureysa, since 1247 F.S. (corresponding to 1840 A.D.)

Name of Village.	Government Revenue.	Rental in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.).	Rental in 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)	How many times rental of 1289 exceeds revenue.	Area under cultivation in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)	Area under cultivation in 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)	Percentage of increase in cultivation since	Percentage of increase in gross rental since (1248 F.S.)	Percentage of increase in average all-round rate since 1247 F.S.
	R a.	R	R		Beegha.	Beegha.		R	R
1. Tubka Khas	1,320 0	459	1,936	3·1	424	623	·47	321	188
2. Tubka Mughribee		Not known	933 4,124		Not known	482	Not known	Not known	78
3. Surowlee		340	1,255		294	409	·39	269	164
4. Mahomedpore Sankara	25 0	Not known	2,889	115·0	Not known	643	Not known	Not known	250
5. Dalsingserai	51 0	Ditto	485	9·5	Ditto	106	Ditto	Ditto	188
6. Tubka Kishenpore	550 0	Ditto	1,113 1,510	2·74	Ditto	330	Ditto	Ditto	115
7. Rowhopore *		Ditto	397		Ditto	173	Ditto	Ditto	23*
8. Kookea	62 8	Ditto	1,168	19·0	Ditto	217	Ditto	Ditto	241
9. Raghopur, Gungowlee	357 0	Ditto	1,836	5·4	Ditto	568	Ditto	Ditto	68
									Average increase 136

* The ryots resisted the enhancement in civil court in this village.

II.—Statement showing increase in rates and rentals in villages of the other estates in pergunnah Sureysa since 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)

Name of Village.	Government Revenue.	Rental in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)	Rental in 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)	How many times the rental of 1289 F.S. exceeds the Government revenue.	Area under cultivation in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)	Area under cultivation in 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)	Percentage of increase in cultivation since 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)	Percentage of increase in gross rental since 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)
	R a.	R	R		Beegha.	Beegha.		
Damodurpore	387 0	480	1,354	...	324	427	31	200
Jneznottee *	Not known	151	905	8·49	106	102	3·92 decrease	500
Beebhoobpore	1,075 0	Not known	11,685	..	Not known	3,218	...	...
Purkhotimpore	195 12	Ditto	655	10·8	Ditto	113	...	...
Hurpore, Dookhran	Not known	Ditto	323	3·35	Ditto	128	...	...
Jelalpore	Ditto	Ditto	3,770	...	Ditto	1,074	...	...
Boolakeepore	Ditto	Ditto	1,124	...	Ditto	424	...	...
Hurporepoorundar	504 0	Ditto	978	...	Ditto	298	...	...
Total			20,794			5,784		

The average rate per beegha for 1289 F.S. (1882 A. D.) R3-9-6.

* The village forms part of a mehal which includes other villages also.

III.—Statement showing reduction in present rent-rates which would have to be made in some of the Narhun villages if rates were now fixed by comparison with rates and prices of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)

Name of Village.	Name of pergunnah.	Average rate per beegha all round on cultivated area in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.).	Add 36¼ per cent. for increase in prices.	Total, being new all-round rate.	Existing all-round rate per beegha.	Percentage of reduction on existing all-round rates and rentals, which would have to be made in order to make them fair and equitable according to the standard of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)
		R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	
Tubka Khas	Sureysa	1 1 3	0 12 6	1 13 9	3 1 9	40
Surowlee	Ditto	1 2 6	0 13 6	2 0 0	3 1 0	34
Mahomedpore Sankara *	Ditto	1 1 3	0 12 6	1 13 9	3 12 6	50
Dalsingserai	Ditto	1 1 3	0 12 6	1 13 9	3 1 9	40
Kookea	Ditto	1 9 0	1 2 3	2 11 3	5 5 3	49
Tubka Kishenpore	Ditto	1 9 0	1 2 3	2 11 3	3 5 11	19

* This village was always leased to a native tikkadar, who, even in the last 20 years, raised the rates by 50 per cent.

IV.—Number of occupancy and non-occupancy ryots.—The following statement shows the number of occupancy and non-occupancy ryots in villages for which information on this point has been obtained :—

Name of Village.	Total number of ryots.	Occupancy.	Non-occupancy.	Remarks.
Gangowlee	90	87	3	Founded on statements of patwaris and jeth ryots.
Tubka Khas	189	188	1	Founded on statements of patwaris and ryots, jummabundis not having been received.
Tubka Mughribee	95	85	10	Ditto ditto.
Tubka Kishenpore	71	71	...	Ditto ditto.
Mahomedpore Sackara	188	178	10	Founded on a comparison of jummabundi papers.
Kooksa	54	54	...	Ditto ditto.
Dalsingserai	38	28	10	Ditto ditto.
Raghopore	36	31	5	Founded on statements of patwaris and ryots.
Narhun	531	525	6	Ditto ditto.
Hurrukpoora	66	40	26	Founded on a comparison of jummabundi papers.
Doomree	49	39	10	Founded on statements of patwaris and ryots.
Narainpepper	273	268	5	Ditto ditto.
Pansalla	72	51	21	Ditto ditto.
Bukhda	47	38	9	Ditto ditto.
Badh Bukhda	29	25	4	Founded on a comparison of jummabundi papers.
Umaree	418	292	126	Ditto ditto.
Rasulpore Najeeb	123	106	17	Ditto ditto.
Mirzapore	55	38	17	Founded on statements of patwaris and ryots.
Phaphout	313	226	87	Jummabundi.
Meghoul Gobourdhan	82	64	18	Ditto
Hingu Meghoul	148	116	32	Ditto
Yakubpore	53	47	6	Ditto
Abunasipore	45	39	6	Ditto
Total	3,075	2,646	429	

Notes on Tubka Khas village No. 6 of Map II.

Government Revenue.—This mouzah formed part of a Nankar mehal, which was resumed and brought under settlement in 1242 F.S. (1835 A.D.) In the course of the settlement proceedings, the jummabundis of the year 1242 to 1247 F. S. (1835 to 1840 A. D.) were filed in the Collector's office. A comparison of these jummabundis with the jummabundis of the present time makes it possible to come to some conclusion as to the extent to which the rates and gross rentals of this and neighbouring villages have been enhanced during the past 50 years.

This Nankar mehal included an 8-anna share of—

Villages . . . (1) Tubka Khas. (2) Tubka Mughribee. (3) Surowlee.

The Government revenue fixed in perpetuity in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) is Rs. 607 sicca, the mofussil rental of the whole mehal then being Rs. 1,320-15-11. The present mofussil rental is Rs. 4,125-6-8, that is to say, six and three-fourth times the Government revenue and three times the average rental of the years 1242 to 1247 F.S. (1835 to 1840 A.D.). The Government revenue in 1242 F.S. (1835 A.D.) was, it is to be remembered, fixed on the basis of half assests.

Abstract of Jummabundi.—The following statement gives an abstract of the present jummabundi of the minor's share in mouzah Tukba Khas and of the jummadundis of the year 1242 F.S. (1835 A.D.)

Abstract of Jummabundi for the Year 1242 F. S. (1835 A. D.)				Abstract of Jummabundi for the year 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)					Remarks.
Total area of lands.	Detail of cultivated lands.		Rate of rent per beegha.	Total area of land.	Detail of cultivated lands.		Rate of rent per beegha, excluding karchas.	Rate of rent per beegha, including karchas.	
B. K. D.	No.	B. K. D.	R a. p.	B. K. D.		B. K. D.	R a. p.	R a. p.	
424 13 9	1	0 7 10	6 0 0	623 5 4	1	1 7 4	6 4 0	6 7 4½	
	2	0 8 15	5 0 0		2	0 2 17	6 0 0	6 3 0	
	3	0 15 0	4 0 0		3	2 17 3½	5 11 0	5 12 9	
	4	0 3 0	3 4 0		4	2 0 0	5 6 3	5 9 0	
	5	1 9 10	3 2 0		5	2 9 15	5 6 0	5 8 9	
	6	0 17 0	3 0 0		6	0 8 7½	5 0 0	5 2 6	
	7	1 0 0	2 11 0		7	8 4 10	4 12 3	4 14 7½	
	8	11 0 18	2 10 0		8	0 8 3½	4 12 0	4 14 4½	
	9	9 17 8	2 8 0		9	9 9 4½	4 11 9	4 14 1½	
	10	0 14 0	2 7 0		10	11 10 2½	4 11 0	4 13 4½	
	11	5 14 0	2 6 0		11	6 11 13½	4 9 3	4 11 6	
	12	2 16 0	2 4 0		12	7 5 8	4 9 0	4 11 3	
	13	16 6 11	2 0 0		13	8 4 9	4 8 9	4 11 0	
	14	0 15 0	1 14 0		14	4 17 8	4 8 3	4 10 6	
	15	2 5 0	1 12 0		15	2 5 6½	4 8 0	4 10 3	
	16	12 11 0	1 10 0		16	0 8 6½	4 7 0	4 9 3	
	17	32 11 10	1 8 0		17	6 11 17½	4 6 0	4 8 3	
	18	9 16 6	1 6 6		18	3 3 18½	4 5 0	4 7 3	
	19	1 16 13	1 6 0		19	12 6 10½	4 4 0	4 6 1½	
	20	1 9 0	1 4 0		20	0 19 5	4 3 9	4 5 10½	
	21	81 7 10	1 0 0		21	6 9 6	4 3 6	4 5 10	
	22	6 16 0	0 15 0		22	1 10 0	4 0 6	4 2 6	
	23	8 16 0	0 14 0		23	5 7 5	4 0 0	4 2 0	

Abstract of Jummabundi for the year 1242 F.S. (1835 A.D.)				Abstract of Jummabundi for the year 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)					Remarks.
Total area of lands.	Detail of cultivated lands.		Rate of rent per beegha.	Total area of land.	Detail of cultivated lands.		Rate of rent per beegha, excluding karchas.	Rate of rent per beegha, including karchas.	
B. K. D.	No.	B. K. D.	R a. p.	B. K. D.	No.	B. K. D.	R a. p.	R a. p.	
	24	20 15 12	0 12 0		24	57 13 2½	3 15 6	4 1 6	
	25	3 0 0	0 10 0		25	1 19 13	3 14 6	4 0 6	
	26	3 0 0	0 9 0		26	0 7 0	3 12 0	3 13 10½	
	27	19 5 9	0 8 0		27	2 0 13	3 12 6	3 12 6	
	28	20 0 0	0 5 0		28	0 8 15	3 10 0	3 11 9	
	29	7 2 10	0 2 0		29	0 6 0	3 9 3	3 11 0	
		19 13 0	Bhaoli.		30	2 16 12½	3 8 0	3 9 9	
					31	10 0 15	3 7 6	3 9 3	
Jamma ... Rs. 459-12-10½.					32	6 12 1	3 6 0	3 7 9	
					33	3 2 18	3 4 0	3 5 6	
					34	1 16 9	3 3 6	3 5 0	
					35	0 2 8	3 2 0	3 3 6	
					36	12 6 8	3 1 6	3 3 0	
					37	5 10 0	3 0 9	3 2 3	
					38	0 10 10	3 0 0	3 1 6	
					39	6 10 0	2 15 3	3 0 9	1242 F.S. (1835 A.D.)
					40	3 10 5	2 14 0	2 15 6	B. K. D. R a. p.
					41	1 0 0	2 12 3	2 13 7½	424 13 9 459 12 10½
					42	4 6 0	2 12 0	2 13 4½	
					43	2 0 1	2 11 9	2 13 1½	The average rate per beegha, Rs. 1-1-3.
					44	2 1 12	2 11 6	2 12 10½	
					45	57 0 13½	2 10 0	2 11 3	
					46	1 2 1	2 9 0	2 10 3	
					47	1 6 10	2 8 6	2 9 9	
					48	4 1 10	2 8 0	2 9 3	
					49	1 2 10	2 7 3	2 8 6	
					50	4 9 15	2 7 0	2 8 3	1289F.S. (1882A.D.)
					51	1 0 0	2 6 9	2 8 0	B. K. D. R a. p.
					52	1 0 0	2 6 6	2 7 9	623 5 4 1,936 8 4
					53	15 15 19	2 6 3	2 7 6	
					54	2 9 14½	2 5 0	2 6 1½	
					55	2 17 5	2 4 9	2 5 10½	The average rate per beegha, Rs. 3-1-9.
					56	1 0 0	2 3 9	2 4 1½	
					57	5 4 2	2 3 6	2 4 7½	
					58	11 8 16½	2 3 0	2 4 0	
					59	7 16 17	2 2 0	2 3 0	
					60	3 3 10	2 1 0	2 2 0	
					61	6 18 17	2 0 6	2 1 6	
					62	3 2 7	2 0 3	2 1 3	
					63	14 19 8	2 0 0	2 1 0	
					64	2 13 10	1 15 0	2 0 0	
					65	6 11 12	1 14 6	1 15 6	
					66	0 4 0	1 14 0	1 15 0	
					67	4 11 0	1 13 0	1 14 0	
					68	4 12 10	1 12 3	1 13 3	
					69	2 18 9	1 12 0	1 13 0	
					70	3 5 1	1 11 6	1 12 3	
					71	28 13 9	1 11 0	1 11 9	
					72	1 12 0	1 10 6	1 11 3	
					73	4 1 10	1 10 3	1 11 0	
					74	6 19 4½	1 10 0	1 10 9	
					75	9 15 0	1 9 6	1 10 3	
					76	4 16 8	1 8 6	1 9 3	
					77	0 9 10	1 8 0	1 8 9	
					78	1 14 8	1 7 0	1 7 1	
					79	6 0 10	1 6 9	1 7 6	
					80	6 8 13	1 6 6	1 7 3	
					81	9 17 9	1 6 0	1 6 9	
					82	1 19 0	1 5 6	1 6 3	
					83	5 13 10	1 5 0	1 5 9	
					84	1 12 0	1 4 0	1 4 6	
					85	4 0 0	1 3 9	1 4 3	
					86	19 12 18	1 3 6	1 4 0	
					87	15 13 3½	1 2 0	1 2 6	
					88	1 5 0	1 1 6	1 2 0	
					89	1 0 0	1 1 3	1 1 9	
					90	14 12 6	1 0 6	1 1 0	
					91	6 15 0	1 0 0	1 0 6	
					92	5 11 0	0 15 0	0 15 6	
					93	20 13 6½	0 13 6	0 14 0	
					94	0 15 0	0 12 0	0 12 4½	
					95	12 17 7	0 10 3	0 10 6	
					96	3 19 5	0 9 0	0 9 3	
					97	1 15 0	0 8 0	0 8 3	
						35 10 0	Bhaoli.		

From these abstracts it will be seen that, while the area under cultivation has increased by only 47 per cent. in this village within the last 50 years, the gross rental has increased by 321 per cent.; further, that while the average rate per beegha for the whole area under cultivation was in 1242 F.S. (1835 A.D.) Rs. 1-1-3, the average rate for the area now under cultivation is Rs. 3-1-9, or little less than three times the rate of 1242 F.S. (1835 A.D.) It is true that the highest rate in 1242 F.S. (1835 A.D.) was Rs. 6, while now the highest rate is only Rs. 6-7-4½, but the six-rupee rate in 1242 F. S. (1835 A. D.) was nominal, being the ground-rent of a shop. The average rates all round for cultivated land have been nearly trebled in the last 50 years; but not only have the rates all round been thus trebled, but the land for which these trebled rates are now being paid is inferior to that for which the lower rates were paid in 1242 F. S. (1835 A.D.); for 69 beeghas 21 kottahs of the best land near the village site have been taken from the ryots and converted into indigo zerat during the past 25 years, while the ryots' cultivation has been extended over the outlying poorer lands.

2. *Past history of the village.*—The jeth ryots say that Mahtab Singh was tikkadar in the time of Ram Narain Singh, who was the present minor's grandfather. He took half an anna karcha on the old rates. He was succeeded by Bechuklal Misser, tikkadar, who incorporated with the rent the half anna taken as karcha by his predecessor, and then realised an anna in the rupee as karcha on his own account. Bechuklal's lease having been renewed, he

similarly again incorporated previous karcha with the rent, and levied an anna per rupee as karcha in addition. On the expiration of Bechuk Misser's lease, the village was leased to the Dalsingserai factory in 1270 F.S. (1863 A.D.) The first lease to the factory was for seven years. This lease was renewed for a further period of seven years, and was again renewed for a term of nine years, which term will not expire before 1292 F.S. (1885 A.D.)

The factory enhanced the rates by one and a half annas in the rupee during the currency of its first lease in 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.), and again enhanced the rents by half an anna in the rupee last year. This so-called enhancement consisted in simply ordering the patwari to enter the amount as a demand in the village papers against each ryot.

3. *Explanation of increase in number of rates.*—The increase in the amount of the rates is explained in the preceding paragraph. The patwari explains the increase in the number of rates as follows:—As the rates, he says, had become confused in consequence of the numerous enhancements and karchas, the factory manager ordered him in 1285 F.S. (1878 A.D.) to take each ryot's gross rental, inclusive of karchas, and divide it by the number of beeghas of land he held, thus establishing a separate average rate for each ryot. The patwari did so; and the result is that there are 97 separate rates where there were only 29 in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) These 97 rates are, it will be seen, neither village nor customary nor soil-class rates. They are in fact "personal" rates, made out by striking a separate average for each separate ryot's holding.

4. *Facilities for irrigation.*—This mouzah is irrigated from the rivers Mutyee and Kamraen; it is situated within a few miles of the Tirhoot State Railway.

6. *Karchas and abwabs.*—As stated above, half an anna per rupee karcha was imposed last year. The patwari has this year been ordered to incorporate this sum with the rent.

Hisabana intended for pay of the patwari is realized at one pie per rupee.

Special crop rates.—Special rates are not charged for tabacco or other special crops.

7. *Classes of soil.*—The jeth ryots and patwari say there are only two classes of soil and five qualities:—

I.—*Bheet aoul* or gauhera, *i.e.*, manured land near the village sites; *bheet duim*, pachusar, in which there is a large admixture of sand; *bheet suim*, usur up-land (in which there is a mixture of reh).

II.—Dhanhar or matiyar aoul } clayey loam on which rice is grown.
Dhanhar or matiyar duim }

The outturn of two fields of dhan cut by me in this village was respectively 12 maunds and 10¾ maunds of dhan per beegha. This is represented to be a twelve-anna crop. Last year the jeth ryot, Abalak Thakur, had what he calls a sixteen-anna crop, which yielded 15 maunds per beegha.

There are no special rates for groves and thatching grass.

No rent is charged for bastoo lands, that is to say, for the sites of ryots' houses.

8. *Occupancy ryots.*—The jummabundis of 12 years are not forthcoming, from which it might be ascertained how many of the present ryots have held for 12 years The patwar and jeth ryots say there are no new settlers, that all the ryots are hereditary and resident. There is not land enough for old ryots; why, they ask, should new ryots come?

There are, it is said for the same reason, no sub-tenants in this village. Some few ryots made over a beegha or so for cultivation to their farm labourers at the rates paid by themselves, so as to induce the former to continue in their service; but otherwise land is not sublet by occupancy ryots for profit.

9. *Determination of fair and equitable rates.*—It is generally alleged by the cultivators that the productive power of the land here, as elsewhere, has decreased and is decreasing. Such assertions are, however, founded on vague impressions of what the present generation have heard from their fathers, and in the case of their fathers, from the common tendency to praise the past at the expense of the present. The extension of cultivation to inferior lands has doubtless made the average gross produce per beegha of the whole village area less than it was in former times; but there is nothing to show that the lands which were actually under cultivation in those days produced more then than they do now. On the other hand, there have been no improvements in the system of agriculture, nor have there been any increased facilities for irrigation, owing to which it might be concluded that the average productive power of the land has increased. No account need therefore be taken of increase or decrease of the productive power of the land in now determining fair and equitable rates. I shall accordingly only consider what increase or decrease, if any, should be made in the present rates on the ground of increase or decrease in the value of the produce since the rates were last fixed or at any subsequent or former time. Fortunately the materials exist for instituting a comparison of the present rates at present prices in this and neighbouring villages, with the rates and prices of the period 1242 to 1247 F.S. (1835 to 1840 A.D.) These materials are to be found in the settlement records of the taluka which was brought under permanent settlement in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)

In the settlement papers of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) the ameen gives a statement of the prices prevailing in this neighbourhood at that time, which statement was accepted by the Settlement Deputy Collector as correct. The following is a comparative statement of the

increase in prices and increase in rent-rates during the period 1247 to 1289 F.S. (1840 to 1882 A.D.):—

	Price in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)	Price in 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)	Percentage of increase on prices since 1247.	Remarks.
	Seers of 80 S.W per rupee.	Seers of 80 S. W. per rupee.		
Unhusked rice (dhan)	90	50*	80	I take the ameen's prices of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) for the purpose of comparison, they being the only prices available; but there is reason to doubt their accuracy. Prices in the neighbouring districts have only risen by 50 to 60 per cent. in the last 40 years, while, according to the ameen's lists, they have risen here by 73 per cent. In my calculations of rates the zamindar gets all the benefit of any inaccuracies there may be in the ameen's prices.
Indian-corn	80	45	77	
Barley	70	40	75	
Millet	80	50	60	
Tobacco	Not given	Average increase.	73 per cent.	

* Paddy does not sell at the same rate per rupee as its equivalent in rice, as the purchaser suffers from the loss of weight in drying, carriage, storage, &c.

Average rate per beegha in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)	Average rate in 1289 (1882 A.D.), including abwabs.	Increase in rent-rates.	Increase in prices.
R a. p.	R a. p.		
1 1 3	3 1 9	188 per cent.	73

It thus appears that while the increase in prices for staple crops has been only 73 per cent. in 42 years over the prices of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.), the increase in rent-rates has been 188 per cent. over and above the rates of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.); and this, be it remembered, though the ameen's prices for 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) are accepted as correct. In fact, however, the ameen did, in all probability, understate the prices of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.), in order to have the zamindars' jumma fixed at a low figure. As the increase in rates is only justified by increase in prices, and inasmuch as the increase in prices since 1247 F.S. would not be as much as even 73 per cent. if the ameen understated the prices of 1247, it follows that in the proportion that prices ruling in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) were really higher than those given by the ameen, so much the less reason is there for the enhancements which have since taken place. But it is to be further remembered that the ryots pay these enhanced rates for land which is inferior to that which was under cultivation in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.), because, as already noted, the best lands have been taken up for indigo, while the ryots' cultivation has been extended to the outlying inferior lands.

Tested, then, by comparison with the rates and prices prevailing in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) it follows that the present rates are excessive. The rent-rates have not only kept pace with, but they have far outrun the increase in prices during the last 45 years—a state of things which probably exists in no other part of India.

Behar peculiar in that rise in rents has outrun rise in prices.

10. In Bengal it is a subject of complaint on the part of zamindars that they have been able to obtain little, if any, of that increase in rentals to which increase in prices would legally entitle them.

In the Cawnpore district of the North-Western Provinces, the price of wheat rose by 42·7, of bijhra by 34·2, of juar by 43·6, and bajra by 47·7 during the 30 years' period of the last settlement. Yet rent-rates had scarcely risen at all in the North-Western Provinces during the same period—"rent-rates" (*see* Mr. Colvin's settlement memorandum of 1872, paragraph 18, page 741) "not being immediately acted on by prices, but limited by custom and largely controlled by law." (Settlement Report of the Cawnpore district, 1878, page 60, paragraphs 39 and 43.)

In the Azimgurh district the Settlement Officer reported in 1881 as follows:—

"The fixity of cultivating tenure which our system of land revenue and record, falling in with the general feeling of the community, has brought about, has prevented any general rise of rent in land upon which a right of occupancy had previously accrued."

In the Muthra district, the price of wheat has risen by 55 per cent., of barley by 65, of gram by 45, and of bijhar by 52 per cent. since the mutiny, yet the rise in the competition rents paid by non-occupancy ryots had only risen by 25 to 30 per cent. "since the revision of the records of that district—a period of 28 years." (Settlement Report of the Muthra district, 1879, page 89.)

The Settlement Officer of the Agra district, writing in 1880, says—"The measures adopted at the last settlement with regard to the rents of occupancy tenants have altogether prevented their rising in any proportion to any increase in the value of the land to whatever extent that may have taken place."

The competition rates paid by non-occupancy ryots have risen by 32 per cent. in the Agra district during the last 35 or 40 years, while prices have risen by 50 per cent. in the same period. (Settlement Report of Agra district, 1880, paragraphs 98, 99, and 124.)

Speaking generally of the North-Western Provinces, Mr. Stack, in his memorandum on current land revenue settlement, 1880, says—"Throughout the greater part of the provinces,

prices have risen by 40 to 50 per cent. during the currency of the last settlement" [in the last 45 years]; "but it has been everywhere found that the rise of rents has not kept pace with rise of prices."

It follows, then, that though prices have risen by 40 to 50 per cent. during the last 45 years in the North-Western Provinces, yet the rent-rates paid by occupancy ryots have scarcely increased at all, and those paid by non-occupancy ryots have only risen by 25 to 30 per cent., while in this village the rates paid by occupancy and non-occupancy ryots alike have been increased all round by 188 per cent., and they have, moreover, far outrun the rise in prices. If, then, the rates for this village were now to be fixed by comparison with the rates of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.), taking into consideration the rise in prices since that time, the new average all-round rate would stand as follows:—

	₹	a.	p.
Rate of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)	1	1	3
Add 73* per cent. for increase in prices since that time, such increase not having been effected by the agency of either ryot or landlord (see section 23 of the Bill)	0	12	6
New all-round rate	1	13	9
Present all-round rate	3	1	9

If the rates and prices of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) could be taken as the standard of comparison, the present rates would have to be reduced by 40 per cent. all round in order to arrive at fair and equitable rates.

The rates of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) cannot, however, be taken under the present or proposed law as the basis of comparison, for it is only the prices prevailing when the rates were last fixed, or at any subsequent time that can be taken for comparison in considering the rise of prices. The rates in this village were last fixed in 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.)

The following is a comparative statement of the then ruling prices with present prices:—

	1868-70. Srs.	1880-82. Srs.	Remarks.
Common rice	24	25⅕	The data on which these figures are based are given in detail on the notes on Dalsingserai annexed.
Indian-corn	35,⅗	47,⅕	
Wheat	21⅛	29¼	

The above figures show that prices now are somewhat lower than when the rates were last fixed in 1275 F.S., yet an enhancement of half an anna per rupee all round was demanded last year by the factory manager, and is now, the patwari says, shown in the jummabundi.

(11.) To sum up the preceding remarks, it appears that the rent-rates of this village had been enhanced during the 20 years prior to 1868 A.D., out of all proportion to increase of prices, rent-rates having been nearly trebled, while prices increased by only 73 per cent.; *secondly*, that though there has been no increase of prices since 1868, but rather the reverse, yet the Dalsingserai factory manager is* now demanding a further enhancement of half an anna in the rupee; *thirdly*, that owing, in a slight degree, to extension of cultivation but chiefly to the arbitrary enhancement of rates, the gross rental has been more than quadrupled during the last 45 years; further that if rates were now fixed on the basis of comparison with the rates and prices of the year 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.), (on which rates and prices the permanent Government revenue of this mehal was fixed), existing rates would have to be reduced by 40 per cent. in order to make them fair and equitable. It also appears that there is no justification for the enhancement of half an anna in the rupee demanded last year and now being enforced.

* I wrote to the factory manager, asking on what ground this enhancement is being made. I quote in full his reply (received since this was written). It shows a curious misconception of the grounds on which an enhancement may be made:—

"The enhancement you mention is temporary, and you are misinformed, inasmuch as you have been told that I had given orders that it should be incorporated with the rent. No orders have been passed on the subject in regard to the current season. The enhancement was established by my predecessor for one year *to meet loss from a deficiency of bhowlee crops*, with the intention of keeping the jummabundis uniform; and as the ryots were informed of the cause, they voluntarily paid the enhancement, on the understanding that they should receive credit for it in such a year when the bhowlee was above the average."

That is to say, that because lands A, B, and C yielded less than was expected, the lands of C, D, and E must be assessed so as to make up the difference.

Notes on Tubka Mughribee.

(1) *Government revenue.*—This mouzah forms part of the Nankar mehal, of which the Government revenue is given under Tubka Khas.

(2) *Details of area.*—The details of the present rates and of the areas at each rate are given below. The rates prevailing in 1242 F.S. (1835 A.D) are not specified in the settlement papers of 1242 to 1247 F.S. (1835 to 1840 A.D.), but they were probably the same as in the

* Note.—I have in calculating enhanced rates given the full benefit of increase in prices, according to the rule of proportion, to the zamindar. The meaning of section 3(*a*) of the Bengal Commissioners' Bill giving the benefit of only half the increment to the zamindar is not clear. If it means only half the *proportion* of increment, then it would introduce a very great change in the enhancement law, and if it means half the lump increment, the limitation provided in clause (*b*) which adheres to the rule of proportion, would render clause (*a*) inoperative, except where the rent was more than 50 per cent. of the gross produce.

neighbouring village, Tubka Khas, which would give an average rate all round of Rs. 1-1-3. The present average all-round rate is Rs. 1-14-9:—

Abstract of Jummabundi for the year 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)

Total area. B. K. D.	No.	Detail of cultivated lands. B. K. D.	Rate of rent per beegha. ₹ a. p.	Remarks.
482 2 12½	1	0 3 0	5 15 0	
	2	0 1 4	5 5 0	
	3	0 5 5	5 0 0	
	4	2 18 15	3 14 6	
	5	1 12 10	3 13 9	
	6	0 7 0	3 13 3	
	7	0 4 8	3 11 0	
	8	4 1 1	3 7 9	
	9	2 9 8½	3 7 6	
	10	3 2 10	3 6 0	
	11	2 4 10	3 4 3	
	12	6 8 17	3 2 3	
	13	0 1 1	3 0 0	
	14	0 6 0	2 10 6	
	15	15 0 6	2 9 9	
	16	63 12 0	2 8 0	
	17	0 3 10	2 7 0	
	18	5 17 7½	2 5 9	
	19	10 7 11½	2 5 0	
	20	2 1 0	2 4 3	
	21	0 19 6½	2 4 0	Jumma of 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.) ₹ 933 4 2½
	22	0 7 0	2 3 0	The average rate per beegha is 1 14 9
	23	3 5 0	2 2 0	
	24	3 3 19½	2 1 6	
	25	3 19 17½	2 1 0	
	26	75 6 2	2 0 0	
	27	4 10 0	1 14 0	
	28	3 12 2	1 13 0	
	29	0 7 0	1 12 6	
	30	3 9 0	1 13 0	
	31	1 0 0	1 10 9	
	32	1 10 0	1 10 6	
	33	2 0 0	1 10 0	
	34	3 15 0	1 9 9	
	35	24 4 11	1 8 0	
	36	11 16 10	1 5 9	
	37	27 1 0	1 4 0	
	38	4 0 0	1 1 0	
	39	81 14 7	1 0 0	
	40	10 15 10	0 8 0	
Bhaoli ...		94 0 0		
		482 2 12½		

(3) *Past history.*—The mouzah was leased to Bekram Lal from 1250 to 1256 F.S. (1843 to 1849 A.D.) The rates prevailing in this period are not known. From 1257 to 1274 F.S. (1850 to 1867 A.D.), it was leased to Mahtab Sing. He raised the rates by 4 annas per beegha in 1257 F.S. (1850 A.D.)

From 1275 to 1283 F.S. (1868 to 1876 A.D.), the village was leased to the Dalsingserai factory. This lease was renewed for a further period of 9 years, which will expire in 1292 F.S. (1885 A.D.)

The factory raised the rates by one and a quarter annas in the rupee in 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.) In 1284 F.S. (1877 A.D.), part of the village was again given in lease to the Dalsingserai factory, and the rest was leased to Tirguman Misser and Medini Thakur, who are themselves ryots.

The factory has, during the currency of its last lease, demanded an enhancement of half an anna in the rupee, and entered this demand in the jummabundi.

(4) *Irrigation and facilities.*—The village is irrigated from the Mytee, and is only a few miles from the Tirhoot State Railway.

(5) *Classes of soil.*—There are two classes of soil and five qualities:—

I—(1) Bheet aoul, or gauhera.
(2) Bheet duim, or pachusar.
(3) Bheet suim, or usar.

II—(4) Dhanhar aoul.
(5) Dhanhar duim.

(6) *Number of occupancy and non-occupancy ryots.*—The putwari says there are no new ryots. All are occupancy ryots. There is no distinction in rates paid by occupancy and non-occupancy ryots as such. The jummabundi for the past 12 years are not forthcoming. I cannot therefore test the truth of the statement that there are no non-occupancy ryots. The distinction between occupancy and non-occupancy ryots is not in fact at all understood here. Ryots of high caste, whose ancestors have been resident for generations, have sometimes managed to hold at favourable rates, as compared with others; but a ryot once allowed to settle in the village is understood to have a right to hold as long as he pays the rent originally agreed upon, together with such enhancements as may be subsequently made in the village generally.

(7) *Average produce.*—Three specimen fields of *dhan* were cut by me, yielding 7½, 4½, and 4 maunds per beegha. This year's crop is represented to be an 8-anna crop in the up-lands and 12-anna in the low-lands.

(8) *Determination of fair and equitable rates.*—The present average all-round rate, ascertained by dividing present gross rental by area now under cultivation, is Rs. 1-14-9. The average all-round rate in 1247 F.S. (1843 A.D.) for this and the neighbouring village of Tubka Khas was Rs. 1-1-3, which rate is similarly ascertained by dividing the gross rental by the area then under cultivation. It appears therefore that the rates all round have been enhanced by 80 per cent. since 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.), while the increase in prices during the same period was 73 per cent. If, then, fair rates were now to be fixed by the standard of comparison with the rates and prices of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.), existing rates would have to be reduced. The enhancement of half an anna in the rupee, which the ticcadar demanded last year, would in any case have to be struck off, as not being justified by any increase in average prices since 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.), when the rates were last fixed.

Notes on Mahomedpore Sunkura, Village No. 9 of Map II.

(1) The Narhun minor is proprietor of 8 annas of this mouzah, which forms part of taluk Kishenarainpore, and was permanently settled in 1210 F.S. (1803 A.D.) The Government revenue of the Narhun share is Rs. 25, as shown in the settlement papers: the present rental is Rs. 2,889-3-1½, or one hundred and fifteen times the Government revenue.

(2) *Abstract of jummabundi.*—The following statement shows the present rates, and the areas held at each rate. The areas held at the several rates are not given in the old settlement papers, but the rates prevailing in 1248 F.S. (1841 A.D.) are given in the settlement papers of a neighbouring taluka, and are shown below, with the rates and areas of 1275 and 1289 F.S. (1868 and 1882 A.D.):—

Abstract of Jummabundi for 1248 F. S. (1841 A.D.)		Abstract of Jummabundi for 1278 F.S. (1868 A.D.)			Abstract of Jummabundi for 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)				Remarks.
Number of rate.	Rate of rent per beegha.	Detail of the cultivated land.		Rate of rent per beegha.	Total area of the land.	Detail of the cultivated land.		Rate of rent per beegha.	
	₹ a. p.	No.	B. K. D.	₹ a. p.	B. K. D.	No.	B. K. D.	₹ a. p.	
(1)	2 14 0	1	1 9 14	4 0 0	643 9 8½	1	0 19 0	5 0 0	
(2)	2 13 0	2	133 8 9	3 12 0		2	106 7 11½	4 10 0	
(3)	2 11 0	3	15 7 7	3 8 0		3	35 10 0	4 8 0	
(4)	2 10 0	4	123 1 16	3 4 0		4	11 7 12	4 4 0	
(5)	2 9 0	5	10 11 0	3 0 0		5	105 18 12½	4 2 0	
(6)	2 7 0	6	84 9 1	2 8 0		6	49 9 0	4 0 0	
(7)	2 6 0	7	4 17 11	2 7 0		7	7 15 4	3 12 0	
(8)	2 3 0	8	1 0 0	2 6 0		8	7 7 3	3 10 6	
(9)	2 2 0	9	5 8 17	2 4 0		9	0 18 8	3 10 0	
(10)	2 1 0	10	93 1 15	2 0 0		10	1 10 0	3 9 0	
(11)	2 0 0	11	0 13 11	1 0 0		11	97 16 4	3 8 0	
(12)	1 15 0	12	6 0 0	0 8 0		12	0 3 5	3 7 0	
(13)	1 14 0					13	58 8 10	3 6 0	
(14)	1 13 0		479 9 6	39 0 0		14	28 0 17	3 4 0	
(15)	1 12 0		37 13 14	Malik's zerat bhaoli.		15	4 7 9	3 0 0	
(16)	1 11 0		124 6 8½			16	57 12 7	2 14 0	
(17)	1 10 0					17	28 6 3	2 12 0	
(18)	1 9 0		641 9 8½			18	1 0 0	2 11 0	
(19)	1 8 6					19	2 16 0	2 10 0	
(20)	1 7 0					20	5 11 9	2 8 0	
(21)	1 5 0					21	0 13 13	2 5 0	
(22)	1 4 0					22	8 19 1	2 4 0	
(23)	1 1 6					23	1 15 4	2 3 0	
(24)	1 0 6					24	0 18 17	2 2 0	
(25)	1 0 0					25	7 1 2	2 0 0	
(26)	0 15 0					26	1 12 0	1 8 0	
(27)	0 14 0					27	10 0 0	0 8 0	
(28)	0 12 0								
	50 6 6						641 9 8½	83 15 6	
							2 0 0	...	Bhaoli.
							643 9 8½		
The average on area taken from Tubka Khas. Rs. 1-1-3.		Jumma including karchas		₹ a. p. 1,648 12 7	Jumma			₹ a. p. 2,435 15 0	
		Average on cultivated area		2 7 3	Average on cultivated area			3 12 0	

From this statement it will be seen that, while the highest rate at present is Rs. 5, the highest rate in 1248 F.S. (1841 A.D.) was only Rs. 2-14. Further, that, excluding Tola Jagurnathpore, the gross rental was Rs. 1,648 in 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.), while with the same area under cultivation in 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.) it is Rs. 2,435; in other words, the gross rental has been enhanced by 50 per cent. within the past 15 years. The fact that the Government revenue bears such an insignificant ratio to the present rental further shows either that the rental must have been enormously enhanced since the settlement of 1210 F.S. (1803 A.D.), or that there was some irregularity in fixing the Government revenue.

(3) *Past history.*—This village was leased to Dalsingserai factory for three years, 1267 to 1269 F.S. (1860 to 1862 A.D.), at Rs. 850. The jeth ryots say that the rates then were from Rs. 2-8 to 8 annas.

From 1270 F.S. to 1276 F.S. (1863 to 1869 A.D.) it was leased to Behari Raout at a jumma of Rs. 1,151. During this period the ticcadar raised the jeth ryots' rates by 8 annas per beegha in 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.), and the ryots' rates by 14 annas.

From 1277 to 1285 F.S. (1870 to 1878 A.D.) the lease to Behari Raout was renewed for nine years at a jumma of Rs. 1,600. During the currency of this lease, the ticcadar again raised

the jeth ryots' rate 8 annas, and the ryots' rates 12 annas per beegha. In 1285 F.S. (1878 A.D.) finding he could not realize rent at the above rates, Behari Raout reduced them by 2 annas and 3 pies per beegha. From 1286 to 1292 F.S. (1879 to 1885 A.D.), the village was again leased to Behari Raout at Rs. 1,900. He has this year relinquished the lease, being apparently unable to realize his enhanced rents. His relinquishment has been accepted. The present jumma, inclusive of Tola Jagarnathpore, is Rs. 2,889. It thus appears that the reserved rental payable by the ticcadar to the proprietor has been more than doubled in the course of 20 years, further, excluding Tola Jagarnathpore, for which the materials for comparison are not available, it appears, as already noted, that the mofussil jumma of the remaining portion of this mouzah was Rs. 1,648 in 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.), while in 1279 F.S. (1872 A.D.), it was raised to Rs. 2,600, and was reduced in 1285 F.S. (1878 A.D.) to Rs. 2,435; *in other words, an increase of 50 per cent. was made in the gross rental in the course of the past 15 years, the cultivated area remaining the same.*

(4) *Irrigation and facilities of communication.*—The mouzah is irrigated from the river Jumooaree, and is situated a few miles from the Tirhoot State Railway.

(5) *Karchas.*—The only karcha levied is kiyali at half an anna a rupee. It is realized from all ryots other than Bhabuns, who are exempted.

(6) *Occupancy ryots.*—A comparison of the jummabundis of 1275 F.S. and 1289 F.S. (1868 and 1882 A.D.) shows that, of a total number of 188 ryots, 178 are *kadimee* resident occupancy ryots, 10 are *noabad* non-occupancy ryots. The latter settled in the village within the last 10 years.

(7) *Average outturn.*—The patwari says this year's crop was a full sixteen-anna one.

Determination of fair and equitable rates.—The area under cultivation now is exactly the same as it was in 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.), *i.e.*, 15 years ago. The average rates and gross rentals have been enhanced by 55 per cent. by the native ticcadar Behari Raout in this period; while, as I have shown in my notes on Dalsingserai, there was no increase in average prices in the same interval. In now fixing fair rates, all enhancements made subsequent to 1275 F.S. would have to be ignored as being excessive and arbitrary. Even the rates of 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.), if compared with those of 1248 F.S. (1841 A.D.), would be found to be excessive.

Soil-class rates.—There are two classes and five qualities of soil, namely:—

(1) Bheet aoul or gauhera.
Bheet duim or balguchar.
Bheet suim or usur.

(2) Dhanhar aoul.
Dhanhar duim.

Subject, of course, to the remarks which I made in a former report, as to the difficulty and inexpediency of fixing soil-class rates in this tract, I should, were I called upon to fix soil-class rates for this village, fix them as follows:—

	Maximum.	Average.	Minimum.
	₹ a.	₹ a.	₹ a.
Bheet aoul	5 0	4 4	3 8
Bheet duim	3 8	3 4	3 0
Bheet suim	3 0	2 0	1 0
Dhanhar aoul	3 8	2 12	...
Dhanhar duim	3 0	2 8	2 0

These rates would, I believe, be accepted by the ryots, and taking into consideration the past history of the village, they are certainly anything but low. This is an example of a village held in lease by a native ticcadar, and it shows, as already stated, that though rents in villages leased to the Dalsingserai Indigo Factory have been enhanced out of proportion to any increase in prices, the rents in villages leased to native ticcadars have been enhanced still more. I have ascertained from the settlement papers that the average all-round rate of neighbouring villages was Rs. 1-1-3 in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) If rates were now to be fixed by comparison with the rates and prices of that time, the average all-round rate would stand thus:—

	₹ a. p.
Rate of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)	1 1 3
Add 73 per cent. for increase in prices	0 12 6
Total	1 13 9
All-round rate on same land at present	3 12 6

The present rental and average rates all round would therefore have to be reduced by 50 per cent. in order to make them fair and equitable, as compared with the rates of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)

Notes on Dalsingserai, Village No. 12 of Map II.

The Narhun minor is proprietor of eight annas of this village, the other eight annas being held by Baboo Pirnarayan Singh and others, who are known as the Ramghur Baboos. The two eight-anna shares are held separately, and have separate towji numbers.

(1) *Government revenue.*—The Government revenue of the Narhun eight-anna share is Rs. 51, while the present gross rental, as shown in the jummabundi of 1289 F. S. (1882 A.D.),

inclusive of bazar fees and other miscellaneous items, is Rs. 966, or nineteen times the Government revenue. Excluding such miscellaneous items, the rental of the land alone is Rs. 676. This, however, includes the house-rents of shops in the bazar. The rental proper for cultivated land is Rs. 485, or nearly ten times the Government revenue.

(2.) The total area of the Narhun share is 148 beeghas, of which (1) 106 beeghas 5 kottahs 10 dhurs are cultivated rent-paying, (2) 41 beeghas 14 kottahs 10 dhurs are non-cultivated and non-rent-paying.

The annexed statement gives an abstract of the jummabundis of 1274 and 1289 F.S. (1867 and 1882 A.D.):—

1275 F.S. (1868 A. D.)			1282 F.S. (1875 A. D.)				1289 F.S. (1882 A. D.)				
Total area of land.	Detail of cultivated land.	Rate of rent per beegha.	Total area of land.	Detail of cultivated land.		Rate of rent per beegha.	Total area of land.	Detail of cultivated land.		Rate of rent per beegha.	
B. K. D.	B. K. D.	R a. p.	B. K. D.	No.	B. K. D	R a. p.	B. K. D.	No.	B. K. D.	R a. p.	
88 11 5	0 9 10	6 0 0	81 12 11½	1	0 9 10	6 0 0	106 5 10	*1	0 3 0	60 0 0	*(1) This is a separate rate of ground rent for a godown.
	0 2 10	5 0 0		2	0 16 18	3 8 0					
	0 7 6	4 0 0		3	11 5 11	3 4 0					
	13 7 19½	3 4 0		4	2 4 10	3 0 0		*2	0 14 16	12 0 0	*(2) This is a special rate paid by prostitutes for land occupied by them.
	1 12 10	3 0 0		5	15 19 1½	2 12 0					
	22 18 18½	2 12 0		6	9 9 15½	2 8 0		*3	2 3 14	11 0 0	*(3) This is a special rate paid by *palki*-bearers.
	8 2 10	2 8 0		7	0 11 18	2 4 0					
	40 5 5½	2 0 0		8	37 9 12½	2 0 0		*4	0 7 1½	10 0 0	*(4) This is a special rate paid by *palki*-bearers.
	1 5 0	1 4 0		9	0 8 15	1 12 0					
				10	1 13 0	1 8 0		5	3 13 15	8 0 0	(5) Special rate paid for indigo zerats.
	88 11 5			11	1 5 0	1 4 0					
					81 12 11½			6	13 0 1½	6 0 0	(6) Includes special rate for indigo and some land held by Assamees.
Jumma . . Rs. 216-15-9			Jumma . . Rs. 201					7	1 10 0	5 11 0	(7) Assamees' land.
			B. K. D.					8	16 15 10	5 0 0	(8) Ditto.
			28 8 0 of indigo zerats not included in the above.					9	28 0 14	4 0 0	(9) Ditto.
								10	0 16 1	3 12 0	(10) Ditto.
			Average rate all round, Rs. 2-7.					11	7 8 0	3 10 0	(11) Ditto.
								12	13 17 0½	3 8 0	(12) Dhanhar rate.
								13	2 19 0	3 2 0	(13) Bheet.
								14	2 2 12	3 0 0	(14) Dhanhar.
								15	3 3 10½	2 8 0	(15) Bheet.
								16	8 11 4	2 0 0	(16) 4 beeghas 1 kottah 4 dhurs bheet, and 4 beeghas 10 kottahs dhanhar.
								17	1 2 9	1 4 0	(17) Dhanhar.
									106 5 10		Average rate per beegha at present all-round Rs. 3-13, including indigo zerats.
							Jumma . .		Rs. 405		Average all-round rate, excluding zerats, Rs. 3-1-9.

(3) *Post history of the village.*—The jeth ryots and patwarees and a mohurir of the Narhun estate, who is in my camp, say that the present rates were fixed in 1285 F.S. (1878 A.D.) The village was leased to one Gourdial Sing from 1264 to 1270 F.S. (1857 to 1863 A. D.) It was next leased to the Dalsingserai factory* from 1271 to 1284 F.S. (1864 to 1877 A. D.) From 1285 F.S. (1878 A.D.) it was leased to Behari Raout, and not to the factory. Certain ryots, it is said, agreed in 1285 F.S. (1878 A.D.) to pay enhanced rates of rent on condition that the native ticcadar would settle with them the indigo zerats lately held by the factory. The ticcadar had a measurement of the village and a re-assessment of each field made in that year. The ryots, it is said by the patwaree and mohurir, agreed to the new assessment and signed the new parchas.

The new rates were not made out by an enhancement of so much on the rupee or so much per beegha on the old rates. The patwaree who made the assessment simply assessed each field at the rate he thought fit, and in this way more than doubled the previous gross rental. The ryots say they never agreed to any enhancement; they refused to pay at the new enhanced rates, and were accordingly sued for arrears of rent in 1288 F.S. (1881 A. D.), at the enhanced rates which were being demanded. The suits were all dismissed, and decrees were given only at the rates acknowledged by the ryots. The latter say that many of them did not get possession of any portion of the indigo zerat land, yet their rates were enhanced. The following ryots are mentioned as examples:—

1. Chulai Ja, in 1284 F.S. (1877 A.D.), held 9 kottahs 4½ dhurs at Rs. 2-8 per beegha rent, Rs. 1-2. According to new assessment his rental is Rs. 2-4.
2. Jitlal Ja, 10 kottahs 9½ dhurs; former rent Rs. 1-12 to Rs. 3-2 per beegha; new assessment at Rs. 5-2 per beegha; rental Rs. 4.

Both these are occupancy ryots, and none of the zerat lands was settled with them. The jummabundis corroborate these statements. This new assessment and the jummabundi founded on it must be, I think, entirely set aside as both illegal and inequitable. The ryots say they are willing to pay an enhancement of 4 annas a beegha on the rates which prevailed before 1285 F.S. (1878 A.D.) for the lands then held; and for the zerats they are willing to pay at Rs. 6. per beegha.

(4) *Previous enhancements.*—Setting aside the rates fixed by the patwaree in 1285 F.S. (1878 A.D.), the year in which the rates were last fixed is 1274 F.S. (1867 A.D.). In that

* NOTE.—Behari Raout was the late proprietor's cook and a man of straw. Thicka leases were nominally given to him whenever an enhancement was demanded, so that the proprietor might escape personal responsibility for any illegalities which might be practised.

year the factory manager called the ryots together, and asked them to pay half an anna in the rupee by way of commission to the tehsildar who then collected rents. This half-anna in the rupee is shown in the jummabundi of 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.) separately from the *assal* jumma, and is entered as "*beshi.*"

It is to all intents and purposes an enhancement of rent, though the ryots say it is nothing of the kind. It was, they say, an illegal *abwab.*

There is no evidence to show what rates prevailed before 1274 F.S. (1867 A.D.) The ryots allege that the rates given in the jummabundi of that year, less by the half-anna *beshi* then added, had come down from the most ancient times. I believe this statement to be untrue. It is made under the impression that the right to hold at fixed rates will be established by false allegations of the existing rates having remained unaltered for a long period. Similar statements were made in regard to Tubka and other villages, and are shown by the settlement papers of 1242 F.S. to 1248 F.S. (1835 to 1841 A.D.) to be quite untrue. It was at first stated by the jeth ryots and patwarees, from similar motives, in regard to these latter villages also that the present rates had come down unchanged from time immemorial; but when the old jummabundis were produced and examined, it was at once admitted that these statements were false, and the true history of the enhancement was then given.

(5) *Classes of soil.*—The jeth ryots say there are only two classes and four qualities of soil in the village, namely:—

Bheet aoul—Which includes classes I to VI, as shown in the jummabundi of 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)

Bheet duim—Which includes the present classes VI to XII.

Bheet suim—All the rest of the *bheet dhanhar.*

1. *Bheet aoul*—Includes the late indigo zerats and the manured land near the village site.
   Bheet duim—Is up-land, in which there is a larger mixture of sand called bhullawahs or *balguchur.*
   Bheet suim—Up-land, in which there is a mixture of *reh*, locally called *usar.*
2. *Dhanhar*—Is the clayey loam known as matiyar.

(6) *Irrigation.*—Dalsingserai is partly irrigated from the Bolan river. The up-lands are not irrigated.

(7) *Facilities for communication and proximity to markets.*—There is a large bazar in the village. The Tirhoot State Railway passes through it.

(8) *Occupancy and non-occupancy ryots.*—There were 38 ryots in this village at the end of 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.) Of these, 28 are hereditary ryots, whose fathers and forefathers lived in this village. Owing to the system of exchanging indigo for ryoti lands, it is impossible to say whether all or any of these have cultivated the same identical fields for 12 years successively. Seven have been old residents of this mouzah, but they cultivated in the nizamut and not the Narhun *pottee* till 1285 F.S. (1878 A.D.), when they began to cultivate in the Narhun share. There are old residents of the Narhun *pottee,* but only took to cultivation of land in 1285 F.S. (1878 A.D.)

(9) *Determination of fair and equitable rates.*—I have not been able to procure lists from the local bazar chowdhry or from the factory manager at Dalsingserai, from which the prices prevailing before 1868 A.D. could be ascertained, though I have no doubt such lists exist. I am therefore obliged to fall back on the price current lists received from the Collectorate, which only go back to 1868 A.D., and give only the prices prevailing at Tajpore, the headquarters of the sub-division. For the purposes, however, of instituting a comparison between the present value of the produce and the value when the rates were last fixed in 1868 A.D., the lists of prices ruling at Tajpore will be sufficient. Prices may ordinarily be a seer or two more or less in Dalsingserai than in Tajpore, but prices now in Dalsingserai probably bear the same proportion to prices in 1868 at Dalsingserai, as prices now in Tajpore do to prices in 1868 A.D. in Tajpore.

The following statements show the average prices prevailing in Tajpore during the three years 1868, 1869, and 1870, as compared with the prices prevailing during the past three years—1880, 1881 and 1882:—

Statement of prices in 1868, 1869, 1870.

	1868.				1869.			
Common rice .	January. Seers. 28	February. Seers. 25	March. Seers. 25	Average. Seers. 26	January. Seers. 18	February. Seers. 17½	March. Seers. 17	Average. Seers. 17½
Indian-corn .	September. Seers. ...	October. Seers. 36	November. Seers. 31	Average. Seers. 33½	September. Seers. 35	October. Seers. 36	November. Seers. 33	Average. Seers. 34¼
Wheat . .	April. Seers. 25	May. Seers. 25	June. Seers. 26	Average. Seers. 25⅓	April. Seers. 16	May. Seers. 14½	June. Seers. 15	Average. Seers. 15⅓
Pulses . .	April. 25	May. 25	June. 26	Average. 25⅓	April. 18	May. 17½	June. 16½	Average. 17⅓
Barley . .	Not given.				Not given.			
Millet . .	Not given.				Not given.			

	1870.			
Common rice	January. 22	February. 22	March. 22	Average. 22
Indian-corn	September. 41	October. 36	November. 36	Average. 37⅔
Wheat	April. 18½	May. 18	June. 18	Average. 18⅙
Barley	Not given.			
Millet	Not given.			

Statement of prices in 1880, 1881 and 1882.

	1880.				1881.			
Common rice	January. 15	February. 15	March. 15	Average. 15	January. 25	February. 26	March. 25	Average. 25½
Indian-corn	September. 38	October. 37	November. 40	Average. 38⅓	September. 42½	October. 50	November. 55	Average. 49⅙
Wheat	April. 15	May. 19	June. 19	Average. 17⅔	April. 24	May. 24	June. 23	Average. 23⅔
Pulses	Not given.				Not given.			
Barley	Not given.				Not given.			
Millet	Not given.				Not given.			

	1882.			
Common rice	January. 26	February. 25	March. 25	Average. 25⅓
Indian-corn	September. 45	October. 45	November. 45	Average. 45
Wheat	April. 16	May. 18	June. 17	Average. 17
Pulses	Not given.			
Barley	Not given.			
Millet	Not given.			

III.—Comparative statement of average prices for the periods 1868, 1869 and 1870, and 1880, 1881 and 1882.

	1868, 1869 and 1870.	1880, 1881 and 1882.
Common rice	21⅝	21⅝
Indian-corn	35 ⅝	44⅔
Wheat	19 1/16	19⅛
Pulses, barley, and millet	Information for comparison not available.	

It will be observed that there is an abnormal year in each of these periods: the year 1869 in the first period, when prices were unusually high, owing probably to famine in Central India and scarcity in the North-Western Provinces in that year; the year 1880 in the second period, when prices were abnormally high owing to a local failure of crops.

Leaving these two years out of consideration, the comparative statement would stand thus—

	Average price. 1868 to 1870.	Average price. 1881 to 1882.
Common rice	24 seers.	25⅓ seers.
Indian-corn	35 7/12 ,,	47 ½ ,,
Wheat	21⅝ ,,	20⅛ ,,

From these statements it will be seen that, whether the abnormal years are included or excluded from the calculation, average prices now, so far as there has been any change at all, are rather lower than they were fifteen years ago. There is therefore no sort of justification for any enhancement of the rates fixed in 1274 F.S. (1867 A.D.)

The legal, fair, and equitable rates for this village would therefore now be Rs. 6 per beegha for the indigo zerat land lately settled with the ryots, that is to say, the rate actually obtained by competition, and for the rest of the village the rates shown in the jummabundi of 1874 A.D.

Striking out mere nominal rates which applied to only a few cottahs of land, the legal, fair, and equitable rates will stand thus:—

1. 27 beeghas 6 kottahs 4 dhurs at Rs. 6 (indigo zerat.)
2. 15 beeghas 9 dhurs at Rs. 3-4.
3. 22 beeghas 18 kottahs 18 dhurs at Rs. 2-12.
4. 8 beeghas 2 kottahs 8 dhurs at Rs. 2-8.
5. 41 beeghas 10 kottahs 5½ dhurs at Rs. 2.

If I were to fix rates according to classes of soil for this village, I should fix them thus:—

	Maximum. Rs.	Average. Rs.	Minimum. Rs.
I.—Bheet aoul	8	6	4
Bheet duim	4	3-4	2-8
Bheet suim	2-8	2	1-4
II.—Dhanhar	3	2-8	2

The only reasons I can assign for fixing these rates are—

(1) that they would probably leave the gross rental at the sum shown on other grounds to be fair and equitable in the legal sense;
(2) that they would be accepted by the ryot.

I do not, however, say that these rates are fair and equitable according to principles of justice and equity, for I think that the rates of 1274 F.S. (1867 A.D.), on which the above rates are founded, are at least three to four times the rates which prevailed in 1210 F.S. (1803 A.D.), when the permanent settlement of this village was made; and I do not think prices have risen to anything like three or four times the prices prevailing in 1210 F.S. (1803 A.D.) If the prices prevailing in 1210 F.S. (1803 A.D.) could be ascertained and compared with the present prices, and rents were now fixed by that standard, they would have to be very much reduced. Since writing the above, I have received and examined the settlement records of 1247 F.S. of neighbouring villages. They show that a reduction of 40 per cent. in existing rates would have to be made in order to make the present rates fair and equitable according to the standard of rates and prices of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)

Notes on Kooksa, Village No. 13 of Map II.

This village is entirely the property of the Narhun minor. It is situated about two miles south-east of Dalsingserai, and contains 258 local beeghas of 3,600 square yards.

(1) *Government revenue and present rental.*—The Government revenue, which was fixed in 1803, is ₹ 62-8, and the present rental, exclusive of karchas, is ₹ 927-15-1, and including karchas, ₹ 1,158-10-3½, or nearly nineteen times the Government revenue.

ABSTRACT OF JUMMABUNDI.

The following statement shows the details of the present jummabundi and of the jummabundi of 1274 F.S. (1864 A.D.), i.e., the year before the present rates were fixed.

ABSTRACT OF JUMMABUNDI FOR 1274 F.S. (1864 A.D.)

Area of cultivated lands.		Detail of cultivated lands.	Rate of rent per beegha, exclusive of karchas.	Rate of rent per beegha, inclusive of karchas.
B. K. D. 216 14 7	No.	B. K. D.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
	1	84 9 12	3 9 0	4 2 3
	2	4 8 5	3 8 0	4 1 3
	3	42 6 4	3 7 0	4 0 0
	4	13 6 1	3 5 0	3 13 6
	5	0 14 12	3 4 0	3 12 6
	6	18 3 6	3 3 0	3 11 6
	7	46 12 11	2 15 0	3 7 0
	8	5 19 6	2 13 0	3 4 3
Bhaoli		0 4 0		
Total		216 14 7		
Average rate per beegha, ₹ 4-1-6				

ABSTRACT OF JUMMABUNDI FOR 1282 F.S. (1875 A.D.)

Area of cultivated lands.		Detail of cultivated lands.	Rate of rent per beegha, exclusive of karchas.	Rate of rent per beegha, inclusive of karchas.
B. K. D. 217 2 6	No.	B. K. D.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
	1	88 11 13	4 8 9	5 5 0
	2	4 8 5	4 7 9	5 4 0
	3	37 15 16	4 6 9	5 2 9
	4	17 9 13	4 3 7½	5 0 0
	5	0 14 7	4 2 6	4 13 6
	6	15 14 6	4 1 6	4 12 0
	7	44 14 17	3 12 6	4 7 3
	8	2 8 16	3 12 0	4 8 9
	9	5 0 13	3 10 6	4 3 6
Bhaoli		0 4 0		
Total		217 2 6		
Average rate per beegha, ₹ 5-3-3, including abwabs and seirabs not shown above.				

(2) *Past history.*—This village was given by the Narhun Baboos to one Sridist Narain of Chainpore, by way of gift during his lifetime. When he died without heirs, the village was resumed and leased in 1265 F.S. (1858 A.D.) to Behari Raout. Behari Raout immediately proceeded to enhance the rates by two annas in the rupee. His lease expired in 1274 F.S. (1867 A.D.) It was renewed in 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.), when he again raised the rates by four annas in the rupee.

It thus appears that from 1265 to 1275 F.S. (1858 to 1868 A.D.), or within a period of eleven years, the rents of this village have been enhanced by 37½ per cent.—an enhance-

ment which is out of all proportion to the increase in value during that period of produce or productive powers of the land. The ryots did not resist the enhancements by appealing to the civil courts. There is no evidence to show what were the rates prevailing before 1265 F.S. (1858 A.D.)

(3) *Karchas and sairats.*—The following are the karchas realized in this village :—

I.—*Gaumia.*—Half an anna in the rupee, intended to pay salary of patwari, village amla.

II.—*Butta.*—One anna per rupee, being for difference between Company's and country rupee.

III.—*Kiyali.*—Realized from *beparis* or traders who come from outside to purchase grain in the village. It is levied at the rate of 1½ pies in the rupee. The beparis for this cess take 2½ seers per maund from the ryots. This cess was abolished in Durbhunga under the orders of the Court of Wards—*see* Board's No. 611A, dated the 1st September 1876, to the Commissioner of Patna, and their other orders on abolition of cesses in the Durbhunga raj.

IV.—*Katiari*—This is a cess of from 10 annas to 4 annas, realized from *bunneahs*, *jullahas* (weavers), *dunniahs* (cotton spinners), and *mallahs* (fishermen). It is realised from persons of these castes solely because they are of these particular castes, and whether they follow their several professions or are merely cultivators. This cess was abolished in the Durbhunga raj under the orders referred to above, which might with advantage, I think, be applied to this estate also.

V.—*Kotwali.*—On tobacco, at ₹ 1-4 per beegha, over and above the rent. Only realized on tobacco actually grown. I have found this cess only in this and one other village.

Classes of soil.—The jeth ryots say there are only five real distinctions of soil :—

I.—Bheet aoul, gauhera, *i. e.*, manured upland near the village sites.
Bheet duim, balguchar, *i.e.*, bheet, some distance from the village, not manured.
Bheet suim—usur.

II.—Dhanhar or matiyar.

Dhanhar { aoul. / duim.

(5) *Occupancy and non-occupancy ryots.*—A comparison of the jummabundis for 12 years shows the total number of ryots in this village at the end of 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.) was 54, all of whom are old resident ryots.

(6) *Determination of fair and equitable rates.*—The rates were last fixed in 1275 F.S. (1868 A.D.) The law presumes the rates then fixed to be fair. I have shown in my notes on village Dalsingserai that there is no legal ground for altering the rates then fixed. The present rates would therefore be fair and equitable in the legal acceptation of these terms. Some of the karchas and abwabs are illegal, and should be struck off. If I were asked to fix rates according to quality of soil, I should, having regard to the present rates and to the arbitrary enhancements of the past, fix them as follows :—

	Maximum.	Average.	Minimum.
	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.
I.—1. Bheet aoul	5 0	4 8	4 0
2. Bheet duim	4 0	3 8	3 0
3. Bheet suim	3 0	2 8	2 0
II.—4. Dhanhar aoul	4 0	3 8	3 0
5. Dhanhar duim	3 0	2 8	2 0

These rates would still be considerably higher than those which prevailed before the last enhancement. If the fair rates were now to be fixed by comparison with the rates prevailing in neighbouring mouzahs in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.), they would stand thus :—

	Rs. A. P.
Average rate of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) (in neighbouring mouzah) Tubka Kishenpore	1 9 0
Add 73 per cent. for rise in prices	1 2 3
New all-round rate	2 11 3
Present all-round rate	5 5 3

The present rates would therefore have to be reduced all round by 49 per cent. in order to make them fair and equitable, as compared with rates and prices of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)

Notes on Village Tubka Kishenpore.

This mouzah forms part of taluka Kishore Narianpore Nair, which was permanently settled in 1210 F.S. (1803 A.D.) The Government revenue is Rs. 550-0-6.

(1.) The following statement gives details of area and present rates, and of the rates prevailing in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) taken from the settlement papers :—

Abstract of Jummabundi for 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)				Abstract of Jummabundi for 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)				Remarks.
Total area of lands.	Detail of cultivated lands.		Rate of rent per beegha.	Total area of lands.	Detail of cultivated lands.		Rate of rent per beegha.	
B. K. D.	No.	B. K. D.	Rs. A. P.	B. K. D.	No.	B. K. D.	Rs. A. P.	
49 13 10	1	13 15 19	2 0 0	330 4 7½	1	75 0 0	4 0 0	
	2	1 15 0	1 12 0		2	7 11 3	3 7 6	
	3	21 6 0	1 10 0		3	0 9 12	3 2 0	
	4	6 10 2	1 8 0		4	1 7 12	3 0 0	
	5	1 2 0	1 2 0		5	7 7 12	2 14 3	
	6	3 2 10	1 0 0		6	1 8 1	2 14 0	
	7	0 12 10	0 12 0		7	17 13 15	2 13 0	
	8	0 10 0	0 5 0		8	17 15 4	2 12 0	
					9	0 11 0	2 11 0	
Jumma, Rs. 79-1-10 of part of the village taken as a specimen of the whole by the ameen in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)					10	26 13 11½	2 10 6	
					11	7 5 10	2 10 3	
					12	1 5 12	2 9 9	
					13	3 6 12	2 8 3	
					14	0 10 0	2 8 0	
					15	4 6 13	2 7 0	
					16	0 10 0	2 6 6	1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)
					17	3 5 2	2 5 0	
					18	4 6 7	2 4 6	B. K. D. Rs. A. P.
					19	4 11 15	2 4 0	49 13 10 . . . 79 1 10
					20	5 8 18	2 3 0	The average rate per beegha is Rs. 1-9-0.
					21	1 16 13	2 2 6	
					22	0 10 17	2 1 0	
					23	35 13 3	2 0 0	
					24	2 4 8	1 14 6	1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)
					25	1 9 0	1 14 0	
					26	3 8 3	1 13 6	B. K. D. Rs. A. P.
					27	1 8 9	1 13 0	330 4 7½ . . . 1,113 14 0
					28	0 15 0	1 12 0	The average rate per beegha is Rs. 3-5-11.
					29	1 17 9	1 10 3	
					30	4 17 17	1 10 0	
					31	5 2 5	1 8 0	
					32	3 7 3	1 7 6	
					33	17 16 3	1 7 3	
					34	14 5 10	1 5 3	
					35	9 0 6	1 4 3	
					36	16 15 7	1 4 0	
					37	2 9 10	1 3 0	
					38	1 10 0	1 2 0	
					39	1 1 4	1 1 0	
					40	2 12 19	0 14 9	
					41	6 12 7	0 8 9	
					42	1 10 0	0 8 6	
					43	3 10 0	0 8 0	

(2.) *Past history.*—Bikram Lal was ticcadar from 1250 to 1256 F.S. (1843 to 1849 A.D.) He enhanced the rates, but the ryots say they do not remember by how much.

From 1257 to 1274 F.S. (1850 to 1867 A.D.), Mahtab Singh was ticcadar. He raised the rates by one anna in the rupee during his first lease, and again by one anna in the rupee during his second lease.

From 1275 to 1284 F.S. (1868 to 1877 A.D.) the village was leased to the Dalsingserai factory, which raised the rates by one and a half annas in the rupee in 1276 F.S. (1869 A.D.)

From 1285 to 1292 F.S. (1878 to 1885 A.D.), the lease to the factory was renewed. During this period the rates have been enhanced in the year 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.) by half an anna in the rupee; and the same process of striking average "personal" rates was gone through, as has been described in other villages leased to the factory.

(3.) *Irrigation and facilities for irrigation.*—The mouzah is irrigated from the river Mytee and is within a few miles of the Tirhoot State Railway.

(4.) *Occupancy and non-occupancy ryots.*—The manager of the Dalsingserai factory, to which this village is in farm, says he cannot produce the jummabundis of the past twelve years, as they are filed in court. It is therefore impossible to ascertain the number of occupancy as compared with non-occupancy ryots. The jeth ryots say there are no non-occupancy ryots. There are 71 ryots and one or two sub-tenants. The sub-tenants are merely servants of the higher caste cultivating ryots, to whom the latter have let a beegha or so of land each, as an inducement for them to remain in the village and work as farm labourers. Lands thus sublet are said to be sublet at the rates paid by the subletting tenants themselves.

(5). *Determination of fair rates.*—The present average all-round rate is Rs. 3-5-11. The average all-round rate in 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) was Rs. 1-9. There has therefore been an increase in rates of more than 110 per cent. during the past 42 years, while the increase in prices during the same period is only 73 per cent.

If rates were now fixed by the standard of comparison with rates and prices of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.), the new all round rate would stand thus :—

	Rs. A. P.
Rates of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)	1 9 0
Add 73 per cent.	1 2 3
New rate	2 11 3
Present average all-round rate	3 5 11

A reduction of 19 per cent. all-round would therefore have to be made in the present rates, in order to arrive at rates which would be fair and equitable, as compared with the year 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.)

As, however, the rates were last fixed in 1276 F.S. (1869 A.D.), the rates of that year would be the fair and equitable rate in the lease of the present law and Bill. There, in the sense of the present law and Bill, is no justifiction for the demand of an enhancement of half anna per rupee made last year.

Notes on Raghopore.

THIS mouzah is part of talooka Kishore Narainpore.

(1). The annexed statement gives an abstract of the present jummabundi and of part of the jummabundi of 1242 F.S. (1835 A.D.), which was taken as a standard of comparison in fixing the rates of neighbouring villages under the then settlement:—

ABSTRACT OF JUMMABUNDI FOR 1242 F.S. (1835 A.D.)

Total area of lands.	Detail of cultivated lands.		Rate of rent per beegha.	Remarks.
B. K. D.	No.	B. K. D.	Rs. A. P.	
52 8 7	1	10 15 7	2 8 0	This abstract was only for part of the village, which was taken by the ameen as a specimen of the whole.
	2	1 0 0	2 6 0	
	3	12 0 10	2 4 0	
	4	16 0 0	2 0 0	
	5	1 15 0	1 4 0	
	6	6 17 10	1 0 0	
	7	4 0 0	0 8 0	
		52 8 7		The average rate per beegha is Rs. 1-14.
Jumma ... Rs. 99-11				

ABSTRACT OF JUMMABUNDI FOR 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.)

Total area of lands.	Detail of cultivated lands.		Rate of rent per beegha, excluding karchas.	Rate of rent per beegha, including karchas.	Remarks.
B. K. D.	No.	B. K. D.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
13 11 17	1	0 9 7	3 12 0	3 13 10½	
	2	0 16 2	3 9 0	3 10 9	
	3	0 4 10	3 8 0	3 9 9	
	4	3 10 7	3 5 6	3 7 0	
	5	0 17 12	3 2 0	3 3 6	
	6	7 13 7	3 0 9	3 2 3	
	7	10 17 14	3 0 0	3 1 6	
	8	5 0 16	2 14 9	3 0 3	
	9	0 17 10	2 12 0	2 13 4½	
	10	5 14 2	2 11 6	2 13 0	
	11	3 16 18	2 11 0	2 12 4	
	12	5 14 4	2 10 9	2 12 0	
	13	25 8 9½	2 10 3	2 11 6	
	14	1 16 7	2 8 0	2 9 3	
	15	3 6 19	2 5 6	2 6 9	
	16	6 17 4	2 4 0	2 5 1½	1289 F. S., 1882 (A. D).
	17	1 0 0	2 2 6	2 3 6	B. K. D. Rs. A. P.
	18	0 17 4	2 2 0	2 3 0	137 11 17 397 7 6, including kar-
	19	27 5 3	2 0 0	2 1 0	chas.
	20	9 16 6	1 14 0	1 15 0	The average rate per beegha is Rs. 2-4-8.
	21	10 4 7	1 13 3	1 14 1½	
	22	0 18 0	1 13 0	1 14 0	
	23	2 17 10	1 12 0	1 12 10½	
	24	0 13 3	1 11 0	1 11 9	
	25	1 6 14	1 10 9	1 11 0	
	26	1 2 1	1 10 0	1 10 9	
	27	6 6 5	1 8 9	1 9 3	
	28	6 14 11	1 7 6	1 8 3	
	29	1 2 8	1 6 0	1 6 8	
	30	2 7 11	1 2 0	1 2 6	
	31	12 0 0	1 1 0	1 1 6	
	32	3 6 0	1 0 0	1 0 6	
	33	2 0 0	0 8 6	0 8 9	
		173 11 17			
Jumma. Rs. 397-7-6					

(2). *Past history.*—The village was leased to Mahtab Sing from 1257 to 1247 F.S. (1850 A.D.). He raised the former rates by one anna in the rupee.

From 1275 to 1284 F.S. (1868 to 1877 A.D.) the mouzah was leased to the Dalsingsera Factory, which demanded an enhancement of one and a half annas per rupee in that period.

The jeth ryot says the ryots refused to pay this enhanced rate. The factory manager sued Chutter Chowdhry for rent at the enhanced rate which he was demanding. The suit was dismissed, and rent was decreed only at the former rate admitted, namely, Rs. 2-10, Rs. 2, Re. 1, and Re. 0-10-0.

The village was again leased for nine years to the factory, from 1284 to 1293 F.S. (1877 to 1886 A.D.) During this period the factory has demanded an enhancement of half an anna in the rupee.

(3). *Determination of fair rates.*—In this village the enhancement of rates is not excessive with reference to increase of prices; but there is no justification for the demand of half an anna in the rupee made in 1289 F.S. (1882 A.D.) It will be observed that the ryots of this village resisted enhancements in the civil courts, hence it is that the present rates are low compared with the rates of 1247 F.S. (1840 A.D.) I would not, however, interfere with present rates, for they are low compared with those of 1247 F.S.

Notes on Gongowlee.

The total rent-paying area, exclusive of some 35 beeghas held under mokurraree lease by the Dowlutpore Factory is Rs. 568-17-14, the total mofussil rental, exclusive of karchas, being Rs. 1,377, and, inclusive of karchas and abwabs, Rs. 1,621. The Government revenue is Rs. 357.

(1.) The following statement gives an abstract of the jummabundis of 1289 F.S. (1882 A. D.), and shows the rates prevailing in 1248 F.S. (1841 A. D.), as ascertained from the settlement papers:—

ABSTRACT OF JUMMABUNDI FOR 1289 F. S. (1882 A. D.)					FOR 1284 F.S. (1841 A. D.)			Remarks.
Total area of the cultivated lands.	Detail of cultivated lands.		Rate of rent per beegha, excluding karchas.	Rate of rent per beegha, including karchas.	Detail of cultivated lands.		Rate of rent per beegha.	
B. K. D.	No.	B. K. D.	Rs. A. P.	Detail. Rs. A. P.	No.	B. K. D.	Rs. A. P.	
406 9 16	1	0 15 0	3 4 0	Buttamal . 65 11 9	1	.....	2 8 0	
135 0 0	2	0 13 1	3 2 0	Durbutta . 6 2 1½	2	.....	2 6 6	
541 9 16	3	0 11 19	2 14 0	Shellamee . 8 4 3	3	.....	2 6 0	
	4	0 18 15	2 13 6	Terakafout . 18 11 9	4	.....	2 4 6	
	5	135 15 6½	2 11 6	Nage. . . 2 11 1½	5	.....	2 3 0	
	6	19 14 17½	2 9 3		6	.....	2 2 0	
	7	72 14 0½	2 8 9	Total . 101 9 6	7	.....	2 1 3	
	8	6 9 9	2 8 6		8	.....	2 0 0	
	9	8 0 4	2 8 0	Haut . . 71 8 0	9	.....	1 12 6	
	10	3 19 15	2 6 6	Bale . . 0 15 9	10	.....	1 8 0	
	11	6 18 18	2 6 0	Julkur . 42 0 6	11	.....	1 4 0	
	12	13 17 1½	2 4 6	Tar . . 2 12 6	12	.....	0 8 0	
	13	8 10 1	2 4 0	Muturfa . 0 13 6				
	14	94 10 15½	2 0 0	Khupra at Rs. 1-4 per			22 15 7	
	15	0 5 0	1 12 0	beegha . 20 2 3				
	16	1 8 19½	1 8 0					
	17	1 8 0	1 7 6	Total . 150 4 0				
	18	2 9 2	1 4 0					
	19	1 0 0	1 3 3					
	20	9 16 17	1 0 0					
	21	16 12 11½	0 8 0					
Zerat .	...	135 0 0	418 11 3					
Total .	...	541 9 16	45 10 6					Average rate of 1248 F. S. (1841 A. D.), Re. 1-14-6.
Including karchas, &c. .			1,836 0 0					
Average rate per beegha of 1289 F. S. . . .			3 3 6					

(2.) *Past history.*—This village was leased to Bhagwanpore Factory for 28 years, from 1234 to 1261 F.S. (1827 to 1854 A.D.) The rates were not altered during this period.

From 1262 to 1270 F.S. (1855 to 1863 A.D.) it was leased to Ram Sing, ticcadar. He raised the rates by three and a half annas per beegha.

From 1271 to 1284 F.S. (1864 to 1877 A.D.) it was leased to the Dowlatpore Factory. The rates were not changed in this period.

From 1285 F.S. (1878 A.D.) it was leased to Behari Raout, who sold his interest to the manager of the Dowlatpore Factory. The Collector, on the part of the Court of Wards, objected to the sale, on the ground that a ticcadar is not empowered to transfer his interest by sale. The ryots alleged that Behari Raout had settled the zerat lands with them before selling his interest to the factory, and they also were opposed to the sale. Friction consequently arose between them and the factory. The factory was, however, declared by the civil courts entitled to possession of the zerat lands.

(3.) *Occupancy and non-occupancy ryots.*—There are 90 ryots in the village, of whom the patwaree and jeth ryots say that only three are non-occupancy ryots. The others are all old resident ryots, but their lands are changed under the system of indigo cultivation from time to time.

(4.) *Sub-ryots.*—About ten beeghas have been sublet to six sub-ryots, who are mere farm-labourers. The land is sublet at the rates paid by the ryots themselves.

(5.) *Karchas and abwabs.*—A list of the karchas and abwabs is given in the abstract of jummabundi above. The following are peculiar:—

Khapra.—A cess levied at Rs. 1-4 per beegha on tobacco actually grown.

Terakapaut.—Said to have been originally levied for expenses of constructing a *bund*. The *bund* has long since been destroyed, but the abwab is retained.

Sadiat.—Marriage expenses, but retained, though there are no marriage expenses.

(6.) *Determination of fair and equitable rates.*—There has been comparatively little increase in the rates of this village during the last forty years—a circumstance which is due partly to the fact that is was so long under lease to the Bhagwanpore Factory and partly to the fact that the jeth ryots, who are Bhabuns, resisted enhancements in court.

M. FINUCANE.

Endorsement by Officiating Under Secretary to Government, Bengal,—No. $\frac{154}{257}$ L.R., dated 3rd March 1883.

Copy, with copies of the enclosures and the plans in original, submitted to the Government of India in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, for information, in continuation of my endorsement No. $\frac{153}{256}$ L.R. of this date.

The return of the original plans is requested.

C. S. BAYLEY.

No. 122A, dated Calcutta, the 19th February 1883.

From—H. J. S. COTTON, ESQ., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L. P.,

To—The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL, Revenue Department.

I am directed to submit the accompanying copy of a report No. 114, dated 6th February 1883 (and maps), from Baboo Parbati Churn Roy, on the result of his enquiries for the preparation of tables of rent rates.

HON'BLE H. L. DAMPIER, C.I.E.

2. In the first instance the tract assigned to this officer was defined as the Nizamut lands, and he commenced his enquiries on villages belonging to the Nizamut estate in the Gopinathpore pergunnah in the district of Moorshedabad. As, however, it was ascertained that the Nizamut lands are scattered over several districts, the tract over which his enquiries were to be made was more accurately defined. He was directed to limit his enquiries to an area of about 25 square miles, which should comprise lands belonging to private zemindars as well as Nizamut lands.

The substantive results of his investigation as bearing upon the present object is as follows—

3. With rare exceptions and those applying only to very small areas, or to small fractional shares in joint estates, the landlords have no jumma-bundis showing rates, by which the existing rents are determined. They have only annual jumma-wasil-baki papers which show the demands, collections, and balances in respect of each ryot.

"The scale of prevailing rates." *Vide* section I, clause 3 of the Instructions for the guidance of the rate officers.

No classification of land is recognized in the existing rent arrangements. The only possible means of finding the average incidence of the present rents on the area under enquiry would be by a measurement of the land included in each holding, and then striking the average incidence on each beegah of the total amount of rent payable for the holding.

Clause 8 of the Instructions.

4. In paragraph 16 of his report No. 36,* dated 8th January 1883, Baboo Parbati Churn Roy describes his attempt to carry out this operation in the village of Kandi Gopinathpore. The result as applied to the holdings of ten ryots of that village is as below:—

* Submitted to Government with Board's No. 79A, dated 1st February 1883.

NAME OF RYOT.	Area of holding.	Total Rent of holding.	Rent per beegah.
	Bs. K. D.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
A	18 12¾ 0	37 1 0	2 0 0
B	1 15¾ 0	5 8 0	2 14 0
C	16 18 0	44 0 0	2 9 0
D	18 7 0	42 14 0	2 5 0
E	38 11 0	65 7 0	1 11 0
F	15 5 0	34 12 0	2 4 6
G	14 4 0	26 3 0	1 13 6
H	6 18 0	36 9 0	5 3 0
I	1 11½ 0	2 12 0	1 11 6
J	4 10 0	10 8 0	2 5 4
TOTAL OF HOLDINGS	.....	.....	24 12 10

The general result is an average incidence of rent at the rate of Rs. 2-8 on each beegah, but the average incidence per beegah struck on the rent of each holding, taken separately, varies from a maximum of Rs. 5-3 to a minimum of Re. 1-11. If the holding which averages Rs. 5-3 be thrown out of the calculation as exceptional, the general average would be Rs. 2-2-10 per beegah; but even this would press with undue severity on the two holdings which now pay at the average rate of Re. 1-11 only. Rejecting these two again from the calculation, the average incidence on the remaining seven holdings would be about Rs. 2-5. This as a general rate would do no great violence to the remaining seven holdings, but it is clear that a rate which can only be derived by excluding three holdings out of ten from the calculation of the average cannot be taken to be a working "general rate" for the purpose of a table of rates.

It is beyond the scope of the present enquiry to make the extensive measurements which would be necessary to ascertain the average incidence of rent on lands in the other villages.

5. There is no reason to doubt that Gopinathpore is a typical village, and the conclusion may be accepted that in the absence of jummabundis and similar information, there is no possibility of educing from existing rents such an average rate as can properly be adopted as a fair general rate.

Similarly, without such measurements, which would make it possible to institute a comparison between area and rents, it is impossible to say whether existing rents are fair or not; but in his last report Baboo Parbati Churn Roy expresses the belief that owing to these rents being founded on assessments made so long ago, they now sit very unequally on the ryots. The lands of some of the ryots which have improved by fluvial action are now under-assessed, while the majority of the ryots cannot pay their nominal rents in consequence of the reduction in the profits of the land owing to the decline of the silk industry.

6. The general information contained in paragraphs 8, 9 and 10 of Baboo Parbati Churn Roy's present report regarding the decline of that industry, the depression which it has produced on the general condition of the ryots of this part of the country without directly affecting the zemindars' rents, and the effect it has had on the adjustment of rents, points to the necessity of providing by legislation for facilities for claiming reductions of rent in consequence of altered circumstances of the ryots.

7. In order to frame the scale of rates which would be fair and equitable for any particular tract, the ascertainment of the general existing rates is the first essential; but the attempt to ascertain these rates in the present case has failed and left no foundation on which the fabric of a fair and equitable table of rates can be constructed. Old canoongoe papers are forthcoming, from which the rate prevailing some 50 years ago can be ascertained. A laborious enquiry might bring out a comparison of doubtful trustworthiness between average prices of produce at the time when the rates of the canoongoe papers prevailed and those which now exist; but before this could be of any value for the purposes of framing a "table of rates" under the provisions of the Rent Bill, it would be necessary to determine whether the prevailing rates of rent at which the ryots pay are at higher rates than those shown in the canoongoe papers. If this is not the case, except in the very improbable alternative of the zemindars being able to prove variation of the rate of rent since the permanent settlement and before the preparation of the canoongoe papers, the 20 years' presumption would bar enhancement, and the table of rates could recognize nothing higher than the general rate of existing rents.

II. "The scale of rates which, according to the judgment of the rate officer, following the rules hereinafter to be stated and formed on a mature consideration of all the circumstances would be fair and equitable for the tract," *vide* section II, clause 3 of the Instructions.

Clause 12 of Instructions.

8. If the prevailing rents were shown to be at higher rates than those of the canoongoe papers, the presumption of right to hold at fixed rents would not arise; but before the enhanced rates obtained by raising the canoongoe rates in the same proportion as prices of produce have risen, could be adopted as fair and equitable rates for a table on the principles of the Rent Bill and the Instructions which were approved by Government, it would be necessary to make sure that they did not transgress the limitation imposed, *viz.*, that they have not the effect of more than doubling the existing general rate. The datum required for the imposition of this limit also is wanting.

9. With a view to prepare an estimate of the average produce and its money value, Baboo Parbati Churn Roy first ascertained by experiment the actual outturn of produce per beegah of a certain number of fields in a village, and then applied the average as the average outturn per beegah of these fields. Accepting this result as the average yield for the present year and the vague statements of the ryots (no other information being available) which he found to be approximately correct for the past four years, he calculated the average annual outturn for five years. The average price of a maund of rice was ascertained from the account books of certain grain dealers of Kandi Gopinathpore bazar, where the ryots of the three villages of Kandi Gopinathpore, Raiabati, and Thira sell their rice. In calculating the average money value of the gross produce per beegah, Baboo Parbati Churn Roy has adopted the proportion of rice to paddy as given at page 290 of the first volume of the Statistical Reporter, and this proportion has been found to be very nearly the same as that obtained by him from experiments subsequently made, the result of which was reported to Government in my No. 79A, dated 1st February 1883.

III. "The preparation of an estimate of the gross produce of the land and of the average prices at which it is locally sold by the ryots to pay thier rents." Section III of clause 3 of the Instructions.

10. The following results were obtained by this method of calculation :—

Gopinathpore.

"Estimated average outturn per beegah . . { 5 maunds 17 seers of paddy, yielding 3 maunds 34 seers of rice.

Raiabati.

"Estimated average outturn per beegah . . { 3 maunds 29 seers of paddy, yielding 2 maunds 26 seers of rice.

Thira.

"Estimated average outturn per beegah . . { 5 maunds 10 seers of paddy, yielding 3 maunds 29 seers of rice.

"The average price of a maund of rice being Re. 1-8-11, the money value of the average gross produce in the three villages will be as follows :—

Gopinathpore.

	Rs.	A.	P.
"Rice, 3 maunds, 34 seers, at Re. 1-8-11 per maund	5	15	11
"Straw	1	8	0
Total money value . .	7	7	11

Raiabati.

"Rice, 2 maunds, 26 seers, at Re. 1-8-11 per maund	4	2	0
"Straw	1	0	0
Total money value . .	5	2	0

Thira.

"Rice, 3 maunds, 29 seers, at Re. 1-8-11 per maund	5	12	8
"Straw	1	8	0
Total money value . .	7	4	8"

11. Mr. Dampier cannot, however, think that any averages founded on such limited enquiries as these would form a safe basis for general conclusions. Further experiments cannot be made at present, as no rice crop is on the ground. And further enquiries for the purpose of drawing conclusions seem to be unnecessary as the result is required for the object of framing tables of rates, which object, it has been shown, cannot be attained for other reasons. Baboo Parbati Churn Roy's special enquiries may therefore be considered at an end, and the Board have directed him to return to his general duties.

No. 114, dated Camp Kandi *viâ* Berhampore, the 6th February 1883.

From—Baboo Parbati Churn Roy, on Special Duty,

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the progress of operations conducted by me during the fortnight ending with Saturday, the 3rd February 1883.

Enquiries confined to the tract of 25 square miles round Kandi Gopinathpore.

2. Agreeably to the orders contained in your letter No. 109A, dated the 29th January 1883, I have confined my enquiries to the tract of 25 square miles marked out round Kandi Gopinathpore in the one inch map submitted with my letter No. 86, dated the 24th ultimo.

The villages contained within this tract are shewn in the accompanying trace prepared on the scale of 4″ = 1 mile.

Character of the jumma-wasil and jummabundi papers of the villages brought under enquiry.

3. In my letter No. 109, dated the 2nd instant, I have brought to the notice of the Board that the circumstances of the other estates comprised within the selected area were similar to those of Gopinathpore, and that there was no evidence to prove that the rents of those estates had varied since the permanent settlement. Of the 74 villages included within the selected tract, 13 belong to pergunnah Gopinathpore. The proprietors of 54 out of the remaining 61 villages, on being called upon to produce the jummabundi and other papers whence the present and former rates of the lands in their possession could be ascertained, have filed petitions to the effect that they had no jummabundis or other rate papers, and that all that they possessed were jumma-wasil-bakis. These jumma-wasil-bakis are similar to those filed by the Nawab of Moorshedabad, a copy from a page of which was submitted by way of a specimen for the inspection of the Board with my letter No. 36, dated the 8th January 1883. These jumma-wasils are quite useless for the purposes of the present enquiry, as they do not shew rates of rents nor areas of holdings. It does not also appear from the jumma-wasil-bakis that the rents have ever varied since the permanent settlement. For seven villages jummabundis have been filed on behalf of the proprietors, but it will appear from the account given below regarding each of these seven villages that the jummabundis do not shew any variation in rents, and that they are therefore quite as useless as the jumma-wasil-bakis.

Thurgaon Kashba.—The jummabundi paper that has been filed by one of the proprietors of this village is dated 1245. It shews that in 1245 the rates for bastu were Rs. 5 and Rs. 3 a beegah, and that the other rates varied from Rs. 2-8 to 8 annas. It is said that there has been no variation in the rates since 1245, but as there is no evidence that there existed other rates at any time previous to 1245, the jummabundi of this village is no more useful than the jumma-wasil-baki papers of the villages which have no jummabundis.

Gupinathpore Ar.—The *patnidar* of this village has filed jummabundis prepared by him in 1285 after he had taken patni. These papers do not shew the rates actually paid by the ryots, but what the patnidar after measurement considered were fair and equitable rates, for it appears from memoranda recorded in the body of the jummabundis that the amounts actually paid by the ryots were much less than what were assessed according to the rates entered in the jummabundis. These papers are therefore no guide as regards existing rates, and there is no evidence to shew what rates prevailed before.

Jadub Singbatee.—This village belongs to pergunnah Gopinathpore and to pergunnah Dhawa. There are many petty proprietors in the latter pergunnah, two of whom filed jummabundis. The papers of one of the proprietors named Kristo Lall Ghose are dated 1269, 1273, and 1277 B.S. They shew slight variation in rents, which amount every year to about Rs. 30. The average rate shewn by the jummabundis of 1269 and 1273 is Re. 1-5, while that shewn by the jummabundi of 1277 is Re. 1-8-6. The proprietor states that the actual realizations are greater. The other proprietors' papers are dated 1193, 1198, and 1252 B. S. He too is a small shareholder, the total annual rental of his share being about Rs. 25, and though his rates are a little higher than those of the first named proprietor and shew slight variations, the area covered by his jummabundis is too small. His rates cannot, therefore, be used for purposes of comparison as regards the lands of adjoining mehals.

Amooa Ar.—The proprietor of this mehal has filed a jummabundi paper dated 1244. In his petition he states that he has no other paper regarding the mehal than the one filed by him. Amooa Ar is a very small village, as will appear from the map.

Jashoharee.—This village belongs partly to pergunnah Gopinathpore and partly to another pergunnah, Mahlundi. One small shareholder of the latter pergunnah has filed the jummabundis of his share for 1269, 1273, and 1277. These papers shew some slight variations in rents. The average rates for the above three years are 10 annas, 10¼ annas, and 11 annas respectively. But the proprietor, Kristo Lall Ghose, who is the same person who has filed the jummabundis for *Jadab Singbatee* noticed above, says that the actual realizations are greater than the rents entered in the *ashal jummabundis* filed by him. The average rate per beegah for pergunnah Gopinathpore in this village has been ascertained from rents and areas to be Re. 1.

Batoor.—The proprietors of this village have filed a jummabundi dated 1244 B.S. They state in their petition that they have no other jummabundis whereby it could be ascertained whether there have been any variations in the rents either before or after 1244.

Chand Singbatee.—The same Kristo Lall Ghose, whose jummabundis of Jadab Singbatee and Jashoharee have been referred to above, has also filed jummabundis for this village for 1269, 1273, and 1277. These papers shew that in 1269 and 1273 the rents were Rs. 62 for 62 beegahs, but that in 1277 they were 68 for 66¾ beegahs, more lands having been brought under cultivation this year. The average rent per beegah is therefore Re. 1, but, as in the case of Jadab Singbatee and Jashoharee, the actual realizations are said to be 1½ times the rents entered in the jummabundis for those that are not actual cultivators, 1¾ times for mondals, and 2 times for actual cultivators. The rates for bastu, udbastu, mulberry, and sali, as entered in the jummabundis, are Rs. 5, Rs. 2-8, Rs. 2, and Re. 1-8 respectively. These agree with the rates for the same classes of lands given in the canoongoe papers for this village, with the exception of the rate for mulberry, which is entered in the canoongoe papers at Rs. 2-8 instead of Rs. 2 entered in the jummabundi. It therefore seems that, at least in this village, the canoongoe rates are the rates still prevailing, for are the rates recognized by the landlord and tenant.

Beel Dabeshwar.—The proprietor of this village has filed no jummabundis or other papers whereby the rates of rents could be ascertained. He has filed some kabuliyats taken from ryots in 1238. The kabuliyats give the total area and the rent of each holding, from which the average rate per beegah seems to be about Re. 1-4. These kabuliats are, no doubt, evidence as regards the ryot who executed them, and they may be of value when the question of enhancement in the case of those particular ryots has to be decided; but they can have no possible value in the decision of the general question of the determination of rent-rates applicable to a comparatively large tract of country. Moreover, the circumstances of this village, which, as its name imports, once formed the bed of a *beel*, are altogether different from those of an ordinary village, and the rates current in this village must not be taken into consideration while preparing rent-rates for villages differently circumstanced.

Bamon Dasbatee.—The proprietor of this village has filed jummabundis for 1219, 1222, and 1223 B.S. These jummabundis shew no variation in rates. All these papers are upwards of 65 years old, and as none have been filed shewing the rates at present prevailing, it is not possible to say whether there have been any variations in the rents or not since these jummabundis were prepared.

Canoongoe rates appear to remain unchanged; but actual realization seem to be greater on the whole.

4. From what I have learnt from the zemindars and others, as well as from the circumstances described in the preceding paragraph, it appears that as a rule the canoongoe rates remain unchanged. There exist in the Collectorate canoongoe rate papers for all the villages excepting only a few. These rates have been obtained from the Collector of the district, and have been shewn under each village in the trace submitted herewith. There has not been, as far as I have been able to ascertain from enquiry, any enhancement of rates

above the canoongoe ones. But if the statement of Kristo Lall Ghose, noticed above, in connection with the jummabundis of *Jadab Singhatee*, *Jashoharee*, and *Chald Singhatee*, is correct, *i. e.*, if the practice of taking 1½, 1¾, and 2 times of the *ashal* rents based on the canoongoe rates is general, then the condition of the ryots of the tract under enquiry cannot be very satisfactory. I applied to the Collector of Moorshedabad for information regarding the circumstances under which the canoongoe rates were prepared. But as yet I have not been favoured with a reply. I have, however, been informed by a clerk whom I sent with the letter to the Collector that the circumstances could not yet be traced.

5. But whatever the circumstances may have been under which the canoongoe rate papers where prepared, the fact that there does not exist even for a single village in a tract of country containing 74 villages any *chitta* or *jummabundi papers* cannot but be disadvantageous to both the landlord and the tenant. Baboo Nurrendro Narayen Roy, zemindar of 8-anna share of pergunnah Futtehsing, in reply to my letter to him asking for jummabundis, writes as follows :—

The present state of confusion.

"With reference to your letter No. 61 of the 19th instant, I have the honor to submit the papers as per accompanying list. Only two jummabundis of the two mouzahs, *i. e.*, Naba Durga and Banuri, have been found in the sherista. As for the other papers of the several mouzahs, as are written on the the list, I am able to supply you with only jumma-wasil-bakis. They will do to serve you if you can kindly undertake to measure the lands inserted therein and compare them with the jummas of each of them. I hope you will be able to ascertain something of the rates of rent now in vogue."

Now it will be seen from the above that what the zemindar means by "rates of rents in vogue" is not the average rent per beegah determined from total area and rental. He evidently refers to some rates such as the canoongoe rates, though he does not expressly say so for fear lest he should be a loser by accepting them. Neither does he state what the rates in vogue are according to his knowledge or belief, but leaves them to be determined after measurement and enquiry. This shews the state of confusion at present prevailing.

6. But the evils of the present state of things under which the extent of a ryot's holding, not to speak of the different classes of lands comprised in the holding, cannot be determined from any papers in the zemindar's sherista must be more serious than they at first sight appear to be. So long as things get on smoothly there can be no harm to the zemindar or the ryot; but no sooner a difference arises between the two than the position of both becomes difficult. For instance, when a zemindar sells the *jote* of a ryot in execution of a decree for arrears of rent, the purchaser, whether the landlord himself or some other person, knows only the *jumma* of the *jote*, and has to find out the different plots comprised in the holding from enquiry, unaided by any documentary evidence; and it not unfrequently happens that when a ryot holds more than one *jote*, which he often does, the purchaser of one of the *jotes* seizes more lands than he is entitled to, or the ryot tries to retain a portion of this jote along with his other jotes. Similar difficulties arise in cases of enhancement or rejectment. In this manner litigation goes on, and he who succeeds in securing the largest number of witnesses on his side wins in the end. The man who is supposed to be acquainted with the different plots of land belonging to the holding of each ryot in a village is called the *halshana*, and it is on his mercy more than on anything else that the zemindar as well as the ryots have to depend. As regards the ryot, the non-existence of any record of the lands comprised in each holding is productive of further difficulties and troubles when the division of a holding takes place, either through transfer or inheritance.

Evils of the present state of things.

7. It may at first be imagined that notwithstanding all the evils attending the non-existence of jummabundis, the position of the ryot must on the whole be good, as under the law the zemindar is prevented from making further enhancement in rents from want of evidence proving variation since the permanent settlement. But from a careful study of the condition of the ryots, I cannot but think that the present rents do not, at least in the case of the ryots of some of the villages, press very hard. This part of the country is subject to annual inundations through the actions of the rivers More and Dwarka, both of which are hill-streams. The floods of the More in former times used to cause so much damage to crops that the zemindars of pergunnah Futtehsing, most of whose villages are situated on the banks of this river, were allowed at the time of the permanent settlement abatement in the revenue in order to enable them to raise embankments for the protection of the low lands. But since that settlement, and even during the last 40 or 50 years, vast changes have taken place in the character of the country. High lands which were once valued on account of their comparative security from floods, have grown too high and risen above the ordinary flood level, while low lands, which formerly suffered from inundations, have gained by gradual alluvial deposits and in many cases risen high enough, so as not to suffer from the effects of destructive floods. In consequence of these changes rich lands have grown poor, and poor lands have grown rich. Moreover, as in more recent times, 30 or 40 years ago, there has been a diversion in the course of the More by which the main channel has taken a more southerly course, the deterioration in the productive powers of the high lands in the tract under enquiry may be said to be of a permanentnature.

Vast changes produced in the character of the soil since the permanent settlement through the actions of the More and Dwarka hill-streams.

8. But the principal circumstance which enabled the ryots of the upland villages to bear the high rates of rents in former times was the very prosperous condition of the silk industry. This industry has greatly declined of late, and though ryots still continue to grow mulberry and rear silkworms, they do not find it to be a profitable business. "The silk industry, once so flourishing," says a writer on 'The Silk Industry in Moorshedabad' in the Statistical Reporter for 1876, "has however, been for years in a declining state, and its decline has been so much accelerated within the last two or three years (which makes it ten years from 1883) by causes which have affected the whole of the Bengal silk trade, that its extinction at no very distant date may well be apprehended. * * * To those who are dependent on the industry for their livelihood," * * * "its decline and probable extinction mean impoverishment and ruin." * * * "Many individual owners of filatures, principally natives, are compelled to close their filatures; rearers of silkworms, exposed to the numerous accidents of rearing, are abandoning their occupation, or carrying it on without profit; and growers of mulberry are rapidly withdrawing their lands from the cultivation of that plant, leaving it in the hands of rearers who are bound to provide food for their worms. The effects on the other classes interested are obvious. Many spinners are thrown out of employ; weavers must content themselves with the bare means of subsistence instead of the affluence of former days; and *zemindars must relinquish the high rental of the abandoned mulberry lands, or receive no rental at all on such lands* for some years, as they cannot generally be used at once for the cultivation of other crops."

Decline in silk industry.

All that is said above regarding the effect that depression has produced on the condition of all concerned in silk industry applies to the people of this part of the country, with the exception *that while all others have suffered, the zemindars have not.* There being no chittas and jummabundis, but only jumma-wasil-bakis, the ryots must pay the high rents for the mulberry and rice lands, or let go the whole *jumma* and be turned out of their paternal holdings.

9. As may be readily imagined from the above, the general condition of the ryots of this part of the country, especially of those villages in which the mulberry was in former years grown extensively, is not at all good. In the course of my enquiry, I have come to know that in two out of the three villages, the rice of which was experimented upon, the ryots were largely in arrears. In *Kandi Gopinathpore* and *Raiabati* the zemindar has obtained many rent decrees against the ryots, some of whose holdings have also been sold. But as there were none to bid for them, the holdings have reverted to the zemindar, who has not yet found ryots to whom he could again let them out. Seeing the course of such sales the zemindar has very prudently taken from some of the judgment-debtors bonds for the amounts of the rent decrees, and as regards the others he has kept the decrees pending unexecuted waiting for better seasons. But though after a good rice harvest the zemindar may succeed in realizing his rents, the permanent decline of the silk industry will prevent there being any material improvement in the condition of the ryots.

General condition of the ryots in the tract under enquiry.

In paragraph 16 of my report No. 36, dated the 8th ultimo, has been given the average rents per beegah as Rs. 2-8 for one of the villages, Kandi Gopinathpore. The averages for the other two villages experimented upon are Re. 1-13-6 for Raiabati and Re. 1-9-6 for Thira. The average values of the gross produce for the above three villages being Rs. 7-7-11 for Gopinathpore, Rs. 5-2 for Raiabati, and Rs. 7-4-8 for Thira (*vide* paragraph 13 of report No. 36, dated the 8th January 1883), the ratio of rent to gross produce is found as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Gopinathpore—			
Average rate	2	8	0
Average money value of average gross produce	7	7	11
Ratio of rent to gross produce, one-third	...		
Raiabati—			
Average rate	1	13	6
Average money value of average gross produce	5	2	0
Ratio of rent to gross produce, nearly three-eighths	...		
Thira—			
Average rate	1	9	6
Average money value of average gross produce	7	4	6
Ratio of rent to gross produce, nearly one-fifth	...		

It will appear from the above that the ryots of Raiabati suffer most from the pressure of high rents, and that this is the fact is proved by more holdings having been sold for rent decrees in this village than in any other. As might be expected, the ryots of Thira are comparatively better off. They are also in better accounts with the zemindar.

But it is not only the ryots of Gopinathpore and Raiabati that suffer from rack-renting: the ryots of most of the villages in the neighbourhood would seem also to suffer from the same cause. During the past two years, for which figures have been obtained from the Kandi sub-divisional office, while there were 286 and 226 notices of relinquishment, there were only six and one notices respectively of enhancement. The tract of country round Kandi Gopinathpore brought under the present enquiry is one of the most westerly parts of the Moorshedabad district. Speaking of the difference between the east and the west, the Collector, in

his administration report for 1872-73, extracted as page 265 of Mr. MacDonnell's Famine Report, says:—

"I have before remarked on the difference between the east and the west as regards surface, soil, crops, and inhabitants. I would here add that I believe the generality of the inhabitants of the east are in better circumstances than those of the west. The cause is not difficult to find. Singularly situated as the soil of the west—generally clay with small nodules of limestone—is for the cultivation of paddy, its cultivators are exposed to this disadvantage, that should there be a failure of their corps from absence of seaonable rain, or any other cause, they cannot expect to make up for their losses to any appreciable extent by means of some other crop. The *amun* rice is in fact their mainstay; though of course good crops of mulberry and sugarcane also add to their prosperity. In the east of the district, on the other hand, the cultivators do not depend on a single crop. If there be a failure of the *aus* rice, they can still hope much from their cold-weather crops; and it seldom happens that there are failures of crops at both seasons of the year."

As a natural consequence of the above, this part of the country has suffered more or less during famines. Though the intensity of the famine of 1873-74 was not very severe, that of 1865-66 was decidedly so.

It will be seen from the extract from the Collector's administration report quoted above that "the *amún* rice is in fact the mainstay of the people, though, of course, good crops of mulberry and sugarcane also add to their prosperity." I have in a foregoing paragraph described the present declining state of the mulberry crop. As regards the sugarcane, its cultivation here is of a very unimportant nature, and I have been told by the sub-divisional officer of Kandi that no sugar or *goor* is manufactured here for exportation, the *goor* manufactured being consumed locally. This is also what I have come to learn after enquiry. It appears from the analysis of the chitta of the typical village, Gopinathpore, that the area of sugarcane fields in this village is only 16 beegahs, while that of mulberry is 206 beegahs. The sugarcane cultivation has therefore no perceptible effect on the condition of the ryots of the selected tract.

Mulberry played an important part in the adjustment of present rents.

10. That mulberry played an important part in the adjustment of the present rents is evident from the fact that in Kandi Gopinathpore, which may be accepted as a typical upland village, 206 beegahs out of a total area of 2,000 beegahs has been entered under mulberry at the late measurements. Besides the above, 80 beegahs, now measured as *denga rubbi khanda*, seem to have been in former times also cultivated with mulberry, for the canoongoe papers shew no rate for *denga rubbi khanda* in this village. These lands seem lately to have been cultivated with rubbi crops in consequence of the decline of the silk industry. Now the canoongoe paper shows that the rates for mulberry were Rs. 8, Rs. 7, Rs. 6, and Rs. 5 per beegah, which gives an average rate of Rs. 6-8 a beegah. The rental on 286 beegahs of mulberry at Rs. 6-8 beegah, would therefore be Rs. 1,857. The total rental of the village according to the jumma-wasil-bakis filed by the zemindar is Rs. 3,128, so that the rents for mulberry form three-fifths of the entire rental of the village. Even if the 80 beegahs now measured as *denga rubbee* were excluded from the mulberry area, the rental of the remaining 206 beegahs would exceed Rs. 1,200. Such being the case, the present depressed state of the silk industry must affect the condition of the ryot very materially, and measures should be taken to grant him some relief in consequence of decrease in the value of mulberry.

The rule of proportion based on increase or decrease in productive powers, or value of produce, requires modification, and the benefit of 20 years' presumption allowed to ryots requires to be withdrawn.

11. The question ultimately becomes, how can a revision in the rents be made on the ground of increase or decrease in productive powers or value of produce when there are no means of comparing the present state of things with any preceding state, and when, again, the 20 years' presumption gives the ryot a right to hold on the present rents as fair and equitable? But, if the rent question is to be at all approached with a view to a satisfactory solution, the present law, which lays down an unworkable rule of proportion, based on increase or decrease in productive powers or value of produce, should be modified, and the benefit of the 20 years' presumption now allowed to the ryot should also be withdrawn. The present settlement, and not the permanent settlement, of which no information is available, should be made the basis of future adjustments. It is true that this settlement will be of a somewhat arbitrary character; but if it is judiciously conducted after thorough enquiries and measurements, there is no reason to fear that it will prove disadvantageous to either the landlord or the tenant. It will appear from paragraph 7 of this report that while in some upland villages the zemindar may be a loser by the proposed adjustment, in the low land villages he will be a gainer, and on the whole there will not be any material decrease in rents, but the only effect will be to distribute the burden more fairly and equitably among the ryots of the different villages belonging to an estate.

The preparation of ryotwaree jummabundis after cadastral surveys the only possible solution of the rent question for the tract under enquiry.

12. From all that has been stated above, it will be evident that the only true solution of the rent question for this part of the country is the preparation of ryotwaree jummabundis after cadastral surveys. But how, it may be asked, is this ryotwaree jummabundi to be prepared, seeing that there is no means of determining the rates of rents on which the present rentals were fixed? I admit that from want of former measurement papers there will be some difficulty in first making the classification, and then adjusting rents to classes. But the few jummabundis noticed in paragraph 3 of this report will be so many guide books. More such jummabundis will be forthcoming if the tract to be operated upon be larger than the present one. The village patwaris and mondals will be of service in comparing these jummabundis on the spot. The broad principle that underlies the system of classification followed in these places is the highness or lowness of a field, and the facility it enjoys for purposes of irrigation. Those rice lands which first receive the rain-water drained from the village or which are irrigated by natural flow from a tank on an outlet being made, are always classed high, lands irrigated from water artificially raised are classed lower, while those lands which are not within reach of any irrigating tank or other reservoir of water, and have to depend entirely on the rains, are classed lowest. Though rice is the main staple produce of this part of the country, still as a large proportion of the rents is derived from mulberry, the mulberry lands ought also to be separately classed. When the lands of a village have been measured and classified, the rents at present paid should be distributed among the different classes according to their productive powers. In this manner the present rates for different classes of land will be obtained. The next question will be to determine whether these rates deserve to be enhanced or reduced. In the determination of what should be fair and equitable rates for mulberry, the accounts and other papers of silk manufacturers and of English silk factories will be useful. But no hard-and-fast rules of proportion will answer. Keeping the maximum in view, the rents will be increased or decreased according as circumstances may require; but no violent changes will be made on any account.

Costs of cultivation greater than what are ordinarily supposed to be. Zemindars should be allowed a share of net profits.

13. It has been said on behalf of zemindars that the proposal to fix the maximum at one-fourth the gross value of produce is not fair to them, but that they are entitled to a larger share. It at first sight looks that a much larger share of profit is reserved for the ryot when only a fourth part of the gross produce is declared as the zemindar's share. My recent experience of the costs of rice cutting and husking, not to speak of the other costs of cultivation, leads me to believe that there is no reason to fear that a very large share of net profit will fall to the lot of the ryot under the present proposal. The expenses of cultivation are much greater than what are ordinarily supposed to be, and it is the net profit from which, in my opinion, the zemindar's share should be determined.

Transfer of occupancy rights; prevailing custom in the selected tract.

14. Another circumstance brought to light in the course of the present enquiry also deserves mention in this report. It is often alleged on behalf of the zemindar that the proposal to make occupancy rights transferable is an innovation. But without going to discuss what the custom in other places is, I beg to state that the custom of buying and selling *jotes* is here very general, and that the zemindars themselves also put such *jotes* for sale at execution of rent decrees. Baboo Bepin Behary Mookerjea, Moonsiff of Kandi, to whose kind assistance I am greatly indebted for several things in connection with the present enquiry, tells me that it is seldom that the zemindars object in court to the transfer of jotes by ryots. I have in paragraph 6 of this report spoken of ryots having more than one *jote* in their possession. The jumma-wasil papers of Gopinathpore shew that this custom of buying and selling *jotes* has been very general in the pergunnah. But though custom is thus in favour of the ryot, a legal enactment declaring its validity will, no doubt, be productive of very great advantage, as it will prevent the litigation that occasionally crops up at present. The fear that is generally entertained, that the effect of making the right of occupancy transferable will be that all such jotes would gradually pass into the hands of the money-lenders, is, so far at least as this part of the country is concerned, quite unfounded. On the other hand, I find as a fact that all old jotes which have changed hands are still in the possession of cultivating ryots.

Tracing of the map of Kandi Gopinathpore submitted for inspection.

15. In order to enable the Board to form an idea of how the different descriptions of lands are situated in the villages of the selected tract, I have made a trace from the map of the typical village of Gopinathpore, prepared under the Nizamut Deputy Collector, which I beg to submit herewith. It will appear from this map that there are numerous tanks in the village. This seems from maps received from the Surveyor-General's office, which are also herewith submitted, to be the peculiarity of the villages of this part of the country. The tanks are mostly used for the purpose of irrigating the mulberry fields. They seem to belong to the ryots, though from the long lapse of time since they were excavated it is not possible to say to whom they belong. The area covered by tanks in this village is 194 beegahs, which is about one-tenth of the total area.

It will appear from the map that while the different descriptions of lands around the village sites are intermixed and are not well adapted for measurement in blocks according to character of soil, there are considerable blocks of rice fields of the same class, which could conveniently be measured according to the system proposed by me for the classification of land. But on the whole I am inclined to believe that my scheme is better adapted to the Eastern Bengal districts than to this part of the country.

Orders regarding further employment solicited.

16. In conclusion I beg to request that, as I have no more enquires to make, orders regarding my further employment may be issued without delay.

Endorsement by Officiating Under-Secretary to Government, Bengal,—(*No.* $\frac{752}{795}$ *L.R., dated 3rd March, 1883*).

COPY, with copies of the enclosures, submitted to the Government of India, in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, for information, with reference to my endorsement No. $\frac{2804}{1088}$ L.R., dated the 11th December, 1882.

C. S. BAYLEY.

No. 79A., dated 1st February, 1883.

From—Secretary to Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces,

To—Secretary to Government, Bengal.

In reply to your demi-official letter of 30th January 1883, intimating that the Lieutenant-Governor is desirous of being informed of the progress made by the Rate officers in Murshidabad, Hooghly and Jeypur, and in continuation of the Board's letter No. 23A., dated 8th January 1883, I am directed to submit herewith copies of the reports noted in the margin, showing the progress made by Babu Parbati Churn Roy and Messrs. Tobin and Macpherson in the tracts assigned to them.

No. 36, dated 8th January, 1883, from Babu Parbati Churn Roy.
„ 59, dated 21st January, 1883, from H. M. Tobin, Esq.
„ 61, dated 20th-22nd January, 1883, from D. J. Macpherson, Esq.
Extract, paragraphs 6 and 7, from Babu Parbati Churn Roy's letter No. 86, dated 24th January 1883.

2. The reports from Hooghly are still of a desultory character, but it is probable that the report for the present fortnight may furnish a fuller summary of what has been done by Mr. Carstairs.

H. J. S. COTTON.

No. 36, dated Camp Kandi viâ Berhampore, the 8th January 1883.

From—BABU PARBATI CHURN ROY, on Special Duty,

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

I HAVE the honor to submit the following progress report of the work done by me during the fortnight ending with Saturday, the 30th December 1882.

2. *Pergunnah Gopinathpore does not form one compact block.*—It will appear from the one-inch maps (sheets Nos. 8 and 10 of Moorshedabad, and No. 5 of Beerbhoom), submitted herewith, that the lands of pergunnah Gopinathpore do not form one compact block, but are scattered over different parts of the district. I have been able to make experiments only in blocks Nos. I and II in sheet No. 10. The Board are aware that when I commenced the experiments, I had no maps to guide me in the selection of the area; but I now find that the tract of country in which I have conducted experiments forms the most important and the largest compact part of pergunnah Gopinathpore. In this area experiments have been made in two villages, namely, Kandi Gopinathpore including Raiabati and Thira (in the map written Kheera). The former represents the condition of a village close to the river with ordinarily high and low lands, and the latter that of one somewhat remote from the river, in which the low lands are of a beely character. Detailed accounts of the experiment made in these villages will be found in paragraphs 6 and 7 of this report. An experiment was also made on the rice of a field in a fourth village called Dengapara; but as I could not remain present at this experiment from its beginning to end, and as there was no time for making further experiments in this village (the rice having since been all cut), I have omitted to take this experiment into account.

3. *No jummabundis exist of Pergunnah Gopinathpore.*—In my last report, as well as in previous letters, I informed the Board that I had not received any jummabundis, and I have to state the same thing also in the present report. It will appear from the accompanying copy of a letter No. 152, dated the 19th December 1882, from the Nabab of Moorshedabad, that he has "not got the jummabundi papers of pergunnah Gopinathpore, as no jummabundi has ever been made of that mehal by the Nizamat." On my further application the Nabab has sent the jumma-waseel-baki or collection papers. A specimen copy of a page of one of these papers is submitted herewith for the inspection of the Board. It will be seen from this specimen that the jumma-waseel shews only the rent payable by each ryot, without any specification of the quantity of land held by him.

4. *No information available regarding rates or classification.*—Under paragraph 5 of the instructions, the first process for the rate officer is declared to be "to obtain the jummabundis of each village or estate for the purpose of ascertaining rent rates payable by occupancy and non-occupancy ryots for each separate class of soil now recognized in each village or estate comprised in the selected area." The principal reason why the estates of private zemindars were not selected for the purpose of the present enquiry, was stated to be that "there would be delay in the production of jummabundis, and further delay in testing their accuracy." The advantage of selecting the Nizamat lands appeared to the Board to be "that though the necessary information as to existing rents could readily be procured, the lands had been under ordinary zemindary management." Now, whatever might be the case as regards the other Nizamat lands, no information regarding existing rents which could help the present enquiry is, as has been stated above, available in pergunnah Gopinathpore, which is mentioned

in the "memorandum on the preparation of a Table of Rates," as especially fitted for the present enquiry as the most compact portion of the Nizamat lands.

5. *Proposal to make experiments in several villages simultaneously abandoned.*—I need hardly state that the want of jummabundis has surrounded the enquiry with difficulties from its commencement. "Having procured the existing jummabundis, the rate officer is to proceed to classify the lands. He is then to take the best land in the tract under enquiry, and ascertain its actual gross produce." He is to go through the same process regarding the lands of other classes. The rate officer is in fact to be guided in his selection of the classes and qualities of lands to be experimented upon by the jummabundis. But not having the jummabundis, I was not able, previous to beginning the experiments, to find out the manner in which the lands of Gopinathpore pergunnah had been classified. I therefore selected for experiments fields situated in different parts of the village Kandi Gopinathpore, at which I first commenced to work. These fields were all classed as Anal in the chitta of the late measurements, though, according to the villagers, they belonged to different classes. As regards the other villages, it seemed to me that the best plan to form a correct idea of the productive powers of the different classes of lands in the different parts of pergunnah Gopinathpore was to conduct experiments in several villages. But as, in consequence of the short time within which it was possible to make experiments, I could not personally conduct all of them, I thought that, as I had not under me any officer of the grade of sub-deputy or canoongoe, the only way in which I could carry on simultaneously experiments at more places than one was by making a greater use of my clerks and mohurirs than was contemplated in the instructions. But as this plan did not recommend itself to the Board, it was abandoned, and no additional establishment kept for the purpose of making experiments, which were, with the exception of a few that had been made at the commencement, all conducted in my presence.

6. *Experiments in villages Gopinathpore and Raiabati.—Plan I.*—The village in which the experiments have been of an exhaustive character is Kandi Gopinathpore. I beg to submit herewith a plan (No. 1) showing the fields, on the rice of which experiments were made in Gopinathpore and the adjoining village called Raiabati. While the crops of fields Nos. 1, 2, 6, 7, and 10 were experimented upon, I could not, for want of a tent to live in, remain present at each experiment from its beginning to end, though I personally supervised the work several hours every day. But during the experiments on the rice of fields Nos. 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18, I lived where I worked, having procured at this time two tents, in one of which I lived and in the other held office. The field marked (W) is the piece of ground on which the rice was stacked, threshed, winnowed, and weighed. On the adjoining fields 1 and 2, the rice of which had been previously cut, stood my tents. The threshing, winnowing, and weighing were done under my own eyes, while the cutting was done within my cognizance, *i.e.*, within easy distance of my tents and under my constant supervision. I always visited the fields while the rice was being cut, and a trustworthy amlah remained guard from beginning to end. All the rice after being cut was tied together in separate bundles, and these bundles were once counted on the field and again on the threshing ground. Thus every possible precaution was taken to prevent fraud. When all the rice of a field was threshed out and the chaff winnowed away, the paddy was weighed (not measured) with seers weighing 80 tolahs each.

7. *Experiments in Village Thira.—Plan II.*—On the completion of the experiments in Gopinathpore, I removed my tents to Thira (written Kheera in the survey map). When I arrived at this village, I found that the rice in the uplands had been cut and that those that remained uncut were in the low *beely* lands which formed the greater part of the area of the village. All the care and vigilence exercised at Gopinathpore were also exercised at Thira, where all the operations took place under my very eyes. Here too I lived where I worked, as will appear from Plan II, herewith enclosed, shewing the fields, on the rice of which experiments were made. On the plot of ground marked W, the rice was threshed and weighed, and here also stood my tents.

8. *Measurements of fields experimented upon how conducted.*—The fields shewn in Plans I and II were measured and plotted either by me or in my presence, and under my supervision, by a clerk who knows surveying. In order to secure more correct areas than could be obtained by adopting the scale (16″=1 mile) ordinarily used in settlements, measurements have been plotted on double that scale, *i.e.*, on the scale 32″=1 mile.

9. *Actual average outturn per bigha of fields experimented upon.*—The actual outturn of rice, together with the area of each field, will be found in the statement given on the margin of each plan where the outturn per bigha has also been given. It is not easy to strike an actual average outturn per bigha regarding the fields (Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, and 18) experimented upon in village Gopinathpore. All these fields, according to the chitta of the last measurement, belong to the first class; but this is denied by the ryots. As regards the character of the soil, I have not perceived much difference between one plot and another. But proximity to, or remoteness from, a tank is a material thing that decides in these places the quality of the land. My experience of the eastern districts of Bengal did not lead me to imagine that rice fields were irrigated. But here ryots do not, as a rule, fail to take advantage of the proximity of a tank in irrigating their fields, especially in years of deficient rainfall. But in arriving at an accurate idea regarding the productive powers of the soil, the accidental advantage derived from proximity to tanks should not be taken into account. Following the above principle, I shall not bring under calculation the outturn of rice of

fields Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 17, and 18, which were to a more or less extent irrigated with tank water. Fields Nos. 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, and 16 are the proper representatives of the class, the difference of their outturns being due to the different times of sowing and the different degrees of care and labour subsequently devoted to their cultivation. Field No. 16 is the instance of how a *bataidar* is apt to neglect the field he cultivates of another person on the condition of paying him by way of rent half the produce. The ryot to whom this field belongs is a Brahmin, and the actual cultivator (the bataidar called in these places bhagidar) did not think of cultivating it until he had finished his own fields, by which time the sowing season was over.

The actual average outturn per bigha of the fields experimented upon in Gopinathpore is therefore found in the following manner :—

Number of field in the plan.	Annual outturn per bigha. Mds.	Srs.
3	4	25¾
6	5	23¾
7	5	15
8	5	18½
9	3	37½
10	4	11
15	1	13½
16	5	25
Total outturn for eight bighas in eight fields	36	10
Average outturn per bigha in the village	4	21

Fields Nos. 11, 12, 13, and 14, in Plan I, belong to the adjoining village Raiabati. The average actual outturn for these fields is found in the same manner to be 3 maunds 4⅓ seers per bigha.

The fields of Thira (Plan II) belong all to the same class, and the average actual outturn for them is found to be 7 maunds 21 seers.

10. *No statistics of any previous enquiry available for estimating average outturn per bigha.*—The actual average outturn per bigha for the fields experimented upon in the three villages being found in the above manner, the next point for enquiry is the *estimated* average quantity of produce and of the price obtained for it by the ryot for a number of years. This is to be "ascertained by enquiry, and tested by such statistics as are available of the result of similar experiments, and by the conclusion arrived at by similar enquiries." For the purpose of section 23 (*b*) of the Bill the Board have ordered that "five years would be a reasonable period on which the average might be calculated." I have, accordingly, tried to estimate the average quantity of produce and the value thereof for the last five years. But, though I have obtained very accurate information regarding the price of rice for the last five years, I have not been able to get any information regarding the average quantity of produce for any previous year. No enquiries regarding produce were made at this place at any previous time, and so no data are available which might help the present enquiry. I have therefore been obliged to accept the guesses of the ryots as correct. These guesses may, on the whole, be not very far from the truth.

11. *Average outturn per bigha estimated from the statements of ryots, checked by rainfall register of Kandi Charitable Dispensary.*—I have been able to a certain extent to test the accuracy of the statements of the ryots regarding the yield of previous years with the aid of the rainfall register, for which I am indebted to the kindness of Babu Chundra Kumar Gupta, Assistant Surgeon of the Charitable Dispensary at Kandi. The following statement shews the monthly rainfall at Kandi during eight years, counting backwards from 1882 :—

Statement shewing the monthly rainfall at Kandi Gopinathpore in the years 1875 to 1882.

Year.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	septem-ber.	Octo-ber.	Novem-ber.	December.	Total.
1882	...	...	0·01	0·35	5·50	11·55	5·12	7·37	9·24	7·41	...	...	46·55
1881	...	...	1·38	...	6·69	7·00	11·17	10·87	6·21	4·17	...	...	47·49
1880	...	6·64	0·89	2·14	5·22	7·43	6·02	11·62	10·49	4·81	...	...	54·26
1879	...	1·71	...	...	1·94	14·18	23·01	9·57	12·88	4·69	...	...	66·98
1878	0·37	0·50	0·17	4·78	5·97	5·79	6·38	16·34	18·37	1·21	3·83	...	63·71
1877	2·08	1·35	0·67	2·54	2·84	7·66	15·99	15·67	7·06	4·70	...	...	60·36
1876	...	...	0·52	1·30	2·93	6·88	17·76	13·03	6·47	3·35	...	..	52·23
1875	...	...	...	...	5·83	17·50	8·19	11·06	9·65	0·77	...	...	53·00*

* The register for the first four months of this year not forthcoming.

It will appear from the above statement that only 46·55 inches of rain fell in Kandi from 1st January to 31st October 1882. The normal quantity of rainfall for the district of Moorshedabad is 53 inches (*vide* page 266 of Mr. MacDonnell's report on the famine of 1873-74). There was thus a deficiency of 6·45 inches in the rainfall of the past year to make up the total normal quantity. The rains were also not seasonably distributed, the falls during the months of July and August, when the cultivators wanted them most for transplanting the young plants, were very small, being 5·12 and 7·37 inches respectively. In consequence of the above circumstance, the outturn of rice in the up-lands of this part of the district has been less than the average quantity (about eight annas less), while that in the low lands has been somewhat

more than the average. The ryots of Gopinathpore state that this was also the state of things in the two preceding years, 1881 and 1880. But the ryots of the more favourably circumstanced village, Thira, deny that the crops in 1881 and 1880 were so good as in 1882, though they admit that, on the whole, those were not bad years. Now, here again the rainfall register is of much use. This register shews that the total fall in 1881 was almost the same as in 1882. It was only 47·49 inches. But as the quantities for May, July, and August exceeded in 1881 the quantities for the corresponding months of 1882, the outturn for 1881 seems to have been as good as, if not better, than that which has been found from experiment in 1882. The rainfall for 1880 was 54·26, just the quantity considered normal for Moorshedabad; though the falls in each of the months of May, June, and July in 1878 hardly exceeded five inches. Under the circumstances of the case it may not be very far from the truth if the outturns for high lands be put down for 1878 and 1879 as having been 1½ times those for 1880, 1881, and 1882.

But if the difficulties in estimating the average outturn per bigha of ordinarily high land for 1878 and 1879 are great, those for estimating the outturn of low *beely* lands are still greater. The cultivation of low lands is attended with more risks than that of high lands. The floods, when too high or too long prolonged, do greater damage to the crops of low lands than the droughts of an equally excessive character do to high lands. Though all the lands of Thira are not low, and the low lands do not exactly form the bed of a *beel*, they are low enough to be damaged to a great extent by any excessive rise of water. It is admitted that the outturn in 1881 in the *beely* lands of Thira was as good as it was in 1882; but it is said that in 1880 the outturn was somewhat less, and that in 1879 and 1878 it was still less, not even half of what it is in ordinary years. Taking the above circumstances into consideration, the average outturn for Thira for these years may safely be estimated for 1880 at ¾, and for 1879 and 1878 at $\frac{6}{10}$ths of what it has been in 1882.

Now, calculating the average outturn for the past five years for the three villages, the crops of which have been experimented upon, the following results are obtained :—

Gopinathpore, called also Kandi Gopinathpore—

	Mds.	Srs.
Actual yield per bigha in 1882, found from experiments	4	21
Estimated yield per bigha for 1881, same as in 1882	4	21
Ditto for 1880, same as in 1882	4	21
Ditto for 1879, 1½ times the yield for 1882	6	31
Ditto for 1878, ditto ditto	6	31
Total estimated outturn of five years for one bigha	=27	5

The estimated average annual outturn per bigha for the last five years is therefore $\frac{27 \text{ Mds. } 5 \text{ Srs.}}{5}$ = 5 maunds 17 seers.

In the same manner the average annual outturn per bigha in Raiabati is also found :—

	Mds.	Srs.
Actual yeild in 1882	3	4⅓
Estimated yield in 1881	3	4⅓
Ditto in 1880	3	4⅓
Ditto in 1879, 1½ of 1882	4	26
Ditto in 1878, 1½ of 1882	4	26
Total estimated outturn of five years for one bigha	=18	25

Estimated average annual outturn for one bigha = $\frac{3 \text{ Mds. } 25 \text{ Srs.}}{5}$ = 3 maunds 29 seers.

Thira.

	Mds.	Srs.
Actual outturn per bigha in 1882	7	21
Estimated ditto in 1881	7	21
Ditto ditto in 1880, ¾ of 1882	7	26
Ditto ditto in 1879, ⅓ of 1882	2	33
Ditto ditto in 1878	2	33
Total estimated outturn of five years for one bigha	26	14

Estimated average outturn per bigha for the last five years = $\frac{26 \text{ Mds. } 14 \text{ Srs.}}{5}$ = 5 maunds 10 seers.

12. *Average price of a maund of rice in the bazar of Kandi Gopinathpore for the last five years.*—The average annual gross produce per bigha being determined as above, the average money value of that produce has to be now determined. I am glad that in prosecuting this part of the enquiry, I have been fortunate enough to get very correct information from the khatas or account books of certain grain-dealers of Kandi Gopinathpore bazar. As the ryots of Gopinathpore, Raiabati, and Thira, in which experiments have been made, sell their rice at this bazar, which, as will appear from sheet No. 10, is close to their homes, the buying prices entered in the accounts of the shop-keepers may be taken as those at which the ryots sold

their rice in the months of December, January, February, and March, for which enquiries have been made. The analysis of the accounts of the shop-keepers gives the following results:—

			R. a. p.
Average price of a maund of common rice in the months of Poush, Magh, Falgoon, and half of Choitra of 1285 (B S.) corresponding to December of 1877, and January, February and March of 1878			2 6 6
Ditto	ditto	of 1878-79	1 9 3
Ditto	ditto	of 1879-80	1 3 0
Ditto	ditto	of 1880-81	1 3 8
Ditto	ditto	of 1881-82	1 6 2
	Total of five years		7 12 7

Average price of a maund of rice during the past five years = Rs. $\frac{7\text{-}12\text{-}7}{5}$ = Re. 1-8-11.

13. *Average money value of gross produce per bigha.*—With the aid of the estimated average yield per bigha given in the preceding paragraph 11, and the average price of rice per maund, for the past five years, given in paragraph 12, the average money value of gross produce can be found if the proportion of husked rice obtained from a maund of unhusked rice or paddy as known. I have not yet been able to make any experiments at husking; but for the purpose of the present calculation, it may be sufficient if the ratio (28½ seers of rice to a maund of paddy), given at page 290 of the Statistical Reporter, be taken as also applying to the rice lately experimented upon.

This gives the following results for the three villages:—

Gopinathpore—
Estimated average outturn per bigha . . . . . =5 maunds 17 seers of paddy=3 maunds 34 seers of rice.

Raiabati—
Estimated average outturn per bigha . . . . . =3 maunds 29 seers of paddy=2 maunds 26 seers of rice.

Thira—
Estimated average outturn per bigha . . . . . =5 maunds 10 seers of paddy=3 maunds 29 seers of rice.

The average price of a maund of rice being Re. 1-8-11, the money value of the average gross produce in the three villages will be as follows:—

	R a. p.
Gopinathpore—	
Rice 3 maunds 34 seers, at Re. 1-8-11 per maund	5 15 11
Straw	1 8 0
Total money value	7 7 11
Raiabati—	
Rice 2 maunds 26 seers, at Re. 1-8-11 per maund	4 2 0
Straw	1 0 0
Total money value	5 2 0
Thira—	
Rice 3 maunds 29 seers, at Re. 1-8-11 per maund	5 12 8
Straw	1 8 0
Total money value	7 4 8

14. *Enquiries made regarding existing and previous rates.*—In paragraph 5 of your letter No. 1119A., dated the 15th December 1882, I am directed to proceed under paragraph 8 of the instructions in determining the average incidence on the bigha. This paragraph runs as follow:—

"Where the jummabundis or other papers of the estate do not specify the rates paid for each class of land, the rate officer will ascertain by local enquiry whether any such classification is recognised in the rent arrangements between the zemindar and his ryots, and if so, will record them. Otherwise he will only record such facts as that rents are settled without reference to such classification, the average incidence on the bigha being at such a rate."

I have agreeably to the above, previous to recording that the rents were settled without reference to classification, made local enquiries as to whether "any classification is recognised in the rent arrangements between the zemindar and his ryots." But the zemindar, the Nabab, has no information to give regarding rates, having made no jummabundis of the mehal. Gopinathpore was, I am informed, purchased by a relative of the Nabab Nazim, at a sale for arrears of revenue, about 40 years ago. During these 40 years there has admittedly been no change in the rents, which continue as they were previous to the purchase. No information as to how the present rents were fixed can be obtained from the zemindar. Some of the ryots, however, seem to *know from tradition* the rates of the different classes of lands held by them. But few will tell what those rates are, and as the statement of one does not agree with that of another, and there is no means of testing the accuracy of such statements, it is altogether hopeless to get at any correct information regarding the rates of rents on which the present rents were fixed.

Having come to know that there were in the Moorshedabad Collectorate certain rate papers of Gopinathpore and other adjoining estates, prepared by canoongoes under the old system, I applied to the Collector of the district for copies of those papers regarding pergunnah Gopinathpore, and the Collector has been kind enough to furnish me with them. It appears from these papers that there once existed in ancient time rates for different classes of land for all the villages of pergunnah Gopinathpore. It does not appear from the copies when the originals were prepared, or under what circumstances they were prepared; but there can be no doubt that as they were prepared under the old canoongoe system, they must be upwards of 50 years old. The rates given by the canoongoes were, as will be seen from below, too many, and in some cases rather too exorbitant, even considering that the productive powers of some of the lands were, 50 years or 100 years ago, much greater than what they are now.

The following are the rates given by the canoongoe papers of the villages operated upon:—

Kandi Gopinathpore.

	First class.	Second class.	Third class.	Fourth class.
	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.
Shali haimuntie dhan	4 0 0	3 0 0	2 0 0	1 8 0
Mustard, &c.	1 8 0	1 0 0	.....	.....
Sugarcane	4 0 0	3 0 0	2 0 0	1 8 0
Mulberry	8 0 0	7 0 0	6 0 0	5 0 0
Bastoo	10 0 0	8 0 0	6 0 0	5 0 0
Udbastoo (garden)	5 0 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	.....

Raiabati.

Dhan	2 0 0	1 8 0	.....	.....
Sugarcane	2 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Mulberry	3 0 0	2 8 0	.....	.....
Bastoo	5 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Udbastoo	2 8 0	.....	.....	.....

Thira.

Dhan	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 8 0
Sugarcane	2 0 0	1 8 0	.....	.....
Mulberry	3 8 0	2 8 0	.....	.....
Bastoo	4 0 0	3 8 0	.....	.....
Udbastoo	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	.....

In the face of the above classifications of rates, on the basis of which the present rents may have been fixed at a time which cannot now be traced, but which nevertheless is very ancient, it will not be fair to proceed on the system of average rates, which at best must work unequally on ryots holding lands of different classes in different proportions, though it is impossible now to determine the classes of lands for which the rates were fixed.

15. *The principle of averages followed by Mr. Reily in the settlement of the Chanchal estate does not apply in the present case.*—As far as I am able to understand, the case of Gopinathpore is similar to that of the Chanchal estate in Maldah. But the method adopted by Mr. Reily in the settlement of that estate will not apply in the present case. In Chanchal, Mr. Reily first made "a rough calculation of the average rate per bigha hitherto paid for lands in a village" from the area under cultivation by each tenant. In doing this, he did not find much difficulty; but, "the real difficulty arose," he says, "in portioning off the different plots under the three respective classes, the ryots naturally objecting to have any of their lands included in the higher classes." Mr. Reily met this difficulty in each individual case when objections were raised, by instituting a sort of informal punchayet, &c." (*vide* paragraph 11 of Mr. Reily's report No. 268, dated the 15th October 1882). Now, it will be seen that the real merit of Mr. Reily's settlements lay not in adjusting *rates of rents* to *classes* of lands, but in arranging in each individual case, the classes of lands which a holding should comprise, in order to suit the rates of rents fixed by him. It is not that the lands were first classified according to their productive powers and the rates then fixed for each class, but the rates were first fixed and the classes arranged so as to suit the case of each individual ryot. Moreover, while Mr. Reily had not to accurately determine the rates previously paid in making what was in fact a new settlement, concluded in a somewhat arbitrary manner, the accurate determination of prevailing rates is indispensable in starting with the enquiry as to how far an increase or decrease in the present rates would be fair and equitable.

16. *Average rate per bigha determined from total rent and area.*—Following the instructions of the Board, I have tried to find in one of the villages, Gopinathpore, the average incidence on the bigha from rents and areas of holding; and I beg to give below the results

obtained according to this method in the case of a few of the ryots of Gopinathpore, whose rents, as entered in the jumma-waseel, have been verified after personal enquiry:—

Name of ryot.	Area of holding.	Total rent of holding.	Rent per bigha.
	R *a.* *p.*	R *a.* *p.*	R *a.* *p*
A	18 12¾ 0	37 1 0	2 0 0
B	1 15¾ 0	5 8 0	2 14 0
C	16 18 0	44 0 0	2 9 0
D	18 7 0	42 14 0	2 5 0
E	38 11 0	65 7 0	1 11 0
F	15 5 0	34 12 0	2 4 6
G	14 4 0	26 3 0	1 13 6
H	6 18 0	36 9 0	5 3 0
I	1 11¼ 0	2 12 0	1 11 6
J	4 10 0	10 8 0	2 5 4
Total of ten holdings			24 12 10

The average rate obtained from the above is Rs. 2-8 a bigha, which may be accepted as representing the state of things in village Gopinathpore. But as there is often very great difference between the average rate of one ryot and of another, it may not be fair to accept Rs. 2-8 as the basis.

17. *Jummabundis of adjoining estates not yet referred to.*—I have not yet been able to refer to the jummabundis of the adjoining pergunnahs Futtehsing, Mahlundi, and Radhabullabpore. Some of the putwaries of Mahlundi, on whom I called for the jummabundi papers of the villages, the rents of which were collected by them, said that they had no jummabundis; that all the papers were with the zemindars themselves. If the Board should think that the jummabundis of the above-mentioned pergunnahs should be referred to in the course of the present enquiry, I beg to request that I may be authorized, under section 31 of Regulation XII of 1817, to call for those papers from the zemindars.

18. *Instruction solicited.*—In conclusion, I beg to state that, as under the circumstances described above, it is not possible to determine the rates on which the present rents were fixed, nor also the time when they were fixed, I do not know how to proceed further in the preparation of the table of fair and equitable rates which is the ultimate object of the present enquiry. Should the Board order me to proceed upon the principle of average incidence per bigha, I would request them to be good enough to instruct me as to the period to be embraced in the enquiry regarding increase or decrease in productive powers and value of produce, seeing that it cannot be traced when the present rents were fixed.

No. 59, dated Dumri, the 21st January 1883, *Vid* Doomraon.

From—H. M. Tobin, Esq., c.s, on Special Duty, Shahabad,

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

In submitting my third fortnightly report I regret the delay that has arisen in despatching it; as I have already informed you demi-officially, this was owing to illness.

2. Since the submission of my last report, I have had the opportunity of consulting Mr. Nolan, the Collector of Shahabad, on the whole subject, and I beg to enclose a copy of a letter that I have subsequently received from him.

3. My last report referred to the southern portion of the tract assigned to me; and with reference thereto I drew the following conclusions:—

(*a*) That it is impossible to frame fair and equitable tables of rents, according to the rules framed and issued by the Board for any considerable portion of the tract.

(*b*) That in those villages where the existing rates are numerous, they are in many instances not in proportion to the real value of the land.

(*c*) That in those villages where there is uniformity of rates, the same rate has been applied to different soils indiscriminately without regard to their relative value; and consequently existing rates form no sound basis for the formation of a fair and equitable scale, as proposed by the rules.

(*d*) I point out that where the rates were uniform, there would be no difficulty in applying the laws of enhancement proposed in the Bill to the existing rents, and so constructing a table of rates of rent which could be demanded for the great portion of the village lands by the zemindars; but that such a table would not be the table of fair and equitable rates contemplated by the rules.

4. I now have to report on the difficulties in the way of forming fair and equitable tables of rates in the northern tract.

Before doing so I will ask your permission to correct a misconception which has arisen somewhat naturally from my last report, and which finds utterance in the 7th paragraph of your letter No. 23A to the Government of Bengal. I did not overlook the circumstance that the legal presumption arising by occupation at unchanged rates for more than 20 years has had the effect of turning each holding into one held at rates which are no longer liable to alteration. But I regret that I did not then bring more prominently to notice the circumstance of the large proportion of lands which the ryots are entitled to hold at fixed rates.

I have pointed out in my letter No. 45 that the occupancy ryots and those with the right to hold at fixed rates hold at one and the same rate. New ryots have been admitted to lands at the old prevailing rate, and though the rate has not been changed for more than 20 years, many of the existing ryots are new comers. Such ryots therefore could not be treated as holding at fixed rates.

It is at the same time much to be regretted that a tract was selected in which such a large proportion of the ryots (probably over 50 per cent.) are entitled to hold at fixed rates.

5. The northern tract is simpler to deal with than the southern, inasmuch as the rents in each village are less numerous, and every village has one or more prevailing rates of rent.

6. In almost all the northern villages the rates have not been altered for forty years. In fact there has been still less change here than in the southern tract.

7. In most of the villages the same difficulty, as is referred to in clause *c* of paragraph 3 of this letter, is met with, *viz.*, that the same rate prevails for several or all classes and qualities of land, and therefore existing rates form no sound basis on which to construct rate tables which are to be fair and equitable under the rules.

8. The lands in several of the villages have been affected by recent river action, and lands which were properly assessed at different rates years ago, as being of different qualities and classes, have now greatly altered in character.

I annex a list of the villages in the northern tract with the rates prevailing in each. In drawing up this table I have omitted any very small quantities of land held at rates other than the prevailing ones with the exception of dakmils; in no cases do such lands form more than a small proportion of the whole cultivated area, and in almost all cases it will be found that they are held under special circumstances, or that they could in a detailed settlement of the jamabandi fall under one of the prevailing rates.

9. To show how unreliable existing rates are in most cases for the purpose of forming a fair and equitable rate table even in a single village, I will give a few examples.

In Dohlia the men of one "tola" cultivate at Rs. 7-8 and Rs. 7-12 per bigha the same land that the men of another "tola" till at Rs. 3-12 and Rs. 5 per bigha. In Sirkhigdi Rajeh, forming part of Nag Singhanpura, the "deara" and "upermar" lands are both held at Re. 1-13. The former yields about 15 maunds per acre; the latter about 7½ maunds per acre. In Rani Singunpoora, tal land, yielding about 14 maunds per acre, and "buddhus" (high) land, yielding about 11 maunds per acre, both pay at the rate of Rs. 3-6-3 per bigha.

In Chakandi, forming part of Rampur Ukhori, in tal (low) lands the prevailing rates are Rs. 2-8 and Rs. 4; in some cases the lands held at these different rates give the same outturn, and in some cases the land at Rs. 2-8 gives a greater outturn than the other.

It is needless to multiply illustrations. The same state of things exists with regard to the majority of the lands in each village.

10. The rates, as the Collector has pointed out, are the ancient custom of the village, and now depend on custom and nothing else; though it is clear that in some villages (*e.g.*, Dea Man, Rampore Ukhari, Dumri, Khara tane, Nagurpura) some attempt was originally made to adjust the rents to the value of the soils.

In some of the uplands, where river action has not been so much felt, the variations of rates thus adopted according to the value of the soil still hold good, but the lands in which this is the case form a very small proportion of the whole.

11. I am satisfied, then, that it is impossible to form in this tract even for single villages fair and equitable tables as contemplated by the rules: still more impossible would it be to form them for larger areas. A glance at the map which I send herewith, on which the prevailing rates for both low lands (tal and deara) and high lands ("upermar") are given, or the perusal of table A annexed, will demonstrate this clearly.

There is no variation in the outturn from tal and deara lands corresponding to the variations in the rent, and the same remark holds good for the greater part of the "upermar" lands also.

12. I have therefore come to the conclusion that a table of fair and equitable rates, such as is contemplated by the rules, is an impossibility in the northern as well as in the southern tract.

Unless, therefore, I receive orders to the contrary, I shall not continue to attempt to prepare such a table.

13. While being of the above opinion I still think that the idea of the table of rates as originally intended by the Rent Commissioners (if I understand it rightly) might with some modification be applied with advantage to many villages in a tract like this, where there are uniform rates.

Existing rates were taken by the Commissioners as a basis, and the rules of enhancement and abatement proposed by their Bill were supposed to be applied thereto. Such a procedure could readily, and in conformity with existing law, be applied to most of the villages here.

14. The advantage of such a procedure is obvious: the rates for nearly the whole of a village (excepting these lands not now held at the prevailing rates) would be settled together, and the rate would be authoritative and hold good for ten years.

The Collector in his letter referred to above has stated (paragraph 6) that for such villages he would declare existing rates increased in proportion to the rise in the value of staple crops to be fair and equitable.

This is almost the same as I now propose to do, except where there is clear evidence of increase or decrease in the productive powers of the soil.

15. Where rates have been settled more recently, the new rates would be fixed on the same principles, but in the case of lands in which the existing rate has been settled during the last ten years, I would, following the principles of the Commissioner's draft Bill, leave the existing rate alone.

One point that would be unsatisfactory in this procedure is that the lands falling under each new rate could generally only be designated as "those hitherto paying such and such rates."

16. I await the orders of the Board as to whether they wish such a table to be drawn up for each village where it is possible.

17. In conclusion, I would refer to one or two other points of interest. The crops most grown in the northern tract of my area is peas, and it would be a staple. I have had some difficulty in obtaining accurate figures as to the prices of peas in past years. The price is not given in the weekly price current submitted to Government. In the case of other grains I have found the Gazette figures the safest to adopt for prices, as I find them on the whole far more accurate than those price currents which I have been able to compile from other sources.

18. With reference to Mr. Nolan's remarks about the good qualities of the Bhojpore ryots, I agree with him in what he says of their manliness, independence, and prosperity. I must, however, demur to what he says as to their industry and good cultivation. They have in past years held more land than they could cultivate properly; they generally select the crop that requires least cultivation, *viz.*, peas, although it commands a very low price and does not yield a greater outturn than other crops. In those lands where Brahmin, Rajputs, and Bhunhaes have been superseded by more industrious castes, I notice a marked difference in the care with which the land is cultivated. I will, however, refer to this matter when submitting my final report.

19. I shall now proceed to complete my enquiries for four villages which I have taken up in addition to those in my original list as approved by the Board, in your No. 1079A, dated 5th December 1882. I am also proceeding to complete and despatch the reports required on the subject of staple crops and special crops, and to complete my enquiries into the increase of prices during the last forty years which has necessitated careful search.

20. Meanwhile I await orders on the points raised in the earlier portion of this report.

21. The return of the maps is requested.

TABLE A.

Name of Village.	Total of land settled according to jamabandi.	Prevailing Rates for Uperman.		Prevailing Rates for Tal or "Deara."		Grand Total.	Remarks.
		Rate.	Quantity.	Rate.	Quantity.		
		R a. p.	Bighas.	*R a. p.*	Bighas.		
1. Dakaich, including—							
a.—Bagkerit Singh	1,955	3 4 0	51	...	...		
		3 1 0	25	...	...		
b.—Rampoor		2 14 0	507	...	...		
		1 8 0	206	...	...		
		1 0 0	132	...	...		
		2 0 0	509	...	...		
TOTAL	...	...	1,430	...	...	1,430	
2. Daman Jakra	200	...	...	3 4 0	101		
		...	...	2 8 0	49		
		...	...	1 4 0	49		
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	199	199	
3. Hathebpoor	...	3 0 0	47	...	...		
		2 14 0	12	...			
		2 4 0	8	...	...		
		2 0 0	138	...	...		
		1 8 0	44	...	...		
		1 4 0	14	...	...		
		0 8 0	13	...	...		
TOTAL	...	...	276	...	...	276	

Name of Village.	Total of land settled according to jamabandi.	Prevailing Rates for Uperman.		Prevailing Rates for Tal or "Deara."		Grand Total.	Remarks.
		Rate.	Quantity.	Rate.	Quantity.		
		R a. p.	Bighas.	*R a. p.*	Bighas.		
4. Deaman	911	3 0 6	542	3 8 0	221		
		2 0 0	70	1 0 0	40		
TOTAL	...	...	612	...	261	873	
5. Dea Permesser, including Monchepa	1,010	2 6 0	464	4 0 6	63		
		...	...	4 0 0	16		
		...	...	2 6 0	334		
TOTAL	...	...	464	...	413	877	
6. Dumri, including Birarlumpoor	1,673	4 1 0	50	5 8 0	8		
		3 5 0	815	4 1 0	331		
		2 1 0	25	4 0 0	31		
		...	...	3 1 0	100		
		...	...	3 0 0	110		
		...	...	1 1 0	24		
TOTAL	...	...	890	...	604	1,494	
Durasum	437	3 4 0	413	...	...		
TOTAL	...	...	413	...	...	413	
Rampoor Ukori, including—	1,146	3 10 0	19	4 0 0	55		
a.—Chakandi		3 8 0	247	5 0 0	10		
b.—Ramdhunpoor		3 4 0	289	2 8 0	80		
c.—Misroulia		3 0 0	190	...	...		
d.—Salempoor		2 12 0	74	...	...		
e.—Pitamberpoor		2 8 0	25	...	...		
TOTAL	...	...	844	...	145	985	
7. Khoba	...	...	...	4 0 0	48	...	This village has much bhaoli land, and except for the land entered the other rates vary from year to year.
8. Rani Singhanpoora, including—	537	3 6 3	200	3 6 3	220		
a.—Kusarha		3 0 0	97	...	...		
TOTAL	...	...	297	...	220	517	
9. Kashi Singanpoora	173	2 6 0	...	2 6 0	...	122	
		2 4 0	...	2 4 0	...	11	
		1 11 0	...	1 11 0	...	17	
		1 1 9	...	1 1 9	...	8	
		1 0 0	...	1 0 0	...	13	
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	171	
10. Nag Singhunpoora, including—	1,590	2 4 0	...	2 4 0	...	1,088	
Dhanejpoor		1 13 0	...	1 13 0	...	479	
Sirkhundi Bisa							
Sirkhundi Rajeh							
Ganowli							
Nag Emerta							
Narampoor							
Hurpoor							
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	1,567	
11. Nagurpoora	215	2 4 0	102	2 4 0	10		
		2 2 0	85	2 2 0	7		
		2 0 0	9	2 0 0	2		
TOTAL	...	...	196	...	19	215	

Name of Village.	Total of land settled according to jamabandi.	Prevailing Rates for Upermar. Rate.	Quantity.	Prevailing Rates for Tal or "Diara." Rate.	Quantity.	Grand Total.	Remarks.
		R a. p.	Bighas.	R a. p.	Bighas.		
12. Bharkura . .	188	3 2 0	152	...	...		
Total .	...	...	152	...	...	152	
13. Nag Inurta Khoord .	...	...	...	4 0 0	80		
		...	...	3 0 0	272		
Total .	...	...	...	...	352	352	
14. Kharataru . .	1,137	2 12 0	62	6 8 0	15		
		2 4 0	5	6 0 0			
		1 8 0	69	5 8 0	201		
		2 0 0	25	4 8 0	29		
		...	...	4 2 0	704		
		...	...	3 12 0	24		
Total .	...	...	161	...	973	1,134	
15. Dhobha . . .	377	...	...	8 0 0	2		
		...	...	7 12 0	91		
		...	...	7 8 0	146		
		...	...	6 12 0	12		
		...	..	4 0 0	58		
		...	...	3 12 0	34		
Total .	...	...	...	...	343	343	
16. Ganguli . . .	302	...	...	5 0 0	238		
		...	...	3 12 0	63		
Total .	...	...	...	...	301	301	
17. Chatanpoora . .	40	...	...	5 0 0	21		
		...	...	4 0 0	19		
Total .	...	...	...	...	40	40	
18. Lemua . . .	108	2 8 0	36	4 2 0	17		
		2 0 0	4	3 12 0	16		
		1 8 0	34	...	...		
Total .	...	...	74	...	33	107	
19. Nag Amarta Khoord .	125	...	...	3 9 0	125	125	

H. M. TOBIN.

No. 17 CWT, dated Camp Betoute, the 15th-17th January 1883.

From—B. Nolan, Esq., Officiating Collector of Shahabad,

To—H. M. Tobin, Esq., on Special Duty, Bhojpore.

I do myself the honour to offer some observations on the subject of your enquiry as to the preparation of tables of rent rates in the selected tract of Bhojpore pergunnah, as to which we have had much communications while in camp together.

2. I agree with you in considering that there is not in this area as a whole, or in any group of villages within it, any thing which can be called a "prevailing rate" of rent within the meaning of Act X of 1859. The rent rates have been fixed by villages, not by larger areas, apparently at different times, and without reference to any common standard. The inequalities originally existing have been increased by time, which has altered the circumstances, while the rent has, for the most part, remained the same in the important matter of moisture in particular, according to their power of retaining, and their position for receiving which in clean soils are often classified. There has been a complete change, the Ganges and Kao rivers having shifted their courses, and the canal embankments having altered the whole drainage of the country, and raised the level of the sub-soil water. Moreover, the industry of the ryots has created farm, buildings, wells, gardens, and orchards, with other improvements, raising in various

degrees the value of the land. Such connection as at first existed between the rent rate and the intrinsic value of the soil has thus been altogether destroyed. The sole standard of the existing assessment is the custom of the village.

3. Such being the case, I believe that there can be no justification for any attempt to enhance the existing rents to the standard of any prevailing rate other than that of the village. There *is* no prevailing rate for any larger area. It would of course be possible to take the average of existing rates, and to enhance the more favoured holdings up to that. This would create a new average rate, up to which, after a period, the lower rents could be again raised, and this process repeated until all the land was subjected to the highest rate now paid anywhere. But I can see nothing fair or equitable in such a process. It would be an encroachment on the rights of property, subjecting the ryots to liability to enhancement on grounds which are not now valid, and were not valid when they purchased or acquired their holdings. And few would consider the augmenting of the Rajah's income a sufficiently pressing object to justify such an interference with the vested interests of almost all the other inhabitants of this area.

4. On the other hand, it appears that occupancy ryots are liable to enhancement in proportion to the rise in prices since their rent rate was last fixed or ascertained. You have not completed your enquiry as to the extent of this increase in prices, or that as to the length of time during which existing rates have prevailed. But it would appear from the papers collected by you, as far as they have been examined, that the existing rates have not in most villages been changed for some 37 years. When this is the case, the landlord, under the rule of proportion, seems entitled to an enhancement in the rates of the rise in average prices during that period. Thus if the price of stable crops has risen 30 per cent., the fair and equitable rent would be, under the proposed as under the existing law, 30 per cent., above the existing rent.

5. This differs from the rate suggested in paragraph 20 of your letter No. 4, dated 1st January, to the address of the Board. You say that if prices have risen 30 per cent. and 10 per cent. has been added to the productive power of the soil by irrigation, making an aggregate increase of 40 per cent., then the enhancement of rent should be half that, or 20 per cent. I believe that the landlord is entitled, under the rule of proportion, to an enhancement on the ground of the increase of prices proportionate to that increase, and not merely to half of such proportion as assumed by you. Such is the present law, which is in this respect re-enacted in the Bill. The rule laid down in the Bill that the ryot shall receive half the benefit of such unearned increment is not thereby violated, as in fact he receives more. If he paid Rs. 10 for a holding 37 years ago, which then produced wheat valued at Rs. 100, and prices having since increased 30 per cent., he is now called on to pay Rs. 13, the crop fetching Rs. 130; he will retain Rs. 117* of the unearned increment, the landlord receiving only Rs. 3. As to the addition of 10 per cent. on account of canal irrigation, I think it should not be allowed. The rent of an occupancy ryot cannot be raised on account of any improvement effected at his expense, and irrigation is such an improvement, as he alone pays the water rates, which are levied to cover the cost of the canals. This is the rule approved by the Board of Revenue for the Government estates of Nasigunge in this district.

*Year.	Value of crops.	Rent.	Value of ryot's share of crops.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1850	100	10	90
	130	13	117

6. There are some villages in which, I believe, the rates have already been raised, in proportion to the increase in prices, or somewhat more. In these I would declare existing rates fair and equitable; for the others the existing rate, increased in proportion to the rise in the value of staple crops.

7. With regard to the definition of staple crops, the only difficulty in the selected area, where there is little sugarcane, regards the high lands near villages, on which potatoes, opium, and other valuable crops are grown. On other lands, rice, wheat, barley, and peas, with some other crops in particular villages, are clearly staples. The question is whether a special rate should be fixed for the land generally called *deh*, where the best crops are cultivated. I think that this should not be done, and that opium and potatoes should not be considered as staples. The land on which they grow is no better than other land, and the great outturn is simply the reward of great labours, including incessant irrigation from wells on opium lands, and the use of manure for potatoes. The ryot sinks the wells indispensable for opium, and keeps the cattle, &c., which yield the manure for potatoes, while the labour is all his. He is therefore entitled to the increase in the value of the land caused by its vicinity to the wells and cattle sheds.

8. In paragraph 19 of your letter referred to, I notice the observation that "probably owing to former mismanagement in the Raj, the rate of rent paid by occupancy ryots in the tract is very low." I am satisfied that the occupancy ryots sublet their lands at from twice to ten times the "guzashta rate." I have to observe that the term "*guzashta*," which literally means only *old*, is here used in all civil and revenue courts to denote a permanent and transferable tenure at a quit-rent, which can never be raised. It is no wonder that such a tenure can be sublet at a great profit.

9. The peculiarity of the selected tract is that it is cultivated by ryots, of whom a considerable proportion have these *guzashta* rights, while nearly all have occupancy rights, and that the same leniency of the landlord which permitted such privileges to grow up and continue has prevented him from generally enhancing rents on other lands. It is not, therefore,

a good example of the general condition of the district, and I objected to its selection for these enquiries, on the ground that it was not typical, and that there was no prevailing rate. But if in these respects it affords less information than could be wished, its condition is worthy of the attention of the framers of the Bill on other grounds. It is the object of some of the framers of the present Bill to secure for the ryots of Bengal as a body rights of occupancy at moderate rents, which, they contend, would insure surperior cultivation through the improvements to be expected from those who enjoy security of title, a certain prosperity in ordinary times, with the credit necessary to enable cultivators to tide over periods of famine without becoming a burden on the taxes, and which would also, it is urged, tend to give to the tenants the independence and manliness of character generally found among peasant proprietors. On the other hand, there are many who believe that low rents and security end in sloth, the sale of the land to speculators, and in the end to sub-letting at a rack rent. It would be most important to ascertain whether in the selected tract the conditions which it is proposed to create elsewhere have led to the results anticipated by the one school or the other.

10. I think that there can be no doubt to such a question. Sub-letting is not unknown in Bhojpore, and some of the cultivators are in debt; but these are exceptional cases. The general rule is that the ryots cultivate their own lands with their own small capital, and where they sell their holdings it is to others of their own class. Their industry is marked, and has resulted in the clearing of the jungle with which much of the land was covered 50 years ago, and the creation of a cultivated area as well planted with fruit-trees, as well irrigated from wells, and as well fenced as any I have seen in India. No one can encamp for a day in the tract without being struck with its exceptional prosperity, which contrasts strongly with the backward state of three parts of the district in which rents are high and occupancy rights unknown. The credit of the cultivators is so good that, as you informed me, they generally borrow at the rate of 12 per cent., that is, on as good terms as their landlord. There would, therefore, be no anxiety whatever as to their surviving without assistance a period of ordinary famine. As to their character, the objection I generally hear to it is that it is *too* manly and independent. The Bhojpore wrestlers have a name throughout the country, and every man carries the large Bhojpore *latti*, which he can use with great skill. They are equally ready to defend themselves in law courts with which the complication of rights inseparable from any system where the majority possess interest in land has rendered them familiar. I have always found them open, communicative, ready to deal or to serve, and their honesty is proved by the low rate of interest demanded from them; but they have another side of their character for any one who attempts to oppress them.

11. I think that these facts should be brought to the notice of Government as having a certain bearing on the general policy of the Bill. In the area to which your enquiries are confined, it would, I submit, appear that rights of occupancy at easy rents have been followed by comparative industry and prosperity, and with their usual effects in the moral character of those who enjoy them.

12. With regard to your remark that the low rents may be due to mismanagement, I may say that it has been the misfortune of the Indian ryots that so many have considered the raising of rents a proof of business ability. In this instance the ryots have not, as in most estates, been transferred from one purchaser at an auction sale to another, until they fell into the hands of some speculator in land who could enhance the old rents to excess. They remain under the Doomraon family, who have owned the land for centuries. That such a family, wealthy even with existing rents, should have allowed them to remain at a rate consistent with the happiness and prosperity of the dependents, I consider a proof of excellent management, and presume it was under such an impression that Government conferred titles on the late Maharajah and the present manager. I think the Rajah must be better off surrounded by contented and loyal peasantry than he would be if his family increased their income at the expense of alienating the feelings of their tenantry, as others have done. I do not say this as imputing an opposite view to you, but because I think it of real importance that in any public correspondence conduct which contributes to the happiness of the country should be recognised as such. The opinion of the older families as to whether they should respect their own good traditions in this respect, may be represented as wavering under the influence of the example of the new auction purchasers, and an impression that Government regarded their leniency as weakness and mismanagement would have a bad effect.

No. 61, Jaypur, Punchabibi, the 20th—22nd of January 1883.

From—D. J. Macpherson, Esq., c. s., Assistant Collector, on Special Duty,

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

I have the honour to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Board of Revenue, a report on the practicability of framing tables of uniform rates of rent in the Jaypur Government estates in the manner contemplated by Government. My remarks are based on such facts as I have ascertained up to the time of writing; but all the information I have been able to gather leads me to the conclusion that it is not at present practicable to frame for this tract of country tables of rates based upon recognised distinctions in the quality of soils.

These figures are very instructive. They show that nearly 10 per cent. of the holdings have been vacated during these three years, and that no less than 1,320 local bigahs, or 622 acres of land, which was cultivated three years ago, have gone out of cultivation. The excess 615 bigahs of new land taken up over and above the quantity of land which has gone out of cultivation has, however, prevented the total rental from being reduced in the interval by more than Rs. 48; but the results vary considerably in different villages and from year to year. Under such circumstances, it is pretty clear why the ryots are "masters of the situation," and can practically dictate their own terms.

Diversity of rates in the Jaypur Estates.

9. That rents have hitherto been determined in this part of the country by competition, may be gathered from the great diversity observable in the rates of rent for different villages which were ascertained by the Settlement Deputy Collector. As has been already explained in paragraph 4 of this report, there were really no rates of rent at all based on soil classification; but the Deputy Collector ascertained what were understood to represent rates of rent in each village in the Government estates and in the vicinity, although the full rates were seldom actually levied. These rates disclose far greater diversity between village and village than could possibly be due to difference in soil and situation, and can only be explained on the understanding that they have been determined solely by competition. I subjoin a list of the rates found by the Settlement Deputy Collector in the Government villages, and those adjacent to them in two tracts of country—one the northern, and the other the south-eastern portion of the mehals. I have selected these tracts because in them villages belonging to other proprietors are found adjacent to the Government villages. The south-eastern portion is the best populated and cultivated tract in the mehals, and pays the highest rates of rent. The villages belonging to Government are underlined in the two tables, and the rates for them are those fixed by the farmer in 1865, and were considered by the Deputy Collector to be fair and equitable, although he gives no information from which his reasons for coming to this conclusion can be gathered:—

TABLE I.

Northern portion of Mehals.

Names of Villages.	Bastu.	First Quality.	Second Quality.	Third Quality.	Fourth Quality.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Kalyanpur	2 0 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	...
Chak Prayag	0 15 7	0 15 7	0 15 7	0 15 7	0 15 7
Ramkristapur	2 0 0	1 12 0	1 4 0	0 14 0	0 10 0
Durgapur	2 4 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	...	...
Kariya	2 0 0	1 4 0	0 12 0	0 8 0	0 4 0
Alinagar	1 0 0	0 9 0	0 6 0	...	0 4 0
Baliyatoir, I	2 0 0	1 4 0	0 12 0	0 8 0	0 6 0
Baliyatoir, II	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
Rabunapur	2 0 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 6 0
Bara Dhawagir	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
Jaydubpore	2 0 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 8 0
Phutan	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
Asharya	4 0 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 8 0
Srimukh	2 0 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	...	...
Ramnagar	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	...
Darpoil	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
Anantapur	4 0 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 8 0
Damudarpur, I	...	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
Damudarpur, II	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	0 12 0
Kristapur	2 0 0	1 12 0	1 8 0	...	...

Names of Villages.	Bastu.	First Quality.	Second Quality.	Third Quality.	Fourth Quality.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Madakur	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	...
Chota Manika, I	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	0 12 0	...
Chota Manika, II	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 12 0
Damdama	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 12 0
Malancha	5 0 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 4 0
Kesubpur	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 8 0
Tigbahar	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 12 0
Taralpur	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	...	...
Dhawagir	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
Parail	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	0 12 0	0 8 0
Shamshabad	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 10 0

Table II.

South-eastern portion of Mehals.

Names of Villages.	Bastu.	First Quality.	Second Quality.	Third Quality.	Fourth Quality.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Gabarpur	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
Kaunpore	5 0 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0
Parbari	2 0 0	1 12 0	1 8 0	...	1 0 0
Chah Gobinda	5 0 0	4 0 0	2 8 0	2 0 0	...
Munail	...	1 10 0	1 4 0	0 10 0	...
Srirampur	...	1 12 0	1 6 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
Gandharbapur	3 0 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	...
Syampur	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
Chak Nisam	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 2 0	...
Shalbon	2 0 0	1 12 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	...
Ranahar	1 8 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	1 8 0	...
Nunuj	2 0 0	0 12 0	1 4 0	0 12 0	0 8 0
Kalachit	2 0 0	1 12 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 0 0
Chapadal	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	...	...
Matapur	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	0 12 0	0 8 0
Gangaprasad, I	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	0 12 0	...
Gangaprasad, II	3 0 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	...
Rukundipur	2 0 0	1 10 0	1 6 0	1 0 0	0 13 0
Jamalpur	4 0 0	2 0 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	0 12 0
Chak Jagutsing	2 0 0	1 12 0	1 4 0	0 12 0	0 8 0
Bazrug	1 7 0	1 7 0	1 7 0	1 7 0	1 7 0
Dadra	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0
Ainullah	5 0 0	3 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0
Chanda	2 4 0	2 0 0	1 10 0	1 8 0	1 4 0

The rates are the same for low land as for upland. In the case of some of the villages of private proprietors in the second tracts, the rates appear very high compared with those in the Government villages. These, however, the ryots pay willingly enough, as they have generally extended their holdings considerably beyond the quantity of land for which they pay rent: and if the rates pressed upon them in the least, I am informed that they would have no hesitation in relinquishing their holdings.

Calculation of what may be assumed to represent existing Rates of Rent.

10. The diversity disclosed by these rates is due to the varying demand for land in each village, and the comparative strength of the ryot's position. The effect of the last settlement in 1878, on the basis of terms dictated by the ryots, was to intensify this diversity. Although at that settlement rates were entirely swept away in Government villages, I have been able to calculate for each village on the basis of the farmers' rates fixed in 1865 and accepted by the Deputy Collector what we may assume to represent the rates now actually paid. The settlement records show the quantity and quality of cultivated land in each holding, and its gross rental as the rates accepted by the Deputy Collector. We may take for granted that the ratio between these rates was admitted by the ryots to be fair; and although they disputed the correctness of his classification of their lands, we may assume that what he gives as the quantity of the land of each quality in the village is a pretty near approximation to the truth—at any rate, it is as near an approximation as we can get. On these assumptions, I have been able to calculate for each village in the mehals what effect the difference between the gross rental ultimately agreed to by the ryots and that fixed by the Deputy Collector has made upon the rates accepted by him. This has been a laborious process, and my establishment has found great difficulty in obtaining the necessary *data* in the case of the 53 villages in estate Kishamat Saguna, as, besides holding a varying *izmali* share in each of these villages, the Government is full proprietor of numerous specific and ill-defined areas of land in them. But for these difficulties, I should have been able to submit this report on a much earlier date. In view, however, of the basis from which the present enquiries have to start, I deemed it necessary to make this attempt to get at existing rates of rent. I subjoin a table showing the *maxima* and *minima* rates of rent ascertained in this way, excluding, however, the abnormal case of the large village of Pahunanda, in which there is so much waste land that the cultivated area pays a uniform rate of only 1 anna 1 pie per standard bigha:—

Description of Land.	Rates per local bigah.		Rates per standard bigha.		Rates per acre.	
	Minima.	Maxima.	Minima	Maxima.	Minima.	Maxima.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Bastu	0 11 0	2 11 8	0 7 1⅛	2 1 7	1 7 1	6 5 7
First quality	0 5 1⅓	2 6 2⅔	0 3 0	1 13 4	0 10 9⅓	5 8 9
Second ditto	0 4 0	2 0 9	0 2 5⅓	1 9 2	0 8 5	4 12 1
Third ditto	0 3 2⅔	1 13 0	0 2 2½	1 4 3	0 6 9⅓	3 13 3½
Fourth ditto	0 2 1¾	1 8 2	0 1 5⅔	1 0 11	5 4 5⅓	3 2 7½

The highest rates are found in the village of Srirampur and Chanda, in the south-eastern and best populated portion of the mehals, the uncultivated culturable land in the former amounting to only 4·3 per cent. of the area, and the latter to only 3·7 per cent. That even these, the maxima rates, do not press upon the cultivators, is shown by the circumstance that the gross rental which they voluntarily agreed to pay is in Srirampur 36 per cent. and in Chanda 19 per cent. above what the Deputy Collector fixed it at. The average rates fixed by him for the Government villages enumerated in the second table given in last paragraph are only Rs. 2-0-7, Re. 1-10-7, Re. 1-5-7, Re. 1-0-0, and Re. 0-12-7 per local bigah for the different qualities of soil; and the rents *ultimately* agreed to for the same villages give an average of only Re. 1-12-1, Re. 1-9-1, Re. 1-4-5, Re. 0-15-7, and Re. 0-11-1 per local bigah. These latter rates may be taken, therefore, as the prevailing rates in the most highly assessed portion of the mehals; they are equivalent to Re. 1-5-7¾, Re. 1-3-3¾, Re. 0-15-8¾ Re. 0-12-0, and Re. 0-8-6¾ per standard bigah respectively, or Rs. 4-1-4, Rs. 3-10-7, Rs. 2-15-7, Rs. 2-4-4, and Re. 1-9-11 per acre. Taking in a similar manner 21 Government villages in the north central portion of the mehals, in which the rates appear on the whole to be the lowest, I find that the average rates ultimately agreed to were:—

	Per local bigah.	Per standard bigah.	Per acre.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Bastu	1 4 10	0 12 3	2 5 1
First quality	0 13 3	0 8 2	1 8 8¼
Second ditto	0 10 8	0 6 6½	1 3 9
Third ditto	0 8 10	0 5 5	1 0 4¼
Fourth ditto	0 6 3	0 3 10	0 11 7

The mean of these two averages for the areas of highest and lowest assessment gives the fairest average for the whole mehals, although the rates for the two lowest qualities strike me as being rather higher than the real average. An arithmetical mean between the maxima and minima rates would be entirely misleading, as the great majority have rates tending rather towards the minima than towards the maxima. The mean rates for the whole estates are thus found to be :—

Description of Land.	Rates per local bigah.	Rates per standard bigah.	Rates per acre.
	Rs. A P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Bastu	1 8 5½	1 0 11½	3 3 2½
First quality	1 3 2	0 13 9	2 9 7¾
Second ditto	0 15 6½	0 11 1½	2 1 8
Third ditto	0 12 2½	0 8 8½	1 10 4¼
Fourth ditto	0 8 8	0 6 2½	1 2 9

This gives an average rate per local bigah of one rupee, which is just about the result which the total rental of the estates gives after deducting *lakhiraj* and *istimurare jotes*.

Average value of the gross produce.

11. I now proceed to calculate what proportion these rates bear to the gross value of the produce. As has been already remarked, rice is the preponderating crop in these estates, *aman dhan* being grown on 45 and *aus dhan* on 14 per cent. of the cultivated area, and as no distinction appears to be made in this part of the country between upland and lowland for the purposes of assessment, we may fairly refer rates of rent, such as they are, to the productive capability of rice land alone. Unfortunately, owing to a failure of the rice crop this year in the western portion of the Bogra district, I have been unable to test, by experimental enquiries, the average outturn of rice on each quality of soil. It is estimated that, owing to want of rain, *aman dhan* has this year been grown only on about 25 per cent. of the area usually grown with that crop; and where it has been possible to produce a crop, the outturn must be very much less than it would be in ordinary years on the same land, except on lands where the crop is usually destroyed by inundation. How much less it probably is, it is extremely difficult to estimate; there is no criterion by which we can arrive at a conclusion, and it will be less in some villages than in others. On the other hand, where there is what has been described in paragraph 3, as the lower sort of rice land on which the crop is usually destroyed by inundations, the outturn has been better than on the very best land, and that too in inverse proportion to the quality of the soil. In most of the villages in the mehals there is some land of this kind, and in the southern portion there is hardly a village in which rice has this year been grown except on this lower sort of land. In all but one or two villages in the whole estates it was impossible to find a crop on more than two qualities of soil, and in two out of the four villages where I found rice on three qualities, I had for the purposes of experiment to cut two out of three specimens of the third quality out of one and the same plot. The result of the few experiments I was able to make was that in villages with *khiyar* (clayey) soil, the outturn of clean rice averaged 4 maunds 11 seers and 12 chittacks, and on *pali* (alluvia) soils of the higher sort 9 maunds and 35 seers per acre. These results show a very poor harvest, even although the experiments were made in villages with the best crop, for the best information I can obtain leads me to conclude that the average outturn of clean rice in ordinarily good years is at least 15 maunds. Judging as best as I can, I should say that the outturn this year on lower third quality land is somewhat less than that on first quality land in an ordinarily good year; that on lower second quality land somewhere between this and on higher second quality land; and that on first quality and higher second quality land about half and three-eighths of an ordinarily good outturn. But there is no certainty about this, and the estimate would not be the same for all villages. The year is an exceptional one, and the general impression seems to be that it is not much better than the famine year 1874. Even if the Rent Bill were already law, I do not think it would be possible to frame rates of rent in a year like this, or at any rate to test what proportion existing rents in each village bore to the average value of the gross produce. After having been over all the *dhan* villages in the mehals, I have been obliged to give up the attempt to ascertain, by actual experiment, the outturn of rice on the various qualities of soil, and to obtain some idea of the average produce. I have been compelled to rely on what information I have been able to gather from the most intelligent residents on the Government estates and in the neighbourhood. It is, however, very difficult to get reliable information on these points hereabouts, as almost all the *aman dhan* is usually required for local consumption, and few people have any occasion therefore to be acquainted with the bigah produce of their fields. Taking the estimate, however, in which

most of those who were able to give me any agreed, I find the average produce of *aman dhan* in ordinarily good years to be :—

Quality of land.	Outturn of Paddy.			Outturn of Clean Rice.		
	Per local bigah.	Per standard bigah.	Per acre.	Per local bigah.	Per standard bigah.	Per acre.
	Mds. S. C.	Mds. S. C.	Mds. S. C.	Mds. S. C.	Mds. S. C.	Mds. S. C.
First quality	15 0 0	10 19 6	31 28 10	10 20 0	7 13 9	22 8 2
Second ditto	11 10 0	7 34 8⅓	23 31 9	7 35 0	5 20 3	16 26 2
Third ditto	7 20 0	5 9 11	15 34 6	5 10 0	3 26 12	11 4 1
Fourth ditto	6 0 0	4 7 12	12 27 8	4 8 0	2 37 7	8 35 4
Average	9 37 6	6 37 13	21 0 8	6 38 4	4 34 8	14 28 6¼

The average outturn of 14¾ maunds of clean rice per acre is probably somewhat under the mark, as in ordinarily good years more rice land of the first and second qualities taken together is cultivated than of the third and fourth. I have taken the outturn of clean rice as $\frac{7}{10}$ths that of paddy, as this appears to be the proportion established for *amun dhan* by the experiments reported in the *Statistical Reporter*, volume I, page 290. The general result is about the same as that taken by Mr. MacDonnell as a fair average outturn from an acre of single-crop rice land in an ordinarily good year in the adjoining district of Rungpore, namely, 15 maunds (*vide* "Report on the food-grain supply of Bengal and Behar," page 233). This we may take as the average outturn. I find that the price of rice varies considerably at the different local hâts. The average price for the last five years during the months in which the ryots ordinarily sell their rice is Re. 1-9 per standard maund, and this, I understand, is a fair average general price. For three years following the famine the price was unusually high; but last year and the year before the price was very low, only Re. 1-1-6 and Re. 0-15-3 per maund respectively. Notwithstanding the facilities for export afforded by the railway, prices have declined during the last five years. That they have not been increasing is not wonderful, considering how little of the *aman dhan* grown in these mehals is available for export. Taking the daily consumption at ⅔ths of a seer per head of the population as a rather liberal allowance, I estimate the quantity of rice required for local consumption at 1,34,700 maunds per annum. The area in *aman dhan* is about 9,400 acres, so that the annual outturn will be about 1,41,000 maunds, of which about 9,400 would be required for seed and will not have been husked. What is required for seed and for local consumption would absorb the outturn of *aman dhan*, but a portion of the local consumption of rice is supplied by *aus dhan*, and no doubt some *aman dhan* is exported.

Percentage which the supposed existing rates of rent bear to the value of the gross produce.

12. On the whole, we may take Rs. 1-9 as fair average price of rice, and at this price the following table shows what precentage of the gross value of the produce are :—(1) the maxima rates discoverable anywhere in the mehals; (2) the average rates in the tract most highly assessed; (3) the average rates in the tract where the assessment is lightest, and (4) the maxima rates. These rates have already been given in paragraph 10 :—

Description of Land.	Average outturn of clean rice per local beegah.	Value of produce.	Percentage of gross value of produce of—			
			Maxima rates.	Average higher rates.	Average lower rates.	Minima rates.
	Md. s. c.	Rs. a. p.				
First quality	10 20 0	16 6 6	14 5	10 3	5 1	1 9
Second ,,	7 35 0	12 5 0	16 6	10 9	5 4	2 0
Third ,,	5 10 0	8 3 3	22 1	12 2	6 5	2 3
Fourth ,,	4 8 0	6 9 0	23 0	12 0	5 9	2 0
Average	6 38 4	10 14 0	19 0	11 3	5 7	2 0

At the unusually low price of 15 annas 3 pies per maund, the percentage of rates to the gross value of the produce was for the various qualities of soil in the area of highest assessment 15·7, 17, 19·4 and 17·3 and in that of lowest assessment 8·3, 8·9, 11, and 9·7. The rates, therefore, are moderate, and it must be borne in mind that virtually it is the ryots themselves who fixed them.

Material condition of the peasantry.

13. As might be expected, the ryots in this part of the Bogra district, and particularly in the Government estates, are substantially well off. They appear to be a contented lot, and

they can afford to be very independent. A comparison of the average income and expenditure of an ordinary cultivator will furnish another test of the moderateness of the assessment for this purpose. I shall take the usual case of a family consisting of the cultivator, his wife and three children, the latter all under the age at which they would be able to assist their father in the labour of the fields, and so enable him to extend his cultivation in proportion to the subsistance required for his family. On a very liberal estimate the daily consumption of rice of such a family would be—

	Seers.
For the two adults	1¾
For the three children	1¾
Extra	½
TOTAL	4

The annual consumption of rice would therefere be 36½ maunds. The cultivator would be able, unassisted, to till 11 local beeghas of land, on which he would probably grow *aman* and of 1½ *annas dhan* The outturn in clean rice would be about 35 maunds of *aman* and 10 of *aus*. About three maunds would be set aside for seed and for provision for wastage, so that there would be surplus of about 5½ maunds after providing for subsistence, and it must be remembered that a liberal allowance has been made for that on one beegha of his holding the cultivator would grow *kesari* and *masuri*, but only sufficient for his own consumption. Half a beegha he would devote to the cultivation of chillis, potatoes, &c., with the sale-proceeds of which, after providing what he needs for his own consumption, he would be able to pay for all the salt, oil, fish, and other articles of food he might require. The whole of the produce of the rest of his land he can therefore afford to sell. This will usually be two beeghas of mustard (sharisha), half a beegha of jute, and half a beegha of sugarcane. The net value of the produce of these crops, after deducting all expenses for their cultivation and bringing them to market, would be—

	R	*a.*	*p.*
Mustard	10	0	0
Jute	6	0	0
Gur	12	8	0
TOTAL .	28	8	0

Adding to this Rs. 7-10 as the value of the 5½ maunds of rice he has over for sale, he will have over Rs. 36 with which to meet all his other expenses. His rent at the average rate in these mehals will be Rs. 11 and his chowkidari tax Rs. 1. He own and his wife's clothing may cost him Rs. 6 and his children's Rs. 2. All his other neeessary expenses, such as the cost of purchasing agricultural implements and domestic utensils, and of getting his house repaired, will not amount to more than Rs. 6. Most ryots have two or three cows, from which they breed their own plough-cattle. There is no expense involved in maintaining any number of cattle the ryot may care to keep; good pasturage is abundant, and the *dhan* stubble is also used as food. What labour is required, except for the preparation of *gur* (and this has been already taken into account), has not to be paid for, as the villagers help each other in turns. At the outside, therefore, the cultivator's annual expenses cannot exceed Rs. 26, and to meet this he has an income of at least Rs. 36, leaving him with a surplus of Rs. 10. The estimate of expenditure is purposely a liberal one, and as most ryots have some one in their family who can keep them to cultivate a considerably larger holding than that which I have assumed, we may conclude that a ryot is generally a good deal better off than this estimate would make him out to be.

Impracticability of applying Rates of Rent in the present condition of the Country.

14. In every view of the circumstances, therefore, it seems to me that competition cannot yet have forced up rents in the Jaypur estates to the point at which it would be possible to apply the principles of the Rent Bill in order to secure their being fair to the ryots. To revise them in favour of the landlord, so as to make them fair and equitable to both parties, may be abstractly possible in accordance with the principles of the Rent Bill, but the application of the rates in practice would be difficult, and any adjustment which it may have been possible to effect between rent rates and soil classification would soon be disturbed by the interest zemindars would have in endeavouring to meet their ryots half way. Uniformity in rates would soon disappear according to the quantity of uncultivated land available, and the strength of the ryots' position. Even if the present settlement were about to expire, I do not think that since rents were last fixed in 1878, there has been any increase in the productive powers of the soil or in the value of its produce which would justify any general enhancement of rates. As to the first ground of enhancement specified in section 22 of the Bill, I can only remark that no such thing as a prevailing rate is discoverable, and the second ground of enhancement does not properly affect *rates* at all.

Further enquiries.

15. The remarks which I have made apply to the whole area of the Jaypur Government estates. I have been directed, however, in the Board's letter No. 47A, dated the

11th instant, to limit my enquiry, so far as these estates are concerned, to the northern portion, and with the permission of the proprietors to extend my enquiries to a number of villages belonging to some neighbouring estates in this part of the district. So far as I am aware, these other villages are in precisely the same condition as the Jaypur estates, and in view of the remarks I have made, the Board may perhaps think it unnecessary for me to analyse their jamabandis in the somewhat elaborate manner in which I have had those of the khas mehals analysed. What are called the rates may perhaps be easily enough ascertained. Those for contiguous villages are contained in the proceedings of the Settlement Deputy Collector, and I have already remarked that, where these rates may appear somewhat high in comparison with our rates, the ryots are willing enough to pay them, because, by consenting to do so, they are probably able to extend their cultivation as they please without being subjected to frequent re-measurements The Board may perhaps be disposed to deem it unnecessary for me to subject the jamabandis to more than a somewhat cursory examination, unless I may happen to discover a state of things substantially different from that prevailing in the Government estates. Should the Board be of opinion that I might profitably proceed to ascertain by experiments on the different crops as they become ripe for gathering, what is the average outturn on the various classes of soil in each village, I should be obliged by being favoured with instructions for prosecuting such enquiries. Without instructions for my guidance, of a more or less precise nature, I must be apt to be myself in that "maze of isolated facts" which the Government of Bengal anticipates as the probable results of desultory enquiries conducted in the absence of some such definite basis as existing rates of rent to serve as evidence of soil classification. The instructions issued for the conduct of settlement operations in the North-West Provinces, which I have not seen, might perhaps be useful to me in such enquiries. I presume, however, that the only object which would be furthered by making these investigations would be to discover what practical difficulties might be in the way of ascertaining how far uniform rates of rent might be framed for a considerable area *in the absence of existing rates based on soil classification.* Such enquiries would possess only an experimental character, even if they were to lead to the framing of uniform rates of rent. The time has not, in any opinion, come at which it would be practicable to apply these rates in this undeveloped tract of country. With reference to Baboo Parbutty Charan Roy's scheme for determining rent rates, I may here observe that I do not think it could be practicably applied in this part of the country. Its character is too diversified to enable us to predicate any such uniformity in the quality of the soil of a particular area, as appears to be indispensable to the successful application of his system.

Summary.

16. I may close this report, which has extended to a greater length than I had hoped it would, by summing up the results of my enquiries so far as they have already gone.

I.

There is in the Jaypur Government estates and in the neighbourhood, recognised classification of the soil into two main classes—upland and lowland; and each of these is sub-divided into at most four qualities; but neither for assessment nor for any other purposes is any distinction drawn between the natural productive capabilities of the two main classes. This classification is not, however, understood by the mass of the peasantry, who speak of their lands simply as good, bad, and indifferent, and that too without distinguishing between their natural fertility and the increase in their productive powers conferred upon them through their own agency. Similarity of nomenclature does not import identity of quality in the soil of different villages, as the best land in each village after homestead land, whatever its real capabilities, is designated "first class," and the other qualities are referred to as a standard.

II.

In 1865 Mr. Payter, who farmed the Jaypur Government estates, drew up rates of rent for the different classes of soil in the holdings of such ryots as were already settled down in each village. These rates differed from village to village, not according to any real difference in the quality of the soil, but according to the abundance of waste land available for cultivation, and the strength of the position the ryots were able to take up. The custom, moreover, prevailed then and still prevails hereabouts, by which ryots relinquish their holdings generally every fourth or fifth year in the expectation, almost invariably realized, of being able to secure better terms elsewhere, and such lands could seldom be re-let at the old terms, and often went out of cultivation altogather. Besides this disturbing influence, a great quantity of new land has been taken into cultivation since that date, and let out at no rates whatever beyond an arithmetical average, which ignored the qualities each separate lot might comprise. Any connection, therefore, which may have once subsisted between rent-rates and soil classification has long ago disappeared in these mehals, and the same may probably be said of all surrounding estates. Any readjustments, moreover, of the rates to the classes of soil would, in the present undeveloped state of these estates, be again similarly overridden by the operation of what is really the principle of competition, as the law does not profess to interfere with any contract arrangements which may be prompted by a zamindar's desire to promote his own interests by accepting terms practically dictated by, and therefore necessarily fair to, his ryots.

III.

At the settlement of 1878, when the Government brought the Jaypur estates under direct management, rates of rent themselves vanished, and each ryot virtually dictated his own terms, and settled for a lump sum for his whole holding, which was not to be subject to revision for 15 years. On this basis, and this alone, the existing settlement was concluded.

IV.

Owing to the abundance of new land available for cultivation, and to there being competition rather on the part of zamindars for ryots than on that of ryots for land, the latter are still masters of the situation, and can for some time yet secure favourable terms from the proprietors of land. Under such circumstances, any attempt which might be made at present to stereotype rates of rent based on soil classification would probably fail. Rents may therefore be left in the meantime to be governed by the principle of competition, and when the proper time comes, there will not be wanting indications by which the executive officers of Government can ascertain whether it would be both desirable and practicable to bring them within the enhancement clauses of the Rent Law in the interest alike of the zamindar and of the ryot.

V.

Even if it were at present desirable in these and other estates in the western portion of the Bogra district to frame rates of rent based on soil classification which would be fair alike to the zamindar and to the ryot, the only satisfactory means of doing so, in the absence of existing rates, would be actual investigation and experiment on the fields themselves—a method precluded by the summary nature of the enquiry contemplated by Government.

Extract from a letter from BABOO PARBATI CHURN ROY, *on special duty, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, No. 86, dated the 24th January 1883.*

PARA 6.—The following tables, A and B, show the results of the experiments made at husking. In table A is given the result of the experiments made for obtaining the atap rice, and in table B that for obtaining the ushna from the paddy. Two experiments were made for obtaining the atap rice, and four for obtaining the ushna. All the experiments were made in my presence, and in a most careful manner. The husking was done before my very door, and the weighing and measuring were done invariably in my presence. The atap rice is obtained by husking the paddy simply dried in the sun, while the ushna is obtained from paddy that is first steeped in water and heated over a fireplace. It is then dried in the sun before being husked.

The atap is not the rice in ordinary use among the people. As a rule it is used only by the widows of the higher castes. It is considered to be much purer than the ushna, and is hence also used in the worship of the Hindu gods and goddesses. The cleansing of the paddy to obtain this sort of rice takes up more time than that to obtain the ushna. The proportion of atap rice obtained per maund is 27 seers 9 chittacks, which is about a seer less than that obtained, 28 seers 6 chittacks, of the ushna.

It will be seen that, while the quantity of husks or chaff obtained in either way is nearly the same, the quantity of fine dusts from the inner coating is greater in the case of atap than in that of ushna. The reason of it is that in undergoing the process of cleansing, the atap rice is beaten more than the ushna, and hence it gives out more dust from its inner coating than the ushna. These fine dusts, called *koorah*, are eaten by the cattle with relish.

Equal *weights* of atap and ushna are to one another in *bulk* as 39 is to 40.

A comparison of the results of the experiments made by me with those recorded at page 290 of the Statistical Reporter, show that, on the whole, the results of both the experiments are the same. The small difference of about ¼ seer between the average of the two sets of experiments might be owing to the different sorts of rice experimented upon. The experiments made by me have been with the ordinary rice, which is rather coarse, while those made by Mr. Larymore seem to have been generally with the finer species. Mr. Larymore also does not state whether he obtained the atap or the ushna rice: very probably he obtained only the latter.

In bulk, it will be observed, the atap rice bears to the paddy a larger ratio than the ushna does. This is what was expected in consequence of the paddy being steeped in water and heated in making the ushna rice, which has the effect of increasing the bulk of the husk much more than that of the rice.

TABLE A.

Showing the result of two experiments made for obtaining Atap Rice, i.e., *rice obtained by husking paddy simply dried in the sun.*

Number of experiments.	Quantity of paddy.	Quantity of rice obtained.		Quantity of chaff.		Quantity of rice dust obtained.		Wastage.		Ratio of rice to paddy by weight.	Ratio of rice to paddy by bulk.
	Maunds.	Srs.	Chs.	Srs.	Chs.	Srs.	Chs.	Srs.	Chs.		
1	1	27	14	9	9	2	7	0	11	·69	·54
2	1	27	4	9	9	2	8	0	11	·68	·53
Average per maund .		27	9	9	4½	2	7½	0	11	·68	·54

TABLE B.

Showing the result of experiments made for obtaining Ushna Rice, i.e., *rice obtained first heating paddy steeped in water, and then drying it in the sun previous to husking.*

Number of experiments.	Quantity of paddy.	Quantity of rice obtained.		Quantity of chaff.		Quantity of rice dust obtained.		Wastage.		Ratio of rice to paddy by weight.	Ratio of rice to paddy by bulk.	REMARKS.
	Mds.	Srs.	Chs.	Srs.	Chs.	Srs.	Chs.	Srs.	Chs.			
1	1	28	1	9	12	1	9	0	10	·70	·49	The ratio of rice to paddy in bulk given in the last column, is obtained from paddy given to be husked after being steeped and dried. The ratio of rice to paddy before the latter is steeped is ·57
2	1	28	9	9	9	1	2	0	12	·71	·48	
3	1	28	6	9	13	1	0	0	13	·71	·48	
4	1	28	9	9	9	1	8	0	11	·71	·48	
Average per maund .		28	6	9	11	1	4	0	11	·71	·48	

PARA. 7.—I have called for jummabundis and other papers from the zamindars of the estates included in the selected area. As yet no papers have been filed. It is said that most of the zamindars in this part of the country have no jummabundis, and that all that they have is the jummawasil of the kind filed by the Nabab regarding Gopinathpore. But I cannot pass any opinion on the nature of the papers they possess until I see them. The zamindars are not likely to produce papers easily, as they fear lest the fact of their not being in possession of jummabundis might go against them in future.

No. 1827-648 L. R., dated 13th July 1883.

From—C. W. BOLTON, Esq., Under-Secretary to Government, Bengal,

To—Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

I AM directed to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying copies of the reports received up to date from some of the Judicial and Revenue officers in Bengal, containing expressions of their views on the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, and to state that a general report on the subject by this Government will follow in due course.

* 1. From the Commissioner of Bhagalpur, No. 1097R., dated the 20th June 1883, with enclosures.
2. From the Officiating Registrar of the High Court, Calcutta, No. 1835, dated the 27th idem, with enclosures.

No. 1097R, dated Bhagulpore, the 20th June 1883.

From—G. N. BARLOW, Esq., C.S.I., Commr. of the Bhagulpore Divn. and Sonthal Pergunnahs.

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

IN reply to your No. 351A, dated 29th March last, I have the honour to submit the report called for upon the Bengal Tenancy Bill. It is in the shape of minutes of the proceedings or a meeting of the Collectors of the Regulation Districts of this Division and myself, togethef with separate notes by the Collectors of Bhagulpore and Maldah.

Minutes of the Preceedings of a Meeting held at Bhagulpore on 11th "and 12th" June 1883, to consider the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883.

PRESENT:

G. N. BARLOW, Esq., C.S.I., *Commissioner of Bhagulpore, President.*
W. H. D'OYLY, Esq., *Collector of Bhagulpore.*
C. F. WORSLEY, Esq., *Collector of Monghyr.*
A. WEEKES, Esq., *Collector of Purneah.*
R. PORCH, Esq., *Collector of Maldah.*

CHAPTER I.

The definitions and rules contained in this chapter were carefully considered, and it was unanimously agreed that no alteration in them was required.

CHAPTER II.

Section 5.—It appeared that the effect of this section, as it stands at present, would be to convert into "khamar" all waste lands which, for twelve continuous years before the commencement of this Act, "might have been held by the proprietor in his own possession, and that such a result would be in direct opposition to the general principles and intention of the Bill. It was therefore unanimously agreed to recommend the substitution of the word 'cultivated' for the word 'held' in clause 1, and the addition of the words 'whether with his own stock, or by his servants, or by hired labour.'" The meeting was fully aware that the effect of this amendment, if adopted, would be to make all waste lands "ryoti," but was of

opinion that this was preferable to the former course. It was also unanimously agreed that, as the word "zeraut" is unknown in certain parts of the Bhagulpore Division, which are included in Behar, and as "kamut" is used in such parts in the same sense that "zeraut" bears elsewhere, the words "or kamut" ought to be inserted in clause 2 (*a*) and (*b*) after the word "zeraut."

Section 8.—It was observed that the Bill makes no provision for meeting the expenses of making surveys, unless power for that purpose is conferred on the local Government by authorising it to prescribe rules "for the conduct of such surveys." It was thought that, if the Government did not intend to defray these expenses, it should be made perfectly clear that the expression "conduct of such surveys" includes the "apportionment and recovery of expenses."

CHAPTER III.

Section 18.—Objection was taken to clause (1) (*a*) of this section on the grounds that recognition "of the special custom of the district" would promote litigation and false swearing by tempting zemindars to make innovations, and to describe them as existing special customs, and that crafty zemindars would persuade ignorant tenure-holders to accept reductions of rent in years of scarcity, and would thus destroy the character of their tenures. It was unanimously agreed to recommend the elision of clause (*b*), and the amendment of clause (1) (*a*) by inserting after the words "except on proof" the words "of liability to enhancement by the conditions under which the tenure is held." It was noted that in the event of this proposed amendment being adopted, it would be necessary to substitute the words "shall not be deemed a change of rent" for the last words of clause (2).

Section 32.—It was not understood on what principle a tenure-holder, who had failed for more than six months to make application for registration of a voluntary transfer of, or succession to, a permanent tenure, was required to pay "a fee of 20 per centum upon the annual rent of the tenure," &c., under section 27, clause (2), (*b*), while the zemindar who had refused, on insufficient grounds, to comply with an application, made as required by clause (1), could only be compelled by the civil court to grant registration. Having regard to the annoyances and expenses entailed by litigation, and to the requirements of ordinary justice, the meeting was of opinion that the following addition ought to be made to clause (3) :—"In such case the court shall award costs to the transferee and special damages, at the rate of 20 per centum upon the annual rent of the tenure, provided that such damages shall not be less than ten rupees, or more than one thousand rupees."

CHAPTER V.

Section 47.—It was thought that, reading section 3 (6), and section 4 (*g*), illustration with sections 45 (1) and 47, it was not the intention of the Bill that an under-tenant should ordinarily be able to acquire a right of occupancy, but that if any doubt could possibly be entertained on this point from the wording of the two sections last mentioned, it ought to be removed.

Section 51.—In view of the notorious delays which occur in the serving of notices, it was unanimously agreed that for the words "he files the notice" at the end of clause (1), the words "the notice hereinafter mentioned is served on the zemindar" ought to be substituted, and that for the same reason the word "filed" should be replaced by the word "served" in clause (3). With reference to clause (4) it was unanimously agreed that "sales" made in contravention of the conditions prescribed in the preceding clauses ought to be pronounced null and void as having been made in violation of the law, and that it is unfair to make the landlord's right of interference contingent on his obtaining information of an illegal sale within six months from the date thereof.

Section 53.—To prevent fraudulent and collusive mortgages, it was unanimously agreed that after the words "redeem the mortgage" in clause (2), the following words ought to be added :—"or if such amount be considered by the civil court, on an application made by the landlord, to be in excess of the value of the holding, such sum as, in the opinion of the court, may be the fair value af the holding."

Section 54.—For the reasons previously given under section 51, it was unanimously agreed that the word "served" ought to be substituted for the word "filed" in clause (3), and that a gift made in contravention of clauses (1), (2), and (3) should be declared null and void in clause (4).

Section 56.—It was observed by the meeting that although at different times, and by different objectors, it had been urged that if an occupancy right were made transferable by law, zemindars or planters, or the mahajans, would buy up occupancy rights on a great scale; yet, on zemindars alone had been imposed the condition contained in this section. It appeared to the meeting that there was no sufficient reason for making such a distinction in any case where the landlord had executed and registered an instrument under clause (1) (*b*) of section 141, and the fact that, in the event of his estate being sold for arrears of revenue under Act XI, 1859, such a zemindar would (but for this section) at once become an ordinary occupancy ryot, with respect to those holdings which he had previously purchased, seemed a conclusive argument against the proposed restriction. Accordingly, section 56 was unanimously condemned by the meeting.

CHAPTER VI.

Part B.—It was agreed (Mr. Porch alone dissenting) that this part ought to be entirely omitted. The reasons on which the majority of the meeting came to this opinion were as follow :—

(1) The difficulty or impossibility of ascertaining rates in the way proposed.

(2) The necessity that would still exist, even if a table of rates were prepared and sanctioned for any area, of holding a local enquiry in each case for enhancement of rent in order to identify the class under which each field in the holding would fall.

(3) The want of proper establishments and experienced or scientific officers to classify the lands.

(4) The cost of making a local enquiry in each case.

The majority were further of opinion that a zemindar who does his duty by his land and ryots should have little difficulty in ascertaining approximately the average gross produce of every holding in his estate.

Section 78.—The meeting while heartily approving of this section, unanimously agreed that it does not go quite far enough, and that a landlord who has failed in a suit to obtain a decree for enhancement of rent, ought not to be allowed to bring another enhancement suit against the same holding for a period of five years. The meeting feared that there is nothing in the law to prevent a rich and powerful zemindar from bringing a vexatious suit in each year of a decade against a poor ryot, to whom it is only less costly and grievous to win a civil suit than it is to lose one.

CHAPTER VII.

Section 93.—There appearing to be some doubt whether clause (2), (*a*) is sufficiently explicit, it was unanimously agreed that, after the word "improvements," the words "made by such ryot in accordance with the Act" ought to be added.

It was further agreed (Mr. Worsley alone dissenting) that clause (*b*) ought to be struck out as being unfair upon the landlord.

CHAPTER IX.

Section 96.—It was unanimously agreed that an occupancy ryot ought not to be compelled to take up land added to the area of his holding, and that he should only be liable to pay additional rent for such land if he wishes to use it.

Section 100.—Reading this section with sections 189 and 229, meeting felt some doubt whether the acts here required to be done by the landlord may be performed on his behalf by a naib or gomastah, and considering the serious penalty that may be incurred by a landlord under clause (4), it was unanimously of opinion that while it would be hard on the zemindar to require him personally to grant receipts for rent, it would be unsafe to leave this duty, as it now is often left, in the hands of the putwaree. It was therefore unanimously agreed that the words "or legally constituted agent" ought to be added after the word "landlord." These remarks apply *mutatis mutandis* to sections 101 and 102, the zemindar being still held liable for his agent's omissions or irregularities.

Section 106.—It was unanimously agreed that any application for payment of a deposit ought to be exempted from stamp duty.

Section 114.—The meeting failed to see why a division of produce should be liable to be questioned in the civil court any more than an estimate or appraisement of a crop, the Collector's orders in the latter case being expressly declared final by section 115, clause (2), and was further of opinion that unless the proceedings of the revenue authorities are in every respect made final, it will be inexpedient to confer on them any jurisdiction at all.

CHAPTER X.

Sections 127 (2) and 128 (2).—Having regard to the state of relations generally between landlords and tenants in Behar, and to the possibility of works being undertaken without sufficient grounds, or for the purpose of causing annoyance, it was unanimously agreed that in the event of a difference of opinion arising between a landlord and tenant as to the utility of a proposed work (section 126), some provision is required for a summary determination of the question by the civil court or revenue authorities.

Section 138.—It was unanimously agreed that clauses (2) and (3) out to be struck out, and that in clause (1) the Collector's decision ought to be declared final.

CHAPTER XII.

Section 164.—It was observed that in cases other than those mentioned in clause (2) (*a*), no provision had been made for payment of expenses incurred under this Chapter. In the opinion of the meeting a section similar to section 163 was required.

CHAPTER XIII.

It was unanimously agreed that in view of the expense of initiating distraint, and of the difficulties of efficiently carrying out distraints in its new form, it is desirable to abolish the process altogether. It was believed that if the provisions do not become a dead letter by reason of the heavy initial expense of the distraint proceedings, the civil courts will be unable

to deal with numerous applications, and that, whether applications be many or few, the officers, *i.e.*, common peons, deputed by the court to make distraint, cannot be trusted to act honestly.

CHAPTER XIV.

It was unanimously agreed that in suits for arrears of rent, which involve no questions of right or title, and in which the only point for determination is the payment or non-payment of the rent, the procedure of the civil court in regard to the recording of evidence, &c., ought to be made as summary as is the procedure of Magistrates in summary criminal trials.

The meeting having no further proposals to make, was dissolved on the evening of 12th instant.

1. (Sd.) G. N. BARLOW.
2. (Sd.) W. HASTING D'OYLY.
3. (Sd.) C. F. WORSLEY.
4. (Sd.) A. WEEKES.
5. (Sd.) R. PORCH.

The 13th June 1883.

Memorandum of a few points on which I dissented from the opinions of the majority of the Bhaugulpore Divisional Committee, which met to consider the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, on 11th and 12th June 1883.

CHAPTER I.

Section 3 (5).—According to the wording of this clause, a ryot would no longer be deemed to be a ryot, should he use or sublet his land for any purpose other than one of agriculture, horticulture, or pasture. If, therefore, a ryot should, with the zemindar's consent, use his land, or sublet it for the purpose of brick-making, for the manufacture of saltpetre, or pottery, for extraction of kunker, or for any other purpose than those named in the clause in question, would he cease to be deemed a ryot? Would the relations between him and the person under whom he held the land cease to be the relations between tenant and landlord? If he cease to be a ryot, he loses his right of occupancy. Section 230 certainly allows the recovery of anything payable or deliverable in respect of any rights of pasturage, forest rights, rights over fisheries, and the like, but would this cover the rent of land used for all purposes other than those of agriculture, horticulture, or pasture?

CHAPTER III.

Section 18.—While agreeing with the rest of the Committee that clause 1 (*b*) should be struck out, I think clause 1 (*a*) should be retained, with only this modification that the word "locality" should be substituted for the word "district."

CHAPTER V.

Section 46.—I think an exception should be made in favor of settled ryots whose holdings may be cut away by diluvion. In many parts of the country it is the custom to re-instate ryots whose holdings have been cut away by a river, so soon as re-formation *in situ* occur. The Committee seemed to be of opinion, when I raised this question, that as such ryots could retain their rights by continuing to pay rents till their lands should re-form, no further protection was necessary. In this view I differ. It is manifestly absurd to compare zemindars with ryots. A zemindar whose estate has been cut away by a river can generally afford to go on paying the Government revenue till a re-formation *in situ* occur; but how many ryots could afford to continue paying rents for lands not in existence?

CHAPTER VI.

Sections 76, 77, 78.—Some exception should, I think, be made in respect of recently reclaimed lands. For example, after the passing of this Bill into law, a zemindar A wishes to get from his ryot B a *fair* rent for his holding. B has held this land as a ryot for, say, four or five years, at first rent-free, latterly on payment of a nominal rent of two annas per bigah; a concession granted to compensate B for the cost of clearance, &c. Should this Bill pass into law, the zemindar A can enhance the rent; but under the terms of section 76 the enhanced rent cannot be more than at a rate of four annas a bigah, *i.e.*, double of the rent previously paid; and by the terms of section 78 this rate of four annas per bigah cannot be raised for ten years, when it can be raised to eight annas per bigah, and after another ten years it can be raised to one rupee per bigah, and so on. Thus, supposing the land in, say, 1884 A. D. is equal to lands for which three rupees per bigah is paid as rent, the landlord will have to wait for 50* years before he can legally recover a fair rent!!!

* Year.	Rent. Rs.	As.
1884	0	4
1894	0	8
1904	1	0
1914	2	0
1924	3	0

* These remarks apply also to the provisions of section 59 (2).

CHAPTER VII.

Section 82.—I certainly think that the *zemindar* should *also* have the power to sue for the commutation of rents paid in kind into a money rent. When I was Collector of Shahabad, Mr. Walter Thompson of Beheea, who was justly considered to be a very fair and, indeed, a model landlord, told me that he had always found that "*bhowli*" lands were worse cultivated than those for which a money rent was payable. The cultivator of *bhowli* lands is not under the *necessity* of doing his best to secure an yield that would pay a money rent of, say, Rs. 3, Rs. 4, or Rs. 5, a bigah, and leave him something over. He is sure of half the produce, and will not be liable for any rent beyond the other half of the produce. It may be argued that every ryot will try and make as much out of his land as he can, but those who have really looked into the matter, who have made close enquiries, will find, as I have done, that very many of the ryots will not take the trouble to get all they can out of the land. There are good cultivators and bad cultivators, and the latter predominate, and among them generally are to be found those who pay rents in kind. I will give as an instance one out of *very many* cases of the kind which come under my observation in this district. I was making enquiries as to rates of rent, yield of produce, &c. I found very unequal yields even in lands of the same quality, the same soil, the same level, with equal advantages. In one particular field I found a very fine crop of rice, which in the next the crop was a *remarkably* poor one. Both fields belonged to one and the same ryot. The soil was the same in both, the facilities for irrigation were equal, and neither had an advantage which the other lacked. I questioned the ryot, and found that he had some 30 bigahs of land. Of these six or ten bigahs at the most were well cultivated, and were returning a good yield, the rest were comparatively poor. He told me that he could not bestow the same care and attention *on all*, so he did all he knew with as much of the land as he could, the produce would pay the rent of the whole 30 bigahs, and he could take what God gave him out of the remaining 20 bigahs; he simply sowed them broadcast and trusted to the rainfall. He had lands for which he paid a money rent, as well as lands for which he paid rent in kind, *the latter were not the best cultivated.* Why should the zemindar, I ask, be prohibited from getting a fair money rent if he wishes. Why should an idle ryot be allowed to hold lands on the payment-in-kind system, when he does not attempt to get the best return he can out of them. For my part, I should be very glad if large ryoti holdings could be reduced; if occupancy rights could be restricted to the actual cultivators.

CHAPTER VIII.

Section 85 (2).—I am very much afraid that it will be found in time that the effect of this section will be that *in some* villages all or a great portion of the bastu lands will belong to persons other than the cultivators. Then where is a zemindar to find house-lands for his tyots?

Section 95.—To this the remarks apply, which I have made under sections 76,77,78, Chapter VI.

CHAPTER IX.

Section 125 (2).—This is admirable so far as it goes, but it will not protect the zemindar's claim if the tenant's right be sold for less than the amount of rent owing, as might be the case, if the tenant owes three years' rents. I think the transferee should be made liable for any legally recoverable arrears not covered by the purchase-money, for he will have obtained the holding at less than three years' purchase, and it is a known fact that properties at public sale have fetched far below their proper value. The land should be the security for the rent, and when it is sold, it should be sold with the incumbrance of any rent due thereon. The right of pre-emption in such a case would not be sufficient; the zemindar would have to buy the right, and even granting that he might recover the price from a new tenant by way of salami or nuzzur, still he would have to give up the arrear rents as a bad debt. All that this proposal would effect would be the prevention of a sale of an occupancy right at less than three years' purchase.

CHAPTER XIII.

I think that the resolution of the Committee has not been quite correctly worded, as I understand we did not agree that it was *desirable* that this chapter should be eliminated, but that *in its present form* it would give no real advantages to landlords, and that, therefore, it would be *preferable* to eliminate it, *rather than keep it in its present form.* I myself think that the zemindars should have power to distrain *through the courts*, but I think that where a zemindar wishes to distrain the crops of *several ryots in one village*, he might be allowed to sue them collectively.

To have to put in many separate petitions, to examine the *same* witness in *each* case would make the procedure cumbrous and very expensive, both to the zemindar and also to the royts. It has been openly asserted that one of the objects of the present legislation is to afford facilities to the landlord for the settlement and recovery of his rent, whereas there can be but little doubt that the recovery of rent has been made more difficult than it previously was. I do not advocate the retention of the provisions of the present law of distraint, but I think that the provisions proposed in the Bill should be made more workable and less calculated to make recovery expensive both to landlord and tenant.

BHAGULPORE, W. H. D'OYLY.
The 17th June 1883.

Note on right of occupancy, Chapter V, section 50—Right of occupancy made transferable.

I approve of the principle of transferability of the occupancy right, and therefore have agreed to it in the report, but would like to see this incident gradually developed by extension under the order of the local Government, because in some parts of Bengal, when enacted, it will at once lean to a very general loss of these rights of occupancy holdings by the present generation of ryots, whose holdings will be at once bought up by the money-lending classes, and will pass into their lands, the ryots becoming rack-rented pauper-cottiers, or landless labourers. I would, therefore, like to see this extension of this incident of the right of occupancy holding made permissive, and depending on the discretion of the local Government to extend this to any village, estate, pergunnah, thana, or other division of the country to which it may be found proper, with regard to the solvency, independence, and enlightenment of the ryots, *viz.*, to extend these provisions by notice in the *Calcutta Gazette*, until which time the rights under section 50 (*f*), and the provisions regarding transferability and private sale and gift should remain in abeyance and inoperative, namely, 50 (*f*) and sections 51 and 54, and in lieu of the above, the following should be enacted as the extent of transferability to be at once recognised everywhere as operative until by notice in the *Calcutta Gazette*, the fuller provisions as to transferability, sections 50, 51, and 54, may be extended where found proper.

Section 50 (*f*).—"His interest in the land is transferable by sale on account of its own arrears, and not otherwise, except with the consent of the landlord. He shall have the option of forcing a sale of such interest if the landlord refuses to consent to a private sale falling into arrears, and thereby allowing the occupancy ryot, by the sale for arrears, to recover all money spent in improvements of the same, and the landlord to have a lien on the purchase-money for recovery of any arrears due on the same, or such sale not to take place until all arrears due on the occupancy holding are paid, or otherwise secured to the landlord. *It should also be enacted* that, when transferability of the occupancy holding by private sale is extended, the landlord should be, under severe penalties, prohibited from compelling the occupancy ryot to share the purchase-money with him. In Eastern Bengal I have known the landlord compel an outgoing occupancy ryot to pay him from half to two-thirds of the purchase-money paid for the occupancy holding. The transferability by the private sale, &c., might probably now, with safety as to the ryots' interest, be extended to the Chittagong and Dacca and Presidency Divisions, and to all Court of Wards' estates and properties under the direct management of Government, and afterwards to various parts of other divisions. At the next revision of the law the permissive section might be dispensed with.

Note on Chapter VI of the rent payable by occupancy ryots: (A) of money rents generally.

In order to prevent any interference with the custom of giving lands rent-free for a time, and with progressive rents to recoup outlay for bringing waste lands or newly formed lands into cultivation, or of creating other speculative holdings of new land or diyara land, I would add as follows to section 58:—

Exception.—Nothing in this Act shall release an occupancy ryot from liability to pay the enhancements under an engagement to pay a progressive rent for lands that are being newly brought under cultivation, provided that the rent for any year should not exceed the fixed legal maximum rent, *viz.*, one-fifth of the estimated average annual value of the gross produce of the land in staple crops, calculated at the price at which ryots sell at the usual time of realizing their staple crops in money.

Regarding Chapter VI, Part B.

I am aware of the difficulties attending this scheme as to preparing a table of rates, and perceive that in case of suits for enhancement of rent, such tables of rates could not be relied on ordinarily, as conclusive of the fairness of the rate of enhancement claimed, and that careful local enquiry would still be necessary to enable a proper judicial decision to be arrived at in an enhancement case, still I should like to see a trial given to these provisions. Where there are large estates under the Court of Wards, and large khas mehals under Government and well managed private zemindars, very useful local table of rates of rents might be prepared for the information of the public, and for the general guidance of those concerned in regulating and fairly adjusting rates of rent, and in land management and for general agricultural purposes, which would be found to facilitate the objects and the working of this Act. For these reasons I would give them a trial, and would not now strike them out of the draft Bill.

Regarding Chapter X (b), Sections 133 to 138—Measurement.

I should like to see an addition to this effect—

Exception.—Nothing in this Act shall interfere (1) with the customary periodical measurements of hâl hâsila, utbandi and diyara and other lands, the settlement of the rents of which depends upon the measurement of the lands so cultivated, or (2) with the ryots' right to obtain measurement of his holding for reduction of rent whenever necessary from diminution of holding, from diluvion or otherwise.

MALDAH,
The 18th June 1883.

R. PORCH,
Collector.

No. 1835, dated Calcutta, the 27th June, 1883.

From—C. A. WILKINS, Esq., Offg. Regr. of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Bayley's letter No. 975—374L.R., dated the 19th of March last, forwarding, for an expression of the Court's opinion, as well as the views of the chief judicial officers under the control of the High Court, a copy of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883, together with Statement of Objects and Reasons.

J. F. Stevens, Esq., District Judge, Saran.
W. F. Meres, Esq., District Judge, Midnapore.
J. F. Bradbury, Esq., District Judge, Backergunge.
A. C Brett, Esq., District Judge, Tirhoot.
C. B. Garrett, Esq., Officiating District Judge, 24-Pergunnahs.
R. Towers, Esq., District Judge, Tipperah.
Baboo Brojendro Coomar Seal, District Judge, Bankoora.
Baboo Mohendronath Bose, Small Cause Court Judge, Sealdah.
Baboo Amrita Lal Chatterjee. Subordinate Judge, Nuddea.
Baboo Mohendronath Mitter, Judge, Small Cause Court, Moorshedabad.
Baboo Bhugwan Chunder Chukerbutty, Subordinate Judge, Khulna.
Moulvi Syed Muzzum Hossen, Judge, Small Cause Court, Magoorah, Jhenidah, and Narail.
Baboo Nuffer Chunder Bhatta, First Subordinate Judge, 24-Pergunnahs.

2. In reply, I am to forward, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the accompanying reports which have been received from some of the District Judges and Subordinate Judges who were asked for their views on the Bill. The reports still due will be forwarded when received.

3. I am to add that none of the Judges of the High Court have as yet sent their opinions on the Bill to the Government of India.

No. 209, dated Chapra, the 14th May, 1883.

From—J. F. STEVENS, Esq., Officiating District Judge, Saran,

To—The Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal.

In accordance with the directions of the Court in letter No. 1157B, dated the 23rd ultimo, I have the honor to submit the following report, after consulting Baboo Kally Prosono Mookerjee, First Subordinate Judge, Baboo Amrito Lal Pal, Second Subordinate Judge, and Baboo Krishna Chunder Das, Munsif in charge of rent suits.

2. I regret that the shortness of the time allowed me for my reply has rendered it impossible for me to devote to the subject the time and the amount of consideration which I could have wished.

3. It is obvious that in general the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883, has been framed with a view rather to the interest of the raiyats than to that of the landlords. It is doubtless true that to a considerable extent the interest of the rayats and that of the landlords are really in the long run not so completely separate as is frequently assumed; but while I recognise this principle, and I am not disposed to agree with my subordinates in condemning all limitation to the enormous arbitrary powers which the landlords at present can and do exercise, especially in certain parts of the province of Behar, I am inclined to think that in some particulars the Bill goes further in that direction than is either necessary or desirable.

4. I proceed to notice the provisions of the Bill in order.

CHAPTER I.

5. I think that an attempt should be made to define the terms "tenure" and "under-tenure." In Chapter III of the Bill, we find important provisions on the subject of tenures, but when we turn to the definition in order to ascertain what a tenure is, we only find that it "includes an under-tenure (which term is left altogether undefined), and the interest of every tenant of the class referred to in section 14." There is no definition of the term "under-tenure." The word "tenant" also does not appear to be satisfactorily defined.

CHAPTER II.

6. I strongly approve of the provisions for ascertaining and registering *khamar* land. I think that it is fair, in the peculiar circumstances with which we have to deal, to presume all land to be *raiyati* until the contrary is proved. I am decidedly in favour of limiting the power of the landlord to convert *raiyati* land into *khamar*; but I venture to think that the Bill goes too far in absolutely preventing the increase of the stock of *khamar* in future. I do not, for example, see why a landlord should be prevented from acquiring as *khamar* uncultivated land which he brings under cultivation by his servants or by hired labourers. It might be provided that no *raiyati* land now under cultivation should hereafter be converted to *khamar*; but that is the furthest that I would go. In any case of increase of *khamar*, I would provide that in any district, or part of a district, in which a survey and register of *khamar* land has been made, or ordered to be made, in accordance with the provisions of section 7, the landlord should be bound to register any land which might thereafter become *khamar*.

CHAPTER III.

7. All the provisions of this chapter seem to me just. I am not quite clear, however, as to the working of section 27 (3) and section 34, looking to the definition of the word "landlord" as "a person or *a number of persons*," &c. Is each individual, who goes to make up the

"landlord," in case the "landlord" consists of "a number of persons," to certify the copy under section 34 under his hand? It does not appear that the authority of a *naib* or *gumashta* under section 229 would extend to doing this.

CHAPTER IV.

8. Does not appear to call for special notice.

CHAPTER V.

9. *Sections* 45 *and* 47.—The provisions of these sections are undoubtedly very favourable to the raiyat. In as far as they are unfavourable to the landlord, he has principally himself to blame, for they have been necessitated by the devices which he has employed in order to make it as difficult as possible for the raiyat to acquire a right of occupancy, and to prove his right when he has got it.

10. *Section 46.*—Seems to me to be fair to both parties.

11. *Section 48.*—This is an entirely new provision of law. I should imagine that it will probably remain almost a dead letter; but there seems no harm in making it possible to create a right of occupancy by contract, if any proprietor or permanent tenure-holder chooses to do so.

12. *Section 49.*—Does not appear to me fair to the landlord. Its retention in the Bill would not improbably have the effect (which doubtless was not intended by the framers) of causing the landlords to take measures to render it practically inoperative by ejecting tenants from *khamar* land, or by at once entering into engagements with them for fixed periods in anticipation of the accrual of the rights of occupancy that would otherwise be acquired under its provisions.

13. *Sections 51 to 55 inclusive.*—Which relate to the landlord's right of pre-emption, appear to me to be equitable. The term "estimated value" in sections 51 and 54 is, however, not perfectly clear. By whom is the value to be estimated, and how far are the parties, or either of them, to be bound by the estimate?

14. *Section 56.*—Appears to me exceedingly hard upon the landlord. Its object is stated to be to prevent the landlord from buying up occupancy rights on a great scale, and locating ordinary raiyats on the land. I think that a less objectionable method of securing the same object would be to prohibit the purchase by the landlord of occupancy rights, except in the cases provided for by sections 51 to 55. It is scarcely likely that his purchases under those sections would be very considerable. At present, as the Second Subordinate Judge observes, as the Bill stands, all that a landlord is to get practically by his purchase is the power of keeping out a tenant to whom he objects, and this seems scarcely a fair and sufficient return for his outlay. If he is allowed to buy the occupancy right at all, he is fairly entitled to obtain, by his purchase, the full advantages that would be obtained by any other purchaser.

15. The provisions which render it impossible for a tenant to contract himself out of his occupancy right, as between the landlord and himself, are strongly objected to by Baboo Amrita Lal Pal; but they appear to me necessary, considering the relations which prevail generally in Bengal between landlord and tenant. The Subordinate Judge suggests that such contracts should be disallowed, only on proof of undue influence; but on the one hand, practically, a raiyat would seldom, if ever, be able to prove undue influence where it had really been exercised, while on the other hand he might frequently raise the plea in respect of perfectly fair transactions, if he afterwards repented of his bargain.

CHAPTER VI.

16. Has my general approval. It seems to me, however, that their should be some attempt to define the term "staple crops" which occurs in several places in the course of the chapter, as a good deal may turn on its precise meaning. If a general definition of the term is not practicable, there should be some means by which it should be authoritatively and publicly declared what are "staple crops," for the purposes of the Act, in different divisions or districts. The table of rates would be of great utility: it will be for the Revenue authorities to ascertain how far its preparation will be possible. The price-lists to be prepared by the Collector under the provisions of section 83 will be very useful, if care is taken to secure accuracy, or very mischievous otherwise.

CHAPTER VII.

17. *Section 86.*—I doubt the justice of giving compensation in the case of the ejectment of a raiyat, through his own fault, from *bastu* land.

CHAPTER VIII.

18. I should like to see it definitely stated what are the rights of an ordinary raiyat as to the use of the land. As regards the occupancy raiyat, it is provided in section 50 that he may use the land in any manner which does not render it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy. Is it intended to be implied, from the absence of such an express provision in the case of the ordinary raiyat, that his right to the use of the land is more restricted? This is a question of considerable importance in the indigo districts of Behar. An attempt is being made to get rid, as far as possible, of the old *thikadari* system, and to encourage raiyats to

grow indigo independently entirely on their own account, as they would any other crop, in order to sell it to the factories. This system deprives the landlord of the advantage which he had over a factory, under the *thikadari* system, of being able to screw up the rent of the village leased to an amount far above what the rent-roll of the village would justify, because the factory would, if it lost the *thika*, have no means of growing or obtaining sufficient indigo plant for manufacture. It is accordingly naturally to be expected that certain landlords should not look very favourably upon it, and should endeavour to put difficulties in the way of its extension. I take it that the occupancy raiyat can undoubtedly, under the provisions of section 50, grow indigo if he pleases in spite of the landlord. Can the ordinary raiyat do so too?

19. *Section* 90.—It appears to me that the ordinary raiyat under the Bill acquires something very like a right of occupancy. Is a landlord never to let to an ordinary raiyat for a fixed term; and if he is to have that power, is not the raiyat to be liable to ejectment in execution of a decree for ejectment, passed on the ground that the term of the lease has expired? There is no provision apparently for such a case in section 90. Again, it seems to me only equitable that the landlord should have the power of ejecting an ordinary raiyat, after due notice, on paying compensation for improvements.

20. *Section 93.*—The idea of payment of compensation for disturbance is, so far as I am aware, altogether new to the country, and I do not think that the landlord should be burdened with such a condition.

CHAPTER IX.

21. I approve of the provisions of this chapter generally.

22. *Sections 100 to 102.*—The provisions contained in these sections should have a most beneficial effect. The difficulty and uncertainty now attending the trial of rent-suits in Behar, owing to the frequently utter worthlessness of the oral evidence and the prevalence of forgery on both sides, make the duty of deciding them most irksome and most painful to a conscientious judicial officer. The production of forged receipts is as common as that of false accounts, if not more so. I think, however, that it is very important that there should be some security provided against the substitution of forged receipts and counterparts. As long as either may be written on a scrap of loose paper, it will be open to the landlord to impugne the genuineness of the receipt, and to the tenant to impugne that of the counterpart. I think that the use of printed or lithographed cheque-books should be made compulsory, and that, in addition to the particulars specified in section 100, each receipt and counterpart should be required to be serially numbered. A similar provision would be useful in respect of the statement of account prescribed by section 101. It would be still better if it could be provided that only cheque-books supplied by Government should be used. Such books might be kept on sale at the district and sub-divisional revenue offices, as forms of application for copies are. At any rate, I am afraid that if receipts and accounts, and their counterparts, are to be written on loose scraps of common paper, we shall be very much where we are now.

23. *Sections 103 to 107.*—I suppose from section 106 that the "Officer" mentioned in section 103 is to be a Revenue Officer. If so, the word "Revenue" might with advantage be used in section 103. I am doubtful how far it is practicable or expedient for the officer receiving applications for deposit to exercise a discretion as to the receipt of the deposit. Where many such applications for deposit are made at a time, it seems to me that it would practically be impossible for him to come to a satisfactory decision on the matter at the time. I think that it would be better to receive all deposits tendered. Probably this is practically what it would come to in any case. I have no doubt that the present practice of requiring a declaration on solemn affirmation of previous tender is quite useless, and that the declaration has come to be a mere matter of form, if, indeed, it was ever anything else.

24. *Section 111* (*2*).—It has been held, in connection with the corresponding provision of Act X of 1859, that the period of grace may be extended at the discretion of either the Court of first instance or the Appellate Court. This question should be definitely settled.

25. *Section 118.*—It appears to me that the provisions of this section, if practically possible (which I doubt), are hard an the landlords, some of whom will have to send very long distances. If the papers are to be lodged in Government offices, I do not see why sub-divisional offices should not receive them as well as the office of the Collector of the district.

26. *Section 125* (*2*).—These provisions are very fair. The difficulty is, how the landlord is to know when the tenant's right, title and interest is brought to sale. Ought not a notice to be served upon him? There is the same difficulty as to section 52: I omitted to notice it in its place.

CHAPTER X.

27. I approve of all the provisions of this chapter.

CHAPTERS XI & XII.

28. Appear to me to be very useful.

CHAPTER XIII.

29. I could not recommend the retention of the provisions of the present law as to distraint. Those of the Bill do not appear to me open to the same objections. But I should think

it a question whether the landlords would not as soon see the right of distraint abolished altogether, as restricted to the extent proposed. As regards section 179 (1), the mention of the Board of Revenue appears to be a mistake. As the administration of the law relating to distraint is to be in the hands of the Civil Courts, the Board of Revenue does not seem to be the proper authority to make rules.

CHAPTER XIV.

30. *Section 188.*—Is considered by the Second Subordinate Judge and the Rent Suit Munsif as leaving it open to doubt whether a suit for rent, amounting to less than Rs, 1,000, due on account of land valued at more than Rs. 1,000, should not be instituted in the Court of a Subordinate Judge. I do not see the same difficulty myself, as in section 188 it is only a question of the *local limits* within which the cause of action shall be deemed to have arisen, and not of the court which is to have jurisdiction. I mention the point, however, in case it should be thought well to make any alteration to prevent misunderstanding.

31. *Sections 191 to 198.*—I think that the simplification of procedure in the simpler classes of suits is a great improvement. At the same time I do not think that it could be safely made more summary. I feel some doubt as to the expediency of the limit of Rs. 50 in section 198(*b*), and should be more inclined to adopt that of Rs. 10 originally proposed by the Rent Commission.

32. The provisions of the remaining sections of Chapter XIV appear to me to be equitable.

33. I have no particular remarks to make with respect to the remaining chapters of the Bill.

34. The First Subordinate Judge and the Rent Suit Munsif suggest that provision ought to be made for the case of suits where there are several co-sharers as the "landlord" and there is no common manager. I think that it would be well that this question should be dealt with, and that it should be settled under what conditions separate suits may be brought by the different co-sharers, if at all.

35. The First Subordinate Judge is of opinion that provision ought to be made for the forfeiture of tenancy by a tenant's disclaiming the landlord's title. I am of the same opinion. The tenant is amply protected by the Bill, and if he chooses to conspire with another person against his landlord's title, I think he ought to suffer for it. This remark should, perhaps, rather have come under the sections relating to ejectment, but the matter was overlooked by me at the time.

36 The Rent Suit Munsif calls attention to the hardship to which ignorant raiyats are subjected in consequence of *batwara* proceedings, the practical result of which is frequently to enhance their rents where their holdings come within the shares of more than one landlord. Though there is no professed enhancement, each sharer demands something more than his proper proportion of the rent previously paid, and as these demands are separately made, an ignorant raiyat is not in a position to contest them. It is only when he has paid them all that he finds that the aggregate exceeds the amount that he used to pay before the *batwara*. The Rent Suit Munsif suggests that the law should require the ameen employed on the *batwara* proceedings to prepare a list showing the *jamas* payable by the raiyats under the new arrangement. The evil is certainly a serious one, and the remedy suggested by the Munsif seems to me worthy of consideration.

Dated Midnapore, the 26th May, 1883.

From—W. F. MEEKS, Esq, Judge of Midnapore,

To—The Registrar of the High Court, Calcutta.

I have the honour to submit the following notes upon the draft Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883.

Section 3. "*Raiyat.*"—It is to be regretted that the border line between a raiyat and a tenure-holder has not been drawn in the Bill. The definition as it stands in paragraph 5 would include the case of a person who takes a grant of waste land, and who, after clearing and embanking where necessary, sublets it to tenants. For instance, here in Midnapore there is along the coast a larg tract of land formerly occupied by Government for the manufacture of salt. At that time the land was waste and mainly covered with jungle. On the abolition of the salt manufacture, the land was surrendered to the zamindars in whose estates it lay. It has since been let by the zamindars in large or small blocks to mere speculators, sometimes for a term, sometimes without any agreement as to fixity of rental or period of tenure. The lessee sometimes, but not always, clears a larger or smaller portion, or perhaps throws up an embankment, and induces cultivators to take up small blocks and bring them under cultivation.

These small cultivators are fairly entitled to acquire occupancy rights against the speculator, but they cannot do so if he is classed as a raiyat.

The same state of things occurs in the jungle mehals of the north-west of this district. There the land is poor in quality and largely covered with sâl timber or small brushwood. The zamindar has granted a putni of a large tract of this country to an European firm. The putnidars, with a view to get the land settled up, have given vaguely worded leases, nominally of the better lands of a village only, often only of a few bigahs, but not settling with more than one tenant in each village area, unless the area is unusually large. There seems to have been a tacit understanding that the tenant, if he could, might bring the whole village under cultivation. A general rise of prices with increased pressure of population on the land has made it easy for these tenants to find cultivators ready to undertake the labour and risk of clearing and bringing under cultivation most of the land in the lessee's village boundary; and the putnidars on

re-measurement have repeatedly found the lessee in occupation of ten times the area mentioned in the lease.

From what I know of the districts of Balasore and Backergunge, I believe similar instances could be found there. As far as I know, whenever cultivation is spreading and inferior soils are being brought under tilth, some such system as this prevails. It is of great importance that the courts should not be left to decide the relative status of the contractor and the cultivator in cases of this sort. Generally it is not difficult for the contractor to decide for himself whether he shall prove that he is a tenure-holder or a raiyat. The basis on which he may enhance, or on which he may be enhanced, depends upon his own status with reference to the putnidar on the one hand, and to the tenant on the other. A good opportunity now presents itself of assisting courts in this difficulty; and even though it may not be best to define a raiyat, the Legislature, rather than the courts, should undertake this duty. The definition should be drawn so as to include the case of a man who takes up land for cultivation by himself, or by his family or servants, and it should exclude the case of a man who takes land merely to sub-let as a speculation. A maximum limit of a raiyat's holding is, therefore, necessary, and I may say that after 18 years' service in the Lower Provinces, I have never met with an instance of a genuine cultivating tenant who held 50 bigahs of arable land.

Section 3, clause 19. "*Signed.*"—The definition is reproduced from the C. C. P. What does the last paragraph mean? The words are—"It also includes stamped with the name of the person referred to"—"referred to" where? In the first clause of the definition, *i.e.*, the marksman, or to the person whose name is engraved on the seal?

Section 26.—Why should ejectment of a permanent tenure-holder be limited to the case of breach of a written contract only, carrying that penalty? There may be no written agreements that the ejectment should be the penalty of denial of the landlord's titles, but this is the fitting and well-recognised consequence of such an attitude in the tenant. The same remarks apply to section 50, clause *d*.

Section 27.—The provision that the landlord shall give the tenure-holder seeking registration a statement in writing of the reasons, for his refusal to register will, I fear, in practice be found inoperative.

Section 32.—If the court's order is to have the force of a decree, and the court on the pleadings finds it necessary to try the claimant's title to the tenure of which he desires registration, what will be the effect, as between the parties, of the court's decision on the petitioner's title? Is there any pecuniary limit as regards jurisdiction? The section seems to contemplate local jurisdiction merely, irrespective of the value of the property involved.

Section 34.—Provision should be made to allow of the delegation of duty of signing certified extracts of the zamindar's register. In practice it will be found difficult for a female zamindar to "certify under her hand" the extract. If the zamindar neglects or refuses to furnish the copy, or to accept a tendered fee, by whom is the fine awardable under sub-section 35, clause 2, to be inflicted? Would it not be well to provide that the claimant may serve his notice of application through the civil court or the Collector on depositing the proper fee? I think it likely that parties will find it difficult, if not impossible, to move the zamindar to compliance, without official assistance, in applying for the certified extract.

Section 35.—To the last words of this section should be added "and the taking of copies under section 34." Speaking generally of the provisions of chapter 3D, I think there will be practical difficulties in making use of them. Except in very small estates, the zamindar never comes in personal contract with his tenants. Parties desirous of registration will find themselves, as now, obliged to deal with local agents whose interest it is to make as much as possible out of every change of ownership. Under-tenures commonly undergo division by sale and inheritance without reference to the zamindar. As long as the proprietors can agree amongst themselves, the rent continues to be paid under the old recorded proprietor's name. It is doubtful if zamindars, who can look to the tenure if the rent falls into arrear, will trouble to search for the actual tenure-holders under section 33, where the main result of the action in this direction will be to put fees into their agent's pockets. I can call to mind but one case of a tenure-holder seeking to enforce registration under section 6, Regulation VIII of 1879.

I regret that it has not been found possible to declare a rebutable presumption in favour of all ryots, being settled ryots, in respect of the land actually in their occupation at the time of the passing of the Act. It is hardly questioned that the vast majority of the cultivators have acquired occupancy rights under the existing 12 years' rule: why should the weaker party be put to the trouble of proving that he possess rights, the existence of which is hardly doubted? Why must he prove that he has occupied land in a village or estate for 12 continuous years? If any time is insisted on, why twelve years? why not a lesser number, as five or three? In practice it is difficult for ignorant people to prove facts which occurred twelve years ago. Although the use of receipts for rent is more common than formerly, still in many places in the interior they are hardly known, or not insisted on. I believe that there are new ryots in possession of genuine receipts for twelve years, all claims of rent having nevertheless been fully discharged.

Section 50.—May an occupancy ryot at his discretion fell timber of over twelve years' age standing on his holding?

Section 51.—What is the meaning of "*estimated value*" at 10 per cent., below which a landlord may purchase, in the case of an occupancy ryot selling without having first given the landlord notice of sale?

I think it questionable whether this rule, requiring notice to the landlord before a sale of a jote, will be of much service to the landlord. As a rule, they are not given to the purchase of occupancy rights. They sometimes ask permission to bid at sales for these rights in execution of decrees for rent, but they do this mainly for the purpose of bidding against the defaulter's relations, so as to prevent them from buying in far below the real value. This and the remaining sections of this chapter will, I fear, give trouble and delay to the ryot vendor, and will hamper dealings in land, which by section 50, clause *f*, are declared free.

CHAPTER VIB.

At first sight the proposals of this chapter are attractive, but after much consideration I have arrived at the conclusion that they are dangerous, and that in them lies what is likely to more than counterbalance the benefits conferred on the peasantry of the lower provinces by the rest of the Bill. The consequences of an error by the officer who prepares the table, in over-estimating the normal produce of its average money value, or in fixing too high a minimum, will be nothing short of the ruin of the tenantry of the tract dealt with. As the draft stands, I doubt if the local Government, after directing at the time of publication the period for which a local area table is to remain in force, could cancel the table, if it desired to do so, on the ground that it was framed on erroneous data, or that it was otherwise inequitable. The difficulty of collecting really accurate data for the table of rates will be found to be very great. A notable instance in point has recently come under my own notice in this district. A very large property, known as the Majnamootha Estate, extending over several pergunnahs, has been lately re-settled by Government owing to the default of the proprietors. The settlement officer was specially selected as a man of considerable revenue experience; he was assisted by a special staff and was engaged for nearly three years on the work. While the settlement was in progress, it was found necessary to pass a local Act throwing the onus of disproving the settlement officer's rates on the tenants, who were dissatisfied with the assessment of the settlement officer.

If the table of rates has been published, and it is unfairly hard upon the tenants, the error will probably not appear until the mischief is done. The persistence with which ryots cling to their jotes is remarked by all who have had to deal with them. As a rule they hold on until both capital and credit are exhausted.

If this sub-chapter is to be retained, would it not be well to draw the settlement officer's attention prominently to the following, amongst other, considerations?

The incidence of the population on the soil, the rate at which this pressure is increasing—as to which see the last two census reports—the rate at which inferior soils are being brought under cultivation, therewith the consequential effects of diminishing the area of pasturage, first upon the cattle, draught and milch, upon which is sunk a large part of the agriculturist's capital, and secondly upon the population, and particularly upon the young, in diminishing supplies of milk and butter available to a people mainly subsisting upon a farinaceous dietary. Ought he not also to be reminded that the vast bulk of the land is capable of producing but one crop in the year; and that in a purely agricultural community the cultivator, as a condition of his existence, must have not only fair interest on his capital employed on his land, and fair wage for his own labour, but also enough to carry on from one harvest to the next?

CHAPTER IXC.

The provisions for giving receipts and accounts would be excellent if they applied only to large zamindaries of Government estates. But it seems to me hopeless to expect that the rules of this sub-chapter would be adhered to by petty tenure-holders or ryots who sublet, whatever the penalty might be for the breach of them. There are very few zamindaries which are not sublet in farm or in putni. These again are mostly sublet, and so on, until the person who actually gets in the ryot's rent is often little higher than a ryot or petty farmer himself. These are the persons to whom the rules would be applicable. I think it would be enough to provide that the receipt should shew date of payment, amount, payer, payee, the holding for which, and the year for which, the payment was made; and I would suggest that as an incentive to honest dealing, it should be at the discretion of the court to deduct double the amount of any payment which the tenant proved he had made, and for which credit had not been given in the plaint.

CHAPTER IXD.

The proposed rules for the deposit of rent are satisfactory improvements upon the existing ones.

CHAPTER IXE.

It would be well to state more plainly that the court is not bound to award 12 per cent. interest in all cases of arrears. The meaning of the words "liable to" seem plain enough, but I know that this is one of the commonest errors made by young native officers, and with serious results to the unfortunate defendants.

CHAPTER IXF.

I fear the procedure laid down in this sub-chapter is too slow. What happens is that the landlord delays in attending at the division, perhaps from mere indolence, perhaps

in the hope that the man who raised the crop may consent to an unequal division, rather than run the risk of bad weather and the consequent loss of all. The Act requires the party aggrieved to come to the Collector, who appoints a Commissioner: the Commissioner proceeds to the spot, and, with the assistance of assessors, makes a valuation: the Commissioner then reports to the Collector, the Collector hears objections, and may order a fresh enquiry. At every stage there must be some, and may be considerable, delay. The costs will also be of necessity relatively heavy. I would suggest that on application to the Collector by either party who complains that he is hampered in getting his share, a notice should be served by registered letter on the opposite party, directing him to attend and assist in the division within a time to be mentioned in the notice, at the expiration of which the party at whose instance the notice was served should be at liberty to remove the crop, and that it should be presumed that the amount of crop and its value mentioned in the application for the notice was correct.

CHAPTER XIII.

The right of distraint might now well be abolished. The proceedure laid down is too elaborate to be honestly followed. My own experience is that landlords are getting shy of making use of this right, unless they happen to be very powerful people, and have some object in view, as well as the getting in of the rent. The right is open to very great abuses. Under the present arrangement for the accelerated trial of rent suits, plaintiffs have very little cause for complaint as to delay. Thus in my head-quarters court a man may get an *ex parte* decree for arrears in about a month from the filing of his plaint, and in about 47 days from filing the plaint if the defendant contests the claim unsuccessfully. The plaintiff may verbally apply for execution as soon as his claim is decreed. This seems reasonably expeditious. I doubt if he would get in his money any faster under the distraint procedure. However, whether the chapter remains or not is not of great moment, as section 167 is calculated to make landlords hesitate about the use of the right.

I regret that I have not found time to consider the drafting of the Bill. Pressure of business has prevented me from giving as much time as I wished to this interesting measure.

No. 251, dated Burisal, the 2nd June 1883.

From—J. F. BRADBURY, ESQ., Offg. District Judge of Backergunge,

To—The Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal.

YOUR No. 1157D. of the 23rd April 1883.

I have the honour to subjoin my comments on the draft of the Bengal Tenancy Act, and to observe, *imprimis*, that the interpretation clauses are defective, in that they do not include a definition of a tenure. Clause 3 of section 3 defines it to include an under-tenure, and the interest of every tenant of the class referred to in section 14. The term "under-tenure" is misleading. Every tenure is holden of somebody, and under the person of whom it is holden. It may be rent or revenue-free, but in every case it is held of the original grantor or creator thereof, or his sucessors. The use of the term serves no object, and it may well be eschewed, and the word tenure exclusively employed in its stead. What, however, is a tenure? Does it denote an interest in land permanent, transferable and heritable, or is it intended to include all interest inferior to those of the proprietors of an estate? Apparently the former; for a distinction is made between a tenure-holder and a tenant.

2. The Statement of Objects and Reasons explains why a complete definition of a tenure (or under-tenure) has not been attempted, but the opportunity should be taken to remove certain doubts which have arisen under the present law. 7 W.R., 15, decides that the sub-letting of his land by a ryot does not alter the nature of a holding in its inception *ryoti*, nor necessitate its registration: and this principle it is proposed to enact by the explanation of clause 5 of section 3 of the Bill and section 50 (*c*).

The converse of this proposition has not, however, been enacted. Suppose the holder of a tenure, otherwise transferable, permanent and heritable, say one designated a *halawah*, to which in his district ordinarily, and in the absence of express stipulation to the contrary, are attached the incidents of permanence, heritability and transferability: suppose, I say, the holder of such a tenure cultivates the soil thereof himself, is he to be deemed a ryot or a tenure-holder? The revenue athorities in their proceedings under Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879 (sections 20 and 121 of the Bill) have, in this district treated such a tenant as a ryot, but from this interpretation of the law I dissent. The question can, and should be authoritatively eettled now, and its decision not left to inferences from sub-section 6 of section 21. My opinion is that once a tenure-holder always a tenure-holder, and that, if the tenure be, from its nature, by custom, or by agreement with the original lessor permanent, transferable, and heritable, it is immaterial whether the holder thereof sublets or himself cultivates the whole or a part of the soil thereof.

3. The definition of an "arrear" is likewise defective, for frequently the rent is not payable in instalments, but in a lump at the end of the year.

4. In clause (*e*), section 4, the word "out" is superfluous.

5. *Section* 6—Is not happily worded. How and why is land which is admittedly not *khamar* but which is comprehended in a permanent, heritable, and transferable tenure within an estate, and cultivated by the holder of such tenure, to be deemed *ryoti* land of such estate?

The framers of the section seem to have ignored estates not consisting exclusively of *kkamar* and *ryoti* land. Section 13 is obnoxious to the same criticism.

6. What is intended by "terminable" in section 19: "determinable by notice," or "for a term?"

7. Is the application of section 20 to be confined to districts in no part of which land has been permanently settled, or is it to govern settlements of all land not permanently settled in whatever district situate? The language of the section is susceptible of the latter interpretation only, but the marginal note favours the former.

What is the express recognition contemplated by section 20? Must such recognition be recorded? How can the non-recognition of a right affect such right? Suppose the revenue authorities have in all previous settlement proceedings recorded the existence of a tenure, and at no date enhanced the rent thereof, are they at liberty to enhance the rent thereof whenever so minded, and by what restriction is the enhancement to be limited?

Again, who is an authority empowered by the Government to make definitively settlements? The Commissioners and the Board of Revenue confirm settlements, but make none. The Collector and his subordinates make them, but not definitively, for their orders are not final, nor, I believe, of any effect till confirmed.

Another question which some appeals recently heard by me suggest is this: sections 20 and 121 are designed to replace Act VIII (B.C.) of 1879, which the Bill proposes to repeal, but no portion of the Bill empowers the revenue authorities to enhance the rents of a tenant of an estate which is private property, but which is periodically settled by them, and the rents and profits of which they realise by reason of the recusancy of the proprietors who refuse to accept the terms of settlement offered by the Revenue authorities, and are content with the allowance denominated *malikhana*.

Sections 20 *and* 121—Do not provide for such a case.

8. *Section* 21.—What is "beneficial" rent? The term is novel in Indian law, and requires explanation.

9. *Sections* 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 209.—What is a "permanent" tenure? One that is transferable at will and heritable? And is every right of occupancy and every tenure to which section 14 applies to be deemed a permanent tenure?

10. The order under section 32, having the force of a decree, will, I presume, be appealable; but how is it to be enforced? Under section 260, C. P. C.? But if the landlord continues recusant, and will not register in spite of the attachment of his person, or his property, or both, what is to be the remedy of the transferor or transferee? The simplest course will be to enact that the order shall have the force of a decree in a suit, and shall operate as the registration of the transfer or transmission of the tenure.

11. What will be the effect of non-compliance with the rules framed under section 35? Will any informality vitiate the registration, and is the transferor or transferee or successor to suffer therefor? Is the fine with which a breach is punishable to be recovered by a prosecution before a Magistrate?

12. Schedules 2 and 3 should be incorporated in chapter IV, and not relegated to an appendix.

13. "Whether before or after the commencement of this Act," in sections 45 and 46, should be amplified so as to express whether wholly before or after, or partially before and partially after such commencement.

Is a person to be deemed, for the purposes of section 45, to have held as a ryot *ryoti* land held as a ryot by a person whose heir he is, though such land may have, by devise or otherwise, passed to another?

14. *Section* 50.—Will a raiyat with a right of occupancy be entitled to fell or grow timber in the absence of express stipulation to the contrary.

15. To what Civil Court must the application under sections 51, 54, and 55 be made? Will a Small Cause Court have jurisdiction to ascertain the price, and will the order under those sections be appealable or not?

16. How are the notices prescribed by the chapters III and V and other portions of the Bill to be served; and where an application or some other act is required to be made or done by the person on whom notice is served within a fixed period, what course is to be pursued if he seeks to make or do it after the expiry of such period, pleading that the notice was never received by him? Real cases of non-receipt of the notice are sure to occur in practice, and the plea of non-receipt of the notice will assuredly be falsely put forward in many other cases. Some procedure for dealing with them should be prescribed, otherwise the prescription of a notice may be dispensed with.

17. Again, in sections 51 and 54 the application must be made by the landlord within one month of the filing of the notice in the revenue office; but if the notice is not served within the month, through oversight, designedly, or from other cause, what then?

18. Again, if after the ascertainment of the price to be paid under sections 51, 54 and 55, the person in possession refuses to convey the occupancy right to the landlord, must the latter institute a regular suit for the conveyance, or will the court, upon ascertaining the price, have power to direct the execution of a conveyance forthwith, and give effect to such direction under section 260 or section 261?

The latter procedure will reduce litigation; and if orders under sections 51, 54, and 55 are appealable, will be unexceptionable in every respect.

19. *Section* 64.—"About the time at which those rates were fixed." These words are somewhat obscure. They mean, I suppose, "about the time at which were fixed the rates in force at the date of the preparation of the table."

20. *Section* 85.—If, as is often the case, the homestead is a part of a non-occupancy holding, will the tenant have different interests in diffeaent portions of such holding?

21. *Section* 86.—I presume the tenant may be permitted to remove the materials of his buildings, and in such a case he will be entitled to recover as compensation only such amount as may recoup him for the trouble and expense of re-erecting the same on another site.

22. *Section* 87.—How is the enhancement allowed by the section to be effected—by suit after notice, or by suit following on a notice, or otherwise?

23. The language of clause (*a*) of section 90 requires modification, for I presume that the mere falling into arrears will not justify ejectment at the will of the landlord, but he must sue therefor.

24 What civil court is intended by section 91?

25. Must section 92 be strictly construed: in other words, will a landlord be bound to sue for ejectment, or may he sue to recover arrears at the enhanced rate, as at present?

26. *Section* 97.—Is such a thing as rent payable at the end of the year to cease? In the absence of any agreement or custom, surely the most convenient rule is that the rent should be payable at the close of the year for which it is demandable, as now; and I suggest that the parties be left by section 98 to settle the number and dates of the instalments, with the restriction that in no case shall the former exceed four. The object—and a very desirable one it is—of protecting the ryot from frequent demands for fractions of his rent will be amply secured by the restriction without the interference of the Board of Revenue or any third party

27. *Section* 102.—I presume the fines exigible under the Act are designed to be recoverable in the criminal courts.

28. A revenue officer is clearly intended by section 103 (*vide* section 106), and this should be expressed.

29. *Section* 104.—How is the revenue officer to satisfy himself that the applicant is entitled under section 103 to make the deposit judicially, that is, after taking evidence or otherwise? Will not the mere application be ordinarily sufficient to justify the receipt of the deposit, the tenant making it being responsible for any illegality or irregularity?

30. *Section* 111.—What is a non-transferable holding? That of an ordinary ryot is, I believe meant, but suppose such a ryot holds under a lease susceptible of assignment, will section 111 apply?

31. *Section* 122, *clause* 2.—How and where prescribed? What will be sufficient notice? How is it to be published, and how proved?

32. *Section* 125.—If the landlord holds no decree, and the amount in arrear is disputed, or there is collusion between the landlord and the tenant, will the court have authority to refer the landlord to a suit in lieu of enforcing the charge to the detriment of another creditor?

33. *Section* 133.—Will one of several co-landlords be entitled to measure independently of the others, or against their wishes?

34. *Section 135.*—Will the order under section 135 be appealable?

35. *Section 140*—Is obnoxious to the same animadversion as section 111.

36. *Section 141, clause* (*b*).—How and by whom prescribed, and how is such publication to be proved?

37. *Section 144.*—What will be effectual service, and will the order under section 144 be appealable or not?

38. *Section 148.*—Will the order under section 148 be appealable?

39. *Section 157.*—How and by whom prescribed, and how is much publication to be proved?

40. *Section 166.*—"In addition to any other remedy to which he is entitled by law." May the landlord sue and distrain simultaneously for the same arrears?

In any case I conceive one of a co-proprietary cannot distrain for rent due to the whole of the co-proprietors jointly, and that should be clearly expressed.

41. *Section 168.*—Will the order under section 168 (2) be appealable?

42. *Section 191.*—Why are Courts, when disposing of suits of the nature described in section 191, to be debarred from ordering facts to be proved by affidavit? The provisions of sections 194 to 197 are now freely used, especially for the proof of service of process in suits heard *exparte*. Their application to such suits facilitates the rapid disposal of rent suits, and I fail to see what object is secured by enacting that affidavits are not to be used in the vast majority of suits under the Rent Law. Such enactment will merely prolong their duration.

43. *Section 195*—Is, I think, most objectionable. The law requires issues to be framed in every suit, but in practice issues are rarely recorded in rent suits, and when an appeal is preferred, it is only by reference to the written statement that the Appellate Court can usually ascertain what precise pleas the defendant took in the Court below. The judgment in the majority of rent suits does not state the issues, but disposes of the case summarily. The object of abolishing the right to present a written statement is to save time, but the presentation of a written statement occasions no loss of time whatever, and such a statement is frequently of the utmost value.

The present procedure in rent suits is as summary as it can be, while a record of evidence is indispensable, and section 196 is superfluous. Nothing more than a memorandum is now recorded, but even a memorandum takes time; and it is only by dispensing with a record of the evidence, and as a necessary corollary prohibiting appeals, that the trial of rent suits can be accelerated. Let the parties present what written statements they please. The mere reduction to writing of the pleas cannot delay. Why, therefore, prohibit it, except by leave of the Court?

44. *Section 199.*—If the defendant admits that a part only of the rent claimed is due, and that not to the plaintiff, but to a rival claimant, will section 199 apply? If not, section 199 will be a dead letter, as the defendant by pleading that the sum is one pice or one pie less than the plaintiff claims will be able to avoid the obligation of making the deposit.

45. *Section 203.*—"Before the date of his ejectment." Do these words denote the date of the actual ejectment in execution of a decree for ejectment, the date of the decree for ejectment, or the date of the institution of the suit for ejectment? Not the first, apparently, though that is the natural construction of the words, for it would conflict with the context of section 203 itself, and likewise with sections 204 and 206. Which of the others is the correct interpretation?

46. *Section 204.*—Will the rent payable under section 204 be assessable and recoverable in the course of the proceedings taken to execute the decree for ejectment, or will a separate suit be necessary? If the former, will the assessment and the order to pay the same be appealable? *N. B.*—Section 205.

47. *Section 208* (*b*).—Will the tenure so recognized by the settlement authorities be inviolable and unavoidable merely during the term of the temporary settlement, or will it so continue always, even when the temporary is converted into a permament settlement?

48. *Section 208* (*c*).—What are permanent buildings? Masonry structures alone, or will a building with mat or wicker walls, and a thatched roof, solid, well constructed, and of large dimensions fall within the category. I know it is difficult to define permanence; but at least it may be expressed that the phrase permanent buildings is not to be confined to those of masonary alone.

49. *Section 212.*—The officer who holds sales is the nazir, and the nazir never issues or makes a sale notification, or proclamation. That is invariably the work of the Court ordering the sale. Does section 212 intend any change in this respect? I trow not; but its language is not happy.

50. *Section 214.*—What proof of service will suffice? Much will turn on the service of notice, as the purchaser will be bound to avoid within a year from the date of his obtaining knowledge of the incumbrance set up, and the incumbrance will he annulled from the date of service only. Service by post is least likely to be disputed, and most likely to be real.

51. *Section 216* (*c*).—Is any, and if any what, notice to be given to the tenant of the claim under section 216 (*c*), and when must the claim be made? As soon as the sale is confirmed, I imagine; but within what interval of such confirmation?

52. *Section 217* (3).—On what grounds can a plaintiff demand to have a sale set aside?

53. *Section 224 and Schedule IV, Part* III.—Where the judgment-debtor has by fraud or force prevented the execution of the decree, what will the limitation be? The Bill is silent on the point, and Act XV of 1877 does not supply the defect.

54. It is apparently the intention of the framers of the Bill that, with the exceptions enacted, all suits, appeals, and other judicial proceedings under the Bengal Tenancy Act shall be governed by Act XIV of 1882, but this should be expressly enacted to obviate misunderstanding. Similarly, the application of the Indian Limitation Act XV of 1877 to such suits, appeals, and proceedings should, not be left open to argument. Section 225 expressly excludes the operations of section 7, 8, 9 in certain cases, and section 224 likewise supersedes Act XV of 1877 in certain particulars. Are we to infer from this that in all other cases and particulars Act XV of 1877 will apply? Hitherto, this doctrine has never been laid down so broadly, though various provisions of Act XV of 1877 have been applied to suits, &c., under Act VIII (B. C.) of 1869. I suggest therefore that the new Bill distinctly enact the extent of the application of Acts XV of 1877 and XIV of 1882 to suits, appeals, and other proceedings under it.

55. Does section 222 govern such orders as those contemplated by sections 97, 98, 99, &c.?

56. The Court will observe that I have abstained from discussing the policy of the Bill and the amendments proposed of the present law. The main provisions of the Bill have been settled, and I conceive that it now only remains to so frame the Bill as to leave as little room as possible for discussion of the intention of the Legislature. I must, of course, have overlooked many points open to argument, which will strike others; but I trust that some of my comments have revealed defects in the language of the Bill, the correction of which may hereafter prevent litigation, and will certainly facilitate the interpretation of the measure by those who have to administer it.

No. 352, dated Mozufferpore, the 14th May 1883.

From—A. C. BRETT, Esq., District Judge of Tirhoot, Mozufferpore,

To—The Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal.

In reply to your No. 1157E, dated 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to submit the following remarks.

The basis of the longstanding controversy, of which we have the outcome in the Tenancy Bill now before the Viceregal Council, is, in my opinion, the loose employment of such words as "owner," "proprietor," "malik," and the like, and the importation into India of ideas from feudal England. No single class of men can claim the same absolute ownership or proprietorship in land that a man has in (say) a plate or a box of matches. A piece of land is a portion of the crust of the globe we inhabit, and it produces the unearned increment which is the support of life. Ownership in it is therefore necessarily liable to be subject to limitation to co-ownership in fact. To apply this principle practicably, it is necessary to take workable portions of the crust of the globe, *e. g.*, a village. This practical application I believe to have been at the bottom of the distinction between *khudkasht* and *paikasht* ryots. The former were co-owners.

Occupancy right.—The fundamental idea connected by the word *khudkasht* was permanence. The test in old days of permanence was residence. The framers of Act X of 1859 kept to the fundamental idea, and varied the test in conformity with the altered conditions of the time to a holding for 12 years. I am glad to see that the period of 12 years is to be retained, and that it is not intended to travel as far as those enthusiastic gentlemen who proposed to act on the assumption that the legislators of 1859 did not understand the perpetual settlement. I cordially approve of that provision which lays down that a ryot who has held any land for 12 years (not necessarily the same land) in a village or estate should have the right of occupancy. I see that some who admit this principle wish to limit it to definite quantities of land, but I think this is inconsistent with the larger principle of co-ownership. When once a ryot has acquired the status of permanence, he is a co-owner in the village, and has the right to occupy whatever he holds.

Ordinary ryots.—As regards the "ordinary ryot" I disagree with the Bill. It is quite true that under the present law, if an ordinary ryot has received notice of enhancement and elects to stay, he cannot be compelled to pay more than a reasonable rent. This is, however, nothing but the Judicial statement of an equitable principle. The reasonable rent which he can be compelled to pay is for the time be actually stays. But he can be ejected. To tell a zemindar that he cannot evict without paying ten times the increment of rent demanded, is to tell him he cannot evict at all. The ordinary ryot should be left to make his own terms. We are supposed to be interpreting the permanent settlement, not altering it, and as I read it, the *paikasht* ryot (whose successor is the ordinary ryot) was not protected in any way.

Transferability of occupancy rights.—I have always held that these should be transferable, but with restrictions. I think a zemindar has a right to be protected from the incoming of an objectionable tenant. The proposed law strives to protect him by giving him the right of pre-emption, but it saddles this with the provision that the next tenant, whether a settled ryot or not, shall have a right of occupancy immediately. Unless therefore the zemindar is in a position to cultivate the land by his own ploughs, through his own servants (which is not often the case), the only way he can secure himself from an objectionable tenant is to throw away his money; and the operation may be repeated *ad infinitum*. I would allow of transfer in only two cases—(1) Voluntary transfer by the ryot (2) Compulsory sale by the landlord in execution of a decree for rent. As a remedy against the introduction of an objectionable tenant, I would give the zemindar a right of *veto* as to the transferee, subject to a summary appeal to the Collector or the Judge, who should finally decide whether the objection was reasonable or not. Pre-emption might remain as an alternative. Foreclosure and compulsory sale, otherwise than by the landlord, I would prohibit. There is no doubt that at least in Bengal occupancy rights have been transferred, and there is an inevitable tendency to attach the power of transfer to any valuable right. But at the same time the Indian ryot is not yet a fit man to be allowed to walk alone. The present Bill recognizes this in the restrictions it places on his right to contract. There is always the fear least he should fall, bound hand and foot, into the power of the money-lender, a useful man in his way, and one always ready to help a ryot through difficulties as long as the ryot has a holding, but who would swallow him up bodily if he lost this. I would protect the ryot's holding as if it were a plough or any other agricultural implement. It is said that no harm has come where transfers have taken place, but we have not seen the effect of proclaiming the absolute legality and unrestricted power of transfer.

Procedure for recovery of rent.—I entirely agree that there is no royal road to the discovery of facts, but I think that an incentive should be held out to all zemindars to keep really trustworthy accounts, by telling them that any zemindar who can satisfy (say) the District Judge that his accounts prove themselves will be allowed a summary decree. Details might be easily settled. A zemindar should keep his accounts in solidly bound books, with pages numbered, bearing a certificate signed and sealed by (say) a Registrar, and his receipts should be in counterfoil form, &c. On the matter of receipts, I am glad to see the proposed provisions. No one who has seen the loose jummabundi papers, and scraps of receipts which come up to be "duly attested," can help wishing for a reform. The only way to effect one is to show zemindars that it would be worth their while to be more business-like.

Enhancement of rent.—I consider that the proposed provisions on this subject constitute the most hopeful feature of the Bill. The task of framing records of rights, tables of rates, &c., is no doubt a formidable one, but in the resolute facing of this difficulty lies the only chance of success for a Rent law in this country, however equitable may be its spirit, and however scientific may be its drafting.

No. 486, dated Alipore, the 18th May 1883.

From—C. B. GARRETT, Esq., Officiating District Judge, 24-Pergunnahs,

To—The Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal.

In reply to your letter No. 1157F, dated 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to submit a report upon the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883.

I do not propose to enter into any general discussion as to the relations of landlord and tenants in this country, or to consider the necessity for introducing so drastic a measure as the present one. I simply propose to deal with the Bill as one that, with more or less modification, will certainly be passed next year, and to criticise the principal points in which the Bill seems to me advantageous or objectionable.

Section 21, sub-section 4.—This sub-section appears to press unfairly on the landlord. Surely in no conceivable case could it be fair that the whole net profits of a tenure, of which even the whole was unreclaimed when the tenure was created, should be perpetually enjoyed by the tenant. Surely the landlord, who owned the land before it was reclaimed, is entitled to something for the use of what I may call the raw material on which the tenant has operated his reclamation. For the words "whether it exceeds 30 per cent. thereof or not," I would substitute the words "not exceeding 70 per cent. thereof."

Sub-section 5.—The same objection, I think, applies to this sub-section. A tenure-holder who has made improvements is entitled, first, to the same amount of profit as if he had not made improvements, *i.e.*, not less than 10 per cent. and not more than 30 per cent. Then to a fair profit on his outlay by a fair profit on the outlay, I mean not merely the market rate of interest on the capital laid out only, but a profit which takes into consideration the increase of wealth won from the soil by the application of capital.

Thus, for instance, if by the application of £100 the produce of any quantity of land is raised from, say, £30 to £60, I consider a fair profit for that improvement to be not merely 5 per cent. or 10 per cent. on the £100, but a fair share of the increment, say roughly three-fourths. But the landlord is surely entitled to something for the "raw material" he supplies.

In this section, after the words "any share," I would therefore add "not exceeding 75 per cent. and not less than 10 per cent. of the balance mentioned in sub-section 3."

Section 24, cp. section 78.—I think this a most excellent rule; it deprives zemindars of the power of harassing their under-tenants by incessant litigation.

Section 49.—I think that this section is open to very serious objection. I am aware that it is founded on certain rulings which, although they may have correctly interpreted the law, have always appeared to me objectionable. The present section will affirm and consolidate these rulings. It will be a great disadvantage to the landlords, especially to small landlords in the Behar districts. I have known in these districts many small proprietors whose sole wealth was their *khamar*. I have always understood *khamar* land to be land which was admitted to be the peculium of the zemindar, and which he had every right to dispose of to the very best advantage that the state of the market allowed him to do. I do not think that we need be apprehensive that he will now-a-days be able to do more than this.

I quite accept it as a thing politically desirable (if economically unjust) that landlords should not be allowed further to increase their *khamar* lands, but I think that established *khamar* should not be interfered with, and that the tenants of *khamar* lands should not be permitted through the carelessness or ignorance of their landlords to acquire a right in this valuable peculium to the detriment of the landlord.

Section 50.—Does this mean simply that he may sublet a portion of his land, remaining liable to the landlord for the rent assessed on the whole, or he may at his option apportion his liability to his landlord? If the latter, I think it is a provision obviously unfair to the landlord

Section 56, Statement of Objects and Reasons, page 116.—After some fluctuation of opinion, I believe that this is a highly desirable provision. At first I was inclined to regard it as injurious to the ryot and likely to diminish the value of his occupancy right. I may say that, so far as the incoming tenants were isolated strangers, immigrants, or persons previously entirely unconnected with the land, I think that no great harm would accrue from their being assessed at the highest rate of rent which the landlord could obtain. Again, I do not believe it would be possible even for a very great zemindar to eject large bodies of his old ryots and supply their places with immigrants, or, what would amount to the same, to deport a whole body of cultivators from one village to another village within his estates. But I think it would be quite possible for him to take advantage of the needs or misfortunes of his tenants, and thus buy up their occupancy rights. Without some absolute restriction like the present, no legislative ingenuity would be sufficient to prevent his resettling the old tenants *swanami* or *benami* on the old lands at arbitrary rents. This is in fact often done now on small scale, and if done on large one would be a great political evil; therefore, I accept this as a salutary restriction.

Section 77.—I am inclined to think five years too long a period; it is rather an incentive to indolance and unthrift. Two years would be, I think, quite a sufficient time to allow. In the case of tenure-holders it is rather different. At tenure-holder finding his rent, say, doubled before he had time to increase the rents of his ryots, might be put to great inconvenience. A cultivating ryot, on the other hand, has only to work a little harder.

Section 85.—I accept entirely the principle of section 85, and the reasons given for it at page 121 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons, but I think such a right should be only co-extensive with the necessity. I would therefore so modify paragraph 2, so as to make it plain that although an agriculturist did not lose his right in his *bastu* land simply by ceasing to become a settled ryot, yet he did lose it by ceasing to be an agriculturist at all. A raiyat should not be able to sell all his *arable* lands and entirely abandon the occupation of husbandry, and still retain a permanent heritable and transferable right in his *bastu* in an agricultural village.

Section 93.—I think that this section is distinctly open to objection, as I believe it will make the exercise of the landlord's power to eject an ordinary ryot quite nugatory. I do not believe that, as a matter of fact, such a ryot would ever make any improvements for the cost of which he could not recoup himself within a year or two at the outside, but the existence of the section would enable him to raise all sorts of claims which must naturally be investigated, and which although, I believe, they would usually be unfounded, would still enable the ryot to harass the landlord and protract the litigation until the time for letting the holding would be passed, and the landlord would either be compelled to allow the old ryot to remain in possession, or would have the tenure thrown in his hands for a year without a tenant. I would make an exception in the case of the ryot having built ryot's ordinary dwelling-house, which any royot should, I think, be entitled to make, and for which, if ejected, he should be entitled to compensation. I think also that, although a tenant is fairly entitled to some small compensation for disturbance, ten times the increased rent would be excessive. I suggest three times the increased rent as a fairer rate.

Section 97.—I would go further than this section, and would make the rent payable in any local area on such dates and in such instalments as the Board of Revenue may appoint, saving only written contracts. It is a very common device for zemindars to harass their tenants to demand payment of rent in monthly kists, and in such cases I have always found it very difficult to ascertain what dates were customary, or in absence of any writing what dates had been agreed to by the parties.

Section 103, Clause c.—I feel very doubtful whether it is advisable to introduce a section like this into a Rent Act. I am inclined to think it will be very difficult to ascertain whether the ryot's doubts are *bond fide*, and as suitors in this country are always on the look-out for opportunities for tentative litigation, I fear that whenever there is disputes going on between different persons claiming lands as landlords that the ryots will be induced by one or other of the claimants to make deposits solely with the object of getting, if possible, a decision which will force the opposite side to go into Court as a plaintiff. If it were thought necessary to give the ryot this protection, I think it would be better to allow him to make such a deposit, simply stating the names of the claimants who should then be called on to interplead one another, and this deposit should have the effect of dismissing the ryot from the suit and protecting him against any further liability up to the amount of the sum deposited. In such a case zemindars could have little temptation to practice with ryots to make tentative deposits

Section 128, Clause 2.—I do not think that an ordinary ryot should be allowed to make improvements against the wishes of the zemindar except to the extent of building a house. An ordinary ryot has, it appears to me, no right in the land except what the landlord chooses to grant, and in the case of the very small area in the settled districts of the Lower Provinces, wherein occupancy rights have not been acquired, I think the landlords ought to be able to select their tenants and limit their rights. Presumably such tenants will be strangers and not settled ryots of the zemindari (whose status is entitled to every respect), and I do not see they have any particular claim to consideration. If an ordinary ryot having a little capital is permitted to make improvements against the wishes of his zemindar, he might easily, as soon as he has entered on the land, make such improvements as would make it impossible for the landlord to eject him. At the same time I do not think landlords should be encouraged to refuse such sanction merely from caprice. If an ordinary ryot desired to make improvements against the will of the landlord, I think that he should be allowed to serve a notice on his landlord, and that, if the landlord refused him consent, it should operate at the option of the ryot as a permission to abandon the holding at once. In the case of this class of tenants only, I would save any written engagements by the tenant at the time of entry not to make improvements against the will of the landlord.

Section 141.—I should prefer to see the presumption reversed. It is seldom that it is to the interest of a landlord that a tenure should merge. I think the presumption should be that the tenure does not merge unless the contrary is shewn.

CHAPTER XIII.

I confess I should have been glad to see the power of distraint entirely abolished. I am convinced, however, it that would be unjust to the landlords to do so at present. My experience is that it is a power very greatly abused. At the same time I admit, when Collector and Manager of Wards' estates under Act XL of 1858, having had experience of villages, from which I could never realize my rents except by distraint. This was of course before Act VIII of 1869 (B. C.) came into force.

Section 202.—This section does not provide for cases in which the breach or damage cannot be compensated by a money payment. I would add after the words "breach" always provided it can be compensated by a payment in money.

The above are, I think, the only sections in the Act which strike me as objectionable or calculated to press unfairly on the landlord. The new Bill no doubt effects a considerable change in the relations of landlord and tenant, but in my opinion that change will be a beneficial one, and a change which, without unduly curtailing the rights of the landlord, will tend to raise and strengthen those whose interests it is the duty and the truest policy of our Government to cherish—the mass of the common people.

No. 571, dated Commillah, the 12th May 1883.

Form—R. TOWERS, ESQ., District Judge of Tipperah,

To—The Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal.

In reply to your letter No. 1157J, dated 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to submit the following remarks on the new Rent Bill.

2. The measure is no doubt an extremely able one, and shews a thorough grasp of all the vexed questions arising between the conflicting parties whose interests will be affected by it. It is clear, however, that it is conceived more in the interest of the tenant than of the landlord, and while the latter gains very little from it, the tenant on the other hand acquires substantial advantages at the landlord's expense, which in many cases exceed the tenants' demands, which are entirely novel in their character, and which appear to be derived rather from a consideration of what has been found expedient in foreign countries than from Indian law or custom.

3. Amongst these I would class (1) the easy terms on which occupancy rights are conferred; (2) the confiscation of the landlord's rights to deal as he chooses with land that has once been *ryoti* when it reverts to his private possession; (3) the almost entire abolition of the right of private contract between parties; (4) compensation for disturbance; (5) the power given to ryots to make improvements against the landlord's wish. I do not wish to be understood as meaning that many of these innovations (within proper limits) may not be justified, but they are one-sided in their character, and the other side is not compensated by any corresponding advantages. I admit the difficulty of conceding to the zemindar his main demand, greater facility in realization of his dues, but I am not prepared to say that it could not be satisfied to a certain extent. There is, however, hardly any attempt made to do so in the Bill.

4. The next general observation which occurs to me is that litigation will be enormously fostered by the Bill. The parties are driven into Court or before the Revenue authorities at every step; even where a ryot agrees to the addition of a few annas to his *jumma*, he cannot register his contract unless with the approval of a public officer. Transfer of occupancy rights will be almost entirely effected through the Courts: so will registration of transferable tenures. Preparation of tables of rates and produce, and records of rights (extremely desirable objects, no doubt), will require a large and expensive staff of officers, and the decision of claims for compensation, for disturbance and improvements will add largely to the business of the Courts. These are not all the provisions of the Bill which will increase litigation, and Government will have to make up its mind to a large addition to the number of Munsiffs and Subordinate Judges to deal with the new work that will be thus thrown on these already overburdened officers.

5. Then not a few of the provisions of the Bill seem unsuited to practical working. Among these I would instance the procedure regulating the transfer of occupancy rights, sections 51-5; the rules for the preparation of tables of rates, sections 62 *et seq*; those directing apportionment of expenses, section 72; rules for enhancement, sections 73-6, which seem very intricate. Those requiring delivery of a statement of account, section 101, chapter XI, which renders nearly all the labour and expense of the proceedings before the Revenue Officer liable to go for nothing, if either party chooses to resort to the Civil Court.

6. That there are many admissible provisions in it, I do not for a moment mean to deny. I have not in my remarks in detail referred to these, but when I pass them over, I mean it to be generally understood that I approve or do not object to them. Among others I would particularly mention sections 98, 100, 122, 125, 142, 148, 150, chapter XIII generally, 199, 200, 203 (*a*), 204, 205-7.

7. I now come to the details of the Bill.

CHAPTER II.

I think the expression "private" land is too vague and will give rise to difficulty. There is a good deal of land even in the eastern districts, which the proprietors let out for yearly cultivation, sometimes to one tenant, sometimes to another, in which no right of occupancy is ever claimed by the cultivator. Will this be considered *khamar*? I think it will be a hardship on the landlord if it is held to be *ryoti* within the meaning of the Bill. The survey and register under section 7 will, I believe, be a work of enormous difficulty. Every plot will be disputed, and there will be in effect a civil suit contested in every stage before the Survey Officer, the Commissioner, the Board, and Government.

It seems to me to be more expedient to allow each case to be settled by the Courts on its own merits in case of dispute, than to cause widespread discord by sending a roving commission about the country to agitate questions on which the parties concerned are themselves

quiescent. I believe there is no injustice felt in this part of the country, at all events, on this subject (whatever may be the case in Behar).

CHAPTER V.

The two chief points open to criticism in this chapter seem to be (1) the definition of occupancy rights in sections 45 and 47; (2) the provision in section 56 that any ryot taking land from a landlord, of which the latter has himself acquired the occupancy right, shall have a right of occupancy in it.

With regard to the first of these, the extreme care has been put that under the Bill a ryot who has held two *cottahs* of land in village A for 12 years, may acquire rights of occupancy in 200 bigahs in villages B, C, and D, though he may have had possession of the same land for only three or four months. The necessity of the provision has been maintained, on the ground that otherwise the landlord, by shifting the ryot from one plot to another, might prevent the acquirement of the right in any one plot. There may be parts of the country where this is done, but I do not believe in the existence of the practice in Bengal. It may be difficult to give a difinition of occupancy rights which would satisfy everybody, but I think the proposed one must be modified. If the landlord could shew that it was at the ryot's own request that he allowed him to change his land, I think possession of the land subsequently acquired ought not to count in continuation of the former holding. If the holding is made up of lands taken at different periods, only in those held for 12 years should the right be deemedto accrue. The burden of shewing the different periods and the area taken up at reach might be placed on the landlord, as matters peculiarly within his knowledge. If he keeps proper *jumma-wasil-baki* papers, he should have no difficulty in proving the particulars. The payment of rent is not made a condition to the retention of occupancy rights, which is a material departure from section 6, Act VII of 1869 (B.C). It was held in Narayan Roy *versus* Upiul Misser, 11 C. L. R. 417, that payment of rent is not necessary to the *acquirement* of such rights, but the Bill goes further still. The provisions against contract in sections 45 and 47 may be justifiable in some parts of the country. As a rule, I believe the ryots in the eastern districts are well able to take care of themselves in this respect, and they have the great safeguard of the Registration Land Act (III of 1877) in their favour. There need be little fear of ryots being entrapped into signing *kabulyats*, so long as the registration of *kabulyats** is compulsory. Should there not be an addition to section 50(*d*), allowing a decree for ejectment on the ground of forfeiture, *i.e.*, when the ryot repudiates his landlord's title and sets up an adverse one? *Vide* Article 12, clause 8 of Mr. Field's Digest.

* I Know that *kabulyats* for one year are not compulsorily registerable, but they ought to be made so. The omission has been a fruitful cause of fraud.

I have received some strong representations as to the delay which will be caused to the landlord by his not being allowed to eject an occupancy ryot for arrears of rent, his remedy under the Bill being the sale of the holding. This is one of the points where the zemindars asking for bread (*i.e.*, greater facility of realization) have been given a stone. But I think the arguments in favour of transferability are unanswerable, and it follows that sale of the holding and not ejectment is the proper remedy; even at present it has been held that if a ryot has a transferable interest in his *jote*, he cannot be ejected for non-payment of rent. *Vide* Kristendra Roy Chowdhry *versus* Aina Bewa, 10 C. L. R. 399.

Then with regard to section 56, except in cases of ejectment, section 50 (*d*), and lapse, section 50 (*g*), the only way in which the landlord can acquire the right is by purchase (the two exceptions will evidently be of very rare occurrence). But if he is compelled to treat any person to whom he subsequently lets the land as an occupancy ryot, what consideration has he had for his purchase money? It is said that he may keep the land in his own hands, and cultivate it by labourers or hired servants. But in many cases it might be extremely inconvenient for him to do so. It would require an amount of capital which he frequently would not possess, and even if he did, his tastes and habits might not lie in the direction of practical farming.

In my opinion there is an economic mistake, as well as a serious injustice, in the provisions of this section. I see no reason why land thus acquired should not be considered as the "private" land of the proprietor, the danger stated in the "Objects and Reasons," paragraph 42, seems only imaginary; the new ryots would come in with their eyes open, and even ordinary ryots are substantially protected by the Bill.

CHAPTER VI.

Sections 58-61.—Here again, I think, there is too much interference with private contract, and I think section 61, at all events, is not defensible. Why should a settled ryot, who wishes to take on more land than that in respect of which he has acquired his *status*, be allowed to hold any further land he may take from the zemindar on privileged terms? Of course the section is the natural outcome of the hard-and-fast distinction of all land into *ryoti* and *khamar*, but, as I have already said, it seems to me unjust that a landlord should not be permitted to turn *ryoti* into *khamar* if he has obtained the *ryoti* right to it by legitimate means. The preparation of a table of rates will be practically impossible in most places, the rates varying so much even in comparatively restricted areas.

Section 78.—The period of 10 years laid down in this seems too short. Any change ought, I think, to be absolutely prohibited for at least 20 years.

Section 79.—There ought to be a ground added to this section allowing the ryot to claim a reduction on the converse of the ground stated in section 74 (1), *viz.*, that the rent paid by him is above the prevailing rate payable by ryots of the same class for similar lands in the vicinity.

CHAPTER VII.

Under section 88 it is not clear but that an absconding ryot, *i. e.* one who has abandoned his cultivation in the village and gone elsewhere, may not still for an indefinite period retain his right to the hut which he has erected on his holding, and which has ceased to be of any use to himself or to any one else when he has abandoned it. Right to the *bastu* ought not to survive rights to the cultivable land when the latter is abandoned.

Section 90.—Ejectment for forfeiture should be allowed; *vide* note to section 50 (*d*).

CHAPTER VIII.

The provisions of this chapter are entirely novel, and most of them seem to me to furnish very reasonable ground of complaint to the landlord. The limit to the amount of rent demandable under section 89 (read with section 119) seems very low, and I question whether the law should fix any limit.

Section 90 (*b*)—Pre-supposes that there will be a written contract, which in most instances will not be the case; and compensation for disturbance imposes a penalty on the landlord for exercising an admitted right. With regard to compensation for improvements, there will, as a rule, be no improvements in Bengal, except the ryot's hut or homestead, which, though dignified with the name of an "improvement" in section 126, is a very questionable one from the landlord's point of view. It is not as if the ryot built a substantial farmhouse and out-houses as in Europe, which would be of use to an incoming tenant; it will consist only of a list of thatch and fencing and a *bhita* which the next comer will probably prefer not to take over at all, but to raise a new one for himself. Still the owner is entitled to something for it, and this provision is therefore, I think, equitable enough. If the principle of compensation for disturbance be retained, I think it should only be allowed where the Court considers the enhanced rent demanded to be grossly unreasonable.

Section 91.—It has been suggested, I think very reasonably, that it should be declared that failure to prove service of the notice should not cause the suit to be dismissed. The service or non-service might be taken into consideration in determining the question of costs, or the time from which the enhancement should commence.

CHAPTER IX.

Section 96.—Alteration of rent on account of excess or diminished area *ascertained by measurement* seems to be left out of the Bill. Sections 18 and 19, Act VIII of 1869, specified them as grounds of enhancement and abatement. I do not know whether their omission from the Bill is intentional. I find no explanation of this in the "Objects and Reasons."

I would omit section 101 as tending to unnecessary trouble and complication. If the ryot gets the receipt specified in section 100, he cannot want anything more. The particulars required by section 101 seem to correspond very much with those contained in the ordinary *jumma-wasil-baki* papers, which the zemindar will probably keep for his own convenience; but if the ryot gets the receipt to which he is entitled by the preceding section, he should not be allowed to harass his landlord by putting him to the expense of an extra establishment for furnishing "extracts of account," and subjecting him to prosecution for neglect to do so. This section will operate as a real hardship on zemindars, with no corresponding advantage to the ryot.

Section 102.—My experience in rent suits has led me to the conclusion that there is nothing more important to the interests of the ryot (and indeed of the landlord too, though he does not always think so) than a proper system of receipts. The form in section 100 seems an admirable one, and the retention of the amount of *jumma* (clause *f*) should be insisted* on. I am sure I am within the mark when I say that three-fourths of the cases I have had to deal with in this district, between landlord and tenant, arise from dispute as to the amount of *jumma* in each case payable. Pottahs and *kabulyats* being unfortunately as yet comparatively rare, there is nothing to decide the point, but unsatisfactory oral evidence and such confirmation thereof as may be found in the zemindar's papers. The introduction of clause *f* will be a great boon to the ryots, and, considering the importance of it, I would make the punishment of the landlord much more severe than that laid down in section 102, which seems to me entirely inadequate. In most cases it will not be worth a ryot's while to put himself to the trouble of prosecuting for such a petty sum as double the few annas for which a receipt has been withheld. We may be sure that the costs he would obtain in the suit, even if he won it, would not reimburse him. The force of these remarks will be more evident if we bear in mind the exceedingly small *jummas* of most of the ryots; six millions out of 10 paying less than 5 a year—*vide* Mr. Justice Cunningham's minute. I would make the withholding a receipt for

* NOTE.—*I* would modify this by adding "in the case of settled ryots." It has been pointed out to me that in some yearly lettings called *uthapara* in this part of the country, corresponding, I believe, with the *uttandi* in Nuddea, the rent depending on the area found on measurement to have been cultivated by the ryot, it is not usual for the landlord to prepare his jummabundi till late in the year. Payments will, however, have been made before that by the ryot, and in receipts given for such, it will not be practicable to enter the amount of the jumma.

any sum a high misdemeanor, punishable with fine extending to (say) Rs. 500, out of which the ryot should be reimbursed full costs of suit besides penalty.

Section 125.—There is no provision in the Bill corresponding to sections 57, 61, 64, and 65 of Act VIII of 1869. It ought to be distinctly laid down whether, in the case of arrears of tenure, the landlord's remedy is to be confined solely to the sale of the tenure, or whether he can also proceed against other property of his debtor, and if so, whether before or after sale of the tenure. In this connection, I would call attention to a recent important ruling of the High Court, I. L. R. VII, Calcutta, 748, which certainly interprets the law differently from the way in which it had been previously understood. The omission of all reference to the subject in the Bill may give cause to much difficulty, and there ought, I think, to be an authoritative exposition of the law on it.

CHAPTER X.

Sections 126-8.—I doubt whether either party will make much use of these sections. I must say that the provisions generally of the Bill hold out but little inducement to the landlord to make improvements (which others will reap all the benefit of), but the principle contained in these sections is undoubtedly novel. They may be beneficial, but they upset existing ideas. Permission to dig a well or excavate a tank has hitherto been held a high prerogative of the landlord. There will no doubt be loud complaints on this point. The principle is objectionable, chiefly, I think, because it confers a right on the ryots which they would never have thought of claiming themselves, and I think reforms in this direction should only be where the people themselves demand them.

Section 129.—I do not know whether the word "predecessor" in clause 1 is designedly in the singular number if it includes the plural, as it may, by section 2, Act I of 1868, I think. Some limit of time within which the improvement must have been made should be laid down.

Section 133, proviso.—In cases of increase or loss to his property by alluvion or deluvion, it might be a hardship to prohibit the landlord from measuring again within 10 years.

CHAPTER XI.

This chapter is intended to apply to *all* classes of ryots. I would, for reasons already given, exclude ordinary ryots from its operation. I think Government should not interfere with the zemindar's power of contracting with them on any such terms as may be mutually agreed on.

I confess I do not quite understand the distinction between rents subject to alteration by order of a Court and rents not subject to such alteration. Will the Revenue Officer have the power of deciding what tenants' rents fall within each class? His decisions in the latter class of cases will have little finality, their correctness being merely presumed until anybody shows the contrary in a civil suit. Litigation will therefore be hardly, if at all, prevented in this class of cases.

In the other class he should either not interfere at all, or his powers should be more extensive. It may be right that he should have a discretion to refer cases to the Civil Court under section 155, but I think the powers of revision given to the latter by section 160 are much too large. The matters referred to in clauses (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) are surely ones in which the Revenue Officer, who it is to be presumed will visit the spot, measure the ground, &c., will be in a better position to decide than the Civil Court. The period of 10 years in section 160 should be extended to 20. It is of the utmost importance that people should not be harassed by liability to frequent change in these matters.

CHAPTER XIII.

I am not one of those who would recommend the abolition of distraint. It is in many cases, even in Bengal, absolutely necessary to the legimate security of the landlord, who ought to have a first charge on the produce of the land. I have observed in the printed reports of discussions in Council and elsewhere that very little objection has been taken on any side to the provisions of this chapter. Two of them seem absolutely necessary to be maintained.—(1) That the landlord must not himself be allowed to interfere in any way with the distraint (except in applying to the Court for it), wich must be entirely carried out by the Court's officers. (2) The penal provisions of sections 185-6 which are necessary to give effect to the former principle.

In section 167 (2), I think the court-fee should be eight annas only. That specified is too high a tax on the landlord. He has not yet the benefit of a full adjudication of his claim, as he may afterwards have to defend a suit under section 181 (4).

CHAPTER XIV.

The arguments against furnishing zemidars with any summary remedies for the recovery of arrears rent are certainly difficult to be answered. Chapter XIV simplifies the existing procedure a little, and section 199 is no doubt a wholesome provision; but still the fact remains that numbers of ryots withhold their rents with no excuse whatever, and Chapter XIV will not have much effect on them. They simply decline to pay until they are forced, and I have heard it explained how it pays them to do so. The first thing is that they gain time. They know there will be a good deal of delay before the landlord can get his

case ready for Court, and after the plaint is filed, they know there will be a good deal of further delay before they are called on to appear, and still more before the case is decided, especially as the Rent Munsif's files are so heavily blocked (I am of course now speaking of this district only). There then will be the time taken in appeal, and finally the chance of a successful claim by a friendly neighbour to the property attached in execution. The above proceedings may be easily spun out for a year, and frequently longer even in cases where there is absolutely no defence; and I am afraid that even under Chapter XIV the delay will not be much curtailed. The danger of allowing zemindars the summary powers exercised by the Collector in *khas mehals*, &c., under the certificate system, has of course been amply demonstrated. There is one suggestion, however, which I would make bold to offer, *viz.*, that in any suit where the zemindar produced a decree shewing that the *jumma* claimed by him had been awarded by the Court against the defendant within (say) three years of suit, with a declaration on oath that it had since been due and unpaid, and submitted his *jumma-wasil-baki* or similar papers to the Court's inspection as proof thereof, a decree for the amount should forthwith be passed, subject to the condition that execution be at once taken out, the defendant to be heard summarily on any objection made by him. Something like this would, I believe, work well in this district; the only defence would in nine cases out of ten be a plea of payment, which, under the now stringent rules as to accounts and receipts, ought to be settled at once without difficulty. There should be no appeal by the defendant unless he paid the amount decreed into Court.

Section 196.—Evidence should be taken down *verbatim* whether an appeal is allowed. If this section stands, Appellate Court will be placed in a very difficult position, somewhat as they are at present, in appeals in summary trials under the Criminal Procedure, where, on the meagre depositions on the record, it is often impossible to say whether the first Court was right or wrong. Abbreviation of the evidence will be no help, but the contrary, to the Appellate Court. If the section stands, I am sure there will be many remands on this score.

Section 198.—It is probably thought that the limitation of power to appeal is a provision which will operate chiefly in favour of the zemindars. My experience does not lead me to that conclusion. The Court of first instance (by which I, of course, mean the Munsif's principally), according to my experince, favour the ryots as a class more than the zemindars. Restrictions on the power to appeal would, I believe, be felt as a greater hardship, therefore, by the latter than by the former. The provisions in section 198 (*a*) seem unimpeachable. I almost think (*b*) would be better omitted. A Munsif so vested would be under great temptation to become either a "zemindar's man" or a "ryot's man," and the District Judges work would be enormously increased by the last proviso of the section, which would be sure to be worked so as to give him as much trouble as if there was an appeal in every case.

Section 200.—Nor would I allow a landlord to sell his right to the rents to any one but his successor in interest as landlord. Temporary tenure-holders, such as *ijaradars* and *dur-ijaradars* for short terms, often sell to speculators their rights to the rents from the ryots for one, two or three years. This should I think be prohibited. Chapter VIII of the Transfer of Property Act seems to sanction the practice, but does not give adequate protection to the ryot.

CHAPTER XVI.

I would draw attention to the note in Mr. Field's Digest, pp. 56-7. It may be, if *exclusio mims* is *expressio alterins*, that section 225 may be held to mean that, with the exception of sections 7, 8 and 9 of the Limitaiton Act, the provisions of that Act generally apply to suits, &c., under the Bill. If so, there will be no difficulty, otherwise there ought to be an express declaration to that effect. It seems doubtful, however, whether it would be expedient to extend the provisions of the Limitation Act generally to suits, &c., under the Bill. Some sections of the Act no doubt ought to be so extended, such as section 5, paragraph 1, sections 12, 17, 18, 22 and 25. There are others which are more doubtful, *vis.* section 5, paragraph 2, which is opposed to section 103, Act VIII of 1869 (B.C.), and perhaps section 14.

SCHEDULE III.

There is such a remarkable unanimity amongst all those whom I have consulted on the necessity for the insertion of some provision to protect putnidars from exactions on the part of zemindars (or rather of their servants), that I have thought proper to notice the matter, though I myself thought section 14, clause 1, sufficiently provided for it. I have, however, been assured that the Collector does not consider himself at liberty to receive amounts tendered under that section, but refers the parties to the zemindar's amla, who invariably refuse to receive it, and stop the sale, except on receipt of a gratuity amounting sometimes to so much as 10 per cent. on the deposit

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No. 450, dated Bankoora, the 16th May 1883.

From—Baboo Brajendra Coomar Seal, District Judge of Bankoora,

To—The Registrar of the High Court of Judicature, Calcutta.

With reference to your No. 1157 J. of the 23rd ultimo, calling for an expression of opinion on the provisions of the Rent Bill, I have the honour to submit as follows.

2. The Bill is in some respects an improvement on the Bill drafted by the Rent Commission; and, generally speaking, I approve its provisions.

3. On going through the Bill, what has suggested itself to me I proceed to note for the consideration of the Court:

CHAPTER I.

4. *Section 3, clause (3), Tenure*—Ryots of the class described in section 14 ought not to be brought under the category of tenure-holders. Paragraph 13 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons explains that it is necessary to call them tenure-holders, simply because it is convenient to do so from the draftsman's point of view; but in course of time the ground on which they have been called tenure-holders would be lost sight of, and they themselves would lose the privileges of a ryot.

5. *Section 3, clause (10).*—Perhaps it would be better to put it in the following form: "Rent" means whatever is payable in money or deliverable in kind, &c.

6. *Section 3, clause (13).*—The definition, as contained in the Rent Commission Bill, I consider to be better.

7. Each of the members of a joint-family, consisting of five brothers, may grant a lease with respect to his undivided fifth share in any land. In such a case it would be doubtful whether the *holding* under each of the brothers would come under the definition of the *holding* as given in the Bill. The words "*a parcel of land*" are objectionable.

CHAPTER II.

8. *Section 6.*—The presumption contained in the latter part of this section, if allowed to remain, is likely to create difficulty. Thus A, a ryot, sues to recover possession of land, saying that it is his *ryoti* land; the landlord contends it is *khamar*: A, as plaintiff, ought to start the case. He would be able to prove that it is not *khamar* by producing an extract from the papers relating to the measurement provided for by the Act, as well as the landlord would. Under such circumstances, it would hardly be fair to call upon the defendant in the first instance to disprove the case set forth in the plaint.

9. *Section 7.*—Opportunity may now be taken of making provision for the registry of tenures and the occupancy ryot's holding, on the line of the Land Registration Act (Act VII of 1876). Every sub-divisional office ought to have a register of all tenures within its jurisdiction, and every rural Registrar's office a register of the holdings of all settled ryots, in the same way as the District Collector has in his office a register of all revenue-paying and revenue-free properties.

CHAPTER III.

10. *Sections 16 and 17.*—These sections ought to come under section 15 as Explanation I and Explanation II, respectively. That was the position accorded to them by the Rent Commission.

11. *Section 25.*—It ought to be made clear that the permanent tenure is also *heritable*.

12. *Section 27, sub-section 2, clause (b).*—The fee provided for by this section seems to be high. It will be sufficient if it is made double of what is laid down in clause (*a*).

13. *Section 27, sub-section (3).*—Some provision ought to be made when the landlord refuses to give his reasons in writing.

14. *Sections 28 and 32.*—Instead of Revenue Officer, I would prefer Civil Court; at any rate, a wider latitude may be left for the Local Government by substituting the simple word *Officer* for *Revenue Officer*.

15. Throughout the Bill it is provided that a man should first go to the Revenue Court and then to the Civil Court. This procedure will not only be expensive, but also inconvenient. The best course would be at once to go to the court where he will get the final relief. I say inconvenient, because the limits of the sub-divisional jurisdiction are oftentimes more expensive than those of the Munsifs, and therefore the sub-divisional offices are not as easily accessible to the people as the Munsifs are.

16. *Section 29.*—This section will clash with section 312 of the Civil Procedure Code. It will perhaps be better to leave the auction purchaser to follow the course laid down for a private purchaser. That will be reasonable, and it will at the same time secure uniformity of practice.

17. *Section 30.*—There ought to be an application to serve the purpose of a reminder, otherwise mistake is likely to occur in the case of owners of extensive properties like the Maharajah of Durbhunga or the Maharajah of Burdwan. It will be more business-like to make it incumbent on the purchaser to make an application, but without fee.

18 *Section 31*—Instead of jointly *and* severally, it would, I think, be better to say jointly *or* severally. When two persons are jointly *and* severally liable, both of them must be sued, and the decree may be joint and several; but it is doubtful whether the one or the other may be sued separately. My object in proposing *or* for *and* is to leave it open to the landlord to sue both or either. If the phrase "jointly *and* severally" would not stand in the way of a suit being brought against either the one or against the other, or against both, I have no objection to allow the section to stand as it is.

19. *Section 44.*—By custom, having the force of law, the phrase "*having the force of law*" has been used either as expletive or as definitive. If it has been used as an expletive, it is liable to be mistaken for a definitive phrase. If it has been used as definitive, it will create

difficulty in practice. I think it is better to omit the phrase, leaving simply the word "custom"—custom, to be valid in law, has its well-known incidents.

20. *Section 45, Notwithstanding any contract to the contrary.*—At one time I was of opinion that laws ought not to interfere with contracts, but I now think that without such a provision the object of the law is liable to be defeated. I therefore approve the section as it is.

21. *Section 46.*—One year seems to be too short a period. In anology to the limitation in cases of prescription, I would make it two years. Then "*ceasing to hold ryoti land as a ryot*" ought to be explained or illustrated, otherwise difficulties will arise in practice. When the ryot does not cultivate, but continues to pay rent, will he be considered to have ceased to hold as ryot?

22. The period of one year, or whatever the term may be, must be *continuous*. It is therefore desirable to add the word *continuous* before "period."

23. The Bill protects two classes of ryots, *viz.*, (1) ryots who have held lands in a village for a period of twelve years, though it may not be the same land, and (2) ryots to whom occupancy right has been granted by deed; but it gives no protection to a class of ryots who are, as a matter of fact, looked upon as superior in rank to many coming under the first class, *e.g.*, a tenant who has for twelve years held different lands of the same village as a *bhag* tenant, he will obtain the rights of an occupancy tenant; but one who has resided in the village for eleven years and cultivated the land of that village for eleven years, and has given ample proof that he intends to live permanently in the village, is not protected. The custom under section 4 would not help him, because, since the passing of Act X of 1859, there has been an interruption of the custom which protected *khudkasht* ryots, and one of the incidents of custom is that it must be uninterrupted. He may no doubt acquire the rights of an occupancy tenant by deed under section 48, but landlords are not likely to favour such grants.

24. I would be satisfied if a section were inserted between section 48 and section 49, to to say that, when a ryot cultivates the land of a village and lives there, and intends to live there permanently, he will also be considered settled tenant, with the right of occupancy, notwithstanding any contract to the contrary.

25. *Section 49.—Under a lease for a fixed period.*—A holds *khawar* land without any engagement for five years. After the expiration of the five years, he takes a lease of the land for a fixed period of thirteen years. Here, when the lease has run for seven years, A shall have held the land for a period of twelve years. He would not, under the section as it stands at present, acquire the right of occupancy, because he has held it for a portion of twelve years under a lease for a fixed period. The section ought to be made more clear, so as not to lead to such a conclusion.

26. *Section 50.*—I approve the rights proposed to be given to occupancy tenants. At one time I held that, to keep the ryots at a safe distance from the mahajuns, it would be wiser to make the interest of an occupancy ryot not mortgageable. I give up that idea and accept the incidents as they are laid down in this section. I object only to the proviso to clause (*g*) as being unwise and unstatesmanlike. The words "proprietor of the soil" in the Regulations of 1793 have given rise to a good deal of misconception. This proviso, which virtually makes the landlords represent the Crown in certain respects, is likely to give rise to further misconception in future. The practice, as it obtains at present, is that the Crown does not exercise its right by escheat with respect to *mal* land; that practice may be continued, and it will serve the purpose of the said proviso.

27. *Section 50, sub-section (1).*—Instead of the *Office of the Collector*, I would substitute *Civil Court*, as ultimately he shall under sub-section (3) have to come to the Civil Court. To go from one office to another for a matter like that would cause delay and trouble. The matter ought at once to be settled by the Civil Court.

28. Instead of *one month from the date on which he files the notice* in sub-sections 1 and 3, I would make it 15 days from the date of the service of notice, making it discretionary with the Courts to extend the period on satisfactory grounds.

29. *Sub-section (4).—Within six months from the date of sale.*—The period of the limitation ought to be the same as that fixed for cases of pre-emption (Article 10, Schedule II of the Limitation Act), *viz.* one year.

30. *At a price ten per centum below its estimated value.*—This is a very wise provision and I support it. It will serve as a self-adjusting safety-valve.

31. *Section 54, sub-section (1).*—For the office of the Collector I would make Civil Court.

32. *Sub-section (3).*—For *one month from the date on which the notice is filed*, I would make *fifteen days from the date of the service of notice.*

33. *Sub-section (4).*—For 'within six months,' I would propose one year.

34. *Section 55.—Claim to purchase from the legatee or any other person, &c.*—Exception ought to be made in cases where the tenant, with a desire that the property should remain in his family, bequeaths it to his widowed sonless daughter, or widowed daughter-in-law, who, though not heiress-at-law, are still the objects of his affection, and whom he looks upon as members of his family.

35. *Section 59, sub-section (1), Chapter VI.—"Approved of, and registered by, a Revenue Officer appointed by the Local Government in this behalf."*—The plan is not likely to work satisfactorily if the section stands as it is. I would modify it thus: "Approved by the Court in which a suit for the enhancement would lie, and registered under the Registration law after approval."

36. *Sub-section (2.)*—The standard is perhaps low; it may be raised to eight annas, one-fourth of the estimated average annual value of the produce respectively.

37. *Section 61, sub-sections (1) and (2.)*—I would omit both these sections. So much interference is not necessary.

38. *Section 62.*—The greatest care is necessary to prepare the table of rates, and the local area taken must be limited in extent. A table of rate made without due care and circumspection, and for large areas, is likely to do more mischief than good. The preparation of the table of rates ought to be entrusted to the Rent Suit Munsifs. Although provision is made for the preparation of table of rates by Revenue Officers under the superintendence of the superior Revenue authorities, much will depend upon the exertions of the officer doing the original work, and if that is clumsily done, the Appellate authorities will feel great difficulty in altering it without holding another local investigation.

39. Without detracting the least from the merits of the Revenue Officers, it can be confidently asserted that such tables are likely to be better prepared by Munsifs who have been accustomed to try enhancement suits than by officers new to the work. At any rate, for the present, for *Revenue Officer* in section 62, it may be put down simply *officer*.

40. Instead of the assessors being appointed by the Local Government, it will be better to leave it to the landlord and the ryot, each to select one assessor.

41. *Section 74, clause (2)—From causes not merely temporary or casual.*—Temporary or casual causes may produce permanent improvement. The language ought to be clearer.

42. I approve the rules contained in sections 76 and 78.

Section 79, sub-section (1).—Boná fide contracts entered into before the passing of this Bill ought to be saved.

43. *Sub-section (1) clauses (a) and (b)—Have decreased from cause beyond the ryot's control and not merely temporary or casual."*—The words "temporary and casual" have evidently been employed to mean that there has only been a temporary or casual decrease of the productive power; but according to the grammatical construction, the words temporary or casual refer to "cause." From temporary or casual cause there may be permanent decrease in the productive power. The language ought to be made clearer.

44. *Section 82, sub-section (2), clause (b).*—Instead of five years I would make it ten. Sometimes high price prevails for years. There will be no difficulty in getting ten years' price-current, as the Bill provides that price-currents should be annually made and published.

CHAPTER VIII.

45. *Sections 91 and 92.*—If a section such as I have proposed in paragraph 24 be added, I have no objection to these sections; otherwise I would strongly oppose the applicability of these sections to the class of ryots mentioned in that paragraph.

46. *Section 93, sub-section (2), clause (b).*—The compensation for disturbance appears to be high: I would reduce it considerably. I would make it one year's rent, *i.e.*, the increased rent.

CHAPTER IX.

47. *Section 96, sub-section (2).*—The principle laid down in sub-section (3), regulating decrease, ought also to regulate the increase.

48. *Sections 97 and 98.*—In the absence of agreement and custom, the tenure holders ought to be made to pay their rent fifteen days and the ryots one month before the Government revenue payable on account of the estate to which the tenure or holding appertains becomes due; and when the tenure or holding forms part of a revenue-free property fifteen days or one month, as the case may be, when the road-cess on account of such property is payable.

49. *Section 100, sub-section (4).*—It will be useful to have the acknowledgment of the recipient on the counterfoil, when that is practicable.

50. *Section 102, sub-section (3).*—I would omit that sub-section, and substitute in its place a rule like this. If the landlord fails to produce with his plaint, in a suit for rent, the counterfoils for the previous three years, the plaint shall be rejected.

51. *Section 103.*—Payment of rent by post office money order ought to have legislative sanction. If a column in the money-order form be added to shew on what account the money-order is being sent, it would admirably suit the convenience of the ryots without causing any inconvenience to the landlord.

52. *Section 106, sub-section (1).*—In clause (*c*), section 103, is the officer to make any sort of investigation before ordering payment? In such cases the parties ought invariably to be referred to a suit.

53. *Section 108.—Liable to interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum.*—Some discretion ought to be left to the Court to meet exceptional cases; for example in years of famine, when the ryot is unable to pay, it would be very hard to decree interest at 12 per cent.

54. *Section 112.*—For Collector I would make Civil Court.

55. *Section 114, sub-section (2).*—First to the Collector and then to the Civil Court would be a tedious process, it ought at once to be disposed of by the Civil Court.

CHAPTER X.

56. *Section 128.*—An ordinary ryot is not likely to make any improvement, but his right to improve, in the same way as a settled ryot would, ought not to be restricted in any way by legislative enactment.

57. *Section 129, sub-section (4).—Unless it is shown that the landlord, &c.,*—I would omit that provision. That is likely to do more mischief than good.

58. *Section 130.—The Local Government may make rules with respect to assessors.*—The Bill itself ought to make provision for the appointment of assessors on the line of the Land Acquisition Act, and it ought not to be left to the Local Government to do.

59. *Section 133.—Except land entered in the general register of revenue-free lands prepared under the Land Registration Act, 1876.*—Landlords ought to have the right of measuring such lands when it is geographically situate within the limits of their estate. Without the measurement of the whole estate the *chita* cannot be complete. The measurement of such lands does no harm to the rent-free holder.

59. *Illustration to Section 133.*—So long as the putni continues, A ought not to have the right of detailed measurement, requiring tenants' attendance.

60. *Section 138.*—The Civil Court ought to decide it on evidence. If any officer under the Collector has special knowledge, he may be examined as an expert.

61. *Section 139, sub-section (1), clause (b).—"Unless the holding is let to another persor for the agricultural year following the surrender."*—I would add: *or the landlord brings it unden khas cultivation.*

62. *Sub-section (2).*—All such notices would at once be served through the Court.

63. *Section 141, sub-section (1), clause (a).*—This will have the tendency of making *ryoti* land *khamar*. I would omit section 141 altogether, leaving the matter to be governed by the general principles of law.

64. *Section 150.*—Transfer of portion of a holding ought not to be void in law. The old tenant and the transferee may be jointly liable for rent; or if the landlord does not choose to recognize the transfer of a portion, the old tenant's liability may continue.

CHAPTER XIII.

65. I approve the rules contained in this chapter. Ghatwali lands have been declared by the Privy Council not to be liable to sale even for arrears of rent. The provisions of this chapter will be of great use to the receiver of the rent of ghatwali lands.

66. *In section 167, sub-section (2),* the court-fee proposed to be charged ought to be reduced to half.

67. *Section 179.*—The officer holding the sale ought not to be allowed to distribute the sale proceeds; the Court ought to do it.

CHAPTER XIV.

68. *Proviso to Section 198.*—'Substantial error' is a very vague expression. It ought to be explained that a wrong estimate of the evidence is not a substantial error, otherwise District Judges will be moved in almost every case to call for the record. To discourage useless applications, court-fee for applications to call for records ought to be levied, as in petition of appeals.

69. *Section 199, sub-section (3).*—This sub-section may be omitted as unnecessary. When the money is deposited under sub-section (2), it may be looked upon as a deposit under section 103 (c).

70. The provisions of section 202 I consider to be very salutary.

71. *Section 214.*—The notice ought to be served through the Civil Court.

72. *Schedule IV, Article 2, column 3.*—Instead of date of deposit, ought to be date of service of notice, as in section 31 of the present Rent (Act VIII (B.C.) of 1869.)

73. In conclusion, I regret that I was not able to send this report on the 14th instant.

No. 63A, dated Sealdah, the 15th May 1883.

From—Baboo Mohendro Nath Bose, Judge, Court of Small Causes, Sealdah,

To—The Registrar of the High Court, Calcutta.

With reference to your letter No. 1157K, dated the 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to submit the accompanying few hasty remarks on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

2. The time allowed was short, nor could I deal with the subject as it deserves. I have simply jotted down my opinion on the provisions generally, hoping the same would be acceptable to the Court.

Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883.

The scheme disclosed in this Bill is, to my apprehension, simply for the protection of the ryot. Its object is to protect him from ejectment and from undue enhancement.

2. With reference to ejectment, it proposes for the separation of ryoti lands from the *khamar* lands by cadastral survey; and provides that the ryoti lands should ever remain as ryoti and could never be turned into *khamar* by the zemindar. Such lands have therefore been made transferable by sale, and if the zemindar be the purchaser, it is provided that he should let these lands again to ryots.

3. The ryots again have been divided into what are called settled and unsettled ryots, but the tendency of the provision, as far as I can see, is to make them all settled ryots, with right of occupancy and power of transfer in course of time.

4. Such is the scheme, and I can only say that it vitiates very much with the law as current, and the traditions and ideas of men on the subject. This is in fact turning the ryots in a body into present proprietors. I do not know how this would work in the country, but in my opinion it bodes no good. The independent peasantry without a local controlling power is likely to abuse this privilege, would prey on each other, and may in an odd hour rise against the Government.

5. Again I see much difficulty in the way of dividing the lands between the ryots and the zemindars. As far as my experience goes, there are several lands which cannot be so divided, such for instance the *shashun, vagar, debattar,* and *gochurun,* &c., which enter so much in the economy of almost all Bengal villages. These are what may be styled the *commons* of every village, and these ought not to be placed into the *khamar* at the absolute disposal of the zemindar. Again there are waste lands, and lands lying uncultivated which are taken up by ryots at option, and are assessed by the zemindar at the time of harvestry; such as is the case of *atbundi* lands so prevalent in Nuddea and other districts. These lands are neither *khamar* nor ryoti, but became one or the other according to circumstances. Again in Behar the *basget,* the *bagat,* the *tar,* &c., lands do not bear any rent, but are held and enjoyed by the ryots at the option of the zemindar. If these lands are placed in the category of *khamar,* as they no doubt are, incalculable mischief would be done to the ryots. These and several other similar considerations which I need not dilate here, incline me to believe that the contemplated survey would be to a very great extent a failure.

6. Next as regards enhancement, I need not say anything regarding the enhancement of rent of tenure-holders, as these seldom occur and are generally regulated by the contract between the parties. As regards the other class namely the settled ryots, the provisions in the Bill do not appear to be adequate, where there is no ascertainment of the rates by the Revenue authorities; the old formula of proportion is to regulate, and where there has been ascertainment of the rates, the Courts to assess according to a maximum and minimum scale. So that for some time, at least until the Revenue authorities settle and ascertain the rates, the same state of things would continue, and the irritation between the landlords and ryots in no way be abated.

7. The most important feature of the Bill, and whose want was much felt, is the limiting of the enhanced rent to double the former rent, or to a fifth of the gross produce in money value. I think this is fair and just to all parties. But I would have better liked if the share had been a fourth than a fifth. A *chowth* is the customary rate, and the zemindar has always laid claim to such a share in the case of trees grown by the ryots and in the sale of ryoti land.

8. *Section 119* provides for the conversion of the rent in kind into rent in money. Hitherto the landlords enjoyed and the ryots ungrugdingly paid them a half share of the produce of lands which are never permanently taken up by the ryots. The section limits such share to a five annas of the gross produce. Considering that these lands do not yield produce every year, and that the ryots cultivate them more as a speculation than otherwise, I do not see why the zemindar should not have his eight annas as before, when the produce is more the result of accident than exertion of the ryot. There are many swamps and marshy lands that are let away in this manner. Ryots who let out their lands to under ryots in the *vag* form, deserve a greater share of the produce when they themselves have to pay more than three annas to landlord according to the scheme proposed.

9. The Bill ignores private contract in many places. This is to be regretted. The privilege of demand and supply ought to regulate lands as in the case of other property. If the zemindar has the absolute property in any portion of the land comprised in his zemindari, I see no reason why the law should step in to regulate the disposal of such property. Waste lands and such others which belong to no ryot ought to be left at his absolute disposal, when the reclamation of such entails much outlay of capital. If encouragement is not held out to the zemindar in such cases, there will be a cessation of all improvements in the future.

10. In conclusion, I think some power ought to be left to the zemindar in dealing with the ryots, instead of turning them to mere rent collectors. They have ever been an honoured class, and the ryots have ever looked upon them for advice, protection, &c. It is not politic that such a class be reduced into insignificance. Disaffection and disturbance, I fear, will be the necessary result, and the country will not fare the better in the long run.

Dated Krishnagore, the 25th May 1883.

From—Baboo Amrita Lal Chatterjee, Subordinate Judge, Nuddea,

To—The Registrar of the High Court, Appellate Side.

With reference to your letter No. 1157M, dated the 23rd April 1883, I have the honour to make the following remarks on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

After the discussion which the matter has undergone in the press, in the Council, and in the several Commissions appointed by Government, it is idle now to question the necessity for legislation on the subject.

The Government by introducing the Bill, has clearly admitted such necessity, and the Hon'ble Krishna Das Pal, the representative of the zemindars in the Council, has also admitted it.

The only point of difference between the Government and the zemindar on this question, is that the former holds that there is necessity for a general revision of the law of landlord and tenant, whereas the latter contend that legislation should be confined to the point of giving facilities to the zemindar for the speedy realization of rent, and effective enhancement thereof.

The zemindars loudly complain that the machinery of the Courts is not sufficiently effective to enable them to realize their rents in time to pay the Government revenue, and that the present law for enhancement of rent is practically unworkable.

The ryots unquestionably an ignorant set of people have no organ in the press, nor a representative in the Council, still their complaints are sufficiently loud to reach the authorities.

The complaints embrace the following points—arbitrary evictions, imposition of abwabs and illegal cesses, illegal attempts to increase rents, withholding of proper receipts for rents, and in some places the abuse of the power of distraint.

I think it has been pretty well established that the complaints of both parties are generally speaking not without foundation. Those who have any experience of the mofussil, know that it is almost impossible for the zemindars now to enhance their rents through the machinery of the Courts, and that in consequence they resort to all sorts of illegal means to accomplish their object. The result of all this is that illegal exactions and arbitrary evictions have not at all diminished. It is believed by some, who are competent to form an opinion on the subject, that these have increased in some places.

These oppressions are not unfrequently practised by landlords in cases where they have not the slightest shadow of a right to claim enhancement of rent.

Far be it for me to say that all zemindars are oppressive, or even that all the most oppressive landlords come from the class of zemindars, properly so called.

Besides the zemindars, there is the great body of the talukdars and other tenure-holders, who own interest in land, intermediate between the zemindars and the cultivators.

These intermediate holders are both rent-payers and rent-receivers; they are tenants as well as landlords. It is not unoften the case that the greatest oppressors of the ryots belong to this class of intermediate holders.

When the complaints of both parties, on so many important points, are generally well founded, it is clear that a general revision of the law of landlords and tenant is imperatively necessary.

Whatever opinions may exist as to the details of the Bills now before the Council, the general principle which underlies it seems to me to be sound.

The two main objects of the Bill are (1) to give reasonable security to the tenant in the occupation and enjoyment of his land, and (2) to give reasonable facilities to the landlord for the settlement and recovery of his rents.

From what Rai Krishna Das Pal, Bahadoor ,has said in Council, it is quite clear that even he is prepared to admit that the Bengal ryot is entitled to have what is popularly called the three Fs. secured to him. But what he contends is that the three Fs. have their fullest operation here.

That is a question in which different people may entertain different opinions. But what I am at present concerned with is in shewing that even the representative of the zemindar practically admits that, notwithstanding the provisions of the permanent settlement recognizing the zemindars as the absolute proprietors of the land, the ryots are entitled to have the three Fs. secured to them. The Hon'ble Member does not deny the authority of the Government to legislate for the protection and welfare of the tenants and ryots. When he admits that the permanent settlement regulations constitute the charter of both landlord and tenants, and when chapter 1, section 8, Regulation 1 of 1793, provides that the Governor-General in Council will, whenever he may deem it proper, enact such regulation as he may think necessary for the protection and welfare of the dependent talukdars, ryots, and other cultivators of the soil, the conclusion inevitably follows that the Government is bound to interfere for the protection and welfare of the ryots and dependant talukdars when the circumstances of the case require such interference.

The only question, therefore, that remains to see is, whether the circumstances of the case require such interference.

The result of the several commissions shews that there is necessity for such interference.

It is contended on behalf of the landlord that the principle involved in the Bill is a redistribution of property; but the answer which His Excellency the Viceroy has returned that this Bill is a Bill for the restoration, rather than for the re-distribution, of property, is complete and conclusive.

The Bill involves several questions of a complicated nature. Land questions are always and everywhere complex and difficult of solution. They are more so in a country like India, where the known principles of political economy can hardly have free play; custom, caste, and religious prejudices offering so many obstacles to their having full scope. I cannot, therefore, venture to handle the large economic questions involved in the Bill.

John Stuart Mill in chapters 6 and 7 of the Second Book of his Principles of Political Economy has dwelt on the advantages of having a body of peasant proprietors. But in the permanently-settled provinces of Bengal, peasant proprietors entitled to the enjoyment of the whole rents, profits, and wages cannot exist.

But I submit that that is no sufficient ground for disallowing to the great body of occupancy ryots the advantages which they can enjoy consistently with the spirit of the Permanent Settlement Regulations.

With regard to the question of the right of occupancy, I admit that the rule laid down in the Bill is a fair attempt to settle the complicated question. But I beg leave to submit that the rule is, in my humble opinion, open to some objections, the principal of which are, *first*, that it is not wide enough to reach the cultivators of the soil who hold their lands under occupancy ryots, and *secondly*, that it gives to the settled ryot the same rights with regard to lands which he has held for a year as to those which he has held for upwards of 12 years. I propose to deal with the second objection first.

I submit that it is not fair to allow a settled ryot of a village or estate to acquire all the rights of an occupancy ryot in any ryoti land which he may happen to hold as a ryot in that village or estate, irrespective of the time for which he has been in occupation of it. I am fully alive to the force of the able arguments of Mr. Justice Cunningham against the rule which leaves the right to accrue by a precarious growth through a series of years. But this objection would be obviated if the settled ryot were only protected from ejectment and arbitrary enhancement in respect of such lands. When the proposed right of occupancy carries with it under the Bill the incidents of transferability and sub-letting, this provision seems to me to unduly favour the ryot at the sacrifice of the interests of the landlord and the community.

A settled ryot may thus one year manage to rent a piece of ryoti land for a short term for nothing, and in the next year he may be desirous of selling it to another. The landlord, if he wishes to exercise his right of pre-emption, will have to pay to the ryot the market price of occupancy holdings, although the ryot may have done nothing to merit this reward. Some settled ryots may make it a profession to rent ryoti land for a year or so and then sell it for value. Even if transferability of such land be allowable, sub-letting is clearly objectionable; for sub-letting, practically, means rack-renting.

I would, therefore, beg leave to propose that with regard to these lands the incidents of transferability and sub-letting be not annexed to the right of occupancy, unless the ryot has held the land for more than 12 years.

There can be no reasonable objection, however, to clauses, *A*, *B*, *C*, *D*, *F* and *G*, applying to a settled ryot in respect of such land.

With regard to the second objection, I beg most respectfully to observe that the discussions during the negociation of the permanent settlement, shew that it was accepted as a general maxim that the immediate cultivator of the soil, duly paying his rents, was not to be dispossessed of the land he occupied.

In the letter to Lord Cornwallis, dated 19th September 1792, the Court of Directors observe:—"Our interposition, where it is necessary, seems also to be consistent with the practice of the Monghul Government, under which it appeared to be a general maxim that the immediate cultivator, duly paying his rents, should not be dispossessed of the land he occupied.

Lord Cornwallis, in his Minute of 3rd February 1790, observed:—"Whoever cultivates the land, the zemindar can receive no more than the established rent, which, in most places, is fully equal to what the cultivator can afford to pay. To permit him to dispossess one cultivator for the sole purpose of giving land to another, would be vesting him with a power to commit a wanton act of oppression from which he would derive no benefit."

The above passages make it clear that the intention of the authors of the permanent settlement was to prohibit the wanton and arbitrary evictions of ryots, or actual cultivators of the soil.

It may not be either proper or advisable to invest all cultivating ryots alike with the statutory right of occupancy; but regard being had to the intention of the authors of the permanent settlement, it may not be improper to restrict, within certain limits, the right of the landlord to evict a cultivator from his land.

In the present circumstances of the country, a large portion of the immediate cultivators of the soil are kerha, or under-ryots; and when the Bill recognizes sub-letting by occupancy ryots, the number of these under-ryots will gradually increase.

Sub-letting by occupancy ryots is practised all over the country and has been recognized by our courts. It is neither expedient, nor possible, therefore, to abolish the practice by a legislative enactment.

In an agricultural country like India, where the great bulk of the population are agricultural tenants, whose sons must, in the present circumstances of the country, necessarily live upon and by agriculture, it is almost impossible to abolish by a legislative enactment the sub-letting of land by occupancy ryots. The population of the country is increasing under the beneficent rule of the British Government at an enormously rapid rate, but the area of culturable land has almost reached its natural limit.

The excess agricultural population must, therefore, derive their lands from the existing holdings: there will, therefore, be either sub-division, or sub-leases, of the holdings, and probably both.

Those occupancy ryots who have sub-let their lands and have, therefore, ceased to cultivate them, are clearly in the position of middlemen; the drone of society, and the sub-ryots under them, who are the actual cultivators of the soil, are the really useful members of society; they are, therefore, entitled to favourable consideration at the hands of the legislature.

Much discussions took place among the several members of the Bengal Rent Commission as to what advantages should be given to such cultivators.

In the 22nd meeting of the Commission it was decided by the majority of the members that the sub-ryot under an occupancy ryot "shall be protected against arbitrary ejectment by his landlord so long as he pays" his rent.

Mr. Mackenzie proposed to give the sub-ryot sub-occupancy rights, good against the occupancy ryot, but not against his landlord.

The Bill allows sub-letting by occupancy ryots, but it contains no provision protecting the under-ryot from arbitrary ejectment by the occupancy ryots.

I humbly submit, will it not be proper, therefore, to make some provisions for the protection of these classes of ryots; 1st, because on account of their weakness they are specially entitled to the protection of Government, and also because they come within the words used in the letter of the Court of Directors, and the Minute of Lord Cornwallis, referred to above.

I beg leave to suggest that they be allowed to have some sort of sub-occupancy rights which will protect them from ejectment so long as they duly pay their rents. They should, however, be absolutely prohibited from either transferring or sub-letting their lands. As to enhancement of rent, the same rules should govern them that govern the occupancy ryots; but the rate of rent payable by these sub-occupancy ryot ought not to be equal to the rate payable by occupancy ryots.

The provisions in the Bill, prohibiting the parties from contracting themselves out of the land, seems to be judicious. When one of the parties is so unequal to the other in education, wealth, and general intelligence, there can be, properly speaking, no freedom of contract between them.

Instances are not rare where ryots have been cajoled to give up their valuable rights for nothing.

In dealing with what are called the ordinary ryots, the Bill does not go far enough.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it has been stated that after a full consideration of the position, it has been determined that the legislation to be undertaken by the Government shall proceed on the assumption that the occupancy right is to be recognized as appertaining only to such tenants as may be shown to be, in some special sense, settled or permanent.

It proposes, however, to fetter the landlord's right to evict an ordinary ryot, with certain conditions.

The rules laid down in section 90, chapter C of the bill, for the protection of these ryots from arbitrary evictions, appears, however, to be opposed to the notions of the people, and unsuited to the circumstances of the country.

The bill authorizes the landlord to evict an ordinary ryot from his holding, in execution of a decree, if he does not agree to pay the enhanced rent demanded, on condition of the landlord's paying to the ryot, within a certain time, compensation for disturbance, in addition to compensation for improvements.

There can be no question about the fairness of the provisions, giving compensation to the ryot for improvements made by him, but the provision, allowing compensation for disturbance, involves a new principle foreign to the custom of the country, and not yet recognized by our legislature in dealing with the questions between landlord and tenants.

If the landlord has a right to evict the ordinary ryot, even when the latter agrees to pay fair rents, the former certainly is not bound in equity to give the ryot any compensation for disturbance.

If, on the other hand, the landlord has no right to evict such ryot, so long as he duly pays fair rents, compensation for disturbance will be no adequate remedy to the ryot for such evictions.

I submit that some rules ought to be formed regulating the enhancement of rent of such ryots, and allowing evictions in such cases only if the ryot fails to pay within a limited time the enhanced rent decreed by the Courts.

In the framing of such rules, the legislature might give the landlord more advantages, and the ordinary ryot, less favorable terms than those given in the case of occupancy ryots.

If, however, the legislature do not think it proper to interfere betweeen such ryots and the landlords, in respect of the enhancement of rent, save as is provided by section 119, I submit that the clause allowing compensation for the disturbance of the ryot, may be left out altogether.

With due deference, I beg to submit that the registration system ought to be extended to occupancy holdings.

The extension of this system to these holdings will, in the long run, tend to diminish litigation by preserving a permanent record in the zamindar's sherista, of the transfer of, and succession to, such holdings.

There may be some difficulty, at the outset, in bringing home to the ryot the details of the system but in time the difficulty will be overcome.

The harm which is likely to arise from the extension of the registration system to such holding, will be infinitely less than that wnich will probably accrue from the non-extension of that system to, such holding.

Even if the legislature were not to make the provision of chapter IIID expressly applicable to occupancy holdings, the court would in many cases make the transferers liable for rent accruing, due subsequent to the transfer, on the ground of want of knowledge of such transfers.

Thus, the transferring ryots will in many cases suffer a disadvantage, without the transferee enjoying probably, in any case, the privilege of registering the transfer in the landlord's sherista, and thereby making his title secure. The registration fee in such cases should, however, be lowered.

Without full statistics on the point, it is difficult to say in what parts of the country occupancy rights are saleable by custom, and where they are not. But this much I can say, that even in those parts of the country, where the question of the existence, or otherwise, of the usage, is hotly contested in our courts, people do, as a matter of fact, buy and sell such right, in and out of court. Not only are occupancy rights sold in this manner, but even lesser rights. Such terms are thus constantly made the subject of sale. Even zamindars are not un-often found to be the purchaser of such rights.

Lest the sales are invalidated by our courts, the kabalas generally falsely describe the occupancy right as a mourasi jote, and, where a zemindar is the purchaser, he invariably insists on this description, but otherwise his conduct shews that he recognizes the existence of the custom.

The statement published along with the report of the Bengal Rent Commission shews, however, that ryots' holdings are, almost everywhere throughout the country, sold at execution sales. It is only in Pubna, Purneah, Sarun, Balasore and Cuttack that occupancy rights are very seldom sold at such sales. Thus, it is clear that occupancy rights are generally sold in the greater part of the province. It will therefore be only proper for the legislature to recognize the fact and legalize the custom.

The provision in the bill giving the landlord the right of pre-emption, is certainly a judicious one, as it will enable the landlord to avoid an inimical tenant. But the rule contained in section 56, unless modified, is, in my humble opinion, likely to be prejudicial to the landlord.

The landlord will have to pay for the occupancy holding, but a ryot to whom he will let out the land wil get an occupancy right in it for nothing.

I think that a ryot in such a case should acquire a right of occupancy, only if he would pay the amount at which the landlord purchased the holdings.

A Patnee under the bill, includes a darpatnee, and other similar under-tenures; the provisions for the summary sale of a patnee of the first degree have not been thought proper to be made applicable to darpatnee, and the rest, I think, however, that the extension of those provisions to all degrees of inferior patnees, will be a boon to the superior patneedars, without producing any appreciable injury to the darpatneedar and the rest. It will facilitate the recovery of arrears of rents due in respect of such tenures.

The zamindars justly complain that the present law for enhancement of rent has become, to a great extent, a dead letter.

The present bill proposes to deal largely with this subject, but I am not without doubts as to the sufficiency of the proposed rules to make legitimate enhancement an easy matter.

The Purgunahs rates have, in most parts of the country, long ceased to exist. The rates will have to be properly ascertained by competent revenue officers for each village. That is not an easy matter to accomplish, and it is doubtful if it will be accomplished without much trouble, expense and time. For some years at least, the officers dealing with the question of enhancement will have to work without the aid of the tables. In such cases the difficulty will remain as before.

I beg to suggest that so long as tables of rates are not prepared, the question of enhancability or otherwise be determined by the civil courts as now; but that the question of proper rates be decided by competent revenue officers, after holding a local investigation on the spot.

Inducements ought also to be held out to both landlord and tenants to have recourse largely to the provisions of chapter XI.

Section 125 provides that the rent of a tenure occupancy holding or bastu holding shall be a first charge on the same.

In the 16th meeting of the Bengal Rent Commission, it was unanimously held that a landlord having obtained a decree for arrears of rent due upon any transferable tenure or holding, shall be bound to bring such tenure, &c., to sale in execution, before taking out execution against the person, or other property of the judgment-debtor.

It appears to me that this is a fair and equitable provision.

No reason has been assigned for omitting this provision from the bill.

The present law, as settled by the High Court, is that a decree-holder after having obtained a decree for arrears of rent, may proceed against any property of the judgment-debtor he likes. The High Court has come to this conclusion on a question of construction, but I do not think that the Hon'ble Court maintains that this is an equitable doctrine.

It is necessary that the legislature should define what particular acts of disclaimers should work a forfeiture.

The Hon'ble Krishna Das Pal complained of the tendency of the Bill being to promote and foster litigation, and set class against class.

There will be some ground for making the charge if the record of rights promised by Government be not complete or accurate.

If, however, the record be both complete and accurate, half the litigation between the landlord and tenant will be unnecessary; one cause of the increase of litigation certainly is the uncertainty of the rights of the several parties interested in a particular subject matter. It will, I think, be very uncharitable to suppose that people resort to the courts simply because they love litigation for its own sake. They go to the courts in most cases simply because the rights of the contending parties are not certain.

In whatever degree the record of rights will be complete, accurate, and accessible to the

public, in the same degree litigation will diminish and good feeling will exist between the parties, between whom feelings the very reverse of which now subsist.

I would therefore earnestly solicit the Government to begin at once with the preparation of the record of rights.

The word land requires to be defined.

I do not think there can be any reasonable objection to making chapter IXD applicable to the ground rent of bustee, and shop, and other lands. I know from my own personal experience as a Small Cause Court Judge that tenants of bustee and shop and other lands labor under a very great disadvantage in consequence of the absence of any provision for the deposit of rents payable by them. I therefore beg to suggest that the provisions of this chapter IXD, be made applicable to these classes of tenants also.

Section 139. The following words, I submit, ought to be added after chapter B, "or the landlord himself cultivates the land."

Section 177. No delivery should be made before payment.

Section 181. After the words "if at any time" the following words, "before an order for distraint has been made," should be added.

Dated Calcutta, the 14th May 1883.

From—Baboo Mohendro Nath Mitter, Judge, Small Cause Court, Moorshedabad,

To—The Officiating Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1157O, dated the 23rd April last, and in compliance with the request contained therein, to submit the following observations on the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883, to the consideration of the Hon'ble Court.

2. The avowed objects of the Bill are to improve the status of the ryots, to afford every facility for the acquisition of the right of occupancy, to simplify the procedure for enhancement of rents, and for the realization of undisputed arrears, and in general to place the relations between landlords and their tenants on a sure and satisfactory footing. In view of these objects, many new provisions have been introduced into the Bill which trench upon the legal, and hitherto undisputed, rights of landlords, and will, I am afraid, prove injurious to the interests of both the parties, cause much trouble and litigation, and in the end disturb their relations more than ever.

3. I will take up the several chapters of the Bill in their order. In chapter I, the terms "tenure-holder" and "ryot" have not been sufficiently defined for the purposes of the Bill, and cases as apprehended in the "Statement of Objects and Reasons," will arise when the difficulty will be to draw the line of distinction between them. Then again, no denomination is given to persons who may own only bastu or homestead land without being settled or ordinary ryots, nor are their rights and liabilities dealt with in the Bill. Thus a large class of persons, such as barbers, blacksmiths, weavers, potters and other artisans, who may not hold land for the purpose of agriculture, horticulture or pasture, are excluded from its operation.

4. In chapter II, provisions are made for ascertaining and fixing the quantity of khamar land in each village, with the object of preventing landlords from increasing it hereafter. The definition of "khamar land," as given in this chapter, seems to be arbitrary, and the provisions made therein are a clear infringement of private rights. A landlord can now increase the quantity of his khamar or nij jote land according to his discretion, as opportunity offers. If a ryot absconds, or surrenders his holding, or is ejected therefrom, the land may be converted into khamar, and there is nothing in the law to prevent the landlord from doing so. It is altogether a matter affecting his own interest, and no good and sufficient ground is shown why he should be restrained in the exereise of his undoubted right.

5. In chapter III, section 17, in case of land held at a fixed rent, from the time of the permanent settlement being amalgamated with other land into one holding, the character of the tenure will generally be lost, and it will be difficult to ascertain whether the rent had varied or not. Again, in section 18, if by "a tenure" is meant a tenure held at a fixed rent from the time of the Permanent Settlement, then its liability to enhancement of rent on the grounds stated in clauses (*a*) and (*b*) will be a matter of great hardship to its holder, who will scarcely be able to stand against a mass of false evidence that will usually be brought by his more powerful adversary to prove a custom or a condition. The expression in clause (*b*) "and that the lands are capable of affording it" is vague.

6. Sections 27 to 35 relating to the registration of transfers of, and successions to, permanent tenures, are decidedly an improvement on the present law. In section 34, provision should be made for the granting of certificates of copies of entries in the register, by the landlords' authorized agent also. I think this registration system might with advantage be extended to occupancy holdings. The proposal of the Rent Commission on this point ought to be adopted, for experience has shewn that the evils attending non-registration of transfers of such holdings are grievously felt by a larger class of people, than the holders of permanent tenures.

CHAPTER IV.

7. Relating to patni tenures, does not call for any notice, as the present law is left substantially unchanged.

CHAPTER V.

8. Is an important chapter in the Bill. The acquisition of a right of occupancy by a settled ryot as defined in section 45, holding any ryoti land, notwithstanding any contract to the contrary, is a startling innovatiou made in the existing laws and usages of the country. And I do not see any justification for it. The ryots for whose special behoof this innovation is sought to be made, do not wish that the established law on this subject should be unsettled. The landlords, on the other hand, have good reason to protest against this invasion of their rights. In this state of things, where is the necessity for enforcing a law which the people do not want? Why disallow contracts duly made and interfere with the rights of private property? All that is contended for by the ryots is that the right of occupancy is, and should be, a transferable right. And on this point the Bill very properly gives them the relief they require. Transferability, as an important incident of this right, is generally unfavourably looked upon by the landlords, but custom favours it, and they have no right to complain of the provisions of section 50, when a right of pre-emption is reserved to them by the subsequent sections.

9. *Section 56*, which purports to confer at once a right of occupancy on a ryot to whom land purchased under the pre-emption sections by a landlord is let, appears to me to be objectionable. It is said in the "Statement of Objects and Reasons" that this will prevent a landlord from buying up on a great scale the occupancy rights on his estate or tenure, with a view to locating ordinary ryots on the land. But you cannot prevent him from converting the land into khamar or nij jote. If that be so, the provisions of chapter II of the Bill would be null and void, and in course of time the quantity of such land shall increase to the detriment of the tenantry and the agricultural prospects of the country.

CHAPTER VI.

10. Is another important chapter in the Bill. Sections 59 to 61 are open to grave objection. If an occupancy ryot agrees to pay a higher rent than that previously paid by him or by his predecessor, no such restriction as is sought to be laid down in these sections ought to be imposed by law. All that can be reasonably insisted upon, to protect him from the consequences of his ignorance and credulity, is that such agreement shall be in writing, and registered under the Indian Registration Act in force.

11. *Sections 62 to 73*, which deal with the preparation of a table of rates and produce, and suits to enhance rents, when such a table is in force, seem to me to be of questionable efficacy. Considering the variety of the rates of rent usually paid by occupancy ryots in one and the same local area, I am of opinion that the preparation of a general table of rates by a revenue officer with any degree of accuracy will almost be an impossibility. Of the three grounds for enhancement of rents under the present law (section 18, Act VIII, B.C., of 1869), the most difficult to deal with is the second ground, *viz.*, "that the value of the produce or the productive powers of the land have been increased otherwise than by the agency, or at the expense of the ryot." The rule of proportion laid down by the High Court, in "the great rent case," has, it is true, practically become unworkable, owing to the complicated nature of the enquiry it involves, and the want of reliable materials to work upon. To meet this difficulty a less ambitious table, shewing only the average value of produce, and the average quantity of produce, and cost of production per beegah, in staple crops, of any local area, at the time of the enquiry, as compared to any other time back, which may appear to be fair and equitable, might be prepared with greater accuracy and less trouble and expense, leaving the Civil Courts to determine upon evidence whether or not the increase, if there be any, has been brought about otherwise than by the agency, or at the expense of the *ryot*. The other two grounds for enhancement are clear enough, and do not present much difficulty.

CHAPTER VII.

12. Gives a permanent right in bastu land to a settled *ryot* of a village, notwithstanding any contract to the contrary. This is a new provision quite opposed to the law in force. If a ryot wishes to build his dwelling-house on a particular piece of land, it is his look-out to take a proper lease from, or come to proper terms with, his landlord; and there seems to be no valid reason for setting aside a contract duly made between the parties. In section 86, the provision for compensation does not appear to be just and reasonable; for, if a tenant is liable to ejectment for breach of contract, it would be a hardship to his landlord to pay compensation to him for any dwelling-house and out-offices erected on the land. All that the tenant can fairly ask for is their removal within a stated period.

CHAPTER VIII.

13. In *Section 93* the provision for compensation appears to be also unjust and unreasonable.

CHAPTER IX.

14. In *Section 98* a wholesome provision is made, fixing four as the maximum number of instalments in which rents of ryot's holdings are to be paid. This will prevent much harassment and trouble, to which the ryots are subjected. Sections 100 to 102, regarding receipts and accounts to be given to tenants, will also prove beneficial to them as well as to their landlords.

15. *Sections 103 to 107*—Relate to the deposit of rent by a tenant in a public office, clauses (*b*) and (*c*) of section 103 are certainly good additions to the present law; but clause (*a*) will become a source of great annoyance to the landlord. It is better that there should be a tender and refusal, for otherwise tenants will, in the majority of cases, refuse to go to the landlord's cutcherry to pay rents, and the landlords will be put to much trouble and expense in drawing the money deposited. The feelings of the parties, moreover, will be more and more estranged as this clause is more and more resorted to.

CHAPTER X.

16. *Sections 126 to 132*—Which deal with improvements on ryots' holdings, are wholly unnecessary. They will only introduce complications into the relations between landlords and tenants, and cause much harassment and litigation to both the parties. Sections 142 to 148, which provide for the appointment of a manager on behalf of co-owners of an estate or tenure, are, as has been pointed out in the "Statement of Objects and Reasons," an improvement on the present law.

CHAPTER XI.

17. Which treats of the settlement of rents by a Revenue officer, might be made available for the purpose of Government settlements; but the application of it to private estates without the instance of landlords, would be an usurpation of their rights, and lead to much discontent and disaffection. This and the following chapter, which are introduced into the Bill with one and the same object, appear to be quite uncalled for. The landlords, as a rule, will not apply for the enforcement of their provisions, and if they be enforced at the instance of the tenants, or for the settlement of an agrarian dispute, they will resent, offer every obstacle to the proceedings and carry litigation to the bitter end. And the result would be ruinous to both the classes. Facilities for realizing undisputed rents and for enhancing them under the law in force are only sought for by the landlords in Bengal. The tenants, on the other hand, are already sufficiently protected from illegal impositions. They know how to unite and assert their rights. Their occupancy rights are made freely transferable by this Bill, a reasonable limit has been fixed to the number of instalments in which their rents are to be paid, and the receipts and accounts they are to receive from their landlords will supply them with all evidence they might require in defending rent suits. They have nothing more to complain of. The only point for consideration is, how are those facilities required by the landlords to be given? The provisions of the Bill regarding receipts and accounts will as well help them in recovering their rents, and a simpler procedure than that which now obtains will ensure their speedy recovery. As to enhancement of rents, the preparation of a table, such as that indicated in paragraph 11 of this letter, would remove the main difficulty. Why then introduce these chapters and other novel provisions when nobody asks for them, and unsettle the minds of the people and the law of the country?

CHAPTER XIII.

18. Very properly gives a modified power of distraint to the landlords, and ought to be retained. I would, however, suggest that section 172 be so altered as to give at least 7 days' time to a defaulter or the owner of distrained property, where he is not the defaulter, to make the deposit under section 181; and to prevent abuses, provision should also be made for the owner of distrained property, when he is not the defaulter, to institute a suit to contest the legality of the distraint within the specified time without making a deposit, provided he can shew any sufficient cause for not making it.

19. The procedure applicable to suits between landlord and tenant (chapter XIV) has been as much simplified, as it possibly can be, with a due regard to justice. In section 202 the maximum period during which it shall be open to the defendant to pay compensation, or where the damage or breach is declared to be capable of remedy, to remedy the same, should be fixed, and not left to be determined by the court at its discretion. And in section 203, clause (*b*), the words "together with reasonable interest on that value" ought to be omitted, for in a decree for ejectment it does not appear fair and equitable to compel the landlord to pay interest over and above the value of the labour and the capital expended by the tenant in preparing his land.

CHAPTERS XV, XVI, AND XVII.

Do not call for any remarks.

No. 82, dated Khulna, the 21st May, 1883.

From—Baboo Bhogowan Chandra Chakravarti, Subordinate Judge of Khulna,

To—The Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal.

Agreeably to your order conveyed in your letter No. 1157J, dated the 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to submit the report therein called for.

The question of the relation of landlord and tenant in this country involves in itself many problems which are of considerable difficulty, and indeed although they engaged patient attention of the Legislature for many years, the practical solution of some of them is still distant. The present Rent Bill is an embodiment of the practical rules of law which attempt to remove those difficulties. As it is the result of thought and research of many eminent

lawyers and practical men of business, and as it has had due publicity and evoked honest opinion and criticisms from all parts of the country, I think it will not be necessary for me to dwell on the subject in detail. I will confine my remarks on the cardinal points of the Bill.

The provisions of Act X of 1859, subsequently and substantially embodied in Act VIII of 1869 (B.C.), have failed, as experience tells us, to bring about the desired effect on all subjects regarding the relation of landlord and tenant. It is found that law courts can do little or nothing with the cases of enhancement and settlement of rents, and enhancements are introduced by tortuous acts and illegal means, where the landlords are strong and raiyats weak, and on the other hand just demands of rents are successfully resisted where the raiyats are strong and the zemindars weak. Such a state of things must be put down. It is, therefore, necessary that there should be such a legislative measure as would give facilities to the landholders for recovery and enhancement of rent, and afford protection to the poor raiyats.

The distinction between tenure-holders and raiyats has not been clearly drawn. Cases may and often occur in which it will be difficult to ascertain whether a tenant is a tenure-holder or a raiyat.

The definition of tenure in section 3 is too general and vague, and may lead to confusion.

CHAPTER II.

Section 5.—The distinction between *khamar* and *raiyati* land has been properly made, and they should be defined and registered as proposed in the Bill. I do not see any reason why the raiyats occupying *khamar* lands should have better right than those occupying *raiyati* land. In my humble opinion, if the land is defined and registered as *khamar* or private land of the proprietor, the raiyats occupying it should be allowed to acquire right of occupancy without the consent of the proprietor.

CHAPTER III.

Sections 21 *to* 25.—Provided (1) that rent may be enhanced up to the limit of customary rate; (2) where there is no customary rate, it may be enhanced to such limit as shall appear fair and equitable, but the profit of the tenure-holder shall in no case exceed 30 per cent. To prevent these provisions from working hardship, the following limits have been proposed. (*a*) :—Enhanced rate shall not in any case be double of the previous rent. (*b*) The rent shall increase yearly by court's order during any number of years not exceeding five. (*c*) The rent once enhanced shall not be altered for ten years.

These limits, I believe, will seriously tell upon enhancement. The economical condition of the country and the quality of the land may be so changed that the limits (*a*) and (*c*) would not be applicable. Such limits as proposed above would stand greatly in the way of progress. Neither the tenant nor the landholder would be induced to bring on improvement on the land.

Section 59.—Enacts that money rent payable by an occupancy raiyat may be enhanced by contract in writing, approved of and registered by a Revenue Officer, who will be absolutely debarred from registering any contract by which a raiyat engages to pay more than six anuas in the rupee, higher than the existing rent or more than one-fifth of the estimated gross produce. This section is supplemented in 61st section by somewhat similar provisions, and its tendency is to hamper free contract as much as possible.

Sections 76, 78.—Provide the same limits as are found in sections 21, 25, and the same remarks that have been made above as applicable to these.

The suits for enhancement of rents of occupancy raiyats have been sub-divided into two classes, *viz* (*b*) of chapter VI for suits to enhance money rents where a table of rates has been prepared, and (*c*) for such suits where a table of rates has not been prepared. (*B*) contains only tentative measures which will have their operation when the tables will be complete. What the results of these tables will be, is a matter still in the womb of futurity, it is well known that there are many parts of the country where recognized rates of rent have no existence, and even if there be so, the soil of the country is so various that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to prepare the table within a reasonable time; perhaps when the table will be prepared the relation of landlord and tenant might be such as would not require the assistance of such a table. As for the sub-division (*c*), the rules of enhancement have been left where they were before. Practically it will be as difficult to enforce these rules, as when the rules under Act X of 1859 were in force.

CHAPTER V.

One of the most important chapters of the Bill. The right of occupancy is the creation of Act X of 1859, and having been recognized since then, it cannot now be ignored. There is already in the country a class of raiyats who enjoy such a right, and it is high time that that right should be defined and protected. The framers of the present Bill, however, not content with recognizing the incidents of the right of occupancy already existing, have attached some others, which are new and hitherto unrecognized. The right of occupancy is acquired by settled raiyats holding *raiyati* land, notwithstanding any contract to the contrary. This is contrary to the principles of the law of contracts, and is too great an interference with the freedom of parties. The reasons assigned for such a measure are that the zamindars as a body are so powerful that they can induce or coerce poor raiyats to enter into wrongful contracts.

There may be, no doubt, oppressive zamindars who, by illicit means, might induce the raiyats to enter into illegal contracts. But such instances are rare, and it cannot be said that a practice of getting into illegal contracts obtains, as a rule, throughout the country. If there be a small class of raiyats who might be induced to enter into wrongful contracts, should principles of equity be sacrificed for the protection of that small minority? I humbly think that such a saving clause is not necessary. Besides, if the freedom of contract be repressed altogether, somehow or other it may burst out in another, and probably worse, direction. The following are some of the incidents, of right of occupancy as proposed in the Bill that call for notice:—(*a*) The raiyats may subet; (*b*) his interest is to be transferable and hereditable. The right of sub-letting and transferring without the consent of the landlord, sanctioned by law, is, in my humble opinion, objectionable. It will be readily admitted that if the raiyats who are proverbially improvident and unthrifty be left to mortgage or sell their tenures, they will easily spend large sums of money to celebrate marriages of children, &c., by mortgaging or selling their tenures, and thus contract debts and fall into the hands of unscrupulous money-lenders. It is well known that sub-infeudation is the cause of misery to the raiyat, and if the occupancy raiyat be allowed to sub-let, the pressure will no doubt at last fall on the actual cultivators; transferability shall have the same baneful effects. The powers of transferring and sub-letting recognized by the Bill, will in time bring on a state of things in which the great bulk of actual cultivators would not have the advantage of becoming occupancy raiyats, but under-raiyats, having but little protection from the law. Section 56 confers the right of occupancy on a mere squatter—a provision which requires but little comment. The evils arising from transferring have been sought to be mitigated by giving the powers of pre-emption to landholders, but this power, I submit, will not be a sufficient safeguard against too frequent sales and mortgages. The transferability of such tenure has, no doubt, grown almost into a custom in some of the districts, but its consequences are, I believe, *nil*. The present miserable condition of the Bengal raiyat is a sufficient evidence of the evils of that custom. The ultimate results of this transferring and sub-letting will, I fear, be that a new class of men, quite unmanageable, will be thrust into the lands of the zemindars. The conferring of the right of occupancy on a raiyat who has occupied the land purchased by the landlord by his power of pre-emption is a restriction which militates against pre-emption powers.

CHAPTER VIII.

The principles formulated into law in this chapter are new, and quite foreign to the ideas of the people; if the provisions will be enforced, they would embitter the feelings of the landlord and tenants. If the landlord has the right to eject, his powers should not be clogged by making him pay compensation for enforcing it. If he has not the right no money payment ought to be sufficient to give it to him. If these at all pass into law they should be restricted. If the tenants fall into arrears and make three successive defaults in payment of rents, the landlords should be justified to eject them.

CHAPTER IX.

Instalments in which money rents are payable should be uniform, and should tally with the instalments by which rent or revenue is payable by superior landlords.

Sections 100, 101 *and* 102.—Impose penal damages for refusal or neglect to give receipts (*dakhilas*) and statements of accounts prescribed in them. The principles involved in them, however correct, would practically work hardship on not a small class of petty landowners, most of whom are ignorant men and women, who cannot possibly keep accounts and give receipts in the forms prescribed.

Sections 103 *to* 107.—The provisions for these sections give direct means in the hands of the raiyats to deposit rent without tendering it to landlord, which will give them full acquittance of their payments. Their effect will be to make the tenants refractory.

CHAPTERS XI AND XII.

Contain measures, some of which have a tendency to trench upon the jurisdiction and powers of the civil court. I submit that all questions of a civil nature that will arise before a revenue officer engaged in the settlement of rent should be referred to the civil court for decision.

CHAPTER XIV.

The procedure as laid down in Chapter XIV can hardly be made more simplified, for in rent suits in this country questions of right frequently arise, which cannot be coped by summary procedure.

Section 200—Enacts that applications for execution of decrees for arrears obtained by landlord shall not be made by an assignee of the decree holder; its effect would be to throw obstacles in the way of executing large number of decrees. There may not be unfrequently cases in which widowed females and ignorant men, not conversant with the rules and practices of the Court, and who are in extreme need of money, look upon decrees as moveable properties and sell them. It mitigates, no-doubt, one class of evils; but it fosters another.

Sales.—If occupancy right be made transferable by law, I submit that too many sales and mortgages may be checked by imposing the condition upon all sales that take place in execution of decrees for rents, that they should avoid all encumbrances.

Section 224, Limitation.—This section is objectionable, on the ground that it remedies one evil, but creates another. It protects minors against accumulations of rents but exposes them, helpless as they are, to the rapacity of unscrupulous landlords.

Lastly, I beg to suggest that retrospective effect should not be allowed to be given to any new provisions now made.

No. 17, dated Alipore, the 13th June 1883.

From—NUFFER CHUNDRA BHATTA, First Subordinate Judge, 24-Pergunnahs.

To—The Registrar of the High Court, Appellate Side, Calcutta.

I have the honor to forward herewith a few observations on the Rent Bill, prepared hastily, as I had no sufficient time at my disposal.

Bengal Tenancy Bill.

I think the Bill, with its sections 45, 47, 49, and 50 except clauses (*a*), (*b*), (*c*), and (*g*), 56 and 57, will be hard upon the landholders generally, and upon the tenure-holders of limited means specially. The fear of ejectment makes the ryots punctual in payment of rent. A decree for rent, coupled with an order for ejectment, if the arrears are not paid within 15 days, as passed now under the present law, is far more readily obeyed than a bare decree. If 90 per cent. of the ryots have already acquired right of occupancy, the remaining 10 per cent. will obtain it as soon as the Bill is passed. Then the sale of the transferable tenure will have to be almost universally adopted. But sale, with its previous enquiries into claims by third parties, and objections to set it aside on the grounds of irregularity, and so forth, is a very cumbrous and dilatory proceeding. Ryots have seldom valuable moveables, and such as they have are easily removeable from the ken of a decree-holder. The most tangible portions of them, such as draught cattle and implements of husbandry, cannot be seized under the law.

I fear no valid custom of transfer of the occupancy right could yet arise, as Act X was passed only in 1859, and custom, in order to be valid, must be immemorial. Where the landlords have acquiesced in such a custom, transfer of the right, as it at present exists, is not very injurious to them. The right subsists "so long as rent.....is paid," and transfer cannot change the nature of the right itself. So that, when transfer takes place, the landlord has yet the option of either bringing the jote to sale or of ejecting the ryot or transferree for arrears. If the right of transfer were conveyed subject to landlord's power of eviction in case of arrears, it would be preferable to the proposed form. It would be better still if the ryots were required to pay a small sum as *selami* before they acquired the right, as a compensation to the landlords, specially when they themselves would have to pay a price to get their own land back if they wished to buy right of occupancy in any case by right of pre-emption. Freedom of contract should not be much curtailed, and particularly the existing contracts should be maintained.

As to enhancement, the maximum standard of one-fifth share of the produce would be too small, and might lead to abatement of rent in many places. One-fourth share, proposed by the British Indian Association, is not unfair to the ryots. There are communities of Burga or Adhibhag ryots in Nuddea, Jessore, Moorshedabad, &c., who pay one-half of the produce to the land-owners. The remaining one-half, therefore, not only pays the wages of labour, interest on capital, &c., but also leaves a profit; or how do those communities manage without any other profession? If, then, the occupancy ryots were to let their lands in Burga, they would yet get one-fourth share as their clear profits, and they and the landlords be equal partners in the profits of land. One-fifth share would be too small to support the so many holders of tenures, under-tenures prevalent in Backergunge, Jessore, Furreedpore and Noakholly.

It were better if some of the small under-tenure-holders were brought out, either by zemindars or by the Government. The idea of a table of rates and produce is good, and may be beneficial in eastern districts. But the rates are now so variable, and the work so gigantic and expensive, that I doubt its feasibility.

I cannot recommend any more expeditious course for recovery of arrears, for a summary procedure like the certificate system of revenue authorities is liable to abuse, even in their hands. But the power of distraint should not be further restrained. A suit for arrears, in which nearly four years' rent may be claimed, with a prayer for attachment of the crops before judgment, would be preferred to the proposed course, requiring a full court fees duty for the value of the arrears, in which current arrears alone could, with difficulty, be recovered, and the order would not have the force of a decree rendering other properties and person of the ryots liable. It would be virtual abolition of the power of distraint, a consciousness of whose existence induces ryots to pay off current arrears.

Another feature of the Bill is that it gives exclusive jurisdiction to the revenue authorities in some of the most important matters. Act X of 1859 gave jurisdiction exclusively to the Revenue Courts in all matters. Act VIII (B.C.) of 1869, on the contrary, transferred the said jurisdiction bodily to the Civil Court; and now it is proposed to divide the jurisdiction, half and half, between the two classes of tribunals. There is no doubt that the class of enquiries to be made over to the revenue authorities can be better conducted by them than the Civil Courts. Yet one difficulty the people feel before the Revenue authorities is that they do not obtain that full scope for discussion of a point as before the Civil Courts. Further,

they labour under the impression that the views of the Revenue authorities sometimes change with the change of Government. It would therefore be better if the decision of those authorities were *primâ facie* and not conclusive evidence of a matter.

CHAPTER I.

Section 4.—Contract should also be saved as customs.

CHAPTER II.

The provisions are good, as the proprietors have no right to extend the area of khamar and nij-jote lands, and thus curtail the area for the growth of occupancy right even under the present law. Section 20 is not in keeping with the spirit of the Bill.

CHAPTER III.

There ought to be a section for forfeiture of a non-transferable tenure, if transferred.

It would be a great boon to the zemindars if all transferable tenures were declared liable to summary sale, like putnis, on an application to the Sub-Divisional Deputy Collectors.

Similarly, it would be a great relief to some of the unfortunate tenure-holders if they had the option of insisting upon the sale of the tenures for arrears in the first instance; for in case the tenure happens to be an unprofitable one, the landlord proceeds against the person and other properties of the tenant, instead of the tenure itself, and ultimately ruins him, as he has not the option of relinquishment, as the ryots have. If he had the option of relinquishing a tenure, it would answer the purpose equally well. I speak this from my experience in Backergunge.

CHAPTER V.

Sections 45, 47, 49. Are quite opposed to the terms of the permanent settlement, as it seems to me. Section 49 will, no doubt, confer right of occupancy on a large number of ryots, namely, all the settled ryots of section 45, in Behar, even if they have held the lands for a year only, but will as surely prevent them from getting one *chittak* of additional land in future, both in Behar and Bengal, without paying a heavy *selami* so long as a non-settled ryot may be had to take it up.

Section 50.—I have already dwelt upon several of its provisions.

Clause (c).—May be injurious to the ryots, as we see from the *semba* system of Backergunge. Though it is now too late to prevent sub-letting, it ought not to have legislative sanction, except in cases where the ryots are minors, invalids, lunatics, females and the like.

Section 51.—One month's time is too short.

Section 52.—The landlord may not know the impending sale. There ought to be provision for a notice to the landlord in all cases of intended sale in execution of decrees held by third parties, as provided in cases of private sales.

Section 53.—One month's time too short, as there are many absentee landlords, whose local agents must take their permission for the purpose.

Section 54.—One month's time too short.

We see that, in making the right of occupancy transferable, the present privilege of relinquishment, which would be inconsistent with it, has been taken away. But, nevertheless, a large number of ryots, occupant or non-occupant, yearly find it convenient to relinquish their jotes. Henceforth such ryots shall continue liable for rent as long as the landlord hooses, though they may cease to hold the jotes, or find them unprofitable. At all events, henceforth they will have to pay a heavy sum, if they wish to relinquish their lands, as no purchaser will be found for such jotes.

CHAPTER VI.

No procedure has been yet laid down as to how the revenue officer is to determine whether the ryot, in any particular instance of lease, acted as a free agent, and whether the stipulated rent exceeds one-fifth of the estimated average annual value of the gross produce of the land in staple crops, calculated at the price at which ryots sell at harvest time; for if there is competition for land, the ryots will agree to the terms offered by the landlord; and if he comes to register the lease at all, in ninety-nine cases out of hundred he will admit all that is stipulated in the lease as correct, if he does not wish to go without the land, as we find in cases of registered bonds at exorbitant rates of interest. If there be, again, a counter-combination among the landlords, in these days of combinations, the matter will be still worse. The provisions cannot, at all events, come into operation until the expensive and laborious tables of rates and produce are prepared.

Section 60.—Here the law contemplates giving the occupancy ryots a right to the accretions to their holdings by alluvion, contrary to the provisions of section 4, Regulation XI of 1825.

Section 63, Clause (c).—To take price current at the harvest time alone would be unjust to the landlords. There should be an average price taken.

Section 66.—No provision against difference of opinion amongst assessors.

Section 70.—The minimum of 10 years and maximum of 30 years are too long periods.

Section 72.—The tables may ultimately be of no use to either the ryots or the proprietors, and yet the expenses are to be borne by both.

Section 74, Clause (2).—So the landlord is to be bound by his contract, though the ryot is not to be so.

Section 78.—Ten years too long a period.

Section 81, Clause (b).—Why so when some crops exhaust the land more than others?

Section 82.—This appears to be contrary to the teaching of the *Statesman* in several of its articles on Deccan Agricultural Relief Act, that the greatest blunder ever committed by the settlement officers was to have fixed the rent in money and not in kind, thus forcing the ryots to sell the produce at a time when the market is glutted with it, namely, just after the harvest time.

Section 83.—The price list would be of great value, indeed.

CHAPTER VII.

These provisions are good and just. They should be extended to all bastu or dwelling-house land in town or village, but the existing contracts should be respected. The provisions are in keeping with the equitable principle of "stand-by."

CHAPTER VIII.

Section 93, Clause 2, Sub-clauses (a) & (b).—Compensation for improvements may be allowable where a ryot is not bound to make them by the terms of his lease, as a ryot is not *per se* under any obligation to make them. But compensation for disturbance cannot be allowed, as disturbance follows from the nature of his tenure, which he accepted with full knowledge thereof, and from his laches.

I may here state that compensation for improvement may be allowed to occupancy ryots if they remain subject to eviction, as now, for non-payment of rent.

CHAPTER IX.

Section 98.—This will seriously affect the existing arrangements, and will be very injurious to the tenure-holders, who are, in many cases, bound by their contracts to pay rent to their lessors by even monthly instalments. If contracts are to be set aside, sections 97 and 98 should be amalgamated into one, and the same rule should be laid down as to instalments, whether payable by a ryot, sub-ryot, or tenure-holder.

Section 103.—The sanction of verification should not be taken away, the ground (*a*) being too broad and indefinite.

Section 109.—If damages are to be allowed in order to induce other ryots to be prompt in paying their rents, they lose much of their effect if they are to be awarded in lieu of interest, which is a simple compensation for the delay, and is not intended, and has not the effect of a punishment. The present law does not make it a substitute for interest, though it has been so interpreted in some old rulings. The counter-provision for awarding damages against the plaintiff (landlord) for vexatious suits in the present law, or section 110 of the Bill, is not a substitute for interest, but is intended purely as a deterrent.

Section 119.—This section seems to do away with the Burga or Adhibhag system. If not, the system should be expressly preserved as merely a labour contract.

CHAPTER XI.

Section 155.—The matter should not be left entirely to the discretion of the revenue officers.

Section 159, Clause 2.—The Local Government is too inaccessible a tribunal.

CHAPTER XII.

Preparation of records of rights is a good idea, and such a record, if properly prepared will confer a real boon on the country.

CHAPTER XIII.

I have already commented upon the proposed curtailment of the power of distraint.

I would leave the provisions of the present law on the subject as they are, and suggest only one improvement, namely, that when a landlord asks for assistance of the Court, there should be a regular enquiry after a short notice to the ryot, restraining him and others, if necessary, from reaping the produce in the meantime. The ryots should also be allowed to object to distraint immediately after they receive a notice from the landlord, or an attempt to distrain is made.

CHAPTER X, HEADING E.

There seems to be an omission as to how the present co-owners of estates and tenures receiving rent jointly are to sue for arrears in case all of them do not agree to sue jointly, often in collusion with ryots. Certain decisions have laid it down that in such cases one co-owner may sue for the whole amount of arrears, making his co-sharers parties as co-plaintiffs. But provisions under this heading seem to lay down that in every such case a manager is to be appointed or a partition to be forced. Now, both these courses are expensive affairs, and it will be in the power of a big co-sharer to force the minor ones to appoint him their manager, or to bear the expenses of a manager appointed by the District Judge, and thus ultimately to part with their shares, most likely in his favour. They may well afford collecting their own share of rent if ryots consent to pay them that share separately. The joint Hindu family system makes co-sharers unavoidable, and it is also well-known what bitter enemies they at times are. The

minor co-sharers are sure to go to the wall if they were not allowed to sue for whole arrears, as at present. The omission on this point is liable to the misinterpretation of a covert attempt to aim a blow at joint-Hindu family system, so fostered by Regulation XI of 1793. The zemindars would fain have a law of primogeniture, but the courts are dead against it.—*See* the celebrated case of Tagore *versus* Tagore.

CHAPTER XV.

Sections 211 & 212.—To avoid delay both kinds of sale should be simultaneously advertised and held one after the other on the same day.

CHAPTER XVI.

Section 225.—I do not see the justice of this provision. Are ryots objects of more care and compassion than minors and lunatics?

NUFFER CHUNDRA BHATTA,
First Subordinate Judge, 24-Pergunnahs.

No. 1876-669L.R., dated 18th July, 1883.

From—Officiating Secretary to Government, Bengal,
To—Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

IN continuation of my letter No. 1827-648L.R., dated the 13th July 1883, I am directed to submit, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying copy* of a report from the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division on the subject of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883.

*No. 339, dated the 22nd June, 1883, with enclosure.

A. P. MACDONNELL.

No. 339, dated Chinsurah, the 22nd June, 1883.

From—JOHN BEAMES, Esq., Commissioner of the Burdwan Division,
To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

IN reply to your No. 351A, dated 29th March last, I have the honour to submit my report on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

2. I have already submitted two lengthy reports on this subject, the first of which commented on the Bill drafted by the Rent Commission in 1880, and the second on the amended Bill put forward by Government in 1881. Under these circumstances it will perhaps hardly be necessary at the present stage of the matter to enter into a detailed examination of each of the provisions of the present Bill, which, as the final outcome of much protracted and careful argument, may, in my opinion, be generally accepted as likely to prove workable and fair to all parties affected by it, though I am still very much in doubt whether any enactment of the kind is really required, except perhaps in Behar.

3. It is not of course to be expected that the Bill, even in its present expurgated state, will escape opposition, nor do I think such opposition altogether unreasonable. It is all very well to say that the framers of the permanent settlement specifically, and in set terms, reserved to themselves and their successors the right to interfere between the zemindar and the ryot, whenever such a step might seem necessary, for the protection of the latter; and that, though no such interference practically did take place during the sixty-six years that intervened between 1793 and 1859, yet that "it is never too late to mend," and that consequently we are going to interfere now. The answer to that argument is that during all those years we have allowed men to buy zemindaries and tenures on the belief, fully justified by our acions, that no interference would take place, and that it is not fair to these persons suddetly to uproot the conditions, on the faith of which they have invested their money. I so far nagree with this argument, as to think that, in any changes which may now be made, it is not sufficient to go back to first principles and base our enactment solely on what we understand to be the relation between landlord and tenant, as established by Lord Cornwallis' Regulations; we must go further than this, and take into consideration the present status and vested interests of the proprietary body whom we have called into existence, and whom we have during nearly a century allowed to acquire rights and privileges which are none the less deserving of respect now, because their growth and development were not contemplated by the statesmen of the last century.

4. I mention this point not as a peg on which to hang a long historical discussion, or an examination of the state of revenue law and its effect on the agricultural classes during the last hundred years. All that has been done over and over again, and by far abler pens than mine. But I mention it to shew the spirit in which I approached the discussion of the two previous Bills, and the nature of the test which I feel bound to apply to the present Bill. In other words, the question I ask myself as I examine one section of the Bill after another, is "does this provision deprive either landlord or tenant of any right or any status which he legally holds *at present*, whether in virtue of the terms of the permanent settlement, or in virtue of

any custom which the Government has tacitly allowed to grow up since that time?" We have nothing to do with the historical zemindar of 1793; if he ever existed at all, that is, if there ever was any class of men so situated as we are apt to figure them to ourselves, he exists no longer. We have to deal with the zemindar in the position which he holds in the present day.

5. This is the view which most officers and private gentlemen whom I have, from time to time consulted, take of the matter, and I think it is the only practical reasonable view to take. There is a great deal of sentimental talk about the woes of the ryot; and I venture to think that no one who knows anything of the incidents of my obscure career will suspect me, at any rate, of a tendency to overlook the claims of the ryot, or to side too strongly with the zemindar. But I cannot overlook the fact so ably urged by the Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal, that the Bengal of to-day offers a startling contrast to the Bengal of 1793; and that the wealth and prosperity of the country has marvellously increased—increased beyond all precedent—under the permanent settlement. There is much force in his remark that a great portion of this increase is due to the zemindari body as a whole, and that they have been very active and powerful factors in the development of this prosperity.

6. The ryot suffers from causes over which no Government can have any control; the country is over-peopled; and the intensity of the struggle for existence is due principally to this cause, and not to the capacity or bad management of the zemindars. Every one *will* marry, and *will* have heaps of children; no one *will* emigrate, a vast majority *will* grow nothing but paddy, and the poorest *will* spend in advance the earnings of ten years on a marriage feast or a religious ceremony. It is very doubtful whether any legislative measures will improve the condition of people whose manners, customs, and prejudices are so utterly incompatible with improvements as these.

7. *Section 3, sub-sections 3 and 5.*—The definition of ryot has been purposely left obscure. We are told that certain persons are not ryots, but we are not told who are ryots. It seems to be thought impossible to define a ryot in such a way as to differentiate him from a tenure-holder. It is undoubtedly difficult; but I am afraid, unless it is done, much greater difficulties will arise. The definition in the Rent Commission's Bill, section 3, was not altogether satisfactory, because, for reasons briefly stated in the report, no other test was applied than that of the extent of the holding, and limit was arbitrarily fixed at 100 standard bighas. The present Bill, in sections 14 and 15, also fixes an arbitrary line of demarcation between a tenure-holder and a ryot by making what are at present known as ryots, with right of occupancy at fixed rates of rent, into tenure-holders, so that, if this definition be maintained, we get an exceedingly simple definition of ryots by merely saying that all persons who hold land under a zemindar, except those mentioned in sections 14 and 15, are ryots.

8. This, however, introduces considerable confusion in another way, for it has never, as far as I am aware, been the custom to regard as tenure-holders persons who have a right of occupancy at fixed rates. Such persons are always regarded by themselves and others as ryots, and the adoption of the classification of the present Bill will very much modify our conceptions on this point, and introduce changes which will not be readily understood nor acquiesced in by the classes connected with land.

9. Where so many high authorities have declared themselves unable to define a term, it may seem presumptuous in me to offer any definition. It is therefore with some diffidence that I put forward the suggestion, that the practice, or, so to speak, the tacit understanding on the subject among the people generally, should be taken as the basis of a definition.

10. When a zemindar lets land to a tenure-holder, he considers that he is granting, and the tenure-holder considers that he is obtaining, the right to collect rents from a number of cultivators already actually in occupation of the land so granted. When, however, the zemindar lets land to a ryot, he grants, and the ryot takes, the permission to cultivate the land himself, it not being, at the time of granting the lease, actually occupied by cultivators. The ryot who thus takes land may subsequently, without ceasing to be considered by the zemindar and by himself a ryot, sublet portions, or even the whole of such land, but at the time of taking the potta the land is not in occupation of others.

11. This is, I think, the broad line of demarcation between "talukdar" and "ryot;" and if we use tenure-holder strictly for talukdar, this demarcation will practically hold good everywhere, with very few and unimportant modifications. It is the *intent* with which the land is granted and taken that shews where to draw the line; and the intent is clearly understood in all cases by the parties at the time the transaction occurs.

12. It is no objection to this to say that ryoti land is often let with *korfa* ryots actually on it, because the right of the *korfa* practically ceases with that of the ryot from whom he holds; and if he stays on, he does so by permission of the new ryot, who might, if he choose, consider the land as unoccupied and free of all incumbrances. I think if a definition of ryot, based on the above idea, were introduced into the Act, it would be found to meet most, if not all, cases. It might be formulated thus:—

(1) A tenure-holder is a person who takes land on lease from a proprietor with the intent of collecting the rents from the ryots; and against whom the proprietor has the remedy mentioned in section XV of this Act (sale).

(2) A ryot is a person who takes land from a proprietor, tenure-holder, or under-tenure-holder, with the intent of cultivating it himself or by hired labour, or of sub-letting it, and against whom the proprietor, &c., has the remedy specified in Chapter XIII of this Act (distraint).

13. If the difficulty is great of distinguishing between a ryot and a tenure-holder, it is equally great in distinguishing between a ryot and an under-ryot, and we cannot rest contented with the definition of an under-ryot, given in sub-section (6), that "an under-ryot means a tenant holding land below a ryot," unless we know what a ryot is. What we must know, for purposes of settlement, and what the zemindar also must know for the same purpose, is, who is the person in whose name the jummabundi is to be made. Section 164 of the present Bill, indeed, contemplates that, in compiling a record-of-rights, which is practically what we know as a jummabundi, tenure-holders, occupancy rights, *bastu* ryots, ryots, under-ryots, shall all be jumbled up together. But this will never do: something more definite will be necessary, unless the whole of our present system of settlement procedure is to be reversed, in which case a good deal of Regulation VII of 1822 will have to be repealed. Bengal Act VIII of 1869 is, I see, to be repealed; but Chapter XI of this Bill, as I shall notice further on, makes the same requirements as the Act does on settlement officers, in respect of defining the status of various kinds of tenants, so that I am afraid we shall not be able to get on without some definition of "ryot."

14. The matter would be made clearer by altering the definition of an under-ryot, from one "holding land *below* a ryot" into one "holding land *from* a ryot." As it stands at present, it is doubtful whether the holding of a korfa ryot could be brought within the definition of an "incumbrance" in section 208.

15. If we get rid of the korfa ryot as an incumbrance, then the definition of the ryot, as the actual or presumable cultivator (presumable from the *intent* with which he took the land), would come in, and we should get the actual ryot on our jummabundi, and every one below him, *i.e.*, holding under him, would be omitted, or, if it were desirable to record them, might be put into a subsidiary jummabundi or ikwal.

16. In accordance with this view, howladars, aymadars, mandals, and all persons who obtained grants of waste land for the purpose of bringing them under cultivation and colonizing them would fall into the position of tenure-holders. This would, I presume, cover also the case of the jotedars of Northern Bengal, and to some extent also that of the talukdars of Chittagong. The present under-ryots in such estates would then become, to a great extent, ryots; but on this point I beg to refer to my remarks on section 50, further on.

17. Another point referring to this same definition is the restriction of ryoti land to land held for purposes of agriculture, horticulture, or pasture. This excludes tanks, which all over Eastern Bengal are let as ryoti holding for fishing purposes. It also excludes land let for building bazars. Something must be done about this latter class of land. In the Midnapore bazar cases, the High Court ruled that land let for building purposes unconnected with agriculture (*i.e.*, not *bastu*, as defined in the present Bill) was not governed by the settlement laws, which only applied to agricultural land and homestead land connected therewith. But the subject still, so far as I am aware, remains unsettled, and if it is to be excluded from this Bill, it will require a Bill of its own to settle it. The only mention of it in this Bill is in section 208, clause (*c*), where such tenures are declared not to be incumbrances; but this does not provide for their being leased, or for recovery of arrears, or for ejectment, or enhancement, or, in fact, any of the conditions to which such lands are equally liable with agricultural lands. I reserve further remarks on this point till I come to discuss chapter VII of the Bill.

18. *Sections 14 and 15.*—I have already noticed that these sections turn an occupancy ryot at fixed rates into a tenure-holder. I see that this is said to have been done for the convenience of the draftsman. It is unfortunate that we hear so much of this person now-a-days. It seems to me that it is a matter of no moment at all whether he finds an Act easy or difficult to draft; that is his affair, and should not for an instant occupy the mind of the legislator, whose attention should be directed solely to the justice and utility of the law. The mechanical operation of putting an idea into plain English is beneath consideration. I venture to think that by turning the occupancy ryot at fixed rates into a tenure-holder, we are creating a state of things foreign to the ideas and customs of the people, and likely to give rise to much confusion.

19. *Section 21.*—I am disposed to think that the limit of 30 per cent. is too high, and that it should not be more than 20 per cent. I think, however, that, in a vast majority of cases, there will be no necessity for courts to apply sub-sections (3) and (4), as cases in which the customary rates payable by persons holding similar tenures in the neighbourhood cannot be ascertained must be very rare.

20. *Sections 27 and 28.*—This seems unnecessary. Under section 27 the transferor and transferee, or successor, may apply to the landlord for registration of the transfer. If he refuses, an application must be made to the civil court, which will apparently take evidence and decide the question. There seems very little use in giving the applicant the option of applying to the revenue officer, who can do no more than issue a notice, which, it is said, the landlord is "bound to comply with;" but it is not said how compliance is to be enforced. Why should the applicant not go to the civil court direct on the refusal of the landlord, just as the landlord has to do under section 33. The landlord who refused to register on the request of the applicant will not do so on a mere executive order of a revenue court under section 28, if there is no penalty attached to disobedience. And why is the revenue officer to assist the tenure-holder, while he is not to assist the landlord.

21. Moreover, section 28 does not give the revenue officer any power to enquire whether

there has been a transfer or not, nor is he authorized to listen to any objection the landlord may urge against registering. This section will give a certain amount of additional work to revenue officers without the slightest corresponding advantage to either of the parties.

22. The same remark applies to clause (3) of section 27. There is no use whatever in saying a man "shall do" this or that, or "shall be bound to do" this or that, unless some penalty is prescribed for disobedience. In this case the landlord shall give a statement in writing of the reasons of his refusal; ninety-nine landlords out of a hundred will habitually neglect to comply with this section; and if they do so neglect—what then? They do not suffer, for there is no punishment for neglect. The fines which the Board is authorized to prescribe would not, as section 35 at present stands, cover cases where a landlord neglects to register.

23. I think the increase in the rate of fee from two per cent, if notice is given within six months, to twenty per cent., if given over six months from date of transfer, is excessive. The maximum rate, it is true, ranges from Rs. 100 to Rs. 1,000, and this will mitigate the severity of the fine (for such it is) in some large tenures, but in the smaller tenures, the holders of which are generally poor, a fee of twenty per cent. will be very seriously felt; and as the use of having the transfer registered at all is not very clear to this class of persons, the result will be a pretty general neglect to register at all. The landlord will, in a great majority of instances, remain ignorant of the transaction; or will not care enough about the matter to apply to a court under section 33, and thus much of this portion of the law will remain a dead letter.

24. *Section 30.*—In transfers under this section, it should be provided that the court holding the sale shall give notice to the landlord, who otherwise might remain in ignorance of the transfer. So also in section 35 (1) the Board should be authorized specifically to make rules not only for the matters mentioned in that section, and for procedure to be followed, but for the enforcement of the duties imposed upon landlords by Part D of chapter III.

26. *Sections 36 and 42.*—I do not see the necessity of incorporating the law regarding putni tenures into this Bill. It seems to have been taken as a matter of course by the Rent Commission that this should be done. If this view is to prevail, then, I think, the system should, as suggested by the Rent Commission, be extended to such under-tenure-holders, other than putnidars, as may choose to accept it by a written agreement. The principle that where there is no dispute, the process of recovery should be as summary as possible, is a sound one, and almost indispensably necessary at the present time, when courts are overcrowded with business. The Collectorof Midnapore also holds this opinion.

27. I would suggest also that, if the putni law is to be incorporated into the present Bill, the opportunity should be taken advantage of to make a few verbal alterations in that law. I would insert a section making it legal for a Collector to make over the duty of holding sales to a Deputy Collector, with the sanction of the Commissioner. Collectors have so many duties now-a-days that it hampers them very much to be obliged to hold these sales themselves.

28. Doubts also occasionally arise as to the exact meaning of the words in section 14, clause 2, of the putni law. A "talukdar may contest the zemindar's demand of any arrear." May he only contest the fact of the arrear being due, or may he bring forward other objections, such as that the zemindar is not a recorded proprietor, or that he is only one out of a number of proprietors, and therefore cannot apply alone to bring the taluk to sale, and other similar objections?

29. It might also be as well to substitute throughout the putni law the term "recorded proprietor" for the vague "zemindar," wherever it occurs.

30. As the Board are aware, questions have also arisen as to what is to be the actual date of sale, when, as often happens, the Durga Poojah holidays fall on the first day of Aghan. This doubt might be cleared up on the present occasion.

31. *Section 45.*—I think this section goes a great deal too far. It allows a man who has held land anywhere in an *estate*, no matter how often it may have been changed, to become a settled ryot; and a settled ryot acquires a right of occupancy in any land he may happen to hold on the 2nd of March last, so that, in the case of a large zemindary, say the Burdwan estate for instance, a man may come to a village from another village sixty miles off in that estate, take land there, and have rights of occupancy from a few days' possession.

32. Estates in Bengal are often very large and very scattered, and the various portions have nothing in common. Why should a man, who has lived for some years in the south of a district, acquire thereby a right of occupancy in land many miles off in the north, merely because the two places happen to belong to the same estate.

33. There may be some justice in the rule that a ryot who has lived 12 years in a village shall be considered a settled ryot. The village even in Bengal still preserves some sort of soliditary, the estate has none, and it would be certainly very unfair to allow a ryot to acquire a right of occupancy in a plot of land which he has held only for one year, in a village in which he is, to all intents and purposes, an outsider and a stranger simply on the ground that he has held land for twelve years in other disconnected parts of the same estate. Such a concession as this is not looked for by the cultivating class, is opposed to their own views and to the custom of the country, and would operate very hardly on the zemindar.

34. There is of course the counter consideration that unless some latitude is allowed in acquiring the right of occupancy, the zemindar can prevent its accruing by shifting the ryots

fields year by year. But I do not think the legislature meant to authorize the consequences which would result from the wording of this section as it stands. There is not only the difficulty of an estate containing a vast number of villages scattered widely apart, but also that of a large village containing portions of many estates. It is evidently not intended that a ryot who has held land in estate A for twelve years should be considered a settled ryot in estate B, merely because the two estates, or portions of them, are included within one and the same village.

35. Yet the use of the word village would lead to this result, just as the use of estate would lead to that mentioned above. I would suggest that it should be declared that when a ryot has occupied land for twelve years in a village which constitutes one entire estate, such occupancy shall make him a settled ryot of that estate; when the village forms only a part of an estate, such occupancy shall make him a settled ryot of that village only; when a village contains more than one estate, or portions of several estates, twelve years' occupancy should constitute a settled ryot of so much of the village as belongs to the estate in which he has held. Of course this would restrict the area in which the last-named class of ryot could acquire occupancy rights, but this does not matter. The occupancy right is a matter between landlord and tenant; and if the landlord's property is small, the tenant's area of selection must be small also.

36. *Section 50.*—It is contemplated in paragraph 41 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons that the right of sub-letting, conferred by clause (*e*) of this section, may in time lead to a state of things in which the bulk of the actual cultivators would be under-ryots; and this state of things is regarded as so far off in the future that it may be safely left to some future Government to deal with it.

37. But the Collector of Midnapore points out very truly that this state of things is actually in existence very largely in that district, and I apprehend that it exists much more extensively than is suspected in all districts, similarly situated to Midnapore, *i.e.*, in all districts which were, down to recent times, the wild uncultivated frontiers of the Mahomedan province of Bengal. It is in these places that we find the jotedars, howladars, mandals and the like referred to in paragraph 16 above. The illustration to section 4 of the Bill recognizes the custom that under-ryots may acquire a right of occupancy, but leaves the conditions under which such a right may be acquired undefined, and the under-ryots consequently unprotected. They hold under, or from, superior tenants, who have been recognized as having the status of occupancy ryots.

38. There are in Midnapore many thousands of these ryots whose forefathers have tilled the land they now occupy for many generations, and I agree with Mr. Wilson in thinking that there is no reason why they should be left unprotected. The Board have before them precisely this question in the case of the ryots of Hooda Bhetia, in which, in appeal from the Collector, I was forced, by what appeared to me to be the present state of the law, reluctantly to rule that the ryots had no status beyond that of mere "korfas."

39. The case is this:—A, some 60 or 70 years ago, got from the zemindar a lease of a tract of jungle. He then induced B, C and D to settle and clear the land for cultivation by giving it to them rent-free for three years. A and his successor have now been recognized as occupancy ryots, but that is no reason why B, C and D should not be protected in the same way as other hereditary cultivators. The defective state of the present law on this subject has certainly been productive of much hardship; for, as the Collector observes, "although these under-ryots are hereditary occupants of the land, they cannot prove the existence of a custom enabling them to acquire an occupancy right, and in fact the courts have more than once decided that, under the law as it stands, they have no such rights."

40. Mr. Wilson would insert a provision to the effect that an under-ryot, who for five years consecutively cultivates the same land, shall acquire the status of an ordinary ryot, unless during any part of that time he has held under a lease for a fixed period. It would, I think, answer the purpose equally well if it were provided that, on a person whom we now call a ryot becoming (as he would under sections 14 and 15) a tenure-holder, the ryot's holding under him should, if they fulfil the above conditions, be held to have acquired a right of occupancy.

41. *Section 56.*—This section has given rise to much discussion. It is urged that, with the great facilities now granted for the acquisition of occupancy rights, it is only fair to the zemindar that he should have a chance now and then of extinguishing such rights. But the object of the Bill is avowedly to take away all such chance. Every possible obstacle is put in the way of a zemindar's preventing the growth of occupancy rights; and such rights will consequently grow inordinately; and not only will they grow, but once established, they must remain for ever, unless the landlord keeps the land in his own hands.

42. Here there is some confusion in the law; section 47 provides that no occupancy right shall accrue on land held by any person as owner: one would suppose that when a landlord exercised the right of pre-emption and bought a ryot's holding, he would thenceforth hold it as owner.

43. Yet the sections on pre-emption and section 56 speak of the ryot selling his "occupancy right," and the landlord purchasing the same. What is this but selling and purchasing the land itself? I do not see why, if the landlord thus purchases the land, it should not be open to him to extinguish the occupancy right. In fact, under section 47, that right would be extinguished by the mere fact that he, the owner, purchases it. But to prevent this consequence, the fine distinction is introduced, that he, the owner, holds it not as owner, but as an occupancy ryot under himself. This, I think, is very hard upon the landlord. Ordinary ryots with no occupancy rights, though by no means sufficiently cared for in chapter VIII of the Bill, are yet placed in such a position that no deterioration of the status of the cultivating class would result from the partial extinction here and there of occupancy rights. Under section 119 no ryot can have his rent raised to more than five annas of the value of the gross produce of his land, and he cannot be ejected without elaborate proceedings. Surely this is protection enough for any ryot, unless it be deliberately intended to make all zemindars mere annuitants, in which case we deprive the highest class in the country of all incitement to take an interest in the welfare of their tenantry; we turn them into drones, and, in a vast number of instances, into paupers. It is all very well to have a substantial peasantry; but I am not one of those who wish to see this end attained by sacrificing the nobility and gentry of the country.

44. With their estates held by ryots, setting at what will be virtually, in many cases, fixed rates, and with land which, when once occupied by a ryot long enough to give him a right of occupancy, carries that right with it to whosoever may hold it hereafter, the zemindars will cease to have any interest in their estates at all. The privilege of pre-emption ceases to be of any value; for why should a zemindar buy up the tenure of a ryot unless it be in order to extinguish the right of occupancy? He will not be led to use his right of pre-emption merely to exclude an obnoxious purchaser, for his interest in the land will be so slight that it will not matter to him who purchases it.

45. Moreover, as pointed out by Mr. Reynolds in his speech in Council, the landlord will by this provision be led to keep the land in his own hands, thus virtually turning it into khamar. The whole section seems to me to involve an erroneous idea. It is not the land that acquires rights, but the man who holds it. If he holds it for a certain term of years, equity and custom demand that he should acquire occupancy rights in it. But one fails to see why the land itself should carry those rights with it when it passes into the hands of a man who has done nothing to earn or merit those rights.

46. *Section 62.*—The preparation of tables of rates will be, in all places, a difficult and, in many places, an impossible task. It has been tried experimentally in several districts, and it appears from the debates in Council that the officers selected for the task do not think it is likely to be generally successful. This is to a certain extent admitted in paragraph 51 of the Statement of Objects. It is there apparently implied that tables of rates will only be prepared in districts where such rates are already recognized and in existence. I think if the idea of having such tables is not abandoned altogether, it should be stated in the Bill that they will only be made in such districts, so as to make it impossible for applications for the compilation of a table of rates to be sent up from districts where the materials for such a table do not exist.

47. *Section 70.*—On the question of finality being given to tables of rates under this section, the Collector of Midnapore writes:—

"I desire to represent the extreme danger involved in irrevocably fixing for a term, even of ten years, a table of rent rates. It is often found necessary in this and other provinces to revise the work of careful experienced settlement officers, with reference to facts gradually brought to light by experience; but the procedure of the Bill would give absolute finality to an order of Government sanctioning a table of rates. In considering this point, it should be borne in mind that the Board and Government would have no independent knowledge of the facts with which they had to deal, but would be wholly, or almost wholly, dependent upon reports submitted to them by the officer who had framed the table of rates, and who could hardly fail to be prejudiced in favour of his own handiwork. Nothing is easier than to deduce logical conclusions from figured statements; but it is far from easy to ascertain (for instance) the true average outturn of a particular class of land.

48. I quite agree with Mr. Wilson; the illustration which he gives fully confirms his remarks. He points out that in the Midnapore settlements Mr. Price came to the conclusion that the price of paddy would probably never fall below one rupee a maund, and certainly never below 12 annas. The Board then went into the same question, and from the police returns of the selling prices at the principal marts from 1872 to 1877, arrived at rates, in most cases, lower than Mr. Price's. The present Collector has gone over the same ground in the same manner from the price lists of 1881 and 1882, the result being two annas, or even more, below the rates arrived at by the Board. Prices may rise again, or they may not; but the above example shows conclusively to my mind that it would be dangerous to fix any table of rates, no matter how carefully prepared, for so long a period as ten years.

49. Seeing then that, before a table of rates can be prepared at all, an enquiry must first be held to ascertain whether the district or area is one in which the materials and conditions for compiling such a table (recognized rates or uniformity in the classes of soil, &c.) exist; that the cost of this enquiry and of the preparation of such a table, if found practicable, will be thrown upon landlords and ryots jointly; that there will still remain many parts of the country where no such tables can be made; that even where made, they will not continue to represent actual facts for more than one or two years together; and that the only object of having such tables at all is to simplify the work of the courts in enhancement cases, I must express my opinion that, to use a common saying, "the game is not worth the candle."

50. As a mere matter of administrative economy, it would be far cheaper to appoint more rent-suit moonsifs, and let them work out the rates as they do at present, than to employ a large number of highly-paid revenue officers (they must be highly paid, because they must be possessed of much ability and experience, and such officers are only found in high grades of the Covenanted and Uncovenanted Services) to prepare tables, which, when prepared, will be of comparatively little value. I think also the people themselves will very much prefer having their cases decided each on its own merits, to having them summarily disposed of by reference to a table of rates.

51. *Section 74.*—Where there are no tables of rates, the courts are to proceed, in enhancement suits, on certain lines which are apparently intended to be a decoction of all the case law on the subject since Act X of 1859. With regard to section 74, clause (3), I may remark *en passant* that I do not quite see how the increase in the average price of produce in any locality, or in any of the usual markets, can be brought about by the sole agency or at the sole expense of any individual ryot. Excluding temporary or casual increases in the selling price of agricultural produce, such as famines or campaigns, the increase is, as far as I can see, invariably due to causes operating on a much too large a scale to be affected by the actions of any individual ryot, or even of all the ryots of a village acting collectively. It is brought about by opening up new roads, railways, or canals, or by the establishment of permanent trade relations with foreign countries, and the like.

52. But passing by this point, I find that in section 75 the principles by which the court is to be guided in enhancing rents are practically the same as those by which it would be guided in a case where there were tables of rates. We have first the limit of one-fifth of the annual value of the gross produce. Subject to this we have some very simple rules for dividing the increase between landlord and tenant. In 92 cases out of a hundred the issue will turn on clause (*c*), and so we get back again to the old rate of things.—Issur Ghose's case and Act X of 1859. The facts to be ascertained by actually recording evidence are very simple, and I do not think a moonsif would have much more difficulty in deciding a case where there was no table of rates, than one where there was a table, especially as the law allows of going behind the table in certain cases. Here, again, I find an argument against the adoption of the table of rates with all its concomitant inconveniences.

53. As to the one-fifth limit I see no great objection, though I do not think one-fourth would have been too much. I find in Jellamootha the percentage of gross value taken as rent ranges from 19 per cent. to 27·5, the general average being 19·8. In Majnamootha it ranges from 20·3 to 30, the average being 23·5. Many of the pergunnahs in these estates are, however, very fertile, and as the highest average hardly rises to one-fourth, perhaps one-fifth, for the whole of Bengal, is a safe limit to fix. It is always, however, very unsatisfactory to lay down hard and fast lines for so vast a tract of country containing such widely differing kinds of soil and conditions of fertility.

54. As regards section 77, I can only repeat what I said in my report on Mr. Reynolds' Bill, that if it is fair to decree enhancement at all, it should be decreed at once. It is impossible for a court to say that land is progressively improving, and that it will go on improving at the same rate of progress. It also seems somewhat contradictory for a court to declare in the same breath that the land is fairly liable to enhancement, and yet that enhancement would cause hardship to the ryot, and therefore cannot take place all at once. This is another instance of that extreme tenderness towards the ryot, which does not seem to be felt when dealing with the landlord.

55. *Section 79* is another instance of the same tenderness. What is just for the zemindar is just for the ryot; and if enhancement is hedged in and fenced about with all the conditions of section 74, reduction should be similarly hedged in, and it should not be merely left to the court to pass any order if thought fit. This looks very much as if, when the zemindar's pocket is to suffer, it does not matter; but when the ryot's pocket is to suffer, it matters a great deal, and you can't be too careful.

56. *Section 80.*—This is not of much use. Pasture lands are not, as far as I know, leased to individual ryots *as* pasture; I am sorry to say they are often so leased with a view to their being turned into arable; and in this way all the pasture land in the country is being swallowed up by zemindars, and the cattle are deteriorating visibly for want of proper grazing land. I should be glad if Government could see its way to preventing this. Hitherto we have been generally under the impression that a zemindar might, to a very great extent, do what he liked with his land, so long as he paid his revenue punctually; but in the present day we have outlived so many old-fashioned prejudices, that there would be no great shock to our feelings if this one followed the rest. We are going to fix rates of rent by tables of rates; we even contemplate entering on a permanently-settled estate, and settling it over again (all but the revenue, which is to remain unaltered, whatever may be the result of our new settlement); and under these circumstances it would be merely "straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel" if we were to allow our hands to be tied in such a matter as the preservation of pasture land.

57. Even if it be admitted that the framers of the permanent settlement reserved to themselves and their successors the right to interfere for the protection of the ryots, it has always been admitted that the zemindar was to be allowed to make his own arrangements for bringing into cultivation waste land. The difficulty about pasturage has arisen, I believe, from the fact that anciently there was abundant waste land where the ryots grazed their cattle as they pleased; no specific area was therefore set aside as pasturage or grazing land distinguished from the waste land. In course of time, therefore, the zemindars have brought under cultivation all the land not already under the plough, and pasturage has disappeared under the pretext that it was waste, and was being reclaimed as such. It would, I fear, be impossible to throw back into grazing land any land already brought under the plough and leased to ryots; but in places where this process has not gone so far, it might be enacted that a certain proportion of land in each village should be reserved as pasturage and left free for the cattle of all the ryots to graze on, the conversion of existing pasturage, beyond a certain proportion, into arable being forbidden by law. I do not think this would meet with much opposition.

58. *Section 83.*—This will be a very difficult proceeding, not because there will be any difficulty in finding what are the market prices on any given date, at any given place, but because in the present day communication is so easy and rapid between one part of the country and another, that there cannot, in many places, be said to be any one market price all harvest time. The harvest time may last six weeks; and during that time, especially in places in telegraphic communication with Calcutta, Madras, and other large towns, prices will go up and down twenty times. Long before the price list has been sanctioned by the necessary authority, it will have ceased to be correct. All that can be done is for the Collector to record, day by day during the six weeks of harvest, and for another six weeks afterwards, till the crop is all disposed of, the daily fluctuations in the principal markets. At the close of this period he may tabulate and arrange his figures and strike averages, and the return will then be of some use in future years as a guide to what the prices were in the year to which it refers.

59. *Section 85.*—With reference to the remarks made in paragraph 17 of this report, I observe that in the Statement of Objects, paragraph 70, it is mentioned that all provision regarding land used for building purposes has been purposely omitted from the Bill. I regret much that the weighty remarks on this subject, in paragraphs 108 to 112 of the Rent Commissioners' report, have been passed over with only this cursory notice. I need hardly point out that all the land in the country (except waste land and petty patches of revenue-free land here and there) belongs to, and is included within, the limits of one estate or another. Why should a zemindar have no law to guide him when he wishes to find a village or a town? Why is there to be no provision made for cases where capitalists wish to obtain land for building a great factory? The whole subject of this Bill is, as I have said more than once, looked at too exclusively from the ryot's point of view, and not even the ryots in the widest sense of the word, but from that of the ryot who tills the soil, and him only. The omission of all provisions regarding land used for building purposes is calculated to retard the development of the country and to re-act unfavourably even upon the ryot, for whose welfare we are so solicitous.

60. The "substantial peasant," whom it is so much wished to create, has a far better chance of coming into existence and continuing to live and prosper if he has marts for his produce all round him. What retards the progress of the peasantry as much as anything is the long and weary distance which so often separates him from the nearest place where he can get money for his produce. Whatever renders it difficult or disadvantageous for the zemindar to establish marts on his land, or to allow of the erection of better houses than the mud huts, or bamboo or thatch hovels, which now form the peasant's or ordinary dwelling, in the same degree keeps back not only the commercial development of the country, but also the material comfort of the peasant, and consequently also his striving after improvement. If the subject of letting land for purposes other than agricultural be not treated of in its proper place in this Bill, the Bill will be imperfect, and a most urgent and all-important feature in the question of the tenure of land will be left in a state of dangerous chaos.

61. *Section 88.*—I agree with Mr. Reynolds in considering it a mistake to call a ryot, who has no right of occupancy, an "ordinary" ryot. In the earlier part of this report I observed that we had not yet succeeded in defining a ryot at all; and when you cannot define the substantive, it seems strange to prefix to it the adjective "ordinary."

Section 89.—I also object to the terms of this section, leaving the "ordinary" ryots' rent to be fixed by contract between him and the landlord, subject only to a maximum, which it is truly observed will be evaded at every turn.

62. The privilege of the occupancy ryot is not necessarily, at least it ought not to be, a more favourable rate of rent than other classes, nor ought it to consist in greater protection at the hands of the law. It ought to consist merely in a tighter hold on his land in a right to hold his hand in spite of every one, so long as he pays his rent and uses the land for the purpose for which he got it.

63. The "ordinary ryot" ought to have all these privileges too, except fixity of tenure. He is a tenant-at-will, unless he likes to stick to his land long enough to give him occupancy rights; and this ought not to be difficult for him to do, now that every possible obstacle is placed in the way of zemindars stopping the accrual of such rights.

64. *Sections 91, 92, &c.*—The procedure for enhancement in these sections seems to me very faulty. There is here none of the careful weighing of considerations laid down for the occupancy ryot in chapter VI. The landlord may enhance, with or without reason, up to the limit of section 119, five annas in the rupee. Then he may serve a notice on the ryot, who must then either pay or go. In the suit for his ejection, to be instituted under section 93, the

court is not to enquire whether the enhancement is fair or not. The case is to be tried in the most summary manner, and unless the ryot agrees to pay the enhanced rent, the court must pass a decree ejecting him. I really do not see why such tender care should be bestowed upon one favoured class of ryots, while the other is left utterly unprotected. The protection granted to the occupancy ryot is so complete, and any attack on him is attended with so much risk and difficulty, that the zemindar will naturally turn his attacks against the "ordinary" ryot, whom the law does not deign to protect, and will effectually prevent him, at any rate, from acquiring occupancy rights by ruining him long before he has had time to do so.

65. *Section 93*, clause (*a*), will be inoperative. Every one knows that tenants-at-will do not make improvement. But I agree with Mr. Reynolds, and with the unanimous opinion of all whom I have consulted, that clause (*b*) is absurd. If you start by defining a man as one who has no right of occupancy, why should he be compensated for being turned out if he does not comply with the terms of the contract by virtue of which alone he holds. The law expressly says that the "ordinary" ryot has no rights in the land he tills, save such as he may acquire by virtue of some contract or agreement with landlord. It is of the very essence of his position that he can be turned out, and if so, what injury is done him when he is so turned out? It is very sad to see this, one of the most pestilent inventions of the *anti-landlord* party in England, of that noxious class who believe that *la propriete cest le vol* introduced into this country.

66. *Sections 97 to 99.*—Some objections have been raised against this Part B. I do not share them. I think it is very necessary that something should be done, not so much to fix the dates of ryots' kists, which are on the whole very fairly paid already, but to limit the number of kists. On more than one occasion recently I have met with cases in which a zemindar or putnidar had arbitrarily fixed 12 kists in the year; and, in order to harass his ryots, was in the habit of suing them in the moonsif's court separately for each kist, thus bringing twelve suits in one year against a single ryot. It should, however, be stated who is to move the Board to exercise its powers under Part B. If the Board waits for either zemindars or ryots to apply to it, I fear it will wait a long time. The initiative should rest with the Collector of the district, who should report through the Commissioner for the Board's orders.

67. *Section 100.*—I approve of this section entirely. I would, however, repeat the recommendation, which I made in reporting on the Bengal Bill of 1881, that the Board should have power to prescribe a form of receipt, as zemindars through ignorance or carelessness will be very apt not to include all the necessary particulars in the receipts which they may give.

68. *Section 101.*—I adhere to my former objection to this provision. It will be widely and generally, if not universally, evaded; such a statement is not, as a general rule, required by ryots. Those who desire to be on good terms with their landlords are careful to avoid asking for any information. If a ryot comes asking for information about the state of his account, it is generally assumed that he means litigation, and the zemindar prepares himself accordingly, and bad blood is caused. It would be far better to provide that zemindars shall *keep* a register containing all those particulars (many of them keep nothing of the kind); this would be a great step in advance, and that if a ryot at any time wanted a statement, which might happen once or twice in his lifetime, the zemindar should be bound to give it; and if he did not, the ryot could apply to the Collector or the civil court to compel the zemindar to give it. It would be useless practically to rule that such statement should be given free of cost, because whatever the law might say to the contrary, the zemindar's *amla*, if not the zemindar himself, would be sure to demand some fee or present, and the ryot would, on the whole, rather give it than not, in order to keep on good terms with his landlord and the *amla*, who have his fate in their hands.

69. *Sections 103 to 107.*—I object to the wording of clause (*a*). It would be very dangerous to allow any tenant who, without just cause, or for the deliberate purpose of making mischief, chooses to fancy that he "has reason to believe" that the zemindar will not receive his rent and grant a receipt to pay it into court. The present law (section 46 of Act VIII, B.C., of 1869) requires that the tenant shall first make a tender of the rent. I think this provision ought to be retained. I know it has been said that a ryot is often afraid to go to the zemindar's cutcherry with his money, lest it should be taken from him and no receipt granted, but such cases are in my experience more imaginary than real; and as between man and man, it is surely only fair that the recipient should have a chance of taking the money and giving a receipt before he is put to the trouble of going to a distant court to get it.

70. When a ryot is afraid of violence or unfair treatment at the zemindari cutcherry, he always takes the precaution of taking a number of other ryots with him, who can give evidence in case of his being ill-treated; and a zemindar, who is capable of such conduct, is always so unpopular with his ryots that any one of them can get plenty of others to stand by him in such a case. If we let any ryot, who thinks he "has reason to believe" that the moon is made of green cheese, or any other of the wonderful things which make up a ryot's belief, especially at times when he is at feud with his landlord or neighbour, deposit his money in court, much unnecessary business will be entailed on the courts, and much hardship on zemindars.

71. The wording of the remaining sections of Part D seems to be intended to authorize

Collectors to receive deposits; but if the suits lie in the Munsif's court, the deposits should be made there also to avoid delay and correspondence in ascertaining whether the money is really in deposit or not.

72. *Section 119.*—I have much doubt as to the propriety of fixing a definite proportion of the produce as the ryots' rent. I know that very much has been said in favour of such a measure, yet as it seems that this section is intended to have retrospective effect (though the wording is not very clear), such a provision would lead to a very general disturbance of existing engagements. Is it meant that if a ryot is at the present moment paying a rent which is in excess of five annas in the rupee on the value of the produce, he shall, as soon as this Act comes into force, be entitled to have his rent reduced to that proportion? If so, I am not prepared to say to what extent the rents of ryots all over Bengal will not require reduction. It is one thing to lay down a general principle and quite another to insist on its being immediately applied everywhere throughout a vast country. I think it is far better to leave such matters to be decided by mutual consent and local custom. The ryot is in many places far stronger than seems to be supposed, and with the liberal amount of protection now to be given him by the Bill, will be well able to hold his own against any excessive demand on the part of his zemindar. At any rate, if it be thought that the welfare of the ryot demands some such limit as this to his rent, the rule should not be made retrospective.

73. *Section 126.*—Instead of ruling, as is done at the close of clause (2), that no work shall be deemed to be an improvement which diminishes the value of any other part of the estate, it would be fairer, I think, to say that it shall not be deemed an improvement if it diminishes the value of any other part of the estate to a greater degree than it improves the part worked upon. The estate in this respect being regarded as an unit, an improvement on one part expressed by fifty, which diminished the value of another part to an extent expressed by twenty-five, would still be on the whole, as regards the estate at large, an improvement. I do not, however, attach importance to this chapter, as I fear, from what I see round me, we are yet some way off from the day when ryots of any kind will make improvements to any great extent at their own expense.

74. *Sections 133 to 138.*—These are mostly already in force. There seems to be some obscurity, however, about rent-free and revenue-free lands. In section 92 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons reference is made to a letter from the Government of Bengal, in which it is remarked that a landlord cannot measure "lakhiraj," though a lakhirajdar may be holding under cover of his grant more land than he is entitled to. The Government thought landlords should be entitled to measure such land, and there can be no doubt of the correctness of this view. To remedy the defect, however, section 133 of the Bill gives the landlord power to measure "rent-free" lands, but does not (if I understand the wording rightly) empower him to measure "revenue-free" lands. Both classes of land are commonly included under the expression lakhiraj, which, however, strictly only applies to the latter, and probably the Government of Bengal meant to include "revenue-free" lands. These lands very frequently are entirely surrounded by zemindari land, and "revenue-free" holder is quite as much given to encroaching as the humbler "rent-free" holder. The law should enable a zemindar to proceed against the former as much as against the latter, provided the lands were an *enclave* in, that is, entirely surrounded by the zemindar's lands. Probably some alteration in the wording of this section would be advisable.

75. *In Section 138.*—I think the appeal from the Collector should be not to the District Judge, who, from his official position at least, has no means of judging what is the correct standard of measurement, but to the higher revenue authorities, who, as administrators of all matters relating to the revenue, and custodians of all the records pertaining to the subject, are the best persons to decide what is the proper standard in any part of the country.

76. As we are by way of providing Bengal with all sorts of records of matters which we have hitherto been brought up in the belief that we were not concerned with, it would, I think, be as well if, along with our records of rights and such like matters, we should make once for all an enquiry which would enable the Board authoritatively to declare what was the standard in each pergunnah or other area throughout the country.

77. *Section 141.*—Here I am in doubt whether the provisions of "merger" are not in opposition to those of section 56. If a landlord acquires an occupancy right in land by any process, would not the principle of merger cause the occupancy right to merge in that of the landlord, so that on re-letting the land the new ryot would not, as provided in section 56, acquire an occupancy right, that right having merged and so become extinguished. I am not sufficiently familiar with the meaning and working of this new principle of "merger" to answer this question. I think it ought to do so, as I have said in my remarks on section 56.

78. *Sections 142 to 148.*—It is only necessary to say that I fully approve of this Part E, and that it introduces a much needed and extremely valuable reform. There is, I think, one small omission, which might be supplied. It is of course understood that during the incumbency of a manager all power of interference shall be taken away from the co-owners, and that during that period it shall not be lawful for them to receive rent or grant leases, and that all receipts given and leases granted, save by the manager, shall be null and void, and that the manger, and he alone, shall exercise all the powers and functions conferred by the law on landlords. I have known cases in which co-owners have tried to collect rents and do other acts indicative of ownership behind the back of a manager appointed under Regulation V of 1812.

79. *Section 151.*—The procedure of chapter XI virtually amounts to making a regular settlement of part or the whole of a permanently-settled estate. It involves not merely the determination of the rents, but the preparation of a jummabundi; in fact all the proceedings of an ordinary settlement, excepting only the fixing of the revenue. And in some respects this procedure gives more power to revenue officers than do the existing settlement laws. This is stated to be intentional, and the procedure has been invented with a view to removing from the civil courts the power they now exercise of reversing the decision of the revenue officers on many points in a settlement, accordingly Bengal Act VIII of 1869 is repealed.

80. I personally, as a revenue officer, naturally approve of such a step. It may be foreseen that with such a powerful engine as this in their hands, the executive authorities will in future abandon the procedure of the settlement laws entirely in all cases of Government estates or wards' estates in favour of procedure under section 151, clause (*c*), and I fancy few revenue officers will avail themselves of the permission to refer to the civil court given by section 155. By section 227 (*a*) the Local Government may confer on revenue officer employed under chapter XI all the powers of a civil court in trying a suit; and as these powers include those of summoning and examining witnesses, compelling production of documents, and in fact do everything that is necessary to the full understanding of the matter at issue, I do not see why a revenue officer, say a Deputy Collector, should not be quite as competent to decide any matter that may arise as a munsif. The munsif can do no more than the Deputy Collector is empowered to do. He can only summon and examine the same witnesses, compel the production of the same documents, hear the same arguments from pleaders. His materials for forming a judgment will be precisely the same as those of the revenue officer, and consequently unless we admit that the munsif is *per se* a better man than the revenue officer, which is a hazardous assumption, there is not the slightest necessity for any reference to the civil court under section 156. The revenue officers will, therefore, henceforth pursue their course in settling an estate in peace without having the fear of interference by the civil court constantly before their eyes.

81. All this is very pleasant and gratifying for us, revenue officers. I do not, however, quite see how it is to be reconciled with the remarks in the preamble to Regulation II of 1793, which, after stating that "all questions between Government and the land-holders respecting the assessment and collection of the public revenues, &c., &c., have hitherto been cognizable in the courts of mal adalut or revenue courts," goes on to say that "the proprietors can never consider the privileges which have been conferred upon them as secure, whilst the revenue officers are vested with these judicial powers." This is not forgotten by the zemindars in the present day, and it is to be feared that the provisions of this chapter will excite great oppositions from them; indeed, this is already the case; and this chapter is by many zemindars looked on as an infringement of the principle laid down in the above regulation, which has for nearly a century been one of the fundamental principles of British rule.

82. It may be said that the powers conferred by this chapter can only be exercised at the request of the parties interested, or to preserve the public peace, or in estates where there is either permanently or temporarily no zemindar in existence.

83. As to the first of these cases, I would observe that the chapter can be brought into operation not only without the consent of the zemindar, but very much against his will. The vague expression "a large proportion of the tenants" may easily cover case of collusion among a certain portion of the tenantry got up by disaffected persons; and as the total number of the tenantry on an estate can, prior to proceedings under this chapter, be only vaguely guessed at, the Collector, with whom will rest the initial duty of representing the case to higher authority, may easily be misled into taking a comparatively small number of disaffected persons for a "large proportion of the tenants."

84. Then again, clause (*a*) of sub-section 2 of section 151 is defective in an important point. Surely it is not intended, as the words as they now stand imply, that any large body of tenants by merely making an application and depositing costs should cause an estate to be brought under settlement. They should certainly show cause for their application, and the landlord should have an opportunity of showing cause against the application, and the Collector's decision should be appealable, and no formal representation to the local Government should be made, except by the Board, and after all appeals have been decided.

85. It is no light thing to enter on to a permanently-settled estate and turn it upside down, with the result, perhaps, of crippling the landlord's resources for one lifetime or more. This clause must be very carefully fenced and hedged to prevent much injustice. It must be remembered that it is not always a case of the righteous arm of Government interfering to rescue a helpless flock of ryots from the fangs of a ravenous landlord. There are cases, and not so few as some would persuade us, in which a helpless landlord requires to be rescued from a combination of crafty and irreconcileable ryots. Eastern Bengal would furnish many such cases.

86. I would say that an application under clause (*a*) must be made by not less than two-thirds of the rent-paying tenants; that a local enquiry should be held to verify the signatures, and to count the tenants, so as to ascertain that the true proportion had signed, and had signed knowing what they were signing. If this was satisfactorily settled the Collector should then hold an enquiry as to whether there existed any valid reason for making a settlement, and at this enquiry both parties should be heard, the ryots and the landlord.

If the Collector found that there was cause, as well as if he found that there was not, he should report to the Commissioner, who should hear appeals against the report from either side, and should then report to the Board, who might again hear appeals, and either quash the whole proposal, in which case their decision should be final, or report to Government in its favour, in which case orders would issue under the section.

87. The same procedure should be followed in case where a landlord seeks to put in force this clause, though I presume such cases will be very few and far between. On this point, however, the Collector of Midnapore observes very justly that enhancement made under chapter XI "will have one great advantage over enhancement effected by a landlord dealing separately with individual ryots, in that it is more likely to be equitable." But as he also remarks, it is open to the serious objection that such a step will excite the hostility of the whole of the ryots, and lead them to band together in opposition; and this opposition will be the more serious, because it is principally in districts like Pubna and Furreedpore, where the ryots are particularly difficult to deal with, that applications will be made under this clause by zemindars.

88. It may be expected that during the progress of a settlement thus originated, the ryots will stand aloof and give as little assistance as possible. Recent events in Midnapore have shown us what is the result of these tactics. When the jummabundi is prepared and issued, it is suddenly discovered that it is full of errors, both as regards classification of soil, area, names of ryots holding specific plots, and the like. When this jummabundi, full of errors, is put into the zemindar's hand, he will find himself quite unable to collect according to it. He will then either make default in paying his revenue, and so get rid of an unprofitable estate by throwing it on the hands of Government, or he will have fair cause for asking Government to undertake the management for him: either of these courses would be very embarrassing.

89. These remarks are based on the supposition that any zemindar who applied under this clause would do so with the object of getting his rents raised. One cannot conceive that he should make the application with any other object. It is not for the interest either of Government or of the mass of the population that rents should be raised to any large extent, and Government would not be justified in interfering on the application of a zemindar for such a purpose. I therefore think that if a zemindar wants to raise his rents, the courts are open to him, and he should have recourse to them, instead of being able to proceed as provided in this section.

90. As to the second cause of interference—the preservation of the public peace—clause (*b*) appears to cover the same ground as the Agrarian Disputes Act V (B.C.) of 1876, which, as far as I am aware, has never been made use of anywhere since it was passed. There would therefore seem to be very little use in enacting clause (*b*). When a serious dispute arises, it is the duty of the Magistrate to preserve the peace, which he has generally no difficulty in doing, while the matters at issue are being decided by a competent court. Ryots are many, landlords few; a disturbance of any magnitude is necessarily got up by the ryots, who would thus have it in their power to force the landlord against his will into submitting to the procedure of this section. This ought not to be. I do not suppose it would occur often, seeing how entirely the Agrarian Disputes Act has remained a dead letter, but this clause goes further than the Act, and might be taken advantage of by designing persons.

91. The third cause provided for by class (*c*) is a valid one, and will be of much use.

92. *Section 164.*—If undertaken gradually and systematically by picked officers throughout the country, and confined simply to *recording* with no attempt at deciding disputed points, this record-of-rights would be extremely valuable. It will not, however, ordinarily be called for either under clause (*a*) or clause (*b*) of section 164 (2).

93. It should, I think, merely put on record such facts as are undisputed; indeed section 164 provides for no decision of disputed facts. If the class to which a tenant belong, or the amount of land held by him, or the rent payable be disputed, the recording officer should merely enter "disputed." Subsequently, if a court called for a copy of the record for reference in a case, and decided the disputed point, it should issue a precept to the recorder or the Collector, directing him to insert the facts affirmed by the decree in his record. The record would thus in course of time get complete.

94. There should be some provision in this chapter authorizing the Board or Government to confirm the record by notification, and to make rules for its form and for its safe custody, and for granting copies of extracts from it.

95. *Sections 166 to 187.*—I approve of the retention of the power of distraint under its present modified form. I think, however, that much, if not the whole, value of distraint depends upon the rapidity with which it is carried out, and having regard to the general slowness of procedure in civil courts, I would, in section 168, fix a period within which the court should be compelled to issue its order, say, 15 days from date of presentation of petition. If there is much delay, a ryot may get wind of the matter, and carry off his crop.

96. Distraint in itself does no harm to the ryot, and the courts should not allow themselves to be led into long and tedious proceeding before granting the distraint order. It would, I think, be sufficient if a mere application were taken from the landlord, with a copy of the accounts, both to be altered, with penalties attaching to false statements and damages as under section 110, if the rent were ultimately proved not to be due. These precautions would sufficiently protect the ryot.

CHAPTER XIV.

97. *Sections 188 to 207.*—The whole of this chapter seems well adapted to the conduct of suits. I do not think any greater simplification of procedure is called for. I have nothing particular to suggest.

CHAPTER XV.

98. *Section 215.*—In this section I would leave out the word "registered;" none of the Midnapore ryots' holdings referred to in paragraph 37 above are registered in the sense of section 208 (2), and it is not likely that they ever will be. If, therefore, this word stands, it will deprive large classes of the kind, which it is sought to benefit, of the protection designed for them by the section.

99. The question, what particular liens and rights shall be considered incumbrances, is a very difficult one, and one which, with the limited time at my disposal, I am unable fully to go into. As far as I have been able to study this chapter, however, I am disposed to agree with the views expressed, with Statement of Objects and Reasons.

100. I have not yet received any reports from any of the Collectors, except the Collector of Midnapore. In order not to delay the submission of this report, I propose to embody any suggestion that may be received from the Collectors in a supplementary report to be submitted hereafter.

No. 639, dated Hooghly, the 26th June 1883.

From—F. WYER, Esq., Collector of Hooghly,

To—The Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

With reference to your circular No. 38 of the 14th instant, calling on me for an immediate report on the Rent Bill, and Board's letter No. 351 A., dated the 29th March 1883, and forwarded with your letter No. 131 of the 16th instant, I have the honour to submit the following report. The shortness of the time allowed me for considering the Bill and ascertaining the views of the leading persons in my district is my excuse for its shortcomings.

2. I have received the opinions of Baboos Joy Kissen Mookerjee, Peary Mohun Mookerjee, Bijoy Kissen Mookerjee, Harihur and Monohur Mookerjee, Jogessar Shing, Chander Kant Mookerjee, Onooroop Mookerjee, Okhoy Chander Sarkar, and a note from Baboo Bimola Churn Bhattyacharjee, Deputy Collector.

CHAPTER II.

3. All the zemindars whose opinions I have received object to the Bill. In Baboo Joy Kissen's opinion the measures proposed will ultimately lead to no good results. He objects to the attempt to restrict for ever the area of *khamar* lands, and the presumption of section 6, on the grounds that the landlord's proprietary rights will be interfered with, and that the right of the landlord to let lands to the best advantage, which they are by the permanent settlement entitled to do, would be seriously restricted.

4. Baboo Onooroop Mookerjee thinks that it will be impossible to fix the area of khamar lands, for when a ryot gives up his ryoti lands, and no one comes forward to take them, then the land must become khamar. All khamar lands were once ryoti, and so no hard-and-fast line can be drawn between them. Baboos Bijoy Kissen, Harihur and Monohur Mookerjee think the proposed survey of khamar lands unnecessary, and will be the cause of litigation and expense, and the provisions of Chapter II will prevent the landlord from making improvements by digging tanks, planting groves, and so forth, and would expunge Chapter II entirely from the Bill. I think that there should certainly be an authentic register of khamar land in a village, but a zemindar should be allowed to add to his khamar or sir land. Thus, if he wishes to reclaim some of the culturable land in the estate, or to try agricultural experiments on a large scale, he should certainly be allowed to have the register prepared under section 9 corrected, as too in other cases, as where he exchange uncultivated land for holdings of a ryot with the ryot's consent.

CHAPTER III B.

5. I think it would be far better not to allow any enhancement of the rent of middlemen. If it be allowed on their own number, and that of enhancement suits to increase, their rents will be ever on the increase. If, however, enhancement of these tenures is allowed, I think there should be no maximum of enhancement fixed, for, if there is, in many cases such a rule would bear hardly on the landlord. For instance, the lands in Naihati now let, I believe, for 2 or 3 annas a bigha. When the railway bridge has been opened, the same lands will probably fetch Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 a bigha, and the increase in value will in no way be due to anything the tenure-holders have done.

6. Baboo Joy Kissen Mookerjee is of opinion that the limit put to enhancement is wholly unwarrantable, and that the effect of the rule will not only stop for ever all enhancement in districts like Hooghly, where the public assessment was so high as to be nearly 50 per cent. of the staple produce, but will gradually lessen the rates of rent to a material extent.

CHAPTER IV.

7. Baboo Bijoy Kissen Mookerjee and others are of opinion that the notice required to be published under section 8 of Regulation VIII of 1819 should be served through the Collector, and not by a single peon of the

Putni tenures.

zemindar. That rule has, they say, been all along the cause of great hardship to all parties, and the source of expensive litigation throughout the country. The notice should therefore be published by beat of drum by a collectorate peon. I think the proposed alteration should hardly be made, since the Collector would then be responsible for the due service of the notice, instead of the zemindar, and no sufficiently strong case has been made out against the present practice.

CHAPTER V.

8. This chapter is most strongly objected to by most of the zemindars. Baboo Joy Kissen Mookerjee, after quoting Sir Barnes Peacock's opinion, writes:—"The Bill proposes to extend the right of occupancy in a most objectionable manner, unless protected by a registered contract to the contrary. The right will accrue with respect to khamar lands of the landholder, and by a retrospective operation of the proposed law all ryots who held any quantity of land, even for a day, with other plots of land, however small, for 12 years in the same village or estate, will acquire the right for the whole quantity of land." Baboo Bijoy Kissen Mookerjee says that section 45 is a most obnoxious one. It deprives zemindars of their vested rights granted them by the permanent settlement: it may render inoperative kabuliyats executed years ago. The proprietary rights of zemindars are disregarded, and pass into the hands of ryots, who have only to enter upon the land under section 56 by force or fraud, and cultivate it for a few months. After the landlord has improved the land, the Legislature, without giving him any compensation, deprives him of it. Baboo Onooroop Chunder Mookerjee says that he would not grudge ryots acquiring this right, provided that they held and occupied the land themselves at a reasonable rent. But the Bill, by vesting the ryot with the privilege, and allowing him to sub-let the land while the sub-tenant can never acquire the right of occupancy, virtually throws on the actual cultivator all the risks and dangers which the Supreme Council seeks to remove. The Bill, if it becomes law, will make the zemindar share his rights with the occupancy ryots, and the zemindar is to be fettered in the numerous conditions in the process of enhancement, and a thorough re-distribution of landed property is contemplated, in spite of the permanent settlement, with the object of benefitting the ryot, but the practical result will be that the real tiller of the soil will be placed in the worst possible position. He will be left to the tender mercies of hungry middlemen, instead of to the better educated zemindar. He adds that the zemindars would scarcely exercise the right of pre-emption, and outsiders would step in. He asks whether anything could be more invidious than to allow a ryot who buys an occupancy holding to sub-let it to a cultivator who cannot acquire the right; but if a zemindar leases out any such holding, the cultivator at once acquires the right. He says further there is not much objection to the principle of the right of occupancy, but the zemindars protest to a man against the manner in which the proposed Bill deals with it. It seems to to me that the right of occupancy should be acquired only by the actual cultivator, and that it should not be transferable; otherwise the right will in all probability pass in a few years into the hands of the money-lenders, and the actual cultivator will in no way have been benefited, except so far as they have obtained funds by the transfer of the right. By section 47 of the Bill the ryot is not allowed to divest himself of the right as against the landlord, yet by section 50 of the Bill he may transfer it.

9. One gentleman, Baboo Okhoy Chander Sarkar, while entirely approving of the distinctions between *khamar* and ryoti lands, and Khudkast and Paikast ryots, which, he says, are the key-stone to the entire superstructure of the land settlement in Bengal, and while he commends generally the provisions of the Bill which attempt to improve, define, and settle the rights and status of the ryots, and declares that they are no new rights, deprecates the forcing the ryot constantly into court in order that he may enforce the details of his rights. Thus by section 28 of the Bill the ryot may obtain registration of a transfer without first applying to the landlord under section 27. This, he says, is mistrusting the landlord unnecessarily. But passing this over from a ryot's point of view, the provisions for obtaining registration are very cumbrous and troublesome to the parties concerned. He then gives the steps which have to be gone through until at last the civil court's decree has been obtained. Here the Bill stops, but execution of decree must be taken out according to the Civil Procedure Code, and the zemindar may now contest the decree on the ground of notice being not served on him, and so on. Such provisions, he adds, are ruinous to the tenant, and a fruitful source of exasperation to the landlord; and to compel an ordinary Bengal ryot to go to two sets of courts for the mere luxury of having his name registered in his superior landlord's book shows a deplorable oversight of the position of the parties and the practice of the courts. The Government, by desiring to nullify certain voluntary contracts, proves clearly that it considers the zemindars powerful and the ryots weak, and yet it will set up class against class in such details of tenant's right as the registration of a transfer. This, the Baboo says, is not sound policy. The civil courts are already overworked, and people, besides having to pay the initial petition stamp duty of 8 annas, have to pay 8 annas for almost every prayer they make. Thus by compelling the ryot constantly to resort to the court against his landlord frustrates the first object of the Bill, which is to give reasonable security to the tenant in the occupation and enjoyment of his land. This is only one instance out of many in the Bill, and those provisions have been proposed only through completely ignoring the true position of the parties, and should be recast.

10. With regard to clause C, section 50, Baboo Bijoy Kissen Mookerjee says that this provision will entangle landlords and ryots in law suits of the most technical kind. What

should be considered improvement? The small *ails* which bound a ryot's fields? Is any ryot to be allowed to dig a tank and thus multiply a constant source of disease? He says that section 51 will result in converting money-lenders into occupancy ryots, and the ryots into their under-ryots, for no landlord, as a rule, would exercise the right of the pre-emption, since, as soon as ryots entered into the lands again, the right of occupancy would again spring up; and further, ryots would easily sell their rights without giving notice to their landlords. A full year should be allowed to the landlord within which he might take steps in cases of sale without notice. Baboo Joy Kissen Mookerjee objects strongly to the provisions for compensation for disturbances, as implying not only a title in them which the ryots never claimed or enjoyed, but as assuming a state of things which never existed. He adds that, with very few exceptions all improvements have been made by the landlords, and not even by tenants with fixity of tenure, and yet the Bill assumes that tenants-at-will have carried out these works. He objects to making the rights of occupancy saleable. The right of pre-emption will place the landlord in a worse position than any other purchaser, for he will be allowed to let it subject to the occupancy right and at the old rent even to a new-comer and stranger. He quotes the opinions of Sir Richard Garth and Mr. Elliot againt the proposal.

Tables of Rates 62 to 72.

11. It is the general opinion that tables of rates cannot be prepared, and in that opinion, as far as my experience goes, I agree, but special enquiries have been made by the Board of Revenue on this point, and the result of the enquiries will doubtless settle the question.

Enhancement 75, 76.

12. I think that the limit of enhancement should not be fixed. The only way to do so would be to define what proportion of the rent, as defined by Ricardo, should be left with the ryot, always bearing in mind that the rent so defined is rack-rent. With regard to the rules contained in sections 73, 74, and 75, Baboo Bijoy Kissen Mookerjee thinks that they cannot be carried out, so many restrictions have been placed in the way of the landlord in carrying them out. He says that it was expected that some improvements would result after so much writing and discussing, but the result has been no improvement on the present law. He also thinks that section 79 will always be worked against the landlord by the ryots when enhancement suits have been started, for the ryots will only have to combine, and by suing the landlord under this section force him to give up his enhancement proceedings.

13. *Sections 81, 82* are objected to by Baboo Bijoy Kissen Mookerjee on the grounds that in some cases, according to local custom, the landlord is entitled to recover more than half, and the matter had better be left to be settled by the parties. Baboo Bimola Churn Bhattyachargee thinks that in section 82 the words "notwithstanding any contract to the contrary" should be struck out; for in many parts of Behar, where roads are very bad, it is the grain which the zemindars keep up in stock during famines, that keeps the people from starving, and asks why Government should afford a means of abolishing a system which the experience of ages has proved beneficial to the country. This section was proposed to the Behar Commission by this officer, and his opinion to the effect that special contracts should not be done away with is entitled to great weight. I have had no experience in Behar, and so pass no opinion on the matter.

14. *Section 85.*—This section is objected to by Baboo Bijoy Kissen Mookerjee on the ground that proper prices will not be supplied, and it would be impossible to do so for every village. It will be quite sufficient, however, to obtain the prices at the principal market-places where the new crops come into the market.

15. *Sections 85, 86.*—Section 85 will bear hard on landlords, ryots being allowed to occupy his bastu land, though he does not use it as such. Baboo Bimola Churn Bhattyachargee informs me that in Behar no rent is paid for bastu land, and in that case he certainly should have to give it up when he is no more a ryot in the proper sense of the term. For this part of the country, where rent is paid for bastu land, non-payment of rent for one year should render the ryot liable to ejectment.

16. *Sections 93 and 94.*—Clauses *a* and *b*, sub-section 2, should, I think, be struck out. A landlord gets a decree for fair and equitable rent, if the ryot does not choose to pay, the zemindar has to suffer. He has to pay for "compensation for disturbance." Does he disturb the ryot when the ryot refuses to pay his just rent?

17. *Section 98.*—This section is objected to by the zemindars, but will be, I think, a most useful one.

18. *Section 119.*—By this section the practical difference between occupancy and ordinary ryots would be removed. Separate limits should be fixed for each class.

19. *Section 166.*—If the power of distraining crops for current arrears is continued, the procedure should be very much less complex than that proposed in the Bill. The costs would be very heavy, and ultimately fall on the ryot. It would be quite enough to allow the zemindar to distrain the crops himself, but in no case to sell them without the order of a competent court. As a rule the arrears would be paid on the mere attachment.

20. *Section 167, clause 2.*—The application should be allowed on plain paper.

21. *Sections 169 and 170.*—The zemindar should give the list of demand and account to the ryot previous to the application for sale. If after the distraint and delivery of the demand and account paper the ryot does not pay up, then the zemindar should apply to the court to sell the crops, and any objection the ryot might have would be heard.

22. I have given above the principal objections to the Bill. It excites great apprehensions in the minds of the zemindars, and will, I think, not effect any permanent settlement of the rent question. Mr. Ilbert says that it is "merely a Bill to amend and consolidate certain enactments relating to that subject" (the law of landlord and tenant), and it seems hardly worth while to pass a measure which excites so much opposition among the landlords merely for this object. I am inclined to think with Mr. C. B. Clarke that the real remedy will be a ryotwari settlement, for in that way only would the ryot get rid of the middlemen; and, as Odysseus says, "a multitude of masters is no good thing."

23. To show how strong the feelings of the zemindars are against the Bill I enclose copy of a note on it, sent to me by Baboo Peary Mohun Mookerjee.

I find that I was quite unable to let you have my report by Saturday last; I have therefore, to save time, sent a copy of it direct to the Board of Revenue.

No. 648, dated Hooghly, the 27th June, 1883.

Memo. by—The Collector of Hooghly.

Copy, with enclosure, forwarded to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

The Bengal Tenancy Bill.

I am of opinion that in so far as the Bengal Tenancy Bill proposes, (1) to limit the maximum area of khamar lands; (2) to extend the right of occupancy in the manner provided in section 47, and in a modified way to tenants-at-will; (3) to give the occupancy ryot a right to the accretion to his holding; (4) to make a right of occupancy transferable; (5) to limit the maximum increase of rent to one-fifth of the value of the staple produce; (6) to restrict the landholder's right of letting in any way he chooses lands which come to his khas possession; (7) to award compensation to ordinary ryots for disturbance; and (8) to virtually abolish the law of distraint; it is a direct breach of the compact known as the permanent settlement, and is a measure of spoliation of vested rights of property.

The other provisions of the Bill are not such as would alter for the better the existing law on the subject. The provision, for instance, as to instalments of rent, contained in section 97; the provisions for deposit of rent, contained in section 103; the provision for the appointment of managers of joint estates, contained in section 142; the provision for a record of rights, contained in section 164: the provision for the sale of tenures and under-tenures, with encumbrances, contained in section 211; and the limitation to the right of appeal in certain suits, contained in section 198, would aggravate the defects of the present law, and introduce complications and difficulties where none exist at present, would give rise to unnecessary and harassing litigation, and set class against class, and individuals against individuals, in matters in which legislation may well aim at the establishment of peace and harmony.

The Bill presupposes a power in the legislature to take away material rights from the landholder, and to give them to the ryot. The Hon'ble Mover of the Bill claims that power under section 8 by Regulation I of 1793. When, however, it is recollected that at the time of the Permanent Settlement landholders had the legal power of not only compelling the attendance of ryots, but also of inflicting corporal punishment, and confining them for non-payment of rent, of levying sayer duties on internal trade, of maintaining police establishment for the preservation of peace, and of appointing kazees and canoongoes for the administration of justice, civil and criminal, and that some of the subsequent Regulations were expressly passed to divest the landholders of almost all of these seignorial powers, it may be fairly contended that the reservation contained in that section could have reference only to the powers thus exercised by the State, and not to any interference with the proprietary rights of landholders, with regard to which they were assured that "they will enjoy exclusively the fruits of their own good management and industry," and that "no power will then exist in the country by which the rights vested in the landholders by the Regulations can be infringed, or the value of landed property affected."

It seems to me that the Indian Legislature, by giving to the reservation in section 8 an interpretation which is at least doubtful, and assuming powers which are denied by such eminent and responsible authorities as Sir Barnes Peacock and Sir Richard Garth, may give cause to parties interested to question the validity of its acts. The principle laid down by Sir Lawrence Peel in Wheel Tax Case (Taylor and Bell, 391), would, I think, give them a *locus standi* in such an attempt. "It is the province of courts of justice of the country to decide on the legality of *Acts of Legislature*, if a suit is instituted to decide whether the Legislature has or has not exceeded the limits within which it may legislate.

The matter presents yet another aspect. The present body of landholders have mostly come to the possession of their estates and talooks by purchases made for adequate considerations, and crores of rupees have been thus invested in land on the faith of the binding character of the Permanent Settlement; but if the Bill in question passes into law, the value of landed property will be materially reduced, and while those who will make purchases hereafter will pay only the reduced prices, and those who have gone before had a full return for their money, it is only the present body of landholders who will be the losers, in many cases to a ruinous extent. It is with reference to such a case as this that Sir J. S. Mill observes that it would "impose a penalty on people for having worked harder and saved more than their neighbours."

But the question is, where is the necessity for such a piece of revolutionary legislation? Not a single suggestion for a radical amendment of the Rent Law emanated before the publication of the Draft Bill of the Rent Commission from any of those responsible officers of Government who are charged with its administration. The Chief Justice of Bengal, on the contrary, held that the Bill "is calculated to deprive landlords, unjustly and unnecessarily, in my opinion, of rights which the courts of law have always considered to be their due." No part of these provinces is suffering from an agricultural depression. The condition of the ryots is unquestionably one of growing prosperity, and the fabulous wealth of the landholders which both Justice Cunningham and the Hon'ble Mover of the Bill deduce from the fact of the increase of the rent roll of these provinces from three and a half crores at the time of the Settlement to more than 13 crores at the present time, even if well founded, is no index either of a corresponding poverty of the ryots or of their rights having been usurped. So long ago as 1871 the Government bound itself by a promise to give the landholders greater facilities for the recovery of rent in return for the obligation laid upon them to collect the tenant's share of the road cess; but surely a plea of fulfilment of that pledge cannot justify a radical amendment of the Rent Law to the detriment of the most valued rights of landholders.

On the above grounds I think that a radical amendment of the Rent Law is wholly uncalled for, and that several of the provisions of the Bill involve assumptions of fact which are not merely not true, but the very reverse of the truth; interpretations of law which are opposed to judicial decisions; inroads into vested rights of property, which are as much objectionable as measures of direct confiscation; visions of peasant proprietorship, which leave out of sight important factors peculiar to the Indian social economy, and theories of legislation which would justify a universal distribution of all property.

OOTERPARA,
June 21st, 1883.

PEARY MOHUN MOOKERJI.

No. 1928-694L.-R., dated the 24th July, 1883.

From—A. P. MACDONNELL, Esq., Officiating Secretary to Government, Bengal,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 1876-669 L.-R., dated the 18th July 1883, I am directed to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying copy of a report * on the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883, submitted through the High Court by Mr. J. P. Grant, District Judge of Hooghly.

* No. 750, dated the 13th July 1883, enclosed with letter No. 2014, dated the 17th idem, from the Officiating Registrar of the High Court.

No. 2014, dated Calcutta, the 17th July 1883.

From—C. A. WILKINS, Esq., Officiating Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 1835, dated the 27th ultimo, I am directed to forward, for the information of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the accompanying report on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, which has just been received by the court from Mr. J. P. Grant, District Judge of Hooghly.

No. 750, dated Hooghly, the 13th July 1883.

From—J. P. GRANT, Esq., District Judge of Hooghly,
To—The Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, Calcutta.

I have the honour to submit a report as requested in your letter No. 1157, dated 23rd April 1883, on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883. I am sorry that press of other business, which could not be neglected, has delayed my examination of the Bill, the subject of which, moreover, demands considerable thought and deliberation. I do not propose to enter into the general question of the necessity for legislation, which, I think, no one who has at all studied the subject denies, still less shall I discuss such matters as the alleged inviolability of the Permanent Settlement, &c. I shall content myself with criticising the provisions of the Bill *seriatim*, from the point of view of what I understand to be its two-fold object, *viz.*, (1) to give security to the tenant in the occupation and enjoyment of his land, and (2) to give facilities to the landlord for settlement and recovery of his rent.

CHAPTER I.

2. *Section 3, clause* (5).—The definitions of "tenure-holder" and "ryot" are not satisfactory. The latter especially is defined in negative terms only, and the definition, although apparently intended to connote something different from a ryot who is a tenure-holder under section 14 of the Bill, yet includes this class. If these definitions are maintained, the conventional meaning of the word "ryot," the nearest English equivalent of which is 'yeoman,' will disappear, as indeed will the class itself, for the inevitable tendency of the proposed law is to make right-of-occupancy ryots, in fact as well as in name, middlemen. In this view, perhaps, the reserving of the term 'ryot,' for the class upon which the actual cultivation of the soil must ultimately fall, is far-sighted. I would, however, take occupancy ryots out of the category of tenure-holders. There is nothing, *pace* the author of the Objects and Reasons, in common between their position and the position of those who are really middlemen, such as patnidars and farmers. The law should recognise the existing two classes of ryots, *viz.*, those having, and those not having, rights of occupancy, and in defining them should employ the word 'ryot' for both. The definition of tenure-holder should be altered to signify exclusively a middleman between a proprietor and a ryot. This clause should also be amended so as to include in the definition of ryoti land tanks which are often let as ryoti holdings for fishing purposes.

CHAPTER II.

3. This chapter purports to limit for the future *khamar* land to what was such land at the passing of the Bill. I doubt both the policy which would enact this, and the possibility of enforcing it, if enacted, in face of the provisions of section 141 of the Bill as regards merger. I do not see why a proprietor should be restricted from converting to *khamar* lands from which the ryot has been lawfully evicted, or which he has vacated by surrender, or to which there is no heir. There is again nothing in the Bill to prevent a proprietor purchasing occupancy rights and then holding the land *khas*. It is, indeed, to be feared that this expedient will be largely resorted to as the only one by which occupancy rights can be extinguished, and thus, practically, *khamar* lands must largely increase in spite of the Bill. It must be remembered that, in some instances, a zemindar can find no one to take up lands from which the previous tenant has absconded or has been evicted, or which he has surrendered, or to which the last occupant has left no heir. In such a case the zemindar *must* hold the land khas, or in *bhag-jote*, or let it lie idle while he is paying revenue on it.

CHAPTER IIIA.

4. Sections 14 and 15 of this chapter convert the right of occupancy ryot into a tenure-holder. I have already pointed out the confusion of ideas here indicated, which is certain to breed confusion of practice. You cannot alter the conventional meaning of words by Act of Parliament. Section 16 converts the *bhag-jotedar* into a ryot who may possibly acquire a right of occupancy. This is totally opposed to all the existing notions of a *bhag-jotedar's status* and position. He is, in fact, only a labourer under another name. His share of the crop is the wages for which he has engaged to cultivate it. This is the only way in which many proprietors can use their *khas khamar* land. I do not know whether the definition of 'tenant' excludes the *bhag-jotedar* from the operation of this section; but if it is intended to do so, it might be more clearly so expressed by an illustration. Of that portion of this chapter regarding enhancement, I have not much to say, except that I approve of a limit being placed to enhancement, and that I do not think much occasion will arise for recourse to the civil courts, under this part of the law. The cases in which the customary rate payable by holders of similar tenures in the vicinity cannot be easily ascertained must be rare. The provisions regarding registration are very necessary, but, as here drawn, are imperfect. It is quite proper that the proceedings to enforce this should be before the Collector in the first instance; but if they are to be of any effect, some penalty must be provided for the case of neglect or refusal on the part of the zemindar to register. It is vain to enact that he "shall" do this, and "is bound" to do that, unless some sanction be provided. The result of the law in its present state will be that zemindars will, as a rule, refuse to register in order to force the ryot into the civil court, where all the resources of chicanery will be resorted to call in question the title of the ryot or the nature of his tenure. There should be provision for the imposition of a fine upon the zemindar by the Collector on proof of his omitting or refusing to fulfil the requirements of the law; and if thereafter the zemindar is taken to the civil court, he should, whether the applicant succeeds or not, be liable for his costs.

CHAPTER IV.

5. I do not see why the patni Regulation should be incorporated with this Bill. The character of a complete code is repudiated for the Bill, and I see no more reason for incorporating this Regulation than for incorporating the Regulation creating the Permanent Settlement which is still left as a separate law, and is, in its nature, as much connected with the Bill as the Patni Regulation is. If this last is to be incorporated, the opportunity should be taken of amending it, of which there is, in some respects, great need. The difficulty of proof of private service of notice of sale especially is a standing complaint of zemindars and one which is only too well-founded. Service ought certainly to be through the Collector, whose certificate as to a good service ought to be conclusive proof of it. In many other respects, too, the Patni Law might well be amended: but I do not enlarge on this subject, as I cannot suppose that this Regulation will be degraded bodily into a schedule of the Rent Law.

CHAPTER V.

6. By this chapter the 12-year rule in regard to a prescriptive right of occupancy at fixed rates is maintained, and thus the zemindars are no worse off than they are under the existing

law, and have therefore, I think, much to congratulate themselves on. Considering that it is admitted on all sides that this rule of Act X of 1859 was a most mistaken one, operating to the prejudice of a large body of ryots who were right-of-occupancy ryots already on other conditions, I am rather surprised at the retention of the rule. I would have approved a much shorter term if the test is to be at all of one time. But taking the 12-year term, it is absolutely necessary to apply it to all alike, and thus I think it expedient that even where a contract to the contrary exists it should be set aside. On the same principle, taking the word 'estate' as defined in the Bill, I consider that it is an improvement on the former state of things to allow the *status* of a settled ryot to one who has held in the same estate, though not perhaps always in the same village. By the nature of the case the different villages of an estate must be contiguous to one another. The provisions of section 50, defining the incidents of an occupancy right, generally, have my entire approval. I have never yet known the place in which such tenures are not transferable by custom even now. The provision regarding improvements may at first create some litigation. Zemindars will still seek to prevent ryots digging tanks and cutting down trees; but this will soon right itself. The crux of the whole question is the determining, what is to be looked upon as constituting a holding, a permanent one at fixed rates, which is the estate which the Permanent Settlement purported to confer on all resident ryots; and I think this end has been achieved by the Bill with less injury to zemindars' present interests than they at all looked for, loudly as they may still exclaim against it. The provisions as to pre-emption are entirely in their favour. They will lose nothing even by the provision which accords the *status* of a right-of-occupancy ryot to one who takes such a holding after the zemindar has purchased it; for we may be sure that the zemindar will not let a ryot come in who has not paid, by way of *bonus*, at least as much as the zemindar gave for the out-going ryot's right of occupancy; who has not, in fact, purchased from the zemindar the right of occupancy inherent in the holding. The only part of this chapter that, I think, the zemindars may legitimately object to is section 49. "Holding *khamar* land as a ryot" is a contradiction in terms. Of course, if a zemindar regularly settles his *khamar* land with a ryot he converts it into *ryoti*; but *khamar* lands, as a rule, are cultivated on the *bhag-jote* system, which, as I have pointed out, is not really a system of land-tenure, involving payment of rent, whatever economists may say of the metayer system, as prevailing in Europe, but is simply a system of paying wages on the co-operative principle.

CHAPTER VI.

7. This deals with enhancement of the rents of occupancy ryots. It provides, as one means of adjudging enhancement, for the drawing up of a local table of rates of rent and produce. I believe that it will be practically impossible to draw up such tables: indeed, I understand that an attempt has been already made on a considerable scale and has signally failed. This was only to be expected. To begin with, much must depend in the enquiries incidental to such a matter upon the individual idiosyncracies of the particular officer making them; and again the whole idea pre-supposes a sort of natural unfluctuating dead-level in the outturn of land, and taking no account of improvement and industry. It is impossible to expect any trustworthy result from such tables, which, moreover, to be of any real use, must be applicable, each of them, to comparatively small areas. I do not know where Government could obtain the machinery necessary for this work on any very considerable scale. Where such tables have been prepared, they are to furnish conclusive evidence; but where no such tables are prepared, the courts are to proceed in enhancement suits on certain prescribed principles stated in sections 74 and 75, which I cannot distinguish from those now law. The greater number of enhancement cases will be those to which clause (*c*) of section 75 applies, and we are thus sent back to Ishur Ghose's case. As to the one-fifth limit, I understand this, if calculated at harvest time, will be unduly favourable to the ryot; and that the more just proportion would be one-fourth. I do not know how the market rate at harevst time is to be authoritatively settled; but this is a much easier task than the preparing a table of rates. Further, the produce of the *staple* crop alone is to govern the calculation; but where this is rice, there is often a very valuable second crop, which should not, I think, be ignored.

CHAPTER VIII.

8. This deals with what are very mistakenly called "ordinary" ryots. The ordinary ryot of the country is the ryot having rights of occupancy; it is all *other* classes of ryots that are exceptional. I do not see why the every-day terms of "ryots having a right of occupancy" add "ryots not having a right of occupancy," should not be maintained. But the mistake goes deeper than the mere name. The only difference between the two classes of ryots is that one has fixity of tenure and the other has not. The provisions of this chapter would seem to imply that the former class possesses some privilege of setting at a lower rate of rent also; for the "ordinary" ryot may, by the Bill, be rack-rented up to a certain maximum, which, in practice, will certainly be evaded. All classes of ryots have now, and ought always to have, equal protection at the hands of the law in respect of the rate of rent payable by them; the only difference is that while one class hold from year to year, or for a term of years on lease, the other holds in perpetuity, if he only pays his fixed rent. For these reasons I do not agree with those who find fault with the provisions of section 93. Without this section, as soon as the Bill passes, there will be a flood of notices of enhancement upon tenants-at-will, which they would have no means of resisting. It is true that, under existing circumstances, a tenant-at-will has little or no inducement to make improvements, and therefore, as a rule, make none; but this is no reason, if the law is so altered, as it is here proposed to alter it, as to give him also a far better prospect than he has now—of remaining on the land as long as he pays a reasonable rent—why tenants-at-will in the future should be assumed to be incapable of making improvements. I therefore approve of the clause (*a*) of this section. The clause (*b*) is also necessary, much as it has been exclaimed against, in order to prevent arbitrary and unreasonable enhancements, the sole object of which is not to raise the rent but to eject. For this reason I think it is right that the landlord should know that he can only eject his ryot on paying him the amount that he would have received from the ryot in increment of rent for the term during which his rent, if enhanced, must be let alone. I think this provision has been most unreasonably criticized. Its opponents argue from the erroneous point of view that the Indian agricultural tenant-at-will is one who can be turned out, without rhyme or reason, at the mere will or even caprice of the landlord. I need not say that this is not so; that if a tenant holds over, after notice of enhancement or notice to quit, he cannot be proceeded against only for compensation at a reasonable rate for use and occupation, and if he pays cannot be turned out.

CHAPTER IX.

9. The provisions of section 98 are absolutely necessary, in order to abolish the practice which has, during the last few years, been adopted by zemindars, especially in this part of the country, of demanding rent in monthly instalments, and suing for each instalment if not paid This cruel procedure has been the ruin of thousands of ryots, as it was deliberately intended to be, and is one of those crying abuses that call for the interference of the legislature. Section 100 is also urgently called for on much the same grounds. At present ryots are entirely at the mercy of the zemindar, or rather of the gomashta, especially as to the appropriation of the amount paid as rent. But to make this section really effective, the forms of receipt in foil and counterfoil ought to be supplied by Government at cost price, or even given away to the landlord. At least no landlord should be allowed to use a form, a specimen of which has not been presented to the Collector and approved by him, such specimen being preserved for future reference. I am more doubtful as to section 100; but even this is only an amplification of the *akhiri* or *farkatidakhila* which all honest zemindars have been long in the habit of giving. The provisions as to depositing rent are also necessary, especially in the cases of clauses (*b*) and (*c*). As to (*a*) it has been the greatest boon that has been conferred on the ryot since the passing of Act X, and has been hitherto unnecessarily clogged with the condition of proof of tender, such condition being a mere premium on perjury. Section 119 is rather obscurely worded. It may be held to operate retrospectively, in which case there will be a perfect invasion of the courts by ryots with suits to have their rents re-adjusted. As regards occupancy ryots, the words "and not otherwise" of section 79 will stop them, but the position of other ryots is not clear.

CHAPTER XA.

10. I approve of the definition of improvements here given, but I see no reason whatever for making the case of the "ordinary" ryot different from, or rather the converse of, that of the occupancy ryot. As I have said before, the only difference between the classes is that the former has a firmer hold on the land, but that this does not mean that the latter has no hold on it. Once admitted, he cannot be turned out as long as he pays a fair rent. Why should he not be in the same position as the occupancy ryot as regards the making improvements? The Bill, indeed, is inconsistent with itself on this point. It puts all classes of ryots on the same footing as regards the improvement of house-building, as it certainly could not decently do otherwise. What is there in the nature of this species of improvement that makes it exceptional? The Bill is logically wrong here. Hitherto neither landlord or tenant has made "improvements;" the former because they do not rightly discern their own interests, the latter because they do. *They* have hitherto refrained from making improvements, not because they fail to see the ordinary advantages of making them, but because they know that their making them would only entail the result of the zemindar seizing upon the fact to raise their rent. The provisions of the Bill will relieve occupancy ryots of this fear; but they do not protect the ordinary ryot, or rather they absolutely discourage him. The very class who ought to have even exceptional facilities for making improvements, are denied the facilities that are given to more favoured classes, indeed are positively obstructed where the others are facilitated. I do not think this reasonable, to say nothing of justice. We may be sure that the zemindar class will not "improve;" any improvements that may come must come from the cultivator class, and all these should have equal rights in this respect. (*B*) Rent-free lands, as well as revenue-free lands, should be included in section 133. I also doubt the policy of giving appeal to the civil court in the matter of the standard pole. These are matters which are better left to the revenue authorities. (*C*) Here, again, I think that the notice of surrender should be served through the Collector, not a civil court. (*D*) What is the effect of section 141 when read with section 56? If the interest on an occupancy tenant be "extinguished" by merger, can it be revived when the landlord, if he does so, re-lets the tenure? This should be made clearer, and one or other section should contain "notwithstanding anything contained in section." (*E*) The provisions of this part will obviate much inconvenience now felt. There ought, however, to be specific provision disabling all the co-parceners for doing any acts of management, and making such acts null and void. As things exist, a co-sharer has been known to go on collecting rents, notwithstanding the appointment of a general manager.

CHAPTER XI.

11. This chapter is a very important one, as re-introducing a state of things which the preamble of Regulation II of 1793 states was found then to be unsatisfactory. The principle therein enunciated is that disputes between landholders and tenants shall be adjudicated by the civil courts and not by the revenue authorities, who otherwise would in many cases be deciding upon their own acts. Under the present chapter, however, revenue officers will have it all their own way. It is true that section 155 allows of their referring a case to the civil court, but this provision will be a dead-letter, depending, as it does, on the option of the revenue officer alone. Moreover, it must be remembered that, under clause (*a*), section 227 of the Bill, Government may invest any revenue officer with the powers exercised by a civil court in the trial of suits. The chapter provides an alternative to the procedure under chapter VI, as regards enhancing or varying rents; this being done in the one case by the civil courts in separate and individual suits, while in the other case it is done by dealing with whole estates at one operation, and by the revenue authorities. I think that the distinction ought to be made complete, and reference to the civil court in the latter case abolished. The procedure of the revenue authorities might still be that of the civil courts. I believe that adjustments of rent will be more equitably made when on this large scale than is possible with a civil court dealing with isolated suits. Clause (*b*) of section 151 appears to re-enact Bengal Act V of 1876, which has hitherto been a dead-letter. In its present shape it promises to be of some practical effect; but I do not see the above Act among those repealed by schedule 1 of the Bill.

CHAPTER XIII.

12. The power of distraint being, I am sorry to see, maintained, the provisions here made are hedged round with such wholesome checks that it cannot be hereafter used as the engine of fraud and oppression that it has hitherto been. Instead, however, of the power by the Local Government to suspend its provisions in any local area, I would prefer to see it provided that the chapter should be inoperative, unless especially extended to a local area, which should not be smaller than a collectorate. I myself doubt very much the necessity of any law of distraint anywhere, not seeing the justice of giving a landlord-creditor priority or preference to all other creditors; and I think that, with the improved procedure here to be enacted as to the recovery of rent-at-law, it would be well to wait and see whether any law of distraint is really called for. This would best be done by leaving the chapter to be extended when and where experience might show it to be needed. If, however, distraint is allowed, all the proceedings regarding it should be as prompt as possible. The rules to be prescribed by the High Court under section 169 should require applications for distraint to be dealt with within a certain time, according as the court allows of additional evidence or not, that the applicant furnish a properly drawn-up form of notification (section 169), at least two forms of demand and account (section 170), one of proclamation of sale, and at least six forms of certificate, to be given to purchasers (section 178). Section 179 appears to require the immediate distribution of the sale proceeds on the spot by the distraining officer; whereas if the distraint is paid off by a deposit before sale into court or into the hands of the distraining officer, the amount must be held for one month before being paid out. I do not understand why there should be this distinction. I think that in all cases the money, whether realized by sale or by deposit, ought to be paid into court, held for one month, and then distributed. In any case, even if sale proceeds are not held for one month, they should, I think, be distributed at the court and not on the spot. The present class of pleaders are not to be trusted with this duty. As regards penalties, I would add to section 186 a provision, that a criminal prosecution is to be no bar to any civil remedy that may lie open to the injured party.

CHAPTER XIV.

13. I very much approve of the adoption of a procedure simplified from the existing code, instead of the odd and fanciful procedure recommended in the former Bills, founded on analogy to that on negotiable instruments, &c. I have carefully considered this part of the Bill, but have no suggestion to make, except that to section 195 should be added some such words as "granted by an order written and signed by the presiding Judge on a written application to that end." Unless this is done, cases will happen in which a fictitious written statement, purporting to be made by the ryot and containing damaging admissions against his interest—certified copies of which will be taken out by the plaintiff—will be found on records after disposal. I would also add to section 189 some words to the effect that, notwithstanding that suits are instituted by naibs and gomashtas under general powers, the personal responsibility of landlords under sections 209 and 210 of the Penal Code shall remain unaffected. It is notorious that a regular system of instituting false legal proceedings, either by suing deliberately twice for the same arrear, or by executing decrees twice, or by drawing out money paid into court before or during suit, and then executing the decree, is practised in many districts. When such is the case, it is by deliberate direction of the landlord. His agents have no incentive to sue on any but really existing cause of action.

CHAPTER XV.

14. This chapter will go a good way to prevent excessive sub-infeudation, and I can add nothing to the argument in favour of these provisions which are contained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. The remaining chapters of the Act call for no remark.

No. 2179-787L.R., dated 13th August, 1883.

From—A. P. MacDonnell, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

1. "Notes on the Bengal Tenancy Bill" by the Committee of the Behar Landholders' Association, with appendix.
2. No. 484R., dated the 7th-13th July, 1883, from the Commissioner of Patna.
3. No. 188R L., dated the 2nd July, 1883, from the Commissioner of the Presidency Division.
4. No. 246A.M., dated the 23rd June 1883, from the Officiating Commissioner of Dacca.
5. No. 335G.C., dated the 30th June, 1883, from the Commissioner of Chittagong.

In continuation of my letter No. $\frac{1928}{694}$ L. R., dated the 24th July, 1883, I am directed to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying copies of reports on the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883, received from the Behar Landholders Association and the Commissioners of the Patna, Presidency, Dacca, and Chittagong divisions.

No. 484R., dated Bankipore, the $\frac{7th}{13th}$ July 1883.

From—F. M. Halliday, Esq., Commissioner of the Patna Division,

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

With reference to your No. 351A., dated 29th March last, calling for a report on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, after holding a conference with the Collectors subordinate to me, I have the honour to say that the following Collectors attended the conference:—

Mr. Norman, Collector, Mozufferpore.
„ Boxwell, ditto, Durbhunga.
„ Quinn, ditto, Sarun.
„ Nolan, ditto, Shahabad.
„ Grierson, ditto, Patna.
„ Henry, ditto, Chumparun.

Mr. Skrine, who had very recently joined as Officiating Collector of Gya, was unable to attend.

2. The Bill was discussed chapter by chapter.

Taking Chapter II, section 5, it appeared to some of us that this section did not provide for the case of dearah land which might come into existence subsequent to the passing of this Act, though, in the opinion of two of the Collectors, under the existing Bill such lands are provided for under section 6.

I myself considered that sections 5 and 6 might deal hardly in the case of small proprietors being allotted separate shares under the provisions of the law for partition of estates, after the Act came into force; but I admit that this would more probably fall under the subject of an amendment of the partition law, rather than of the rent law. It seems to me that a small proprietor, in a partition case, who may have his proportion of zeraat in the estate in his own holding, and who objects to the partition proceedings, though unsuccessfully, may find himself turned out of his zeraat by the process of partition. As an original proprietor of the parent estate, he was entitled to, and held, his proportion of the zeraat lands, and I think some provisions might be made in the present Bill by which such a proprietor on making the arrangement, which is usually made in Behar in these instances, should retain his original proportion of zeraat land in the new estate, and that this land may be registered by him as new zeraat. It almost always happens that ryots, who in the course of partition find themselves under a small proprietor in the allotment apportioned to him, relinquish their land voluntarily, and enter into new arrangements with the larger shareholders. These lands on being relinquished should be recognized as zeraat, after the commencement of the Act, if the proprietor should so wish. It was unanimously agreed at the conference that the point should be brought to notice.

CHAPTER IIIB.

Section 12 (3).—With the exception of Mr. Boxwell, who did not think it necessary to interfere, we came to the conclusion that the words "more than thirty per cent. or" should be omitted.

There appears to be no particular reason for having a minimum of enhancement. For instance, take the profits at Rs. 100 and rent Rs. 60. The tenure-holder's share Rs. 40. Under the Bill his share would be reduced to Rs. 30, which in many instances might be very unfair.

Section 22.—This section states that the rent of a tenureholder cannot be enhanced to more than double the rent previously payable. On the representation of Mr. Henry, we considered that this section requires re-consideration, for it ought to meet the case of those under-tenures which are created by zemindars in the names of their wives and families at quit-rents, and are held separately from the zemindari.

If such an estate were sold, the auction-purchaser could only get an enhanced rent of double the amount of the original quit-rent. This would seem to be a hardship. Under the Bill, the civil court would be bound to accept the Collector's table of rates, and to enforce it, unless the ryot could show that by contract or special consideration he was entitled to hold at lower rates.

Section 25.—In connection with this section, the Behar Landholders' Association have, in their remarks on the Bill (copy of which is appended), raised the contention that the landlord should be allowed the right of pre-emption in permanent tenures. The contention seems untenable. At present there is no right of pre-emption in the case of tenures (such as the guzashta rights in Shahabad), and no special reason appears for according it now.

CHAPTER V.

Sections 43, 45, and 47.—In connection with these we were unanimously and decidedly of opinion that the Bill gives two great advantages to a non-resident ryot, and that the extension of the right of occupancy to all lands held in the same village or estate should be conditional on residence; and I would submit that the distinction, which exists according to the custom of the country between a resident and non-resident ryot, and which has been continually affirmed and re-affirmed by subsequent Regulations and Acts, has been entirely lost sight of in the Bill. As a corollary, whatever qualification of occupancy be adopted, it seems most necessary that the definition of "estate" in section 3 should be adhered to, and hence section 43 (*b*) should be expunged. In Behar, the retention of this clause would certainly lead to endless confusion and complication.

Section 48.—This section has been already noticed by the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds in his speech in Council, where he speaks of it as practically an admission of the vicious principle that the occupancy right may be made a matter of bargain or contract between landlord and tenant. The section appears altogether unnecessary. A proprietor before his estate was sold for arrears of revenue might go about granting occupancy rights all round, not a large sum of money, and thereby diminish the value of the estate; occupancy rights being not voidable under the sale law. As Mr. Reynolds has remarked, the occupancy right is not the landlord's to grant; it is essentially inherent in the status of the resident cultivator, we would therefore record our protest against this section.

Section 49 (1).—In view of the great extension of the right of occupancy given to ryots, I, in concurrence with Messrs. Grierson and Henry, would add after the words "fixed period" the words "or under an agreement to hold from year to year." It seems necessary to take into consideration on this point the case of small proprietors who let small plots of their zeraat lands from year to year to labourers on a verbal agreement, and to whom the formal execution of a lease, except at considerable expense, is almost an impossibility. It is altogether so very opposed to the whole custom of the country that occupancy rights should so accrue in *bonâ fide* zeraat lands, except with the consent of the landlord, that numbers of small proprietors would never dream of such privilege existing for the cultivator, and would fail to take the only precaution to retain their rights which the section, as it stands, gives.

Section 50.—"Incidents of occupancy right generally."

The general sense of the conference was to approve of the provisions. But it was considered advisable to draw attention to the remarks submitted by Messrs. Boxwell, Quinn, and others regarding sub-letting. I give the remarks as follows: Mr. Boxwell states:—"I myself think the subletting powers of the occupancy ryots the most doubtful and only dangerous part of the Bill. The great object is to secure the cultivator his occupancy at a fair rent, to be transmitted to his heirs as long as the family can last. I see no good in sub-letting."

The whole question seems to me to be, is more good or harm done by trying to stop it? A long string of rent-payers and receivers must be bad. "As far as an occupancy ryot is a rent receiver, he is one of the objectionable class of land-jobbers. His under-ryot is the important man. I would be greatly inclined to enact that there should be for each field or holding one rent at a time. If the occupancy ryot chooses for his own convenience to sublet it, he should not be permitted to make money on it. It is easy to say, we can't interfere with sub-letting; but our courts should not give an occupancy ryot more rent than he pays. It is as a cultivator we wish to protect him, not as land-jobber."

It is a pity the reasons and objects do not dwell more on the question of subletting. It would be impossible to prevent it, and therefore it is right formally to admit it. Mr. Boxwell considers these dangers arising from ryots not behaving as ryots do not seem to him to be very great or pressing, and perhaps it was enough to note that when occasion arose, the legislature could act; but he thinks that one simple and easy condition would make the danger idefinitely remote.

No ryot should recover for any piece of land a higher rent than he pays for it. This rule, he believes, would do no harm to the man we want to protect, and encourage the strong hereditary cultivator; while it would help to checkmate the land-jobber, who under the guise of a ryot makes his money by speculating in rents.

Mr. Quinn thinks that the balance of argument is entirely in favour of allowing the settled ryot to sell or sublet his holding. These provisions may no doubt tend to produce a class of middlemen, under whom the actual cultivator would have no occupancy rights, and this would be a most undesirable result; but in Behar at least they will not have this effect. As a fact, even in Sarun, ryots' holdings have been frequently sold both privately and in execution of decrees, and these evil consequences have not followed. As regards subletting, Mr. Quinn is of opinion that no legislation can prevent it, and in many cases it is a good thing that a ryot should have the right of subletting a portion of his holding. For instance, if indigo is to be grown on a proper system, it is certainly desirable that the planter should be

able to obtain a lease of the land which he requires from the ryot, and that the latter should get the full benefit of the transaction which he would not obtain if the landldord's consent were necessary. The provisions regarding the landholder's rights of pre-emption are, Mr. Quinn thinks, fair and reasonable, though it is believed advantage will seldom be taken of them.

Mr. Norman, on the other hand, has recorded that he cannot for a moment admit the necessity or advisability of framing the Bill in such a manner as to lead to consequences, such as clause 41 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons admits to be possible. It seems difficult to understand how such a result can be contemplated with equanimity, or how an intention can be deliberately expressed of encouraging the growth of another class of idle annuitants upon the land in addition to those which already cumber it. The Bill will undoubtedly enhance the value of occupancy rights which will command a good price in the market, and which will naturally be bought up right and left by the money-lending class. The net results of the Bill, Mr. Norman thinks, will therefore be the extinction of the present class of occupancy ryots and the transfer of the rights to the money-lenders.

Section 59.—The conference were of opinion that in case of a revenue officer refusing to register the contract, an appeal to the Commissioner and Board should be allowed. I do not myself see the necessity for the proposition. It is much more advisable that transactions of the kind provided for in these sections should be complete and final before the local officer making the investigation required under clause (2).

Section 62.—We were unanimous in thinking that the preparation of a table of rates was impracticable. As Mr. Norman has pointed out, these sections on the preparation of a table of rates and produce and of suits to enhance money rents where such a table is in force, contain a Procrustian scheme of enforcing uniformity in matters in which from the nature of things no uniformity exists. The rates in a village are about as numerous as the fields of the ryots, and cannot be classified without an arbitrary disregard of actual facts.

On the details of the procedure laid down in this and the following sections, Mr. Nolan has urged that the revenue officer is generally to fix rates for the different classes of land, leaving it to the civil courts to determine in what class each field is to be placed. This appears a cumbersome and inconvenient method of procedure. The object being to find what rent A, B, and C should pay, it would be best obtained by trusting the whole enquiry to one tribunal. Nothing is gained by compelling the parties to fight out before one court the question what rents are payable for lands of a specified class, and before another under what class the holdings should be entered. If the reveneue officer is to interfere at all, he had best proceed under Chapter XI, and fix the rents once for all. As a matter of fact, it was found in the experimental enquiries in this division, that to fix rates of rent, it was necessary first to classify each field. By bringing two distinct tribunals to bear on the one point, as proposed in the Bill there is danger of misapprehension.

Mr. Nolan does not think it would be impossible to fix rates in the abstract without first considering how much of the land will be subjected to each rate, but the adoption of such a course has never been heard of, and the practice would be slovenly and highly dangerous. The confusion would produce the worst results if we put the cart before the horse, and settle the rates in the abstract first, leaving the application to be made afterwards by a different and probably unsympathetic authority.

Section 64 (a).—We are unanimous in considering that "in vicinity" should be inserted after "occupancy ryots."

Section 66.—Under this section, the officer fixing rates is empowered to hear objections but parties concerned are at a disadvantage in framing objections, as the lands not having been classified, they will not know how the rates affect them. A ryot who considers his land of second quality may see no reason to question the rate fixed for land of the first quality and may let it pass unquestioned. When he finds that the moonsif is of a different opinion as to the classification of his holding, there will be no authority empowered to hear his objection to the rate.

Section 69.—Mr. Nolan points out with regard to the provision in this section for the publication of the rates in the Gazette, that they will be found rather to encumber that publication, as there are as many as 50 rates in one village.

Section 72.—It seems unfair to leave it open to make the ryots pay part of the cost of making table of rates, as such tables can only be used for their enquiry to enhance their rents, and are not admissible for the purpose of obtaining a reduction. With regard to the recovery of such expenses in the case of ryots, it would be advisable to recover arrears by the certificate procedure under the Public Demands Act.

Section 75 (c).—Mr. Nolan brought to our notice, and it was thought advisible to note, that the rule as to dividing an increase on value of crop between zemindar and ryot in equal proportions can never possibly operate in any case, for if the old rent was less than half the value of the crop, then the landlord's share of the increase, under the rule of proprtion in the proviso would be less than a half, and if the old rent was more, then the landlord's share under clause (*a*) would be less than one-fifth. In connection with this section, we were also unanimously of opinion that temporary lessees should not be allowed to enhance.

Section 84 of Mr. Reynold's Bengal Rent Bill, which took away from thikadars the power of enhancing ryots' rents, has not been reproduced in this new Bill.

Mr. Henry rightly urged, that the section 84 was introduced on the earnest representation of the officials of Behar, and the arguments upon which their application was based

seemed so conclusive, that the local Government presumably was willing to incur the odium of initiating class legislation in view of the very grave interests at stake. The new Bill omits all reference to this proposal, though having regard to the circumstances of Behar it may be said that any law which does not modify the status of the thikadar or temporary lessee is defective. It is, as has been before represented by me, above all things necessary that the thikadar should be authoritatively relegated to his original position as a mere rent-collector on behalf of the zemindar, and not allowed to exercise any proprietary rights.

Section 79.—I am not altogether prepared to support the proposition made to us by Mr. Quinn in connection with this section, but I submit it for consideration. His suggestion was that an occupancy ryot should be entitled to claim abatement on the ground that his rent exceeds the limit prescribed by section 119. He states that the Legislature having admitted the right of an occupancy ryot to abatements is logically bound to reduce the rent when it exceeds the prescribed maximum rent allowed in cases of enhancement, but as the general principle is not to disturb existing rents, it may not be advisable to raise this point in favour of the ryots. An abatement, however, should, he thinks, be allowed where the rent exceeds the limit prescribed in sections 81 and 119.

Section 80(*b*).—We are unanimously of opinion that this section should be omitted. This sections assumes that the rent of pasture land may be raised on account of the increase in the value of the produce of neighbouring arable land, but not on account of a rise in the price of its own produce. This does not seem reasonable, nor is it clear why the rent of pasture land should be regulated otherwise than that of arable land, *viz.*, by the value of its outturn. For example, Mr. Nolan pointed out that the opening of the proposed railway from Dehri to Mogul Serai, if it raised the value of the grazing grounds on the Rhotas plateau by enabling the holders to send their produce more easily to Benares, would be a proper ground for enhancement. Under the bill, the grazing rents at Rhotas could not be raised on this account, but could be raised if the price of rice had risen, though they produce no rice.

Section 81 (*a*).—We are unanimous in the opinion that clause (*a*) should be modified in the following manner:—After the words "any contract" should be "and in the absence of any," the word "or" being expunged.

Sections 81 and 82 appear to be likely to bring about serious consequences to a large body of petty proprietors, more especially in the districts of Gya and Shahabad. The first section states that the maximum amount of rent in kind which can be claimed is limited to half the produce, and to this no exception can be taken. The result will be a general reduction of rents which are now and have been for years not objected to such as the $\frac{2}{3}$ths of the landlord's share in kind all over Gya and in parts of Shahabad.

I observe that Mr. Reynolds in his speech in Council mentions with regard to this section that it is to be noticed that, though at present the landlord's share is in some cases $\frac{2}{16}$ths of the *grain*, the whole of the straw and chaff belong by custom to the tenant, and to give the landlord half the gross produce would therefore be giving him a larger share than he is entitled to. Most absurdly, if we interfere directly as proposed in this section, we shall bring about a total revolution in the nature of these tenures which will lead to much litigation between landlord and tenant. We are also unanimously of opinion that section 82 should be omitted, and that commutation should not be allowed except when agreed to by both parties, under a contract in writing approved of and registered by a revenue officer. The power which has been conferred upon the ryot by this Bill and denied to the zemindar of being able to get his rent in kind commuted to a money rent to be fixed at the discretion of the court will have the effect of reducing bhouli tenures at least 50 per cent—a reduction which in many cases may mean absolute ruin to the petty proprietors. With regard to Chumparun, Mr. Henry rightly, I think, observes, that having regard to the nature of these bhouli tenures, the circumstances under which they are as a rule created, and to the fact that this cultivation is taken up by the ryots as a speculation as something over and above the area of land upon which they depend for the food crops which are to keep them through the year, no sweeping provisions of this nature was required. In many places the petty proprietors are almost entirely dependent upon the proceeds of their bhouli rents, and the enforced commutation of these rents into a money payment, to be determined by the courts, will be felt by them as an intolerable hardship.

Section 87.—We are unanimous in thinking that this section should be omitted altogether as inapplicable to Behar.

Section 88, *chapter VIII.*—We disapprove of the term "ordinary" ryot, and we would prefer to call ryots treated of in this chapter simply as "ryots." This point has been taken up by Mr. Reynolds in his speech on the Bill.

Section 90.—I express the unanimous opinion of the conference, in saying that freedom of contract should not be withheld from a zemindar giving land to a new and possibly an unknown ryot, and we recommend therefore that in this section 90 the words "subject to" should be adopted instead of "notwithstanding."

It is of course understood that such contracts will not, under the provisions of the Bill, bar the accrual of a right of occupancy; also that on the understanding that freedom of contract is permitted, we have no objection to compensation for disturbance under Section 93 (*b*) which can now only take place in the absence of a contract to the contrary.

With regard to this section 93 (*b*) we are of opinion that in the absence of such a contract, compensation for disturbance should not be granted as a rule, but only left optional with the court up to a limited amount.

Section 100.—In connection with this section I have to submit a proposition made by Mr. Henry, which was approved of by us, *viz.*, that it was very necessary that the different classes of receipts should be on different coloured papers. In the majority of cases where the cultivators are illiterate, it is doubtful whether they will be able to ascertain for themselves whether the provisions of the law are being complied with. The proposal which would solve a practical difficulty in a practical way has however the disadvantage of being too obvious and rude and expedient to find a place in an elaborate Bill. But it seems desirable that it should be declared that receipts in full, which are known as "farkhatti," should be on paper of a particular colour, receipts in part being on paper of a different colour. The expedient would enable any man, however illiterate, to understand at once whether his receipt was in full or in part. It is an expedient that would remove a great deal of the friction which now exists, and would do much towards inducing the ryots to pay their rents. There are innumerable occasions when the ryots have been unwilling to pay their rents, because they had no confidence in the putwari, and dreaded that he would insert in the receipt an entry declaring that the payment received was partly due on account of arrears of previous years. If the ryot were in a position to say "give me a receipt on paper of a certain colour for a particular period, and I will pay you so much", the issue between the parties would be intelligible to both, and would form a basis upon which to effect a settlement. Under existing circumstances the receipt is to the ryot a scroll upon which are some mystic characters, which he has learnt by experience to know may very often be turned to his disadvantage in suits before a determining tribunal. To facilitate the use of such receipts, the forms might be sold at Government treasuries at cost price.

Section 101.—Sub-section (2).—We are unanimous in thinking that this sub-section should be omitted altogether, and as a necessary consequence, the words "or statement" in section 102 (3) should also be omitted. The necessity for a landlord retaining the counterpart of receipt in which under the Bill all details are to be recorded is obvious, but not so the requirement that a counterpart of the statement of account should be *retained* by the landlord under a penalty for failure. It should be optional with the landlord, for it can only be for the defence of his own interest on the contingency of a dispute that he would require to produce the counterpart of such a statement. It is to be noted also that there is no procedure given for adjudicating the fine, or stating what court is to do so.

Section 103 (*a*).—There was some discussion on the provisions of this section. The majority preferred to leave the section as it stands, but Mr. Henry and I concurring were of opinion that the section should be modified. We view with some apprehension the increased facilities which are afforded by the proposed Bill for the deposit of rents in public offices. Under the existing law a ryot can only deposit his rent under the sanction of a formal statement that he has tendered his rent to the landlord who refuses to accept it, but under the proposed law he can pay it into court practically whenever he feels disposed to do so, as receiving officer has no grounds upon which to test the correctness of the depositor's explanation.

It is possible to imagine the case of a large proprietor who happens to be on bad terms with his tenantry. Each tenant will, unless the expense of so doing is so large as to exercise a restraining effect, save himself the trouble of going to the zemindar's cutcherry, and at the same time gratify his own instincts of dislike of paying his rent into court. Under existing practice the withdrawal by zemindars of their rents is a tedious and expensive process, and one that throws great clerical labour on public officers. If these provisions are carried into law, special procedure rules should be passed simplifying the measures under which deposits can be withdrawn.

Imposition of any heavy stamp duty on applications for permission to deposit rents in court, would in practice nullify the provisions of the law, while at the same time if the process is made overcheap, ryots may resort to it in such numbers that the clerical work thrown on the public officers will be excessive. Under the best devised arrangements, this procedure must cause both trouble and expense to the smaller landlords who are not permanently represented at the public offices by muktears or agent.

Section 112.—We strongly approve of the provisions of this section.

Section 113.—Mr. Grierson pointed out that a difficulty would arise when there were a number of rival claimants to the title of either party, *e. g.*, when there was no doubt as to who was the ryot, but there were two rival claimants to the title of the landlord; or when the landlords consist of a number of shareholders disputing amongst themselves as to the amount of their shares. It was considered by us that the Collector might act also on the application of the Magistrate or the sub-divisional officer when a breach of the peace was apprehended. I would submit that a provision to this effect should be added.

Section 116.—In this section provision should be made for the use of the certificate procedure in the case of the ryot.

Section 117.—Messrs. Boxwell and Quinn approved of this section as it stands, and consider the provision essential to check existing abuses; but they would not object to the importation of a corresponding penalty on a ryot who removes a crop without giving the landlord the opportunity of having an appraisement or division made of it.

Messrs. Norman and Grierson consider that a remedy had already been given under section 112; at the same time they were not prepared to argue for the total omission of section 117. They would, however, be strongly against it unless the ryot was also punishable for cutting and carrying away the crop against the will, or without the knowledge, of the

landlord. They would either have both penal provisions, or neither. I am myself strongly opposed to the section as it stands, and consider that the present Bill affords the landlord no means of protecting his interest in bhaoli tenures in regard to the bhowli crop in the case of a dishonest tenant, and therefore the provisions of section 117 which make *any* interference on the landlord's part punishable as criminal trespass might, in many cases, prove to be very harsh.

In the present Bill a certain and speedy remedy is afforded to both parties in the case of any dispute arising in regard to the crop in these tenures, and I think that the landlord should have just as much opportunity afforded him of securing the safety of his interest in the crop without being liable to a criminal prosecution, as the ryot has in securing his. The very essence of the tenure is expressed in the vernacular word used for it "agawr batt'ai," or *watching* and *sharing*, meaning thereby, *each party keeping a watch over the fields that none of the crop be frudulently made away with.*

By this section the landlord will be precluded from the right even to *watch* the crop through his servants, and an immemorial custom will be needlessly interfered with. If both penal provisions be adopted, there will be a door opened for endless false charges and criminal prosecutions.

Section 118.—We are unanimous in thinking that the provisions of this section for the *danabundi* or appraisement papers to be deposited in the Collector's office, are not necessary and are objectionable. In the districts of Gya and Shahabad and in the greater part of Patna, the filing of these papers will involve the necessity for the entertainment of extra establishments in the offices of the Collectors, if not of additional building accommodation, and, when the papers have been lodged, will be as useless and cumbersome as the putwaris' papers, the filing of which in the same way had been ordered a few years ago, and which it has been since found necessary to countermand. In the provision in this section, there is no check on the filing of *false* danabundi papers, and there can be no check.

Section 119.—The limit prescribed by this section is not a fair and equitable limit on the case of special and valuable crops, such as indigo, tobacco, or sugarcane, which would not fall under the category of staple crops. Some of the Collectors do not think the section requires alteration. Mr. Quinn withdrew from the objection above-mentioned, in the case of settled ryots; but I am not prepared to go with him so far as this.

Section 138.—I object to their being any appeal in this matter, and certainly the appeal should not in an executive point of this kind be from the Collector to the Judge. In these days the Collector is likely to be an officer of greater experience than the Judge. The analogy of Magistrates and Judges does not hold, because Magistrates of districts do not usually try cases. The determination of the length of the standard used in a local measure is a question of simple local investigation, and the Collector's finding should be conclusive. It does not seem consistent that when the civil court makes a reference to the Collector for decision on a matter of this nature, the civil court should have the power to reverse the Collector's finding. It was suggested in the conference that the appeal should lie to the Commissioner, but I still adhere to my opinion that there should be no appeal. Such a procedure would only lengthen the proceedings uselessly, and prolong litigation upon a point which on the Collector's investigation should be clear and conclusive.

Section 139.—We consider that to prevent mistakes a special provision should be inserted that a ryot should not be allowed to surrender a portion only of his holding.

CHAPTER XI.

We would record our cordial approval of the provisions in this chapter, and also of those in Chapter XII.

CHAPTER XIII.

Section 167. Sub-section (2).—The charge here for an application for distraint, appears excessive. So heavy a court-fee being imposed, there will be the tendency on the part of zemindars to have recourse to illegal distraint as now. There should be an uniform fee of eight annas. This provision for distraint is the only summary procedure contained in the Bill which enables a landlord to recover his rents expeditiously.

CHAPTER XIV.

Section 188.—It has always been understood that opportunity would be taken of the revision of the tenancy law, to introduce a procedure which would enable suits between landlords and tenants rapidly disposed of. The Bengal Bill, sections 147, 148, &c., proposed to render the patni sale procedure applicable to certain occupancy holdings. These holdings could then have been sold summarily without decree on the application of the landlord; notice of arrear being given to the Collector, the defaulter's village, and zemindar's office. The whole responsibility of setting this procedure in motion would have rested with the zemindar.

It would have conferred great relief on the zemindars, and would have enabled them to realize their rents quickly. But it has been lost sight of in the new Bill, which seems not to contain any provisions which will enable rent-suits to be rapidly disposed of. The existing procedure is no doubt abbreviated, the right of appeal curtailed, and to this extent the Bill is an improvement on the existing law; but it does not go far enough in the direction of giving relief to the zemindari class, who certainly may claim that some procedure should be introduced which will admit of their recovering their just rents without incurring delay or expense.

It is also very desirable that in a suit for arrears the landlord should be allowed to include in the same suit any number of ryots of the same class and occupying land in the same village.

Section 199.—We highly approve of the provisions in this section. None of the remaining sections of the Bill call for any remarks.

I must apologize for the delay in submitting this report, but the submission of it came when in this heavy division, I have had very much more than the usual demand on my time for the despatch of business, connected with the various annual reports due at this period of the year.

ENCLOSURE OF COMMISSIONER'S REPORT No. 484R, DATED 7TH JULY 1883.

Notes on the Bengal Tenancy Bill by the Committee of the Behar Landholder's Association.

PART I.

CHAPTER I.

Section 3 (5).—Why should not the words "he or his predecessors in interest came into possession of it for such purpose" be omitted altogether, and explanation modified thus:—"A holding through a bhagjote ryot will be a holding under this section,"—and, to this extent alone sub-letting allowed.

Should not payment of rent be also made an ingredient of the definition. As the definition stands at present, there is nothing to prevent a trespasser being included in it, if he holds the lands after the trespass for agricultural purposes. The definition should be: "A person shall not be deemed to be a ryot in respect of any land, or to hold that land as a ryot, unless he holds it for the purpose of agriculture, &c., and *pays rent for the same.*" The Rent Commission Bill defined "tenant" as a person liable to pay or deliver rent.

Section 3 (*6*).—"Under-ryot" means tenant holding land whether immediately or mediately below a ryot. Will not this definition bring in a large chain of under-ryots, and give some amount of legislative sanction to subletting by these people? The word "mediately" might better be omitted.

Section 3 (*9*).—Landlord means a person or a number of persons immediately under whom a tenant holds. A tenant, however, includes an under-ryot. Will not the occupancy ryot be thus a landlord with respect to his under-ryot?

Section 3, Clause (*14*).—Agricultural year, where the Fasli year prevails, commences, for purposes of agricultural settlements, &c., on the first day of Asardh. The Fasli year of course commences in Ashin.

CHAPTER II.

Section 5.—The principle on which this chapter seems to be based appears to be the assumption that there is a lasting distinction between the lands of a village, some being exclusively appropriated by the ryots and some by proprietors, under the name of *khamar* lands. It will be found that no such distinction exists under the present village custom.

All the waste lands belong to the malik, and he can at any time make them his *zeraat* lands, and the ryot can have nothing to say to this. Again, lands which have been abandoned by ryots, or have in any other way passed into the hands of the proprietors, can be converted into *zeraat.* There is no village custom forbidding this, and it would be an act of spoliation to deprive the proprietor of these rights. In this view a register once made cannot hold good for all time to come.

Section 5 (*1st and 2nd*).—After the word "proprietor" the words "his representative in interest" should be added.

Section 5 (*a*).—Assumes the existence of a village custom, which, it is feared, will be found to exist nowhere.

Section 5, 2nd (*a*) *and* (*b*).—The sentence "have been held as zeraat" is not clear. Will not holding through a ryot come within these words? Yet the provisions of section 49 would point the other way.

Sections 7-13—Provide for making a complete survey and record of existing *khamar* lands in order to preclude the possibility of future disputes. But where is the complaint on the part of ryots that they cannot obtain lands from the zemindars, the latter having absorbed the ryoti into *khamar* lands? One would have thought that the subject dealt with in this chapter was of sufficient importance to require that careful attention and elaboration which it has obtained, specially when the original idea, which would have necessitated such a classification, is not to be carried out. The fact is that, notwithstanding the provision for the non-accrual of the right of occupancy in *nij jote* land under section 6 of Act X of 1859, zemindars never think of shutting out their ryots from the right, on the ground that they farm their *nij jote* lands (witness the paucity of cases in which questions of this nature do arise). Even in Behar, in South Gangetic districts, dispute regarding *zeraats* is very rare. In North Gangetic districts, question of zeraat lands has doubtless some importance in estates held by indigo planters, or lands in the neighbourhood of estates held by them. To make a law which is specially intended to provide for a few cases may not be inexpedient; and if the operation of the law be confined to these few cases only, people may not have much to say; but it will be a serious matter indeed if, without regard to the importance of the subject in any given locality, the law is sought to be applied and register of *khamar* lands made. It would be, as it were, opening the eyes of people to a class of dispute with which they are not yet familiar,

and this enlightenment they can only gain at no small amount of expense and trouble to themselves. The survey, the letting in of a host of survey underlings, ameens, chainmen, *et hoc genus homines*, should not be lightly thought of, and thus driving people to appeals up to the Board of Revenue, and ultimately to Government, for evils which are more imaginary than real.

Perhaps it is not meant that all lands not in the occupation of ryots on the date when the survey party enters the village will be treated as *khamar* lands. The definition of *khamar* lands precludes such a supposition; yet the ryot will be a village Hampden indeed, fighting for the sake of principle, and spending money after such fight; who is expected to contest the landlord's demand of entry of such land in the *khamar* register. Even if such Hampdens there are, the legislature would do better than to invite them to fight. Litigation in this country means ruin; it entails much more than legitimate cost; and the legislature, whose only motive is the good of the people, should think twice before opening out a fresh flood-gate of litigation.

Then there is the question of cost. The executive machinery required by the law under this chapter will have to be paid by the zemindar and the ryots. The expenses in some cases of the survey, &c, will not be a trifle. On the score of expense alone, if not on any other ground, the enactment of this chapter appears inexpedient.

Do not the road cess returns now, to some extent, furnish the information required by this chapter?

Sections 10 and 11.—The period of one month provided for appeal to the Commissioner and the Board of Revenue under these sections, is rather short.

Section 12.—On what ground or grounds will the Local Government proceed under this section?

Section 13.—It is intended to give a stereotyped character to these registers, and this will trench against the zemindar's proprietary right and village custom, under which all the waste lands are his, lands abandoned by ryots are his, lands acquired by alluvion in many cases are his, and he is at liberty to make these lands his *zeraat* without any reference to the ryot or his right.

CHAPTER III.

The only class of tenure-holders who were allowed to hold at fixed rates were those istemrardars or mokararidars who had held their lands at a fixed rent for more than 12 years previous to the date of permanent settlement. Even they were not protected against a Government farmer. No other class of tenure-holders were entitled to hold at fixed rates. Act X of 1859 first made an innovation in this respect. Under that Act, the privilege of holding at fixed rate was given to tenure-holders who had held at a uniform rate from the date of the permanent settlement, and the presumption was to be made of uniform fixed rate if the tenure-holder could prove that he had paid at such fixed rate for 20 years before the commencement of the suit. Even now, when reference is made to the rights of parties as they existed at the date of the permanent settlement, and it is proposed to go beyond Act X of 1859, few zemindars would perhaps cry for the repeal of the privilege given under that Act to tenure-holders; but they have good reason to complain of the presumption which now, when strictness is observed in the matter of granting receipts, and greater strictness is to be provided for by the Bill, would place it in the power of every tenant to ask for such presumption in all cases, and thus to shift the onus of proof. Mr. Reynolds in his Bill proposed to carry back the ryot to proof of an uniform payment of rent to 20 years before 1859. The equitableness of this provision was undoubted.

The Bill now proposes to raise the presumption of proof of uniform payment of rent for *any* period of twenty years. A ryot is sued in 1883. He proves uniform payment of rent from 1840 to 1860, and does not go into proof of such uniform payment for the last 20 years before the commencement of the suit. The presumption as now proposed under the Bill will be against the ordinary rules of presumption in such a case.

Section 14.—Refers also to ryots with fixed rates of rent. Section 14 and section 18, and other sections in Chapter III, come together to apply to the same class or classes of persons. If section 18 applies to ryots, the grounds of enhancement in cases of a particular class of ryots holding from the time of the permanent settlement will be different from the grounds in cases of ryots described in Chapter V. This will be entirely new. In paragraph 13 of the Object and Reasons it is said that "the term tenure-holder, as used in the Bill, is defined in section 3 (3) and (4) to include what are commonly known as undertenure-holders—that is to say, darpatnidars, sepatnidars, darijaradars, and such like; and also tenants of the class hitherto known as ryots at fixed rates. The inclusion of tenants of this latter class in the definition is convenient from the draftsman's point of view, but is, it is believed, otherwise of little importance, inasmuch as the incidents which attached to their holdings place them to all practical interests and purposes on the same footing as tenure-holders." Again, in paragraph 20 the alterations which it is proposed to make in the existing law regarding tenures are not of great importance.

Section 14.—Converts the present ryots at fixed rates into tenure-holders, but as already explained, *supra* paragraph 13, the change is unimportant.

The change would be unimportant if section 18 would not apply. It may be said that as only ryots with fixed rates would be tenure-holders, ryots not with fixed rates would not be entitled to take advantage of the provisions of this chapter. The point, however, is not clear. It should be clearly stated that the provisions of section 18 will not apply to ryots.

The uncertainty noted above is to some extent attributable to the use of the term

'tenant,' 'tenure,' and 'tenure-holder.' Tenant is defined by a negative. It does not include any person who is not a tenure-holder, ryot, or under-ryot, or the tenant of a bastu land. It may include them, or some of them, and it may exclude some, as certainly section 14 does. The definition simply excludes people who are not of certain classes. The term 'tenure' includes an under-tenure, and the interest of every tenant of the class referred to in section 14; and tenure-holders mean a person or a number of persons owning a tenure.

Section 20.—The provisions of this section appear to be inconsistent with the declared policy of Government to better the condition of ryots. Why should not the benefit of section 14, and the presumption under section 15 be given to ryots in Government estates? Surely ryots in Government estates should not be placed at a disadvantage as compared with their neighbours living in zemindari estates.

Sections 22, 23, and 24.—Lands have been added to a tenure by alluvion. The alluviated lands will form a part of the original tenure, or will be a tenure by itself. Rent in such a case is nominal at first, but when the alluvial deposits are fully formed, and land acquires a greater degree of fertility, the rent payable and paid is fully equal to the degree of such fertility. The ryots, under the circumstances of the case, do not grudge to pay such full rates, notwithstanding it may be four or five times the nominal rent they had paid at first, and the increase is made all at once. The double limit, the gradual enhancement, and 10 years' rule will tell very hard in such cases, and this without there being any justifiable necessity for it.

These limits will also tell against the landlord's making any improvements in his estate. An estate yields only Rs. 500 at present; with improvements effected it can be made to yield Rs. 2,000. The improvements cost, we will suppose, Rs. 20,000 in five years. If the zemindar chooses to wait for the increase until the whole outlay has been made, he can get only Rs. 500; whereas interests at 5 per cent. on the rent of the outlay will be something like Rs. 1,000. If instead of waiting so long, he takes the increased rent from the first year, he debars himself from any future increase for 10 years.

Section 25.—Why should not a right of pre-emption be given to the proprietors in cases of sale of tenures?

Section 27.—Tenure does not include occupancy holdings. Evidently it is not intended that the transfer of an occupancy right should also require registration in the zemindar's sherista. Is there any reason why this should be so? These new rights proposed to be made transferable should not be placed on a better footing than tenures. If registration were to be made compulsory in this case also, the landlord might, on the application made for registry, either claim his right of pre-emption, or might choose to register on the receipt of the fee.

Section 28.—Appears unmeaning. It would be harassing to parties. Why should not the transferee of a tenure apply in the first instance to the landlord? The section should be omitted.

Section 34.—Or "*that of his agent*" should be added after the word 'his hand.'

Section 45.—As the intention appears to be to rehabilitate the *khudkast* ryots of old, residence should also be laid down as a condition for acquiring the status of a settled ryot. If this suggestion be adopted, perhaps it may be necessary to retain a section similar to Section 6 of the present Act, with respect to *piekast* ryots. Thus, while the resident settled ryots alone will have a right of occupancy in ryoti lands under Section 47, the same right will not accrue to *piekast* ryots, unless and until they have held such ryoti lands for 12 years.

"*Held land, as a ryot, ryoti lands.*"—Under Section 3, clause 5, "a person shall not be deemed to hold land as a ryot, unless he holds it for agriculture, horticulture, or pasture, or unless he or his predecessor in interest held it for such purpose."

A person shall be deemed to hold under this Section, though he may sublet it.

Why should not the words "he or his predecessors in interest came into possession of it for such purpose" be omitted, and the power of subletting restricted to such cases and to such places where it obtains now under custom, or where it is exercised only through a *bhag jote* system

Either the power of subletting should be done away with, and the ryots confined to their legitimate occupation of agriculture, horticulture, &c., or the power to sublet being given, under-ryots should have all those advantages now proposed to be conferred on ryots. There is no reason why, by giving unlimited facility for the transfer of occupancy holdings and their accumulations in a few hands, the Legislature should create a class of petty zemindars who, in their relation to actual cultivators, can only prove worse than any greedy rack-renting zemindar that might have gone before them.

But it is more when Section 45 is taken in connection with Section 47, that we find greater need for the adoption of the suggestion noted above. A co-owner, an ijaradar of a part estate, can acquire a right of occupancy. These men, by the exercise of the influence of their position, may buy an occupancy right or otherwise acquire the status of a settled ryot; they will thereafter acquire right of occupancy in all ryoti lands of the village from the date of their holding. The European indigo-planter will acquire the status of a settled ryot after holding a bit of land in a village or estate for 12 years; and the dreaded ticadar is oftentimes even now a settled ryot of the village. These classes of people may buy or otherwise acquire a right of occupancy in the entire quantity of lands in a village, and then sublet these lands at pleasure. Yet it is not for the benefit of these classes of men that the changes are proposed. Again, any obnoxious ryot might be introduced in an estate against the zemindar's will under the power of subletting. The right of pre-emption will here be of no avail to the landlord, and subletting will be resorted to as a device to defeat pre-emption.

"*In any village or estate.*"—A large estate in a raj or big zemindari may comprise several hundreds of villages, and under the operation of the law, a ryot who has occupied a bit of land in any one of these villages for 12 years will acquire the status of a settled ryot in the estate, and come to have a right of occupancy with respect to the ryoti lands of all the villages comprised in such estate no sooner he will get into possession, of such ryoti lands.

"*Notwithstanding any contract to the contrary.*"—*Sections 45, 47, 49, 50.*—It is strange that when the ryot is considered *sui juris*, as respects his contracts and dealings with the world around, more than he ever was under the Indian laws, and this in his dealings with a part-owner of an estate, or an ijaradar of a share, he should be only considered in a state of pupilage in his dealings with the sole proprietor of an entire estate. There may be cases in which the ryots themselves may, for the sake of some advantage to themselves, choose to enter into a contract with their landlord against the provisions of the proposed Bill. The law will deprive them of the power of so doing. Why should not the words "*unless the contract be in writing registered*" be added after the words "notwithstanding any contract to the contrary" in these sections?

An ignorant ryot may be an object of protection of the Legislature, and it may be justified in denying him the power of contract; but is an ijaradar, an indigo-Planter, nay, a co-owner of an estate, the legitimate objects of such protection? Yet these classes of men can be settled ryots, come to have rights of occupancy with all its incidents, and the law will apply to them as to those who are now known as ryots.

Section 46.—Who will be responsible for the zemindar's rent during the period of vacant possession? During the year the zemindar will have no right to make a settlement with any other ryot, and thus the zemindar loses a year's rent. The fact that he comes by an occupancy holding does not signify much, for, on his settling the lands with a ryot, he can only do so on the fair rent fixed in accordance with the provisions of this Act, which, in Behar, means a reduction of at least half the previous rent paid.

Section 49.—Should be omitted altogether when it is intended to have a survey and register of *khamar* lands; or if it is retained, it should be modified as follows:—"Unless he has held it for any portion of that period under a lease for a term, or year by year."

Section 50(a).—The words are very vague, and will lead to litigation. The purposes of tenancy should be confined to agriculture, horticulture, and pasture, and should not be extended further.

(*c*) The question of fair and equitable rates have been discussed separately in so far as the present limitations affect the zemindar's right under the permanent settlement.

(*e*) Should be omitted altogether.

(*f*) The transfer at least should be restricted to *bonâ fide* cultivators, and this can only be done by preventing subletting. As regards the question of transferability, the Association, in addition to what they said in a separate note, beg simply to subjoin in this place what they stated in their note on the Bill of the Rent Commission:—

"In the vast mass of literature on rent law, collected together by the labour of the members of the Rent Commission, we do not find a single sentence authorizing the transfer of mere occupancy rights. On the contrary, the rulings under Act X of 1859 and Act VIII of 1869 (B.C.) are against it, and there is a significant passage in Harrington's Analysis, quoted at page 408 of the Rent Report, Vol. II, clearly shewing that the ryots had no such power of alienation even in good old days. The passage is to the following effect:—On the whole therefore *I do not think ryots can claim any right of alienating the lands rented by them by sale or other mode of transfer*, nor any right of holding them at a fixed rent except in the particular instances of *khudkast* ryots, who from *prescription* have a privilege of keeping possession as long as they pay the rent stipulated for by them." (Extract from Harrington's Analysis pages 269, 281, & 301.)

From the above passage we find that the ryots as a body, whether *khudkast* or *piekast* had not the right to alienate their holding by sale or other mode of transfer; that in the particular instance of *khudkast* ryots, who from *prescription* enjoyed certain rights, that right never extended beyond holding at pergunnah rates of rent, and their not being liable to be disturbed in their holdiug so long as they continued to pay such rent. It is said that the landholder can care for nothing so long as he gets his rents; it does not matter from whom. The very argument which Lord Cornwallis used against arbitrary eviction of ryots when rent was ordinarily rack-rent is now sought to be pressed in favour of purchasers of ryots' rights, under condition of things when rents happen to be no longer rack-rents. The present learned Chief Justice, in his valuable minute on the proposed new rent law, printed at page 380 of the Rent Report, Vol. II, thus disposes of this argument:—

"But assuming this to be the true view of the matter, what becomes of the justification for invading the landholder's rights, if the ryot is to be allowed, as soon as he has acquired his right of occupancy, to get rid of it altogether? If the equity to the landlord consisted in his being permanently secured a good tenant, what becomes of the equity if you allow the ryot to transfer his interest?

"It seems to me that this view of the zemindar's position is rather lost sight of in Mr. Field's note; and I think, moreover, that it is hardly fair to suggest that zemindars ought not to object to the transferability of ryot's tenures upon the ground that the measure would be merely unpleasant or injurious to themselves.

"It strikes me that this is just the ground upon which zemindars, or any other class of men, are perfectly justified in objecting to any public measure. And considering that in this instance the Legislature are dealing substantially with the two great branches of the agricultural interest—landlords on the one hand and tenants on the other—the former have at least a right

to insist that no measure ought to be passed which would be *unpleasant* or *injurious* to them, unless some solid advantage is to result from it to the general public."

It is positively injurious to the landlords, for, not to speak of the *unpleasantness* of having ryots installed against their will, they become losers to the extent by which the ryots gain; if instead of the ryot's selling his right of occupancy to a stranger, a zemindar could give the right to the same party with the ryot's *consent*, the zemindar would obtain a share of the money value of such right, the consent of both being necessary under the present law for a valid transfer.

Considering the question in a ryot's point of view, the learned Chief Justice says:—"I should have thought that the most effectual way of protecting such people and preventing them from wasting their substance would be to secure them a permanent interest in their property, by prohibiting the alienation of it in any shape or way." (Page 382, Vol. II, Rent Report.)

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It is now generally admitted that the poverty-stricken condition of the Deccan ryots, for whose special relief a law, which trenched against the rights of a class and which ignored all private contract, was enacted only last year, was owing, among other causes, to the transferable nature of their tenure. The following quotation is taken from a letter dated 29th February 1879, from the Secretary to the Government of India, to the Secretary, Government of Bombay, circulated along with other papers for opinion on the Deccan Ryot's Relief Bill:—

"(14) Satisfactory as this picture of progress is (and similar ones may be produced from all parts of India), there is undeniable evidence in the report before us that the very improvements introduced under our rules, such as fixity of tenure and lowering of the assessments, have been the principal causes of the great destitution which the Commissioners found to exist.

"(15) The saleable value of the land greatly increased the credit of the ryot, and encouraged beyond measure the national habit of borrowing, which I have before observed on. High prices led to extended cultivation, to more expensive modes of living, to larger outlay on the great stimulant to Hindu expenditure—marriage ceremonies. Recourse to the money-lender became the more frequent than before, and the class of money-lenders competing for custom increased in undue proportion."

It is said that the Bengal ryots are not to be judged by the standard of the ryots of Deccan or other parts of India, but whatever point of difference there may be between the ryots of Bengal Proper and the ryots elsewhere in India, and whatever advantage the former may have over the latter in their habit of prudence, the same can by no means be safely asserted with respect to the Beharis. With them, with landlords and tenants alike, there is unfortunately no lack of the great stimulant to Hindu expenditure—marriage ceremonies.

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If, again, Bengal ryots are not to be judged by the standard of ryots in other parts of India, they ought at least to be judged by the standard of those who are admittedly their betters. Not long ago, the following note by Mr. Hertslet, the Consul at Konigsberg, on the practical working of the German land system, went round the newspapers:—

"Landed estates can be sold, parcelled out into the smallest free-holds, and disposed of in any manner without any difficulty or expense beyond the contract stamp of 1 per cent. Renting of farms is almost unknown. Agriculturists buy the land, including barns and dwellings and dead inventories, at a price agreed on, pay usually a quarter or a third of the money down, and the rest is hypothecated on the estate, large or small: the hypothec banks generally advancing the money at 5 per cent., which cannot be demanded back, but may be gradually sunk or paid off by yearly instalments. But, notwithstanding the facility of buying or selling landed property, the agriculturists are always complaining, and it is understood that at least two-thirds of them are in money difficulties, and public sales by the courts of law are of constant occurrence. The most of the nominal proprietors have not sufficient capital to work or cultivate property, and most of them are in difficulties when the interest on the hypothecated debt is due. It is also remarkable that, with the exception of a very few estates which are entailed under the law of primogeniture by a small number of the higher nobility, hardly one estate has remained in the same hands or family for fifty consecutive years, and it appears to be hard on a proprietor to sink such capital in landed property which must in most cases be sold at his death."

Even Mr. Mill, who saw nothing but good in the system of peasant proprietorships, says: "Undue sub-division and excessive smallness of holdings are undoubtedly a prevalent evil in parts of Germany and Flanders." (Mill's Political Economy, Vol. I, p. 366).

But, however good the peasant proprietorships may be in countries where they are, so to say, indigenous to the soil, where the habit of the people favours such a system of land tenures, and where, as in Norway, Belgium, France, there are existing checks to an overgrowth of population imposed either by law or the salutary customs of the people, it does not follow that we could secure an equal amount of good by transplanting the same land system in Bengal and Behar, where over-population and sub-dividing are the prominent features in the economic condition of the peasantry.* Add to this the chronic indebtedness of our people, and the

* In the 24-Pergunnahs, which are now comprised in the district of Gya, the total number of estates in 1789 was 744, and the number of proprietors 1,160; in 1871 the number of estates was 4,411, and the number of registered proprietors 20,453. In 80 years, therefore, each estate has, on an average, been split up into six, and where there was formerly one proprietor, there are now 18. (Statistical Reporter, Vol. XII, p. 126.) In 1790 there were 1,232 separate estates on the rent-roll of the Patna district, as then constituted, held by 1,280 registered proprietors. Including a net total of 777 new estates obtained by transfer from the Gya district, the number of estates on the rent-roll of the district amounted in 1870-71 to 6,075. The number of registered proprietors had increased to 37,800. Allowing for the increase in the size of the district by the addition of the Behar sub-division, the number of estates under the Patna collectorate had quadrupled since the original assessment in 1790; and where there was formerly one proprietor, there are now probably 20. (Statistical Reporter, Vol. XI, p. 187). In the district of Tirhoot, the figures are more marked. In 1790 there were 1,321 estates held by 1,939 registered proprietors. In 1871 the number of estates was 11,500, and the number of registered proprietors 73,416. (Statistical Reporter, Vol. XIII, p. 168.) So long ago as 1789, Mr. Shore remarked on the insignificant size of the Behar estates and the poverty of their owners. If sub-division has gone on thus rapidly with estates, it is hard to expect a different state of things in case of transferable occupancy holdings.

danger of the measure becomes at once manifest. While there is to be sub-division in one hand, there is every possibility of accumulation of these small holdings in the hands of capitalist mahajuns on the other, and side by side, with the present race of zemindars as annuitants on their land, there will spring up landed proprietorships of another kind with mahajuns as owners; thus the only good we derive from the measure is to sweep away the present race of our peasants.

It is noteworthy how, when the land question has been a burning one for centuries in Ireland, the introduction of the system of present proprietorships of Belgium and France into Ireland, has not been advocated by those who are best able to pass an opinion on the subject. Emile De Laveleye says:—

"In Flanders you do not find the land sub-divided in the way it is in Ireland, according to Lord Dufferin who has shewn the evils of the kind of sub division practised there. From his description, it appears that in Ireland, at the death of any holder, and often even during his lifetime, the children divided the lands among themselves, each of them building a cottage on it; or, if the tenant has no children, he sub-lets his lands to several small farmers, and allows them to settle on it, notwithstanding the stipulations of the lease. Such breaking up of the land must lead to the most wretched farming and to pauperism on the part of the tenants. As long as the Irish farmer has no better understanding than that of his own interest and of the requirements of a sound economical system, no agricultural policy, neither fixity of tenure, nor even ownership in fee-simple, could improve his condition. Although the population of Flanders is twice as dense as that of Ireland, a Flemish peasant would never think of dividing the farm he cultivates among his children; and the idea of allowing a stranger to settle and build house on it, and farm a portion of it, would appear altogether monstrous to him. On the contrary, he will submit to extraordinary sacrifices to give his farm the size and typical shape it should have.

"How is it that the Fleming and the Irishman hold such different points of view? I think it is partly due to the difference of race, and partly to circumstances. The Celt, being more sociable, thinks most of the requirements of the members of his family, whilst the Teuton thinks more of the requirements of the soil and of good cultivation.....But, supposing the Irishman to become the absolute owner of his farm, would he learn and comply with the requirements of the land. A Flemish farmer's son always wants to have a good farm of his own; he would not put up with a hovel improvised on a potato field. Could the Irishman but be brought to practise agriculture as an art, and not as a mere means of bringing a subsistence from the soil, he would soon abandon the miserable system of sub-division which he has adhered to so long. But how is this taste for agriculture as an art to be imparted to him? To extinguish the influence of instincts or tendencies, whether inherent in the race or the historical product of centuries, would it suffice to introduce an agrarian constitution in Ireland similar to that of Flanders, or, better still, Switzerland? These are questions which I confess myself not in a position to answer; but they are questions which those who have the Irish Land Question to solve ought to face when considering the land system of Flanders." (Cobden Club Essays.)

It is significant to observe that in enacting for the North-Western Provinces in 1873, the Supreme Council did not think it expedient to give a statutory right of transfer to 'right of occupancy'—the mere creation of Act X of 1859 in Bengal as well as in the North-West.

Section 9 of Act XVIII of 1873 (The North-Western Provinces Rent Act) runs as follows:—

"The rights of tenants at fixed rates shall be heritable and transferable.

"No other right of occupancy shall be transferable by grant, will, or otherwise, except as beween persons who have become by inheritance co-sharers in such right.

"When any person entitled to such last-mentioned right dies, the right shall devolve as if it were land, provided that no collateral relative of the deceased, who did not then share in the cultivation of his holding, shall be entitled to inherit under this section."

The tenants at fixed rates are thus defined in section 5:—

"All tenants in districts or portions of districts permanently settled, who hold lands at fixed rates of rent which have not been changed since the permanent settlement, shall have a right of occupancy at those rates, and shall be called 'tenants at fixed rates.'"

Thus occupancy right is not only not transferable, but not even heritable under the law as it prevails in the North-Western Provinces.

Is there any reason why incidents which are denied to occupancy holdings in the North-Western Provinces, either from a regard to expediency or from a regard to the existing rights in that province, shall be attached to occupancy rights in Bengal and Behar? If the ryots of the Lower Provinces are not to be judged by the standard of the ryots of the North-Western Provinces, it should also be borne in mind that the ryots of Behar are not to be judged by the standard of the ryots of the Lower Bengal, and that there would be fewer chances of mistakes if they were to be judged by the standard of the ryots of the North-West.

As regards Behar, the majority of the members of the Behar Rent Commission, who in one respect at least had the advantage over the members of the Rent Commission sitting in Calcutta, that they knew the people of this province better, were of opinion that it is not desirable to alter the existing law on the subject. On a further reference to the members by the President, after the sitting of the Commission was over, it appears that only 4 out of 15 members, being perhaps the original minority, were for unrestricted transfer. It is noteworthy to remark that two of these members are indigo-planters themselves, or persons interested in indigo-planting; the other two, Messrs. Worsley and Finucane, would not allow subletting if transferability of occupancy rights were to be recognized by law. Two other members would only allow transfer to *bonâ fide* cultivators; the other members, being the majority, remained opposed to such transferability.

Horticulture.—In Behar, fruit trees are planted by the ryots in lands for which they pay no rent. When the trees bear fruit, the produce (fruits) is divided under the *bhowli* system half and half. When the tree is sold, the zemindar takes half the price, and the ryot the other half; and the land being cleared, it again belongs to the zemindar, who has the option of settling it with whomsoever he likes, no right of occupancy accruing to the previous tenant in a case of this kind. Horticulture in the mode in which it is ordinarily carried on in this province does not require much labour or expense. Mango seeds are sown here and there, and in 10 years, during which the ryot pays no rents, we have a mango tope, and the ryot enjoys half the produce, *plus* as much more as he can keep away from the division. Sometimes, though of course his right to a share is undisputed, the zemindar does not care for a division; or even if a division be made, it is the village *amlahs* alone who enjoy the fruits, or they distribute them among the villagers, the zemindar living at considerable distance. A sale of fruits in a zemindari is a practice which has not yet generally recommended itself to the patriarchal instincts of the landlords of Behar. In the rearing of the mango tope, besides the initial labour of sowing the seed, the only other trouble to the ryot is to protect it from cattle; and no great amount of trouble is even entailed in this matter, for the seeds are abundant, and one seedling wasted, ten can take its place. This is the way, too, in which, besides large mango topes, other kind of fruit trees are reared and held. The tal (palm) is always the zemindar's own under-village custom. Annual settlements are made with pashis at the rate of 1 rupee or 8 annas per tree, and the tree, when cut, belongs exclusively to the zemindar. To allow right of occupancy in all such cases with respect to the trees, or the land on which they grow, would be at once depriving the zemindar of a very valuable property. To allow transferability in such cases, without any regard to the zemindar's right, would be quite contrary to custom. The point should be enquired into and provided for.

Section 51.—The word '*landlord*' is defined to mean a person or a number of persons immediately under whom a tenant holds. Now the right of pre-emption under Section 51 is given to a landlord as defined above. Will the recorded proprietor of an estate be entitled to exercise this right when he has given his estate in ijara or tica? and yet this is the time when undoubtedly the exercise of the right will be of the greatest importance. The definition, however, would seem to preclude the proprietor's right in such a case.

Will one of several co-sharers of an estate be entitled to exercise this right? Will he be entitled to exercise this right against the wishes of his co-sharers? These points should be made clear.

Why should not a similar right of pre-emption be given to the resident ryots of the estate, exercisable only in case the landlord refuses to exercise his right.

Instead of the words 'landlord,' &c., "any person interested in the land of the estate may claim to purchase, &c., provided that the claim of the recorded proprietor shall be preferential to all other claims, and next to his, the claim of the person immediately under whom the ryot holds" would do much better. After all, the right of pre-emption given to the landlords will not serve the purpose of checking objectionable transfers. We have seen how, under the colour of subletting, transfers might be effected, and thus a claim of pre-emption defeated. Again, a neighbouring rich and powerful zemindar would find no difficulty whatever to collude with the tenants of a weak neighbour, and instigate them to sell their tenures simultaneously and *en masse*. Not having sufficient money at his command, he will have to allow the lands thus to pass to his hostile neighbour, who gains his ends in effecting the ruin of a weak neighbour by stopping payment of rent.

Sections 51, 53, and 54.—The word 'served' should be substituted for the word 'filed' as used in these sections, for the obvious reason that, though notices may be filed, they may be served too late. And yet the time within which the landlord is to seek for his right of pre-emption is one month from the date of filing of the notice.

Section 56.—The provisions of this section would render the right of pre-emption of no advantage to the zemindar. In cases of successive transfers by the ryots with whom the lands may be settled by the landlords, the zemindar, if he would choose to exercise his right of pre-emption, will simply have to pay very heavy fines for coming between the ryots and their transferrees each time such a transfer is made.

If the landlord be a part-owner only, and has the status of a settled ryot of the estate, the provision will not perhaps apply, nor will it perhaps apply in a case where the landlord has filed a declaration under Section 141. When the provision is thus of a very limited application only, why should it not be omitted altogether. If it stands as it is, it will simply lead to litigation, and prevent landlords from exercising a right which it may be necessary for them to exercise at times, to ward off the evil of having an obnoxious ryot (possibly an enemy) inducted in their estate against their will as a settled ryot.

"*If immediately before the acquisition of the right by the landlord, the rent of the land was a money rent, the ryot shall be entitled to hold at a money rent fixed in accordance with the provisions of this Act.*"

It will be found on enquiry, that in Behar in most cases the existing money rent bears a higher proportion to the annual value of the gross produce than one-fifth, as proposed by the Bill. In these cases, when in the exercise of his right of pre-emption, the proprietor has bought a right of occupancy, and settles it with a ryot, the new ryot thus installed will not only have right of occupancy, but will be entitled to hold at a money rent which must not

exceed, under the provisions of the law, one-fifth of the annual value of the estimated gross produce of the land. Thus, with every transfer of the occupancy rights, the existing rates in Behar will be reduced and brought to the level of the lower statutory rates proposed by the Bill. After the passing of the Bill, the ryots may successfully combine amongst themselves to bring down existing rates, and resort to fictitious sales. Not only will the interest of the zemindars suffer by this provision, but, it is seriously apprehended, the interest of the Government revenue as well. It is a fact which will be fully borne out on enquiry that the Government revenue, in cases of many estates recently settled, represents more than a fifth of the annual value of the produce. In the confiscated estates of Gavind Dehri, pergunnah Peru, zillah Shahabad, an area of 398 bigahs of land under cultivation, the whole amount of rental on which the assessment was determined was Rs. 800. The Government revenue, after the usual deductions for *gilandazi* and collections, has been fixed at Rs. 612, and the estate put up to auction. The auction-purchaser, to whom the estate was knocked down, paid Rs. 7,200 for the purchase. Besides the Government revenue, the purchaser will have also to pay the road cess, the dâk bheri, and public works cess. At the time of the settlement a great part of the land of the estate was held in *bhowli*, so that the rental of Rs. 800 represents half the annual value of the produce, and the Government revenue, including the cesses, more than 6 annas; and yet the Bill fixes the maximum rate at a fifth. Is it again just to the present body of ryots to fix a lower statutory rate than the rates prevalent? Not to speak of other and serious consequences, will it not at once diminish the value of their holdings? Why should a new class of ryots be favoured at the expense of the old? If the existing ryots were wise, they would be the first to protest against a measure thus seriously calculated to diminish the value of their holdings.

Section 56.—"Any person thereafter holding the land as a ryot." Is it intended to include cases other than that of letting the lands by the landlord?

Section 57.—The proviso to this section appears inconsistent with the provision of Section 47. Once the status of a settled ryot is acquired, the person having such status will acquire a right of occupancy in all ryoti lands held by him. And though he will come to have right of occupancy in all subsequently acquired ryoti lands, the proviso will bar such right in ryoti lands which have been longer in his possession.

CHAPTER VI.

Section 59.—Is it at all necessary or desirable that there should be so much restriction on the freedom of contract? If any contract is likely to prove prejudicial to the interest of the ryot, it may be fairly presumed that he will be the last person to enter into it. He is the best judge of his own interests, and if he is not, no amount of legislation can keep him out of danger. As to the limitation, the tabular statement appended will shew how, in many cases, the revenue payable to Government represents full six-sixteenths of the annual value of gross produce. And the zemindar has to pay the cesses in addition. An uniform maximum for Bengal and Behar, and even for the districts of the same province can only prove mischievous.

Is not the revenue officer an already hard-working official that he should have imposed on him this and other works in addition? The determination of the question as to whether the rate is fair and equitable requires some amount of judicial enquiry and some data to go by. Without any disparagement to the ability of our revenue officers, it may be urged that both these will be wanting in their case. Contracts will be registered or rejected according to the individual fancies of these officers.

No procedure is laid down for the registration under this section. But if the procedure be the same as that provided by the registration law, ryots will have to be moved *en masse* to the court of the revenue officer, possibly at some considerable distance from their residence, and they will have to dance attendance in the courts for a number of days, as in all matters the case is at present, before the registration of the contract can be taken up in hand by the revenue officer. The trouble and the cost of the proceeding should not be lost sight of.

The proposal for the compulsory registration of pottahs and kabuliats did not find much favour with the Behar Rent Commission, for the reasons stated above.

If the provisions for compulsory registration by a revenue officer are to be retained, the Legislature would do well to see whether the attendance of ryots *en masse* at the time of registration cannot be dispensed with; and if so, under what conditions.

Section 62.—Most of the objections noted under Section 59 as to the registration of contracts by the revenue officer will apply also to the preparation of table of rates. There are such a diversity of rates prevailing in any local area that the preparation of a table of rates will be found to be simply impracticable, and it will be found, after a great deal of unnecessary expense incurred, that it is unworkable. There will be a whole flood-gate of dispute opened regarding the classification of lands and the rates. If the truth were to be ascertained, it will be found that nothing impoverishes our people so much as these litigations to which they are driven by new laws like the one proposed.

Section 76.—Exception should be made in case of dearah lands. In these cases the amount of rent depends on the alluvial deposits, and if a trifling and nominal amount of rent is charged, so long as these alluvial deposits have not been formed, an amount of rent proportionate to the degree of fertility acquired is at once charged and readily paid no sooner the alluvial deposits have been fully formed. This amount is often more than double the old nominal amount charged. The same objection would apply to the provisions of Sections 77 and 78.

Section 78.—The period of 10 years during which no fresh enhancement is to be made after the rent has been once enhanced, appears rather long and unsuited to a variety of circumstances. Prices may enormously rise, the productive powers may increase without any expense or trouble on the part of ryots, and lands may acquire an additional degree of fertility, as in the case of dearah lands. The period should be shortened to five years.

Section 79.—A ryot who pays as rent half the annual value of the gross estimated average produce of land in staple crops, as all the *bhowli* tenants under the rate of commutation under Section 82 will do, and almost all the Behar ryots, who, under the existing rate of rent, certainly pay more than one-fifth of the annual value of gross produce as rent, will be, as regards the produce of these lands, readily undersold by ryots who under the provisions of the Act, will have their rents determined at not more than one-fifth of the annual value of the gross produce. The ryots who will be inducted in an estate after the passing of the Act, will all thus have an advantage over the old ryots whose existing rates are not to be touched at present. In so far as the amount of rent is an ingredient in determining prices, prices are calculated to fall with low rents, though it is possible that the counteracting effect of greater *demand* in years to come may not absolutely bring it down. If such a counteracting force of *greater demand* does not immediately come into operation, as under the existing condition of things it is not likely that it will for years to come, the effect will be the fall of prices, and the persons who will benefit will be the *consumers*. These consumers will, however, benefit at the expense of the landlords, the receivers of rent. For one effect of the falling of prices under these circumstances will be the reduction of existing rents of occupany ryots under clause (*b*), section 79; and thus, though the existing money rates may not be changed now, they will, under the operation of this clause and the economic condition of things, be changed hereafter and equalized with low rents around (*viz.*), to a rate not exceeding one-fifth of the annual value of the estimated average gross produce fixed under the present Act. Any maximum fixed, without reference to the existing rate of rent in a given locality, is thus calculated to bring down these existing rates to its own standard (*i.e.*), to an equality with itself.

The section also interferes with freedom of contracts. Unlike the provisions in enhancement cases, there will be no limitation to reduction of rent, either as to time or to the amount.

Section 80.—Pasture lands are either the uncultivated lands of an estate, on which grass only grows, or lands in the occupation of ryot, on which other crops not growing in a year, fodder for cattle is grown. In the fiast case, the lands belong to the proprietor of the estate. The ryots are allowed to graze their cattle on it by sufferance; no rents are charged, and the proprietor can at any time bring these lands under cultivation. There is nothing like commons in the estates of Behar. If such commons had existed at one time, when the village community flourished in all its pristine vigour, traces of these are now lost. At the settlement all the lands of an estate were included in the malguzary lands, and the zemindar had vested in him the fullest domain in these lands, where they were not in the actual occupation of ryots. The old settlement khusrah papers make no mention of grazing commons. In the second case, when the pasture lands are in the occupation of ryot, on which other crops not growing in a year, fodder is grown for cattle, the pasture lands are not separate from the other portion of the ryot's holding, but forms part and parcel of the same.

In most of the years, no portion of the holding is used as pasture lands, and it will lead to much complication if any attempt be made to separate them. The provisions of section 80 would be perfectly unnecessary, if the intention is to provide for these classes of lands. There is scarcely any land in Behar which the ryot holds separately as pasture lands. Greatest hardship to landlords would be the consequence, if any right of occupancy was to be given to ryots with respect to such uncultivated lands, on which the ryot has been hitherto allowed to graze his cattle on sufferance. There is also another class of land on which the ryot grazes his cattle, and these are the dearah lands, wherever they exist on their first formation. In this case, grass or other fodder which has grown, or has been allowed to grow, belongs exclusively to landlords. Ryots are allowed either to graze their cattle, or cut and take them home for purposes of fodder at so much per bigah. The rate in these cases is always settled under contract, and in fact the grass or fodder is bought and sold just like other marketable commodities The provisions of section 80 ought surely not to apply to such cases as these. The provision of this section will only be unnecessary and vexatious.

Section 81.—The limitation of landlord's claim to not more than half the gross produce or its value, in cases where an occupancy ryot pays in kind, or pays as rent, the value of a certain share of the actual gross produce, will touch the existing rates of rent in *bhowli* tenures in Behar. In most cases the landlord's share is now 9 annas out of 16 annas of the produce. There are many estates in the districts of Gya and Patna in which all the lands are held in *bhowli* tenures, and, as far as the settlement papers show, were so held at the date of the permanent settlement. The assessment of revenue in fact was made on the amount of gross rental estimated at this rate. The effect of the limitation proposed by section 81 would be to reduce the income of the zemindars in these cases by a full sixteenth. Where recent investment has been made on the basis of this share in the purchase of zemindaris, and more than the fullest value paid, greatest hardships will be the inevitable consequence.

Section 82.—With reference to this section, the Committee of the Behar Landholders' Association in their note on the report on the Behar Rent Commission said:—

The provisions for the commutation of *bhowli* into *nukdi* rental in cases of occupancy

holders at the option of either the zemindar or the ryot will be a death-blow to the *bhowli* tenure. In some year, it will be the interest of the zemindar to seek for such commutation; in other years, it will serve the ryot's interest better; but it is to be feared that the interest of both will suffer in the long run by such commutation. Payment of rent in kind may not chime in with civilized notions of things; but, nevertheless, a custom which has survived change of ages, and has been handed down from generation to generation, being acquiesced in both by landlords and tenants, must undoubtedly have its uses.*

Year before last was a year of prosperity for Behar and Bengal, but a bumper crop had brought on low prices, and the effect of this was that the ryots paying money rent were unable in many cases to meet the landlord's demand of rent, and the landlords had to borrow on account of the ryots' default to pay the Government dues. Not being able to pay their *nukdi* rents, the ryots of whole villages sought and obtained from considerate landlords the conversion of *nukdi* into *bhowli*. There were many estates in which this happened, and it was this conversion alone which in several instances saved the ryots. Yet the cry is against the *bhowli* system of Behar.

With reference to the *bhowli* tenures, the Committee in their last year's note said:—

The system of ryoti tenures in Behar is very simple and well suited to the peculiar circumstance of this province, where a large portion of the land is entirely dependent on rain for its fertility. In good seasons it yields heavy crops, in bad ones next to nothing; and bad and indifferent seasons are more common than good ones. The ryots having no capital, and being an improvident race, would be ruined by one or two bad seasons, if they had to pay fixed money rents. There is again the method of storing rain-water and its economical use by means of *ahars* (reservoirs), *alangs* (embankments), *pynes* (water channels), and *bunds*, which are peculiar to Behar. Some crops are raised entirely by means of artificial irrigation. It is essential therefore that the landlord who alone has the means and power to keep a proper supply of water for the village cultivation, should have a joint interest with the ryot in the improvement of the soil. The ryoti tenures, which are peculiar to this province, seem to have originated in this circumstance. It may be that the nature of these tenures makes the ryot a little too dependent on the good-will of the landlord, but the landlord also is dependent in a great measure on the honest exertion of the ryot for the security of his rents. The interest of both are bound up together by the circumstances of the case and the nature of the tenures, and there does not appear to be anything intrinsically wrong in the system. The peculiar advantages which recommend it to the people of this province have to be only set off against any fancied evils, and it will be readily seen that customs which have originated in the necessities of the people, and which have prevailed from generation to generation, should not be hastily condemned or done away with 'by a stroke of the pen.'

The Commissioner of Patna, writing to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue on the 21st August 1858, said:—

"It may very probably be thought by those who have had no experience in this part of the country that payment in kind or the mixed payments which form the peculiarity of the *bhowli* tenures should be discouraged as much as possible, and should not be sanctioned by the legislature; but this would be a very great error. A large portion of the land of this province is entirely dependent on rain for its fertility. In good seasons it yields heavy crops, in bad ones next to nothing; and bad and indifferent seasons are more common than good ones. The ryots having no capital, and being an improvident race, would be ruined by one or two bad seasons, if they had to pay fixed money rents. Under a *bhowli* or *batai* system on the contrary, where the rent is proportioned to the produce, they can always rub on, and if they have not much opportunity of making money, they are tolerably secure from ruin. These tenures are therefore very popular, and when the landlord is a just man, are perfectly satisfactory to all parties. Any attempt to abolish them would create great discontent."

CHAPTER VII.

Sections 83—86.—Chapter VII is doubtless an improvement on the corresponding chapter of the Rent Commission Bill. Yet its provisions are objectionable on the ground that they disregard the existing customs in Behar. The habitable portion of a Behar agricultural village consists of the houses of cultivating ryots and the houses of one or two artizans or shop-keepers. The village site forms no portion of the ryots' holdings, and the cultivating ryots pay no rent for their homstead lands. Their houses in many cases are the property of the landlords, by whom they have been built, though they are repaired at the ryots' expense and labour during the period of their occupation. Neither agriculturists who pay no ground rent,

* One argument against a Metayer tenancy, is that in this case the Metayer's interest for 'improvement' is only half as much as that of a peasant proprietor; but if the interest of the *bhowli* tenant could be thus measured, there is that of the *bhowli* landlord which should also be taken into account; and in the interest of cultivation of Behar, it is a serious matter for consideration whether the landlord's interest should or should not be diminished. Mr. Mill thus replies to the arguments for commutation:—"If this transformation were effected, and no other change made in the Metayer's condition—if preserving all the other rights which usage ensures to him, he merely got rid of the landlord's claim to half the produce paying in lieu of it a moderate fixed rent,—he would be so far in a better position than at present, as the whole instead of only half the fruits of any improvement he made would now belong to himself; but even so, the benefit would not be without alloy; for a Metayer, though not himself a capitalist, has a capitalist for his partner, and has the use, in Italy at least, of a considerable capital, as is proved by the excellence of the farm buildings; and it is not probable that the land-owners would any longer consent to peril their movable property on the hazards of agricultural enterprise, when assured of a fixed money income without it." The remark would apply *verbatim*, if we were to substitute Behar for Italy and the *excellence of the gilandari system* for the excellence of *farm buildings*.

nor the non-agriculturists who pay only a nominal rent, are ejected out of their homesteads which they occupy from generation to generation. This is the custom in Behar—a custom which doubtless originated at a time when the present body of ryots were hired labourers working for the proprietory body. By changed circumstances of the times the hired labourers of the village have now acquired the status of ryots, and occupy a site in the village for a home by sufferance, but are never ejected out of the same. It would indeed be pretty hard to give them a transferable right in lands which they only hold through *sufferance*. The section also interferes with the right of contract.

CHAPTER VIII.

Sections 88—95.—The Committee have already shown that the effect of the provisions of this chapter will be to vest the right of occupancy in all the ryoti lands of a village in any person who may choose to hold it for agriculture or horticulture. A ryot once installed will be a ryot for all time to come. Holding ryoti land as a ryot has been defined. That definition does exclude a forcible inception of a tenancy against the landlord's will. Will a squatter, if he afterwards signifies his willingness to attorn to the landlord for rent, be a ryot under this chapter?

Section 89.—The limitation of five-sixteenths as the maximum of rent for the ordinary ryot as proposed by section 19 has been shown elsewhere to trench against the rights vested in the zemindar under permanent settlement. In Behar as well as in Bengal, as will be found on enquiry, the existing money rent in cases of long-standing tenancy is in many places more than a third. Now, when on the passing of the Bill, an ordinary ryot will be entitled to hold at this privileged rate of five-sixteenths, it may not be absurd to suppose that the old tenants will prefer relinquishing their holdings on the passing of the Bill, and taking as an ordinary ryot. A great disturbance of the economic condition of the village will thus be the consequence.

Section 91.—Why should the service of the notice be made at least six months before the expiry of the year? In lands producing only rubbi and bhadoi crops, the notice in this case, if the agricultural Fasli year be held to commence in Ashin, will have to be served before the agricultural prospects of the year are known. In Bengal, the year commencing in Bysakh, this would have to be done before either the khariff or rubbi has been reaped. Will not a notice of three months before the expiry of the year be sufficient? How is the service of notice to be made in this and other cases? Section 194 refers to summons in suits, and does not refer to notice.

Section 93.—"If in any suit instituted under Section 92, the defendant appears and agrees to pay the enhanced *rent demanded, his agreement shall be recorded, &c.*, and he shall be liable to pay from the commencement of the agricultural year next following the *date of the agreement.*" In this case the ryot who does not appear till after a suit has been instituted against him, will have the advantage over one who comes forward and agrees to an enhancement without suit under Section 92; for if the court cannot take up the case instituted only 10 weeks before the expiry of the year, or the summons cannot be served, and the agreement cannot thus be recorded before the end of the year, the ryot will have to pay the enhanced rent from the year next following the date of the agreement, whereas in the other case, the ryot will have to pay such enhanced rent a year earlier.

Section 93 (2) (*a*) *and* (*b*).—It should be taken into consideration that ten times the yearly increase of rent demanded *plus* such sum (if any) as may be declared by the decree to be payable to the ryot as compensation for improvement which is of no value to the landlord, and which in 99 cases out of 100 will not make any perceptible difference in the letting value of the land, will be more than the capitalized value of such increase.

Sections 93, 94, and 95.—The provisions of these sections will have the effect of vesting a right of occupancy in ordinary ryots in all ryoti lands in their holding. Perhaps it will be replied that these provisions are intended to have that effect.

Chapter IX, Section 96.—A ryot holding at fixed rate is a tenure-holder under clause (4), Section 3. Why should a deduction of thirty per cent. be made in his case. The deduction allowed under Section 21 in cases of enhancement of rent of tenure-holders is a profit not more than 30 per centum, or less than 10 per centum of the balance which remains after deducting from the gross rents payable to him the expenses of collecting their rents. Why should an absolute deduction of 30 per centum be allowed in cases of alluvion. The principle on which the deduction is made in both the cases is the same, and the rule should be the same also.

Section 100.—When a separate statement of account shall have to be given to the ryots at the end of the year under Section 101, it is not very necessary that the receipt given with every item of payment of rent should contain all the particulars mentioned in Section 100. With a stupid village patwari, who can scarcely be induced to move out of his traditionary groove, and whom, under law, the landlord is unable to remove, the introduction of such details for every item of receipt will simply hamper collections, while it will make the landlord liable to heavy fines and penalties for the omission of his village servants.

Section 100 (4) and Section 102 (2).—Why should there be a double penalty for one and the same offence.

Section 103 (*c*).—This sub-section is substantially the same as it was originally drafted by the Rent Commission. In their Note on the Bill of the Rent Commission the Committee of the Behar Landholders' Association said:—"The Bill provides that a tenant who entertains a *bonâ fide* doubt as to who is entitled to the rent payable by him may deposit such rent in the collectorate. The provision appears at first sight to be equitable, but it will ultimately lead to

endless complications. It makes the ryots the arbiters of all disputes regarding proprietary possession. One of the members of the Behar Rent Commission justly observes: "It would be practically placing the landlords at the mercy of their ryots. Some party, whether rightly or wrongly, must always be in possession, and the ryots are bound to pay him rent. By such payment they are also exonerated for all time to come, and the rightful claimants can only recover mesne profits from the person in possession to whom the ryots have paid. A dispute as regards the zemindari title is thus never prejudicial to the ryots' interest; it is sometimes advantageous to them. Greater indulgence is not required to be shown to them by the necessities of the case. It is positively mischievous with respect to the zemindars, for under this proposal, even in case of secure possession, the ryots, specially those inimically inclined or gained over by the zemindars' enemies, may trump out a dispute and cease to pay rent under the protection of law, thus possibly bringing on a sale of the zemindar's property, and his ultimate ruin." The Committee see no reason to change their opinion on the point.

Section 117.—Under custom, the landlord appoints *agoras* (watchmen) in *agarbattia* tenures (which literally means *watch* and *divide*) to watch the crops and his own interest in his share of the crops. One part of the *agora's* duty is to see that the ryots do not clandestinely take away the crops or any portion thereof to their own house without dividing it with the landlord. Will the appointment of the *agora* be an interference under this section? In *agarbattia* tenure no appraisement is made; but the landlord receives his share by actual division after the crop is harvested and reaped. If the ryot removes the crops, or a portion thereof, to his own house without paying the landlord's share, the landlord loses, and unless it is intended that in all cases of *agarbattia*, the landlord is to seek the assistance of the Collector under Section 112, even though the ryot might not have shown any disinclination to divide before the actual harvesting and reaping, surely some power ought to be left in him to watch his own interests. and he ought to be allowed to do this without making himself liable, on the complaint of the ryot, to the offence of criminal trespass. The property in the *battia* crops is under present custom as much in the zemindars as in ryots, though of course, under the definition of rent as given in the Bill, the landlord's share of the *battia* crops will be rent payable in kind by the tenant.

The present custom is that the ryot reaps and gathers the produce in the *khalihan* (threshing floor) where the division is made. Up to this point the *agoras* watch the landlord's interest, and the ryot cannot take the crops to his home or anywhere else, excepting to this *khalihan* (threshing floor). The complaint of so-called abuse of the power of distraint in Behar will be found in the main founded on a misconception of this custom—a custom which allows the landlord the exercise of certain right in defence of what he, under custom and may be under a rough notion of things, knows to be his property. If the concensus of opinion of the ryots could be taken, it would be found that of the two *danabundi* and *agarbatti*, the ryot likes the *agarbatti* best; and if Section 117 be allowed to stand as it is without some provision allowing the landlord to watch his own interests, the *agarbatti* will soon be a thing of the past.

It should at least be provided that this section will not apply to the landlords watching his interests through the *agora* (watch), and that the harvesting refers to the gathering of the crops in the *khalihan*.

Section 118.—Who is to be responsible for the safe custody of these *danabundi* papers? It has to be noted that some years ago, *jummabundis* used to be periodically lodged in the Collector's office in the Behar district These were big bundles of papers, ordinarily kept in the custody of some petty collectorate clerk (mohurir). Some cases of tampering came to light, and the whole of the papers were very properly burnt.

The provision would doubtless be unobjectionable if, at the same time with its enactment, some administrative reforms be introduced in the Collector's office giving protection to the zemindars against the systematic annoyances to which they and their people are subjected by the official underlings, when they have anything to do with them.

Section 119.—This section has been already commented on along with Section 89. In many cases, just as in the case of the confiscated estates of Shahabad sold in 1862-63, after a reassessment and at full price, Government revenue alone represents something like sixteenths of the actual produce. The zemindar has over and above this to pay cesses, collection charges, and *gilandazi* expenses. Where is all this to come from?

Section 121.—The same remark applies as to Section 20. The Collector here will override private contracts, not as in the other sections, for the protection of an ignorant ryot, but for the protection of the Government revenue as affected by a contract which is undoubtedly advantageous to the ryot.

CHAPTER X.

At present, agricultural improvements in a village are all effected by the proprietor. He pays for the *gilandazi* (earthworks) of a village, he constructs *bunds*, excavates *pynes*, makes arrangements for the storage of water in *ahars* (reservoirs), buys water for the rice crop where it is necessary to do so, digs tanks and wells, and keeps the old ones in repair, pays for the construction and periodical repair of the field and village channels, and also for all arrangements for the proper drainage of the land. He has frequent dispute with the neighbouring proprietors with respect to some one or other of these matters, and the cost of the litigation is entirely his. The annual expenditure on these heads is not inconsiderable. The sections of this chapter do not take all these existing facts into consideration, and appear to be intended to provide for circumstances which have not yet arisen. Cursory enquiry will satisfy that the improvements noted above, which are of the highest importance to the agricultural prosperity

of a Behar village, are not and cannot be effected by ryots. In the first place, they have not the means wherewith to carry on these improvements; in the second place, they are more or less of a *general* nature, affecting the agricultural prospects of a whole village; and the execution of works of this kind cannot be entrusted to individual interest of ryots. In thus providing for agricultural improvements by ryots in future, the Legislature forgets that it will materially discourage works of improvement on the part of landlords who alone have hitherto carried them on, and who alone have the ability and the means to carry them on.

With reference to the corresponding section, being Section 29 of the Rent Commission Bill, the Committee noted "Section 29, not being exhaustive, leaves to the option of every munsiff to say, what is improvement in each individual case. The determination of what is improvement in each individual case, and the amount of compensation to be awarded, will lead to bitter and harassing litigations." The same remark applies in all its force to the provisions of this section.

Section 126 (2).—In what portion of a holding will the dwelling-house and out-offices be erected? If a ryot choose to think that the whole of his holding should be converted to that purpose, will not the provision, as it stands at present, justify him in dong so? How can the erection of a dwelling-house be said to be an agricultural improvement?

Section 126 (3).—We will suppose that, contrary to their present method of proceeding, the ryots of a village combine and make a water excavation, called a *pyne*, at a cost of 500 rupees. The expenses when distributed among 50 of them will be 10 rupees a head, yet the benefit reaped with respect to each holding is to the extent of the full outlay of rupees 500: the work shall be, with respect to each of them under this sub-section, an improvement; but it is an improvement which, while if it were carried out for the individual holding, would cost 500 rupees, but when carried out for the benefit of a number of holdings costs each rupees 10. Rupees 10 ought therefore to be the measure of such improvement, yet if the sub-section stands as it is, the measure of improvement would be 500 rupees.

Section 127 (1) (2).—Nothing could be more mischievous than to make the landlords dependent on the good-will of the ryots in the matter of improvement of their village. The lands of a whole village can be converted by the judicious construction of *gilandazi* (earthworks) from *rabijar* (*rabbi* producing lands) into *salijar* (paddy-producing lands). A village can be saved from the effect of periodical droughts by the opening of a water channel (pyne). These are works of general utility to the agricultural population of the whole village, and while ultimately relating to, and benefiting individual holdings benefit the whole village. At present the landlords carry on these works at their own expense in lands for which they get no rents, and which do not form a part of ryot's holding. The proposed law will make the permission of the ryot necessary for the landlord executing works of this kind, and the reason of the rule as stated elsewhere is that the ryot having a greater interest in the improvement of the land should have a preferential right to make such improvements. Undoubtedly the proposed Bill, when passed into law, will make the ryot's interests in his individual holding greater; but after all it will be nothing as compared with the interest of the landlord as the rent receiver of the entire village; yet even in respect of improvement, the interest of the rent receiver of an entire estate, possibly comprising a number of villages, is sought to be subordinated to the interest of an occupancy ryot, the holder, say, of a few bigahs of lands. Provisions of this kind will doubtless tend to diminish the prestige of the zemindars in the eyes of the people; but effects of that kind may not be desirable on the score of other interests than that of the zemindar alone.

Section 128.—Is there any reason to allow an ordinary ryot, possibly a mere squatter, to build a house on a part of his holding, nay in the whole, without the landlord's permission except it be to give him a hold on the lands which he had come to cultivate for a year or so? The provisions of this section, and generally of the other sections of this chapter will simply serve to irritate the feelings of the landlords without conferring any corresponding benefit on the ryot or anybody. In the case referred to in this section, it will generally happen that the holding will be situate in a part of the village where it is not possible to erect a dwelling-house. In Behar, the only habitable part of a village, as has been noted before, is the village Dhi which does not form a part of the holding of any ryot.

Section 129 (4).—Cases of improvements of this nature will be scarcely found; yet the Act will have an objectionally retrospective effect. But though improvements by ryots have been, as a matter of fact, *nil*, false claims for compensations will, we may rest assured, be not few.

Section 133.—In a country where even between two neighbouring zemindaries the boundary mark is a mere ridge of earth, and when the field demarcations are periodically destroyed after each flood, the limit of 10 years before a fresh measurement of the lands of an estate can be made, appears to be unnecessarily long.

Encroachments are brought to light by measurements of this kind, and after a lapse of years a good claim is barred as against a trespasser.

It is necessary again to measure, almost annually, the alluvial accretions to an estate, if there be any, and to determine in what quantity of the accreted lands alluvial deposits have been formed. If 10 years' limit of enhancement is not to be made applicable to cases of this nature, it will be necessary also to give a right of measurement to landlords in such cases oftener than once in every 10 years. The circumstances of the case would clearly demand this.

Section 141.—Is not this section inconsistent with the provisions of Section 56? Under this section if a landlord buys an occupancy holding, the occupancy holding shall be presumed to be merged in the interest of the landlord and extinguished during the period of 3 months

mentioned in sub-section (2) unless the landlord proves that he has not intended it to be merged, and after the expiration of that period, be deemed to be so merged and extinguished, unless within that period the person executes an instrument declaring his intention that a merger shall not take place, &c. Now, if nothing of the kind be done, the interest of the tenant shall be effectually merged and extinguished in that of the landlord, to wit, in the case supposed, the occupancy right shall cease to exist; yet Section 56 provides that any person thereafter, *i.e.* (after the merger and extinguishment have once effectually taken place), holding the land as a ryot shall have a right of occupancy in respect of it.

Section 142.—With reference to the similar provision of the Bill of the Rent Commission, Babu Peary Mohan Mukerjee, one of the Commissioners, wrote as follows:—

"The necessity for investing the district courts with the power of appointing a manager for the management of an estate or tenure held by two or more co-parceners, when even a single ryot, or the owner of an infinitesimal share, chooses to apply for such an appointment, has not been made out. The decision recently passed by a full bench of the High Court, recognizing the power of every co-parcener to have his share of the rent apportioned by a suit in court, will remove all sources of annoyances to the ryots of joint estates and tenures, and of disputes among the co-parceners themselves. The proposal for appointment of managers by court is therefore uncalled for. A similar proposition started at the time of Sir George Campbell was looked upon with disfavour by the executive and judicial officers who were consulted about it, and it was abandoned after a thorough discussion of its merits and demerits. It is certainly not desirable that the mediæval passion for superseding the independent conduct of every man's affair by officious legislation in matters relating to land should be revived."

The Committee of the Behar Landholders' Association in their note said:—

"It is to be feared that in districts where the Judges may like to exercise a little patronage by appointing managers, the management of estates will in most cases in such districts pass out of the hands of their lawful owners."

Sections 65, 66, and 67.—The effect of these provisions will be to reduce the real owners to the position of mere annuitants upon their estates. The managers cannot have that interest in the management and improvement of the estates which those personally interested can have; and as it is very essential to the agricultural prospects of this province, specially in estates where *bhowli* tenure abounds, and where it is necessary at seasons for landlords to advance money out of their pockets to the ryots for the successful prosecution of agricultural industry, that such personal interest should be taken, it is to be feared that agriculture would suffer. Nor is it very likely that the managers appointed by the district courts will prove better men than the zemindari village amlahs; the salary which could be given is not likely to tempt a first class set of men, and the men that would ordinarily be appointed as managers carrying with them the authority of the district courts, will, when venal, be not satisfied with the paltry douceurs now received by the patwaris from the ryots. There will again be no check to their corruption and rapacity on the spot, as they will be placed above the control of the landlords, and will be only removeable by the orders of the district courts.

Are not the words (*a*) "inconvenience to the public," or (*b*) "injury to private right" very vague? If the section is to be retained at all, some attempt ought to be made to specify the circumstances which would come under these general and vague expressions.

CHAPTER XI.

There is no reference to existing rates of rent—not a single section in the chapter under which the revenue officer is enjoined to determine the rates paid, and to make this the basis of his settlement. There will be nothing to prevent revenue officers in exercise of the extraordinary powers given to them under this chapter, to reduce existing rates, and thus the rent-roll of a whole village. As such the provisions of this chapter are very dangerous to the interest of the zemindars. If the chapter is to be retained at all, it should be distinctly laid down that the Collector should in no case reduce the existing jummabandi of a village.

CHAPTER XII.

Perhaps the objections noted to the preceding chapter will apply in a greater degree to the provisions of Chapter XII. Whole estates will be in a ferment of litigation after one of these proceedings, and the result will be the impoverishment and possibly the utter ruin o both landiords and tenants.

CHAPTER XIII.

Section 166.—It is sought to make distraint somewhat of the nature of attachment before judgment, and as such the power of distraint will lose all its value. The power has been exercised by the zemindars from time immemorial. It is not, as some suppose, an offshoot of the English law, but rather an offshoot of the power which under the Hindu law, creditors exercised to compel their debtors to make payment of their dues. Even now, the power prevails in the native State of Nepal, thus clearly indicating that it is not one of foreign, but of native origin. The earlier regulations recognized this power, and it is the only one yet remaining in the hands of zemindars to compel payment of rent. The limiting it in the way proposed appears to the Committee to be open to the following objections:—

1*st.*—The power of distraint is only valuable because its action is prompt and swift, Recourse to a distant court for taking the initiative in distraint cases reduces the power to *nil.*

2nd.—Distraint thus becomes mere attachment before judgment, leaving to the ryot the power of taking away all his crops before the distraint order reaches the village.

3rd.—As a matter of fact, the power is very seldom exercised; but its existence in the present form serves as an incentive to the ryots to make payments of rents with due promptness.

Section 167 (2).—The procedure under Section 168 is a very short one; and why should applications for distraint in ordinary cases require the court-fee payable in a suit instituted for the recovery of the arrear therein claimed? The proceeding will assume the form of a regular suit only in cases of contest, and a court-fee may be required with some show of reason in a distraint proceeding when the case has assumed that complexion. It is respectfully submitted here in connection with this matter, that the incidence of equality is not a prominent feature of the court-fee law. The proprietor has to pay an *ad valorem* fee of 7½ per cent. on the valuation of an estate at ten times the Government revenue when he has to sue for possession. The tenure-holder or the occupancy tenant will have to pay this *ad valorem* fee on a year's rent when he brings a suit against the landlord for possession of his holding, and the landlord has to pay the same *ad valorem* fee when he sues for a year's rent.

Section 166 (1).—Will a petition under Section 166 be allowed by a part-owner of an estate, the extent of whose interest in respect of which the arrear is due has been registered under the provision of the Bengal Land Registration Act, 1876? If so, provision ought to be made for the protection of the interest of the other proprietors.

Section 186.—If the section be allowed to stand as it is, it will make the life of a zemindar one of constant peril. When the offence is one of simple omission or of passive acquiescence in certain proceedings of another, the imposition of a fine alone ought to be held sufficient. In the cognate case under Section 155 of the Indian Penal Code, fine is the only punishment provided.

Section 187.—The circumstances under which the local Government would be empowered to suspend the provisions of Sections 166 to 184 in any local area should be clearly laid down by the Legislature.

Section 191.—Sections 121 to 127 (both inclusive), 191 to 194 (both inclusive), of the Civil Procedure Code shorten procedure, and there is no reason why they shall not apply in rent suits, specially in suits to recover possession of the land either by the landlords or the tenant.

Section 198 (*b*).—As finality is to be given to decrees and orders (which doubtless will include decrees and orders in appeal) of Judges and Subordinate Judges as in suits in which the amount does not exceed Rs. 100, it is not very necessary or desirable that finality should also be given to the decrees or orders of Munsiffs in suits in which the amount claimed does not exceed Rs. 50.

Section 199.—It will be indeed very hard if, having instituted a suit for his rent, the landlord is driven to another suit by the nature of the ryot's defence. Yet Section 169, clause (3), read together with the provisions of Section 106, would point to this. In place of clause (3) the provisions should be as follows:—"When a deposit has been made under clause (2), a summons shall be served on the person who, the ryot alleges, is entitled to the rent, and if he appears and contests plaintiff's right to the receipt of the rent, the court shall proceed to try the suit as one between him and the plaintiff, and if he does not appear when summoned, the amount of deposit shall be made over to the plaintiff.

There shall be a further decree for costs as against the defendant."

Section 201.—"The agricultural year next following" and "agricultural year next but one following" are perhaps intended to mean "agricultural year" following the date of the institution of the suit, and not the agricultural year following the date of the decree. Under the old law notice of a month or so before the end of the agricultural year was sufficient to entitle the plaintiff to enhanced rent from the beginning of the year, if he instituted his suit for enhanced rent within four months from the commencement of the year. There is no reason why the rule should be otherwise now.

Section 201 (*clause 2*).—Why should discretion be again left to the court to fix the date from which any such decree shall take effect. Is not the time fixed by clause 1 long enough during which the landlord will be deprived of his just dues? It would to some extent be better if clause 1 was omitted, and the matter left entirely to the discretion of the court; but when such discretion is thus meant to be fettered and restricted on behalf of the ryot, its exercise should not be allowed to the prejudice of the landlord.

Section 202.—Is entirely new. What will be 'the reasonable time' under this section? When it is proposed to vest in courts the power of not allowing a forfeiture, but to decree compensation in lieu, why should a request within a reasonable time to the ryot, on the part of the landlord, to remedy the wrong, be again made a condition precedent to the entertainment of the suit. Our courts were apt to be technical in the matter of the notice in enhancement suits, and it is seriously to be apprehended that they would be very technical in the matter of 'request' and 'reasonable time' also. It is at best a matter to be looked into in awarding costs of the suit.

Section 202 (*3*).—It is proposed to vest, by this clause, in the court executing the decree the power to change the nature of the decree. When will the decree become final?

Sections 203 & 204.—Is there any reason, why, when the landlord has made out a proper case for ejectment, the tenant should be treated better than a trespasser or a wrong-doer? The wrong-doer is not entitled to take away the growing crops, but is liable to make good to the party entitled to possession for all mesne profits of the period during which he has kept the rightful owner out of possession.

CHAPTER XV

Does not seem to provide for a case, when the decree for rent has been obtained by a part-owner of an estate, collecting the rent separately for his share with the ryot's consent. There

is no provision in the Bill forbidding a suit of the kind, or a decree being obtained under it. In execution of a decree of this kind, will the part-proprietor be entitled to put up to sale the whole tenure, or holding, and, if so, what steps will be taken to protect the interest of the other co-sharers? Section 216 should provide for a case of the kind, and the sale proceeds should not be allowed to pass out of the hands of the court until the other co-sharers receive notice, and they have been paid out all their dues.

PART II.

(1) In this part of the note the Committee proposes to examine the changes made by the Bill with respect to the three main questions of fixity of tenure, fair rent, and freedom of sale, showing by the way how they are inconsistent with the rights of zemindars, as guaranteed to them by the permanent settlement.

(2) To begin with the question of fair rent. It is proposed to limit the enhancement of money rent to one-fifth of the estimated annual value of the produce of land in staple crops in cases of occupancy holdings; to five-sixteenths of such value in cases of ordinary ryot, *i.e.*, ryots not having rights of occupancy; and to one-half the produce in cases of *bhowli* tenures. Viewed in the interests of the ryots, these changes are calculated to do them good; but the objections against these limitations are, that they are so much taken away from the sum of zemindari rights to be given away to ryots.

(3) If one was to examine the point in the light of the earlier regulations, he would find that the zemindars are at least entitled to receive their rents on the pergunnah rates, and this pergunnah rate, if it had been settled from time to time on the principle on which alone the pergunnah rates were determined at the date of the permanent settlement, instead of being, as some suppose, lower than the rates prevalent now, would have been considerably higher.

(4) It is admitted on all hands that, previous to the permanent settlement, the produce of every bigah of land used to be divided in certain shares between the State, the zemindar, and the actual cultivator. The State and the zemindar were entitled to their share no sooner a bigah of land came under cultivation.

(5) One effect of the permanent settlement was to transfer absolutely and for ever, in consideration of a fixed money rent or revenue, the State share of the produce to the zemindars who from that time became entitled to the State share *plus* his own share of the produce of every bigah of land.

(6) The pergunnah rate referred to in the regulations cannot therefore be less than a rate that would adequately represent the State share of the produce, *plus* the zemindar's own before the date of the permanent settlement.

(7) It will be found from the 5th Report, page 16, that this State share of the produce at or about the date of the permanent settlement was three-fifths, the ryot getting only two-fifths.

There are other authorities to show that the State share alone was never, for some centuries preceding the permanent settlement, less than half. The authorities are given below for easy reference—

"In the extensive plains of India, a large proportion, estimated, in the Company's provinces, at one-third by Lord Cornwallis, at one-half by others, and by some at two-thirds, of lands capable of cultivation lies waste, and probably was never otherwise. It became, therefore, of importance to native Governments, whose principal financial resource was the land revenue, to provide that, as the population and cultivation should increase, the State might derive its proportion of advantages resulting from this progressive augmentation. * * * This rule is traceable as a general principle through every part of the empire which has yet come under the British dominion, and undoubtedly had its origin in times anterior to the entry of the Mahomedans in India. By this rule the produce of the land, whether taken in kind or estimated in money, was understood to be shared in distinct proportions between the cultivators and Government. The shares varied when the land was recently cleared, and required extraordinary labour; but when it was fully settled and productive, the cultivator had about two-fifths and Government the remainder." (5th Report, page 16.)

"The assessment of Akbar is estimated by Abul Fazal at one-third, and by other authorities at one-fourth of the gross produce; but it was undoubtedly higher than either of these rates, for, had it not been so, enough would have remained to the ryot after defraying all expenses to render the land private property; and as this did not take place, we may be certain that the nominal one-third or one-fourth was nearly one-half. This seems to have been the opinion of Aurungzebe, for he directs that no more than one-half of the crop shall be taken from the ryot; when the crop has suffered injury, such remission shall be made as may have been one-half of what the crop might have been: and that when one ryot dies, and another occupies his land, the rent should be reduced, if more than one-half of the produce, and raised, if less than a third. It is evident, therefore, that Aurungzebe thought that one-half was in general enough for the ryot, and that he ought in no case to have two-thirds." (Minute of Sir Thomas Munro, dated 15th August 1807, quoted in the Zemindari Settlement, vol. I, page 99.)

"Sir George Campbell says the State, before British rule, took from one-fourth to one-half of the gross produce—one-third and one-fifth being the most common proportions. The 5th Report puts the State proportion at three-fifths in fully settled land, leaving the cultivator two-fifths. * * * Mr. Shore gives two different opinions. His earlier opinion is that Government took one-third; but his later opinion puts the Government share at from one-half to three-fifths. Mr. Elphinstone says that one-third is a moderate assessment, and that the full share is one-half." (Tagore Law Lectures for 1874-75, pages 185-86). Sir Thomas Munro, in the minute quoted above, speaking of ceded districts and of the Deccan, says:—"The mode of assessment in the ceded districts and in the Deccan still limits the share of the ryots to those proportions (two-thirds), but makes it commonly much nearer to one-half than two-thirds of the produce."

(8) In *bhowli* tenure, the rate even at the present day is never less than half, but it sometimes is 9 annas out of 16 annas of the produce. At the time of the permanent settlement, it appears that, in the district of Sarun at least, the share was 1 maund 22½ seers out of an estimated produce of two maunds (*vide* Statistical Reporter, vol. XI, page 301.)

(9) To limit the zemindar's rent to anything less than the State share of the produce, *plus* the share which the zemindar claimed as his own before the permanent settlement, whether these shares be three-fifths or any other proportion of the produce, would be not only arbitrary but unjust, and, it is respectfully submitted, an infringement of the permanent settlement.

(10) It will be perhaps said that these limitations proposed do not touch existing rates, and leave the zemindars in the enjoyment of his present profits. It is clear, however, that the existing rates are not respected in all cases. When the maximum of rent paid in kind is fixed at one-half (*vide* Section 81), it proposes to reduce the zemindar's existing rate in *bhowli* tenures from nine-sixteenths to one-half. Nine annas out of 16 annas in both *danabundi* and *agarbattia* tenures is a very common rate in the districts of Behar, and the proposed law, by reducing such rates, will at once bring down the amount of zemindari profit in such cases. There are vast estates, both in the districts of Gya and Patna, where these kinds of tenures prevail, and the enforcement of the law will at once bring down the profits by a full sixteenth.

(11) Nor is it sufficient to say that these limitations do not touch existing rates, or bring down existing profits, but that they will only apply in future to cases when the rates are exorbitantly high. It is clear from what has been submitted before that no rates can be legally said to be exorbitant, so long as it is lower than the State share of the produce, *plus* the zemindar's share. The rights guaranteed to the zemindars by the permanent settlement were not to last for a century, but for all time to come, and it is a clear interference with such rights to limit them to their present income for all time to come, when, if the limits were not thus imposed, they would be entitled to more.

(12) The reservation of power to enact laws for the protection and welfare of ryots cannot, it is respectfully submitted, cover a case where the object is to curtail a part of the zemindars' rights to be given away to ryots. If a measure like this is required for the welfare of the ryots, it should not be carried out at the expense of the zemindars alone. They should at least get proper compensation for what is thus taken away from them. The selling value of zemindari lands, in Behar, is 25 to 33 years' purchase, *i.e.*, investment in lands is dearer than in Government securities. Such investments are then only made in hopes of prospective increase. It need not be said that the limits proposed will be at once ruinous to the individuals who have thus invested; and their number cannot be small.

(13) It will again be perhaps urged that, though theoretically the zemindars were entitled to the State share, *plus* their own share, the total which could not be less than *three-fifths* of the produce of every bigah of land, they have always practically contented themselves with a smaller share. This, which in the face of a growing demand for land, should be taken as an indication of the good-will of the zemindars to their ryots, ought not surely to be pressed as an argument against them. The fact shows further that it were better to leave things to themselves than to try to regulate them by law.

(14) One other objection will perhaps be raised. It will be said that at the date of the permanent settlement, the State share had been commuted to money. But the question is—how was this commutation made? Was it not on a consideration of the actual produce of the land? and is it not a fact that in several Behar zemindaris, at the date of the permanent settlement, rent used to be collected in kind? and it was with reference to the gross produce thus collected that the assessment was made.

(15) Next as to the question of fixity of tenure. Lands are classed under the Bill as ryoti and *khamar*, and occupancy rights are proposed to be given to all settled ryots with respect to all ryoti lands under their cultivation. A settled ryot is defined to be a ryot who has held ryoti lands in a village or estate for 12 years. The ryot will get occupancy rights with respect to khamar lands also, if he holds them for 12 years. (*Vide* Sections 45, 47, and 49 of the Bengal Tenancy Bill.) The ryot will not contract himself out of occupancy rights, nor will any such contract be binding.

These sections will doubtless benefit ryots, as it would doubtless benefit them if the Government were to pay them 500 rupees a-piece out of the Government treasury. As between the zemindar and the ryots, the law is entirely one-sided and in favour of the ryots.

(16) It is needless to recapitulate the arguments showing how this trenches upon the rights of zemindars as guaranteed to them by the permanent settlement. It confers occupancy rights upon all the existing ryots—*piekast* and *khodkast* alike. Whereas the restrictions, *as regards ryots*, with respect to the landlord's power of letting out lands to whomsoever he pleased, as vested in him by Section 52 of Regulation VIII of 1793, referred only to *khodkast* ryots (Section 60), and to certain existing leases, till the expiry of the term of these leases.

(17) It is plain, however, from the express wording of Section 60, which protects the right of *khodkast* ryot, that its provisions were not made applicable to Behar.

(18) The proposed Bill, however, following the precedent set before by Act X of 1859, do not observe any such distinction between *khodkast* and *piekast* (Dahis and Pahis of Behar), though of course the enactment of Act X of 1859 has been found fault with on the ground that it did a great wrong to the general body of *khodkast* ryots.

(19) The introduction in an extensive scale of a great body of *piekast* ryots, who will naturally be under the influence of men in whose estates they live, and these men, sometimes the landlord's enemies, will be a source of immense deal of trouble to the landlord in whose estates these *piekast* ryots will come to have a transferable right of occupancy by the operation of the law.

(20) The landlord has nothing to gain by ejecting a good ryot, from whom he punctually gets his rents, yet he can for good reasons complain of an unwarrantable extension of occupancy rights, as it proposed to be done by the Bill.

(21) It is thought that occupancy rights, even as they were under Act X of 1859, were valuable properties, and any law which would at once vest in the mass of ryots the occupancy right proposed to be made much more valuable under the Bill, will be depriving the landlords of the letting value of such occupancy rights.

(22) No statistics are available to show to what extent occupancy rights have accrued to ryots; reliance was made in the course of debate on some guesses. But whatever may be the probative force of such guesses, it cannot be denied that a great body of ryots, from whatever circumstances this may be owing, are yet tenants-at-will, while others are so, if not with respect to all, but a part of their present holdings; and the effect of the change will be to vest at once to these ryots a right of occupancy.

(23) Some vague and indefinite customs are referred to in justification of this extension of occupancy rights, but what this custom is, nobody has yet cared to define, and if it points to anything, it points to residence in a village, to membership in a village community, as conditions for the acquisition of certain privileges.

(24) Both these points are lost sight of in the present attempt to extend occupancy rights, and it may be doubted whether in this unwarrantable extension of occupancy rights, the Legislature in 1883 is not perpetrating in a stronger degree the injustice and wrong alleged to have been done to the *khodkast* ryots in 1859.

(25) It is not true that the extension of the right of occupancy deprives the landlord merely of his power of eviction, but, as we have seen, deprives him of the letting value of such occupancy rights. Even a power of eviction, though not of much use in itself, has a value in another way. Acting as a *terrorem*, it induces the most unpunctual of ryots to make punctual payments of their rents.

(26) If fixity of tenure, as proposed by the Bill, is calculated to tell against the interest of the zemindars, it is this fixity of tenure, coupled with its incidence of freedom of sale, that it is to be feared, will tell strongly against the interest of the landlords and tenants alike, more specially of the unthrifty tenants of Behar.

(27) It is the fashion to ridicule prophecies of this kind. The unthriftiness of some classes of Behar ryots is, however, a fact; the extravagant scale of their marriage expenses is also a fact; and with a valuable right in their right of occupancy, mahajuns will be found in their neighbourhood too ready to supply them the money wherewith to make an extra show. It is easy to divine that the ryots sold out of their holdings and homes will be the result of the care now bestowed on them.

(28) Under the Bill, the zemindars, with regard to new tenancies, will only be a threeanna proprietor of the land, the ryots thirteen-anna proprietor of the same, and with an ignorant class of men, to whom knowledge of laws and benefits conferred on them by these laws permeate only, if it permeates at all, years after the laws have been in force, speculators will not be wanting who will think it a nice investment to go about villages to induce them to sell their rights, and thus instal themselves in a thirteen-anna pucka zemindari, the creation of the law of 1883 as distinct from the zemindaris of 1793.

(29) In these newly-created zemindaries, for the present at least, all sorts of protection will be denied to under-ryots; no rights of occupancy will accrue to them, the veritable cultivators, and no restrictions will be imposed on the freedom of contract of those who will be their landlords.

(30) If thicadari system is an evil in Behar, this occupancy right ryot zemindari system will be worse.

(31) It will be perhaps replied that if it comes to this pass, the Legislature will again interfere to prevent the growth of the evil. This is true, but does it behove an enlightened and well-meaning Legislature to take all this risk for some possible good to the ryots? An experiment at least might very well be tried, and fixity of tenure coupled with freedom of sale granted to ryots of khas mehal estates, and the working watched for a few years before it is thought expedient to extend such rights *en masse* to the present body of Bengal ryots.

(32) Perhaps it will be said that transferability of occupancy rights is growing day by day more general. The statistics are not available to the public. Such of them as were published in the Rent Commission report do not all appear to relate to occupancy rights, and stray cases here and there do not prove or establish a general custom. If such a custom has grown up, we may rest assured that it will take care of itself; the Indians are very tenacious of their customs.

(33) As to the right of pre-emption given to the zemindars, it is to be observed that they will have to pay for the fancy of choosing their ryots. Sometimes this choosing is of absolute necessity to ward off an evil; but it will be an evil to which the zemindars will be made subject under the Bill proposed, and it is somewhat in the nature of a double injury to bring on him an evil, and then to tell him to ward it off by paying for the purchase of a right which is of no possible advantage to himself, excepting it be that, contrary to their present habit and mode of management, the zemindars in time to come think of introducing the English system of farming in such bought-up occupancy rights of ryots which comes to him under the pre-emption clauses. Whether this again will be for the good of ryots is a point that has yet to be seen.

As the Bill stands at present, no sooner after his purchase, the zemindar inducts a ryot in such bought-up tenure, such ryot will have a right of occupancy accruing to him in the land.

Statement of the confiscated estates of late Koar Singh in Zillah Shahabad.

1	2				3					4		5
	THE AREA AND AVERAGE RATE, AND THE JUMMA ASSESSED BY THE DEPUTY COLLECTOR, UNDER SECTION 12, REGULATION VII OF 1822, FOUND BY JUMMABUNDI PAPERS.				PROCEEDINGS HELD UNDER SECTION 5 OF REGULATION VII OF 1822.					PROCEEDINGS OF SALE.		
NAME OF THE MOUZAHS.	Classification of land.	Area.	Average rate.	Jumma.	Collection according to the jumma assessed.	Deduction of village expenses calculated at the rate of 10 per cent.		Deduction of gilandazi expenses and re-collection expenses calculated at the rate of 15 per cent.	Balance showing the Government revenue.	Date of sale.	Purchase money.	REMARKS.
		B. C. S.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.		R a. p.	
Gobind Dehri, pergunnah Pero, zillah Shahabad.	Nukdi	66 9 4	2 12 3	193 10 9	800 14 1	80 1 4	720 12 9	108 1 9	622 11 0	7-4-62	7,100 0 0	Government revenue, excluding cesses, is Rs. 622-11 only.
	Bhowli	314 18 17	1 13 7	682 2 9								
	Parti jadid (new)	35 1 5	0 6 0	17 8 9								
	Garden	7 9 14	1 0 0	7 7 10								
		423 19 1		800 14 1								
Guburooa, pergunnah Pero.	Nukdi	78 12 12	3 1 8	237 14 0	1,043 4 3	104 5 0	938 15 3	140 13 3	798 2 0	5-5-63	6,800 0 0	Government revenue, including cesses, Rs. 810.
	Bhowli	372 15 11	2 1 1	770 13 0								
	Parti (old)	57 2 4	0 2 0	7 2 3								
	Garden	27 8 12	1 0 0	27 7 0								
		533 18 19		1,043 4 3								
	Lakhraj	8 19 11										
	Gair momkin, unculturable	93 17 18										
		636 16 8										
Maboosary, pergunnah Pero.	Cultivated land	318 9 8	2 0 0	636 15 0	738 4 8	73 13 3	664 7 5	99 10 8	564 12 9	25-6-61	1,100 0 0	Government revenue, including cesses, Rs. 630 only.
	Nukdi and Bhowli parti, new	126 18 6	0 12 0	95 3 0								
	Parti, old, culturable	24 13 5	0 4 0	6 2 8								
		470 0 19		738 4 8								
	Lakhraj	4 18 5										
		474 19 4										
Khore Dibro, pergunnah Pero.	Nukdi	450 3 15	1 9 6	717 6 9	951 12 9	95 2 9	856 10 0	128 6 0	728 4 0	7-4-62	7,250 0 0	Government revenue, including cesses, Rs. 737.
	Bhowli	256 1 15	0 13 2	201 2 9								
	Old parti	121 17 5	0 2 0	15 3 8								
	Garden	16 16 2	1 0 0	16 13 0								
	Parti, new	1 3 5	1 0 0	1 2 7								
		846 2 4		951 12 9								
	Gair momkin (unculturable)	45 14 6¾										
	Lakhraj	4 0 18¼										
		895 17 9										

THE AREA AND AVERAGE RATE, AND THE JUMMA ASSESSED BY THE DEPUTY COLLECTOR, UNDER SECTION 12, REGULATION VII OF 1822, FOUND JUMMABUNDI PAPERS.

1	2							3						4		5
														PROCEEDINGS OF SALE.		
NAME OF THE MOUZAMS.	Classification of land.			Area.			Average rate.	Jumma.	Collection according to the jumma assessed.	Deduction of village expenses and remuneration calculated at the rate of 10 per cent.	Balance.	Deduction of gumashtagi expenses and remuneration calculated at the rate of 10 per cent.	Balance showing the Government revenue.	Date of sale.	Purchase money.	REMARKS.
				B. C. S.			R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.		R a. p.	
Dhadis, pergunnah Pero.	Nukdi	..	..	168 1 11			1 11 0	193 2 3	474 10 0	47 8 0	427 2 0	64 2 0	363 0 0	20-5-64	400 0 0	Government revenue, including cesses, Rs. 375.
	Bhowli	..	..	161 13 9			1 11 0	279 13 3								
	Parti, new	..	..	269 15 1			1 0 0	454 15 6								
	Parti, kadim	..	..	7 12 9			1 0 0	7 10 0								
				96 4 3			0 2 0	13 0 6								
				373 11 13				474 10 0								
	Lahrj	..	..	3 0 24												
	Gair mumkin	..	..	9 2 16												
				385 14 113												
Kasmaria, pergunnah Pero.	Mateor	..	..	316 6 14			2 0 0	632 11 0	1,001 0 0	10 0 0	900 0 0	135 0 0	766 0 0	7-11-62	11,100 0 0	Government revenue, including cesses, Rs. 776.
	Dorns	..	..	219 1 15			1 8 0	326 10 0								
	Jadid parti	..	..	23 18 14			0 8 0	12 0 0								
	Parti, kadim	..	..	110 12 113			0 4 0	27 11 0								
				669 19 2				1,001 0 0								
	Jagar gorait	..	..	3 6 14												
				673 5 34												
Dhamama, pergunnah Pero.	Nukdi	..	..	379 5 17			2 3 10	849 7 6	895 1 3	89 8 2	805 9 1	120 13 11	684 11 2	20-5-64	12,800 0 0	Government revenue Rs. 725, including sarak and dak cesses.
	Bhowli	..	..	64 4 2			0 11 4	45 9 9								
				443 9 19				895 1 3								
Karma, pergunnah Pero	Nukdi	..	..	864 8 14			1 12 0	1,495 4 3	2,369 12 0	238 15 7	2,150 12 5	322 9 10	1,828 2 7	7-3-62	12,600 0 0	Government revenue, including cesses, Rs. 1,828-2.
	Bhowli	..	..	562 5 11			1 4 0	702 13 6								
	Garden	..	..	70 19 8			2 0 0	141 15 0								
	Jungle	..	..	164 10 0			0 4 0 0	41 2 0								
	Parti, jadid	..	..	10 14 19			0 4 0 0	2 11 0								
	Parti, kadim, culturable	..	..	47 3 10			0 2 0	5 14 3								
				1,770 2 2				2,369 12 0								
Umroha, pergunnah Pero.	Nukdi	..	..	91 8 15			2 3 8	203 5 3	531 9 9	53 2 7	478 7 2	71 12 2	406 11 0			
	Bhowli	..	..	307 7 1			1 0 9	323 9 6								
	Parti, old	..	..	7 17 9			0 2 0	0 15 9								
	Garden	..	..	9 9 10			0 8 0	4 11 3								
				416 2 16				531 9 9								
	Lakhraj	..	..	9 18 6												
	Gair mumkin	..	..	59 17 7												
				485 18 9												

APPENDIX.

Proceedings of an extraordinary meeting of the Behar Landholders' Association to consider the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

An influential meeting of the landholders of Behar was held at the Sujjubaug House of His Highness the Maharajah of Durbhangah at 6 P. M. on the 28th May 1882. There were present:—H. H. the Maharajah of Durbhangah, H. H. the Maharajah of Doomraon, H. H. the Maharajah of Hutwa, Syed Lutf Ali Khan, C. I. E., the Agent of Her Highness the Maharani of Tikari, the agent of Babu Run Bahadur Sinha of Tikari, Syed Fuzlul Rahaman, Kazi Reza Hossein, Syed Fuzul Imam, Rai Jai Prokash Lal Bahadur, the Hon'ble Hurbanas Sahai, the agent of Rai Mahabir Prashad of Dildargunge, Chupra, the agent of Babu Deo Kumar Sinha, the Dewan of Surajpura, Wahid Ali Khan of Durbhangah, Syed Bahadur Ali Khan, Barh, Babu Saligram Sinha, Shahabad, Moulvi Mahomed Hossein, Patna, Shah Mehdi Hossein, Barh, Babus Harpat Narain, Patna, Jagdev Sinha, Patna, Sunow Lal, Patna, Syed Willayet Hossein *alias* Medhi Newab, Babu Bhuboneshwar Dutta, Maharaj Kuor Narendra Protap Sahi of Hutwa, Babu Sheo Protap Narain Lal, Chupra, Usuf Hossein Khan, Patna, Moulvi Mahomed Ishak, Durbhangah, Babu Govind Narain, Bhagulpore, Moulvi Mazhar Imam, Gya, Munshi Janki Sahai, Patna, Babus Mohesh Narain, Bhagulpore, Badri Narain, Bhagulpore, Hardayal Sinha, Buxar Sub-Division, Babu Ram Sarun Sinha, Patna, Shaikh Basol Ullah, Mooktear, Zillah Sarun, Babus Deo Kumar Sinha, Sarun, Bishun Sinha, Shahabad, Shaikh Jean (for himself) and for Wali-ul Hossein, Patna and Gya, Moulvi Amir Haidar, Patna, Babus Sooraz Koomar, Patna, Kali Charan Sinha, Patna, Gajadhar Pershad, Patna, Moulvi Athar Hossein, Patna and Gya, Moulvi Zeauldin, Patna and Monghyr, Shaikh, Alahi Baksh, Patna and Gya, Moulvi Hamid Ashref, Patna, Gya and Shahabad, Moulvi Mahomed Taki Khan, Patna, Monghyr, Mozufferpore, and Bhagulpore, Babus Kuldip Shahai, Patna, Sree Kishen Lal, Patna, Nawab Sarfray Hossein, Patna, Peari Saheb, Patna, Hakim Mahomed Amir, Patna, Moulvi Abdul Kadir, Patna, Shaik Fariduddin Ahmed, Patna, Har Shankar Lal, Patna, Syed Geas Uddin Ahmed, Patna and Gya, Moulvi Ahson Saheb, Patna, Giridhar Chaubai, Patna, Rai Iswari Persad, Patna, Babus Jai Narain Bajpai, Patna, Narain Pershad, Patna, Makundi Lal, Patna, Sheve Narain, Patna, Shah Ahmed Nazir, Patna, Shaik Fazal Hossein, Patna, Babus Gouri Shankar, Sarun, Jengol Pershad, Sarun, Shaikh Mazhar Hossein, Patna, Shaikh Hameed, Patna; Syed Zahoor Hossein, Patna, Gya and Tirhut, Syed Badrul Hassan, Patna, Syed Zafar Imam, Patna, Babus Darshun Sinha, Patna and Monghyr, Inderdew Narain, Patna and Monghyr, Babus Gopal Sinha, Patna, Bhawani Persad, Patna, Mahomed Ismael, Patna, Shaikh Turab Ali, Patna, Shaik Ameer Ali, Patna, Shaikh Janat Hossein, Patna, Shaikh Wahidulhak, Patna, Rai Doorga Pershad, Gya and Monghyr (for Rai Sultan Bahadur), Syed Abdul Hossein, Sarun, Syed Nehad Hossein, Patna, Syed Saif Uddin, Patna, Moulvi Abdul Guni, Patna, Shaikh Mahomed Rahim, Patna, Babus Jevan Chundra Mookerji, Poorno Chunder, Pleader, Patna, Moulvi Sham Shul Hoda of Patna, Badsha Nawab, Patna, &c., &c., &c.

His Highness the Maharajah of Durbhangah, in opening the proceedings, said:—

Maharajahs and Gentlemen,—You have been called here to-day for, as you all know, the purpose of considering the Bengal Tenancy Bill, and of expressing the views you hold on its provisions. In opening the proceedings to-day, I do not propose to make a speech, but to hear your views on the subject—views which I shall deem it my pleasing duty to convey to His Excellency the Viceroy in Council. You may rest assured that if you can shew that any provisions of the Bill trenches against the rights guaranteed to you by the permanent settlement, those rights will not be taken away from you. What these rights are it is not for me to say. The question has been dealt with by far abler men than myself, by, in short, the highest legal functionaries in the country—amongst them his Lordship the Chief Justice and the learned Advocate-General. You are probably aware what the views of the Chief Justice are. He thinks that if the Tenancy Bill passes into law, it will, without doubt, trench on our rights; and the learned Advocate-General, who has not published his opinion, holds, as I learnt from a conversation I had with him, as also from other sources, precisely the same views. These, gentlemen, are the independent views of the two highest legal functionaries of the country. Of course, there are people who try to make out that the provisions of the Tenancy Bill do not trench on the vested rights of zemindars; but, after reading and hearing the views of the gentlemen I have named, I must confess that I believe that the provisions of the Bill *do trench* on our vested rights. I will admit that on such an intricate subject as this, I am not competent to pass a judgment as I am not a lawyer myself, but the Government have the views of two of their very highest legal officers on the subject, and I think every one will admit that they, at least, are competent to pass an opinion. I may state that on this subject Lord Cornwallis held that the property in this soil was vested in the zemindars who were entitled to enjoy the fruits of their own management: and again it was stated in the Regulations of 1793 that the Government revenue being fixed, the zemindar was to enjoy for ever the difference between the value of the State share of the produce of every bigah of land now in cultivation or hereafter to come into cultivation, and this fixed money revenue. Furthermore, it was laid down that the zemindar was to let out the land of his estate with certain restrictions to whomever he pleased and in whatever manner he pleased. These, then, were, and are, your rights; and it is for you to say whether or not the value of your property will be deteriorated by the passing of the new Act. Older men than myself, with far greater experience than any to which I can lay claim, will be

able to give a weightier expression of opinion on the subject than I can. I can only say that if freedom of contract is done away with, the value of landed property must decline. You know that a special section of the proposed Bill debars the ryot from contracting against his rights of occupancy. Such contracts as you know are seldom made. But there are occasions when it is necessary that such contracts should be made. A piece of land may be situate at or about the dwelling-house of a zemindar, and though he may not have occasion for its immediate use, he may require it hereafter. He lets it out—but lets it out on condition that no right of occupancy shall accrue therein. It is chiefly in such cases where contracts are made, and is the zemindar to be prevented for ever from using his land? Then the ryot may wish to enter into a special contract, and is he not to be in a position to do so? What I mean to say is, that a ryot understands his own interests a great deal better than anybody else, and it is useless for the legislature to think that it can protect his interests better than the ryot can himself. My own opinion is that the Government, in proposing to legislate after this fashion, seems to think that the ryot is a child, and the zemindar a monster. Then again, the primary object with which a change in the law of landlord and tenant was contemplated was to give to the zemindars further facilities for the collection and enhancement of rents: in fact Sir Richard Temple first drafted a Bill on these lines; and if such a Bill had been passed it would have been much better indeed, though I may state that we, Beharis, never asked for such a Bill. The provisions of the present Bill, however, seem rather to go to the other way. The most speedy and best way of realising rent is in the power of distraint, and this power is now to be taken away from us. Some authorities contend that the power of distraint is an off-shoot of the English law, and it should therefore be abolished. Well, I admit that the members of the Rent Commission have given more time to this subject than any of us have; but there is one little fact which they have not explained, and which completely upsets their theory. You are probably well aware that some of the southern districts of Nepal are adjacent to the districts of Northern Behar; and if any one really wishes to find out what was the custom of the country previous to the Permanent Settlement he ought to go to Nepal, where he would discover a system of distraint which has been in force for hundreds of years—in fact from time immemorial. This little fact clearly proves to my mind that the theory of the Rent Commission—that the power of distraint is an off-shoot of the English law—is not the true theory. But they also seem to think that the power of distraint has only been introduced since the time of the permanent settlement, and therefore that there are sufficient grounds for abolishing it. In fact they proposed to abolish it altogether, and in this view the Government have effected a compromise, but I am confident that the proposed mode of distraint which is now only had recourse to as a speedy mode of realising rent, by making an initiative proceeding in a distant court necessary, will only frustrate the object in view. Then, again, the Commission and the Government are very desirous to put down oppression which, they say, is practised by the zemindars, and to restore the old custom of the country. But one of the greatest oppressions committed—and this, mind you, is a legal oppression—is the heavy taxes which we have to pay for justice. They have proposed to do away with the power of distraint and to appoint managers in ijmali estates, but no provisions have, I see, been made to do away with court-fee stamps, or to reduce their value (hear, hear and cheers). When they desire to do away with distraint they speak of the old customs of the country, but they are silent as to the customs of the country on the subject of court-fee stamps. As far as Oriental natives are concerned, the imposition of a tax on justice is viewed with feelings of repugnance, for they think that it is the duty of the Government to mete out justice. But as people get civilised their ideas change, and it may therefore be that there is not such a repugnance to a tax on justice among a more educated community. However, the fact remains that the tax on justice is a heavy one, and if that, at least, was done away with or reduced, the Government might be credited with the intention of giving us some cheap mode of realising our dues, and at the same time, reverting to our ancient Hindoo mode of doing the duty of a king As it stands, however, while the process for realisation of rent has been lengthened, nothing whatever has been done towards lessening the expenses. It is therefore that I say that the Government has in this matter of the rent law gone decidedly against the intention of Sir Richard Temple, whose object was to give facilities for the collection of rent. While, therefore, the power of distraint has been removed, nothing has been done to diminish the costs. As far as the enhancement of rent is concerned, I think the provisions of the Tenancy Bill are most monstrous. The Bill proposes fixing a table of rates for each pergunnah. Pergunnah rates, as you know, vary in each village. I have known many pergunnahs where the rates are Rs. 5 per bigha in one village; while the rates for similar lands in another village are only eight annas per bigha. Therefore I think that instead of fixing a table of rates for each pergunnah, the Bill ought to fix a certain proportion of the gross produce as the zemindar's rent. But the Government proposes to fix the maximum at one-fifth of the gross produce; whereas, as a matter of fact, in some parts of the country the prevalent customary share of the zemindar in *bhaoli* tenure is not less than half at the present date, and the State share of the produce, which was transferred to the zemindars in 1793, was never less than half. It is in fact proposed to introduce land courts similar to Irish land courts only in a different name. These are the only two points, gentlemen, on which I intend to say anything just now. I would like to have spoken more, but then I alone would be monopolising all your time and attention. The primary object, you will please to remember, was to give to the zemindars further facilities for the

realisation and enhancement of rent, and I hope I have shown to you, to the best of my abilities, that the proposed Bill will actually give us no such facilities; but, on the contrary, if it unhappily passes into law, it will have the effect of narrowing our powers to a great extent in securing even our undisputed dues. The other sections of the Bill refer to tenants in particular. I would like to have discussed the subject more fully, but as I am confident that it will be treated by other members who are older than myself and who possess a great deal more experience than myself in by far an abler manner, I shall not trouble you any longer with what I have to say. (Loud cheers.)

In moving the first resolution His Highness the Maharajah of Hutwa said:—"Gentlemen, you have been called here to-day to consider the Bengal Tenancy Bill. As you are aware, under that title a Bill to consolidate and amend the present law of landlord and tenant was presented to the Council of the Government of India by the Law Member on the 5th March, and, discussion having taken place on it on a subsequent sitting of the Council, the Bill has been referred to a Select Committee, which will meet after the Council meets again in Calcutta in November next. In the meantime the public have been invited to place before Government an expression of their opinion on the Bill, and the Bengal Government circular asks us to give our opinion by the 15th June at the latest. The Government translation of the Bill is only just out, but the Behar Landholders' Association have thought it their duty under the circumstances to publish ere long a vernacular synopsis embodying the most important changes proposed to be made by the Bill. That synopsis is now in your hands. You will be able to judge therefrom what momentous changes are going to be effected in your right by the proposed Bill. Gentlemen, it is said that all these changes are absolutely necessary, because here in Behar we are rack-renters and oppressors of our ryots. Now that is a charge which you have to answer. The charge implies one of these three things: *1st*, that the law does not afford sufficient protection to the ryots; *2nd*, that the administrative machinery is weak and powerless to enforce the laws; *3rd*, that the people, the subject of oppression, are ignorant of their rights or powerless to assert them. Now the first two of these suppositions cannot be correct, because the same law which admittedly makes the ryots of Bengal the masters of their landlords, prevails in this province, and the administrative machinery which affords them protection and redress against wrongs in Bengal is ready to afford them protection and redress in Behar as well. There remains the last of these suppositions, and the question is whether it is a fact that our ryots are ignorant of their rights and powerless to assert them. Now, gentlemen, agriculture in this province is not, as you are aware, confined, as in Bengal, amongst the lower orders of Mahomedans and Hindoos. We have here amongst our ryots the veritable cultivators of the soil, Brahmins, Rajputs, Babhons, Kyasts, Coiris, Kurmis, Gowalas, in fact all castes of Hindoos represented; and we have also a class of Mahomedan ryots, not so low and despised as the Mussalman ryots of Bengal. Now, are these people ignorant and powerless to defend themselves? They are certainly not more ignorant than the landlords to whom they pay rent. Gentlemen, we have heard ever and anon stories of the depressed condition of the Behar peasantry. There is no question that sometimes the pressure of population, the excessive sub-division of lands, proprietory and ryoti, which is the consequence of our law of inheritance—nay their extravagance in foolish displays on occasions of marriages and so forth, the luxury of litigation which they have come to indulge in with all the administrative conveniences at their very door, are telling hardly against our people in general; but I doubt whether it is a fact that our agricultural people are worse off than the same class of people in lower Bengal. Whether money rent is higher or lower here than in Bengal is a question to which I do not enter at present, but granting that the money rent is higher, is it not a fact that while our peasants here make two and sometimes three harvests out of their holdings, in Bengal they get only one? Have we not in our midst numerous instances in which from the position of a mere cultivator, our Koiris, our Kurmis, our Gowalas have risen to be thikadars and ultimately the zemindars of their mouzahs? How many instances of this kind can Bengal show? Before they vilify us, let our vilifiers at least make enquiries into these points. Let them satisfy also as to whether it was not a fact that here in Behar, at the date of the permanent settlement, the rate at which assessment was made was or was not something like three-fourths of the produce in kind of every bigha of land, and whether these rates have not been reduced by the zemindars themselves in the interest of their ryots. Let them satisfy also whether it is or it is not a fact that the rate which the zemindars now receive from the ryots is much lower than the rate which they are entitled to demand as the pergunnah rate. Now if other facts were wanting, would not these facts at once show that the Behar zemindars are not the tyrants, the harpies, and the rack-renters they are represented to be? Does this not show that in the face of a growing population and an increasing demand for land, the Behar zemindars have not been wanting in their good will towards the ryots? Gentlemen, it was only year before last that Sir Ashley Eden, in replying to a deputation of the Behar Landholders' Association, said: "I can assure you that nothing has given me greater pleasure than to notice, as I have had ample opportunities of doing, the extraordinary improvement in the condition of the people. It is made manifest in a hundred ways daily, even to the most casual observer. I hear the same story from all classes, official and non-official, and it is a matter for general congratulation.

"This improvement is due to various causes—first and foremost, to several succeeding harvests, plentiful almost beyond the recollection of the present generation, and these full harvests followed years of trial and famine. Next there has been, with growing prosperity,

and an increase in the value of land, a *general awaking* of the cultivating classes, and an improved knowledge of their legal rights and privileges, and this has, I hope, been accompanied by a stricter administration of the law. Then there has been a greater readiness on the part of landlords to recognize and affirm the rights of cultivators, and I hope that this may to some extent be due to the influence of your association." Does this testimony, coming from such a high quarter, show that our ryots are yet ignorant, and that our zemindars are unwilling to recognize their rights? If this is not so, and even if this were so, where would be the justification of the violent changes about to be introduced—changes which would sweep away half our rights! Gentlemen, you have heard of the fable of Jupiter and the little frogs. The little frogs expressed themselves dissatisfied with their king-log, and asked Jupiter to send them one better, and Jupiter sent them the king-stork. Our fate is much the same. If not we, our brethren of Bengal, complained that Act of 1859 did not afford them sufficient facilities for realizing their rents, and they have gone on complaining till we and they have been all alarmed by the Bengal Tenancy Bill. The development of the Bill in its present form illustrates the fable in a very marked manner. The Behar Rent Commission assembled at Sonepore in 1879, but before they could submit their report, a short Bill was introduced in the Bengal Council by Mr. Mackenzie. This dwarf Bill had only two objects: to make occupancy rights transferable, and to make a short procedure for the realization of rents. It also, by the way, defined occupancy rights so as to make it to some extent more restricted than it was under Act X of 1859. This was was thought a sufficient *penacea* for the ryots' bills. Well, we protested, as we thought it our duty to protest, both in the interest of the landholders and tenants. The Bill was referred to a Select Committee, and on the recommendation of this Select Committee, instead of taking up the rent law piecemeal, it was resolved to face the whole question once for all. This was the origin of the Rent Commission. In the meantime, the recommendations of the Behar Rent Commission were submitted to Government, and the Rent Commission having been appointed, the whole question of rent law together with the recommendations of the Behar Rent Commission, was referred to that body. The Rent Commission drafted a Bill, the provisions again trenched on our rights, and it trenched against some of the rights of the ryots also, the Rent Commission, according to their report, having offered them by way of compensation to the zemindars. Now we memorialized again against these provisions. Without adopting the Bill of the Rent Commission in its entirety, the Bengal Government commissioned Mr. Reynolds to draft a Bill, and ultimately it sent up a Bill of its own to Government of India, and this Bill, notwithstanding a pledge given by the Government of Bengal in a letter to the British Indian Association that it was to be published for the information of those *interested*, was never published. The Government of India, having consulted Her Majesty's Government, have determined on the main features and general principles of the Bill, and the result is the Tenancy Bill before you. Now, gentlemen, if you would simply compare the provisions of these various Bills, as regards the three main questions of fair rent, fixity of tenure, and freedom of sale, you will find a perfect illustration of the fable I have quoted above; you will find how the dwarf has developed itself into the monster which threatens your existence. Mr. Mackenzie's first Bill did not touch on the question of fair rent at all, nor was it alleged at the time that in the interests of the ryots that question was at all necessary to be touched; it did certainly restrict occupancy rights to a greater extent than before, and it prescribed a summary procedure for realization of rent which, if not exactly summary, would have compensated the unscrupulous amongst the zemindars for many a loss of his rights. In return it granted a free transferability to occupancy rights. This was its salient point. The Behar Rent Commission report, which had been put forward as an excuse for some of these violent changes, did not recommend any change at all with respect to the three main questions alluded to above. The Rent Commission certainly recommended many changes, but as regards occupancy rights, the Bill left the law as it is; only its numerous explanations and illustrations would have made the right more difficult of acquisition. It restricted ryoti rights to actual cultivation. It fettered transferability by providing against mortgages, and it limited fair rent to a fourth of the estimated average annual produce of land in staple-crops. Only it attempted to create a new class of ryots with three years' occupancy to whom it gave certain rights. Now the Tenancy Bill deals with these questions in a more summary way. It gives occupancy rights to all *settled* ryots, with respect to all ryoti lands they may come in possession of irrespective of the time of occupation; it makes transferability unrestricted, except that it gives the landlord a right of pre-emption—a right which he would never choose to exercise if he were wise, and it limits fair rent to a fifth of the estimated average annual produce of land in staple-crops in cases of occupancy rights; while as regards ordinary ryots, the tendency of the provision will be to give occupancy rights to a ryot no sooner he will get into possession of a piece of land. The doctrine "once a tenant always a tenant" will have meaning of its own under the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

Now, gentlemen, instead of troubling you with the details of all the changes made under the Bill, I will confine myself to the most important ones I have indicated above. I will show you how all these changes tell against the rights vested in us by the permanent settlement. Take for instance the question of fair rent and its limitation to a maximum of a fifth of the estimated annual produce of land in staple crops as regards occupancy ryots, to five-sixteenths in cases of ordinary ryots, and to half in cases of *bhaoli* tenures.

These limitations touch the very principle on which the permanent settlement is based. That settlement as you all know, though dictated by the kindliest of policy towards a subject

race, was in the nature of a contract, under which Government, for the consideration of a fixed money rent or revenue, parted with its rights with respect to a share of the produce to every bigah of land in favour of the zemindars. It was something like a perpetual lease under which the Government for all times to come leased out its share of the produce of land to zemindars for a permanent rent or revenue, which the latter agreed to discharge for all time to come without making any application or claim for remission on ground of drought, inundation or famines. Now, gentlemen, in India the produce of the land had been at all times divided between the State, the zemindar, and the actual cultivator. The zemindar under the permanent settlement is now entitled to the first two shares, and any limitation which would be determined without due regard or enquiry as to what was this share or shares would go certainly against the principles of the permanent settlement. The zemindar does not certainly like to touch the share of the ryots. The rights of ryots could not be and were not indeed touched by the permanent settlement, because they were no parties to that settlement; but the zemindars are certainly entitled to ask to be protected in their rights (*i.e.*) to their own share of the produce and the State share which was transferred to them in 1793. What was then the State share of the produce at or about 1793, is the question. It is a question which, notwithstanding its importance, has been left undetermined during the present discussions. But, as it appears to me, it has been fully determined ere long. In 1812, a parliamentary committee sat on the affairs of India, and in one of their reports called the fifth report they make the following statement :—

"In the extensive plains of India a large proportion, estimated in the Company's provinces, at one-third by Lord Cornwallis, at one-half by others, and by some at two-thirds, of lands capable of cultivation lies waste and probably was never otherwise. It became, therefore, of importance to Native Governments, whose principal financial resource was the land revenue, to provide that as the population and cultivation should increase, the State might derive its proportion of advantages resulting from their progressive augmentation. * * * This rule is traceable as a general principle through every part of the empire which has yet come under the British dominion, and undoubtedly had its origin in times anterior to the entry of the Mahomedans in India. By this rule, the produce of the land, whether taken in kind or estimated in money, was understood to be shared in distinct proportions between the cultivators and Government. This share varied when the land was recently cleared and required extraordinary labour; but when it was fully settled and productive, the cultivator had about two-fifths, and Government the remainder." During the early days of the Hindoos, the State share was certainly smaller. We find from Manu that the King's share was from one-twelfth to one-sixth. But even, during the last days of the Hindoos, the share had come up to a fourth. Akbar fixed it at a third, but there is evidence to show that even during his reign, the share actually taken was half. It had certainly come up to a higher proportion during the days of Aurangzebe and the last days of the Mahomedans, and when the British Government obtained the Dewany, and on the date of the permanent settlement, this share, on which the public assessments were made, had not been certainly reduced.

Now this was the share on which the permanent settlement was based. The share was not only due with respect to lands actually in cultivation, but became due, as we find from the quotation given above, no sooner a bigah of land came into cultivation. Three questions will perhaps be asked. 1*st*, it will be said that though theoretically the State share was three-fifths, the money assessment was lower. True it is that Akbar commuted his one-third into a money rubbeh; but many abwabs had been added up to his rubbeh and at the date of the permanent settlement, there is good evidence to shew that money assessment wherever, as in Behar, not actually based on an actual proportion of the produce, was based on a money rent that bore a higher proportion to the gross produce than the rubbeh of Akbar; *secondly*, it will be said that though the zemindars were actually entitled to the State share of the produce *plus* their own share, that is to pergunnah rate of rent, in practice they never keep up to this high figure in the pergunnah. There can be no question that the so-called pergunnah rate, at which the assessment was fixed, pressed very heavily on the ryots then, and the only way the zemindars could relieve them of this high pressure, and at the same time keep their estates from sale, notwithstanding the high amount of revenue which they had to pay, was by doing their best to develope the resources of their estate (*i.e.*) by actually bringing waste lands into cultivation. Many could not do this, and their estates were brought to sale. Well, gentlemen, the permanent settlement was not an immediate boon to the zemindars with whom the settlement was made. Many of these could not discharge the high amount of revenue which had been assessed on their estates, and as a great historian of India says—"The selling of the zemindaris immediately began and proceeded with a rapid pace. In the year 1796, the land advertized for sale comprehended a rent roll of 287,000 sicca rupees, which, according to the total assessment, was nearly one-tenth of the whole of Bengal, Behar and Orissa in a single year. By the progress of this operation the whole class of the ancient zemindaris, instead of being erected into an aristocracy, was speedily destroyed;" *thirdly*, it will be said that this limitation does not touch existing rates, that the zemindars will not be disturbed in the enjoyment of his present rent, and that it only stops enhancement where the rates are already exorbitantly high. Well, gentlemen, it is not absolutely true that the limitation will not touch existing rates.

In *bhaoli*, a rate of 9 annas share of the produce out of the 16 annas is not uncommon now in Behar. In this case, immediately on the passing of the Act, the rate will be

reduced to 8 annas, and a zemindari, the present income of which is Rs. 9,000 under *bhoali* tenures, will not have its income reduced to Rs. 8,000. Then again, as I have already told you, the limitation touches the very principle on which the permanent settlement was founded. That settlement was not made for a day or for one hundred years. It would be as much an infringement of that settlement contract if the zemindars or their successors are hereafter to be debarred from the rights which were given to them in 1793.

Take then the question of fixity of tenure and freedom of sale. At the date of the permanent settlement, lands were under the occupation of the zemindars as his *nij jote*, in the occupation of middlemen, or in those of actual cultivators, khudkast and others. A great part of the land was, however, waste. *Nij jote* lands, here in Behar malikana lands, which the zemindars had previously held whether they entered into settlement or not, were amalgamated with the malguzari lands under the permanent settlement. There cannot be any question that at least with respect to these lands the zemindars had full proprietory right, and could do with it just as they pleased; historically it can be proved that this bit of land descended to a *Gram Adhikari* (zemindar) from the time of Manu. It is now proposed to fetter the zemindar's power with respect to this class of land also. They will be only nominally his, if he had been imprudent enough to settle it with a ryot, and the ryot had been in possession for 12 years. The next class of lands, those in the occupation of middlemen, does not much concern us here, as sub-infeudation in the province has been till now very rare.

As to the lands in the occupation of ryots, *khudkast*, or otherwise, the limitations fixed were that the pattahs of *khudkast* ryots were not to be cancelled, unless they paid less than the pergunnah rates, and for some reason or other which does not concern our present purpose, this provision was not made applicable to Behar. It was also stipulated that the existing lease of other ryots were not cancelled during the term for which such pattahs had been granted. With these reservations the zemindar was given the full power of letting out the lands to whomsoever he pleased and in whatever manner he pleased. This was in 1793. We are told now in 1883 that we must not do whatever we pleased with the lands which we have brought into cultivation at a very heavy expense to ourselves. Then that not only every squatter is to get occupancy rights with respect to these lands at a rent nor exceeding a fifth of the estimated annual value of the produce, but that he will have a transferable right too. Now, gentlemen, whatever might have been the rights of the *khudkast* ryots of old, a class of ryots entirely forgotten by the provisions of the Bill, no one pretends to say that they had a saleable right at the date of the permanent settlement. I leave others to tell you how these provisions of fixity of tenure and freedom of sale are calculated to disturb the existing rural and agricultural system in these provinces; how if these provisions were to stand just as they are in the Bill without any let or hinderance to the power of subletting of occupancy ryots, while you, gentlemen, all will be reduced to a three-anna zemindar, a new kind of 13-anna zemindari will spring up, the creation of the Tenancy Act, with men as proprietors who will be nominally known as ryots.

Gentlemen, I have been so long in shewing you how the provisions are calculated to trench on our rights as vested in us by the permanent settlement. The reservations of power in the hands of Government to enact laws for the protection and welfare of ryots do not mean that vested rights should be taken away to be given to others. Gentlemen, the permanent settlement is the "Magna Charta" of our rights as also of the rights of our ryots; far be it from our thought to usurp the rights of our ryots, far be it from our thought to raise obstacles in the way of Government enacting law for their protection and welfare, far be it from our thought to object to the benevolent intention of Government to ameliorate their condition. I am sure you will all co-operate in a body to improve the condition of your countrymen. The charge of apathy, of want of public spirit, can be fortunately no longer brought home to your doors; but I am sure, as you will do justice, you will expect justice to be done to you in return. No gentlemen, I am sure, under Her Majesty's benign Government, which is established on the solid rock of justice, in which the rights of even the meanest are protected, your rights will not be taken away if you will only loyally, firmly and constitutionally represent your case to Her Majesty's noble representative in India. The Government of our Excellent Viceroy Lord Ripon, which has already done so much for our people, cannot do a conscious injustice to that important class to which you belong, and if you can only show that the changes contemplated by the proposed Tenancy Bill trench against our rights as guaranteed to us by the permanent settlement, you can rest assured that you will get full justice done to these rights.

His Highness the Maharaja of Doomraon seconded the motion. He said that he agreed with all that has just fallen from His Highness the Maharajah of Hutwa, that he has said in full what he had to say on this question, at the meeting of the zemindars at Shahabad, and he does not like to detain you with another speech here.

The Hon'ble Hurbans Sahai, in supporting the Resolution, said that the substance of the Resolution was that certain rights had been guaranteed to the zemindars by the permanent settlement, which rights, it was understood, could not be taken away. The reservation of power for protection and welfare of the ryots did not mean that the rights of the zemindars should be taken away to be given to the ryots. It was asserted that the zemindars were in the habit of rack-renting and oppressing the ryots. If the meeting bore with him, he would show them how the Government protected its ryots. He held in his hands authenticated copies of certain pottahs given to ryots in khas mehals, and he would read to them some of the

conditions of those pottas.—"Whereas in accordance with the order dated 29th July 1879, 25 bighas of land numbered below, situate in mehal Diora Khowaspur, pergunnah Arrah, property of the Government, were let out with us at the rate of Rs. 6 per bigha, the annual jumma of which being Rs. 150 exclusive of cesses for one year. Therefore we write the kabuliat that we may cultivate the land and appropriate its produce, that we may pay the rent of the land to the Government *kist* by *kist* and year by year, that in case of default and if we do not deposit the Government rent in the treasury within the time allowed, and if any part of the rent is not paid by us, the Government servants have power to eject us from the land without having any assistance of the civil courts, and will not wait for completion and expiration of the year; and they have also power to realize the rents with interest thereon at the rate of 12 annas per cent. calculated from the date when it became due by sale of our moveable and immoveable property whatever could be found without procuring any assistance of the civil courts, and we ourselves, our heirs and representatives cannot have any objection to those proceedings; and if they have any, that will be disallowed and rejected. If any damage is done to the land by our fault we will be held responsible for it and we will, without any objection of dryness of season, or the produce of land being watered and washed away or any unexpected damage to the crops, pay the rent assessed; and if we put forward such objection that will be rejected, and that if we die within the time of settlement mentioned in this kabuliut, the Government servants are at liberty to settle this land with any other they like, or they may settle it with our heirs till the period of settlement expires. If any order of the Collector be passed, we will not anyhow disobey the order, or if we do so by negligence or idleness on our part, we shall be liable to any penalty and punishment given under the provisions of the law in force. If after the term of settlement expires, the Government has power to allow the present settlement to remain, or to annul this settlement and let out the land with any other person whom they may think fit; and in this new settlement neither we nor our heirs have or will have any objection; and if they have any, it is not allowable. And we are not anyhow authorised under the terms of this kabuliut to transfer the interest in land without the permission of the Government servant or give any pottah (lease) to any other person, or make any other person partner; and if we do anything inconsistent with the terms mentioned in the kabuliut, the servants of the Government are at liberty to make the kabuliut void without any assistance of the court. And if the Government has any necessity of taking the land, we will without any objection relinquish it. And be it known we will never acquire our gezushta right in this land; and without any order we will not plant any trees or bamboos in the land, and therefore we have written this kabuliut that it may work at any time of necessity."

The Hon'ble gentleman then commented on the provisions of the Bill, section by section, as follows:—The condition of the Government khas mehal ryot is worse than that of his brother in a private zemindary. The Bill, in the first instance, should have been applicable in his case, as the rate of rent in khas mehals is fixed according to the whims and fancies of the settlement officers, and sanctioned by the higher revenue authorities. The tenant incurs the expense of coming into court as plaintiff against the Government; while the Government enjoys the privilege of recovering rents summarily. Is not the position of the most oppressed ryots of a private landlord enviable in comparison with that of the most happy of the khas mehals? Those who know to what an alarming extent enhancement of rent has taken place in khas mehals, and to what dreadful oppressions and hardships the ryots there are subject, will not hesitate to answer in the affirmative. Should it not, therefore, be made in keeping with the generous and liberal profession of the Government to give as much protection to the ryots of its own estates as to those of private zemindaries? Indeed, the anxious solicitude for the welfare of the dumb and oppressed millions comes with a very bad grace from the Government, when it does not hesitate to treat our own ryots so ungenerously and illiberally as is generally done in khas mehals.

The ryots, partly on the false belief that there is no remedy against the officers of the Government, simply submit to their lot without the least murmur of complaint. Let the Government, therefore, if it really wishes to improve the condition and status of the ryots, extend the boon to its own tenants. Let it itself set a noble and pious example to the oppressive zemindars that they may be ashamed of their inhuman and unpatriotic conduct, and may follow after the footsteps of the Government. The Government as a zemindar has been so long setting a bad example to other landlords, that it is high time that it should now find its own mistake and correct accordingly. The provision of the Bill does not affect the powers of the settlement officers, the reason being that it will not interfere with their powers of fixing the rates at the time of settlement in temporarily settled estates. Do not the ryots of such estates deserve as much protection as the ryots of the permanently settled estates? The zemindar is a much-abused creature; vials of wrath have been poured upon his head. Much has been said about his oppression, greediness, and unmitigated selfishness. In short, he has been represented as a vulture intent only on falling upon his prey, the ryot, and the Government has offered itself as his protector. But such conduct on its own part does not seem to be in keeping with its own profession. The second chapter of the Bill deals with the khamar and ryoti lands. It provides that the existing stock of khamar lands cannot be hereafter increased, and further that all land shall be deemed as ryoti land. Why should such a presumption be made in favour of the land being ryoti? Hitherto the practice of the court and the custom of the country has been just the reverse. If a ryot claim against the zemindar or a landlord as a ryoti, the onus of proof lies upon him. It may be that in a village there has been no custom established before the commencement of the Act with regard to the recognition of zerait land. Why should not a zemindar treat such land as zerait?

Section 6.—Now in some villages there are waste lands and land unreclaimed and lands under water. These lands ought to be comprised within khamar lands: lands from which no rents have been realised cannot be called ryoti lands. It has not been correctly represented that the zemindars of Behar always make persistent efforts to increase the extent of khamar or, as it is termed, their zerait land, whereas it is true only in the cases of their lessees or some small landowners.

Section 9.—What is the Collector to do in a village where there is no custom established before the commencement of this Act for recognition as zerait, where the Collector finds that some lands have been newly purchased by the zemindars, or some lands have been relinquished by the ryot, and is in the possession of the zemindar? This section makes it a matter of necessity to amend the definition of *khamar* land.

Section 10.—One month's time of appeal will not be sufficient for big zemindars.

Section 13.—Why should not a zemindar be allowed to acquire ryoti land after the approval of a register of *khamar* land by the local Government? For instance the register has been approved of by the Government in the month of May 1883, and a ryot holding a certain jote relinquishes his jote, or a zemindar reclaims certain waste land in the month of June following. Why should not lands of this description be recognized as *khamar*? Thus it will be necessary for the Government to revise the register annually.

CHAPTER III.

Section 15.—The presumption that the land, the rent of which has not been changed for 20 years, will be considered that it has been held at that rent from the time of the permanent settlement, is very objectionable.

It may be modified, and at least "twenty years from the time of Act VIII of 1869" should be substituted for it, otherwise it will prove very hard to the zemindars.

Section 20.—The ryots of the estate not permanently settled deserve as much protection as those of the permanently settled estates. The Government has saved to the settlement officer a right to raise the rent, simply because it will affect its own revenue.

Section 22.—The provision that the rent of the tenure-holder cannot be enhanced under Section 21 to more than double the rent previously payable is objectionable, for the fair and equitable rent may in some cases be more than double the amount previously payable.

Section 23.—The restrictions as to the progressive enhancement to rent is altogether unnecessary. If the enhancement be considered just and equitable, why should it not be introduced at once?

Section 47.—The principle of section 47 cannot be defended. According to the present law, a ryot who has cultivated different lands in a village has no right of occupancy in the land so held by him. The zemindars consider that they can oust him at any time; but should it be declared that his ryot has right of occupancy in all the lands held by him on the second March 1883, they will be taken by surprise.

Section 49.—The section should be modified as follows: "unless he has held on lease for a term, or year by year."

Sections 50-56.—The Bill does not at all benefit the actual cultivators of the soil. The middle class cultivators who will be profited by it, are not after all the actual cultivators of the soil. The provision of giving the right of sub-letting the land will not at all do any good to the actual cultivator, who under its provision will not be allowed the rights of occupancy. This is certainly anomalous and its inevitable effect will be to put the actual cultivators at the mercy of grasping middle-class tenure-holders. The actual cultivators will not feel any permanent interest in the land, and they are therefore not likely to increase the value thereof. It will unnecessarily multiply subordinate tenures which will prove prejudicial to the interest of agriculture. The Bill interferes with the freedom of contract. It provides very unjustly for a right of occupancy against any contract to the contrary. It will defeat the very object of the Bill—the interest of the ryot. The ryot may of his own accord give up his legal right in order to secure some personal benefit, but in case the provisions of the Bill are carried out, no chance of benefiting himself will be left to him. It will also be remembered that the ryots have now-a-days to deal with large landowners who are more lenient than the class of middle-class tenants, who are now going to be created by the provisions of the Bill.

Section 51.—As regards the right of pre-emption, though it is true that the zemindars have been allowed this privilege, still they are not allowed to buy on the same conditions as the ryots. The ryot does not lose his right of occupancy by leasing it to any other person, if he does not wish to cultivate himself, but no such provision has been made in the case of the zemindar. He has not been allowed even the right of an ordinary purchaser; all this injustice is going to be done to him simply because he has the misfortune of being the owner of the land. What can be a better proof of the one-sided character of the Bill than this? The tenants will be raised, to all intents and purposes, to the commanding position of proprietor, while the real proprietor will be reduced to an accountant.

The right of pre-emption will not serve the purpose of checking objectionable transfers. A neighbouring rich and powerful zemindar would find no difficulty whatever to collude with the tenants of another weak neighbour, and to instigate them to sell their tenures simultaneously and *en masse*. Having not sufficient money at his command, his land would pass into the hands of the unfriendly zamindar, who would harass his weak neighbour by stopping payment. It is clear that by the powers of transferring and subletting which the Bill recognizes, the great bulk of the actual cultivators would not be occupancy

tenants. The law does not afford any protection whatever to them; so from a ryot and zemindar's view both the provisions are very objectionable. It does not benefit the ryots and at the same time does not guard against objectionable transfers. The zamindar will find it difficult to cultivate the land himself, and thus will be obliged to lease the land, and will gain no advantage. The moment a zamindar who purchases an occupancy right in his own land lets that land to another ryot, he loses his occupancy right. Can there be anything more unjust than this? He will have to pay a large sum of purchase-money, but he will not be allowed to enjoy the benefit thereof. Nothing can be more objectionable than such arbitrary legislation. As regards the ryots' powers of transferring and subletting, the Government proposes to make in future provision for complications that may arise thereof; but it is better not to create complications than first to create and correct them afterwards.

CHAPTER VI.

Deals with the subject of rents payable by occupancy ryots. Under the provisions of this chapter, the ryot has not been allowed to act as a free agent. It will interfere obnoxiously with the freedom of the parties, and it will prove much prejudicial to the interests of the ryot himself.

Section 59.—The ryot himself is the best judge of his own interests. The approval of any written contract by the revenue officer is wholly unnecessary.

Section 61.—Moreover, the revenue officer has been virtually debarred from registering any contract by which a ryot engages to pay a rent more than one-fifth of the estimated annual value of the gross produce of the land. Even from a ryot's point of view it is very objectionable, as it will inflict much hardship in many cases, inasmuch as the ryot will not be able to gain any personal advantage by giving up his legal right. So it will be seen that liabilities of the zemindars nearly amount to seven-sixteenths, but he will get only one-fifth. So he will be a loser by seventeen-eighteenths of the gross produce of the land. The sections for enhancement cannot be worked properly, and they will become dead-letters, and it will become worse than the present provision for enhancement of rent. The only result will be that the zamindars and the ryots will have to pay from their own pocket the necessary expenses for investigation, &c., and there will be frequent disputes about the correctness of the classification of lands, which will be a fruitful source of endless and ruinous litigation.

Sections 76 to 79.—The provisions as to enhancement not beyond double rent previously payable, as to powers to order progressive enhancement are very objectionable, as already noticed. The Bill lays down a uniform proportion with respect to the rates of rent in all the districts, but it ought to be remembered that the facilities for cultivation, the capital and labour employed, are not the same with respect to all lands in all districts.

[*The remarks relating to sections 81 to 118 will be found on pages 177 to 180 of the appendix.*]

It has to be noted that some years will be some fifty years hence; they will require all that help which the State can give them if they by that time do not learn how to help themselves. Are they rack-renting and are the ryots rack-rented? The Beharees are indeed poor, but I deny that the system of tenure which prevails in the province, the sort of relation which subsists between the zamindars and the tenants in this province, make them poor. The great populousness of the Behar districts and the consequent low rate of wages serve to make the great landless classes poor. To these causes you have to add their want of thrifty habits; but are the agricultural classes poorer than the corresponding class even in Lower Bengal? This is to be seriously apprehended that a great national calamity will ensue, if agriculture continue to be our only national pursuit. Already there is a great sub-division of lands among the proprietory body, and the transfers of ryoti rights and their heritable nature will make agricultural holdings smaller and smaller year by year. Government should therefore, when it would further the interests of the poor, instead of proceeding on a false assumption that the zamindari system is the cause of the poverty of our ryot, try to find out the real cause, and apply the true remedy. The population of neither Behar nor Bengal will prosper by demolishing the zamindars, but drawing the attention of the people to other than agricultural pursuits, setting up industries, and industrial schools will go a great way in that direction.

Gentlemen, when Act X of 1859 was enacted, it was thought that the Government had sufficiently redeemed its pledge of affording protection to the ryots. Sir Frederick Halliday said:—"A heavy obligation towards the raiyat long unfulfilled by our legislature has now been fulfilled by enacting Act X of 1859. Two successive Chief Justices of the High Court of Judicature of this country condemned the new right of occupancy given under that law to ryots as an invasion of the zamindars' rights and as inconsistent with such rights; but Act X was passed, and the zamindars and ryots had been content to abide by its provisions for the last 25 years. Gentlemen, it is now thought that Act X of 1859 had not done enough, and the legislature now thinks of going beyond what had ever been thought of by the most radical members of the Government when enacting Act X of 1859. If the provisions of the proposed Bill are allowed to pass, the permanent settlement under which you hold will be a mere dead-letter; you will be, as the Maharaja of Hutwa has very well expressed it, a 3-anna proprietor in your zamindari, while the 13-anna rental proprietor will be an occupancy-right ryot, mind, not the ryot of the present day, the actual cultivator, whom the Government thinks it its bounden duty to support, but some designing speculator who will come in his place.

Gentlemen, I am not much accustomed to public speaking, but it is a time when all should speak. None of you, I am sure, deny to your ryot rights which properly belong to him. Though you are stigmatised in the highest places, one and all, as rack-renters and

oppressors of your ryots, I am sure you all are fully alive to your duty to ryots. But while you will do justice to others you will doubtless expect to have justice done to you. You will certainly claim the right of being protected in those rights which have been guaranteed to you under the permanent settlement.

Seconded by Rai Joi Prakash Lal Bahadur.

3rd Resolution.

That the provisions regarding the survey and register of khamar lands, those relating to improvements and record of rights, will lead to unnecessary and costly litigation, the effect of which will be the impoverishment and, nay, sometimes the utter ruin of both the landlords and tenants.

Moved by Maharaj Kumar Narendra Narain Pratab Sahai Bahadur of Hutwa.

Seconded by Babu Saligram Sinha of Mednipur, Shahabad.

Supported by the Agent of the Maharani of Tikari and Babu Gajadhur Pershad.

4th Resolution.

That it is unwise to unsettle customary laws and tenures which have been prevalent from time immemorial, and the Behar zemindars look with serious apprehension to the special provisions for the commutation of bhaoli tenures into nakdi, as calculated to affect seriously the interest of agriculture in this province.

Moved by Syed Usuf Hossein Khan.

Seconded by Syed Willayet Hossein *alias* Mehdi Nawab.

5th Resolution.

That the advantages offered by the Bill to the tenants are substantial and new, while those offered to the zamindars are *nil*; that the Bill in fact proposes re-distribution of property between landholders and tenants for what is taken away from some of his rights, and the provisions of the Bill do not fall within the power reserved to the Governor-General at the time of the permanent settlement, to enact laws for the protection and welfare of dependent taluqdars and ryots.

Moved by Moulvi Fazlul Rahman.

Seconded by Kazi Reza Ausein.

6th Resolution.

That a sub-committee of the following gentlemen, with power to add to their number, be formed to draw up a memorial stating all the objections to the provisions of the Tenancy Bill, and it be submitted to Government through Behar Landholders' Association.

Moved by Munshi Bahadur Ali Khan.

Seconded by Agent of Tikari.

Supported by Mahomed Ali Khan of Durbhangah.

After a vote of thanks to the chair, proposed by Mir Shamshul Hoda and carried by acclamation, the meeting dispersed.

No. 188 R.L., dated Calcutta, the 2nd July 1883.

From—J. MONRO, Esq., Commissioner of the Presidency Division,

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

WITH reference to your letter No. 351A, dated the 29th March 1883, I have the honour to submit the report on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, therein called for.

2. I have found it impossible to hold a conference with district officers, as the adoption of such a course would have involved their absence from their districts for several days, at a specially busy season of the year. The reports which I have received I forward herewith.

3. I have had many conversations on the subject with officials, zemindars, and others, and have omitted no opportunity of ascertaining the feeling of the people generally in connection with this important measure.

4. As was to be expected, the landholding class is most strenuously opposed to the Bill, and there is no doubt that a most uncompromising resistance to its provisions will be manifested. There is a general feeling amongst members of the landholding class that zemindars will practically be effaced and reduced to the position of annuitants or partners with their ryots in the profits of land, and that the Bill, with its manifold provisions in favour of the ryots, constitutes a distinct infringement of the rights which they conceive were guaranteed under the terms of the permanent settlement, and which they have certainly exercised without dispute for nearly a century.

5. It is rather curious to notice the different views of the effect of the Bill as taken by the planters of Lower Bengal and of Behar. The majority of indigo planters in Lower Bengal, who are often landholders themselves, are opposed to the Bill, although some of them do not think that much harm will be done, specially with reference to the enhancement clauses. In Behar, again, I have noticed a decided feeling arising that the interests of the planters, hitherto identified with those of the landlords in consequence of the tikadari system, will now be found to be on the side of the ryots.

6. The ryots themselves are as usual ignorantly apathetic on the subject. They have heard some rumours of impending changes, and, in some instances, agitators have made them believe that the millennium of the ryots is at hand, when they will pay only nominal rents for, and reap all profits from, their land, but as a rule they have no intelligent idea on the subject, and it is difficult to define any feeling which they may have on the matter. Had the seasons of late years been unfavourable, no doubt we should have found them in a more complaining mood, but with good harvests they are not disposed to repine, and only wish for

scarcity to show itself in some district other than their own, that they may reap the benefit of increased prices of their crops. Under any circumstances it would be very difficult to convey to the mind of any ryot an accurate impression, or to create in it any definite idea, of the meaning of the proposed alterations in the law, with reference to compensation for improvements, compensation for disturbance or the doctrine of Merger.

7. I have to apologize for the hurried style in which my notes upon the Bill have been made. At this time of year when officers are overwhelmed with annual reports of all kinds, it is simply impossible for any one to find time for a leisurely discussion of such an important subject as a complete change in the relations between landlord and tenant. I have therefore been compelled to make notes on the Bill as I could find time amid the pressure of exceptionally heavy current work. It is not open to me now to discuss the principle of the Bill. Upon that question, as connected with the rights of the zemindars under the permanent settlement, I have already expressed an opinion, and, after the authoritative declaration of the Government of India of their views upon that point, it is not for me to re-open the discussion. There is, however, one point on which I venture to think I may still be permitted to make a remark. The Bill is framed for the purpose of carrying out a pledge given by the Government with regard to the rights of ryots, at the time of the permanent settlement. And in pursuance of the effort to fulfil this pledge it is now proposed to give the ryots fixity of tenure, fair rent, and freedom of sale of their holdings.

8. How far these privileges or rights were guaranteed under the terms of the settlement has been disputed; how far the ryot requires fixity of tenure which he has, in Lower Bengal, practically got, is also a question upon which there have been differences of opinion: whether freedom of sale will in reality confer on the ryots the boon which it is intended to give them, is also an open question; but there is and can be no difference of opinion as to the ryot being required to pay a fair rent for any holding which he possesses.

9. Many provisions have been laid down for the purpose of ensuring to the ryot exemption from demands of unfair rent, and the pledge given at the time of the settlement has been frequently referred to as the justification for the enactment of such provisions. Whether the terms of the pledge then given justify the provisions of the law which it is proposed to introduce, has been, and will be, hotly contested by the zemindars. But there is one portion of the pledge given by the framers of the settlement, as to the interpretation of the terms to which there is no uncertainty, and yet I find no proposal made as to any intention being entertained of effectively fulfilling our promises—I mean the pledge as to the absolute abolition of illegal cesses.

10. It seems to me that this question is of the most vital importance in considering the point of fairness of rent, and it appears almost a mockery to devise a multitude of provisions for regulating the exact amount of money to be paid by the ryot under the name of rent, while we leave unlimited and unchecked (for the declaration in sections 125 and 124 practically impose no greater check than exists now) the demand on the part of rent receivers of every degree, with reference to illegal cesses. How can we with propriety call any rent *fair*, which is to be supplemented by practically unlimited illegal demands of cesses, which, although abolished by law, the representative of the zemindar in council describes as the "moral adjustment of enhanced rent."

11. There can be no doubt as to the meaning of our ancient pledges in this respect, there can be no doubt as to the absolute non-existence of any right on the part of zemindars to realize such cesses, and there can be no doubt as to one having for nearly a century permitted the ryots to be unwarrantly oppressed, without giving them any substantial relief against the illegal and extortionate demands made upon them by zemindars and other rent receivers.

12. It seems to me that it is our bounden duty, when talking of the force of pledges given nearly a century ago, to put an effectual stop to illegal oppression before regulating legal demands. Especially do I think so, when I believe, as I do, that the summary and stern repression of such illegal oppression by zemindars, will do more to ensure to the ryot the payment of a fair rent than many elaborate restrictions and provisions, such as are contained in the present Bill.

13. It is notorious that such illegal cesses are levied in almost every zemindari in the country, although all such irregular demands have been by law abolished. It is equally notorious that such demands are paid by tenants, although they press very heavily on the ryots, and raise their contributions to their zemindars far beyond the standard of moderate enhancement. It must be also clear why such irregular payments are paid by ryots, who are not ordinarily liberal in the discharge of their duties to the landlord. The reason simply is, that the ryot submits to these exactions rather than have his rent enhanced by order of Court, because he has no security that, after such legal enhancement, the demand for illegal cesses will in any way be relaxed or diminished, and because he has no practical protection under the law against the illegal exactions of his zemindar with regard to such cesses.

14. It seems to me a disgrace to our administration that we should admit our incapacity to deal with such universal and flagrant breaches of the law, and the ryots, it appears to me, can hardly be expected to attach much value to our professions of legislative interest in their welfare, when we fail to devise effectual means to protect them against demands of their zemindars, which are admittedly illegal, which are undoubtedly oppressive, and which will continue to render any rent unfair, although its fairness may be secured by many provisions in a Tenancy Bill.

15. If the ryot were first of all secured against, what I would term an immoral "adjustment of enhanced rent," in the shape of illegal cesses, and if the zemindars were rigorously

punished for such undoubted infractions of the laws of the land, we should then have made the first step to secure fairness of rent, and should have removed the chief objection of the ryot to legitimate enhancement of his dues to his landlord. Till that is done, (and if there is any meaning in promises, we are pledged to do it), I cannot believe that any real progress will have been made in rendering payment of rents by ryots *fair*.

16. I come now to consider the details of the Bill, and here I find myself in a peculiar position. Holding the views which I have previously and on another occasion expressed, I cannot consider many of the provisions of the Bill as fair to the zemindar, with reference to the rights, which they have enjoyed for a century, and yet I am precluded from calling in question the principle upon which the Bill is founded. My remarks must therefore be more general than if I were supporter of the Bill suggesting modifications in details based upon a principle which I thoroughly endorsed.

17. Before going on to consider the more important provisions of the Bill generally, I have a few remarks to make regarding khamar land as dealt with in Chapter II. So far as regards Lower Bengal, there is no such extensive recognition of the difference between *khamar* and *ryoti* land, as exists in Behar with reference to *zerat*. I question very much whether many zemindars in Lower Bengal could tell accurately how much khamar and how much ryoti land is included in their jummabundis, when they possess such documents, and still fewer landlords would be able to file any documentary evidence as to lands having been held as khamar. For example, all *utbundi* lands are considered to be khas lands, but yet I never heard of zemindars calling them khamar. Similarly, all *nakshan* holdings revert to the possession of the zemindar, and lands in churs and alluvial formations are undoubtedly in his exclusive possession.

18. If the definition given in section 5 of khamar land is not extended, so as to cover *utbundi* and *nakshan* lands, the inclusion of such lands under *ryoti* will be most unjust to the zemindar.

19. Further, if the register which is now to be prepared is never to be amended, how will chur lands coming subsequently into the possession of a zemindar be shown?

20. I am bound to say that I have not seen in Lower Bengal any manifestation of any tendency on the part of zemindars to bring ryoti into the category of khamar lands. This tendency undoubtedly exists in Behar, and for Behar this chapter is chiefly framed. I have, however, seen indications of a tendency on the part of ryots to filch khamar land when they got a chance, and call it ryoti.

21. It seems to me that acting upon the presumption that all land is ryoti, until the contrary is shown, the zemindars will have, under the circumstances of Lower Bengal, great difficulty in establishing their rights to what really is khamar. When the time comes for a field survey of the province (and until this is done we shall never have any really satisfactory determination of the questions at issue between landlords and tenants), it would be fair to mark off as ryoti the amount of land held by each ryot as ryoti according to jummabundi, leaving the surplus to be adjudicated either as khamar or ryoti according to proof adduced. In many cases, I have no doubt that such surplus would represent much khamar land that had originally been filched from the zemindar, owing, I admit, to his own laches by the ryots.

22. With reference to the provisions of section III, there is not much to be said. I am bound to say that the extension in section 15 of the presumption from twenty years holding at unchanged rent, is in my opinion going too far. I much prefer the previous proposal of limiting the proof required to 20 years' unchanged rent before 1859.

23. Is the provision in section 20 to have retrospective effect with reference to the thousands of temporarily settled estates in Bengal?

24. I have no special objection to the provisions for enhancement of rent of tenures.

25. Why should not the right of pre-emption be given to the landlord in the case of transfer of tenures? It is of quite as much importance to him to keep out an objectionable transferee of a tenure as of an occupancy holding.

26. With reference to registration of tenures, I see no reason for the provisions of section 28. It is advisable to restrict such transactions to the parties themselves, and not to bring in the aid of the courts or revenue officers on every occasion. The landlord can always be brought to account for refusal to register as provided in section 32.

27. With reference to occupancy ryots, and the provisions of the Bill regarding them, I object to the extension of the provisions of Act X of 1859, specially with reference to the definition of a settled ryot in section 45.

2nd.—With reference to what seems to me the unjust provisions of section 47.

3rd.—With reference to transferability of the tenure.

4th.—With reference to sub-letting.

5th.—With reference to the abolition of freedom of contract.

6th.—With reference to the provisions of sections 59 and 61 of Chapter VI. With reference to enhancement of rents by contract, other limit of money rent payable by a settled ryot taking a new holding.

28. I have nothing new to add to the arguments of those who object to the extension of occupancy rights proposed by the Bill. It seems to me as to them unjust that the element of *residence* should not be an essential feature of the status of a settled ryot. I see no reason why a settled ryot having a right of occupancy in certain lands should, as a matter of right, have the same status in lands, which may be miles away from his village, although within the same estate, and the accrual of a right of occupancy to a settled ryot, in any lands subsequently acquired by virtue of his tenancy of lands at the time of his becoming a settled ryot, seems to

me an unjust extension of occupancy right. I do not object to the tenures of occupancy ryots being made transferable subject to the consent of the landlord, or even without such consent because as a matter of fact such transfers of tenures have become a matter of custom (although it may be remarked in passing that the customary exercise of rights *by zemindars* for a century is not admitted by the framers of the Bill, as a valid argument for arrogating such rights), but I question very much whether this power of transfer will be such a boon as is represented to the ryot. It will undoubtedly enable him to raise money for the purpose of spending it, but that it will, with his improvident habits, convert him into a thrifty peasant, I have very grave doubts.

29. There is no doubt that this unfettered power of transfer will encourage the disputes and faction quarrels which have always been a prominent feature in native families, and if in addition to this power of transfer is given the privilege of sub-letting, without consent of the landlord, the latter will very soon find his estate full of occupancy ryots or their dependents in the shape of his bitterest enemies.

30. The right of pre-emption on the part of the landlord is good so far as it goes, but the condition of being obliged to let the land as an occupancy holding does away with much of the protection which the right of pre-emption affords.

31. If the tenure is allowed to be transferable, I would, on no account, permit sub-letting, which will simply encourage ryots to let out their tenures, and prey upon the sub-tenants. Such a system will in the end lead to sub-tenants or ordinary ryots under occupancy holders being much more rack-rented than they are now.

32. As to the abolition of freedom of contract, I altogether fail to see the justice of the provision. I do not find anything of the kind in any of the settlement regulations, and I fail to see how the ryot is ever to learn how to stand alone, if he is to be rigidly protected against himself. The ryot is to be allowed freedom in every respect, except when he enters into an agreement with his landlord. If this is not setting class against class, and teaching the ryot to look upon the landlord as his natural enemy, words have no meaning. I would certainly leave the parties to contract as they please, and the courts should not, in my opinion, refuse to recognize such contracts. Denial of the right of contract has a distinct tendency to make the landlord resort to illegal cesses, and the ryot acquiesce in such improper exactions. For, if the tenant is in need or wishes in any way to propitiate his landlord, he will agree to pay a *mangan* without much hesitation, seeing that the right to make a legitimate agreement with his zemindar is denied to him. I must confess that, according to my experience, the ryot of Lower Bengal is not such a down-trodden or helpless creature, with reference to his own interests, as he is represented to be. I notice that the case of Backergunge is cited as an instance of exceptional prosperity amongst ryots, brought about apparently by the existence of a large number of peasant-proprietors in that district. I am not prepared to attribute the prosperity of Backergunge to this cause, but if peasant-proprietorship in that district has caused prosperity, it is undeniable that such a system of land tenure has also brought with it a development of turbulence unknown in any other district. But leaving Backergunge out of the question, I can point to the majority of ryots having occupancy rights in Dacca, Tipperah, Chittagong, Jessore, Noakhally, and other districts, as being men who are eminently calculated to look after their own interests. It seems to me hardly consistent to inculcate upon the people by one enactment their fitness to govern themselves, and in another to provide them with a means of protection against their own acts. To give them power to vote with reference to matters about which they express little concern, and to deny them a right to contract with regard to their rent, about which they are supremely interested.

33. With reference to the provisions for enhancement, it seems to me that, considering the difficulties of the subject, the proposals embodied in the Bill are on the whole fair. It might be simpler to eliminate the standard as regards rate of one-fifth of the average annual value of the gross produce of the land, and lay down the principle that the enhanced rent should not exceed so many annas in the rupee of rent, but I am not prepared to suggest any better provisions than those laid down. The general provisions as to the enhanced rent not being more than double the previous rent paid, that it may be ordered to take effect gradually, and that no re-enhancement shall take place for ten years, are in my opinion salutary. I do not see that zemindars have any reason to complain of these provisions, and I quite admit the necessity for giving the ryot protection against the ever recurring threats of enhancement which have embittered the relations between landlords and tenants.

34. I am not of opinion that it will be practicable to frame tables of rates such as are proposed, without an amount of harassment and expense to both landlords and tenants, which would be ruinous to them, and, even when prepared, I question very much whether it would be fair to either party to keep them in force for even ten years. Whether, when we have a field survey, it may be possible to frame such tables of rates with less expense, is another question.

35. With reference to the provisions regarding bhaoli rents, I must admit that my service having been almost entirely in Lower Bengal, where this system is not so prevalent as in Behar, I am not in a position to give any opinion derived from practical experience.

36. With regard to ordinary ryots, the provisions of the Bill militate against all previous practice under which a tenant-at-will was allowed to hold land in accordance with agreement entered into between him and his landlord. I think it unwise that such a practice should be disturbed, and am not prepared to support those provisions which fix a maximum of rent to

be demanded, and which introduce the entirely new system of compensation, for the disturbance of tenancy of a man who has no right to such tenancy except under agreement with his landlord.

37. Throughout Lower Bengal there is no necessity for recognizing any other principle than that of mutual interest between landlords and tenants, in determining the relations which should exist on the part of landholders to tenants-at-will. No landholder in his senses will now aim at extravagant enhancements, for such a policy will very soon relieve him of his ryots. Most landlords are now anxious to get ryots to settle, and eviction, even of tenants-at-will, is a procedure which is, I imagine, more sparingly resorted to in Lower Bengal than in any country that I know of. The relations, therefore, between landlords and tenants-at-will may safely be left to determine themselves according to the economic laws of supply and demand.

38. Instalments of rent should, in my opinion, be payable according either to custom or contract. Interference, such as is contemplated in section 98, is not desired by either ryots or zemindars, and does not appear to me to be desirable.

39. It is very proper that receipts should be given as laid down in section 100, and I have no doubt that these provisions will do much to stop the forgery, which prevails to such a lamentable extent in connection with rent receipts. I do not, however, see that the ryot should be entitled to have such a statement of account as is specified in section 101, without paying a fee for the same. Such a statement is entirely unusual, and in a large zemindāri will involve considerable expense on the landlord, in the way of keeping up clerical establishments. The rent receipt is sufficient protection to the ryot, and if he wishes to have a further safe guard, he should, in my opinion, pay for it.

40. The provision as regards deposit of rent are unobjectionable, except that in 103 (*a*). The ryot should not be allowed to deposit simply *when he has reason to believe* that rent will not be received or a receipt given. He should first make the tender as at present, and, after refusal made, should be at liberty to deposit.

41. The chapter upon compensation for improvements seems to me to be based upon an entirely mistaken theory as to the wishes and acts of Bengal ryots with regard to improvements. It seems to be assumed that every ryot who has a holding is wishful to improve it, and that he only requires fixity of tenure to invest capital in developing the latent resources of his land. Hitherto he has been afraid to invest money owing to the uncertainty of his tenure and the oppressions of his landlord. Once fix the former and restrain the latter, and it is assumed that the ryot will have courage to improve his land, which has hitherto remained less productive than it should have been.

42. Now there have been for centuries, and are now, millions of ryots who have had fixity of tenure, and to whom the provisions of the Bill on the subject of the existence of tenant right are no novelty. Have these ryots shown any inclination to invest capital in improving their land; have they evinced any desire to increase the productive powers of the land, even by the elementary process of manuring it; have they done anything under the influence of fixity of tenure in the way of constructing for the benefit of their lands any of the numerous works specified in section 26 as agricultural improvements?

43. I do not know what may be the condition of affairs in this respect in other parts of the province, but in Lower Bengal the ryots with rights of occupancy or fixity of tenure have done nothing to improve their lands, and although, if, as is proposed, an opportunity of demanding compensation for improvements is given them, they will be only too ready to advance false claims for mythical expenditure in this respect, I say, without hesitation, that ryots with fixity of tenure have evinced no desire to benefit their land or expend any portion of their supposed savings in developing its resources. Any such improvements as have been made have, so far as my experience goes, been carried out by landlords, and not by ryots, and I see no reason to believe that the ryots, when they have more capital, will change their nature or their habits as regards expenditure, which they think ought to be incurred by their zemindar.

44. If by fixity of tenure the ryot manages to save, he certainly does not spend his profits on his land. He may add to his house, which hardly can be called an agricultural improvement, buy cattle, increase his wife's stock of ornaments, spend somewhat more at marriages and village festivals, but it will not occur to him to improve the land, which, in his opinion, ought to improve itself, which has for ages yielded crops without expenditure on his part on agricultural improvements and which ought to continue so to do.

45. The ryot, so far as my experience goes, does not want to improve his land or be improved himself, he wants to be let alone, and this chapter on agricultural improvements introduces a system which is perfectly new in the bucolic history of Bengal, which is certainly not needed with reference to the acts or wants of ryots at present, and which will infallibly lead to litigation and false claims of every description, such a system will also most certainly lead to landlords declining to undertake or give any assistance to villagers in undertaking village improvements, and when villagers with, as is the case in most instances, opposing interests are left to themselves to carry out so called improvements, the result may be easily imagined.

46. I would not object to seeing the whole chapter excised from the Bill, but if it is to be retained, I am not in favour of giving even the occupancy ryot any right to make improvements for which at some time the landlord may be called upon to pay compensation, unless such improvements have been sanctioned by the landlord. It might be left open to the tenant to compel such consent, if, after application made, the landlord refused to allow any reasonable improvement to be carried out.

47. With reference to tenants-at-will, I would allow no improvements to be made by them without the landlord's consent.

48. The doctrine of merger contained in paragraph 141, is, so far as I am aware, unknown to Indian law, and I find nothing in the papers connected with the Bill which shows me that the application of such a principle is in any way required either by ryots or landlords.

49. The appointment of a common manager in the case of zemindars who are quarrelling is a provision which is very necessary in the interests both of the public peace and private rights. I do not see anything objectionable in the provisions of the Bill on this point. It has been objected that, under the provisions of section 142, any discontented ryot may cause his zemindars much trouble. I do not, however, take this to be the meaning of the words "any one interested in the estate or tenure" in section? If by these words is included *any ryots*, then I think that it should not be within the power of one tenant to set the law in motion. I would not say that the majority of tenants only should have such power, but would leave indefinite the number of ryots having interest in the estate, upon whose application the civil court should take action, unless, "a large proportion (*vide* section 164*a*) of tenants applied," I do not think the civil courts should act.

50. I am quite prepared to admit that, if the provisions of sections XI and XII can be successfully carried out, and, if we can have a record-of-rights made, and rents ascertained, great progress will have been made in reaching a solution of many of the vexed questions at issue between landlords and tenants. The expense of such proceedings as are contemplated under these two chapters will be enormous, and I suspect ruinous to both parties. Before making these provisions of universal application under the order of Government in the cases specified in section 151, Government should, in my opinion, try the experiment thoroughly in Crown Estates. We have not yet, in the similar operations which have been carried on in settlements, sufficient data to work upon, and I much fear that the amount of litigation which would be at once excited by the application of these provisions generally, would be very injurious to both ryots and landlords, who might wish to make use of them. At the same time, I believe, that, if the system can be carried out without involving too much outlay, the principle of ascertaining and recording rights and rents paid (I am not quite prepared to go the length of *fixing* rents as proposed) will go a great way towards settling disputes, and facilitate the realization of rents.

51. As to the provisions for recovery of rent which was the beginning of the legislation which has found its outcome in the present Bill, I am afraid that landlords will hardly feel satisfied as to the relief which has been given them. Distraint has been practically abolished, for very few landlords will avail themselves of the provisions of the Bill, which enable them to apply to a Court for permission to distrain as laid down in the Bill. If a landlord has first to pay fees as for a suit, file an elaborate application duly verified and supported by documentary evidence and then finds that when he comes to execute his process, that pending operations at court, the crop sought to be distrained has been removed, as it almost certainly will be, such landlord will not be much encouraged to repeat the experiment in many instances.

52. So far as Lower Bengal is concerned, the existing provisions of the law as regards distraint may be safely maintained. I have no objections to illegal distraint being sternly put down, and I would visit abetment of such offences even with the punishment provided in *section* 186. Such a punishment, however, as I have already pointed out, is much more severe than that provided by the code for practical abetment or connivance at a riot involving perhaps loss of life on the part of a zemindar. If the lighter punishment for such abetment of a serious offence is to be maintained, it seems all are at one that connivance at an act of illegal distraint should be considered of so aggravated a nature as to demand such severe repression.

53. The further provisions for the speedy realization of rent go some way towards simplifying present procedure for recovery of rent, and, so far as they go, must be accepted by the zemindars as provisions in their favour. I am bound to say that *on the principles on which the Bill is drawn*, the zemindars could not expect further relief. I suspect, however, that they expected, and I am not prepared to say that they had not a good right to expect very much more substantial relief as the outcome of their applications for a summary method of realizing rents preferred during the last 12 years.

54. Generally, while I am prepared to accept the provisions of the Bill with reference to enhancement, as on the whole such as landlords under present circumstances cannot complain of, I am bound to say that I consider the provisions of the Bill in most respects unfair to zemindars, and one-sided in favour of ryots. This I hold to be the case with reference to (*a*) the immense extension of the rights of occupancy; (*b*) the bestowal of large rights on tenants-at-will; (*c*) the withdrawal of freedom of contract; (*d*) the provisions with reference to improvements; (*e*) the introduction of the system of compensation for disturbance; (*f*) the practical abolition of distraint, while insufficient relief is given in the way of a summary procedure for realization of rents.

55. Under such circumstances, I cannot convince myself that the Bill, if passed into law, will render practicable a satisfactory solution of the difficulties attending the disposal of the questions at issue; on the contrary, I feel constrained to believe that the application of the various provisions of the Bill must result in endless litigation, active hostility between landlords and tenants, and injury to the property of both.

No. 348G, dated Jessore, the 31st May, 1883.

From—E. J. BARTON, Esq., Collector of Jessore,
To—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

I have the honour to reply to your circular No. 3RL of 9th April, 1883, requiring my opinion on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

2. I beg to premise that my remarks are limited to the applicability of the Bill to Lower Bengal, more especially to my own district of Jessore, and that I do not think I am required to refer to the provisions which relate to Behar.

3. I have to inform you that I have doubts if it would be expedient to pass the Bill in its present shape. *I think that a more speedy and a cheaper means of realizing rent is desirable, and that a Bill which secures this would do all that is really necessary.* So far as the Bill endeavours to secure a speedier and cheaper recovery of rents, I am in favour of it.

4. The parts of the Bill which, I think, are open to objection, and which still require mature consideration and modification are those which introduce changes into the respective rights of landlord and tenant, and raise the tenant into the position of a co-partner at the expense of the landlord, without giving the latter any compensation for the property of which he is deprived.

5. I doubt if it is expedient to introduce the drastic and serious changes which the Bill proposes in the substantive law, which at present regulates the respective rights of landlord and tenant. Constant changes in legislation are greatly to be deprecated in this country, and should only be made when a clear and undoubted necessity arises. In the present case, I do not think that any such necessity has arisen. Of course I here speak of Lower Bengal, and of the district of Jessore more particularly. The Bill gives to all ordinary ryots facilities for acquiring the status of settled ryots *against the will of the landlord*, and gives occupancy rights to settled ryots in respect to all ryoti land, *see* sections 88 to 90. It makes occupancy rights transferable, *see* section 50, and limits the maximum of the zemindar's claim to one-fifth gross annual produce in all occupancy tenancies, *see* section 61. The Bill, in important matters, deprives a landlord of liberty of contract with his ryots. I consider that the whole of the above provisions require careful reconsideration and modification, and that some of them, instead of conferring a benefit upon cultivating ryots as they are intended to do, will injure them. I consider that the Legislature should interfere with liberty of contract only in cases of the most pressing necessity, and that no case of this kind has been established so far as the landlords and tenants of Lower Bengal are concerned. I am far from maintaining that the condition of the ryots in Lower Bengal is what it should be, or that their landlords' treatment of them had been such as the Government had a right to expect in accordance with the terms of the permanent settlement. I merely express an opinion that this Bill will not improve matters in either respect, and there is grave reason to fear that it will aggravate the evils which it professes to remedy.

6. With regard to the question how far it is expedient to allow contracts providing against the acquisition of the right of occupancy, I think it is perhaps better to leave the parties to contract for themselves. The in-coming tenant might, in the generality of cases, be prevailed upon to accept the terms offered to him by his landlord, but it is neither fair nor sound upon judicial principles to place a restriction on the freedom of parties to contract as they will. The argument which may be raised in favour of restricting the right of landlords to choose their own terms in letting out their lands to tenants may, with equal force, be applied to all kinds of contracts, and I do not see why landlords should be deprived of their right in a particular class of contracts only.

7. The Bill, in many important particulars, reduces the zemindars to the position of annuitants, deprives them of incentives to improve their estate and the condition of their ryots, and vests important rights over their property in the ryot's rights, which the zemindars have enjoyed for many years, and of which, in my opinion, the present state of the country does not justify the forfeiture without compensation.

8. The opinions of the gentlemen named below are herewith enclosed, in original, for your information :—

NAMES.	Profession.	Opinion whether for or against the Bill.
Mr. W. G. Deare	Sub-Divisional Officer, Jhenida	For the Bill.
„ Tweedie	Indigo-planter and zemindar	Against.
„ Oatts	Ditto ditto	Ditto.
„ Shirreff	Ditto ditto	Ditto.
Moulvie Moazzim Hossein	Small Cause Court Judge and zemindar	Ditto.
Pramatha Bhusana Deva Raya, Raja of Naldanga.	Zemindar	Ditto.
Babu Shyamadhaba Roy	Deputy Collector	For the Bil

Memo. No. 40, dated Jhenidah, the 1st May, 1883.

From—W. G. DEARE, Esq., Deputy Collector,
To—The Collector of Jessore.

Refers to the Collector's No. 78G., dated the 14th April, 1883.

As far as my individual opinion is concerned, it seems to me the Government, in the exercise of an inherent right, have, with much care, labour and research, drafted a Bill which, if it becomes law, will very largely improve the condition of the ryots and subordinate landlords. It will raise the inferior occupants of the soil from the position of serfs, and give them a real interest in their holdings, for they will learn that, so long as they act legally, they will be in a position to assert and maintain certain rights, and be no longer at the mercy and caprice of a landlord. In my opinion the Government are acting justly and in the interests of humanity in legislating for the benefit of a people very largely agricultural. Of course, certain provisions of the Bill are very distasteful to the zemindars, but the Government are considering and dealing with the interests of those who, from their situation, are dependant and helpless and at the mercy of the landlords, whose one aim is gain at the expense of tenants. The Government are not exceeding their authority in limiting the privileges of a rich and powerful, but small, class of landed proprietors, whose interests are also very fairly protected by the Bill.

One landlord's opinion respecting the Bill is, that it is one-sided and calculated to increase difficulties between landlords and their tenants. It is arbitrary and unjust, and the frequency of the expression "notwithstanding any contract to the contrary" shows a total disregard for engagements legally entered into and duly registered, the cancelling of which cannot fail to be disastrous in its effects upon zemindars. But I fear enquiry may disclose that the landlord, taking advantage of his power and influence and of the ignorance and helplessness of the ryot, has bound them under engagements largely beneficial to himself and probably injurious to the ryots. They are bound hand and foot by engagements unprofitable to themselves, and cannot cast off the yoke and improve their circumstances. The Government have a right to step in, and declare that such one-sided engagements shall no longer be recognized, but that the ryot shall have a fair field for his industry.

Such is my opinion. There is great need for legislation, if the ryot is to be emancipated from serfdom and to be allowed to take up a position as a free man, able to turn his industry to the best advantage to himself, to improve his holding, and secure a safe and permanent dwelling, without, in the first place, having to purchase the landlord's permission at a ruinous cost, so long as he acts legally and pays a fair rent. The Bill in its present form will, it seems to me, meet every requirement.

I append a report drafted by the Sub-Deputy Collector, showing the opinion of local Native landholders regarding certain portions of the Bill.

Draft Report by BABU NOGENDRA LAL MITTRA, *Sub-Deputy Collector.*

A public meeting was convened, and the opinion of the respectable inhabitants and pleaders of the sub-division was consulted, and they one and all consider that a slight modification in the Bill would be well for the interest of landlord and tenant, both classes alike.

It seems to me the points of the Bill which require particular consideration are the following :—

(1) Occupancy-ryot.
(2) Proposal for taking away from the hands of the landlord right to give consent to build, excavate tanks, fell trees upon his land, and while the landlord is thus deprived of his right, the tenant has been vested with the right to claim compensation for any improvement in case he be disturbed in his possession even for non-payment of rent.
(3) Proposal to give power to the occupancy-ryot to sell or sublet his right to anybody, without the consent of the landlord.
(4) Direct interference with private contract.

CHAPTER V.

Describes at length how occupancy right is acquired and what right an occupancy ryot can exercise under this Bill. The definition of an occupancy ryot is a broad one, so much so that an occupancy ryot can be classed with that of second grade landlord. This ryot under the Bill can build, excavate tanks, cut trees on his holding, and can sell, sublet, transfer, or mortgage his right without the consent of his landlord. Before anything is said on this class of ryot, I would moot the question who is an occupancy ryot. This class of ryot is not the actual cultivator of the soil, and the expenses and risk of cultivation are not his, but he would enjoy the privileges though. A sub-tenant faces all their risk and pays expenses of cultivation, borrowing money at a high rate of interest from his mohajany. As soon as the harvest season is over, these matans, landlords, and above all, or occupancy ryot, come in for their respective profits. Can a cultivator lay by anything after satisfying these three classes of payees. The Commissioners recognise occupancy ryots who are virtually no better than middlemen. The condition of the peasantry of Bengal has not been bettered, and unless these squatters or middlemen are removed, there is no chance of its getting bettered in future. Again, an occupancy ryot can sublet his holding. I consider a ryot ceases to be a ryot when he sublets his holding. These middlemen do not cultivate land or go to any risk whatever, but they acquire occupancy right by the mere fiat of the law. If the sub-letting be

recognized, the class of middlemen will increase, the condition of the actual cultivator of the soil remaining the same.

CHAPTER X.

Ryot from the time of the decennial settlement has been acting under the old usage of the country, *viz.*, building and excavating tank upon his holding with the permission of his landlord. The landlord in giving permission to the cultivable or arable land, thus converting into a homestead or bastoo one, does not lose. By the introduction of the change surely landlord will be a loser, and more so when he is to deal with a refractory ryot. By the provision of this chapter a proprietor suffers doubly,—1*stly*, being deprived of the right to give permission to the ryot for excavating tank, &c.; 2*ndly*, by being compelled to compensate a refractory ryot for the losses he may sustain by his own refractoriness.

CHAPTER V.

It has been already pointed out that, if the sub-letting system be allowed to go on, then the present occupancy ryot would be converted into middlemen ere long, and middlemen as a class are not actual cultivators of the soil. Now the tendency of the Bill is to give privileges to occupancy ryots, and probably Legislature has in view the bettering of the condition of the actual cultivator of the soil. But if the occupancy ryots convert themselves into middlemen, and the practical effect of the Bill be to better the condition of the middlemen only, then I beg to submit the object of the Bill will be sadly frustrated.

The right of transfer of occupancy right, if given unconditionally to the ryot, would probably move the same effect.

CHAPTER VI.

The next subject which requires notice is the proposal of vesting the revenue officers with the power of interfering with the private contracts between the landlords and tenants. I should think that the contemplated interference cannot have a beneficial effect. Private contracts have always been held sacred by law except in peculiar circumstances. A long-standing quarrel between a landlord and ryot may be put an end to by a private arrangement. And if the parties to a contract consider it beneficial to their actual interest, I think it is not necessary for Government to interfere and unsettle a thing settled by the parties themselves, who, I believe, would understand their interest better than any officer of Government.

Dated Porehattie, the 28th April 1883.

From—C. TWEEDIE, Esq.,

To—The Collector of Jessore.

Having been asked to give my opinion on the proposed Bengal Tenancy Bill, I have read it over carefully, and am struck with dismay at its contents: a more unjust and arbitrary Bill, and one calculated to widen the breach between landlords and their tenants, and gradually stamp out the former, could not well be drawn.

The injustice of the expression which runs throughout the Bill, "notwithstanding any contract to the contrary," is so great, that I cannot believe it will ever be sanctioned by any law-maker who gravely considers the matter—to do away with contracts (terms of tenure), and they are many, which have been legally made and duly registered, and which have greatly tended to calm down the differences which arose by the passing of Act X of 1859; will upset all that has been done during 24 years by those landlords who have given attention to the management of their estates, and will also so unsettle the minds of the tenants that the consequences are likely to be very disastrous.

If existing contracts are not upheld, it will tell particularly hard on European tenure-holders who have paid much attention to settling their estates, and I presume they are not included in the description given by the Government of India in paragraph 85 of their letter No. 6 of 21st March 1882. If they are included, I would recommend the Government to adopt the more open and fair policy of offering to give them compensation to quit the mofussil, making over their properties and factories to the Government, an experiment which could be easily carried out in the Presidency circle, where but few of the indigo-planter landholders remain, rather than gradually but surely stamp them out by the introduction of such a Bill as the Bengal Tenancy Bill with its arbitrary and retrospective clauses.

The framers of the Bill have evidently no knowledge of the people and requirements of the country; they have but one fixed object in view, the annihilation of the landlords.

There is nothing in the Bill which will facilitate the collection of rents, and very little that will really benefit the tenant class.

I annex some remarks upon the sections of the Bill, to which I beg to draw your attention.

Sections 5 and 7 to 13.—In this district there was a quantity of khamar land in every village, a deal of which has been absorbed or taken possession of by ryots, thereby making a ryot's holding larger than it was at the time of settlement when he was supposed to hold one bigah of matan land for Rs. 1-5-3. Would it not be better to define the ryots' holdings, charging them at the very old established rate of the pergunnah for each bigah they claim as belonging to their tenures, and the balance be considered khamar, or in other words, it is now impossible to define khamar without defining the ryots' tenures at the same time. I do not suppose that many landlords mind whether lands are khamar or ryoti, so long as they get

a fair rent for each bigah of land; but there is no doubt that all that a ryot was originally entitled to was one bigah for Rs. 1-5-3—anything he may hold which reduces his nirrick has been got by absorbing the landlord's khamar, except in cases of special pattah.

Sections 14 to 18.—Except under special pattah given by the landlords, no ryots had any right to hold at a cheaper rate than the pergunnah rate, and every ryot should be assessed at that rate who claims to hold at an unchanged rate from the permanent settlement, as such lands as he holds in excess have been absorbed from the landlord's khamar. The above is according to the special custom of the district, and would be understood by both landlords and ryots.

Section 22.—If a ryot was entitled to 5 bigahs at Rs. 1-5-3=Rs. 6-10-3, and has absorbed 10 bigahs of the landlord's khamar, total 15 bigahs, there seems to be no reason why his rent should not be brought up to Rs. 19-14-9 instead of double as proposed, viz., Rs. 13-4-6, which is in accordance with custom.

Section 24.—In a country where it is so difficult to ascertain the exact quantity of land held by a ryot, there seems to be no reason why enhancement should not take place as often as lands can be shewn to be held in excess of what was supposed.

Sections 38 to 42.—There seems to be little use in demanding security from the purchaser of a putni holding, as a ready remedy can be found to recover the rent due by an astum sale: and considering that a bonus of three to four years rental is usually paid for a putni, the security of the holding seems ample to meet the needs of the zemindars.

Section 45.—It seems to be unjust to give a man a right of permanent occupancy who has contracted with his landlord that he shall not acquire such a right; what would landlords and tenants in Scotland say to such a proposal where leases are usually of 19 years? Unjust.

Section 46.—If a ryot does not lose his status title a year after he has absconded, who is to pay the rent of the holding for that year?

Section 47.—This is a section rather unintelligible, especially the proviso; but it is evident that special contract is to be null and void.

Section 48.—This seems to be a useless section, as according to previous sections, a ryot is to acquire an occupancy right without its being granted to him.

Section 49.—This is what has taken place: the ryot has absorbed khamar land into his holding, but it was never supposed that he has acquired a right of occupancy in the excess lands, and he is generally too glad to pay for the excess lands at the pergunnah rate, and have them joined on to his holding when he is farmed out.

Section 50.—This section, to override contract, is unjust and quite contrary to custom. I held a house and land in England, and I was bound by my lease not to sublet, cut trees, nor break up pasture. Had I infringed any of the conditions of my lease, I presume an injunction would have been taken out to prevent me, and justly too.

Sections 51 to 57.—When a ryot has hitherto had no transferable right in his land except that given to him by an arbitrary law, which proposes to override all written contracts and old established customs, it is not likely that a landlord would care to avail himself of the right of pre-emption, and to find himself in the position described in section 56, by which he would have spent his money, and be in the same position as he was before.

Section 59.—It is unjust that a revenue or registering officer should interfere between two parties contracting, or arbitrate as to what should be, unasked. It is surely sufficient that the parties contracting are satisfied, and that the registering officer is satisfied as to the identity of the executant, and that he knows the terms of his contract.

Section 61.—This is decidedly unjust. It would be better to say that ryots are not competent to contract, and that no contracts would be binding unless made by a Government officer as the guardian of the ryot.

Section 72.—When Government officers, with an expensive staff, undertake to draw out tables, unpetitioned for, it seems hard that the occupancy ryots and the landlord should be called on to pay their salaries.

Section 74 (2).—It seems difficult to understand why a contract should be binding on a landlord and not on a tenant.

Section 76.—Double or any other proportion seems to be arbitrary. It would surely be more equitable that rent should be paid at a fair rate for each bigah acknowledged to be held, whether it should be an increase of quarter, double, or treble.

Section 78.—It is surely fair that a fresh suit for enhancement should lie whenever just cause arises, such as its being ascertained that more land is held by the ryot than what he is paying for, and which by collusion or mistake was wrongly measured; or, where four bigahs were reported to the landlord as within the ryot's holding, when there were actually six bigahs. In a country where corruption is so rife, ten years is a long time to wait to have an error rectified

Section 79.—When a ryot is allowed to sow what crops he likes without consideration as to their being exhaustive or not, and uses no manure to replenish the land, and has bound himself by contract not to ask for a reduction, it is unjust that he should be able to go into court and claim a reduction when the land has become exhausted by his bad farming, and the landlord has been prevented by law from having any say as to the rotation of crops. Rotation of crops so as not to impoverish the soil, also a clause about manuring, are strictly looked to in all English leases.

Section 86.—This section is surely not in accordance with English law.

Section 98.—This section would come very hard on tenure-holders, many of whom are bound by contract to pay to their superiors by monthly instalments. Where is the money to

come from if not from the tenants from whom it has always been customary to collect by monthly, and many of whom are bound by special agreement to pay in such kists.

Section 125.—In this case it would be necessary for the court to serve a notice upon the landlord, intimating that a sale for a money decree had taken place to enable the landlord to make his claim for such arrear of rent as might be due to him.

Section 126.—Ryots are not in the habit of making improvements in this district. If one ryot wished to do so, he could not on account of his lands being mixed up with the lands of other ryots.

Section 140.—According to this section, the holding must be fallow for one year, and the rent lost.

Section 166.—Distraining produce of the holding through the medium of the court would be useless as regards facilitating the collection of arrears, and would only result in the crop being wasted. What is wanted is a summary procedure by which a decree may be obtained, and either the moveable or immoveable property of the defaulter sold without delay.

Section 193.—A short limit should be given as to the time within which the suit must be heard and finally disposed of.

Section 194.—The post office would need to increase its delivery establishment.

Section 198(b).—There being no appeal, is a bad principle. An appeal has a great effect in keeping an officer from taking an one-sided view, or being arbitrary in his judgments.

Sections 211 and 212.—A sale, subject to encumbrances, will never answer, and it will only cause the unnecessary delay of the time allowed for postponement.

Section 217 (3).—No suit should be entertained to set aside a sale, unless the arrear for which the sale took place with costs is first deposited in court.

Dated Hazrapore, the 10th May, 1883.

From—J. HARRY OATTS, Esq.,

To—The Collector of Jessore.

With reference to your memorandum of 14th ultimo, I have the honour of submitting my views on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

I consider the Bill to be a most arbitrary, partial and unjust measure. It will sever all friendly ties between landlords and tenants, and lead to a state of things that must have disastrous results. There is nothing in it that will facilitate the collection of rents, and very little that will do any real good to the ryot. In fact, the Bill seems to have only one object, and that is, to stamp out landlords.

Sections 5 to 13, which relate to khamar and ryoti land, could not be applied to this district without great injustice to the landlords. If the Behar landlords make "persistent efforts" to increase the khamar (paragraph 19 of Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill), it is the Eastern Bengal ryot who makes persistent efforts to increase the ryoti by absorbing the khamar. Most of the tenures that are held at cheap rates have been formed in this way. Hence, it would be impossible to define the landlord's khamar without first defining the ryot's land.

Sections 14 to 18.—Because a ryot can shew that he has held his jumma at an unchanged rent for 20 years, or since the permanent settlement, it ought not to be presumed that the quantity of land has remained the same during these periods, unless he holds a pattah from the landlord. The fact is that, although he may have paid the same rent, he has considerably increased the quantity of land by absorption from the khamar. It would greatly benefit the mass of the ryots if permanent ryoti tenures were done away with altogether, and the rents payable by a village more uniformly distributed according to the quantity and quality of land held by each ryot.

Sections 45, 47, 50.—Concerning right of occupancy, contain a most unjust clause,—"notwithstanding any contract to the contrary." The remarks of the Government of India in paragraph 85 of their letter No. 6 of the 21st March 1882, certainly do not apply to this part of the country where the ryot is quite able to look after himself, and make his own terms with his landlord; and it is most unjust to do away with contracts that have been legally made. (The power of the tenants of Eastern Bengal over their landlords, I see, is acknowledged in paragraph 4 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill.) Section 50 confers such wholesale rights and privileges on the ryot, that it is a mockery to make use of the expression "landlord;" "rent-collector" would be much more correct.

Sections 59 and 61.—It is decidedly unjust to allow a revenue officer to interfere between a landlord and his tenant, especially when both parties are satisfied.

Section 72.—It is also very unfair, in section 72, to charge either the landlord or the ryot with the cost of preparing tables of rates when such tables are unasked for.

Section 14(2).—It seems very unfair that contracts should be binding on a landlord and not on a ryot.

Section 79.—If a ryot can do what he likes, and exhausts the soil by always sowing the same crops on it, and does nothing to improve it, it is very hard that the ryot should have the power to apply for a reduction of rent "notwithstanding any contract to the contrary."

Section 98.—If rents are collectable from ryots "*not more*" than four times in the year, and may be not so often, how are tenure-holders to pay rents to their superiors to whom they are bound by contract to pay more frequently; in many cases once a month?

Section 140—Seems to provide that a ryot's holding must lie fallow for one year, and the rent lost before the landlord can do anything. This seems difficult to understand.

Section 198.—Appeals ought not to be abolished. They prevent officers from being one-sided and arbitrary in their decisions.

Dated Sindooree, the 10th May, 1883.

From—W. SHIRREFF, Esq.,

To—The Collector of Jessore.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication No. 78 of the 14th ultimo, requesting me to give you my opinion on the proposed Bengal Tenancy Bill. I have gone over the proposed Bill as published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 7th March last, and I must say that a more one-sided measure I never saw.

The one great grievance that the landlords had to complain of was the delay and difficulty there is in realizing rents through the courts when such a course has to be adopted; but I do not see that the new Bill gives any particular facilities in that way, and leaves the landlords just as badly off as they were before in that respect. It takes away to a very great extent the rights and privileges of the landlords as hitherto possessed by them, and leaves them mere rent-collectors for the Government, while their responsibility for paying up the Government revenue remains as heretofore.

It seems to me to be a most complicated Act, and that there will be considerable difficulty in working it. I believe it will unsettle the minds of the agrarian population of Bengal, and lead to an immense amount of fresh litigation; and though it seeks to benefit the ryots at the expense of the landlords, yet the real people it will benefit will be the vakeels, mooktears, and hangers-on about the Moonsiff's courts, while the ryots will impoverish themselves by litigation, and a bad feeling will be established between them and their landlords, which will go far to nullify any advantages which it is sought to give them by this new measure.

I have to apologize for not having replied to your communication sooner, but press of business at this the sowing time has prevented me doing so sooner.

Dated Narail, the 12th May, 1883

From—MOULVIE SYED MOAZZIM HOSSAIN, KHAN BAHADUR, Judge of the Court of Small Causes, at Narail,

To—The Collector of Jessore.

In acknowledging with thanks your kind letter of the 14th ultimo, I have the honor to state that I had not the remotest idea that I should ever be called upon to give my humble opinion on so important a law regulating the relations between the proprietors of land, subordinate holders of land, and the vast mass of the peasantry, and in which the best talents of the land and the ablest officers of the Government, who have given the subect their most devoted attention, have been engaged in elaborating and introducing the Bill under consideration.

The shortness of the time allowed for the submission of the report precludes the possibility of being able to deal with so vast and important a subject with any appreciable approach to completeness. I shall, however, try to the best of my humble abilities to notice some of the most important points on the subject. At the outset, I must say that, having due regard to all the surrounding circumstances, I fail to see at the present time any urgent necessity for recasting the whole Rent Law which is working so well, instead of only making some amendments useful to both landlords and tenants. The introduction of the present Bill, purporting to make so many novel and radical alterations in the existing law between landlord and tenant, affecting a population of over sixty millions, would be, on one hand, a direct invasion of the rights of the zemindars, and on the other, seriously detrimental to the true interests of the actual cultivators. It is an admitted fact that nothing is more injurious to a person than to go to litigation, which is often ruinous to both parties. The proposed law has so many outlets to litigation, that every ryot will be under the necessity of having recourse to law suits, and observe so many technical formalities for the maintenance and transfer of his rights. He will have to dance attendance before several officers besides the Civil Court, and thereby waste his precious time and hard-earned money which he could have more advantageously employed in the cultivation and improvement of his land which would not only be profitable to himself, but also beneficial to others.

In my humble opinion, the ryots have not yet attained such a stage of advancement as would enable them to reap the benefits and advantages which the framers of the Bill have in view for them. With a hazy and undefined exaggeration of their rights and privileges they would rush into law courts, and get involved in endless litigation to their own ruin and to that of their landlords, but much to the benefit and satisfaction of petty-fogging touters and unscrupulous money-lenders, who at first tempt and draw them into the intricacies of law, and not leave them till they have wheedled them out of their last pie.

I beg to observe that there are many provisions in the Bill which I fully approve, while there are others, which, I am sorry to say, are not only uncalled for, but positively injurious to the interest of all classes.

The Bengal zemindars asked for a simpler procedure for the realization and enhancement of rent. But the present Bill does not give them greater facilities for the purpose than what

they already possess. They do not want more than the share of produce which in 1793 the Government assigned to them. Such cumbrous and expensive mode of enhancement and settlement of rate of rent, value of produce, and restriction of money rent to one-fifth of the produce, are quite uncalled for, and will ultimately prove injurious to both the landholders and tenants.

It will appear from a reference to old records that, formerly there were neither too many evictions nor enhancements. It is the law which opens the door to litigation for both tenants and landlords, and teaches them to try a variety of means to gain their selfish ends. It must be borne in mind that, as a rule, landowners generally are attached to their tenants, and try to secure their goodwill, and live on friendly terms with them. Naturally, they do not, and cannot, like to turn them out of their holdings, for it is an old proverbial saying of the great poet Sadi which may be rendered into—"The tenant is the root of the tree, and the landlord the trunk." If they ever disagree, it is owing to the conduct of objectionable ryots. It appears that the under-mentioned number of evictions and enhancements took place under the orders of a Moonsiff's court, having jurisdiction over an area with a population of 328,231; average enhancement=14, and evictions=6; total 20—a very small number for so large a population.

Having regard to this circumstance, I do not think it desirable for the Government to enact a law, the inevitable effect of which would be to upset the old-established relations between landlords and tenants, respected by the usages and customs of the country and courts of law, and thereby shake the confidence of the people in the acts of the Government, and put the entire population of the country in arms against one another. They are now passing their days happily in peace and quiet, but the effect of the contemplated legislation would be to involve them in chronic and ruinous litigation.

It is, no doubt, the duty of Government to extend benignant protection to all classes of its subjects, but the giving of a right of occupancy to a ryot who never had it before would, instead of improving his condition, rather make it worse by tempting him to run recklessly into debts by mortgaging his occupancy rights. It can easily be proved from enquiries that, of the several classes of ryots, those who cultivate the land appertaining to the village in which they may have resided from a long time, or from generations to generations, naturally have an attachment to such land, and feel anxious for its improvement and prosperity; on the other hand, the case is quite different with ryots who come merely to cultivate the lands, but reside in another village. They are nothing more or less than mere speculators, and, as such, they do not feel that interest in, and that attachment to, the land as are felt by the ryots of the former class.

If the right of occupancy be conferred on the latter class or non-resident ryots, the result would be that, without any hesitation, they would mortgage or transfer absolutely their rights and interests to any one, or make *benami* transactions, and thereby prove a source of great trouble and annoyance not only to the zemindar, but also to old resident ryots. I regret to find that the Bill encroaches on the freedom of contract, completion, and established usages which have been respected by all classes in all countries and in all ages.

The right of pre-emption may be considered by some as a compensation for the creation of transferability of occupancy rights, and as a guard against the introduction of objectionable tenants; but as a matter of fact, this right of pre-emption will practically be of little use, considering the large outlay which the landowner will have to make in the shape of purchase-money, &c., without any hope of an adequate return.

Most landowners in these days can hardly realize even as much as is necessary for payment of Government revenue and cesses; so they have no means to make purchases of interests of occupancy ryots; consequently, the introduction of objectionable ryots and interference of rival landowners and speculators, to the great annoyance of both the zemindars and the settled ryots of the village, are inevitable.

As regards the ryot himself, the formalities of law he shall have to go through to effect a transfer of a small holding in time of urgent need will put him to so much botheration, that his very object in making the transfer will be frustrated, and he will be obliged to incur unnecessary expenses, and suffer a great deal of trouble in the bargain.

It appears to me very hard that in cases of enhancement of rent, although the landlord may conform to all the rules prescribed by the proposed law, yet he must suffer, but for no fault of his own. Even if the grounds of enhancement of rent be fair and reasonable, but the ryot does not agree to pay the enhanced rent, and the landlord has to sue for ejectment, and gets a decree for it, yet he will have to pay compensation for improvement and a further compensation for disturbance before he can actually eject the tenant, or in other words, the landlord will not be able to gain the benefits of the decree until he deposits in court such sum as compensation for improvements and a further sum as compensation for disturbance equal to ten times the yearly increase of rent, which is indeed excessive and unjust. Here it is the tenant, who fails to comply with the provisions of the law, becomes the gainer; while the landlord is the loser. The landlord has to pay as compensation an amount to the outgoing tenant which he can seldom expect to realize from the new tenant. Suppose the old ryot agreed to pay the enhanced rent demanded, and was allowed to retain his holding, even in that case the landlord could not be sure of realizing from him by way of rent as much as he has to pay as compensation.

CHAPTER II.

Section 6.—The provisions of this section appear to be unreasonable and unjust. Every zemindar should be looked upon as proprietor of his lands, and as such he should be allowed to keep as much lands for his own private use as he requires; but the provisions of this section divest him of that power, and confer on the ryot a title which he never possessed nor demanded. Evidently this section means to convert a ryot into a proprietor.

CHAPTER IV.

Section 41.—An appeal ought to lie from an order under this section.

I should think a provision ought to be made for relinquishment of putni tenures; cases may arise in which the putnidar may not be able to realize even as much rent as he has to pay to the zemindar who may not choose to bring the putni tenure to sale, but insist on attachment and sale of his moveable and other immoveable property, and even apply for arrest of his person.

CHAPTER V.

Sections 45 and 47.—The provisions of these sections are exceedingly objectionable, because a ryot may hold one bigah of land in a village or estate for 11 years, and take 99 more in the twelfth year, and yet he will, at the end of the twelfth year, acquire a right of occupancy in all the 100 bigahs.

Section 49.—This section also is very objectionable. Under section 13, Chapter II, no khamar lands in a certain local area other than that for which a register has been prepared shall become khamar lands, while this section provides accrual of right of occupancy in khamar lands. So the zemindar will suffer double loss: on one hand he is deprived of the right of retaining as much land as he requires for his own use, and on the other, the land which will be recorded as his khamar land will go to the ryot's hands for ever, so that, if a zemindar requires to extend his family residence, make a garden or a new house, he will be at the mercy of his own tenant.

Section 51.—The time of one month given by this section ought to run from the date of service of notice and not from that of filing the same.

Section 56.—The acquisition of right of occupancy by a tenant immediately on his taking from the landlord a jote wherein the former tenant had a right of occupancy is indeed very objectionable. This section does away with the general period of 12 years required for the acquisition of occupancy right.

CHAPTER VI.

Section 59.—This section limits the enhancement to a six annas per rupe, or one-fifth of the estimated average annual value of the gross produce.

No restraint should be put on the freedom of contracts. When contracts entered into by people in other matters are respected by courts of law and sanctioned by the established usages of the country, there is no reason whatever why contracts between proprietors of lands and tenants should be respected only when it binds the zemindar (Section 74 sub-section 2).

Section 62.—Settlements of rate of rents, produce, or value might well be left for determination by Civil Courts.

The procedure as to settlement of rate of rent, &c., is indeed a very cumbrous one, and will cost trouble and expense to both landlords and tenants which the Legislature wants to avoid.

Section 73.—No provision is made if the change in, or in regard to, the land is effected solely by the agency or at the expense of the landlord or his predecessor in interest.

Section 74.—It is strange that the landlord should be bound by his contract not to enhance the rent of a tenant, while the ryot is either not bound by his contract, or bound partially only.

Section 82.—The provisions of this section are hard upon landlord who let the land originally on the understanding that he would always get a certain share of the actual gross produce, instead of which, if the money rent contemplated by this section be less than the value of his (landlord's) share of the produce, he becomes a loser for nothing; in fact by commutation of rent in kind into money rent the ryot has to untertake no further risk of cultivation; hence, in fixing money rent, no deduction should be made by the court from the average value of the landlord's share of gross produce, in consideration of the risk of cultivation being taken by the ryot, for the entire risk of cultivation already lies on him under the customary rules of payment in kind, except in rare cases of contract in which the ryot undertakes to meet the landlord's demand, notwithstanding his failure to raise or gather crop on account of drought or inundation, &c.

CHAPTER VII.

The provision of a settled ryot acquiring permanent right in bastu land not included in an occupancy holding, and not losing that right, notwithstanding that he has ceased to be a settled ryot of a particular village or estate to which the bastu land appertains, is extremely hard upon the landlord, and the provision regarding compensation to be awarded to the tenant in cases of ejectment for wilful breach of conditions of written contract is more so. No provision is made as to how long the zemindar is to wait before he can make arrangements about the land left by the absconding ryot.

CHAPTER VIII.

The grounds on which an ordinary ryot may be ejected are so stringent that no landlord can expect to eject a tenant at all; he would never like to pay any compensation for improvements, and a further compensation for disturbance as provided by Section 93.

CHAPTER IX.

The provisions as to fixing instalments in which money rent is payable, and the rules as to receipts and accounts to be given to tenants, and keeping counterparts, &c., are very wholesome improvements upon the old law. I should think a certain fee should be paid to the landlord for the statement of account to be given to the tenant as provided by Section 101, as every landlord having a large property shall have to increase his working staff to meet the ryots' demand under that section, particularly when under clause 2 of Section 102 the landlord shall have to pay penalty for neglect of, and non-compliance with, the provisions of Section 101.

Section 103.—I should think the old rule of tender to the landlord should be retained. The phrase "has reason to believe" is too wide, and every ryot will at random, and at the instigation of suit-mongers and pettyfoggers, take advantage of this section, and never go to his landlord for payment of rent. Section 110 remedies the evil apprehended in clause *a*, Section 103. The zemindar will, as a rule, have to wait for deposits to be made, and in some cases for years together pending the decision of Civil Courts under Section 106, before he can realize even as much as is payable by him as Government revenue; and the result will be that he will be improverished, and his zemindaris will ere long be put up to sale for arrears of Government revenue. I should add that the officers receiving deposits should, in case of deposits made under clauses *b* and *c* of section 103, cause a notice of the receipt of the deposits to be affixed on the tehsil kutchery or where rent is usually paid, and on a conspicuous place in the property; for otherwise it will not be possible for any small shareholder and petty landlord, whose circumstances may not allow them to engage a mooktear solely for the purpose of attending the office of the officers receiving deposits of rents, to get information if deposits have been made, or until the expiration of several months after deposit.

The provisions of appointment of commission for dividing and estimating crops may be made solely applicable to Behar cases. Cases of rent paid by division of the produce are rare in Lower Bengal, and are known as the burga bhag system. In Lower Bengal, the standing rules for suing out the landlord's share as now ought to be left as they are, as the introduction of the rules of division of produce by commission is a mere addition to a lawsuit.

CHAPTER X.

Would work well with certain amendments as suggested below.

The provision to award compensation to ryots for improvements made for their own benefit, and without the landlord's permission, is objectionable. If after certain improvements made by a ryot he is evicted from his holding for his own laches, or relinquishes it of his own accord, or absconds, the tenure is let to another. It may be that the new tenant may find that the improvements by digging a tank or sinking a well, &c., in agricultural land made by former tenant are rather detrimental to his interest, so this new tenant may demand reduction of rents on that ground. As such I should think that no ryot should be allowed any compensation for any improvement made without the landowner's permission.

Section 132.—Should be altogether omitted; people should be left free to enter into any sort of contract they like.

The provisions regarding common management of land are an improvement upon the old law. These provisions will greatly tend to preserve public peace which is often broken by riots, &c., among co-owners, and help the weaker shareholders who are often thrown into a disadvantageous position as regards collection of rents, &c., because of obstructions put in their way by powerful shareholders who often instigate the ryots to withhold payments of rents to the weaker shareholders.

CHAPTERS XI, XII, XIII, AND XIV

would again give rise to unnecessary litigation. The points mentioned in those chapters may be heard and determined in other suits allowed by law, if raised by any party.

CHAPTER XI.

Section 51 (*3*).—A notice should also be published by beat of drum, and affixed on a conspicuous spot in the property, and another on the tahsil kutchery or where rent is usually paid; for generally the ryots and even the landlords do not get, or have the opportunity to read, the official Gazette.

Section 157.—The time for filing objection should be limited to one month from the date of publication of the jummabundi on the spot, and not from that of its publication in the Gazette.

CHAPTER XIII.

The provisions as to distraint no way facilitate collection of rent, and are not an improvement upon the existing law for realizing rent by a law-suit. The procedure enjoined as to distraint is very cumbrous and expensive to both the tenants and the landowners. In cases of small arrears realizations will scarcely cover the costs, and the result will be that while the tenant will suffer, the landowner will fail to recover the arrears. The distraining officer should, under the rules, be above the rank of a peon.

CHAPTER XIV.

Section 199 (*1*).—The provisions of this section are an improvement on the old law.

Section 214, clause 3.—The notice should be served by the court of a Moonsiff having jurisdiction in respect of the lands to which the encumbrance relates, as the Moonsiff's court is always nearer than the Collector's office. It is not clear whether the party affected by the service of notice under clause 3 of the section should have a further remedy in the civil court.

In conclusion, I beg to reiterate with regret that I have not been able to discuss this important subject as fully as it deserves, on account of want of leisure from heavy office work, and to avoid delay in the submission of my report. I have therefore touched briefly upon only a few important and salient points of the Bill.

No. 360, dated Naldanga Rajbati, the 12th May 1883.

From—BABU PRAMATHA BHUSANA DEVA RAYA,

To—The Collector of Jessore.

With reference to your memorandum No. 78G., dated 14th April, I have the honour to submit herewith my opinion on the Bengal Tenancy Bill in the form of a note. I have tried to discuss the variout important issues raised therein in a fair and impartial manner.

Note on the Bengal Tenancy Bill of 1883.

CHAPTER I.

1. *Section 3* (*3*) (*4*) (*5*).—In classifying tenants, an important section of the community has been left out of consideration, and their existence virtually ignored. All over Bengal, there are jotedars (sometimes called gantidars) who are neither ryots, as defined in section 3 (5), nor tenure-holders as defined in section 14. Legislation in matters like this should, in my humble opinion, be constructive and preservative, recognizing the existing elements of the social economy, devising means for their development and prosperity, and eliminating whatever there may be to retard their harmony and growth. But the destructive tendency of legislation in ignoring the existence of tenure-holders generally since 1859 has revolutionized the Bengal society by bringing ruin and poverty upon a very important class of the community, the jotedars.

2. The Rent Law Commission perceived the anomaly of Act X of 1859 in this respect (*vide* their report, paragraphs 13—22), and the pernicious effect it has produced upon the social economy of Bengal is too well known to everyone who has the faintest knowledge of rural Bengal.

3. The present Bill has recognized tenants holding at fixed rents from the time of the permanent settlement; but besides these mokurrardars there is a class of tenure-holders (whose number far outweighs the number of mokurrardars in a given district), who are not ryots within the definition of section 3 (5) of the Bill; neither do they hold land for the purposes of agriculture, horticulture, or pasture, nor did they or their predecessors in interest come into possession of it for such purposes. Whatever their origin, it is pretty well certain that an overwhelming majority of tenure-holders is of this category, and that they constitute an important section of the true aristocracy of this country. To level them down to the status of ryots, and thereby subject them to the payment of enhanced rent at the same rate as provided for ryots, is to sweep them clean from the rural economy of the land. One of the pernicious effects of Act X of 1859 was the ruin of many a family holding tenures of this description. But future legislation, being cognizant of the fact, should carefully guard against committing the same error over again; for the non-recognition of such an important section of the community is neither conducive to the ultimate welfare of the zemindar, nor expedient upon political considerations.

4. This class of jotedars, as it at prerent exists, consists—

(*a*) Of families of the higher strata of society, owning holdings of various dimensions of, say, from 50 bighas to 5,000 bighas, but not at fixed rents, with under-ryots on the holdings previous to their creation.

(*b*) Of families of the lower strata of society, who, for service rendered, or consideration paid, received grants from the zemindar of considerable tracts of land with under-ryots on the holdings previous to their creation. These have advanced a few steps above their original social position.

(*c*) Of families of actual cultivators of land, who, by subletting, have gradually evolved themselves into the status of middlemen. Their social position is yet uncertain, but in the process of social evolution they will in time rise higher up.

5. Now, the difficulty of discovering "any principle of distinction between ryots and tenure-holders, or undertenure-holders, which will hold good universally," should not be the reason why their existence should be ignored in the statute book of the country. Some arbitrary rule should be adopted, and the class of tenants of this description differentiated from the class defined in the Bill as "ryot." To this end the following suggestions are most humbly made:—

Section 3 (*3*).—For "tenure" write "tenure of the first degree," and provide to the following effect:—

"Tenure of the second decree means a tenure of more than 50 bighas of land not held at fixed rent from the time of the permanent settlement, the holder of which does not derive his profit from the produce of the soil, but from undertenants paying him rent in money, or

a tenure of more than 50 bighas of land not held at fixed rent from the time of the permanent settlement, the holder of which derives one-fourth of his profit from the produce of the soil, and three-fourths from undertenants paying him rent in money."

Similarly, the definition of "ryot" could be so changed that none should be deemed a ryot who does not derive his profit entirely from agriculture, &c., or three-fourths of whose profit does not come from those sources, and one-fourth by subletting.

CHAPTER II.

Section 5 (5).—The necessity of khamar land in a country like India, where agriculture is one of the most important pursuits of people in every grade of life, is obvious. In olden times, even the paramount power had large tracts of land for raising various kinds of staple produce, partly to improve and encourage agriculture, and partly to give employment to the poor and the destitute. This being the natural origin of the institution of private land, all its present evils are due to the creation by legislation of tenants-at-will, and the bestowal of right of occupancy to ryots cultivating or holding land for 12 years. The material prosperity of this country depends largely upon agricultural improvements, and the zemindars, whatever might have been their apathy and ignorance in former times, have, at least some of them, realized the fact, that one of their paramount duties consists in establishing experimental farms upon scientific principles. But this cannot be done unless zemindars have the power, where necessary, to increase their existing stock of khamar lands. I therefore humbly suggest that a provision be made to the effect that, for purposes of agricultural and horticultural improvement, zemindars may increase their existing stock of khamar land.

CHAPTER III.

6. *Section 21 (3).*—For "less than 10 per cent." write "less than 15 per cent." This is suggested with a view to allow a similar margin to the proposed tenure-holders of the second degree.

CHAPTER III.

7. *Section 28 (1).*—This section seems to be quite unnecessary. Moreover, it will have the effect of provoking unnecessary litigation. Under this section, the revenue officer upon receipt of the fee payable under section 27 "shall cause a notice to be served on the landlord, requiring him to register the transfer of succession;" and the landlord shall be "bound to comply forthwith with the requisition contained therein." But the landlord may have very cogent reasons for refusing to register such transfer, and for the matter of that the tenure itself may not be transferable. Litigious tenants may take advantage of this section, and try to hoax the zemindar through the revenue court. The zemindar, in equity, should have an opportunity to show cause why the transfer or succession should not be registered. The landlord's refusal or neglect to register does not involve any imminent danger to the incident of the tenure, nor does it in any way jeopardize the tenure-holder's right or interest. Under such circumstance, I am humbly of opinion that section 32 is quite sufficient to afford relief in the event of the landlord's refusal to register.

CHAPTER V.

8. *Right of occupancy.*—Great misapprehension seems to prevail as to the motive of the zemindar in being too much reluctant to allow any and every class of tenants to acquire the right of occupancy in any land held or cultivated by them. Before the passing of Act X of 1859, there were only two classes of actual cultivators of the soil recognized by the zemindar :—

(*a*) The khoodkhast or resident; and
(*b*) The pykhast or non-resident ryots.

The resident ryot was considered to have a birthright over the lands of his village, and enjoyed all the immunities which subsequent legislation conferred upon the ryot having a right of occupancy; while the non-resident ryot was considered as a mere stranger, having no lien upon the land of the village in which he did not reside, but allowed to hold and cultivate so long as there would arise no demand for the land on the part of the residents of the village. And this the zemindars did, I am humbly of opinion, upon principles of sound policy tending to the real and permanent good of the village to which the land appertained. Nothing can more effectually improve the condition of the resident cultivators and render them happy by living in a thriving community of peaceful and laborious members than the beneficial custom of allowing them precedence over strangers for earning their livelihood from the lands of the village in which they permanently reside. In an agricultural country like Bengal, the children of the village should have an indefeasible right over the lands of the village. The pykhast right must succumb under the superior right of the khoodkhast ryot. Hence originated the customary law of not allowing any permanent right to the stranger ryot. The word "khoodkhast," as used in the regulations, is synonymous with "resident." Had the framers of Act X of 1859 conferred rights of occupancy on the resident ryots, much of the censure mercilessly heaped from all sides on the head of the innocent zemindar, much of the ruin and poverty among the agricultural community, and much of the ill success of the Act in this respect might have been averted. But the then Legislature committed, it seems to me, a mistake by accepting the dictum of the revenue authorities of the North-Western Provinces, that "residence was not always a condition of occupancy," and ushering an arbitrary rule of occupancy in this country contrary to custom and tradition.

9. Experience having amply demonstrated the mischievous effects of this canon of the law of 1859, the Legislature is now anxious to amend it. But the measures embodied in the Bill in this respect seem, in my humble opinion, to be as arbitrary as the old law, and not only does it tend to complicate more hopelessly the already complicated relations between the landlord and the tenant, but it may (I speak this with much diffidence) interfere with the material prosperity of rural village communities.

10. An estate is a factitious aggregation of villages, often miles distant from each other, made by the Government upon fiscal considerations. There is seldom any community of interest and feeling among people of different villages in one estate. Under the circumstance it is not very just to give undue advantage to the people of village X who have held land in their own village for 12 years over the people of village Y in respect to the lands of village Z, which the people of X never held before, simply because X and Z are villages in the same estate, although X is four miles distant from Z and Y quarter of a mile. On the contrary, it would tend to cement the bonds of sympathy between the people of two contiguous villages, irrespective of the consideration whether they appertain to the same estate or not, if the inhabitants of the one are allowed occupancy rights in respect of the lands of the other village. Besides, what the learned Law Member apprehends regarding the status of new comers (paragraph 31 of the "Statement of Objects and Reasons," *below*) has a surer chance of coming to pass under the proposed law. Immigration would be discouraged and every encouragement given to bring in new ryots from neighbouring villages *not* lying in the same estate with a view to keep as many holdings unencumbered by occupancy rights as practicable. This would interfere seriously with the welfare of resident ryots, who would be debarred the chance of increasing their holdings. From the zemindar's point of view, too, the provisions of Sections 45 (1) and 49 are objectionable. The zemindar is bound by self-interest, equity, and good conscience to secure the right of property to the resident ryots of a village, the effect of which, on the side of the ryot, is prosperity; on the side of the zemindar, facility of realizing rent from a prosperous tenantry. But why should the zemindar be equally indulgent to a stranger, simply because he happens to have cultivated lands for 12 years in a remote part of the estate? It may be argued that an estate being a concrete holding of the zemindar, all its component villages should be regarded by him as so many members of a single body; but I have shown above, that decentralization of the rights of occupancy is likely to interfere with the material prosperity of the resident ryots. The duty of the zemindar ought to be, instead of trying to give nourishment at random to all the branches of the tree, to centralize benefits upon village units which will have the ultimate effect of securing prosperity and happiness to all the villages.

11. There is one other fact which should not be forgotten in this connection. All the villages in a single estate may not be in the khas possession of the zemindar. As is generally the case, he has distributed some villages in putni; some villages in mourashi, and some other villages in jotes; with the agricultural population of which he has virtually nothing whatever to do; and the agriculturists of which villages have no sympathy with the zemindar. This being so, it does not seem to be reasonable that a ryot from such a village, virtually a stranger, should enjoy the same rights and immunities as the resident ryot; while a resident ryot of 11 years 11 months and 29 days standing is a tenant-at-will, a stranger from another village becomes at once an occupancy ryot, simply because he held for 12 years lands in one, two, twelve, or twenty-four villages in the same estate.

12. These provisions might, I am humbly of opinion, abet the ryot's natural improvidence and turn him into a habitual nomad. Let me illustrate my position. An occupancy ryot, according to the Bill, being perfectly at liberty to sell or encumber his holding, avails himself of an early opportunity to raise money by one or other of the means, and merrily does he fritter away the money as long as the last farthing remains. He then, one morning, with bag and baggage, wife and children, with a view to try his fortune in greener fields and pastures new, repairs to another village in the same estate, and there takes a jumma from the zemindar, putnidar, or any permanent tenure-holder. There he plays the same game, and again pursues his gipsy life; or if he is a wise man, he adopts this mode of life for a few years, and carefully keeping his purse tight, becomes a man of fortune. But the majority of ryots being proverbially improvident, it is more likely that with the facilities afforded them, they would be more improvident and *unsettled*.

13. This state of things would also seriously affect the zemindar. What with the power to transfer occupancy rights and the facility to acquire it in the same estate, a feverish desire to convert occupancy holdings into ready money will get possession of the ignorant and improvident ryots! They would notify their desire for sale to the zemindar, who would be assailed with such notifications from every quarter of his zemindari. Now, if the zemindar refuses to buy, it is almost certain either the money-lender, or the planter, or his adversary, or any other objectionable person may come in against his will and his interest. If he purchases, his purse will be too much drained upon, but as long as the holdings are not advantageously settled, the zemindar will suffer a double loss, loss of interest of the investment, and loss of rents. And in nine cases out of ten, the investment would be a dead loss for his purchasing by consideration what he had otherwise the right to get.

14. Under all these circumstances, I humbly suggest the definition of "settled ryot" in Section 45 (1) may be recast on the following principle, *viz.*—(1) every person who has permanent residence in a village, and who, for a period of three years, whether before or after

the commencement of this Act, has continuously held as a ryot, ryoti land situate in that village shall, notwithstanding the land so held by him at different times during that period may have been different, be deemed to have become, on the expiration of that period, a settled ryot of that village; or (2) in the case of a non-resident ryot, every such ryot who shall have held land in a village in which he is not permanently domiciled for a period of 12 years shall have a right of occupancy in the land so held by him. This, I humbly believe, would reconcile matters by reconciling traditional custom of the country with the dictum of the law of 1859, which for a quarter of century has been the custom in vogue.

15. *Section 47.*—Should be amended according to the above suggestions.

Section 50 (e).—The following amendment is suggested with reference to paragraph 4 of this note: "He may sublet not more than a fourth part of his holding."

16. *Section 59.*—I seriously protest against any interference with free and voluntary dealing. Land, like everything else, has a market value, depending upon demand and necessity, and it is feared that the Government, in its paternal solicitude for the welfare of the ryots, may unnecessarily impose a hardship upon the zemindar who is the most loyal and devoted vassal of her Imperial majesty. The registering officer is only concerned to see whether the ryot is entering into the contract as a free agent; and if he is satisfied that it is so, he should not have the power to inquire into the matters stated in sub-section 2. What objection can there be to the ryot's voluntary agreement to pay to his landlord what he thinks he can bear to part with? The same issue is joined to Section 61 (2).

17. *Sections 59 (2), 61 (2), 64, 75 (d).*—And other sections fixing the limit of money rent payable by settled ryot. This appears to be an infringement of the principle upon which the permanent settlement was made with the zemindar, and its consequence would be ruinous to him. By the permanent settlement, the Government's share of the gross produce was made over to the zeminder (*vide* preamble of Regulation XIX of 1793, and Justice Campbell's remarks in the Great Rent Case, B. L. R. Suppl., vol. 251). Both under the Hindu and the Mahomedan Governments, the cultivator's share of the produce was one-half of the gross produce. When latterly the Mahomedan Government preferred taking one-fourth, it was simply because the State wanted to save itself from the trouble and inconvenience of taking rent in kind. Now, the Government having transferred to the zemindar the right to a certain proportion of the produce of every bigah held by the ryot, and that proportion being half, both under the Hindu and the Mahomedan rule, it is inexplicable how the State can now depart from this principle, established by custom during centuries and ages?

18. By the permanent settlement, the zemindars were rack-rented. "We have seen," says Mr. Westland in his report on the district of Jessore, page 98, "one of the great zemindar families of the district lose all their estates, one after another, through no fault of their own, but from causes *directly referable to the action of Government.* Firstly, the assessment fixed at the permanent settlement was too high, &c." Again: "when the British came, they began by increasing the revenue by the 1772 assessment, and while they made the zemindar more than ever dependent for his revenue upon the excessive exercise of his power, they set it before them as one of the objects of their administration to limit and control that very exercise of power on which the zemindar had to depend" (page 84). The consolidation of cesses; police, chowkidari, poolbundi, and similar other expenses; canoongoes' allowances, zemindari pension, &c., &c., with the revenue brought the revenue practically to more than half the value of the gross produce which the State was entitled to receive. Hence all the old zemindars, notably the ancient house I have the honour to represent, were impoverished and ruined. If this was the condition which the zemindars had been reduced to in 1793 from causes "directly referable to the Government," the effect of fixing the limit of money rent by one-fifth of the estimated average annual value of the gross produce of the land would be equally, if not more, disastrous. I therefore propose that instead of one-fifth, three-eighth of estimated average annual value of the gross produce should be the zemindar's share in money rent.

19. With reference to enhancement of rent of tenures of the second degree proposed in paragraph 5 of this note, I beg to suggest that the rent of such tenures should be liable to be enhanced upon the same grounds and under the same procedure as the rent of occupancy holdings, with this exception, that a tenure-holder of this class shall be entitled to a profit not more than 15 per cent. and not less than 5 per cent. of the balance which remains after deducting from the gross rents payable to him the expense of collecting those rents, and where he has any portion of his holding in his own cultivation, the rent of such lands should be calculated for the purpose of assessment with reference to the table of rates then prevailing.

20. *Section 76.*—Such a circumscription does not seem to be at all necessary in the face of definite rules whereby the zemindar would not be allowed to get more than a fixed proportion of the gross produce in kind or money. On the other hand, it would be an injustice done to the zemindar in cases in which occupancy ryots pay him a nominal rent.

CHAPTER VIII.

21. With regard to the settlement of rent between the ordinary ryot and his landlord, Legislature should leave them quite unhampered by any rule or law. Restrictions such as are proposed in Section 119, specially with reference to the rent of this class of ryots, are, in my humble opinion, productive of infinite mischief, both to the landlord and to the tenant, for the benefit of which latter class the Government are so very solicitous. The zemindar to whom,

by the permanent settlement, the Government surrendered, among other things, "the right to profit by future increase of cultivation, and the cultivation of more valuable articles of produce," should not now be bound hand and foot to exercise that right in a way prejudicial to his interest. Further injustice seems to have been done to the landlord by providing in section 93 (2) (7) that the landlord shall be bound to pay to the ryot whom he wishes to eject a compensation for disturbance equal to ten times the yearly increase demanded. This, in other words, implies that the landlord will have to purchase *by full consideration* the benefit which he has the right to get. It is not clear why an *un*settled ryot should get so large a compensation for disturbance which affects him very little. If he loses a holding here by refusing to pay what his landlord demands, he has a sure chance of getting a holding there. If the ryot is entitled to any compensation for being compelled to surrender against his will, the landlord must also be entitled to similar compensation when the ryot relinquishes his holding without the landlord's consent. But Sections 139 and 140 give no such benefit to the landlord. If the ryot suffers in the one case, the zemindar, too, suffers in the other; for, in a majority of cases, it does no frequently happen that the vacancy made by a ryot is filled up at once.

22. *Sections 97—99.*—"Much of the harassment, to which the ryots are subjected, is said to arise from the number of instalments in which the rents are payable, and to remedy this, the Board is empowered *** to fix the instalments ****." But in point of fact the number of instalments prevalent in each pergunnah from time immemorial has direct reference to the reaping times in the year, as will appear from the following table taken from Mr. J. Westland's report on the district of Jessore, Appendix B (agricultural statistics):—

Rice crop.			Date sugar.	Cocoanut.	Arecanut.	Mustard.	Musuri.	Kalai.	Barley.	Til.	Red pepper.	Fruit trees.	Indigo.	Sugarcane.	Turmeric.	Jute.
Aman.	Aus.	Boro.														
November, December, January.	November, December, January.		February.													
August, September.																
March, April.																
November to February.																
Rainy season.																
.....																
Reaping time.			February, March.	.....	.....	February, March.	February, March.	February, March.	February, March.	November, July.	November, December.	.....	June to August.	December.	February.	August.

23. During ten months of the year, the ryot reaps his harvest in the field. There are some parts of the district, no doubt, where the winter crop is scantily grown, but then they have varieties of rice crop to do with for at least seven months of the year. Instalments have accordingly been fixed by tacit mutual agreement from time out of memory. Far from being a source of harassment to the ryot, it is a source of great relief to him, inasmuch as under the customary system of instalments he has to pay a certain portion of his yearly rent whenever he gets some produce. Had not this been the case, the ryot ignorant, improvident, and careless, would squander away his money, and when a heavy *kist* would come in, would hardly be able to meet it from his present savings. Instead of being salutary to the ryot, the proposed adridgement of all existing *kists* into four would, it is apprehended, be a fruitful source of his ruin. On the other hand, the zemindar's ruin would be inevitable. Bound by an inexorable law to pay the Government due punctually in four *kists*; having the arduous duty to collect his rent, rupee by rupee, from individual ryots; having no power to compel the ryot to pay; obliged to pay a heavy stamp duty for seeking relief in the civil courts, whose dilatoriness is proverbial, the zemindar's position is really very precarious. If in the face of all these difficulties, an insuperable obstacle (such as has been proposed in these sections) is thrown in the way of his realizing rent at harvest times, the fate of the zemindar would be sealed for ever. Let the Government give him the same facility to recover rent from his tenants as they (the Government) have in recovering their revenue from the zemindar, and the zemindar would not raise his voice against the proposal. Why throw everything *topsy turvy*; why subvert customs sanctified by time and agreed to by the ryot? It would be pernicious both to the ryot and the zemindar if Legislature interfered with custom and contracts not repugnant to custom in the matter of instalments of rent, and other matter as well.

24. *Section 102.*—The forms of receipt and statement of account provided in Sections 100 and 101 being very elaborate, it will be necessary for the zemindar to maintain extra establishment for keeping them. And as these are intended solely for the benefit of the tenant, it is but reasonable that he should pay some fees, if not for the receipt, at any rate for the statement of account which the zemindar is not bound in equity to deliver *gratis*.

25. In conclusion, I beg to suggest, that the provisions of Chapter III—D (of the registration of transfers, &c., be made applicable to occupancy holdings and tenures of the second decree. The Legislature fears that it would be a matter of great difficulty to bring

home to persons of the ryot class the details of "such a system." But I beg most humbly to point out that the system is not at all new, and that the ryots are used to it in this country from time immemorial. The prevalent custom is that a transfer of a tenure or holding of whatever class (save non-transferable holdings) pays a certain fee to the landlord, whereupon the landlord registers his name. This being the long established custom, the Legislature should not, I humbly submit, put a stop to it upon technical or sentimental grounds. The landlord must always know who is the person from whom he is to receive rent; otherwise his collections would come to a dead-lock. In this view I am supported by the Rent Commission (*vide* paragraphs 116 to 121 of their report).

Dated the 28th May 1883.

From—Babu Shyamadhaba Roy, Deputy Collector,

To—The Collector of Jessore.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the *Bengal Tenancy Bill.*

1. In discussing the provisions of this Bill, there are, in my opinion, three things to be taken into consideration:—

(*a*) Whether there is any necessity of changing the existing Rent Law (Act X of 1859).

(*b*) Whether the provisions of the new Bill in any way infringe the Regulation of 1793.

(*c*) Whether the present Bill is based on equitable principles both as regards the ryot and the zemindar.

2. I do not think there can be any doubt that Act X of 1859, as a whole, has failed to give satisfaction either to the zemindar or to the ryot, and this dissatisfaction was felt at in early period. I find that within three or four years of the passing of the Rent Law, Sir Barnes Peacock suggested its amendment. In later years also, successive Lieutenant-Governors, as well as the Rent Commission, advocated a change in the law. Even the zemindars' champion, Babu Kristo Dass Pal, C.S.I. (Hon'ble), on the occasion of the agrarian disturbances at Pubna in 1876 (?), complained of the indefiniteness of the principles of the Rent Law, and in the course of the debate on the Bill at the last session of the Legislative Council, he did not deny that some fresh legislation on the subject was necessary. Without enlarging any further on this subject, it may be summed up that the cry for a change in the law came from two quarters. The zemindars wanted to have greater facilities for the enhancement and recovery of rent, and the ryots desired to attain "the three Fs," to quote Major Baring, *viz.*, fixity of tenure, fair rent, and free sale. In order to redress these grievances as far as possible that the present Bill is framed.

3. As regards the second point, I am humbly of opinion that the Bill is in no way an infraction of the vested rights of the zemindars, and does not involve a breach of the contract made in 1793 between Lord Cornwallis and the zemindars. I have not been able to read all the literature on this subject, but I think a reference to the Regulation of 1793 itself will be quite enough to show most conclusively, even to the most superficial reader, that the imputation of breach of faith is utterly groundless. The text of Regulation I of 1793 (clause 1, Section 8) reserves to Government full powers to interfere "for the protection and welfare of the dependent talookdars, ryots, and other cultivators of the soil." This is also fully supported by other contemporaneous official literature on the subject. The Court of Directors, writing to Lord Cornwallis in 1792, mentions, amongst other things, that "we wish to have it distinctly understood that while we confirm to the landholders the possession of the districts which they now hold and subject only to the revenue now settled, and while we disclaim any interference with respect to the situation of the ryots or the sums paid by them, with any view of an addition of revenue to ourselves, we expressly reserve the right which belongs to us as sovereigns of *interposing our authority in making from time to time all such regulations as may be necessary to prevent the ryots from being improperly disturbed in their possession or loaded with unwarrantable exactions.*" Then, again, later on, the Court of Directors expressed themselves as follows on the subject:—"In order to leave no room for our intentions being at any time misunderstood, we direct you to be accurate in the terms in which our determination is announced * * * You will in a particular manner be cautious so to express yourselves as to leave no ambiguity as to our right to interfere from time to time, as it may be necessary, for the protection of the ryots and subordinate landholders, it being our intention, in the whole of this measure, effectually to limit our own demands, but not to depart from our inherent right as sovereigns of being the guardians and protectors of every class of persons living under our Government." On the face of these emphatic declarations, it is absurd to deny that power to legislate whenever it was necessary to define the relations between the zemindars and the ryots was expressly reserved at the time the permanent settlement was made.

4. I now come to the third and the last point. It is necessary to refer all the sections of the new Bill, as most of them are the same as those in Act X of 1859. I shall therefore confine myself to the salient points regarding some of the sections which have been newly introduced into the present Rent Bill. Most of them are very important, and deserve the most serious consideration at the hands of those who are interested in the welfare of the ryots. I shall commence with Chapter II of the Bill, as Chapter I merely contains preliminary matters. In Chapter II, as far as I can see, the only section which is important is Section 6. The object of this section is to prevent zemindars from "getting

into their own hands as large an amount of ryoti land as possible and convert it into khamar land." To meet the exceptional case of Behar, where there is an unusually large quantity of *khamar* or *zeraat* land, provisions have been made in the Bill (Sections 7 to 13) for making a complete survey and record of the existing khamar land. This will remove the possibility of all future disputes regarding the matter.

5. The next chapter (Chapter III) deals with tenure-holders generally, and the changes introduced do not seem to be important. Chapter IV refers to putni tenure. The law regarding these tenures has been left substantially unchanged. I therefore at once pass over to Chapter V. This is a very important chapter, as it deals with the question of the acquisition of the occupancy right and of the general incidents of that right. The zemindars and their friends have protested most vehemently against the sections in this chapter. Without going into the more complicated portion of the question regarding *right of occupancy*, it is sufficient for our present purposes to say that Act X of 1859 has failed to define the conditions requisite to constitute a *right of occupancy*. It will be further seen that Act X of 1859 did not make any provision by which new comers might acquire rights of occupancy. This is a matter which is absolutely necessary for the prosperity of the agricultural classes in this country. It will be seen that under the present law it is almost impossible for a new ryot to obtain the right of occupancy, as the zemindar can easily prevent it by the "simple device of shifting the tenant from one holding to another before the period of 12 years has run out." To remedy this, it has been provided in Section 45 that the acquisition of the status of the "settled ryot" will depend not on the holding of the one and the same plot of land for 12 years, but on the holding of any ryoti land (whether the same or not) in the same village or estate whether before or after the passing of the Act. The Section 47 is equally important. It will be seen by a reference to these sections that a right of occupancy is acquired by a ryot holding ryoti land "notwithstanding any contract to the contrary." I have quoted the sections* of this chapter in the margin, where old contracts are not upheld according to your orders. It is these sections chiefly at which Mr. Tweedie, Manager, Porahattie concern, seems to be very much alarmed. I am sorry I cannot agree with him at all in this matter. If it be the intention of the Government to see that their humane object in framing this law is not frustrated by any contract by which the ryot is run out of his status, the binding power of these illegal contracts should be dispensed with. I need hardly say it is out of the question that the Government can prevent a ryot making what contract he likes, but all what the Government say is, that in certain cases the courts will not give effect to such contracts. I think this is perfectly fair. If Mr. Tweedie will refer to Sir S. Bayley's speech in the Council, he will find that one of the causes of the Pubna riot was, to quote Sir Steuart's words, "the endeavour on the part of the landlords to force from the ryots *kabuliuts* which, besides incorporating illegal abwabs in the rents provided for the landlord changing arbitrarily the legal standard of measurement, and for his ejecting the ryot in case of the latter having the misfortune to quarrel with him." I could multiply instances if I chose. But I am sure everyone taking a dispassionate view of the matter will agree with me in thinking that Government should not allow their courts "to treat such documents made in direct contravention of the law as contracts made in equal terms between the parties." In leaving this question I can do no better than quote the language of the Government of India in one of their letters on the subject. They observed that "such is the power of the zemindars, so numerous and effective are the means possessed by them for inducing the ryots to accept agreements which, if history, custom, and expediency be regarded, are wrongful and contrary to good policy, that to uphold contracts in contravention of the main purposes of the Bill would be in our belief to condemn it to defeat and failure. It is absolutely necessary that such contracts should be disallowed, and in this conclusion we have the support not only of the Bengal Government, but also of the almost unanimous opinions of Bengal officers."

* Chapter V, Sections 45, 47 and 50.

6. In my opinion the sections about the occupancy ryots are very wholesome. It will be seen that mere squatters and nomads are effectually excluded from the acquisition of this great and important privilege.

7. The Bill then goes on to provide for the "transferability of the ryoti tenures," and for "the limitations to enhancement." As I am hard pressed for time—the report being due to-day—I regret I cannot make my observations at length on these points. I shall remain satisfied by merely saying that in dealing with these two important questions the Government has tried its best to look to the interest of the landlord as well as that of the ryot.

8. As regards the facilities which the present Bill offers to the landlord for the recovery of rents and for their enhancement, I beg to observe that owing to the inherent difficulties of the subject, an entirely satisfactory solution of the problem has not been arrived at. From the debates at the Council, it appears that the matter will receive further consideration at the hands of the members of the select committee.

9. The preparation of a table of rates is another interesting and novel feature of this Bill. To me it seems to be a gigantic work and hardly feasible; nor can I understand how such a table can be accurate in a country where the quality of land changes so much. However, as this is a tentative measure, the procedure will be improved as it is worked.

10. In conclusion, I beg to say that my sympathies are entirely with the ryots, and I have therefore hailed this measure with great delight. What Bengal wants, in the language of Sir A. Eden, is a substantial peasantry, free from debt and able to bear the stress of hard times. The agricultural community in this country forms the backbone of the vast and

multitudinous population of Bengal. Never was a truer sentiment uttered when one of England's greatest living orators said that the "nation dwells in the cottage."

11. The above, I am fully aware, is hardly worth the name of a report, considering the importance of the subject it treats. My knowledge of land tenures of this country is very limited, and I have therefore utterly failed to do justice to this subject.

No. 651G, dated Krishnaghur, the 7th June 1883.

From—W. V. G. TAYLER, Esq., Collector of Nuddea,

To—The Commissioner, Presidency Division.

With reference to your circular No. 9R—L, dated 24th April last, I have the honour to report that among all whom I have personally consulted, the concensus of opinion is against the Bill, as being one-sided, and having a tendency to lower the status of the zemindar. The sub-divisional officers, with the exception of that of Ranaghat, have been unable, for press of other duties, to consider the Bill, and have not therefore favoured me with an expression of their opinion. They have forwarded, however, the written opinions of the few among the several consulted, who have responded to their call, and these I now beg to submit for your perusal.

2. My own opinion of the Bill is, that it will have the effect of putting a stop to existing abuses on the part of the zemindar, and affords to the zemindar a speedy means for the recovery of arrears. At the same time I consider that portions of it are, as it now stands, unsuited to this district, that they deprive, unnecessarily, the zemindars of privileges which they have long been enjoying, and to which they are entitled, without necessarily conferring on the old ryots at least any corresponding advantage, and only benefitting new comers who have no claims on the estate. On the other hand, some of the benefits conferred on the ryots appear to me of a very doubtful nature, notably the power of transfer of occupancy rights by sale.

3. The sections which seem to me to call for special remark are the following :—

Sections 5 and 6.—These appear to me to be inapplicable to this district, in which the utbandi system prevails to a very great extent. Lands let out on this system have hitherto been considered to belong exclusively to landlords as their private property, and landlords, other than proprietors, invariably retain such lands as khas. Under the Bill such lands will become ryoti, and it seems questionable whether privileges so long enjoyed, and from which no injury to the ryots accrued, should be taken away. Planters too frequently let out their khas lands to ryots for a season or two—a practice which is advantageous to the ryots as well as themselves, but which must be put a stop to unless the Bill is changed.

Section 25.—No right of pre-emption is given under this section. I think this should be allowed as in the case of occupancy rights.

Section 45.—The utbandi system, which only in this and one or two other districts will make almost every ryot a settled ryot of the village, and hence under Section 47, almost every ryot will have a right of occupancy in the lands he may be holding since March. It cannot be the intention of the Bill to take advantage of a special system such as this, and hence I consider some special proviso is needed to meet the special circumstances of this district.

Section 50.—The right of transfer by sale seems a very doubtful privilege. The greater number of ryots are greatly indebted, and are so improvident, as a rule, that to stave off present urgent demands on their purse, they may sell their rights and thereby ruin themselves. It seems to me, that among the poorer ryots at any rate, the greatest safeguard against absolute ruin would be the fact, that they had their lands to fall back upon from which they could not be deprived, either by their own, or the action of others, so long as they paid due attention thereto.

Section 56.—In a great measure nullifies the benefits conferred by the previous sections. A landlord can certainly keep out land-jobbers and others who are not likely to improve the lands, but, notwithstanding that he pays for the right of occupancy, he is forced to give it up again, if he lets out the lands to ryots. I could better understand this if it were a certainty, that he would let it to old ryots of the village, but he may desire to lease them to new comers, or to retain them for lease under the utbandi system; and I cannot see why they should be debarred from carrying out such a wish, without being obliged to give a right of occupancy at the same time.

Section 93.—I presume the court has to decide whether the claim for enhancement is just, fair, and in accordance to the law, before ejecting the ryot. In that case, it seems hard that landlords should have to grant compensation for disturbance which would never have occurred but for the obstinate rejection of such just claims by the ryot.

Sections 139 and 140.—The commonest mode of surrender and abandonment of lands is by flight: in such cases, from whence is the landlord to get his rents for the following year.

4. No mention is made in the Bill whether lands thus surrendered will continue to be ryoti, or will be considered as the exclusive private property of the landlord. It seems to me that all lands which come in any way in the hands of the zemindars should be liable to be dealt with by the zemindar in the way he thinks best. The ryot to whom the lands belonged cannot be injured by such lands being declared "khamar," and next to him, it seems to me the landlord should be considered and not the new-comers on those lands.

No. 208, dated Ranaghat, the 20th May 1883.

From—BABU RAM CHURN GHOSE, Sub-Divisional Officer of Ranaghat,

To—The Collector of Nuddea.

In reply to your No. 449G., dated 16th instant, I beg to submit herewith the following report.

Almost all the respectable zemindars of the sub-division were written to for an expression of their opinions on the Tenancy Bill. The only two reports received up to date from Babus Girindro Nath Mukerji and Kalika Nund Roy, are submitted herewith in original.

I have very attentively gone through the Bill. The provisions are quite full. All necessary safeguards against the illegal exactions of the zemindars and harassing enhancement suits have been provided in it.

The reports of the zemindars show that slightest encroachments on their rights have been objected to.

All that I venture to remark is that more than sufficient privileges have been granted to the tenants. It would have met the present requirements adequately if there had been only a simple mode of speedy recovery of arrears due prescribed, and alterations made to protect the tenantry from illegal exactions, and *abwabs*, and harassing enhancements.

While the privilege of creating occupancy tenures has been made easily feasible, the outcome of it, I apprehend, will be the creation of multiplicity of intermediate undertenures, which in the long run would prove detrimental to the interests of actual cultivators of the soil.

It will prove to be of doubtful expediency, and, I am afraid, will foster litigation, and not establish that good feeling which prevailed between the tenants and lords which have been disturbed since the operation of Act X of 1859.

The Bill is a very complete one, and I am unable to offer any suggestions.

Dated Subarnopur, the 7th May 1883.

From—BABU KALIKANUND ROY,

To—The Deputy Collector of Ranaghat.

In complience with your serial No. 145, dated 3rd instant, to copy of letter from the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, I have the honour to send the report on the Bengal Tenancy Bill; but in doing so, I beg to premise that I have not had the occasion to read the fifteen chapters of the Bill, as I am not a subscriber to the Gazette referred to in the Secretary's letter. Imperfect as my knowledge of the Bill is, and the time allowed, *viz.*, two days, however, may be too short for such an important subject, I shall, however, be glad if the views contained in the report coincide with that of yours. If we differ, I beg to request you will be kind enough to submit the report to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue in order that I may have the satisfaction to learn that my report will have a chance of hearing.

The scope of the Rent Bill may be summed up as follows:—

(1.) That it does not remove some of the clauses of the present Rent Law which trench upon the property rights of the landlords, and such as are considered obnoxious.

(2.) That it confers on tenants certain rights and privileges which they do not enjoy at present.

(3.) That the standard of enhancement proposed to be fixed is not uniform, and the limit assigned in certain cases is arbitrary.

(4.) That the compensation allowed to tenants-at-will is inequitable, and not customary in India.

(5.) Speedy recovery of arrears of rents.

1. The sections which interfere with the proprietory rights of the landlord are :—

Section IV of Rent Act VIII of 1869.—This section, though evidently based on the law of *prescription*, is opposed to Section LII, Regulation VIII of 1793, and considering the relation that subsisted between the landlord and tenant formerly it is wholly inapplicable to cases of rent. While it confers no benefits on the tillers of the soil, it has created a class of men whom the law never intended. (14, W. R., p. 168.)

Sections V and VI.—There has been a great deal of contention as to who are the persons that should enjoy right of occupancy; whether the right should be conferred on *khood kasta kudmi* (hereditary resident), or simply *khood kasta* ryots. The class of ryots described in paragraph 2, Section LX, Regulation VIII of 1793, are the latter. It has been also a subject of great dispute whether by ryots are meant cultivators or holders of land, or both. There is no such definition in the regulation referred to above; we therefore safely conclude that if the right is given to *khood kasta* cultivator for that portion of land which he cultivates, the ends of justice will be sufficiently met. It serves no purpose to vest a tenant with the right over that quantity of land the improvement in which he is not directly concerned, but then which merely forms part of his holding, unless it be the intention to lower the value of the proprietory rights of the landlord.

The Sections which are considered obnoxious are the following :—

Section XXI.—Although Government at the time of the permanent settlement has fixed, the payment of its land revenue by instalments for the proprietors, it has left the latter under

a great disadvantage to realize their dues from their tenants by the same mode of instalment. The established usage is a myth, and is never proved, or if proved, it is never considered satisfactory. We think that every tenant be made to pay his rents by monthly instalments though no interest shall run until the tenant shall have failed to pay his quarterly dues before a week the same is payable by his superior landlord.

Section XXXI.—Deposits of rents, although made on oath that the same were tendered at the mal kutchery of the landlord, are not *bond fide* transactions. The tenants now-a-days think it a degradation to go to the landlord's place, avail of the benefit of the law, and make the deposit. The law on false oath is never enforced in such cases. The limitation, *viz.*, six months, fixed for claims for further balance seems to us quite arbitrary, considering that similar claims of abatement for rent and all others are barred after three years.

Proviso of section LXVIII.—While the sharer in a joint, undivided estate is made to attach first the moveable property of the judgment-debtor (Section LXIV), he is debarred from distraining the same description of property under this proviso. Ninety-nine out of every hundred estates in Lower Bengal are joint, undivided, in which no division of land has taken place; consequently the provisions of the distraint clauses are not availed of. The procedure in respect to suits by sharers of joint estates, *mutatis mutandis*, may be made applicable to sharers who are in receipt of their rents separately.

2. Already the impetus given to the undertenure by making it heritable and transferable has contributed to the rise in value of that description of property much above the value of the proprietory rights of the landlord. And if further concessions be made, the value of one will continue to rise, while that of other will fall, as one might anticipate, in either arithmetical or geometrical progression to such an extent that Government may eventually find it difficult to satisfy its own demand from the sale-proceeds of such estates in case they are brought to the hammer for arrears. The wholesome principle laid down in Section 52, Regulation VIII of 1793, and in the decision of the High Court (20, W. R., page 139) should not be overlooked, or power be given to turn arable land into an orchard or homestead or offices of manufactory, &c., without the express sanction of the landlord (12, W. R., page 495; 18, W. R., page 19). Such power may be advantageous to the individual tenants, but positively injure other tenants who may have lands adjoining. The landlords will suffer without receiving any adequate benefits. That such power is opposed to native idea of wealth needs not be shown. According to the native idea, paddy is wealth (dhana dhanya). Whatever contributes to the increase of that wealth, contributes to the well-being of native society. The saving of written contracts under section 7 is one which should not be dispensed with.

There can be no doubt that the value of undertenure will be greatly enhanced at the expense of the proprietory rights of the landlord, but no one who has carefully read the preamble to Regulation XLIV of 1793, will deny that the object of the Legislature has never been so.

It is therefore sufficient for all purposes that *khood kasta* cultivator of 12 years' standing to have right of occupancy in the land he cultivates; that the right be made heritable, provided successors follow the same mode of occupation; the right be made transferable: but as the Bill provides, the landlord is to have the right of pre-emption.

3. Considering the different rates of rent which prevail in the same village and in the same district, and in some which are paid in kind, the standard, *viz.*, one-fifth of the gross produce, is not an unreasonable one. But the limit fixed for new engagements seems to us quite arbitrary and unsuited to India, where the people are generally indolent, and low rate of rent never induces a cultivator to exert himself to derive the utmost the land could fetch. It would therefore be indirectly encouraging indolence. In Nuddea, where comparatively with Hooghly and Burdwan, very low rate of rent prevails, the agriculturists are content with a single crop which requires no great labor, and is easily obtained.

4. *Ashu Dhanya.*—The tenants-at-will are quite aware of the nature of contract they enter into. So far as our own experience goes, no improvement of any kind is made by tenants of very long standing unless they are indemnified by the annual product. Even when they apprehend any loss they relinquish the lands. If compensation, such as is proposed, be once introduced in India, landlords may hereafter claim compensation from their tenants when lands are relinquished by them, and which may lie fallow.

5. The procedure adopted in the Rent Bill will greatly help the landlords in realizing their rents without having recourse to summary procedure.

Dated Ula, the 8th May 1883.

From—Babu Girindra Nath Mukherjee,

To—The Deputy Magistrate of Ranaghat.

In reply to your favour No. 138, dated the 3rd instant last, I beg to record the following as my deliberate opinion in respect of the Bengal Tenancy Bill. Hope you will kindly condescend to go through it, correcting and altering whatever may seem to you frivolous or incoherent, and apprise me of it in time that I may take a lesson.

THE BENGAL TENANCY BILL.

Before entering into any discussion of the Bill, I beg to state at length the relative position of the landlord and tenant as now obtains in these parts. Men quite unacquainted with

the habits and mode of life of the peasant class are seen to come forward with loud and boisterous denunciation of landlord and the mahajan. Looking at facts from a distance, their young raw hearts become affected at seeing a poor ryot scantily clad and scarcely provided with the bare necessaries of life, and they at once conclude that the landlord and the mahajan are to blame for it. If they will please throw off a little of their lethargy and take the trouble to sift the cause to its very bottom, they will be convinced that it is the ryot who is to blame. In days gone by, when the soil was more fertile, and produce quite abundant, ryots could be seen in very prosperous and affluent circumstances, their granaries full of grains, and their cow-sheds teeming with healthy animals, though the grains then fetched but half their present price. This state of things has quite vanished; and what is the cause of it? Not the oppression, extortion, or the illegal exactions of the landlord, or the all-absorbing greed of the mahajan certainly, but the idle and improvident habits of the ryot, his utter disregard to agricultural improvements, and his extreme willingness to depend on his mahajan for the payment of his rents and supply of even the necessaries of life. He would not take into head the idea of manuring or irrigating his lands, though the means to it were ample and available. His only care seems to be simply to keep his mahajan well satisfied about his earnestness to pay off his debts, by showing that he has broken up his lands for purposes of cultivation. The mahajan with this guarantee in his favour undertakes to keep him up and afloat up to harvest time, and lends him money and paddy in the hope of recovering something of his old dues over and above that let out in the current year. Now imagine his chagrin, when at the hervest time, he comes to know that owing to the partial failure of rain and the comparative exhaustedness of the fertility of the soil, the produce of the year cannot be expected to realize even so much as half his dues of the current year. His remedy now lies in a court of justice, and what awaits him there? Loss, heavy unmitigated loss! The law protects the ryot. His single plough and bare pair of bullocks have been declared to be such on which the mahajan cannot fix his clutches. His home is no property that can be attached in execution of a decree, and his lands are primarily liable for the rents due by him. The little that had been saved by eluding the mahajan's vigilance had long been converted into paltry ornaments, and given over to his wife or daughter. The mahajan, with no other solace except a prolonged sigh and a sincere wish of ruin to the man who has given him so much trouble, discontinues his transactions with him. The rents of his (ryot's) lands have already begun to fall into arrears, and the landlord is now brought on the stage. The ryot is called upon to pay, but he pleads inability, simply because he has no mahajan. The landlord waits for three consecutive years, and being hampered in diverse ways in realizing his dues from the ryot, he ultimately goes to court, where after endless postponements, and illegal and unrecoverable expenses he is favoured with a decree. The costs of the original suit, together with those of the execution proceedings, augment the demand to four times its primary amount. The ryot who could not at first pay the simple rent due can never be expected to meet this heavy demand. He hides his movables so effectually that the attaching peon gives a return of no movables, and the landlord is obliged to proceed against his lands. He becomes thus deprived of his agricultural life, and his hand-and-mouth sort of life brought on by his own faults is made the stand-point whence the declamators vilify the landlord. There can be no remedy to this state of things so long as the ryot does not appreciate the advantages and importance of an easy, independent, agricultural life; no amount of protective legislation can better the condition of the ryot, and too much court-interference will only hasten on his ruin. However circumscribed and hemmed-in might become the landlord's rights under a legislative enactment, something must remain to him, and the enforcement of that something in a court of justice, where myriads are waiting to prey upon the poor ryot, would bring on misery and destitution to the latter. In olden times, a defaulting ryot would have been brought over to his landlord's kutchery, where after piteous cries and cunning evasions he could get release with some corporal punishment perhaps; thus with a slight bodily inconvenience he could contrive to save his home and his means of living. But now, protected from any such punishment by the criminal law, he becomes utterly ruined in defending himself. The greatest oppression that a landlord can now-a-days inflict on his tenant is to sue him in a court of justice.

With these preliminary observations I beg to proceed to consider the Bill. First of all, I shall beg leave to ask, is the Bill wanted? To this question I should return an answer in the negative. The system of agriculture in vogue needs substantial improvement; else no good outturn can be expected. The same lands are being cultivated continuously for the last hundred years, and have consequently lost much of their productiveness. Experience has shewn that improvements calculated to secure a good harvest do not pay even the interest of the capital laid out. Under this state of things, ordinary ryots are seen to give up agricultural pursuits, and embrace the more lucrative calling of selling labour dear. The price of labour has increased fourfold, and the inducement to pursue an unprofitable agricultural life has greatly diminished. Moreover, the agitation given birth to by the passing of Act X of 1859 is gradually subsiding, and the landlord and tenant are, after long and protracted struggles, becoming reconciled to the provisions of the Act. It is not at all politic to disturb the present state of peace and equanimity. Creation of new rights in the tenant will certainly be strongly and strenuously opposed by the landlord, and the sequel of the proposed measure would be setting one class against the other anew. The second question I would ask, is the Bill, as framed, calculated to ameliorate the condition of the ryots in any perceptible way. I must confess that I cannot answer this question even in the affirmative. The Bill simply attempts at conferring certain rights on the ryot, but it does not contemplate securing them to him. He is too often required to appear before court against his landlord, and it is more than certain that what may be

pastime to the one will be rain to the other. I intend to notice all these particulars as I proceed with the different sections of the Bill.

Section 17 is not easy to be understood. If the scope of the section be to declare that separation or amalgamation of lands and consequent decrease or increase of rent will not operate as a change of rent within the 20 years immediately preceding, there is not much to be said against it. If it means that mere separation from or amalgamation to a holding will not entitle a landlord to enhance his rent, it is objectionable.

Section 18 (a).—If it is a fact that the rent of a certain tenure has undergone two or more enhancements since the permanent settlement, though there is no special custom to that effect in the district, is it equitable to debar the landlord from claiming enhancement when the land is shewn capable of affording it?

Sections 14 to 20 confer on a certain class of ryots some privileges which will turn them into middlemen. They may prove as oppressive to their under-tenants as their landlords had been to them. It is nowise bettering the position of the actual cultivators. I do not see what may be the good of this policy of creating a middle class who will entail on the poor cultivator a double burden. The first landlord has secured certain profit at the time of letting his lands, and the new landlord, that is, the middleman, will not let his lands to the cultivators without keeping a good margin for himself.

Sections 21 to 24 award to the tenure-holder a high percentage of profit. His collection expenses are already taken into account, and he ought not to be allowed very much more than that. It is sufficient that he does not pay anything from his own pocket, and has ample means to keep himself and family in easy circumstances. The percentage recommended by the section is feared to provide him with means and leisure which he may be tempted to employ to the oppression of his ryots.

Section 28.—This is quite uncalled for. Section 32 provides for cases where the landlord refuses or neglects to register, so that Section 28 can be dispensed with. The less the court's interference the better.

Section 30.—A fee at least must be made payable for registration of a third person's name. The purchasers in this as well as in Section 29 are in the same predicament, and should, in equity, be made equally liable to a fee.

Sections 45 and 47.—A settled ryot, who had been cultivating or holding brombotor or lakhraj lands in a village or estate for 11 years continuously, is seen in possession of some ryoti land pertaining to the village or estate during the last year which does not expire before the 2nd March 1883. Shall this man acquire occupancy right in that land? It is absurd that a man having had so small a concern with the land should be considered to have acquired a right in such land. Considering the present deplorable state of agriculture, it is desirable to confer on the ryots, that is, the actual cultivators, certain rights which may induce them, to hold to land, and introduce improvements in the system of cultivation. Though the idle habits of the tenant class do not warrant such a conclusion, still I would not grudge a trial, especially when my rulers would have it. But then I should here state a principle on which the landlords, in recognizing any rights in the tenant, are entitled to a certain premium. It is invariably the custom and practice everywhere that when the landlord transfers any of his own rights unto any of his tenants, or a third person, he gets something as consideration. Now under the proposed law some rights which but for the Act had been vested in the landlord, are wrested away from him and conferred on some third person. It is but meet and just that this third person should pay to his landlord something as premium. If, however, the tenant is unable to make any immediate payment, it should be made payable by instalments bearing interest not above one per cent. What I have said of occupancy rights is equally applicable to the tenure casses.

Section 50(e).—Occupancy rights should be made to accrue in respect of lands which a ryot would absolutely require for cultivation. When once the right has accrued to a person, he shall not be divested of it so long as he continues to cultivate the lands. If in any year he neglects to cultivate any portion of the lands, he loses his occupancy rights in that portion, provided that no physical disability has overtaken him during or before the year. Any settled ryot taking that portion for purposes of agriculture will have occupancy right in respect of it. Creation of a middle class should be very much discouraged. The less their number the more good to the cultivator.

Section 51.—Court interference without need. Serve the notice personally on the landlord, or if there be any reason to believe that the landlord will not recognize service of notice, it can be served by means of registered letters.

This and the four following sections deal with the right of pre-emption of the landlord in cases of sales, gift, or bequest. Much has been made of this provision as if something quite new and unheard-of is being secured to the landlord. But let us see what it really means. It simply means nothing more than this, that the landlord shall buy up a thing which originally belonged to him, but had been given away to a third person without getting his consent or giving him any consideration in return. All that I have said here and elsewhere respecting premiums and considerations applies only in cases of zemindars or actual proprietors. Tenure-holders are landlords only under the present Bill. But if tenure-holders are to be taken into account, the premium or consideration should be divided between him and his landlord according to the proportion of their rents.

Section 70.—Considering the variations in the gross produce and the value thereof, no table can be allowed to hold for more than three years.

Section 73 (c).—It would not be fair that the proprietor or the holder of a superior right

should equally share with his inferior the difference obtained. Tenure-holders as landlords are under this section entitled to enhancement when the prepared table of rates shews the ryots' rate to be below it, without being made liable to any such obligation under similar circumstances. Since the tenure-holder acquires his right without paying any consideration, it is equitable that he should share with landlord the profit obtained without his agency.

Section 75 (c).—The above remarks apply here equally well.

Section 78.—Suppose a rent enhanced a year or two before the proposed Act comes into force. If this enhanced rent is still less than the rate shewn in the table of rates prepared under the proposed law, shall not the landlord be entitled to enhancement, simply because 10 years have not elapsed since the rent was last time enhanced?

Section 93 (b).—Why the landlord is thus saddled with a compensation amount? He merely seeks to oust a tenant-at-will for his refusing to pay a just demand. If such a provision be allowed to prevail, no ryot will agree to pay the enhanced rent.

Section 96 (2).—The percentage is very high.

Section 100 (d).—It is desirable to have the following words added, *viz.*, the quantity and quality of the lands comprised in the holding. It may obviate many difficulties in a subsequent suit.

Section 101.—The landlord should be allowed a small fee for each statement furnished. Unless extra amlahs were kept, these businesses could not be rightly and punctually performed. (*a*) The quality and quantity of land in the holding.

Section 103 (a).—Mere belief should not be made the criterion for deposit. Where a tenant believes that his rents would not be accepted and receipt granted therefor; he should at least serve a notice on his landlord, say, by registered letter, that unless his rents were accepted within ten or fifteen days from the date of the notice, he would deposit the amount in the court.

Section 110.—There must be conclusive proof that there was not a reasonable or probable cause. Bearing in mind the strong predilections of courts in favour of the ryots, this section seems to be dangerous on the whole.

Section 128.—This section empowers an ordinary ryot to erect on his holding dwelling houses and suitable out-offices without the permission of his landlord. This is not just. The ordinary ryot has no sort of right in the soil, and the improvement does not in any way benefit the land. If he is ejected, he is entitled to compensation; but anyone stepping into his shoes and standing in no need of such an improvement would not take the holding at his rent. This is conferring too much privilege on an ordinary ryot. Improvements not absolutely necessary for the purposes of the tenancy should be made subject to the landlord's permission.

Section 133.—In the statement of Objects and Reasons the desirability of empowering a landlord to measure all lands in his estate, whether lakraj or otherwise, has been expressly stated. But the section seems to exclude lakraj lands from its operation. This is anomalous.

Section 135.—Some punishment must be inflicted on the obstructing tenant; else he would not be induced to desist.

Section 142.—The appointment of a manager is made dependent on certain conditions. I should recommend it to be made compulsory in all cases of co-sharers. It will bring infinite relief to the ryot, while it will materially benefit the landlord.

Section 167.—Landlords who collect their rents by means of agents, *i.e.*, naibs and gomastahs, should be exempted from any obligation to verify a plaint. The verification by the naib or gomastah well cognizant of the facts stated in the plaint in such cases and duly empowered on that behalf should be accepted. Though Section 189 provides something of the sort, the law is not explicit enough.

Section 168.—The procedure is feared to become too much dilatory. Every documentary evidence should be filed along with the application, and the deputation to distrain should be immediately ordered to issue. If the ryot has any objection, he can come in after the distraint, but before sale. Otherwise if he becomes apprised of any attempt at distraint, he will fail to take advantage of the delay by promptly gathering and hiding securely his crops in some safe place.

Section 195.—It is not stated anywhere in the Bill in what sort of cases the court should grant leave to file a written statement. It is desirable not to give to the court any discretion and to make the rule absolute. If, however, the court is satisfied that the defendant has just and reasonable cause of complaint, it may require him to deposit the amount claimed, together with the probable cost, before being allowed to file a written statement. When the register, record of rights, table of rates, receipts, and statements are required to come into play, no serious injustice may be feared in case the ryot is debarred from filing a written statement. If the case is decided against the defendant, the deposit shall be at once made over to the plaintiff, and thus an execution proceeding can be dispensed with.

In conclusion, I shall beg to notice that neither in the case of a tenure nor in that of occupancy right any provision is made in the Bill when more than one person succeeds to the tenure or the occupancy holding, and partition it among themselves. The landlords' sherista contains the name of the one man who was a tenure-holder. His successor in interest has been made liable to pay a fee, but when there are more than one successor, no provision is made as whether each and all shall be liable to a similar fee when they wish their names to be separately registered according to their respective shares.

Memorandum of Opinion on the new Tenancy Bill by RAI JADU NAUTH, ROY BAHADOOR, *dated 31st May 1883.*

This Bill being the outcome of a settled purpose on the part of the Government to ameliorate the condition of the ryots by improving their status, and taking away certain rights which the zemindars from the time of the permanent settlement understood to have belonged to them, it is needless to enter into any discussions or comment upon the principles of the Bill. I shall, therefore, address myself chiefly to some of the prominent changes in the relation between the landlords and tenants, and how they are likely to affect the interests of the party concerned.

The word *khamar* in this district is known to mean such lands only as are kept for storage of crops just before threshing, and it is not known in the sense the term is used in the Bill. Perhaps in former times zemindars used to compel ryots to store their crops in lands belonging to them as private lands, and did not allow them to take away the grains without paying the rents. Besides this, I am not aware of any zemindar or landholder, keeping any records or paper shewing the areas of khamar lands in their villages; it would therefore be not a matter of little difficulty to ascertain the area of khamar lands as distinct from the ryoti lands in the way proposed by the Bill; in fact, no distinction between khamar and ryoti lands had been observed since a very long time in our districts, and so many conflicting rights and interests have, during this long period, accrued to one party or the other, that, far from the executive authorities being able to ascertain this question, it would take the Civil Court a full generation to decide them.

Nothing has prevented the zemindars for this long time to convert into khamar or private lands any unoccupied ryoti land, nor was any claim set up by a ryot for lease of any land left vacant by a fellow-ryot; on the other hand, the zemindar has always let out lands of his villages without observing any distinction between khamar and ryoti lands. The zemindars of this district know of two kinds of land only, the *zami*, or lands held by tenants, and *lokshan*, or lands not held by any tenants. Under this latter description of lands is included all uncultivable, uncultivated jungle lands, village roads, lands the zemindar might retain for his own private use, as well as lands that were at one time leased out to tenants, but has since reverted to *lokshan* lands, having been deserted by the tenants. The well-known *urbandi* tenures of the Nuddea district are formed out of these *lokshan* lands. Now, the definition given in the Bill of *khamar* lands will not include all these descriptions of lands; consequently it is doubtful whether the *lokshan* lands of the zemindars will be called *khamar* or ryoti lands. The definition of *khamar* land, therefore, in my humble opinion, ought to be clearer and wider, so as to include all the so-called *lokshan* lands retained to be let out as the zemindar pleases.

Sections 15—20.—In suits for enhancement of rent, the present rule of 20 years' presumpton is, that a ryot must shew payment of uniform rent for a period of 20 years immediately preceding the time of the enhancement, whereas the new Bill proposes to introduce by allowing uniform payment of rent to be proved for *any* period of 20 years. Now, the effect of this change would be to give the ryot an undue advantage over the zemindars in *more* successfully contesting his just right of enhancing the rent, for it will be easier for the ryots to fabricate *dakhilas* so old as not to require of their being proved in law courts, and as those alleged to have signed them might not be alive, it will be impossible for zemindars to rebut the presumption either by witnesses or by *jumma-wasilbaki* papers, the latter being not always available in consequence of the frequent change of zemindars by sale, gift, or otherwise.

Section 14 enacts that tenures held at fixed rent since permanent settlement is not liable to enhancement; and section 18 provides for the enhancement of such tenures when not so held, but the changeableness of the rate of rent is to be proved by the landholders; a mere allegation that the rent is changeable will help little or nothing in getting the rate changed. The provision in Section 18, with regard to further proof in respect of the custom of the district, is vague in itself, and will naturally give rise to the question as to what the landholder should have to prove. This section may, further, tempt ordinary and other ryots to set up equal claims with the tenure-holders, described in Section 14, in the absence of pottahs and kubulyats, the interchange of which, until very lately, was not much in practice. In this respect, therefore, the present law may be allowed to stand as it is.

In sub-section 3 of Section 21, the words "gross rents payable to him" are objectionable inasmuch as they may not include the rents of the lands which the tenure-holder holds for his own private use.

Section 25 makes all permanent tenures *saleable*, but no provision has been made for preventing from their being purchased by inimically-disposed rival zemindars. The principles underlying the right of pre-emption with regard to occupancy tenures should be the guide in cases of permanent tenures also, and the right of pre-emption ought to be given in these tenures.

With regard to occupancy rights, so much has been said and discussed, that it is unnecessary here to repeat the arguments advanced against the most objectionable sections of the Bill. I mean sections 45 and 47. It needs only be observed that the freedom of contract taken away by these and many other sections of the Bill is of essential necessity in all relations between the landholders and the tenants. The various advantages derivable from the land depend not only upon the soil, but upon numerous conditions of the soil, its situation, its drainage, its scenery, fertility, &c., &c., combining to complicate the question as to how to ascertain the value of the land for the purpose of settling the rent payable in respect of it. Upon a rough calculation, therefore, of any one of the numerous conditions—say, for instance, the gross produce—it will be simply an arbitrary measure to make any attempt to fix the rate of rent payable by the ryots.

The ryot to whom the land is to be let out is likely to prove the best judge of what would suit his convenience, and notwithstanding all his shortcomings—inferiority of intellect, an absence of education—the ryot is most sensibly alive to his interests, and well understands the advantages he derives in lieu of the rents he pays for the same. It would therefore not be unwise to leave to the ryots to enter into agreements in the way they choose; and any attempt to take away from them and the landlords the right of contracting legally (though out of law), would be inconsistent with the broad liberal policy of the present as well as of the past Governments. In discussing upon matters of the local self-government scheme, the Government has recognized the possibility of honest and intelligent votes being given by far a greater portion of the ordinary run of people, and upon the face of such recognition in respect of difficult matters of policy it will be quite inconsistent on the part of the Government to deny the possibility of a current appreciation by the ryots of the nature of the contracts they enter into in far easier relations with their landlords. The idea therefore to make the law imperative, and to prevent the ryots from contracting out of law, is not in harmony with the age and principles of Government.

Having made these observations in respect of some of the prominent changes, as they appear to me, from the stand-point of my own experience as a zemindar, I shall conclude this note with one word more. The agreement entered into between the zemindars on the one hand and Lord Cornwalis' Government on the other, is of the nature of a voidable contract. The zemindars understood themselves absolute proprietors of the soil in quite a different sense from that intended by the Government. Their conduct, and the way in which they have been dealing with their proprietary rights since the permanent settlement, are sufficient for my purpose to say that the zemindars did not for a moment consider that they were made *proprietors* in such limited sense of the term as explained by Mr. Ilbert. If from the rent literature of the time of the permanent settlement it appears that the weight of evidence is in favour of the contention that the Government has reserved the right of legislating in the manner in which it now exercises, I should possibly have no claim to be heard in what I have said upon some of the provisions of the new Bill. If that is so, I should rather say that it would rescind the permanent settlement altogether, and reconvert the zemindars to tehsildars, or convert him to a pensioner, for then we might look for peace in the land.

Dated Katdaha, the 12th May 1883.

From—BABU BEDHOO BHOOSUN BOSE,

To—The Officer in Charge of the Sub-division, Kooshtea.

With reference to your notice, dated the 2nd instant, I most respectfully submit to your information my views on Rent Bill embodied in the enclosure.

I further beg to state that Babu Bepin Behari Bose, to whom the same notice was also given, has been confined to bed from a severe attack of rheumatism since the month of January last.

Views on Rent Bill.

A certain portion of produce or of profit from land which its occupier pays to its owner for its use, is called rent.

A mouza, or a certain large area of land, whose name is entered into the Government land register, is called an estate.

The rent that is paid to the Government for an estate by its proprietor is called revenue.

A holding is a small piece of land, or is composed of several such pieces, for the use of which rent is paid.

The occupier of land who pays rent is called a tenant. When the tenant dwells in his own holding or in the village where that holding lies, he is called a khood kasta tenant.

The owner of land who receives rent is called a landlord.

So the term tenant includes all, from the actual cultivator or the occupier of the land to estate proprietor, in their capacity of paying rent. And the term landlord includes all the various proprietors of an estate, from the zemindar to *miani* ijardar, and also all the various proprietors of a holding, from the mokraridar to the lowest korfadar, in their capacity of receiving rent.

Since the time the views of the Legislature in any Rent Bill appeared in any public print, the landlord begins to guard his interest; while the ignorance and the poverty of the tenant keep him back even from knowing what has been laid down for his good.

On the occasion of breaking out into a difference, the landlord, thinking himself as the paramount power, generally takes law into his hands, and continues to do so till his tenants are goaded to form a powerful combination. Then he begins to be paid in the same coins as he used to do them heretofore. Yet, he is not without hopes to crush them down if he succeeds to get some fellows to uphold his version in court, as he fails not to assail them on all the various sections and clauses of the Rent Law which he finds there are in his favour. This course, though slow, is sure and safest of all. But when he is unable to produce any evidence, he is sure to be deprived by tenants in combination of his just dues.

The tenant, on the other hand, during the time of his broil with his landlord, has the disadvantages of his field being neglected, and those of being advised and led either by an unscrupulous village scribbler, or by a wily mooktear, but neither of whom feels the least compunction to rob him right and left.

Again, when the landlords' myrmidons or the tenants' combination headmen become unscrupulous, the peaceful, though reluctant, are dragged into a strong compact to commit or aid perjury and other crimes by the threats of injuries to be inflicted to their property, persons, and family. These threats are turned into actions when the reluctant become resolute. The injuries thus brought on are rather augmented than mitigated by the present system of administration of justice, since the difficulties and the troubles that meet the injured in the way are :—

(1) The want of money for the stamps or court-fees required.

(2) The incapability of procuring the required evidence when it is under the sole control of their influential opponent, who can, at all risks, dare say anything in open court against a tyrant landlord, or a ruffian tenant, to bring him into grief.

(3) The loss of time and such moneys as are not allowed by law during the various stages of law-suit, not only in the court of first instance, but in those two of the appellate ones. This loss is so enormous that it entices the affluent to adopt the conducting of bad suits as one of the means to ruin their antagonist.

(4) The failure of justice from absence of such evidence as the court requires.

(5) The want of means to pay the decreed costs consequent on such a failure.

(6) The execution of costs decree through all its processes, which add to the decreed sum an amount equal to several times of its actual value.

(7) Multiplication of crimes when one is let off unconvicted. The Government, having arranged to meet the expenses of the administration with proceeds from stamps or court-fees, gains by these quarrels and loses by their absence. But quite contrary should be the case. India being an agricultural country, the land disputes which have reduced it to wretchedness and penury must at once be got rid of, and measures of peace and prosperity are to be admitted in their stead to make the Government powerful as any under the sun.

To remove the grievances alluded to, and bring without loss to any all the several interests in land, from the Government to the cultivator, into a harmonious whole, should be the sole object of the new Rent Bill if any real reform is intended by it. To replace a few obnoxious clauses in the existing Rent Laws by some salutory ones without any radical change in the administration would merely contribute to fan the dying embers of the litigation, enhance the stamp revenue, and make the court's file cumbrous without the desired effect.

The points that require reforms in the Rent Bill are :—

(1) To uphold the contracts between the landlord and tenant.

Whether written, verbal, or implied, the valid ones are to be respected, and one-sided ones rejected, and thus not to allow either the landlord or the tenant to encroach on the just rights and privileges of the other under the plea of time, &c. As for example, it is not reasonable to create an occupancy right to a temporarily settled or utbandi land on occupying it for a certain period of time, or to oust a resident or a khood kasta tenant if he fails to complete his that period; and also to permit the tenant to appropriate the wood of the fruit trees which were in existence before he was admitted into his holding, or to deprive him totally of it when the trees are planted by himself.

(2) To develop the resources of land.

This is the hinge around which the incomes of all its interested parties turn. The work is now left to the cultivator whose poverty and ignorance render him incapable to bestow on it any improvement whatever. With a view to aid him in the matter the Government, as the paramount landlord, should make an advance to the intermediate ones, to be refunded at the close of the year with interest at the rate not exceeding 6 per cent. per annum. The intermediate ones should in their turn advance the amount to the cultivator, to be refunded after each harvest with interest at the rate not exceeding 12 per cent. per annum. Besides this the cultivator should be permitted to secure any kind of tenure for the improvement of his fields on payment of proper costs. These and similar other deeds towards the development of the soil should entitle the landlord to the enhancement of his tenant's rent.

(3) To adjust rent.

The average of ten years' net income from each sort of land in a holding is to be ascertained. Of such income (that is, income after deducting from the gross produce all sorts of expenses except the Government revenue) ($\frac{1}{2}$) half is due to the proprietor of the estate and ($\frac{3}{8}$) three-eighths in equal portions to the intermediate tenant landlords as the rent to be annually paid for ten years at the least, and the remaining ($\frac{1}{8}$) one-eighth to the cultivator at his profit. The reasons for such divisions are, that the estate proprietor has to pay the Government revenue from his half (which is equal to nearly ($\frac{1}{4}$) one-fourth of the gross produce), and the remainder he has to share with the others of his class according to their mutual contract, as the tenant landlords are to divide among themselves their ($\frac{3}{8}$) three-eighths. Whereas the cultivator, his ($\frac{1}{8}$) one-eighth none to part with; besides he gets all the expenses of his cultivation, including his own labour which would cover, at some crops, ($\frac{1}{4}$) half and, at others, more than half of the gross produce. So where the tenant holds his land direct from the estate proprietor, and cultivates himself, he gets ($\frac{1}{4}$) half of the net income and the whole expense which equals sometimes ($\frac{3}{4}$) three-fourths, sometimes more than that of the gross produce. The rent should be left as it is if it is not enhanced by the above rule. An annual return of the average produce and expense of each crop in a village prepared by its panchayets, tenants, and landlord together; in case of difference by the canoongoe or by the sub-deputy, and tested by the sub-divisional officer, if preserved in a sub-divisional office, would help the adjustment of rent without difficulty.

According to the principle laid down, above ($\frac{1}{4}$) one-fourth of the wood of fruit trees planted by the tenant is due to the landlord unless the latter relinquishes his right by a tenure.

4. To ascertain the time of paying rents.

Rent should be due after each harvest. But the amount should never exceed what might be claimed by that time according to the prevailing instalment. A corresponding grace should be conferred on the landlords with respect to their payment of Government revenue as is done on the occasion of drought and famine.

5. To facilitate the collection of rent.

In every village the panchayet should prepare a list of undisputed rents in the presence of the landlords and the tenants. A copy of such list should be submitted to the sub-divisional officer. The tenant should not take the proceeds of his fields till his undisputed rent, cesses, and rent decree and advance, if any, are paid in cash or kind. But if the tenant thinks it convenient, he may with the knowledge of the punchayet and landlord keep for a month at the most a quantity of the proceeds deposited with a third party adequate to meet the dues from him. If from want of adequate productions any sum remains unsatisfied, it should be realized from his other properties in the following year by legal processes.

6. To protect a tenant from the Small Cause Court decree.

The money-lender takes advantage of his debtor's indigence to extort from him an exorbitant interest, generally amounting to 37½ per cent. per annum. Therefore the decree in question should neither affect his person nor his holding, but the yields of his lands that remain after the payment of his rent, cesses, or advance if any, and also the residue of the sale money of his holding when it is sold on a rent decree.

7. To make the tenant's right transferable.

If he be protected from the Small Cause Court decree as stated above, his right should be transferable as he is understood to spare neither labour nor money to improve his land. The right of pre-emption should lie with the landlord as any transfer without his consent is not the general practice.

8. To confer on the tenant the blessings of law and good government.

The existing obstacles are :—

1. The court-fees.
2. The other heavy expenses and troubles attending a case in its different stages of progress from the court of first instance up to the final court of appeal.
3. The absence from the fields during the enormous length of time generally occupied by a case till its final decision.

If a cess imposed on those who are likely to be benefitted by law takes the place of court-fees to maintain the machinery of administration, the first obstacle might be removed without any loss to Government. This cess will likewise decrease in proportion as the fines imposed on the aggressors in the shape of costs will increase. If two copies of plaints are made on plain paper, and one of them is submitted to the Judge by post, registered, and another to him by the police through the panchayets. If summonses and all other processes of law are served through the police by the panchayets and chowkidars. If the services of pleaders are utilized as paid arbiters.

If those among them nominated by the contending parties are allowed to settle all of their disputes on the spot. If in difficult and important cases the arbitration is presided over by the Judge himself. If private investigation is held before taking the evidence. If the witnesses are made to account for their disagreement and coincide their version with the natural sequences of fact. If in case of difference among the arbiters a reference with due remarks is made to the courts composed of the judicial officers of the sub-division. If intricate questions of law are referred to a similar court in the district, and on their difference to the Honourable High Court. If fine in the shape of cost is imposed on the aggressor to an amount adequate to deter him from further interference. And if protections from criminal aggression are similarly bestowed on by the superintendence of the efficient police and the supervision of the sub-divisional officer.

The second and third obstacles will be removed, and not only the favoured few, but all the people of the country will enjoy the benefits of law and good government, and advance under peace towards wealth and prosperity which will bring on all the improvements in the country, as well as make the Government as firm and powerful as ever.

Dated Kishnagur, the 20th May 1883.

From—Babu Prasanna Chunder Roy,

To—Babu Rakhal Dass Mukerjee, Deputy Collector of Chooadangah.

In compliance with your memorandum No. 60, dated the 18th April 1883, endorsed on a copy of the letter No. 351A, dated the 29th March 1883, from the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, I have the honour to submit herewith a few remarks on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

It is stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that when the permanent settlement was effected, Government did not part with its "right as sovereigns of being the guardians and protectors of every class of persons living under it," but reserved the power of enacting "regulations for the protection and welfare of the dependent talookdars, ryots, and other cultivators of the soil," and that the zemindars were called upon to "shew implicit obedience to all regulations which had been or might be prescribed by Government concerning the rents

of the ryots and the collections from under-tenants and agents of every description, aswell as from all other persons whatever." It is accordingly argued that apart from the inherent right of Government "to regulate from time to time as occasion might require for the protection of the inferior occupants of the soil," these provisions of the permanent settlement regulations also empower it to enact laws in that direction. The first question that arises is whether Government has got this power. It would be presumptuous on my part to pass any opinion definitely on so grave a question. But it seems to my humble judgment that the proposition that Government has an unlimited power to pass any law for fixing the rates of rent payable by a ryot, or for defining his status can hardly be defended. Supposing that the permanent settlement of an estate was effected after taking into calculation a particular rate of rent then payable by the ryots, will the Government be justified in fixing a *lower* rate of rent, however necessary it may be from an administrative point of view, without either making a proportional reduction in the revenue assessed on the estate, or giving compensation to the owner thereof? The same remark would apply if any alteration in the law is made by which the ryots' status would be different from what it was at the time of the permanent settlement. I am perfectly aware that the proposed law does not contemplate any such alteration at all, but nevertheless the cases supposed shew that it would be unjust to claim such a right in every case. If the state of things that existed in 1793 could be accurately ascertained at the present time, and customs now prevailing in agricultural communities were in most cases not at variance with the same, any legislation based thereon could not properly be objected to by the zemindars. But when this cannot be done, and a law is proposed the provisions of which are at variance with the *existing* state of things, and which are alleged to be mainly based on the general principles of equity that *should* govern the lands of an agricultural population, the zemindars, I humbly submit, have every right to complain when from some cause or other as certain state of things has been allowed to exist for nearly a century, and thousands and thousands of estates have changed hands on the belief that it would not be disturbed in any way, and when the passing of the Acts of 1859 and 1869 could not but strengthen this belief, it would not be equitable to the zemindars to pass a law entirely opposed to the same. The changes proposed are so great that in many cases they would surprise the ryots equally with their landlords. The provision regarding the acquiring of a right of occupancy by a settled ryot by his "holding as a ryot" a piece of ryoti land for even a single day, and which he would be entitled to dispose of whenever he wishes to do so, and some of the incidents of this right, will be considered startling to both parties.

It would appear from the above that, even if the Government has the right, under old regulations, to make such laws, which is a doubtful point, it would be on no account equitable to do so under the existing circumstances. On the other hand, however, the condition of the agricultural population of Bengal should be improved. That a considerable portion of the ryots is deeply involved in debt and is not in a position to withstand the difficulties brought about by a season of scarcity, withal extraneous help, is a fact that cannot be denied, and everybody ought to be thankful to Government in its attempt to improve their condition, either by reducing the incidence of taxation on them, or by resorting to other means at its disposal. But this improvement of their condition should not be effected at the expense of the zemindars *alone*. I would, in pursuance of the suggestions already made on the subject, humbly suggest, that if all the interests in land above those of a right of occupancy are bought up at their market value by Government, and then a ryotwari settlement be made on conditions calculated to improve the status of the ryots, it would be desirable in every way and no one can reasonably object to the adoption of such a course; nor would such a plan, in my humble judgment, be attended with any great difficulty. On an average the capital which the Government will have to empty for this purpose would bring in a profit of about 5 to 5½ per cent. per annum, and if the credit of Government be taken as equivalent to 4 or even 4½ per cent., there would be left a reasonable margin to justify the adoption of this course. There is another point of view from which this question may be considered. It has been often asserted that the permanent settlement was a great mistake of the Government of 1793, and that, had it not been for this, the financial condition of the Indian empire at the present day would have been far different. If the permanent settlement has really produced any injurious effect on the financial condition of the empire, the adoption of the suggestion referred to above will prevent the recurrence of the evil in future. It is an undeniable fact that the value of, and profit from, land will increase in course of time, and it would then be optional with Government either to allow the ryot to reap the full benefit of this increase, or take a portion thereof to improve the finances of the country. If the former course be adopted, it will certainly have the effect of improving the condition of the agricultural population of Bengal to a great extent. Besides, there would be no difficulty or clashing of interests at all in enacting laws that are calculated to raise his status, and enable him to withstand the effects of bad seasons.

Although a ryotwari settlement is advocated above, this is not incompatible with the arrangement for making collections of rents through farmers. If Government feels any difficulty in organizing a machinery for making the collections, the present landed proprietors may be utilized in doing the same by a farming system.

I shall now proceed to make a few remarks with regard to some of the sections of the Bill.

In section 3, it is provided that a person who holds any land for even horticultural purposes is to be deemed to hold it as a ryot. This is an unnecessary innovation. Persons who engage themselves in horticultural pursuits are not generally of the class that is supposed to be in need of special protection at the hands of the Legislature. The incidents of

horticultural holding should not be the same as those of an agricultural one. Separate provisions should be made for the same in the Bill.

Section 5.—Khamar land is defined to be the private land of the proprietor. This definition is not explicit enough, and, if not altered, will give rise to a great deal of litigation. It ought to be expressly provided that khas possession should not be considered as essential in shewing that a land is khamar. In Lower Bengal generally, and in this district specially, all trace of the khamar lands of an estate is gone, and it would indeed be a matter of great difficulty to make out what lands are to be considered as such. In this section the word "proprietor" only is used. But as it is evident that the Legislature does not intend to deprive the putnidars and others of that class of their rights to these lands, the words "tenure-holders" should be added. It would also be better to provide expressly as to how the new-formed chur lands are to be classified.

The provision about making a survey of the khamar lands is well calculated to prevent a great deal of unnecessary ligitation.

In Section 15, as the words stand, they imply *any* twenty years before the institution of the suit. But a particular time should be fixed, immediately before which the ryot will have to shew that he held for 20 years continuously at a uniform rate of rent. There is one thing to be noticed in connection with this section. Auction-purchasers are placed at a very great disadvantage by the operation of this clause. They have not generally in their possession the collection papers of their property, by which they can shew either that the rent was different from what is stated by the ryot at some time prior to the institution of the suit, or that the tenure came into existence at a time subsequent to the permanent settlement. This difficulty was overlooked when Act X of 1859 was passed. But when the entire law is going to be remodelled, this opportunity should be availed of to remove the great hardship the auction-purchasers labour under.

Section 18 (b).—This clause restricts the right of the landlord to enhance the rent; only when the tenure-holder has obtained *reduction* of rent, and if the sections are allowed to stand as they are, it will be a matter of doubt whether the landlords will have a right to obtain enhanced rent in cases in which he once enhanced the rent of a tenure-holder. This clause apparently seems to be at variance with the provisions of Section 14. As I believe no alteration of the law on this subject is contemplated, it ought to be clearly provided that, when a tenure has been held from the time of the permanent settlement, any change of rent, either in the way of enhancement, or abatement thereof, would entitle the landlord to sue for enhancement.

Section 44.—When a right of occupancy has been acquired by any particular *custom*, all the incidents attached to that right by the Tenancy Bill should not be made applicable to the right thus acquired. If the custom gives birth to the right, it seems only reasonable that it should also regulate its incidents.

Section 45.—It is not clear whether holding as a ryot any ryoti land includes or excludes the occupation of any land under a ryot. This should be made clear to prevent unnecessary litigation.

Section 47.—It has been already remarked that this provision would appear startling both to the landlord and to the tenant. If a proprietor wants to keep a piece of ryoti land in his khas possession, it would preclude him from leasing it out to any resident ryot even when he may not require it. There are landlords, such as indigo-planters and others, who keep a large portion of the ryoti lands of a village in what is called *nijabad*; but they lease them out at times to tenants for short periods when they do not require them. If this Bill be passed into law, they will be, as a rule, precluded from leasing them out to resident ryots, for fear least they may not get them back when required. The landlord in such cases, as also in every other case in which he may have a wish to occupy any land himself from time to time, will always be on the look-out for a farmer, or other person who will not acquire a right of occupancy by remaining in possession for a temporary period, and the resident ryot will, as a rule, be deprived of the advantage of cultivating such lands. Thus, besides being unjust to the zemindars, the law would prove detrimental to the interests of both parties. In my humble opinion, any such wholesale alteration in the law is not needed to raise the status of the agricultural population. It will create a very bad feeling between landlords and tenants, and in the struggle to prevent a right of occupancy from accruing on one side, and to acquire that right on the other, both parties will suffer. It is not so much the law that requires 12 years holding as necessary for the acquisition of a right of occupancy that has produced any evil effect, it is the uncertainty about the incidents of that right and of the law for enhancement of rents that has produced the evil consequences complained of. Had attempts been made at the time of the passing of Act X of 1859, as are being made now, to *define clearly* what the privileges of the occupancy tenants would be, and under what conditions and circumstances their rents could be enhanced, this question about the further extension of the right of occupancy would not have been considered so very important at present. I believe both parties were satisfied with the law on that subject, and as far as I am aware, of its operation as far as conferring a right to hold for ever at a fair rental has not been productive of any evil consequences. The ryots never wanted to have right of occupancy conferred on them in the manner provided in this section. Such an idea never had any place in their mind. I humbly beg to submit that instead of introducing such a fundamental change in the existing law, it would be better if the incidents of the rights of occupancy were clearly defined and the law made clear and definite on various other points.

Sections 52 to 55 are certainly calculated to counteract the evil effects which an unrestricted right of sale would have otherwise produced. But those landlords in whose estates

occupancy rights are not now transferable by custom will still have a right to complain that the ryots are allowed to sell their holdings and appropriate the proceeds of the sale to themselves; whereas under the existing law, if they did not require the holdings themselves, they had to relinquish them in their landlord's favour. To prevent all grounds of complaint it would be better if a record of the prevailing custom in connection with this matter in each local area were prepared by the revenue authorities, and full effect given to these sections as also to Section 50 (clause *f*) only in places where the right of transfer of the occupancy right is already recognized. In places where this custom does not prevail now, the same rights might be conferred on the condition that the landlord would be entitled to a certain percentage of the value of the holding whenever a transfer takes place, and this should be given him whether he wants to buy the holding himself or not.

Section 56.—When the landlord has paid a fair price for the holding he has bought, it would not be desirable to deprive him of the privileges which a third person would have enjoyed. He ought to be placed on the same footing with the other purchasers. If this sectioned be allowed to stand, it will indirectly nullify the operation of the preceding sections; for no landlord will give any price for a holding which he cannot, as a rule, keep in his *khas* possession, and which when leased out to a resident ryot, even for a short time, will go out of his lands for ever; nor would he be entitled to any higher rate of rent than what he could have claimed prior to his purchase. In many cases, the price that he would have to pay would be a total loss to him.

Section 59.—In my humble opinion it will be quite sufficient if the revenue officer's duty be confined simply to see that the ryot acts as a free agent, or that undue advantage is not taken of his position. If he is allowed to interfere further, it will injuriously affect the interests of both landlords and tenants. A ryot may be inclined to pay a slightly higher rate of rent to secure a particular piece of land, and the arrangement may be of great advantage to him, but if such a provision is made in the Rent Law, he might be deprived of this advantage.

The provisions regarding the preparation of a table of rates and so forth will prove highly beneficial to both parties, and will have the effect of preventing unnecessary and prolonged litigation between them.

I am very sorry that there is no time for me to make whatever remarks I had to make in some of the remaining sections of the Bill. This letter containing an expression of my opinion ought to have been sent long ago; but owing to circumstances over which I had no control, I could not send it earlier, and I hope you will be kind enough to excuse me for the delay.

No. 307.

Opinion of BABOO NUFFER CHUNDER PAL CHOWDHURY, *on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.*

I have been requested to give my opinion on the Bengal Tenancy Bill. The subject is so very wide, comprehensive, and affects so vast a class of our country, that, considering the responsibility which rests upon anybody, one would shrink to give any opinion within so short a time; but as there is no alternative, to lay down a few remarks which, though not a complete review of the Bill, will, I hope, render some important suggestions from the landlords' and tenants' point of view.

2. The present Bengal Tenancy Bill if enacted into law is of no benefit, but on the contrary a loss to the country. The landlords complained that the machinery of the Civil Courts was not sufficiently effective to enable them to realize their rents in time to pay the Government revenue, and that either the provisions of the Rent Law were too strict, or the construction which the courts have put upon them too narrow, to enable them to enhance the rent of their ryots as readily and as largely as the Legislature had intended. The complaints of the ryots were not so well defined. They appear to have been brought to the notice of the Government not by the ryots themselves, but for the most parts by executive officers whose duty it was to quell the disturbances which arose from time to time in the agricultural districts, and to enquire into the causes which led to them. The realization of abwabs and illegal cesses, illegal attempts to enhance rent, abuse of power, refusal to give proper receipts, are all that was brought to the notice of Government by these executive officers. This Bill, although introduced under the disguise of affording relief to both parties, virtually relieves none from the sufferings they are undergoing, and though it affords uncalled for privileges (the want of which ryots neither asked, felt nor dreamt of) to the ryots at the cost of the landlords, yet in important cases it gives no material help to any class when landholders are losing greater portion of their privileges and long-enjoyed just, and fair rights. Now to begin with the contents of the Bill. According to Section 5 khamar land means land situated elsewhere than in Behar which a proprietor has held whether under the name of khamar, nij-jote, sir, or otherwise, as his private land for 12 years before the commencement of this Act. All lands (accruing to Section 6) which is not khamar land of same estate shall be deemed to be ryoti land until the contrary is proved. It is not difficult to say from these definitions under what class the utbundi lands of the districts of Nuddea, Moorshedabad, Jessore, &c., should be included. It is evident that under Section 6 utbundi lands are ryoti lands. The landholders have all along enjoyed the privilege of possessing and holding utbundi lands as their own, improved these at their own cost, settled with the ryots to their mutual advantage, and profited largely, nay extensively, without injuring the ryots to the least. Now by a mere stroke of pen from the authority they are going to lose almost all the rights and privileges which they have enjoyed since time immemorial, and which enjoyment was loss to nobody, but a source of profit

to the landholders; nor can there be assigned any reason why the landlords will be deprived of their long enjoyed, just, and fair rights. I would therefore strongly protest against the enactment of these two sections, or even if these two sections are allowed to enact, a special clause should be inserted for the utbundi lands which is found nowhere else, but in Nuddea, and partly in Jessore and Moorshedabad.

3. Again, if we consider Sections 45 and 47 along with the above two sections, we find almost all the ryots will have a right of occupancy the moment they enter to cultivate the utbundi lands, for by Section 45 any person who for a period of 12 years, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, has continuously held as a ryot ryoti land situate in any village or estate, shall, notwithstanding any contract to the contray, and though the land so held by him at different times during that period may have been different, be deemed to have become, on the expiration of that period, a settled ryot of that village or estate, and by Section 47 every settled ryot of a village holding after the 2nd day of March 1883 as a ryot any ryoti land comprised in that village or estate shall, notwithstanding any contract to the contrary, be deemed to acquire or have acquired in that land a right of occupancy under the law for the time being in force. But what advantage do the ryots derive from this? Is it the case that ryots do not get lands when they want to cultivate? Do the landholders reserve utbundi lands for their own private use, and refuse the ryots when they want? Then what is the use of depriving the landlords of their just rights and privileges, the deprival of which will make them loser to no small an extent. Furthermore, I should beg to state that not only the landholders will suffer if these sections are enacted into law, but the agricultural improvement of the country will to a great extent be restrained. It is the landholders and not the ryots who are to look after the agricultural improvements of the country. If landholders are not allowed the privilege of utilizing the utbundi lands, there will be no equal distribution of land among the ryots. Some of the ryots will hold to no useful purpose, while others will be deprived to the disadvantage of the country. The landlord is empowered to certain improvement, yet in the majority of cases he is quite dependent on the ryot; for instance, a piece of land which a settled ryot holds for a month or two for cultiviting rice is required by another for making it a homestead or orchard, then the value of the land will increase, and the country will derive a greater benefit in case the land is allowed to be improved as required.

4. Section 15 of the Bill is the Section 4 of Act X of 1859.—The presumption of 20 years' payment of rent before the institution of a suit for enhancing rent was then more important than it is now. During the last 20 or 25 years, ryots have understood their rights, and I think, if the force of this presumption is to continue at all, it should be 20 years before 1859 and down to the time of the institution of the suit. Section 23 limits the enhancement of rent; when the rent of a tenure-holder is liable to enhancement, the enhanced rent fixed under Section 21 shall not be more than double the rent previously payable. It is difficult to say how far this is fair and equitable. The Legislature, Section 21, (1) fully explains his views when he says :—"When the rent of a tenure-holder is liable to enhancement, it may, subject to any contract between the parties, be enhanced up to the limit of the customary rate payable by persons holding similar tenures in the vicinity." Again in Section 21, (2) when no such customary rate exists, it may, subject as aforesaid, be enhanced up to such limit as the court thinks fair and equitable. By this what are we to understand? When the rent of a tenure enhanced according to the customary rate payable by persons holding similar tenures in the vicinity, or according to what is fair and equitable, or according to both, as the court thinks fit, exceeds double the rent previously payable, will the court decide according to the customary rate and what is fair and equitable; or will the court decide, according to Section 22, *i.e.*, not to exceed double the rent previously payable? Instances of these are not of rare occurrence; so it will not affect the landlord to a small extent. Is it right that the landlords will be deprived of what is fair and equitable? Is it the intention to be kind to the ryots at the cost of the landlords who should be deprived of what is just and right and equitable and fair? I need not go further to shew the unjustness of such an arbitrary rule. Section 22 of the Bill should, in my humble opinion, be struck out of the Bill.

5. About the transferability of occupancy rights, Section 50, clause (6), gives the right of transfer of occupancy right. There is not a rule more detrimental to the interests of both landlords and ryots than this one. On a cursory view it may appear that by empowering the ryots to transfer their occupancy right the Legislature puts some value on such holdings, but if we go deeper we find that such a power not only deprives the ryot of his means of subsistence, brings him and his whole family to ruin, but also places the landlord in a precarious position, often to run into disputes with a class whom he fears. As a general rule the ryots never wish to dispose of their holdings but to cultivate it and thereby maintain themselves and their families; they are never speculators, so nothing but extreme pressure and dire necessity will oblige them to part with their holdings; and is it at all likely that *bonâ fide* ryots—the poor cultivators of the soil—will be able to purchase these occupancy rights? The peasantry as a class, and specially of this district of Nuddea, are heavily involved in debt, and if this Bill is enacted into law, will the mahajans allow chances of this kind to slip through their fingers?

The consequence has been already pointed out by many of the officers who have been consulted upon the Bill, and I am sure if it passes into law, the mahajans and speculators of lands will soon be paying up all the occupancy rights, and what will then be the condition of the actual cultivators of the soil? They will be virtually robbed by the mahajans who have no position or character to lose, who have had little or no education, and who would buy up these rights for the very purpose of securing the last piece out of the cultivating classes. By

setting a value on their properties, will it not be ruining them? I think 75 per cent. of the cultivating class of this district are involved in debt. If opportunity be given to the mahajans and other creditors, will they not exert their most to realize their dues by buying up the holdings of their debtors which they consider and really is the best of all their movable and immovable properties? From my practical experience of 15 years I am in a position to say that the mahajans never look after the interest of the ryots; whatever good they seldom do to the ryots are always on account of their own interest, and if this right of transfer is allowed by law, then within a short time greater portion of the lands now occupied and enjoyed by the ryots will go into the hands of mahajans and other land-jobbers. So much for the ryots. About the landlords, they are going to lose the right of settling the utbundi lands according to their mutual advantage, which is always a source of increasing their income without putting their ryots to the least inconvenience. Secondly, they will have to deal with a class of people with whom they are not acquainted, with regard to whom they have not cherished a good feeling, as they have done with their ryots since the time when they first became landlords; and what more, both parties being on the same footing, and there existing no good feeling between them, as is generally the case, there will be no end of troubles. For these reasons I am of opinion that this section if passed into law will not only be cruelly unjust to the landlords, but will operate most injuriously on the very class which it is intended specially to benefit.

6. Section 59 (2) should be omitted or at least that part of it which deals arbitrarily. It is not easy to understand why the rent if enhanced more than 6 annas per rupee fairly and equitably and with the consent of the ryot will not be approved or registered by a revenue officer. What is just and fair should have effect, and nothing else.

7. Section 60 should also be omitted. It increases litigation. It is beyond the power of any reasonable man to understand why a suit for enhancement should be instituted, and both parties harassed and made to suffer when the ryot agrees of his own accord and at his own will to pay an enhanced rent of more than 6 annas per rupee which is a just and fair and equitable demand of his landlord.

Section 76 is also objectionable for the reasons stated in paragraph No. 7.

Section 93 (*b*) runs as follows:—"A further sum as compensation for disturbance, equal to ten times the yearly increase of rent demanded." The landlord institutes a suit of enhancement only when the ryot does not agree to pay his demand. The court in passing a decree consider the fairness of the claim of the landlord, and if satisfied with the evidence of the plaintiff issues order for ejectment. From this it is clear that the landlord's claim is right and just, and he is entitled to what he claims; on the other hand, the ryot wilfully neglects to appear in the court, or appearing before the court, unjustly and unfairly, and perhaps with some wicked intention, refuses to pay enhanced rent. Is this equity, that the landlord to get his just dues should pay ten times, or what he should have received as his own year by year from a time long anterior to what he claims? It can fairly be said that the disturbance is caused not by the landlord, but by the ryot; for who cannot claim his just dues? And such claimant can never be a disturber, but he who refuses to pay what is justly due to the claimant. So this penalty equitably cannot be imposed upon the landlord. If it is argued that the landlord is going to get possession of the holding for which he can easily pay ten times the yearly increase of the rent demanded, I must say it is a mistake: the landlord is seldom a gainer by getting khas possession of the holding; and if, for argument's sake, it is admitted that he may be a gainer, even then why the landlord will be made liable for ten times the yearly increase when he claims his just dues, and the ryot loses his holding through his own fault or wickedness. I think every reasonable and unbiassed person will object to the passing of this section into law.

8. *Section 140.*—There is one difficulty to be met with in this section. When a tenant forsakes his holding, and the landlord cannot enter into and settle the land for a year, how is the landlord to get rent for that year? It is true that the ryot will be liable for the rent, but it is not an easy thing to realize from him when he is not in his village or estate. I think not even 10 per cent. of such rent is ever realized: I would therefore propose that the section may be read as follows.

9. Any tenant of a holding which is not transferable, who leaves his holding uncultivated, *but does not leave his dwelling-house*, and the rent of the holding unpaid for a period of one year, shall, at the expiration of that period, be deemed to have surrendered the holding.

I am sorry that the time allowed enables me not to go minutely on the Bengal Tenancy Bill; however, I think, the important points have been touched, and I think an impartial reader will be astonished at the partiality of the Bill: it is all for the ryots and nothing for the zemindars; not even the slightest facility is given for the settlement and realization of rents, although this Bill originated, as noted above, at the request of the landlords. I think this Bill, if passed into law, will effect a redistribution of property on the communistic principle, for the ryots are to be raised to the status of co-partner, and the zemindars reduced to the position of only one-fifth shareholders in the estate, though their responsibilities as owner will remain the same. It is not for me to contend against the modern interpretation of the rules of the Permanent Settlement, but I think I have the privilege to say that for nearly a century successive governments and legislatures and courts of justice decided according to its dictionary meaning, and, depending upon their solemn assurance, almost all the zemindars of the present day invested their capital on land. Now, I would ask if it would not be extremely hard and unjust to the zemindars of the present day, who have laid out large sums of money in the purchase of landed property, which they have hitherto been led to believe their entire property, to be told that they are only one-fifth shareholders in the estate, and that too under certain

conditions and limitations. The zemindars of the present day (for the number of zemindars by purchase afterwards is not even one in 100) have actual *bonâ fide* and under an honest conviction, in which they have been confirmed by the highest authority, laid out their entire property in the purchase of soil, and now to deprive them by a single stroke of the pen without any compensation of rights which rightly they have been permitted to enjoy for ninety years or upwards—the longest period for the *accrual of a prescriptive* right being only 60 years—would, in my opinion, be little short of confiscation; and now I would further question, for whose benefit are the zemindars' interests being sacrificed? The actual cultivators of the soil hardly gain much under the present Bill, but it is the mahajans, the jotedars, the land-jobbers, and the middle-class men who will be most benefited, or, in other words, a class of petty landowners is to be raised in the room of large zemindars. Is this a wise policy? I believe it has been practically proved, and an accepted doctrine, that the big landholders are the most lenient, and that it is the petty landowners who have the greatest temptation to press hard upon their tenancy, and besides the country is expected to derive greater benefit from big landholders than from petty landowners.

Under these circumstances I am strongly against the Bengal Tenancy Bill, and consider it to be my duty to protest earnestly against the encroachment of our just rights and interests, and to exert by all lawful means to avert the threatened blow.

Dated Sindooree, 9th May 1883.

From—W. SHIERREFF, Esq.,

To—BABOO RAKHAL DASS MOOKERJEE, Deputy Collector, Chooadangah.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your communication No. 58 of the 18th April, asking me for the expression of my opinion on the proposed Bengal Tenancy Bill. I have gone over the proposed Bill as published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 7th March last, and looking at it from the landlord's point of view, I don't approve of it at all. The one great grievance that the landlords had to complain of was the difficulty of getting in their rents speedily through the courts, but I do not see that the new Bill gives any facilities in that way. It takes away to a very great extent the rights of the landlords as hitherto possessed by them, and leaves them mere rent collectors for the Government, with all the responsibility of having to pay up the Government rents on the appointed "Lot" day, as formerly.

It seems to me be a most complicated Act, and that there will be considerable difficulty in working it. I believe it will lead to an immense amount of fresh litigation, and though it seeks to benefit the ryots at the expense of the landlords, yet the real people who will benefit by it will be the mooktears and pleaders about the Moonsiff's courts; while the ryots will impoverish themselves by litigation, and a bad feeling will be established between them and their landlords, which will go far to undo any good they might have got by this new measure.

I have to apologize for not having replied to your communication sooner, but I have been so busy attending to our indigo-sowing, at this season that I have not had time to do so earlier.

No. 328G, dated Berhampore, 18th May 1883.

From—HERBERT MOSLEY, Esq., Collector of Moorshedabad,

To—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

With reference to your circular No. 9R.-L., dated the 24th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that in my opinion the new Rent Bill goes much too far, and will result in difficulties to zemindars which may have a prejudicial effect on the Government revenue.

2. Generally the effect left on my mind after reading the Bill is that it has been drawn up for the purpose of supporting an ignorant and easily deluded peasantry against zemindars who are always trying to get the better of them. In some parts of the country it may be that the ryot is generally unable to look after himself, but this is certainly not the case everywhere. In this district, as in many others, the zemindars generally have by no means the best of it, and little more is wanted than a much cheaper and very much more expeditious mode of deciding suits than exists at present.

3. I proceed to notice the different chapters of the Bill.

CHAPTER I.

4. *Section 3* (5).—I would strike out the latter part of this clause. I do not see why in a law for the protection of the cultivator, the same protection should be extended to him after he ceases to be one, though he may have come into possession (either by himself or through his ancestors) of land for cultivation, and is therefore a ryot; he should, I think, cease to be a ryot when he ceases to cultivate, using the land for other purposes.

5. In the same section I would strike out everything relating to sub-letting, for reasons given further on. (Under-ryot would thus go.)

CHAPTER II.

6. I would strike out the words "before the commencement of this Act" wherever it occurs in section 5. I do not think the chapter is a good one at all, but if it be thought necessary to have it, I do not see why the zemindar should not be in as good a position as the ryot as regards right of occupancy. And while this chapter absolutely prevents land becoming

khamar in future, section 49 provides for present khamar land ceasing to be such, which seems decidedly unfair to the zemindar.

CHAPTER III.

7. *Sections 22—24* might, I think, be dispensed with; they make arbitrary fixtures which might better be left to the courts: no court, for instance, would entertain prayers for re-enhancement soon after enhancement unless for very strong reasons, and I really cannot see why they should be unable to entertain the prayers even immediately if those strong reasons exist. And suppose a ryot holding poor sandy lands in a hollow, for some reason has his rent raised from 4 to 5 annas a bigah in 1883 and in 1884, a flood comes which fills up this hollow with rich alluvial soil, making the land worth Rs. 2 a bigah; why should that ryot reap all the benefit for nine years and the greater part for next ten, &c.?

8. These may be extreme cases, but why should law prevent justice even in extreme cases?

9. And while these restrictions are put on enhancement, the ryot is perfectly unrestricted as regards reductions.

10. In *sections 32 (3) and 33 (3)* the word "sufficient" should be inserted before "cause."

11. In *section 35 (2)* it might be well to insert what authority is to inflict the fine, and how it is to be realized.

CHAPTER IV.

12. It would be well if in this chapter something were inserted to remedy a most inconvenient state of things that exists as regards registration. Some penalty is required, or some other remedy in the case of non-registration. Section 39 enables the zemindar to refuse registration in default of security; but what is the consequence of the refusal? And how will refusal force the new patnidar to give security? And what is the consequence of a private transferee never asking for registration. The only consequences apparent are that the zemindar loses fees which he is entitled to, and is sometimes utterly ignorant of who is his real tenant. Of this I have practical experience; in the case of some patni estates in a neighbouring district rents have been paid into the treasury on account of one of my wards' estates in the name of the old patnidar, though private transfers had occurred, and this is only found out when on a default our sole remedy is objected to, because the notices have not been served on the real (new and unknown) patnidars.

13. The law should, I think, insist on every new holder registering and giving in a new kabulyut under disability penalties. The disabilities should be twofold, that is, an unregistered holder should be unable to recover rents, and he should by law be expressly deprived of right to object in any court to any steps taken by his landlord to recover rent. I still also adhere to my formerly expressed opinion that after a certain time non-registration should entail forfeiture of all rights to the zemindar (and I would extend this to all tenures and holdings of any description whatever).

14. And when zemindars are forced to coercion to get in their rents, the extra costs ought to be granted to them by law.

15. The next chapter (V) treats of occupancy ryots, and I think that the further concessions made to the ryots are most unnecessary. This creation of the law was bad enough in the eyes of zemindars already, though I believe as a general rule the objection was a theoretical more than a practical one. As a matter of fact (excepting perhaps a few districts) a long standing tenant was seldom interfered with so long as he paid his rent.

16. Now, however, there is a further drawback. The new "*settled ryot*" *taints* every particle of land he touches, and there is no washing out that taint, for if a landlord buys the occupancy right, he cannot extinguish it; it passes with the land to any one who takes it. The "settled ryot" will become a marked man, never to have land given to him, &c.

17. There is in sections 45, 47, 50, the same disabling of a certain class to make contracts, which I think so objectionable throughout the Bill; this is, I think, likely often to inflict hardship. For instance, it is often highly advantageous to the ryot to hold certain lands for a year or two, and this may suit the zemindar too, except for this new law which would void any contract to give it back after the term, and so the ryot will not get it.

18. Section 47 will cause injustice by handing over as occupancy land which has been expressly let for a term only.

19. In Section 50 I would alter clause *a* to one expressing that he may only use the land for cultivation, and clause *e* I would eliminate. If, as I think is the case this Bill is intended to protect ryots, I fail to see why it should allow subletting. A ryot ceases to be a ryot when he ceases to cultivate; when he sub-lets, he becomes that most oppressive of all landlords, a petty middleman. To protect the actual cultivator of the soil is well; to put a man between him and the zemindar can only injure one or the other. If the sub-tenant only pays a fair and equitable rent to the middleman, it is very evident that the latter pays a less than fair and equitable rent to the zemindar, which would be contrary to clause *c*, and if the ryot turned middleman *does* pay a fair and equitable rent to the zemindar, then it is evident that the sub-tenant, the actual cultivator, pays an unfair and inequitable rent, and how does this improve the condition of the cultivating class.

20. Section 56 destroys all advantage a zemindar might gain by buying an occupancy right, which would be held under clause *c* at fair and equitable rates, for immediately he lets another ryot on, he loses what he bought. He cannot re-let at a higher rate, for the new tenant jumps into the right of occupancy, and would say, "the rents before were fair and equitable, and you cannot make me pay more notwithstanding any contract I made."

21. Sections 59 (2), 61 (2), and 64 proviso, limit rent to one-fifth of estimated average value of crops, while section 81 makes it one-half. I confess that I am unable to see how this is equitable. One-fifth of the produce of an exceedingly good year may be equal to half that of a bad year, but if an average is to be taken, I should say that one-half of the average produce would be about the equivalent of one-half of the produce year by year, taking a number of years, and section 82, allowing a commutation of rent in kind on an average of five years, making a reasonable deduction as in clause 3, that is to say, the money rent may by this be nearly one-half of the average value of the produce, while the above sections make the maximum one-fifth.

22. As regards the sections providing for tables of rates, I can only say that I do not believe such tables could possibly be prepared accurately. My experience in settlements shews that no two villages are alike, or can fairly have one table of rates assigned to it, and the special officer who was sent up here to enquire about this matter told me that his enquiries led to exactly the same result.

23. I also doubt very much whether such a list as that contemplated in section 83 can ever possibly be prepared with any accuracy, and without accuracy the provision would be very mischievous. I do not see how the Collector can ensure getting truthful returns.

24. Turning now to ordinary ryots, I see by section 90 a zemindar cannot let land for a term at all, and section 95 will effectually stop a zemindar from spending money over improvements wherever rents have been enhanced a short time previous.

25. And letting for a short term at a nominal rent to improve the land will be put a stop to, for the ryot, when he is called on for an enhanced rate, will refuse, and then by section 93 the landlord *may* have to pay compensation for improvements, and *must* have to pay compensation for disturbance, though all this was allowed for in the shape of nominal rent. If it be said that this instance does not apply as 91, and the following sections do not apply to holdings fixed for a term by agreement, then I fail to see how the zemindar can get back his land at all, for section 90 bars all contracts to give up land.

26. Section 101 will throw on zemindars a burden so heavy that I doubt whether it will be carried out. For a large estate full of small ryots the work would be enormous; the registration or something like it, though more simple, should be kept, but to furnish each ryot with a copy would entail enormous labour and great extra expense, which if the receipts are properly given seem hardly necessary.

27. To section 119 (as to others fixing proportions of estimated value of gross produce in staple crops as the limit of rent) I rather object, but it is difficult to say anything positively till it is known what crops are to be considered staple. But the creeper producing the pân leaf would not be a staple crop, I suppose, in which case a most profitable crop might be grown, and the zemindar gain next to nothing, for where the pân plan grows, rice or corn would produce next to nothing.

28. I should think it would be well to have some mode of deciding the question which might arise as to whether certain works are improvements [Chapter X (A)], and whether the zemindar or ryot wishes to do the work, the other side should by an express section have the power of putting him to the proof as to whether the work is an improvement or not. Otherwise there is a possibility of land being permanently injured to the loss of one side or other.

29. I have little more to remark on, except that I think section 171 should itself specifically declare how the cost of cutting, &c., (clause 2), is to be met, and that, as I remarked at the commencement of this letter, I should prefer to see a simpler and quicker procedure for suits. And I cannot but again say that I am afraid the Bill if passed will result in ruin to many zemindars, and I may add that the agitation among the ryots that, you may remember, occurred to the south of this district some time ago when a Bill was being prepared shadows forth pretty distinctly what may be expected if this Bill passes.

30. I have received only one reply to the call I sent out for opinions on the Bill, and enclose a copy of it. If more come in, they will be sent as they arrive.

Dated Berhampore, the 5th May 1883.

From—Baboo Gopal Chunder Mookerjee, Vakeel,

To—H. Mosley, Esq., C.S., Collector of Moorshedabad.

In obedience to your requisition, I have the honour to submit the following opinion on the Bengal Tenancy Bill now before the Supreme Legislative Council.

The necessity for legislation, at least on some portions of the law of landlord and tenant, has been too generally admitted to remain any longer an open question. The want was, however, felt from the landlord's, rather than the ryot's point of view. A simpler procedure for the realization of rent, and a speedier way of enhancing rent, and with greater success, were felt among the wants for the interests of the landlords. The Bengal Legislature was at first moved to remove this want, but the matter has now assumed a different aspect. A considerable portion of the law on the subject has been recast, and the relative rights and positions of the landlords and their tenants have been redistributed; the general scope of the proposed bill is to take away from the landlords some portions of what they consider as their vested rights, and

improve the position of ryots at their expense. Nor is the Bill calculated to promote harmony and peace between landlords and ryots; occasions for law suits and official interferences have been increased, so as to excite bad feelings between the parties. We think, so far as the landlord is concerned, he would rather like to be subjected to the inconveniences of the present state of the law on the question of realization and enhancement of rent than accept the provisions of he present Bill.

The position of the ryots has undoubtedly been improved by the Bill. How far this has been consistent with the pledges given to the zemindars at the times of the permanent settlement is a debatable point. If the Bill succeeds in raising the *status* of a very large portion of the community, and protecting the helpless, that is a point greatly in its favour. Some of the important provisions of the Bill, however, are open to just criticism.

In Chapter II provisions have been made for measurement and registration of khamar lands, with an object of preventing the zemindars from increasing such lands at the expense of ryoty lands, in which important rights are to accrue in favour of ryots. With regard to Lower Bengal at any rate, it may be said that there has not been on the part of the zemindars any degree of anxiety to extend their khamar lands. If their ryots abandon lands, then only some lands are cultivated *khas*, not so much to prevent the accrual of the right of occupancy, but as a speculative measure to keep up the rent-roll of the mehal. The provisions of this chapter are unnecessary, inquisitorial. They will lead to discontent, and wake up the zemindars to separate as khamar a larger area from ryoty lands, apprehending loss from a different line of conduct.

In Chapter V important changes have been introduced as to the growth of occupancy rights and certain incidents attached thereto. A settled ryot holding lands in a village continuously for 12 years is to acquire a right of occupancy over other ryoty lands, however, short may be the period of his occupation of these latter. Such rights again have been rendered transferable against the consent of the zemindar, giving him a right of pre-emption. Such changes are serious encroachments upon the rights of the proprietors of the soil, and not justified by circumstances of the cases. If the occupancy right is considered important enough to be made transferable, it ought to have all the incidents of a transferable interest. The zemindar's right of pre-emption renders it a half measure neither satisfactory to the landlord nor to the tenant. It will, moreover, increase litigation, and introduce want of harmony between the landlord and his tenant.

The question of enhancement has been dealt with in Chapter VI. We cannot say that this matter has been put on a srtisfactory basis. There are no uniform pergunnah or customary rates prevalent over a large area. The circumstances of lands and nature of their holdings vary to a considerable extent, and so also the rates. Preparations of tables will be very difficult and expensive, if not impracticable, to be accurate; they should require a degree of investigation not shorter or simpler than what would be requisite to decide enhancement suits for the area under investigation. The process is, moreover, to be repeated in a Civil Court when a particular holding comes under assessment. Distinctions and differences will be pleaded to take it out of a given rate in the table, and the Court must decide if it wants to do justice therein, by a fresh investigation and enquiry which will by no means be shortened or facilitated by the table of rates prepared. The case will remain where it was, with or without the table.

We are of opinion, therefore, that a speedier and more successful remedy for re-adjustment of rent has not been secured for the zemindar by the proposed Bill.

A contract between a landlord and his ryot, to be binding and effective, needs the approval of revenue officers (section 59). Certain statutory rights conferred upon "ordinary ryots" cannot be modified or superseded by any agreement between the parties (section 90).

These are unnecessary interferences with the freedom of action. The existing laws respect such contracts. This change is against the policy of a civilized Government which has abolished the usury law, and respected individual liberty of action in every other transaction.

A summary procedure has been demanded on behalf of the landlords to realize their rents. The delay and costs incident to a rent suit, like all other suits tried now by the ordinary procedure, have been considered a grievance. Where the zemindar's claim is not disputed, the ordinary procedure does not delay the passing of a decree, and a more summary procedure cannot shorten the time. If the claim be contested, a summary procedure cannot do justice between the parties. Objections made must be fairly decided, and experience tells us that rent claims are contested by ryots when there is a pre-existing want of harmony between the parties, and want of fair play is apprehended. We fully approve of the principle of the Bill regarding this matter. Expenses are incurred by adjournments and heavy process fees. The former may be avoided by a better arrangement in the judicial service; the latter, if an evil, by an amendment of the Court-fees Act. If the justice of the case needs an adjournment, that must be granted rather than justice should suffer.

But we fear the broad principles of the Bill have been determined upon. I have some observations to make upon some of the sections.

CHAPTER I.

1. *Section 3, clause* (5).—The word person has not been defined in the Act. A question often arises whether an indigo concern or a firm like Messrs. Watson & Co., not registered, nor having a corporate existence, can be called a ryot, and entitled to the right of occupancy

with reference to lands held or cultivated by them for indigo. The High Court of Calcutta has denied them such rights—*vide* I. L. R., 4, column 957; 25, S. W. R. 117.

The Legislature ought to define their true position.

CHAPTER II.

2. A section ought to be added to this chapter analogous to section 89, Bengal Land Registration Act (VII of 1876 B.C.), providing that registry under this chapter of khamar lands must not affect the rights of third parties, or their remedies by suits in Civil Courts.

CHAPTER III.

3. *Sections 14 and 15.*—In some parts of Bengal, quantity of land held varies from year to year, but the ryot is assessed at the same *rate*. Benefits of these sections are intended to be given to such ryots (*vide* section 17). After the words "at a rent" insert "or a rate of rent" in the third line of section 14 and section 15, and amplify section 17 to cover such a case still more clearly.

4. *Section 25.*—Add "sub-let" after "bequeathed." "Transfer" as defined in section 3, column (16), does not include sub-letting. And this right is vested in tenure-holders subject to other provisions in respect of sales for arrears of rent of the superior tenures, &c.

5. *Section 32* (1).—After "any Civil Court having jurisdiction" insert "to entertain a suit to recover possession of the subject-matter of such transfer or succession," and strike out down to "situate." The section, as it stands, does not provide for the class of courts to which such an application is to be made in so far as the pecuniary jurisdiction is concerned.

CHAPTER IV.

6. *Section 41* (1).—Civil Court in this section is probably limited to the court of the District Judges, as by the present patni law (Regulation VIII of 1819) jurisdiction ought to be extended to any Court having jurisdiction in a suit to recover possession thereof. This will afford greater facilities to the parties, and Civil Courts in general ought to possess greater confidence now.—(2) Strike out this: the right of appeal would be a sufficient check against arbitrary orders.

CHAPTER V.

7. *Section 46.*—The period of one year is too short to justify the inference of abandonment. This ought to be extended at least to three years. This "ceasing to hold" should also be without paying any rent. Hence put "three" for "one," and add "without paying any rent" after "with others."

8. *Section 47.*—Proviso, for "owner" substitute "proprietor." As defined in the Act, owner is very vague; an occupant ryot may be the *owner* of his own land.

CHAPTER VI.

9. *Section 59.*—The limit of one-fifth of the estimated average annual value of the gross produce in this and other sections of this chapter is too low; it ought to be one-fourth.

CHAPTER VII.

10. *Section 85* (2).—A sub-section should be added to this section providing for abandonment. If a ryot owning any *basto* land leaves the village without any intention of returning, and does not pay rent, the landlord may take him to have abandoned his holding, and should be entitled to settle with another ryot.

CHAPTER VIII.

11. *Section 93* (*b*).—The compensation on this head is too high, nor is this founded upon any legitimate claim that the ryot can put forward. This clause ought to be left out.

12. *Sections 90 and 95.*—Ordinary ryots should occupy lands, and leave them off according to the contract between the parties. The two sections ought to be amended accordingly.

CHAPTER IX.

13. *Section 104* (1).—The right to deposit is often a nice question, and must be left to be determined by a Civil Court if occasion arises. This section unnecessarily gives the officer to whom a deposit is made a right to see whether the ryot is entitled to make the deposit. His functions ought to be limited to receive deposits if accompanied by a declaration of the ryot containing the ground upon which he can deposit under section 103.

14. *Section 125* (2).—If the tenure is sold subject to the charge, the rent ought to be realized from the tenure in the hands of the purchaser.

If sale-proceeds fall short of the rent due, is the tenure sold to be held liable for the balance? The section ought to be amplified to provide for all cases if rent be considered a first charge.

Dated Saidabad, the 8th June 1883.

From—Baboo Baikunt Nath Sen,

To—Herbert Mosley, Esq., c.s., Collector of Moorshedabad.

I have the honour to send herewith my notes on the Bengal Tenancy Bill. I hope to be excused for the delay that has been made in forwarding the same to you.

No. 485G, dated Berhampore, the 11th June 1883.

Memo. by—The Collector of Moorshedabad.

Copy forwarded to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division in continuation of this office No. 328G of the 18th ultimo.

Notes on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

CHAPTER I.

Section 3, clause 5.—In the definition of ryot it ought to be clear whether firms and companies have been meant to be included or excluded.

CHAPTER II.

Section 5.—Uncultivated or unculturable waste lands, and not in the actual occupation of any ryot, ought, in my opinion, to be treated as "khamar land."

CHAPTER III.

Sections 14 and 15.—Difficulties would arise and litigation would be the result if the holdings contemplated in these two sections be treated as tenures. In furnishing receipts and statements of accounts to tenants much difficulty would be felt.

CHAPTER IV.

Patni tenures.—Express provision ought to be made for protection of patni by any person interested, besides holders, by payment of arrears.

CHAPTER V.

Section 45.—Provides that occupation even of different lands at different times, notwithstanding contract to the contrary, creates a right of occupancy. This is a great encroachment on zemindar's rights, and implies a denial of liberty of action. Contracts under the Contract Act can only be avoided on certain grounds, which do not include the present case, when a zemindar merely secures a clause or condition to his benefit in a perfectly legal way under the existing law. Violation of the laws of personal rights and status would be the direct result if such a measure be adopted, and consequently the principle involved would be a dangerous one.

Again if a ryot with his eyes open enters into a contract, why should he be permitted to repudiate it? Or why should the Legislature shew any anxiety for the protection of the interests of the ryot on the ground that "such is the power of the zemindar, &c., &c., &c., defeat and failure," *vide* paragraph 33, Statement of Objects and Reasons.

If the ryot be induced by any misrepresentation or concealment of fact, the contract itself would be bad in law, but if the contract be otherwise good and valid, legislative interference declaring the same to be null and void is quite unjustifiable. Good policy must be based on equitable principles, and equity is equality; therefore, the interests of both ought to be taken into consideration.

Apart from this consideration of legal rights and privileges, a more comprehensive view ought to be taken as to the consequences which would ultimately result. Ryots know they have to depend much upon the zemindars, who again, generally speaking, at least in Bengal, look after the welfare of the tenants on a consideration of their dependent state. The feeling that is likely to be engendered amongst tenants and zemindars in ignoring contracts, deliberately entered into is almost sure to be of an unhappy nature, and would, I apprehend, lead to results disastrous to the ryots.

The means and powers contemplated in the Government letter No. 6 of the 21st March 1882 in the hands of the zemindars, if they do really exist, would in all probability be so made use of that the ryots would be compelled to give up their lands, and thus the measures proposed to be adopted by the Legislature for the improvement of the condition of the ryots would be entirely frustrated.

If the occupation of different lands give a right of occupancy, ryots would neglect the improvement of the soil, and so the agricultural interest and advancement of the country would be affected. If the ryots know, as they do know now, that continuous occupation for a certain period of the same land would give them a right of occupancy, they would, having no choice or option, adhere to the land, and try to improve its fertility, and thus make it profitable; very different would be the case when they would have the option of cultivating different lands with no fear of losing their right of occupancy.

Sections 50—55.—The transferability and heritability of occupancy right have properly been recognized with certain qualifications and conditions.

Section 56.—The provision in this section seems objectionable. This is to guard against the possibility of a landlord buying up on a great scale the occupancy rights existing on his estate or tenure with a view to locating ordinary ryots on the land. The question is, is such a measure proper and necessary? If a zemindar or a tenure-holder purchases an occupancy right, he ought to get the fullest benefit and advantage of his purchase; he has to pay the money equivalent for the right, and there being no reservation in favour of the ryot, the propriety of putting a legal restriction seems to me questionable. Then, again, where is the necessity for the precautionary measure? What if the zemindar or tenure-holder buys up all occupancy

rights in his estate or tenure? So long as he himself cultivates the lands by his servants or hired labourers, it is admitted there is nothing to fear; but where is the harm if he brings in new tenants, and locates ordinary ryots. The rights of these ordinary ryots would in the course of time ripen into occupancy rights, and whatever extra profits or advantages the zemindar or tenure-holder might derive before the development of the right of occupancy may fairly be looked upon as a return for the money he had to pay for reclaiming, as it were, the lands from the hands of any ryot having an occupancy right.

CHAPTER VI.

Section 59 (1).—An agreement by the ryot submitting to an enhancement of rent ought to be considered as valid and good; the approval of the same by a Government officer specially appointed ought to be dispensed with. Legislative interference with the freedom of action of parties is only justifiable under certain circumstances which make an agreement void, and for which sufficient provision has been made in the Contract Act (IX, 1871). Any agreement not otherwise bad ought to be considered as good and valid. In the uncertain state of things which must necessarily follow if agreements be declared valid contingent on the approval of a Government officer, I apprehend not only the zemindar and tenure-holder would be put to inconvenience and loss, but the ryot, also, would have to suffer a good deal. If there is misrepresentation or coercion antecedent to the agreement, the contract would be void by the operation of law. It ought to be conceded that ryots in Bengal are now quite able to protect their interests, and that when they enter into contracts with their eyes open, any attempt at further protection under the guardianship, as it were, of a Government officer would lead to results which are sure to prove prejudicial to the interests of the cultivating class as well. (2)—In cases of enhancement, one-fifth of the estimated average annual value o the gross produce of the land in staple crops has evidently been treated as fair and equitable rent. This seems to be objectionable; more than a fifth share has all along been recognized as the rent due to the zemindar or tenure-holder.

In the latter part of sub-section (2), sections 59 and 61, "that it is fair and equitable and" ought to be left out. The validity of the contract ought to be made dependent on free agency only.

CHAPTER VII.

Section 62.—A table of rates and produce, if correctly and carefully prepared, might be of very great use in settling questions regarding enhancement of rent; but it is necessary that special care should be taken for the preparation of the table. The revenue officers to be employed ought not to be below the rank of a Deputy Collector, section 74. With regard to tracts for which a table of rates and produce is not in force, the grounds for enhancement of rent seem to be fair and reasonable.

Provision ought to be made in this chapter for the enhancement of rent on the ground of occupation of land in excess of that for which rent is paid.

The limit of one-fifth of the estimated average annual value of the gross produce of the land in staple crops, calculated at the price at which the ryots sell at harvest time, seems to be too low; it ought to be raised to one-fourth, if not one-third. Bhagjotedars in Bengal generally pay half the produce, and sometimes more.

Section 83.—As a great deal will depend upon the price list to be annually prepared, opportunity ought to be given to the public for proper representations to the Collector to enable him to prepare the list correctly.

CHAPTER VIII.

Ordinary ryots having no right of occupancy ought to be left to themselves for securing their interests by agreements with their landlords. Though the desirability of interfering as little as possible between tenants of this class and their landlords is admitted, yet I venture to think that the provisions of the Bill in this chapter take away the undoubted right of the landholders to deal with such tenants. This chapter should, in my opinion, be left out altogether.

CHAPTER IX.

Section 6.—Land might not be added to a holding by alluvion or otherwise, yet on measurement it may be found that a ryot is in possession of lands in excess of the quantity of land for which he actually pays rent. This may be owing to gradual encroachment on waste lands or owing to mistake in the first measurement. The case of encroachment might come under the purview of section 96, but the other case, I think, does not. Some provision for payment for such excess lands ought to be made. This provision may be incorporated in this section or might be made a ground for enhancement of rent.

Section 98.—The limitation of instalments by which rent is to be paid in to not more than four, I venture to think, will tell very hardly on some tenure-holders, who by agreement have bound themselves to pay by monthly instalments. The provision therefore ought to be made prospectively, to affect future settlements or engagements. The existing contracts or customs regarding instalments ought not, in my opinion, to be interfered with.

Section 101.—The preparation and supply of the statement will entail some expenses on the part of the zemindar or tenure-holder. It is proper, I think, to make the ryot pay a small fee sufficient to cover the expenses before getting the statement.

Section 103.—Clause (*a*), sub-section 1, is not very definite; it is elastic enough to include any case in which a ryot might choose to deposit. Something definite ought to be laid down.

The application ought to be verified.

A provision ought to be made for rent being paid by money and in kind; in some parts of Bengal both money and part of the produce of the land are paid as rent.

CHAPTER X.

If transferability of right of occupancy be recognized, complications are not likely to arise in cases of improvements by occupancy tenants.

Improvements by ordinary ryots should be made at their risk; such ryots must take care to protect their own interests by proper agreements.

Section 133.—Cases of utbundi tenures should be excepted; in the cases of these tenures annual survey would be necessary.

CHAPTERS XI AND XII.

In my opinion, those two chapters contain sufficient and adequate provisions for meeting special cases.

CHAPTER XIII.

The provision regarding the distraint of the produce of land in the occupation of ryots for the realization of rent do not appear to me to be productive of any good.

Sub-section (2), section 167, makes every application for distraint liable to the court-fee which would be payable in a suit for arrears of rent, and this application may be refused at the discretion of the officer entitled to receive the same. Under such circumstances the application is not likely to be made often, if at all.

Then again section 186 makes it a penal offence on the part of the person owning or claiming any land for whose benefit or on whose behalf the offence mentioned in section 185 is committed, if having reason to believe that the offence was likely to be committed, he has not used all lawful means in his power to prevent its commission. Any abuse of power regarding restraints on the part of a gomastha might, under the provisions of the said sections, put the person entitled to the rent to great troubles and difficulties; I think, therefore, no zemindar or tenure-holder entitled to receive rent from a ryot would venture to distrain the produce of the land when he has such risk to run.

The chapter should, in my humble opinion, be either left out altogether or be recast.

CHAPTER XIV.

Section 192.—A statement of boundaries or a sufficient description for identification in the plaint for suits for rent should, in my opinion, be dispensed with; otherwise, I apprehend many complications and difficulties which ought to be avoided as far as possible in rent suits.

CHAPTER XV.

The provisions for the protection of certain encumbrances seem to me to be unnecessary. If the highest amount bid for defaulting tenures and under-tenures be insufficient to liquidate the decree, the said tenures and under-tenures would be sold free of encumbrances after the observance of certain forms. Such being the case, it is complicating matters by declaring such tenures and under-tenures as liable to be sold subject to the encumbrances in the first instance.

BOIKUNT NATH SEN.

The 8th June 1883.

No. 246 A, dated Dacca, the $\frac{23rd}{29th}$ June 1883.

From—N. S. ALEXANDER, ESQ., Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division,

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L. P.

With reference to your letter No. 351A, dated 29th March last, I have the honour to submit the following report on the Bengal Tenancy Bill now under the consideration of the Legislative Council of the Governor-General, and to say that, though the Collectors of this division were requested to send in their reports before the 1st instant, the Collector of Furreedpore has not yet sent in his report up to date.

CHAPTER I.

2. *Section 1* (*3*).—The Collector of Dacca, Mr. A.W. Paul, writes:—"Many provisions of the Bill are most essential for Behar and are not needed, and would even create confusion n Eastern Bengal; yet, the Bill is to be general throughout the province (with small exceptions). I would therefore suggest that a general clause, somewhat similar in operation to section 187, be introduced instead of section 1 (3), somewhat to this effect: the whole or any portions of this Act shall extend to such local areas as the local Government may, by an order published in the official gazette, determine. I would point out that originally it was ntended to have two parts in the Act, one for Behar and one for Bengal."

I quite agree with Mr. Paul. Eastern Bengal differs *toto cœlo* from Behar, and both from Orissa: no general rent law is applicable.

3. *Section 9.*—The work of registering khamar lands will be very heavy, and will require the entertainment of special establishment in most districts at a large cost: it is doubtful whether the work when done will be worth the trouble and expenditure. The Collector of Dacca states.—"I presume a separate revenue staff is contemplated for the purpose of carrying out this Bill, as in many districts, such as Dacca, it would be impossible for the Collector to supervise operations."

CHAPTER III.

4. *Sections 22 and 24.*—"The Burrisaul zemindars," Mr. Dutt writes, "object to sections 22 and 24 of the Bill, and argue that no limit, either of amount or of time, should be set in the matter of enhancement of rents payable by tenure-holders. The provisions of those sections, however, seem to me to be equitable: to enhance rent over a hundred per cent. would be exceedingly unfair under any circumstances, and frequent enhancements, or even suits for enhancement, should certainly be stopped."

I agree with Mr. Dutt in thinking that there is no great hardship to the landlords in the enactment of these sections.

5. *Section 28.*—The Honorary Secretary to the Eastern Bengal Landholders' Association, at Dacca, writes:—"The relief contemplated by this section might easily be obtained by application to the zemindar: why then should the ryot have power to apply direct to a revenue officer? If the landholder refuses to register such transfer, then the tenant may apply to a civil court, as provided for in section 32." I agree in these remarks.

6. *Section 32 (d) &c.*—I do not see the necessity for this reference to the civil court. The offence of neglect to register should be made punishable by fine to be levied by the Collector; the procedure in these sections seems an unnecessary cumbrous one.

CHAPTER V.

7. *Sections 44-47.*—These sections will not make any very radical change in Eastern Bengal.

8. *Section 50.*—Mr. Waller, Officiating Collector of Mymensing, reports:—"The right of transfer of occupancy tenures has not been hitherto, I believe, admitted in this district. I think the landlord's right of pre-emption at sales in execution will not be much protection to him unless some limit be laid down as the maximum to which the holding may bid up; and, I think, the landlord ought not to be bound to register any one as his ryot who is not a *bonâ fide* cultivator. The right of occupancy is for the protection of the cultivator, and the land was originally let to the cultivator for cultivation, it seems to be inequitable, therefore, to allow a non-cultivator to be thrust upon the zemindar as an occupancy ryot."

9. I quite concur with Mr. Waller in his views on this point.

10. *Section 50 (f).*—The chief objection to the transferability of the occupancy tenure is, I think, the likelihood that the land will, in the course of years, become split up into an infinity of very small holdings; the people of this country cling so much as it is to their native villages, that, with the barest subsistence given them, they will not migrate, it will more than ever tend to produce a home-sticking poverty-stricken peasantry depending on agriculture for a livelihood. Of late years many artizans, such as weavers, smiths, &c., have abandoned their hereditary trades and gone in for agriculture, and this provision of the law will, I think, draw more away from trade and other pursuits and turn them into agriculturists.

11. *Section 51.*—Mr. Dutt says:—"For many reasons, I object to section 51. In the first place, the provisions are too elaborate to be properly workable, and will never be complied with. A ryot who wishes to sell a bit of land on an urgent emergency (*e. g.*, to celebrate a marriage) will not go to the Collector, nor wait for the time prescribed: ryots generally do not sell their jotes, except on such urgent necessity, and to hamper them with an elaborate procedure would be virtually taking away the unrestricted right of sale which he now enjoys by custom. Then again there is no reason why, if a ryot wishes to sell his homestead to a brother, or his plot of land to his daughter's husband, the landlord should have a right of pre-emption at all, and should be allowed to disturb the domestic plans of the cultivator. To invest the landlord with such right would enable him to harass the cultivator at his will; all that the landlord needs for his own protection is to be able to veto a sale when it is really objectionable or detrimental to his interests. Lastly sub-section 4 of section 51 will sometimes prove injurious to the landlord. A ryot may make a really objectionable sale and the thing may not come to the notice of the landlord for six months; he is then debarred from taking any action in the matter, although the sale may be really injurious to his interests, and may have been meant by the ryot to be so."

12. *Section 59.*—The Secretary to the Eastern Bengal Landholder's Association, Dacca, objects to the limit of enhancement of money rents by contract provided for in this section, and thus illustrates his objection by an example:—"Suppose the average annual value of the produce of a bigha of land is Rs. 12-8, and the present rent of the ryot is one rupee. Under

this law the landlord can claim to enhance up to Rs. 2-8, as being $\frac{1}{8}$ of Rs. 12-8, but cannot expect to get more than double, or Rs. 2; and even if the court should deem it to be fair from the evidence before it, to give him the Rs. 2, it cannot pass a decree for that amount, as section 59 provides that in no case shall the enhancement exceed 6 annas per rupee, or, in other words, the landlord cannot get more than Re. 1-6. Hence it is evident that the landlord can never expect to get the full benefit of the provision of the law; for even if the land should continue fertile, it would take at this rate, at least 50 years to get his Rs. 2-8, for the rent once enhanced cannot be disturbed for 10 years, as provided for in section 78: so much for the justice of this provision."

13. *Section 64 (d) proviso.*—The provisions of this section will admit of a very fair rate of enhancement being obtained by landlords. If a bigha of rice land produces 12 maunds of rice at the average of Rs. 2 per maund, that would give Rs. 24 per annum as the gross profits on a bigha of rice lands; if we put it down at Rs. 20 in round numbers, that would give Rs. 4 for the landlord. At present the rent is only Re. 1-8 to Rs. 2; thus a margin of enhancement, to the extent of 100 per cent., is allowed by the section, which should be sufficient. The remarks of Mr. R. C. Dutt on this point are entered below:—"These sections (62-72) provide facilities for the enhancement of rent when rent in an estate or a tract of the country is unduly low. I entirely agree with the principles embodied in these sections. There is little doubt that zemindars ought to have a share in the general prosperity of the country and in the price of food-grains; that they have not always been able to get this share is due to the difficulty of getting an enhancement of rent under the present law. The zemindar has to prove in court that the value of produce has risen, and this he finds it impossible to do in nine cases out of ten —I may almost say, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred. It is proposed that a revenue officer will now do this for him; the revenue officer will prepare a table of equitable rates, and if the revenue officer's rates are higher than what the zemindar gets, the latter has simply to show this in court in order to obtain an enhancement. The revenue officer in preparing his table shall take into consideration any rise which may have taken place in the value of the produce. When, therefore, there has been any such rise, the zemindar will have no difficulty in obtaining his proper and equitable share of the profits.

"There will, no doubt, be some practical difficulty in working this scheme, but such difficulty will be overcome under proper instructions. No officer of a lower rank than a Deputy Collector should be deputed for such work, and such Deputy Collector should act under the orders of the Collector of the district. When the same class of land does not pay one uniform rent, minimum and the maximum should be recorded.

"Rule (*d*) of section 64 should be modified thus:—

"(*d*) To the following rule, namely that the rate of rent for any class of land should be raised only on account of an increase in the value of the average gross produce of land of that class, and when the rate of rent is so raised, the new rate shall not bear to the old rate a higher proportion than the increased value of the produce bears to the former value.

"I beg to invite your careful attention to this very important matter. My reasons for suggesting this modification are obvious. Under the existing law, the increase in the value of the gross produce is the only ground (except when the land is found on measurement to be larger than what the rent is paid for; and this ground has been provided for elsewhere in the Bill) on which rent can be enhanced; while every possible facility should be given to the zemindar to enhance rent on this ground. We should carefully provide against enhancement on any fresh grounds. Occupancy ryots have for nearly a quarter of a century been secured against enhancements, except on this one ground, and it would be taking away from them the right which they have so long enjoyed, if fresh grounds of enhancement were now created. Probably the Bill does not contemplate creating any other grounds as it does not speak of any other ground; but the point should be definitely cleared up in order to avoid unnecessary litigation. As I have stated before, every facility should be given to enhancement of rent on the ground which the law has recognised for the last 25 years; but I am confident you will agree with me in thinking that to add fresh grounds for enhancement would be unfair to the cultivators of the soil."

14. *Section 82.*—Mr. Dutt quotes the following passages from a report of the zemindars of Burrisaul:—

"*Section* 82.—This section will be exceptionally hard upon petty talookdars and tenure-holders. In very many cases petty talookdars and tenure-holders keep certain lands with certain ryots, or let them out from year to year, or for a fixed term of years, on condition of receiving a certain share of the produce, or a fixed amount of produce, and solely depend upon this produce for the support and maintenance of their family; it will be simply starving them and their family if the receipt of the produce is now commuted into money rent. The legislature ought not to lay its hands upon such contracts freely entered into between the parties, sanctioned by the custom of the country, and prevailing from the earliest traditions of India. It may not be out of place here to remark that the sharing in the produce was the only way in which rent would be received in good old times, and that money rent is but of recent origin." Mr. Dutt says:—"There is some force in these remarks, especially in reference to talookdars and tenure-holders on a small scale, who let their limited property on condition of getting one-half of the produce for the maintenance of themselves and their family. A free right of commuting such rents into money rent cannot be bestowed on ryots without causing some hardship on them; on the other hand an express provision is necessary

to prevent commutation of money rent in rent in kind without sanction of some revenue officer. The maximum limit of rent payable in money by occupancy ryots is one-fifth the value of the produce, while the maximum limit of rent payable in kind is half; many zemindars, especially in Behar, will therefore be under a temptation to commute money rents into rent in kind wholesale, and an express provision of law is necessary to stop this."

15. *Section 83*(1).—I do not exactly understand the provisions of this section. Are the lists to be prepared for each separate market? If so, the work to be done annually will be enormous in some districts: the marked prices in the mofussil are very diverse.

16. *Section 98.*—Mr. Dutt remarks:—"Section 98 contains an excellent and very necessary provision. I have consulted some civil court officers on the provisions of this section, and they all entirely agree in thinking that they are necessary and sound; they go further, and say that, though the number of instalments may be four, a suit for arrears should not be allowed to be instituted so often, and indeed should not be entertained till after the close of the year; thus, if Ashar, Aswin, Pous, and Choit be fixed as the time for the instalments, the ryot failing to pay the portion of his rent due by the Ashar kist, or by the Aswin kist, should not be sued immediately on the following month, but after the close of the year. When a decree is given, the interest may be calculated from the very month on which the instalment for rent was due, and such a provision will keep a ryot punctual in payment according to instalments; but to allow four suits to be brought in the year will be needlessly harassing the cultivators, and needlessly increasing the work of civil court officers. In these suggestions and arguments I entirely agree.

17. In my opinion, the instalment for paying rent should be so fixed that there should be three payable in the year, two large and one small; thus, taking the rent to be 16 annas, seven annas might be made payable in September-October, as then the ryot has got in his autumn rice and his jute; seven annas in January, as then the ryot has got in his winter rice and cold-weather crops generally, and at these two above periods he will (if ever) be best able to pay in his rent: a small instalment of two annas might be made payable in June.

CHAPTER IX (*c*).

18. The Dacca zemindars object to the details which the receipt is to specify and write:—This will not facilitate the collection of rent, but will throw such obstacles in the way of ordinary village putwaries and gomastahs that they will obey the rule more in the breach than in the observance thereof, and will oftentimes commit such blunders as to throw everything into confusion. Some simple facts connected with the rent of the holding should only be stated, such as the name of the tenant, the date of payment, the name of the landlord, the amount paid as arrears and current rent, &c. I agree in these remarks, and am of opinion that the forms should be as simple as they possibly can be made.

19. *Sections 105-107 (d).*—Occupant and ordinary ryots cannot, it appears, deposit rent under these sections.

20. *Section 103* (1) (*a*).—I agree with the remarks made by the Burrisaul zemindars that "the money ought to be tendered to the landlord before making a deposit to the officer appointed to receive the deposit."

21. *Section 119.*—The Burrisaul zemindars say:—"This section is very hard and inequitable; the limitation put to money-rent is altogether uncalled for, and will work prejudicially to the real interest and improvement of the land." But Mr. Dutt entirely differs from them, and says:—"It will not only not be injurious to improvement of land, but it is essential to such improvement that the actual cultivators are not rack-rented, and that there is a limit set beyond which their rent should not go: that limit, with reference to ryots and under-ryots, *i.e.*, with reference to all the cultivators of the soil who do not enjoy occupancy right, has been fixed at $\frac{5}{16}$ths of the gross produce of the land, and I do not see what objection could be taken to this: zemindars will not be affected by this section at all, the only class of men who will be affected by this section are lazy superior ryots, fast drifting into the status of middlemen, who sublet their lands and try to exact a high rent from the actual cultivators in order to obtain a large margin of profit to themselves after paying their landlords. It is only proper that this lazy class should be discouraged, and that a limit should be set to their profits and exactions from the actual cultivators: it is only proper that the actual cultivators should be protected. I have remarked in paragraphs 3 to 6 that, under the present provisions of the Bill, a very large class of ryots will be unable to acquire the right of occupancy; it is all the more necessary therefore that some protection against undue exactions, such as is comtemplated in section 119, * * * should be bestowed on this large class of the actual cultivators of the soil."

I quite agree with Mr. Dutt in his views. Five-sixteenths of the annual value of the estimated gross produce would give a figure some four times the amount of rent now paid by ryots, and should therefore be sufficient.

22. *Section 128.*—Mr. Dutt states, in opposition to the Burrisaul zemindars, that:—"As agricultural prosperity and the improvement of the soil are the main objects of the present legislation, section 128 should, I think, stand as it is. Under the provisions of the present Bill, a large class of the actual cultivators will be incapable of acquiring occupancy rights, and it would be ruinous to agricultural progress if this large class were stopped from

making any improvement at all without the landlord's permission; it is well known such permission is seldom given without a heavy and almost prohibitive *salami*."

23. The only restriction I would impose is on the digging of tanks. This, if not looked after, may cause serious damage to landlords. A ryot in a fit of enthusiasm or recklessness will dig a tank in the midst of some first class lands, and then when the fit is off him leave the tank to be covered with rotting vegetation, and take no more trouble for or care of it, thus causing an eyesore and nuisance instead of goods. I have seen many such cases in my long experience in Eastern Bengal.

24. *Section 129.*—The Dacca zemindars say:—"If a ryot is evicted from a holding in default of payment of rent, there is nothing in this section which will prevent his demanding compensation from the landlord. This is very unfair. This is encouraging a defaulter; while it is the duty of Government (considering the stringent sun-set law) to afford every facility to landlord in the realization of rent."

Government must afford all possible facilities.

25. *Section 133, proviso.*—Mr. Dutt writes:—"The second clause of the section wisely provides that lands should not be measured oftener than once in ten years. The zemindars' desire an exception to be made in case of chur and jungle lands: I think the zemindars' contention to be reasonable and fair."

I agree with Mr. Dutt in thinking that chur lands in this part of India should be excepted. This section would prove a cause of heavy loss of revenue to Government, if applied to Government khas estates, which are nearly all chur lands.

26. *Section 134.*—In Mymensing tenants often refused to come forward and point out their holdings when the landlord was measuring. Zemindars very often are wholly ignorant of the exact lands held by their tenants.

27. *Section 142 (e).*—These sections will entail on Government a good deal of cost, and the Government pleader will have to attend, and his fees to be paid. I do not see why the Collector should not have the power of issuing the notice and making the order. The Collector is generally quite as experienced an officer as the Judge.

CHAPTER XI.

28. The provisions of this chapter appear to me to be good, except those in the proviso to section 160. This proviso should, in my opinion, be cancelled, as it will apparently admit of the whole thing after it has been settled by the local Government being re-opened, and the whole quarrel or dispute begun over again under some pretext afforded by these four clauses. This, if passed as it is, will, in practice, probably, render the whole chapter null and void.

29. *Section 179* (1).—As distraint will be made by the civil court, I would substitute the words "High Court" for the "Board of Revenue," as entered in this section.

30. *Sections 191-206.*—Mr. Dutt reports that the civil court officers with whom he discussed the matter "are of opinion that very great facilities are afforded. They say that the majority of the suits could be disposed of still more speedily, if section 196 was so modified as to allow evidence to be recorded in a summary manner in non-appealable cases. Zemindars, whom I consulted in the matter, expressed a desire that the same simple procedure, which was adopted by Deputy Collectors under Act X of 1859, may be followed by munsifs in rent suits. I mention these suggestions in accordance with the wish expressed in paragraph 117 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

These suggestions are good.

31. *Section 198 (b).*—The Sub-divisional Officer of Manickgunge, Babu Bepin Behari Mookerjea, says:—"If the local Government be authorized to empower officers, as provided in this section, to exercise final jurisdiction in suits for arrears or for penalty when the amount claimed does not exceed Rs. 50, the power is very likely to be vested in munsifs. I think this will be of great advantage to landlords, as it will enable them to have their rent far more speedily realized than at present. The proviso to this section, however, empowering District Judges to call for the records, and deciding the case on motion would be calculated to delay the ends of justice by enabling a party against whom a decision is passed in the court of the first instance to appeal in effect from that decision. This would defeat the very object for which the section has been framed. If the courts can be entrusted with the powers of a Small Cause Court without any such proviso, it is difficult to see why similar confidence should not be placed on them in matters of simple arrears of rent and penalties."

32. The Dacca zemindars say:—"The limit of Rs. 50, in clause (6) of this section, is very high. This amount will cover the majority of rent suits, and as such cases will, in the first instance, be tried by a Munsif, an appeal should lie from his decision to the Judge or Subordinate Judge."

I do not see why the provisions of Act VII (B. C.) of 1880 should not be extended to zemindars in cases where rent is due (there being no dispute as to the rate); the zemindar might apply to the Collector in the same manner as is now done by a manager of a court of wards estate, the cost of an extra Deputy Collector to do the extra work, might be paid for out of fees to be levied at so much per cent. on the amount of rent to be realized.

33. *Section* 199.—The Dacca zemindars say:—"Section 199 is new, but is not likely to be of any use, and will certainly be limited in its application. The ryot who disputes the plaintiff's claim, is not likely to act so foolishly as to admit that the arrear is due to him; such cases will be very rare, and will not be of any help to the generality of landlords. What

would really facilitate the realization of arrears would be to provide for the absolute forfeiture of the right of occupancy on non-payment of arrears of rent, either on the due date, or, at the latest, on the fifteenth day before the last day of the next payment of the Government revenue, provided the arrear be established to the satisfaction of the court where the suit will be tried; or let it be provided that the ryot should deposit in court the amount sued for before filing his defence, if the suit be a contested one, of course, reserving his power to sue the landlord for damages, should the claim turn out to be false, or should the claim be for a greater amount than he is entitled to get. Without some such stringent provision, it is vain to hope that the ryot will be regular in his payments. The provisions relating to distraint are, no doubt, favourable to landlords, but distraint is almost unknown in East Bengal.

No. 335G—C, dated Chittagong, the 30th June 1883.

From—E. E. Lowis, Esq., Commissioner of the Chittagong Division,

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

With reference to your No. 351A, dated the 29th March 1883, I have the honour to submit the following remarks on the proposed Tenancy Bill.

2. I have obtained the written opinions of the Collectors of Noakholly and Tipperah, as well as of Sub-Divisional Officers and others, and I have personally conferred on the subject with the Collectors of Noakholly and Chittagong. The Chittagong land-owners have also favoured me with their views, which they desire should be laid before the Board. I accordingly forward their petition in original.

3. Speaking generally, I may say that the introduction of this measure is viewed by all whom I have consulted on the subject with the gravest apprehension, as tending to embitter the relations between landlord and tenant, and likely to lead to a crop of litigation, with all its accompanying frauds and chicanery, which must in the end injure and not benefit the ryot. These views have been expressed, not only by landlords, but by native officials unconnected with land, and they are based mainly on the conviction that the provisions of the Bill do not deal with facts as they really exist, but seek to evolve and insist on theoretical privileges, as appertaining to the ryot, which that class have never enjoyed, and which they are for the future to enjoy at the expenses of the landlord.

4. These apprehensions, I may add, are not allayed by the remarks contained in paragraph 10 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons, that the present Bill is a mere prelude to what may be expected to follow, when the whole law on the subject comes to be codified; and it is urged that, if this measure is not to be considered as in itself complete, it is hardly worthwhile introducing it, since the effect will most inevitably be a crop of litigation and general disturbance of the agricultural community.

5. I believe, however, that the present Bill does enunciate the principles on which any future codification of the law will be based, and indicates the lines which future legislation will follow. I do not therefore share the apprehensions noticed above, as to want of finality in the proposed measure, though I do most certainly concur in the opinion that its provisions are quite inapplicable to the condition of things, and the system of land tenure existing in this division, and more particularly in the districts of Noakholly and Chittagong.

6. I would, however, wish to guard my remarks from misapprehension, by saying that I discuss the Bill and record opinions regarding its provisions, only so far as these refer to that part of the country with which I am more intimately acquainted; with the applicability of the proposed law to other parts of Bengal, with their varying conditions, I will not deal, but will confine my remarks to that tract of country with the administration of which I have had most extensive practical experience. As regards Behar I have nothing to say; I have never served in that part of the country. I know nothing practically of its system of landed tenure, and I cannot say whether some relief to the cultivating classes is urgently demanded or not; but as regards this division, I feel sure that any change in the existing law is not urgently called for; and that the provisions of the Bill which appear to have been drawn to meet the case more especially of Behar, do not apply to this part of the country. In so saying, I do not for one moment wish to detract from the ability which has been displayed in drawing up this Bill, or from the soundness of the arguments wherewith its provisions were so ably supported by the speeches in Council; but at the same time, I cannot help observing that the proposed measure is intended to meet a want arising in another province, and presupposes a different condition of things; though this is an objection that, in dealing with revenue matters, must always arise, since it is almost impossible that any law dealing with tenant-right could be framed, comprehensive enough to include the different systems prevailing in Tirhoot and Chittagong. Almost as well might we expect one law to govern the landed interests in England and France; the former with its large landed proprietors, the latter with its minute peasant proprietary holdings.

7. The present Bill having been apparently framed mainly to meet a difficulty in Behar, its provisions are, I presume, based on data supplied by the existing state of things there; the arguments in support of it therefore fail, when we seek to apply them to another part of the country, as they assume a system of tenure which does not exist in these parts, and treats certain privileges as attaching to classes which do not in fact enjoy them now, and which never have enjoyed them in time past.

8. The essence of the Bill is the protection of the ryot; and though no definition of a ryot has been given, it is plain that, in the proposed law, the term is almost synonymous with cultivator, any one in fact who holds land for the purposes of agriculture, horticulture, or pasture; every such ryot who holds land in a village for a period of 12 years is a settled ryot, and every settled ryot has rights of occupancy. In other words, certain very considerable advantages are held to accrue to the person holding the position of a khudkhast ryot, that is, of a villager who cultivates land in his own village. These khudkhast or settled cultivators, it is said, were the persons whom it was the policy of the earlier Legislators, at the time of the decennial settlement, to protect; it was in their favour that a reservation was made when the State lands were made over to the zemindars; and for their benefit that Act X, and subsequent legislation, has been undertaken.

9. An important element in the idea of a ryot, as thus expressed, is personal cultivation; and, I take it, personal cultivation, as distinguished from causing the existence of cultivation, is a distinguishing feature in the khudkhast ryot, as understood by the supporters of the proposed law. I therefore propose to enquire to whom in this part of the world the status of khudkhast ryot may be held to apply, though the word itself is not, I may add, in present use. In pursuing this enquiry, we will derive much assistance from a consideration of the record of the survey and settlement of this district, undertaken in 1765, very soon after this tract of country was ceded to the British; the more so, as those proceedings were carried on, we may be perfectly certain, in strict accordance with native methods, and afford a picture of what the Mahomedans themselves would have done under similar circumstances, for we were, at the time, not the paramount power, but administrators of the revenue for the Mahomedan rulers of the country. Under these circumstances, it is instructive to notice on what class the assessment was then imposed; to discover who was held responsible for the State share of the produce of the land. The following note on the early history of the district, which I reproduce from a separate report on another subject, will tend, perhaps, to elucidate this subject.

10. The district of Chittagong is a long strip of country, about 120 miles long, with an average breadth of 20 to 25 miles, lying along the sea coast, and bounded to the east by ranges of hills, which run back into the Burmese territory. It is bounded to the south by Arracan, and to the north by Hill Tipperah. Although the district is narrow, it is intersected nearly throughout its length by a range of hills; and there are but few places that are not in the vicinity of broken or hilly country. Before its occupation by the English Chittagong was hemmed in on all sides by Burmese territory, and at no time, I fancy, was the hold of the Mahomedans on it, anything but slender.

11. In the reign of Akbar, the province of Chittagong seems to have been overrun though it was probably not properly annexed. It was assessed in his time, by estimation as yielding a revenue of Rs. 2,85,607; there is nothing to show, however, that this amount was ever realized. This was in 1552, and subsequent to that, the country was again overrun by the Arrakanese. From the end of the sixteenth century, however, a tide of emigration seems to have set in from Bengal, and more particularly, it is said, from Gour, the old capital of Bengal. These emigrants settled on, and cleared plots of jungle, and were known as khoshbash ryots. In the then disturbed state of the district, and favoured by the jungly and hilly nature of the country, most of these khoshbash settlers, very probably, paid little or no rent to any one, and thus there was developed amongst them a spirit of independence which enabled them, later on, to assert their right to separate recognition. I may add that there is no trace of any village community ever having existed, but each plot of clearance in the jungle, or series of plots, came to be claimed by the person, through whose exertions or influence reclamation had been effected. There never was any village community with resident cultivators, entitled to privileges, as against non-resident cultivators, but mere aggregates of scattered reclamation, the owners of which held together no doubt for purposes of mutual support and defence, but who were quite independent, so far as possession of the land went.

12. Chittagong was again overrun by the Mahomedans, for in 1658, it again figures in the rent-roll of Sultan Shah. It must, however, have again lapsed into the hands of the Burmese, for we find it was again conquered by Alumgeer in 1665. During all this time emigration seems to have continued, and small settlements of "khoshbash" ryots appear to have sprung up in the different directions. The districts continued under the Mahomedans till 1760, when it was ceded to the English.

13. As soon as the Mahomedans finally established themselves in the country, the first step, of course, was to collect rents from the "khoshbash" ryots, already settled, and these men, to save themselves from the annoyance and trouble of visit from the revenue underlings, attached themselves to some person having influence at the Nawab's court, and paid their revenue through him, and so these self-elected agents came to be called tarafdars طرفدار from the Urdoo طرف on the part of a partizan. Hence it is that each taraf, or permanently-settled estate, is even now a mere aggregate of talooks, as these khoshbash holdings came to be called, the component parts of each being scattered in different villages and different thanas. Such a thing as a compact estate is unknown in Chittagong. The talookdars must have chosen their own tarafdar, otherwise we would not find every estate, whether large or small, scattered piecemeal over the district. Had the tarafdars obtained the land and settled talookdars, or had Government farmed out the collections to tarafdars, it is quite clear that

such a fragmentary division would have been avoided, opposed as it is, to all facility for collection. Looking to the facts as they stand, it seems to me perfectly clear, that the popular belief is the correct one, *viz.*, that the talooks were the original clearances, and that, for their own convenience, these talookdars elected to pay revenue through the agency of certain individuals, known as tarafdars, an aggregate of such scattered holdings forming a taraf.

14. In short I believe the tarafs to have been recognized only as affording a means of collecting revenue from the scattered independent holders, the tarafdars having at first no proprietary title, nor being vested with any authority over waste, which was open to any one to settle on and clear, the only condition being sanction in the shape of a pottah, not from any tarafdar, but from the Nawab, or representative of the Sovereign, such clearances being assessed in due course by Government officials, but paying revenue so assessed through some tarafdar. After some enquiry, I have been fortunate enough to discover one of these old Nawabi grants; it is in the possession of one of our noabad talookdars, one of whose ancestors was an officer at court, and at one time possessor of much property. I have not been able to trace the particular talook or talooks that arose out of this permission to cultivate; but it seems to indicate the manner in which these talooks continued to come into existence, even after the Mahomedans had finally conquered the country, and to prove that these holdings were not created by, or under authority of, the tarafdars, but held directly from Government.

5. I give below a translation of the pattah alluded to:

"According to the kabulyat executed by Mamea Ashek, this pattah is granted to him on the following terms, for the jungle land situated in mouzah Shuluk, in chakla Rangonia of Islamabad, within the boundary noted on the margin, exclusive of the land contained in the pattahdars of pergunnah Nezam Nagar that he will bring the land into cultivation by inviting settlers who have no fixed abode for themselves. He will receive an allowance of three kanis and four gandas for each droon of waste which he makes culturable; and remaining quantity of land will be settled with him, and he will have to pay the Government revenue. It should be remarked that the khanabari and nankari lands will be settled at noabad rate, besides he will not have the responsibility of making bridge, &c.

South by Gur Cherry, north and east by Kazi Mahomed Sagri's abad land, Raktcherry and Qekonea nala, and west by Shopleja dhehee and Hatia tank.

	Rate.	Rs.	A.	P.
First year, 1120M.S.,	Mâp	(Rent free.)		
Second year, 1121M.S.	Ryoti	1	8	0
	Unintelligible	0	12	0
	Khamar	0	8	0
Third year, 1122M.S.	Ryoti	3	0	0
	Unintelligible	1	8	0
	Khamar	1	0	0
Fourth year, 1123M.S.	Khamar	2	0	0
Dated 22nd Joomadil awal, 1120M.S.	Ryoti	6	0	0
	Unintelligible	3	0	0

The pattah bears no signature, but is stamped with a Government seal, and bears date 1120 Maghee, equivalent to 1758 A.D., or only two years before the cession of the province to the East India Company. It will be observed that the intention evidently was to allow the grantee to bring as much land as he could under cultivation; such land to be hereafter subject to measurement and assessment, a proprietory allowance of more than one-fourth, or over four kanis, being granted for every droon of land then found to be under cultivation. The allusion made to the noabad rate, on the khanabari and nankari lands, means that they are to go rent-free; at least such rent-free allowance was made when we come to measure the district a few years later, a measurement which was probably undertaken in strict conformity with Mahomedan usage.

16. It would appear that the Mahomedans merely confirmed the usage which they found prevailing, and without going down to the actual tiller of the soil, contented themselves with assessing the customary rate of rent on the reclaimer of waste, and looking to him for the due discharge of the Government demand, left him to make what arrangements he could to meet it. The position thus assigned to the khoshbash ryot was, however, something more than what any one supposes to attach to that of ryot now, for the former were allowed a deduction, free of rent, of one-fourth as khanabari and nankar or pattahdari, *i.e.*, space for a house and offices, and allowance as proprietor or holder of the Government permission to cultivate. These men were something more than what we would call ryots, but it is evident that the Government did not look below them, or seek to record or regulate any rights below theirs. By custom and tradition the privilege to hold at a customary rent has attached to the person bringing land under cultivation, and he is the person entitled to consideration, and not the actual cultivator. The same idea prevails to this day; and in discussing this matter with talookdars, I have been told that the right to the land is vested in the person who, by his exertions, causes cultivation (chash kerwata), and not in the person who merely tills the ground (chash kárta).

17. It is suggestive also to note how even to this day, in popular estimation, a distinct proprietary title is held to attach to a talook; ask almost any respectable looking Mahomedan villager you meet what he is, and he will answer a zemindar; by which he means that he has a share in possibly a small talook, only a few acres in extent. A turafdar is not a zemindar, in popular estimation, but only a tarafdar; while the real zemindar, the proprietor of the soil, is the talookdar. The retention of this popular belief is all the more singular, as

the policy of our Government, for the last century, has been to exalt the tarafdars into the position of land owners and absolute proprietors.

18. By such means as I have described, the large tracts of jungle existing in Chittagong were taken up, in the first instance, by talookdars, or "khoshbash" settlers; while the work of subsequent reclamation went on by the agency of the same class; the cultivation, when discovered, being assessed, but assessed less one-fourth, granted rent-free as an allowance for the talookdar, under the designation of khanabari and pattahdari, *i.e.*, for homestead lands and allowance due to the holder of the pattah; these *bunsi* proprietory ryoti-holders being the only recognized ryots, the only persons who were liable for the share of the produce of the country which Government was entitled to claim. Had this district never been measured, much of what I have asserted might be held to rest on mere surmise; but fortunately the district was measured, and the records of that measurement afford proof of the status and position accorded to the talookdars.

19. As I have said, the district of Chittagong was ceded to the British in 1760, and measures were at once taken to ascertain the resources of the country, and the revenue derivable therefrom. To do this, it was of coure necessary to ascertain what amount of land had been brought under cultivation at different times by the reclaimers of waste, what was the proper amount payable, and by whom. Accordingly, in 1765-69, the entire district was measured, and engagements entered into with the tarafdars for the amount of revenue assessed on the talookdars. Undertaken as it was, immediately on our assuming charge of the administration, we may safely assume that this measurement was made in strict accordance with native ideas, and that the state of things which records reveal was such as would naturally appear to the native mind without any admixture of European notions.

20. I need not enter into a minute description of these old records; suffice it to say that they show the assessment to have been made on the tolookdars or khoshbash ryots; the rents paid by actual cultivators are not recorded, their names only appearing in the chittah or measurement paper, which merely shows that when the amin came round, a certain person was in possession of certain plots, as cultivator, subordinate to some talook. The tarafdars again were liable for the assessment imposed on the aggregate of talooks, which went to constitute the taraf. The prominent feature in the proceedings is the khoshbash ryot or talookdars.

21. At the time of the decennial settlements, the engagements with the tarafdar became fixed and permanent, and it was the intention of the Government of Lord Cornwallis to fix also the demand against the talookdars, for reference is made to them, in the correspondence of the period, as our fixed jumabandi ryots, while the necessity of seeing that the zemindars do not exact from them sums in excess of their engagements, is insisted on. I have no doubt, that, in fixing the demand against the tarafdars or zemindars, it was the intention of Government that the rents payable by the jumabandi ryots should be limited also, and that they should not be called on to pay any amount beyond that entered in the jumabandi; but, at the same time, I do not find that any limit was implied, or intended to be laid, on the amount payable by the cultivators to the talookdar ryot; and as a talook might comprise land in half a dozen villages, it follows that the privileges of the ryot attached not to the cultivator, but to the person who personally, or whose predecessors, caused land to be reclaimed.

22. The authorities of the time evidently regarded these talookdars as the true ryots, and indeed they were khud-khast ryots in the fullest sense of the word, for though they could hold land in more villages than one, the lands so occupied were really *khud*, their own, that in which they had a most undoubted right, though the cultivation might be carried on by paikasht or pahikhasht ryots, *i.e.*, by non-resident cultivator, or migratory tenants-at-will. The land in a state of nature belongs to the State, but it was held that whoever cleared it, acquired a *quasi*-proprietary title, even though he might not be the actual cultivator; there was clearly no intention of relegating such a person, simply because he had cultivators under him to the position of an intermediate holder; for the responsibility of the payment of the State revenue rested upon him and not on the cultivators, who, in the first instance, must generally have been migratory and non-resident.

23. Gradually, however, some of the rights attaching to original reclaimers have passed to their subordinate tenants, not, however, in virtue of long occupation by the latter. At first, as I have mentioned, the khud-khast ryot generally maintained cultivation by means of migratory tenants, who held on to the land only so long as was convenient to them to do so—a system at once troublesome, uncertain, and involving risk, which the original ryot was only too glad to escape, by letting to permanent tenants. In order, therefore, to secure such permanent tenants, it became necessary to grant permanent leases to persons of the cultivating class, who took the places of the original reclaimer, and by payment of a fixed rent, relieved the former of all the trouble and risk of dealing with the migratory pahikashts. These holdings were called itmams, and did not necessitate actual residence in the village where the land of the itmam might be situated.

24. The itmam is only a modified form of the original holding, bereft of its *quasi*-proprietary character. The original conception of the lease includes fixity of tenure, and fixity of rent, but I do not find that the privileges of khanabari and pattahdari were ever handed on, or could be handed on, to an itmamdar. An itmamdar can grant a dur itmam, or a "kaimi" (permanent) ryoti lease, but in the chain, from the original reclaimer downwards, there must always be a lease, which is generally permanent; mere occupation of the land or residence in the village goes for nothing. The root of all sub-divisions is the 1,765 talookdars, from him they descend, partaking at any rate of his privilege of fixity of tenure and rent. Below these again come the mass of karsha cultivating ryots, who are practically

tenants-at-will, sometimes holding on a pattah, often on mere verbal agreements, who settle year by year the amount of land they intend to take up and the rate of rent, and who may cultivate the same lands, if it suits them, for a series of years, but who are not responsible for more than the year's rent, and may cultivate more or less land at pleasure.

25. It will be obvious, from what I have said, that the system in existence here is very different from that contemplated by the proposed law: here we do not find the cultivator acquiring certain privileges in virtue of his residence in a village, and continuous occupation of the village lands; but a khud-khast ryot here is one who derives his title from original reclamation, and enjoys certain privileges in return for the risk he incurs in keeping land under cultivation.

26. In Chittagong there is great variety in the tenure of land; some talookdars hold as of old, dealing directly with "chashas," and making settlements year by year, for more or less land, at higher or lower rates, according as the season is good or bad, promising or otherwise; others cultivate a portion and have cast the burden and responsibility of treating with chashas on to itmamdars; again some itmamdars cultivate with their own hands, some do not; some treat with chashas, some have granted dur itmams; but whatever may be the arrangement, the introduction of the new Act would be most disastrous, for every chasha could then lay claim to occupancy rights in lands belonging to half a dozen different estates. Every village comprises, as a rule, lands of several estates; without changing his residence, therefore, a cultivator could cultivate fresh land every year, and at the end of twelve years claim occupancy right in them all. It is not the zemindar who arbitrarily shifts his ryots, but the cultivators who change their holdings. It is almost impossible, for one who has not had practical experience of this district, to understand the way in which land is mixed up in it; a kaini ryot, in addition to his own patch, cultivating, as "chasha," lands belonging to a neighbouring talookdar; an itmamdar letting his lands which are at a distance from his house, while he cultivates as "chasha," land belonging to some one else nearer home.

27. The Chittagong landlords in their petition have alluded to this marked peculiarity, and referred to some figures given in Sir Henry Rickett's report on noabad, foot note to page 26, volume I of printed selections, which show the extreme diversity of tenure, which may be found, even in a very small village. Sir Henry Rickett writes:—

"The village contains 356 acres only; the tenures are distinguished by different colours. It is to be borne in mind that each description of tenure is held by many proprietors. There are no less than 213 holdings in this small village as follow:—

Tarafs	35
Talooks under khas tarafs	33
Noabad talooks	30
Noabad plots left unsettled	29
Lakhiraj mehals resumed and under enquiry	73
Ghosals' talooks	3
Confirmed rent-free	10
TOTAL	213"

In this village, I have no doubt that an interchange of lands, such as I have noticed, takes place; and that the small proprietors should regard the introduction of the proposed law, with apprehension is not surprising. The Bill is, in its principle, unsuited to the existing state of things here, and should not be extended to this district.

28. In Noakholly the state of things is much the same as here; estates are everywhere split up into talooks, and these again into howlas and nim-howlas, which latter very much resemble our itmams and dur itmams; there is no such allowance in this district as khanabari and pottahdari; but the talookdar has his land measured by a longer rod than he allows to the cultivating ryot; the howladar has the privilege of a longer rod than the nim-howladar, and so on.

29. As to Tipperah, that district has not been long enough under me to enable me to master, as fully as I could wish, its peculiar system of landed tenure, which, though it differs in some respects from that of Chittagong and Noakholly, is still not the same as that which prevails further north. I find here a system of charcha measurement in vogue, whereby the proprietors discover, through charcha amins, the amount of land for which each particular ryot is liable to pay rent. So far as I can ascertain, the rate prevailing in the village is accepted for all, but the amount of land under cultivation appears to vary, the agreement between the cultivator and his landlord being often verbal. On the whole, I do not consider that the new Act should be extended to any part of my division, since its provisions are clearly unsuited for application in Chittagong and Noakholly, where their enforcement must lead to a subversion of the relations existing between landlord and tenant.

30. Besides the inapplicability of the principles of the Bill, to the conditions of this division, there are one or two of its provisions, that appear to be open to objections on general grounds.

The provisions of chapter (IX) C as regards receipts for rent, statement of account, &c., could under no circumstances be introduced into this district, where a large proportion of the holders of talooks, and even of permanently-settled estates, are illiterate people who cannot and do not keep accounts properly so-called, for whom it would be quite impossible to carry out the provisions of the law. Many of the permanently-settled estates are exceedingly small, an acre or two in extent, and the owners, often women, are really peasants, from whom it is quite hopeless to expect elaborated receipts and statements of account.

31. Then, again, as to the voiding of contracts the proposed law appears to introduce a dangerous precedent. In certain cases the provisions of the law are to be held to override contracts entered into with deliberation; and this without any enquiry whether the contract was voluntary or not. So far as my experience goes, the ryots are very well able to look after their own interests, and hardly require to be thus hedged round with protective enactments, as appears to be thought necessary; they are only too ready to evade their contracts, if it is to their interest to do so; and are quite prepared to support such evasion, by every artifice that the law renders possible, as well as by means not strictly lawful; it seems hardly expedient, therefore, to teach such men that the law does not recognize the keeping of contract, and that self-interest can be held to be a valid excuse for contravening the terms of an agreement. Cases may arise where it is evident that an unjust and one-sided contract has been entered into, as the result of deception or force, but surely such cases may be left to be dealt with by the application of the laws of equity.

32. Objection has also been taken, and with some reason, to the constant reference of every petty dispute to the civil or revenue authorities. One native gentleman writes: "A country, of which the members cannot settle their disputes without the intervention of third parties, is a country which is on the high road to ruin."

"The landlord must take no enhanced rent; the ryot must agree to no enhancement unless a revenue officer or a civil court allows them to do so. These sections altogether prevent the possibility of mutual understanding between the two parties on the question of enhancement; and I am of opinion that their tendency cannot but be highly mischievous.

"The first principal objection to the Bill, as it stands, is the impossibility of doing anything without taking the aid of revenue officers or civil courts. The work of the executive and judicial officers will immensely increase, but that is nothing to the spirit of antagonism that will arise, and the state of chronic warfare which must ensue. Let landlords and ryots have recourse to registration or litigation only when they do not agree among themselves; but let us throw no obstacle in the way of their doing so. Let us not sniff fraud in every agrarian transaction.

"It is not those who are protected all round, but those who are left mostly to grapple with difficulties that succeed in life. It is not those nations that were protected by the State that are the most enterprizing; it is those who were most left to their own resources that have become the most enterprizing. Let the ryots be protected against force or violence, let them be protected against the more serious and gross forms of fraud, but in their own future and lasting interests, I say let us not try to save them against their stupidity, carelessness, or want of activity.

"The second principal objection is the way in which contractors are treated. A contract which purports to forego a right, arising from the mere lapse of time, should perhaps not be enforced; but a contract which purports to forego a right accruing on a certain contingency, must never be ignored. Truth and honesty must be taught to the nations of India before they can reach back the place which they believe they once occupied, or before they can become really civilized. The morality which considers covenants to be duties that must be performed has still to evolve in India, and it would be dangerous to override contracts and teach the tenantry that considerations of personal convenience are paramount over considerations of moral obligation.

"Clause 2, section 73, says that a contract in a certain case made in favour of the ryot must be enforced, while section 50 protects him from contracts which are against him. Clause 2, section 74, enforces a contract which is against the zemindar, while sections 87 and 90 repudiate contracts which are in his favour. These instances will teach the ryot that there is no moral obligation in promises, and that he must always consider his own convenience in dealing with others. This is a dangerous doctrine to teach to half barbarous people. If 90 per cent. of the tenantry have been able to acquire tenant rights under a system when contracts have been held valid, there is no need now to make them invalid; the pleas urged for the proposal in paragraphs 33 and 48 (objects and reasons) do not hold good.

"Customs also, when in favour of landlord, must be ignored, and, when in favour of ryots, must be enforced, clause 2, section 73, and clause 1, section 81, lay down, &c."

33. There is much truth in the above remarks, and I feel sure that in the event of any dispute arising between landlord and tenant, in any part of the country to which this Bill may be introduced, it will be found impossible to carry on work with existing establishments, even if such agency can stand the strain of applying the provisions of the law in ordinary times.

34. In conclusion, I may remark that I have not overlooked the saving clause as regards custom, but that clause is evidently meant to apply only to exceptional cases; and when the of the proposed law, it seems to me inadvisable to extend such law to that tract, and have most of the cases decided outside its provisions.

35. There is, however, one provision of the Bill, which must be extended to this division, and that is the one regarding record-of-right. There is no district in Bengal where the right to land is so mixed and confusing, or where we know less of the laws which govern the relations existing between the different classes of cultivators; the division of the lands is infinite, the interchange of holdings constant, and we have too long regarded the varied tenures which exist, as governed by the same laws as those of the rest of Bengal; in fact, they differ in nature and working, and nothing would tend more to strengthen the administration, and render possible the successful working of the numerous Government estates here, than a survey of the district of Chittagong, with a public and authoritative record-of-right, and a proper understanding of their relative value.

Dated Chittagong, the 11th June 1883.

From—NITHYANUND ROY and others, Zemindars and Talookdars, Chittagong Division,

To—The Commissioner of the Chittagong Division.

WE, the undersigned land-owners of Chittagong, beg respectfully to make this petition, for consideration of Government, in connection with the Rent Bill.

2. We submit that the provisions of the Rent Bill are generally unsuited to this district. In regard to land proprietorships and tenures, Chittagong is not like other districts. It has some peculiar.ties which deserve notice.

3. A reference to Sir Henry Ricketts' report, page 22, Vol. I, Noabad correspondence, will show that in 1848 there were in this district 663 *mehals*, of which the revenue was below 1 anna.

2,571	2 annas.
5,878	4 annas.
8,979	8 annas.
7,955	1 rupee.
26,046	

The number of each of the above descriptions of *mehals* must have considerably increased after that time.

4. Sir Henry Ricketts in the same report stated that in a small village, containing 356 acres, there were not less than 213 proprietors, holding the following descriptions of *mehals*:—

Taruffs	35
Taluks under *khas taruff*	33
Noabad taluks	30
Noabad plots left unsettled	29
Lakheraj mehals reserved and under enquiry	73
Ghoshals' taluks	3
Confirmed rent-free	10
	213

213

No note was taken at the time of the number of tenants under the 213 proprietors, but every one acquainted with this district can easily imagine that large number of tenants of different descriptions must have existed under each proprietor.

5. As an illustration of the proprietary holdings, we quote the following paragraph from Sir Henry Ricketts' report:—

"It is no exaggeration to say that such is the sub-division and enlargement of property, that in some parts a man cannot go to his field or from his field without committing a trespass. In other parts, small tenures are found divided into narrow strips, a few feet wide, one end of each sub-division joining a common pathway by means of which each petty proprietor may reach his possession. * * *"

6. The above description refers to a state of things which existed 30 years ago, but matters have gradually become worse.

7. The numerous petty proprietors, under the existing law, have no adequate relief for recovery of rents. They cannot sue for rents annually, the amounts being very small and the costs of suits being very high. They have to pay Government revenue by borrowing money. It is not only they, but the few big proprietors that we have here, who also, not being able to realize their rents, pay revenue by contracting debts, and many families have ultimately been ruined by so doing.

8. Your Honor is aware that at every revenue-sale a large number of *mehals* are advertised for sale. The proprietors in many cases submit to that being done for no other reason than that thereby they hope to induce their tenants to pay rents. They sometimes run the risk of losing their *mehals* by adopting such a course.

9. Among the big proprietors there are many here who have expressed their willingness to make over their estates to the Court of Wards. Their inability to realize rents is a great inducement for their doing so.

10. It is a fact that the ryots of this district have the upper-hand. The Government and the Court of Wards, with the exceptional procedure for realization of rents, are not able to realize rents with facility. Under the existing law we cannot obtain enhancement from tenants. When they combine we cannot even recover what is due at existing rates.

11. The enhancement law is a dead letter here. The proprietors have not been able to enhance rents according to the principles laid down in the law; the civil courts always adhering to the strict letter of it.

12. Here there is a class of proprietors, who are also tenants. They not only cultivate their own lands, but also those of others. Their position is comparatively safe.

13. But as regards the class whose lands are cultivated by others, we appeal to your own experience, and to that of Mr. Manson, to say whether they or their tenants are in need of protection here. These tenants abandon our lands in bad seasons and enjoy our lands in good seasons; we cannot realise our just dues from them by any summary mode.

14. In this state of our helplessness, the Rent Bill, instead of proposing to grant

adequate relief, proposes to make restrictions and limitations in respect of the existing remedies. There is to be no summary procedure for the recovery of rent.

15. The Bill certainly will be hailed by the tenants as a great boon. We continue responsible to Government for various duties as proprietors, and our lands remain liable for periodical sales for non-payment of Government revenue. But the tenants are now to be raised to the status of co-partners with us in our lands. They are to enjoy powers and privileges which we are bound to respect.

16. The Bill aims at a redistribution of property but not of liability. It does not propose periodical sales of all tenancies for non-payment of rent. It proposes to make occupancy ryots' rights transferable. There will be little objection to periodical sales of ryotees when these become transferable.

17. The Bill proposes to do away with private contracts, to put a limit to *khamar* land, to make ejectment practically impossible by limiting the *khamar* to its present extent, to give a new status to the tenants-at-will, and to make distraint entirely a process of court—all this is an interference with the just rights of the landlords.

18. The Bill makes a distinction between *khamar* or private land of the zemindar and ryoti land or land destined for occupation by ryots. It provides that the existing stock of *khamar* land cannot hereafter be increased. (Chapter II.)

19. It provides that there can be no contracts over-riding the incidents attaching to the right of occupancy. These incidents are—(1) That the ryot may use the land in any manner which does not render it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy. (2) That he may make improvements on it as provided by the Bill. (3) That he must pay rent at fair and equitable rates as determined by the Bill. (4) That he cannot be ejected except under a decree passed for breach of certain conditions, &c. (5) That he may sub-let the land. (6) That his interest is to be transferable, subject to the certain rights reserved to the landlord. (7) That his interest is to descend. (Section 50.)

20. The bill gives the landlord a right of pre-emption in respect of occupancy tenure. The landlord so acquiring occupancy land may keep it for *nij* cultivation, but if he lets it the tenants shall have occupancy right. (Chapter V.)

21. The Bill prohibits all contracts for enhancement of rent by which a ryot engages to pay a rent more than six annas in the rupee higher than the existing rent, or more than one-fifth of the estimated annual value of the gross produce of the land, where the improvement is neither due to the landlord nor to the tenant, the tenant shall share half-and-half, but the rent shall not be raised in any case beyond one-fifth or 20 per cent. of the value of the gross produce. (Chapter VI.) Existing rents shall not, in any case, be more than double. (Section 76.)

22. The Bill allows sub-letting by occupancy ryots, an ordinary ryot or tenant-at-will shall be subject to rents agreed between himself and his landlord, but if he does not pay, he shall not be liable to be ejected, unless the landlord makes good the value of improvement made by him and gives compensation at ten times the annual increase for disturbance. In addition to this a landlord shall not eject an ordinary tenant except (*a*) for arrears of rent; (*b*) on the ground that he has broken some conditions; (*c*) or that he has refused to agree to an enhancement. (Chapter VIII.)

23. The ryots under the Bill shall have a preferential right to make improvements and to receive value of improvements when ejected. (Chapter X.)

24. The power of distraint is retained in a modified form, but it must be made entirely a process of Court. (Chapter XIII.)

25. In rent cases there shall be no appeal against Munsif's decree when the amount decreed does not exceed Rs. 50. (Section 198.)

26. A suit for relief by forfeiture shall not be unless the landlord has allowed the tenant opportunity to pay compensation for breach of conditions. (Section 202.)

27. In cases of large occupancy holding, they may be first put up for sale in execution with incumbrances, but if the sale proceeds do not cover the amount decreed, then without incumbrances. (Chapter XV.)

28. Section 45 defines how the status of a settled ryot shall be acquired notwithstanding any contract to the contrary.

29. We submit that the provision as to *khamar* is against all customs and usages of the district. We do not see why Government should tell the zemindars that they should keep so much land and no more, and that others should have the rest?

30. It appears that a settled ryot, as described in Chapter V, may have a right of occupancy in any land in the village without any reference to the period of his occupation, and in spite of any contract under which he held it. This is a radical change in the existing law.

31. The Bill for the first time creates a new kind of tenants-at-will. They are to have compensations for improvements and for disturbances amounting to ten times the yearly increase, which is excessive and unjust. This is an idea quite novel to our land system.

32. The value of *noabad* land in this district has already fallen from another cause. If this Bill become law, the value of other lands will also fall. Instead of inflicting us therefore with this Bill, the Government, if it considers the zemindar class unnecessary, may do away entirely with that class by granting reasonable compensations to them.

33. In fact, the proposal for further extension of occupancy right, for their transferability and the various restrictions to freedom of contract as also the limit of the maximum of enhancement to a fifth of the value of the produce if carried out, will totally interfere with the vested rights of the zemindars.

34. The zamindars' rights have been enjoyed by them at least for the last 90 years. These have been acknowledged by the law and the courts of British India; on this acknowledgment the zamindars have spent their capital; are these rights to be now interfered with on entirely insufficient grounds?

35 If a tenant made contract with any of us under Act X that his occupation should never give him any occupancy right, why should Government now declare that that contract is null and void? Then, again, if we have *khamar* land which came into our possession by a former tenant's relinquishment, why should it become the property of a ploughman, because it was let out wholly or partly for one or two years, and was not held by us continuously for 12 years?

36. According to the Bill, if one landlord purchase an occupancy ryoti and then let it, the tenant shall have occupancy right Then why shall the landlord pay the price as a fine? In the second year, if that tenant again wish to sell, shall the landlord pay another fine?

37. In this district the value of the rent-suit is generally below Rs. 50. The restriction imposed upon appeals is quite unsuited to this district.

38. The changes proposed are generally objectionable. The Bill has filled the Chittagong zamindars with great apprehensions. If the Bill is to be law, they cannot hope to be free from litigation to an alarming extent.

39. We pray, therefore, that should the Government finally decide upon passing the Bill in its present shape, Your Honor will be pleased to recommend the exclusion of this district from its operation.

No. 586 T. R., dated 24th August, 1883.

From—Under Secretary to Government, Bengal.

To—Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of Mr. Bayley's letter No. $\frac{2179}{187}$ C. R., dated the 13th August, 1883, I am directed to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying copies of reports* on the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883, from the Collector of Bankura and the Deputy Collector of Howrah.

* Letters from the Collector of Bankura and the Deputy Collector of Howrah, enclosed with letter No. 477, dated the 30th July, 1883, from the Commissioner of Bardwán.

No. 477, dated Chinsurah, the 30th July 1883.

From—JOHN BEAMES, Esq., Commissioner of the Burdwan Division,

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

In continuation of my No. 339, dated 22nd June 1883, I have the honour to submit the reports noted on the margin regarding the Bengal Tenancy. The other reports received by me contain nothing worthy of notice.

Copy of Bankoora Collector's report and Mr. Sceales' report in original, and Covenanted Deputy Collector of Howrah's report.

2. The Collector of Hooghly has, I find, quite unnecessarily sent a copy of his report direct to the Board.

No. 2986. dated Bankoora, the 21st June 1883.

From—C. A. SAMUELLS, Esq., Collector of Bankoora,

To—The Commissioner of Revenue for the Division of Burdwan.

In accordance with your order, communicated in your No. 38 of the 14th instant, I beg to offer the following observations on the revised Tenancy Bill.

The Bill is said to be an amending and consolidating measure; but it appears to contain certain principles, which, though beneficial, are certainly novel—such as the landlord's right of pre-emption of the occupancy right and the principle of compensation for disturbance. It will be advisable to review the provisions in order, offering such remarks as occur to me on each, and finally giving my opinion on the measure as a whole, and its probable effects.

CHAPTER II.

From the use of the term "zeraat," as applied to khamar lands, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, I am inclined to think this chapter has reference chiefly to Behar. I believe khamar lands were not very common in Bengal. The chapter and definition is almost superfluous alongside of chapter X, under the provisions of which the ryot's interest merges in that of the landlord, unless he declares to hold as a ryot within three months. Neither chapter will prevent the zemindar who purchases occupancy rights from holding the land khas if he wishes; and it is much to be feared that, as that will be the only method open to him of barring occupancy rights, he will now largely resort to this practice, and the result will be a large increase of khamar land—being just the result which the Bill is designed to prevent. There are other ways in which khamar land must come into existence despite the wishes of the zemindar and the Act, namely, where a ryot dies, or vacates his holding or surrenders, and no one can be found to take his place. These lands must remain in the possession of the zemindar as his khas land; and it is therefore scarcely a subject for enactment. Even if the register is made the land is subject to decrease, and, as I have shown above, to increase also, so that the

survey will be merely waste of time, and prove a fertile source of litigation. Another point requiring decision will be, whether all lands held by "bhag-jotedars," or cultivators, who pay a share of the produce as rent, is to be considered "khamar" under the Act. It is generally so considered by the natives, but the tendency of this Act is, if I understand it properly, to regard them as ryots by whom rights of occupancy may be acquired.

CHAPTER III.

Section 16—Seems to go too far, for the reasons above stated. A bhag-jotedar is after all only a labourer under another name. This means of cultivating land is simply employed in lieu of wages, being preferable to wages in giving a man an interest in his work; and no one will be more surprised at the sudden change in his condition than the bhag-jotedar, who is quite accustomed to be changed at the pleasure of his landlord. These people really exist, because the zemindar cannot find a ryot, and that because the land will not pay for cultivation on any other way.

Section 17.—The separation spoken of in this section should be valid only if made with the consent of the landlord. The remaining sections of this chapter seem to be unobjectionable, and will guard the ryot against excessive enhancement: all hard-and-fast rules are liable to act harshly in particular instances.

D.—I look on the provisions regarding registration as very necessary, if they are only enforced; but I am afraid if this is left to the ryot they will be ignored. The District Officer should have power to call for, and examine, these registers, to ensure their being properly kept up. The rate in clause (*b*), section 27, is exorbitant, considering the ignorance that prevails regarding the law.

Section 29.—I see no provision for allowing the landlord to refuse compliance if he objects to the order, either on the ground that the nature of the tenure is improperly stated, or, if he objects to the amount of rent, as incorrect.

CHAPTER V.

This chapter, concerning rights of occupancy, requires no apology at the present time. It is now apparently admitted that only ryots of long standing (kadime) are entitled to these rights. The twelve-years' rule is certainly maintained, but the principle involved in section 47 seems to me an almost ludicrous way of making it out. There is to be a perfect transformation scene on a day yet to be fixed. In this draft it is 3rd March 1883. On that date villagers who may be mere tenants-at-will, and may never have held one piece of land for more than three days at a time, will suddenly become ryots with rights of occupancy in the plot last held, *all* contracts to the contrary notwithstanding. This is directly opposed to the law as laid down in section vii of Act VIII of 1869, and renders all contracts under that Act mere waste paper. They would, probably, convert this right into cash at the first opportunity; but I cannot think the circumstances of the case will justify such flagrant infringement of the rights of the zemindar.

Section 49—Appears to be the result of a confusion of ideas—that is, a confounding of khamar land as it is and as it ought to be. It is a contradiction of terms to speak of any one holding khamar land as a ryot, unless a bhag-jotedar is considered such; and I have pointed out that he is not looked on as a ryot, but as another form of labourer. Khamar land ceases to be khamar land once it is let out to a ryot. The tendency is to let out khamar lands, not to retain them, except, perhaps, in indigo factories.

Section 50—Bestows a number of valuable privileges, along with this right, on the ryot: would it be too much to ask that one provision be added on behalf of the man at whose expense, and, perhaps, in spite of whom we are so generous, would it be too much to add, as an incident, that the occupancy right is liable to be revoked for non-payment of the "fair and equitable rent" on the due date? We have taken great trouble to ensure the ryot against exaction. We have gone so far as to interfere with the liberty of contract between him and his master, and it will surely be only just to the zemindar that we insist on punctual payment from the ryot, as we insist on his punctually paying the revenue. If the zemindar is liable to lose his whole estate for non-payment of revenue on a fixed date, there can be no injustice in holding this right and interest conferred on the ryot as liable to sale for the same reasons. If some such provision is not made, I fear it will be considered that the Act is one-sided. It is all for the ryot. I hope no such impression will be allowed to prevail.

Section 51, clause 4.—Any sale of the right in contravention of the law should be held invalid.

Section 56.—This is an innovation on present practice; the right, in this case, is acquired by the landlord and not by the ryot. We may be sure if the ryot comes in he will have to pay for his right what it cost the zemindar; and, under those circumstances, he should be considered as having purchased his title. No legislation is required for this. The effect of the section in other cases will be to cause the zemindar to hold the land as ryot and cultivate by hired labour. It will be a bad day for the country when the landlord makes up his mind to have no more tenants, only labourers; and yet, it looks as if we might come to this.

CHAPTER VI.

Section 59.—I am glad to see the liberty of the subject recognized; but the effect is completely spoilt by clause 2. Even when they agree, which is not often, a Revenue Officer must needs interfere. We legislate for the ryot on the principle that he is a man, but we treat him as if he was a child.

Section 61.—This section is again subversive of all the laws of political economy and everything else. If the land is capable of bearing a higher rent, why should the zemindar be compelled to let it at a lower rent?

As regards clause 2 and the one-fifth limit, I shall have something to say later on.

B.—Admitting that rents are no longer to be fixed by consent, the next best thing is a table of rates. It is another question how such a table is to be prepared, and it pre-supposes a certain dead level in the outturn of lands, as if improvement and industry were of no account. It is, however, the only substitute for contract; and though a rough system, will answer, where we can err in favour of the tenant without injuring ourselves. Judging by the rents prevailing in this district, a rate, the maximum of which is fixed at one-fifth of the annual value of the gross produce at harvest time, would lead to a general reduction of rents, except in a few cases of "do" lands, or lands producing more than one rabi crop. Baboo Sitikanto Ghose, Deputy Collector, has, at my request, drawn up a statement showing the effect of such a rate on the various classes of land in this district. It has been very carefully compiled, and is based upon settlement records, road cess papers, and the nirikhbandi of Mr. Keating. The latter has for a long time supplied the place of a table of rates for this district, and so little change has occurred that it might be adopted almost as it stands. It has been followed in all settlement cases, and is regarded by the local zemindars and people as an authoritative document. It is dated 1791, and shows different rates for different tarafs, as contemplated in the Bill.

Section 76.—I can see no reason for an arbitrary limit. The only recognized limit should be what is fair and equitable; and it is not necessary it should bear any relation to previous rent. In some tracts in this district the bigha rate is not prevalent, and blocks of land are held at a merely nominal rate, and neither landlord nor ryot has any idea of the area so held. In these cases it would be most unfair to him, a landlord, not to accept more than double even if offered, *see* section 59, clause 2.

Section 78.—This section will compel zemindars to enhance, once for all, to the highest possible figure. As I said before, if it can be proved that an increased rent can fairly be paid, it should be exacted. A railway through a remote part of the country would treble the value of land and be due neither to zemindar nor ryot, why should the latter reap all the benefit.

CHAPTER VII.

Section 86.—The ryot being liable to ejectment only on breach of conditions under which he holds should not be entitled to any compensation. He will virtually eject himself; and what is of value to the ryot may be of no value to the landlord. He might be allowed to sell, and his successor recognized by the landlord.

CHAPTER VIII.

Section 89.—The ordinary ryot who most requires protection appears to get very little, and yet, to be competent to make an agreement which the landlord will respect. He acquired a certain fixity of tenure, and cannot be called on to pay more than $\frac{5}{8}$ths of the value of the produce (section 119); but he can, apparently, exercise his discretion. The rate for such a ryot has usually been fixed at $\frac{8}{16}$ths, so that, in his case also, we may look for a general reduction of rent, unless he agrees to pay more, which is not likely, once he is in possession, and not liable to ejectment as long as he pays at the rate of $\frac{5}{8}$ths. If not "bound" to pay more than $\frac{5}{8}$ths can be legally compelled to do so on an agreement.

CHAPTER IX.

The provisions of this chapter are very wise, especially as regards receipts; but section 101 is scarcely practicable if we consider that one zamindar may have thousands of ryots.

Section 100 clause 4.—I would not feel disposed to put a further permission on forged receipts.

As Government has prescribed a form, it would greatly tend to its being adopted generally, if receipt cheque-books could be bought at a public office, and would further operate as a restraint on fraud.

Sections 112 to 117.—I would make the civil court the arbiter, and not the Collector. The expense of the former would do more than anything else to check these petty disputes.

CHAPTER X.

Section 129.—This section would be harmless, as any class of improvements is concerned; but it will afford a spur to law suits founded on imaginary improvements, and supported with all the wit and ingenuity shewn in such cases by a people prone to litigation.

Section 144.—In case of tenures the Judge should appoint, and the word tenure be excluded from clause (*a*). Further, I consider that the section will be made use of by landowners to get their estates managed by the Court of Wards. Some penalty should be devised to prevent this. I think, on the whole, it would be better if the Judge appointed a manager in all cases.

CHAPTER XI.

Provided the revenue officer's decision is final, I think great benefit will result from this procedure. These officers, however, have not much spare time to devote to intricate disputes, and it will involve an increase of establishment, for which the parties benefited should pay.

CHAPTER XIII.

I am glad to see the law of distraint has not been abolished as was proposed. There is nothing that calls for special remark in this chapter.

The rest of the Bill has reference to the procedure of the civil courts. I have not been able to obtain any opinion from zamindars. They have not read the Bill; and appear to take a languid interest in a measure which so vitally affects their well-being. I think it must be allowed that the position of the zamindar under the Bill will be scarcely better than that of a mere rent charger. Neither he nor his tenants can effect a compromise in future; they must be ranged in hostile camps; and the rules of the contest are rigidly fixed. The need for a law of this severe nature does not seem quite clearly made out. A member of council has stated that 90 per cent. of the ryots in Bengal have occupancy rights. In another place I find it stated, that "it is on all hands admitted to be the fact that, with or without right, the great peasant population of Bengal has for long held the land at very low rates, *far below* the market rack-rent:" these are Sir George Campbell's own words. If the above statements on good authority be correct, then the mere fact of a few riots in Pubna, due, perhaps, to an overzealous officer, are not sufficient excuse for legislation. The condition of Behar has long formed the subject of complaint; but I am inclined to think the land laws are not entirely to blame. Tenancy bills are of little use to a ryot in Bettia sub-division, if he has to trudge all the way to Mozufferpore or Chupra for a hearing; and, therefore, a more paternal system is required, by which the people could be gradually inoculated with certain rights: and once understood and enjoyed, they would be sufficiently tenacious of them to baffle the most grasping zamindar. This is an idea which will be considered out of date; but I equally regard an act which abolishes freedom of contract between landlord and tenant as a backward step in legislation. I have nothing more to add, except that I would not have offered an opinion on the subject, unless I had been called upon to do so. I cannot help observing in conclusion, that the zamindars suffer from a daily increasing difficulty in the collection of their rents and cesses; and I think it behoves us to strengthen their hands to the utmost. Let us, if we will, restrict the demand on the ryot, if we can do so without breach of faith with the zamindar, but afford the latter some sure means of collecting that little. Consider the large arrear in Government estates where the manager is armed with an exceptional procedure and the whole power of Government, what must be the difficulties of a private individual, whose only remedy is a civil suit, which is worthless as a resource if his ryots combine against him.

I should have stated that Mr. Sceales, Agent for Messrs. Gisborne and Company, has favoured me with his views, and his letter is forwarded in original.

Dated Bankoorah, the 16th June 1883.

From—J. O'B. SCEALES, Esq., Zamindary's Manager for Messrs. Gisborne and Company, Calcutta,

To—The Magistrate and Collector, Bankoorah.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge yours of the 9th May, requesting my opinion on the subject of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, No. 5 of 1883.

The act of confiscation (for such it is) bearing the above title honestly looked at, has scarcely a redeeming feature to recommend it; it fails to improve the status of the ryots, that is the cultivator or kurpa ryots, and on the other hand is an act of robbery as far as the landlord is concerned.

The advantages, but none of the liabilities the zamindar now possesses, are to be transferred to the occupancy ryot. He is not to be responsible for revenue. Sunset law will not affect him; he will put in his rent when quite convenient; he will pay his road and Public Works cesses also, when it happens to suit him. As fresh taxes occur the same form will be gone through, *viz.*, the landlord will be made to pay the money into Government, and collect if he can (?) at his leisure; but pay the landlord must, and on a given date and hour. His source of income, the tenant, not only pays when he chooses, but the present Rent Act is such that it discourages punctual payment. Under the present law, from the date of institution of a balance of rent-suits to the date of decree, interest ceases, and after that the decretal money is recoverable at Rs. 6 per cent. interest. Hence, the position of landlord *versus* ryots is this: the former, unable to collect from his tenant, must borrow to pay revenue, paying any interest his mahajun may choose to ask him—usually Rs. 36 per cent. per annum, and frequently much more. The occupancy ryot, who is often a money-lender, loans out the rent to his constituency at, say, Rs. 36 per cent. that by rights should go to his landlord. After a year's litigation the landlord gets his decree for balance of rent without interest, the occupancy ryot getting Rs. 36 per cent. during this period for money not really his: why should he pay? To remedy this, I would suggest that, upon the landlord producing three years' jumma-wasilbakies and thoka, and in fact making out a *primâ facie* case, the sum sued for be decreed; the ryot may then become plaintiff in his turn for, say, a re-hearing; but should his case fail, *i.e.*, prove frivolous and vexatious, he should be made, not only to pay Rs. 12 per cent. from the date of instituting the suit to the date of decree, but the same interest. Rs. 12 per cent. should run till date of collection, not Rs. 6 per cent. as at present decreed, and to this damages at 25 per cent. should also be enforced. As it is, a clause (44) exists in Act VIII of 1869 to this effect. The lower court has it in its power to decree damages to the plaintiff, supposing the defence to be frivolous; but the weak part of this otherwise sensible condition is, that it is optional; it should be made compulsory upon the court.

If the above suggestions were carried out the Bal of rent-suits would be reduced by three-fourths. The present state of the law encourages ryots not to pay.

What applies to the tenant would apply equally to the landlord: he likewise would be punished for instituting unjust suits, and it is so provided in section 45 of the same Act.

The Government puts itself to a deal of trouble to satisfy itself that zamindars are not landlords in the true sense of the word—that they are in fact mere rent collectors. For the sake of argument admit this. I am rent collector for a Calcutta firm: what would describe the conduct of the said firm if, instead of putting every facility in my way and giving me every help in their power, they were to lay themselves out to thwart and discourage my efforts?

This, however, is the policy pursued by Government, they say in effect:—"At sunset on such and such days we want our rents, we are perfectly indifferent as to whether you collect or not—indeed, we put every obstacle in the way of your collecting—but pay or be sold up." I ask if the above is a fair description of the law and procedure as it now stands, and if so, is it just?

Another mode of insurance against a false defence on the part of a ryot, in a Bal of rent-suits, would be to insist upon his depositing at least half the amount he is sued for as Bal of rent; this would, in the first place, secure the zamindar against loss, and invariably lead to a settlement of the landlord's claim, the argument on the part of the ryot being that, as he had to deposit half the amount under any circumstances, it would not be worth his while to set up a vexatious defence.

As to enhancement suits, I concur in thinking they might be handed over to the Collector. A little broadness of view and common sense is sadly required by moonsifs in dealing with them. The idea has got about that the High Court discourage enhancement, however reasonably it is sued for, and the result is that every subordinate officer seizes upon the merest and meanest quibble, in both questions of law and fact, to dismiss the suit.

Independence and common sense in the department are much required.

As to road and public works cesses they press with terrible severity upon the poorer landholders; and the Government should find a means of relieving them of this duty. As to the truth of what I state, let me call your attention to the fact that every estate in this district is in arrears on account of these cesses—witness Samsoonderpore, Phulkeeswa, Ambicanagore, and other pergunnahs—all have been up for sale on the above account, and the money has been with great difficulty deposited by the landholder to save his estate—that he will ever recover his debt from the tenantry is hopeless. These cesses mostly consist of small sums, to be got from hundreds of tenants. None but men of the largest means could plunge so largely into law. I have been long puzzled to know why Government have shown such marked dislike to the zemindar: he is supposed to rack-rent and tyranise over the occupancy tenant. It appears to me that this view of the question is an entirely mistaken one.

The curse of Bengal is not the zemindar (I do not know what Government will do without him), but the occupancy ryot, whose responsibilities are nil, and whose emoluments are of the largest. The kurpa ryot is the victim, whose interests Government should look to. Occupancy ryots, taking them all round in this district, pay rent at the rate of from 3 to 10 annas per bigah to the zemindars, but they cruelly rack-rent their undertenants. From Rs. 2-8 for good paddy land to Rs. 8 and Rs. 10 per bigah for sugarcane land is charged on the cultivating ryots, and these are common rates all over the district. In the face of this the zemindar is told that he tyranises and rack-rents; if so, what term is to be applied to the occupancy ryot, acting as I have described—the occupancy ryot is the annuitant, not the landlord.

The political feature of the question, or its legality, with reference to the permanent settlement, I do not attempt to discuss. Various associations are at work all over the country, and they will doubtless make themselves heard in good time. But as to necessity for such a Bill, as the one proposed, I have a word to say. Could it be proved that the proposed alteration in the law of landlord and tenant was to be of sufficient benefit to anyone as to warrant such a stupendously important step as the Government propose to take, one might welcome the alteration; but as a matter of fact, the evil greatly counterbalances the good. Government will lose, because it chooses to dispossess its rent-collectors (zemindars) of the little power they at present have to collect the Government revenue. The zemindars lose in having their property and rights made over to the occupancy ryots. The kurpa ryots will be dissatisfied, because the stronger the position of the occupancy ryots, the more the kurpa ryot will be rack-rented. Even the occupancy ryot will suffer; the more easy it becomes to transfer holdings, the more easily they will be to alienate, so that, as a matter of fact, no one gains. I confess I look upon the present proposals to alter the law as a mistake. Act X of 1859 and Act VIII of 1869 were doing the work well, and matters settling themselves fast. The present proposal, if carried out, will lead to a renewal of litigation of the same costly and cumbrous nature that went on for 15 years after the passing of Act X of 1859.

Affairs between landlord and tenant have of late been remarkably amicable, and the law on the subject, known as Judge-made law, was sufficient, and fairly sensible. Statistics declare that thousands, not to say millions, of mourasi pottas were being given out yearly, and as each mourasi holding means a complete cessation of hostility between landlord and tenant, indeed, implies the most amiable relations, why disturb such a state of affairs.

To quote the Pubna disturbances as necessitating a change in the law is childish. The same agitation took place ten years ago, and might easily have been stopped by a strong executive.

Pre-emption means that the landlord having already purchased the zemindari at 20 year's

purchase, will have the right of again purchasing a portion for another 20 years' purchase—a valuable boon—having paid twice for what was probably not worth the fresh payment. He must either cultivate it himself (figure to yourself Hatua, Durbhunga or Burdwan cultivating a jumma), or give an occupancy right at an equitable rent to a tenant to cultivate: freedom of contract is non-existent under the new law. Maximum enhancement should not be limited to Rs. 25 per cent., but should be left to the discretion of the courts.

Reams might be written on the above subject, but I, for one, have not the time. Briefly, I think, the proposed alteration unnecessary, and likely to cause the most serious disturbance of the present amiable relations existing between landlord and tenant.

The facility for the recovery of rent by the zemindar is required; and this might be carried out somewhat in the way I have suggested. As the remainder of the Act appears to be no improvement on Act VIII of 1869, I can see no occasion for any change.

The Government insisting on zemindars collecting road and public works cesses, they are bound in common fairness to afford them facilities for doing so.

No. 467, dated Howrah, the 23rd July 1883.

From—E. V. WESTMACOTT, Esq., Collector of Dacca, Officiating Deputy Collector of Howrah,

To—The Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

From the Board of Revenue, No. 342A. of 13th June 1883.
From the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department, No. 322T.—R., undated.

With reference to your circular No. 38 of the 14th ultimo, with enclosures as per margin, calling for a report on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, I have the honour to submit that my views have already been laid before the Government of India at some length as regards the proposed legislation, and that the principles of the Bill being assumed, I have not much to say regarding its details.

2. My personal experience as a revenue officer has been gained principally in the Rajshahye, Dacca, and Chittagong Divisions. I know scarcely anything of the Burdwan or Presidency Divisions, and what I have learnt respecting the tenancy question in Behar, has been from information at second-hand, supplemented by such enquiries as I have been able to make while on tour in several of the Behar districts.

3. In the part of the country which I know well, if any legislative interference is required, it is rather on behalf of the landlord—I use the term loosely for the receiver of rent—than on behalf of the tenant. In Behar I understand that whatever the historical position of the tenant may have been with reference to his rights in the soil, the landlord has practically a monopoly in the land, and competition among the tenants has rendered him master of the situation. Very few ryots appear to have been able to maintain a right of occupancy. This appears to be due entirely to the pressure of population on the land which is less fertile than Bengal, and to the habits of the people, which led them to look to agriculture alone for a livelihood. The ryots feel that it is absolutely necessary that they should obtain land, and they close their eyes to the possibility or impossibility of fulfilling the terms to which they agree in order to obtain it, and, at the same time, of being able to maintain themselves and their families. The result of this is unreasoning competition for land, and hopeless poverty for the cultivator. Even when the Behar ryot is in possession of land, I find that the landlord is able to dictate to him what crops he shall grow, and that indigo, for instance, cannot be grown without consent of the landlord. In the eastern districts such interference is impossible. The cultivation of jute has greatly extended of late years, as being a more profitable crop than rice, but the landlords in vain endeavour to secure a share in the increased profits of the ryot. It appears a monstrous thing that a tenant having taking land on certain terms should not be able to cultivate that land as he thinks most to his own advantage. The English question of exhausting the soil, and leaving it impoverished at the end of the tenancy, does not arise in India, and the landlord's interference arises only from a wish to share in the ryot's increased profits besides receiving the stipulated rent. The weakness, however, of the Behar ryot appears to arise from the fact that there is less land than the cultivators require, even as in Eastern Bengal the ryot is strong, because there is more land than the ryots can cultivate, so that the landlord who endeavours to extort from his ryots more than they are willing to pay finds his land uncultivated altogether. It is not only the number of persons per square mile that must be considered, but the inferior fertility of most of the land in Behar, as compared with that in Bengal. I should say that population would press less heavily on the soil in Rungpore with 600 persons to the square mile than in Behar with only 400.

4. It must then be considered whether the natural law which impoverishes an agricultural population when too numerous for the land, can be counteracted by legislation, and whether the same legislation will not produce more evil than good if applied to tracts in which fertile waste land is carrying out for cultivators.

5. It may be possible to place restrictions on the power of the present landlords of Behar, and there may be historical grounds for believing that the ryots once enjoyed such rights in the land as would justify such restriction, but it would have been impossible for the landlord to improve his own position and to destroy the rights of the ryot had he not been aided by the action of a natural law, the law that an increasing population on a limited culturable area must impoverish an exclusively agricultural people. It is possible to restrict the power of the present landlord, and to strengthen the position of the present tenant, but during the continuance of the action of the natural law, to which I have referred, it will be impossible to improve the position of the rent-paying cultivator at the expense of the rent-receiver. In

curtailing the powers of the present rent-receiving landlord, you can only transfer them to another person, namely, to the rent-paying ryot, but the consequence will be that the said ryot will become a rent-receiver, and will sublet his land to cultivators who will be poorer than the present cultivators, because their competition for land will be absolutely unchecked by any traditional respect for rights of the ryots in the soil. The profits of the present landlords will be curtailed, the rent-paying ryots of the present will become rent-receiving middlemen, and the land will be cultivated by a class absolutely unprotected by any feeling that the cultivator has rights in the soil, and at the mercy of rent-receivers whose attention is confined to a limited area, and who are, therefore, able by closer supervision to screw more out of their tenants than the landlord of extensive estates. I quite admit that it is possible, and perhaps just, to make the present Behar ryot into a wealthy and thriving man at the expense of the zemindar, but those who think that such a step will make the actual cultivator one whit less wretched than he is now, will find themselves grievously disappointed. So long as there are too many people for the land, to support, and so long as the only means of supporting those people is derived from the land so long will rents be forced up by competition, and the cultivator be a pauper. The action of the proposed law will only be to make the occupancy ryot the rack-renter instead of the present landlord, and the actual cultivators will be none the better for it.

6. I may illustrate the change in the position of the occupancy ryot by a passage in a report on rents which I received from one of my Deputy Collectors a few days ago. He said that a certain rate of rent was so high that it was impossible for the ryot to make a profit except by cultivating the land himself. The Deputy Collector evidently considered that for a ryot to be obliged to cultivate his land himself was a hardship, and that he had a right to a position in which he could sublet the land, or hire ploughs and labourers to cultivate it for him. The present pauper ryot of Behar may be raised to such a position as this by curtailing the powers of the zemindar, but there will still remain the mass of struggling cultivators, ready to promise any rent, as long as they can secure a crop from the land, and, the rights of occupancy being vested in those to whom they promise their rent, they will be themselves absolutely unprotected. I believe that the proposed law will personally benefit the present generation of ryots, but I do not think it can contribute anything to the solution of the problem which meets the statesman in Behar.

7. To resort to the emasculating interference of legislation on behalf of the weaker in free bargain between man and man has been tried over and over again in the history of the world, and has as often failed in its object. The weak cannot be made strong by law because the strong will find means of evading the law. The evil, however, is not without a remedy, and that remedy is already in course of application. I may say that there are two such remedies. One of them is the diversion of the surplus labour of Behar from agriculture to other spheres, and the other is emigration. I find men working in Howrah in mills and factories, as carters, grooms, or labourers, and easily earning six or seven rupees a month, while employers tell me that they want more hands. I question these men, and find they come from Behar districts, in which the Magistrates have told me that three rupees per month is far more than it is necessary to pay as wages to the village watchman. Few of the emigrants as yet bring their families with them, and most of them return to their homes after a few months' work, but the number of permanent settlers is increasing, and the demand for labour is such that it must continue to increase. I have seen how the position of the English farm-labourer has improved in consequence of emigration, till a farmer in Sussex has told me that he has difficulty in hiring a carter for a guinea a weak and a free house, and I feel confident that emigration will gradually raise the position of the Behar ryot.

8. I observe that most of the Behar labourers attracted by British capital to Howrah and Calcutta come from the districts south of the Ganges, served by the East Indian Railway. There is a striking absence of men from the districts north of the great river. From this I argue that the statesman who desires to raise the position of the masses in Behar should push on railway communication between those districts and the great manufacturing centres, and with the districts, such as Dinagepore and Dacca, in which thousands of acres of fertile land are lying waste for want of hands to cultivate them. I believe that emigration would be stimulated by a continuous line from Chumparun through Purneah and Dinagepore to the Northern Bengal Railway, and parts of such a line are already made or in course of construction.

9. I have purposely abstained from all comment on the proposed regulation of relations between landlords and tenants in Behar, with reference to supposed rights of the latter, because I do not consider that my experience qualifies me to speak on the subject. I can only say that I do not believe the proposed law will have any effect whatever in raising the condition of the masses.

10. Turning to the parts of Bengal with which I am well acquainted, I find that the proposed law is all in favour of the ryot, who is already so strong as to be able to withhold from the zamindar that to which he is justly entitled. In Behar, if a zamindar deprives a ryot of his land, I presume the ryot must starve. In Bengal it would be the zamindar that would starve, and the ryot would migrate gaily to another estate, of which the proprietor would welcome an additional tenant, and an increase in his rent-roll. I use the term Bengal with reference to the divisions of Rajshahye, Dacca and Chittagong, in each of which I have gained some experience. Not only is the zamindar unable to enhance the rent beyond what a reasonable ryot thinks it just that he should pay, but in many instances dishonest ryots maintain their position on the land without paying any rent whatever, and the result is litigation and violence.

11. I believe that it is less the pecuniary necessities of the zamindars that have led them to create tenures intermediate between themselves and their ryots, than the difficulty of realising rents without more detailed supervision than the proprietor of extensive estates can exercise. In order to secure an income without direct collection from the ryots, the Maharaja of Burdwan has granted *putnees* to middlemen, and they again, I believe, have created tenures over lesser areas subordinate to their own. The Paikpara zamindars in Noakholly have promoted all their ryots to be petty talookdars, so that the rents may be collected by sale procedure in the court of the Collector. The Maharani of Dinagepore grants villages in farm for five years to one or more of the principal residents in them, while individual ryots often hold lands for which they pay more than a hundred rupees as rent. The foundation of the strength of the ryots' position is the quantity of land available for cultivation beyond what the existing population can cultivate, and the zamindars are too short-sighted to offer sufficiently liberal terms to encourage that immigration which would increase the competition for land. To speak of the wretchedness of Bengal ryots as notorious, argues absolute ignorance of the facts of the case, and can only excite ridicule in those who know anything of the ryots of Dinagepore, Backergunge or Noakholly, to say nothing of other Bengal districts.

12. I have no wish to represent the Bengal zamindar as an injured innocent who wants no more than his just due; on the contrary, I know that he is ready enough to grasp at all he can get, and the only reason that he has not reduced his tenantry to the condition of the Behar ryots is that the natural law of the pressure of population on the land has been too strong for him. At the same time, I think, he now in most instances gets somewhat less than his due, and if legislative interference is warranted, and likely to prove efficient, it should be in the direction rather of helping the zamindar to obtain his due than of further strengthening the position of the ryot.

13. I think the ryot generally recognises that there are at least two just grounds for enhancing his rent, one being the discovery by measurement of more land in his possession than he has been paying rent for, and the other a permanent increase in the money-value of the produce of the land. I do not mean to say that a ryot will not resist enhancement on these grounds as well as on any other, but if defeated, he will look on it as the fortune of war and not as an injustice. As regards the first ground of enhancement there is no doubt whatever, and many Dinagepore ryots are paying a cess, or *mangon*, in consideration of the landlord's foregoing the right of measurement, rather than submit to any enhancement of the substantive rent, which nominally remains unchanged. The second ground of enhancement, permanent increase in the money-value of produce, would be disputed more often than the former, but I have many a time known ryots year after year pay a *mangon* which varied with the goodness or badness of the crop, in addition to their rent, and I have heard of many cases in which ryots contumaciously withhold payment of rent, and yet pay their *mangon* cheerfully. If a ryot has been paying a rupee a *beegha* for fifty years, and knows that fifty years ago his grandfather in the best of times could get no more than eight annas a maund for paddy, he feels that now, when he can always get a rupee, the zamindar may justly ask for a *mangon* every year in addition to the rent. The rent, however, must not be enhanced—once alter the substantive rent, and the ryot feels that he will be safe no longer. I have no doubt that the ryot's feeling as to the justice of enhancement with reference to the value of produce, is a traditional survival from the days when all rents were paid in kind. It is a grave error to look on all *mangons* as illegal cesses. They are virtually enhancements of the rent, to which the ryot has agreed, because he feels that the zamindar is justly entitled to them, and it is a mistake and a robbery of the zamindar for the legislature to disallow them.

14. The question of enhancement on the ground of increase in the money-value of produce was a tolerably easy one so long as rice continued to be the principal staple. Sugar-cane does not appear to have disturbed it, but now the enormous extension of the cultivation of jute has introduced serious complications. Tracts which once grew rice enough for export, in addition to what sufficed to feed its population, have now so large an acreage under jute as actually to be importing rice from elsewhere. The zamindars see how the jute trade enriches the ryots, and desire to share in the profits, while the ryots deny the zamindar any right to enhance, except upon a rise in the value of rice, which was the old staple. In the proposed law I find no attempt to do justice between landlord and tenant in this matter.

15. One great difficulty in dealing with the agricultural question is the co-parcenary system. The proposed law takes some cognizance of this evil as it applies to the landlord, but none whatever as it applies to the tenant. I have known instances in which a petty ryoti holding belongs to over thirty co-sharers, many of them widows, many married to husbands who are not co-sharers. I believe I could find instances where the co-sharers were twice as many. Such a tenantry as this is very difficult to deal with, no co-sharer considering himself responsible for more than his own share of the rent, and the tenants suffer from it as much as the landlords. The laws of inheritance, both Hindoo and Mahomedan, have by many intelligent natives been admitted to me to be the curse of the country, and their effect on the question of tenancy is well worth a statesman's attention.

16. I will now proceed to comment in detail on some of the features of the proposed law.

CHAPTER II

17.

has little, if any, practical application in Bengal.

18. *Sections 14 to 16.*—This is not new, but in the case of ryots I have always thought it unjust as regards money-rents, and whereas the decennial settlement alienated all right of

Government to share in increased money-value of produce, I have always considered that it compared most unfavourably with the commutation of tithes in England, a system under which the rent-charges vary from year to year on a sliding scale regulated by the average price of corn for seven years. I think it unjust to zamindars, and inconsistent with the feelings of the people, that money-rents should be fixed without reference to changes in the value of produce. The rent was originally a proportion of the produce, and this should in my opinion be borne in mind.

19. Government deliberately gave up all right to share in the proceeds of any increase in the money-value of the ryots' crop, and in so doing gave up revenue to which the State was entitled. It is not now the question whether the equivalent secured by fixing the revenue in perpetuity was sufficient compensation for the future loss to the revenue, but it does not appear that this action with reference to the revenue justifies the State in compelling the zamindar to make similar sacrifice. Rents in India are based on a division of the crop, and it is opposed both to equity and to the traditions of the people to allow the cultivator to monopolise all benefit from increase in the money-value of his crop. If a ryot pays a certain rent when he only gets eight annas per maund for his rice, he should pay so much more when he gets double that price.

20. *Section 21.*—A number of tenures are created at the same time, on the same rates of rent, covering a considerable area. The time comes when enhancement is legitimate, and a landlord in the centre of the said area proceeds to enhance. He cannot enhance beyond the customary rate, and he finds that every tenure, for miles round, is paying at the same rate, so that he is precluded from enhancing. If no landlord can enhance until the majority of his neighbours have enhanced, it is clear that enhancement can never be commenced, and therefore the right of enhancement becomes a dead letter.

21. *Sub-section (4).*—The reference is to *jungle-booree* tenures. A tenant taking land on a *jungle-booree* lease looks to recouping his expenditure on reclamation during the period of his lease, and to allow him to continue to hold on exceptionally favourable terms after the expiry of the lease is inequitable and contrary to all the customs of the people, so far as I know them.

22. *Section 22.*—Where a tenure has been granted rent-free for a term, what is to be the limit of the rent at the expiry of that term? The double of nothing is nothing.

23. *Sections 23 and 24.*—I think very fair.

24. *Section 27.*—It would be to the advantage of both landlord and tenant that all transfers should be registered; but as each party wishes to defraud the other, if possible, both endeavour to avoid registration or any definition of the terms of tenures. The interchange of *pottas* and *kabooliyats* prescribed by law has always been steadily evaded by whichever party was strong enough to avoid it. Registration can only be secured by the courts rigidly refusing to take legal cognizance of any right which has not been registered, and it is not safe to leave it to the dishonest amla of the zemindar's cutcherry, who will always burn their books when advisable. Just as notice of relinquishment is given to the Collector, so must notice of transfers be given to the same officer, who will give notice to the landlord, and no ryot or co-sharer in a ryoti tenure should be recognised as possessing any rights unless his succession to the holding has been registered. The fee on registration, to which I consider the landlord entitled, can be paid by stamp to the Collector at the time of application. The proposed law appears to contemplate registration as being solely for the benefit and protection of the tenant. Having had extensive dealings with tenantry in estates belonging to the State or to Court of Wards, I can certify that registration of transfers would be a great boon to a landlord. For years rents are paid in the names of dead tenants, until a day comes when rents are withheld, and then it is a matter of difficulty to find out who is in possession of the holding. There may be a score or two of co-sharers, male and female. This is only one exemplification of the principle on which the proposed law appears to proceed, namely, that it is the tenant alone who requires protection, and that the landlord is only a tyrant, whom it is necessary to control. If registration is carried out by the State, and not left to the landlord, I would apply it to all ryots as well as to tenure-holders.

25. *Section 37.*—I have been informed that there are *putni* tenures which are not permanent, and I think this provision of the law uncalled for.

26. *Section 45.*—I believe this provision is necessary to protect ryots in Behar; it is not required in Bengal. The right should be confined to cases in which lands have been held in one village or *mouza*. To bring an 'estate' into the question is quite a new idea, not warranted by any custom of the country.

27. *Section 50 (a).*—This provision appears to open the door to endless litigation to determine what renders land unfit for the purposes of a tenancy. I do not consider rural moonsifs by any means likely to decide justly in such a matter from what I have known of their modes of thought.

28. Free transfer may not always have been an essential feature in a ryot's occupancy right, but, so far as my experience goes, it has become recognised as customary, and ought to be legalised. Giving notice to the landlord, and giving the landlord a right of pre-emption, is not the custom, and I do not think it necessary. There are many practical difficulties in the way. For instance, shares in ryoti holdings are often transferred, and transfers sometimes give a right of re-entry on repayment of a loan.

29. *Section 51.*—It appears to be supposed that the owner of an occupancy right is always a tangible individual. I have already pointed out that such a right is frequently subdivided among a number of male and female co-parceners, and these co-sharers sometimes dis-

pose separately of their shares. There are peculiar difficulties with reference to the women in Mahomedan families who inherit fractional shares and marry out of the family. Of these I think a rent law should take cognizance.

30. *Section 53.*—What would be the landlord's right when a ryot raises money on mortgage, giving the mortgagee possession for a term with right of re-entry? This is not infrequent.

31. *Section 58.*—The presumption is a false one. If a ryot has held for a considerable number of years at a fixed rent, and the average money value of produce has permanently risen in the interval, the presumption is that the rent has ceased to be fair or equitable, and that it is just that it should be enhanced.

32. *Section 59* (2).—In Dinagepore, where there are large areas of waste land, a ryot frequently holds twice or three times as much land as he nominally pays rent for, and no one would attempt to prove that he was not liable to pay rent for the whole if it were measured. Why should the law step in and say that he was only to pay rent for $\frac{3}{8}$ths in addition to what he nominally holds? Section 60 does not meet the case. If, as is probably the case, the landlord cannot prove when the excess land was added to the holding, and when the area of the holding was originally understated by a dishonest *ameen*, I am quite sure that a Moonsiff would hold that no addition had been proved. Whatever may be stipulated as to rates of rent, the landlord ought to be allowed to recover rent for every foot of land which a ryot holds.

33. *Section 64.*—The rates of rent ordinarily paid are no clue to what rents ought to be if they were fixed at a time when produce was cheaper on the average than it is at the time of inquiry, and I think the provisions of this section very just. They will, however, be easily evaded by raising questions as to the classification of specific plots of land.

34. *Section 75* (*c*).—Instead of saying that the landlord and ryot shall each have one-half of the benefit, I think that the increased rent should bear the same proportion to the old rent that the increased prices or the increased produce do to the old.

35. *Section 79.*—Why should a ryot be allowed to apply for reduction year after year, when a landlord cannot apply for enhancement, even on proved increase of area, oftener than once in ten years?

36. *Section 83.*—These lists to be of any use must be far more carefully prepared than at present. In one district I found that because the returns for one or two outlying thannas never came in, in time to be entered in the fortnightly return, there had not for years been any entry made in the returns of the prices in those thannas. I had important settlements in hand in those thannas, and was very desirous to observe the fluctuations in prices, but found nothing on record. The original police reports had been destroyed, and the returns were blank.

CHAPTER VIII.

37. I would prefer looking on the occupancy ryot as the ordinary ryot.

38. *Section 91.*—Any law fixing the rent of a ryot without a right of occupancy will always be a dead-letter.

39. *Section 92* (*2*).—Ten weeks is a short time I think to allow a Moonsiff to dispose of a contested case, and, as a general rule, a landlord must let his land in April at latest, or he will not let it at all for that year. The question should be settled absolutely before the end of *Choitro*.

40. *Section 93* (*b*).—I think this compensation to a ryot, who has no rights of occupancy, is iniquitous. I cannot understand on what grounds it can be considered just. If a ryot does not agree to pay the enhanced rent, and does not give up his holding, he is considered liable to pay the enhanced rent for the next year. I do not see why the law should change this. The ryot has no right of occupancy, and I do not see why he should be allowed to hold on if he does not mean to pay the rent. The present arrangement seems a very just one, and I think the landlord has reason to complain if section 93 becomes law. If a ryot has no right of occupancy, I think the landlord has as much right to enhance his rent after due notice given, as the owner of house property in Calcutta. You will never be able to distinguish practically between ryots and under-ryots, or tenures and subletting ryoti holdings.

41. *Section 96* (*a*).—The language of this clause scarcely applies to the very common cases in which a ryot holds originally more land than the nominal acreage of his holding, by the dishonesty of the zemindars' servants, or for the cases in which there is no proof that the holding was ever originally measured, but in which the ryot has imperceptibly added pieces from the waste, or from abandoned holdings. The landlord's right to measure and to assess all land at full rates is always admitted, but it might be difficult to prove that land held in excess of the nominal area of a holding was an addition to the holding. The landlord might be called on to show when and how it was added. I therefore think that the wording of this clause might be improved.

42. *Section 100.*—The name of the person making a payment should be added in every receipt.

43. *Section 101.*—How would this provision apply to the case to which I have already drawn attention, in which a ryoti holding belongs to a number of co-parceners? Who is entitled to the receipt?

44. *Section 114.*—It appears objectionable that litigious persons should be allowed to re-open a question in court when disposed of by the Collector's commissioner with assessors. I think it would be enough that the Collector should have powers of revision.

45. *Section 119.*—I think it objectionable to pass a law which will in practice be evaded, as will certainly be the case with the limitation of the rent to $\frac{5}{6}$ths of the gross average produce. In Noakholly there is a quantity of land which remains uncultivated for years together, and is only taken up when the price of rice is exceptionally high. The men who then take it up are called *jotedars*,—not to be confounded with the substantial ryots called *jotedars* in Dinagepore and Rungpore—and I think it impossible to interfere with the free contracts which they make. I have never had any trouble in the settlement of any questions arising from such free contract, and the rents are often very high indeed. There is no average annual produce in lands only occasionally cultivated, and I think that any attempt at legislative interference with free contract in these cases will hinder cultivation, if not practically evaded.

46. *Section 123.*—I think there would be very grave injustice to zemindars in such a provision as this. It is possible that in Behar it may be required, but in Bengal it would deprive the zemindar of what is really rent to which he is fairly entitled, and which the ryots have agreed to pay, because they recognised the justice of the demand. The ryots have always opposed any alteration of their nominal rent, even when admitting the zemindar's right to receive more. In Dinagepore it is extremely common for the ryots, fully aware that they hold much more land than they nominally pay rent for, to agree to pay the zamindar regular cess of so much on every rupee of the nominal rent on condition of his foregoing his right of measurement. This is a compromise made with the full consent of both parties. It prevents litigation and possible rioting, and is in accordance with the feelings of the people. If the law declares that the zemindar shall not receive such a cess as this, he will be driven to actual measurement, very much to the dissatisfaction of both parties, cultivation will be interrupted, and it is very probable that agrarian riots would ensue. In other cases, independently of the question of measurement, the ryot pays a similar cess, in consideration of the increased money value of the produce of his holding, rather than allow his nominal rent to be enhanced. With such a compromise as this, again, it appears to me neither politic nor equitable to interfere. On the other hand, there are fees levied by zamindars as market dues, mooring dues, taxes on sales of cattle, and the like, often levied, as at the sudder station of Dinagepore, at markets for which year by year the zemindar draws money from Government as compensation for the abolition of *sayer* duties. With such cesses as these I would most certainly interfere, and advocated interference eleven or twelve years ago.

47. Between these two classes of cess, one which I consider absolutely mischievous, and the other which I consider quite unobjectionable, there is a third class respecting which I think very full enquiry should be made. I refer to contributions made by the ryots on the occasion of the zamindar's marriage, or when it becomes necessary to reinforce his fleet of elephants. The question to be decided is how far such contributions are voluntary and how far compulsory. In Dinagepore they are certainly voluntary. If a zamindar asks his ryots for more than they think just, he will not get it, and if he makes any attempt at compulsion they will either leave his land or perhaps even resist him forcibly. There is some remainder of feudal feeling among the ryots, and they would consider it derogatory to their own self-respect to refuse a reasonable contribution on a special occasion. With such a state of affairs I should object to interfere. There is no evil requiring redress. Then there is the universal tax of *tohreer* paid by ryots as a percentage on their rents to the cutcherry *amla* and *piyadas*, whose pay received from the zamindar is nominal. The ryots do not complain of paying this, and when I enquire about it, even in wards' estates, they try to conceal the fact of payment. Officers without revenue experience will ridicule my statement, but it is a fact that the ryots like making these irregular payments, and even when in an attitude of combined resistance to all demand of rent, fighting their zamindar both in the law court and in the field, they continue cheerfully to pay the cesses which it is proposed to declare illegal. Whatever they may think it just to pay they will pay, so long as it is not legally recoverable, but if the zamindar relies on the courts for the realization of his dues they tell him to go to the courts, and make the most he can out of it. The natives cling to custom, and abhor legal definition of rights, and therefore legislative interference disturbs the peaceful relations between landlord and tenant.

48. It must be remembered, however, that I speak of ryots who have a strong position, from which they can successfully defy any attempt at injustice on the part of the zamindar. If the ryot of Behar is so utterly powerless as I am led to suppose, I admit that legislation may be necessary to protect him. If the zamindar has power enough to compel the ryot to pay illegal cesses against his will, I do not object to the interference of the State, but where both landlord and tenant are content with the indefinite relations between them, understood and freely accepted by both parties, but indefinite when brought before the tribunal of the moonsiff, I think that very serious economic evils are likely to ensue from any attempt at legal definition, or limitation, however attractive to a theoretic and sentimental statesman. The result of such an attempt will be to set class against class, where relations are now friendly, as following the cherished customs of the country and the natural economic laws. The proposed provision may be beneficial for Behar, but in Bengal would be positively mischievous.

49. *Section 126* (*2*) *f.*—In waste land, it is very just that the reclaiming ryot should be allowed to erect a dwelling-house, but in settled estates I doubt the justice of it. Where the ryots holding, generation after generation, becomes the property of an ever-increasing number

of co-sharers, the extension of homestead land may very seriously curtail the arable area, and consequently the power of the holder to pay its rent. The landlord will not be allowed to assess the newly converted homestead lands at the increased rent, which homestead lands generally pay, and it has further been proposed that a ryot ejected from his holding cannot be ejected from his dwelling house. If the holding adjoins an increasing bazar, I think this provision would enable the ryot to obtain an unfair advantage.

50. *Section 133.*—I fully approve of the concluding proviso in this section, but am unable to see why the holder of *lakhiraj* or revenue-free land should be deprived of his right to measure. There appears to be some omission in this chapter. I presume it is intended to allow the landlord to assess rent on all land found in a holding, but I do not see that this is stated. Measurement would be of very little use without it.

51. *Section 139.*—Application to the court or the Collector should be allowed in any case. The ryot generally lies when he says he has tendered to the landlord, and if he really has done so, the zamindar's amla will always deny it. It is objectionable to retain a provision which is practically null and void.

52. *Section 142.*—It should be clearly stated what constitutes actual possession of an interest. I have known it ruled that a co-sharer who had obtained a decree for possession of a share, but who had never succeeded in getting any share in the rents, was not in actual possession.

CHAPTER XIII.

53. The only cases in which I have known distraint much employed in Bengal has been where ryots from the main land, cultivating land in the islands, sell the crop on the spot to merchants who come with their boats, and return to their homes, perhaps never cultivating the same land again. The ryot cannot pay the rent until the moment of sale, and will not pay if once the crop is removed, and therefore it seems just that the zamindars should be allowed to prevent removal, and unfair on both parties that he cannot do so without the expense of litigation. As regards settled ryots I have no objection to the proposed restrictions on distraint.

54. *Section 208* (*c*).—Gives the tenant power very seriously to injure the tenure while reserving to himself all real profits by *benamee* alienations. Much litigation might also rise from the disposal of the dead, or planting a *toolsee* plant.

55. I have not observed any points beyond what I have noted, which appear me to call for adverse comment, and I have made no remark upon provisions which appear unobjectionable or beneficial. I think the proposed Act generally will do more harm than good in the Bengal districts with which I am well acquainted.

Description of Land.	Description of staple crops grown on the land.	Average amount of produce per beegha.	Price at harvest time.	Present average rate of rent per beegha as far as known.	One-fifth of the average value of the produce.	Remarks.
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Sali jole (low-lying rice land), 1st class.	Haimanti rice	8½ máps or 14 maunds.	8 12 0	3 12 0	1 12 0	The existing rates of rent vary from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3.
Ditto ditto, 2nd class	Ditto	3 máps or 12 maunds.	7 8 0	2 4 0	1 8 0	The existing rates of rent vary from Re. 1-8 to Rs. 2-8.
Ditto ditto, 3rd class	Ditto	2 máps or 8 maunds.	5 0 0	1 12 0	1 0 0	The existing rates of rent vary from Re. 1-4 to Re. 2.
Sali kanali (strip of low-lying land between two high lands), 1st class.	Ditto	3 máps or 12 maunds.	7 8 0	2 4 0	1 8 0	The existing rates of rent vary from Re. 1-9 to Rs. 2-12.
Ditto ditto, 2nd class	Ditto	2 máps or 8 maunds.	5 0 0	2 0 0	1 0 0	The existing rates of rent vary from Re. 1-3 to Rs. 2-5.
Ditto ditto, 3rd class	Ditto	1½ máps or 6 maunds.	3 12 0	1 10 0	0 12 0	The existing rates of rent vary from Re. 1 to Re. 1-14.
Sali mat aul (flat rice land next in quality to the kanali lands), 1st class.	Ditto	2 máps or 8 maunds.	5 0 0	1 12 0	1 0 0	The existing rates of rent vary from Re. 1-7 to Rs. 2-5.
Ditto ditto, 2nd class	Ditto	1 máp 6 salis or 7 maunds.	4 6 0	1 2 0	0 14 0	The existing rates of rent vary from Re. 1-1 to Re. 2.
Ditto ditto, 3rd class	Ditto	1½ máps or 6 maunds.	3 12 0	1 4 0	0 12 0	The existing rates of rent vary from annas 12 to Re. 1-12.
Sali danga or high land on which only rice is grown, 1st class.	Ditto	1½ máps or 6 maunds.	3 12 0	1 2 0	0 12 0	The existing rates of rent vary from annas 14 to Re. 1-4.
Ditto ditto, 2nd class	Ditto	1 máp or 4 maunds.	2 8 0	0 14 0	0 8 0	The existing rates of rent vary from annas 10 to Re. 1-2.
Ditto ditto, 3rd class	Ditto	4 salis or 2 maunds.	1 4 0	0 9 0	0 4 0	The existing rates of rent vary from annas 8 to annas 12.
Ausha danga or high land on which only aush or early rice is grown.	Aush or early rice	6 salis or 3 maunds.	1 14 0	0 10 0	0 6 0	The existing rates of rent vary from annas 6 to Re. 1-1.
Do. karpa or high land on which karpas (cotton) is especially grown, 1st class.	*Karpas* (cotton)	3½ maunds	14 0 0	7 2 0	11 0 0	These are exceptionally good lands, and are to be found in *tarq* Balsi, thana Indus, and in village Tellberia, and in the neighbourhood thana Ouda, and in certain parts of thana Bishenpore, such as Hatia, &c. The existing rates vary from Rs. 4-13 to Rs. 9.
	Til (oilseed)	3½ ,,	7 0 0			
	Jab (barley)	2½ ,,	5 0 0			
	Gum (wheat)	3½ ,,	7 8 0			
	Boot (gram)	2½ ,,	5 0 0			
	Musori (a kind of pulse).	1½ ,,	4 8 0			
	Sharisa (oilseed)	3 ,,	12 0 0			
		Total	55 0 0			

Description of Land.	Description of staple crops grown on the land.	Average amount of produce per bigha.	Price at harvest time.	Present average rate of rent per bigha as far as known.	One-fifth of the average value of the produce.	Remarks.
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Ditto ditto, 2nd class	Ditto	A little less than above.	45 0 0	6 2 0	9 0 0	The existing rates vary from Rs. 4-5 to Rs. 7-12.
Ditto ditto, 3rd class	Ditto	Less than the produce of the 2nd class.	35 0 0	5 6 0	7 0 0	The existing rates vary from Rs. 3-10 to Rs. 7-12.
Do ikhu or *do* land on which sugarcane is especially grown, 1st class.	Sugarcane	13 maunds	39 0 0	6 10 0	8 13 0	The remarks against *do* karpa lands apply to these lands also. *Aush dhan* is also sometimes grown after sugarcane is cut. The existing rates vary from Rs. 4-5 to Rs. 8-7.
	Til	2½ ,,	5 0 0			
		Total	44 0 0			
Ditto ditto, 2nd class	Sugarcane	12 maunds	36 0 0	5 6 0	8 0 0	The existing rates vary from Rs. 3-5 to Rs. 4-11.
	Til	2 ,,	4 0 0			
		Total	40 0 0			
Ditto ditto, 3rd class	Sugarcane	10 maunds	30 0 0	4 8 0	5 6 0	The existing rates vary from Rs. 2-14 to Rs. 6-8.
	Til	1 maund	2 0 0			
		Total	32 0 0			
Nij suna or suna proper, 1st class.	Sugarcane	6 maunds	18 0 0	4 1 0	4 0 0	The existing rates vary from Rs. 2-7 to Rs. 5-15.
	Til	1 maund	2 0 0			
		Total	20 0 0			
	Karpas	1½ maunds	6 0 0			
	Sharisa	1 maund	4 0 0			
	Jab	1 ,,	2 0 0			
	Boot	1 ,,	2 8 0			
	Musori	1 ,,	3 0 0			
	Gum	1 ,,	3 0 0			
		Total	20 8 0			
Ditto ditto, 2nd class	Ditto	Little less than the 1st class.	15 0 0	3 4 0	3 0 0	The existing rates vary from Rs. 2-1 to Rs. 4-3.
Ditto ditto, 3rd class	Ditto	Little less than 2nd class.	12 0 0	2 9 0	2 6 0	The existing rates vary from Re. 1-10 to Rs. 3-2.
Suna karpa or suna land on which karpas (cotton) is especially grown, 1st class.	*Karpas*	3 maunds	12 0 0	5 2 0	9 2 0	The rates vary from Rs. 3-4 to Rs. 6-3.
	Til	3 ,,	6 0 0			
	Sharisa	2 ,,	8 0 0			
	Jab	2 ,,	4 0 0			
	Gum	2 ,,	6 0 0			
	Boot	2 ,,	5 0 0			
	Musori	1½ ,,	4 8 0			
		Total	45 8 0			
Ditto ditto, 2nd class	*Karpas*	2½ maunds	10 0 0	4 4 0	7 1 0	The rates vary from Rs. 2-14 to Rs. 5-2.
	Til	2½ ,,	5 0 0			
	Sharisa	1½ ,,	6 0 0			
	Jab	1½ ,,	3 0 0			
	Boot	1½ ,,	3 12 0			
	Musori	1 maund	3 0 0			
	Gum	1½ maunds	4 8 0			
		Total	35 4 0			
Suna karpa or suna land on which karpas (cotton) is especially grown, 3rd class.	*Karpas*	2 maunds	3 0 0	3 13 0	5 0 0	The rates vary from Rs. 2-7 to Rs. 5.
	Til	2 ,,	0 0			
	Sharisa	1 maund	4 0 0			
	Jab	1 ,,	2 0 0			
	Boot	1 ,,	2 8 0			
	Musori	½ ,,	1 8 0			
	Gum	1 ,,	3 0 0			
		Total	25 0 0			
Suna ikhshu or suna land on which sugarcane is especially grown, 1st class.	Sugarcane	12 maunds	36 0 0	4 12 0	8 0 0	The rates vary from Rs. 4-1 to Rs. 5-15.
	Til	3 ,,	4 0 0			
		Total	40 0 0			
Ditto ditto, 2nd class	Sugarcane	10 maunds	30 0 0	3 14 0	6 10 0	The rates vary from Rs. 3-11 to Rs. 8-4.
	Til	1½ ,,	3 0 0			
		Total	33 0 0			
Ditto ditto, 3rd class	Sugarcane	8 maunds	24 0 0	3 2 0	5 3 0	The rates vary from Rs. 3 to Rs. 3-4.
	Til	1 maund	2 0 0			
		Total	26 0 0			
Sharisa danga or high land on which sharisa (a kind of oil seed) is grown.	Sharisa (oil-seed)	1 maund	4 0 0	0 15 0	0 13 0	The rates vary from annas 12 to Re. 1-8.
Til danga or high land on which til (a kind of oil-seed) is grown.	Til	2 maunds	4 0 0	1 0 0	0 13 0	The rates vary from annas 12 to Re. 1-4.
Biri danga or high land on which biri (a kind of pulse) is grown.	Biri	2 maunds	4 0 0	0 14 0	0 13 0	The rates vary from annas 10 to Re. 1-8.
Musori danga or high land on which musori (a kind of pulse) is grown.	Musori	1 maund	3 0 0	0 11 0	0 10 0	The rates vary from annas 8 to Re. 1-8.

No. 686 T. R., dated 3rd September, 1883.

From—C. W. Bolton, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 586 T. R., dated the 24th August, 1883, I am directed to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying copies of report* on the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883, from Dr. Ram Das Sen, zemindar of Berhampur, submitted through the Commissioner and the Board of Revenue.

* Received with memorandum No. 267K.L., dated the 1st August, 1883, from the Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

Dated Berhampur, the 15th July, 1883.

From—Dr. Ram Dass Sen, Zemindar, Berhampur,

To—The Collector of Moorshedabad.

With reference to your circular No. 91G., dated the 7th April last, I have the honour to submit the following opinion on the Bengal Tenancy Bill. The delay that has occurred in sending this in was unavoidable. The matter is important and required study, and I was waiting to hear and read what the press and public had to say upon it.

That legislation has become necessary upon the subject it is now too late to deny. The zemindars to whose class I belong, have moved for some amendment of the existing law. But what is wanted just now, in my opinion, is legislation providing an easier scheme for the settlement of rents and increased facilities for collecting the same without changing the substantive law on the subject What changes have been effected in that law by Act X of 1859, and judicial interpretations of the provisions of that Act, though trenching upon the vested rights of landlords, constitute a sufficient fulfilment of the promise held out to the ryots at the time of the permanent settlement; and it would be going too far to say that to redeem that pledge the legislature are bound to unsettle a state of things that has obtained for three quarters of a century by what has been called by some of the speakers of the Legislative Council a redistribution of property at the expense of the zemindars and to the advantage of the ryots.

Before proceeding to comment on some of the leading principles and details of the Bill, I beg to observe that the framers of the Bill, in their anxiety to secure the advantage of the subordinate tenure-holders at the cost of the zemindars, have overshot the mark by conferring all the benefits of the proposed measure upon intermediate tenure-holders or middlemen instead of upon the actual cultivators in whose interest it professes to have been framed. These latter, if holding under a superior tenant, will not acquire the right of occupancy and will have to pay a higher rent than if they held directly under the zemindars.

CHAPTER II.

Sections 5-13.—This chapter is highly objectionable. Perhaps the provisions of the chapter are based on the supposition that in the interest of the Government revenue the largest quantity of land appertaining to each mehal should be let out to ryots, and that therefore, the right of the zemindar to increase the extent of his khamar or zerati land should be closely curtailed. But as a matter of fact, so far at least as Bengal is concerned, land is not so much in demand, and competition for it is not so sharp as would justify the theory upon which this chapter rests. But even if there were such competition, and there were strong economic reasons for the change, I believe that the Legislature could not, in the face of the permanent settlement, effect the change without laying itself open to the charge of breach of faith towards the zemindars. What means proprietary right if the zemindar could not be allowed to exercise actual ownership over lands which are not in the possession of occupancy ryots or ryots of any description, which are just now lying fallow, but which the zemindar has not used or may not have had occasion to use continuously for 12 years next before passing of the Act. I do not object to a cadastral survey of land in Bengal, and let ryots in actual occupation be protected in their rights, so far, of course, as such rights are consistent with the rights of the zemindars. But would it not be fair to the latter to let them deal with the remainder at their pleasure? It is a mistake to suppose that zemindars do not, or cannot, make as good or better use of land than ryots. We have khamar lands in our mehals and we can bear testimony to such lands being the best cultivated.

CHAPTERS III AND IV

embody and re-enact the law as it stands at present, but section 17 introduces a change which cannot be supported upon a construction of the present law or upon principles of equity, for a separation, unless made with the sanction of the zemindar, would involve a distribution of the rent and amalgamation with other land, for however short a time would attach permanency to the tenure in respect of the additional lands.

Section 22 puts a limitation upon enhancement by declaring that in no case more than double the rent previously payable can be demanded. Why so, if more than double be considered to be a fair and equitable rent? I should think the Legislature had better leave it to the courts to decide what would be fair and equitable rent in any particular case, without providing any arbitrary limitation in that behalf.

CHAPTER V.

The changes sought to be introduced by this chapter are quite novel, and open to serious objection. One most remarkable feature of this chapter is that it takes away the power of private contract between zemindar and ryot whenever such contract is opposed to its provisions. Do the framers of the Bill suppose that the ryots, specially the ryots of Bengal, are so ignorant of their rights that stringent provisions in restraint of the power of contracting should be introduced? If so, they are mistaken, and even if not mistaken, it is opposed to the principles of the law of contracts, and to the principles of political economy also to impose such restrictions. The provisions as to the acquisition of occupancy rights ought to be so framed as to leave the power of private contract untouched.

Section 45.—The words in this section "and though the land so held by him at different times during that period may have been different" ought to be omitted. There could be no harm if the ryot commenced with a quantity of land, and at the close of the 12th year it was found to have been reduced. But it would not be fair to give the ryot the status of a settled ryot in respect of additional land which has come under his cultivation during the 12 years, say, for instance, a large addition made in the 11th year.

Section 47.—The objection as regards section 45 applies to this section also. The settled ryot ought not to be held to have acquired the right of occupancy in respect of lands which he has held for less than 12 years.

Section 56.—This section appears to be a necessary corollary to Chapter II, for if the zemindar cannot extend his khamar or zerati land beyond its present limits, all ryoti land, though it might revert to him by purchase, would continue to retain its character of ryoti land. But it goes further, and proposes to give to the ryot with whom zemindar may settle it, after such purchase, the same status which the previous tenant acquired after 12 years' occupancy, notwithstanding any contract to the contrary. While if a ryot acquired it he could sublet it, the sub-lessee acquiring no right of occupancy. Under the present rent law the right of occupancy is a personal right, accruing to a tenant under certain conditions and being transferable only according to custom. But this section proposes to declare to be a quality attaching to the land and inseparable from it after a certain tenant has acquired the right of occupancy in respect of it. In short, it is to be a personal right in regard to the first occupancy tenant, but a right attaching to the land after that tenant gives up, or the zemindar acquires it otherwise. This section neutralizes the effect of the foregoing provisions as to right of pre-emption of zemindar, for no zemindar would choose to lay out capital in the purchase of such tenures with the incident of the right of occupancy inseparably attaching to it.

This section and the six sections preceding it are calculated to create different grades of tenures intermediate between the landlord and the actual cultivator, who will acquire no right of occupancy, and whose position, which the Bill professes to ameliorate, will remain the same as it is.

CHAPTER VI.

The restraint upon the freedom of contract is inequitable, and the objection upon this ground to the provision of Chapter V applied also to this chapter.

The limitation of the zemindar's demand when rent is paid in money to a fifth of the average annual value of the gross produce of the land in staple crops (article 59, column 2, section 61, clause 2, section 64 and section 75) is opposed to the spirit of the permanent settlement, and finds no support either from reason or history. While the Hindus were the ruling race the ordinary *pyekast* ryots were entitled to 50 per cent. of the produce, and the immigrant *khadkastas* to 45 per cent. Numerous authorities might be quoted in support of this proposition, but I consider it useless. The original *khadkastas*, however, paid a higher rent than either the pyekastas or the immigrant khadkastas, their share being less than 45 per cent. But the present Bill, by fixing the share of the occupancy ryot at 50 per cent., would place him at a higher position than his forefathers, the original *khadkastas*, enjoyed. The supporters of the Bill would say that under British rule a strong competition for land has come into existence and the khadkasta now pays a lower rent than the pyekast. To them my reply is that, while they recognise competition by rendering all occupancy tenures transferable, they ought to recognise the same by leaving rents payable by ryots open to be determined by competition. They tell us, zemindars, whatever may be extent of demand for land, and however strong the competition for it, you will not be entitled to more than a fifth of the value of the produce if paid in money, and to a half if paid in kind (which half by the way may be commuted to money rent at the instance of the tenant, section 82), and all the profits arising from increased competition must go into the pockets of the innumerable intermediate tenure-holders, petty taluqdars in their own way, whom we want to introduce, but we will take good care that the actual cultivators are not rack-rented, and we provide section 119 for that purpose. But if there be any competition, it will be strongest amongst cultivators, and section 119 will, I fear, be found to be quite inoperative, for, as pointed out by Rajah Siva Prosad, there will be nothing to prevent tenure-holders from insisting on the payment, in an underhand way, of more than the amount limited by section 119. By the permanent settlement, the State share of the produce was given to the landlords, and the revenue assessed represented that share. Looking at the state of things at the time of the settlement, we find that the State share of the produce, and consequently the revenue, represented more than half. How can the Government now go back and settle money rent at one-fifth?

Section 81, clause (a), limits the zemindar's demands when paid in kind to a half. As a matter of fact, in Behar $\frac{2}{5}$ths is now willingly paid by the ryots. Why interfere with rates settled by custom, specially when serious consequences will follow from the discontent that will necessarily be created among the land-holding classes?

Sections 82-84.—The same objection on the ground of restraint upon the freedom of contract, though payment in kind is very rare in Bengal, and Bengal zemindars are never unwilling to receive payment in money.

CHAPTER VII.

The present rent law does not contain any specific provision in regard to bastu land, but judicial decisions have declared such holdings to be the subject of contract, express or implied. Section 85 is directly opposed to the current of such decisions. In this section also we meet with the words "notwithstanding any contract to the contrary." But in section 86 it is provided that a bastu ryot shall be liable to ejectment on breach of any condition of a written contract between himself and his landlord, consistent with the provisions

of this Act. I for one cannot concur what such a contract may be. There is the Act itself between the landlord and the tenant, and a contract consistent with its provisions is a misnomer. But such contract or no contract, even if the court decrees ejectment, the landlord must pay compensation for houses, &c., which he may not require, and the materials of which the ryot might sell or remove at his pleasure.

CHAPTER VIII.

This introduces novel changes, which even official Members of Council characterized as dangerous. The non-occupancy ryots or tenants are granted privileges which they never enjoyed: they shall not be ejected notwithstanding any contract to the contrary, except as provided in clauses A, B and C of section 90, and if ejected on refusal to pay enhanced rent, they shall be entitled to compensation for improvements, and a further sum for disturbance equal to ten times the yearly increase of rent demanded; their rent shall never exceed $\frac{5}{16}$ths of the value of the gross produce (section 119). The compensation clause introduces a provision which is quite opposed to the spirit of the law of land tenures of this country. It is an offshoot of foreign law sought to be engrafted upon the historical land law of this country with a view perhaps to try an experiment. But experiment in this direction will never succeed, as it has perhaps in matters of adjective law, evidence and contract. As regards the rent payable, a distinction is attempted to be made between occupancy and non-occupancy ryots, a distinction which has never been countenanced by the law of Bengal.

CHAPTER IX.

Sections 100-102 will greatly increase the cost of collection, and to prepare a full statement at the close of the year will be found impracticable in many cases. Then again the expression *close of the year* is not clearly defined. Does it mean the 30th day of Choitra where the Bengali year prevails? If so, it would be impossible to expect adjustment of accounts with the tenants on that day. As regards the penalty provided in sub-section 3 of section 102, what if gomastas or niabs neglect or contumaciously refused to do the needful? Suits against gomastas and tehsildars are of so frequent occurrence that the framers of the Bill ought to have taken note of it.

D. Section 103, sub-section (*a*) is calculated only to create disputes between landlords and tenants on trifling causes. Where tenants have combined against landlords it will add strength to such combination. Under the existing law, refusal on the part of the zemindar to receive rent only entitles the tenant to deposit, but under sub-section (*a*) the tenant will be able to deposit if only he has reason and not even *bonâ fide* reason to believe that payment will be refused.

F. Section 117.—The penalty is opposed to even current decisions which lay it down that there can be no criminal trespass in respect to joint property. And when the landlord is entitled to a share of the crop it would be inequitable to hold him guilty of that offence. It may so happen that there may be no time to proceed under section 112, while it may be highly necessary that the landlord should cut and store the crop.

G. Section 119.—It is arbitrary and impolitic to fix the rent payable by under-ryots and non-occupancy ryots at $\frac{1}{10}$ths. This provision will be merely a dead letter, as explained above.

CHAPTER X.

Section 126, sub-section (*f*).—Dwelling-houses are always erected by ryots; and leaving the holding they leave the dwelling-house, unless by special arrangement with the landlord, they are allowed to retain the dwelling-house. To include dwelling-houses in the definition of improvements for which the zemindar, in case of ejectment, will have to pay, is improper.

CHAPTER X.

With reference to this chapter, I beg to repeat what I have already said above, that an unnecessary and inequitable limitation is sought to be imposed upon the right of private contract, section 132, and that the proposed compensation for disturbance introduces a strange innovation into the land law of this country. If you want occupancy and other ryots to make improvements, let them do so under contract with their landlords.

CHAPTERS X AND XII.

Not quite objectionable, though extensive powers are proposed to be conferred on Settlement Officers.

CHAPTER XIII.

This chapter is highly objectionable in taking away from the landlords the powers to distrain without the intervention of the courts, which they have enjoyed for a considerable length of time. The power of distraint is said by the supporters of the Bill to be an offshoot of the English law. But it has also been shown that the power is exercised in Native States, where the old land law of the country is still in force. The intervention of the courts will render the provisions as to distraint not only ineffectual, but expensive in the highest degree. To the best of my knowledge very few cases of wrongful distraint have been brought before the courts, and the restrictions upon the power in the shape of penalty in case of wrongful distraint is a sufficient guarantee that no unwarrantable use would be made of that power.

The remaining chapters of the Bill deal with the adjective or procedure part of it. It is, however, the substantive part of it that is chiefly objectionable, the procedure portion being necessarily but a sequel to it.

No. 810G., dated Berhampur, the 24th July, 1883.

Memo. by—The Collector of Moorshedabad.

Copy forwarded to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, in continuation of this office No. 698G., dated the 10th instant.

No. 267K.L., dated Calcutta, the 1st August, 1883.

Memo. by—J. MONRO, Esq., Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

Copy submitted to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, in continuation of this office letter No. 188R.L., dated 2nd July last.

Notes by Hon'ble T. M. Gibbon.

CHAPTER. I.

Section 3 says:

"The following definitions and rules shall apply in the construction of this Act unless there is some thing repugnant in the subject or context:—

In the Bengal Rent Commission's Bill this clause stands as follows:—"In this Act the following words and expressions are used in the following senses unless a different intention appears from the context." The clause as it stands in the Bill is not an improvement on the above. In reference to any rights belonging to a landlord likely to be affected, the definition here given is ample, but it is worth while considering how far the interests of the raiyats would be affected by it. To do so it is necessary to read 43B with it.

"(1) 'Estate' means land included under one entry in any of the general registers of revenue-paying lands and revenue-free lands prepared and maintained under the law for the time being in force by the Collector of a district."

43B says:—"Where two or more estates have been created by one or more partitions taking place since 1st January 1853, the area comprised in the parent estate of which they would have formed part if no such partition had taken place shall be deemed to be a single estate."

Section 45 (*1*) *says:*—"A raiyat who has continuously held any land for a period of 12 years shall become a settled raiyat of that estate."

Section 47 says:—"Every settled raiyat of an estate shall have rights of occupancy in all land held by him on that estate." As I read the Act, the raiyat of a landlord holding his estate registered under two or more towjee numbers may have occupancy-rights in land situated in one portion of the estate, and not in another.

"(3) 'Tenure' includes an under-tenure and the interest of every tenant of the class referred to in section 14.

"*Illustrations.*—(*a*)—A dar-patní or si-patní interest or a mokurreree holding is a tenure, (*b*)—A dar-ijarah or a farm for a term of years is a tenure."

The definition should, I think, be so far modified as to embrace the whole estate (as one estate) of one proprietor. No direct definition of the term "tenure" is here attempted. Section 14 and the illustrations here given are intended to cover all classes of tenures.

Although a jághir is a service-tenure and liable to be cancelled at the will of the landlord, it may be necessary to modify the above definition in such a way as to cover such and all tenures, or raiyats holding from tenure-holders may be deprived of their holdings.

Section 14 says—"Whereland has been held by a tenant and his predecessors in interest at a rent which has not been changed from the time of the Permanent Settlement, then, subject to the provisions of this Act, the rent shall not be liable to enhancement, and the tenant shall be deemed a tenure-holder for the purposes of this Act.

"(5) A person shall not be deemed to be a raiyat in respect of any land, or to hold that land as a raiyat, unless he holds it for the purposes of agriculture, horticulture or pasture, or he or his predecessors in interest came into possession of it for such purpose: Provided that a person shall be deemed to hold as a raiyat any bastu or homestead land included in the same holding with other land held by him as a jote.

The Rent Commission defined a tenure (1) "as a rent-paying interest in land immediately subordinate to that of a proprietor and superior to that of raiyat; (2) a revenue-free or rent-free interest in land when there exists no rent-paying interest in the same land between the proprietary interest and such revenue-free or rent-free interest.". The definition given by the Rent Commission of the term, modified in so much as to include all mokurrerees, all holdings under section 14, would be preferable to the one given in the Act.

A negative definition such as this is, is not sufficient; we require a positive one. It is not sufficient to know who "is not" a raiyat, we require to know who is to be considered one. Either the term "raiyat" should be properly defined, or an English term that is generally known used throughout the Act. The general meaning of the term "raiyat" is a "subject," also a "cultivator." It should be so defined as to include all persons engaged in agriculture, &c.; it should include European as well as Native cultivators of the soil.

It should not be left open to every moonsif in the country to put his own interpretation on the term

"*Explanation.*—A person may hold land for a purpose mentioned in this clause though he has sublet it."

"raiyat," or to deem a planter to be a raiyat or not as he thinks right. If not deemed a raiyat under the Act, all occupancy rights the planter may have already acquired would be forfeited.

The Rent Commission properly defined a raiyat to be "a person who holds land, or who occupies and cultivates land, if such person or his predecessor in title was originally let into possession of such land for the purpose of cultivating it or bringing it under cultivation. A person cultivates land or brings land under cultivation within the meaning of this definition when the cultivation is carried on by himself or by members of his family, or by servants or by hired labourers, or by persons to whom he has sublet the land or any part of it, or partly by some and partly by others of these persons.

Sub-section (6) *says*:—"'Under-raiyat' means a tenant holding land whether immediately or mediately below a raiyat."

The word "person" should be substituted for "tenant."

Sub-section (8) *says*:—"'Tenant' does not include any person who is not a tenure-holder, raiyat or under-raiyat or the tenant of a bastu holding."

Here, again, we require a positive instead of a negative definition. If the term "raiyat" is hereafter so defined as to include planters, a definition that would cover the parties mentioned will be sufficient. If any English term is hereafter substituted for the term "raiyat," the definition of the term "tenant" should be so altered as to cover whatever term may be used.

As it stands, it would appear as if we were to be left out in the cold. The Rent Commission defined a "tenant" as "a person liable to pay or deliver rent."

"(14) 'Agricultural year' means, where the Bengalí year prevails, the year commencing on the first day of Bysakh, and, where the Faslí year prevails, the year commencing on the first day of Assin."

In Behár, for all purposes of agriculture, that is to say, in reference to change of lands, possession of lands, &c., the agricultural year ends on the last day of Jeth and commence on 1st day of Assar. The rents become payable from Assin. Sections 45 (2) and 57 declare that a person shall be deemed to have held as a raiyat any raiyatí lands held as a raiyat by a person whose heir he is.

"(17) 'Succession' includes both intestate and testamentary succession."

If it is possible to use the word "succession" in reference to property acquired by purchase, assignment or transfer, the definition should be so drafted as to allow of its being done, so that it may be taken for granted that the transferee succeeds as a matter of right to all the rights owned by the transferer.

In reference to the words "class" and "staple."

The word "class" is often used in the Act in reference to raiyats, tenants and lands; the word "staple" in reference to produce. Is it necessary to define the terms, or are their meanings made sufficiently clear from their context?

In reference to "class," I would ask this particularly, as to the effect section 74 (1) will have on our interests. In reference to "staple," I would ask whether a definition should be given to the term, or it be left to the Board of Revenue, as the Act says, to declare what shall be declared "staple" for the purposes of the Act.

When criticizing the provisions of chapter VI, I will again refer to the subject.

Remarks on Chapter II.

Khamar lands, spelt in the old Regulations as komer or khomar lands, are throughout this Bill looked upon as one and the same as nij-jote, sir or zerát lands.

Section 5.—"'Khamar land' means—

"1st, land situated elsewhere than in Bihar which a proprietor has held, whether under the name of khamar, nij-jote, sir or otherwise, as his private land for 12 continuous years before the commencement of this Act; and, 2nd, land situate in Bihar which (*a*) is recognised as zerat by a village-custom established before the commencement of this Act, or (*b*) is proved to have been held by a proprietor as zerat for 12 continuous years immediately before the commencement of this Act."

Does a Bengal ryot look upon them as such? If there is a difference, where lies the difference? Bell, in his glossary to Act VIII of 1869, says "'khamar' land, of which the revenue was paid in kind, or of which the produce was divided in determinate shares between the cultivator and the revenue-payer or zemindar, applied also to lands originally waste, but which, having been brought into cultivation, were retained by zemindars or were let out at a very small rent." "Khamar" is defined in Wilson's glossary as "a threshing-floor; the general threshing-ground of a village, to which all the crops are brought to be cleaned, and from which they cannot be removed until the landlord's claim is settled; land of which the revenue was paid in kind, or

of which the produce was divided in determinate shares between the cultivator and the revenue-payer or zemindar:" "applied also to lands originally waste, but which, having been brought into cultivation, were retained by the zemindars in their own hands or were let out at grain-rent. At the decennial settlement, these lands, previously unassessed, were declared subject to assessment."

If the above definitions are correct, "khamar" lands cannot in any way be considered nij-jote or zerat, but are to all intents and purposes the same as our "bhaoli" lands; and, under the present law, it would not be necessary to show direct possession by the landlord to constitute them "khamar."

I believe in Bengal all lands lying waste, all drains, "duggers," roads, water-courses are looked upon as "khamar."

It is now proposed that a landlord shall have a right to claim such lands only as khamar, nij-jote, sir or zerat as he has held as his private land for twelve years continuously before the commencement of this Act.

What is to constitute "his having held as private land for twelve years continuous?" Is the possession of the ryot to be looked upon in these cases as the possession of the landlord, or is he to be allowed to retain in his possession only such lands as he has held and cultivated at his own expense for twelve years? Act VIII of 1869, section 6, says:—

"Every ryot who shall have cultivated or held for a period of twelve years shall have a right of occupancy in the land so cultivated or held by him" ..... "but this rule does not apply to khamar, nij-jote or sir lands let by him on a lease for a term, or year by year."

That is to say, if lands were once declared zerat or nij-jote, whether they were let to ryots or held directly, and cultivated at the zemindar's expense, they still remained zerat.

Is it the intention of the Act to dispossess the landlords of all lands they may have leased to others on the faith of this Act? If such is the intention, landlords should be allowed at least a twelvemonth to resume such lands after the present leases lapse.

Under section 27 of Act VIII of 1869, a ryot who had been ejected from his holding was compelled to bring his suit within a twelvemonth from the date on which cause of action accrued.

In sections 224 and 225, and schedule IV, which determine the periods allowed for the institution of suits under the Act, no mention is made of the period such a suit would run. Is it intended to compel the landlords to prove their titles to all lands they at present hold, to set aside titles perfected by the lapse of time; in fact, to allow ryots to challenge the claims of zemindars to lands in their possession, by increasing the term allowed for bringing such suits, from one to twelve years, with a retrospective effect?

Whatever time may be allowed to persons claiming in the future to be wrongfully or forcibly ejected from their lands, the present law should hold good as regards the past.

Section 6.—"All land which is not khamar land of some estate shall be deemed to be ryot land, and all land shall be presumed to be ryot land until the contrary is proved."

By casting the onus of proof on the zemindar, ryots will be directly encouraged to encroach on the landlord's rights.

A ryot is entitled to the possession of only such lands as he may have fairly received possession of, with the consent direct, or implied consent, of his landlord, and on which he pays rent.

Hitherto all waste lands, all alluvion (other than land reformed on old holdings), all jungle, have been considered at the disposal of the landlord; but from the Statement of Objects and Reasons, published with the Bill, it would appear as if the landlord's rights to hold land was to be limited to the land he may show that he has held for 12 years; the rest is to be considered destined for the occupation of the ryots.

At the time of the Permanent Settlement, the discussion arose as to whether the land lying waste was to be considered the property of the Government or the property of the landlord, and decided in favour of the landlord; there was never any question as to whether it should go to the landlord or to the ryot.

To cast the onus of proof on the zemindar and not on the ryot is wrong in theory, and will be equally inoperative in practice. The Rent Commission, under section 81 of their Bill, define zerat land "as land the cultivation of which has been carried on for 12 years continuously wholly on behalf of the proprietor, and at his sole risk, with his own stock, or by his servants, or by hired labourers, or partly by some and partly by others of those persons."

This definition, excepting in so much that the landlord must prove 12 years' continuous holding, and only refers to proprietors, not landlords in general, is correct.

In North Bihar, and I believe in Bihar generally, the custom was formerly that zerat lands leased to the ryots on the "bhaoli" system reverted to the landlord whenever he required them, but, once leased on a money-rent, they were merged in the rest of the ryoti lands, and the landlord had no more right to resume them than he had to resume other ryoti holdings.

Acts X of 1859 and VIII of 1869, contrary to custom, declared lands once zerat, always zerat. In this respect they have done much to unsettle ryoti holdings, and I would gladly see the former custom reverted to. A landlord at present holding land and cultivating it himself as zerat should be confirmed in his title.

Any landlord who has, in accordance with the provisions of Act VIII of 1869, leased to ryots any zerat lands that he has cultivated at his own expense any time during the last five years, should be allowed to resume those lands within a given time after the expiry of the term for which they are at present leased; lands not resumed within the terms allowed to be ryoti.

If necessary, claims to land, the leases of which do not expire for some time after the passing of the Act, might be registered. A ryot claiming land that he has been forcibly dispossessed of to be allowed one year to file his suit, in cases where the lands have been given to other ryots, and three years in cases where his lands are held directly by the landlord; that is to say, one year to perfect ryot's title, three years for zerat, after passing of Act. All lands lying waste should be at the disposal of the landlord, to cultivate himself, reserve as grazing-grounds or to lease to ryots.

The word "khamar" may cover these in Bengal; zerat certainly does not in Bihar.

These sections refer to lands held by the "proprietors;" they say nothing of lands held by landlords generally.

Section 7.—"The Local Government may direct that a register shall be made of khamar lands situate in any district or part of a district."

Sections 7 to 13 inclusive direct that a register of khamar lands shall be made.

I do not object to these sections as they stand by themselves, but, coupled with the foregoing, they will lead to endless litigation.

The Act does not say who is to pay for the preparation of the register.

CHAPTER III.

OF TENURE-HOLDERS.

A.—The Right to hold at fixed Rents.

Section 14 says—"Where the land has been held by a tenant and his predecessors in interest at a rent which has not been changed from the time of the Permanent Settlement, then, subject to the provisions of this Act, the rent shall not be liable to enhancement, and the tenant shall be deemed a tenure-holder for the purposes of this Act."

Section 15 says—"Where land has been held by a tenant and his predecessors in interest at a rent which has not been changed for 20 years, then, subject to the provisions of this Act, it shall be presumed, until the contrary is shown, that it has been held by them at that rent from the time of the Permanent Settlement."

Sections 14 and 15 of the proposed Tenancy Bill are the same in substance as sections 3 and 4 of Act VIII of 1869. They equally allow all ryots, who have held their lands at one rental from the time of the Permament Settlement, to hold their lands at such rental in perpetuity. By creating a presumption of law in favour of the ryots, they throw the onus of proof on the zemindars.

They differ in so much only that section 14 of the Tenancy Act says, where the ryot has held at "a rent" which has not been changed, section 3 of Act VIII of 1869 says "at fixed rates of rent."

They are wrong in principle and injurious in practice, and the legislature, in decreeing to the ryots a right to hold their lands at fixed rates in perpetuity, in granting them the means of acquiring further rights in the future, has exceeded the powers it reserved to itself at the time of the Permanent Settlement. It has transferred the proprietary right in the soil from the landlord to the tenant. They are injurious in practice, as they have destroyed the landlord's faith in the consistency of our laws, and compelled many landlords, who might otherwise have been lenient to their ryots, to raise their rents every few years, for fear of losing the power to do so for ever: they have rack-rented many estates. In my humble opinion, although the Government, at the time of the Permanent Settlement, distinctly reserved to itself and to its successors the power to enact such laws as they might deem necessary for the protection and welfare of their subjects, it nowhere reserved to itself the power of, or the right to transfer the proprietary interest in the soil from one class of people to another; and unless it can be shown from the laws then passed that it was intended that the rents then paid for land by ryots was not to be enhanced at any subsequent period, the Government of 1859 went beyond the spirit of the Settlement in providing ryots with the means of acquiring a right to hold at fixed rates in perpetuity.

It may be open to dispute as to the extent the Government of the day intended zemindars to participate with the ryots in the future prosperity of the country; but to me there is no doubt whatever that they did intend them to participate proportionately in it, and that they had no intention whatever of reducing them to the position of annuitants on their estates.

Many of the able men who have lately written on the right to enhance have quoted despatches and correspondence which passed between members of the Government to show the "intention" of the legislature at the time; but, for us planters, our brief is confined to the regulations and the rules laid down for the guidance of the Revenue officers; beyond these we cannot tread. Not one in a hundred of us, who will be affected by the law, have an opportunity of perusing the correspondence, nor would it, if produced in a Court of law, affect our rights in the slightest degree.

When the subject of enhancement of rents was discussed by the Bihar Rent Commission, I was not able to attend. When I wished to re-open the question at a subsequent meeting, it was decided that the question of the zemindar's right to enhance had been fuly discussed, and the question would not be re-opened.

The Bengal Rent Commission in their report say:—"*Section 24.*—We have also retained the presumption, provided by the existing law, that, when the rent of a tenure is proved not to have been changed for a period of 20 years before the commencement of the suit, it shall be presumed that such tenure has been held at that rent from the time of the Permanent Settlement, unless the contrary be shown or it be proved that such rent was fixed at some later period. It has been decided that this presumption may be rebutted by evidence of the creation of the tenure at some period subsequent to the Permanent Settlement, and we have introduced words to that effect into the section of the Bill. It has been pressed upon us that this presumption bears very hardly upon zemindars; that, if a tenure-holder succeeds in proving payment of rent for 20 years at the same rate, it is very difficult, if not impossible, for his landlord to rebut the presumption which upon this is raised by the Act; that it thus becomes dangerous to allow tenure-holders to remain undisturbed, paying the same rent for 20 years; and that zemindars are in consequence forced into litigation, lest their rights should pass away *sub-silentio*. We have considered these arguments, and they failed to convince the majority of us that a case has been made out for altering the law, especially now that more than 20 years have elasped since the statutory presumption was created. If the law were now changed, the change would destroy titles which have become perfected by the presumption. The zemindar has it in his own power, by preserving a proper record of transactions affecting tenures not entitled to the benefit given by the presumption, to prevent prejudice to his own interests in the future. Looking at the question from another point of veiw, it is very much more difficult for a tenure-holder to prove a title from the time of the Permanent Settlement than for the zemindar to prove that the tenure was created or the rent fixed at a

later period, or that the rent has been changed on one or more occasion since the Permanent Settlement."

The above arguments refer to tenure-holders under the present law. Under paragraph 27 they have made them equally applicable to ryots. It will be observed that the Commission makes no attempt to show that ryots were accorded the right to hold at fixed rates in perpetuity at the time of the Permanent Settlement. It simply says that, were the law now changed, the change would destroy titles which have become perfected by the presumption.

If I understand the object of the new law rightly, it is to reinstate people who have suffered at the hands of the legislature in their rights; and, although it would be an injustice to destroy titles perfected by the presumption, it is only an act of justice to the zemindars to cancel the ryot's power of acquiring fresh rights in the future. Unless it can be shown that Act X of 1859 only confirmed the ryots, in their rights, or that the legislature of the day reserved to itself the right to fix the amount to be received by the zemindar as rent for his land in perpetuity, the zemindar will have a grievance and a right to ask for redress. If the law remains in force, it would surely and certainly undermine the zemindar's title, or rack-rent the country or, the instant an attempt is made to prepare a record-of-rights, ruin both ryot and zemindar with litigation.

Regulation I of 1793, better known as the Act of Permanent Settlement, does not, as far as I can judge, contain one word to show that, in settling the zemindars' jamma in perpetuity, it was intended to fix the rents then paid by ryots for their lands in perpetuity also; whereas much in many Regulations passed subsequently goes to show that the legislature had no such intention.

Some writers have founded the ryot's right to hold at fixed rates on the wording of some of the clauses of Regulation VIII of 1793, overlooking the fact that Regulation VIII was simply a reprint of Regulations passed in 1789 and 1790; that, if Regulation I of 1793 had never received the sanction of the Court of Directors, Regulation VIII would still have been the law of the land, and the term allowed to zemindars for revising and consolidating *abwabs* and issuing pattas had expired two years before the clause was embodied in Regulation VIII of 1793.

Had the legislature of the day intended the ryots to hold at fixed rate in perpetuity, it would, I think, have taken measures to ascertain at what rates the ryots were really holding their lands, to keep some record of them, and not forbidden their officers to enquire into the subject, as was done under the circular orders issued to the officers making the settlement and also under the Regulation.

In making the settlement with zemindars, no attempt was made to ascertain at what rates ryots held their lands: the farming jammas or rent paid by the mootahids was alone called for. It was only in 1817 that it was thought necessary to keep a record of the ryots' holdings, and that Collectors were allowed some control over patwaris' accounts.

If it had been intended that ryots should hold at fixed rentals in perpetuity, section 56 of Regulation VIII of 1793 would not have remained law, nor would the term of the leases to be given to ryots have been limited to ten years.

Had the legislature intended to allow the ryots to hold their lands at fixed rents in perpetuity, they would not have allowed purchasers at revenue-sales to set aside all previous engagements made by the defaulters with their ryots; if they intended to do so, they were guilty of great injustice. Under Regulation VIII of 1793, only a certain class of mukarari tenures were upheld; the rest were declared illegal.

I am sorry to say I cannot see the force of the arguments advanced by the Rent Commission for allowing the 20 years' presumption in favour of the ryot to remain law. I do not believe that the lawyers who sat on the Commission would, if sitting in judgment on a case, allow them to hold good in reference to a dispute regarding any other class of property.

Because one party to a dispute has it in his power to prove his side of the question more easily than the other party, it is no valid reason for casting the whole onus of proof on such person; if one person were to lend a thing to another, and that other were to say he had given it to him, and not lent it, I do not think the judge would enquire who could most readily prove his assertion, and cast the onus of proof on that person.

I may say at once that I do not think it possible for any ordinary ryot to trace his holding back to the time of the Permanent Settlement: men holding mukarari leases under mukarari sanads would be able to do so, but, never anticipating, being able to acquire a right to hold at fixed rates, they would naturally be careless of their proofs. I do not think they could in many instances trace their pedigrees, or tell who were the heads of their families at the time. It has been repeatedly stated that it is very easy for a landlord, by producing the records in his office, to prove his right to enhance the rents of the land. Before they repeat the assertion, I would recommend the persons who make it to try and produce evidence that will satisfy a Court of Law. Heaps of documents may be lying among one's records which are perfectly trustworthy and believed to be true by the person in whose possession they are, but of no value in a Court of law, because their *bona fides* cannot be proved or authenticated.

The Hon'ble Mr. Evans, in his speech in Council, states—"Any number of papers may be produced,—jammabandis, jammawasilbakis and the like,—but they are worth nothing. I don't say the zamindars have anything to do with the presentation in Court of untrustworthy documents; many of them are very respectable people; but the naibs or managers think nothing of fabricating a set of papers." And this I believe to be the opinion of every Judge in the country.

When once the Judge commences to try one's suit, believing any evidence one will bring forward has been fabricated, it is hard work to persuade him of the justness of one's claim.

It may be replied that, if the zemindar cannot lodge evidence that will be accepted as trustworthy from among his own records, it might be easy to procure copies of village-records from among the records filed in the Collectorates. When tested, this source also fails us. If all the earlier Regulations and reports of the Settlement officers are carefully perused, it will be seen how careful the Government of the day was to satisfy the zemindars that they did not wish to pry too closely into their private transactions with their ryots. The Collector of Sarun, sending in his report dated May, 1793, after first saying that all the records in the Sarun Collectorate had been burnt, and none were procurable for Sarun from kanungos, states that the kanungos furnished him with a very particular account for Chumparun for 1196, 1198 and 1199, &c., which he considered as sufficiently minute for the purposes required as far as relates to that part of the district.

In paragraph 4 of his report he says:—"The accounts kept by the Mufassal kanungos of Chumparun are always referred to on occasions of any difference between the landlords and farmers and ryots; and, as I have never seen their authenticity disputed by either party when produced in evidence, I considered them as entitled to perfect credit. It is necessary to observe, however, that the amount specified in their accounts is neither what is actually paid by the ryots to the farmer, nor by the farmer or thikadar to the proprietor, but the amount of the engagement contracted by the under-farmer, to whom, according to a very general practice in this district, the lands are rented by the person who holds in farm immediately from the proprietor. Of course, the jamma specified therein includes no part of the collections, which comes under the description of Mufassal akrajat." And, when we find the same officer later on excusing himself for being obliged to act contrary to the spirit of the 46th article of the Regulations and for calling for "abstracts" of their accounts from the patawris, I think we may take it for granted that no detailed jammabandis were taken at the time of the Permanent Settlement.

For 20 years after the Permanent Settlement the Collectors were forbidden to enquire too closely as to what rents were received by zaminders from their ryots. In what year the order was passed to lodge copies of jammabandis in the collectorate I do not know. The earliest jammabandis I have ever seen are dated 1229 Fasli, &c., or 1822 A.D. Until 1873 the Government insisted on their patwaris filing their yearly accounts, and much valuable information was collected. A few years ago there was a new departure; the records of years were looked upon as rubbish and burnt.

We can now only fall back on the road-cess papers, which in many instances afford little or no information of the kind required, and are modern.

Section 16.—"When a tenant has paid as rent a fixed share or the value of a fixed share of the produce of the land, the rent shall not be deemed to have been changed within the meaning of sections 14 and 15 merely by reason of the amount paid having varied from year to year, or by reason of the rent having been commuted to a fixed money-rent."

I do not quite realize the effect the last words—"or by reason of the rent having been commuted to a fixed money-rent"—will have.

If sections 14 and 15 are to hold good, the first portion of section 16 should also hold good: the latter portion of the section will create (I think) great confusion, and should be struck out.

Sections 17 to 24.—I do not think they call for any remarks from me. If 14 and 15 are hereafter modified or withdrawn, some of these sections will require to be altered; if 14 and 15 are to remain law, these should remain as they are.

C.—Of the Incidents of Permanent Tenures.

Section 25 says: "Every permanent tenure shall, subject to the provisions of this Act in respect of registration, be capable of being transferred and bequeathed in the same manner and to the same extent as other immoveable property."

Ryots claiming to hold from the time of the Permanent Settlement are, under the provisions of sections 14 and 15, tenure-holders. Unless the legislature is prepared to alter the present registration law and make the registration of wills compulsory, or specially provide for the registration of ryots' wills, I do not think it advisable to give the ryot the power to bequeath his property to others; and I think some distinction should be made here between tenure-holders whose titles are undisputed and ryots who claim to hold at fixed rates, but whose claims have never been directly acknowledged in a Court of Law or by the landlord.

D.—Of the Registration of Transfers of, and Succession to, Permanent Tenures.

Section 27 to section 35, sub-section (2).

Section 27.—"Landlord bound to register voluntary transfer or succession on application."

Section 28.—"Application may be served through a Revenue officer."

Section 29.—"Registration in case of transfer by sale in execution of decree other than decree for rent."

This I believe to be a very important chapter—of importance to the zemindar as well as to the ryot—a necessity to us as traders.

Its utility should be increased—

1st, by laying down some rules for the guidance of the zemindars in cases of disputed titles;

2nd, by giving zemindar some power to make a temporary division among heirs;

Section 30.—"Registration in case of transfer by sale in execution of decree for rent or by summary sale."

Section 31.—"Effect of omission to register voluntary transfer."

Section 32.—"Application to Court to compel landlord to register."

Section 33.—"Application by landlord to compel registration."

Section 34.—"Landlord to give copies of entries in the register."

Section 35.—"Board of Revenue to make rules regarding registration."

3rd, by declaring the effect a certificate of registration from the zemindar's court is to have; whether it is to carry the same value as a decree of possession passed by a criminal court, or what?

The payment of all arrears of rent due to the landlord at the time of transfer should be compulsory.

It should also be declared that any right of pre-emption the landlords may claim under subsequent sections of the Bill shall not be vitiated by registration of transfer being compulsory under this chapter.

Section 33, sub-section (*3*), should carry costs.

CHAPTER IV.

Of Patni Tenures.

Section 36.—"Patni tenure means a tenure of the kind described in schedule II annexed to this Act, and includes the dar-patni and other similar under-tenures referred to in that schedule."

Section 39 says: "When a patni tenure is transferred otherwise than by sale in execution of a decree, or by summary sale under section 42, the landlord may refuse to register the transfer under Chapter III of this Act until the security required under section 38 is furnished."

Section 42 allows "recovery of rents by summary suit."

The zemindars should, I think, have the power to refuse to register unless all arrears of rents are paid; but I hardly think it necessary to demand security from this class of tenure-holders; the tenure itself is security sufficient. The tenure-holder's duly authorized agent should also have power to register.

I am also of opinion that the procedure laid down in regard to patni tenures should be extended to all permanent tenures other than ryoti tenures referred to in sections 14 and 15.

CHAPTER V.

Of Occupancy-ryots generally.

"Village" and "Estate."

Section 43 with sub-sections (*a*) and (*b*) interpret the terms. I have already referred to the interpretation put on "estate." I will only now say that I think a ryot holding lands in two villages the property of one person should acquire occupancy-rights in both. Because the two villages are entered under different towjee numbers should make no difference to the ryot.

Section 44.—"Every ryot who, immediately before the commencement of this Act, has, by the operation of any enactment, by custom having the force of law, or otherwise, a right of occupancy in any land, shall, when this Act comes into force, become, for the purposes of this Act, an occupancy-ryot of that land."

Section 44 is intended to confirm all who have acquired occupancy-rights under any custom or law now in force in those rights. It speaks for itself.

Section 45 (1).—"Every person who for a period of twelve years, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, has continuously held, as a ryot, ryoti land situate in any village or estate, shall, notwithstanding any contract to the contrary, and though the land so held by him at different times during that period may have been different, be deemed to have become on the expiration of that period a settled ryot of that village or estate."

The period of 12 years' continuous holding, necessary to acquire a right of occupancy, is, in my opinion, too long a term. Ryots receive leases usually for five years; it therefore necessitates the ryot taking three leases of his lands before he can acquire an occupancy-right; but, as the Supreme Government has definitely accepted the 12 years' test, there is nothing to be gained in discussing the subject. Seven years would, in my opinion, have been preferable—five years for the usual lease and two years over to show tacit consent of landlord. On the other hand, it is necessary to take precautions against allowing ryots to acquire occupancy-rights in lands they have not fairly leased from their landlords, and I do not think sufficient precautions against trespass have been taken in the wording of this section.

The same should be said of the person purchasing the rights of an occupancy-ryot and transferees in general. The Act, as far as I can remember, nowhere defines the position of a transferee.

(2) "A person shall be deemed for the purposes of this section to have held, as a ryot, any ryoti land held as a ryot by a person whose heir he is."

Section 46 says: "If a settled ryot of a village or estate has ceased for a period of one year, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, to hold ryoti land as a ryot in that village or estate, either alone or as a co-sharer with others, he shall be deemed to have ceased on the expiration of that period to be a settled ryot of that village or estate."

Section 47.—"Every settled ryot of a village or estate holding after the second day of March 1883, as a ryot any ryoti land comprised in that village or estate, shall, notwithstanding any contract to the contrary, be deemed to acquire, or have acquired, in that land a right of occupancy under the law for the time being in force:

"Provided that a person shall not acquire a right of occupancy under this section in respect of any land held by him alone as owner, tenure-holder or ijaradar."

Section 50 says: "When a ryot has an occupancy-right in respect of any land, the following provisions shall, notwithstanding any contract between him and his landlord to the contrary, apply, namely:—

"(*a*) He may use the land in any manner which does not render it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy.

"(*b*) He may make improvements on the land as by this Act provided.

"(*c*) He shall pay rent at fair and equitable rates, determined as by this Act provided.

"(*d*) He shall not be ejected by his landlord from the land, except in execution of a decree for ejectment, passed in accordance with this Act, on the ground that he has used the land in a manner which renders it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy, or that he has broken a condition consistent with the provisions of this Act, and on breach of which he is, under the terms of a written contract between him and his landlord, liable to be ejected.

"(*e*) He may sub-let the land or any part thereof.

"(*f*) His interest in the land shall, subject to the rights reserved to the landlord by this Act, be capable of being transferred and bequeathed by will, in the same manner and to the same extent as other immoveable property.

The word "estate" should, I think, be left out of the section. The section should also say that the landlord may take possession of the land without suit.

A ryot may hold in several villages of a large estate paying rents to different landlords or ijaradars or tenure-holders; it may suit his convenience to abandon the lands in one tenure and not in the others, and yet, as the section is worded, the landlord would be debarred from taking possession of the land.

Great exception has been taken by sundry persons who have advocated the cause of zemindars to the words "notwithstanding any contract to the contrary" being entered in sections 45 and 47.

In my opinion, they are absolutely necessary to prevent the ignorant from contracting themselves out of their occupancy-rights.

In the majority of such cases, the ryots contract themselves out of their rights without receiving any consideration, compensation or equivalent in return.

The word "solely" should be substituted for "alone," or "alone" should be placed at the end of the sentence.

To the ryot this is infinitely the most important part of the Bill, and the only portions of it that I would wish to be altered are the following:—

Sub-section (*b*) to have the words "for the purposes of his tenancy" added. My reason for wishing to see this alteration made, is that I think the ryot should be allowed to do anything to his land that he thinks will add to its productive powers, but that he should not be allowed to constitute himself the judge of other people's requirements.

Sub-section (*e*) to have the words "in accordance with the provisions of this Act" added.

The ryot should be allowed to sub-let under three restrictions: the first is, that he should be allowed to sub-let only for a term of years; the second, that he does not sub-let his lands for a less sum than will cover his land lord's rents; the third, the land he sub-lets must be free of incumbrances.

Sub-sections (*f*) *and* (*g*).—The power to bequeath should not be accorded to him.

"(*g*) His interest in the land shall, if he dies intestate in respect of it, descend in the same manner as any other immoveable property; Provided that, in any case in which, under the law of inheritance to which he is subject, his other property goes to the Crown, his interest in the land shall go to his landlord."

From the wording of sub-section (*g*) it would appear as if it were intended that the power to bequeath should over-ride the ryot's right to inherit, and this I think contrary to the Hindu law of inheritance. The power to bequeath should not be allowed unless registration of ryots' wills is made compulsory; and I am not sure but that the power of gift in the case of absconding ryots will not be a hardship to the landlord.

Whether the ryot should be allowed the power to transfer or sell his holding has of late been a very disputed point. I myself believe it has now become a demand that cannot well be withheld from the ryots. In the interests of zemindars and traders, it should be legalized and controlled. All over the country we see ryots selling their holdings, mortgaging them for paltry sums. We see them daily being sold up for debt by decrees of Court, and the zemindars powerless to prevent them. We see the ryots compelled to part with their holdings at one-quarter of their proper value, owing to the uncertainty of the purchaser's tenure. We see zemindars selling up their ryots' occupancy-rights under decrees of Court for rents, and still declaring that such sales should be declared illegal.

The landlords' interests have, I think, been amply cared for in the Bill. In the interest of the trader, I think the ryot should be allowed to transfer, subject to incumbrances. In the interests of the ryot, the person in whose name the holding stands should have the sole power to transfer, and some provision should be made for the management of minors' estates.

The most landlords can now claim is, that the law shall be left in its present state; anything more deplorable could not well be conceived.

What they now deny to the ryots as a right, they will soon ask the legislature to accord to the ryot as a favour to themselves.

Section 51 declares landlord's right of pre-emption, and requires of ryot to give one month's notice to landlord prior to sale. Section 54 and sub-section declares landlord's right to purchese in case of gift by ryot.

The ryot should be obliged to state in the notice the terms on which he intends to transfer.

Under sub-section 4, the landlord must declare his intention to purchase within six months rom date of gift. It would be better that his right to purchase should run from date of application to register.

Section 56.—"Notwithstanding any contract to the contrary, when the landlord of an occupancy-ryot acquires, under the foregoing section or otherwise, the occupancy-right in any land comprised in the holding, any person thereafter holding the land as a ryot shall have a right of occupancy in respect of it, and, if immediately before the acquisition of the right by the landlord, the rent of the land was a money-rent, shall be entitled to hold at a money-rent fixed in accordance with the provisions of this Act."

There is nothing in this section to prohibit the landlord holding the land himself, and cultivating it by his own servants or with hired labour. If the landlord leases the land to a ryot who already has occupancy-rights on his estate, by all means allow the ryot to whom he makes over the purchased land to acquire occupancy-rights in that land.

But why a ryot who did not previously possess occupancy-rights on the estate should acquire them with the land over made to him I do not see, nor can I understand why the landlord should not be allowed to make his own terms with the imcoming ryot regarding the amount of rent he is to receive for it.

CHAPTER VI.

OF THE RENT PAYABLE BY OCCUPANCY-RYOTS.

A.—Of money-rents generally.

Section 58 says: "A money-rent payable by an occupancy-ryot shall be presumed to be fair and equitable, and shall continue to be paid by him until it is enhanced under this Act, or reduced."

Under this section it would be open to a ryot to repudiate every condition under which he held his lands at a low rate of rent, and yet claim to hold the lands at the former money rental. It would be more just to declare that a ryot shall be presumed to hold his lands on the same terms and under the same conditions that he has previously held them on, until they are changed under the provisions of this Act.

Interference with the private affairs of individuals could not go much further than it is proposed to go under the provisions of sections 59 and 61. Better at once declare that the Revenue officers are to make a complete settlement of all estates, and that their will is to be the law.

Section 59. (1) "A money-rent payable by an occupancy-ryot may be enhanced by a contract in writing approved of and registered by a Revenue officer appointed by the local Government in this behalf."

(2) "A Revenue officer shall not, under this section, approve or register any contract by which a ryot engages to pay a rent more than six annas per rupee greater than that previously payable, or more than one-fifth of the established annual value of the gross produce of the land in staple crops calculated at the price at which ryots sell at harvest time, or any contract, until he has satisfied himself that it is fair and equitable, and that the ryot in entering into it acts as a free agent."

Under section 59 (1) a money-rent payable by an occupancy-ryot may be enhanced when approved of by a Revenue officer. By implication it may also be vetoed. Sub-section (2) positively forbids the Revenue officer to register any lease the rent of which is more than six annas per rupee greater than that previously payable, or more than one-fifth of the estimated average yield in staple crops.

That is to say, if the landlord, claiming his right of pre-emption, recovers possession of any ryoti lands, or purchases the occupancy-rights of any ryot sold up under a decree of Court, he cannot, whatever the market value of that land may be, re-let it on his own terms, but if he lets it at all, he must let it at an increase of only six annas in the rupee.

The lower the rates at which the ryot holds his lands the better price they will fetch at auction. If this section remains law, no landlord can afford to bid against an outsider for land: an outsider can do whatever he likes with the land: the landlord will only receive so much interest on his purchase-money as six annas in the rupee increase on the former rental will represent.

We need not discuss whether the one-fifth share of value of produce allotted to the landlords is sufficient or not, or whether they have a right to claim a larger share; nor is it necessary to discuss here what should be considered a rack-rent, as the Government have declared that the one-fifth proportion is at present only tentative.

Sections 59 and 61 also forbid the Revenue officer approving of any contract until he has satisfied himself that it is fair and equitable, and that the ryot in entering into it acts as a free agent.

The legislature of course have every right to declare that its officers shall satisfy themselves, before registering documents, that all parties to a contract act as free agents; but to do more than this I should hardly think necessary. If the Act allowed the Revenue officers to cancel the agreement, placing the two parties to the contract in the same positions they were previously in, the one keeping his land, the other his money, there would be some show of fairness in the transaction; but to dispossess one party of his land, and allow the other to keep both land and money, goes, I think, a little beyond fair play.

The wording of section 60 might be slightly altered with advantage. It might run—"Except as provided by section 59, or on account of the land being proved by measurement greater than the nominal area of the holding, a money-rent payable by an occupancy-ryot," &c., &c.

B.—Of the preparation of a table of rates and produce, and of suits to enchance money-rents where such table is in force.

The whole chapter is admirable in theory, but will, I am afraid, be found to be unsuited to the genius of the people—in fact, impracticable.

Had the basis of our present assessment of the rents of the country been founded on any given system, there would have been something to work upon; but with a dozen rates current for each class and quality of land in each village, it will be impossible to draw up any table of rates that will satisfy the parties concerned.

That the Government of the day have the right to declare what shall be considered a rack-rent in the future, as it has done in the past, we may at once concede; but, before it can enforce the provisions of this chapter, it must be prepared to remodel the whole rent-system of the country, and be prepared to hear that parties who may suffer by it will have a tangible grievance and claim compensation. Any ryats who may now be paying more than the declared rack-rent of the country have a right to demand that their rates shall be reduced to the present rack-rent without the landlords having any claim to compensation.

Should the rack-rent rate of the country be reduced, to be consistent, all ryots who may be paying a higher rate for their lands would have a right to claim a reduction in rent; but the landlords would have a fair claim to compensation for any loss they might suffer from such reduction. Unless Government are prepared to settle all claims in a fair and liberal spirit, it would be politic to leave the rack-rent limit where it is.

To carry out the provisions of this chapter in their integrity the executive must ride roughshod over the feelings and prejudices of all concerned.

It is now proposed, under the provisions of this chapter, to reduce the rackrent limit to one-fifth of the estimated average annual value of the gross produce in "staple" crops.

The Bill, under section 84 (*c*), leaves it to the Board of Revenue to determine what shall be considered staple crops. Although we may not all agree as to the exact shares into which the produce of the land had to be divided, between landlord and ryat, we are, I think, all agreed that under Native rule, and afterwards under English, the Government of the country was entitled to collect through its zamindars a fixed share of the produce of all lands, first as revenue, afterwards as rent.

This share or portion of the crop the Government of the day claimed as their right, without any reference to the quality or value of such crop; the more valuable the commodity,

the greater its revenue; and, although Government could, before the Permanent Settlement, and did actually in the instance of sugarcane, waive its right to claim an increase in rents on account of the greater value of the commodity, it does not seem to have reserved to itself the right to prohibit zamindars from enhancing rents on that account.

At the Permanent Settlement the Government omitted, as far as I am able to judge, to make any such reservations; in fact, there is nothing to show that it intended to continue the prohibition after a settlement was come to with the zamindars.

Article 46, Regulation VIII of 1793, says: "It is expected that in time the proprietors of land, dependent taluqdars and farmers of land and raiyats will find it for their mutual advantage to enter into agreements in every instance for a specific sum, for a certain quantity of land, leaving it to the option of the latter to cultivate whatever species of produce may appear to them likely to yield the largest profit."

The sanads granted to zamindars as late even as 1840 enjoin the issue of pattas to raiyats, and the taking of kabuliyats or counter-agreements from them at money-rents; but they also say that, in a case where the raiyat fails to lodge a kabuliyat, the landlord may claim 22½ seers out of every 40 as his by right.

Regulation IX of 1805 went a step beyond this, and allowed nine-sixteenths of the produce to be collected from all lands three years under cultivation in the Peishwa's territory.

That the legislature of the day intended zamindars to exact the last farthing permitted by law I do not for a moment wish to say; in declaring the landlord's share of the produce to be 22½ seers out of every 40, it only meant to declare that it was to be the rackrent limit; that is to say, when a raiyat positively refused to come to a settlement for his lands at a fair rental,—the rate current in his pargana,—the landlord was allowed to claim his full rights.

As long as the landlord could claim a fixed share of the produce of the land, he would necessarily bring some pressure to bear on the raiyat to grow the most valuable crops, the more so as all special knowledge and care required for their growth, all extra cost, would fall to the share of the raiyat.

No fixed rules were laid down for the assessment of a money-rent; but landlords were urged to come to a money-rent settlement with their raiyats. Money-rents were intended to be, and were, a compromise between the value of the landlord's share of the more valuable commodities and the ordinary cereals of the country: the money-rent per bigha was in most instances greater than what the landlord received from the yield of his bhaoli lands. By fixing a money-rent for the land a zamindar waived his right to dictate to his raiyat the crops he should grow. It was nowhere intended that the landlord's power to enhance should be regulated by the relative value of cereals alone, but by the market-value of all crops grown.

Until one knows what crops the Board of Revenue would consider staple crops, or what rules it would lay down for the guidance of the Revenue officers in order that they may make out a list of staple crops, we can form no opinion as to the extent the zamindars' or raiyats' interests will be affected by the rule: if only cereals are to be accepted as staple crops, many claims for reduction in rents may be made: if all "marketable" commodities are included under "staple," zamindars will have no valid reason to complain if one-fifth or one-fourth of the gross value of crops be declared the rackrent limit. A serious matter such as this is should not be left to the caprice of others. In speeches in Council, in reports of Revenue officers, our landlords are accused of rackrenting their estates and arbitrarily enhancing the rents of their raiyats; the province, in fact, is declared to be already rackrented. I have gone carefully through the speeches in Council, and, when I have had the time, perused the correspondence published with the Bill; but, as well as I am able to remember, little or no attempt has been made to show what is at present a rackrent under the law. In one able speech—and the only one—a rackrent is described as a rent trenching on the actual labour-wage of the cultivator. In another a comparison is made between the value of the crop per head in each province to show that others are better off than we are; but no mention is made of the area of land per head or pressure of population. I think it might be found on enquiry that the value of the produce per acre is greater with us, but that there are more to feed on it. Mr. Finucane, whose reports are largely quoted, enters more fully into the subject. He has taken the relative prices of edible crops now and some forty years ago as the basis of his argument; but he has made the mistake of considering staple crops to consist of cereals only. He has omitted to take the area under opium, potatoes, tobacco, cotton-fibres of sorts, dyes of sorts, turmeric, ginger, sugarcane, oilseeds, &c., &c., into consideration; and he has failed to take into consideration the extraordinary increase that has taken place in the cultivation of these crops since the Permanent Settlement.

In 1840, Government distributed 37 lakhs of rupees throughout India for opium; in 1881-82, it distributed nearly six times that sum. To make an exact estimate of the value of the gross produce of the country in 1793 and now I presume to be impossible, and, until it is done, all comparisons between the average value of lands at the time of the Permanent Settlement and now must be deceptive. We planters, without any access to figures, can but form our opinions from what we see going on around us; we can but see that the province has made most extraordinary strides in prosperity of late years, and we believe that it was the intention of the legislature that the zamindar should share in it with the raiyat.

Whether nine-sixteenths, half, one-fourth or one-fifth of the produce is to be the rackrent limit in the future remains for the Government to decide, but any limit that does not take under consideration all crops that may be grown will be faulty.

That some raiyats on each estate may be rackrented is not only possible but very probable; some estates may be in a like condition; but, until we know what is to form the basis of a rackrent limit, it will be impossible to know with certainty to what extent they are so. Some lands may be rackrented at two rupees an acre, whereas lands in their vicinity may be cheap at ten rupees. It is difficult to believe that a district which is able to pay the greater portion of its landlord's rents from the produce of any one crop grown in it is rackrented, and that it requires the drastic remedies people have recommended for it.

Chumparun, which pays its landlords in round figures some 24 lakhs of rupees, and has a million and a half acres of land under cultivation, receives from 16 to 18 lakhs of rupees per annum for 70,000 acres under poppy. Shahabad and Gya might meet their landlords' rents from the proceeds of their sugarcane crops alone; the value of the sugar carried by the Gya State Railway from the town of Gya was valued at 37 lakhs for one season.

Tirhoot and Darbhanga might pay their rents from the proceeds of their tobacco crops.

That sudden, arbitrary and excessive enhancement of raiyats' rents are a very great hardship to raiyats is certain; with the evidence placed before us, there can be no doubt that such have taken place; in fact, I have no doubt that we could all give many more instances of such enhancements.

Every effort should be made to put a stop to such practices, but I do not think the measures recommended will be effectual. The fault with most of the measures recommended lies in their punishing the innocent with the guilty. The remedy lies in encouraging landlords to give long leases instead of frightening them into giving short ones; encouraging the interchange of registered documents, instead of prohibiting their issue by making them too costly; above all, we should not hedge round the registration of documents with so many restrictions as to make the act of registration a nuisance and a trial to one's temper. In reference to the Tirhut cases cited, I cannot speak from personal knowledge; I would only say that they seem to me to have occurred on estates where the landlords had previously kept the rents very low, in order to secure a permanent settlement on easy terms from Government, and then jumped the rates; but for all that it was none the less hard on the raiyats to do so.

In reference to the Dooho Sooho case cited, I will only remark that the bigha mentioned is equal to 2½ acres, which would bring the average rental to Rs. 3-4 per acre.

Section 119 we will discuss in its proper order. I will content myself with calling attention to the fact that, under its provisions, the rackrent limit for ordinary raiyats and sub-raiyats is five sixteenths, instead of one-fifth, of the produce.

Of Suits to enhance Money-rents where a Table of Rates and Produce is not in force.

Section 74 (1) says—"The landlord of a holding held at a money-rent by an occupancy-raiyat, and situate in a local area for which a table of rates and produce prepared under the foregoing sections is not in force, may, subject to the provisions of section 78, institute a suit to enhance the rent on one or more of the following grounds, namely:—(1) that the rate of rent paid by the raiyat is below the prevailing rate payable by the same class of raiyats for land of a similar description and with similar advantages in the vicinity."

Section 156 (*a*) divides "tenants" into classes, and says the class to which he belongs is a tenure-holder, occupancy-raiyat, tenant of a bastu holding, ordinary raiyat or under-raiyat." Section 207 (*b*) divides "tenants" into the same classes as the above. Section 74 (1) gives the landlord power to enhance the rent of a "raiyat," provided it is below the prevailing rate payable by his "class," but does not denote what is to constitute a class among raiyats. It is very necessary to declare what is intended to denote a class among raiyats, and, when defining a class, to see that planters do not form a class in themselves. On my part, I object to raiyats paying according to their "classes;" they should pay according to the value of their lands.

D.—Rules applicable to suits to enhance money-rents generally.

Section 76 allows no enhancement beyond double the rent previously payable. Section 50 (2) allows only six annas in the rupee enhancement. Section 77 gives the Court power to order progressive enhancement.

Section 77 should hold good, but section 76 should, I think, be struck out. Cases may occur where the landlord's interests would suffer under a hard-and-fast rule as this is; and, so long as the Court has the power to declare progressive enhancement, the raiyat will be protected.

F.—Special rules regarding money-rents payable for pasture lands.

Section 80. (1) "Sections 62 to 79, both inclusive, shall not apply to land fit to be used, or which in accordance with local usage is used, only as pasture; but, when such land is held at a money-rent by an occupancy-raiyat, the landlord may, subject to any contract between the parties, institute a suit to enhance the rent on the ground—

"(*a*) that the rent payable by the raiyat is below the prevailing rate payable by the same class of raiyats for land of a similar description and with similar advantages in the vicinity; or

I would be very glad to receive any information our friends are able to afford me in reference to the terms on which raiyats and others are allowed to graze their cattle in their respective districts.

The question of cultivator *versus* grazier is a very important one, and becoming more urgent every day; but, whether the question has as yet been sufficiently ventilated to permit of its being authoritatively settled, or whether it is possible to settle it under the provisions of this Rent Bill, I am not sure.

The raiyats of this district, as a rule, pay nothing to the landlord for being allowed to graze their cattle, which they keep for "agricultural" purposes, on the purtee lands, excepting their skins when dead; they usually feed their cattle from the proceeds of their own fields grazing them on any lands lying fallow, or on stubble,

"(*b*) that, having regard to the increase of rent on arable land in the vicinity since the rent payable by the raiyat was fixed, it is reasonable to enhance that rent.

"(2) Where an enhancement is applied for on the ground mentioned in clause (*b*), the Court shall fix the rent at such rate as it thinks fair and equitable."

The land leased to the "raiyat" as grazing ground is usually leased to him at a very low rate, but I have never heard of a raiyat claiming an occupancy-right in that land.

In the civilized portion of the district, the grazier pays a certain amount per head of cattle; on the *dearahs* the same. In the jungles they pay a certain charge per buffalo, and a certain charge is made per "bhuthan," or cattle-shed, for the rest of the cattle in their charge. Many persons, I know, are anxious to see a certain quantity of land set aside in each village as pasture; some even going so far as to think the zamindars should be compelled by law to see that land is set aside for the use of their raiyats' cattle; but I would ask such to tell us how they propose limiting the number of cattle that shall be allowed to graze on it, how they propose preventing the graziers bringing the cattle belonging to outsiders to graze on it, or how they propose preventing a few sturdy *gwalas* from appropriating it to their own use, and dispossessing the people for whom it should be set aside. Many landlords would, I believe, be glad to set aside a portion of their lands for the use of the cattle belonging to *bonâ fide* raiyats and used for agricultural purposes; but the grazier stands in their way.

Numbers of Chumparun herdsmen make a living by pasturing Sarun and Gorakhpur cattle on Chumparun lands.

The Bill, I presume, intends raiyats paying for pasture lands to have a right of occupancy in those lands. I cannot see any hardship in giving rights of occupancy in such lands, but the raiyats ought in all instances to be obliged to pay the same rents for such pasture lands as they do for the rest of their holdings.

If the landlord allows them to hold them at privileged rates, they should not have a right to claim occupancy-rights in them; care should be taken that the rights of the landlord in *purtee* lands are not alienated by the Bill, by turning all *purtee* into "common."

If a raiyat is to be permitted to have occupancy-rights in pasture lands, and to hold them at privileged rates, some provision should be made in the Bill for cases in which the raiyat turns pasture into arable land. Should he forfeit his title to the land, or should the landlord have the right to claim extra rent from him?

G.—Of rents payable in kind, or varying with the crop.

Section 81 and its sub-sections forbid the landlords taking more than one-half the produce as their share of the crop.

Some landlords divide the crop on the threshing-floor. Very many others in North Bihár send out amíns, and have the crops assessed on the fields. The latter proceeding is very lenient to the raiyats, as the raiyats usually manage to get their crops assessed at one-half their value.

On all crops assessed a small percentage is added for the patwárí and gumástáh. If this percentage is declared illegal by the Courts, the consequence will be that all landlords will elect to divide and not assess.

Section 82 allows "commutation of rents."

Sub-section (2) says: "The money-rent shall be fixed at the discretion of the Court—

"(*a*) according to the prevailing money-rent payable by the same class of raiyats for land of a similar description and with similar advantages in the vicinity;

"(*b*) according to the average value of the rent actually received by the landlord during the preceding five years"

"(3) When a money-rent is fixed under clause (*b*), a reasonable deduction shall be made by the Court from the average value aforesaid, in consideration of the whole risk of cultivation being taken by the raiyat."

Under this clause all the raiyat has to do is to take little or nothing out of his lands for the next five years to get them for nothing. Not satisfied with running counter to the custom of the province, a deduction is to be made in favour of the raiyat for running a risk the landlord is happy enough to take upon himself.

If this section is to hold good in favour of the raiyat, why should the landlord not be allowed an equal right to have the rent commuted into a money-rent; why should he not be allowed to bring some pressure to bear on the raiyat to cultivate properly?

This section is one-sided.

H.—Supplementary provisions.

Section 84 allows "the Board of Revenue to lay down rules—

"(*a*) for the guidance of officers engaged in the preparation of the tables of rates and produce under this chapter;

"(*b*) for the guidance of officers engaged in the preparation of price-lists under section 83;

"(*c*) for determining what crops shall be deemed to be staple crops for the purposes of this chapter in any local area;

"(*d*) for the guidance of any Revenue officers registering contracts under sections 59 and 61;

"(*e*) for the guidance of Revenue officers and Courts in estimating the average annual value of the gross produce of land for the purposes of sections 59 and 61 and 75, clause (*d*)."

These supplementary provisions place the fate of every man who has anything to do with land in the hands of the members of the Board of Revenue, without appeal. With a stroke of the pen the Board may reduce the rent of a district, by omitting some of the most valuable produce of a district from the list of its staple crops.

If "staple" crops are to regulate the rents of a district, we require some more exact definition of the term.

In the vernacular translation of the Bill, it is translated by the word "*khás.*"

The powers allowed to the Board under sections 59 and 61 I objected to in a former memorandum.

The power of the altering the registration-rules as the whim takes them I object to most strongly. The inconvenience we are now put to, by having the rules altered every few weeks, is immense. We should have something definite to work upon.

I am strongly of opinion that the recommendation of the Bihár Rent Committee should be adopted; and the simpler the procedure the better for us all.

CHAPTER VII.

Of the Rights of a settled Raiyat in Bastu Lands.

Section 85. (1) "A person who is under Chapter V a settle raiyat of a village or estate as defined in that chapter, shall, notwithstanding any contract to the contrary, have a right, permanent, heritable and capable of being transferred and bequeathed, in any *bastu* or other homestead land in that village or estate which is not comprised in an occupancy-holding, and which is held by him as the site of, or for purpose of, erecting a dwelling-house suitable for himself and his family, together with all necessary out-offices.

(2) "A person having a right under sub-section (1) in any land in a village or estate shall not lose that right merely by reason of his ceasing to be a settled raiyat of that village or estate."

A cultivating raiyat pays us rent for his *bastu* land and cannot transfer it. He is left in possession of it as long as he resides on it; when he leaves it, it lapses to the landlord.

The house he builds on it may be sold up under a decree of Court, but the purchaser is bound to take away the materials with which it is built; the purchaser can only reside in it, or allow it to remain standing, with the consent of the landlord. The cultivating raiyat who has been sold up under a civil Court decree may build another house on the same spot.

The *bastu* lands of cultivating raiyats do not go with their "jotes," and should, therefore, be non-transferable, non-purchasable, without power being allowed the landlords to evict them from them. If the raiyats abandon their land, it should lapse to the landlord; the raiyats should not be charged rent for it, but they should not be allowed to use it for any other purpose than the one for which it is set aside, namely, to reside upon. If the raiyat builds a house and resides on land for which he pays rent, his *bastu* land would then go with his holding. Traders pay for the land they reside on.

In towns where the majority of the residents belong to the non-agricultural class, rent is demanded for the land, and the land is to a certain extent transferable.

The purchase-money is usually divided between the tenant and the landlord, the tenant receiving three-fourths, the landlord one *zur chowt*. The Bill deprives the raiyats of a very substantial right.

Section 87.—"When a person has, in respect of any land, a right under section 85, and the rent of the land has not been enhanced during the previous ten years, the landlord may, unless barred by any contract between the parties, enhance the rent, so that it may be equal to the rent paid by other tenants for land in the neighbourhood, having similar advantages and used for similar purposes, or, at his option, so that it may be equal to five per cent. of the market-value of the land."

CHAPTER VIII.

Of Ordinary Raiyats.

Section 89.—"An ordinary raiyat shall, subject to the provisions of section 119, pay such rent as may from time to time be fixed by agreement between him and his landlord."

Section 119 limits the landlord's demand to five-sixteenths of the value of the gross produce in staple crops of all lands leased to raiyats after the 1st March 1883.

I do not object to the rackrent limit here given, but I cannot understand on what principle one-fifth of the

gross produce is to form the rackrent limit of an occupancy-holding and five-sixteenths for that of an ordinary raiyat, or what is to be considered the rackrent when the ordinary raiyat acquires occupancy-rights.

I think, when the landlord in the first instance leases land to a raiyat, he and the raiyat should be allowed to make their own bargain. If the landlord afterwards wishes to enhance the raiyat's rents, he should be bound to keep within the rackrent limit whatever it may be.

Section 91.—Notice, of enhancement must be served through the Court—such notice to be served six months before the commencement of the year for which enhancement is to be demanded.

The six months' notice required under section 91 is too long a period; three months are sufficient.

93. (2) "If the defendant does not appear, or if, on appearing, he does not agree to pay the enhanced rent demanded, the Court may pass a decree for his ejectment on condition that, within 15 days from the date of decree, the landlord deposits in court—

"(*a*) such a sum as may be declared by the decree to be payable to the raiyat as compensation for improvements; and

"(*b*) a further sum as compensation for disturbance equal to ten times the yearly increase of rent demanded."

Compensation for improvements and compensation for disturbance I do not approve of.

If the raiyat does not appear to answer for himself in court, I do not quite see how the Court can be in a position to assess the cost of his improvements. If the ordinary raiyat, who holds under a terminable lease, is allowed compensation for improvements and also for disturbance, compensation cannot justly be withheld from sub-raiyats who are ousted from their holdings at the end of their leases.

It would be preferable to reduce the number of years a raiyat must continuously hold land to be constituted an occupancy-raiyat.

I am not sure that it would not be preferable to allow the ordinary raiyat to purchase occupancy-rights of his zamindar, by paying down, say, a couple of years' rental as a bonus.

Why a landlord should be compelled to pay a raiyat compensation for demanding a rent that the Court considers fairly demandable, I do not understand.

Section 95.—"Fresh proceedings not to be taken for ten years."

If this section holds good, the raiyat agreeing to pay the enhanced rent would acquire occupancy-rights at once.

CHAPTER IX.

A.—Of alterations of rent consequent on alterations of the area of the holding of a tenure-holder or occupancy-raiyat.

96. (1) "Notwithstanding anything in Chapter III or VI, every tenure-holder shall, in the absence of a contract to the contrary, and every occupancy-tenant shall, notwithstanding any contract to the contrary,—

"(*a*) be liable to pay additional rent for all land added to the area of his holding by alluvion or otherwise, unless he can show that the land has re-formed on the site of land which was formerly included in that area, and for the loss of which he has had no abatement of rent; and

"(*b*) be entitled to a reduction of rent in respect of any diminution," &c.

By implication this section as it stands allows tenure-holders, raiyats entitled to hold at fixed rates and occupancy-raiyats to claim all alluvion as theirs by right, whether they have suffered by diluvion or not, unless they have previously forfeited their right by receiving abatement in rents for diluvion. Under sub-section (2) of this section, the occupancy-raiyat would pay rent for these lands at the same rate as other occupancy-raiyats pay for lands of a similar description and with similar advantages in the vicinity.

The tenure-holder and the raiyat who holds at fixed rates (who is also a tenure-holder under the Bill) would be entitled to claim a deduction of 30 per cent. on the above rates for risk and cost of collection.

Under clause (*b*) they would be allowed a deduction in rent for all land lost by diluvion.

(2) "The amount added to the rent shall be calculated at the rates payable by occupancy-raiyats for lands of a similar description and with similar advantages in the vicinity, less a deduction in the case of a tenure-holder of thirty per cent. for profits, risk and cost of collection."

Under sub-section (3), "the amount abated from the rents shall bear the same proportion to the rent previously payable as the diminution of the total yearly value of the holding bears to the previous total yearly value thereof, or, in default of proof of the yearly value of land lost, shall bear to the rent previously payable the same proportion as the diminution of the area lost to the previous area of the holding."

Regulation VIII of 1793, clause 51, implied that zamindars might claim extra rents from tenure-holders for all alluvion. Section 17 of Act X of 1859 and section 18 of Act VIII of 1869 permitted the landlord to demand enhanced rents from his raiyats, provided "the quantity of land held by the raiyat has been proved by measurement to be greater than the quantity for which rent has been previously paid by him."

Raiyats who lose lands by diluvion should be allowed to claim abatement in rents: where any special rate is payable for the land lost, at that rate; or where a table of rates is in force, at the rates entered in the table of rates; if no special rate is payable for the land lost, at the average of their holding. If they elect to continue paying rent for the land lost by diluvion, they should be entitled to claim the land again when it re-forms by accretion.

But more than this should not be allowed. To allow them to claim all accretions by alluvion is to introduce a very dangerous principle, a fruitful source of litigation. In Bengal and some parts of South Bihár, the land when thrown up may be brought under cultivation at once and be very valuable: in North Bihár it may lie useless for years, and in some instances the right to hold some hundreds of acres may be at stake.

If the raiyat is to claim a right to all alluvion, how long is the landlord to await his pleasure before charging him rent for it?

There is nothing to prevent a raiyat claiming all alluvion, only to dispose of it to the highest bidder.

Raiyats holding at fixed rates run no extra risk in collecting their rents; there is, therefore, no reason for allowing them a deduction of 30 per cent.

The law as it at present stands is sufficient protection to the landlords as against encroachment on the part of "raiyats;" it is unwise to afford raiyats further facilities for encroaching on the landlord's rights.

In reference to tenure-holders, other than tenures under section 14, it is necessary to define their rights in alluvion.

C.—Of receipts and accounts to be given to tenants.

Sections 100, 101 and 102.—Section 100 entitles a raiyat to demand a receipt from his landlord, declares what it shall specify, declares the landlord must keep the counterpart of it, declares that any receipt which does not state the particulars required by law shall be an acquittance in full.

Section 101 entitles a raiyat to receive a copy of his yearly account from his landlord.

Section 102 and sub-section imposes a penalty on the landlord for not delivering receipts and accounts to his raiyats.

Section 100 should have the words "from his duly authorized agent" added.

The landlord will be compelled under the Bill to keep a counterpart of the receipt he gives to the raiyat. One might have some object in view in insisting on the landlord keeping a "counterfoil" of the receipt he gives the raiyat, but none in keeping a counterpart of it only: as evidence it would be valueless.

In the interest of both landlord and raiyat, any one, not duly authorized, found collecting rents from raiyats should be liable to prosecution either on the initiative of the landlord or of the raiyat. Power should be given to the landlord to tender the receipts and accounts to his raiyats through the Courts, and not leave him at the mercy of the raiyat.

If this is not allowed, the raiyat may at any time, whether he has received a receipt or not, put his landlord to great inconvenience by bringing a suit against him. Six months allowed a raiyat is too long a period to allow him; he should be obliged to claim a receipt within a month from the time he paid the money.

D.—Of the deposit of rent by a tenant in a public office.

Sections 103 to 107.—The difference between the procedure laid down in sections 46 and 47 of Act VIII of 1869, and the procedure laid down in sections 103 to 107 of this Bill, lies principally in the power given to the Court to decide to whom the rent deposited is actually due.

I think the Collector should have the power to call upon the raiyat wishing to deposit rent under 103 (*c*) to show from whom he received the land, or under what lease or right he was entitled to pay rent for the land or be in possession of it; otherwise it will be in the power of every raiyat in the country to set neighbouring zamindars quarrelling under section 106.

E.—Arrears of rent taken by division of crops.

Sections 108 to 118.—I would only remark that some limit should be put to the expense landlords and raiyats are to incur when applying to the Courts for assistance as provided under the provisions of these sections.

G.—Further provisions regarding rent.

Section 119 says a raiyat or under-raiyat shall not be bound to pay more than five-sixteenths of the value of the gross produce of his holding in staple crops, notwithstanding any contract made after the second day of March 1883. I do not think it necessary to make this rule applicable to under-raiyats.

Section 120.—"The rent payable by a tenant in any agricultural year shall be presumed to be the rent payable by him in the following agricultural year, until the contrary is shown."

The raiyat should not have the right accorded to him to hold his lands at the same money-rents, ignoring the conditions on which he held the land.

CHAPTER X.

A.—Of improvements on raiyats' holdings and compensation therefor.

I look upon this chapter as quite unnecessary.

A raiyat with a permanent interest in his holding, and a raiyat with occupancy-rights in, his holding, can only be ejected from their lands in execution of a decree of a competent Court

passed in accordance with this Act, on the ground that they have used the land in a manner which renders it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy, or that they have broken a condition consistent with the provisions of this Act, and on breach of which they are, under the terms of a written contract between them and their landlord, liable to be ejected (*vide* sections 25 and 50 (*a*)).

The Bill has taken every precaution to secure to the raiyats the proceeds of their labour, by debarring landlords from claiming enhanced rents owing to improvements made at the expense of the raiyats.

A raiyat with occupancy-rights can only be ejected on the above two grounds; if he is ejected by the Court because he renders his holding unfit for the purposes of his tenancy, I cannot imagine under what circumstances he would be entitled to compensation for improvements.

If he is liable to be ejected for breach of contract, as described above, he knows the risk he runs; let him fulfil the conditions of his lease. The law is, I believe, very lenient, and will allow him every opportunity to fulfil such conditions before it enforces the penalty.

The new Agricultural Holdings Bill does not go so far as it is proposed to proceed in this Bill; it makes no mention of compensation to tenants who can claim fixity of tenure, and who make themselves liable to ejectment; it allows the landlord to claim a set-off for waste; and it compels the tenant to return to the fields, in the shape of manure, all straw, &c., the produce of the farm. All that it is necessary to declare is, what may be considered an improvement under the Act, that the landlord and raiyat may know where the boundary lies between improvement and rendering the holding unfit for the purposes of his tenure.

Section 126, clause (3), is, I think, totally wrong in principle. It declares: "A work which benefits several holdings shall, for the purposes of this chapter, be deemed to be, with respect to each of them, an improvement." It is wrong, insomuch that it allows one raiyat to be the judge of other people's requirements. If a raiyat's occupancy-rights are sold up under a decree of Court, it is to be presumed the value of his improvements are taken into consideration by the would-be purchasers.

"If" compensation for disturbance is to be allowed, the tenants of holdings under a certain area should be barred from claiming it. If a precedent is required for this, it is to be found in section 23 of the English Agricultural Holdings Bill. "If" compensation is to be allowed, it should be for improvements made after the passing of the Bill.

"If" compensation is to be allowed to any class of raiyats, it should be allowed to ordinary raiyats, in preference to raiyats with assured tenures: but if it is allowed to ordinary raiyats, it cannot be well withheld from under-raiyats, and an allowance should be made for measures, &c., in preference to compensation for the unseemly holes made all over the country dignified by the name of tanks.

I believe compensation for improvements unsuited to the genius of the people, will be misunderstood by them, and may in time become the means of persecution.

B.—Of the landlord's right to measure land.

Act VIII of 1869, sections 25, 37 and 38, respectively declared the landlord's right to measure his estate; in case of opposition, allowed a competent Court to permit the measurement; and, under certain circumstances, allowed the Courts to order the measurement to be made by their own officers. Act VIII of 1869 was faultly, insomuch that neither landlord nor tenant could apply to the Courts for the appointment of an amín to measure the lands, unless they could first show that a dispute had occurred. The provisions of the new Bill (in many ways an improvement on the former procedure) nowhere distinctly say that the Court may "order" the land to be measured by its own officers. Section 137 (1) only implies that it may be done. Section 135 (1) merely says that the landlord may apply to the Court to direct the tenant to permit the measurement.

Both Act VIII and the new Bill compel the landlord to declare that he has been obstructed in the measurement of the lands, before they will afford him any assistance in the matter.

It would be a great convenience to all parties concerned to allow the landlord to apply to a Revenue officer to have his estate measured, without being first obstructed by his tenants. A landlord cannot always procure a trained amín, and some of the bitterest quarrels between landlords and raiyats are caused by the ignorant men sent out by the landlords to survey their estates.

Under section 133 the landlord is prohibited from measuring his estate oftener than once in ten years: this may in many instances be a great hardship to him, especially in estates bordering on large rivers.

The landlord might be prohibited from having a cadastral survey of his estates carried out under the supervision of a Government officer oftener than once in ten years; but he should be allowed to measure his lands as often as he pleases, or he should be allowed, for any reason which is satisfactory to the Court, to measure individual raiyats' fields; otherwise how is he to check encroachments? I am not sure that this section does not run counter to section 207 (*a*).

Regarding the length of the pole. When the registration of all estates was made under Act VII of 1876, the lengths of the poles used on such estates were recorded. If such record is not sufficient, it might be as well to have the length of the pole used on each estate authoritatively settled once for all.

C.—Of surrender and abandonment.

The right to relinquish his holding at the end of the agricultural year is not among the incidents attached to an occupancy holding under section 50. Every raiyat has a right to relinquish his holding under section 20 of Act VIII of 1869, always provided he gives his landlord ample notice of his intention to do so. Every raiyat should be allowed to relinquish his holding, provided he relinquishes it as a whole, gives his landlord ample notice of his intention to do so, and provided he does not hold it under a contract.

Care must also be taken to secure the right of pre-emption to people who may have advanced money to the raiyat on the security of his holding.

Abandoned lands the landlord is permitted to re-let as soon as they are abandoned. A raiyat who changes his residence, or goes off like a thief in the dark to avoid his creditors, without giving his landlord notice of his intention to retain his holding, should forfeit it after an absence of three months.

In some parts of Bihár a landlord would find it absolutely impossible to induce people to take up land that had been allowed to run to waste for a twelvemonth.

D.—Of Merger.

This chapter I think a very important and a very necessary one.

I think our interests are amply secured, and see nothing to alter in it.

E.—Of the appointment of a manager on behalf of a co-owner of an estate or tenure.

The provisions of this chapter are very necessary to protect the weak against the strong, but they hardly go far enough.

The Court should not only have the power to manage the estates, but should also have power given it to make a *summary* and, if I may use the word, a tentative division among shareholders, with power reserved to shareholders to apply within a certain time for a formal "batwara."

The appointment of a manager should not debar shareholders in a managed estate from applying for a "batwara." The proprietors should have power given to them to challenge accounts rendered.

CHAPTER XI.

Of the Settlement of Rents by a Revenue Officer.

Sections 151 to 163 allow the Revenue authorities to settle the jammabandi of an estate or a class of tenants in cases where—

(*a*) a large proportion of the tenants or landlords wish it, and deposit costs;

(*b*) where such an order is calculated to avert a serious dispute;

(*c*) where the settlement of revenue is being made.

Section 163 allows the Local Government to decide on whom the cost of settlement shall fall.

I think it very necessary that the Revenue authorities should have the power here granted them to prevent agrarian disputes, but think the powers should be very sparingly used, and only in cases where the disputes occur between landlords and large bodies of raiyats. Power should be given to the Revenue authorities to measure the estate also. Section 159 says the jammabandi settled is to come into force from the commencement of the agricultural year next following the publication; it says nothing as to the rates raiyats are to pay during the time the estate is under settlement.

The settlement should take effect from the commencement of the dispute, and, when settled, have the force of a decree. Section 151 (2) (*a*) should be an Exception to 163.

CHAPTER XII.

Of the preparation of a Record-of-rights by a Revenue Officer.

The only alteration I would wish to see made in the provisions of this chapter is to require any special conditions under which the raiyat holds his lands entered among the particulars to be specified. If sections 14 and 15 hold good, this chapter should be struck out.

CHAPTER XIII.

Of the Recovery of Rent from Raiyats and Under-raiyats by distraining the Produce of the Holding.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons published with the Bill says:—"This chapter may be said to be the result of a compromise. The Rent Commission, concurring with the Bihár Rent Committee, proposed to abolish the existing law of distraint as an offset of English law, of which the efficacy was impaired by the legislation of 1859, and which had been abused in Bihár, and not always applied in a regular manner in other parts of the country. To this strong objections were urged, and the procedure provided by this chapter was then devised by the Government of Bengal, as being likely to secure to the landlords most of the advantages offered by the existing law, without exposing their tenants to the evils complained of." I am as strongly of opinion as I was at the meeting of the Bankipore Committee, that the power to distrain growing crops should be abolished. I am of opinion that, as long as the power to distrain in any shape remains law, so long will the raiyats submit to its abuses.

If they are once given to understand that it has been finally abolished, the abuses will die a natural death. The raiyats now submit to private distraint, or, more correctly speaking, restraint of their crops, because they believe in its legality.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated that the provisions of the Bill are the result of a compromise; but, like most compromises, it will satisfy neither party; it will not satisfy us, who wish to abolish it, as it does not do away with the abuses we complain of; it

will not satisfy the zamindars. as they wish to distrain without suit, claiming such power as inherent in their position. The power here allowed they look upon only as attachment before judgment.

The Honourable Baboo Harbans Sahai, in his letter to the President of the Rent Committee, says:—"It has been declared, from the earliest legislation to the present time, that the produce of the land is hypothecated for the rent, and the zamindar has a legal right to realize his rent by distraining the crop." It is because all zamindars implicitly believe in the correctness of this hypothesis that they abuse their powers. Section 68 of Act VIII of 1869 says the produce of the land is held to be hypothecated for the rent payable in respect thereof. Had it stated that the land itself and all thereon was held hypothecated to any "arrears" of rent, it would have been more correct. Possession of the land may be hypothecated to the tents thereof, but standing crops cannot be hypothecated, as zamindars consider them to be, for the simple reason that no Government in the world dare declare that a raiyat must pay his rents before he has been afforded an opportunity of disposing of his crop; as the raiyat is in duty bound to pay his rents from the proceeds of his crops, so he should be allowed to dispose of them before being called upon to pay.

That standing crops should be liable to attachment is right, but only to the same extent as a lodger's goods at home are liable to attachment for his landlord's debts.

If it is declared that the crop is hypothecated to the rents, although it may not be done legally, morally the landlord will be justified in restraining the corps until his rents are paid.

To justify the present procedure, one must be prepared to declare that the future crop is hypothecated to arrears. If it is hypothecated to arrears of rent due, we are not justified in limiting the lien to one year's rent, but to all that may be due.

Under section 68 of Act VIII of 1869, the distraint of standing crops is allowable; but section 71 forbade distraint of stored grain. I cannot conceive any more effectual instrument of persecution than to allow distraint of grain stored in a storehouse, more especially as the power to distrain is to be given to raiyats who have sublet their lands.

CHAPTER XIV.

B.—Rules applicable to particular classes of suits between landlord and tenant.

Section 194 allows the service of a summons on a defendant in any suit for the recovery of rents, &c., which may be served through the post office.

This would, I think, hardly be sufficient in all cases.

Section 201 makes no allowance for the delays of the Courts. If a decree could be obtained quickly, there would not be much harm in this section; but considering a case drags on for months, this will come rather hard on some.

Sub-section (2) is not required.

C.—Suits to determine status, &c., of tenant.

I would like to see the provisions of section 207 and sub-sections somewhat extended.

At present a raiyat has only to deny the relationship of landlord and tenant to compel the proprietor of the estate to enter into a costly suit. He has only to declare that he received the lands from a neighbour to force two neighbouring proprietors to enter into a suit.

If the law would allow the landlord to sue for the determination of the status of any person in possession of his land, leave alone a "tenant," or to be allowed to have the boundaries of his estate defined, it would be an advantage and save much litigation.

CHAPTER XV.

OF THE SALE OF TRANSFERABLE HOLDINGS IN EXECUTION OF DECREES FOR ARREARS DUE ON THEM.

Section 208 (1) says—"'Incumbrance' in this chapter, used with reference to a tenancy, means any lien, sub-tenancy, easement, or other right or interest created upon the holding by the tenant in limitation of his own interest therein except—

"(*a*) a tenure existing from the time of the Permanent Settlement;

"(*b*) a tenure recognized by the settlement-proceedings of any current temporary settlement as a tenure at a rent fixed for the period of that settlement;

"(*c*) a tenure of land whereon dwelling-houses, manufactories or other permanent buildings have been erected, or permanent gardens, tanks, canals, places of worship or burning or burying-grounds have been made;

Had the word "tenure" been used instead of "tenancy," I could have understood the purport of this section.

I should then have understood that it was necessary to prevent tenancies created or acquired within a tenure from being considered encumbrances on that tenure; but why should it be necessary to declare that an occupancy-right, which in itself is a tenancy, shall not be an encumbrance on a tenancy?

"(*d*) a right of occupancy;

"(*e*) a right conferred on an occupancy-raiyat to hold at a rent which was a fair and reasonable rent at the time the right was conferred; and

"(*f*) any right or interest which the landlord has expressly, and in writing, given the tenant permission to create."

Section 209 (1) says—"When a decree has been passed for an arrear of rent due for a transferable holding, and the decree-holder applies under section 235 of the Code of Civil Procedure for the attachment and sale of the holding in execution of the decree, his application shall contain, in addition to the particulars specified in that section and section 237 of the said Code, a statement of the annual rent of the holding."

Section 210 (1) says—"When an order has been passed for the sale of a holding upon an application made under section 209, the proclamation made under section 287 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall, in addition to stating and specifying the particulars mentioned in that section, announce—

"(*a*) in the case of a tenure, that the tenure will be sold subject to the registered encumbrances, and will be sold subject to those encumbrances if the sum bid is sufficient to liquidate the amount of the decree and costs, and that otherwise it will, if the decree-holder so desires, be sold on a subsequent day, of which due notice will be given, with power to annul all incumbrances; and

"(*b*) in the case of an occupancy-holding or bastu-holding, that the holding will be sold with power to annul all incumbrances."

Section 216.—"Rule for disposal of sale-proceeds."

This is hardly sufficient. The sale taking place at the instance of the landlord, should state for what "term" the current rate is to hold good.

A purchaser might find that he had paid a high price for a holding at a low rental, only to be a defendant in a suit for enhancement afterwards.

When the sale takes place at the instance of the proprietor, it should be for a term certain, if at the instance of an ijaradar, for the term of his, the ijaradar's, lease unless the raiyat whose holding is sold has acquired a right to hold for a longer period, when it should be for the full period of his tenancy.

In reference to tenures under this section I have nothing to object to, but, as regards the sale of occupancy-rights, I think it should be compulsory on the landlord to enforce his decree by selling up the whole of the holdings, and not only a portion of it, as I believe the law now permits.

Occupancy-rights should be sold subject to their encumbrances in the same way as tenures are to be. Section 215 certainly allows the Local Government to declare that occupancy-rights in any given local area shall be sold subject to registered encumbrances; but it is not sufficient. It will paralyze all trade, by making all trade too venturesome to be entered into excepting at exorbitant rates of interest. If occupancy-rights are not to be sold subject to registered encumbrances, it is absolutely necessary that notice of sale should be issued on all mortgagees, to permit of their purchasing under section 218, or to protect their interests as they deem right, and not to sell up the holding unknown to them.

In disposing of the proceeds of the sale of a holding free from encumbrances, no mention is made of the poor mortgagees; the proceeds are to be divided between the decree-holder and judgment-debtor, only allowing the mortgagees two months to sue and recover from balance of proceeds in hand.

Section 217 allows the judgment-debtor to pay up the amount of decree with costs, any time before the sale takes place. More than half the property sold in this country under decrees of Court is sold at one-quarter of its value, owing to the uncertainty which would-be purchasers are in as to whether the sale will really take place or not.

The Court might give the raiyat as much time as it thinks necessary to pay up: the sale should be advertised for a date subsequent to the date allowed for payment; but when the date allowed is passed, the sale should be compulsory.

Section 218 (1).—"Amount paid into court to prevent sale to be in certain cases a mortgage-debt on the holding."

By "holding" I presume an occupancy-holding is meant.

Under this section, a person paying the amount due into court would hold the first mortgage on the land; but who would have a right to redeem it? Would the raiyat be allowed to do so, or only other and prior mortgagees under a suit?

What time would other mortgagees be allowed within which to sue?

As the clause stands, I am inclined to think they may choose their own time to do so, or under section 148, schedule II of the Limitation Act, 60 years. Would voidable encumbrances take precedence of registered ones under this section?

Then, again, the question arises, would the landlord again have the power to exercise his right of pre-emption under section 53?

CHAPTER XVI.

Of Limitation.

The present Bill is in so much different from Act VIII of 1869, that the time from which the period of limitation is to run is mostly mentioned in the clauses likely to be affected, whereas Act VIII of 1869 refers to them under clauses 27, 28, 29 and 30.

I presume grounds of action not specially provided for under the Bill would be governed by the law of limitation, Act XV of 1877, such as a suit against an agent, &c., which was provided for under Act VIII by section 30.

CHAPTER XVII.

A supplementary chapter to regulate the acts of the Executive does not concern us to any extent.

Schedules II and III permit summary sale of patní tenures.

When criticising the provisions of Chapter IV, I said I was of opinion that the procedure laid down in reference to patní tenures should be extended to all permanent tenures other than raiyatí tenures referred to in sections 14 and 15.

If it is necessary to permit zemíndárs to recover the rents due to them on patní tenures by a summary process, it is equally necessary to allow them to recover rents due to them on all permanent tenures under the same procedure. There is no valid reason for allowing them to recover rents on all tenures created by themselves after the Permanent Settlement, and withholding permission from them to collect the rents due to them on tenures created at the time of and before the Permanent Settlement, and on which they receive a fixed sum as malikána in perpetuity. There is nothing in the wording of this chapter, or in the definition given of a "patní tenure," to permit of this. All over Bihár we have such tenures; tenures created before or at the time of the Permanent Settlement, known as "Bhek-Birt," "Shikami tenures," "Juglis," "Ultumgha," &c., &c., the revenue for which is paid by the zemíndár to Government, and the rents of which the zemíndár has the greatest difficulty in collecting from the tenure-holders. If such tenures are to be brought under the provisions of these schedules, some of their sections will require to be modified.

Section 11 would be very rough on men who have advanced large sums on the security of such property, and who may not be rich enough to buy it in.

No facilities are afforded the landlord under the Bill of collecting Government taxes, such as road-cess, &c., from tenure-holders.

As the landlord is the tax-collector, and has to collect the taxes from tenure-holders and lákhirájdárs, some facilities should be afforded him to do so.

MEMORANDUM.

Regarding all the legislature wishes to enact under the Bill, I have said all I wished to say; but I think it will not be out of place to mention here that, however just and estimable the provisions of the Bill may be, its effects will be perfectly nugatory as long as the cost of obeying its behests is prohibitory.

To say that we "must" and "shall" do such and such work is not sufficient; it must be made "possible" for us to do it.

Under the proposed Bill, it is laid down that landlords shall keep, and also deliver, most elaborate accounts; but, unless the question of patwárís' accounts is thoroughly gone into and Regulation XII of 1817 is revised, it will be impossible for them to do so.

It is intended under the Bill that the registration of documents should be more generally resorted to; but, unless the act of registration is made less irksome and the fees less onerous, neither landlord nor raiyat can afford the time or the money to obey the law. It is intended that landlords who wish to recover what is due to them should desist from resorting to illegal means of recovering their rents, should desist from bringing illegal pressure to bear on their raiyats, and that they should in all instances where the raiyats fail to pay their rents resort to law to recover them; but nothing is done to encourage them to do so. The cost of recovering rents through the Courts is ruinous.

Whether it is intended to revise the Court-fees Act hereafter I do not know; but, unless something is done, either by following the suggestions of the Bihár Committee, or by resorting to other and more certain measures, landlords are bound to evade the law by every means in their power.

The smaller the amount of rent due, the greater the comparative cost of a suit. The cost of a suit is becoming greater every day instead of less. It has lately been discovered that, to enforce a decree against a raiyat, two rupees *tulbana* must be paid on each separate field; that is to say, if the landlord has a decree for ten rupees, and the raiyat's holding is divided into ten fields, he must pay twenty rupees *tulbana* to enforce it.

T. M. GIBBON.

Memorial of the Landholders of East Bengal to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, with Notes on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883.

The humble memorial of the Landholders of East Bengal.

Most respectfully sheweth—That your humble memoralists are filled with great alarm at the introduction into the Imperial Council of a Bill entitled the Bengal Tenancy Bill, the

provisions of which will tend to upset the present relations between landlord and tenant in Bengal, to redistribute property in land on an unfair basis, and will foster dispute and litigation to the prejudice of the interests of both classes.

2. It was in June 1875 that the zemindars of East Bengal, to their misfortune be it said, sent a petition to the then Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Richard Temple, asking for greater facilities in the realisation of arears of rent, the present law having practically been found very tedious and expensive. The petitioners stated that "it is not unknown to Your Honour that the punctual payment of the Government revenue of an estate depends almost entirely on the punctual payment of the rents of the *mehal* by the tenants thereof. That suits for arrears of rent are very expensive, and that it is almost impossible to realise by suits the rents of a *mehal*, where the ryots combine against the zemindars as they often do, and when in consequence a very large number of suits has to be instituted. That even where a decree is obtained for arrears due, the zemindar very often does not obtain the whole of the actual costs of the litigation, and that the low rates of interest allowed on decrees are by no means calculated to induce the ryots to satisfy the decrees at once. That leaving out of consideration for the present the question of enhancement, your petitioners submit that there are enormous difficulties in the way of their realising arrears of rent at even existing rates. That the right of occupancy created by Act X of 1859 is now-a-days claimed by the great majority of ryots, and that it appears to Your Honour's petitioners that a stringent law for the absolute forfeiture of the right of occupancy on non-payment of arrears of rent either on the due date or at the latest on the fifteenth day before the last day of the next payment of the Government revenue will, to a great extent, help the zemindar in realising his rent and paying the Government revenue in time. That distraint of crops and suits in courts are the only remedies provided by the law for the realisation of arrear of rent. That distraint is naturally disliked by the ryots, and that owing to the vexation which it entails upon the distrainor and considering the liability to be sued for damages, zemindars very seldom have recourse to this mode of recovering rents."

3. This prayer was rejected by Sir Richard Temple, but he said that "in the event of legislation being contemplated on a future occasion, he has little doubt that the arguments now submitted will receive proper consideration." A few months after this Sir Richard Temple recorded a minute on the 18th April 1876 on the question of determination of rent But his sliding scale of adjustment of rents was rejected both by officials and non-officials as quite impracticable. The Agrarian Disputes Act was passed on the 21st April 1876 and received the assent of the Governor General on the 10th July following. Sir Richard Temple again recorded two minutes, one on the 15th May and the other on the 29th August 1876, and in this later minute the question of the transfer of the occupancy right by private agreement is brought forward for the first time. The Government of India disallowed this proposal in the following terms in October 1876:—"With regard to the expediency of rendering the right and interest of an occupancy ryot liable to sale for default and transferable by private agreement, I am desired to state that the President in Council entertains considerable doubts. The absence of restrictions on the liability and the transfer of land which prevails in many provinces of India has been alleged by numerous authorities, whose opinions are entitled to great weight, to have been an efficient agent in the impoverishment of the ryot and the transfer of the ownership of land to classes not likely to be good landlords as regards either their own tenants or the State. The Select Committee on the Civil Procedure Code also, in a report presented to the Council of His Excellency the Governor General for making Laws and Regulations, on the 21st ultimo, have recommended considerable restrictions on the sale of land by Civil Courts in execution of decrees. Under these circumstances, it appears very questionable whether it is *politically expedient* to afford any additional facilities for displacing the existing occupants of land."

4. After the collapse of the measure proposed by Sir Richard Temple, there seems to have been a suspension of legislative activity in the matter of the Law of Landlord and Tenant in Bengal. But the difficulties of zemindars in the matter of realisation of rents were so great that Mr. Reynolds, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in his letter dated April 1877 thus brought the matter for the reconsideration of the Government of India:—"The replies which have been received to the circular in which this Government invited an expression of opinion on the Bill, sufficiently show that under the present procedure, the recovery of rent by legal process, even when the arrear is not disputed, is so tedious and costly as practicably, in many cases, to involve a *denial of justice*. If the ryots of a village combine to offer a passive resistance to the landlord by withholding all payment of rent, he can only realise his dues by a suit in the Civil Court against each individual cultivator. It is the object of the ryots to delay a final decision as long as possible and the procedure of a civil suit affords them many facilities for doing so. In the meantime the zemindar, though thus kept out of his own dues, is compelled to pay the Government revenue on pain of losing his estate, and under the pressure thus put upon him, he is sometimes obliged to accede to the demands of the ryots and to forego claims which he would have been able to establish under a more expeditious legal procedure, or he is forced to borrow money at ruinous rates of interest to enable him to meet the Government demand."

5. Mr. Mackenzie thus expressed himself in the Bengal Council four and a half years ago:—"The law's delays are, we know, proverbial, but the delays of a Bengal rent suit in a Bengal Moonsiff's court are more than even proverbial philosophy can make palatable. Notwithstanding the fact that in about 75 per cent. of the suits for arrears of rent the claim is not really contested, the zemindars and other rent receivers have too often found themselves unable to recover their just dues without submitting to a process which entails costs that they may

possibly never recover, and delays that are frequently embarrassing and ruinous, and even when the zemindar has got his decree, it by no means follows that he has got his rent.

"The zemindars are on their part not merely not unwilling but anxious to have this portion of their case taken into separate and final consideration. The Road Cess and Public Works Cess Acts have thrown upon them the responsibility of collecting with their rents and paying into the treasuries all that portion of this fresh local and provincial taxation which falls upon under-tenants of every degree. If they cannot recover this easily and effectually from their tenants, they must under penalty pay the amount themselves—a position which the State *is obviously bound to render* as little burdensome as possible. The Lieutenant-Governor therefore, as he has informed us immediately on his assumption of office, and in accordance with the last views of his predecessor, pressed upon the Government of India the necessity of early legislation to facilitate the early recovery of undisputed rents and to improve the law for execution of decrees in rent cases."

6. After alluding to the many special powers granted to the Zemindars by the old Regulations (notably Reg. VII. of 1799 and V. of 1812) for easier realization of rents, Mr. Mackenzie thus noticed the gradual curtailment of those powers and the change of sympathy of Government from the Zemindars to the ryots:—"In 1859 the legislative pendulum swung quite to the opposite extreme. Summary arrests of defaulters were forbidden. Distraint was so fenced in with difficulties as to become quite impracticable. Zemindars were prohibited from compelling the attendance of their tenants to settle accounts or pay their rents, and both parties were relegated to formal suits in the Courts, at first in that of the Collector and since 1869 in that of the Civil Judge. It was the opinion of many competent Judges, even at the time that this re-action *was too violent*, that sufficient consideration was not given to the difficulties of the Zemindar's position; that the character of the ryot, say, for instance in Backergunge, is not by any means so "child-like and bland" as to warrant the confidence which the law places in his anxiety to pay his rent as it falls due. As I explained to the Council before, the difficulties of the landlords have *become greater year by year*, while the pressure put upon them by Government has *become heavier*, and they stand now urgently in need of assistance from the Legislature."

Mr. Reynolds in his letter alluded to before thus concluded his observations on the subject:—"While Mr. Eden is not prepared at present to take up the question of defining the principles upon which rents should be enhanced, he is quite satisfied that something must be done without delay to improve the system under which the Zemindars can now legally recover their rents. Complaints have reached him from every part of the country of the difficulty and delay which exist under the present procedure, and both officials and non-officials are agreed that the system requires an immediate reform.

"In the two Bills now before the Bengal Legislative Council, the Bill for the levy of a cess for Provincial Public Works, and the Bill for the levy of a rate upon Irrigation Lands, it is proposed to collect the rates through the Agency of the Zemindars in the same manner as the road cess is collected at present. But it is clear to the Lieutenant-Governor that, if responsibilities of this kind are thrown upon the landlords, the Government is *bound in equity* to give them corresponding facilities for realising the amounts which they are entitled to recover from the ryots."

7. The above extracts will make at least two points clear; (1) that it was the difficulty about the realization of rent that the Zemindars asked to have remedied, and (2) that the Governments of Sir Richard Temple and Sir Ashley Eden thoroughly appreciated the difficulties of Zemindars and were anxious to have the law so amended as to remove all cause of complaint on that score. Section 9 of the Bill framed in 1876 and section 4 of that framed in 1879 provided that the amount sued for should be deposited in Court before the tenant would be allowed to put in his defence. This salutary provision has disappeared from all Bills that have been drafted since, for reasons not known to your memorialists. If the Government really believes that the difficulties of Zemindars "have become greater year by year" and if the Government is convinced that it is "bound in equity" to give them the necessary help, it is plain that the first step at legislation should be to remedy an evil that is unequivocally pronounced to exist with such dire consequence to the Zemindars. But nothing has been done in the present Bill to help the Zemindars in realizing their rents. On the contrary, it contains provisions of such a one-sided nature as to deprive them of their most cherished rights and thus by weakening their position, gradually pave the way for their extinction as a class. The provisions regarding khamar lands, the arbitrary extention of the right of occupancy, the right of transferring the occupancy tenure without the consent of the landlord, the restriction on freedom of contract, the provisions regarding compensation to ordinary ryots, the fixing of the maximum amount of rent at one-fifth of the gross produce, the provisions regarding the appointment of a manager by the District Judge and other provisions of a similar nature, too numerous to detail here, are all intended for the good of the ryot, and offer not only no advantage to the landlord but are calculated to throw enormous difficulties at every step in his dealings with his tenantry. The ryot under the proposed Bill could, if he chose, make the Courts the medium of his communication with the person designated in the Bill as his landlord, but the latter will no longer occupy the same position as in the past. The effect of these provisions becoming law would be (by giving a wide scope to litigation) to diminish the profits of the landlord, and hence the value of landed property. And with the rigorous sun-set law hanging over their heads and the tenantry in an attitude of defiance, it is not too much to say that utter ruination will stare the zemindars in the face. Your humble memorialists are loath to believe that the righteous British Government would sanction a one-sided, narrow, and unjust measure of this kind. It would virtually bring on the abolition of a class of Her Majesty's subjects who have invested money in land relying on the faith of the British Government and who sincerely believe that interference with their rights in the manner proposed would be a direct infringement of vested interests as guaranteed by the Permanent Settlement.

8. As regards the necessity for a radical and complete change in the law of Landlord and Tenant, your humble memorialists beg to observe that the present state of the country is not such as to justify the enactment of a measure like this. In Bengal (especially Eastern Bengal) the ryot is strong enough to hold his own against the strongest Zemindar. The advocates of the Bill admit this. Spread of education and enlightenment and the progressive nature of the times have infused a spirit of independence and self-reliance among the Bengal tenantry, quite unknown a quarter of a century back, and as time goes on this will spread. They are perfectly alive to their rights and interests and occasionally assert them in a way which places the landlord completely at their mercy. Sir Ashley Eden after his first tour in the Eastern districts was able to testify to the prosperous condition of the peasantry in clear and unmistakeable language. It is well known that the occupancy right is enjoyed by the great majority of the ryots. If statistics were called for, it would be found that at least 90 per cent. of the ryots possess that right, and the Zemindars have never in this part of the country objected to this right being acquired under the 12 years' rule, or shifted them from one plot to another with a view to prevent the acquisition of the right. The ryots are therefore quite secure from unnecessary eviction at the will of the landlord. Enhancement also takes place slowly and by mutual agreement. The difficulty of realization has already been dwelt upon before and it is a well-known fact that the Government, with its immense prestige, cannot realize the full extent of the jumma in Government estates even with the aid of a summary law. Thus whether for enhancement or realization of rent if the disadvantage is on the side of the Zemindar, your humble memorialists fail to see what justification there is for still further intensifying those difficulties, and reducing his status by a complete and radical change in the law calculated to excite the worst passions, foster litigation, and set one class against the other.

9. A detailed criticism of the provisions of the Bill is appended to this for the consideration of your Excellency in Council.

And your memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

Notes on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883.

Section 3, clause 2.—It is doubtful whether the word "owning" would include trustees and persons having a life interest only in the property, as well as *mutwallies* of *wakf* properties and *shebaits* of *debatter* estates.

Section 3, clauses 5 and 8.—The definitions of "raiyat" and "tenant" will bring in confusion. In a country where the masses of the people are uneducated and ignorant, these fine distinctions will often cause confusion, as by the careless use of the word raiyat in any proceeding the landlord will be taken as having admitted a tenant to be holding agricultural lands, though the person so designated may not have held any such lands at all. The definition of the word "tenant" is also faulty inasmuch as it does not show who, other than a tenure-holder, raiyat, under-raiyat or the tenant of a bastu holding, can be said to be a tenant.

If the distinction between a raiyat and a tenant is at all to be preserved, then the definition of raiyat might be advatageously changed to the following effect: A person shall be deemed to be a raiyat who holds land for the purpose of agriculture, horticulture or pasture, either on an express or implied agreement to pay rent.

Section 3, clause 6.—This will encourage unrestricted and unlimited sub-letting. The word "mediately" should be omitted.

Section 3, clause 16.—Transfer should not include mortgage.

Section 3, clause 19.—Does the word "stamped" include "sealed"?

Section 4.—The insertion of the words "not inconsistent with" in clause (*a*) has given such an amount of vagueness and indefiniteness to the section, that it would be a fruitful source of litigation and confusion. The illustration in this section is so far suggestive that it will encourage under-raiyats to set up false claims, as well as create another class of occupancy-right holders.

CHAPTER II.

This refers to *khamar* lands. Too much importance has been attached to this class of lands. Large zemindars seldom have *khamar* or *nij jote* lands, and it is only small landholders or talookdars who keep such lands for their own maintenance. The provisions relating to the survey and registry of these lands are based on the fear that landholders will gradually absorb and convert *rayati* lands into *khamar*, but this fear is perfectly baseless—at least so far as Bengal is concerned. The provisions of this chapter will entail a good deal of expense and trouble while they will serve no useful purpose. Why should the proprietor have to prove 12 years' continuous occupation? If any landholders have made new khamar, say, five years before the passing of the Act, will he be deprived of those lands? This is surely very unjust.

Section 15.—The presumption that when the rent of a tenant has not been changed for 20 years, it must be taken for granted that the land has been held at that rate since the permanent settlement of 1793, is injurious to the interests of landlords. There are many estates in which the owners are minors or women, who have treated their tenants leniently, and have never attempted to enhance the rents of their tenants, or who, from sheer neglect, have allowed

the same rents to run on for 20 years or more. The interests of such persons will be very seriously affected by this provision. On the other hand, those landlords who have been frequently enhancing their rents will not be so affected. This seems very unjust and unreasonable. This provision is also very prejudicial to the interests of auction-purchasers who are often unable to get possession of the zemindari papers of their predecessors. Mr. Reynolds remarks that "as there is reason to think that rent receipts have been much more regularly given and much more regularly preserved during the last 20 years than during the 20 years which preceded them, it seems to follow that the lapse of time has made it more and more easy to raise the presumption and more and more difficult to rebut it." Since the passing of Act X of 1859 the tenants have been quite alive to their own interests and do everything in their power to protect the many valuable privileges which that Act conferred on them. Hence it is much easier now to prove uniformity of payment for 20 years than it was when the Act was passed. It is therefore urged that if in future such presumption should be raised, the tenant should prove uniform payment for at least 40 years immediately before the commencement of the suit, and not any 20 years which may suit his own convenience.

Section 20.—This is probably intended to apply to Government estates. Why should not ryots in Government estates be in the same position as the ryots of private land-owners.

Section 28.—The relief contemplated by this section might easily be obtained by application to the zemindar. Why then should the ryot have power to apply direct to a revenue officer? If the landlord refuses to register such transfers, then the tenant may apply to the civil court as provided for in section 32.

Sections 45 and 47.—These two sections will confer the right of occupancy on all classes of ryots, without any distinction whatever in the territories under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. The occupancy right will then be "the rule and not the exception" as desired by Sir Ashley Eden. It is well known to Government that 90 per cent. of the ryots of the present day possess that right. They have acquired this right under the operation of the present law, and no land-holder ever thinks of attempting to deprive his ryots of this right. Why should then the Government confer that right in a peculiar way against the wishes of the zemindars when the latter affirm that they have never objected to the right being acquired under the 12 years' rule? It will not now be necessary to hold the same piece of land for 12 years, nor will it be required of him to hold one piece of land for 12 years in the same village. If a ryot holds one piece of land or several pieces of land at different periods in the same estate for 12 years (an estate may have 100 villages in it), then he will acquire the right of occupancy in all the lands held by him on the 12th year. For instance, an estate called *A* in the district of Furreedpur or Barisal of Dacca has lands which are within the boundary of the district of Furreedpur or Barisal. If the ryot holds a piece of land belonging to *A* for 12 years in Barisal, then he acquires a right of occupancy in all lands held by him in estate *A* in the district of Dacca, though he may have held those lands for six months only; or he need not even hold an identical piece of land in Barisal for 12 years, he may have held 10 pieces of land within that time in Barisal, but on the 12th year he will acquire the right of occupancy in all lands held by him in the 100 villages of estate *A* in the district of Dacca. Then, again, there may be several estates owned by different owners in the same village. By this provision the ryot of one estate is virtually a settled ryot in respect of the others, though he may not have held any land in any of the other estates. Because the ryot holds land in the same village, therefore he has a right to be deemed a settled ryot in respect of all estates in the village. This may be somewhat in keeping with the spirit of the Regulations which respected the rights of khoodkasht kudmee or resident ryots of the village only. But the khoodkasht ryots of one village were the paikashts of another, though included in the same estate. But the present Bill goes far ahead of the Permanent Settlement Regulations and gives the right of being deemed a settled ryot to any one holding land in the same estate which may have hundreds of villages in it. Is this not going too far? The definition should therefore be changed as follows:—"Every person who for a period of 12 years, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, has continuously held as a raiyat raiyati land situate in a village when it appertains to a single estate, or raiyati land in an estate when there are more estates than one holding interests in the same village, shall be deemed," &c. This will also do away with the necessity for retaining clause (*b*) of section 43 which is very wide in its significance. The word "village" should also be more accurately defined. The boundaries of *Thak* or survey maps of most of the villages as surveyed in 1853 are very different from their present boundaries, partly on account of diluvion or alluvion, partly on account of the encroachment of neighbouring villages, or partly on account of (in many cases) voluntary concessions and agreements entered into between neighbouring landlords since the last survey. It may often be that part of the area included in an old survey map is now a part of a different village and estate altogether. How will such cases be dealt with? The definition in section 45 is certainly a very broad one, which not even the blindest supporter of the cause of ryot's rights ever dreamt of having. The pesent law of 12 years' continuous possession of the same piece of land has been declared by the highest legal authorities to be an invasion of the proprietary rights of landlords as guaranteed by the Permanent Settlement. Sir Barnes Peacock, the late Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, remarked that "it interferes with the just rights of the zemindars, at least in the permanently-settled estates by vesting rights of occupancy in ryots who had no previous existence." Sir Richard Garth says:—"The term of 12 years, which was fixed by the Act of 1859 as necessary to confer the right, was about the shortest period of prescription known to the law. I believe it will be found that in no country in the world can a prescriptive title be gained in any shorter period." Then again, regarding the contention made by those who advocate the cause of the ryots, that the ryots in many parts of the country acquire the right according to custom and not under Act X of 1859, Sir Richard Garth says:—"If there did in fact exist now, or if there had existed in 1859, any customary right to land by which ryots could have proved a permanent title by an enjoyment of less than 12 years, the civil courts would surely have heard of it long before this." Such are the views of high legal authorities on this vexed question, and the opinions of many more Judges of the High Court could be quoted to the same effect. Apart from the question of the legality of the provision, it may be said that the 12 years' rule is not injurious to the ryots, and that there is no necessity or justification whatever for changing the law in this respect—at least in Bengal.

Section 46.—*Vide* remarks on chapter VII.

Section 49.—This section is also very objectionable. Section 13 provides that no land other than that for which a register has been kept shall become *khamar* land. This absolutely puts a stop to any increase in *khamar* lands in future. But section 49 provides that the occupancy right might be acquired even in *khamar* lands by 12 years' possession. The zemindar will thus suffer double loss—on the one hand he will be deprived of the right of retaining as much land as he may require for his own use, and on the other, his *khamar* land will also be acquired by his ryots gradually, so that if a zemindar wishes to extend his family residence, make a garden or a new house, he will be entirely at the mercy of the tenant.

Section 50.—This section confers on the occupancy ryot the right, along with other rights, of transferring the holding by sale, gift or otherwise, without the consent of the landlord. The zemindars of East Bengal have in their memorials to Government (on the Rent Question) in previous years always objected to this clause as detrimental to the interests of both landlord and tenant. The provision would tend to transfer the tenant right from *bonafide* cultivators to money-lenders or other non-cultivating classes. The right of transfer will defeat the very object with which the right of occupancy was created. As the Legislature cannot fix a limit to the rate of interest payable by ryots on amounts borrowed by them, nothing will prevent the mahajans from extorting any rate of interest that may suit their convenience. And in a short time the amount will be doubled or quadrupled, and the poor ryot will be sold out and converted into a day-labourer for tilling the very land which the other day he called his own. The full benefit of this measure, though intended for the good of the actual cultivator, will be reaped by a third party who cannot lay any claim to that right, and who does not deserve any consideration at the hands of the zemindar. The Government of India objected to this in 1876, but Sir Ashley Eden, in asking the Government of India to reconsider its decision, said: "There appears no ground for apprehending that this measure would have the effect of transferring the land to classes whose ownership it might not be thought desirable to encourage. It is probable that in most cases the right would be purchased by ryots of the same class and position as the former tenant. The occupancy ryot is, by the nature and terms of his holding, a resident cultivator, and to render his tenure saleable would involve nothing more than the possibility of its transfer from one resident cultivator to another." It is clear that the whole of Sir Ashley Eden's contention falls to the ground if it can be shown that in places where the right of transfer has been given, the tenure has passed from *bonâfide* cultivators to money-lenders or other non-cultivating classes. Sir Ashley Eden thinks "it is probable that the right would be purchased by ryots of the same class;" but is this borne out by facts? On the contrary, the experience that has been gained in Bengal and in other Provinces of India entirely falsifies the expectation on which the late Lieutenant-Governor based his theory. The Hon'ble Raja Siva Prosad in his speech in the Imperial Council in March last laid special stress on this point, and illustrated it by the case of one of his estates the tenants of which had simply been ruined. Then, again, if the occupancy ryot is by the "nature and terms of his holding, a resident cultivator," why does the present Bill give the right to one who is non-resident? Is the present measure in keeping with the original proposal of Sir Ashley Eden? If not, how wide it is of the first inception of the idea? It is said that the great advantage to the ryot will be that it will enable him to raise loans on easier terms. But even on this point opinions differ very much among those who have experience of the state of things in the mofussil. But granting, however, that such is likely to be the case, a loan on easier terms could be raised only by the hypothecation of the holding to the mahajan. It is unreasonable to accept the theory on which the justification of the measure is founded, *viz.*, that the money so raised would be spent in improving the condition of the land from which he could be sold out at any moment. The zemindar's interest in the land is much more permanent and unalienable than that of the ryot, even were the right of transfer conferred on the latter. An occupancy ryot can throw up his holding at any moment, if it does not prove profitable to him, but the zemindar's interest is permanent. Hence the zemindar is not only directly interested in keeping his estate in an efficient condition, but he alone is capable of incurring the outlay necessary for such improvements. When artificial means are employed to improve the condition of an estate, it is not plots of ground but large tracts that have to be dealt with. And large sums are often necessary to bring the works to a successful completion. It is therefore unreasonable to expect that the ryot will take on himself the work which he has not the means to undertake, and which legitimately belongs to the zemindar. It is said that the sale of a tenure would facilitate the realisation of rent by the zemindar, but if the disadvantages of the measure were weighed against its advantages, the good resulting from it would be more than counterbalanced by the evil that it would give rise to. As regards the ryot, the increased

facilities afforded him for borrowing would be a tool in his hands to work his own ruin by borrowing money on every possible occasion, such as marriage ceremonies and so forth. The phrase "which does not render it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy," in clause (a) of this section, is very vague, and ought to be properly defined, otherwise it will give rise to much litigation between landlords and tenants. No provision has also been made in the Bill for the registration in the landlord's sherista of transfers of occupancy holdings. Without such a provision, the landlord will entirely be in the dark as to who his tenant is. The Bill makes the occupancy holding virtually a *talook* and the occupancy ryot, a *talookdar*. With the large powers of sale and gift given to him, we do not see why the purchaser of an occupancy holding should not register his name in the landlords' sherista on payment of a moderate fee.

The advocates of the present Bill deny that its provisions are tantamount to redistribution of property in land. When this Bill becomes law, who is it that will get the compensations that are offered for acquiring land for public purposes such as railways, canals, &c. Will not the tenant come in for at least half the price, if not more? If this does not mean distribution of property, we do not understand what does.

The power of sub-letting in clause (e) will be resorted to chiefly to prevent the landlord from exercising his right of pre-emption. Sub-letting will be injurious to the actual cultivator, as the occupancy ryot could easily convert himself into a middleman.

Sections 56 and 61.—The acquisition of the right of occupancy by a new tenant immediately on his taking from the landlord a holding wherein the former tenant had a right of occupancy is indeed very objectionable. The landlord will have no interest to pay the highest amount offered for a holding, if he cannot let the land again as he desires, or if he cannot enhance the rent of the same holding. And it may often happen that having bought a tenure at the highest market price, he may have to wait for a year or more before he can let it at the same price or even at a reduction to a new tenant. Let us illustrate this by an example. A holding is put to sale by a mahajan and Rs. 200 is offered as the highest price. The landlord in exercise of his right of pre-emption pays this amount and buys the holding, but he may not be able to settle it over again at that price to a new tenant. Probably the land will remain uncultivated for a year, and he suffers loss of his rent meanwhile. The interest of the Rs. 200 at 12 per cent. per annum comes to Rs. 24. At last he is obliged to make over the holding to a new man, say, for Rs. 150. Here the landlord suffers a loss of Rs. 50 in the price, Rs. 24 in the interest or Rs. 74 in all, besides his rent for the year. Considering the risks undertaken by the landlord, it is but fair that he should be allowed to settle the land to the best advantage. And there is no reason why the new tenant who did not occupy the land for even a day, should get all the privileges of the previous occupant at the very moment he enters the land. The right does not attach to the land but to the holder thereof, and hence the new occupier cannot have the same privileges which the former tenant had.

We cannot conclude our observations on the subject of the occupancy right without noticing one or two important deviations in the present Bill from what was proposed by the Bengal Government in its own Bill. In the first place it was proposed (section 19, clause 3) that the sale of an occupancy right to a non-resident ryot will be valid only with the written consent of the landlord, and not otherwise. In the second place (section 21, clause *b*) no partial alienation of the holding will be valid without the written consent of the landlord. But both of these safeguards have been done away with in the Bengal Tenancy Bill. The first would to a certain degree prevent the right passing into the hands of men who, owing to their absence from the village, are not likely to turn out desirable tenants or good agriculturists. The second would preserve the holding from being divided into minute parts, the occupants of which would be too poor to devote themselves to the improvement of agriculture. But by far the most important objection to this sub-division is that it will lead to quarrel and litigation among the numerous co-sharers of the occupancy right. It is well known that the great majority of ryots in Bengal are Mahomedans. Under the Mahomedan law the property is inherited by all the sons, daughters, wives and other relations. Some of these—especially the daughters—live away in distant villages and do not share in the cultivation of the land. It frequently happens that these various members of a family do not agree among themselves. And the effect of this will be that any member living away and having no direct interest in the holding, will sell up his or her share to some one who is not friendly to the others. And this will lead to misunderstanding and quarrel. Is such a state of things likely to conduce to the peace and happiness of the cultivating class or to the feeling of security which the bestowal engender? Then, again, is this likely to facilitate the realisation of the zemindar's rent from the numberless co-sharers of a holding which the provision will create? If the resident occupiers are sued for arrears, they will say that such and such a person (perhaps living miles away) is part-owner and is responsible for part of the rent, though the holding stands in the name of one member of the family, as is usually the case. These difficulties should be well considered.

Section 59.—This section limits the enhancement to six annas per rupee, or to $\frac{1}{5}$th of the estimated average annual value of the gross produce. No restraint should be put on the freedom of contract. When contracts entered into by people in other matters are respected by the courts of law and sanctioned by the established usages of the country, there is no reason whatever why a contract freely entered into between a landlord and a tenant should be respected only when it binds the former. Then, again, the limit of six annas per rupee is one of several restrictions to enhancement of rent. The second restriction is contained in section 76, which provides that the enhanced rent shall in no case be more than double the existing rent. The

third is contained in section 77, which provides that the limit of enhancement will be reached by degrees in a number of years. And the fourth is the limit that the enhanced rent shall not exceed $\frac{1}{4}$th of the average annual value of the gross produce in staple crops calculated at harvest time, the cheapest time in the year. Amidst so many restrictions it is easy to conceive that the landlord will get but small advantage, if at all, when he puts the legal machinery in motion for the enhancement of rent. Let us illustrate this by an example. Suppose the average annual value of the produce of a bigha of land is Rs. 12½ and the present rent of the ryot one rupee. Under this law the landlord can claim to enhance up to Rs. 2 annas 8, being $\frac{1}{4}$th of Rs. 12½. But he cannot expect to get more than double or Rs. 2. And even if the court should deem it to be fair, from the evidence before it, to give him the Rs. 2, it cannot pass a decree for that amount, as section 59 provides that in no case shall the enhancement exceed 6 annas per rupee, or in other words, the landlord cannot get more than Re. 1 ans. 6. Hence it is evident that the landlord can never expect to get the full benefit of the provision of the law. For, even if the land should continue fertile, it would take, at this rate, at least 50 years to get his 2 rupees 8 annas, for the rent once enhanced cannot be disturbed for 10 years, as provided for in section 78. So much for the justice of this provision.

Regarding the limit of $\frac{1}{4}$th of the average annual value of the gross produce, it may be said that it is a most arbitrary limit. Even the Rent Commissioners fixed the limit at $\frac{1}{4}$th of the average annual value of the gross produce. Many authorities could be cited to prove that rent in times anterior to the Permanent Settlement varied from $\frac{3}{4}$ths to $\frac{1}{2}$ of the gross produce. In the western districts of Bengal the rent still varies from $\frac{1}{3}$rd to $\frac{1}{2}$. Even in East Bengal, where land is let at what is called the *burga bhag*, half the produce is paid to the landlord. But if the landlord gives the seeds, he gets more than half. In Behar the rent at present varies from half to nine-sixteenths of the gross produce. Under these circumstances, to fix the limit of enhancement to $\frac{1}{4}$th is very arbitrary and unjust. The limit should be six annas of the average gross produce of land where money rent is paid, and half the produce where rent is paid in kind. The ryot is the best person to know which lands will yield him a profit and what rent he can afford to pay deducting the cost of cultivation. Hence any contract freely entered into by a ryot should be respected by the law.

Sections 62 to 73.—The procedure laid down in these sections for the preparation of a Table of Rates is very cumbrous, and will be very expensive and troublesome to both landlord and tenant. Clause (*c*), section 63, refers to "the maximum and minimum estimated average amounts of the gross produce" of each class of land. If the average is to be struck, why should there be two averages for each class? These fine distinctions instead of simplifying matters will create more confusion. For the same reason there should not be two rates—a minimum and a maximum—for each class of land as provided for in section 73. It is very doubtful whether a Table of Rates, prepared on the complicated lines laid down in the Bill, will be fair to the landlord; on the contrary, the probability is that in every case the Table will err on the side of over-leniency towards the ryot. It will be necessary not only to fix rates for each class of land in every part of a district, but also in every village in that part. Rates vary in each village, and it is impossible to fix a rate for even a tolerably large area. The rates will remain in force for 10 to 30 years, but the land may deteriorate after 5 years. Is the tenant then to get a reduction? If he does not, he suffers. But if he does, he becomes liable to enhancement within that period. For, it would be unfair to give him reduction without making him liable to enhancement. In either case the fixed period of 10 or 30 years will be injurious to one or the other party. In respect to such matters the landlord and tenant should adjust their claims without interference from outside. Then, again, in most of the districts in Eastern Bengal, the Courts of Law have decided what are fair and equitable rates. Does the Legislature intend that the rates fixed by the High Court and adhered to both by landlord and tenant should be set aside by the revenue officer and the rates established since a long time after the expenditure of large sums of money should be altered at the caprice of such an officer? Then, again, the expenses to be incurred by Government, including the salaries of all officers employed down to the lowest peon, will be realized from both landlord and tenant, and the result will be financially disastrous to both. It should also be remembered that a Table will be of value in places which have been surveyed in detail. To prepare a Table before such a survey would be like putting the cart before the horse. Then, again, after incurring all the trouble and expense of preparing a Table of Rates, the landlord will have to bring as usual a suit in the civil court to determine under what class the land in question should be assessed. This means a good fight with the tenant over again. Why this double loss?

Section 70.—The limit stated in this section should not exceed 10 years. Considering the difficulties in the way of enhancement and the hard contest with the ryot at every step, it is but fair that the landlord should not be debarred from reaping any advantages which he may get on the clearest evidence and on the most undeniable facts.

Section 71.—It is not clear why the ground of enhancement on account of the ryot is holding more land than he pays rent for, has been omitted from this section.

Section 83.—The preparation of annual price lists should be made by the Collector in consultation with, say, three assessors, who should be men having a knowledge of the country and its produce.

Section 87.—The provision of a settled ryot acquiring permanent right in bastu land *not included in an occupancy tenure*, is unjust to the landlord. But the provision that he will not lose the right, though he may cease to be a settled ryot of the village or estate, appears to us quite incomprehensible. Nothing has been said as to how long the landlord will wait before

letting out the land left by the absconding ryot, and no attempt has been made to show any justification for so unjust a measure. Furthermore, the run-away ryot cannot be ejected from the land, though he may have broken the condition on breach of which he was, under the terms of the contract, liable to be ejected without compensation being paid to him. Is this fair?

The limit of 5 per cent. is also very unfair. This limit had been first fixed by the Rent Commission. Even Government paper yields 4 to 4½ per cent. and free of all costs. For land there is first the Government revenue to be paid, then the Road and P. W. cesses. Then there is the cost of collection and the difficulty of realizing it. Some consideration should also be made for outstanding balances and chances of litigation. After all this trouble and expense 5 per cent. is the highest that the landlord can look to as his rent. Is this fair?

CHAPTER VII.

The broad definition given of a settled ryot will include almost every ryot in Bengal, Behar and Orissa. If there be one in ten thousand who is not so, he would also in course of time get all the privileges of a settled ryot, which no landlord could prevent him from acquiring. The provisions for compensation for improvements and for compensation for disturbance are such as to make the position of an ordinary ryot in some respects more enviable than that of an occupancy ryot. These two compensations are to be given to him though he should have broken a condition for breach of which he was, under the terms of the contract, liable to be ejected. Hence to eject such a tenant would be out of the power of an ordinary landlord unless he is disposed through sheer *malice prepense* to incur an unwarrantable amount of expenditure in order to get rid of the tenant.

The breach of a stipulation relating which both parties have most willingly made an agreement, is an infringement of the landlord's right, and if in such a case the ryot is allowed compensation of such a heavy nature, it is simply punishing the landlord for seeking redress of wrong done to him, and rewarding tenant for committing the wrong. If a ryot does not appear or agree to pay the enhanced rent demanded (section 92), it will be more advantageous to him than to the ryot who agrees to pay the enhanced rent, for, if the case is not decided within ten weeks before the expiry of the year and the agreement is recorded in the year following, the ryot will have to pay the enhanced rent from the year next following the date of the agreement. In the case of the ryot who agrees before the expiry of the year to pay the enhanced rent, he will have to pay at that rate from the year immediately following.

Seetion 96.—This is very objectionable. Why should a ryot be entitled to claim all accretions to his holding as his own. If this be the law, half a dozen ryots of a village could claim a new *chur* much larger perhaps than the village itself as their own. But when a civil suit is brought by the neighbouring landlord for possession of the land, who is it that will bear the cost of the suit—the ryot or the landlord? Is the landlord or the ryot to be made defandant?

Section 100.—The provisions regarding a better system of receipts and accounts are no doubt desirable, but the safeguards have been stretched to an unnecessary extent. The receipt is to contain so many facts relating to the holding that it will serve the purpose of a *pattah*, that is, it will have in it those facts and figures which a *pattah* usually has. This will not facilitate the collection of rent, but will throw such obstacles in the way of ordinary village patwaris or gomastas, that they will honour the rule more in the breach than in the observance thereof, and will oftentimes comit such blunders as to throw everything into confusion. Some simple facts connected with the rent of the holding should only be stated, such as the name of the tenant, the date of payment, the name of the landlord, the amount paid in the arrears and the amount paid in the current rent of the year, &c. We would therefore suggest that clauses (*f*) and (*g*) in section 100 be expunged as quite unnecessary in an ordinary receipt—especially as section 101 provides that, within three months after the expiry of each agricultural year, a statement of account showing these and other important particulars is to be delivered to the tenant by the landlord under a penalty. As a better system of accounts will have to be kept by the landlord under the provisions of this chapter than is at present in vogue, the landlord may be fairly entitled to a small fee for retaining a better staff of servants, and perhaps increasing the number of his amlahs in order to carry on this extra work. There is ample justification for this demand, as the landlord will be liable to a fine of Rs. 50 for non-compliance with this provision. When there are more co-sharers than one, the fee might be rateably divided among them. If the landlord is not to receive a fee, then the penalty should be withdrawn, as it will prove ruinous to many poor landlords, and will prove quite embarassing to others.

Section 103—Is objectionable, as the phrase "has reason to believe" is too wide, and would entitle all and every ryot to deposit the rent in court without tendering the amount, to the receiver of it. This would entail endless hardship on the landlord to recover the amount, and in every case he would have to incur some expense in recovering it, which would be a source of loss to him for no fault of his own.

In making a deposit under clauses (*b*) and (*c*) of section 103, the tenant need not even mention the names of those co-sharers who are entitled to receive the amount. And no penalty is attached to his wilfully withholding this information. In such a case how are the co-sharers to know that such a deposit has been made in their favour unless they retain a mooktear (in every court where rent might be deposited) to bring in such information. Is it within the power of every landholder to engage the services of agents for that purpose? We should therefore suggest that, when deposits are made under clauses *b* and *c*, the tenant should be bound

under penalty to give the names of the persons who, he has reasons to believe, are entitled to the rent, and then the officer should cause a notice to be served in the *tahsil kutchery* or in some conspicuous place in the village or estate.

Section 107.—Three years is too long a time. It should be six months.

Section 119.—Half the gross produce should be the limit instead of 5-16ths.

Section 129.—If a ryot is evicted from a holding in default of payment of rent, there is nothing in this section which will prevent his demanding compensation from the landlord. This is very unfair. This is encouraging a defaulter, while it is the duty of the Government considering the stringent sunset law to afford every facility to the landlord in the realisation of rent. It should be remembered that one of the primary objects of the revision of the Rent Law was to facilitate the recovery of arrears of rent, but the temptation to a defaulter in the shape of compensation is such that he will have no incentive to be punctual in his payments. There is nothing in the Bill to deter a tenant from wilfully withholding the payment of rent. On the other hand, he is ensured from loss likely to arise from any measures that the landlord may take by the heavy compensations to which he might lay claim.

Section 133.—If the landlord be willing to measure the land, we do not see why he should not be able to do so within ten years next following the date on which it was so measured. It will in no way be injurious to the ryot, while the landlord might require to do so for some useful purpose. This section should be expunged.

Section 140.—Six months should be about the largest time allowed in such cases.

Sections 142 to 148.—These are some of the most objectionable provisions of the Bill Co-parcenary is an institution in this country. There are few estates, tenures or under-tenures that are owned by single individuals. In the great majority of cases the co-parceners have separate management. The usual practice is for some co-parceners in a group to have joint collection and management separate from another group of co-parceners. Instead of mending matters and furthering the cause of peace, these provisions will be an instrument to harass and virtually to ruin the majority of landholders. Owners of infinitesimal shares and refractory tenants would be able to throw every estate into the hands of the Court of Wards by a simple application to that effect to the District Judge. No provision has been made for an appeal against the Judge's order, and his order, however unjust and arbitrary, will remain final and conclusive. The onus to show cause why they should not appoint a common manager, is on the defendants, and the applicant is not bound to adduce any proof in support of his assertions. There is also no appeal against the appointment of a manager, nor against an order refusing to remove him from office should any interested person apply for his removal on sufficient grounds.

Sections 166-187.—The restricted nature of distraint allowed in these sections will be worse than useless to a landlord. The procedure laid down is like an ordinary suit to recover arrears of rent. The full amount of court-fee will have to be paid, the application shall be signed and verified in the manner prescribed by the Code of Civil Procedure. The court may then admit the application or reject it. These several restrictions are against the object and spirit of the law of distraint, and hence no landlord would take recourse to it.

Section 157.—Three months' time should be allowed under this section.

Section 187.—No reason has been assigned why the local Government should have the power to suspend the provisions relating to distraint in any area it thinks proper. Probably the object is to prevent harassment and oppression of ryots by frequently or unnecessarily distraining their crops. If the Executive Government should retain the power to interfere when the landlords are bent on taking undue advantage, we do not see any reason why the existing law regarding distraint should be so distorted and modified as to make it practically valueless. Why should good landlords be deprived of this only method of speedy realisation of rents for the sake of the bad ones who could be easily checked by the local Government. As a matter of fact, distraint is never taken recourse to except under the most pressing necessity.

Sections 188-207.—With regard to the procedure for the realisation of rents the provisions in the present Bill are very much alike the existing law on the subject with a few minor alterations. Section 199 is new, but is not likely to be of any use, and will certainly be limited in its application. The ryot who disputes the plaintiff's claim is not likely to act so foolishly as to admit that the arrear is due to him. Such cases will be very rare, and will not be of any help to the generality of landlords. What would really facilitate the realisation of rents would be to provide for the absolute forfeiture of the right of occupancy on non-payment of rent either on the due date, or at the latest, on the fifteenth day before the last day of the next payment of the Government revenue, provided the arrear be established to the satisfaction of the civil court. Or let it be provided that the ryot should deposit in court the amount sued for before filing his defence if the suit be a contested one, though he might sue the landlord for damages should the claim turn out to be false or should the claim be for a larger amount than he is entitled to get. Without some such stringent provision, it is vain to hope that the ryot will be regular in his payments. Or it may be provided that any number of tenants might be sued in the same plaint, so as to reduce the cost of bringing such suits. In many instances the ryot in order to avoid paying the rent, puts in a disclaimer denying the title of the landlord to the land. These cases should be severely dealt with: section 79, clause (8) of the Bill of the Rent Commission runs thus:—Subject to the other provisions of this Act, a tenancy is determined as between the parties thereto by any of the following occur-

rences in the following cases respectively, that is to say, in the case of any tenant(s)—by disclaimer when in a suit to which his landlord is a party, the tenant disclaims such landlord's title and sets up an adverse title in himself or another, by matter in writing or reduced to writing by the court under the provisions of the Act or the Code of Civil Procedure, and such landlord elects within six months to treat such disclaimer as a forfeiture of the tenancy; provided that no such forfeiture by disclaimer shall be allowed in any case in which such tenant having been let into possession by such landlord can show that such landlord's title had expired or been defeated or annulled at the time at which such disclaimer was made, or not having been let into posssession by such landlord can show that he admitted his title as landlord under a *bonâ fide* misapprehension or mistake. It is not clear why such a salutary provision has been left out.

Section 198.—The limit of Rs. 50 in clause (*b*) of this section is very high. This amount will cover the majority of rent suits, and as such cases will, in the first instance, be tried by a moonsiff, an appeal should be from his decision to the Judge or Subordinate Judge.

Section 202.—This section will enable a tenant to acquire rights which were never intended to be conferred on them. He has only to use the land in such manner or to render it unfit for the purposes of the tenancy, and when called upon by the landlord to repair the damage or pay "reasonable compensation," if the tenant choose to pay the compensation, his title to the land will be admitted and his possession confirmed. If this be the law, then anybody could take anybody else's land on payment of what is called reasonable compensation.

Section 208.—Clause (*f*) of this section should be omitted. This will frequently give rise to fraud, and will be a great injustice to auction-purchasers.

Section 210.—Section 201 is a confirmation of the circular order of the High Court published in the *Calcutta Gazette* in July 1880. The registered incumbrances can only be ascertained by a reference to the registers in the different sub-registry offices. These offices are scattered in different parts of the district, and visiting them involves so much waste of time and money that they operate as a serious bar against the execution of rent decrees. The poor class of landlords cannot afford to execute decrees on account of the costs to which they are subjected. As the indexes to these registers are kept in English, and English education has not extended into the interior of districts, the decree-holder finds it difficult to obtain the services of a person competent to examine the registers, and should he succeed in finding a person, he has to pay him a sum which cannot be included as costs in the execution of his decree. Let us consider the outlay which must be incurred before a decree for rent can be executed under this section. (1) The payment of fees in the several registry offices and the cost of obtaining copies of documents to enable the decree-holder to put in a correct affidavit, or he is certain to subject himself to the penalty of prosecution for perjury. (2) The cost of obtaining copies of road cess valuation papers in order to determine the value of the property to be sold. (3) The cost of making local enquiries to ascertain the number and rental of undertenures, &c. To the poorer classes of landlords who have expended their all in obtaining a decree, these costs are simply ruinous. Is it fair to throw such difficulties in the way of decree-holders who have satisfied the court that their claim is just and proper? If it is considered necessary that the existence of all incumbrances should be ascertained before a decree for rent can be executed, why should not the Registrar be required to furnish this information free of cost. If not, a moderate fee should be charged and the Registrars should be held responsible for the accuracy of the returns.

Section 215.—If occupancy holdings are also to be treated as tenures in such areas as the Local Government may, from time to time, by notification in the Gazette, direct, then the realization of rent will come to a perfect stand-still. It is not clear why the local Government should have this power reserved to itself. The Bill is only one-sided in its character, and favours the tenant unduly in his dealings with his landlord, but the *acme* of injustice is reached if this discretion is to be given to the local Government.

No. 21, dated the 20th September, 1883.

From—Raja Promatha Natha Roy Bahadur, of Dighapatia,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I have the honour to forward herewith my notes on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, and I beg you will do me the favour to lay them before His Excellency the Viceroy.

Notes on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

I, as a zamindar of Bengal, cannot help feeling alarmed at the unjust provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill introduced into the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Viceroy. As far as I am aware, this Bill has been brought forward, not in response to any application from the tenants for an enlargement of their existing rights, but because the landlords have been praying since some years for an alteration in the existing law to make fair enhancement of rents practicable, and their realization speedy, and successive Lieutenant-Governors have promised to grant both of these two prayers. It however, instead of altering the existing law in these two respects in such a way as would make it useful to the landlords, proposes to curtail several of their existing right for the benefit of the raiyats, and, as I shall show in paragraph 11 of these notes, to grant rent-free to the tenants all lands of the rents of which

they have been able to defraud the landlords for some time past. But the words which have been said by several of our rulers and legislators since the introduction of the Bill into the Council have alarmed me more than the Bill itself, and they have no doubt that the Government dislikes the landlords as a class. I am heartily willing to support any stringent provision for stopping the levy of illegal cesses, if our rulers would be disposed not to make fair enhancement impracticable. But I beseech them to consider whether it is just and wise to make no distinction between the innocent and the guilty, and to punish the whole class by making the law too harsh for everybody.

2. The landlords of Bengal and Behar, as a class, though not numerically large, constitute a very important and useful section of the community, and they are neither the creations of Lord Cornwallis nor of any other British Governor General of India, as some people suppose; but they claim their existence from a date centuries before the commencement of the British rule in India; and it will be unwise and unjust for the Government to curtail the rights they have enjoyed now for hundreds of years, and which have been solemnly confirmed to them by the Permanent Settlement and the Royal Proclamation of 1858.

3. If, however, our rulers think the landlord class as not undeserving of fair treatment, I am sure their sense of justice will oblige them to reconsider the Bill, and to make it really fair and equitable to both the sections of the landed class; and, on this belief, I now proceed to discuss some of the important sections which have yet struck me as unjust, and therefore objectionable from the landlord's point of view, preserving as far as possible the same order in which they are arranged in the Bill.

4. *Section 15.*—This section, unlike every other law we have, instead of putting on the shoulders of the tenant the burden of proving his allegation that he has paid the rents of his tenure or holding at a uniform rate since 1793, places upon the landlord the onus of disproving this allegation, or rather of proving the contrary, if he (the tenant) can only show that the rate of his rent has not been changed for the last twenty years. This provision has also been objected to by a large number of people, both official and non-official, since the publication of the Rent Commission's Bill and Report; and Mr. Reynolds, in his memorandum, dated the 21st February, 1881, appended to the Bill he prepared under directions from the Bengal Government, admits the soundness of those objections, and the difficulty of the landlords in these terms:—"Allowing all due weight to the arguments of the Commission, it is to be remembered that the presumption was first introduced by Act X of 1859, and that it was then necessary for the tenant to prove a uniform rate from 1839. It is now only necessary to prove such uniform payment from 1861. As there is reason to think that rent-receipts have been much more regularly given, and much more carefully preserved, during the last 20 years than during the 20 years which preceded them, it seems to follow that the lapse of time has made it more and more easy to raise the presumption and more difficult to rebut it. Nor can it be denied that auction-purchasers labour under a special grievance in this matter." though Mr. Reynolds, in his speech in Council on the 12th March last has modified his former views in the belief that a landlord will always be able to get out of his difficulties in such cases by applying for a record-of-rights under Chapter XII of the Bill, I fail to see the force of this reasoning; for I am sure the tenant will not hesitate to take advantage of this section to make an incorrect allegation of his *isthumurari* right before the officer preparing the record, and then that officer shall have no help for it but to throw the whole burden of the proof on the landlord, in the same way as a Civil Court does now. True, this provision about presumption is our existing law, but it is nevertheless an unfair one; and, when the law is being altered for the benefit of the ryots, I think any provision which is unduly harsh towards the landlords should be altered also. I therefore beg our legislators to either omit this unjust section altogether, or at least to restore the shape which was given to it in the Bill by Mr. Reynolds.

5. *Section 17.*—I believe that, to prevent the meaning of this section being misunderstood, the words "if the rate of rent have not been altered thereby" which exist in the Commission's Bill, the Bill prepared by Mr. Reynolds under the direction of the Government of Bengal and Digest, should not be omitted.

After *section 31* and before *section 32* I propose the insertion of a section to entitle a landlord to demand and receive in all cases a security from the transferee or the successor of not less than half the annual rent. When it is proposed to give to all permanent tenure-holders the advantages now enjoyed by patnidars in regard to the registration of their tenures, I think it is only fair that landlords should be given the same privileges about demanding and receiving security which a zamindar now has when a *patni* under him is transferred by sale, bequest or inheritance. This provision is very necessary, since, these tenures not being liable to summary sales like the patnis, the arrears together with the costs of realizing them sometimes grow too large to be fully covered by the sale-proceeds.

7. *Sections 45 and 47.*—For the sake of convenience, I take the two together. These sections propose to give to all ryots, whether *khudkast* or *pykast*, who have held lands in a village or estate for twelve years or more, the new status of settled ryots of that village or estate, and to confer upon all such ryots the right of occupancy in regard to any ryoti land they shall hold, whether they paid any rent for it or not, and even if they might have entered upon it the day before. The payment of rent for a plot of land is an essential necessity under the present law for the accrual of the right of occupancy in regard to that plot, and even the Rent Commissioners, the majority of whom are well known to be very friendly to the ryots, did not propose to do away with this condition, very necessary for the protection of the right of the landlord class. This alteration of our present law would further confer the right of occupancy upon the majority of the *pykast* tenants who hold from year to year

and who do not consider this right of any value at all, as they abound now only in places where there is a greater demand for tenants than for land. Under the present law, none of these ryots has acquired an occupancy-right to any particular plot of land in the village, though many of them might have held lands in it for 12 years or more; because, there being no certainty that all the tenants who have come in this year from remote places will also come in the next: those who at the beginning of each season come first are first served; hence very few of these ryots can show uninterrupted possession of the same fields for any number of years. A landlord now therefore always can, and he often does, give these holdings over to new settlers whenever he finds an opportunity of reclaiming some portion of his waste-lands by so doing; for a new settler would not, and could not, take up waste-lands, unless he could secure a proportionate quantity of land which had been under cultivation. But, if sections 45 and 47 were passed into law in their present forms, a great check would be put to the reclamation of waste-lands, and the landlords shall suffer a great loss thereby. Besides, the landlord would suffer material injury in another way, namely, that many of these *pykast* cultivators having thus held lands in the village for 12 years or more, they shall now acquire occupancy-rights to the plots they have cultivated this year, though, as it often happens, they would not come to claim their rights again; but, all the same, the landlord shall have to refuse every one of these plots to a new ryot who might come first and like to take up somé of them next year; consequently, he shall have to lose the whole of his next year's rent on these holdings, as it is well known that it is impossible to realize rents from these ryots if they have no crop which might be distrained or attached. Under these circumstances, I must object to these sections, and I venture to add that to consider one of this class a settled ryot of the village or estate is quite foreign to our traditions. Even the Bill prepared by Mr. Reynolds under direction from the Bengal Government did not propose an extension of the occupancy-right such as this.

8. *Section 50, clause (f).*—It proposes to make the occupancy-right transferable by sale or bequest, without even any check against a holding being broken up piecemeal in the course of the transfer—a provision considered desirable in both these cases by the Select Committee on Mr. Mackenzie's Bill to protect the landlords from needless inconvenience and annoyance. I regret to see several officials in high position (even the Hon'ble the Law Member included) believe that this is at present held to be the custom "throughout a very large portion of the area to which the Bill applies." If they will ascertain by enquiry the total number of holdings transferred from one family to another within a certain period, and compare it with the number transferred by sale or bequest, they shall find that the latter class of transfers bears a very small proportion to the former, and that the provision would be a novelty as far as the majority of our districts are concerned. This proposition, which is intended to make a substantial addition to the privileges of the ryots by taking away something equally substantial from the rights now enjoyed by the landlords, has already been discussed a good deal by the public both from a landlord and a ryot's point of view. Whether this new right will practically benefit the ryots or not, it is beyond my province to discuss here. But, if this clause be passed into law, (1) the landlords shall be deprived of the power they now have to keep new hostile tenants out of their properties; (2) the income they now derive from the nuzzurs which they get by re-letting out the profitable abandoned holdings shall be entirely lost to them, as all such holdings then shall be sold and not given up by their holders; (3) a lot of unprofitable holdings, which nobody would care to buy, shall come back to the landlord's hands and remain there, thus depriving them of a portion of their income from rents. Such holdings do come to their hands often, but now the better class of them come also; and by breaking up the old holdings when necessary, and forming new ones comprised of good and bad plots, a landlord can almost always let out every inch of his property, which advantage he shall be deprived of hereafter. The following five sections certainly enable a landlord to meet inconvenience No. 1 if he be a rich man and capable of buying up his tenants whenever they might be disposed to sell away their holdings, but not otherwise, while Nos. 2 and 3, as I have shown above, would surely bring heavy pecuniary losses to the landlord class. When this question was originally taken up by Government, it proposed to give to the landlords facilities for the speedy realization of their due and a law to ensure fair enhancements of their rents as compensations for this new right which would be given to the ryots at the landlord's expense; but, as this Bill does not intend to give them the two advantages named above in a way likely to better their present position, I must very respectfully, but strongly, object to this new measure.

CHAPTER VI, SUB-CHAPTERS A, B, C, D, AND E.

9. I take up all these sub-chapters together, in order to be able to show in a convenient way my reasons for the additions and alterations I am going to propose to some of their sections which give the rules as to how the money-rents of occupancy-rights shall be settled by Government officers and, in cases of amicable enhancements, the limits which the law shall not allow the rents to exceed. Act X of 1859 virtually made the occupancy-ryots co-proprietors with the landlords, and this Bill proposes to confer upon them (the tenants) what little is now wanting to make that right complete. If, after having brought things to this state, the legislators do not say definitely what is to be the share of each party in the income derived from the land, or at least how far one party can advance and the other recede, solely because the existing rents are either lower or higher than that share of the produce from the soil, it is only natural they shall quarrel; and, if the

law would not give the landlords what in fairness they ought to get, and what they used to get not many years ago, it is quite as natural that, as long as they exist, they shall try to secure their fair share by means other than the law, specially when it is seen that the law-abiding are in a worse plight than the less scrupulous. If the legislature, or rather the Government, does not want that the rents of the occupancy-ryots should be enhanced, it is better to say so at once and in plain words than to hold out hopes to the landlords of better things and then to deny them the fulfilment. The High Court ruling laid down in *Thakurani Das'* case, and based upon the existing law, has been universally condemned as unworkable for the purpose of restoring even that proportion which the rent bore to the gross produce of the soil before the time the prices of produce rose, and, therefore, it has always been cried against by the landlords as unfair to them. If our rulers did not know this before, they know it very well now, from the letters and notes submitted to them by persons having practical experience on the subject since the publication of the Rent Commission's Report and Bill; and I fail to make out why, after this knowledge, the Government should persist, as it does in this Bill, to lay down this case-law as the rule to be observed by rate-table makers and courts to determine what enhancements of the rents of occupancy-ryots should be allowed. When rents are paid in kind, as far as I am aware, they are everywhere adjusted now according to defined shares of the gross income derived from the land; and everybody, even the Government, has acknowledged that a certain share of the gross produce should be the limit beyond which money-rents also must not be enhanced; but I cannot see why, Government should hesitate to allow an enhancement up to that share of the gross produce simply because of the existing rent being below it; and this is the law for which the landlords have always been petitioning. Some of the friends of the ryots object to this principle of enhancement on the grounds that it will raise the rents very high all on a sudden, and that, because of the existence now of a difference in the shares, or rather in the proportions, of the rent with the gross produce in the different tracts of this province, any definite share, if fixed by law, would be unfair. Now, this Bill provides that the enhanced rent shall not be more than double the former rent; and, from my personal experience in the zamindari business, I can say that this rule is often followed in amicable enhancements; and not in a few cases of individual jamabandis the enhanced rents go up to that maximum. I therefore think this provision, with that about ten years' rest, meets the first objection. In regard to the second, I fail to see its force, as it can be proved by historical evidence that in old times the rents bore in every part of the province a uniform proportion to the gross average produce of the soil, and our laws have only latterly created the difference. I do not therefore see what harm can there be if after some more years the porportion be uniform again, the rights of the landlords as also of the occupancy-ryots being the same everywhere throughout the province. Then comes the question, what should that share of the gross produce be up to which the landlords shall claim enhancement and no further? The Rent Commission, of which the declared friends of the royts were the prominent members, proposed that rents should not be allowed to go beyond a fourth share of the gross produce; but the landlords have been claiming a higher share, because they are fully entitled to what the Government and they themselves were receiving at the time of the Permanent Settlement, when the Government made over to them its rights to the future increase of the income from the land for a fixed revenue; and these shares together come up to very near three-fifths of the gross produce (*vide* the Fifth Report from the Select Committee on the Affairs of the East India Company, Vol. I, page 18). However, I believe in regard to staple crops they would now gladly accept even the fourth share of the gross produce of the soil, in order to avoid the worse fate proposed for them by this Bill, if they are allowed to enchance the rent up to that share where it is less because it is less. Concerning special crops, to grow which it is necessary for the ryot to undergo more than ordinary labour and expense, I think the landlords should be content to accept a much smaller share of the gross produce, say, one-sixth. With regard to the safeguard that the enhanced rents shall not on any one occasion be more than double the existing rent, I have already said that in amicable enhancements this rule is generally followed now; but cannot see why this Bill declares that in future, in the case of an amicable enhancement, this maximum should be reduced to six annas per rupee of the former rent. If the tenant be expected to feel no great hardship to pay double after an expensive law-suit, why should it be considered hard for him to pay the same amount of rent when he has incurred that expense; and I fail to see why a landlord, because he feels disinclined to go to court against his tenants, should be denied the advantages which the Government wants to give to his more litigious brother. As far as I can see, the result of this law would be to drag into court friendly landlords and tenants in spite of their will, and to subject them to perfectly unnecessary expenses for getting settled what they were ready to settle and they would have settled amongst themselves but for this law. About the other provision mentioned in section 59, sub-section 2, that the Revenue Officer shall not register the contract, without which there can be no amicable enhancement, before he is satisfied that the enhanced rent has not exceeded that share of the gross produce beyond which enhancements must not go, I admit the reasonableness of a check against the *jama* exceeding the limits fixed by law even by an amicable enhancement, but the question is whether that purpose cannot be equally served by adding another sub-section authorizing the tenant, in case the landlord refuses to correct the mistake, to petition the civil court, within one year of the execution of the contract, to declare it null and void, if the amicably enhanced rent should be found to exceed the share of the gross produce fixed by the law as the limit to enhancement. The provision as it stands will make amicable enhancement simply impossible, for it will take a long time and a good deal of bother to satisfy the registering officer that the enhanced *jama* has

not exceeded the share of the gross produce of the holding up to which the landlord is entitled to enhance, especially if the holding be situated in a part of the country for which no Revenue Officer has prepared a Table; and everybody who has any practical experience of this business knows that a tenant would not stand all this bother and loss of time in order to be bound to pay a higher rent for the benefit of his landlord. If Government should feel disposed to adopt the principle of shares in regulating enhancements, I think abatements should also in fairness be regulated according to that principle. I mean an occupancy-ryot should be entitled to an abatement of his rent to a certain share of the gross produce of his holding below which rents shall not be abated because the rent exceeds that share. Now, what that share should be below which there shall be no abatement, I have already mentioned that, according to the Fifth Report from the Select Committee on the Affairs of the East India Company (Vol. I, page 18), the ryot's share at the time of the Permanent Settlement was two-fifths of the gross produce of the soil, while Elphinstone, in his History of India (page 17), says, "a country is reckoned moderately assessed where he (the Sovereign) takes only one-third," and again, in page 475, when treating of the revenue-system of Akbar, he says, on the authority of the Ayen-i-Akbari, "the land was divided into three classes, according to its fertility, the amount of each sort of produce that a *bigha* of each class would yield was ascertained, the average of the three was assumed as the produce of a *bigha*, and one-third of that produce formed the Government demand." Of course the remaining two-thirds were left to be shared by the ryots and the zamindars, of whose (the latter's) existence at that time there are proofs. I therefore believe that nobody can call it unfair if ryots were allowed to claim an abatement down to one-third share of the gross produce in staple crop and one-sixth in special crops, but not lower, if the rents exceeded that share of the gross income of their holdings. Before I conclude my remarks on these sub-chapters, I must respectfully enter my protest against the new proposition in section 79, sub-section (2), as, in the present state of the official feeling towards the landlords, there cannot be two opinions that the discretion will be exercised against that class. For these reasons I propose that—

In section 59, sub-section (2), the words "six annas per rupee greater," in lines 3 and 4, be omitted, and replaced by the word "double."

The words in this sub-section, from "or more" in the 4th line to "the harvest time," be omitted, and another sub-section added to this section to enable an occupancy-ryot to petition the civil court, within one year of the execution of the contract, to declare it null and void, if he find that the *jama* as amicably enhanced exceeds the fourth share of the gross produce of his holding, and the landlord declines to cancel the contract amicably when asked to do so.

In section 63, clause (6), the words from "or the" in the first line to "equitably" in the second be replaced by the words "of rent which according to one-fourth of the gross produce be."

The whole of section 64 with the proviso be omitted.

In section 74, sub-section (1), the words "on one or more of the following grounds, namely," at the foot of this sub-section, be replaced by the words "of any land on the ground that it is below one-fourth share of the gross produce of such land;" and the grounds (1), (2) and (3), with illustrations of ground (1), be omitted.

In connection with illustration (*b*), I here beg to mention that, in my zamindari experience, I have never known a ryot receiving a reduction of rent because some ancestor of his held the jote at the time of the Permanent Settlement; the *hajats*, as these reductions are called in my part of the country, are only given to the *pradhans*, or headmen, according to their status in the village, or for services their families have done to the landlord's family.

In section 75, the words "the 2nd or 3rd of the grounds," in lines 1 and 2, be replaced by the words "the ground." In the same section, clause (*c*), the proviso be omitted.

In clause (*d*), the words "one-fifth," in the second line, be replaced by the words "one-fourth."

A separate section be inserted after this to the effect that nothing in this chapter shall debar a ryot from obtaining a reduction of rent from that at the prevailing rate of the village to which his family is entitled.

In section 79, sub-section (1), the words from "either" in line 5 to the word "namely" in line 7 be replaced by the words "his horticultural or agricultural lands, on the ground that, for causes beyond his control, the fertility and the prices of produce having fallen, his rents have become higher than one-third of the gross produce of such lands;"

the grounds (*a*) and (*b*) be omitted;

and in sub-section (2), the words "it thinks fair and equitable" at the foot be replaced by the words "would make it equal or as near as possible to one-third of the gross produce of the land."

10. *Section 93, sub-section* (2), *clause* (*b*), *and section 119.*—These are proposals to virtually deprive the landlords of the right they have always possessed to eject at their will a tenant who has not acquired the right of occupancy. They limit the enhancement of the rent of a ryot of this class to five-sixteenths of the gross produce, and give him the privilege of throwing up his holding and obtaining a heavy compensation if he did not choose to pay an enhancement within that limit, even if that increase were to make the rent equal to what is paid by an occupancy-ryot of the village. These provisions are, in my humble opinion, very unjust, and therefore I must respectfully but strongly protest against them.

11. *Section 96, sub-section* (*1*), *clause* (*a*).—The third ground of enhancement of the rents of occupancy-ryots according to Act VIII of 1869 (B.C.) is that "the quantity of land held

by the ryot has been proved by measurement to be greater than the quantity for which rent has been previously paid by him." This clause, therefore, though it empowers the landlord to successfully claim an enhancement if since the last measurement a ryot has added to his holding lands which then did not belong to it, does not meet cases where the holdings were under-measured at the last *jareep* (measurement). This alteration of our present Statute was proposed in section 22, illustration (*c*) of ground (2) of the Rent Commission's Bill and the same of the Bengal Government Bill, and it was strongly objected to by the public on both these occasions. If Government would only consider this matter thoroughly, they will be able to see that, unless it was under-measured at the former survey, a holding cannot possibly be found in the subsequent one to exceed the area it was put down for last time, if no new lands have been added to it since, and if the two measurements are done by the same standard poles or chains. They will also be able to see that the lands could not have been under-measured without either a mistake or a collusion between the ryots and the landlord's amin (surveyor). Under these circumstances, this provision will do a gross injustice to the landlords, who are as much entitled to protection as the occupancy-ryots, by encouraging the tenantry to commit crime and awarding to them rent-free all lands of the rents of which they have been able to defraud their landlords for a certain number of years. I do not know what have induced Government to propose this alteration in our present Statute, which is supported by the custom of the country and the High Court ruling in the case of *Prankissen Bagchee* versus *Monomohini Dassi* (XVII W. R., page 34); but I know that, unlike the *mukari* tenures or lands conveyed by sale, the occupancy and the other ryoti holdings have not hitherto been carefully measured as a rule, because, not expecting an alteration in the existing law such as is now proposed, the landlords have not hitherto cared to spend a lot of money for this purpose, and that therefore this present, and I venture to say unjust, proposition, coming, as it does, without a previous warning, will, if passed into law, be very injurious to the landlords; and as such I most respectfully but very strongly protest against it.

12. *Section 103, sub-section* (*1*), *clause* (*a*).—This is another proposal to alter the existing law to the disadvantage of the landlord. According to the present law, before he is allowed to deposit his rent, a tenant has got to swear that he offered to pay it to the landlord's agent and he (the agent) has refused to accept the money. The fear of being prosecuted for swearing falsely has hitherto obliged many a hostile tenant to pay his rent to the tahsildar; but, if this proposal should become law, that wholesome fear would be removed, and every hostile tenant will deposit his rent into Court just in order to harass the landlord. Anybody acquainted with the practice of our Courts can well conceive the costs, trouble and annoyance a landlord must go through to take out the rents the tenants have deposited for him. When the landlord's agent is in the village, and he often is there, the trouble of going to him or sending a man to him to offer rents is little or nothing; and, even if he be away, the tenant cannot undergo any great trouble, loss or risk in offering payment of his rent to the landlord himself, now that the post-office money-order system can be taken advantage of almost everywhere. Under these circumstances I beg Government to let the law remain as it is.

13. *Section 140.*—According to our custom, a holding is considered abandoned if the tenant leave his village or the landlord's estate for good even if there be no arrears of rent due from him. This custom, supported as it is by several High Court rulings, enables the landlord to make timely arrangements for the cultivation of the holding, and saves him from any loss of rent, unless the holding be such as nobody would care to take up. But if this section should become law, a landlord must lose one whole year's rent before he will gain the right of re-letting the holding, for which he shall have to pay the revenue or the rent to the superior proprietor all the same; and everybody who has any experience in zamindari work knows quite well that it is hopeless ever to realise this arrear from the old tenant who has abandoned his holding. For these reasons, I most humbly protest against this proposal.

14. *Section 151, sub-section* (*2*), *clause* (*a*).—I propose the insertion of the words "or a single landlord" after the word "landlords" in the second line of this clause, because there is many a landlord who singly owns a large tract of the country, and who, without an alteration such as I purpose, would not be benefited by this clause, though he may have a very large number of tenants to deal with.

15. *Section 164, sub-section* (*2*), *clauses* (*a*) *and* (*b*).—These two clauses are superfluous after the provisions made in section 151, (sub-section (2), clauses (*a*) and (*b*), and I therefore think they should be omitted.

16. *Section 166.*—As a rule, a landlord has recourse to distraint only when he sees that the realization of his dues would be very difficult after the tenant is able to sell away the crops or take them beyond reach of the landlord, and in a great many cases it is very difficult, especially in regard to *boro* or such other holdings, the area of which is determined after the crop is ready, when the tenants are *pykasthas* paying their whole year's rent in one instalment, before they go away with their profits to their distant homes, about which the landlords know nothing. This section, therefore, cannot and shall not help the landlord to realize his dues, unless there be a provision in the law binding the tenant under penalties neither to sell away the crops nor to remove them beyond the village or estate without the written consent of the landlord till one month is over after the instalments on those crops fall due. The crops are now the only security a landlord has for the realization of his dues, and I must object to the proposed alteration of our existing law without a provision such as I mention.

17. *Section 186.*—A landlord generally living away fom his estate has no opportunity of knowing whether the rents by the receipt of which he has been benefited have been realized by his *tahsildar* in the ordinary way or by illegal distraint. I believe therefore that, if this section should pass into law, it shall put into difficulties many an innocent landlord. Besides,

no zamindari tahsildar, after the preceding section becomes law, would care to risk a punishment for criminal trespass in order to do a small turn for his employer; so I do not believe this section is necessary to prevent illegal distraint. Under these circumstances, I beg Government to omit this new section altogether.

18. *Section 207.*—I object to this section, because, if it becomes law, I believe it will very probably increase litigation to an alarming extent, and thereby injure both the landlords and the tenants. Opportunities have already been given in the proceedings for the adjustment of rents in the ordinary way, and in section 151, sub-section (2), clause (*a*) of this Bill, for the determination of this question; and I cannot see any necessity for the tenant to get his status determined, except when an enchancement-suit has been instituted against him by his landlord. Besides, a very large number of pattàs and kabuliyats have been executed within the last few years, and the number is daily increasing, as a return from the registration-offices will show; so I am sure the tenants cannot possibly be injured by the omission of the sub-chapter (C) of Chapter XIV.

19. *Section 208, sub-section (1), clause (c).*—I admit that the hardship would be very great if the holder of a tenure mentioned in this clause be made liable to ejectment when his landlord is sold up for arrears of rent; but, unless the legislature provide in such cases for an enhancement of rent of the lands comprising the tenure, the superior landlord's interest cannot be protected; because otherwise there will be no check upon the creation of incumbrances such as is mentioned in this clause. As long, therefore, as Government would not make a provision, uch as I have mentioned a bove, for the protection of the rights and interests of the superior andlords in these cases, I m ust humbly protest against this clause.

No. 822T.-R, dated the 15th September, 1883.

From—C. W. BOLTON, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 686T.-R., dated 3rd September 1883, I am directed to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying copies of papers* received from the British Indian Association on the subject of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883.

* Letter No. 92, dated the 17th August 1883, with enclosures.

No. 92, dated Calcutta, the 17th August, 1883.

From—The HON'BLE KRISTODAS PAL, C.I.E., Secy. to the British Indian Association,

To—The Under-Secy. to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

I have the honour, by desire of the Committee of the British Indian Association, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 967A.—366L.R., dated 21st July last, calling attention to Mr. Under-Secretary Bayley's letter No. 967—366L.R., dated 19th March last, inviting the opinion of the Association on the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

2. In reply, I am desired to state that on receipt of Mr. Bayley's letter, the Association invited a meeting of the Central Committee of Landholders appointed by it to consider it, and to report upon the Bill. The Central Committee issued a circular in English and Bengali (copies hereto annexed) to zamindars and others interested in land, inviting answers to questions therein set forth.

3. The Central Committee have not yet received answers from all those whom they have addressed on the subject, and considering the vast magnitude of the interests involved, the Association solicit permission of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to defer their report upon the Bill till a fair representation of the views of the different districts upon it is received.

4. In the meantime the Central Committee have addressed a petition to both Houses of Parliament, setting forth their objections to the leading principles of the Bill, to which the Association fully subscribe. A copy of the petition is herewith submitted for the information and consideration of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and the Government of India.

5. The Central Committee have appointed a Sub-Committee of their body to consider the detailed provisions of the Bill; the Sub-Committee have submitted their report with notes containing their opinion on the provisions of the Bill. Not to lose time, I forward a copy of the notes for submission to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. These notes I request may not be accepted as the final conclusions of the Association, which will be communicated to you when the Central Committee will come to a decision on the subject.

6. I have stated above that the Central Committee have not yet received answers to their circular from all those to whom they have addressed it. The Association fear that the agitation of the public mind with other matters has diverted attention from the Bengal Tenancy Bill, and that hence the delay complained of. The Association would therefore solicit that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor would be pleased to recommend to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council to defer the consideration of the Bill till the public are relieved of these other matters, so as to be able to give undivided attention to this momentous subject.

Circular issued by the Central Committee of the British Indian Association to zemindars and others, dated the 15th May 1883.

Dear Sir—With reference to the Bengal Tenancy Bill introduced into the Governor-General's Council for making Laws and Regulations, I have the honour, by desire of the Central

Committee of Landholders of Bengal and Behar, to invite your opinion on the provisions of the Bill and on the following questions in connection therewith.

1. Have you got measurement papers of all your estates and taluks, showing the areas of all khamar lands in all your villages?

2. Would there be any practical difficulty to the area of khamar lands being fixed for ever after enquiry and reckoning all other lands as ryoti lands as the Bill proposes to do (section 6), and do you approve of the principle of this section?

3. Are you aware of lasting distinction being observed in the lands of any village in your estate, denoting that certain plots or tracts are permanently appropriated to the exclusive use of all or any class of ryots in the village, and that certain other tracts, whether occupied or not by ryots, are similarly reserved as the zamindar's khamar?

4. Having regard to lands which are currently called ryoti and khamar, are you aware of any custom, usage, or tradition which disentitles the zamindar to convert into khamar any unoccupied ryoti land or entitles any ryot to claim the lease of lands left vacant by any of his fellow-ryots? Have you ever known of any such claim being set up or any allowance being made by the zamindar in satisfaction of such claim?

5. Do you hold any land which is specifically appropriated as the zamindar's malikhana or moshaira? And have you not—if at all—always enjoyed the malikhana as an allowance upon the aggregate rental of estate?

6. Do you as zamindar ever claim any higher proprietary right in respect of unoccupied khamar than in respect of unoccupied ryoti land?

7. What has been in your district the effect of the rule of 20 years' presumption in suits for enhancement of rent? How will it be modified by the change which the Bill proposes to introduce by allowing uniform payment of rent to be proved for any period of 20 years (sections 15 and 20)?

8. In the case of tenures held since the Permanent Settlement, but not at a fixed rent, the Bill requires the landholders' "right to enhance" to be proved in every suit for enhancement of rent (section 18). How would you prove such a right?

9. Section 21 provides that the rent of a tenure may be enhanced up to the limit of the customary rate, but if such rate cannot be determined the rent may be enhanced so as to leave the ryoti tenure-holder a profit of from 10 to 30 per cent. on his gross rents *minus* the costs of collection. How would such a rule operate in your district?

10. The Bill proposes to make all tenures, the rents of which are fixed, saleable and hereditable like other immovable property (section 25). The provision contained in section 51, which gives the landholder a right of pre-emption, does not apply to such tenures. Is the proposal liable to any objection?

11. Consider the sections from 27 to 35, and say whether these would make adequate provisions for the registry of transfers of ryoti holdings by succession, sale, gift, and otherwise?

12 How would the rule for acquiring right of occupancy contained in section 45 operate in your district and affect your rights?

13. Section 46 provides that, unless a ryot has ceased by desertion or otherwise, to hold for at least one year his right to the land shall not cease. How would such a rule affect your interests?

Consider the case of two applicants for such land, one offering a certain bonus on condition the rent-rate is the one hitherto prevalent and the other offering no bonus, but in its stead an increment over the prevailing rate. Call the first as one of class A and the second of Class B.

Does it not often happen that the offer of B is more profitable to you than that of A? And does it always happen that the offer of B is suicidal to his own interest?

Do you not think that the zemindars and ryots will both suffer in the long run by discouraging or prohibiting offers like that of B?

What do you think will be the ultimate condition of people in the circumstances of B? Do you not think that the provisions in the Bill will for ever prevent B from growing into the circumstances of A, and that the former will eventually have to work as day-labourers under A?

14. The Bill allows right of occupancy to grow in respect of khamar lands unless the contrary is provided by written agreement (section 48). Is this objectionable?

15. The Bill prohibits ryoti land being ever placed at the disposal of the zemindar so that it might at his option be let out to tenants-at-will, or at rates agreed to by the applicant, but above the limits prescribed by law. Is such restriction consistent with any custom or usage that you know of? Is it safe for the adequate realization of dues and of the Government revenues?

16. Would the right of pre-emption given to landholders by sections 51 and 53 remove the objections to the saleability of all occupancy holdings?

17. Section 56 provides that when the land of occupancy ryots comes to the khas possession of the landholder, the person to whom such land is let will get it with a right of occupancy. Do you think this objectionable; and if so on what grounds?

18. Section 59 provides that the rent of occupancy ryot (not even that of land which has come to the khas possession of the landholder) (section 61) shall not be enhanced unless by a written contract approved of by a revenue officer, who shall see that the amount of additional rent is not more than 6 annas in the rupee, and that the enhanced rent is not greater than one-fifth of the annual value of the gross produce of the land. Do you think this limitation on the freedom of contract necessary or desirable?

19. Do you see any objection to the rates of rent being determined by the executive, instead of by the judicial authorities, as provided in Chapter VI? Do you think the principles on which tables of rates are directed to be prepared just and reasonable, and do you think the procedure suggested will remove practical difficulties in the way of enhancement of rent?

20. Section 81 restricts the landholder's share of the produce in all cases where rent is paid in kind to one-half. Would this rule operate to reduce existing rents?

21. Would the rule as to instalments of rent provided in section 97 check litigation on the point and simplify the decision of rent suits?

22. Section 119 limits the rent in any case to five-sixteenths of the value of the produce. Is there any objection to the proposed restriction?

23. Consider the provisions regarding distraint contained in section 166, and say whether they would serve the purposes of the existing law on the subject?

24. The Bill proposes to allow no appeals in suits for arrears of rent and some other suits of which the value does not exceed Rs. 50. Is this desirable?

25. What remarks have you to offer on the provisions of chapter VIII regarding ordinary ryots and compensation for improvements, and also for disturbance?

26. Is transferability of occupancy tenures recognized in your estates or district; if it is recognized, does it require the consent of the landlord?

27. Do you consider the present procedure for the recovery of rent dilatory and inconvenient? If so, what modification would you suggest?

28. Do you hold that the same law for the settlement and realization of rent should apply to Government and private estates? If so, what are your reasons?

A copy of the Bengali translation of the Bill is forwarded herewith for ready reference. The Committee will feel obliged if you will favour them with your opinion by the 15th day of June next.

Your faithfully,
KRISTODAS PAL,
Secretary.

BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION ROOMS;
No. 18, British Indian Street,
The 15th May, 1883.

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Members of the Central Committee of Landholders of Bengal and Behar, meeting in Calcutta, on behalf of themselves and of their fellow-landholders in the Bengal Provinces in British India,

HUMBLY SHEWETH,—That Your Petitioners are filled with great anxiety, apprehension, and alarm at the introduction into the Council of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General for making Laws and Regulations of a Bill entitled the Bengal Tenancy Bill, the manifest tendency of which seems to be to revolutionise the present relations between landlord and tenant in the provinces of Bengal and Behar, to redistribute landed property on a new and inequitable basis, and to fetter the freedom of action of all classes interested in agriculture by driving them at almost every step of their mutual transactions to Courts of Law and fiscal officers, and foster dispute, litigation, and animosities in lieu of peace, harmony, and good-will among them.

2. That Your Petitioners do not wish to trouble Your Honourable House with the history of that solemn covenant of the State, entitled the permanent settlement, which the late Honourable East India Company, with the sanction of the Imperial Parliament and the Crown, concluded with the zemindars as "actual proprietors of the soil," under which the Government transferred its rights in the land to the said proprietors in consideration of revenue assessed at $\frac{10}{11}$ths of the gross rental and fixed in perpetuity, nor with an account of the advantages—financial, economic, social, material and political—which both the State and the people have derived from the operation of that settlement for the last ninety years.

3. That, in consequence of the exorbitant assessment of the revenue under the permanent settlement, no vestiges of most of the old zemindars with whom the covenant was made now exist; the land has been divided and sub-divided and purchased at the full market value by capitalists as a legitimate investment of capital in thorough good faith and in perfect reliance upon the guarantees of rights and interests given by the permanent settlement regulations.

4. That, until 1859, those guarantees had always been maintained inviolate, but in that year a law Act (X of 1859) was passed conferring new rights upon tenants under arbitrary and fanciful rules of prescription, and seriously clogging the rights of the landlord with regard to tenancy and settlement of rent, and imposing grave difficulties in the way of recovery of rent.

5. That although Act X of 1859 is a direct infringement of the permanent settlement regulations, still it has been in operation for nearly a quarter of a century, and rights have grown up under it, which cannot now be fairly or equitably abrogated. Under it a large majority of the tenants have acquired rights of occupancy or fixity of tenure, rack-renting, which had hardly ever prevailed, has been altogether prevented, and even free sale of occupancy holdings has been recognised in some parts of the country with the consent of the landlord. So far Act X of 1859 has fulfilled its great object in improving the position of the tenant and securing his rights; but the landlord has not only lost some of his ancient and guaranteed rights, but has also been deprived of the ordinary facility of settling and realizing the rent due to him, though he is burdened with the obligation of paying in the Government revenue by the sunset of the quarter-day, the expiration of which renders his estate liable to peremptory sale for default.

6. That in addition to the payment of the Government revenue, the landlords or zamindars are required under serious penalty to collect from tenants for the Government the road and the public-works' cesses without any remuneration, and to make good all losses that arise from failures in collection on account of default due to bad seasons and other causes not attributable to them; and that in consideration of this service they were promised by three successive Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal, Sir George Campbell, Sir Richard Temple, and Sir Ashley Eden, a simplified procedure for the recovery of rent. Some Bills had been introduced into the Bengal Legislative Council towards that end; but they were abandoned with a view to a general revision of the Rent-law.

7. That a Commission, consisting chiefly of Government officers, was subsequently appointed to report on the general revision of the Rent-law, but that Commission, without taking any evidence, or examining the parties interested as to the necessity of the amendment of the law, its direction, extent and scope, submitted an elaborate but extremely one-sided scheme, upon which is primarily based the present Bill. Some provisions of a highly objectionable character have also been introduced into the Bill, which had not been recommended even by the Rent Commission.

8. That one unfortunate incident has practically barred constitutional redress in respect to this Bill as far as the Legislature of this country is concerned. Your petitioners gratefully acknowledge that the fullest opportunity had been given to the public to discuss the original draft of the Bill at its initiatory stage before the Bengal Government, but neither when material alterations and additions were made to it by the Bengal Government, nor when it was finally laid before the Government of India, the public were allowed any such opportunity; on the contrary, they were positively refused access to it; and the sanction of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India was taken without giving the public or the parties interested the slightest opportunity of knowing or discussing its contents. Under the Indian Constitution Her Majesty's Secretary of State is the highest controlling authority, and all laws passed by the Indian Legislature are liable to be revised and disallowed by him; but when his permission for a public measure is obtained beforehand, without previous public discussion, practically the public judgment is anticipated and barred. The leading principles of the present Bill having been already sanctioned by Her Majesty's Secretary of State, its formal passage through the Indian Legislative Council will necessarily be a formality, and as the Government has a standing majority in that Council, the aggrieved can hardly hope for a fair hearing in matters which are already matters of foregone conclusion.

9. That the Bill under notice is so voluminous and so comprehensive that it would be tedious to approach Your Honourable House with a detailed criticism on it. Your petitioners would, therefore, crave permission to draw attention to the following summary of the leading principles of the Bill, to the innovations which it proposes to introduce, and to its general policy and tendency:—

I. The Bill proposes to effect a redistribution of land by making an allotment of it in a manner which neither past history nor present facts justify. It declares that all lands, except such as are in the private possession of the landlord in respect of which he may prove 12 years' continuous occupation, shall be regarded, from the date of the introduction of the Bill, as the specific property or portion of the tenant class for habitation and cultivation, along with various incidental rights; that at the discretion of Government the lands may be surveyed and demarcated at the expense of both landlord and tenant; that conflicting claims to such lands shall be the subject of a summary investigation; and that the landlord, even in case of relinquishment of a tenancy, or of its purchase by him, if he wishes to let it, shall be bound to re-let it to a new tenant at the old rate and conditions, including permanent occupancy right. This is wholly an innovation, and makes a serious encroachment upon the proprietory rights of the landlord. It is in direct antagonism with past history, for when the Permanent Settlement was concluded, it was the land which sought the tenant, and not the tenant who sought the land; and this was particularly the case in the distribution of waste lands, which had been made over to the landlords or zemindars by way of compensation for the ruinous assessment of the settlement, and the proprietary right from the reclaimed portion of which is now being taken away from them. The land has thus no such characteristic attached to it as now proposed, and the landlord was in no way fettered in the mode of the settlement of his estate. The proposed provision will not only deprive the landlord of his inherent right of re-entering upon land which a tenant may relinquish or which may lapse on the expiration of a lease, but will also give rise to serious dispute, misunderstanding and litigation between landlord and tenant in the establishment of their claims to different classes of lands.

II. At the time of the Permanent Settlement the resident hereditary tenant had fixity of tenure; custom had recognized that right, but no period had been fixed for the accrual of the right; by Act X 1859, 12 years' continuous possession was declared to be the basis of occupancy right; and this provision was allowed retrospective effect; accordingly a squatter by mere efflux of 12 years' time, acquired a right of occupancy, to the detriment of the rights of the actual proprietors of the soil guaranteed by the Permanent Settlement. This is the interpretation of that law by some of the highest judicial authorities, notably Sir Barnes Peacock,

late Chief Justice of the Bengal High Court, and now a Member of Her Majesty's Privy Council, and Sir Richard Garth, the present Chief Justice of Bengal; but this innovation has been the law of the land for nearly a quarter of a century, and, although it involves gross injustice to your petitioners and the class they represent, they would submit to it as they have hitherto done. By far the largest number of tenants in Bengal have acquired a right of occupancy, and they do not wish to take it away. They, however, submit that it would be the height of injustice if the right of occupancy be further extended in the manner proposed in this Bill. It is now declared that any tenant, if he holds any land in any village or estate for twelve years consecutively, though the land so held by him at different times may have been different, shall be deemed to have become a settled tenant of that village or estate, and to have acquired the right of occupancy, though the last plot, in which the right will accrue, may have been held for a year or even for a day, and may exceed ten times the quantity previously held by him. The right of occupancy is also extended to tenants of the private domains of the landlord, unless there be a lease for a fixed period. Even as regards tenants-at-will, the provisions are so fenced with restrictions by providing compensation for disturbance, that they will virtually become tenants with permanent occupancy right. The extension of the occupancy or tenant right in this arbitrary manner, without any compensation to the landlord, will be a serious encroachment upon his proprietary rights, and will be a deliberate infraction of the guarantees under which he has invested his capital in land. Indeed, it will have practically the effect of redistributing property in land on a new basis.

III. The tenant-right in Bengal, wherever it has existed, has always been heritable, but not transferable. Even Act X of 1859 did not make it transferable. But it has become transferable in some parts of the country with the mutual consent of the landlord and tenant. The growth of this custom, if desirable, may fairly be left to the natural operation of economic laws. But to force it by a legislative enactment would be alike detrimental to the proprietary rights of the landlord and to the material well-being of the tenant. The landlord will then cease to be the lord of the soil, which he has inherited or purchased by paying market value for it; he will lose his inherent and just right of chosing his own tenant; although directly liable to the State for revenue under the stern sunset law, by losing his hold upon his tenantry under this process of transfer of tenant-right without his consent, he will be driven to despair in the collection of his rent, and consequently to ruin. On the other hand, the tenant, by acquiring the new freedom of sale, will from excessive Government taxation, adverse seasons, thriftlessness and other causes, find a facility which will inevitably encompass his ruin, as has been the case in some of the temporarily-settled districts of the country where the transferibility of the tenant-right is recognized, and where special laws have become necessary for the relief of the distressed agriculturists. Small capitalists, mostly money-lenders, will take the place of the present agriculturists, who will be reduced to mere day-laborers on their expropriated lands.

IV. With a view to counteract the evils to the landlord referred to above, the Bill gives him the right of pre-emption in case of the sale of a tenancy, but under such restrictions as to render it nugatory. In the first place, if the landlord wishes to buy it in, he must pay the full market-value for it; that is to say, he must pay a fine, as it were, for exercising his proprietary right, and if he cannot agree with the tenant as to the price, he must go to court. Even if he purchases it, he will not be allowed the same rights that will be accorded to an ordinary purchaser. After purchasing it if he chooses to let it again, he must re-let it at the old rent to a new-comer, who will *ipso facto* acquire the right of occupancy. An ordinary purchaser will not be bound to accord that right to his sub-tenant. So that a capitalist, who purchases an estate with a certain calculation of return, will get no *quid pro quo* for the sums he will have to lay out again for the purchase of tenancies, simply because the tenant is invested with a new right of transferability of his holding, without of course paying any consideration for it. Supposing that tenants in any large numbers choose to sell their holdings, and that other tenants choose to combine and withhold payment of rent, in order to compel the landlord to their own terms, a contingency by no means unfrequent, ruin will stare him in the face, and if he has not means, he must submit to his fate, however unmerited, through an act of the Legislature, the paramount duty of which is to give equal protection to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

V. The determination of rent in Bengal has been generally discretionary. It is true that there was at one time a customary rate in many parts of the country, but the custom was varied so much as by personal, local, and other considerations, that the rate was practically left to the discretion and mutual understanding of the landlord and tenant. This fact has been brought to prominence by the recent enquiries made by Government as to tables of rates prevalent in different districts. When the Permanent Settlement was made in 1793, the rate of rent, it is on record, varied from three-fourths to one-half the value of the gross produce of the land. Until a few years of the enactment of Act X of 1859, there was not much dispute between landlord and tenant about the rate of rent; the rise in the value of agricultural produce led to a demand for increased rent, and in order to bring the question of rent to a satisfactory judicial test, that Act declared that the rent shall be reasonable, fair, and equitable, and provided certain rules for the guidance of the courts. These rules, however, have proved so unworkable that the enhancement of rent through the judicial machinery has practically come to a dead-lock. The gravity of the situation was represented by the landlords to Government, and the Government promised to redress their grievance. That promise is now about to be redeemed by the retrograde step indicated in this Bill. Under this Bill the rent of an occupancy tenant shall not exceed 20 per cent. of the gross value of staple products of the land. In other words, the landlord is practically reduced to one-fifth partner of his own property with his tenant. The rent due to him represents the

shares of the Government and of himself, but this arbitrary limit will necessarily deprive him of all participation in the advantages which the progress of the country will confer upon all other classes of the community, but will always be subject to losses consequent on decadence and reverses. As regards the tenant-at-will, called in the Bill "ordinary ryot," the restrictions are so fenced round that practically there will be no enhancement of rent. In Behar, there are certain tenures called *Bhoali* tenures, analogous to *Metayer* tenures, and with regard to these the Bill actually sanctions reduction of the present rents. Thus the landlord will be practically deprived of the legitimate fruits of his capital, prudence, and good management, the enjoyment of which had been guaranteed to him by the Permanent Settlement.

VI. Contract is the basis of transactions in civilised life, the first step in advance over patriarchal habits, and essential to the success of social and moral progress. The tenant, as an agriculturist or as a member of society, is allowed perfect freedom of contract in all matters affecting him, whatever the difference in the status, intelligence and influence of the contracting parties; but this Bill declares that he shall not be competent to enter into a contract respecting his tenant-right or the rent payable by him, unless his contract for the latter is approved by a revenue officer to be appointed by Government. This denial of the ordinary rights of a citizen to the tenant was never before known in this country. On the contrary, the Legislature had repeatedly encouraged the interchange of lease between landlord and tenant. The disability imposed upon the landlord for the sake of the fancied security of the tenant is still more arbitrary, unjust and unjustifiable.

VII. The importation of foreign ideas in the regulation of the ordinary relations of life in an oriental country, for which the people are not ripe, can only lead to harm. Never in the history of this country, or at present within the British territories or in the Native States, is the practice of paying compensation to a tenant-at-will for relinquishment of his holding known or recognized. As a rule, the class of tenants called tenant-at-will have not the means of making improvements, and therefore there has never been any question of compensation for disturbance raised. This innovation will not only be a serious interference with the proprietary rights of the landlord, but will plunge both landlord and tenant into deep litigation.

VIII. This Bill will foster litigation between the landlord and tenant at every step of their transactions. The landlord's office will be transferred to the revenue office, and the landlord himself will be reduced to a mere annuitant. Whether the question be classification of land, determination of occupancy right, transferability of a tenancy, the exercise of the right of pre emption on the part of the landlord, the settlement of rent, the payment of compensation to a tenant-at will for disturbance, or the realisation of rent, there will be at every step expensive, harassing, and, not unfrequently, demoralizing litigation. There will be no peace, no concord, no harmony, no good-will between two such important members of the community as the landlord and tenant. Such embittered relations between them, as will be the inevitable result of the proposed Bill, cannot be conducive to the true well-being of the State or society.

IX. As regards recovery of rent, the landlord had formerly power to call in the tenant to pay in his rent, failing which he could have him arrested by a simple application to the court, followed by a summary enquiry. He could attach the property of the tenant and sell it after due notice. All suits for arrears of rent were heard before all others by the civil courts, and were finally transferred to the Collector for expedition. Act X of 1859 took away from the landlord the power of calling in his tenant. At first the arrear suit was triable by a revenue officer under summary procedure, but now it has been made a regular civil suit, to be tried at a heavy cost under the regular civil procedure. That result is that ordinarily a rent suit is not disposed of within three months, and not unoften many months, and that if the tenants continne to withhold rent, the landlord must either succumb, or let his estate be sold for default. It is observable that this procedure is not applicable to the State in the recovery of its dues as landlord or as guardian of minor landlords. If the State with its vast resources, unequalled influence, and immense prestige, without the terrors of a sunset law for sale of estate in case of default of revenue, deems it necessary to have recourse to a summary law for the realization of rent, how much more necessary is it for the private landlord for a like purpose? Although three successive Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal, as stated above, had promised the landlords the simplification of the procedure for the recovery of rent, still no advance has been made in this Bill in that direction.

X. On the contrary, the Bill practically minimises the only facility which the present law provides for the speedy realization of rent, *viz.*, distraint. The process of distraint is now made at every step a process of court, and by the time the court's order may be obtained the crops may be removed or disposed of, and the landlord's demand thus defeated. As the Bill has been framed, the landlord will, on the one hand, be made to forfeit his ancient, substantial, and valuable rights, but will, on the other, derive no benefit from it.

XI. Nor will the *bonâ fide* cultivator derive material benefit from the Bill. If he holds land under a superior landlord, his rent will be 20 per cent. of the gross produce of the land, but under a subordinate holder it will be 30 per cent. of the same, or 50 per cent. more than what he will pay to the former. He will acquire occupancy right under a superior landlord, but none under a subordinate holder, the latter being himself a tenant with occupancy right. So that without fixity of tenure, freedom of sale or security of fair rent, the actual cultivator of the soil under the operation of this Bill will be reduced to the miserable lot of a poor day-labourer.

XII. And this evil will be both multiplied and aggravated, as the Bill proposes to encourage sub-letting. If there is anything in the agricultural system of Bengal, which has tended to depress the condition of the actual cultivator of the soil, it is sub-infeudation. The actual agriculturist, who constitutes the lowest link of the chain, necessarily bears the whole burden, and the more the chain will be lengthened, the worse will be the fate of the actual cultivator of the soil. The new tenure-holders, who are created by the Bill will be small proprietors, and it may be easily imagined whether small proprietors, themselves not agriculturists but absorbing agricultural profits, are more conducive to the welfare of the agricultural population than large proprietors. By-and-bye, as the capital of these small tenure-holders will increase, they will also become large proprietors. The result of the proposed Bill will, therefore, be the destruction of the present proprietors, who have either inherited or paid fair market-value for their estates, the creation of a new class of small proprietors, who will, for the most part, acquire their rights without paying for them, and the impoverishment and degradation of the actual cultivators of the soil.

Such, in brief, are the manifest tendencies of the proposed Bill, opposed to all principles of equity and fairness, to the guaranteed rights of the landlord, and to the best interests of the actual cultivators of the soil.

10. That no valid proof has been adduced shewing the necessity for this wholesale revolutionary and confiscatory legislation. The Rent Commission, which originally drafted the Bill, as already stated, did not take any evidence on the subject. No less an authority than Sir Richard Garth, the eminent Chief Justice of Bengal, says—"The Bill is calculated to deprive the landlords unjustly and unnecessarily, in my opinion, of rights which the courts of law have always considered to be their due." Indeed, the whole Bill, whether as originally framed by the Rent Commission, or subsequently revised by the Government of India, has been based on arbitrary assumptions and gross predilections. Your petitioners respectfully appeal to Your Hon'ble House to consider whether rights and interests, worth millions upon millions of pounds, and consecrated by solemn acts of the State, and ratified by the sanction of nearly a century, should be sacrificed for sentimental and fanciful considerations.

11. That, on the other hand, there is abundant testimony to show that the tenantry of both Bengal and Behar have made rapid strides in progress and prosperity unhampered by the existing land-laws. The latest and most emphatic testimony is that of Sir Ashley Eden, the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Thus, in 1877, after making a tour in the interior, he made the following remarks on the condition of the agricultural population of Bengal:—

"Great as was the progress which I knew had been made in the position of the cultivating classes, I was quite unprepared to find them occupying a position so different from that which I remember them to occupy when I first came to the country. They were then poor and oppressed, with little incentive to increase the productive powers of the soil. I find them now as prosperous, as independent and as comfortable as the peasantry, I believe, of any country in the world; well-fed, well-clothed, free to enjoy the full benefit of their labour, and able to hold their own or obtain prompt redress for any wrong."

As regards the peasantry of Behar the same high functionary, in an address to a deputation of the Behar Landholders in 1881, said:—

"I can assure you that nothing has given me greater pleasure than to notice, as I have had ample opportunities of doing, the extraordinary improvement in the condition of the people. It is made manifest in a hundred ways daily, even to the most casual observer. I hear the same story from all classes, official and non-official, and it is a matter for general congratulation.

"This improvement is due to various causes: first and foremost, to several succeeding harvests, plentiful almost beyond the recollection of the present generation, and these full harvests followed years of trial and famine; next there has been, with growing prosperity, an increase in the value of land, a *general awakening* of the cultivating classes, and an improved knowledge of their legal rights and privileges, and this has, I hope, been accompanied by a strict administration of the law. Then there has been a greater readiness on the part of landlords to recognise and affirm the rights of cultivators, and I hope that this may to some extent be due to the influence of your Association."

Surely, in the face of this strong and authoritative testimony, it cannot justly be contended that the agricultural prosperity in Bengal and Behar is impeded or hampered by the existing land-laws.

12. That the proposed Bill is ill-suited to the purposes for which it is intended is evident from the fact that the Bill is not made applicable to the State in regard to property which it holds in the capacity of a landlord. The State has a separate and summary law for the settlement and recovery of rent on its own estates. Even when it manages in trust the private estates of minors or wards under its care, it is not subject to the ordinary procedure for the realization of rent. If an enquiry be made, it will be found that the tenants of the State landlord are by no means better off in life than those of the private landlord; perhaps in many instances worse off. It is but reasonable that, *cæteris paribus*, the same land-law ought to apply equally to the State landlord and the private landlord, for surely what is done by the State ought to be regarded as the best example for the private landlord.

That in conclusion, your Petitioners pray that Your Hon'ble House will be pleased to take the above statements, facts, and reasons into consideration, and to adopt such steps as to Your Hon'ble House may seem meet to prevent the passing of the Bill under notice.

And Your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Signed by the Maharaja of Burdwan, Maharaja of Durbhanga, Maharaja of Hutwa, Maharaja of Dumraon, Maharaja Rai Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Nawab Abdool Gunny, Nawab Ahasanwoola Khan Bahadoor, Maharaja Komul Krishna, Maharaja Norendra Krishna, Raja Poorno Chunder Singh, Raja Suttyanund Ghosal, Raja Promotha Nath Roy, Raja Surjyakant Acharjya Chowdhry, Raja Hurbullub Narain Sing, Raja Shyama Sunker Roy Chowdhry, Nawab Mir Mohamed Ali, Babu Joykissen Mookerjee, Babu Peary Mohun Mookerjee, Babu Bejoykissen Mookerjee, Babu Surendra Mohon Tagore, Hon'ble Doorga Churn Law, Babu Gobind Lal Seal, Babu Kali Krishno Ghose, Babu Lolita Mohun Sigdurga, Babu Kissory Mohun Gossami, Babu Rajendralala Mittra, Hon'ble Hurbans Sahai, Hon'ble Mohamed Yusuff, Babu Mohiny Mohun Roy, Babu Saligram Sing, Babu Mohesh Chunder Chowdhry, Babu Joggender Chunder Ghose, Babu Janoky Nath Roy, Babu Gobind Chunder Dutt, Babu Ram Sunkur Roy Chowdhry, Babu Parbati Sunkur Roy Chowdhry, Baba Girja Sunkur Muzoomdar, Babu Kuluda Kinkur Roy, Babu Sita Nath Roy, Mr. J. J. J. Keswick, of the firm of Jardine, Skinner & Co. and Watson & Co., Mr. W. B. Morrison, Mr. C. J. Quadros, Mr. J. F. Cauty, and Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Secretary.

The above petition has been presented to the House of Commons by Mr. Stanhope.
A similar petition has been presented to the House of Lords.
Calcutta, the 1st July 1883.

Notes on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

Section 3.—Definition No. 3.—The word tenure should not include a ryot's holding although the rent thereupon is fixed. It would lead to confusion if ryotiy holdings, comprising a beega or a few beegas of land, be designated by the same term which people have been accustomed to apply only to putnis, durputnis, and other dependant talooks. The Bill does not provide for registration of transfers of tenures in the landlord's sherista, nor does it give the landlord a right of pre-emption in respect of such transfers, and it gives tenure-holders a right of conferring a right of occupancy on their under-tenants. These provisions show what confusion would arise if ryoti holdings be classed as tenures (*see* remarks on section 14).

Definition (5).—The word ryot should be clearly defined. By the definition as it stands, a trespasser would be a ryot if he "holds land for the purpose of agriculture, horticulture, or pasture." It is scarcely to be supposed that the law about trespass is to be circumvented in the case of men who surreptitiously scatter seeds in another's land, in a country like India, where fields are not, generally speaking, provided with fences or other boundary marks; and from the nature of the case it is impossible to watch who scatters seeds or at what time. The reaping season is the only one when a trespass of the land can be made out, and then trespass is given undue advantage under the section. Again, a person who has established a mart or a factory on his land, or who uses it for the purpose of brick-making, would be a ryot if his ancestor came into the possession of the land for the purpose of agriculture.

Definition No. 10.—The definition of rent should be altered with a view to provide for cases in which the ryot is deprived of his use and occupation of the land by an act of dispossession committed by a third party—a circumstance which does not legally affect his liability to pay rent. Or it may be that a lease is taken or engagement of some kind is made for the use of land, but afterwards circumstances, not due to any act or neglect of the lessor, might intervene to prevent the lessee from using or occupying the land, such as want of capital to build a hut or to cultivate the land, and in such cases the penalty should rest with the party who fails; and not he who is deprived of the rightful use of his land by the failure of the defaulter.

No. 16.—"Transfer" should not include mortgage, otherwise a mortgagee without possession would have the right of getting his name registered in the zamindar's sherista.

Section 4 (*c*).—The proposal to exempt khas mehals and wards' estates from the operation of the proposed law is anything but reasonable. It is but only fair that the rights of all tenure-holders and ryots should be regulated by one code of laws. Nothing would create a greater confidence in the minds of the people in the justness of an act defining the rights and obligations of landlords and tenants than the fact that it applies equally to Government as landlord and to private landlords. There is no difference in the position and character of the subordinate agency employed by Government and by private landlords in the collection of rent and management of estates, and yet the State has secured to itself a special and summary procedure for the recovery of rent. In the matter of rights and obligations relating to land, however, the people have a right to expect that there should not be one law for private landholders, and another for the strongest and most irresponsible of landholders—the State.

Section 4, Illustration.—The illustration is most unfortunate. It assumes the existence of a customary right which does not exist anywhere. It would be an encouragement to under-ryots to make false claims of a right which has not once since 1793 been put forward in any instance. The Bill itself contains no provision clearly defining the rights of such ryots, and an enunciation of the rights of under-ryots is a question of no small difficulty. A world of confusion would arise in cases of sale, forfeiture, and merger of the superior right if under-ryots be declared to have, at least in some places, a right of occupancy.

Sections 5-8.—These sections involve an arbitrary inroad upon one of the most valuable rights of the landholders. While khamar lands are frequently converted into ryoti lands by the act of the landholders, large additions are daily made to his khamar lands by accretion, relinquishment, deaths of ryots without heirs, purchase of holdings, &c. From their very nature all accretions are private property of the landholder, and as such they must begin by being khamar, for no ryoti interest has till then accrued on them, but the sections deprive the landholder of the full benefit of such accretions. This is quite uncalled for and most arbitrary. As regards accretions, the existing laws grant them to the zamindar as his special right. And the proposed sections indirectly transfer them to persons who may in future become ryots. Nothing can be more unjust, moreover, than to fix a maximum limit to the area of khamar lands of a landholder, and thus to place restrictions on his right to let such lands in any manner he pleases. The principle which underlies these sections would seriously clog, if not extinguish, an undoubted right which landholders have all along enjoyed, namely, the right of claiming enhancement of rent on the ground of the ryot being in possession of more land than what he pays rent for. But besides being unjust to the landholders, the measure is eminently unpractical. It ignores the existence in the village of all rent-free lands, all service lands, and all land temporarily given away by the landholders for the benefit of pundits, or moulavis, or for the expenses of worship of a village idol, or for the annual celebration of a village festival. To what class would these lands belong? To poor villagers a classification of lands which reckoned all these lands as ryoti lands would be simply incomprehensible. Besides, a very small number of zamindars and talookdars have got measurement papers of their villages which might enable them to submit statements of khamar lands in their villages. It would require decades of time and an outlay of crores of rupees to enable the Bengal landholders to submit such statements. The amount of trouble which a determination of khamar and ryoti lands would cause to the landholders and ryots would itself be enormous, and the loss of time to public officers in deciding disputes and appeals would be great, specially as the areas of a vast number of estates and villages undergo continual changes by the action of large rivers which intersect Lower Bengal.

Section 14.—This rule is intended either to attach a value to a class of property which never had such value before, or to simplify classification. In the former case it unnecessarily and unjustly deprives the landholder of one of his existing rights, and in the latter it is objectionable for the reasons assigned in the remarks on section 3, definition 3.

Section 15.—Act X of 1859 did not directly or indirectly set aside the right of the zamindar to enhancement under the Regulations of 1793, but provided a remedy for the difficulty that had arisen in producing proofs of continuous possession at a uniform rate previous to the date of litigation. This placed the zamindars at a great disadvantage and they complained of it most bitterly. But instead of giving the zamindar any relief from the operation of the rule of 20 years' presumption, the section in a manner completely shuts them out by providing that proof of uniform payment of rent for any period of 20 years (and not 20 years immediately before suit as at present) would raise thus presumption. Sir Richard Garth truly observe that "this section has undoubtedly operated very unjustly against the landholders;" and further on—"But in the case of rent it might well be that for 20 years no ground for enhancing it had ever occurred; or from the fact of the landlord being a minor, or female, or over-lenient with his tenants, any opportunity for enhancement might not have been taken advantage of, and in such cases it would be hard to presume against the landlord that because the rent had not been enchanced for 20 years, it has been fixed from the time of the permanent settlement." The experience of the last 23 years has shown that in 95 per cent. of suits for enhancement of rent landlords were unable to rebut the presumption thus raised; and how could they? Those who have come into possession of estates and talooks by purchases made at sales for arrears of revenue or rent, or in execution of decrees, did not get a scrap of paper belonging to the former proprietors, while those who purchased at private sales were in no better plight, considering the great difficulty of preserving from white-ants and other sources of destruction, massive collection-papers of a period more than 30 or 40 years old. It is impossible therefore for landholders to adduce evidence except in rare cases to rebut the presumption, and it was this consideration which induced Mr. Reynolds to suggest an amendment to the effect that no such presumption would be raised unless the ryot succeeded in proving uniform payment from 1839, *i.e.*, 20 years before the date of the passing of Act X of 1859, which for the first time enacted the rule. The observations made by Mr. Reynolds in support of the change are unexceptionable:—"Allowing all due weight to the arguments of the Commission, it is to be remembered that the presumption was first introduced by Act X of 1859, and that it was then necessary for the tenant to prove a uniform rate from 1839. It is now only necessary to prove such uniform payment from 1861. As there is reason to think that rent receipts have been much more regularly given, and much more carefully preserved, during the last 20 years than during the 20 years which preceded them, it seems to follow that the lapse of time has made it more and more easy to raise the presumption, and more and more difficult to rebut it. Nor can it be denied that auction purchasers labour under a special grievance in this matter. If it be said that they may be expected to regulate their bids accordingly, it may be replied that it is not for the public interest that estates should sell below their value on the ground that the circumstances of the sale facilitate the advancement of fraudulent claims by the tenant." It behoves the

legislature to consider how very easy it is for ryots, with the aid and connivance of former talookdars and their gomastas, to produce rent receipts showing uniform payment for 20 years. The injustice of the rule of presumption is clear from the fact that Government, with all its prestige and resources, wish to keep clear of it in respect of temporarily-settled estates. The exception which section 20 of the Bill makes with reference to such estates prove beyond all manner of doubt the necessity of a change of the law for the behoof of the landholders. The remarks made by Mr. Reynolds on this head are conclusive. He says:—"The exception in the case of tenures in an estate not permanently settled is stigmatized by Baboo Joykissen Mookerjee as an invidious distinction which shows the injustice perpetrated on the holders of permanently-settled estates. A little consideration will show that the exception is perfectly reasonable."

Section 16.—There can be no objection to the rule laid down in the last part of this section, if the commutation of the rent in kind into a fixed money rent is the voluntary act of the landholder; but if such commutation be made at the desire of the ryot, and against the wishes of the landholder, as provided for in section 82, the rule would be very unjust to the landholder. It would in that case be in the power of every ryot to prevent enhancement of rent on the ground of a rise in the value of produce which payments in kind secure to the landholder.

Section 18.—This is a new restriction on the right of enhancement, alike unfair and uncalled for. In those cases in which it will be shown that a tenure has existed since the Permanent Settlement, although at a varying rent, the zemindar must prove his right to enhance before he gets a decree. How is he to prove such a right? If that right be not deemed clear from the Permanent Settlement Regulations, landholders must give up all attempt of proving it by proof of custom or contract. There is no custom, one way or the other, affecting the zemindar's right of enhancement, and as regards contract it is well known that no written engagements exist in respect to a large number of tenures.

Section 25.—This section gives ryots a right of free sale of all holdings which are protected from enhancement of rent either by agreement or under the operation of the rule of 20 years' presumption. Nothing can be more unjust to the zemindars, or more ruinous to the ryots. It deprives the landholder of his right of choosing his own ryots. It requires no great experience of mofussil life to see that the learned Chief Justice is quite right in considering this to be "far from a sentimental grievance." A provision which allows ryots to thrust upon a landholder as his tenants persons who are his avowed enemies, or who are notorious bad characters, and who would therefore in all likelihood create disaffection and combination among his other ryots, place obstacles in the collection of rent, commit breaches of the peace, and sow the seeds of discord among a peaceful community, affects most materially the proprietary rights of the landholders. It will be seen that in the case of these protected holdings the landholders would not have a right of pre-emption, such as is provided for by section 51 in the case of mere occupancy holdings, but it may be urged that the number of such holdings is small. It is well known, however, that during the last 23 years the courts have indiscriminately declared a very large number of holdings in every district to be protected from enhancement, and that the number of mokururee leases granted by landholders during this time is considerable. In one year alone the number exceeded 19,000, as shown by registration returns. And then the right is proposed to be given not only to those whose holdings are protected by agreement, and those whose holdings have been declared protected after judicial enquiry, but to the holder of every "permanent tenure." Who is to judge whether a tenure is permanent or not? In 999 suits for enhancement of rent out of every 1,000, the ryots claim their holdings to be protected under section 4. No occupancy ryot would be so unmindful of his own interests as to admit his holding without any sort of struggle to be not protected from enhancement by giving his landlord a right of pre-emption when he wishes to transfer his holding. The effect of the provision under notice would therefore be that, with the exception of that inconsiderable number of holdings which have been declared by the Courts at different times to be not protected from enhancement, all other holdings will be capable of being freely transferred in spite of the landholders. The landholder will have no right of pre-emption in such cases. He may of course contest by a suit in court the validity of such transfers, on the ground that the holdings are not permanent, but to what an alarming position would the landholder be drifted if he were called upon without a moment's notice to prove scores, perhaps hundreds, of different holdings not to be protected from enhancement. He will not be allowed his own time to decide when he will sue a ryot for enhancement of rent. He must without any notice accept a stranger as his ryot, and also give up for ever his right to enhance the rent of a holding, or institute suits to establish his right to enhance, with the inevitable prospect of a defeat.

Nor are the evils apprehended, or likely to arise, from the working of the law to be confined to the landholder only. The ryot is for certain to suffer from them even more grievously. Whereas now they have permanent tenures which they cannot be deprived of in any way, except by their own default in paying rent, and their sons and grandsons and successors without limit may inherit, and always remain owners of their ancestral fields; under the new law they will be liable to, and practically will soon be reduced to day-labourers, and their fields will pass to middlemen, thus defeating the primary and professed object of Government, namely to better the condition of the ryots. Our conviction in this respect is firm, formed as it is by our thorough personal experience of the country and the condition of the poorer classes. Nor is this belief unshared by the governing classes. Mr. Ilbert,

when introducing the Bill in adverting to the power of sub-letting, remarked:—"The powers of sub-letting which the Bill recognises may in time lead to a state of things in which the great bulk of the actual cultivators would be not occupancy ryots, but under-ryots, with but little protection of the law" (page 291). The power of forced sale will greatly hasten this consummation.

The learned Chief Justice has observed "that to give a poor population like the Bengal ryots the means of selling or mortgaging their tenures at pleasure is a very certain means of making them improvident. I should have thought that the most effectual way of protecting such people, and preventing them from wasting their substance, would be to secure them a permanent interest in their property by prohibiting the alienation of it in any shape or way." The truth of these observations have been painfully illustratad in a large number of cases. Whatever may be the custom in some of the eastern districts, the sale of ryoti holdings, even with the consent of the landlord, is very limited in the western districts. It is mostly those holdings in respect to which the right of sale is expressly reserved by a lease that are now and then sold in the western districts; but when the landholder neglects his own interests, or when the proprietor is an infant or a widow, or when by reason of long-continued litigation among the different co-sharers of a property the management is left entirely in the hands of the local agents, it is then that opportunity is taken by money-lenders, traders, and others to buy up ryoti holdings, not for the purposes of cultivation, but for letting the lands, in most cases to their vendors themselves, at a large profit. The purchasers become middlemen and the original ryots become korfa or under-tenants with no rights at all, and are placed entirely at the mercy of their superior holders. It is needless to add that small middlemen are worse than useless factors in Indian social economy, and that as a general rule the ryots of large zemindars are much better off than those under small middlemen. The evil would increase a hundredfold if a right of free sale were given to the ryot. If the present law were left untouched in this respect, matters would adapt themselves to local conditions and circumstances. The custom which has grown up in some of the eastern districts has nothing pernicious in it. There the holdings are large, cultivation is mostly carried on by hired labour, and the transfer of the holding causes therefore no change for the worse in the condition of the tenant. The lesson given by the Deccan ryots should be a warning to the extension of the right of free sale to other places. "The saleable value of the land greatly increased the credit of the ryot, and encouraged beyond measure the national habit of borrowing, which I have before observed on."—Secretary to the Government of India, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, dated 29th February 1879.

Section 26.—In providing that no holder of a permanent tenure shall be evicted except for breach of a term of a *written* contract, this section imposes a condition which will deprive landholders of their just rights. It is well known that written engagements are exchanged between landholders and their tenants only in a very few cases. Where there are no written engagements, a landlord would therefore be unable to evict a ryot, even if he builds a factory or establishes a mart on his land; nor would he be able to claim a forfeiture of the tenancy if the ryot denies the title of his landlord. The language of section 50 (*d*) is better, but still defective contract, written and unwritten, and custom should be allowed to govern the rights of parties in the matter of ejectment.

Section 27.—The first thing which strikes one with reference to this section is, that the Bill does not provide anywhere for the registration, in the landholder's sherista, of transfers of occupancy holdings. The uncertainty which exists as to whether a holding is a mere occupancy holding or a tenure, *i. e.*, a holding protected from enhancement, render it essentially necessary that all transfers should be registered. The right of pre-emption, it is true, would give the landholders the requisite information in certain cases of transfer, but, as has been already observed, that right would be more illusory than real. Besides, why should not successions to occupancy holdings be registered in the zemindar's sherista? A landholder should not, moreover, be held bound to register mortgages of tenures, specially where possession has not been made over to the mortgagee. The landlord is entitled, in some cases, to demand from the purchaser of a transferable tenure security for the regular payment of rent. Provision should, therefore, be made for the deposit of security or the execution of a security bond where it is demandable by law or custom.

Section 28.—This section gives the tenant the alternative of applying for registration of transfer either to the landholder or to a revenue officer appointed for the purpose. Nothing can be more objectionable. It is one of the numerous cases in which the Bill contemplates officious legislation for the transfer of management of property from the hands of the owner to those of a public officer. It would unnecessarily impose costs both on the tenant and the landholder. The tenant should have a right of applying to the revenue officer only after the landholder has refused to register the transfer. The section, moreover, ignores possible objections on the part of the landlord to the registry. The transfer may be one of a part of a tenure, one of a non-transferable tenure, or one which is otherwise invalid, and yet this section enjoins that whenever application is made to the revenue officer a notice shall issue on the landlord, not asking him to show cause why he should not register, but requiring him to register the transfer. It is true that section 32 provides for objections which the landholder may raise to an application for registration, but why compel the parties to undergo the trouble and incur the costs of regular suit without giving them an opportunity of coming to an amicable arrangement among themselves.

Section 29.—In this section, too, provision should be made for possible objections on the part of the landlord to the registration of transfers.

Section 34.—The tenant should be made liable to pay a fee of 8 annas for the first copy of the entry, instead of his getting it free of charge. The Rent Commission suggested the imposition of a fee for the first copy. The service to be done is for the benefit of the tenant, and in equity he should be bound to pay for it. The zemindar derives no benefit: nay, he may be called upon to make a registry which will bring in an unwelcome tenant, who will prove injurious to his interest, and he cannot fairly be called upon to render service without a legitimate and reasonable fee.

Section 43 (*a*).—The word "village" should be more accurately defined with reference to its fiscal constitution. It frequently happens that the geographical boundaries of a village contain the lands of a second and third village belonging to a different estate and owner. The definition of the word here given would therefore give as against a proprietor a right of occupancy, and that of a settled ryot to persons who had never before held land in the village or estate belonging to that proprietor. This would be an extension of the right which is neither sanctioned by the Secretary of State, nor contemplated by the framers of the Bill. Many villages have so grown up as to have combined into one, bearing in such cases a compound of two or three names, and others may do so; some have grown up into towns of considerable size, whereas the principle on which the provision is justified is that the holdings are contained in the same village or part of a village as owned by a single proprietor. Clause (*b*) of the section shows this clearly, but with a different object as reprehensible as this.

Section 43 (*b*).—Considering the purposes to which the word estate has been used in subsequent sections, the definition of the word here given is very objectionable. The arbitrary meaning, opposed to every conception of the term and to its definition in section 3, attached to the word by this sub-section, will lead to great confusion, while the inroad into proprietary rights which it involves is great. The effect of this section would be, that a person who has never held any land under A, but who has held land for 12 years under B, perhaps an enemy of A, will be deemed a settled ryot of A's estate, if at any time subsequent to 1853 the two estates formed or formed part of a parent estate. Some estates which formerly comprised lands in two or more districts have subsequently to 1853 been partitioned, but on that very ground this section would deem a ryot of a village in Burdwan a settled ryot of a village in Hooghly, which is more than 60 miles apart, and which he has very likely never seen in his life. The absurdity of a theoretical rule conceived in utter ignorance of existing circumstances can go no farther. What, again, would be the effect of the interpretation in question with reference to section 47. It would be simply this, that a person who has held land under a landholder for a few days would acquire a right of occupancy if he had held land for 12 years in a distant estate which once formed a part of the same estate as his. An examination of the nature and origin of estates would show how harmful the proposed definition would be. The principal estate of the Moharaja of Burdwan is composed of villages scattered in five or six districts. The Bill certainly distorts the views on this point of the Secretary of State, who evidently refers to partitions of estates in future when he remarks—"It will be necessary in actual legislation to provide that this right is not forfeited by any sub-division of estates and alteration of village boundaries."

Section 44.—Both in the definition of ryot in section 3 and of occupancy right in this section the important qualification inserted in section 6 of Act X of 1859 has been omitted. The right should attach to the ryot with respect to any land only "so long as he pays the rent payable on account of the same." It is an important qualification, and one that goes to the very root of the matter.

Section 45.—The "settled ryot," as defined in this section, is very different from a 'resident ryot' familiar to the Indian lawyer. The rights given to such a ryot by sections 57 and 61 are most objectionable. The latitude which sub-section 3 gives to the acquisition of the right is also very objectionable. In joint Hindu or Mahomedan families the number of co-sharers, male and female, in a ryotty holding is usually very large. Should all and every one of them acquire the rights of a settled ryot? Though some of them may be living for years, and in fact presumably far away from their ancestral homes.

Section 46.—This section provides that a ryot must cease to hold land for the full period of one year before his title to the land expires. In the meantime the land will remain fallow, and the landholder will have no security whatever for his rent. It would not be at all unreasonable if it were held that a ryot's title would cease by his absenting himself from the village for six months without making any provision for the payment of the rent payable by him. By the Central Provinces Act an absence of 30 days operates to extinguish the ryot's title.

Section 47.—A ryot who who has held on the 3rd of March 1883, even for a few days, a large quantity of land in a village, would by this section, any contract to the contrary notwithstanding, acquire a right of occupancy in respect to that land if he or his predecessor had held even a kotta of land in that village, or in the estate to which it appertains, for a period of 12 years. This is a most unjust and uncalled for invasion of the rights of landholders. The rule for the acquisition of the right of occupancy laid down in section 6, Act X of 1859, has been declared by eminent judicial authorities to be an encroachment on the proprietary rights of landholders. It was at first proposed to apply the rule only to resident ryots, and it

was only on the recommendation of the authorities of the North-Western Provinces that it was extended to all classes of ryots, but with a view to palliate the wrong thus done to zemindars a section (section 7) was enacted, which gave the landholders a power to prevent the accrual of the right by taking proper engagements from the ryot. It is admitted that that law has succeeded in giving fixity of tenure to a large majority of the ryots. Where, then, is the necessity of this fresh and unjust inroad into the rights of zemindars? The statement that landholders have hitherto prevented the accrual of the right of occupancy by not allowing their ryots to hold the same land continuously for a number of years is, in the main, incorrect and unfounded. If the practice has grown, as has been stated, in some estates in Behar the landholders are not to blame for it. They have done merely what is not wrong, but what they are expressly authorized by law (see sections 7 and 9, Act VIII of 1869) to do in order to protect their own interests. It should be remembered that the practice did not affect old ryots, *i.e.*, those who have acquired rights of occupancy, and that when the landholders could legally prevent the accrual of the right of occupancy by taking proper engagements from their ryots, this constant shifting of cultivation may be due to other causes, the conditions of the soil for example, than the desire of the landholder to gain his own object. The Secretary of State has, it is true, given his sanction to a revision of the law relating to right of occupancy nearly, though not quite, in the way proposed by this section, but it is no wonder that such sanction has been given when it is recollected that the opinions of high and experienced officers of Government, of men like Lord Ulick Browne, Mr. J. Monro, and others were kept in the back ground, and the isolated opinions of a few officers who are wedded perhaps to particular pet theories were held up to His Excellency as evidence of the condition of the ryots and of the conduct of the landholders.

The provision against freedom of contract in respect to the accrual and to the incidents of the right of occupancy is indefensible on all grounds, rational and economical. The ryot is a free agent in all other concerns of life. He may sub-let his lands at any rent, however small; he may borrow money at a ruinous rate of interest; he may relinquish, mortgage or sell his lands whenever he pleases, and convert himself into a day-labourer, but he must not consent to forego the acquisition of right of occupancy even in regard to land which he requries for temporary purposes, or to pay enhanced rent to his landlord at a rate which he has not the least disinclination to pay. The ryots are unquestionably a much more intelligent class of men than day-labourers; but although the latter are free to contract away their liberties for service in an unknown land for years, the freedom of the former must be restricted, in the opinion of our legislators, in matters in which they are the best judges of their own interests. The argument drawn from section 58 of Regulation VIII of 1793 in support of the proposed restriction is at best fallacious. That section required the form only of the potta to be submitted for approval once for all, and left the adjustment of the conditions, terms, and details to the parties concerned. Section 56 of that Regulation clearly shows that no sort of restriction whatever was intended to be placed in the way of the contracting parties. It is observable that a far different rule has been proposed for cases in which the interests of Government are concerned. The Bill, section 121, empowers a revenue officer to override contracts entered into by landholders with their ryots at reduced rents in estates not permanently settled, and to assess the rent in accordance with the provisions of the Bill.

When an owner, tenure-holder, or izardar holds alone as such any land, he would be prevented by the proviso of this section from acquiring a right of occupancy in respect of that land. Is it intended to mean that when land is held jointly by a number of owners, tenure-holders, or izardars, such a right may be acquired?

Section 48.—This section provides that a right of occupancy in an under-tenant may accrue only by an act of a permanent tenure-holder, but that after such a right has been created, all the incidents of an ordinary occupancy right will attach to it. A right of occupancy within a right of occupancy has been hitherto unknown in this country. It would give rise to great confusion in the matter of determination of rent payable by the sub-occupancy ryot, and of his rights and liabilities in cases of default of payment of rent by the superior ryot, and of distraint of crops and sale of the superior holding. This section would, moreover, enable ryots to introduce into the village, as under-tenants with rights of occupancy, persons who are obnoxious to the landholder, without the latter having any means whatever to prevent it.

Section 49.—The extension of the rule as to occupancy rights to khamar lands, unless prevented by contract, is an uncalled-for infringement of the rights of landholders. It is opposed to what Mr. Ilbert emphatically said in Council: "We might, I think, very fairly say to the zemindars—'This is private, sir, or khamar land is, and shall be, your own in a special and exclusive sense. You may do as you like with it."

Section 50 (d).—The very condition essential to the continuance of a right of occupancy in respect of any land is the payment of the rent payable for the same. It has been observed before that the omission of the qualification, namely, "so long as he pays the rent payable in respect of the same," is a material defect in the definition of the right given in the Bill. It is not in a land which the ryot merely occupies that he should acquire a right of occupancy, but, as observed by the Secretary of State, it must be a land which "he occupies and pays rent for." Such being the conception of the right, it is difficult to see how the incident of ejectment for non-payment of rent can be separated from it. The penalty is inherent to, and inseparable from, that right. In omitting to provide for ejectment for non-payment of rent the Bill takes away a remedy which the landholders have not only all along enjoyed, but which is necessary for recovery of their rents. It would be found on enquiry if one were made, that in a very small number of cases indeed have the landholders availed themselves of this remedy, and that in a large majority of the cases in which decrees were obtained for ejectment the lands have been re-let to the defaulting ryots after some arrangement for the payment of the arrears have been come to; but the very existence of the remedy is a check to habitual and wilful non-payment of rent. For reasons stated with reference to section 26, a landholder should not be deprived of his right of ejecting a ryot where he is entitled to do so by custom or unwritten contract.

Section 50 (e).—Both Sir Ashley Eden and the Secretary of State are strongly against the practice of sub-letting. The latter remarks—"I entirely agree with you that sub-letting, where the custom has not become firmly established, should be discouraged," and yet the Bill would give the right indiscriminately to all occupancy-holders. If it be the object of the legislature to foster a substantial class of cultivators who have a direct interest in the agriculture of the country, that object would be frustrated by giving to all occupancy ryots the right of sub-letting. There are, doubtless, occasions when sub-letting may become necessary, as, for instance, when the holder of the right is a woman, or a minor or an invalid and a provision for sub-letting in such cases would doubtless be reasonable, but the grant of the right to all occupancy ryots, whether they have or have not the right by custom, would simply tend to create a class of middlemen who would enjoy all the rights and privileges taken away from the landholders, while the cultivators themselves would fare much worse than at present.

Section 50 (f).—The evils incidental to a rule for the free sale of ryoty holdings in this country have been already described with reference to section 25. If the free sale of permanent holdings be objectionable, how much more so would be the sale of simple occupancy rights held by persons who are in a majority of cases very poor, and who have no resources to fall back upon in seasons of agricultural distress. The result of such a rule would be, that within a few years the holdings will change hands, a number of middlemen will come into the possession of the greater part of the holdings of every village, while the original ryots themselves, who are the objects of so much tender solicitude on the part of the Legislature, will be reduced to the condition of day-labourers or of under-tenants paying rack-rents to their superior holders.

Sections 51 to 55.—The right of pre-emption proposed to be given to landholders on the sale of occupancy rights is as intangible as it would be ineffectual in palliating the wrong done to them by making the right transferable. The right of pre-emption would go for nothing if the ryot chooses to think—it would be preposterous to assume he would do otherwise—that his holding is protected from enhancement, or that it is a permanent tenure, and one therefore which under section 25 is not subject to the landlord's right of pre-emption. If the landholder wishes to assert his right of pre-emption, he must go to court prepared to prove the holding liable to enhancement, or that it is a simple occupancy holding, and *that* within six months from the date of sale, gift, or bequest. Nothing would be, however, more easy than for the ryot to defeat the landlord's right of pre-emption by keeping the transfer a secret from him for a period of six months, after the lapse of which the landlord would have no right or remedy whatever in respect of the transfer. The case would be much worse if the ryots combine against their landlord at the instigation of a neighbouring and unfriendly landholder, and call upon him to exercise his right of pre-emption at once in respect to a lage number of holdings. Few landholders in Bengal have the means of meeting such a call. With rare exceptions, therefore, they will be placed in such a case at the mercy of their ryots. In cases of sales in execution of decrees the Bill does not provide for any service of notice of intended sales upon the landlord, but he is expected to make himself cognizant of all such sales and to bid at the sales—a provision which shows further how worthless is the right of pre-emption proposed to be given to landholders. The Bill makes no provisions whatever for cases in which one or two of several joint-owners claim jointly or in rivalry to exercise the right of pre-emption in opposition to the wishes of the rest.

Section 56.—The Bill, while professing to run on the lines laid down by the Secretary of State, makes departures from them here and there which are wholly unwarrantable. He nowhere sanctions the accrual of an occupancy right by any but a settled ryot, but this section would give the right to a perfect stranger, who is let into a land which has come to the landholder's possession by virtue of his right of pre-emption. This is, however, far from being the worst feature of this section. Any other purchaser of an occupancy holding will have the right of using it in any manner, and letting it at any rent, he chooses, but the landholder, the proprietor of the soil, must not only pay as much as the land is worth if he wishes to purchase it and let it with a right of occupancy even to a stranger, but he must not also let it at a rent higher than what he was receiving before his purchase. This is expressly opposed to all ideas of fair play at auction sales, to all economic principles, and to the views of the Secretary of State, who says that the landholder may let such land "at whatever rent he can obtain." The right of pre-emption would therefore be a positive wrong and disability, instead of a benefit to the landholder.

Section 59.—The objections to the restrictions to freedom of contract apply with double force to contracts relating to rent which the contracting parties with an eye to their own

interests will enter into. Whenever a ryot agrees to pay a certain amount of rent for a plot or plots of land, he does so after taking into consideration the situation and capabilities of the land and the profits it or they will fetch him. He is the best judge of his own interests in the matter; he has his remedy in all cases in which the least coercion has been used, and yet this section restricts his rights as a free agent, and makes a revenue officer the guardian of his interests. But will any amount of legislative precaution prevent the parties from entering into any contract for rent they might agree upon? The futility of such attempts was made abundantly clear by the experience of the usury laws. The result of such a law would be that honest zamindars would suffer, while those whose exorbitant demands for rent it is intended to limit would be able to carry everything in their own way.

The arbitrary limit imposed by this section to rent with reference to the value of produce of the land is anything but just and reasonable. Leaving aside the question of lands which were waste at the time of the Permanent Settlement, and which the landholders have a right to let to their best advantage, it cannot but be conceded that they are entitled to get the State share of the produce of the soil which was made over to them for an annual money value or revenue fixed in prepetuity. Any measure which which would reduce that share cannot but be an act of spoliation, specially if it originates with that one of the contracting parties which received at least an adequate consideration for the bargain. It is well known that for the purposes of the Permanent Settlement the rent was assessed at from half to three-fifths of the value of produce. Whether the Government of 1793 was right or wrong in assessing the rent at such a ratio is a question with which neither the present Government nor the zamindars have anything to do. The British nation as masters of the soil took upon themselves the power of making what settlement of land revenue they thought proper on the assumption that they had got the land free of all previously existing rights and engagements (section 30, Regulation II of 1822). The rule in question is, therefore, a direct breach of the compact of 1793. If the Government wish to keep faith with the landholders, and to deal justly by them and their ryots, let the ratio of produce which formed the basis of settlement in 1793 in each district be enquired into and determined for the purpose of fixing a limit to the zamindar's claim for rent. One-half the value of the produce is not so high a ratio as it is supposed to be by some. Only last year the Bombay High Court decreed a claim for enhanced rent on the basis of half the value of the gross produce of the land.—3 I.L.R. 348.

The question of maximum limit to rent on the basis of a share of the produce presents another aspect. The ratio which rent bears to the value of produce varies in different districts from less than one-twentieth to more than one-half. Of what practical value is a maximum limit under such circumstances? In districts likee Dacca and Chittagong, where the ratio is low, the landholders would be entitled to double their rents after every 10 years; while the Hooghly, Burdwan, and such other districts, where the ratio is high, the rule will stop enhancement altogether, although, as a matter of legal right and justice, they are entitled to get as rent a sum which represents their original share of the produce. It is difficult to say how this variation in the ratio of produce in different districts took place; but if it be assumed that the ratio which formed the basis of the Permanent Settlement was pretty nearly uniform in these provinces, the present difference must have arisen by a rapid rise in the value of produce in districts like Dacca and Chittagong. Be the cause, however, whatever it may, it is undoubted that it has resulted in making estates and tenures in those districts much more profitable than those in Hooghly and Burdwan. The road cess statemets show that, whereas in Hooghly the ratio of revenue to the total rent-roll of the district is 48·4 and in Burdwan 40·8, it is only 21·9 in Dacca, 24·7 in Chittagong, 16·1 in Mymensingh, 8·6 in Durbhanga, and 6·7 in Lohardugga. The effect of the rule would therefore be that, while it would press hard on the landholders, whose profits are small, it would give those whose profits are large an unlimited latitude for enhancement of rent.

The Bill allows the rent of a ryot to be doubled by decree of court in an enhancement suit. It is therefore difficult to understand why the increase of rent should not be more than 6 annas in the rupee when the enhancement is effected by contract. The rule is simply a premium on litigation.

Section 61.—When any land comes to the khas possession of the landholder, it is usually let to some one of his ryots. It is in rare cases that a stranger comes to rent the land, or the landholder has the inclination to let it to one whose antecedents are unknown to him. For all practical purposes, therefore, the landholder's right to let will be materially restricted, even in respect to land which we have been accustomed to regard as land over which he has absolute control. He would not be able to rent the land at a higher rent than what was previously paid for it, unless by a registered contract approved by a revenue officer, who should see not merely that the contract rent is not more than one-fifth of the value of produce, but also should satisfy himself "that it is fair and equitable, and that the ryot in entering into it acts as a free agent." The climax of the evil is reached in cases in which the landholder lets out land which has come to his possession by virtue of the right of pre-emption. Payment of the highest price available for the land does not give him an iota of right in excess of that restricted right he would have in respect of land which has come to his possession by relinquishment, forfeiture, or death.

Sections 62 to 73.—The first attempt made since 1793 to regulate enhancement of rent by the enactment of definite rules has failed, and it requires no great foresight to see that

the elaborate rules laid down by the Bill for the preparation of tables of rates would make matters much worse. It is anything but reasonable to expect that public officers, wholly ignorant of the condition of the people, of the nature of the soil, of the different kinds of crops, and of the agricultural capabilities of a village, would ever succeed in fixing proper rates of rent for different classes of land. They must err on one side or the other. Did not our judicial officers make confusion worse confounded by decreeing (before they ceased to decree any rates at all) a variety of rates for the same class of land in a village? The most feasible way of meeting the difficulty appears to be the legal recognition of the indigenous system of the country. Let the preparation of a table of rates for each village be entrusted to a punchayet consisting of a number of mandals and the zamindar's gomashta of the village, and some provision made for cases of defference of opinion among them. A table or jama-bundee so prepared would be more satisfactory to the parties concerned then any table prepared by a public officer, and all the trouble, expense, and loss of time, to the detriment of cultivation which it involves, would be avoided.

A provision for the payment by zamindars and ryots of the cost of preparation of a table of rates, including the salaries and portions of salaries of officers employed in the work, is unjust and unwarrantable. A suitor paying high institution and other fees is entitled to have his suit tried and decided, otherwise the salaries of Judges and Moonsifs may with equal justice be made payable by him in addition to what he pays by way of institution and process fees. The payment of the cost of preparation of tables of rates would not relieve suitors of the cost of suit. After they have paid for the preparation of tables of rates, they would have to pay the costs of suit all the same. Again, after a table of rates has been prepared at an enormous cost, what use will it come to? In the adjudication of suits for enhancement of rent the court is required by section 73 not to rely solely on the table, but to adjudge the rate of enhancement on a variety of considerations. The condition of the land, the changes made in it, the persons by whom the changes were made, and the proportion of cost incurred by each contending party in making the change, would have to be enquired into, and latitude should also be given to custom and contract to vary the rates mentioned in the table. The great difficulty which officers would experience in preparing correct tables of rates, the enormous expenditure which the work would entail, the double costs which the procedure would throw on landholders and ryots, and the little practical use the table will come to in suits for enhancement of rent, are all considerations against the feasibility of this ill-judged measure.

Section 74.—Among the grounds on which the ryot is liable to pay enhanced rent to his landlord, that which in the present law provides for enhancement by reason of the ryot occupying more land than what he pays rent for, has been omitted in this section.

The Bill does not deny the landholder's right to get enhanced rent on this ground; but the manner in which that right has been declared in section 60 is so very indefinite, and the division of the lands of a village into khamar or ryotti is calculated to give rise to so erroneous presumptions, that it would be well both for the landlord and tenant that the law on the subject should be clearly laid down. The provisions of section 96 refer to cases in which it would be proved that separate plots of land have been added to the ryot's holding, but this is quite distinct from a case where the increase of area is due to a clandestine encroachment by the ryot upon adjacent, occupied and unoccupied, lands. The provision of the present law should be retained.

Section 75.—The proposal contained in this section to limit theamount of rent to the value of one-fifth of the produce of the land has been already commented upon with reference to section 59.

Section 76.—For ordinary cases a rule prohibiting the enhanced rent to be not more than double the rent previously payable is not objectionable, but a dogmatic rule to that effect would be productive of great hardship and injustice in cases in which the landholder, by means of large outlay of capital, raises the value of land to several times its original value. In such cases section 75 (*a*) gives the landholder the whole benefit of the change. Again, when an assessment is tainted with fraud and collusion, the restriction in question would result in great injustice. A zamindar or putnidar lets land to his relative or dependent at less than one-fourth the prevailing rate of rent. With a view to give colour of *bonâ fide* to the transaction a suit for arrears, or even for enhancement of rent, is instituted, and it is so managed that the rent is not disturbed. A number of such holdings may be created, and then the property might be allowed to change hands by default of payment of revenue or rent. Should the purchasers at the revenue or putni sale be precluded from getting more than the double rent in such cases? This section should therefore be modified so as to provide for cases of the nature above indicated. Regulation VIII of 1793, section 60, clause 2, provided for such cases.

Section 77.—When a landholder gets a decree for enhancement of rent, it is on the ground that he is entitled to it by reason of the increase in the productive powers of the land, or of a rise in the value of produce as determined by an examination of the produce or prices of a number of preceding years. The decree is for what the ryot has been withholding from the zamindar. It is not the case of a poor debtor who is unable to meet the creditor's demand, unless the court allows him to pay the creditor by instalments. The provision or gradual enhancement is therefore unjust and uncalled for. Again, section 201 gives the court a discretion to fix the date from which a decree for enhancement shall take effect. These two provisions taken together will give the courts a power to render any decree of enhancement abortive. Progressive rents are necessary only with regard to waste and jungle lands, which can't be cultivated all at once.

Section 81.—This section proposes to place restrictions on rents in kind, which are alike unjust and uncalled for. They are opposed to the declaration of Government to the effect that existing rents would in no case be reduced. It is well known that nine annas of the produce is not unusually the z amindar's share when rent is paid in kind. The ryots pay that share voluntarily, and there is no reason whatever why that share should be reduced to eight annas. The proposal that whatever be the nature of the crop grown on the land, the zamindar shall be entitled to get the value of his share only in staple crops, is still more objectionable, the rule or custom which regulates payments in kind embrace the number of crops, any one or more of which the ryot may grow at his pleasure, and whatever crops he grows he pays the fixed share to the zamindar. Why should this simple arrangement, which has received the sanction of immemorial custom, be interfered with, specially when no objection has been raised to it? Far from placing a restriction to the right of the landholders in this respect, the legislature should declare the customary right which they enjoy in common with the landholders of some other countries, Holland for example, of compelling the ryot to grow a new and paying crop, and to come to some fresh arrangement with his landlord if he wishes to grow a new crop of his own accord. Interference in matters like these, which can best be arranged amicably by the interested parties, is productive of great mischief, and is calculated to increase litigation to an alarming extent.

Section 92.—The draft Bill of the Rent Commission provided for a commutation of rent in kind into money rent at the instance either of the landholder or the ryot, but this section gives the right only to the ryot,—the party who has in most cases the choice of cultivating or not cultivating the land, and of relinquishing it altogether. Nothing could be more unjust to the landholder. Payment of rent in kind is a method of payment which saves the ryot the trouble and expense of taking his produce to the market, and of contesting the zamindar's claim for enhancement of rent, while it saves the latter the trouble and expense of periodically asserting and proving his claim to enhanced rent. It is a self-regulating system which adjusts itself to the variations in the price of produce, and one therefore which is best fitted to give to each of the interested parties his just rights without the interference of laws and courts, and is on that account eminently deserving of the support and fostering care of Government.

The ultimate loss to the zamindars, if such commutation were allowed, would be in other respects very heavy. After the rent has been commuted into money rent, the ryot need only relinquish the holding, and he or his neighbours would be able to compel the landholder to re-let the land at a rent not higher than one-fiftth the value of the produce of the land. Payments in kind also secure to poor landholders their requisite supply of food-grain for consumption throughout the year, and it would be a source of great inconvenience and hardship to them if the ryot be allowed to change them into money rent at his pleasure. It should, moreover, be recollected that it is in respect of lands which are more than ordinarily subject to the risks of cultivation, and which the ryots do not venture to take at a fixed annual money-rent, that rent is paid in kind. Our legislators should think twice before they recommend a change which may ultimately injure those most for whose benefit they now wish it. It should also be borne in mind that in the two disttiets of Behar where bhowly rent obtains to a large extent the cultivation of land is carried on the co-operative system, Both in Patna and Gya the cultivation of land mainly depends on the landholder. It is with his money that embankments must be raised and maintained, and it is with his money that *pynes* on water-courses must be cut and kept clear before the land can be cultivated. The ryots are altogether powerless to execute and maintain these works, and any measure which would throw the entire responsibility of cultivation on them would be their ruin.

Section 85.—In proposing that a right of occupancy in a bastu land should not lapse on a ryot ceasing to be the settled ryot of a village or estate, this section contemplates a great wrong to the landholder. At present, when a bastu land forms part of a holding, the right accrues and ceases along with the right in respect of the other lands of the holding. No such right should reasonably be allowed to accrue when the bastu forms no part of an agricultural holding; and a provision regarding bastu land, purely as such, would be out of place in an Act relating to landlords and tenants. If a ryot is allowed to have a right of occupancy in a basta land, after he has ceased to be a member of the agricultural community, the effect on the rights of the landholder would be disastrous, with reference to bastu lands in marts and trading villages. The provision is, moreover, opposed to the well-established principle of law, that a landholder is not bound to recognise a division of ryoti holding—a principle which section 150 of the Bill fully takes cognizance of. The bastu as an occupancy holding gives a lien to its holder to claim under the proposed law all rights of occupancy to lands that he or any of his descendants may at any time take up. Without subjecting himself to the 12 years' occupation clause. Let a clandestine encroachment be once made by a ryot, even for a few weeks, and he becomes an occupancy holder. The economic effects of the provision would be still more mischievous. There is only a limited quantity of bastu land in every village, and if a portion of that area be taken out of the reach of the agricultural community, not merely would the integrity of holdings be destroyed but great inconvenience and hardship would be felt for want of bastu lands.

Section 86.—As observed under section 50, custom and oral contract, and not only written contracts, should be allowed their operation in the matter of ejectment from bastu land.

Section 87.—A maximum limit of 5 per cent. of the market value of the land to the rent of bastu land would be most arbitrary and unjust. Considering all the risks of loss

to the landholder by relinquishments, bad debts, diluvion, &c., rent on particular plots of land, calculated at 5 per cent. of the value of the land, would really come to a much lower percentage on the whole. Again, it is a well-known fact that in some districts, the southern portion of the 24-Pergunnahs for example, bastu lands bear the lowest rate of rent of all lands in a village, while in others, Hooghly for example, bastu lands bear the very highest rates of rent, and in others again they bear no rent at all. A uniform rule would be therefore quite unsuited to the circumstances of the case. The matter should be left to contract and custom.

Sections 88-95.—In the face of great anxiety expressed by the Secretary of State that the principle which allows no right of occupancy to accrue except by possession for 12 years should not be abandoned, and His Excellency's declaration that he attached great importance to it, this chapter proposes to give ryots, who have admittedly no right of occupancy, as good a right of occupancy as that created by Act X of 1859, if not one much more damaging to the landholder. The rent of such a ryot shall not exceed $\frac{5}{6}$ths of the value of the produce of the land; he can't be ejected, except for breach of a condition of a written contract; his rent can't be enhanced without a notice having been previously served upon him and a decree having been obtained against him; he would be relieved of the liability of paying enhanced rent for the year next following the notice; if he agrees to pay the enhanced rent, no ejectment shall follow a decree for enhancement against him, unless the landholder deposits in court a sum payable to the ryot as compensation for improvements, and a further sum as compensation for disturbance; and in case of failure the decree would be void, and no further attempt at enhancements of rent allowed within the next 10 years. These are rights much greater than what an occupancy ryot enjoys at present. No wonder that objection was taken by Hon'ble Members of Council to the whole of this chapter, which trenches materially on the rights of landholders.

Section 96.—The assumption that even an occupancy ryot is entitled to the possession of accretions to his holding is wholly unwarantable. It is opposed to the existing laws and judicial decisions on the subject. The accretions belong to the proprietor, who has the right of letting them out in any manner he thinks proper. While all losses by diluvion, change of course of rivers, and by relinquishments will fall on him, it is anything but just and reasonable to hold that the gain by accretion will be the ryot's and not the proprietor's. Again, why should the increased rent for accreted land be payable at the rates payable by occupancy ryots? It is well-known that accreted lands are much superior to old lands, and ordinarily bear much higher rents. The proposal to give ryots whose holdings are protected from enhancement a profit of 30 per cent. on the increased rent is equally unjust and unreasonable. But nothing could be more preposterous than the proposal that, while the enhanced rent for accreted land should be calculated at the rates of rent payable by occupancy ryots, the abatement of rent for diluviated land should bear the same proportion to the rent previously payable as the diminution of the total yearly value of the holding bears to the previous total yearly value thereof—a mode of calculation which would necessarily give the ryot, for no reason whatever, an abatement of rent, even as regards the land which would remain in his possession, and much in excess of the amount he would be entitled to by the rule of proportion.

Sections 97-98.—Such a variety of objections have lately been taken in trial of rent suits as to the instalments by which rent is payable, and so many capricious decisions have been passed on the subject, that some simple rule on the subject has become very desirable: instead of that, however, the Bill would make matters worse. In the case of tenure-holders and ryots whose holdings bear a fixed rent, the Bill would give free scope, in the first instance, to the terms of any agreement between the parties, then to custom, and lastly to such rules as may be framed on the subject by the Board of Revenue. In the case of a large majority of the ryots, *viz.*, the occupancy ryots, the Bill provides that the number of instalments should on no account exceed four. It is a fact borne out by the Regulations that Government revenue was formerly collected in monthly instalments, subject to a penalty of 25 per cent. for default. By the custom of the country the rents of ryots are even now collected by monthly instalments, and all the leases evidencing creation of tenures, putni and other, contain stipulations for monthly payments. A reduction of the number of kists would therefore be unjust to the zamindars and tenure-holders. Mr. Reynolds' Bill effected a compromise in the matter which was acceptable to all. He proposed in his Bill to fix only four instalments, the date of each of which was timed just one month before the dates on which the four instalments of Government revenue are payable. A definite rule like this would be much simpler and more conducive to peace and harmony than a procedure which is sure to cause useless trouble and expense to suitors.

Section 100.—In providing for receipts for rent by the landlord the Bill evidently means receipts by his authorised agents. It would be well, however, if the meaning be made clear. Item (*f*) is never entered in receipts. It would be a source of useless loss of time to the agent, and it is altogether unnecessary. The amount of rent and the amount of arrears would be shown in the annual account. Why, then, require them to be repeated every time the rent would be paid. If the introduction of any change be at all desirable, the legislature should see whether the *hatchita* system may not be introduced for the purpose of evidencing payments of rents. It has several considerations to recommend it. Item (*g*) ignores a long established practice. It offers a direct incentive to arrears accumulating, so that after the lapse of the statutary period of three years the ryot may wash himself clean

of all liability to arrears. On the other hand, it compels the landholder to resort to the civil court for every default, without showing any consideration to his tenant. In fact it is a premium on hard-heartedness, and discount on mercy. A zamindar should unquestionably have the right of crediting payments of rent to the account of arrears, if there be any, and the ryot should have no right to demand that it should be credited to a particular year and instalment, if the rent of previous years be in arrears. The item in question, being opposed to the established practice, should be omitted. Zamindars may fairly claim that the receipt they give to the ryot should be similar to the receipt granted to them by Collectors on the payment of revenue. It is necessary that the form of the receipt should be simple, and that it should not contain more than what is absolutely necessary, in view of the heavy and most unreasonable penalty which sub-section 4 imposes in respect of defective receipts.

Section 101.—As proposed by the Rent Commission, the landholder's agent should be paid a fee of annas four or eight before the ryot is declared entitled to get an account which the agent or his master is on no earthly ground bound to give. For reasons above stated, item (*f*) should be omitted.

Sections 103-107.—A ryot is at present allowed to deposit rent in the Collector's office on his verified statement to the effect that the landholder's agent has refused to receive the amount tendered to him, and that the amount is all that is due by the ryot up to the date of deposit. Nothing can be more reasonable than this provision. The Bill, however, proposes changes in the matter of deposit of rent which are unjust to the landholders, and quite uncalled for by the circumstances of the case. It proposes to allow deposits of rent to be made if the ryot has reason to believe (without an actual tender) that his rent would not be accepted; or if he is unable to obtain a joint receipt from all the co-sharers of a property, if he entertains a *bonâ-fide* doubt as to who is entitled to receive the rent. The Bill would therefore make the ryot the judge of his landlord's title and of his inmost intentions. It would give the ryot the power to convert the Collector's office into his landlord's kutcherry, and to compel his landlord to bring an expensive suit to establish his title against any person of the street who the ryot may choose to think has a rival title in the property. The proposition is so opposed to all recognised principles of law, and so dangerous in its effects, that in providing for interpleader suits by stakeholders the Code of Civil Procedure has expressly (section 474) excluded tenants from the category of persons who as stakeholders may compel rival claimants to interplead in a suit in court. The immediate effect of this would be to empower the Collector to assume the functions of a civil court, and adjudicate in an informal, but quite effective, manner regarding rights to one's property on the issue of a few rupees, and put the actual possessor out of possession on the alleged right of third parties. The Bill, moreover, would give a ryot much greater rights than what the Procedure Code gives to any other stakeholders. It would save the ryot from the expenses of a suit, but allow him to compel his landlord to plunge into an expensive and, in most cases, fruitless litigation. Provisions like these are calculated simply to breed ill-feeling, create animosity, harass both the interested parties, and give rise to endless litigation.

The provision for the service of notice on landholders is anything but satisfactory. In most cases no personal notice would be served, and the landholder, however poor he may be, is expected to have an agent always present at all the revenue offices of the district, to inform himself of the fact of deposit by any ryot from the notification required to be affixed at the revenue office. The provision for payment of the amount deposited is equally objectionable. The revenue officer may pay the amount to any person he thinks entitled to get it, and then the party aggrieved may recover the amount by a regular suit. In matters like these, in which the rights of parties are not involved, and in which legislation may go a great way to foster good feeling between the parties, a provision which will unnecessarily set class against class is wholly unwarrantable. The present law relating to deposit of rent is about as good as a law can be. If a time be fixed within which notice of deposit should be served on the landholder, or if a provision be made for the transmission of the money by a postal money-order to the landholder, all the improvement that it needs will have been made.

Section 117.—This section provides that if the landholder interferes with the cutting of produce in any way, he shall be deemed guilty of criminal trespass. The objectionable nature of this section will be discussed in considering section 166 on distraint.

Section 119.—This section provides that the rent of no non-occupancy or korfa ryot should exceed $\frac{5}{16}$th of the value of produce of the land. As a matter of fact a much larger ratio is paid, not only by such ryots, but whole communities of occupancy ryots in several districts. This arbitrary limit, fixed in utter ignorance of existing facts and circumstances, is wholly unwarrantable. It militates against the express views of the Secretary of State, who has stated that a landholder should have the power of letting land which comes to his possession "at any rent he may obtain," and while it restricts the right of the occupancy ryot as regards his under-tenant, it leaves the under-tenant of the second degree entirely at the mercy of his superior tenant.

Section 123.—With reference to this section it is necessary to mention that both Sir George Campbell and Major Baring classed some so-called impositions under the head of abwabs or illegal cesses which are no abwabs at all. The selamies, for instance, which a landholder gets from a ryot for making excavations and taking earth for making bricks, for hewing trees, for excavating fish-ponds, &c., are not impositions in any sense of the term, but consideration money for special privileges, which he is entitled to exact on every equitable ground. These acts of the ryot deteriorate the letting value of the land, and are therefore such as landholders are lawfully entitled to receive compensation for. Such selami or compensation landholders have in several cases recovered by suits in court. Indeed, the words *abwab* and *mahthat* used in the section would not have covered them at all, but from the fact of some such payments being made annually or at recurring periods, or so long as the special advantages are enjoyed; and because the concluding part of the section declares all additions to the actual rent to be illegal, and in the next section impose a money penalty. It cannot and should not be the intention of Government to prohibit special charges for special benefits; and it is necessary therefore that the term abwab should be clearly defined, and exceptions should be expressly made with regard to such compensatory charges. In several places the imposition of abwabs has taken the place, and superseded the necessity, of enhancement of rent. It is in fact a moral adjustment of rent in consequence of the increased value of produce, and is in that light not so objectionable as it is supposed to be. The only other remark which need be made with reference to this subject is, that our legislators are evidently ignorant of the fact that what is called the mathat is a village fund raised by ryots for their own behoof, and not a fund raised by the landholder for his own benefit. The fund is made up of small contributions from all the ryots of a village, and is spent under the direction of the punchayet or committee of mundals of the village in churruck or other poojahs, in paying annual perquisites to the police, in village festivities, &c.

Section 125.—If occupancy holdings be made transferable by sale, they should be declared hypothecated like permanent tenures under the present law, for the rent payable in respect of them instead of the rent being made a first charge on them. The effect of the proposed change in the law would be, that the landholder will be reduced to the position of a first mortgagee, and that by reason of a legal recognition of other charges on the tenures the sales would fetch very inadequate prices, much to the loss of all parties concerned, and ultimately of the landholders. Of what value would this declaration be to the landholder when any other sum due by the tenant may be made a first charge on the tenure, as section 218 does in regard to money due to under-ryots.

The primary charge on the land is the revenue due to Government, for argue how one will, the security of the rent is the security of the revenue, and every provision of law which makes the rent insecure reacts on the revenue. Doubtless the immediate sufferer will be the landholder, who will have, so long as the loss does not swamp all his profits, to make good all losses from his private resources; but the injustice of the act which brings on such a shifting of responsibility cannot but be patent. In the old laws special provision was made to prevent the permanent alienation of land on low, or nominal, or no rent, lest such acts would ultimately tell against revenue, and the principle which was sound then, has not lost its force in the present day, though the recent rise in the value of the property may not make the Government apprehend any immediate evil to its own interests.

Section 127.—Although as a matter of fact none of the improvements, beside, dwelling-houses, mentioned in section 126, are ever made by ryots, they should not be vested with a legal right to excavate thanks or take earth for making bricks for the walls and plinths of his own house without the permission of the landlord, and without payment to the landlord of an adequate fee or selami. In most agricultural villages excavations made in the land reduce its value, and land covered with water is always let at a much lower rent than dry land. If a ryot relinquishes a holding in which he has cut a tank, it rarely fetches the same rent which was previously paid, and the loss to the landholder is great if the relinquishment is made several years after the excavation, when the tank has partially silted up, and is unfit for cultivation on the one hand and for storage of water on the other.

Section 128.—The power which this section gives to ryots not having a right of occupancy of building houses and out-offices on the land without the permission of their landlords, of compelling their landlords to make improvements, and of making the improvements themselves in default of their landlords, is inconsistent with the very notion of such a tenancy. It would confer on them a right which not even occupancy ryots enjoy at present.

Sections 129-131.—The provisions for the award of conpensation for improvements made by ryots are altogether foreign to this country. Improvements are rarely made by ryots. Nothing is more true than what feel from His Excellency the Viceroy on this subject in the course of the debate on the Central Provinces Tenancy Bill. All these provisions should therefore be omitted. Some of the detailed provisions regarding compensation for improvements are discussed below.

Section 129.— This section provides for the award of compensation to ryots for improvements made by them. In most cases the amount of outlay would be more than repaid by the advantages which the ryots would enjoy by reason of such improvements, and it would in such cases be unreasonable to give them any compensation at all for such exhausted improvements.

The limitation prescribed in this respect by the Rent Commission was an equitable one. They suggested that no compensation should be awarded after a certain number of years from the making of the improvement.

Section 131.—With reference to the remarks made under section 129, the time during which the ryot has enjoyed the benefit of the improvements should be taken into account in determining the amount of compensation.

Section 133.—The landlord's right to measure all the lands of his village should be unrestricted, and the exception suggested in this section with regard to revenue-free lands should be omitted. How would a landholder right himself, when a revenue-free holder has encroached upon and appropriated adjacent mal lands, if he is not allowed to measure such lands? The present law places no such restrictions in the way of the landlord.

Section 135.—This section provides for cases in which a ryot occupying land refuses to attend the measurement and point out the boundaries, but the Bill takes no notice whatever of the important class of cases provided for by the present law, in which the landholder, usually a new purchaser, is unable to ascertain the names of the ryots or persons who are in possession of particular holdings in his estate. In such cases a landholder is placed in a situation which entitles him to as much help from a public officer as in any other. It is a situation which purchasers of estates and tenures at auction sales are frequently placed in. The Bill should provide for such cases, as well as impose penalties for determined attempts on the part of the ryots to thwart the Collector's attempt at a measurement of the land.

Section 139.—The landholder is required by section 91 to give six moths' previous notice even to a tenant-at-will, before he can apply for his ejectment. In common fairness the ryot should give previous notice of an equal period before he is allowed to relinquish his holding. This section prescribes only three months' notice.

Section 140.—For reasons stated with reference to section 46, the time should be reduced from one year to six months. If absence for one year from the village be an unreasonably long time in the case of an occupancy ryot, how much more so must it be in the case of a tenant-at-will before the landholder is permitted to let the land to another. The section amounts practically to the declaration that a landholder should forfeit a year's rent for every runaway tenant.

Section 142.—A provision which gives the owner of a minute fractional share in a property, or a single ryot the right of applying to the District Judge for taking it out of the hands of the proprietors thereof and placing it in charge of a joint manager, would be productive of very great mischief. Such an interference with the rights of private property can be justified only on the ground of public good, and it is only in exceptional cases that a District Judge should be empowered to appoint such a manager, but a provision empowering him to do it whenever a dozen ryots represent that such a course would lead to public convenience, or the owner of $\frac{1}{16}$th share represents that it would conduce to his benefit, would be a most unwarrantable and officious piece of legislative interference with private property. The most objectionable feature of the law is the power it virtually gives to the Judge to adjudicate questions concerning possession in an indirect manner and without due precaution. The proviso attached to the section is intended to serve as a safeguard; but as in all disputes of the kind the real contention will be about possession, either the law must fail, or the Judge must take up the question of possession in an indirect manner. Much of the objectionable character of this provision would be removed if it were provided that no joint manager should be appointed, unless the owners of more than half the share of the property apply for the same.

Section 151.—The circumstances which would justify the removal of a tract of country from the jurisdiction of the ordinary courts, and placing it for the purposes of settlement of rent under the jurisdiction of revenue officers, must be of an exceptional character. The first ground therefore on which this section would allow such a removal is very objectionable. Let the Local Government have the power of ordering such a transfer when an agrarian disturbance is threatened or when settlement in a khas mehal is to be effected, but it would be dangerous to give a number of landholders or a number of tenants the right of applying for it.

Section 164.—For reasons above stated no record of rights should be undertaken in any tract of country on the application of landholders and ryots. The first ground laid down in sub-section 2 of this section should therefore be omitted. If it were allowed to stand, it would be in the power of the ryots of any village to ruin their landlord by compelling him to meet all at once their claims to fixity of tenure and fixity of rent, and such other rights as they might choose to claim.

Sections 166 to 187.—Distraint of crops for the realization of rents is an indigenous institution of the remotest antiquity. It enables the landholder to collect his rents by the agency of his permanent establishment, without adding in the least to his own expenses, or saddling any cost on the ryot. It prevents the ryots, on the other hand, from cheating their landlords of their just rents, and in so far acts as a check to fraud and improvidence. It is only in rare cases that the power has been abused, but an abuse of power in matters relating to distraint is so easy to prove, and the penalties for offences committed in connection with it are so heavy, that the law might be left safely to vindicate itself. In Bengal at least, cases of abuse of the power of distraint have been very exceptional. It was the majority of the members of the Rent Commission who, labouring under an error, assumed the institution to be an offset of the English law, and suggested a radical modification of it on purely theoretical grounds. The framers of the present Bill have improved upon the alterations in the law suggested by the Rent Commission, and drafted under the head of Distraint a number of provisions which not only bear no resemblance to the institution of distraint, and amounts practically to a total abolition of the law of distraint, but actually deprives the landholder of even some of the rights which an ordinary creditor enjoys under the law of the land. Distraint has always been understood to be an act of a landlord or creditor as distinguished from attachment, which must be the act of a constituted authority. But the Bill provides that if a landholder wishes the crops of a ryot to be distrained for recovery of his rent, he must make an application to court for the purpose; that such an application must contain all the particulars required for plaints, if not more; that it should be signed and verified like a plaint; that the amount of arrears should be proved as in suit for arrears of rent; that the court may then either admit or reject the application; and that if admitted, an officer of the court would be deputed to distrain the crops. Where, in the first place, is the necessity of laying down all these elaborate provisions, when it is open to the landholder to have, like any other plaintiff, the crops of a defaulting ryot attached before judgment under section 483 of the Code of Civil Procedure, immediately after bringing a suit for recovery of rent? What facility would the Tenancy Act give the landholder over the ordinary procedure of civil courts when he would have to pay the court fee, adduce evidence, and pay the expenses of attachment all the same? What inducement would there be to the landholder to apply for such an attachment in regard to a poor ryot paying a small rent, when the costs of suit and attachment are likely to eat up the whole value of the crops, and of what benefit would these provisions be to any ryot who would be thus unnecessarily saddled with a large amount of costs? Consistently with the other provisions under this head, the Bill provides for heavy penalties and punishments for certain acts in connection with attachment of crops. But why should any penalties be at all imposed beyond what the ordinary law provides for attachments made by order of the court, by an officer of the court, and after proof to the satisfaction of the court of the justice of the claim?

The primary object of an amendment of the Rent Law, according to the repeated avowal of the Bengal Government, was to provide facilities to landholders for the realization of rent, and the section under notice deprives them of one important facility they now possess, without supplying them with any adequate substitute.

Section 194.—It is not unfrequently that defendants purposely allow judgment to go by default in rent suits against them, and then after they have seen the plaintiff's cards, apply for a revival of the suit on the ground of non-service of summons upon them. Let every precaution be taken for the proper service of the summons, but let not such applications for revival be recklessly entertained, as at present. The proposal to have the summons served by post under a registered cover would be a great improvement on the present procedure.

Section 198.—Section 109 provides for damages to be awarded to the landholder for wilful default in the payment of rent. A suit for the recovery of such damages should be classed in the same category as regards appeals, as a suit by a ryot for the recovery of a penalty. If there be no appeal in one case, there should be no appeal in the other.

As regards rent suits, it is a great mistake to suppose that suits for small amounts are of no moment. They form the largest number of suits in the courts, and they are often suits of great importance. In suits in which the amount of rent annually payable by a ryot is in dispute, the High Court has held that no appeal lies to that court, inasmuch as no question of title is involved, but in such cases an appeal should be allowed in the interests of both parties, and the proposal to make the decision of the first court final in suits in which the amount involved does not exceed Rs. 50, should be abandoned.

Section 199.—In suits for recovery of rent, where the ryot pleads the title of a third party, the payment of rent into court should be made obligatory on the ryot, and not left as a matter of discretion to the court. The principle which underlies this section is, however, radically unsound. Both by the English and Indian laws a ryot is estopped from denying the title of his landlord (Indian Evidence Act, section 116). A ryot who denies his landlord's title forfeits his own title to the land, which lapses to his landlord. The effect of this section would, however, be to hold out an encouragement to the ryot to deny his landlord's title, inasmuch as he would thereby evade payment of rent at least for a certain time. Matters like these should be left to the decision of the constituted judicial authorities, and not made the subject of arbitrary legislation.

Section 201.—Sub-section 2 gives the court a discretion to fix the date from which a decree for enhancement of rent should take effect. The rule laid down in sub-section 1 is reasonable enough. The Bill provides for so many and so diverse limitations in the way of enhancement of rent, that it would be a matter of great difficulty to a landholder to get enhanced rent. Why unnecessarily increase the difficulty by giving the court an arbitrary discretion which will place an additional obstacle in his way? Were it the policy of Government to prohibit enhancement, it would be well openly to declare it; but as we believe such is not the case, we consider the difficulties thrown in the way of enhancement are, as they would practically make it, not worth the while to seek it by reason of the trouble, annoyance, and heavy cost, unsound on economic grounds, and unfair towards the landholders, who have the right of protection, is common with all other classes of the community.

Section 206.—The time within which the money due, either to the landholder or to the tenant, in connection with a decree for ejectment must be paid should be limited. It should not exceed 15 days.

Section 208.—Item (*f*) of this section is very objectionable. It is an encroachment on the rights of auction purchasers at sales for arrears of rent which they have all along enjoyed. The effect of item (*f*) would be to deprive the purchaser of the right of avoiding

a mookururee of other permanent lease created by the defaulting tenant. Such a provision is opposed to the fundamental principles which regulates sales for arrears of rent, *viz.*, that they restore the tenure to the condition in which it was at the time of creation, and give it to the purchasers free of all incumbrances created by the out-going tenant. Section 66, Act VIII of 1869, provides for the sale of tenures free of all such incumbrance. The proposition is also one which would give rise to fraud and litigation, inasmuch as every defaulting tenant will try to make the best of their incumbency by creating mookururee leases in favour of relatives and dependants.

Section 210.—The provision for the sale of tenures for arrears of rent subject to registered incumbrances in the first place, and then, if necessary, free of such incumbrances, would simply increase the costs of litigation, which will ultimately fall on the ryot, deter intending purchasers from bidding at sales, fetch inadequate prices for the tenures, and thus cause material injury at every step, both to the landholder and the ryot. The sale should always be, as at present, free from all incumbrances.

Section 215.—This section gives the Local Government the power of extending to occupancy holdings the provisions of section 210 regarding tenures. As observed above, it is a very objectionable proposal. Much more so is it in the case of occupancy holdings, the minute subinfeudation and divisions of which should certainly not be allowed to be perpetuated.

Section 218.—This section gives a sub-tenant of the first, second, or third degree a right to stop the sale of the superior tenure or holding by paying in the amount of arrears of rent due on account of that tenure or holding, and makes the amount so paid a first charge on the tenure or holding. The landholder's lien on the land should be paramount under all circumstances, but this section would materially affect it. In the case at least of occupancy holding the amount paid by a sub-tenant to protect the holding from sale should be made a personal debt of the defaulter, as otherwise of what use would be the lien which section 215 declares the landholder to possess in the land?

The attempt to incorporate in the proposed Act the law relating to patni tenures should be abandoned. Sections 36-42 and Schedule III should therefore be omitted. The present law on the subject is a master-piece of legislative wisdom. It has stood the test of experience of more than 60 years, and has always been found to be a complete and satisfactory law on the subject.

APPENDIX A.

Memorandum by MAHARAJA SIR JOTINDRA MOHUN TAGORE, BAHADUR, K.C.S.I., *on the subject of affording facilities for the realization of rent.*

I think it will be admitted on all hands that the Government, which has recourse to the rigorous sun-set law for the realization of its revenue, ought to offer equal facilities to the zamindar for the collection of his rent. The Permanent Settlement Regulations have repeatedly recognized this obligation on the part of Government, and the earlier laws relating to the recovery of rent by zamindars were framed with that object. Abuses having, however, crept into the old system of collection, Act X of 1859 was enacted, and the difficulties interposed by the new law were aggravated by Act VIII of 1869 (B.C.), by which the trial of rent-suits was transferred from the revenue to the civil court. A suit for the recovery of arrear of rent is now a regular civil suit. It takes ordinarily from four to six months, sometimes a longer period for disposal, and while the zemindar is engaged in protracted and harassing litigation, he is obliged to meet the Government demand from his own pocket, that is to say, by borrowing money where the arrear is heavy and he has not independent means to pay the revenue. The ryot is also a loser, under this system, for as a rule he is cast in an arrear suit, and has consequently to bear ultimately the costs of the suit and interest upon the rent due, not to mention the trouble and harassment to which he is equally subjected. The majority of the rent-suits are decided *exparte*, and under the present procedure both the zemindar and ryot suffer,—the zemindar by reason of the delay involved in going through the forms, and the ryot in consequence of the costs which necessarily devolve upon him.

Under the circumstances a law for the recovery of rent which would be at once cheap, speedy, efficacious, and just to all parties has become absolutely necessary. Having been invited by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to suggest a scheme for the amendment of the law in this respect, I venture to submit the following :—

Firstly.—Without disturbing the present rent kists or instalments, which vary according to local usages, I would declare a specified quarter-day for the payment of the quarter's rent, failing which a suit for arrear shall lie. Where the kists are monthly, as they are for the most part, the zemindar shall be entitled to receive the rent according to monthly instalments, but if the monthly instalments be not liquidated by the quarter-day aforesaid, he shall be competent to institute an arrear suit.

Secondly.—In default of the quarterly instalment as suggested above, the zemindar or the rent receiver shall be competent to make an application to the Collector, setting forth the name of the defaulting ryot, description of the holding, and the mouzah in which it is situated, the amount of the annual rent, the amount due, and the period for which the same may be due, with a statement of accounts giving details of the jumma or rent, the instalments in which it is payable, and the amount paid or payable by the ryot up to the end of the quarter. But the application and the amount should be verified by the naib or gomashta as the case may be.

Thirdly.—With a view to save costs and trouble, the zemindar should be allowed to sue the defaulting tenant collectively, by an application written on a stamped paper of 8 annas value. This sort of a collective suit is permitted under the North-Western Provinces Rent Act, and also under the Agrarian Disturbances Act. I recommend a stamp fee of 8 annas for a collective suit in order to lighten the burden upon the ryot.

Fourthly.—On receipt of the application the Collector should serve a notice upon the defaulting tenant or tenants, calling upon him or them to pay arrears due with costs up to that stage, or to deposit the sum in the Collector's kutcherry, if he or they should contest the demand. The notice should state that, if the payment or deposits be not made within fifteen days from date of service of notice, the tenure of the defaulter or defaulters shall be sold by public auction on the day to be fixed in the notice, which should be served by a single peon upon all the defaulters residing or holding land in the same village, *firstly*, by affixing it in the zemindar's kutcherry, if any, in or near the mouzah ; *secondly*, at the police thana, if any, in as near in the mouzah ; *thirdly*, in some conspicuous part in the village ; *fourthly*, by proclamation or beat of tum-tum in the village ; *fifthly*, by affixing it on the land on account of which the rent is due. The serving peon shall procure the signatures of three substantial residents residing in the neighbourhood in attestation, of the notice having been brought and published on the spot. In case the people of the village should object or refuse to sign their names in attestation, the peon shall go to the kutcherry of the nearest Moonsiff, or, if there should be no Moonsif, to the nearest thana, and there make a voluntary oath of the same having been duly published. Certificate to which effect shall be signed and sealed by the said officers and delivered to the peon.

Fifthly.—The sale of tenures should not be stayed unless the arrear claimed be deposited. In case the defendant make the deposit and propose to contest the suit, the Collector should try it under the procedure laid down in Act VIII of 1869. The zemindar, or the person claiming the rent, shall be entitled to take out the deposited amount on giving proper security.

Sixthly.—Should the Collector find that the demand is not just, or is in excess of actual amount due, he should levy a fine upon the claimant, not exceeding twice the amount so claimed, in addition to all cost, and should make over the damages so realized to the defendant by way of compensation. Should it appear that the accounts made up for the zemindar have been falsely or fraudulently prepared by the attesting servant of the zemindar, he, the servant, shall be liable to a criminal prosecution.

I propose the above procedure for the realization of rent from ryots having occupancy or mookarari rights. I am aware that under the present law occupancy tenures are not saleable or transferable, but in many districts the usage sanctions sale for arrears of rent, which is largely resorted to in practice. I would legalize the sale to that extent. The purchaser shall have the same right and interest that the defaulting tenant possessed. I should observe that the existing law enjoins the eviction of the occupancy ryot in lieu of the sale of the tenures, but the courts are generally reluctant to enforce this provision, inasmuch it throws the ryot adrift. Under my scheme the ryot may, if he likes, buy in his own tenure, or if it be sold to a third party he will obtain a fair value for it.

It will be observed that I proposed to place the whole procedure in the hands of the Collector. But should the agency of the civil court be considered preferable, I would suggest that the proceedings in the civil court should take place only when there would be contention, and after the deposit has been made in the Collector's kutcherry by the defendant. The procedure of the civil court should of course be the same that has been prescribed in Act VIII of 1869 (B. C.).

20th August 1876.

P.S.—With regard to non-occupancy tenures, the preliminary procedure suggested above will apply: in case the arrear adjudged be not paid, the defaulter should be evicted.

THE PETITION OF LANDLORDS OF BENGAL AND BEHAR TO PARLIAMENT REGARDING THE BENGAL TENANCY BILL.

1.—*The Petitioners' Stand-point.*

The constitution of the Anglo-Indian Government at the close of the last century deprive the people of India of all share in the deliberation and adjustment of their affairs by it. "It had been customary," as Parliamentary records shew, "for the landholders of distinction, and other principal inhabitants, to maintain, in proportion to their rank, an intercourse with the ruling power."* This custom was brought to an end under the British rule, and the zemindar "was referred to the Code of Regulations as the only protection any longer necessary to maintain him in the possession and enjoyment" of his benefits.†

But the Regulations are modified from time to time, and not seldom the very policy of the laws is changed. And then the zemindar and his fellow subject are liable to lose, and have at times missed, what he once possessed. They still possess the right of making petitions, but that is often found insufficient, so that the last resource left to them is to appeal to Parliament. Hence the petition to which this is intended to form an explanatory note.

The petition comes from subjects who are quite unrepresented; it comes to their Sovereign exercising absolute powers over them; and it comes from a quarter of the globe afar. The

* 5th Report of the House of Commons, p. 54. † Ditto ditto, p. 55.

landholders of Bengal belong to no party in England, and it would be their misfortune if party considerations should affect their interests in Parliament. In this regard they labour under peculiar disadvantages owing to the transfer of Government from the East India Company to the Crown. But it is still more unfortunate for them that somehow or other questions relating to Ireland have just now got mixed up with their affairs in India. Indeed, it is apprehended that the intense agitation in the United Kingdom on these questions may have largely influenced, if not actually originated, the changed policy against which the present appeal is submitted to Parliament.

The position of the petitioners is thus extremely delicate. But it is hoped that the wide difference between a European and an Asiatic country—an integral part of the kingdom and a far off dependency—will not be overlooked, but will, on the contrary, serve to remove any prepossessions which might otherwise prevail. Changes which may be justified by the constitution of Parliament, or by the peculiar circumstances of Ireland, or Great Britain, or Europe, may not be fitly transported to a distant and conquered country like India, and among a people whose feelings, views, habits, customs, and social conditions are, in the natural course of things, so widely dissociated from those of the sovereign power. Besides, in Ireland, troubles traced to a long and painfull history may have justified the measures recently adopted by Parliament: in India nothing of the kind has occurred, or is to be apprehended for very many years to come.

The landlords of Bengal do not claim or possess any class privileges over their tenantry; their relation is not derived from conquest or political ascendancy of any kind, as was the case in Ireland, nor is there any the least distinction of race between the classes said to be arrayed against one another. Hence they feel aggrieved that a class question should be raised between two sections of the same community who are constantly passing from one to the other, and many of whom belong to both sections in relation to different individuals. Property-questions certainly exist, as they do exist, all over the world; but the legitimate remedy for differences arising from such causes is, of course, impartial dispensation of justice between individuals. They do not suggest a repressive policy to be directed against the topmost section, really or ostensively for the benefit of the lowest order of society. Such a policy, dictated at best by sentimental reasons, cannot but be subversive of the hitherto prevailing course of legislation and system of land tenures, and a source of serious mischief. Such a policy and consequent legislation of vast magnitude, and those adopted and conducted without any concert with the people so deeply to be affected thereby. Such a change, advocated only by gentlemen belonging to a foreign race, who again, by their tenure of office, are quite cut off as much from the traditions of their predecessors as from local experience of their successors—the landholders of Bengal firmly deprecate and respectfully protest against. Such revolutionary changes, they contend, urgently calls for Parliamentary interference, and their prayer is that further progress of the Bill entitled "The Bengal Tenancy Bill" may be stopped by order of Parliament.

2.—*Revolutionary character and inexpediency of the proposed measure.*

The foremost contension of the petitioners is that the changes proposed will injuriously affect private property in land of great value: in fact the bulk of all that exists in the country. It will be shown gradually how far the policy of Government in this respect is being revolutionized, and to what vast extent the property is going to be re-distributed, and how, to attain these objects, disabilities of the most complicated kind are going to be imposed upon the people. But the general truth of this contention will be manifested by the opinions of responsible officers of Government, as given in the following extracts:—

Mr. Ravenshaw, Commissioner of the Burdwan Division, reporting on the subject some time between July and December 1880, says:—

"I am not in favour of revolutionary measures, and I think that legislation should rather take the form of consolidating the existing law and rulings than re-constitution of the relations between rent-payer and rent-receiver, which must produce an increase rather than mitigation of existing evils.

"For all practical purposes, it would suffice to re-enact the law with as little radical change as may be possible, with reference to the conflicting interests concerned.

"As regards the existing law, nothing can be more precise and clear than Mr. Field's Digest. The present law has been, with little variation, in force for 20 years; and so far as my experience goes, it needs only slight modification and simplification to adapt it to the real wants of all parties."*

Mr. Beames, successor to Mr. Ravenshaw in the same office, but with experience derived from another division of the province, says, under date the 26th April 1881:—

"From the experience I have had of the very great difficulty which the officers of Government feel in managing wards and attached estates in the Chittagong and Dacca Divisions, I am convinced that the position of the zemindar (landlord) in those parts is a precarious one. As far as I am able to judge, it will be rendered more so if the present Bill, moderate as it is, becomes law.

"After tacitly acquiescing in the assumption and exercise of certain powers by the zemindar for nearly a century, it is rather late in the day to discover that it was never intended that he should have those powers, and that neither past history of the land question, nor the legislation under British rule, justifies him in in exercising them. That, in fact, his status is, and has all along been, understood to be something very different from what it practically has been.

* Report of the Government of Bengal on the proposed amendment of the Law of Landlord and Tenant in that province, Vol. II., p. 162.

"I am not aware that any section of the community in Bengal has suggested or manifested any desire for new legislation on the rent question. If there is really a want for it in Behar, it would perhaps be sufficient if a law were passed giving the inhabitants of that province the relief they desire without disturbing another province where no change is called for."*

Mr. Smith, Commissioner of Orissa, says:—

"Nearly a hundred years have passed since the time of the Permanent Settlement. The power conferred on the zemindars of selling their estates has been largely used, and money has been largely invested in this description of property with regard rather to existing usages than to old and forgotten minutes in Government offices. Neither the ryots nor the zemindars of the preseut day have, as a rule, had much regard in their dealings to the minutes of Lord Cornwallis, although the usage of the time under which the ryot is to pay only a fair and equitable rent is in accordance with its spirit.

"It appears to me that any legislation to be now adopted should be directed towards facilitating the ascertainment of what the fair and equitable rents are, rather than to any extensive adjustment and alteration of existing relations, and a measure of this sort would, I have little doubt, prove acceptable to both tenants and landlords."†

Mr. Monro, Officiating Commissioner of the Presidency Division, speaks still more strongly. The following extracts are given in order to avoid longer quotations. The Report is dated 31st December 1880:—

"So far as the practice of Government is concerned, I fail to find in their dealings with the ryots upon Crown lands any indications of the recognition of a living tenant-right among any class of ryots save and except those known as khodkasht (resident) or kudeemi (ancient).

* * * * * * * *

"I do not here stop to consider the various modifications in the rights of zemindars effected by Act X of 1859. It will be sufficient to mention that sundry very important modifications of these rights were introduced by that Act; that such modifications were strenuously resisted as infringements of the rights of zemindars under the perpetual settlements; and these modifications have, although unwillingly yet practically, been accepted by zemindars as the basis of the relations between them and their tenants.

"The proposed Bill (*i.e.*, the one prepared by the Rent Commission), however, goes very much further than Act X of 1859. It further curtails the rights of the zemindars."

* * * * * * * *

"I cannot see that it is just to them, whatever may have been their failings, to deprive them of rights * * * which, so far as I know, have been believed universally to attach to the position of a landholder in this country. Nor does it seem to me to be just to declare the existence of rights on the part of ryots * * * which, so far as I know, are not claimed as belonging to them by the ryots themselves.

"The proposed Bill seems to me, on the principles above referred to, to contemplate grave infringements on the rights of zemindars as hitherto recognised; to destroy such recognised rights and to give the landholders no compensation for such damage done to their interests. It seems to me moreover peculiarly unjust to contemplate such restrictive legislation with reference to the rights of zemindars, when the whole tendency of recent legislation on the part of Government has been to throw more responsibilities on the landholders in the way of providing funds for improvements connected with lands."‡

Lord Ulick Browne, Commissioner of the Cooch Behar and Rajshahye Division, says, under date the 1st February 1881:—

"I think such important changes, deeply affecting the rights and pecuniary interests of a large and important class in a vast country, should only be made on very strong grounds, such as, for instance, the grounds advanced by Mr. Gladstone when introducing a somewhat similar measure for Ireland in 1870, when he supported his proposals by urging that, as good general laws...had failed to dispel the serious ill-feeling of the mass of the population of Ireland towards England and the Government of the United Kingdom, it was necessary to take an extreme step in a direction specially acceptable to that population, in the hope that it would put an end to what was always a serious political danger. No strong and special grounds, political or other, exist in the present case, nor are they asserted by the Commission, who, indeed,.....seem.....to be unanimous in holding what is a nearly universal opinion, *viz.*, that the ryots of Bengal are stronger than the zemindars."

In the opinion of His Lordship the proposed law would be in accordance solely with the "individual views" of some "gentlemen (the majority of the Rent Commission) as to what the respective positions of landlords and tenants *ought* to be; and a key to their general views...may, perhaps, be found in their adoption, in the face of Lord Cornwallis' declaration, ...of the politico-economical axiom, that the land of the country is the property of the people of the country." Further on he says:—

"Not only there is no general feeling of discontent among the ryots, in whose favour it is now proposed to sacrifice the zemindars, but that there is not even a partial feeling of that nature, and that the ryots of Bengal Proper, at all events, are, as a body, in a prosperous and contented condition.....Lastly, I think the passing of such measures into law would

* Report of the Government of Bengal on the proposed amendment of the Law of Landlord and Tenant in that province, Vol. II, p. 362.
† Ditto ditto, Vol. II, p. 200.
‡ Ditto ditto, Vol. II, p. 219.

create no little discontent among the zemindars as a body, though being loyal and well-affected, they will bow to the decision of Government."*

The Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division, writing on the 27th December 1880, says :—

"Innovations in the law and the creation of principles foreign to the customs of the country are, I maintain, strongly to be deprecated, unless their urgent necessity can be demonstrated."

Speaking of Chapter IV of the Bill of June 1880, he says :—"I see no reason for the innovations proposed in this chapter, which would create a class of ryots never before in existence."†

Thus, it will be seen, the Commissioners of the western districts grouped under Burdwan, of the Eastern districts under Dacca and Chittagong, and of the Central districts under the Presidency, Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Divisions,—all the Commissioners of Bengal Proper in fact, besides Orissa and other places, have, in terms more or less explicit, recorded their opinion that the measure proposed is decidedly of a revolutionary character. And it is well known how the present Chief Justice of Bengal has also borne testimony to the same fact in a minute seperately given to the public (dated 6th September 1882).

3.—The Permanent Settlement.

The petitioners do not enter into the history of the permanent settlement. But the landlords of Bengal cannot help observing that their mortification becomes naturally great when they find even a reference to the documents of their title is repelled with pleasantry ‡ or displeasure by representatives of the Sovereign power. The Law Member of H. M.'s Government in India has no time to enter into an exhaustive inquiry into the meaning and effect of the permanent settlement, and yet the legislature has taken up the functions of judicial authority, in order to decide the question of right determined by that settlement as between the Government, the landlords and cultivators of the soil in Bengal!

The petitioners have not been shewn the danger which may have rendered expedient the present extreme measure, and the arguments adduced are all the more painful to follow, because they are unsupported by facts, and still more because all forms of arriving at facts have been arbitrarily set aside.

It has been assumed that at the time of the permanent settlement three different parties were interested in the transaction, and that the authors of the measure settled and defined the mutual rights of only two of these, but put off for the future all questions as between the second and the third. "The ryots," says Mr. Ilbert, "were not consulted about the arrangement, and were in no sense a party to it, and, according to the most ordinary principle of contract, it could not affect *any right* which they then had, or *might thereafter acquire*."§

An immediate reply to this argument would be that, in the sale and purchase of slaves, the third party was never consulted; but in abolishing slavery in the West Indies, the British Parliament never adverted to it, and sanctioned ample compensation for the revocation of the contracts.

This extreme case apart, the question at the time of the settlement did not concern the alleged third party. As a matter of fact, the old proverb, "the lands belongs to the zemindar and the rent to the king"¶ would seem to point in quite a contrary direction, and to fairly bear out the daily experience of everybody, that the ryots have no right in the soil, except what is conferred by the zemindars. It is true that the Government reserved to itself the power of legislation for the protection and welfare of the ryots. But surely that did not imply the abrogation of the substantive law, or the rights conferred on the zemindars by the permanent settlement? The simple question is, whether the leading provisions of the Bill fall under the reservation referred to. And it is for Parliament to consider whether, in a matter like this, and especially when one of the parties interested appeal to the judicial wisdom of the United Kingdom, the executive authorities should ignore that appeal and instruct the legislature to enact a law suited to their extra-judicial opinions and at variance with other laws still in prevalence.

The well-known Sudder Judge, Mr. Hawkins, thus interpreted the permanent settlement :—

"It is a narrow and contracted view to suppose that the permanent settlement consists in nothing more than the obligation on the part of the zemindar to pay a certain amount of revenue annually to the Government. The settlement is a compact by which the zemindar engages on his part to pay a fixed amount of revenue to the State; and the State on its part guarantees to the zemindar, by means of its judicial and fiscal administration, the integrity of the assets from which that revenue is derived, and which in fact constitute the Government's own security for the realization of its revenue."

The contention of the petitioners is that, of the three parties—the State, zemindars, and cultivators—the first had, without consulting the other two, virtually plotted out the map of the country; that it then distributed the different portions to individuals comprising the second class, defined most accurately their respective liabilities to the State; and required them to respect any claims against them, such as might then exist, on the part of any individuals of

* Report of the Government of Bengal on the proposed amendment of the Law of Landlord and Tenant in that province, Vol. II, p. 222.

† Ditto Ditto, Vol. II, pp. 144-45.

‡ Abstract of Proceedings of the Council of the Governments, 2nd March 1883, pp. 89-90.

§ Ditto Ditto, p .91.

¶ Hartington's Analysis. Extracts published from the Office of Superintendent of Government Printing, p. 8.

the third party. Nothing was left open for legislation as to the *substantial rights* of subsequent cultivators.

The Government, though a conquering power, sought at first to assimilate its position with that of a landlord, but as landlord it took every care to appropriate all that lay at its feet as conquerors. The main transaction undoubtedly concerned property in land. And there is no question that the State had made up its mind to forego for ever all its claims as landlord for a fixed annual return. But it had after all to make its choice between the two other parties in order to decide to which of them it should look for the money—call it rent, revenue or whatever you like. And the considerations incidental to such choice could not possibly be put off; nor was the sovereign power then so distinct as to allow of its foregoing as landlord any right which it was not necessary for it to give up.

The considerations alluded to may be distinguished in the following way, with a view to hold in contrast the revolutionary principles of the Bengal Tenancy Bill :—(1) Land occupied by cultivators; (2) land lying waste; and (3) land which might be expected to become vacant subsequently. It is wrong to suppose that the State took all the land in the country as a whole and legislated for revenue-payers and rent-receivers, leaving the question between rent-payers and rent-receivers perfectly undecided. At all events this is a question of fact, and cannot be decided *ex parte* by the supreme landlord, because that landlord holds the sovereign power.

Viewing the matter from the above point, it would follow that, if the State omitted to determine any question between landholders and cultivators, it could only have been with respect to the land which was occupied by cultivators, and held by their landlords. And the claims of these cultivators were respected for a special reason, *viz.*, because there were higher claims set up on their behalf, the claims, that is, to the permanent settlement which was made with their landlords. In respect of the other two descriptions of land, the landlords deny that the cultivators had any right whatever.

They could not possibly have had any such rights, and for the simple reason that they had no distinguishing features of character to form them into a class, and that they have never formed a distinct class of the kind. There have indeed been caste reasons precluding some people from the ploughman's work. But that has never led to the recognition in any persons to a preferential claim to the lease of any land going to be let out; and the proof for this contention lies in this, that no rules are known to exist to decide in such matters between rival applicants for lease. Village communities are said to possess an indefeasible right in the land, but village communities have been broken up in Bengal since long before the Permanent Settlement; and it would, besides, be most singular if, in the primitive communal system, the upper classes had no rights whatever, and the land had belonged entirely to the lower, *i.e.*, the cultivating classes in the country. In fact, where the village system has not gone out of use it was invariably the upper classes who held as well the village franchise, as the proprietary rights in all the village lands.

But even if the cultivators had any claims to the lands referred to—lands remaining or subsequently becoming vacant or waste—such claims must have been extinguished by the conquering power having laid hands upon them and made them over to the landlords of their choice. "In case of foreign invasion," records Lord Cornwallis, "it is a matter of the last importance, considering the means by which we keep possession of this country, that the proprietors of the lands should be attached to us from motives of self-interest" (Fifth Report, p. 492). It may be that the present motive to the proposed changes is something of this same kind. But its obvious inconsistency with the old policy would be sufficient to neutralise the effects of both, and thus the new policy of this kind would stand self-condemned.

As regards the lands of the then existing cultivators, the case was a little different; but different only in relation to the Government. If the Government of 1793 believed that the cultivators were "the actual proprietors of the soil," and yet accepted the zemindars as such, their action was a huge fraud. If they committed a mistake, it would be as great a wrong to relieve the State of its consequent responsibilities in the way proposed. Happily, neither of these theories is tenable. The truth is, the farmers of the permanent settlement believed the zemindars to have been, as they were in fact, the rightful owners. But situated as the Government then was, they tried to do all that lay in their power to serve the cultivators who had become, in some shape, rivals to the zemindars, in regard to the grant of the permanent settlement; and they laid down that the claims of these persons, as against the zemindars, would be duly considered by the judicial authorities then being appointed.

It is necessary to understand this point; for people are apt to be taken away by the comparatively irrelevant fact that the policy of granting permanent settlements has not been adhered to by the Government in administering the affairs of the North-Western Provinces, or of Bombay. The Madras settlements were earlier, and led probably to the claims on behalf of the cultivators. Thus the permanent settlement of Bengal, whether good or bad, as a piece of fiscal policy, whether wright or wrong, as a political measure, was the result of mature deliberation, and to break it by roundabout means would obviously be worse from considerations of either kind.

The engagements of the time, it may be repeated, was made in respect of land, and not in respect of cultivating, as distinguished from rent-receiving classes; for it was the land which was made over to one or other of the applicants, and it was never that the members of any particular class had to be provided with land from the country by Government, or from the village by the landholders.

And as for that permanent settlement itself, the parties were at first, and only for once

chosen with reference to the history of their connection with the lands. But this was only when the new departure was to be made. And then, too, sufficient regard was shewn to all other sections of the community by the provision that, in the event of the estates being afterwards sold by the State or by the landlords themselves, all prior claims derived from such history would be entirely overlooked. And if anything more was necessary in order to further disarm the zemindars, it was accomplished by depriving them of the rights of primogeniture, of the functions of keeping the peace of the country and administering justice over the tenant classes, and of the power of levying taxes on cultivators and duties on trading people.

Mr. Ilbert says:—

"We have indeed been told that it was part of the bargain between the Government and the zemindars that the latter should not only be exempted from payment of revenue for lands which were then waste, but which might subsequently be taken into cultivation, but should be given full and absolute discretionary powers as to the mode of dealing with such lands, unqualified by any village custom or local usage. But it would require extremely strong and clear words to make an enactment conferring such powers."*

The following, however, appears in section 31 of Regulation II of 1819:—

"Nothing in the present Regulation shall be considered to affect the right of the proprietors of estates for which a permanent settlement has been concluded to *the full benefit of all waste land* included within the ascertained boundaries of such estates respectively at the period of the decennial settlements, and which have since been, or may hereafter be, reduced to cultivation. *The exclusive advantages* resulting from the improvement of all such lands were *guaranteed* to the proprietors by the conditions of that settlement."

Whether or not these words "are strong and clear," the only "guarantee" now left to the landlords of Bengal is reliance on the high sense of justice of the British Parliament. For all but the last three lines of the above were cited in Council and found to fail.

The issues should be clearly defined in order to determine the question raised, and contemptuously put aside, by the chief authority for making *just* laws in the country. The issues are (1) the terms under which the then existing cultivators should hold their lands under the zemindars; (2) the mode of dealing with the lands then lying, or subsequently becoming, vacant or waste. It is never contended that anybody in the country ever enjoyed any right in land without paying rent or revenue for it, or that the tenants paid any rents for unoccupied village lands. The zemindars could always cultivate these latter lands by hired labour; and no one has come to dispute that even at the present moment. But they generally proposed to carry on the work through tenants, and hence arises the further questions—(*a*) Had any cultivators any preferential claim to the lease of any of these lands? (*b*) Were the terms of lease, when any was to be granted to cultivators, terms as to period and rent, subject to any restrictions? (*c*) And if so, were they of the kind proposed in the Bill?

The answer of the zemindars to all these questions being in the negative, the burden of proof obviously falls upon those who claim for the ryots rights of the kind proposed.

It may, however, be asked—Was the permanent settlement of so little consequence that it did not give to the zemindars even a presumable title to the free disposal of such lands, and that they should have to *rebut* a contrary presumption according to the stringent requirements of section 6 of the Bill? And is the legislature to be justified in simply suggesting a conflict of claims unknown to the people, and then authoritatively relieving the fevoured class from all burden of proof? The cultivating classes had, it is said, a right to what is called *ryoti* or the tenants' lands. How then was the right to be determined with reference to each particular plot which had to be disposed of? Was the zemindar bound to prefer the resident over non-resident ryots? If so, would the question have to be decided by the judicial authorities, and meantime the land remain uncultivated? And if the judicial authorities were then relieved from the function of determining the limits of ryoti lands not in their posession, and the claims to such lands of individuals, members of the cultivating class, how is the function—one of very great pecuniary value—now going to be withdrawn from the landlord? The only question remains as to the terms on which the land was to be let out. But that is obviously distinct from the starting principle of the Bill,—a presumable right to the lease of such lands in people whose character, as a class, the legislature claims to have determined, unknown to them or their supposed antagonists—the landlords. A great deal has been built upon the alleged history of land tenures and the customary laws of this country. But the landlords only contend that the proper way to establish the facts and to test the laws is to submit them to judicial authorities, in order to have the points controverted by parties setting up an adverse position.

And the reference to customary law is the more singular, since the Bill brings within its purview affairs of great extent, but does not claim to consolidate, or even to have ascertained the customary law relating to those affairs.

Mr. Ilbert supposes that the permanet settlement served merely to determine who was to be liable for the land revenue, and that the exemption of waste lands from like charges leaves it open to the legislature to dispose of all lands falling vacant in future in the way it pleases. But the following considerations are urged against this astounding assumption, apart from the technical methods of interpreting the wording of laws, and from the controversy thereon raised and arbitrarily disposed of with regard to the Regulations of 1793.

The revenue charged under the permanent settlements, it will be remembered, was $\frac{10}{11}$ths of the actual collections in each estate, and the remaining $\frac{1}{11}$th of the total collections from the cultivating classes, called *malikana* (proprietors' dues) was due to the hereditary zemindar, whether he accepted the settlement or not.* Even if the Government collected the rents from the cultivators by its own paid officers, it was bound to pay this $\frac{1}{11}$th to the zemindars. In Behar, the origin of this system was untraceable even at the time of permanent settlement, and was supposed to be only hereditary pensions with which the "proprietors" had been "shelved" probably by the Mahomedan Government. And referring only to two divisions of Behar, this allowance to proprietors out of possession is reported to have amounted in 1871-72 to Rs. 82,078, from 3,426 estates.† This ought to have satisfied Mr. Ilbert that the zemindars were something better than the nondescript trustees they were sought to be made out by two of his speeches. Again, when in 1819 waste lands, not included in the permanent settlement, came to be disposed of by Government, it was not the cultivators, but the zemindars of the adjoining villages, who were recognised to have a preferential right to them.

* Abstract of Proceedings, pp. 93-94.

The question therefore is, if the zemindars only collected the revenue for the Government, what was their remuneration for the work, and how were they compensated for the many bad debts from cultivators which, it could well be foreseen, they would have from time to time to write off? Add to this the well-recognised contingency of the remaining $\frac{1}{11}$th of the collections having to be paid as *malikana* by a farming zemindar to a refractory *malik* (proprietor), who had a *right* to the permanent settlement? The answer is simple. The waste lands capable of cultivation (variously estimated from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the entire area of the country) were explicitly pointed out for the one case, *i.e.*, for the remuneration; and for the other, *viz.*, the risks of collection, it was but just that landlords should recoup themselves by subsequent increments to the then existing rents. This liability of the State to remunerate the zemindar does not now seem even to be felt, but on the contrary it is argued that the zemindar shall not draw from unoccupied lands all that tenants might fairly afford to pay.

The so-called customary or pergunnah rates of rent were applicable only to the ryots whose supposed claims had been rejected by the Government at the time of the permanent settlements, who, in any case, could not have been *let into* possession under the authority of the permanent settlement, and as such might possibly claim a prescriptive title against the parties chosen as zemindars by the Government. These customary rates are now a subject of historical enquiry and of infinite controversy therein. But the difficulty probably arises from the simple fact that the benefit of these rates is now claimed for parties who were never privy to their assessment, whereas at the time of the permanent settlement the question had entirely a judicial aspect, and was justly left to judicial trial between parties, both of whom knew the terms of their mutual engagement. It ought to be further borne in mind that even to these old ryots the zemindars were not to grant leases for more than ten years, for fear the value of Government rights in the land should be fraudulently impaired. And as regards lands which reverted to the landlords, it is but reasonable to suppose this to have been the original understanding that "where the landlord," to borrow the language of Chief Justice Garth, "ran the risk of getting nothing for his land in bad seasons, he should be compensated to such an extent as the ryot was willing and could afford to pay."‡ In any case it would be inconsistent with the policy of the times to suppose that the landlord, having the opportunity of making such a fair bargain, was disallowed from doing so by the Government for the sake of future cultivators.

On the other hand, for the lands lying waste, and about tenants who were actually let into possession thereof by the zemindar, it is simply absurd to hold that he had not the right to name his terms, or that the tenants had, as a class, a beneficiary interest in the land independently of him, and without having ever paid any rent for the same.

In fact the much debated question of the permanent settlement of 1793 might find a more intelligible solution in the histories of Europe and America, where the doctrine of sovereignty of the people (shorn in Asia of adjuncts like the zemindars) was then practically but four years old, and whence Lord Cornwallis had come with special views as to the policy of governing distant and foreign dependencies.

The exclusive proprietary right of the zemindars to all the lands included in the permanent settlement of 1793, and to those excluded therefrom, but subsequently included under operation of Regulation II of 1819, is further brought into relief by the Regulation III of 1828, whereby the limits were defined of all the immense uninhabited tract called Sunderbuns, and immediately adjoining the permanently-settled lands, in which even the cultivators are now supposed to have had an interest, and, as compared to the zemindars, a "preponderating"§ share of the whole. In that Regulation the Government lays down how certain lands were to be attached by Government as "in the case of a lapsed farm," and how "certain tenures, however designated, were not to be considered hereditary and perpetual, if the grants under which they were held *did not convey in express terms* an hereditary or perpetual interest." And in regard to the Sunderbuns, it was provided that all parties having leases from Government for any lands included therein "shall be entitled to hold or to *take* possession" of them "without question or opposition;" and that, if "any zemindar, talookdar or other sudder malgoozar, or *any other person* (evidently *not* excepting the class for whose benefit section 6 of the Bill has been drafted), owning and occupying or collecting the rent or revenue of cultivated land in the neighbourhood," shall "sue to contest the title" of the former, "the suit shall be dismissed with costs. Provided, however, that if any zemindar, talookdar, or

* Reg. VIII, 1793, sec. 44. See also memorandum on the Revenue Administration of the Lower Provinces of Bengal submitted to Government by the Board of Revenue, 16th June 1873, pp. 98-99.

† Board's Memorandum, p. 99.

‡ See the edition published at the *Hindoo Patriot* Press, p. 25.

§ Ilbert's speech: Abstract of Proceedings, p. 113.

other person aforesaid shall claim to possess a valuable interest in part of the Sunderbuns, by virtue of authority to collect money or other valuable thing *from the persons engaged in* gathering wax, or cutting wood, or obtaining other jungle products of the tract, or by virtue of any other similar privilege or advantage which may have been recognized as part of the assets on which the assessed revenue of his zemindary, talookdary or other tenure was adjusted at the time of farming the perpetual settlement of the district, and the collection of which was not subsequently stopped and due compensation made under the rules relative to the collection of sayer revenue or other similar arrangement, such zemindar, talookdar, or proprietor [*no mention is here made of ryots or even of the* PERSONS *abovementioned engaged in gathering forest produce*] shall be entitled to receive from Government *compensation* for any diminution in the value of such interest and advantage consequent on the arrangement adopted for the cultivation of the Sunderbuns."—*Regulation III*, 1828, *sections* 12 *and* 13, *clause* 1.

Two questions arise from the foregoing; (1) If the ryots in the neighbourhood, actually engaged in gathering on these lands wax, &c., for themselves or for their zemindars, were not entitled to compensation, how can they be supposed to have had a right in these unoccupied lands or in similar lands included in the permanent settlement of 1793? (2) If the ryots living in the neighbourhood had no such right, how can ryots procured from a distance, not unoften hillmen from the southern parts of Behar, by the lessees of these lands, be held to have had a right in these unoccupied lands which have been reclaimed at the expense of the lessees referred to, and under the declaration quoted above?

It has been argued that the Bengal Tenancy Bill would not take away from the landlords more than what, under customary law was, from before the year 1793, due to the cultivating classes, and that it had never been intended to make of Bengal zemindars anything like English landlords; and hence clear words have been required of the zemindars to show their absolute right in respect of the waste lands. Now it happened, even so late as 1861, that for all the care evinced by Government in 1859 for customary rights, supposed to have been held by cultivators against the zemindars, it did not care to vest the property of the soil with any but the non-cultivating zemindar class. It had in 1861 large tracts of waste land at its disposal, and an attempt was made, and partially carried out, to introduce certain property-rules into all such and divers other classes of lands. Whether the precise object was to import the English system of property cannot of course be definitely proved. But the tenure introduced by the measure alluded to has been currently expressed by the term "Fee-simple;" and English proprietors were expected to, as in fact they did, avail of the rules framed.

The following extracts are given from a Resolution recorded by the Government of India during the time of Lord Canning. It bears date the 17th October 1861:—

"He (His Excellency the Governor-General in Council) confidently expects that harmony of interests between *permanent European settlers* and the half-civilised tribes, by whom most of these waste districts, or the country aljoining them, are thinly peopled, will conduce to, &c."

The Resolution then proceeds to state the rules under which effect was to be given to the two proposed measures for sale of waste lands belonging to the State and the redemption of land revenue by the landlords:—

"8. I.—As to the sale of unassessed waste lands, in which no right of proprietorship or of exclusive occupancy are known to exist at present, or to have existed in former times, and to be capable of revival.

"9. In any case of application for such lands, they shall be granted in perpetuity under the rules which will be presently laid down, as a heritable and transferable property, subject to no enhancement of land revenue assessment.

"10. All prospective land revenue will be rederemable at the grantee's option by a payment in full when the grant is made, and the land granted will thenceforward be permanently free of all demand on account of land revenue."

It then goes on to consider "prior claims of property or occupancy in the land applied for," prescribes for the raising of such claims "a term which, probably, need rarely exceed thirty days" from advertisement, and directing how, after their disposal, the applicant was at once to have the land allotted to him, proceeds as follows:—

"19. If after the allotment of the land under the preceding rule any persons shall establish a right of property in the lands allotted, the possession of the party to whom the land has been granted *bonâ fide* shall not be disturbed. But provided the claim be made within one year from the allotment, the claimant on proof of his right, and on shewing good reason why his claim was not advanced before the allotment took place, shall be entitled to receive *from Government* full compensation for the actual value of his interest in such land. After the expiration of a year all rights of third persons, which have not been already claimed, will be altogether barred. [The Bengal Tenancy Bill applies equally to estates protected by these rules and to all other lands, *e.g.*, the Sunderbuns: the landlord's right of re-entry in respect of lands held by settled and occupancy ryots and the question of compensation for disturbance are governed by the same rules in these as in other kinds of property in Bengal.]

"33. Holders of grants under any existing rules (*i.e.*, governing, for instance, leases of Sunderbun lands under Regulation III of 1828), who have not yet completed the purchase of their grants, will be allowed to commute them under the new rules..... and he (the grantee) *will be free to purchase absolutely* as much or as little of that area as may suit him.....

* * * * * * * *

"37. The tenures of *all waste lands granted under this Resolution* will be that of an heritable and transferable property held in perpetuity free from all claims either of the Government *or of third persons prior to, or inconsistent with, the grant.*

"11.—As to the redemption of the land revenue: [*i.e.*, applying even to permanently-settled lands (see paragraph 42.)]

* * * * * * * *

"43. The tenure obtained will, as in the case of waste lands, be that of an heritable and transferable property.....But such tenure will not carry with it, as that of waste lands will, immunity from any legal claims other than those of Government to which the lands may be subject, and *which may date prior to the grant under this Resolution* (Qy. Does not the restriction as to *prior* legal claims exclude all subsequent legal claims of third persons including tenant-right, dating from October 1861? And does not this afford some commentary on section 7 of Act X of 1859, whereby permission was given to provide against the growth of occupancy rights coming under the purview of section 6?)"

It would be hard to say what other "strong and clear words" could be required to substantiate the contentions of the landlords.

But what a falling off there has been from the land-policy of Lord Canning's Government will be perceived from the following remarks of the Government of India, contained in its Despatch to the Secretary of State for India, on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, dated the 21st March 1882:—

"Many events had tended to lower the claims of tenants in official estimation and to help the cause of the large landlords. Before the mutiny, ideas on the subject of property and tenant-right in India took very much of their colour from the views of the able peasant-proprietary school of the North-Western Provinces. But the occurrences of 1857 drew attention to the leaderless condition of the people; the sympathies between the mass of the agricultural population and their rulers were for some years disturbed by reminiscences of disorder, and severity; the development of the country gave rise to hopes of European colonization, and *thus* theories of land tenure, which were unfavourble to tenant-right, as being an impediment to the free disposal of property, were advocated in Lower Bengal on behalf of great European interests, and elsewhere, as coincident with political expediency (!) The relation between landlord and tenant *began* (?) to be regarded purely as one of contract. Sir Barnes Peacock objected to section 6 of Act X, because, in his opinion, it interfered with the just rights of the zemindars, at least in the permanently settled districts, by vesting rights of occupancy in the ryots which, as he thought, had no previous existence.*"

The spirit which has dictated the above is manifest enough. It is nothing less than a desire to wean the agricultural population from their natural leaders and protectors—the landlords. The very basis on which the relations between the landlord and tenant had hitherto subsisted is denied. The principle of contract is held in supreme contempt. It is even broadly asserted that this principle, which dates from the days of the farming out the public revenues before the permanent settlement, *began* to be recognised only after the convulsions of the Mutiny. And the emphatic opinion of Sir Barnes Peacock, the highest judicial authority in the land, is mentioned as if it was an outcome of that political commotion and not the result of mature juridical deliberation and reasoning.

The judgment of Lord Lyndhurst, cited by one of the Members of the Council to show that the zamindars "had an absolute dominion and ownership of the soil," has, by an argument endorsed by the Law Member, been explained away by a third, the argument being that the immediate question before the Privy Council in that case was not one "as to the relative position of zamindar and ryot." This argument would certainly be very important in a *Court of Justice*, in order to leave the Judge free to fully try the same question after hearing arguments and weighing evidence on both sides, The dictum of one Judge does not bind another's ruling, because counsel is not heard in regard to the former, and *is* heard in arriving at the latter. But how the circumstance alluded to justified the *legislature* in arriving at a conclusion different from that of Lord Lyndhurst remains a mystery. But perhaps the case of Raja Lelanund Sing *vs.* the Bengal Government, might be more acceptable. In that case the Right Hon. T. Pemberton Leigh, after a long inquiry into the circumstances of the permanent settlement, finds the object to have been "to leave to land proprietors the benefit of all subsequent improvements.†" And, at all events, if all dicta of Sir Barnes Peacock on the land question have not become vitiated, because one of his rulings has been overruled by the majority of his colleagues in the High Court, the following passage may have a value in the eye of the legislature:—

"I will add," he says, "one word as to the argument of Mr. Montriou that the ryots were originally the owners of the soil, and that neither the Government nor the zamindars were the proprietors. This argument cannot apply to ryots who are in possession of land which has been occupied and brought into cultivation for the first time since the permanent settlement. It is clear that a ryot cannot at the present day, by merely entering upon land belonging to a zamindary, and bringing it into cultivation, become the proprietor of the soil. The zamindar may lose his right by the operation of the statute of limitations, and the right to the soil may then be acquired hy the ryot. But in cases in which there is no contract, and to which the statute of limitations does not apply, the ryot cannot by occupying and cultivating become the proprietor of the soil. Neither can he, by occupying with the consent of the zamindar, and paying rent for the land to him, become entitled to the proprietorship of the soil, even though he should acquire a right of occupancy by virtue of Act X of 1859.‡"

Moreover, if the cultivating classes had, with the zemindars, a part interest in the soil, it does not appear that the Government has hitherto given it any recognition in dealing

* Correspondence, p. 8, para. 7.

† 6th Moore—pp. 108-10, quoted at 2nd hand.

‡ Ishur Ghose *versus* Hills, on a petition of review of judgment.

with land over which the State has had exclusive control. Mr. Monro, in reporting on the Rent Bill prepared by the Rent Commission, quotes certain rules to shew what has been with the Government, as landlord, "the practice with reference to the eviction of mere ryots."

"In dealing with mere ryots," so runs the rule, "it is desirable not to interfere with their possession till it becomes necessary to displace them.

"Should an arrear remain due at the close of the year, if the defaulter be a mere ryot having no transferable interest in the soil, he may be summarily ousted and his lands given to another."*

So also the Revenue Board in its memorandum dated 1873—

"Lastly, it is to be observed that it is the *present policy* of Government to take no means, either in Government or in wards or attached estates, to prevent tenants-at-will from acquiring rights of occupancy; though, on the other hand, it will not, in recording the rights of tenants and delivering pottahs to them, *assume the existence of such rights unless they are claimed.*"

And "where the practice of the former proprietor" was "to guard, by special precautions, against the accrual of rights of occupancy, *the continuance of that practice is sanctioned.*"†

The customary right of the cultivators in the property in the soil, unaffected by the permanent settlement, is said to be a fraction of the whole. But it is nowhere stated what the zamindar's interest was independently of that settlement, and as distinguished from the supposed class of cultivators who, it would follow from the opposite point of view, were not free, like the landlord class, to buy permanently-settled lands. It cannot be said that the zamindar had no interest whatever in the land, apart from the malikana allowance; for in that case this allowance in respect of lands taken away from his possession would remain unaccounted for. On the other hand, if he had any such part-interest derived from customary law, it does not apear that the legislature has given it the least recognition in the Bill under consideration. Certain it is that jungle lands (*jalpai*) at one time yielding fuel for the manufacture of salt, have been surrendered by Government, and only to zamindars, on the closure of salt works in many parts; and in some cases refusal to surrender has been overruled by the civil courts of the country.

Again, the Government as landlord, has had often enough to let out land to cultivators: but why does not the Government allow the zamindars their customary share in such lands? Nor does it appear that the Government has ever had occasion to decide which of any number of applicants, zamindar or cultivator, had the right to the lease of tenures at its disposal. In any case, when land is taken by Government at a valuation, for public purposes, "the fact," noticed by the Board of Revenue would be inconsistent with the policy of the Bill, "that, as a rule, the occupancy ryots have advanced no claims to compensation, except for damage done to personal property."‡ Thus the whole theory is absurd; and whether the absolute ownership of land lay with the conquering power or the zamindars, it is certain that the cultivators of the soil had no share in its property, as of right. The first point in Indian land tenures is that whoever holds land must pay for it something every year. The cultivator's rents never covered the waste or unoccupied lands of the village. The zamindar's revenue has always covered these. Hence the zamindar's right is unassailable, except by a ruthless act of spoliation. The permanent settlement did not leave the question of property an open one between the zamindar and the cultivator of the soil. Power was certainly reserved to Government to make laws; but that was only as common sovereign over landholders and cultivators: and calculated not to diminish, but in the language of the Court of Directors, to "enhance the value" of the proprietors' rights: to prevent the ryots "being *improperly* disturbed in their possession" (*i. e.* in the matter of eviction), and "to define the limits by which rent could be determined" so as to prevent *unwarrantable* exactions and arbitrary conduct of the zamindar. Instructions like these cannot have justified the policy of the present Bill.

This would, perhaps, be the proper place to consider how far, if at all, Act X of 1859 interfered with the proprietary rights of the landholders, and gave a sanction for further encroachments of the kind proposed. It will be necessary for this purpose to read together the sections 2—7, 21, and 78 of that Act which have been re-enacted respectively as 2—7, 22, and 52 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1869, together with sections 9 and 46 of the latter Act.

Section 2 of Act X of 1859, and VIII (B.C.) of 1869.—"Every ryot is entitled to receive from the person to whom the rent of the land held or cultivated by him is payable, a pottah containing the following particulars:—

The quantity of land; and where fields have been numbered in a Government survey, the number of each field.

The amount of annual rent.

The instalments in which the same is to be paid.

And any special conditions of the lease.

If the rent is payable in kind, the proportion of produce to be delivered, and the time and manner of delivery.

Section 3.—Ryots who, in the provinces of Bengal, Behar, Orissa and Benares, hold lands

* Bengal Govt. Report, Vol. II, p. 219.
† See Board's Memo., p. 159.
‡ Memorandum of Revenue Administration, p. 104.

at fixed rates of rent which have not been changed from the time of the permanent settlement, are entitled to receive pottahs at those rates.

Section 4.—Whenever, in any suit under this Act, it shall be proved that the rent at which land is held by a ryot in the said provinces has not been changed for a period of twenty years before the commencement of the suit, it shall be presumed that the land has been held from the time of the permanent settlement, unless the contrary be shown, or unless it be proved that such rent was fixed at some later period.

Section 5.—Ryots having rights of occupancy, but not holding at fixed rates, as described in the two preceding sections, are entitled to receive pottahs at fair and equitable rates. In case of dispute, the rate previously paid by the ryot shall be deemed to be fair and equitable, unless the contrary be shown in a suit by either party under the provisions of this Act.

Section 6.—Every ryot who has cultivated or held land for a period of twelve years has a right of occupancy in the land so cultivated or held by him, whether it be held under pottah or not, so long as he pays the rent payable on account of the same; but this rule does not apply to khamar, nijjote, or sir land belonging to the proprietor of the estate or tenure, and let by him on lease for a term, or year by year, nor (as respects the actual cultivator) to lands sublet for a term, or year by year, by a ryot having a right of occupany. The holding of the father or other person from whom a ryot inherits shall be deemed to be the holding of the ryot within the meaning of this section.

Section 7.—Nothing contained in the last preceding section shall be held to affect the terms of any written contract for the cultivation of land entered into between a landholder and a ryot, when it contains any express stipulation contrary thereto.

Section 21. (*Section 22 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1869.*)—When an arrear of rent remains due from any ryot at the end of the Bengal year, or at the end of the month of *Jeth* of the Fusly or Willayuttee year, as the case may be, such ryot shall be liable to be ejected from the land in respect of which the arrear is due. Provided that no ryot having a right of occupancy, or holding under a pottah, the term of which has not expired, shall be ejected otherwise than in the execution of a decree or order under the provisions of this Act.

Section 78. (*Section 52 of Act VIII (B.C.) of 1869.*)—Any person desiring to eject a ryot, or to cancel a lease on account of non-payment of arrears of rent, may sue for such ejectment or cancelment, and for recovery of the arrear in the same action, or may adduce any unexecuted decree for arrears of rent as evidence of the existence of such arrear in a suit for such ejectment or cancelment. In all cases of suits for the ejectment of a ryot, or the cancelment of a lease, the decree shall specify the amount of the arrear, and if such amount, together with interest and costs of suit, be paid into court within fifteen days from the date of the decree, execution shall be stayed.

Section 9 of Act VIII of 1869.—If on the trial of a suit for the delivery of a pottah instituted by a ryot having a right of occupancy, the parties do not agree as to the term for which the pottah is to be granted, the court shall fix such term as, under the circumstances of the case, may seem just and proper: provided that the term shall not in any case be longer than ten years; and in estates not permanently settled, shall not extend beyond the period for which the proprietor of the estate has engaged with Government: provided also that, if the defendant be a farmer or other person, having only a temporary interest in the land, the term of the pottah shall not extend beyond the period of the continuance of such interest. For cultivators not having a right of occupancy, the term of pottah shall be exclusively in the discretion of the person entitled to the rent of the land.

Section 46.—If any under-tenant or ryot shall, at the Mâl Cutcherry for the receipt of rents, or other place where the rents of the land or other immoveable property held or cultivated by him are usually payable, tender payment of what he shall consider to be the ful amount of rent due from him at the date of the tender to the zemindar or other person in receipt of the rent of such land; and if the amount so tendered shall not be accepted, and a receipt in full shall not be forthwith granted, it shall be lawful for the under-tenant or ryot, without any suit having been instituted against him, to deposit such amount in the court having jurisdiction to entertain a suit for such rent, to the credit of the zemindar or other person aforesaid: and such deposit shall, so far as the under-tenant or ryot, and all persons claiming through or under him are concerned, in all respects operate as, and have the full effect of, a payment then made by the under-tenant or ryot of the amount deposited to such zemindar or other person.

Section 2 ought to be read with reference to the old rules of 1793, where by the exchange of leases was strongly insisted upon, and ten years was made the maximum limit; though by Regulation V of 1812 the restriction was afterwards withdrawn. In section 3 it will be seen that, as between the zemindars and the cultivators holding at fixed rates from the time of the permanent settlement, the Government assumed that, where the zemindars had hitherto omitted to exchange any leases, all subsequent leases obtained through the courts of justice should be at such rates. It certainly does not warrant the inference that all cultivators of that date were entitled to fixed rates, but only those who had been holding at fixed rates. Certainly the omission to vary the rates did not justify such a penalty. Thus Act X did make encroachments on the rights of the zemindar. But the encroachment was made ostensibly at least in the shape of a penalty for the violation of a well-known rule—the one about exchange of leases. The Government claimed that the discharge of its judicial functions should be helped by adequate evidence being furnished by litigants.

Section 4 was another rule of the same kind. It was a very hard rule as against the landholders, but after all the rule was one of presumption, and directed against the same fault of omission to exchange leases.

Section 6 is supposed to have been the worst violation of the rights secured by the permanent settlement. But in fact this section was only one about exceptions to those—the majority of—cases which came under section 7. And if any doubt could be thrown on this explanation, all would vanish on reference to section 9 of Act VIII of 1869, whereby the old limit of ten years was maintained for leases under section 6. And "for cultivators not having a right of occupancy, the term of the lease" was to be "exclusively in the discretion of" the landlord. If therefore the landlords have anywhere betaken themselves to "shifting ryots" from land to land, the fact must be attributed to the unjustifiable endeavour made in certain quarters, exposing the landlords to the loss of a valuable right, rather than to any want of loyalty on their part to the just laws of the country. Injustice is the most fruitful source of violations of justice; and even the legislature must fail to transcend this universal truth.

Section 6 simply provided that where the terms of lease were not to furnish any guide, duration of possession was to be taken to determine what lands the tenant was not to be disturbed from possession of, at the will of the landlord: it was again a question of evidence. The absence of a certain important entry in a document was to be interpreted in a certain way. It did not interfere with the general principle, which was fully recognised in section 21 that non-payment of rent renders all tenants (those with unexpired leases, and the occupancy ryots being both put in the same category) liable to peremptory eviction. The Act X, however, only required the question of eviction in such cases to be brought before courts of justice; and in section 78 (sec. 52 of Act VIII) the most stringent provision was made against the ryot,—a provision, by the way, which is for realization of arrears of rent by far the safest and least objectionable to all the parties concerned. And in section 46 of Act VIII of 1869, which was a re-enactment of a short law passed in 1862, the Government did all that lay in its power for the protection of honest cultivators. It threw open its treasury as an ordinary banker for the adjustment of accounts whenever required by the cultivator.

Thus in the matter of occupancy right, all that the legislature did in 1859 was to close the loopholes, of which any undue advantage might be taken by the zemindar. First there was the lease to set forth the terms between parties; then there was the interpretation to be put on omissions in respect of such terms; thirdly, this interpretation was not to be enforced for a period of 12 years from when a tenant was let into possession. No indulgence was shown to cases of non-payment of rent; but for the sake of the ryot, the rent was allowed to be deposited in the Government treasury, instead of its having to be carried to a perverse landlord. It is believed by some that the occupancy clause was an application of the doctrine of prescription, but the argument of Sir Barnes Peacock in this connection has nowhere been met. "The civil law," he says, referring to Domat 2227, "held that a farmer or tenant could not acquire by prescription what he held by that title, for in order to prescribe it is necessary to possess, and *to possess as master*." It is not meant that the anti-zemindar policy had not begun in 1859. But it had not then made such advance as it has done since the recent difficulties in Ireland.

The question of eviction having been determined by the framers of Act X of 1859 in the way mentioned above, another difficulty arose as to the question of rents. Where the landlord had chosen not to insist upon his right of re-entry; where the current rents were regularly paid, and neither party was in consequence to be disturbed in his possession, the rate of rent payable would obviously have to be determined between them at times at least, and by a third party of course. Accordingly the task was made over to the judicial authorities; and the legislature thought—wrongly as it has since appeared—that sufficient indication would be given to Judges by the simple expression "fair and equitable rates."

But the error of the legislature, if any, has been exceeded by the assumption, probably traceable to politico-economic views, that the difference between a rack-rent and a fair rent is equivalent to a proprietary right in the land. A rack-rent denotes the limit of what the land is capable of yielding. Anything paid in addition converts the payment into a cottier rent, and as such becomes a charge levied on the privilege of keeping one's self to a particular calling, *viz.*, that of cultivators. Such a tax is open to grave objections certainly, though the outcry comes with very little grace from a Government which levies several taxes, like the Road and Public Works cesses, from the poorest of the cultivators. But as compared to a rack-rent, a fair rent must always be a very indefinite amount; for in estimating the fairness, account would have to be taken of the demand for land, even where the wages of labor were regulated only by custom. It is also mathematically true that an annual charge, whether of rent or other kind, can be equated to what is called its capitalised value, but that would not justify its being looked upon as property, for one of the data required, as a constant quantity, is the rate of profit common to both terms of the equation; and in the present case this constant quantity has always been uncertain. And where this variable element, the rate of interest, was not intended to be meddled with, and where too the question of property was left in act, no greater mistake could be committed than to presume that a difference was intended between rack-rent and fair rent, and to assume that the necessity to determine a fair rent, which was imposed on judicial authorities, was tantamount to giving the tenant a property in land equivalent to what would be the capitalised value of the difference under an unknown market value of money.

The truth seems to be that Act X intended by section 7 to make written contracts the rule in regard to the question of eviction, and to provide for the extinction of the landlord's right of re-entry where, save for non-payment of rent, the omission to enter into such contracts would show that no such reservation of right was intended at the time the tenant was let into possession. The retrospective effect given to the provision seems to have caused all the evil complained of by landlords. But they do not now wish to call in question the finding of judicial authorities.

However that might be, the restriction alluded to being imposed upon eviction, the determination of fair rents became unavoidable in consequence. This question was taken up by Government with obvious reluctance; and at the first instance it was left to the Judicial Department to do, as the Settlement Officers were doing in other provinces, but without the bias, unavoidable in those officers, of the peculiar interests of Government. But it was found afterwards that more detailed rules were necessary than the guidance furnished by the expression "fair and equitable rates of rent." And it is contended by landlords that this necessity for making such rules could never have justified the proposed division of the zemindar's proprietary right.

To sum up: The proprietary right of the zemindar is evidenced—(1) By the simple consideration that there could be no rival claimant on lands not occupied by the cultivators of the time of the permanent settlement. (2) The fact that the zemindar had an allowance even when he refused to accept the permanent settlement, and was in consequence put out of possession. (3) The fact that a similar right was recognized over lands claimed to be included, but proved to be excluded, from the permanent settlement. (4) The fact that in the Sunderbuns compensation was provided for to the zemindar and to the exclusion of persons belonging to the cultivator class who collected the forest produce for the zemindar. (5) The fact that some of these lands actually occupied by people were treated in certain cases "as lapsed farm." (6) The fact that waste *jalpai* lands have been surrendered by Government to the zemindars in whose estates they were situated. (7) The fact that the Government ignored all right of cultivators in the neighbourhood, as against the parties let by Government into possession of lands in the Sunderbuns. (8) The fact that it ignored all such rights when, within living memory, the English system of property and the rights of fee-simple were introduced in this country. (9) The fact that the Government in dealing directly with the land and the cultivators never treated the latter as having the whole or part of the property in the soil, nor (till of late) gave any compensation to the occupancy ryots when acquiring land for public purposes. (10) The fact that Act X strictly adhered to the general principle of tenant-right in this country, that non-payment of rent determines all occupancy rights, and that consequently the tenant could never be a co-proprietor with the zemindar, least of all in lands which have ever remained unoccupied by tenants, while the zemindar paid the revenue for them. (11) The consideration that, apart from *their* customary rights, a two-fold compensation was due to the zemindars who accepted the permanent settlement—one, for the labour of collecting the Government dues, and the other, for the risks of the collection, and that this compensation was obviously afforded by (*a*) the profits of lands which were yet to be reclaimed, but which were nevertheless included in the permanent settlement and covered by the revenues assessed; and (*b*) by profits realisable on extinction of the tenant-right then existing. And lastly, (12) that judicial findings or dicta have been recorded, suggesting at least that the point in issue should not be decided by the legislature and without the usual judicial tests provided for the purpose.

4.—Tenant-right.

But even if property in land belongs to the zemindar, and the zemindar alone, the question as to the distribution of the proceeds of land would have to be decided, and upon its own merits. The economic doctrine of distribution on the triple basis of land, labour and capital is hotly contested in Europe; and perhaps the present agitation among the members of the Anglo-Indian Government is due only to get that science out of the way. But the attempt to break up landed rights, so as to lay by something in the name of the cultivator, will probably be found to be neither fair nor reasonable. In any case, the position could not be maintained, on grounds of political economy, that a man who was free to keep any land in his own hands, and to cultivate it by his servants or by hired labourers, should not be permitted to let it to another so as to reduce the tenant's margin of profit though with his own consent and for valid reasons. A doctrine like this may, however, be traced to a growing class of men in Europe, whose general views of social relations the Government would least desire to see extended in India. Besides, the doctrines about peasant proprietors are absolutely inapplicable in a country where the land can never be held without paying for it something in the shape of rent, either to the State, or to the landlord, or to both.

But if regard was to be shown to the customs of India (the scientific character of which is still unsettled), the communistic prejudice against landlordism ought to have been guarded against with more care.

The three kinds of right, shortly denoted by the term three F's, however desirable in Ireland or in Great Britain, are not logically inseperable, nor are they universally acceptable. Fixity of tenure no doubt calls for fair rents: but the question of free sale is a politico-economic idea which, it will be found, is not suited to this country in its existing condition, and there is no reason why fixity of tenure should be given to those who are not entitled to have it. Pauperism would be provided against, within the limits of human power, by fair rents. Fixity

of tenure in fact was what was given to the country by the permanent settlement itself: for everybody has been declared free to buy the property created by that measure, and people, too, have freely availed themselves of the opportunities thus afforded. It may not agree with some people's views of the fitness of things, that those who have purchased permanently-settled lands do not confine themselves to the function of cultivating the soil. But even the cultivating classes of the country have had other feelings, and when they have had money to invest, they have depended largely upon the promises given by Government in 1793. In point of fact, all descriptions of caste may be found among the zemindars of Bengal, and if that would not satisfy the desire displayed for the nation's prosperity, the philanthropy might be seriously impeached which aimed at turning all landholders into cultivators.

Section 7 of Act X, it is said, has been perverted to noxious purposes by what has been called "shifting" of ryots. But was that section (especially when viewed with reference to section 9 of Act VIII of 1869) inserted in order that it should be made a dead letter of? The intentions of the framers of Act X have been largely appealed to, but the object of such appeals—to explain that section away—is obviously of greater significance.

On the other hand, it cannot be denied that just as in land the unit for assessment of rent must be that which does not leave any profit, so in social life the unit of prosperity must be found among those who are barely removed from starvation. This may be a misfortune, but it is the common fate of mankind; and the zemindars of Bengal are certainly not responsible for the inevitable consequences of man's struggle for existence. However, the framers of Act X of 1859 attempted to minimise this evil by confining it to those cultivators who could manage to hold to their land continuously for 12 years. For the rest, it may be hard that the zemindars should endeavour to save their own from being eaten into; but it is not a little creditable to them that the number of the tenants-at-will is so small, and that their rents are so often below a rack-rent. The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, while sending the Bill which was the immediate precursor of the one under consideration, bears testimony to this fact in the following terms:—

"The inquiries made in connection with Sir R. Temple's proposal to fix occupancy rates with reference to competition rates, brought to light the fact that competition has as yet got next to no hold upon the rents of Bengal. In one or two districts near the Presidency there is perhaps some little competition for land, but even this is local rather than general, and confined as a rule to the village to which the land under settlement belongs. * * * Generally speaking, there is nothing like competition for land in the economic sense even in places where the population is most dense. In the majority of districts the effective demand is still for ryots rather than for land, and even where the land is nearly all taken up for cultivation, custom is still the principle that decides the rent. The rates are customary and not competitive rates, *however high they may in any particular case be found to be.*"* (The italics are as in the original.)

The foregoing passage is interspersed with observations tracing a parallel in the far-off cottier questions of Ireland. But the facts of every-day experience with the people of Bengal,—facts, for instance, about the caste question and the consequent overcrowding of particular branches of industry and in particular localities, and facts about the inducement afforded by the personal character of individual zemindars, and even by that of their land-stewards, to the poorest and the floating portion of cultivators—these facts have for obvious reasons, escaped the attention of European gentlemen reporting upon the subject.

The stern economic fact remains unassailed after all, that the poorest classes must be converted into day-labourers, and that the section 7 of Act X of 1859 only indicates where this residuum is to be found. To extinguish it would be simply impossible; and so long as this class of non-occupancy ryots is not reduced to competition rates, all anxiety of the kind evinced by the legislature is simply out of place.

Even if shifting of ryots does prevail to any large extent—and no statistics are forthcoming to prove this, while the experience of the zemindars, belies it,—it would only show an increase in the number of tenants-at-will; an increase which would be perfectly innocuous so long as competition rates did not prevail. The trick of shifting ryots certainly discloses another fact, which, though it may rouse the ire of Government, ought even therefore to be the less meddled with. It shows a desire to avoid the interference of judicial or executive authorities in the fixing of rent-rates. But if the rent-rate fixed by the zemindars in such cases be not objectionable, the desire in question is not positively culpable; and the only way to get such desire under the civilizing influences of the British Government is to improve the *quality*, rather than the *strength*, of the law and the justice of that Government.

It would certainly become a difficulty if the number of tenants-at-will become very large, and if afterwards their rent-rates rise up to, or tend to exceed, competition or economic rates. But the natural solution to this difficulty—conversion of tenant-cultivators into hired labourers—is very obvious; and it is an assumption of no ordinary kind to suppose that the peasantry of Bengal will not take to this solution, but follow the example—unknown to them—of *Irish cottiers*.

A certain section of tenants verging upon the condition of day-labourers being unavoidable, there is no reason why the principle of section 7 of Act X of 1859, confining the class to less than 12 years' occupation of specific plots of land, should be rejected. On the contrary, its due recognition would largely facilitate legislation about fair rents for occupancy tenants.

* Report of Government of Bengal, &c., Vol. I, p. 13.

What, then, is the principle of fair rent? The answer to this question would be easy enough from the stand-point of the permanent settlement, if the authorities would have the patience to view it from that point. The State share of the produce at the time of the permanent settlement is roughly given at $\frac{3}{5}$ths or 60 per cent. of the produce. Then the metayer systems prevailing at places also afford important indications. And in the "Directions for settlement officers in the North-Weastern Provinces," 66 per cent. of the nett assets used at one time to be taken by the State from cultivating proprietors (as well as non-cultivating zemindars drawing rents from tenants). If, with these facts, the instructions of the Court of Directors in 1793, not to deteriorate the value of zemindari tenure had been duly coupled, little or no opposition would have been apprehended from the landlords. But since these limits have been exceeded, and since this difficult question has not been approached in a judicial spirit, the petitioners to Parliament pray that they would withdraw their former prayer for legislation rather than have a law for enhancement of rents, which would take away a large slice from their existing property in land.

5.—*Necessity of the Legislation.*

The facts set forth above, to show the revolutionary character of the proposed law and the absence of competition rents in Bengal, will show how little a measure like the Tenancy Bill has become necessary in Bengal. But it has been argued that the landlords prayed for legislation, and cannot now recall that prayer. But whether they must have King Stork because they wanted something better than King Log, now rests with Parliament, and Parliament alone. The facts will show, however, how little the landlords, when their consent was obtained (and in a characteristic way too) to a general revision of the law, could foresee the leaning, since disclosed against them, in the minds of the ruling authorities.

It is now pretty well known that the punctual payment of revenue required by the permanent settlement, coupled to the checks interposed against the semi-regal or feudal powers exercised by the zemindars, led to the introduction from Europe* of the rules for the distraint of the crop, &c. But these foreign ways of dealing in business, as the Parliamentary Report of 1813 records, "were ill-understood, and not found easy of practice;" "the tenantry were enabled to withhold payment of rents," "the zemindars suffered oppression from the mal-practices of the cultivators," "the courts of justice were found 'incompetent' to afford them redress," "hazard of a reduction *in the rates of the assessments* as well as *the property of the zemindars*" was strongly apprehended, and a remedy was applied by Regulation XXXV of 1795. But "the experience of four following years did not justify the expectations formed" *in regard to that Regulation*†; and it appears that the total collections in the Government Treasury, from 1794 to 1798, fell short of the annual revenue demand by no less than three lakhs every year.‡

Again, of "some of the oldest and most respectable families," we are told that, "the dismemberment of their estates *at the end of each succeeding year* threatened them with poverty and ruin;"§ and "within the ten years that immediately followed the permanent settlement, a complete revolution took place in the constitution and ownership of the estates which formed the subject of that settlement."‖ The passing of Regulation VII of 1799 had been deemed necessary in order to further "strengthen the hands of the zeminders over their under-tenantry, who, it appears, had, under the general protection afforded by the courts of justice, entered into combinations which enabled them to embarrass the landholders in a very injurious manner by withholding their just dues and compelling them to have recourse to tedious and expensive process to enforce claims which ought not to have admitted of dispute."¶ These facts are well known. There was a corner, however, whence they were explained to the Court of Directors as "a change of circumstance which ought to be received with *satisfaction!*"

It was said to evince that "the *great body* of the people employed in the cultivation of the land experienced ample protection from the laws, and were no longer subject to arbitrary exactions"** that "the equal administration of justice" was "real and efficient," and in the words of an Indian document bodily transferred to the Parliamentary report, that "it had been foreseen that those immense estates were likely in the course of time to fall into other hands by becoming gradually sub-divided,—an event, however, much to be regretted, as affecting the individual proprietor, would probably be beneficial to the country at large, from the estate falling into the possession of more able and economical managers."

Such explanations seem to have raised "a doubt in regard to the sincerity of the intentions expressed by the ruling authority for the prosperity of the principal zemindars." But it was allayed by the fact that at the very time they were written, remedies were being assiduously devised for the evils alluded to. And then "the great body of people" quietly submitted to Regulation VII of 1799, for which, however, sixty years afterwards a change was perceived to have been requisite from the aspect of affairs.†† "A great financial improvement," records the Board of Revenue in 1873, "was effected by the legislation of 1799. The zemindars began to collect their rents with ease and success.

* Some maintain that the principle was *not* new to India, but may even have been borrowed in Europe from the East.
† Fifth Report, pp. 55-56.
‡ Memorandum on Revenue Administration, p. 9.
§ Fifth Report, p. 56.
‖ Memorandum, &c., p. 9.
¶ 5th Report, p. 57. ** 5th Report, p. 55. †† 5th Report, pp. 57-58.

The Government dues were paid up with greater regularity." In 1824-25 the revenue demand showed a tendency to rise, and then "rapidly expanded" under the operation of Regulation II of 1819. But in 1859 "the remedies assiduously devised" for the protection of the little body of zemindars, and against the great body of the people, were completely wiped out of the Statute Book. Difficulties, however, again arose, despite the liberal views which in 1859 had perceived a state of things different from that in 1795 and 1799. These difficulties were brought to a head by a well-known ruling of the High Court, dated 1865, and in 1872 the great body of the people had made a corresponding advance over the old tactics of "withholding their dues," and broke out in open riot against the little body of zemindars, publicly claiming to be the especially-favoured subjects of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen. And it would seem that they were not far wrong since the then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal recorded the following opinion in the public Proclamation dated the 4th of July. "It is perfectly lawful to unite in a peaceable manner to resist any excessive demand of the zemindars, but it is not lawful to unite to use violence and intimidation."*

The spirit in which the above proclamation was issued needs no comment. It proceeded from a Lieutenant-Governor whose energetic inquiries disclosed the prevalence of certain illegal cesses in *different* parts of Bengal, but who nevertheless presented the facts as if every zeminder had been levying all the cesses compiled in the list. And it is no less singular that in spite of the opinion expressed by him, and generally admitted by others that the cesses are nothing but a convenient, though illegal, mode of enhancing the rents of land by adding a rate on the rental, instead of one on the acreage; and in spite of the fact that this same principle has been embodied in section 59, clause 2, of the Bill under consideration, it is singular after this that these cesses have been set up as the clearest proofs to justify an interference with the permanent settlement.

The Lieutenant-Governor, Sir George Campbell, has himself recorded as follows on the subject of these cesses:—

In Bengal the levy of cesses may or may not be carried to such an excess as in comparatively primitive Orissa, but that the system does prevail there is no doubt. *In Bengal Proper, however, the Lieutenant-Governor also feels this, that the cesses, illegal though they be, do in practice to some extent take the place of the enhancement of rents to which by litigation the zemindar might perhaps establish a right, and there is little doubt that the people much prefer such cesses to any alteration of their old-established rents.* Where, then, there has not been any recent general enhancement, and the cess system is not carried to very great excess, the Lieutenant-Governor is inclined to think that, while the people do not complain, it may be better not to embark on a crusade to put down such customary illegalities, and that we may perhaps trust to the gradual enlightenment of the lower orders to enable them so far to look after their own interests.†

It is hoped that the rise in rents has not been so great as to absorb the whole of the ryot's share in the general improvement. It may even not improbably be that if the proprietors, instead of levying irregular cesses, were systematically to pursue in the courts a course of enhancement to the utmost limits that the law allows, they might still establish grounds for further enhancement in many cases, while the expenses of such a mode of proceeding would fall very heavily on the ryots, whatever the event of such suits.‡

It may be said that the rights of enhancement conferred on landlords by Act X of 1859 have not been the occasion of much serious excitement or great social disturbance in these provinces generally in the past year. Of late years the courts have shown a tendency to scrutinize thoroughly the grounds of enhancement, and to watch the cases affecting great classes of ryots, who are individually unable to contest particular cases with zemindars on equal terms in respect of money and legal aid; and the zemindars of Bengal have not generally been very pushing in this respect. It was principally in connection with the indigo question that the planters of Bengal Proper fought and lost the battle of an unlimited right of enhancement of the rents of the ryots possessed of a right of occupancy. The zemindars are most frequently content if they can get extra cesses and benevolences, illegal, but which the ryots certainly prefer to enhancement of rent.§

The permission which, as shown above, was given by the Lieutenant-Governor to the ryots to withhold payment of rents, indicated a grave misconception, in so far as tenant-right in Bengal is always conditional on the payment of the rents. Some time after the Proclamation referred to, the Government decided to impose certain cesses as well upon the richest landlords as upon the poorest cultivators—the Road and Public Works cesses—and it was deemed expedient to lay the trouble, risk and odium of collecting these taxes upon the zemindars. The zemindars knowing that resistance was hopeless, and European modes of agitation not being familiar to them, consented to bear the burden, but only upon condition that facilities should be given them to collect their dues from the tenants. No reference was made to the laws of 1795 and 1799, which had been repealed in 1859; none whatever to the Pubna riots alluded to, which, however clearly traceable to the changes in law and the interpretation thereof, were unjustly set down against the zemindar's demands for rent, nor was any prayer ventured to undo the mischief created by a public proclamation, which

* Administration Report, 1872-73, Part III, p. 31.
† Bengal Administration Report, 1871-72, Part I, p. 170.
‡ Do. do. do. p. 180.
§ Do. do. do. pp. 23-24.

openly justified a wrongful act and a conspiracy for the purpose. But the only prayer was that, while additional burdens were being imposed by Government, the zemindars might be put in the way of discharging them without loss to themselves. And the Government promised to afford them the facilities, the need of which even now the Law Member acknowledges, though unfortunately for the zemindars, only as being beyond the reach of his talents in law-making.*

At this very time the question of fair rents had also come to engage the public attention with reference to Act X of 1859. It has been shown that, according to that Act, fixity of a kind was to be assumed as intended to be given to those tenures which continued to be held for 12 years without any documentary evidence to prove the contrary. This construction of sections 6 and 7 of that Act, quite in accordance with the hitherto prevailing policy of encouraging the exchange of leases between landlords and tenants, would also reconcile them to the terms of the permanent settlement. But somehow or other economic rent, as defined in English books, was taken by Sir Barnes Peacock to be the fair construction of the expression "fair rates" in that Act. Now, negative to this connection would simply be that fair rents and rack-rents were not necessarily identical. But it seems that the learned arguments of Sir Barnes called forth only an emphasis on the contrary positions, that fair rents should always be less than rack-rents.

The next step (shown before to be as much an assumption as the foregoing) was that the difference between the two kinds of rent had been given by the legislature to the creatures of Act X in contravention of the terms of the permanent settlement; and hence the opinion that section 6 of that Act ought to be repealed.

Mr. Justice Trevor, in the very judgment which has determined that the fair rent of section 6 is less than the rack-rent of Ricardo, held that "the new law" *i.e.*, the Act X, "interfered with the right of the zemindars as laid down in the legislation of the last thirty years." This was endorsed by Justices Lock, Bayley, Jackson, and Glover. Elsewhere Justice Trevor declared it "a great infringement of the law previously existing." And Chief Justice Peacock and Justice Shumboo Nath Pandit and others suggested its abolition, the Chief Justice basing his recommendation among others on the ground that "it interferes with the just rights of the zemindars, at least in the permanently-settled districts, by vesting rights of occupancy in the ryot which had no previous existence." And even down to this day, Chief Justice Garth finds it "impossible to deny that it operated as an invasion of the landholder's rights as conferred upon him by the permanent settlement."†

Under these circumstances, the landholders were least prepared for the views of Bengal Government which had been carefully withheld from the public, or for those announced by Mr. Ilbert in the Council Chamber on the 2nd of March 1883. Hence, when a certain native member of the Bengal Council was asked to give his consent to a general revision of the rent law, on the ground that the question of arrears of rent was often found mixed up with that of assessment and enhancement of rents in general, no hesitation was shown on the part of the landlords of Bengal to accede to the proposal. But if circumstances like these can justify the demand of some Government officers, that the zemindars must make equivalent sacrifices to the ryots, who had nothing whatever to say, there does not appear any reason why the zemindars should not urge, in furtherence of their prayer before Parliament, that the promises given in 1871 and 1877, about speedy realization of arrears of rent, might be allowed to stand over, along with the newly remembered one of 1793, to make laws for the protection of all classes of subjects.

6.—The Rent Commission.

The consent of the landholders for a general revision of the rent law having been obtained, the Rent Commission was appointed by Government; and so long as their labours were confined to preparing an analysis and digest of the existing law, the public were not apprised of what was intended by the Government. But Mr. Field, the most energetic member of the body, supplemented his digest of the Rent law with certain notes, and especially one on the question of free sale of tenures. In that note he had occasion to notice the argument that it was discretionary with the landlord to withhold fixity of tenure from their tenants, and that by arbitrarily making all occupancy tenures transferable against the consent of landlords, the legislature might virtually stimulate the landlords to exert themselves with a view to prevent the acquisition of occupancy rights by tenants. And the following characteristic solution given to this question, in the teeth of section 9 of Act VIII of 1869, clearly showed how dispassionate and judicially disposed the most active member of the Commission was:—

"The 13th argument (stated and numbered by Mr. Field himself) partakes in some respect of the nature of a threat, and cannot therefore carry much weight. The great majority of the ryots have already acquired the right of occupancy: and in respect of those who have not, the legislature is not likely to be much moved by the fear of that being done which it has permitted to be done, and *which it could prevent from being done by a stroke of the pen.*"‡

To this the following may well be contrasted:—

"Justice E. Jackson, in his minute on Act X, said with reference to section 6: 'They (the zemindars) will not be affected by it. They have it in their power to put an end to every right

* Ilbert's speech, Abstract of Proceedings, 2nd March, pp. 119 & 124.
† See Rent Commission Report, 1st edition, Vol. I, pp. 105, 96, where references to the original are given.
‡ Field's Digest, p. 177.

of occupancy which exists on their estates, as the tenures fall in, if they will only take care to let out the tenures again on term leases. The only landlords who can suffer by the law are those who pay no attention to their estates, and who disobey the direct injunctions of the legislature under which they hold their estates.'"

Again, the President of the Commission, speaking of his votes as given in it, has since thought proper to record "that on many points I preferred to give my voice according to the opinion of the moment rather than prolong discussion, being satisfied that the point...would meet with full further discussion before the time came for taking action on it."*

After this the following from Sir Richard Garth would be quite significant of the constitution of the Rent Commission:—

"I have taken the pains," he says, "to go through all the minutes of the committee meetings, and I find that out of thirty-five discussions which took place, Mr. O'Kinealy in every single instance voted in favour of the ryots and against the landlords, and Mr. Mackenzie did so in almost every instance."†

The fact is, the Commission was from the very beginning furnished with a standing majority against the landlords. And when the Bengal Government sent its draft Bill to the Government of India, both the Bill and the covering letter No. 849T, dated 27th July 1881, were kept a dead secret from the public. Referring to this, Sir Richard Garth observes:—

"I am afraid that individual Judges have, like myself, felt a disinclination to oppose what were generally known to be the strong views of Sir Ashley Eden in favour of the ryots until those views had assumed something like a definite shape.

"The Bill, as drafted by the Rent Commission, differed in many important respects from that which has since been prepared by Mr. Reynolds, and we are now in still greater uncertainty as to what is really proposed, because we learn that Mr. Reynolds' draft was again materially altered before it was sent to the Government of India, and that it has now been submitted with still further alterations for the consideration of the Secretary of State."

The third draft settled by Sir Ashley Eden was the one sent to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India‡ with letter dated 21st March 1882, so that the secrets of the Executive Department appear to have been very carefully kept even from the Chief Justice of Bengal, whose minute is dated 6th September 1882.

"It is true," continues Sir Richard, "that through Sir Ashley Eden's kindness I was allowed a perusal of the Bill before it left the Bengal Office; but as this was for my private information only, I do not feel at liberty to discuss it publicly in other shape than that in which it was presented to the public.

"This method of dealing with important legislative measures, however much it may be in accordance with practice and precedence, is, I venture to think, inconvenient. It places myself and others..... in a position of considerable difficulty, and it seems hardly fair to those classes of the community whose interests may be most seriously threatened."§

Sir Richard is mistaken: there was no difficulty, for he was not let into all the secrets. Elsewhere he says:—

"In the numerous notes and minutes which this discussion has elicited, I find some pains have been expended upon the argument that the Government, in case of necessity, has a right to interfere with vested interests, although created by so solemn a compact as that of the permanent settlement, and it has been further argued that in the settlement itself the Government has expressly reserved such a power of interference.

"For my own part I consider this argument quite superfluous. Any Government, *in case of real emergency*, has a right, so far as it is necessary, to interfere with vested rights to whomsoever they may belong, or howsoever they may have been created. But then I take it to be equally clear that *without some such actual necessity* no Government is justified in interfering with the vested rights of any class of its subjects."‖

But to Mr. Ilbert the aspect of affairs is singularly different.

"There is," he says, addressing the Legislative Council, "no great difficulty in showing that this so-called obstacle to legislation for the protection of the tenant is no obstacle *at all*: that it is a mere *phantom barrier, which, the moment that it is approached, dissolves into thin air.*"¶

In a note, however, prepared by Mr. Tupper under orders of the Government of India, the summarised objections to the contemplated policy are met by such remarks as these—"A conclusion is not condemned because it is theoretical, the real question is whether the theory is right or wrong. Applied political economy is only another name for statesmanship" And referring to the objection of breaking through anachronising customary and traditional relations, a fitting answer has been found in the assertion "they are the concomitant of foreign and civilized dominion." Before radical views of this kind dissolution of the phantom barrier of a permanent settlement into thin air was no great wonder certainly! The wonder is that a foregone conclusion of this kind has been subjected to such long delay and such expensively protracted discussion.

With all this endeavour, however, the full consent of the Secretary of State could not be obtained, and even after repeated communications. At last the Viceroy telegraphed on the 22nd December 1882: "We shall therefore prepare a Bill in accordance with general

* Bengal Government Report, vol. II, p. 410.
† *Hindoo Patriot*, office edition, p. 11.
‡ See Blue Book on the subject, p. 1.
§ Minute, pp. 1-2. ‖ Minute, p. 3. ¶ Abstract, p. 90.

views expressed in Lord Hartington's—17th August." And to "this discussion" the Secretary of State has given his sanction by telegram dated 30th idem; so that it does not seem likely that the Bill begun in January 1883, and presented in Council on the 2nd of March, has yet received the Secretary of State's sanction And since the facts and arguments presented to the Secretary of State are not sound, and since, besides, the directions from England have not been duly followed in the fourth Bill prepared by Mr. Ilbert, the measure stands self-condemned.

One thing besides is deserving of notice. The statesmanlike solutions offered to problems in applied political economy have now run up to four successive Bills, and in each case a re-examination of past labours have led to fresh solutions being attempted of well-known problems in the society of barbarian subjects. And Mr. Ilbert has announced in fervid scriptural language "sufficient for the statesman if he can grapple with the problem of to-day, and for the distant future he must leave posterity to provide." The term posterity in the present case is obviously meant for successive Law Members going to and from England every five or ten years at most: and yet it was not deemed necessary to collect any evidence for the purpose of the present legislation.

7.—*The Bill.*

The petition to Parliament avoids entering into details, for what is prayed for is not how the sections of the Bill might be improved, so as to make the measure perfect, but that a cursory view of the principles and policy of the intended legislation would lead to its rejection. At each successive step in the course of four several drafts, the law-maker has been haunted by one fierce desire to get the ghost of a Bengal zemindar down under the power of the law. Consequently there has been remarkably small leisure to judge how the law would have to be administered. And after many long efforts the definition of the *ryot*, for whom all this trouble is claimed to have been incurred, is left in the form of a negative proposition. The petition avoiding all details of this kind notices only the graver changes in the rent law, of which changes, the inner history is, however, of a remarkable kind. It will be seen that although, after much opposition, the sanction of the Secretary of State was obtained to the introduction of the Bill, yet an endeavour has been made to defeat the declared wishes of Lord Hartington, to say nothing of the misleading reports submitted to him in support of the favourite project of Government.

The principle of the right of occupancy, as created by the Act X of 1859, has been already noticed at sufficient length: its greatest safeguard on behalf of the zemindar were sections 7 and 21 of that Act. All these were proposed to be taken away, for the first time, by the Rent Commission. But the Government of India in reporting upon the subject has coolly ignored the point, mentioning only "that they proposed to institute a new class of ryots, *viz.*, those who had held land for three years or more." The simple plan of making the law acceptable to the people did not commend itself to the authors of the measure, and consequently "a sharply drawn limit of time" was rejected for the purpose of defining the blessing which was intended for this unknown class of people. Sir Ashley Eden had gone beyond the Rent Commission, and had proposed "the resident ryot" instead of the three-year old proprietors. "The Lieutenant-Governor's proposal," so runs the letter to the Secretary of State, "amounts in fact to the creation of an artificial village, residence and cultivation within the boundaries of which shall entitle all settled ryots to rights of occupancy in their lands." But it was objected to by the Government, because they thought "many zamindars will utilise to the utmost extent any opportunity of annihilating the claims of the ryots which may be afforded by the law." They "fully admit the absurdity of supposing that zamindars could cause the great majority of their cultivators continually to shift about from one village or even from one set of fields to another." Nevertheless they "think that it is contrary to public policy (!) that the zamindar should find it to his benefit to oust his ryots or any of them either from house or and."* Strange that in a public document of so great importance such an observation should find its way, while the avowed object of the Government is elsewhere set forth as follows:—"We do not conceal from ourselves that either proposal (that of the Government of India or the recommendation of Lord Hartington) will meet with very serious and painful opposition. Ours will be the more distasteful to the zemindar's interest, but the reason why it will be the more distasteful is obvious."† The only way to reconcile these observations is to suppose that the Government believe either that the zamindars seek to injure their tenants and to elude the law, not for their own interests, but only for the destruction of their tenant's interests, or that whatever is distasteful to zamindars' interests is most in accordance with "public policy." The meaning, however, will not be far to seek; for every body knows whose interests are being most sought to be destroyed, by whom the endeavour is being made, and how few the opportunities are of these English officials to test their schemes by a normal amount of self-interest. Accordingly, the Government of India preferred "simply to take the land as the basis of the occupancy right and to declare that all ryots holding or cultivating ryoti land shall have a right of occupancy therein. The occupancy right would then attach to all *ryoti* land without exception, that is to say, to all land that is not khamar or private land."‡

The Secretary of State has disallowed this:—

"I have to observe," he says, "that whatever may have been the exact position, actual or legal, of the bulk of Bengal ryots prior to the permanent settlement, there can be no doubt that their customary rights at best included the right of occupancy *conditional on the payment*

* Correspondence, p. 22.
† Ditto, pp. 59—60.
‡ Correspondence, p. 25, para. 62.

of the rate of rent current and established in the locality. To this extent therefore I concur in your proposal to restore the ryots to their original position."

But as regards the proposal "to take a classification of lands...as the basis...of the occupancy right," His Lordship says :—

"9 After careful consideration of your arguments, I am not satisfied that a measure is advisable which appears to me to make so great and so entirely novel a departure from both the ancient custom and existing law of Bengal."

His Lordship then proceeds to give his own suggestion to the effect "that every *resident* ryot shall have a right of occupancy in the land which he occupies and *pays rent for*, and that a resident ryot shall be one who, or whose ancestor, has occupied any land in the village or estate for 12 years." This is of course somewhat vague and open to many of the objections previously set forth. But in any case it leaves no room for several of the provisions in the Bill, and more especially for the ignoring of the principle that occupancy rights are at best conditional on the payment of rent, and cannot subsist if the zamindar has unnecessarily to go to court for its realization. The instructions evidently do not justify such a provision, as for instance, that "all land shall be presumed to be ryoti land until the contrary is proved," *i. e.*, proved to have been "the landlord's private land for twelve continuous years before the commencement of this Act." (Sections 5 and 6 of the Bill.)

In answer to the Secretary of State's Despatch quoted above, the Government of India wrote on the 17th October 1882 :—

"The number of unprotected ryots will, under Your Lordship's scheme, be thereafter a constantly increasing number. Every acre of land which becomes vacant, whether by pre-emption on the part of the landlord, by death without heirs, &c., falls out of the protected class, and instantly becomes a subject for a renewal of the evil contest. The landlord's interest is immediately concerned in preventing the settlement on such land of any existing cultivator of the estate or village, and in defeating as regards tenants from outside the accrual of occupancy rights by 12 years' prescription on such land."*

The reply to this despatch even was not favourable to the views of the Government of India : and yet we have the following in section 56 of the Bill :—

"Notwithstanding any contract to the contrary when the landlord...acquires...the occupancy right in any of the land...any person thereafter holding the land as a ryot shall have a right of occupancy in respect of it."

A perusal of the Secretary of State's despatch, as well as of Mr. Ilbert's speech, would lead one to think that, at all events, the legislature will not permit any *reduction* of existing rents. The Bill, however, shows a different sort of arrangement. Section 81, clause 6, fixes the maximum limit of produce-rents positively *below* the customary rates in many places, and section 82 is so far dubious in its wording, that it is impossible to say whether clause 2 of section 61 will not operate so as to further reduce the limit by 60 per cent. of what would be due to the landlord under the low limit given in section 81, clause 6.

The redistribution of property, as apprehended from the Bengal Tenancy Bill, is mainly due to the following provision :—

Firstly, as regards Fixity of tenure :—

(*a*) The old occupancy ryots are being placed above the restriction that punctual payment of their dues is indispensable to the continuance of their rights : the value which would be imparted to the occupancy right in consequence of this change would be so much taken from that of the landholder. Nay, it will take away far more from the zamindar than it will give to the occupancy ryot.

(*b*) The occupancy right is further extended in a peculiar way : A tenant holding the right in respect of a square yard or two of land is to have that right extended to any quantity of land, even hundreds of acres, that he may afterwards lay his hands upon.

This provision converts a right in land which was traceable to duration of occupation, into that of a personal status, *i. e.*, privilege attaching to the man who happened sometime in his life to have held a plot of ground for 12 years within the indefinite limits of a village or an estate.

And this personal status of the settled ryot is again made peculiarly obnoxious to the zamindar by the disability impossd on him, whereby he is never to acquire the privileges of a settled ryot, neither for money nor from customary laws.

(*c*) Then the "well-known distinction" which, in the words of the Secretary of State himself, is "deeply rooted in the feelings and customs of the people not only of Bengal, but in most parts of India," between resident and absentee tenants,—a distinction considerably affected by Act X of 1859, is going to be still further relaxed, to the certain increase and possible universality of absenteeism among the rent-payers subordinate to the landholders, and the consequent detriment to agricultural interests and to the much needed facilities for collecting the rents.

(*d*) A further instance of redistribution is the provision about compensation for disturbance, in the case of ordinary ryot, which amounts to a penalty upon the exercise of just rights by the landholders.

(*e*) Lastly, the land is proposed to be cut up in two parts, so as to divest the zamindar of all his proprietary rights in respect of one part, and in the other to make his position as intolerable as what the effect given to provisions of the Act X had generally led to. And for

* Correspondence, p. 58, para. 8.

all this the zamindar is required to bear half the cost of a tedious and most expensive process of land survey, while his rights have to be surrendered through a nominal and summary investigation. In respect of part No. 1, the zamindar is proposed to be denied full rights even when the land should remain unoccupied, and although the revenue demand of the Government in respect of such unoccupied land was not in the least to be relaxed. If he lets it out to a tenant, he must not get the full benefit of what terms he might otherwise obtain, but the tenant must have that benefit even when willing to part with all or some of it, and for valid reasons ; and lastly, this lien of the tenant classes will continue for a period of twelve years over all such lands, and the zamindar must not have anything in return for that lien, whether from Government, or from those who enjoy the lien. And in regard to that part of the land which it is proposed would not be especially the zamindar's private land, his rights would have to be established by twelve years' continuous occupation, and even then he would remain liable to be eased for ever of what he thus re-acquires, by simply letting a tenant into possession for the same twelve years.

Secondly, in regard to Free Sale :

The landlord is going to be deprived of all his most important rights : it will deprive him of two of his most ancient rights, *viz.*, that of re-entry in case of non-payment of rent, and that of choosing his tenants ; it will require him, for the realization of his rents and the punctual payment of his own dues to Government, to look to absentee tenants of uncertain character and all this at inconvenient distances ; so that it will make those absentee tenants practically the lords of the soil, leaving all the risks and responsibilities upon the annuitant landlord. Here, too, the landlord is going to be imposed with a grave disability that he cannot acquire, even by purchase, all the rights accorded to any other purchaser for equal value. And while so much is being taken from the property of the zamindar, it does not appear that, even in the expectation of the Government, the ryot is likely to derive much substantial benefit.

And, thirdly, in respect of Fair Rents :

The maximum limits prescribed are inordinately low, and in some cases the limits will lead actually to a reduction of existing rents.

Referring to the question of transferability of tenures, the Government of India write to the Secretary of State :—

"*Para.* 93. So far we have considered the landlord's interest." To this the flat contradiction of the landlords may be entitled to some weight, as coming from those who ought to know their interests better than the authors of the sentence quoted above. Be that as it may, the paragraph then runs as follows :—

"But the protection of the ryot is a matter of much greater difficulty. The money-lender by means of a mortgage might appropriate the whole profits of the holding ; or by foreclosure or purchase he might become possessed of the occupancy right, making a sub-lease to a cultivator ; or the occupancy ryot of to-day, finding his interest profitable, might gradually disuse cultivation, sub-letting his land to an under-ryot at an exorbitant rent. In all these cases the actual cultivation of the soil would, unless provision be made to the contrary, tend to fall into the hands of a rack-rented peasantry, the fruit of whose labours might be reaped by speculators or absentees or mere annuitants idly consuming the agricultural yield in unproductive expenditure. A generation hence, it may be said, the present circumstances will repeat themselves ; the present settled ryots will have become to all intents and purposes tenure-holders, or they will have parted with their rights in favour of non-agriculturists, and the Government will again be moved to interfere for the protection of new masses of peasant occupants against seldom (serfdom ?) and oppression."*

It is hard to say whether language much different from this would have been needed, if the ryots of Bengal had taken to the doctrines of communism and sought to help themselves to the property of the zemindars by violent means, leaving the future to take care of itself.

It is well known that in Ireland it has become necessary to override the contractual relations of people : the reason was that cottier rents there rose above rack-rents. In Bengal the danger is said to be apprehended. No evidence has, however, been adduced, and no statistics collected ; but on the contrary competition rates are reported by Sir Ashley Eden to be altogether unknown. Nevertheless the contracts of private parties are proposed to be upset, and the rule about exchange of leases between landlord and tenant, on which the framers of the permanent settlement laid so much stress, is going to be entirely relaxed, because in the opinion of the Government of India the principle dated from the political disturbances of 1857! It would be easy to set right such inaccurate statements of fact : but it is not easy to reach the feeling which could record the following. Mr. Tupper says :—

"Mr. Reynolds remarks that the British Indian Association strongly disapproves this section, and continues, 'it is natural that they should do so, for without this section the other provisions would have little practical effect.' An unfettered contract law, it is stated, is the basis of civilized life and the primary condition of moral and social progress. The aphorism is worthy of Joseph Surface, and I regret that the Association should have stooped to employ an argument which they must have known to be altogether sophistical. Free contract between ignorance, poverty and improvidence on the one side, and cunning, wealth and power on the other, is likely to result in the conclusion of a somewhat inequitable bargain."†

Whether or not the British Indian Association have belied their conscience, or raised a scandal against themselves, the principle, if openly advocated, would naturally raise the

* Correspondence, page 39, p. 93.

† Tupper's note, p. 108.

question, how far the high revenue assessment of $\frac{10}{11}$ths on the rental was consistent with customary law, and why the engagements entered into by Government in various matters would not cease to be binding upon the swarthy millions of India. It is, however, a relief to find the following from the pen of the same précis-writer who has approvingly quoted the generous reference to Joseph Surface:—

"But are the landlords in respect to all classes of land, whether *ryoti* or *khamar*, and the occupancy ryots in respect to their own holdings, to be universally refused the advantage of perfect liberty of contract with their lessees? Is the economic benefit of unfettered discretion in dealing with the soil to be banished, so far as the law can expel it from the whole valley of the Ganges from Sarun to Backergunge? If so, how long is this state of tutelage to last? Has the educational value which belongs to the free exercise of authority within a limited field been overlooked? Let the necessities of the time [there is nothing wrong in the *times* as the facts about competition-rates of rent will show—necessities of *cases* of individual misconduct are always subject to judical control] be met by interposition to deliver the cultivators [say rather, individual ones] from injustice and to compel them to render to their superiors their proper dues. But do not eviscerate the scheme of reform by extracting the principle of growth which might be retained as part of it. *This portion of the Bill omits, it may be thought, the germ of social development?*"*

This retrograde movement in regard to contractual relations between people may well be contrasted with the too-forward movement in respect of compensation for improvements. This last is not needed, for the simple reason that agriculture has not yet advanced so far as to take up all the culturable land, much less to require improvements for intensifying the productive powers of the soil.

"Under the influence of external peace" and other causes, says the Board of Revenue, "population has increased and cultivation extended over vast tracts which lay waste at the end of the last century. It should, however, be observed that improvement in the *modes* of culture is not conspicuous. The demand for land has not in most parts yet reached the point at which the enhancement of productive powers becomes the indispensable condition of profitable occupation."†

The fact, if dispassionately considered, will explain most of the phenomena in the agrarian affairs of the country. Mr. Ilbert supposes that the best interests of our society would be conserved because "there is nothing in the Bill to prevent a landlord acquiring an occupancy-ryot from keeping the land in his own hands and cultivating it by his servants or by hired labourers."‡ But a greater mistake could hardly be committed in the present state of Bengali society. If the rich zemindars would take to agriculture and convert their ryots into day-labourers, the European labour-difficulty would make its appearance in India with the most awful consequences. Matters may possibly be moving in that direction. The population difficulty must perhaps arise in course of time: and between the pauper life of day-labourers and cottier life of Irish tenants there would not perhaps be much to choose. But in any case the choice would not lie in favour of the former. Besides, if the life of hired-labourers is all that is intended by our beneficent Government for the poor of this country, that life would be more tolerable under the existing zemindars than under the vast body of (occupancy) tenure-holders now in contemplation. A mistake of the very same kind was committed when in 1793 the members of the British Indian Government advocated the growth of landlords more energetic than their predecessors of the last century. These very landlords have to bitterly rue their fate to-day, and under them, it must be admitted, the tenants have not fared better than under those who had not to think of the interest due to capital invested in the purchase of zemindaries, and whose ruin was compassed by tenants of olden time and by the self-same method of withholding payment of fair rents. Agricultural improvements cannot be fostered by Government, least of all by helping to convert the life of agricultural tenants into that of agricultural day-labourers. But when improvements will become necessary, the richer zemindars would perhaps be found more efficient than the money-lenders of humbler means, who are calculated to acquire under the Bill the rights of occupancy and the status of settled ryots. These considerations probably have not escaped the authors of the measure. But in that case their only justification would be the laudable desire now to redistribute the property of zemindars between the favourities of the day—the settled ryots—just as they leave it to their successors to do the like by those favourities a generation hence.

The grandest panacea, however, for all existing evils with these Indian statesmen is "to take up the question of introducing throughout Bengal the system of village records and field surveys, commencing with Patna Division."§ This was written on the 21st of March 1882. On the 17th of August the Secretary of State, while admitting the advantages of the measure (of course only from an *ex parte* statement of facts), could not after all "avoid "the apprehension that the difficulties may prove greater than the Government of India anticipate."‖

Some enquiries, it seems, have been subsequently instituted. And we find Mr. Finucane reporting on the 10th February, with reference to a small tract of land called No. II.—

"That the number of (rent) rates varies in one village from a maximum of *ninety-five* to a minimum of four, and that the average number for eight villages is thirty-four.

"That the amount of the rates varies from a maximum of Rs. 10 (=1£) to a minimum of 10 annas (15 pence) in the same village, and for all eight villages from Rs. 15 (£1 10*s*) to two annas (3*d*.) per (unit of) 3,600 square yards."§

Another officer reports of the tract to which he was deputed:—

"There was no evidence to prove that the rents of those estates had varied since the permanent settlement. The proprietors of 54 villages on being called on to produce the papers whence present and former rates of the lands in their possession could be ascertained have field petitions" saying "that they had no [such] papers."‖

Even Mr. Ilbert has had to confess his "apprehension that in many parts of the country the framing of a table of rates will be impossible." He also adds, "that in many instances the mere framing of a table of rates will not suffice to settle the disputes between landlords and tenants." But, nothing daunted, he has, "to provide a remedy," inserted in the Bill a chapter which is entitled,—"Of the settlement of rents by a Revenue officer."¶ The revenue officer has, however, had to be empowered to "decide questions which more properly appertain to the jurisdiction of the civil courts, and ought not to be finally decided by any other authority."** Therefore, again, to civil courts the litigants are directed to go.

What measures will be hereafter necessary to undo all this mischief the future alone can say.

* Tupper's note p. 175.
† Board's Memo., p. 18.
‡ Abstract, p. 105.
§ Correspondence, p. 44.
‖ Correspondence, p. 56.

No. 972 T. R., dated Darjeeling, the 27th September 1883.

From—A. P. MacDonnell, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am desired by the Lieutenant-Governor to address His Excellency the Governor-General in Council on the subject of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, which was forwarded with your letter No. 11C. of the 16th March 1883. The Government of India have already been advised of the publication of translations of the Bill in the *Bengali* (1), *Behar* (2), and *Urya Gazettes* (3), on the dates mentioned in the margin, and I am now to say that, with a view to give as wide publicity as possible to the proposed measure, copies of the Bill, in English, and in the Bengali, Urya, and Hindi vernaculars, were made available to all public bodies and private individuals throughout these provinces. Full publicity has thus been given to the Bill, and the result is apparent in a vast quantity of careful and detailed criticism, which cannot fail to have an effect in moulding the ultimate form of the measure. Copies of the various reports and memorials received by this Government during the last six months in connection with the Bill have been from time to time forwarded to the Government of India; but I am to take this opportunity of submitting in a collected form all the more important correspondence which has passed between this Government and those interested in the subject since Mr. Rivers Thompson assumed his present office in Bengal.

(1) 24th April 1883.
(2) 4th May „
(3) 17th „ „

2. It has been recognised that the Report of the Rent Commission, in itself a most exhaustive State paper, was subjected to a degree of careful criticism, unprecedented in the discussion of public questions even in this country. "No measure of late years," says the representative organ of zemindari interests in Bengal, "has attracted so much public attention as this. It has been discussed throughout the country, and representations have poured in upon Government from all quarters. The discussion which has followed the proposed Rent Bill is in marked contrast to what took place when the Rent Bill of 1859 was passed. The only representation of any note which was then submitted to Government came from the British Indian Association; but even that vigilant body did not then show sufficient activity in the matter. It contented itself with submitting a memorial to the Legislative Council. It did not then take any steps, as it has done on the present occasion, to organize public opinion on the subject. But the times have changed. The Government has now become more alive to public opinion than ever. Sir Ashley Eden has invited expressions of public opinion from all quarters. He asked district officers, both executive and judicial, to express their opinion on the Bill. He invited the public Associations to discuss the Bill. He appealed to the leading men in the districts to consider the Bill. He offered every facility in the way of discussion. He caused the Bill and the Report of the Commission to be translated into Bengali, Urdu, and Hindi, and had the translations extensively circulated. He went further, and deputed Mr. Reynolds to tap the great centres of mofussil opinion. Thus ample opportunity has been given to the public for a thorough discussion of the Bill."

Nature of criticism to which the Bill has been subjected.

3. That is an accurate description of the extent to which the Reports under notice had been subjected to criticism up to the early portion of 1881. Later in that year those criticisms were examined in Mr. Mackenzie's letter No. 849 T. of the 27th July, a valuable addition being made thereby to the literature of the subject. Afterwards the Government of India, in their despatch No. 6 of 21st March 1882, reviewed the entire discussion in its historical and economical aspects with a detail and fullness remarkable, the Lieutenant-Governor may be permitted to say, even in an enquiry which has been distinguished throughout by ability and research. It may be accepted therefore that, even before the publication of the present Bill, the information accumulated on the relations of landlord and tenant in Bengal was almost complete.

§ Letter from M. Finucane, Esq., on special duty, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, paragraph 5 (dated 10th February 1883).
‖ Baboo Parbati Churn Dey, to the Revenue Board, No. 114, dated 6th February 1883.
¶ Abstract, pp. 116, 117.
** Abstract, p. 118.

4. In a petition dated Calcutta, 1st July 1883, to the House of Commons, the landholders of Bengal and Behar, while acknowledging that the fullest opportunities had been given for discussing the original draft of the Bill, complain that similar opportunities of examining the Bill finally submitted to the Government of India by this Government had been refused. This complaint is, in the Lieutenant-Governor's judgment, unreasonable. The Bill submitted by the Bengal Government for the consideration of the Government of India and the Secretary of State embodied the modifications of the Rent Commission's original draft, which seemed to Sir Ashley Eden to be called for by the ordeal of criticism through which that draft had passed. Those modifications might not have been (as in fact many were not) accepted by the Government of India, and therefore to invite criticism on them before they had been approved by that Government would have been a waste of time. The Bill now before the Council is the Rent Commission's draft moulded into its present shape by the Governments of India and Bengal in the full light of public opinion, and this Bill has now been before the public for six months. Its publication has added to the mass of information, extant on the Rent question, a further voluminous expression of opinion on every point of principle and on most matters of detail. The opinions now expressed, indeed, are in many instances but repetitions of what had been said before; but this was to be expected, for the Bill in its main features is the natural outcome of the preceding discussions: while, even on such a wide subject as that in hand, there are limits to human inventiveness. The repetitions, however, are valuable as showing that little more is left to be said upon the subject. A few reports, indeed, are still expected from local bodies or individual officers; but the Lieutenant-Governor thinks it undesirable to postpone any longer the expression of his own views on the main points of the measure. With questions of detail or verbal emendations of the Bill he dees not propose at present to trouble the Government of India, as ample opportunity will no doubt be afforded him, during the progress of the Bill through Select Committee, of making such communications on minor points as circumstances may require.

Groundlessness of complaint of secretiveness in regard to the measure made against the Government

5. If the Lieutenant-Governor thinks it undesirable to consider minute details on this occasion, still less does he wish to follow those advocates of the zemindari party, who question the propriety of the measure as a whole. If there really be any persons who, in the face of the overwhelming accumulation of evidence afforded by the discussions of the past ten years, still question the necessity of legislation on the broad lines of this Bill, then it is quite hopeless to expect that anything the Lieutenant-Governor could say would convince them. Recent experience in these provinces has accentuated the necessity for legislation which has already been recognized most distinctly by the zemindars themselves; and Mr. Rivers Thompson therefore hopes that no time may be lost in bringing to a close a controversy the settlement of which is essential to good administration, peace, and progress in Bengal. With these preliminary remarks, I am now to state the views of this Government on the chief provisions of the Bill; and from the statement I shall make it will be seen that, while the Lieutenant-Governor must express dissent from some points of the measure as drafted, he is able to give it, subject to the acceptance of certain modifications, his earnest support.

Necessity for speedy legislation

6. In the first place I am to offer a few observations on the propriety of legislating for the whole of these provinces in one Bill, as the proposal to do so meets with some opposition. It will be within the knowledge of the Government of India that doubts on the point, suggested at an early stage of this discussion, were formulated by Mr. Reynolds in the note which is printed in Appendix IV, Volume I of the Report submitted by the Bengal Government in 1881; but Sir Ashley Eden, on full consideration of the subject, thought separate Bills unnecessary, believing that "if his proposals for basing the occupancy right on a broad and popular basis throughout the whole of the Lower Provinces met with approval, and if the improvements suggested by him in the law of distraint were accepted, the matters calling for exceptional treatment in connection with Behar would be practically reduced to two, *viz.*, the disposal of claims to *zeraat* lands, and the regulation of the procedure for the regulation of rents in kind."

Proposal to legislate separately for Bengal and Behar considered.

To these remarks of his predecessor, as well as to the arguments advanced by Mr. Reynolds and others in favour of separate legislation for Bengal and for Behar, the Lieutenant-Governor has given his careful attention; and while he admits that differences do exist between both portions of these provinces in some respects, he is not prepared to say that they are such as call for divided treatment. It is true that in Bengal the demand for legislation came, in the first instance, from the landlords, who urgently pressed for increased facilities for enhancing and realising rents, while in Behar the cry was from the ryots for protection from illegal enhancement and ejectment. It is also true that in Bengal the extent to which sub-infeudation has gone produces difficulties in adjusting the mutual relations of proprietor, tenure-holder, and ryot, while in Behar those difficulties are less developed. It is further true that in some districts of Behar the system of corn-rents is far more prevalent than in the districts of Bengal Proper. But granting all this, an examination of these points of apparent difference will show that the differences are of degree, rather than of essence; while in Bengal we have well-marked instances of the same evils which depress industry and disturb the public peace in the Patna Division. If ejectment, as a means of extorting enhanced rents, widely prevails in Behar, evidence is not wanting that a similar practice is in vogue even in the most forward district of Bengal. Does a Behar zemindar or thikadar attach the whole crop of the ryot to compel payment of an increased *jumma* or of legally irrecoverable arrears?—

the Bengal zemindar applies corresponding pressure through suits for monthly kists, or through some other legal device, in order that he may (as one recently ventured to tell a sub-divisional officer) "by hook or by crook" raise the rents and break the rates. Where Behar landlords shift their ryots from field to field (as they have admitted they do) to prevent the growth of prescriptive rights, the Bengal zemindar can apply no less potent pressure, if one may judge from the "agreements" which are registered in such widely different districts as the 24-Pergunnahs and Mymensingh. In Bengal and Behar alike the efforts of landlords are directed towards the same end—enhancement of rent, prevention of the growth of tenant-right, and its destruction where it has grown up; and if in Bengal they are not so successful in their efforts as in Behar, that is not because of any dissimilarity of aim. The same evil demands the same broad line of treatment in all portions of these provinces. To prescribe every variation of detail to suit local circumstances is not within the compass of any law; these variations must be worked out in practice by the applications of the broad principles of the law to individual cases by the courts or other authorities entrusted with the administration of the Act.

7. *Chapter I.*—The negative character of the definitions of "tenure" and "ryot" has been unfavourably critisised. The difficulties in the way of a positive definition, especially those to which the Rent Commission draw attention in paragraph 20 of their Report, are not ignored, but it is clear that the want of some definition which might afford a presumption as to the nature of the right leads in practice to serious embarrassment from which all landlords suffer. The Board of Revenue even go the length of asserting that any "rule of thumb" procedure which would enable a tenure to be distinguished even presumptively from an occupancy holding would be a great relief to landlords, and a help to the revenue administration of the province.

Necessity for a positive definition of 'tenure' and 'ryot.'

On such a question as a legal definition of this sort, the Lieutenant-Governor has much diffidence in offering any opinion; but it seems to him that there is reason for the dissatisfaction expressed with this portion of the Bill, and that a definition is more likely to avoid difficulties than the absence of any definition at all. One of the greatest difficulties to be met with in dealing with the rent question in Bengal is the question of subletting. It is possible that by accurately defining the class who, as occupancy ryots, will be entitled to sublet, that difficulty may be lessened; and, therefore, the Lieutenant-Governor would suggest that while those who retain a substantial cultivating interest in the holding should be regarded as occupancy ryots, all those owners of occupancy rights who never got possession for the *bonâ fide* purposes of cultivation, or who, having originally been cultivators, have divorced themselves from direct connection with, or responsibility for, the cultivation of the holding, should be classed as tenure-holders. It is to be remembered that the late Supreme and present High Court have declared "any tenure by title deeds or by the custom of the country, transferable by sale," to be an under-tenure (Indian Law Reports, Vol. 8, page 675), while the Lieutenant-Governor understands that the courts look on persons who have not got possession for *bonâ fide* purposes of cultivation in the light of tenure-holders (9, Calcutta Law Reports, page 449). It seems therefore to Mr. Rivers Thompson that a definition on the lines he proposes would not only be in accordance with the prevailing judicial opinions on the subject, but would also establish an intelligible demarcation line between the cultivator and the mere rent-receiver, which would hold good in the great majority of, if not in all, cases. Such a definition would also have the great advantage of classing as tenure-holders mahajans and other non-agricultural purchasers of occupancy rights, whose ryots would then become 'ordinary' ryots, saved by the provisions of the Bill applicable to their class from the worst evils of rack-renting, and capable of acquiring occupancy rights in course of time.

Objects at which a definition of those terms should aim.

In making this suggestion, the Lieutenant-Governor is not unmindful of the objection that it would tend to increase indefinitely the chain of middlemen between the proprietor and the actual cultivator. The increase, however, would be but nominal; for the non-cultivating occupancy ryot is already in fact a middleman, while middlemen, divorced from all connection with tillage, are rarely in these provinces, owing to the pressure of population on the soil, recruited from the cultivating classes. Besides, even if middlemen are created, the condition of the actual cultivator under them would be better (if the proposals which the Lieutenant-Governor will subsequently make be accepted), than under rack-renting occupancy ryots, who are middlemen in all but the name. Mr. Rivers Thompson is also not forgetful of the probability that such a definition as he proposes would meet with some opposition in portions of deltaic Bengal; for instance, where certain classes claim the *status* and immunities of tenure-holders, while exercising over under-tenants the power and privileges at present enjoyed by occupancy ryots. These classes would oppose a formal definition which would curtail the power they claim to exercise; and it is only right to say that their opposition seemed so formidable to Sir Richard Temple that, notwithstanding the existence of judicial decisions declaring these classes to be tenure-holders, he deemed it imprudent to provoke it by affording any protection, even in settlement proceedings, to the actual cultivators of the soil. On the other hand, the proposed definition would meet with approval, and would redress existing inconveniences in those districts where cultivation expands or contracts with the rise or fall of prices, an elastic rent system being the consequence.

Objections to such a definition.

A positive definition of 'tenure' and 'ryot' proposed.

Such being the objects to be provided for, the question is, what form should the definitions take? This question is, no doubt, difficult, the difficulty being in connection with the point whether an occupancy ryot may sublet his holding and still remain a ryot. In by far the greater portion of these provinces it is, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, safe to provide that a ryot who sublets a large portion of, if not his entire holding, thus divorcing himself from actual cultivation, shall be deemed to be, not a ryot, but a tenure-holder. In the less settled portions of the deltaic and frontier districts, however, subletting is the usual procedure for reclaiming land, and is rather a method of *ryotti* cultivation than an evidence of sub-infeudation. In such districts, therefore, subletting of the entire holding should not operate to convert the lessor into a tenure-holder, but should be deemed consistent with the *status* of a ryot. Bearing these considerations in view, the Lieutenant-Governor submits for the consideration of the Council the following definitions which are based on those contained in the Rent Commission's Report:—

(*a*)—A tenure means (1) a rent-paying interest in land subordinate to the interest of a proprietor and superior to that of a ryot; (2) a rent-free interest in land when a rent-paying interest in the same land exists between the proprietary interest and such rent-free interest; (3) a revenue-free or rent-free interest in land when no rent-paying interest exists between such revenue free and rent-free interest and the proprietary interest. A tenure includes an undertenure.

Illustrations.—A patni, dar-patni, or se-patni interest is a tenure. An ijara or dar-ijara is a tenure. An occupancy holding, which the owner does not cultivate as ryot, is a tenure. A valid bramhotur is a tenure. A lakhiraj holding, included in a revenue-paying estate and not entered in the register of Revenue-free lands, is a tenure.

(*b*)—A ryot or tenant means a person who cultivates land, or who occupies land for the purposes of cultivating it, or bringing it under cultivation. A person cultivates land or brings it under cultivation within the meaning of this definition, when cultivation is carried on by himself, or by the members of his family, or by his servants, or by hired labour, or by subletting a part while continuing to carry on cultivation by one or more of the preceding means in a moiety of the land.

Provided that by order duly published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, the Local Government may declare that cultivation as a ryot may be carried on within a tract to be specified in such notification by subletting the whole of the land, and may suspend or withdraw that order, and such declaration shall have the force of law.

Illustration.—Cultivation of the whole or part of an occupancy holding on the terms of a division of produce between the occupancy holder and the actual cultivator, is cultivation under a sub-lease.

(The latter illustration is meant to provide for those cases which, judging from experience, would probably be numerous, in which mahajans having bought up occupancy rights would let a portion of the land on a *nukdi*, and the remainder really on a *baoli* tenure, but ostensibly on a contract fixing portion of the produce as the wages of labour.)

I am to propose below that landlords be allowed a more summary procedure for collecting rents from tenure-holders than from ryots, while non-occupancy ryots renting land from tenure-holders be granted a more beneficial *status* than *kurfas* or under-tenants can enjoy. It is to be hoped that by these means the interests of the landlords on the one hand, and those of the actual cultivators on the other, will jointly operate in the direction of classifying as tenure-holders all owners of occupancy rights who do not actually cultivate the soil; and further that the limitations imposed on the powers of tenure-holders to rack-rent, to which reference will be made later on, will discourage the growth of the class.

CHAPTER II.

Distinction between ryotti and khamar land.

8. The provisions relating to the distinction between *khamar* and *ryotti* lands have been subjected to a good deal of criticism, the outcome of which is to confirm the Lieutenant-Governor's belief in the usefulness of those provisions, especially in Behar. It may be conceded that the chapter is not so much required in Bengal as in Behar, and that there is truth in what some critics of the measure say, that if in Behar landlords strive to absorb *ryotti* lands into *khamar*, in Bengal ryots strive to convert *khamar* into *ryotti*. In either case, however, it would seem that some provisions, such as the Bill contains, are necessary; although the Lieutenant-Governor is not prepared to say that, if enacted, they will be found as necessary, or made as much use of, in Bengal Proper as in Behar. The requirements of particular districts will, however, be sufficiently met by the discretion with which section 7 of the Bill vests the Local Government. Undoubtedly the chapter may be needed from time to time in particular tracts in Bengal, where it would prove an useful adjunct to some other provisions of the Bill; but it would probably be unnecessary to enforce it on any large scale in Bengal Proper, if landlords do not abuse their power of pre-emption by converting *ryotti* into *khamar* land. This point will be dealt with later on.

Proposals to recognize an increase in khamar land examined.

Some critics of the Bill, while admitting the necessity for the chapter, especially as regards Behar, desire to modify it so far as not to absolutely limit for ever the stock of *khamar* land. Some would allow it to be increased by the absorption of *ryotti* land; others by the reclamation of waste lands and by alluvial accretions; and a few, referring to local peculiarities of tenure, would class as *khamar* such lands as the *utbundi* lands of Nuddea. On the general principle whether *ryotti* land should be absorbed into *khamar*, the Lieutenant-Governor entertains a decided opinion in the negative. Without wishing to reduce the existing stock of the landlord's *khamar* or *zeraat* land (in which it should be distinctly understood that the lands for instance, known as indigo *zeraats*, which are essentially ryotti, are not included), Mr. Rivers Thompson believes that every consideration of law of experience, and of expediency, is against its extension. It has been affirmed that *khamar* was originally the waste unreclaimed area of the village which the zemindar was permitted to cultivate by contract for his own advantage during the term of his revenue engagement with the Government of the day, but which, as cultivators settled on it, became part of the *ryotti* land of the village. However this may be, the fact is indisputable that under the Permanent Settlement Regulation (VIII of 1793, sections 37 to 39) no land was recognized as *khamar* which was not such on the 12th August 1765, the date of the grant of the Dewani, and there is no law recognizing the creation of *khamar* land subsequent to that date. These facts afford a sufficient answer to the charge of an infringement of ancient rights, which is brought against the present proposals to define the limits of *khamar* land; and itmay be added that from the facts established in other countries, of the clear line of distinction between demesne and tenemental lands, analogies* might be drawn in favour of thost provisions of the Bill.

If, however, it be inexpedient to permit the increase of the *khamar* area by the absorptiou of *ryotti* land, can the same be said of an increase through reclamation of waste lands, alluvial accretions, or lands subject to special conditions of cultivation. In the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, the prohibition should hold good here too. In those ditricts where large waste areas still exist, and where there is no customary right of pasturage or easement involved, the faculty of converting waste into *khamar* might perhaps be conceded without any immediate loss to the community at large; though, looking to the over-growing importance of emigration from the more crowded tracts to those wastes, there would be ultimate loss and difficulty. In those districts, however, where the village wastes are the only pasture grounds, the case assumes a different aspect, for admittedly one of the most crying wants in these provinces is the provision of sufficient pasturage for cattle. While our Forest Department is unsuccessfully struggling with the difficulty of providing fuel and pasturage reserves that manure now used as fuel may be liberated for agricultural uses, and cattle preserved for husbandry, it would surely be unwise to hasten the absorption into the cultivated area of such limited pasturages as still remain by any such incentives as the proposals in question are calculated to afford.

It is stated by some that local custom usually classes *churs* as *khamar*, and that such a custom ought to be recognized; but the Lieutenant-Governor must say that he does not see on what basis of right su ch a custom, which is opposed to positive law, could be defended. The principle guaranteed by section 4, Regulation XI of 1825, that a ryot or "any description of under-tenant whatever" has a right to an accretion to his holding, would, if properly pleaded, dispose, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, of many such "customs" in a court of justice. It is well known that *churs* and alluvial accretions form large tracts of country, especially in the deltaic districts. Many of these churs are inhabited by an industrious class of resident ryots; and any custom, even if legal, which would deprive them of agrarian rights, would be indefensible on grounds of public policy or justice to individuals, and a fertile source of embarrassment to Government.

Finally, in reg ard to *utbundi* lands, the Lieutenant-Governor does not see that any exception to the general rule is needed. As far as he is aware, the *utbundi* tenure is only special as regards the system on which the rent is paid, and does not affect the legal attributes of the land. It is not so much that one ryot cultivates one *utbundi* holding one year, and a different ryot another year, as that rent is paid only on the extent of land actually cultivated for the year, and by measurement at harvest time according to the actual outturn of the crop. The Lieutenant-Governor understands that prescriptive rights of occupancy under Act VIII of 1869 are now actually acquired in these *utbundi* lands, and he would not by any provision impede the growth of such rights.

CHAPTER III.

Objection to classing ryots holding at fixed rates as necessarily tenure-holders. Registration of tenures.

9. The Lieutenant-Governor is disposed to agree with those who object to classing tenants at fixed rates as necessarily tenure-holders. He would prefer to apply to them the definition already given classing them as tenure-holders or ryots as they fall within the definition of either. Mr. Rivers Thompson also agrees with the representative Associations in thinking it undesirable to retain section 28 of the Bill. Tenure-holders are, as a rule, well able to look after their own interests, and they have, in section 32 of the Bill, a means provided of compelling registration should they prefer not to await the landlord's action under section 33. It is unlikely that a tenure-holder desiring to register a transfer would be deterred from applying to the landlord under section 27 by any of the causes which may deter a ryot from tendering payment of rent. The introduction of the revenue officer, therefore, in these proceedings is unnecessary; and as the double procedure would be embarrassing, the section may well be omitted, and the same facilities to compel registration afforded to both the tenure-holder and his landlord. Parties should go to the court where they will get final relief, unless there be a distinct advantage to be gained by a departure from this rule. The omission of section 28 from the Bill would involve modification in section 35. The words from "and determine" to "under section 27" might be omitted, and "Local Government" substituted for "Board of Revenue" in the first line.

* Reports from Her Majesty's Consuls, Parts I—V, 1869-70. See also Mr. Justice Field's "Landholding, &c in various counties."

CHAPTER IV.

Incorporation in the Bill of the procedure for sale of patni taluks.

10. The Lieutenant-Governor approves of the principle of including the law for the sale of patni taluks in the Bill, as it is essentially a part of the law of landlord and tenant in these provinces, and as its provisions may be advantageously extended to some other classes of tenures besides those distinctively known as *patnis*. He sees no force in the objections made to this course; for there is no question of altering the substantive provisions of Regulation VIII of 1819, or of modifying it in any points of principle, or except on a few, and those unimportant, points of detail. If, however, the Regulation be now included in the Bill, it is for consideration whether the whole law should not be worked into the body of the Bill, instead of being relegated in part to a schedule. This would bring into one code the whole law upon the point relating to landlords and tenants.

CHAPTER V.

Right of occupancy. Definition of a 'settled ryot.'

11. This chapter brings into prominence one of the chief features of the Bill, and has naturally received much attention. The advocates of the zemindari interest object to any expansion of the provisions of Act X of 1859; but, putting extreme partizans on one side, the Lieutenant-Governor does not see that any reasonable objection is made to conferring on ryots, who have resided twelve years in the village, rights of occupancy in all lands they hold, or may hold, in that village. Considerable opposition, however, is shown to the introduction of the term "estate" into the definition, and various examples are given of the hardships which would be thereby inflicted on zemindars or tenure-holders. The basis of all the hostile criticisms on the chapter is that the "settled" ryot is not the true representative of the *khudkhast* ryot, and that, as the object of this legislation is supposed to be the rehabilitation of the *khudkhast* ryot, we go beyond the requirements of the case by introducing the "estate" into the definition, and excluding the idea of *residence* as essential to the *status* of the ryot in question. That is, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, a correct representation of the main objections to the definition, though in his own view it is untenable, having regard to what passed in 1859. It must be added, however, that, in a petition to the House of Commons, the Behar Landholders' Association go the length of asserting that the *khudkhast* ryot was altogether unknown to Behar at the time of the permanent settlement, which they say only recognised, on the one hand, proprietors of the soil, and, on the other, tenants-at-will with no rights or privileges of any description. This extraordinary assertion of the extreme zemindari view of the permanent settlement has for its sole foundation the facts that the rule regarding the cancellation of *khudkhast* ryots' pottahs contained in the second clause of section 60, Regulation VIII of 1793, did not apply to Behar, and that the Court of Directors in 1819 expressed an opinion that zemindars were entitled to eject *hereditary* ryots on refusal to pay even exorbitant rents.

Erroneous views regarding the *status* of Behar ryots contained in the Behar Landholders Association's petition to Parliament.

It would be tedious to enter here on an examination of the permanent settlement with a view to correct the serious misapprehensions of its nature and effect into which the Behar Landholders' Association have fallen. Such an examination will be found on pages 97 to 108 of the Papers on the Working and Amendment of Act X of 1859, which have recently been republished by the Government of India; and here it will be sufficient to say that the position of Behar zemindars at the time of the permanent settlement, so far from being the independent one now claimed by the Behar Landholders' Association, was such as to justify Mr. Shore in speaking of "the very degraded state of the proprietors in Behar compared with those in Bengal. The former, unnoticed by Government and left at the mercy of the *amils*, have in fact considered themselves proprietors only of tithe of their real estates, and assured of this when dispossessed, they have been less anxious to retain a management, which exposed them to the chance of losing a part of what they received without it." And, again, "the system of management adopted in Behar for so many years having been calculated to destroy all ideas of right in the proprietors of the soil, beyond their admitted claims to a tithe of their proprietary right, they consider all besides this at the discretion of the Government." (Minute of September 18th, 1789). The true reason why section 60, clause 2, Regulation VIII of 1793, did not apply to Behar was that written pottahs had obtained a currency in Bengal which was unknown in Behar, where the *baoli* rent system and verbal agreements had prevailed up to the latter part of the last century; that accordingly provisions for dealing with collusive pottahs, which were of use in Bengal, would have been out of place in Behar, and that the same stringent rules required to protect ryots against the powerful landholders of Bengal were uncalled for in the case of the powerless zemindars of Behar. "In Behar," says Mr. Shore, "the variations in the demands upon the ryots are not so great as in Bengal; the system of dividing the produce (*i.e.*, the *baoli* system) affords a definite rule whenever that prevails; and the regulations need not be so minute as those proposed for Bengal." (See paragraph 145 of the Minute already quoted: also Harrington's Analysis, Vol. III, p. 441). If the Behar Landholders' Association had consulted the official literature on the subject, they would have been saved from the error of thinking that Behar ryots were held to have no rights by the framers of the permanent settlement. The whole of that literature proves beyond doubt that the ancient usages of the people were, at the time of the permanent settlement, less obscure in Behar than in Bengal; that the true position of zemindars as removable revenue collectors was less open to dispute: that the cultivator's right to hold his land as long as he paid the authorised rent was less questioned; and that even the *paikhast* ryot was less known, the village margin of waste land being greater in Behar than in Bengal.

If the Behar Landholders Association's appeal to section 60, Regulation VIII of 1793, be unfortunate, their reference to the Court of Directors' Despatch of 1819 is not less so. So

far from stating that in 1793 zemindars had unlimited powers of ejectment and enhancement over all classes of ryots, as the Association assert, that Despatch is concerned with proving exactly the reverse, as is shown by the following passage from the 13th paragraph opening the discussion of "the Rights of the Peasantry":—"Although the zemindars with whom the permanent settlement was made are, in the regulations respecting that arrangement, declared to be 'actual proprietors of the soil'; although their zemindaris are called landed estates, and all other holders of land denominated their under-tenants; and although, as we shall have occasion more particularly to observe in the course of this Despatch, the use of those terms, which has ever since continued current, has in practice contributed with other causes to perplex the subject of landed tenures, and thereby to impair, and thereby to destroy, the right of individuals, yet it is clear that the rights which were actually conferred on the zemindars, or which were actually recognised to exist in that class by the enactments of the permanent settlement, were not intended to trench upon *the rights which were possessed by the ryots*" (the italics are the Lieutenant-Governor's). The whole tenor of the Despatch goes to show that undoubtedly the peasantry in 1793 had rights which neither the Government of the day did, nor could, alienate from them; and the passage which the Association qucte, apart from its context, merely states as an "unavoidable inference" that zemindars "are authorized by the existing law (*i.e.*, by the law as understood in 1819) to oust hereditary ryots." Keeping in view the unforeseen effect on tenant right of the legislation subsequent to 1793, particularly of Regulations V of 1794 and VII of 1799, it will be seen that the Court of Directors in the passage quoted by the Association were in fact not referring to the permanent settlement at all, or to ryots' rights under it. And of this (if further demonstration on the point is to be given) the Behar Landholders' Association might have satisfied themselves by going a little beyond the quotation they make from the conclusion of the 53rd paragraph of the Despatch, to the commencement of the 54th. The 54th paragraph of the Despatch of 15th January 1819 runs thus:—"In the consideration of this subject it is impossible for us not to remark that consequences, the most injurious to the rights and interests of individuals, have arisen from describing those with whom the permanent settlement was concluded as actual proprietors of the land. This mistake, for such it is now admitted to have been, and the habit which has grown out of it in considering the payment of the ryots as rent, instead of revenue, have produced all the evils that might be expected to flow from them. They have introduced much confusion into the whole subject of landed tenures, and have given a specious colour to the pretensions of the zemindars, in acting towards persons of the other classes as if they, the zemindars, really were, in the ordinary sense of the words, the proprietors of the land, and as if the ryots had no permanent interests, but what they derive from them * * * * * * *

It is fortunate, however, and must not be forgotten that in the same Regulation in which the Bengal Government in 1793 conferred rights upon the zemindars, apparently inconsistent with the rights of the cultivators of the soil, it reserved to itself the full power of passing such laws, as from time to time might appear necessary for the protection of the rights acknowledged to be vested in the ryots."

It did not of course require this demonstration to satisfy the Government of India that the views expressed by the Behar Landholders' Association, on the status of zemindar and ryot in Behar in 1793, are incorrect; but the Lieutenant-Governor has thought it right that the expression of such erroneous views, by an influential body of land-owners in a petition to Parliament, should not be allowed to pass uncontradicted.

The definition of a 'settled' ryot as contained in the Bill further justified.

Returning to the objections which have been raised to the definition of a "settled ryot," the Lieutenant-Governor starts with the fullest acceptance of the principle enunciated by the Famine Commission, that it is "desirable for all parties that measures should be framed to secure the consolidation of occupancy rights, the enlargement of the numbers of those who hold under secure tenures, and the widening the limits of that security." This principle finds a fitting recognition in the constitutional acknowledgment made by the Bill that the proprietor's interest in the soil is not an absolute or exclusive one; but that, as Lord Hastings' Government admitted in their letter of the 7th October 1815, to the Court of Directors, the permanent cultivator has an "established hereditary right in the land he cultivates so long as he continues to pay the rent justly demandable from him with punctuality." This position has the Lieutenant-Governor's fullest approval as being in accordance with the ancient custom of the country, and never superseded by any act of active legislation. The customary law of these provinces being such, the question remains whether the village in which the cultivator lives should limit and bound his rights, or whether, having once been admitted by the landlord to permanent cultivation in one part of his estate, he should not be deemed entitled to similar privileges in other portions which lie outside the village in which he may actually reside. To the question thus raised, the Lieutenant-Governor would give an affirmative answer. The interests of the community require as large an extension of fixity of tenure as is consistent with the rights of the zemindars, and the only rights which can be conceded to zemindars upon the point are those of receiving fair rents, and of assuring themselves that the persons they admit to permanent residence and cultivation within their estates are persons of good character and likely to make solvent, industrious tenants. Once assured on these points, the proprietor of an estate can have no reasonable justification for refusing to an approved tenant cultivating rights in one portion of his zemindari which he has granted to him in another. It must be remembered that the proposal under consideration has been brought forward in consequence of the evils caused by the action of the zemindars themselves in shifting their ryots from land to land to prevent the accrual of a right which the earliest Regulations recognised, and Act X of 1859 distinctly affirmed.

On this question the Lieutenant-Governor would say that perhaps too much importance has been attached to the fact that the term *khudkhast* connoted, or is believed to have connoted, the idea of residence in the village in which the ryot's holding lay. The early discus-

sions upon Act X of 1859 show that residence, though generally, was not always a condition of occupancy; and at any rate it should be borne in mind that we are not now seeking to rehabilitate the *khudkhast* ryot in exactly the same status which obtained in 1793. The reasons for this are obvious. The period between 1793 and 1859 was one in which the power of the landlord had grown beyond controllable limits, and exercised an almost paramount influence dangerous to public stability and order. It was in such a state of things that the law of 1859 was passed; and as regards the position of the main body of the cultivating classes, the doubts and difficulties of the situation (which had arisen from the effacement of the ryots' rights and privileges by unchecked zemindari influence and independence) were solved by the declaration of a 12 years' occupancy as evidence of prescriptive title, that term being adopted in the Act absolutely and *without reference to residence*.

Even if Act X of 1859 had not thus introduced a "new departure" in the land law of Bengal, the changes of a century, and the indeterminate limits of villages at the time of the permanent settlement, forbid that we should go back now to the consideration of a state of things which existed nearly a century ago. It is, in fact, impossible to do so, for the circumstances and conditions of the country are different; and all we can hope to do is to place the settled ryot of to-day in a position analogous to that occupied by his prototype. One of the privileges of the *khudkhast* ryot was to hold fresh land in the same village on the same tenure as the old; and as, in those times, there was a large margin of waste in all villages, the resident cultivator had the fresh land at his door. There is now but little margin of waste in any village of the settled districts, and therefore the ryot, if he wants to add to his holding, cannot always succeed in doing so. That he should, however, if successful in his quest (and he can only succeed with the consent of his landlord), hold such additional land in the same estate, by the same title as his original holding, is only a rational development of an old customary law of the country to suit modern wants.

Definition of a settled ryot further considered.

In considering all that has been urged against the definition which the Bill gives of a settled ryot, Mr. Rivers Thompson regrets to find but little evidence of a conciliatory spirit on the part of zemindars. They represent, in all their statements upon the question at issue, that they, of all people, are the most anxious to retain good ryots upon their properties; but when an attempt is made to translate their expressions of good-will towards their tenantry into positive law, in accordance with the necessities of the case as demonstrated by accumulated proof, the landlords assert their right not to be bound by any law. This question of definition of a settled ryot is a case in point. It is impossible to believe that in early times, as population grew and the margin of waste land in a village diminished, a landlord's approved tenants would not have the preference of such fresh lands as existed in neighbouring villages of the estate, or that they would hold such lands on a less secure title than attached to their lands in the parent village. It must also be remembered that, owing to the disintegrating influence of time and of the law of inheritance, the village area of to-day is frequently much smaller than the village area of a century ago; and to restrict the rights of the settled ryot to the smaller area would not be just to him nor advantageous to the public, nor in accordance with the practice which has grown up under Act X of 1859. All experience shows that the settled ryot of a village, who rarely holds more than a few acres of land, and who is therefore too poor to afford two homesteads, or any care-taker but himself and children, can never go far from his home for fresh land. This can be asserted with positive certainty of all those ryots who pay less than Rs. 20 annual rent, and they number 8,925,000 out of the 9,752,000 ryots, who, according to the Famine Commissioners, cultivate the soil of Bengal. It may be asserted, if not as positively, still with much probability, of 682,000 ryots who pay rents from Rs. 20 to Rs. 50. The residuum of ryots who may thus hold land in two villages is small; and it is not to the public benefit to discourage this substantial class of ryot; while even if a ryot of that class went 20 miles away from his village for fresh land, as some zemindars fear, he will still be well known to his landlord, who, after all, may refuse him the land. The Lieutenant-Governor must then support the definition of a settled ryot given by the Bill.

Objections to throwing on resident ryots onus of proving the 'settled' status.

While, however, the Lieutenant-Governor thus agrees with one part of the definition of a settled ryot, he desires to represent an objection to section 45 as it stands, in that it throws on the ryot the burden of proving 12 years' occupation. This provision will in most cases cause delay and inconvenience, and in some cases must result in injustice. It is here a misfortune that Bengal is so absolutely destitute of a record of rights. If we had such a record the position would be without difficulties, but in its absence there is much reason to fear continuous litigation to establish or disprove claims to a right of occupancy. When under the provisions of this Bill a record of rights is established, disputes will be impossible. But in the long interval before that can be accomplished, we must seek by some addition to the section to meet the difficulty, and the only way which presents itself to the Lieutenant-Governor's mind is the adoption of the principle that the fact of residence or actual occupation, which can be readily ascertained, should afford a rebutable presumption that the ryot is entitled to be classed as a settled ryot. If the presumption be unfounded, the zemindar can readily rebut it, for all the materials of proofs are in his office or *sherista*. No one can doubt that in the vast majority of cases the presumption will not be rebutable, and that the zemindars will not question it; and thus an enquiry into exceptional cases will alone be needed to secure to the country at large the peace and contentment which must attend on the well-defined *status* of the bulk of the agricultural population. On the other hand, an enquiry into the *status* of all resident cultivators will last a generation, and will lead to unrest, if not litigation, which should be avoided.

Necessity for barring freedom of contract.

Finally, the Lieutenant-Governor has no doubt whatever as to the necessity of that provision which disables the ryot from contracting himself out of the law. On this point there is a general agreement of opinion that, in view of the power of the zemindar and the ignorance and weakness of the ryot, such contract should be disallowed. It must not be forgotten that the provisions on this subject contained in the Bill are in harmony with the principles of the Permanent Settlement Regulation (VIII, 1793), which, in sections 57 and 58, subjected to the Collector's supervision and approval not only the *forms* of leases, but also the *rates* of rent recoverable under them.

Objection to acquisition of occupancy right by grant.

12. With regard to section 48, the Government of India will perceive from the local reports that some officers oppose the retention of the section in the Bill, because, for instance, it might be made the means of depreciating the value of an estate sold for arrears of revenue. To this view by itself, the Lieutenant-Governor does not attach much importance, because the establishment of a substantial peasant proprietary should enhance, and not depreciate, the value of an estate. There are risks, however, connected with the concession of such a power, inasmuch as it might be used as a means of bargaining by zemindars with parties whom they wished to favour on receipt of valuable consideration, and of defeating the accrual of the right of occupancy of the rightful cultivator who may have been in possession for 10 or 11 years. Mr. Rivers Thompson agrees with the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds in thinking that the occupancy right, being inherent in the *status* of the ryot, is not the landlord's to grant; and, further, that no necessity has been made out for introducing into the Bill a principle which is foreign to the law of Bengal.

Acquisition of occupancy right in khamar land.

13. The objections to section 49 are numerous, and the Lieutenant-Governor is disposed on the whole to admit their validity, the more so as he is in favour of preventing the absorption of *ryotti* into *khamar* land. In the course of time, when *khamar* lands have been surveyed and registered, there will be no difficulty in maintaining the distinction between the two classes of land; and, in the Lieutenant-Governor's view, it would be advantageous to encourage the retention in the possession of zemindars of such demesne lands as they now hold. Under the existing law as interpreted by the courts, the Lieutenant-Governor understands that, if not barred by the landlord, rights of occupancy may be acquired in *khamar*; and he would not interfere with this state of things. With this view Mr. Rivers Thompson would suggest the addition of the words "or from year to year" after the words "fixed period" in the sixth line.

Incidents of occupancy rights generally.

14. Coming now to section 50, I am to say that, while no serious objections have been made to clauses *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, and *g*, there is great and radical divergence of opinion in regard to clauses *e* and *f*. One party predicts the worst evils from the recognition of free sale and the liberty to sublet; the other says that freedom of sale is necessary to the ryot's prosperity, while freedom to sublet cannot be prevented. No attempt is made to reconcile conflicting interests; and even the British Indian Association, the leading exponent of zemindari views, forget the admission deliberately made in their letter of 20th November 1878, that with proper safeguards they had "no objection to the proposal that the transferability of the occupancy tenure, restricted to the cultivating class, should be recognized by law."

Transferability of occupancy right by sale.

There can be no doubt that the questions of free sale and subletting are intricate and difficult, and that the welfare of the ryots in these provinces is greatly dependent on a true solution of them. The key, however, to such solution is, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, given by the Famine Commission when they say: "Though, on the whole, we regard the general concession of the power of sale of these rights to be expedient, and ultimately almost avoidable, the immediate course to be followed by the Government must, no doubt, be to a great extent governed by local custom. Where the custom has grown up, and the tenants are in the habit of selling or mortgaging their rights in land, it should certainly be recognized by the law; but where it has not, it may be questioned whether the law should move in advance of the feelings and wishes of the people." The question, then, which the Lieutenant-Governor has to answer is this: Has the custom of free sale of occupancy rights attained such a growth and stability throughout these provinces that it may now be safely recognized by law?

Having given the matter his most careful attention, the Lieutenant-Governor believes that the weight of argument and fact is in favour of legislation in the direction indicated by the Bill; and he accordingly would recognize the transferability of the ryot's occupancy right throughout these provinces. It may be accepted that freedom of transfer was not an incident of the *khudkhast* ryot's holding; and the Lieutenant-Governor is not unmindful of the fact that in Jhansi, in the Deccan, to some extent in the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and possibly in other parts of India, free sale has had evil results on a thriftless peasantry. If he had to deal with the question as one of mere theory, Mr. Rivers Thompson would probably not remain uninfluenced by its historical aspect, and by the dangers of vesting a population with transferable rights of property before habits of thrift among them had been fully confirmed. But the Lieutenant-Governor has here to deal with a question, not of theory, but of actual practice. It is here not a matter of "introducing a source of temporary prosperity," and encouraging an "increase of thriftlessness on the one hand, and of greed on the other," as was the case in the Deccan, but of confirming and recognizing a growing custom, to which the needs of the country have spontaneously given birth, and which has so far produced no evil results.

Statistics of sales of occupancy right.

It is true, indeed, that the Behar Landholders' Association, in the petition to Parliament which has been already noticed, assert that "in Behar there is no such custom (as sale of occupancy rights), nor is it even pretended that there is such a custom." That assertion, however, is certainly incorrect. It may, indeed, be said that if one point had been during these discussions more strongly insisted upon than another by Behar officers, it was this—that the transferability of occupancy rights was a growing custom in Behar, of which every man in the province, who

knew anything of agrarian matters, was well aware. On page 370, Vol. II of the Rent Commission's Report, statistics are given showing that 410 occupancy rights, *exclusive* of 445 *guzastu* tenures, were sold in Behar courts, *in execution of decrees*, during the single year 1878-79. That fact alone, which should have been within the knowledge of the Association, sufficiently refutes the assertion made in the petition to Parliament; but in order still further to demonstrate its inaccuracy, as well as to furnish the basis for future argument in the course of this letter, the Lieutenant-Governer will quote the following statistics of private sales of occupancy rights from the Appendix to the published Report on the Registration Department in Bengal for 1881-82, which is the latest authoritative information available on the subject :—

Statement showing the number and value of Ryotti holdings transferred by registered deeds of sale in each Registration District of the Lower Provinces of the Bengal Presidency for the year 1881-82.

Districts.	RYOTTI HOLDINGS AT FIXED RATES.									RYOTTI HOLDINGS WITH RIGHT OF OCCUPANCY.								
	Number of transactions.	Purchasers.					Annual rent payable to landlord.	Purchase-money.	Number of years' purchase.	Number of transactions.	Purchasers.					Annual rent payable to landlord.	Purchase-money.	Number of years' purchase.
		Mahajans, traders, or money-lenders.	Zemindars. Landlord of the holding transferred.	Zemindars. Zemindar or landlord of holding other than that transferred.	Ryots.	Others, including unspecified.					Mahajans, traders, or money-lenders.	Zemindars. Landlord of the holding transferred.	Zemindars. Zemindar or landlord of holding other than that transferred.	Ryots.	Others, including unspecified.			
1	1a	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1a	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bengal.							Rs. A. P.	Rs.								Rs. A. P.	Rs.	
Burdwan	1,107	181	35	67	350	439	10,188 5 0	1,06,333	10·4	2,361	329	22	43	1,433	542	17,350 1 0	1,66,422	9·6
Bankoora	1,249	417	17	53	605	257	10,755 9 4	1,27,316	11·8	887	240	7	25	453	162	6,394 13 6	53,999	8·4
Beerbhoom	290	28	5	14	209	80	2,400 0 0	30,703	12·7	1,667	141	18	54	1,340	154	13,581 0 0	95,055	6·9
Midnapore	1,207	340	12	36	467	252	8,658 10 1	94,806	10·9	4,514	1,692	72	51	1,961	698	22,927 6 10	2,69,333	11·7
Hooghly	445	85	12	13	178	165	4,070 3 0	31,017	7·6	1,269	306	17	62	276	614	19,490 0 4	1,33,010	6·8
Howrah	860	238	10	49	143	411	10,610 0 0	2,06,318	28·5	330	68	3	13	146	105	5,217 0 0	28,358	5·4
24-Pergunnahs	1,057	220	29	106	804	1,004	37,151 10 10	2,44,938	6·5	797	93	26	40	421	321	14,866 10 9	2,33,613	15
Nuddea	894	236	19	63	335	243	14,700 7 8	84,460	5·7	553	170	16	17	198	152	7,072 0 6	40,304	5·2
Jessore	1,923	102	28	56	1,233	450	25,248 0 0	1,27,445	5	1,319	121	19	39	808	375	15,645 0 0	69,259	4·4
Moorshedabad	753	92	35	51	368	233	5,055 6 8	51,236	10·1	907	119	23	31	482	256	6,241 13 1	51,225	8·2
Dinagepore	268	11	1	2	227	17	2,129 6 0	28,405	13·3	1,202	87	4	14	978	149	10,550 9 0	1,25,410	11·8
Rajshahye	69	16	2	7	22	24	979 7 1	11,063	11·3	147	32	3	4	59	49	2,115 8 0	10,579	5
Rungpore	330	17	96	9	199	11	3,721 13 7	34,179	9·1	2,286	77	86	123	2,027	84	25,433 9 9	1,75,838	6·9
Bogra	9	2	...	2	5	...	223 0 0	3,067	13·7	316	17	...	84	193	23	2,599 0 0	17,526	6·7
Pubna	207	50	1	27	79	54	1,771 0 0	18,259	10·3	364	47	7	47	214	60	3,133 0 0	21,311	6·9
Darjeeling	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....
Julpigoree	5	...	...	2	3	...	167 0 0	125	·7	4	...	...	1	2	1	22 7 0	448	20·3
Dacca	130	23	2	28	46	36	640 6 10	22,472	35·1	1,242	79	27	61	911	166	4,406 4 7	70,439	15·9
Furreedpore	197	8	8	35	125	55	1,614 0 0	12,028	7·4	900	80	11	90	706	242	4,924 0 0	41,093	8·3
Backergunge	1,904	161	11	190	1,066	696	38,523 4 10	1,36,159	3·5	121	11	10	35	53	41	1,658 0 9	8,361	5
Mymensingh	187	20	8	42	75	37	792 4 19	18,854	23·7	649	55	25	77	731	136	4,008 11 9	56,586	14·1
Tipperah	149	27	7	20	136	31	1,515 2 0	11,622	7·6	3,046	82	7	46	2,392	716	14,329 15 0	1,31,817	9·1
Chittagong	614	40	16	43	112	417	3,995 1 1	34,968	11·7	108	5	...	8	18	90	864 12 0	9,373	10·8
Noakholly	948	73	24	435	164	506	9,710 0 0	63,082	6·4	460	34	31	153	316	65	5,425 0 0	22,981	4·2
Behar.																		
Patna	89	3	8	42	36	2	1,369 4 3	16,835	12·2	69	1	11	19	41	12	795 4 7	14,264	17·9
Gya	19	4	6	2	7	2	176 1 6	2,687	15·2	79	6	13	8	42	10	109 2 0	5,787	53
Shahabad	638	41	60	80	509	36	7,061 6 2	3,08,388	43·6	10	5	...	2	3	...	257 15 6	2,479	9·6
Mozufferpore	23	1	25	2	6	1	175 12 3	3,741	21·3	491	61	33	127	217	25	3,916 8 8	69,635	17·7
Durbhunga	97	4	3	28	40	15	883 12 9	8,706	10·5	99	16	21	21	33	5	978 8 2	7,085	10·4
Sarun	152	12	2	17	119	17	980 7 0	16,620	16·9	59	4	...	11	43	14	499 5 6	8,896	17·4
Chumparun	42	17	...	4	21	...	199 2 1	3,602	18·1	61	13	2	2	39	5	138 2 9	5,128	37·1
Monghyr	242	49	31	41	107	26	3,783 10 10	37,681	9·9	197	46	4	47	92	20	2,375 9 2	20,891	9
Bhagulpore	133	25	16	3	57	32	1,525 9 0	10,537	6·9	197	36	7	5	127	22	1,965 1 7	15,313	7·7
Purneah	3	2	...	1	...	...	185 2 0	394	2·1	889	138	4	16	733	58	7,026 14 4	69,827	9
Maldah	66	34	...	2	7	23	1,695 7 4	8,877	5·2	1,288	72	1	3	1,204	8	2,359 3 4	88,104	36
Sonthal Pergunnahs	371	103	12	6	254	...	2,732 0 0	24,168	8·8	2,982	966	16	35	1,837	131	21,516 0 0	1,56,359	7·2
Orissa.																		
Cuttack	97	18	6	14	19	39	456 3 7	9,029	19·8	7	1	1	1	1	3	9 14 1	233	33·3
Pooree	232	37	...	61	97	55	788 15 10	14,801	19·2	467	108	...	49	248	100	1,440 6 1	37,922	26·3
Balasore	53	17	...	4	19	15	229 9 8	2,733	11·9	26	5	1	3	16	4	47 7 0	747	15·9
Chota Nagpore.																		
Hazaribagh	7	5	...	...	3	...	1,300 11 6	3,934	3	11	9	...	...	5	1	350 10 9	2,499	7·1
Lohardugga	9	3	2	...	5	1	186 4 0	1,800	11·3	21	10	2	2	7	1	54 12 0	3,718	67·9
Singhbhoom	.....	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	3	...	...	1	...	2	14 10 0	144	10·2
Manbhoom	93	14	...	2	60	17	506 0 0	11,657	23·9	216	9	7	2	164	41	1,535 2 0	13,089	8·5
Grand Total	17,983	2,997	559	1,710	8,260	5,740	2,17,739 10 7	20,92,000	9·5	33,683	5,351	558	1,472	21,203	5,539	2,53,289 13 5	23,90,168	9·3

These statistics prove that not only in every district of Behar, but in every district of these provinces (except Darjeeling, where altogether exceptional conditions prevail) occupancy rights are now more or less freely sold as a matter of private agreement without objection on the landlord's part, and we know from independent evidence that many of the districts in which the custom seems most firmly established are those in which ryots are best off. It is true that about 16 per cent. of the purchasers of occupancy rights are mahajans; and this is a fact which has created misgivings as to the ultimate effect of formally recognizing the transferable character of occupancy rights. That is a danger, however, for which it is believed some provision has been made in the earlier portions of this letter, and with which I am to deal at greater length further on. Here I am to observe that it is now quite too late for landlords to object to a custom which already seems, without any opposition on their part, to have taken root in the agrarian economy of the Province.

Although, however, landlords may be out of court in their objections to the recognition of the freedom of sale of occupancy rights, this question remains—Is it desirable to give to the custom generally the formal sanction of the law, and if not generally, then to what extent? The Lieutenant-Governor has no doubt whatever that the law may recognize free sale throughout Bengal, and if he had doubts on the question as it affects Behar, those doubts would have been removed by the unanimity of impartial local opinion in favour of the proposal, and by the evidence afforded not only by the Registration statistics referred to above, but by the following figured statement of the extent to which occupancy rights in Behar were sold during the last three years in execution of decrees in the various Civil Courts :—

Sales of occupancy holdings in the districts of the Patna Division, in execution of decrees, during the years 1881, 1882, and 1883.

District.	1880.		1881.		1882.	
	Number of holdings.	Selling price.	Number of holdings.	Selling price.	Number of holdings.	Selling price.
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Patna	72	9,627	71	7,667	97	14,456
Gya	92	8,076	32	1,209	57	4,875
Shahabad	696*	11,988	924*	23,933	1,174*	10,722
Sarun	247	3,610	291	3,150	460	13,565
Chumparun	132	2,416	145	2,310	141	2,559
Durbhunga, Mozufferpore	843	13,463	1,628	15,286	1,693	22,406
Total	2,082	49,180	3,091	53,555	3,622	68,583

* Including *Guzastas*.

It may be added that in the Monghyr and Bhaugulpore districts, which, though not portion of the Patna Division, are usually considered portion of Behar, 91, 184, and 102 occupancy holdings were sold in each of the above years respectively.

It will thus be manifest that occupancy rights are now saleable in every district of Behar both as a matter of private agreement, and compulsorily in satisfaction of debts; but even had this not been so, it would have been difficult to justify, on one of the main principles of the Bill, any distinctive practice in two parts of the same Province. On a review of the whole question, then, the Lieutenant-Governor cannot but conclude that the balance of argument is in favour of extending to Behar the recognition of the right, which the circumstances of Bengal Proper not only justify, but demand. As observed by the British Indian Association in 1878, the recognition of the right of transfer would create a direct interest in the improvement of the soil, would stimulate cultivation, would tend to establish a substantial peasant proprietary, would give a valid security for the realization of the landlord's rent, and, by increasing the marketable value of the land, would lower the rate of interest when the ryot has to borrow. These are all advantages which cannot be lightly foregone; and Mr. Rivers Thompson therefore does not contest the wisdom of this portion of the Bill, the more so as its operation would be made the subject of watchful supervision.

Registration of sales of occupancy rights in zemindar's *sherista*.

While, however, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that the right of free sale of occupancy rights may now be conceded as beneficial to all parties, and, indeed, not to be repressed, he is of the opinion that the wishes of zemindars may be so far consulted as that the notices of sale prescribed by section 51 should be presented, and successions under sections 54 and 55 of the Bill registered in their offices, and a ready means of information thereby afforded them of electing or not to exercise their right of pre-emption without the intervention of the Collector in the first instance. Section 46 of the Rent Commission's Bill provided for such registration, and Section 47 provided for the levy by the zemindar of a reasonable fee. Both these provisions commend themselves to the Lieutenant-Governor, and he would suggest that they be incorporated in the Bill before the Council. He believes it is only fair to allow zemindars to levy such a fee as will cover the costs of maintaining a registering establishment, while in matters of this kind it is of infinite advantage to encourage, as far as possible, arrangements out of court. They avoid the intervention of the ministerial officers in negotiations, thus reducing expenditure; preclude an irritating cause of harassing delays; and tend to promote more friendly relations between landlords and their tenants. It is not forgotten that doubts are expressed in paragraph 26 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons as to the possibility of bringing home to the ryot class generally the details of such a system; but there are reasons for believing that the class is conversant with this system already, and that its enforcement will be in accordance with custom. To provide for cases in which the ryot might not wish to approach the zemindar, or in which he might wish to secure proof of service of the notice, provision might be made for effecting service through the Sub-Registrar, either by the post or otherwise. The Lieutenant-Governor would prefer that such service should be effected through the Registration Department rather than through the Collector or civil courts, because that Department affords cheaper facilities to the people; and, as in the majority of cases it may be

expected there will be no dispute and no wish on the landlord's side to exercise his right of pre-emption, it seems as well that the office which will register the completed transaction should also deal with its initial stages. There is, as has been already suggested, a strong, and the Lieutenant-Governor must say reasonable, objection to unnecessary interference on the part of revenue or judicial officers in private transactions; but this objection does not hold in the case of the Registration Department, which, in all negotiations of the sort, is altogether passive. Of course the Collector will be kept informed by the Registrar of all that passes in his various rural or urban offices in connection with these provisions of the law.

Objections to allowing zemindar a *veto* on sale of occupancy right.

But while advocating registration of sales in the zemindar's *sherista*, the Lieutenant-Governor does not desire to give the zemindar a *veto* upon the transaction. It has been suggested by the Commissioner of Dacca, concurring in the opinion of the Collector of Mymensing, that "the landlord ought not to be bound to register any one as his ryot who is not a *bonâ fide* cultivator;" and this proposal is in accordance with the recommendations made by the British Indian Association in their letter of 20th November 1878, to which allusion has already been made. The Lieutenant-Governor would be very glad indeed if he could see his way to adopting that suggestion, but it seems to him impracticable. The object, of course, is to prevent occupancy rights passing into the hands of mahajans; but the village mahajan is very often to some extent a *bonâ fide* cultivator of the soil, whom, on the testimony of the British Indian Association itself, it is not always desirable to exclude; while it may be fairly presumed that most landlords would waive their power of *veto* if it were made worth their while to do so. Hence a system of fines on transfers would grow up, which would have the two-fold effect of reconciling landlords to dealings with all sorts of mahajans who could best pay them, and of depreciating the value of the occupancy title to the ryot, to whose shoulders the purchasing mahajan would in time transfer the full weight of the fine. For these reasons, then, the Lieutenant-Governor must dissent from the view that a veto on sales should be allowed to proprietors, finding no justification for it in actual experience, believing that in the pre-emption sections of the Bill the zemindars have a safeguard against the evils they fear from the exercise of the right of free sale, and being convinced that a concession on this point to the wishes of the zemindars would entirely neutralize the principle of free sale.

Necessity for registration of tenures in Bengal.

Although the Lieutenant-Governor is thus desirous of affording zemindars all reasonable facilities of keeping themselves acquainted with changes in their estates without undue official interference, he is not satisfied that the registration provisions of the Bill are all that is called for by the circumstances of these provinces. If those provisions prove effectual for the purposes of the landlords they will go no way towards supplying the Executive with what it ought to possess—adequate information regarding the division and sub-infeudation of property, and the transfers it undergoes. In Act VII (B.C.) of 1876 we have such a source of information in regard to the interests of proprietors, managers, and mortgagees, and it remains to complete the chain by the addition of links which will supply similar knowledge regarding all sorts of tenures. In a later portion of this letter the Lieutenant-Governor will propose that the patni sale procedure, or some reasonable modification of it, be applied to the recovery of arrears of rent due by tenure-holders; but to render that proposal workable it is essential that tenures of all sorts should be registered. Thus, not only for the purposes of this Bill, but for wider administrative reasons, Mr. Rivers Thompson thinks that the time has come when the registration, which has been effected of proprietors' titles, should be brought lower down. This will be best done by following, with due modifications, the procedure of Act VII (B.C.) of 1876, which was worked so successfully in regard to proprietary titles; and therefore, when sufficient progress has been made with this Bill in Committee to indicate the direction in which legislation for the registration of tenures should proceed, the Lieutenant-Governor will be prepared to introduce into the Bengal Legislative Council a Bill for the purpose. For the registration of occupancy holdings, Mr. Rivers Thompson looks forward to the creation of a competent village agency, the result of a revision of the Putwari Regulations, and of a survey and record of rights which will relieve zemindars of the duty of registration, and transfer it to responsible public officers.

Before passing on from this subject of registration and pre-emption, the Lieutenant-Governor desires to draw attention to the ambiguity which arises from the employment of the term "landlord" in those sections of the Bill. It is not, of course, the intention to give to the holder of a temporary interest, such as an ijaradar, the power of pre-emption: that privilege is reserved, as the Lieutenant-Governor understands, to the proprietor or permanent tenure-holder. But the definition of landlord in section 3 (*q*) of the Bill, and the employment of the term in sections 51, 54 and 55, is not calculated to promote that intention. Wherever the word "landlord" is used in these pre-emption clauses, the Lieutenant-Governor would suggest the substitution of "proprietor or permanent tenure-holder."

Subletting by occupancy ryots.

15. Having thus expressed his opinion in favour of the unrestricted freedom of sale of occupancy rights in Bengal and Behar, the Lieutenant-Governor proceeds to consider the question of subletting, and in regard to it he at once admits that subletting by occupancy ryots is calculated to cause difficulty and inconvenience. Mr. Rivers Thompson has, however, sought in vain through these papers for any criticisms on this question which are not merely destructive, or for any practical suggestions by which subletting may be prevented or the difficulties which it occasions obviated. From the discussions which have passed, however, one fact, which is, besides, in accordance

with the Lieutenant-Governor's previous ideas, comes out in strong relief, namely, that subletting cannot be prevented either in Bengal or in Behar. We may declare it illegal and refuse its recognition in our courts, but we only thereby increase the evils of a system which, if it did not subserve some useful purpose, would not possess the vitality which it exhibits.

Subletting by occupancy ryots is undoubtedly an established custom—which has its uses, and which cannot be stopped. The question then arises—What are its abuses, and how can they be removed? The abuses of the system are summed up in paragraph 41 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons: "The power of transferring and subletting which the Bill recognizes may, in course of time, lead to a state of things in which the great bulk of the actual cultivators would be, not occupancy ryots, but under-ryots with but little protection from the law." If these fears are ever to be realized, it will not, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, be from the recognition of the custom of subletting, which is nothing new, but from the accumulation of occupancy rights in the hands of rack-renting non-agriculturists through the operation of free sale. The prevention of evil from subletting therefore depends on the probability that mahajans and non-agriculturists will not invest their money in buying occupancy rights, or, if they do, on our success in limiting their power of rack-renting under-tenants.

Prevention of rack-renting by mahajans who purchase occupancy rights.

Now, from the statistics exhibited in paragraph 14 above, there is reason to anticipate that mahajans will invest their money in the purchase of occupancy rights; and the question how to prevent the evils contemplated as possible under such circumstances in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, demands consideration. In the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion an effective way to prevent these evils is by converting all purchasers of occupancy rights, who are not *bonâ-fide* cultivators, into tenure-holders, under whom the actual cultivator will have the protection afforded by the *status* of a ryot; and this was one of the reasons which induced Mr. Rivers Thompson to propose the definitions of "tenure" and "ryot" given in paragraph 6 above. The other check upon the purchase of occupancy-rights by mahajans follows from the proposals which I am to submit under the next chapter, regarding the rack-rent limits to be imposed on ryots' rents, and the checks on exorbitant enhancements.

Objection to the provisions of the Bill attaching the occupancy right to a holding bought in by the landlord.

16. The last section in this chapter which seems to call for notice is section 56. This section has met with much opposition from zemindars, and has also been condemned by other competent critics of the Bill. After carefully considering the question, the Lieutenant-Governor must say that the section as drafted seems to him to be too drastic. Had the occupancy right been made adherent to the soil only of such holdings as the landlord had acquired otherwise than by purchase, the section would not be so objectionable as many people now think it; but even then, it would, in Mr. Rivers Thompson's opinion, be based on an unconstitutional principle. The constitutional principle is that *ryotti* land cannot, under any circumstances, be converted into *khamar*, and that when *ryotti* land comes into the landlord's possession, he should be under an obligation to let it out at the current rates of rent. The Lieutenant-Governor desires to preserve this principle in its integrity and to enforce it; and he therefore must express his dissent from the opinion (which is, however, more suggested than definitely stated in paragraph 42 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons), that a landlord may, for an indefinite period, keep such *ryotti* lands in his own hands and cultivate them through his servants or by means of hired labour. He holds to the view that a landlord should be bound to let out such land to ryots for cultivation. It might be that even as the Bill stands the zemindar would in course of time be able to recoup himself for the expenditure incurred in the exercise of his right of pre-emption by imposing a fine upon the in-coming tenant; and the matter would thus right itself. Still the Lieutenant-Governor agrees in thinking that the attachment of the right of occupancy to the soil, as in section 56 of the Bill, is founded on a wrong principle. The occupancy right is the attribute of the settled ryot, and it should not in this case be made adherent to the soil. Neither is it really necessary for the purpose in hand that it should be so, for, if the *ryotti* land acquired by the zemindar be let to a settled ryot of the village or estate, that ryot will hold it on an occupancy title at a fair rent. If it be not let to a settled ryot, but to a non-occupancy ryot, but few years should elapse before an occupancy title will accrue to him, if he be well-behaved and industrious. The Lieutenant-Governor would, therefore, modify section 56, and while insisting on the landlords letting out to ryots all *ryotti* lands of which they may become possessed by purchase or lapse of any sort, he would allow the other provisions of the Bill free play, believing that they will operate in the direction contemplated by section 56. This suggestion, however, pre-supposes, as an essential condition, that the proposal I am to make in paragraph 20 below, regarding the equalization of the *maxima* rents demandable from occupancy and non-occupancy ryots, be adopted. If a difference in the rack-rent limits for occupancy and non-occupancy rents be recognized, and the practically wide field for enhancing the latter, now allowed by section 119, be preserved in the Bill, then the Lieutenant-Governor will feel constrained to support a modification of section 56, only on the basis of compensation for disturbance on the principle stated in paragraph 24 below. When the law recognizes no difference between the limits up to which occupancy and non-occupancy rates can be enhanced, zemindars can have no great motive in opposing the accrual of occupancy rights; but when such a difference exists, as section 119 of this Bill contemplates, or the absence of any rack-rent limit would import, then there is a most powerful incentive supplied to zemindars to defeat the growth of fixity of tenure. Looking to the past history of this question, no one can doubt that zemindars would act upon that incentive. It would be always in the power of a zemindar to eject the ryot in, say, the 11th year of his tenancy; or, if he admitted him to occupancy

rights, to insist on a rent which would render the position valueless. It is to be remembered that a non-occupancy ryot, on acquiring occupancy rights, is, under section 79, not competent to sue for an abatement of his rent.

Finally it would be necessary to adopt some stronger precaution than the wording of the section presents against recusance on the part of zemindars to let out *ryotti* land of which they may become possessed; and from this point of view it might be unobjectionably enacted by way of penalty that if such land were not let to tenants under the Bill within a year from its coming into the zemindar's possession, any ryot should be authorized to demand that it be let to him. When let under these circumstances, the mere possession should invest the tenant with an occupancy right. As it stands, the section is incomplete.

Penalty on refusal to let ryotti land.

17. *Chapter VI.*—The Indigo Planter's Association strongly object to section 58 as drafted. They say that under the section as it stands it would be open to a ryot to repudiate every condition under which he held his lands at a low money rate of rent, while continuing to sit at the low rate alone. An instance from actual practice is given of an agreement made with a ryot, by which in consideration of his devoting a certain moderate quantity of land to growing indigo, the rent of his holding was greatly reduced; and it is contended that as the section stands it would be competent to the ryot to repudiate the agreement while holding at the reduced rent. Similar objections have been made from other quarters, and the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that they are reasonable. He therefore would suggest an amendment to the effect that not only the money rent, but the conditions of the holding, should remain unaltered till varied in due course.

Terms of holding to remain unaltered till changed in due course.

18. Section 59, clause (2) has met with much opposition as being in the nature of "officious legislation;" but in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion the section is based on a right principle, and is likely to prove advantageous in practice. According to the old customary law of Bengal, it was the function of the ruling power to determine what rent the ryot was to pay; and when sanctioning the Permanent Settlement, the Court of Directors expressly reserved "the right which belongs to us as sovereigns of interposing our authority in making from time to time all such regulations as may be necessary to prevent the ryots from being improperly disturbed in their possessions, or loaded with unwarrantable exactions." * The Lieutenant-Governor does not deny that the Settlement Regulation empowered zemindars to make agreements with their ryots, but it cannot be denied that all such agreements were both as to form and substance subjected by the same Regulation to official control. This control, partially relaxed by legislation, has been, in the course of time, completely ignored, until in parts of the country the ryot's capacity to pay has become the limit of the landlord's exaction. The provision under notice seeks only to re-establish a limit so that the ryots may not be "loaded with unwarrantable exactions," and it is therefore in harmony with the letter and spirit of the Permanent Settlement. Another objection to this provision is that the limit being less than that up to which enhancement might be had in suit, the tendency will be to drive people into court rather than abide by the section. It is obvious, however, that the limit affords ample scope for fair contracts in the great majority of conceivable cases. An enhancement of six annas in the rupee of rent is rarely possible now in any of the settled districts, except in the case of alluvial lands or revision of temporary settlements concluded long ago. Zemindars are only interested in the former, and for them further provisions will be suggested in paragraph 21 below.

Official supervision of enhancement of rent by private agreement.

* Despatch from Court of Directors, dated 19th September 1792.

19. The subject of the preparation of tables of rates is one to which the Government of India, on first considering this measure, attached great importance. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets, however, that he does not see much prospect of any practical results of great value coming from this part of the Bill. The general opinion is that the proposals, though good in theory, are unworkable, and that no such uniformity in rates exists anywhere in Bengal as would be needed for the basis of such a table. This view borrows considerable support from the special investigations which were made on this subject last year; and from the papers appended to Mr. Dampier's Minute of 25th June 1883, copy of which has been already submitted to the Government of India. Still Mr. Finucane's enquiries in Jessore, the success which has attended broad classifications of soil in Khoordah, and certain other information of a similar character from various portions of the country, point to the conclusion that if the provisions of Chapter VIB cannot be of general application, they may be found useful in special tracts. The Lieutenant-Governor would, then, retain those provisions with some modifications of detail, and these modifications might take with advantage the direction indicated by Mr. Dampier in his Minute above referred to, copy of which has already been submitted to the Government of India. The modifications to which the Lieutenant-Governor gives a provisional adherence are these—

Tables of rates.

"The Lieutenant-Governor, whenever such a course may seem necessary owing to existing rent disputes, to have authority to order the Revenue officers to enter upon any tract for the purpose of holding such enquiries;

"The Revenue officers to proceed to ascertain whether the circumstances of the tract are such that the preparation of a general Table of Rates is possible; and, if so, to prepare such a Table, or more than one Table if necessary;

"If the preparation of a general Table of Rates be not practicable, the Revenue officers to draw up Tables of prices of different kinds of staple produce, to be authoritatively declared as the average of prices which ruled during different specified periods, and which rule as the basis being; these Tables when approved by the Local Government to be binding on the Civil Courts for the purposes of the Act;

"An interval to be then allowed during which the landlord shall endeavour to adjust the rents of the individual ryots amicably with the help of the Table of Rates or the Table of prices framed as above;

"If he succeeds with few exceptions he may take the exceptional cases into court and the Revenue officers will hear no more of the matter;

"If his attempt on the whole is a failure, let the landlord apply for a field-by-field survey and assessment of rent by the Revenue officers;

"The cost in all cases to be distributed between the landlord and tenants, or thrown entirely on one of the two parties, at the discretion of the Revenue officers."

Such a procedure should, however, be applicable only when the Local Government thinks it undesirable to direct a settlement of rents or record of rights, and it should be liable at any time to be replaced by action under chapter XI or chapter XII.

20. Proceeding now to offer some remarks on Part C, Chapter VI of the Bill, I am in the first place to call attention to the objections which the Commissioner of Patna urges against the exclusion from the Bill of restrictions on the powers of thikadars to enhance rents. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Commissioner in thinking that the abuse of the thikadari system has been the most efficient cause of rack-renting in Behar, and he thinks the repression of that abuse is essential to the prosperity of the Province. In Mr. Rivers Thompson's opinion, however, adequate guarantees against any improper exercise of farmers' powers will be found in the provisions for the survey and record of rights, and the Lieutenant-Governor prefers therefore to trust to that radical remedy rather than have recourse to any such expedient as the imposition of disabilities on a particular class.

Proposal to restrict thikadars' right to enhance.

Section 74 reproduces with emendations the enhancement provisions of the existing rent-law, and enables the landlord to enhance on three grounds—(1) that the ryot's rent is exceptionally low; (2) that the productive powers of his holding have increased otherwise than at the ryot's *sole* expense or agency; (3) that prices have risen for reasons other than any brought about by the ryot's *sole* agency. To the first ground no objection is offered; but it would, in Mr. Rivers Thompson's opinion, be well that the second and the third grounds should be so worded as to make it clear that improvements in produce and prices, due to *combined* action among ryots, will no more justify increase of rent than improvements due to the action of a single ryot. The latter is a very rare cause of improvement, while the former—the construction or improvement of a village channel, an embankment, or a road may furnish an illustration—is not uncommon in parts of the country.

Grounds for enhancing settled ryots' rent.

In regard to section 75, the Lieutenant-Governor observes that the rule of proportion is no longer made the measure of enhancement in all cases. This is a very great concession to zemindars, and if it operates in inducing them to spend money on improvements, the results may justify the concession.

With reference to clause (*d*) of this section, Mr. Rivers Thompson thinks it convenient to consider here the prudence of introducing into the Bill any limit on enhancements, and if a limit be desirable, the propriety of fixing on one-fifth for occupancy and five-sixteenths for non-occupancy ryots.

In the first place, then, it must be said, or rather repeated, that the idea of regulating rents by a fixed proportion of the produce is not of recent growth in this country. It is of immemorial antiquity. Much obscurity exists as to what the State share of the produce was, but it seems sufficiently probable that the share, or rather its money commutation (*rebba*), taken by the Mogul Government was one-fourth, and this fourth share is pointed to as the prototype of the existing proposals on the subject. In the earlier stages of this discussion the zemindars of East Bengal, despairing of obtaining enhancements under the law, proposed that one-fifth of the produce should be allowed as rent; and the British Indian Association, improving on this proposal, suggested one-fourth. But that one-fourth was a high proportion even in the opinion of that Association is manifest from the *quasi*-official admission made by their representative organ that "if a higher rate or share (than one-fourth) be fixed for the landlord, it will trench on the very means of subsistence of the ryot." And again, "one-fourth would be too high for many parts of the eastern districts." It is beyond question, however, that the circumstances of districts in different parts of the province admit of considerable variation in this particular.

Propriety of imposing *maxima* limits on rents, and recognising separate limits for occupancy and non-occupancy ryots, examined. General considerations.

From the preceding it will be apparent that the idea of regulating the rack-rent at the present time by assigning a *maximum* portion of the produce to the landlord has been approved by the zemindars; but Mr. Rivers Thompson is free to confess that he does not look on the proposals, hedged round even as they are in the Bill, with unmixed satisfaction. As one officer puts it, "no rational rent scheme can be based on a fractional share of the gross produce;" and even if the *net* produce were taken instead of the gross, it would still be very difficult to hit on a *maximum* limit which would not be unequal in its incidence over a Province so diversified as Bengal. Another source of disquiet on this subject is the fear that the existence in the Bill of *maxima* limits may unduly stimulate that tendency to a rise in rents, which exists in every progressive community, and that efforts will be made by landlords to convert the *maximum* limit of the Bill into the ordinary measure of rents in practice. "Once," says the Behar Landholders' Association, "let Government fix a maximum rate, and no zemindar will rest until he has run up his rents to the prescribed limit."

All this said however, it must be admitted that there are large portions of these Provinces in which a maximum limit on rent cannot fail to be of advantage. Those portions are so heavily rented that it would be a source of peace and contentment to the cultivators. If they

had some idea of the limit beyond which their landlords' demands cannot pass. The Bill gives to the landlords an effective procedure for enhancement; if it also give the ryot some assurance of the ultimate limit beyond which, under that procedure, enhancement may not pass, it will probably do good. As Sir Richard Temple said, "the liability to uncertain demands must harass the ryot, must damp his zeal for improving his land, and must make him chary of laying out capital upon it." While thus giving his adhesion to the principle of a maximum limit, Mr. Rivers Thompson, however, desires very emphatically to say that if he believed the safeguards in the Bill were insufficient to keep the provision what it is intended to be—a maximum never to be passed, and but very rarely to be reached—he would prefer to abandon the provision in the Bill.

Propriety of one-fifth limit.

As regards the propriety of the exact limit of one-fifth, Mr. Rivers Thompson admits that the question is one on which actual precision of knowledge or judgment is not possible. I am, however, to say that, after carefully considering all the information of a general and special character which has been accumulated on the point, the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion is that, for the Province as a whole, one-fifth of the gross produce allows a margin for future enhancements; while it represents as much of the crop as the ryot can part with and thrive. References to the share of the produce to which in former times the State might in theory be entitled to take as an extreme measure from the cultivators are very greatly out of place in dealing with existing facts. When population was scanty, the area of culturable land practically unlimited, and the produce large from a soil not overworked, a village or estate could well afford to give to the rent-receiver a large share of that produce. But where there is no margin of culturable land at all, and where population presses so densely on the soil that it is a marvel how life can be supported, and where agriculture has, in this struggle for existence, degenerated into a mere "spoliation of the soil," the aspect of the case is entirely changed, and references to theoretical rules of crop-distribution at some early period of time become unmeaning. This is the case throughout large portions of Bengal and nearly all Behar at the present day, and if one-third was a rack-rent 100 years ago in those localities, then one-fifth is a rack-rent there to-day. And to this conclusion Mr. Rivers Thompson has been led, not merely by such considerations as those now adverted to, supported as they are by statistical information as to the growth of population which cannot be questioned, but also by the general opinion of competent authorities that the costs of cultivation have largely increased; that, owing to the absence of all improvements in the system of agriculture, the average harvest yield is stationary where it is not growing less; and that the struggle for life among the agricultural community is, the deceptive influences of a few years of unusally good harvests notwithstanding, daily becoming more severe. It may be added in this connection that Mr. Rivers Thompson has given a practical proof of his conviction upon this point in his recent orders reducing the rental which had been assessed on the Khoordah Estate.

Objections to separate limits for occupancy and non-occupancy ryots

If the one-fifth, or 20 per cent. limit, be justifiable as regards occupancy ryots, the question remains—Is five-sixteenths or 31¼ per cent. of the produce fair as regards the non-occupancy ryot? On this point I am to suggest, for the consideration of the Council, whether the provisions of section 119 of the Bill, as far as they refer to what is there called the "ordinary" ryot, do not introduce an unconstitutional and dangerous principle into the law of Bengal. In the statement made by the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds in his speech in Council, to the effect that it is not, and never has been, the law of Bengal that an occupancy ryot should hold at privileged rates, the Lieutenant-Governor concurs; and it therefore becomes a matter for consideration whether, if the one-fifth limit be fair for ryots with occupancy rights, five-sixteenths is not unfair for ryots without them. The origin of the provision as it stands is probably due to Sir Richard Temple's effort to fix occupancy rates with reference to competition rates, by giving the occupancy ryot a beneficial deduction on such rates. But the enquiries which were made in connection with that proposal showed that competition rates hardly existed, and that custom, not competition, ruled the rents of occupancy and non-occupancy ryot alike, unless where considerations of caste intervene. Recent enquiries point to the same conclusion, and it is therefore, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, a matter of doubtful expediency that a novel principle should now be introduced into the law of these Provinces, which, besides, would be calculated to lead to general enhancements of rent, which it is the avowed object of the Government to avoid. It must not be forgotten that if we call into existence two classes of occupancy ryots, one holding at higher rates than the other (and this would be the effect of sections 79, 95, and 119 of the Bill combined), the tendency will be towards an equalization of rates at the higher level. As at present advised, Mr. Rivers Thompson thinks that this is a danger which we should not run the risk of incurring, and that if a rack-rent limit is to be preserved in the Bill at all, it should be the same for both occupancy and non-occupancy ryots. He has no objection to five-sixteenths of the produce in the case of under-tenants (khurfas) who can never acquire occupancy rights; but he thinks that there is great danger to the cultivating classes in the provision of a separate limit for occupancy and non-occupancy ryots. Separate limits are tantamount to a premium on the discouragement of fixity of tenure.

I am, therefore, to say that the Lieutenant-Governor is not prepared to support those provisions of the Bill which recognize a difference between the maximum limit on the occupancy and non-occupancy rents. The longer Mr. Rivers Thompson considers this point, the more satisfied is he that these provisions are likely to cause serious injury to the best interests of the peasanty of these Provinces; while the retention of them in the Bill impedes the reasonable settlement of the question before the Council. If the maximum or rack-rent limit on

occupancy and non-occupancy rates alike be fixed at the same proportion of the produce, then, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, it would be possible to dispense altogether with compensation for disturbance, which is only useful as a check upon the abuse of the landlord's power to eject. If a landlord can only obtain from a non-occupancy tenant under the law a rent not greatly exceeding what he can get from the settled ryot, he probably will not care to eject the former, and thus checks upon his power of ejectment will be less needed. If, however, the motive for ejectment supplied by the Bill as it stands be not removed, and the same limit be not imposed on the enhancement of the rents of occupancy and non-occupancy ryots alike, then some provision must be made for compensation for disturbance as a precaution against an abuse of the right to eject. To this point I am to return further on.

Check on rack-renting deducible from equalization of maxima limits on ryot's rents.

I am here also to draw attention to the second check on rack-renting by mahajans to which allusion was made in paragraph 15 above. As long as it is in the power of a tenure-holder to exact up to 31¼ per cent. of the produce, so long will a wide field for rack-renting be provided, and the growth of occupancy rights at fair rents suppressed. But if the rack-rent limit be reduced to a reasonable limit within which a fair rent may be fixed, then remunerative cultivation by non-occupancy ryots will be possible, and the growth of occupancy rights among that class not discouraged. The discouragement will be to those who buy occupancy rights, not for the purposes of cultivation, but for subletting. They will be deterred from such investments by the fact that they cannot recover from their tenants much, if anything, more than they themselves will have to pay their landlords. In any case their tenants will be allowed a margin to live on and a fixed *status*. All this would be impossible if separate limits be preserved in the Bill. The occupancy right would then be valueless, for it would carry with it no right to enjoy any margin of profit.

Objection to subjecting accreting dearah lands to checks on enhancements.

21. Passing on to other portions of the Bill, the Lieutenant-Governor would suggest that, from the provisions of sections 76 and 78, the case of *dearah* or alluvial lands, and new reclamations, be excepted. These lands are quite exceptional in character, and need special treatment. They may be worthless this year, and most productive the next. According to custom in various parts of the country, alluvial lands are rented at merely nominal rates on formation (though they are then usually unproductive sand) in order that the ryot may establish some claim to hold them when the soil has fully formed. The full formation may be brought about by a rich deposit in a single season. It would be very hard, then, on a landlord, if he were precluded from doing more than doubling a nominal rent for such land within ten years. In the interests of landlords generally, therefore, and having full regard to what is due to ryots, the Lieutenant-Governor would suggest that partially formed alluvial accretions and new reclamations be excepted from the effect of these sections. For accretions or reclamations which are fully formed and ordinarily productive, there is no need to provide exceptional treatment.

22. To Part E of this chapter the Lieutenant-Governor has no objection, fully agreeing as he does in the policy of facilitating the conversion of corn rent into money rents. Exception has been taken to these provisions as one-sided, and it is claimed that the faculty of suing for commutation should be vested in the landlord, as well as in the tenant. Impressed with the economical disadvantages of the general prevalence throughout a district of the *baoli* system, the Lieutenant-Governor would be glad to see a system of money rents take its place, and he would make no objection to affording to both parties—to the landlord, as well as to the tenant—the facilities which the Bill now allows to the ryot alone.

CHAPTER VII.

Occupancy rights in *bastu* lands.

23. The principle which underlies this chapter seems to the Lieutenant-Governor to be that the right of a settled ryot in the homestead portion of his holding is separate from, and independent of, his right in the arable lands which he rents. Wherever the facts are as supposed, wherever the *bastu* holding is distinct from the arable holding, no objection can be taken to the section. But there are, it is understood, portions of the country where this custom does not prevail, and where the *bastu* even bears no rent, being given as a matter of course with the arable land, and therefore not separable from it. In these parts the principle of the section might, if enforced, lead to difficulties. The Lieutenant-Governor would therefore follow local custom. Where *bastu* lands are separate from the *jotes*, he would apply the section. To the cases where *bastu* lands are not separable from the *jotes*, he would not make the ryot's interest in *bastu* longer or more short-lived than in *ryoti* land. The general principles of the Bill would, of course, be applicable to both classes of land without distinction.

CHAPTER VIII.

Privileges of non-occupancy ryots.

24. As might be expected, this chapter has met with extreme opposition from zamindars, while the revenue and judicial officers who have been consulted on it seem to be divided into hostile camps. Those whose service has been mostly in Bengal Proper are against its proposals as being an innovation of an unnecessary character, while the Behar officers would accept them, provided freedom of contract between the landlord and the non-occupancy ryot be not barred. As the chapter stands, the non-occupancy ryot can only be ejected (1) for arrears of rent,

(2) for violation of the conditions expressed or implied of the lease, (3) for refusal to pay enhanced rents; and if ejected on any of these grounds, he is declared entitled to compensation for disturbance, as well as for improvements. The Behar executive officers, as the Lieutenant-Governor understands their proposals, would not limit in any way the landlord's power to eject, but in return for this freedom would give the tenant, if ejected, compensation for disturbance. They say nothing of compensation for improvements, though it appears from the earlier papers that the Behar Committee, under Mr. Halliday's presidency, were on the whole in favour of the proposition.

Objection taken to the use of the term 'ordinary' ryot.

In commenting on this chapter the Lieutenant-Governor must, in the first place, take exception to the term "ordinary," as applied to the non-occupancy ryot. All the information before this Government goes to prove that the occupancy status in these provinces is (if facts were duly recorded) the rule, while the non-occupancy status is the exception. If the term "ordinary" ryot is to be maintained, it would be more in accordance with facts to apply it to the occupancy ryot than to preserve the meaning it now has in the Bill. It would, however, be better to substitute for "ordinary" the term "non-occupancy," or "non-settled."

Compensation for improvement.

Coming now to the criticisms on the chapter, the Lieutenant-Governor conceives, in regard to compensation for improvements, that, notwithstanding all that has been said to the contrary, no reasonable dissent can be maintained from the proposition that it is desirable to give security for the invested capital of the tenant, no matter what that tenant's *status* may be. The history of the rent-question all the world over teaches this lesson, that want of such security has been a hindrance and a bar to good husbandry, and therefore politically inexpedient. It seems to Mr. Rivers Thompson that if an ordinary tenant improves his holding by sinking capital in it, he is as much entitled to compensation as if he had lent his money to the landlord on a promissory note payable on the determination of his tenancy. It is no valid objection to say, with the British Indian Association, that in this country ordinary tenants never do improve their holdings, and that the compensatory provisions of the law are therefore unnecessary. The fact may be as the Association asserts, and it is possible that for a long time no practical results will follow the adoption of the provision in question. At the same time experience proves that agricultural improvement is a plant which flourishes only in the soil of security, and it is useless to argue that because it has not flourished while insecurity prevailed, therefore it will not take root when security becomes the rule. The Lieutenant-Governor has in a previous communication informed the Government of India of the extreme importance he attaches to stimulating agricultural improvement. No means in his judgment could be more legitimate than that afforded by this provision of the Bill, which, besides, has already found a place on the Indian Statute Book in section 44 of the North-Western Provinces Rent Act (XVIII of 1873). It is unreasonable to expect a ryot to improve his holding if you do not secure to him some fruits of his capital and industry.

Compensation for disturbance.

But it is asserted if compensation for improvements to the non-occupancy ryot be in accordance with good policy and natural justice, the same cannot be maintained of compensation for disturbance. On this important question the Lieutenant-Governor must, in the first place, refer to what has been already said in paragraph 20 above on the unwisdom of legally establishing different limits on rent rates payable by settled and unsettled ryots. His belief is that the limits for both should be the same; and if his belief be accepted by the Council, he thinks that it is unnecessary to impose a check on the abuse of the landlord's power to enhance non-occupancy rents by any such provision as this of compensation for disturbance. But if on this point the Council disagree with him, and decide on preserving a limit for non-occupancy rates in excess of settled ryots' rates, then Mr. Rivers Thompson thinks that the incentive which would be thereby furnished to landlords to rack-rent and defeat the growth of tenant right should certainly be subjected to a positive check. As to what the character of the check should be, the Lieutenant-Governor's judgment is in the nature of a compromise between divergent views. He does not, on the one hand, accept as just and fair to the landlord the provisions of the Bill which entitle all non-occupancy ryots, if ejected, to compensation for disturbance; nor, on the other hand, can he approve the position that a landlord is to be absolutely free to eject with impunity a ryot, say, in the 11th year of his tenancy, who is industrious and law-abiding, and willing to conform to his landlord's reasonable demands.

Argument of identity in status of the non-occupancy of to-day and the paikhast of the times of the Permanent Settlement examined.

The uncompromising opponents of the provision in question appeal to the customary law of the country at the time of the Permanent Settlement, and to the *status* of the *pai hast* ryot at that time, in proof of their contention that the non-occupancy ryot of to-day should have no privileges beyond those which his contract with the landlord may secure to him. On this I am to say that it seems, as from the beginning it always has seemed, to the Lieutenant-Governor, that too much stress is laid throughout these discussions on arguments of an antiquarian character, and too little stress on what is politically expedient in the circumstances of the present time. Mr. Rivers Thompson believes it to be true (though it may not be universally admitted) that the *paikhast* ryot of the last century was only a "tenant-at-will," but the fact of competition then being among zemindars for ryots, and not among ryots for lands, rendered the *paikhast* ryot's condition better in many respects than the condition of a modern "tenant-at-will." In fact, if *quoad* the "tenant-at-will" the modern landlord be master of the situation, the *paikhast* ryot was usually its master

quoad the zemindar of 1793. It therefore seems to the Lieutenant-Governor that appeals to the status of the *paikhast* ryot of a century ago are calculated to throw but little light on what treatment should be accorded to the non-settled ryot of to-day. There are differences on essential points, not the least important, being that, while the paikhast ryot of the Regulations held at low rates, the non-settled or non-occupancy ryot of to-day enjoys no such privilege, but usually pays as much as occupancy ryots do.

From one point of view, however, the zemindar of a century ago may be, without any risk of dispute, said to have had the power of ejecting the *paikhast* ryot, because he had only to ask occupancy rates to assure the ryot's throwing up his holding. So far there is no doubt about the *paikhast's* holding being more precarious than the permanent cultivator's. As Mr. Colebrooke says, "the inconvenience of remote cultivation makes it necessary that he (the *paikhast*) should be at liberty to relinquish at any time the land which he uses; and consequently his own continuance being precarious, he cannot have a title of occupancy which shall preclude the landlord from transferring the farm to a resident husbandman desirous of undertaking it." If, however, the *paikhast* agreed to pay up to the pergunnah rate, which was all that could be demanded from the resident husbandman, it is very doubtful if the zemindar had the power to eject him; for in the discussions which preceded the enactment of Regulation I of 1793, the Governor-General authoritatively wrote: "Whoever cultivates the land, the zemindar can receive no more than the established rent, which in most places is fully equal to what the cultivators can afford to pay. To permit him to dispossess one cultivator for the sole purpose of giving the land to another would be vesting him with the power to commit a wanton act of oppression." (Appendix to Fifth Report.) The truth, however, is that in these days the thoughts of zemindars were directed to installing ryots, not to ejecting them. Ejectment in its present acceptation is a modern growth, and in every advancing society it is being placed under restrictions.

Notwithstanding all this, however, it cannot be denied that there has grown up a custom which our courts have recognized, under which zemindars exercise the right to eject non-occupancy ryots for other reasons than non-payment of rent; and that custom, though it now calls, in the general interest, for some modification, cannot, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, be abrogated. If there be little force in the argument that the provisions of the chapter are unnecessary because the ryots to be legislated for are few, there is, in Mr. Rivers Thompson's opinion, much force in the contention that the proposals as they stand are objectionable because they deprive the landlord of discretion as to who shall become a settled ryot in his estate, and because they virtually fine him for exercising that statutory power with which other provisions of the Bill invest him.

Lieutenant-Governor's proposals in regard to compensation for disturbance.

It seems to the Lieutenant-Governor that the circumstances of the case call for a compromise between the claims of the zemindars to eject an unsettled ryot at discretion, and the provisions of the Bill which give the ryot compensation no matter for what reason ejected. That compromise might, Mr. Rivers Thompson thinks, fairly take this form (always supposing that his earnest suggestion to equalize the limits of occupancy and non-occupancy rates be not accepted by the Council). As a landlord cannot eject a non-occupancy ryot except in execution of decree, let the Court in ejectment suits have jurisdiction to fix a fair rent, at which it shall be optional with the landlord to let the ryot sit or not. If the landlord consents to the ryot's sitting at that rent, and the ryot agree, no difficulty arises. If the landlord abides by the Court's orders, but the ryot demurs, let the ryot be ejected without compensation. If the landlord refuses to let the willing ryot sit at the rent declared fair by the Court, being within the maximum limit, then make the landlord pay the ryot compensation for disturbance. The landlord will thus retain the ultimate right of ejecting the ryot, and this is all he needs in order to get rid of a ryot for other reason than refusal to pay an enhanced rent.

CHAPTER IX.

Form of receipts for rent.

25. Sections 96 to 99 inclusive call for no remarks. In regard to section 100, it is pointed out that the form of receipt will not apply to some of the eastern deltaic districts, where the area of the holding varies from year to year with the price of produce or other causes, and where it is impossible therefore to define that area in any except the receipt which forms the acquittance for the year's demand. The adjustment of the terms of the receipt to such exceptional circumstances is a matter for arrangement, and the Lieutenant-Governor would retain for the Local Government a power to fix the form of the receipt, as circumstances may dictate, while preserving the substance.

Several critics of the Bill, among others the British Indian Association, draw attention to the provisions of section 101, and declare that they are innovations, the zamindar being "on no earthly ground bound to give" the statement in question. They would therefore omit section 101; or, if it be retained, they would make the ryot pay for the statement of account which it prescribes. The Lieutenant-Governor would, however, point out that, so far from being an unreasonable innovation, the provisions in question were, for 80 years after the Permanent Settlement, the law of the land. "Receipts for all sums received, and a receipt in full on the discharge of every obligation," were prescribed by section 63, Regulation VIII of 1793; and it was only when that section was repealed by Act XVI of

1874 that the provisions ceased to have binding force, though doubtless zamindars had ignored them. The Lieutenant-Governer considers the provisions salutary, and to the revival of them he gives his support. They will introduce no change into the existing practice in a large portion of these provinces where acquittances in full (*farkhattis* in the vernacular) are always given at the end of the year when accounts are cleared up.

Deposits of rent in court.

26. Coming now to the section regarding deposits of rent, I am to state that considerable opposition has been exhibited both by zamindars and Government officers to the provision of section 103 (*a*), which makes the ryot's *belief* that his rent will not be accepted on tender by the landlord a sufficient reason for depositing it in court. The opposition on this point is perhaps to some extent a matter of sentiment, but it is also, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, not without reason, for the withdrawal of deposits from civil courts is attended with delay and some expense, while the freedom which the section would confer on the ryot tends unnecessarily to alienate him from the zamindar. Mr. Rivers Thompson is aware of what has been written on the subject from the opposite point of view—among others by the Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds in his memorandum of 18th May 1881— ; and he observes that in the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is re-asserted that the present declaration of previous tender has become a mere form. This is, probably, in a measure, true; but it certainly is not universally true ; and the Lieutenant-Governor is therefore disposed to defer to the opinions of those experienced officers who deprecate the adoption of the section as it stands. He would accordingly be glad if means could be adopted which would discourage deposit without previous tender, while still preserving to the ryot the faculty provided by the section. This means might, Mr. Rivers Thompson thinks, be found in an adjustment of stamp duties to the requirements of the case. Deposits after tender might, as at present, be made on a stamp of the value of eight annas, but deposit *without* tender under the provisions of section 103 (*a*) might be made chargeable with a higher stamp duty. It will be remembered that under the practice current before Act X of 1859, deposits of rent in court were chargeable with stamp duty, as in suits for arrears. The suggestion thus made is no doubt open to obvious objections ; but so is the section as it stands in the Bill, and the question is therefore a choice of evils. As no very widespread; though undoubtedly some, hardships have arisen from the existing law, in which tender before deposit is essential, it seems to the Lieutenant-Governor that any extension in the ryot's favour of existing privileges should not be made unnecessarily at the landlord's expense, and should carry with them deterrent incidents to prevent abuse.

Finally there is no reason apparent to the Lieutenant-Governor why the existing jurisdiction of the civil courts in regard to deposits should not be retained. The discretion conferred by sections 104 and 106 on the officer empowered to receive deposits can be exercised as effectually by a rent-suit moonsif as by a revenue officer ; and as the civil courts will continue to exercise jurisdiction in rent suits under the Bill, there is a distinct inconvenience in establishing a dual jurisdiction in connection with the receipt and ackowledgment of rent arrears.

Rents in kind; objection to filing danabundi papers in court in all cases.

27. On part F of chapter IX the Lieutenant-Governor will only remark that it should be made clear, under section 117, that under the system called *agore-bŭtai* the landlord has a right to watch the crop up to the division, and that the ryot cannot remove the crop till division has been made. Under section 118, also, Mr. Rivers Thompson does not, with the majority of Behar offices, see what good is to come from filiug the *danabundi* papers in Collectors' officers in all cases. When the system of village agency is organized in accordance with the plan indicated in my No. 309T—R, dated 1st June 1883, the patwari and canoongoe will be the proper custodians of such papers. But until that agency is established the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that it would suffice if in disputed cases alone the *danabundi* papers should be deposited in the collectorates. To deposit them in undisputed cases would be to crowd the record-rooms with a mass of useless papers.

Application of the Bill to proprietary estates under khas management. British India Association's objection to Bill as not applicable to Government estates examined.

28. With reference to section 121, the question arises whether that section, taken with section 20, covers the case of an estate managed by the revenue authorities on account of the recusancy of the proprietors. Fair rents are, as section 121 stands, to be fixed "on the application of the landlord or of the tenant." When the State receives the rents, allowing the proprietor malikhana will it be deemed the landlord for the purposes of the section? The answer should, in Mr. Rivers Thompson's opinion, be in the affirmative, and made clear in the Bill.

In connection with this subject, the Lieutenant-Governor will notice a remark made by the British Indian Association, "that nothing would create greater confidence in the minds of the people in the justness of an Act defining the rights and obligations of landlords and tenants, than the fact that it applies equally to Government in its capacity of landlord as to private landlords" Concurring in the justice of that remark, Mr. Rivers Thompson desires to emphasize the fact, that the rights and privileges which the Bill proposes to recognise in regard to ryots generally, will, practically, be as largely enjoyed by the ryots in Government estates, as by those in estates which are permanently settled. Fixity of tenure, fair rents, and free sale, will, the Lieutenant-Governor trusts and believes, within a short period of time prevail throughout all Government estates where these advantages do not now exist. If we turn from ryots to landlords, the Lieutenant-Governor would say that the only privilege which Government retains, over and above those conferred by the Bill on zamindars, is the privilege

of the certificate procedure; and the reason why Government may fairly reserve this privilege is obvious. The certificate procedure in the hands of public officers should be safe from abuse, for there is no direct incentive to abuse it, and its exercise is subject to watchful official supervision. That is one, and in itself a sufficient reason, why a procedure for collecting rents may be given to the Government which cannot be safely entrusted to private individuals. But there is, besides, the paramount reason that the rents collected by Government are really revenue, and the procedure for enforcing payment of State dues must, in the general public interests, be more summary than the procedure for enforcing private dues. If this were not so, the ultimate result would be the employment of larger establishments, greater expenditure, and increased taxation. Thus a summary procedure for collecting the public revenue, while necessary if the government of the country is to be efficiently administered, and while not open to the objections to which a summary procedure for collecting private debts is exposed, is in the long run the easiest and cheapest for the people. Nor is this principle inapplicable in case of estates of disqualified proprietors managed by Government, for the rents of such estates include the revenue.

CHAPTER X.

Improvements on ryot's holdings. Measurement of lakhiraj lands within anestate.

29. The provisions of part A of this chapter have the Lieutenaut-Governor's general approval; but he thinks that sections 127 and 128 might more explicitly declare that where the improvement to be effected does not lie within the holdings to be benefited (as in the case of an embankment), the ryots should still have the option of effecting it. Where an improvement affects more than one holding, the landlord should serve notices on all the ryots, and ryots collectively might serve notices on their landlord. Perhaps, as under the General Clauses Act, the singular includes the plural, the use of the word ryot may be taken to mean all ryots affected; but it might prevent mistakes if the point were made quite clear.

In regard to Part B of this Chapter, dealing with the landlord's right to measure land within the limits of his estate, the Lieutenant-Governor has some doubt whether the section, as drafted, expresses the intention of the draftsman as stated in paragraph 92 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons. As the section of the Bill stands, it is questionable whether a landlord can measure a *rent-free* holding forming part of his revenue-paying estate. Under the existing law the landlord is precluded from measuring such a holding, because he is not in receipt of rent from it; this it is proposed in the Statement of Objects and Reasons to alter, but the alteration does not appear in the Bill. The Lieutenant-Governor must confess that he does not view the proposed change in the law without some misgivings; but if the law is to be altered, he would provide against the abuse of the power of measurement, and against the possible creation of disunion between the rent-free holder and his tenants, by insisting on the landlord contenting himself, except for good cause shown, with a survey of the external boundary of the tenure. This will give the area, which is all the landlord can want to know in the great majority of cases. Under any circumstances the zemindar, if so advised, could sue in the civil courts to establish his rights if he is under the belief that the lakhirajdar holds more lands than he is entitled to hold under his grant.

Inadequate provision made in the Bill for measurement of ryots' holdings.

30. Sections 134 to 137 are given as reproducing sections 176 and 177 of the Bengal Bill; but the Lieutenant-Governor does not find that section 178 of the latter Bill, which itself reproduces section 38 of Act VIII of 1869, finds any place in the Bill now under discussion. This seems to Mr. Rivers Thompson a serious omission; for many in-coming landlords, especially auction-purchasers, will find it very difficult to overcome combinations to withhold rents among their ryots, if deprived of the procedure provided by section 38 of Act VIII of 1869. The justification for the exclusion of that procedure from this Bill is the introduction of the provision for settlement of rents and record of rights. These provisions, however, are at present only applicable to disputes on a large scale ; they can only be put in motion by the Local Government, and are therefore inapplicable to such cases as section 38 of Act VIII of 1869 was intended to meet. Accordingly, the Lieutenant-Governor trusts it will be found possible either to amplify this part of Chapter X so as to include the provisions of the existing law regarding the measurement of land when it cannot be ascertained who are the persons liable to pay rent, or so to extend the provisions regarding record of rights as to enable the Government to apply the procedure to suit the wants of individuals.

Merger.

31. In regard to the doctrine of merger, the Lieutenant-Governor has nothing to say except that, as the doctrine is novel, it may be made clear that if a landlord buys an occupancy right under chapter V of the Bill, the occupancy right is extinguished, and the land becomes part of the ryoti land of the estate. The provisions regarding merger probably imply this, but it would be well by an explanation to make the matter quite plain.

Suspension and remission of revenue or rent on failure of crops.

32. Here I am to take the opportunity of stating that the Government of India has recently asked this Government whether it would not be desirable to introduce into the Tenancy Bill a section similar to section 23 of the North-Western Provinces Rent Act (XVIII of 1873). The question had already attracted the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor, and he is now prepared to say

that, while he has no objection to the introduction of such a provision into the Tenancy Bill he considers that it will not be as productive of good results in Bengal as in Upper India. In the first place it must not be forgotten that by far the greater part of these Provinces is permanently settled, the revenue bearing to the rental a proportion of one to five, if not less; and in the next place that there is usually a long chain of subinfeudation between the zemindar and the ryot. No zemindar, with a small revenue charge and a large rental, will consent to remit rent *in proportion* to a remission of revenue, while if he only remits a sum equal to the remission made him, the effect on the ryots would be small, even if it ever reached them through the long line of tenure-holders which often intervenes between them and the proprietor. These, however, are objections of practice, not of principle, and the provision might be useful in temporarily-settled estates. From this point of view the Lieutenant-Governor makes no objection to the introduction of a section similar to section 23, Act XVIII of 1873. If such a provision be introduced, it would become desirable to charge interest on the suspended demand; and therefore advantage should be taken of this opportunity to repeal section 2, Act XII of 1841, which prohibits Government from charging interest on revenue arrears.

CHAPTERS XI AND XII.

Settlement of rents and records of rights.

33. The provisions regarding settlement of rents and records of rights are, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, among the most important of the Bill, and he observes with great satisfaction that they meet with but few, and these unimportant, objections at the hands of the representative Associations in these Provinces, while most officers approve of them. Reserving minute criticisms for later communications, Mr. Rivers Thompson will only say, in regard to Chapter XI, that while on the one hand, in section 157 the period allowed for objection appears to be too short; on the other hand, the facilities for appeal and for contesting the Settlement Officer's proceedings afforded by sections 160 to 162 are too wide and numerous. The matter is one which calls for finality; and the Lieutenant-Governor sees very serious disadvantages in the proposals to invest the civil courts practically with the faculty of revising on all points the work of the settlement officers. On questions of law there is no objection to an appeal being allowed to the civil courts; but on questions of fact such as are involved in clauses (*b*) and (*c*), proviso (2) of section 160, it seems to the Lieutenant-Governor that the civil court is a less competent judge than the Settlement Officer. If, after the *jummabundi* has been published, and has, under section 159, acquired validity, a material error of fact is discovered, there would be no objection to a correction being made, as is now done under section 25, Regulation III of 1872 (Sonthal Pergunnahs Settlement Law); but in this case the authority to direct the correction should be the Local Government, or some executive authority vested with powers of the Local Government, and not the civil court. It would, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, seriously diminish the beneficial operation of these provisions if the *jummabundi* were open to revision by the civil courts on any question of fact; the zemindar, who has the longest purse, would be sure to prevail over the ryot in the long run, no matter how weak the former's case; and therefore Mr. Rivers Thompson very strongly recommends that sections 160 to 162 be revised with reference to these considerations.

34. Sections 164 of the Bill as drafted makes the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council necessary whenever the Local Government *proprio motu* desires to make a record of rights. This, in Mr. Rivers Thompson's opinion, is an unnecessary restriction on the discretion of the Local Government, and one which can lead to no possible good, while by delaying action it may cause a good deal of harm. Commenting on section 151. the British Indian Association say: "The circumstances which would justify the removal of a tract of country from the jurisdiction of the ordinary courts, and placing it, for the purposes of settlement of rent, under the jurisdiction of revenue officers, must be of an exceptional character. The first ground, therefore, on which this section would allow such removal is very objectionable. Let the Local Government have the power of ordering such a transfer when an agrarian disturbance is threatened, or when settlement in a khas mehal is to be effected; but it would be dangerous to give a number of landholders or a number of tenants the right of applying for it." Without admitting the reality of the danger referred to (for the right of sanctioning or refusing the application will still rest with Government), Mr. Rivers Thompson agrees with the Association in thinking that in such matters the Local Government is the best judge of when and how action should be taken; and if this be true regarding the questions raised by Chapter XI it is obvious that it is not less true of the operations under Chapter XII. The Lieutenant-Governor, would, therefore, recommend the omission of the words "in any case with the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council" from section 164.

Finally, provisions similar to those of sections 157 to 160 should (with the modifications suggested above) be introduced into chapter XII. Full opportunity for discussing disputed facts should certainly be afforded before the record of rights becomes final and binding. It is presumed that, in making the record, the revenue officer would have full power to make all surveys and enquiries that might be necessary to prepare a complete record of all rights in the tract in which he was operating. As this is not expressed in the section, it might be well to obviate the possibility of doubt upon the point by a definite provision.

Effect of the Bill on existing rents.

35. An objection is taken by the Committee of the Behar Landholders' Association to this portion of the Bill, on the ground that no assurance is given that the settlement procedure will not be utilised to reduce existing rents; and the Lieutenant-Governor believes that the idea is very prevalent among zemindars that the effect of the Bill as a whole will be to effect an immediate and serious reduction in their rents. As far as the Lieutenant-Governor understands the matter, this is not the intention of the Legislature. When the Bill becomes law, indeed, it will not be possible for any landlord to recover by legal proceedings rents above the *maxima* or rack-rent limits fixed by the Bill; and in whatever tracts of country settlement proceedings under chapters XI and XII may be instituted, the *jummabundis* resulting from such proceedings will shew no rents above these limits. Subject, however, to this restriction, existing rents would not be interfered with under the Bill; they would be recorded as payable for the existing holding.

CHAPTER XIII.

Distraint of crops. Objection to modification of existing law in case of non-occupancy and *khurfa* ryots.

36. The provisions regarding distraint have met with as much opposition from the zemindari interest as perhaps any other part of the Bill; and for his own part the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that there is some ground for this opposition. He does not, indeed, think that in the case of settled ryots—and they, according to all information, will form the great bulk of the rent-paying class—landlords would have any serious difficulty in collecting their rents, even if distraint were altogether abolished in regard to occupancy holdings. Occupancy rights are now valuable, and will grow in value. They afford adequate security for the landlord's rent; and if in regard to them facilities for distraint be abolished, the landlords will not ultimately be the sufferers. Mr. Rivers Thompson would be glad to think that settled ryots themselves will suffer nothing from the danger they are likely, in the beginning at all events, to run of losing their all through unpunctuality in paying their rents.

But if landlords' rents are adequately secured by the transferability of the occupancy right, there is no such security in the case of non-occupancy and *khurfa* ryots. It is in regard to these that the restriction of the landlord's power to distrain will be most felt. That the power to distrain, as it now exists, has been abused is beyond question; that it is still abused, especially in Behar, is equally indisputable, though the abuse is probably not so flagrant nor so extensive as it once was; but, granting all this, the Lieutenant-Governor has reason to believe that the abuses are quite within the ability of the executive to check and to suppress, and he therefore hesitates to deprive landlords (for the provisions of the Bill virtually mean deprivation) of the only effective means they have of collecting rents from the "non-occupancy" or *khurfa* ryots. Mr. Rivers Thompson would be quite prepared to agree to any proposals which have for their object the more effectual enforcement of the existing law of distraint, and he thinks this may be attained by making violations of the existing law of distraint punishable, as in the case of criminal trespass, under the provisions of the Penal Code, and by enacting that persons benefiting by such offences should be similarly liable to punishment. Thus armed, the district officers should be able to deal adequately and fully with the abuses of distraint, and he would, therefore, submit that the present law of distraint might with such substitution of penalties for civil damages be left unaltered in regard to all non-occupancy ryots. If this viewwere accepted, the Lieutenant-Governor would recommend the abolition of distraint altogether in regard to occupancy holdings. Indeed, with the stamp duty chargeable under section 167 (2) of the Bill, it is not apparent what great advantages landlords would derive from the distraint sections of the Bill which are not secured to them already by the procedure for attachment before judgment under the Civil Procedure Code.

CHAPTER XIV.

Procedure for recovery of arrears of rent in Court. Proposal to extend patni sale procedure to registered tenures.

37. It is very generally admitted, and properly so in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, that the abbreviated procedure for the recovery of rent contained in this chapter is an improvement on all previous proposals on the subject. Partizans of the zemindari party, indeed, assert that, while their rights have been invaded in one direction, nothing has been done to facilitate the recovery of their just rents; but further than bringing to the notice of Government a proposal made in 1876 by Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore to extend the patni procedure to all tenures and tenancies, they have done nothing to suggest a better procedure. The Lieutenant-Governor has given his careful attention to the Maharaja's proposal; and while he is unable to adopt them in their entirety, he is willing, as at present advised, to extend a reasonable modification of the patni sale procedure to tenures of all sorts, which, either through the motion of the owner or the landlord, may be registered in the manner indicated in paragraph 14 above. In this Mr. Rivers Thompson goes somewhat further in the direction desired by the zemindars than section 147 of Sir Ashley Eden's Bill, which limited the summary sale procedure to patnis, to tenures at the creation of which the right to sell was reserved, and to permanent tenures with a rental of Rs. 50 per annum. It remains to be seen whether zemindars, by causing all 'tenures' to be registered, will, in consideration of the more summary procedure for recovering arrears, convert into middlemen those who are now nominally occupancy ryots. If they do, their action will further the Lieutenant-Governor's views regarding the preservation from rack-rents of the actual cultivators of the soil.

But while the Lieutenant-Governor is thus disposed to apply a summary procedure for recovery of rent to all tenures, he is very strongly of the opinion that no such procedure could be safely applied to *ryoti* holdings in the possession of actual cultivators. Apart from the reasons which the Rent Commission give* for refusing to invest inferior landlords with summary powers, Mr. Rivers Thompson believes that it would be a mere mockery of justice to give occupancy ryots, sold out of their holdings under a summary procedure, the right to sue for redress. His holding is the occupancy ryots' all, and, deprived of this, he becomes a pauper, unable to sue. He becomes an incumbrance on the community which, under the circumstances of the country, cannot provide him with industrial employment, and a source of embarrassment, especially in times of scarcity, to the Government. Nor does the Lieutenant-Governor think that sufficient security against wrong-doing would be afforded by any such arrangements as those contemplated by section 148 of Sir Ashley Eden's Bill. There are many zemindaris in these Provinces in which regular and systematic accounts are now kept; but Mr. Rivers Thompson would hesitate very long indeed, before he would, on that account, vest the proprietors with exceptional privileges in regard to the recovery of rent, When an organized village agency of record and account is established throughout these Provinces or portions of them, things may be different, and then summary facilities for recovering rent from occupancy holdings may properly be granted, which cannot now be allowed without public danger. But for the present, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that as much as can reasonably be done to facilitate the recovery of arrears from ryots has been done by the Bill. Indeed, many experienced officers doubt whether the Bill could, with safety, push simplification further than it has done; and some are disposed to take exception to that portion of section 198 which vests selected munsifs with final jurisdiction in suits when the arrears claimed do not exceed Rs. 50. The Lieutenant-Governor notices that the Rent Commission proposed to confer such summary jurisdiction in munsifs only up to a maximum claim of Rs. 10. It is to be observed that in the great majority of suits for arrears of rent the sum claimed does not exceed Rs. 50; so that in point of fact the practical effect of the section will be to prevent appeals altogether, except in a question of title or rate. The change, therefore, which the Bill proposes to introduce into the present law is a very radical change, and a very great concession to zemindars, which many competent Judges do not contemplate without some doubt as to its expediency. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, thinks that, on the whole, the section may stand, especially as it will be in the discretion of the Government to appoint carefully selected officers for the trial of rent-suits. According to the ancient law of the country, fixity of tenure was conditional on punctual payment of the nt ; and when there is no dispute as to title or rate, the decision of a competent and experienced udge, on an examination of the facts, may be safely allowed to prevail up to the limit ated. If any further concession is to be made, and hardly any seem necessary, it should, in Mr. Rivers Thompson's opinion, take the form of a prohibition of an appeal in suits for arrears of rent from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 (the limit of the Judge's summary jurisdiction), unless the amount of arrears decreed by the Court of First Instance were previously deposited in Court. It is a common, and a not unreal, complaint with zemindars that their difficulties commence when the decree for arrears has been attained; and to obviate this complaint as far as may be, it might be desirable to limit the right of appeal except under such securities for the final payment of the demand as have been proposed above.

* "Experience shows that superior landlords rarely abuse the (patni) procedure, while they do abuse it, they are persons of substance, against whom a decree for damages can be effectually enforced. There are grave doubts whether the result would be equally satisfactory if the same power were entrusted to petty landlords."

38. In the preceding remarks the Lieutenant-Governor has only touched on the main points of the Bill, postponing matters of detail till the Select Committee meet. He hopes for opportunities from time to time, during the Committee's sessions, to make to it such communications on those points of detail as the progress of the measure may suggest. In bringing his remarks on the present occasion to a close, Mr. Rivers Thompson would again say that, although on some points he has not been able to approve the Bill as drafted, and has felt himself constrained to make suggestions at variance with some of its provisions, he is still bound to repeat that, if modified on those points, the Bill, in his opinion, will be a constitutional and successful effort to remedy abuses which unquestionably exist very widely, and whose continued existence is incompatible with the peace and prosperity of these Provinces.

Conclusion. Lieutenant-Governor's general opinion on the Bill.

No. 1021T.-R., dated 1st October, 1883.

From—C. W. BOLTON, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department,

IN continuation of Mr. MacDonnell's letter No. 973T.-R., dated the 27th September, 1883, I am directed to submit, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying copies of the report * received from the Commissioner of the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division on the Bengal Tenancy Bill, 1883.

* Eighty printed copies of letter No. 610 R. C. T., dated the 22nd September, 1883, with enclosures.

No. 610R.C.T., dated Darjeeling, 22nd September, 1883.

From—LORD H. ULICK BROWNE, Commr. of the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Divn.,

To—The Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue Department.

With reference to the Board's circular letter No. 351A., dated 29th March, 1883, I have the honour to report on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

2. The district officers of Rajshahye and Julpigoree have offered no opinions on the Bill. They seem to have felt hampered by the knowledge that they had already reported on previous Bills, many of the provisions of which are reproduced in the present Bill, and that Government have resolved to pass into law many of those provisions. Mr. Vowell indeed asked me if I could tell him what provisions were still open to consideration and discussion—a question which I was unable to answer. The Deputy Commissioner of Julpigoree also pleaded want of time; but he forwarded a very full report by Baboo Tarruck Nath Mullick, an experienced Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, now in charge as manager of a large Wards' estate. Mr. Vowell has also consulted non-officials in his district, and sent their opinions. Mr. Livesay entirely approves the Bill, and has no remarks to make on it. Mr. Newbery approves of it generally, writing as follows, and adding a few other remarks, which appear in enclosure No. 1 of this letter—

"I have myself gone through the Bill carefully, and, impartially considered, I must say that the Bill is a positive improvement, and it is impossible to make it better under the present state of things, which I admit. As the zemindars urge, the Bill introduces no new measures to remove the extreme difficulty at present felt in realizing the rents, though that was one of the two great necessities which led to the re-casting of the existing law on the subject. At the same time I feel bound to say with the Rent Law Commission that the facilities for realising rents in Bengal should be sought for, not so much in any positive and new provision of the law, as in the root of the disputes which prevent their punctual and ready payment. Chapter XIV appears to me to have fully taken up the sources of these disputes. Section 47 is, no doubt, in the zemindar's point of view, a very serious alteration, but the difficulties clearly pointed out in paragraphs 28 to 33 of the Objects and Reasons of the Bill cannot be removed without it. It is by far the more desirable to accede to certain concessions in order to gain something than to reserve a right which practically secures no good, but, on the contrary, is a source of endless trouble, uncertainty, and actual loss. The clause (*f*) at section 50 is only what is practically done and never objected to, except in certain cases which are fully provided by sections 51, 53, and 54, checked by section 56."

Mr. Glazier and Mr. Tute have given opinions of their own and of others which will appear in enclosure No. 1. Mr. Wace has reported very fully on the Bill. I give some extracts from his report in enclosure No. 1 of this letter.

3. *I enclose separately a paper marked as enclosure No. 2 of this letter, and desire to specially call the attention of the Board and Government to it.* It consists of extracts from Mr. Wace's report, containing remarks of great importance, showing as they do that the provisions of the Bill will have the effect of putting an end to the present custom of making settlements of the Terai jotes, which constitute a Government estate, for 10 years. As no contracts will under the Bill prevent the tenant from enjoying all the rights accruing from a right of occupancy, there will be an end of re-settlements, and future rents will be decided by the provisions of the Bill, if passed, for fixing an enhancement of rent.

The foregoing remarks, and what is said in enclosure No. 2 on that point, apply equally to the very similar settlements for 10 years of the Western Dooars of Julpigoree.

4. Before turning from special cases arising in connection with the position of Government as zemindar, I request the Board's attention to the matter of lands granted under the Tea and Arable Leases Rules. It seems doubtful whether under the provisions of the Bill there will be any use in some of our rules for the grant of these two classes of leases, as I understand that there being no freedom of contract, if a grantee has occupied for the requisite number of years, and has held land for 12 years, he will have all the rights of a settled ryot. Of course no such rights can be acquired during the currency of the preliminary lease. Some rather difficult cases will, however, arise, as it sometimes happens that the full percentage of cultivation required by the rules is not effected during the currency of the preliminary lease, and then the grantee is allowed to hold on as a year-to-year tenant, supposing grantees to so hold on without completing the 15 and 50 per cent of cultivation till they had occupied for 12 years, they would under the Bill become settled ryots, and the rules in regard to the grant of a renewed lease and the terms thereof would no longer apply.

5. I do not doubt that, as regards such estates as the Terai jotes and the jotes of the Western Dooars, Government intend to place themselves in the position of all other zemindars, and to deprive themselves of the rights of which other zemindars are deprived. At the same time it will be contrary to public policy in the matter of encouraging cultivators if jotedars of the Western Dooars are allowed to acquire rights and hold for ever any area of waste lands of which they may have been in possession for 12 years. Hitherto Government has exercised its beneficial right to improve its property and encourage cultivation by depriving the jotedar of waste lands in excess of the area which the jotedar is likely to be able to cultivate, as proved by the area found uncultivated at the expiration of each 10 years' settlement, such excess lands being made available for others, both willing and able, to do that. Such judicious measures will be no longer possible under the Bill.

I am not aware whether Government and the Board contemplate that lands granted under the Tea and Arable Lease Rules shall be gradually removed from the operation of these rules, and the terms of the leases by the effluxion of time as a consequence of the present Bill. I have now drawn the attention of the Board to the subject, and it rests for them to bring it

to the notice of Government, in case there should be any desire to treat lands granted under the rules referred to in an exceptional manner.

6. It is scarcely necessary to say that the zemindars of the permanent settlement are (probably without any single exception) much opposed to the most important provisions of the Bill, which proposes to deprive them of so much and confer so much on their ryots.

What Mr. Newbery says in the following passage, as being the view of the zemindars of Rungpore, may be taken as representing the views of all the zemindars in the division, except Government, who are doubtless ready to make sacrifices in regard to public property in order to benefit all the ryots in the country :—

"All the principal resident zemindars of this district, who has given their opinions on the Bill, are unanimously against it as being unnecessary and full of measures which are not only subersive of their rights which the Government has bound itself at the permanent settlement never to disturb, but are also calculated to generate greater ill feeling between the ryots and the zemindars. Further, that courts having been made to come between them in almost every point of difference, the result would be, they say, that the ryots will be found practically to lose more than to gain by the Bill. They strongly object also to the new rights proposed to be created by section 47, and clause *f*, sections 50 and 56. They further urge that the Bill proposes no better means of recovering the arrears."

Lastly, the public prints have for some months past contained reports of special meetings held by zemindars to express their strong disapproval of the most important portions of the Bill.

7. The zemindars, as a body, also complain that the Bill contains no provisions for enabling them to recover their rents easily and quickly, and specially rents demanded by them at the same rates, &c., as have been paid in for former years, notwithstanding that in 1877 their claim to such an improvement of the Rent Law was admitted by Government.

8. I now proceed to give my own opinion on the Bill.

9. The most important provisions in the Bill are those which confer valuable rights and privileges on the ryots, generally at the expense of the zemindar, whose full proprietary rights will be curtailed, whose income will be restricted, and whose estates will, I think, fall in market value accordingly. It seems to me that the right to ask what price you like for your own property, whether it be land or a horse, or anythig else, is a valuable proprietary right which will be abolished by the Bill, and that to give an ordinary ryot a right to occupy land as long as he pays his rent, and unless he misuses the land or violates a special condition, and to limit the rent he is to pay, is to really make him proprietor in a lesser degree. The present Prime Minister of England, and I believe all the leading statesmen at home, have stated in Parliament that provisions of a somewhat similar nature in the two Irish land laws introduced by Mr. Gladstone confer a proprietary interest in land on the tenants. In short, the Bill proposes to effect a violent revolution in the ownership of landed property, and to change the landed system over a large and important tract of country, affecting one way or other the interests of above 55 millions of people. The magnitude and importance of the measure can hardly be overrated.

10. I think that such important changes, affecting detrimentally the rights and interests of a large and important class in a vast country, should only be made on very strong grounds, such as, for instance, the grounds advanced by Mr. Gladstone when introducing a somewhat similar measure for Ireland in 1870, and again, more recently, when he supported his proposals by urging that as good general laws and administration and assistance in the reclamation of waste lands had failed to dispel serious ill-feeling among the mass of the population of Ireland towards England and the Government of the United Kingdom, it was necessary to take an extreme step in a direction specially acceptable to that population in the hope that it would put an end to what was always a serious political danger. The result of such a measure as this in that case might well make thinking men pause before introducing it into another country, even if the circumstances under which the Irish measure was applied existed here. In Ireland the people were finally convinced that the action of Government originated in fear and weakness, and those who had previously paid the rent and lived quietly were persuaded that, if they resorted to greater and greater outrages, the English Government would give them more and more. As a consequence, concession made at the expense of the landlord was followed by further outrages till Government saw that vigorous repression and the suspension of constitutional liberties must take the place of concession. Thus, the result of a similar measure in Ireland was almost disastrous, but it was tried to meet circumstances which seemed to the Government to require special treatment.

11. What are the circumstances under which it is proposed to introduce the present measure? They are about as different to those found in Ireland as it is possible to conceive. No special and strong grounds, political or other, exist in the present case, nor have any been asserted in support of this Bill. Even the Rent Law Commission, the majority of whom proposed a measure similar to this one in its main features, made no such assertion, but, on the contrary, seem from a passage in the report to have been unanimous in holding what is a nearly universal opinion, viz., that the ryots of Bengal Proper are stronger than the zemindars. This will scarcely be disputed by those who have had opportunities of forming an opinion on the point, and it is pretty well known that in Eastern Bengal the ryots are very much the stronger, and that if protection or assistance is required there it is required by the zemindar.

That the ryots of Bengal have been the stronger, and have not been in need of protection or assistance, is further established by the history of the legislation and the attempt at it

which preceded the first of what may fairly be called the revolutionary Bills, viz., that proposed by a majority of the Rent Law Commission. In 1876, the then Lieutenant-Governor effected the passing of the Agrarian Disputes Acts of that year on a consideration of the disputes in Pubna arising from quarrels between shareholder zemindars. Most Government officers were, I believe, of opinion that nothing but the provision to be found in the present Bill for the appointment of a joint rent collector or manager was needed to meet such cases, but my object in mentioning the Act is to observe that, on that occasion, the Lieutenant-Governor never proposed such changes as are to be found in this Bill.

In 1877, again, so far from any measure to assist the ryots being thought necessary or advisable, another Lieutenant-Governor thought special legislation necessary to assist the zemindars all over the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, *i.e.*, to enable them to recover their rents in cases where there was no dispute, and where the amount claimed was the same as had been paid at the same rate in previous years, combinations among some ryots and a general disinclination to meet their undisputed liabilities among the rest having called for such legislation in aid of the weaker party,—the zemindars. The Government of India concurred with the Lieutenant-Governor, and leave was given to introduce the Bill, though unfortunately for the zemindars that was never done. Matters have in no way changed since then. There has been no general feeling of discontent among the ryots of the country as a body. I am sure that all Government officers will agree in this, and in thinking that the ryots of Bengal are, as a body, in a contented prosperous condition, nor will it be denied that there has been no general request on the part of the ryots for such legislation as is now proposed. As a body, they know nothing of the intentions of Government, and have never asked for what is now to be given to them at a great cost to the zemindars.

12. It is clear then that the present measure is proposed, not because it is necessary, but because, in the opinion of Government, the land system of the Bill is preferable to the existing one. It seems to me that the passing of such a Bill would not be justified by the circumstances under which it is proposed, and that if there were no other objections it would not be right to pass it.

13. But there are other and, in my opinion, serious objections to the Bill. There is first the one, argued so universally and so strongly by the zemindars, that it is an infringement of the rights guaranteed to them by the Permanent Settlement.

The representations of the zemindars on this point seem to me to be most reasonable and entitled to the fullest consideration. I have always thought that the quotations from the writings of Mr. Francis, Sir John Shore, Lord Cornwallis, &c., as to whether zemindars had proprietary rights or not before the Permanent Settlement, which quotations have been so often brought forward by both sides when discussing the question of the infringement of the Permanent Settlement by the passing of Act X of 1859, and such Bills as this one, are not really much to the point, as the case of the zemindars rests on a much stronger ground, viz., the declaration in the Permanent Settlement Regulation that they are proprietors of their estates. That the Bill takes away some of the most important proprietary rights is not, I believe, denied by any but a very few supporters of the Bill. The Hon'ble Mr. Ilbert, in a debate in the Legislative Council, gave, it is true, a new interpretation to the word "proprietor," bu I do not think that has been adopted by other members of the Government; and being opt posed to the ordinary use of the word "proprietor" in the English language, to the use of i- as construed by our Government here and our Regulations and Acts for ninety years, it it unlikely to be adopted, especially as (*see* paragraph 9 of this letter) the leading statesmen as home hold that such measures as are proposed in the Bill deprive landlords of proprietary rightt and confer them on tenants.

The zemindars do not stand alone in thinking that Act X of 1859 and such Bills as this are breaches of the conditions of the permanent settlement. The English Barrister-Judges of the High Court, and especially the Chief Justices—men accustomed to interpret laws—have, I believe, almost without exception, held the same view, and it is on record that Sir Barnes Peacock, the Chief Justice of the year when Act X of 1859 was passed, and the present Chief Justice, are entirely in accord on that question.

I do not deny that on grave grounds of public necessity, such as apprehensions of general disturbances, it may be necessary to depart from even such engagements as the Permanent Settlement, but no one says they exist in the present case. Nor do I forget that the Permanent Settlement allows Government to interfere for the welfare and protection of the ryot. But if it had been intended that such interference could amount to the destruction of the proprietary rights then conferred, such rights would never have been conferred; and then I request reference to paragraph 11 of this letter, as it can scarcely be alleged that interference is necessary in the very slightest degree for the protection of the ryots, who are in Bengal Proper stronger than the zemindars, and in part of it very much stronger.

14. Next, we have for ninety years treated the zemindars as real proprietors, making them discharge the duties of proprietors as regards matters connected with police, crime, furnishing supplies to troops on the march, and, above all, the collection of public demands. Is it fair or just to now deprive them of several of the most important rights of a proprietor?

15. In what I have said in this letter as to the ryots being stronger than the zamindars, as to the former not requiring assistance against the latter, and as to the latter (as admitted by the Governments of Bengal and India in 1877) requiring assistance against the former, I have had principally in view the ryots of Bengal Proper. I know that in Behar the zamin-

dars are, generally speaking, the stronger, but if any measures nearly approaching those in the Bill had been necessary in that province, some measure or other would assuredly have been proposed by Sir Richard Temple or Sir Ashley Eden in 1876 and 1877 to assist the ryots of Behar, who have not asked for this Bill any more than have the ryots of Bengal It seems to me, too, from what has been written by officers of experience in that province, that there are at any rate no grounds for proposing such drastic measures in Behar, and, considering the way in which it affects the zamindars, I think Government are bound to first try very much more moderate measures even than are now contemplated there as elsewhere.

16. Another objection is that it is a serious thing to create among the nobility and gentry of a population of 55 millions a feeling that Government have injured such an important class, and that without nearly sufficient cause, and without any demand for it on the part of the classes for whose sake the injury is done.

17. Another objection is the possibly disturbing effect the Bill might have on the ryots throughout the country. Though happily they are of a very different mould to the Irish, still when the ryots of Bengal and Behar see that without any general representation on their part —without, so far as they know, any reason at all for the action of Government—the zamindars are deprived of rights, while others are at the same time conferred on the ryots, I think it very possible that the idea may occur to the latter that, as they have got so much without asking for it, Government must be actuated by a great desire to please them and to injure the zamindars, who are sacrificed for their sake, and that by agitation further concessions may be obtained. Such an agitation might before long grow and gain strength till it became a source of much trouble to Government.

18. For these reasons I am opposed to the most important provisions of the Bill, and think none of them should be applied to Bengal Proper. In Behar I would introduce but one of them, viz., the provision enabling a ryot to gain a right of occupancy in land in a village, even though he may not have occupied exactly the same land for 12 years. This might be enacted on a consideration of the ryots of Behar really needing protection against the zamindars, because the latter have been in the habit of changing the lands to prevent the former acquiring a right of occupancy, and because the general condition of the Behar ryots is such as to call for a special measure. But, while doing this, provisions for facilitating the recovery of rent should at the same time be enacted.

19. The following are the principal provisions of the Bill to which I have referred and objected in the foregoing paragraphs.

The general effect of chapter III, which will prevent any zamindar from utilising in the future any of his land as khamar land when once a register of such land has been prepared. He cannot so use land that may hereafter be deserted by a ryot, and to which no one but the zamindar will then have *any* claim, and he cannot even so use *waste* land which is his own property, *and to which no one else has probably even at any time advanced a claim or an interest.* I think such restrictions unjust. The provisions of sections 21 to 24 in regard to the profits of tenures and the enhancement of the rents of the same. In chapter V the provisions of section 49, allowing a ryot to acquire a right of occupancy in khamar land; of 50, taking away the right of contract in some matters, not allowing ejectment for non-payment of rent when due, allowing sub-letting without the zamindar's consent, making occupancy tenures transferable and heritable by the ryot; and of section 56, depriving the zamindar of the power of holding a right of occupancy, even when he has bought it, if he lets the land out again. In chapter VI the provisions of sections 59 and 61, not allowing the registration of a contract involving the payment of enhanced rent above a certain limit, even when a ryot is ready to pay a higher rent of 75 (*d*), 76, 77, 78 limiting the enhanced rent and prohibiting a further enhancement within 10 years. Though it may be clearly proved (as in cases within my knowledge) that the productive and market-value of land has increased fourfold, and from causes entirely unconnected with any action on the part of the ryot, the zamindar may not get a corresponding share or increase of rent; and if the increased value goes on increasing, he may not get any increase of rent at all for another 10 years. The provision of section 81 limiting the rent payable in kind of 85 and 86. In chapter VIII the sections depriving a zamindar of the power to eject an ordinary ryot, except on special grounds, and giving such a ryot ten times the amount of the increase of rent demanded in case of ejectment from land which he has no right to occupy, and the rent fixed on which he is unwilling to pay. In chapter IX, section 119, limiting the rent of an ordinary ryot. In chapter X the provisions of section 133 not allowing a zamindar to measure ryots' lands again for 10 years, even though in the first year a ryot may have occupied and included in his holding any quantity of additional land.

20. Apart from the great question of principle involved in the revolutionary portions of the Bill, it seems to me to have been framed with most unnecessary unfairness to zamindars. There is, so to speak, no reciprocity, and provisions in favour of the zamindar, which suggest themselves as a natural corollary to corresponding provisions for the benefit of the ryots, are not be found. For instance, though an occupancy ryot is to be allowed to sell or bequeath his holding, the zamindar is not allowed to sell it summarily for non-payment of rent, but must go into court and get a decree first. The boon to the ryot is a great one, and a great pecuniary loss to the zamindar. He would probably, however, consent to it if at the same time he were allowed to have all such tenures registered and made saleable like patni tenures. In the case of an occupancy holding paying rent to the zamindar while the ryot and most of their people

may hold a right of occupancy, there is one person in the world, and only one, who is prohibited from holding such a right as long as he likes, and that is the *proprietor* of the land, who is not allowed this even if he purchases the occupancy right from a ryot, if the zamindar subsequently allows another ryot to occupy it for 12 years.

21. The following provisions of the Bill will be decidedly beneficial, and I approve of them. Section 27 about registration of transfers of permanent tenures; chapter IV about patni tenures; section 83 about the Collector preparing lists of market prices; sections 97 to 99 about instalments of rent; sections 100 and 101 prescribing forms of rent receipts; section 138 about the Collector deciding the standards of local measurement; sections 142, &c., about the appointment of managers or rent-receivers in cases of disputes between shareholding zamindars; and most of the provisions of chapter XIV in regard to procedure in suits.

22. Referring to section 109, I think combinations not to pay rents, even when the rents asked are at the admitted rate, &c., of previous years, should be checked by making it compulsory on the court to award 25 per cent. damages in addition to 12 per cent. interest.

I do not think the plan of a table of rates will work, except in a few places, and I understand it has failed, in so far as the enquiries made by special officers during last cold season enabled Government and the Board to form an opinion about it. When a special officer was appointed in the Government estates in Bogra, and I saw a copy of the instructions he had received, I told Mr. Dampier I was sure it would not work in my division, as the rents paid in this and that estate for this and that class of land are not fixed on any principle which would afford a basis to work on, and so it turned out.

Section 151 (2) (*a*).—I would not allow this unless both parties assent to it; and the same as regards the similar case under section 164 (2) (*a*).

I think the provisions not to alter rents within 10 years, regardless of any improvement in the land, irrespective of the ryots' action, very objectionable, and the same as regards section 133 about the zamindar's right to measure land which may have been increased considerably by the ryots' encroachment.

23. In conclusion, I hope that, after all that was said and done in 1877, and the unchanged circumstances since then, a provision will be made in the Bill for the recovery of undisputed rents at the rates paid in former years. It seems to me very unjust to omit such a provision in favour of the zamindar from a Bill which proposes to deprive him of so much, and to do so much in favour of the ryots. In 1877 the zamindar asked for a bread; his claim to it was admitted by the Governments of Bengal and India; and in 1883 he is refused a crumb and given a very large stone. I believe my recollection is correct when I say that some Government officers who have warmly advocated the revolutionary Bills (Messrs. Reynolds and Mackenzie, for instance) warmly advocated in 1877 and 1878, or 1879 (Mr. Mackenzie in the Bengal Legislative Council) such relief as I now recommend to the zemindars, and it is not easy to understand how it can on any principle of justice be now refused. Though the Bill that was approved of in 1877 would be very beneficial, the measure I recommend is that the registration of occupancy tenures be made compulsory, and the tenures made saleable like putnee tenures. This is a simple and easy remedy, and would, I think, be very acceptable to the zemindars.

ENCLOSURE No. 1. KHAMAR LANDS.

CHAPTER II.

Pubna.—The pleaders object to the limitation of the zemindar's khamar lands.

Bogra.—It is the opinion of zemindar Abdoos Soobhan Chowdree that waste lands and lands under water should be classed with *khamar* lands.

Julpigoree.—Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick (an experienced Deputy Magistrate and Manager of a large estate under the Court of Wards) does not consider the provisions of this Chapter objectionable, though its preparation in the first instance might lead to litigation.

Darjeeling.—Mr. Wace approves of the principle which underlies the provision of Chapter II, by which the proprietors would be prevented from increasing the stock of khamar lands, but he thinks that it would work hardly against petty proprietors and lakhrajdars, and he would be glad to have it so altered as to protect them.

Section 22.—Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick thinks that the provision of this section would prove prejudicial to the interests of the zemindar. He knows of many cases in which the tenure-holders by gradual encroachment on khamar or other untenanted lands became possessed of more than three or four times the quantity of land originally comprised in their tenures. In such cases it would be very unfair if the landlord were not allowed to assess the whole quantity of land found on measurement in the possession of the tenure-holders, and thus increase their rents to three or four times the amounts they used to pay.

Pubna.—The pleaders of Pubna also disapprove the provision that enhanced rent should not be more than double the previous rent.

Registration of transfers of occupancy rights.

Dinagepore.—The Sub-Judge of Dinagepore suggests that transfer of occupancy rights should be registered under the same provision as laid down in sub-division D, Chapter III, for the registration of permanent tenures. The Collector does not approve of this suggestion, as he apprehends that such a provision would give the zemindars an opportunity to extort money (salamee) from the ryots.

Bogra.—Abdoos Soobhan Chowdree, zemindar, is of opinion that provision should be made for the registration of transfers of jotes, otherwise when a dispute will arise in regard to the tenancy of a jote, the landlord will have to wait for rent till the matter is decided by the court.

Darjeeling.—Mr. Wace holds that the system of registration should not be extended to occupancy ryots. He does not also approve of the alternative procedure in sections 27 and 28. If the application is to be made to the revenue officer, let him have the power enforcing his order, or section 28 might be omitted altogether. In that case the transferee would apply direct to the landlord, and on his refusal, go direct to the civil court.

Contracts between Landlords and Tenants—Sections 45, 47, 59 (2), 82, 85, and 98.

Bogra.—The zemindars are of opinion that it is unfair that all existing contracts between landlords and tenants should become null and void after the Bill is passed.

Rungpore.—Mr. Newbery says—

"I do not clearly understand the real purport of section 82. If it means that when the rent in kind is commuted to a money rent by an occupancy ryot, his rent is a fixed money rent, and must be paid every year, whether the land is cultivated or not, in the same way as the ryot mentioned in section 50 do, then I consider the meaning of this section ought to be made clearer by adding a few lines to the end of it to bring these cases clearly under the operation of section 59. clause 2. The clauses 2—b and 3 read with the immediately preceding section 81 seems not to distinctly say that the money rent in such cases cannot be fixed independent of any contract more than one-fifth of the gross annual produce. If, however, these ryots are not considered when his rent is so commuted to be exactly on the footing of the ryots mentioned in section 50, I do not see the reason of such consideration, because both of them are occupant ryots with fixed rents."

Julpigorie.—Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick is also of the same opinion. He thinks it would be unfair not to allow the landlord to enter into contract with the tenant, and to increase rent by private arrangements to any amount without limit. The Bill makes void all engagements which militates against the ryots' interests, but not those which are prejudicial to the landlords, although in both cases the contract might have been made in good faith.

Darjeeling.—Section 82. Mr. Wace would not give the court a discretion. He says:—"The two rules would undoubtedly give widely differing results, and the result would be inequality of treatment that would cause trouble. I prefer the second of the two methods as involving the small departure from existing relations between the parties."

Transferability of Occupancy Rights—Chapter V, Sections 43 to 57.

Dinagepore.—The zemindars do not at all approve of these sections, on the grounds (1) that they would bring in the mahajans as middlemen; (2) that they would give facility to hostile zemindars to settle on their neighbours' lands; and (3) that ryots might combine to force the landlord to exercise the right of pre-emption, or let his lands go into the hands of strangers. They think that the ryots should deem it a large concession even if the transfer were limited to inheritance and bequest.

Mr. Tute's own opinion is that if the right of occupancy is to be recognized at all, it must be made tangible marketable commodity. He approves of the provisions of this chapter. As a protection to the zemindar against the machinations of his enemies, and the combination of the ryots, and to prevent any breach of the peace, he proposes an alteration of clause 2 of section 51, such as would give the zemindar an opportunity to prove to the Collector that the sale was intended as a means to annoy him, and the Collector in such a case should have the power to stop the sale.

Rajshahye.—Baboo Hara Gobind Sen, Professor, Rajshahye College, thinks that the restrictions on the transferability of occupancy rights in sections 51 to 54 would lessen the value of the right, and prevent the ryots from improving the land. The Collector agrees in this opinion, and thinks that such transfers should be quite free, subject only to registration in the landlord's *sherista*.

Bogra.—The zemindars are of opinion that the consequence of the provision of section 51 would be that money-lenders and rich zemindars would manage to have the rights of all occupancy ryots transferred to them, and the money-lenders would be the *de facto* proprietors of the soil.

The Collector himself is in favour of the Bill, and has no suggestions to make.

Julpigorie.—Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick thinks that the provisions in Chapter V would unfairly create rights to the prejudice of the landlords, and would virtually reduce them to mere annuitants. The exercise of occupancy rights would give rise to constant litigation.

Darjeeling.—Mr. Wace says:—

"Reading sections 51, 52, 53, and 55 with section 56, a landlord may well exclaim "*timeo Danoos et dona ferentes.*" Having regard to the provisions of Chapter II, by which the increase of khamar land is limited, I do not think section 56 either fair or expedient. If an occupancy right falls in any of the ways mentioned in sections 51-55, I really cannot see why a landlord should not have the power to re-let it without creating "*ipso facto*" another such right. It is surely sufficient that he should be barred under section 45 from stipulating against an accrual of that right. If, however, the legislature will not accept this view, it might at least insert the words "being a settled ryot in respect of other land in the village" after the word "person" in section 56. There would be some reason in this, but why should an outsider suddenly step into occupancy right simply because another man with whom he has no concern had those rights. These petty interferences with the powers of landlords seem to me to discredit our section with the zemindar class, and to challenge their opposition without in any way helping the class in whose interests we are professedly legislating.

Preparation of Table of Rates—Chapter VI, Sections 62 to 72.

Julpigoree.—Baboo T. N. Mullick. The power of Government to direct the preparation of Table of Rates of Rent should be limited to cases in which the landlord or the ryots apply for it.

Darjeeling.—The provisions of section 72 are not very fair; for why should the people of a local area dealt with under division B pay heavier for the decision of their cases than those dealt with under division C? Government should bear all expenses incurred in the preparation of tables.

Section 73.—Darjeeling.—Mr. Wace says:—

"In the second proviso of section 73, I would omit the words 'or on some equitable ground' unless a corresponding proviso is inserted in favour of the landlord. It is conceivable that a ryot, performing certain duties, may by contract or custom be entitled to hold at a rate lower than the rate of the table, but the words I have proposed to omit seem to me too general, and likely to raise questions at any time, which may make the Table of Rates utterly useless. Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick thinks section 73 is not open to objection."

Bastoo land—Sections 85 to 87.

Pubna.—The pleaders approve of the provisions.

Bogra.—Abdoos Soobhan Chowdree is of opinion that the acquisition of occupancy right in homestead lands is a new encroachment on the interests of the landlord.

Julpigoree.—Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick. These sections protect the ryots' interests, but not those of the landlord. It would be unfair to the latter if he were to maintain a person who was at one time a settled ryot in possession of his bastu lands, after he has ceased to be such a ryot.

Enhancement of Rent—Chapter VI, sections 95 (2), 61 (2), and 75 (d); Chapter VIII, section 91, and Chapter IX, section 119.

Pubna.—Mr. Glazier objects to the maximum rates fixed in the Bill, *viz.*, one-fifth of the value of gross produce for occupancy and five-sixteenths for ordinary ryots. In the Serajgunge Sub-division hardly any one pays more than one-eighth, and the majority probably one-twelfth. He proposes a lower rate, *viz.*, one-fourth to one-fifth for non-occupancy, and one-sixth to one-twelfth for occupancy ryots, according to the discretion of the authority deciding the case. He thinks suits for enhancement of rent should be tried by the revenue courts.

Rajshahye.—Baboo Loke Nath Chuckerbutty, a teacher, points out this anomaly in the provisions of the Bill. Suppose the rent of an ordinary ryot is enhanced to the maximum rate provided in the Bill, namely, five-sixteenths of the value of the produce. He continues to hold the land for upwards of 12 years, and acquires a right of occupancy, would he continue paying the five-sixteenths rate? The Baboo considers the five-sixteenths rate too high.

Bogra.—Abdoos Soobhan Chowdree, zemindar, thinks that an occupancy ryot would gain too much advantage by being allowed to sub-let at so much profit, himself paying one-fifth and realizing five-sixteenths of the value of gross produce from the sub-tenants.

Rungpore.—Some propose that the maximum rate of rent for occupancy ryots should be increased from one-fifth to one-fourth of the value of produce, but the Collector, Mr. Newbery, does not agree with them. As regards the other class of ryots, he is of opinion that their maximum rate should not also be more than five-sixteenths or 30 per cent. of the value of produce.

Julpigoree.—Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick thinks that the restrictions under which the rent of an ordinary ryot is enhanceable and the limit, are unfair to the landlord.

Darjeeling.—Mr. Wace thinks the one-fourth limit originally proposed was fairer than the one-fifth mentioned in sections 59 and 75. Section 76 would prevent the higher limit working oppressively.

Ordinary Ryots—Chapter VIII, sections 88 to 95.

Dinagepore.—Mr. Tute strongly objects to the principle which underlies the provision of section 93, which he thinks has been borrowed from the Irish Land Bill. It would simply be the deliberate creation of a right which has hitherto never existed, and which would deprive the landlord of a part of his property.

Rajshahye.—According to Baboo Loke Nath Chuckerbutty, ten times the yearly increase provided in section 93 (*b*) as compensation is exorbitant.

Pubna.—The Collector quite approves of the provision about compensation for ejectment, as he thinks a reasonable amount of protection should be afforded to every class of ryot. It is not clear whether an under-tenant can under the Bill acquire rights of occupancy, but it is desirable that he should.

Bogra.—Abdoos Soobhan Chowdree thinks that sub-tenants should be permitted to acquire occupancy rights which he might enjoy as long as the superior tenant retained the same.

Julpigoree—Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick thinks sections 88 to 95 would injuriously affect the interests of the landlord.

Darjeeling.—Mr. Wace says:—

CHAPTER VIII.

Seems to me unduly hard on the landlord in two respects. Section 93 (*b*) provides for compensation for disturbance amounting to ten times the yearly increase of rent demanded. I think this should be the maximum, and that it should be at the discretion of the court to award less, the guide being the number of years that the ordinary ryot has held the land. I do not see why a man, who has held land for two years only, should get the same compensation as a man who has held it for eight. Then in section 95 it seems to me hard that because a decree becomes void under section 94, the landlord should be barred from all enhancements for ten years. That he should be barred for that time, if he gets his claim, is fair enough, but circumstances might prevent him from paying the compensation awarded under section 93 within the very short time fixed, and a failure to do so should not, I think, tie his hands for longer than five years at the outside."

CHAPTER IX.

Chapter IXc, section 100 (4) and section 102 (1).—The double penalty seems to me unnecessarily severe. If the payment, for which an informal receipt is given, did not clear the ryot to the date thereof, the landlord forfeits by reason of the informality all balances really due in excess thereof. This is surely quite sufficient without a fine. If the payment really cleared all dues to date, the informality does not matter to the ryot, because he can at the end of the year get a statement of account, and recover a penalty under 102 (2) for refusal thereof. Anyhow might not the loss of real dues entailed by section 100 (4) be deducted from the penalty under section 102 (1), if it is considered necessary to maintain both provisions. It should be remembered that a landlord has often careless and occasionally disaffected servants. Imagine the trouble a gomashta, who was to be turned out at the end of the year, might bring on his master under these sections without any fault of the latter. Surely some provision should be added to provide for such cases. The power to recover damages in the Civil Court from such a servant would be a poor remedy."

CHAPTER IXD.

I hope Government is prepared either to increase the establishments of all revenue officers and treasuries, as a result of the extension of the power to deposit or to create new offices for the purposes of dealing with the applications which will be made. There can be little doubt that the rush on the public offices, whatever they may be, will be great; and I would advise that, as some sort of check, section 107 be expunged. A tenant is not likely to pay anything, unless he knows it to be due to somebody; why then should he get it back at the end of three years. If it were allowed to lapse to Government after that period, the receipts might go towards covering part of the expenditure, to which Government will undoubtedly be committed by these provisions in the tenants' favour.

CHAPTER IXE.

Section 109.—I would add at end of the proviso "on such damages." I do not see why a landlord should not be allowed from a really recusant tenant both interest on his dues and damages.

Julpigoree.—Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick says section 102 (1) is a re-enactment of the existing law on the subject, and sub-sections 2 and 3, though new, are not open to any grave objection, sections 103 to 107 are generally fair, and require no modifications.

Rungpore.—Mr. Newbery would distinctly insert the fee "khurrutcha" in section 123, instead of including it in the words "other like appellations."

Improvements on ryots' holdings, and compensation therefor—Chapter X, sections 126 to 132.

Bogra.—Abdoos Sobhan Chowdree considers the provision of section 129 objectionable, inasmuch as it makes the landlord liable to pay compensation even if the tenant is ousted for wilful non-payment of rent.

Julpigoree.—Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick does not see anything objectionable in these sections.

Darjeeling.—Mr. Wace says:—

"CHAPTER XA.

"The provisions seem to me judicious and fair, but, with reference to section 126, sub-section (2) is not, I suppose, meant to be exhaustive? It includes what is mentioned, but does not, I presume, exclude such improvements as the planting of fruit trees, bamboos, &c."

CHAPTER XB.

I do not see that the power to measure rent-free land, which paragraph 92 of the statements says it is intended to give, accrues on the section as worded. The "which" therein might as well apply to the "lands" as to the "estate" or "tenure."

The Procedure for the recovery of rent—Chapter XIII.

Dinagepore.—There should be some summary procedure to enable the zemindars to realize rents from the ryots. It is also desirable, in view of the very long time which a civil court takes to dispose of a rent suit, to revert to the old procedure under which revenue officers could decide simple rent-suits, and they are more competent for it than moonsiffs.

Bogra.—Radha Raman Moonshee, zemindar, thinks that there should be some easier means for the landlord to realize the rent from the tenants.

Julpigoree.—Baboo Taruck Nath Mullick is of opinion that the provisions of Chapter XIII are decided improvement on the existing law on the subject, and they would prevent an unscrupulous landlord from harassing his ryots.

Pubna.—The pleaders object to the restrictions on distraint, paragraph 3 (6).

Darjeeling.—The provision of Chapter XIII is a judicious compromise between contending parties, but it would be better if applications for distraint were made to revenue officers whose proceedings are prompter than those of the civil courts.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

There is one point in which the bearing of this Act on the Hill Tract, should it be extended to Darjeeling under the Scheduled Districts Act, has to be considered. You are aware that a portion of most tea estates is cultivated with native crops by the labourers of the estate, no rent is charged for the little plots these men hold: the plots really represent part of the wages of labour. There is, however, no doubt that on the older tea gardens there are many men who have cultivated land for 12 years or more thereon. I presume that in the land allotted to labourers under these circumstances, no rights of occupancy could accrue, and that the holding of the labourer would not be considered the holding of a raiyat under section 45 (1). I state the case, because there is no definition of a "raiyat" in the Act, though I presume that payment of rent is necessary to constitute such a relation, and because the land I have described scarcely falls within the definition of "khamar land" as given in section 5, and section 6 declares that all land, not khamar, shall be deemed "raiyati." The tenure described might perhaps be brought within the scope of section 4 (9) as a service-tenure, and thus be unaffected by the Act; but I would draw your attention to the definition of the word "tenure" in section 3 (3), and would suggest the addition of the word "tenancy" in section 4 (9). Tenancy meaning the holding of a "tenant" [section 3 (8)].

6. Considering now the Act with reference to that tract which it will chiefly affect, viz., the Terai, I have to make the following observations:—Chapter I. It seems to me that, as it stands, it will work a revalution there in one respect: our jotedars will, on the wording of section 3, become "proprietors"; each of the Terai jotes is entered in the registers maintained under Act VII of 1876 (B.C.) I may state briefly the history of this proceeding. Mr. Edgar, in this office No. 324, dated 24th November 1876, with reference to the introduction of that Act, remarked—"It appears clear that the Terai jotes are revenue-paying estates." You stated the case to the Board in your No. 788, dated 28th February 1877, giving it as your opinion that "all these tenures in Government tracts of land held khas should be treated as tenures." The Board accepted this view in their No. 703A, dated 16th March 1877, and declared that "the Terai jotes should not be registered under any circumstances as estates." Mr. Edgar then recommended that, though recognised as "tenures," they should be dealt with under clause *c*, paragraph 2, section 3, of Act VII of 1876 (B.C.,) *vide* paragraph 6 of this office No. 185, dated 16th June 1877). You supported this suggestion, and the Board in their No. 287A, dated 7th July 1877, ruled that the 808 jotes of the Terai should be "dealt with under clause *c*, paragraph 2, section 3, each jote being treated as a separate Government estate, and entered in Register A." As the definitions, therefore, now stand in section 3 of the Draft Act, our jotedars are "proprietors," for, according to the definition of their rights in the Terai pottah, they seem to me to "own" their jotes.

7. Now so far as their relations with Government are concerned, the Act will make no difference. Section 4 saves "enactments regulating procedure for realization of rents in estates belonging to Government." It is in the position of their sub-tenants that the alteration of their status involved in the definition alluded to would make the difference. Their sub-tenants are known by the names of "ticcadars" or "mallandars" and "adhyadars." The ticcadar tenure of the Terai must not be confounded with that of Behar and the rest of Bengal. The ticcadar is really an "under-raiyat," the "kurfa" of the greater part of Bengal. The "adhyadar" gets a share of the crop, generally half of it, in consideration of his labour throughout the year. He is practically a farm labourer, the jotedar supplying seed, cattle, and implements.

8. If our jotedars are raiyats, their ticcadars cannot be recognized, either at once or hereafter, as occupancy or settled raiyats, for they will fall within the definition of "under-raiyat," and there is no such established custom as would give them as such a right of occupancy under section 4(*a*), and the illustration attached thereto. On the other hand, if the Act stands as it is, our jotedars become "proprietors," and the majority of their ticcadars will become occupancy or settled raiyats.

9. If it should not be the intention of Government to give our jotedars the position of "proprietors," then an alteration of section 3 is necessary, so as to make "estate" applicable only to lands registered under clauses *a* and *b* of paragraph 2 of section 3 of the Land Registration Act. The question should, to my mind, be decided with reference chiefly to the interest of the under-tenants. Although it has been the fashion in the past to deny that the sub-tenants of Terai jotedars have any occupancy rights, I believe that even under the Acts now in force such rights have been acquired, were this class only in a position to assert them. But anyhow it would be entirely in accordance with the spirit of the new Act to recognize the majority of these men as settled ryots. Let us then by all means call our jotedars proprietors, if this is the only way of making their subordinates "raiyats." If, however, it can be held on the Act as worded, or as it may be altered, that the jotedar is a "tenure-holder," and that his ticcadar may be a raiyat under him, I think it would be more consistent with the history of the registration of jotes, as stated above, and with actual facts, to call the jotedars "tenure-holders," and to make the alteration in the definition of "estate," which I have suggested.

10. It will perhaps facilitate the settlement of this question, if I give the following particulars as to the position of our jotedars. The settlement papers show them to be 782 in number, and the total assessed area being 123,670 acres. The average size of a jote may be taken as 158 acres. About 163 of the jotes are held by absentees, and these are generally sublet to ticcadars, who again sublet what they cannot cultivate themselves to dur-ticcadars. Few of the resident jotedars are in a position to cultivate the whole of their jotes, and what they cannot manage either by their own or a dhyadar's labours, they sublet to ticcadars.

11. If the jotedar can be held to be a "tenure-holder," perhaps the simplest way out of the difficulty I have exposed would be to add at the end of section 3 (4) the following words:—"The registration of a 'tenure' under clause (*c*) of paragraph 2 of section 3 of the Land Registration Act VII of 1876 (B.C) shall not thereby constitute it an estate within the meaning of paragraph (1). Possibly this difficulty may have arisen in other districts with reference to large holdings similar to our Terai jotes. I can, however, only suggest an amendment which will suit the circumstances of this district.

12. Anyhow, it seems to me doubtful whether the bearing of the definitions now given, or the position of kurfa raiyats in Government estates, has been fully considered. There must surely be lands in Julpigorie, Noakholly, and Chittagong, if not elsewhere, held by men of substance, who are above the position of what I presume the Act means by a "raiyat," and whose sub-tenants, even if they have not already acquired occupancy rights, should at least now be given the benefit of sections 44 and 45 of the Draft Act. I cannot but think it a mistake that a positive definition of the word "raiyat" has not been attempted.

CHAPTER II.

13. What I have said above as to the Act, as now worded, making the Terai jotedars "proprietors," must be borne in mind also with reference to the definition of "khamar" land. If they do get this status, no occupancy rights are likely to accrue after the passing of this Act in lands to which jotedars now apply their own seed, cattle, and implements, even though the labour by which these are worked be not theirs, but that of adhyadars. This seems to me an additional reason for wording the Act, so as to make them tenure-holders only. I must declare myself in favour of the general principle involved in this chapter, viz., the disability of the proprietor to increase, after the passing of this Act, the existing stock of "khamar" land so far as large proprietors are concerned.

14. The provision, however, would in my opinion work hardly against petty proprietors and lakhrajdars, and I should be glad to see it altered so as to protect them. It must be considered with section 56, and I beg that what I urge against that section may be read with the following remarks. I sympathise with the desire to prevent the unwarranted extension of zeraat lands in Behar beyond what is necessary for the purposes of the "malik," and often entirely in the interests of an indigo-planter holding a temporary lease of the village, but I do think it hard that in consequence of the scandals of past years in one division of this province, the hands of poor men in the other divisions should be tied, and their means of subsistence curtailed. The provisions of the law are strong enough to protect a settled and an ordinary ryot from arbitrary ejectment, but if an owner of a small property does in any legal way get possession of "ryoti" land, it would be a grievous hardship to prevent him from doing as he liked with it. He might be able to make more of it by cultivating it himself than by letting it, especially if the letting could only be on the terms of section 56. No one with any knowledge of mofussil life will deny that among the class of proprietors, as defined in section 3, there are numerous persons whose circumstances are harder than many of the raiyat class in whose interests these sweeping proposals are made, and to sacrifice them on account of the grasping propensities of wealthy maliks and planters in Behar would be a gross injustice.

CHAPTER V.

16. The bearing of the definition of the word "estate" in section 3 on the Terai jotes must be again borne in mind here. If the definition is left as it is, and the "jote" is an "estate," which is to be taken as the area within which the continuous holding of section 45 must take place—the village or the estate? The 782 jotes are comprised within 19 mouzahs, and the average size of a jote is, as I have said, only 158 acres. If the area is taken as the "mouzah," A having held a portion of jote 604 in mouzah Talas continuously for 12 years, may, if he gets a footing as a ryot in jote 605 in the same mouzah next year, set himself up as a settled ryot in jote 605 also. The difficulty remains the same even if the Act is altered, so as to make a jote a tenure, and not an estate. Then the area would clearly be the mouzah, and it seems to me rather hard that, in the case above quoted, A should merely, by reason of his position in jote 604 belonging to B, jump suddenly into the status of a settled ryot. As regards land acquired in jote 605 belonging to C, you may say it is C's own look-out if he lets A into jote 605, so it is; but it seems to me a great mistake to put obstacles in the way of C letting his land to a man like A, who, from his status in jote 604, would probably be an infinitely better tenant and a better subject of Government than the squatter whom C would be compelled to get hold of if he could not let the land to A.

17. This, of course, is one corollary of the words "notwithstanding any contract to the contrary." But for these words C would be able to say to A, "I will let you the land in jote 605, on condition that your status as a settled ryot in jote 604 does not extend to my jote." I entirely sympathise with the object with which these clauses are inserted, as stated in paragraph 33 of the "statement," but, as it stands, it seems to me to go too far. The difficulty might perhaps be surmounted by a proviso to section 45, declaring that the contract alluded to in sub-section shall be a contract between the raiyat and the owner of the village or estate within which the status of a settled raiyat has been acquired, sub-section (*b*) of section 43 would prevent this proviso working unfavourably against raiyats of an estate which has been partitioned. There must be in every district parallel cases to that now put. For instance, why should Z, who may in respect of the mal land in a mouzah be fairly considered a settled raiyat, assume the same position against X, a lakhirajdar, if the latter thought fit to let to him part of his lakhiraj holding. The principle for which I contend is the same as that involved in the proviso of section 57.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

[TELEGRAPH.]

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1883.

CLASS OF MESSAGES.	ROUTE. West. Via Teheran. No.	Via Teheran. Indian Value.	Via Turkey. No.	Via Turkey. Indian Value.	Persian Gulf. No.	Persian Gulf. Indian Value.	Via Suez. No.	Via Suez. Indian Value.	East. Via Amur. No.	Via Amur. Indian Value.	Via Madras. No.	Via Madras. Indian Value.	Via Rangoon. No.	Via Rangoon. Indian Value.	Native Burma. No.	Native Burma. Indian Value.	Ceylon. No.	Ceylon. Indian Value.	TOTAL. No.	TOTAL. Indian Value.
INDIAN.		R a.		R a.		R a.		R a.		R a.		R a.		R a.		R a.		R a.		R a.
Sent	3,206	16,069 11	96	320 2	20	76 3	3,153	14,927 7	...	...	625	11,218 0	411	1,330 7	370	574 2	1,569	2,764 15	9,444	47,280 15
Received	1,791	8,690 0	126	674 2	48	156 8	3,350	11,946 13	1	1 5	606	1,732 13	463	1,471 4	...	...	1,566	2,867 3	7,951	27,534 0
TOTAL	4,997	24,759 11	216	994 4	68	226 11	6,503	26,874 4	1	1 5	1,231	12,950 13	874	2,801 11	370	574 2	3,135	5,632 2	17,395	74,814 15
TRANSIT. From East to West—																				
Recd. Vid Madras	229	1,828 14	5	15 6	10	24 12	3,698	14,361 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,942	16,230 6
Recd. „ Rangoon	61	468 6	1	3 12	...	...	1,156	4,440 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,218	4,912 8
Recd. „ Laingha	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Recd. „ Ceylon	40	197 4	...	...	3	20 3	430	1,288 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	473	1,505 14
From West to East—																				
Sent. Vid Madras	792	3,568 6	83	243 3	2	12 14	2,563	10,068 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,440	13,892 7
Sent. „ Rangoon	178	867 13	34	95 10	1	4 14	892	3,994 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,105	4,862 9
Sent. „ Laingha	...	...	1	18 14	...	...	2	12 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	31 0
Sent. „ Ceylon	94	439 5	4	12 9	...	...	235	1,065 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	333	1,457 4
From West to West—																				
Recd. Vid Bombay sent.	...	...	...	...	8	25 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	25 8
Sent. Vid Bombay recd.	...	...	2	4 8	2	7 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	12 6
From East to East—																				
Recd. Vid Ceylon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41	176 14	13	28 15	...	...	...	...	54	205 13
Recd. „ Madras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	121 9	30	73 8
Recd. „ Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	73 8	18	
TOTAL	1,394	7,370 0	130	393 14	26	96 1	8,976	34,669 15	...	...	41	176 14	13	28 15	...	...	48	195 1	10,628	42,930 12
GRAND TOTAL																			28,023	1,17,745 11

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC WITH INDIA BY THE INDO-EUROPEAN AND RED SEA ROUTES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1883.

ROUTE.		Number of Messages by each Route (exclusive of Transit). To India.	From India.	Total.	Percentage of Number. To India.	From India.	Total.
Indo-European	Vid Teheran	1,791	3,206	4,997	33·70	49·56	42·40
	„ Turkey	126	19	216	2·37	1·39	1·83
	Persian Gulf vid Karachi	48	20	68	0·90	0·31	0·58
Red Sea	Vid Suez	3,350	3,153	6,503	63·03	48·74	55·19
	TOTAL	5,315	6,469	11,784	100·00	100·00	100·00

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 2nd HALF OF AUGUST 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1616 AND 1617 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 29th SEPTEMBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Rice. Wheat. Present fortnight.	Rice. Wheat. Past fortnight.	Rice. Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Barley. Present fortnight.	Rice. Barley. Past fortnight.	Rice. Barley. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Best sort. Present fortnight.	Rice. Best sort. Past fortnight.	Rice. Best sort. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Common. Present fortnight.	Rice. Common. Past fortnight.	Rice. Common. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Varagoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coralo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Paniceum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Varagoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coralo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Paniceum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Varagoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coralo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Paniceum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Salt.* Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt.* Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt.* Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Salt.* Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt.* Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt.* Retail. Corresponding fortnight of last year.
		S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
Mysore	Bangalore	10 13	10 5	11 2	12 0	11 4	12 11	9 8	9 14	10 8	10 8	11 2	8 3	28 2	...	26 5	...	...	...	28 8	28 3	26 7	29 1	28 7	31 0	96 0	84 0	96 0	12 0	12 0	12 0
	Kolar	...	...	...	12 0	10 10	10 2	12 0	12 14	13 15	14 0	15 3	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	34 0	37 2	34 2	31 1	33 1	72 6	172 6	172 6	13 0	13 0	13 0
	Tumkúr	14 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	40 0	40 0	40 0	34 0	37 0	72 0	340 0	340 0	340 0	8 0	8 0	8 0
	Mysore	11 12	11 0	12 0	...	...	...	10 8	11 2	11 2	10 8	10 8	11 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	33 0	75 0	75 0	75 0	8 12	8 12	8 12
	Shimoga	14 11	14 11	12 10	15 12	15 12	13 10	13 10	13 10	13 10	16 13	16 13	12 10	37 13	37 13	31 8	...	...	...	37 0	37 4	31 0	33 9	33 10	72 0	480 0	480 0	480 0	8 11	8 10	8 10
	Kadur	14 0	14 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	17 0	18 0	19 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	38 0	34 0	25 0	29 3	30 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 0	10 0	10 0

* Sea Salt.

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Statistical Branch.)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Comparative Statement of the Net Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenue) for the first six months of the official year 1883-84, and of the twelve preceding years.

(In thousands of Rupees.)

YEAR.	FOR THE SIX MONTHS, APRIL TO SEPTEMBER.																				YEAR.
	Bengal.			Madras.			Bombay.			Sindh.			British Burma.			Total British India.					
	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	Total Import Revenue.	Export Revenue.	Total Revenue.	
1871-72 .	5,38	36,54	42,53	1,76	6,22	7,32	15,30	3,81	18,83	1,84	24,48	66	50	68	1,84	12,39	64,09	76,48	29,96	1,06,44	1871-72.
1872-73 .	6,59	36,64	54,67	1,94	5,85	5,64	13,43	2,70	19,48	1,54	23,72	53	49	1,09	2,11	13,36	64,71	78,07	37,61	1,15,68	1872-73.
1873-74 .	5,16	32,43	45,98	1,84	6,68	7,21	15,73	2,91	17,90	1,53	22,34	58	33	58	1,49	12,11	59,64	71,75	31,79	1,03,54	1873-74.
1874-75 .	5,95	38,28	50,45	1,74	6,95	6,74	15,43	3,20	19,74	1,61	24,55	59	30	66	1,55	13,51	68,45	81,96	25,00	1,06,96	1874-75.
1875-76 .	6,14	38,71	52,48	2,10	7,21	6,92	16,23	3,34	20,11	3,40	26,85	62	42	87	1,91	14,00	68,76	82,76	36,33	1,19,09	1875-76.
1876-77 .	6,31	30,89	43,27	2,82	6,55	4,34	13,71	3,92	17,55	52	21,99	70	32	11	1,13	15,98	57,84	73,82	23,44	97,26	1876-77.
1877-78 .	7,05	39,18	53,61	2,56	3,85	85	7,26	4,37	21,09	49	25,95	1,08	36	18	1,62	17,48	67,21	84,69	18,09	1,02,78	1877-78.
1878-79 .	6,55	31,32	44,46	2,97	4,74	2,05	9,76	4,05	18,70	1,07	23,82	91	25	10	1,26	18,11	58,35	76,46	22,75	99,21	1878-79.
1879-80 .	5,92	31,25	41,47	2,64	4,41	2,72	9,77	4,39	15,84	86	21,09	1,49	38	10	1,97	17,79	54,93	72,72	24,87	97,59	1879-80.
1880-81 .	6,57	29,00	40,72	2,39	5,28	4,52	12,19	4,16	22,93	77	27,85	2,11	54	10	2,75	17,56	61,55	79,11	28,84	1,07,95	1880-81.
1881-82 .	6,72	28,20	42,34	2,42	5,03	3,11	10,55	5,03	20,69	72	26,44	1,89	58	14	2,61	19,39	58,25	77,64	33,06	1,10,70	1881-82.
1882-83 .	7,01	...	14,36	2,63	1	2,10	4,74	5,12	—105*	62	4,69	1,71	3	25	1,99	20,46	—98*	19,48	36,73	56,21	1882-83.
1883-84 .	6,95	6	16,00	2,62	#	2,71	5,40	3,81	8	19,32	23,21	20,40	42	20,82	31,74	52,56	1883-84.				

* The amount refunded is greater than the duty collected.

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
STATISTICAL BRANCH;
Calcutta, 19th October 1883.

trict and local boards will be ready to be guided by his advice, and that he will take a hearty interest in training them to make the best use of their powers, and in the success of their administration."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY said that he had now to ask His Excellency the President for leave to move two amendments of which he had not given notice. The amendments, he explained, were not of an important character.

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said that he had been made acquainted with the nature of the two amendments which Mr. Barkley wished to propose, and the necessity for moving them now had arisen in consequence of the lateness at which the Report of the Select Committee was brought to the notice of the Lieutenant-Governor and himself. Under those circumstances, and as they did not involve any important points, he would give leave that the amendments be made.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY said that the first amendment was as follows:—

That the proviso to the second sub-section of section 20 be omitted.

The matter which that amendment was intended to cover was already provided for by section 34 of the Bill, which required the Local Government, when services, the cost of which was hitherto borne by Government, were undertaken by a district board under section 20, to provide it with adequate funds for their maintenance in the same state of efficiency as before. That being so, it did not appear necessary to retain that proviso to section 20.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT remarked that the proviso was inserted for the purpose of making clear the mutual relations of section 20 and section 34 of the Bill; but as he understood that its retention in its present form might possibly lead to administrative difficulties and as the meaning of the Bill appeared to be reasonably clear without it, he would not offer any objection to its omission.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY also moved that to section 51 the following be added, namely:—

"but shall be immediately reported to the Governor General in Council and shall be subject to his orders."

He said that this course would no doubt always be adopted, but that it was better to provide for it in the Bill.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. BARKLEY moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

His Honour THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said:—"This Bill is a younger son in a tolerably large family, and, as is the fate of younger sons in thrifty households, it has been made to wear the clothes of its elder brothers. The fit is, no doubt, in some respects excellent. But I am not sure that the child would not have run about more freely and grown more robust in the loose homespun in which it was first clothed by its nurse than in the elaborate and tight-fitting garments in which it now appears. Although the Bill has been greatly altered in its transit through Committee, I desire to express my thanks to the Council for the great consideration that has been given to the representations which I have on several occasions found it my duty to make in respect to the various changes from time to time proposed, and for the concessions that have been made to me. Above all, I am grateful that the distinctive features of the Bill have not been interfered with. As described in the Panjab Government letter of 24th April last, and by my hon'ble colleague Mr. Barkley in his speech when introducing the Bill, this is an enabling rather than an enacting Bill. No doubt, this peculiarity of form makes large drafts upon the confidence of the Government of India, the legislature and the public. But in

no other way can local self-government, in my judgment, be successfully developed in the Panjáb. When municipal government was first attempted in this Province, almost everything was done by executive arrangement without any law at all. When the necessity for some law came to be felt, a mere skeleton Act was passed. It enacted little, but permitted much. A few years later the law was revised and somewhat elaborated, but still left elastic. Now, after twenty years' experience, it is found practicable to reduce to positive enactment not only the leading principles but many of the details of municipal government, and a Bill for the purpose is now before this Council.

"I should wish to proceed in a somewhat similar way in introducing local self-government in the district—that is to say, progressively, but tentatively and cautiously. This is the explanation of the peculiar feature of the Bill. It is only in myth and fable that Athene springs at once full armed from the brain of Zeus. In nature and the work-a-day world, things proceed more slowly—first the blade, then the ear, then the full corn in the ear. The necessity for cautious advance and for diversity of arrangements to meet the varying requirements of different parts of the country has, notwithstanding all we have heard to the contrary, been from the first recognised and insisted upon both by the Supreme and Local Governments. In the Government of India resolution of 18th May, 1882, it was said that the Governor General in Council is quite aware of the absurdity of attempting to lay down any hard-and-fast rules which shall be of universal application in a country so vast, and in its local circumstances so varied, as British India. And in the Local Government resolution of 7th September, 1882, diversity of arrangement was strongly insisted on as presumptive proof that the varying requirements of localities have not been disregarded. The policy of Government is to be found less in the Bill than in the [illegible] resolutions. The Bill, and the rules of general or local application to be framed under it and to be modified from time to time as circumstances require, are the steps by which effect is gradually to be given to that policy in its integrity. Uniformity is impossible, and an Act rigid in its provisions and applicable to the whole province is altogether out of the question at the present stage. In no other way than by leaving large discretion to the Local Government to vary its arrangements when necessary district by district, and from time to time, can local self-government be successfully attempted in this Province. In no other way can we avoid, in this country of deep-rooted prejudices and hoary traditions, the evils that inevitably result from laws too far in advance of the social condition of the people.

"The policy of local self-government has often been assailed on the ground that we ought not to legislate in advance of social opinion. That is a proposition to which I for one cannot agree. In the countries of Europe and America it may be true: society there has inherent elements of progress, and, as Sir Henry Maine has forcibly remarked in his Ancient Law, page 24, social necessities and social opinion are in progressive societies always more or less in advance of law. Here in India the case is reversed. Society is inherently non-progressive. It is firmly rivetted to ancient custom and inveterate prejudice. The only true progress it has made for centuries has been forced upon it from without. Had our legislature waited upon Indian opinion, the fires of the suttee would not yet have been extinct; the Ganges would still have claimed her human victims; crimes would still have been defined and punishments awarded with reference to the caste and rank of the offender; property would still have been forfeited for religious opinion; we should have had no free Press, no railways, no telegraphs, no post-offices, no municipal government; and the country would be a century behind its present state of development.

"There is no more plausible fallacy than the proposition that in India legislation ought not to be in advance of the social state of the people. From the nature of the case it must always be in advance. The real question is one of degree. Legislation that is too progressive may be a greater calamity to a people than legislation that lags behind the popular demand. But it is our duty, in the position in which we are placed, so to adjust both our legislative and our administrative measures as to create a higher and a better social

SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India.

Nº 43. } CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.			
Madras.	Ganjam	8 13	8 13	7 6	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	17 13	17 14	17 14	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	35 3	32 3	35 3	26 10	33 5	26 10	215 13	215 13	215 13	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	15 8	Ganjam	Madras.
	Vizagapatam	10 0	9 8	11 8	...	...	...	9 8	9 0	10 10	11 5	11 5	12 6	24 13	24 13	21 10	27 11	23 13	27 11	26 5	23 3	24 3	32 13	35 2	22 3	95 3	95 3	93 5	14 10	14 10	15 3	14 0	14 0	14 0	Vizagapatam	
	Godavery	9 14	9 14	11 11	...	...	...	10 14	12 14	13 14	15 0	15 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	30 11	...	...	...	27 5	29 2	29 2	33 10	33 10	25 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	Godavery	
	Kistna	9 5	8 13	12 11	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 11	14 11	14 11	16 5	20 13	20 13	24 14	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	32 5	29 10	29 10	22 11	145 13	145 13	130 0	15 11	15 11	16 0	15 3	15 3	15 11	Kistna	
	Nellore	10 5	10 13	12 10	...	...	...	13 6	13 14	15 13	14 0	15 0	17 0	21 10	21 10	28 13	...	...	...	21 13	25 8	32 13	23 2	24 2	23 2	93 5	93 5	186 10	15 6	14 13	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	Nellore	
	Cuddapah	14 0	13 10	14 0	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	12 6	13 5	13 5	14 2	30 0	31 10	30 0	31 14	31 14	31 14	31 8	30 0	33 0	33 8	33 8	24 14	194 6	194 6	194 6	17 2	16 10	17 8	16 10	16 3	16 10	Cuddapah	
	Anantapur	13 6	13 6	13 6	...	...	...	12 13	12 13	12 13	14 0	14 0	14 0	33 0	33 0	30 14	30 2	30 2	18 13	32 0	32 0	34 14	34 14	37 0	35 13	30 3	94 13	94 13	82 10	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	Anantapur	
	Bellary	17 5	17 5	16 14	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	12 5	13 0	13 0	13 8	39 2	46 5	37 2	30 2	28 3	26 5	32 0	34 14	34 14	37 0	35 13	30 3	94 13	94 13	82 10	15 13	15 13	15 8	15 8	15 11	Bellary	
	Kurnool	12 11	12 2	12 2	...	...	...	11 0	10 10	10 10	12 2	11 6	11 6	38 6	37 0	34 3	33 11	33 11	31 3	...	...	...	33 0	31 8	24 11	147 3	157 0	178 13	14 13	14 0	14 13	14 6	13 10	14 6	Kurnool	
	Madras	11 0	11 0	10 8	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 5	15 2	15 2	15 2	22 5	22 5	23 13	23 13	23 13	25 0	24 11	24 11	28 0	26 2	26 2	25 0	85 0	85 0	86 5	16 14	16 14	16 11	16 8	16 8	16 3	Madras	
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 3	15 2	15 2	14 11	...	...	25 2	26 6	...		24 11	26 11	27 6	25 11	25 11	25 0	92 5	92 5	92 5	17 5	17 5	17 5	17 0	17 0	17 0	Chingleput	
	North Arcot	9 11	9 11	9 11	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	15 0	16 5	16 14	17 5	32 13	41 14	33 11	29 11	31 5	28 14	30 13	32 8	35 14	28 10	28 10	24 10	140 0	140 0	140 0	15 6	15 6	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	North Arcot	
	South Arcot	9 6	9 6	8 10	...	...	...	14 13	14 13	15 11	15 11	15 11	16 3	...	...	33 10	31 10	30 0	33 14	34 3	31 13	31 13	26 8	26 8	28 6	201 11	201 11	201 11	19 5	19 5	19 5	18 6	18 6	18 14	South Arcot	
	Tanjore	11 0	11 0	9 8	...	...	...	17 6	17 6	15 13	...	...	...	30 3	31 13	33 6	40 10	40 10	37 13	39 5	39 5	36 3	28 0	28 0	26 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 10	15 3	15 10	15 3	15 3	15 10	Tanjore	
	Trichinopoly	9 3	9 3	9 10	...	...	...	15 13	15 2	14 6	16 11	15 14	14 14	30 13	30 13	28 0	30 8	27 14	27 14	34 2	34 2	31 6	30 13	31 10	30 13	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 13	17 13	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	Trichinopoly	
	Madura	12 0	12 8	11 11	...	...	...	15 2	14 5	14 11	16 8	14 13	15 3	37 5	37 5	35 10	35 5	29 6	31 10	38 11	37 3	33 5	31 2	35 10	30 5	145 13	145 13	131 3	17 5	17 5	17 13	16 5	16 5	17 5	Madura	
	Tinnevelly	10 10	10 10	8 0	...	...	...	16 5	16 5	15 6	16 13	16 13	15 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 5	31 5	27 5	70 0	70 0	81 10	18 11	18 11	18 11	18 5	18 5	18 3	Tinnevelly	
	Coimbatore	13 2	13 2	10 11	...	...	...	14 6	14 6	13 8	15 6	15 6	14 14	27 13	27 13	26 2	31 13	31 13	28 10	32 13	32 13	27 14	34 3	34 3	25 10	131 3	131 3	131 3	15 2	15 2	14 11	14 10	14 10	14 10	Coimbatore	
	Nilgiris	10 10	10 16	8 8	...	...	...	11 3	11 3	9 10	12 0	12 0	11 3	30 0	20 0	20 13	21 0	21 9	19 10	21 10	21 10	20 3	24 14	23 3	20 11	161 13	161 13	161 13	12 14	13 0	11 14	12 0	12 0	11 14	Nilgiris	
	Salem*	13 5	12 11	10 11	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 0	14 11	14 11	15 10	38 11	32 13	30 14	30 5	29 8	27 13	31 10	30 13	30 13	36 6	35 10	34 8	151 10	151 10	151 10	17 8	17 8	19 2	16 14	16 14	18 0	Salem	
	South Canara	8 10	7 8	8 10	...	...	...	9 11	9 11	9 11	14 3	13 8	10 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 14	21 14	21 14	26 14	26 14	22 11	121 8	121 8	121 8	14 6	14 6	13 8	13 8	13 8	12 10	Malabar	
	Malabar	7 14	8 10	7 3	...	...	...	15 6	15 6	14 10	16 3	16 3	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...																	
Bombay.	Bombay	10 0	10 0	10 0	23 8	18 10	18 4	7 8	7 8	8 11	12 10	12 6	14 1	18 12	18 11	20 0	15 15	14 14	17 5	10 15	14 11	23 0	16 2	16 2	17 0	62 6	62 6	58 3	14 6	14 6	14 6	12 9	12 9	12 9	Bombay	Bombay.
	Ahmedabad	12 0	12 0	14 0	19 8	19 8	...	6 8	6 8	8 0	12 8	12 0	8 8	15 0	14 0	18 8	14 8	14 8	17 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	16 0	16 0	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	Ahmedabad	
	Kaira	11 7	10 10	13 5	20 0	20 0	22 14	10 0	9 11	10 0	13 10	13 0	16 0	15 0	13 5	20 0	14 13	15 16	0	18 0	...	...	15 8	16 0	18 13	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	Kaira	
	Surat	11 4	11 4	12 8	12 4	12 4	7 11	7 6	7 6	8 3	8 5	8 5	8 12	19 4	19 4	15 9	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	Surat	
	Broach	12 4	12 4	13 5½	...	...	...	9 15½	9 15½	11 1	12 12	12 12	12 9	16 0	16 0	16 9½	13 14	14 13	14 15	...	...	...	12 12	12 12	16 0	106 0	106 0	106 0	14 8¾	14 8¾	12 13	14 8¾	14 8¾	12 13	Broach	
	Tanna (Salsette)	10 5	10 5	10 5	12 14	12 14	...	9 0	9 0	8 3	10 9	10 9	10 0	18 10	18 10	18 10	14 6	14 6	15 0	25 11	25 11	25 11	13 4	13 4	14 15	71 0	71 0	71 1	15 12	15 12	14 5	15 10	15 10	13 13	Tanna (Salsette)	
	Colába (Alibág)	8 8	8 8	8 8	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	7 8	12 8	12 8	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	Colába (Alibág)	
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	14 14	14 14	14 2	...	...	...	7 9	7 9	7 4	10 13	10 13	10 15	17 11	17 11	17 13½	15 2	15 2	15 2	...	...	...	14 4	14 5	17 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	13 0	13 0	14 2	12 14	12 14	14 0	Khandesh (Dhulia)	
	Násik	14 4	14 4	14 4	...	...	...	7 7	7 7	7 7	12 0	12 0	12 0	...	...	...	15 5	15 5	15 8	18 6	18 6	27 9	15 4	17 0	15 8	128 0	128 0	128 0	14 8	15 8	14 8	14 5	15 5	14 4	Násik	
	Ahmednagar	14 5	13 4	14 6	...	...	...	8 11	8 11	9 11	11 2	9 15	12 0	27 0	23 6	26 13	19 6	17 12	21 7	...	...	...	18 12	18 6	17 8	79 0	79 12	91 5	14 6½	13 6	14 9	14 4	13 4	14 7	Ahmednagar	
	Poona	12 10	12 10	12 10	9 4	9 4	...	9 13	9 13	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 4	21 12	20 11	26 2	17 4	17 2	20 11	15 6	15 6	13 8	16 11	16 2	16 2	68 0	68 0	68 0	13 10	13 10	13 1	13 6	13 6	12 13	Poona	
	Sholápur	14 8	14 8	13 9	...	...	...	10 7	10 15	10 7	11 5	11 12	11 12	27 10	27 9	35 12	22 1	22 0	27 2	...	...	...	20 1	20 1	18 4	71 0	71 0	80 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 4	12 8	Sholápur	
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	19 0	19 8	22 12	16 0	16 8	15 0	6 8	6 8	6 12	11 8	11 8	8 9	32 0	31 8	45 0	27 0	30 0	39 0	...	...	...	18 8	18 8	11 12	100 0	100 0	130 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	10 8	10 8	11 12	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	
	Satara	13 6	13 6	12 1	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	8 14	11 7	11 7	10 12	20 0	20 0	26 10	18 2	18 2	22 0	...	...	...	16 14	17 9	14 5	116 8	116 8	116 8	13 2	13 2	12 6	12 6	12 6	11 10	Satara	
	Belgaum	16 0	15 15	19 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	11 8	10 0	12 8	12 0	10 8	17 14	17 13	30 0	19 0	19 0	26 13	...	...	...	17 4	17 4	13 8	65 0	65 0	75 0	11 0	12 3	13 8	10 0	11 3	13 0	Belgaum	
	Dharwar (Hubli)	23 0	23 0	24 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	27 0	26 0	34 0	24 0	24 0	26 13	19 0	19 0	18 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	8 6	8 6	9 8	8 0	8 0	9 0	Dharwar (Hubli)	
	Ratnagiri	7 15	9 4	10 9	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	7 13	14 2	13 7	14 2	...	...	18 3	13 8	13 8	14 11	18 0	18 0	20 0	23 0	20 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	13 2	13 2	11 10	12 15	11 10	10 8	Ratnagiri	
	Kanara (Karwar)	9 0	9 0	10 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 0	12 0	10 11	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	23 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	10 8	10 8	10 8	Kanara (Karwar)	
	Panch Mahals (Godhra)	10 8	10 8	11 6	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	11 6	13 5	13 5	15 0	20 0	20 0	32 0	12 13	12 13	16 0	...	...	...	9 5	9 5	9 5	65 5	65 5	65 5	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	Panch Mahals (Godhra)	
	Aden	7 0	7 0	8 0	...	...	...	6 3	6 3	6 3	7 0	7 0	7 0	12 7	12 7	7 9	5 11	3 11	3 8	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	17 3	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	11 9	11 0	11 0	11 9	Aden	
	Asirgarh	13 12	13 12	13 10	...	...	...	11 12	11 12	10 8	14 0	13 0	12 2	19 0	19 0	24 13	17 12	17 12	22 6	17 8	17 8	...	12 13	12 13	16 2	80 0	83 0	83 10	13 9	13 9	14 11	13 7	13 7	14 10	Asirgarh	
	Baroda	9 15	9 15	10 9	13 10	13 7	14 2	8 3	7 9	9 6	11 1	10 8	11 11	15 12	15 12	17 10	13 7	13 7	16 7	...	...	...	15 8	13 8	19 4	137 8	137 8	137 8	12 8	12 8	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	Baroda	
	Deesa	14 4	12 12	15 8	...	...	...	6 14	6 14	6 6	9 0	9 0	8 11	12 6	14 4	19 4	18 2	15 14	18 8	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	19 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	11 9	Deesa	
	Nimach	18 8	17 4	16 0	24 0	23 0	17 8	9 8	9 0	9 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	25 0	25 0	23 0	13 0	12 0	18 0	...	...	...	26 4½	25 6½	23 10	80 0	80 0	73 5½	16 0½	16 0½	16 6½	15 1½	15 7½	16 0	Nimach	
	Nasirabad	17 8	17 6½	16 8	24 0	23 12¾	23 10½	6 0	6 0	6 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	20 10½	18 0	18 13½	16 2½	14 8	16 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 2	16 12	70 0	70 0	70 0	50 0	50 0	55 0	40 0	40 0	48 0	Nasirabad	
	Rajkot	15 0	13 6	13 10	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	9 0	9 0	9 0	17 0	16 2	16 0	14 8	13 12	13 0	80 0	70 0	40 0	22 12	20 12	18 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 12½	12 12¾	12 4½	12 8	12 8	12 0	Rajkot	
	Upper Sindh Frontier	13 12	13 12	13 4	24 8	23 8	25 0	11 4	10 8	11 4	13 4	12 4	12 0	29 0	27 12	33 8	...	23 10	27 8	10 0	10 0	11 0	17 0	16 0	17 0	90 0	90 0	105 0	17 12	17 12	17 13	17 0	16 0	17 0	Upper Sindh Frontier	
	Karachi	13 0	12 13	12 5	24 0	24 0	20 0	9 0	9 0	9 8	15 0	15 0	18 0	22 0	23 0	23 0	17 12	17 0	17 0	26 0	24 0	24 0	21 0	21 0	14 0	320 0	320 0	480 0	14 8	14 4	14 0	13 0	14 4	14 0	Karachi	
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	15 0	15 0	14 0	26 0	26 0	26 0	12 0	12 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	26 0	26 0	32 0	23 0	23 0	28 0	...	...	...	20 1	20 0	19 0	240 0	240 0	260 0	14 8	14 0	13 8	14 0	13 12	13 0	Haidarabad (Nakur)	
	Shikarpur	13 8	13 0	13 2½	22 8	23 0	25 6	11 12	11 8	12 4	16 0	16 0	20 4	26 12	25 12	32 0	25 0	25 0	30 8	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	19 8	110 0	110 0	100 0	13 1	12 8	13 0	12 8	12 0	12 8	Shikarpur	
	Sukkur	14 8	13 8	14 8	27 8	25 8	29 8	10 8	10 0	12 12	14 8	15 0	18 10	29 8	26 8	29 10	23 8	23 0	23 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	14 12	14 12	11 5	14 12	14 12	11 5	Sukkur	
	Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	12 0	12 6	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 6	12 3	12 12	...	...	...	18 5	17 3	22 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Prices per md. of 40 seers.						Thar and Parkar (Umarkot)	
	Western Districts.																												₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.				*Western Districts.*	
Bengal.	Burdwan	13 4	14 8	13 4	25 0	25 0	40 0	17 8	17 8	25 2	26 0	24 12	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	20 0	21 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 15 4	3 0 0	2 15 0	13 3a	12 13	13 8	Burdwan	Bengal.
	Bancoorah	13 0	13 0	13 8	14 0	16 0	15 0	19 0	20 0	21 0	25 0	25 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 8	17 0	18 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 3 6	3 3 6	3 1 0	12 0b	12 0	13 0	Bancoorah	
	Beerbhoom	15 12	15 9	13 4	...	16 0	...	16 8	16 8	16 8	22 8	21 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 2 9	3 5 3	3 1 3	12 0c	11 4	12 0	Beerbhoom	
	Midnapore	14 0	13 0	13 0	17 0	17 0	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	155 0	155 0	155 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	12 8d	12 8	13 5	Midnapore	
	Hooghly	13 0	13 0	20 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 9e	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
	Howrah	13 0	13 4	13 4	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 8	19 0	19 0	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 12	17 0	21 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	13 0	13 0	12 13	Howrah	

* NOTE.—Salem for 31st August 1883—Rice, best sort, Retail sale, for 14-6 read 14-0 seers.
a In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Culna 14 seers, Cutwa 13-4 seers, and Ranegunge 13-6 seers.
b Retail prices of salt at Raipore 11 seers, at Onda 16 seers, at Mejia, Bishenpore, Indas and Sonamukhi 13 seers, and Kotulpore 12 seers.
c In the interior retail prices of salt range from 11 to 13 seers.
d In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Chattal 14-4 seers and Contai 11-8 seers.
e In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Serampore 16 seers and Jehanabad 13-8 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgaum*. Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgaum*. Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgaum*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
BENGAL—*continued.*	*Central Districts.*																		
	Calcutta	15 5	15 0	13 11	20 0	20 10	26 14	11 8	10 12	10 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	20 10	20 10	...	21 5	21 5	...
	24-Pergunnahs	12 12	13 5	13 5	18 0	16 0	20 0	8 0	8 0	10 8	13 5	14 4	17 8	16 0	...	...	...	...	...
	Nuddea	14 8	14 8	14 4	24 10	22 15	26 0	15 4	14 8	16 0	18 4½	17 4	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Khoolna	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jessore	11 8	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	16 0	21 0	21 4	21 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Moorshedabad	16 12	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	15 0	21 8	22 0	21 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Dinagepore	16 0	17 4	13 4	16 0	16 0	14 0	19 0	14 4	19 8	21 0	23 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Rajshahye	16 0	15 4	13 8 to 14 4	29 0	29 0	32 0	15 0	15 4	13 8 to 16 0	17 0 to 18 0	22 0	18 8 to 24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Rungpore	13 5	13 5	16 0	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	15 0	19 0	19 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bogra	18 0	24 0	18 12	...	...	...	12 0	12 12	18 0	22 8	21 12	27 3	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pubna	18 12	18 12	18 0	...	...	...	8 4	8 4	10 0	17 4	19 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Darjeeling	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jalpáiguri	10 0	10 0	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	12 8	12 8	14 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Eastern Districts.																		
	Dacca	13 3	13 5	13 5	20 0	22 10	32 0	16 0	17 0	22 0	17 12	20 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Furreedpore	21 0	21 0	20 0	30 0	30 0	37 8	18 0	20 0	21 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	19 0	21 0	21 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mymensingh	12 0	11 8	11 8	...	...	...	13 4	13 4	20 0	18 12	19 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chittagong	11 4	11 4	9 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	12 8	17 0	18 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nonkholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	22 0	21 0	21 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tipperah	11 12	11 12	11 8	...	...	...	17 0	18 0	21 5	20 12	25 12	31 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	13 5	14 0	14 0	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	21 0	20 0	22 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Behar.																		
	Patna	21 0	21 0	22 0	29 0	29 0	28 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	18 0	18 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gya	17 8	17 8	17 0	23 0	21 0	24 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	16 8	16 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Shahabad	16 8 to 17 0	15 0 to 15 8	16 0 to 17 8	24 0	25 0	25 8	11 0 to 12 0	10 0 to 11 0	17 0	16 0 to 18 0	15 0 to 16 0	18 0 to 19 0	28 0	27 0	...	26 0	25 0	...
	Durbhunga	14 0	15 0	14 0	24 0	...	30 0	14 0	12 8	14 0	16 0	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mozufferpore	17 0	18 0	16 0	30 0	25 0	40 0	10 0	11 0	12 0	15 0	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sarun	17 0	16 0	16 8	28 0	27 0	28 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	17 0	17 8	18 0	29 0	27 0	34 0	...	...	...
	Chumparun	19 0	19 0	18 0	31 0	31 0	36 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	17 0	17 8	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Monghyr	17 13	17 9	17 13	27 12	24 2½	31 8	13 10	13 2	15 12	16 4	15 12	17 13	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bhágalpur	15 2	15 8	15 2	25 4	22 11	37 14	15 10	15 2	17 11	18 7	17 10	20 3	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Purneah	19 0	18 0	14 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	20 0	18 0	18 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Maldah	18 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	13 8	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	17 8	18 0	16 0	23 0	23 8	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Orissa.																		
	Cuttack	13 2	11 13	14 7	...	...	...	13 2	13 2	15 12	21 0*	21 0	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pooree	11 13	10 8	10 4	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	20 0	23 10	23 10	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Balasore	16 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	25 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	CHOTA NAGPORE. *South-Western Frontier Agency.*																		
	Hazáribágh	15 0	14 0	13 0	24 0	17 0	17 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	18 0	15 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lohardugga	16 0	15 0	14 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	16 0	18 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Singbhoom	18 0	18 0	20 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	32 0	32 0	36 0	36 0	36 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Manbhoom	13 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	17 0	16 0	18 0	27 0	26 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...

* In the interior retail prices of common rice vary from 26-4 to 39-8 seers per rupee.
f In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Baraset and Bussirhat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 10-8 seers, Barrackpore 12-12 seers, and Dum-Dum 13 seers.
g In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Kooshtea and Chooadanga 13 seers, Meherpore 11-8 seers, and Ranaghat 11-14 seers.
h In the sub-divisions retail price of salt 11 seers.
k In Satkhira and Basirhat sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers, and Bongong 13 seers.
i In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Laibagh 11 seers, Jungipore 12 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.
j In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Lalbagh 11 seers, Jungipore 12 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.
k Retail prices of salt at Raigunge 10-8 seers and Neetpore 12 seers.
l In Nattore retail price of salt 12 seers.
m In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Gaibanda 10-4 seers, and Kurigram and Nilphamari 12 seers.
n In Serajgunge retail price of salt 13 seers.
o Retail price of salt at Kurseong 8 seers and Silliguree 10 seers.
p Retail price of salt at Fallacotta in Alipore sub-division 10 seers.
q Retail price of salt at Manickgunge 13 seers, Moonsheegunge 10 seers 10⅓ chittacks, and Naraingunge 12-12 seers.
r In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Goalundo 13 seers, Madaripore 12 seers, Bhanga 11-8 seers and Gopalgunge 12-12 seers.
s In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Patuakhali 9-2 seers, Perosepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.
t In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Patuakhali 9-2 seers, Perosepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.
u In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Kishoreegunge 10-10 seers, Attea and Jamalpore 12 seers, and Netrokona 13-5 seers.

INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883—*continued.*

IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Lesser Millets, Rági, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Rági, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Rági, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
BENGAL—*continued.*	*Central Districts.*															
	Calcutta	...	...	...	20 0	18 13	22 10	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	13 5	13 5	14 9
	24-Pergunnahs	...	...	...	18 0	17 8	17 8	80 0	80 0	100 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	12 13½	12 13	13 14
	Nuddea	...	...	...	18 13	18 13	18 12	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 1 11	3 0 0	11 10½*g*	11 10½	11 10½
	Khoolna	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	10 12*i*	11 0	11 8
	Jessore	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	10 12*i*	11 0	11 8
	Moorshedabad	...	...	...	20 0	22 0	22 14	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 0 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	13 0*j*	12 8	12 0
	Dinagepore	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	14 0	160 0	80 0	160 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 3 6	11 8*k*	11 0	12 0
	Rajshahye	...	...	...	19 8	22 8	21 0 to 22 8	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 1 3	3 0 0	3 2 0	12 0*l*	12 0	12 12
	Rungpore	...	...	...	17 3	17 3	15 0	110 0	110 0	130 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 5 3	11 14*m*	11 14	11 8
	Bogra	...	...	...	16 6	19 2	17 1	62 8	62 8	48 12	3 2 8	3 5 4	3 5 4	12 0	12 0	12 0
	Pubna	...	...	...	18 12	18 12	19 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 2 6	3 4 0	3 1 0	12 0*n*	12 0	12 0
	Darjeeling	12 0	12 0	8 0	16 0	8 0	9 0	128 0	106 8	160 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	8 0*o*	8 0	8 0
	Jalpáiguri	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 0*p*	12 0	11 0
	Eastern Districts.															
	Dacca	...	...	...	19 0	18 0	20 0	99 0	97 0	106 8	3 0 0	...	2 14 0	13 5*q*	12 10	13 5
	Furreedpore	...	...	...	20 0	18 0	12 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	12 0*r*	12 0	12 0
	Backergunge	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	2 11 0	2 11 0	2 15 0	13 0*s*	13 0	13 0
	Mymensingh	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 3 0	12 4*t*	12 4	12 8
	Chittagong	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 0	40 0	40 0	80 0	...	...	2 14 0	10 0*u*	10 0	13 0
	Nonkholly	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	10 0*n*	10 0	10 0
	Tipperah	...	...	...	18 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	12 4*w*	12 4	12 8
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	320 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	3 4 0	6 4	6 4	10 9
	Hill Tipperah	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0	11 0	10 0
	Behar.															
	Patna	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	28 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	3 1 6	3 1 6	3 0 0	9 12	9 12	10 8
	Gya	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	22 0	160 0	180 0	180 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	11 0*x*	11 0	11 8
	Shahabad	...	...	27 8	25 0	24 0 to 25 0	29 0	120 0	100 0	120 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	12 8*y*	12 8	12 8
	Durbhunga	30 0	29 0	42 8	22 8	20 0	23 0	180 0	160 0	160 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	...	10 0*z*	10 0	11 0
	Mozufferpore	...	...	...	22 0	23 0	25 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 0*z1*	12 0	12 0
	Sarun	30 0	30 0	33 0	26 0	25 0	27 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0*z2*	11 0	11 0
	Chumparun	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	25 0	...	...	...	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	11 0*z3*	11 0	11 8
	Monghyr	...	...	...	25 3	24 3	29 7	160 0	120 0	126 0	3 2 4½	2 15 0	3 1 0	12 1*z4*	12 9	12 10
	Bhágalpur	...	...	...	22 11	22 11	26 8	151 14	151 14	151 8	3 0 0	3 2 0	2 14 6	12 10*z5*	12 10	12 10
	Purneah	...	...	...	19 0	20 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 12 0	9 0*z6*	9 0	10 12
	Maldah	...	...	...	21 0	20 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	3 2 0	3 4 0	3 3 0	12 0	12 0	12 0
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	...	...	...	18 0	17 0	19 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 4 0	10 0*z7*	10 0	11 4
	Orissa.															
	Cuttack	15 12	18 6	13 2	18 6	18 6	21 0	80 0	80 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	14 0	14 0	14 0
	Pooree	...	...	...	17 1	17 6	15 0	120 0	100 0	120 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	13 0*z8*	13 0	13 4
	Balasore	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	3 2 0	9 3*z9*	9 3	12 12
	CHOTA NAGPUR. *South-Western Frontier Agency.*															
	Hazáribágh	30 0	30 0	42 0	20 0	16 0	18 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 7 0	3 8 6	3 8 0	10 8*z10*	10 0	11 0
	Lohardugga	28 0	28 0	30 0	15 0	14 0	15 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 2 0	9 0	9 0	9 0
	Singbhoom	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	24 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	4 7 0	4 7 0	4 0 0	8 0	8 0	8 12
	Manbhoom	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 9 0	3 7 0	3 12 0	10 12*z11*	10 0	10 12

x Retail price of salt at Hathazaree 8 seers.
y In the interior retail prices of salt range from 8 to 12-4 seers.
w In Brahmunberiah and Chaudpore sub-divisions retail price of salt is 13 seers per rupee.
x In Nowada retail price of salt 10 seers.
y In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Buxar 11-8 seers, Sasseram 11-12 seers, and Bhabooah 10-8 seers.
z In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madhubani 10 seers and Tajpur 11-8 seers.
z1 In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 12 seers.
z2 In Bewan and Gopalgunge sub-divisions retail price of salt 12 seers.
z3 In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 12 seers.
z4 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Beguserai 11-8 seers and Jamui 11 seers.
z5 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Banka 11 seers, Muddehpoora 10-8 seers, and Soopoie 12 seers.
z6 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Kissengunge 10 seers and Arrareah (at Raneeguuge) 10 seers.
z7 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow :—Deoghur 12 seers, Rajmehal and Godda 12-8 seers.
z8 In Khoorda retail price of salt 13 seers.
z9 In Bhadruck retail price of salt 8 seers.
z10 Retail price of salt at Chatra is 11 seers, and Khurruckdiha 11-8 seers.
z11 Retail price of salt at Raghunathpore 11-8 seers, Burrabazar 10 seers, and Gobindpore 11 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar). *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar). *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar). *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bajrah Millet (Cumboo, Bajra). *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bajrah Millet (Cumboo, Bajra). *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bajrah Millet (Cumboo, Bajra). *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee). *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee). *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee). *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a.	R a. per md.	R a.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Assam.	Sylhet	No return received.																													Sylhet	Assam.
	Cachar																														Cachar	
	Goálpárá																														Goálpárá	
	Gáro Hills																														Gáro Hills	
	Kámrúp																														Kámrúp	
	Darrang																														Darrang	
	Nowgong																														Nowgong	
	Sibságar																														Sibságar	
	Lakhimpur																														Lakhimpur	
	Khási & Jaintiá Hills																														Khási & Jaintiá Hills	
	Nága Hills																														Nága Hills	
N. W. Provinces.	Dehra Dún	17 8	17 8	18 8	26 0	26 0	27 0	6 8	6 8	6 0	10 8	10 0	11 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	22 0	22 0	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	Dehra Dún	N. W. Provinces.
	Saharanpur	18 13	18 13	20 7	23 10½	19 5¼	31 3	7 8½	7 8½	9 11	10 12	10 12	12 14½	26 14	26 14	32 4	23 10½	23 10½	30 0	...	...	...	24 11½	24 11½	24 11½	129 0	129 0	129 0	13 2¼	12 1	12 14½	12 14½	12 14½	11 13	Saháranpur	
	Muzaffarnagar	17 14	17 10	19 12	33 0	33 0	28 11	6 9	6 9	6 9	11 8	11 0	14 5	28 11	28 11	33 0	22 0	22 0	24 6	...	...	...	23 2	22 8	24 14	110 0	110 0	132 0	12 6	12 6	11 13	11 8	11 8	11 4	Muzaffarnagar	
	Meerut	18 0	17 8	19 8	27 8	25 0	27 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	13 0	13 0	15 0	27 0	26 0	27 0	19 0	19 0	21 0	...	...	...	23 0	22 8	24 0	110 0	110 0	110 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Meerut	
	Bulandshahr	19 0	18 8	19 10	28 0	26 0	25 8	6 0	6 0	6 0	10 0	9 11	10 5	26 0	26 0	24 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	22 0	21 0	23 0	140 0	140 0	150 0	11 8	11 8	11 12	...	...	...	Bulandshahr	
	Aligarh	17 12	17 4	18 8	24 8	23 0	24 0	6 0	6 0	6 8	10 0	10 0	13 0	27 0	26 0	27 0	19 0	19 0	21 0	...	...	...	22 0	21 0	22 8	120 0	120 0	130 0	12 8	12 4	12 8	12 0	12 0	11 8	Aligarh	
	Kumaun	15 0	15 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	14 0	24 0	24 0	25 0	16 0	16 0	23 8	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	Kumaun	
	Garhwál	20 0	20 0	24 0	22 0	22 0	27 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	15 0	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	30 0*	30 0*	30 0*	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	280 0	280 0	280 0	9 0	8 8	7 0	8 2	7 13	6 4	Garhwál	
	Bijnor	19 2	18 14	17 14	29 8	29 4	25 14	10 2	9 9	11 8	12 6	10 11	12 15	...	22 8	21 6	...	...	19 2	...	...	...	21 14	21 14	21 14	125 0	125 0	137 8	12 10	12 10	12 12	12 8	12 8	11 14	Bijnor	
	Moradabad	20 10	20 0	19 11	29 6	28 2	23 2	9 0	9 0	9 6	13 0	13 0	13 2	25 8	25 8	26 4	15 4	15 4	18 2	...	...	...	24 9½	24 0	19 8	192 0	192 0	192 0	11 6	11 6	10 12½	10 12½	11 1½	10 7½	Moradabad	
	Budaun	20 4	20 6	18 0	30 0	30 0	23 0	6 0	6 0	9 9½	16 3	13 3	18 0	...	...	...	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	23 2	22 8	25 10	125 0	125 0	125 0	12 3	12 3	11 14	11 14	11 14	11 4	Budaun	
	Bareilly	19 1	19 6	17 8	26 9	24 6	21 4	7 8	7 8	8 2	13 7	13 2	14 6	27 8	26 4	25 0	20 0	20 0	21 4	...	...	...	23 4	22 12	21 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	11 0	10 12	10 12	Bareilly	
	Sháhjahánpur	20 8	19 6	19 2	33 8	33 0	25 0	10 0	9 12	9 4	15 12	15 4	19 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	11 4	11 4	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 8	Sháhjahánpur	
	Tarái Pergunnahs	24 6	24 4	22 0	40 0	40 0	32 0	8 12	8 12	10 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	40 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	22 8	25 0	...	...	...	21 8	21 8	24 8	120 0	120 0	110 0	13 0	13 0	14 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	Tarái Pergunnahs	
	Muttra	17 8	17 8	17 8	23 0	24 0	7 0	7 0	...	...	11 0	11 0	14 0	22 0	22 0	28 0	18 0	18 0	23 0	...	...	...	23 0	22 8	25 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	12 0	12 8	10 8	Muttra	
	Agra	17 0	16 8	17 8	24 8	23 0	25 0	5 8	5 8	6 0	11 8	11 8	14 0	23 0	22 0	26 0	20 0	18 0	25 0	...	...	...	24 12	23 0	24 0	150 0	150 0	156 8	12 4	12 4	11 14½	11 10	11 10	10 14	Farukhabad	
	Farukhabad	18 11	17 15	17 8	26 12	24 7	22 3½	7 4	7 4	6 13	12 9	12 8	13 6½	24 12	24 2	24 8	23 7	22 4	22 12	...	...	...	22 0	21 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Mainpuri	
	Mainpuri	18 0	17 0	18 8	24 0	22 8	24 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	26 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	11 0	11 0	10 0	Etawah	
	Etawah	17 0	17 8	19 0	22 8	22 0	25 8	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 0	12 0	14 8	24 0	23 0	25 8	19 8	19 8	23 8	...	...	...	22 1	21 0	22 0	180 0	180 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	10 8	11 13	11 4	12 0	Etah	
	Etah	19 0	18 8	19 0	25 5	25 4	25 3	7 12	6 8	7 11	12 0	11 8	13 0	...	18 0	22 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	29 0	29 0	30 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	12 8	10 0	10 0	11 8	Jalaun	
	Jalaun	19 0	19 0	17 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	28 14	27 9½	28 0½	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	12 8	10 0	10 0	11 8	Jhánsi	
	Jhánsi	21 4½	19 7½	21 3	30 9	28 10	31 15	7 8	7 8	8 0	12 12	11 24	15 0	28 11	27 2½	28 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	30 0	30 0	160 0	180 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Lalitpur	
	Lalitpur	21 6	20 8	20 5	36 0	35 0	37 0	9 0	9 0	11 0	11 8	11 0	13 0	33 4	31 0	32 0	24 0	22 0	26 0	...	...	...	28 8	27 0	25 8	145 0	145 0	140 0	13 8	13 8	12 12	13 0	13 0	12 8	Cawnpore	
	Cawnpore	19 0	18 8	19 0	28 8	27 0	27 8	10 0	10 0	11 0	13 8	13 8	14 8	27 0	27 0	28 0	24 0	24 0	25 0	...	...	...	29 8	27 12	25 4	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	10 4	10 12	10 12	10 0	Fatehpur	
	Fatehpur	16 14	16 10	16 10	25 12	25 4	24 4	10 8	10 12	13 8	14 0	13 8	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 0	37 0	33 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	11 0	11 0	12 0	Banda	
	Banda	28 0	22 0	17 8	32 0	31 0	21 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 8	12 0	14 0	36 0	37 0	34 0	33 0	31 0	30 0	...	...	...	29 12	29 0	25 2	160 0	140 0	150 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Allahabad	
	Allahabad	17 8	17 4	17 8	29 0	28 0	25 4	11 0	10 8	12 0	15 0	15 0	16 0	31 0	31 0	32 8	30 0	29 8	31 0	...	...	...	32 8	29 13	29 13	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	11 4	11 12	10 8	10 0	11 0	Hamirpur	
	Hamirpur	18 9	18 4	16 14	...	...	18 0	8 4	9 0	11 4	9 4	...	...	27 4	24 12	29 8	26 14	23 10	27 0	...	...	...	28 4	29 10	24 0	148 12	148 12	120 0	10 12	10 12	9 11	10 10	10 10	9 9	Jaunpur	
	Jaunpur	19 0	19 13	18 5	30 5	31 1	28 15	7 12	7 12	7 1	14 2	12 12	15 8	...	...	...	...	...	19 12	...	...	...	28 13	28 13	28 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	10 8½	10 9½	11 13	10 6½	10 6½	10 6½	Gorakhpur	
	Gorakhpur	18 0	18 0	18 14½	27 0	27 0	27 0	12 2½	11 13	14 6½	14 14	14 5½	19 13	36 0	39 9½	36 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	23 0	160 0	150 0	160 0	8 8	8 8	9 8	8 0	8 0	9 0	Basti	
	Basti	18 0	18 0	18 8	30 0	30 0	25 0	12 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 1	25 15	22 14	147 8	147 8	181 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	9 14	9 14	10 0	Azamgarh	
	Azamgarh	16 10	17 4	16 4	24 12	25 13	24 6	10 5	10 5	11 9	14 0	13 4	17 11	31 0	29 8	...	20 10	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	24 0	21 0	70 0	70 0	100 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	Mirzapur	
	Mirzapur	16 0	16 0	15 0	25 0	25 0	21 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	16 0	26 0	26 0	26 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	...	...	...	24 6	23 14	21 2	90 0	90 0	120 0	10 6½	10 6½	11 4	10 2	10 2	1 2	Benares	
	Benares	16 13	16 13	15 11½	25 12	25 8½	24 6	10 5	10 13½	11 6	17 1	17 1	15 11½	26 0	26 0	26 0	25 8	26 0	24 15	...	...	...	27 0½	27 0½	25 12	128 12	128 12	180 0	10 15½	10 15½	11 0	10 5	9 10½	Ghazipur	
	Ghazipur	18 5	18 10½	18 0	26 11½	27 0½	27 11	9 0	9 0	10 15½	15 7	15 7	16 1½	33 7½	33 7½	25 12	25 12	25 12	21 14	...	...	...	25 0	25 8	25 0	90 0	90 0	100 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 4	Balia	
	Balia	18 12	18 12	16 4	26 4	25 0	27 8	10 0	10 0	17 8	17 8	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Pilibhít	
	Pilibhít	No return received.			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...										
Oudh.	Sultánpur	20 0	20 0	20 0	32 0	32 0	31 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	31 0	26 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 4	12 4	11 8	12 0	12 0	11 4	Sultánpur	Oudh.
	Partábgarh	20 0	19 14	19 4	32 8	32 5	28 12	16 0	15 5	18 4	18 0	17 2	19 12	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	...	...	...	28 0	26 10½	21 4	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 10	10 10	10 4	Partábgarh	
	Fyzabad	17 6	18 0	16 14	28 0	28 0	27 4	10 0	10 0	11 0	16 8	15 12	18 12	38 0	38 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 8	27 8	23 4	120 0	120 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Fyzabad	
	Kheri	22 0	21 0	19 0	36 0	34 8	25 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	14 0	13 8	20 0	44 0	41 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	26 8	18 0	120 0	120 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	Kheri	
	Lucknow	17 12	17 11	17 13	27 7	26 14	25 3	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 14	12 2	15 8	27 2	27 0	24 8	23 6	23 4	24 0	...	...	...	23 3	23 0	21 9	115 0	115 0	110 0	11 2½	11 2½	10 8	10 10½	10 10½	10 0	Lucknow	
	Bára Banki	18 8	18 0	18 0	26 0	24 0	24 0	10 0	9 0	11 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	36 0	32 0	36 0	20 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	22 8	180 0	130 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Bára Banki	
	Fatraich	16 0	16 0	16 0	34 0	34 0	30 0	10 0	10 0	9 8	14 0	15 0	17 0	34 0	34 0	36 0	22 0	22 0	18 0	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 8	Bahraich	
	Rai Bareli	19 0	18 12	19 0	27 8	26 8	26 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 8	16 8	...	...	25 0	22 0	22 0	20 0	...	...	...	25 0	24 0	19 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	9 0	Rai Bareli	
	Sitapur	21 6	20 12	19 9½	34 8	32 11	26 9½	8 0	8 0	8 0	16 2	14 0	18 12	28 0	28 0	...	25 0	25 0	25 0	...	...	...	27 8	27 1½	21 6	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	11 8	11 8	10 8	Sitapur	
	Gonda	21 5	20 15	20 4	39 4	42 0	28 0	15 0	14 4	16 4	15 8	15 10	18 12	39 12†	39 0†	40 0†	21 8	22 0	20 0	...	...	...	32 8	33 8	26 12	200 0	200 0	240 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 0	11 0	11 0	Gonda	
	Unao	18 8	18 0	18 0	27 0	26 0	27 0	11 0	11 0	14 0	13 0	15 0	28 0	28 0	36 0	21 0	21 0	21 0	24 0	...	...	...	26 0	25 0	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	11 0	12 0	11 8	Unao	
	Hardui	17 6	16 14	20 6	28 10	27 3	27 11	5 10	5 10	5 10	11 4	11 4	12 14	...	23 7	..	...	16 14	...	...	...	...	22 8	21 9	22 8	240 0	200 0	240 0	9 6	9 6	9 6	7 8	7 8	8 7	Hardui	
Punjab.	Gujránwála (a)	22 4	22 4	27 0	37 0	35 0	45 0	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	14 0	32 0	32 0	35 0	28 0	28 0	25 0	...	...	...	32 8	29 8	27 0	95 0	95 0	95 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	15 0	15 0	15 0	Gujránwála (a)	Punjab.
	Lahore (b)	22 0	20 0	25 0	32 0	32 0	48 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	32 0	32 0	30 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	...	...	...	31 0	29 0	32 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	Lahore (b)	
	Ferozepore (b)	21 0	20 0	25 0	36 8	38 0	42 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 0	11 0	41 0	38 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35 0	30 8	36 0	100 0	100 0	80 0	13 4	13 4	12 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	Ferozepore (b)	
	Sirsa (c)	21 0	21 0	22 8	35 0	35 0	38 0	...	...	...	12 0	11 0	12 0	32 0	32 0	38 0	29 0	28 0	32 0	...	...	...	35 0	33 0	27 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 8	12 8	11 0	12 0	11 8	10 8	Sirsa (c)	
	Hissar	18 8	18 8	17 0	28 0	29 0	32 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	27 0	33 0	32 0	25 0	26 0	27 0	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	29 0	120 0	120 0	80 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	11 0	12 0	11 8	Hissar	
	Rohtak (d)	18 0	18 8	17 8	25 0	24 0	24 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	22 0	22 0	24 0	21 0	21 0	23 0	...	...	...	22 8	23 0	23 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	11 6	11 8	11 0	Rohtak (d)	
	Gurgaon	20 0	19 8	19 12	27 0	27 0	27 2	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	13 0	25 0	25 0	25 12	22 0	22 0	25 12	...	...	...	22 0	23 4	24 4	120 0	120 0	110 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Gurgaon	
	Delhi (b)	18 8	17 8	19 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	24 0	23 8	27 0	20 8	19 0	21 0	...	...	...	22 0	21 0	22 12	80 0	80 0	80 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	11 8	11 8	11 8	Delhi (b)	
	Karnal (b)	18 8	18 0	20 8	27 0	26 8	31 0	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	13 0	24 0	24 0	30 0	22 0	22 0	25 0	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	26 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	Karnal (b)	
	Umballa (c)	20 8	20 8	24 8	28 0	30 0	32 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	15 0	15 0	20 0	...	...	...	26 0	27 0	29 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	14 0	14 2	13 13	14 0	14 0	13 12	Umballa (c)	
	Ludhiana	23 0	23 0	25 0	34 0	32 0	37 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	12 0	33 0	30 0	40 0	25 0	19 0	23 0	...	...	...	29 8	29 0	32 12	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 10	14 0	14 0	14 8	Ludiana	
	Simla (b)	15 4	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 4	18 4	22 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	11 4	11 0	10 0	10 8	10 5	9 6	Simla (b)	

* Mandwa. † Maize. (a) Barley, rice and gram falling. (b) Prices falling. (c) Rice, bajra, gram and salt falling. (d) Wheat and gram rising: salt and barley falling. (e) barley and gram rising.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra, *Penicillaria Spicata*). Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra, *Penicillaria Spicata*). Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra, *Penicillaria Spicata*). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
Punjab—*continued.*	Kángra	20 0	20 0	24 0	32 0	32 0	40 0				14 0	14 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jullundur (*a*)	21 8	20 0	25 8	30 0	30 0	35 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	8 0	30 0	28 0	34 0	25 0	24 0	19 0
	Hoshiárpur (*a*)	20 0	20 0	26 8	25 0	24 0	36 0	...	...	...	12 8	11 0	11 0	29 0	...	34 0	20 0	20 0	16 0
	Gurdáspur	24 8	24 8	30 0	28 0	28 0	42 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	30 0	30 0	28 0	14 0	14 0	14 0
	Amritsar (*b*)	23 0	21 8	25 8	30 0	30 0	43 8	...	...	...	13 8	11 8	12 8	35 0	27 4	29 4	24 8	24 8	23 8
	Siálkot (*a*)	23 8	22 0	27 0	35 0	35 0	44 0	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	14 0	32 0	32 0	28 0	20 0	29 0	21 0
	Gujrát (*c*)	23 0	23 0	27 0	37 0	36 0	45 8	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	38 0	36 8	32 0	35 8	33 8	29 8
	Jhelum	23 0	21 0	24 0	36 0	28 0	35 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	33 0	33 0	26 0	36 0	29 0	25 0
	Ráwalpindi (*d*)	25 0	23 0	25 0	34 0	32 0	35 8	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	11 12	44 0	36 8	32 0	45 0	35 8	25 0
	Shahpur (*e*)	27 0	26 0	21 0	41 0	41 0	32 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	12 0	36 0	34 0	22 0	34 0	34 0	21 0
	Jhang (*f*)	20 0	21 4	19 4	31 8	30 0	33 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 4	10 0	24 0	26 11	25 0	31 0	30 0	20 0
	Montgomery	17 8	17 0	20 0	30 0	26 0	24 0	...	...	...	5 8	5 8	5 8	...	...	20 0	...	...	16 0
	Mooltan (*g*)	15 8	15 8	17 0	27 0	27 0	29 0	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	10 0	27 0	24 0	30 0	24 0	24 0	24 0
	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	17 0	17 0	18 8	26 0	25 0	26 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	7 0	21 0	21 0	18 0	17 0	16 0	18 0
	Dera Ghazi Khán	17 8	17 8	18 12	27 8	27 8	22 8	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	7 8	33 12	32 8	23 12	30 0	30 0	22 8
	Dera Ismail Khán (*i*)	20 10	21 4	20 1·	32 8	35 0	28 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 2	9 1	40 0	40 0	32 4	30 0	30 0	27 4
	Bannu	28 2	29 6	30 0	35 0	41 4	42 2	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	10 0	37 8	45 0	35 0	30 0	30 0	33 12
	Kohát	19 12	19 10	17 8	33 2	31 14	30 4	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	12 2	30 10	30 10	23 4	30 10	30 10	21 10
	Peshawar (*j*)	20 5	20 8	18 12	33 0	32 0	35 6	...	...	...	11 5	11 5	9 8	24 0	23 6	26 6	27 12	27 4	14 0
	Házára	25 8	25 0	23 12	40 0	40 0	32 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 8	38 0	34 0	...	28 0	28 0	...
Central Provinces.	Nágpur	18 12	18 12	17 0	...	...	...	8 12	9 0	9 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	29 8	29 0	26 12	...	...	...
	Bhandára	22 0	20 0	18 12	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	22 8	20 0	21 4	35 0	35 0	23 0	...	...	...
	Chanda	19 0	19 0	18 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	13 0	30 8	27 8	24 0	...	...	...
	Wardha	20 0	20 0	18 8	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 12	12 0	12 0	14 12	27 0	26 0	23 0	...	...	...
	Bálaghát	20 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	18 0	15 0	15 0	27 0	23 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jubbulpore	20 0	19 0	17 0	22 0	20 0	20 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	16 0	15 0	14 0	24 0	23 0	17 0	17 0	17 8	15 8
	Saugor	23 8	20 8	18 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	11 0	9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Damoh	26 8	26 8	22 0	...	...	...	12 0	10 12	14 8	13 8	12 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Seoni	21 0	21 0	18 0	...	...	...	12 8	12 8	13 8	18 0	16 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mandla	26 0	25 0	19 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	19 0	18 8	18 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Betúl	18 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	9 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	19 8	19 8	20 0	...	...	...
	Chhindwára	25 8	25 8	17 0	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	9 0	14 8	14 8	13 0	31 0	31 0	23 0	...	...	...
	Hoshangabad	15 6	15 6	15 7	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	4 8	9 9	9 12	11 4	21 0	21 0	27 4	19 4	19 4	27 4
	Narsinghpur	17 8	17 8	16 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	11 8	11 8	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nimár	16 8	16 8	16 0	...	...	...	12 9	12 9	...	14 14	14 14	12 0	20 10	20 10	30 0	20 0	20 0	25 0
	Raipur	21 0	21 0	28 0	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	20 0	31 8	31 8	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sambulpur	15 0	16 8	22 12	...	...	...	27 0	29 5	35 0	32 0	32 11	44 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bilaspur	26 0	25 0	49 0	...	...	...	47 8	33 4	54 0	58 0	44 0	84 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
British Burma.	*Arakan Division.*																		
	Akyab	6 6	6 6	6 10	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	14 0	9 0	9 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Northern Arakan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kyoukpyoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 8	8 11	18 0	11 0	10 3	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sandoway	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pegu Division.																		
	Rangoon Town	11 2	11 0	15 5	...	...	...	11 4	11 10	12 9	12 8	12 8	13 2	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tharrawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 2¾	7 2¾	10 13¾	7 14¾	7 14¾	14 4¾	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Prome	9 11	9 11	13 13	...	...	...	9 9	11 3	12 12	13 1	13 1	17 2	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Irrawaddy Division.																		
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 15	11 15	14 5	15 10	15 10	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 6	8 6	10 12	14 11	10 7	14 11	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Thayetmyo	9 4	9 4	10 1	...	...	...	10 0	10 3	10 3	11 13	11 13	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tenasserim Division.																		
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	12 2	12 2	10 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	12 10	12 3	12 3	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	13 12	17 15	17 15	22 14	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	14 3	18 5	14 3	16 1	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 13	9 1	12 7	10 6	11 5	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Salween	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bolarum																		
	Chudderghat																		
	Amraoti	15 8	16 0	17 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	26 0	26 0	28 0	16 0	16 0	18 0
	Akola	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	10 0	27 0	24 0	26 0	21 0	21 0	16 0
	Ellichpur	16 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	14 0	12 0	26 0	27 0	30 0	23 0	24 0	25 0
	Buldana	18 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	25 0	26 0	32 0	24 0	24 0	28 0
	Wún	18 0	18 0	13 8	...	...	...	8 8	8 0	7 0	13 0	13 0	10 8	30 8	31 8	28 0	...	...	...
	Básim	21 0	21 0	21 0	...	...	...	5 12	5 12	5 4	13 0	13 0	13 0	28 0	27 0	32 0	...	...	...

Provinces	Districts.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verugu, sáwee, Cheena, Cornoo, Murhwa, Nuggeel, *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verugu, sáwee, Cheena, Cornoo, Murhwa, Nuggeel, *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verugu, sáwee, Cheena, Cornoo, Murhwa, Nuggeel, *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Punjab—*continued.*	Kángra	...	...	...	21 0	18 0	24 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	Kángra	Punjab—*continued.*
	Jullundur (*a*)	...	...	...	27 0	25 8	32 0	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 8	14 8	14 4	14 0	14 0	13 11	Jullundur (*a*)	
	Hoshiárpur (*a*)	...	...	...	25 0	24 0	28 0	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	13 12	13 12	13 8	Hoshiárpur (*a*)	
	Gurdáspur	...	...	...	27 0	25 8	31 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 4	13 0	13 8	12 8	12 0	13 0	Gurdáspur	
	Amritsar (*b*)	...	...	...	31 4	30 8	33 4	80 0	80 0	80 0	15 6	15 5	14 12	15 0	14 13	14 6	Amritsar (*b*)	
	Siálkot (*a*)	...	...	...	27 0	26 8	26 0	120 0	120 0	130 0	15 8	15 8	14 12	15 0	15 0	14 0	Siálkot (*a*)	
	Gujrát (*c*)	...	...	...	28 8	26 0	25 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	*	*	*	15 0	15 0	15 0	Gujrát (*c*)	
	Jhelum	...	...	...	28 0	25 0	24 0	120 0	120 0	160 0	16 0	16 0	16 8	15 8	15 8	16 0	Jhelum	
	Ráwalpindi (*d*)	...	...	...	32 8	29 0	25 0	82 0	88 0	90 0	15 4	15 4	14 6	15 0	14 12	14 4	Ráwalpindi (*d*)	
	Shahpur (*e*)	...	...	...	37 0	36 0	23 8	320 0	320 0	320 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	Shahpur (*e*)	
	Jhang (*f*)	...	...	...	26 0	26 11	22 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	13 8	14 0	15 2	13 4	13 12	15 0	Jhang (*f*)	
	Montgomery	...	...	...	30 0	27 0	28 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Montgomery	
	Mooltan (*g*)	...	...	...	25 0	24 0	23 8	90 0	90 0	90 0	13 12	14 0	15 0	13 8	13 8	14 8	Mooltan (*g*)	
	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	...	...	...	21 8	21 0	19 0	90 0	90 0	120 0	*	*	*	13 8	13 8	12 0	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	
	Dera Ghazi Khán	...	...	...	23 12	23 12	17 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	30 10	31 4	30 10	27 8	28 12	27 8	Dera Ghazi Khán	
	Dera Ismail Khán (*i*)	...	...	...	26 4	30 0	24 13	125 0	125 0	100 0	47 8	50 0	55 0	45 0	47 8	53 0	Dera Ismail Khán (*i*)	
	Bannu	...	...	...	30 10	30 10	30 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	Bannu	
	Kohát	...	...	...	28 1	25 8	16 14	102 0	102 0	102 0	68 14	71 6	91 8	63 12	66 5	75 0	Kohát	
	Peshawar (*j*)	...	...	...	24 10	24 0	16 13	105 0	105 0	96 0	44 3	44 3	55 4	43 0	43 0	53 0	Peshawar (*j*)	
	Házára	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	...	140 0	140 0	70 0	*	*	*	12 0	11 0	11 0	Házára	
Central Provinces.	Nágpur	...	...	...	20 8	20 8	19 4	140 0	120 0	150 0	12 0	12 0	10 12	11 12	11 12	10 8	Nágpur	Central Provinces.
	Bhandára	...	...	...	22 0	21 0	21 0	96 0	96 0	..	10 4	10 0	11 0	10 0	9 12	10 12	Bhandára	
	Chanda	...	...	...	21 8	21 8	27 0	360 0	360 0	360 0	...	...	...	9 8	10 0	9 8	Chánda	
	Wardha	...	...	...	21 0	19 0	24 0	150 0	120 0	125 0	12 4	11 8	12 4	12 0	11 0	12 0	Wardha	
	Bálaghát	...	...	...	27 0	25 0	30 0	275 0	275 0	275 0	9 4	9 4	10 0	9 0	8 8	10 0	Bálaghát	
	Jubbulpore	...	...	...	26 8	26 0	25 0	130 0	120 0	120 0	11 8	11 4	11 0	11 0	10 12	11 0	Jubbulpore	
	Saugor	...	...	...	28 0	26 0	24 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	9 4	9 8	8 12	9 0	9 0	8 8	Saugor	
	Damoh	...	...	...	30 0	37 0	34 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 8	10 0	9 12	9 4	9 12	9 8	Damoh	
	Seoni	...	...	...	25 0	26 0	16 0	220 0	220 0	210 0	11 0	10 8	11 0	10 8	10 0	10 12	Seoni	
	Mandla	25 0	25 0	25 0	47 0	40 0	35 0	256 0	256 0	256 0	...	...	..	9 0	8 0	9 8	Mandla	
	Betúl	15 0	15 0	15 0	18 0	18 0	15 0	320 0	320 0	240 0	8 8	8 8	9 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Betúl	
	Chhindwára	16 8	16 0	18 0	29 8	30 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	Chhindwára	
	Hoshangabad	...	...	...	23 8	26 7	27 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	9 8	10 8	10 8	9 0	Hoshangabad	
	Narsinghpur	...	...	...	24 0	24 8	26 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	Narsinghpur	
	Nimár	...	...	...	20 4	20 4	18 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	13 13	13 13	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 12	Nimár	
	Raipur	...	...	...	26 8	28 8	32 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 0	10 0	9 8	9 0	9 0	8 13	Raipur	
	Sambalpur	...	...	...	16 8	16 13	28 8	128 0	120 0	110 0	11 12	10 8	11 0	10 0	8 15	10 0	Sambalpur	
	Bilaspur	123 4	123 4	150 0	34 0	34 0	57 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	...	...	...	9 0	8 0	7 0	Bilaspur	
British Burma.	*Arakan Division.*																*Arakan Division.*	British Burma.
	Akyab	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	180 0	160 0	160 0	35 0	40 0	40 0	30 0	35 0	32 0	Akyab	
	Northern Arakan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Northern Arakan	
	Kyoukpyoo	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	4 0	50 0	50 0	160 0	...	...	...†	30 0	30 0	36 0	Kyoukpyoo	
	Sandoway	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sandoway	
	Pegu Division.																*Pegu Division.*	
	Rangoon Town	...	...	...	19 2	19 2	21 1	320 0	320 0	320 0	50 11	50 11	50 11	22 10	22 10	22 10	Rangoon Town	
	Tharrawaddy	...	...	...	16 5 11/16	17 13 3/16	17 2¾	535 11¾	535 11¾	535 11¾	...	...	...	35 11¾	27 7 5/16	27 7 5/16	Tharrawaddy	
	Prome	...	...	...	15 9	15 9	15 9	139 11	139 11	139 11	25 5	25 5	29 9	16 9	16 9	18 10	Prome	
	Irrawaddy Division.																*Irrawaddy Division.*	
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	183 8	183 8	183 8	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	Henzada	
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	18 6	16 13	13 17	295 3	246 0	246 0	39 6	33 12	39 6	35 7	32 4	35 7	Thonegwa	
	Thayetmyo	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	17 1	245 0	245 0	245 0	25 5	25 5	26 4	18 15	18 15	18 15	Thayetmyo	
	Tenasserim Division.																*Tenasserim Division.*	
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	...	...	...	12 3	12 3	11 1	220 0	220 0	220 0	35 8	35 8	47 7	25 5	25 5	35 8	Moulmein Town & Amherst	
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	399 3	399 3	399 3	24 2	24 2	24 2	16 1	16 1	16 1	Tavoy	
	Toungoo	...	...	...	12 8	12 9	12 9	24 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	8 3	30 12	14 1	2 10	18 12	Toungoo	
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	250 0	250 0	...	35 6	35 6	32 3	18 14	18 14	18 14	Shwaygyin	
	Salween	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Salween	
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received						Secunderabad	Hyderabad Assigned Districts.
	Bolarum																Bolarum	
	Chudderghat																Chudderghat	
	Amraoti	...	...	...	17 0	18 0	19 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Amraoti	
	Akola	8 0	8 0	7 8	16 0	18 0	20 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	11 0	10 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Akola	
	Ellichpur	...	...	...	15 0	17 0	17 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	Ellichpur	
	Buldana	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	Buldána	
	Wún	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	100 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	8 0	Wún	
	Básim	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	26 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	Básim	

(*a*) Prices falling. (*b*) Wheat, rice, jowar, gram and salt falling. (*c*) Barley, bajra, jowar and gram falling. (*d*) Wheat, barley, bajra, jowar and gram falling; wood rising.
(*e*) Barley, bajra and gram falling. (*i*) Wheat, barley, rice, gram and salt rising. (*f*) Wheat slightly rising; barley, bajra and gram falling.
(*e*) Wheat, jowar and gram falling. (*f*) Wheat, jowar gram and salt rising; barley, rice and bajra falling. (*g*) Rice, jowar and gram falling.
* No wholesale salt sold. † ℞ per 100 maunds.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883 —*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
Mysore	Bangalore, Kolar, Túmkúr, Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga, Kadur, Chitaldroog	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Bangalore, Kolar, Túmkúr, Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga, Kadur, Chitaldroog	Mysore
Coorg	Coorg	8 11	8 7	9 0	9 14	9 15	8 9	15 3	14 3	10 0	19 14	18 11	13 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	31 2	20 4	29 14	29 12	22 7	110 0	110 0	110 0	10 3	10 1	8 9	9 11	9 10	8 0	Coorg	Coorg
Rajpootana	Jeypore	17 0	16 0	17 0	24 0	22 8	24 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	8 0	8 8	9 0	23 0	20 0	21 12	19 8	21 0		...	...	...	22 0	21 8	21 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	14 4	14 12	14 12	14 0	Jeypore	Rajpootana
	Kishengurh	17 4	16 12	17 8	22 0	23 4	26 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	22 8	22 8	23 8	17 8	16 8	20 0	...	...	...	23 12	23 8	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	Kishengurh	
	Kerrowlee	18 7	16 14	18 0	27 8	25 10	25 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	11 4	11 4	14 0	27 8	25 10	25 0	23 12	21 4	25 0	...	...	...	30 0	26 0	25 0	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	14 1	13 0	13 0	14 0	Kerrowlee	
	Ulwur	18 6	17 5	19 12	24 10	22 14	28 12	8 10	8 10	9 0	10 8	10 8	12 8	23 7	22 0	25 9	23 0	17 12	24 14	...	...	...	24 0	22 11	25 10	...	...	...	15 7	15 7	15 13	14 12	14 12	15 6	Ulwur	
	Bhurtpore (City)	*	17 11	19 0	*	25 8	28 0	*	7 12	6 8	*	9 10	11 0	*	22 0	22 8	*	20 8	17 8	...	...	...	*	23 8	24 8	...	...	...	*	12 4	12 5	*	12 0	11 13	Bhurtpore (City)	
	Ajmere	16 0	15 8	15 8	23 8	22 0	24 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	20 0	16 0	20 0	18 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	24 0	23 0	22 8	80 0	80 0	70 0	17 0	17 0	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	Ajmere	
	Deoli Cantonment	19 7	17 3	17 7	27 8	24 15	22 9	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	10 8	20 8	20 13	20 0	18 0	18 0	20 12	...	...	...	27 9	25 8	21 11	...	...	...	13 6	13 6	...	12 12	12 12	12 12	Deoli Cantonment	
																													R a. p.	*R a. p.* per md.	*R a. p.*					
	Erinpura	15 9	13 12	17 4	23 13	20 12	28 9	...	...	...	7 11	7 13	8 7	19 11	19 0	21 9	19 0	17 10½	20 7	...	...	...	21 4	18 7	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 1 3	3 1 3	3 1 3	12 0	12 0	12 0	Erinpura	
	Sirohee	13 0	11 8	16 0	20 0	20 0	30 0	6 8	6 8	7 0	7 8	7 8	8 0	14 0	14 0	17 0	15 0	15 0	21 0	...	...	...	18 0	16 0	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 5	12 5	12 5	Sirohee	
	Abu	12 9	11 12	15 0	18 12	16 14	23 0	6 8	7 0	6 8	8 0	8 4	8 0	...	...	...	13 12	13 0	18 0	...	...	...	15 12	15 4	21 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	Abu	
	Anadra	13 12	11 14	17 0	20 12	17 14	26 8	7 0	6 14	7 0	8 8	8 2	9 0	...	...	...	14 12	13 8	20 8	...	...	...	17 12	15 8	24 10	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4	12 4	12 12	Anadra	
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	21 0	21 0	22 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	24 0	†	†	†	3 10 0	3 10 0	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	
																													S. Ch	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Meywar (Oodeypore)	14 7½	13 13½	14 7½	18 12	17 9½	19 8½	8 15½	9 6	10 2½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 3½	15 3½	16 0½	200 0	200 0	200 0	10 8½ *R a. p.*	9 9 *R a. p.* per md.	9 15½ *R a. p.*	10 2½	9 6	9 12½	Meywar (Oodeypore)	
	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	
	Partábgarh („)	17 15	17 8	18 0	...	...	...	8 12	8 7	10 5	11 14	9 6	12 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 5	20 5	21 9	...	...	...	2 6 9	...	...	16 7½	16 4	9 11	Partábgarh („)	
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	16 0	15 10	16 9	20 0	20 0	22 8	6 8	6 4	6 4	7 8	7 8	7 8	20 0	21 9	22 8	20 0	18 11	20 0	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	21 14	...	...	...	2 9 0	2 10 0	2 8 0	15 10	15 0	15 15	Marwar (Jodhpore)	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Bikaneer	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Bikaneer	
	Boondee	24 0	23 0	17 0	36 0	33 0	27 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	34 8	30 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	34 8	31 0	27 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	12 8	11 4	11 4	12 0	Boondee	
	Kotah	22 8	21 0	18 0	25 0	25 0	16 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	13 0	28 0	25 0	23 8	12 8	12 8	15 0	...	...	...	28 0	27 0	26 8	240 0	240 0	240 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	11 12	Kotah	
	Tonk	20 0	19 8	14 4	29 0	26 0	22 4	6 8	6 7	7 0	8 8	8 9	9 0	28 12	26 6	24 4	...	...	21 4	...	...	...	29 4	27 0	21 12	107 0	160 0	160 0	13 8	13 6	12 4	13 4	13 2	11 8	Tonk	
	Jhallawar	18 4	17 5	14 24	20 0	20 0	15 15	...	...	...	7 1	7 1	10 2	25 0	22 6	18 12	17 1	17 1	15 13	...	...	...	25 5	22 4	17 15	...	...	...	10 2	10 2	10 14	9 14	9 14	10 10	Jhallawar	
	Shahpoora	20 1	18 8	16 1	25 8	25 0	20 3	10 0	10 0	10 5	15 0	15 0	14 2	23 0	22 0	17 9	15 0	15 8	16 12	...	...	...	23 8	24 4	19 14	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 14	13 6	13 4	12 12	13 4	13 0	Shahpoora	
	Dholpur	17 0	16 10	18 11	24 12	24 4	28 1	10 2	10 2	10 2	10 11	10 15	12 6	23 5	21 1	25 8	21 10	22 10	27 9	...	...	...	24 12	23 9	27 3	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 3	12 10	12 10	12 6	Dholpur	
Central India	Indore	14 8	14 8	16 0	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	8 9	10 0	10 0	10 0	20 0	19 3	24 0	19 3	19 8	24 0	...	...	...	17 2	17 12	18 13	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	12 5	11 6	11 5	...	Indore	Central India
	Gwalior	16 12	15 9	17 2	21 0	19 11	20 9	7 5	7 7	7 13	9 2	8 13	10 1	24 4	21 15	22 7	18 12	18 4	21 11	...	...	...	22 13	21 0	24 3	109 8	109 8	109 8	...	...	...	11 7	11 7	11 14	Gwalior	
	Goona	23 12	23 0	20 12	20 0	20 0	19 0	8 0	8 8	9 0	9 8	9 10	10 0	36 0	35 0	25 0	20 0	20 0	16 0	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	25 4	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 8	12 8	11 8	12 0	12 0	11 0	Goona	
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	26 1	24 3	20 15	43 0	39 0	35 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	17 12	17 6	18 15	37 8	37 0	35 12	30 0	30 6	27 12	...	...	...	36 9	33 10	30 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	11 15	12 2	11 8	11 4	11 10	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	

* Not received.

† Eight pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 1st HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1660, 1661, 1662 AND 1663 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 13th OCTOBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.				Barley.				Rice. Best sort.				Rice. Common.				Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*				Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*				Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Paspalum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.*				Gram.				Firewood.				Salt. Wholesale.				Salt. Retail.			
		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.	
		S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.
RAJPOOTANA.	Deoli Cantonment	23	...	19	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	6	13	4	...	...	...	...
	Boondee	19	8	17	0	8	32	11	26	1	25	0	19	4	10	4	0	3	23	3	26	0	34	8	15	0	17	0	31	0	27	0	31	0	27	8	11	8	12	4	11
	Tonk	18	8	15	8	16	1	25	0	19	0	20	4	10	0	9	0	0	9	9	26	0	27	0	27	0	17	0	27	0	23	0	27	0	24	6	12	6	13	4	12
	Shahpoora	16	9	16	5	17	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	8	7	14	3	9	13	22	3	23	0	25	14	7	0	27	0	20	0	25	0	24	6	13	6	13	4	13
H. A. DISTRICTS.	Secunderabad	16	9	16	5	17	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	14	7	14	3	10	9	29	3	23	0	25	14	7	0	27	0	20	0	25	0	24	6	13	6	13	4	13
	Bolarum	18	3	18	1	19	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1	7	6	9	10	9	26	6	29	0	28	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chudderghat	13	8	14	0	14	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	0	7	0	9	0	9	27	6	27	0	28	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Provinces.	Districts.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Paspalum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.*				Gram.				Firewood.				Salt. Wholesale.				Salt. Retail.			
		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.	
		S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.
RAJPOOTANA.	Deoli Cantonment	...	...	...	...	31	0	27	0	...	...	...	...	13	6	13	4	...	...	...	...
	Boondee	...	...	...	...	27	0	23	0	155	0	120	0	11	0	8	12	10	4	11	12
	Tonk	...	...	...	...	27	0	23	0	160	0	160	0	13	0	12	8	10	12	11	14
	Shahpoora	...	...	...	...	24	4	25	0	19	8	160	0	160	0	13	1	13	4	13	13
H. A. DISTRICTS.	Secunderabad	...	...	...	...	24	4	25	0	19	8	160	0	160	0	13	1	13	4	13	13
	Bolarum	...	...	...	...	20	4	19	7	20	9	116	14	116	14	80	0	80	0	80	0
	Chudderghat	...	...	...	...	17	0	18	0	20	0	80	0	80	0	80	0	80	0	80	0

Provinces.	Districts.	Burnsh Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*				Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*				Rice. Common.				Rice. Best sort.				Barley.				Wheat.			
		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.	
		S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.	S.	C.
RAJPOOTANA.	Deoli Cantonment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Boondee	...	...	...	...	0	30	0	27	0	9	0	9	0	10	0	8	0	30	0	27	0	32	0	26
	Tonk	...	...	...	...	4	6	4	10	0	9	0	9	0	9	0	7	0	22	0	23	0	13	0	11
	Shahpoora	0	34	0	27	0	28	0	27	0	15	0	13	0	15	0	10	0	20	0	19	0	16	0	15
H. A. DISTRICTS.	Secunderabad	0	34	0	27	0	28	0	25	0	15	0	13	0	15	0	10	0	20	0	19	0	16	0	15
	Bolarum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	9	0	9	0	8	0	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chudderghat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	9	0	9	0	8	0	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Railway Branch.)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXXVIII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 30th September 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 29th September 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 30th September 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 29th September 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
29th Sept. 1883	Eastern Bengal . .	172	2,02,482	1,177	172	(a)1,36,836	796	26,78,526	596	(a)22,86,617	511	...	3,91,909
22nd ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhund	547	75,089	137	...	(b)	...	(c)23,70,366	172	(d)27,88,055	204	4,17,689	...
6th Oct. 1883	Sind, Punjab & Delhi .	676	1,54,908	229	749	2,08,604	279	45,85,655	260	57,84,253	299	11,98,598	...
29th Sept. 1883	Madras . . .	861	1,48,887	173	861	1,32,749	154	35,86,797	160	33,29,553	149	...	2,57,244
29th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	77,070	118	655	76,508	117	19,58,649	114	20,28,546	119	69,897	...
6th Oct. 1883	Great Indian Peninsula	1,451	4,18,761	289	1,451	3,87,708	267	1,56,88,207	414	1,65,44,157	438	8,55,950	...
29th Sept. 1883	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	1,24,940	271	461	1,47,881	321	48,00,099	398	55,51,728	463	7,51,629	...
	TOTAL .	4,823	12,02,137	249	e4,349	10,90,286	251	3,56,68,299	283	3,83,12,909	301	26,44,610	...
	State.												
29th Sept. 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	7,88,528	520	1,509	9,11,143	604	2,14,48,940	545	2,53,72,063	647	39,23,123	...
29th ditto .	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	33	7,723	234	56	7,340	131	98,306	121	1,48,979	106	50,673	...
29th ditto .	Nalhati . .	27	1,480	55	27	1,336	49	33,998	48	41,422	59	7,424	...
29th ditto .	Northern Bengal .	230	45,480	198	239	46,180	193	9,48,901	156	10,21,661	168	72,760	...
22nd ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	75	14,459	193	...	(b)	...	(c)3,07,895	151	(d)4,09,370	100	1,01,475	...
25th Aug. 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	22,135	388	...	(b)	...	(f)1,82,944	152	(g)1,63,758	137	...	19,186
29th Sept. 1883	Cawnpore-Achnera .	138	9,107	66	138	11,095	80	2,59,537	72	2,70,337	75	10,800	...
6th Oct. 1883	Dildarnagar-Ghasipur	12	616	51	12	731	61	22,652	72	23,432	75	780	...
6th ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,116	1,42,188	127	1,117	1,92,300	172	49,80,710	170	59,67,322	205	9,86,612	...
6th ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	12,226	272	45	9,577	213	2,57,688	219	3,44,842	295	87,154	...
6th ditto .	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	4,955	51	149	10,211	69	2,65,929	104	6,38,937	165	3,73,008	...
6th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . .	161	22,996	143	161	19,885	124	6,73,459	160	6,75,397	161	1,938	...
6th ditto .	Sindia	75	5,355	71	75	4,492	60	1,52,367	77	1,50,093	77	...	2,274
29th Sept. 1883	Punjab Northern .	409	70,212	172	421	48,312	115	14,40,033	137	15,39,396	141	99,363	...
6th Oct. 1883	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	62,312	94	660	1,28,402	195	20,63,044	120	37,06,675	216	16,43,631	...
29th Sept. 1883	Kaunia-Dhuria . .	32	1,700	53	32	3,112	97	38,598	46	50,217	60	11,619	...
6th Oct. 1883	Rewari-Ferozepore .	...	...	...	89	9,100	102	...	...	2,07,104	90	2,07,104	...
	TOTAL .	3,168	4,22,889	133	43,221	4,92,073	153	1,17,26,061	141	1,53,58,942	172	36,32,881	...
	Assisted Company.												
29th Sept. 1883	Bengal Central . .	...	...	...	35	2,078	59	...	...	54,660	60	54,660	...
	Native States.												
6th Oct. 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	194	13,246	68	193	12,056	62	4,50,846	89	4,90,577	98	39,731	...
29th Sept. 1883	Nizam's . . .	121	18,773	155	121	19,892	164	4,32,027	137	3,96,742	126	...	35,285
Last 8 days of Sept. 1883.	Mysore . . .	86	6,226	72	86	5,814	68	1,41,430	63	1,31,903	59	...	9,527
6th Oct. 1883	Jodhpore . .	19	421	22	19	370	19	(f)7,541	29	19,083	39	11,542	...
	TOTAL .	420	38,666	92	419	38,132	91	10,31,844	96	10,38,305	95	6,461	...
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,918	24,47,220	247	49,533	25,33,712	265	6,98,75,144	270	8,01,36,679	300	1,02,61,735	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,64,27,114	141	4,11,14,006	154	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS .	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,34,48,030	129	3,90,22,872	146	55,74,841	...

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway.
(b) Return not received.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 23rd September 1882.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 22nd September 1883.
(e) Excludes mileage of Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway (547).
(f) Total receipts from 1st April to 26th August 1883.
(g) Total receipts from 1st April to 25th August 1883.
(h) Excludes mileage of Tirhoot and Patna-Gya State Railways (106+57).
(i) Total receipts from 24th June to 30th September 1883.
(k) Excludes mileages of O. and R., Tirhoot and P.-G. Rys. (547+106+57).

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 20th October 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 23rd OCTOBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Unusually heavy rain has fallen throughout the greater part of the Madras Presidency, in Mysore, and in the southern districts of Bombay. Some damage has been done by excessive rain in parts of Madras and in the Deccan, and *rabi* sowings have been retarded, but standing crops have on the whole been much benefited and promise well. Damage from excessive rain and interruption of *rabi* sowings are also reported from Hyderabad and the Berars. In Sind there has been no rain, and water for *rabi* irrigation is scarce owing to the low level of the river. Slight showers, favourable to *rabi* sowings, have fallen over the greater part of Central India, except Gwalior where rain is needed. No rain fell in Rajputana, and it is much needed in Ulwar; elsewhere prospects are good.

Except in Mergui, scarcely any rain has fallen in Burma during the week, and rice on highlands has suffered in parts of three districts. In Assam the weather is seasonable, and crops are doing well. Rain still holds off in Bengal, and much injury has been done by the long break to the rice crop, the prospects of which are very unfavourable in all, save the eastern districts. In the Central Provinces there has been genefal and in parts heavy rain which has delayed agricultural operations, but prospects continue good. Moderate rain has fallen in a few districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and in two districts of the Punjab, but more is needed in both provinces for the *rabi*.

The *kharif* is being harvested, and winter sowings are in progress in most provinces, where they are not retarded by drought or by excessive rain.

The public health is generally fair.

Prices are still rising in Bengal, and are generally steady elsewhere.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Oct. 24th)		
Bellary ...	2·29 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops generally good. Harvest gingelly, yield below average.
Kurnool ...	3·29 (average of nine stations).	Standing crops generally damaged by excessive rain. Harvest *cajja*, *korra*, and indigo, yield half to three-fourths.
Ganjam ...	1·42 (average of fifteen stations).	Standing crops generally thriving.
Kistna ...	4·04 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops good. Harvest *maize*, *cholum*, and *korra*, yield below half. Fever, guinea-worm, small-pox, and cattle-disease in parts. Cholera in two villages, 2 deaths.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	8·09 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops generally good. Harvest *kar*, paddy, &c., yield half. Small-pox slight in all, but one taluk; 5 deaths from cholera in one village. Cattle-disease slight in two taluks.
Coimbatore ...	3·09 (average of sixteen stations).	Standing crops suffer from excessive rain in parts of three taluks, elsewhere good. Harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, and *cumboo*, yield average. Ten deaths from cholera in two taluks; fever and small-pox in parts.
Tanjore ...	5·93 (average of twelve stations).	Standing crops good. Harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, *cumboo*, and gingelly, yield below average.
Madura ...	3·69 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops fair. Harvest paddy, yield average.
Malabar ...	4·09 (average of fourteen stations).	Harvesting first crop nearly over, second crop cultivation progressing. Small-pox slight in nine taluks; fever slight in three taluks.
Travancore ...	·983	Sowings nearly over. Yield of last crop in Quilon division below average. Fever prevails. *General Remarks.*—General prospects good.
Bombay—(Oct. 24th)		
Kurrachee ...	No rain	River at Kotri on 22nd 6 feet 10 inches, against 9 feet on same date last year. *Rabi* crops require water. *Kharif* crops being harvested. Fever in eleven talukas. Cattle-disease in three talukas. Wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 28 and 36, in Dadu 32 and 50, in Sakro 15, 28 and 42, and in Jati 10, 32 and 40 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	Badin, ·25	*Kharif* harvesting continues. *Rabi* operations in progress. Fever in seven; small-pox in two, and cattle-disease in four talukas. Wheat 25, *bajri* 38, *juari* 40, red rice 26, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	.....	*Kharif* harvest continues. Standing crops healthy. Fever in some talukas. *Bajri* 28¾ and wheat 25¼ lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	.....	Cholera continues in Naosari mahal. Crops in good condition. Locusts greatly diminished in Naosari division. *Bajri* 29 and rice 23 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	·22	Total rainfall 55·99. Cutting operations [illegible] damage by rain more or less to *juari*, rice, and grass [illegible] Cattle-disease in Olphad. Fever in Olphad and [illegible] cholera in Surat, 10 deaths, in Pardi, 33 cases, 15 deaths [illegible] nearly destroyed. *Juari* 38 and *nagli* 43 lbs. per r[illegible]

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Nasik ...	.....	Heavy rain damaged *bajri* and cotton crops, and retarded preparation of land for *rabi*. Locusts doing damage to crops in places. Cholera in Kalwan taluka, 22 attacks, 13 deaths. *Bajri* 31, wheat 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Heavy rain from 18th to 21st, total of week 9·20.	Total rainfall to date 89·32, being 19·22 above average. Abnormal temperature 0° to 6° cool. Vapour in air excessive. Abnormal wind southerly, and strong on 19th and 20th. Frequent thunder and lightning.
Poona ...	.....	Break in weather since yesterday. Standing crops injured in places by excessive rain. *Bajri* 43 and *juari* 53 in Poona; *bajri* 34 and *juari* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	Rain in all talukas—maximum at Sangamner, 4·20; minimum at Shrigonda, ·59.	Total rainfall in the district up to date 35·49. *Kharif* crops where standing, have been injured by the excessive fall of rain and where reaped, in getting rotten by the damp. Harvesting of *kharif* is in progress in Parner, Jamkhed, Kopargaon, Sangamner, and Akola, except in Shrigonda. Sowing of *rabi* is impeded, and it is too late in the season to undertake the work hereafter. Cholera 8 attacks, 4 deaths. Cattle-disease to a slight extent in Kopargaon. *Bajri*—maximum 54 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 40 in Kopargaon; *juari*—maximum 78 lbs. in Shrigonda, minimum 48 in Sangamner.
Sholapur ...	1·14	Total rainfall 38·38. *Kharif* in good condition; *bajri* being reaped. *Rabi* sowing retarded in a few places owing to excessive rain. *Bajri* 52 and *juari* 64 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar ...	Good rain throughout the district; maximum being at Kod, 4·43; Hangal, 2·97; Ron, 1·86; Mugud, 1·75; Bankapur, 1·37; Karajgi, 1·14; Gadag, 1·07; Dharwar, 1·0; elsewhere less than 1·0.	Standing crops much benefited by rain, but more is required for rice. Sowings of wheat, gram, and other late crops in progress. Ague in two stations and cattle-disease in four.
Kanara ...	Karwar, 5·09; Kumpta, 8·91; Sirsi, 5·13; Hallial, 1·43.	Total rainfall 143·49. Small-pox, 5 cases in Siddapur. Weather fair. Common rice in Karwar 12½, in district average 15 seers per rupeee.
Rajkot ...	.....	General health feverish. Mornings fresh. Wind north-east. *Bajri* 29 lbs. and *juari* 34 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—River continues to fall in Sind. Some damage caused to crops, and *rabi* sowings retarded by heavy rain in several districts, but parts of Dharwar, Kaladgi, and Belgaum much benefited by it. Locusts still prevalent in parts of the Central and Southern divisions. Fever, cholera, and cattle-disease prevalent in many places.
Bengal—(Oct. 24th)		
Chittagong ...	*Nil*	Weather fair. Prospects of crops good. Prices somewhat low. General health favourable. Cattle-disease has again appeared.
Dacca ...	*Nil*	*Ashini* paddy being harvested; *amun* thriving. Mustard and pulses being sown. Prospects good.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	·06	Harvesting of early paddy almost over, yield estimated at a full average crop. Late rice on high lands has suffered much from drought, that on low lands also requires rain. Lands being prepared for winter crops. Common rice selling at from 14 to 21 seers per rupee. Public health generally good. Cases of cholera reported from Baraset sub-division.
Moorshedabad ...	*Nil*	Sultry days with cold dewy nights. *Amun* rice continues to deteriorate. In the absence of rain efforts are being made to induce recourse to irrigation which it is hoped will save a portion of this important crop. The drought is also seriously impeding the cold weather sowings. Cholera reported from Khargram, otherwise public health good.
Rajshahye ...	*Nil*	Clouds about. Crops on high ground drying fast. *Rabi* sowings being delayed for want of rain. Price of rice has risen.
Burdwan ...	*Nil*; Culna, ·88; Cutwa, ·12; Raneegunge, ·02.	Cold weather apparently set in. Prospects of *amun* crop very unfavourable, *aus* crop has been fair. Health generally tolerable. Some cases of cholera reported.
Rungpore ...	*Nil*	Weather dry and occasionally cloudy. Rain wanted for winter paddy. Prices of food-grains have risen. Fever prevalent.
Bhagalpur ...	·28	Prospects of crops not favourable.
Purneah ...	·09	Prospects of crops not favourable. Rain wanted for *rabi* ploughing.
Patna ...	·40	Fever raging.
Durbhunga ...	*Nil*	Paddy suffering much for want of rain. Cholera and fever still reported from the interior
Hazaribagh ...	·0[illegible]	No likelihood of any more rain. Crops must be deficient in consequence. In some places they are almost entirely destroyed, but generally an eight anna rice crop is expected to be reaped throughout the district. Prices steadily rising.
		Weather bright and seasonable. Rice crops considerably injured by existing drought. *Rabi* sowings still going on. Public health good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—*contd.*		
Cuttack ...	·04	Weather hot and dry. Low land rice doing well; high land rice suffering from drought. Price of rice rising. Public health generally good. A few cases of cholera reported from the interior.
		General Remarks.—Very slight rainfall has been reported from some districts during the week. It is said to be of no appreciable benefit to the crops. Want of rain is most seriously felt, and the prospects are very unfavourable, except in Julpaigoorie and Cooch Behar and in almost all districts of Eastern Bengal. The rice crop in the high lands has already been considerably damaged, on the low lands it still holds out, but will be a short crop. The drought is also seriously impeding the cultivation of the cold weather crops. In many districts the prices of rice show a marked tendency to rise, owing to the apparent early cessation of the rains. General health of the province is pretty fair, though fever is reported to be prevalent in some districts.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Oct. 23rd)	Benares, 1·2; Chandousi, 1·2; Gangapur, 1·3.	The uncut *kharif* crops will benefit by this rain, and *rabi* sowings have commenced with more favourable prospects. Fever decreasing. Slight rise in prices of food-grains.
Allahabad („ 24th)	Rain in seven out of nine tahsils average ·9.	Rain most beneficial both for *rabi* sowings and for late *kharif*. Most rain south of Jumna where most needed. Health good. Prices falling.
Gorakhpur („ 21st)	No rain	Cloudy weather for the last two days. Rain wanted for the *rabi* sowings and rice. Cholera disappearing. Prices steady.
Jhansi („ 22nd)	·3 in pargana Jhansi on the 19th instant.	*Kharif* crops have dried up in parts of parganas Jhansi and Mau, particularly in the former. Sowings of *rabi* going on. Prices slightly fluctuating. Health of people and cattle good. Grazing scarce.
Agra („ 23rd)	No rain	*Kharif* crops continue to suffer from drought. *Rabi* ploughings and sowings in progress, but rain needed. Slight fever in two parganas. General health good. Prices steady.
Bareilly („ „)	No rain	*Kharif* harvesting pretty general. Health good. Prices stationary and inclined to fall.
Meerut („ „)	No rain	*Kharif* harvest commenced. *Maize* cut. *Rabi* ploughings and sowings in full progress. Gram already germinated. Barley being sown. Health good. Labour plentiful. Supplies sufficient. Prices easier.
Kumaun („ „)	.....	Sky somewhat cloudy. Ploughing for *rabi* is being done. Health good. Cattle-disease continues. Prices unchanged.
Lucknow („ „)	No rain	A little cool at night. Prospects good. A slight fall of rain will be most welcome for the *hewat* crops. Wheat and other *rabi* crops are being sown. Condition of people and cattle good. Markets well supplied. Prices stationary as usual.
Partabgarh („ „)	Slight rain at Sadr on 19th.	*Bajri* being cut. *Rabi* sowings have commenced in Partabgarh and Kunda tahsils, and in a few places gram and barley have germinated. The crops in Patti are suffering from drought. Prices stationary. General health good.
Sitapur („ „)	No rain	Heavy clouds. *Rabi* prospects rather gloomy. *Mash* and *bajri* injured. Prices steady.
Fyzabad („ „)	No rain	Gram, peas, wheat, &c., are being sown. Markets well supplied. Prices steady. Public health good. Condition of cattle fair.
Rae Bareli („ 22nd)	Slight rain on the 19th	Cloudy weather during two days of the week. *Juari*, late rice, *mothi*, and *urd* suffering from want of rain. *Rabi* sowings commenced. Markets well supplied. General health good. Prices almost steady.
Cawnpore („ 23rd)	No rain	Occasional clouds. *Rabi* sowings commenced, but some unirrigated lands left fallow. Cholera and fever still lingering, otherwise health of the people is good. Cattle-disease almost disappeared. Prices unchanged.
Farukhabad („ „)	.....	Weather seasonable. Fever decreasing. Crops fair. *Rabi* sowings in progress.
		General Remarks.—No rain has fallen in the northern districts, but there has been a beneficial fall in Benares and Allahabad, and a slighter one in Jhansi, Rae Bareli, and Partabgarh. Some loss being caused by want of rain, especially in Aligarh and Agra. The markets are well supplied and prices steady.
Punjab—(Oct. 24th)		
Delhi ...	.....	Health good. Prices of *juari* and *bajri* have risen. Prices of other food-grains are falling.
Hissar ...	·20	Rain urgently needed in the Rohtak district. Health good. Prices stationary.
Umballa ...	.....	No report received.
Jullundur ...	.....	Health good. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Prices steady.
Amritsar ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* being harvested, Prices steady.
Sialkot ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices stationary.
Ferozepore ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Slight rise in prices of gram and *juari*.
Lahore ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices steady.
Rawalpindi ...	·20	Seasonal fever in [illegible] tahsils. Health elsewhere good. Crop prospects average. Prices falling.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Punjab—*contd.*		
Mooltan ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* harvesting in progress. Prices stationary.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	.....	Health good. *Rabi* sowings commenced. Prices steady.
Peshawar ...	.....	Slight fever still prevalent. Prices falling.
		General Remarks.—There has been slight rain in the Hissar and Rawalpindi districts, but more is required for the *rabi* sowings throughout the province. Health and *kharif* prospects are generally good.
Central Provinces.—(Oct. 24th)		
Nagpur ...	5·50	Weather fine and clear. Cotton and *juari* somewhat injured by late rains. Wheat sowings delayed. Health good. Prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...	·68	Weather cloudy at times. Prospects favourable. Outturn of rice, *kodo*, and *kutki* small in places. Cotton good. *Rabi* sowings continue. Wheat 24 and rice 16 seers per rupee. Health good.
Saugor ...	·39	Weather cloudy. *Kharif* crops thriving. *Rabi* sowings delayed by late rain. Health fair. Prices steady.
Seoni ...	2·44	Heavy rain on 20th and 21st. Weather clear and cool since. *Kharif* reaping and *rabi* sowings retarded by rain. Fever prevalent. Prices inclined to fall.
Hoshungabad ...	2·52	Weather seasonable. Prospects good. *Rabi* sowings continue. Fever prevalent. Wheat 15 and rice 10 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	1·96	Weather clear. *Kharif* prospects good. *Rabi* sowings commenced. Prices falling.
Raipur ...	1·70	Rain favourable. Sowings in progress. Health good, Prices steady.
Sambalpur ...	·03	Weather close and cloudy. More rain wanted for late rice and pulses. Health good. Common rice 35 seers per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Prospects continue favourable. Sowings in general progress. Health good.
British Burma—(Oct. 20th)		
Akyab ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 179·57. Public health good. 82 deaths of cattle in two townships, otherwise health of cattle good. Slight damage to crops from insects in Koladan township. Crop prospects favourable.
Rangoon ...	·03	Total rainfall 76·39. Five deaths from small-pox, otherwise public health good. Prices of paddy from Rs. 97 to 108 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	·05	Total rainfall 86·48. Public health good. Nine deaths of cattle in Bassein township, 15 in Thaboung, 7 in Thegwin, and 6 in Kyoupyaw. Heat excessive. Rain wanted in southern parts of district. Paddy in places with little water beginning to suffer. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 164·65. Public health and health of cattle good. Crops healthy. Rain wanted for high-lying land and late sowings. In Moulmein town public health and health of cattle good. Crops healthy. Injury to crops from drought is apprehended in elevated lands. No damage from floods or insects.
Toungoo ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 77·44. Public health and health of cattle good. Price of paddy Rs. 70 per 100 baskets. General appearance of crops fair.
Kyoukphyoo ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 156·08. Public health and health of cattle good. Price of paddy stationary.
Sandoway ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 206·49. One death from cholera in Letweshe circle, otherwise public health believed to be good. Crops continue healthy.
Thanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health good. Slight cattle-disease in Hlaing township. Ploughing completed. Wages of ploughing labour 60 baskets of paddy per man in Hlaing township. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Prome	*Nil*	Total rainfall 118·83. Few cases of fever and small-pox in town, otherwise public health good. Crops promising. Price of paddy Rs. 95 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy (Oct. 13th)	3·90	Total rainfall 98·97. Public health good. 15 deaths of cattle in three townships, elsewhere health of cattle good. Ploughing, sowing, and transplanting progressing. Damaged crops last reported being replanted. More rain wanted in northern circles of Gyaungon township. General appearance and progress of crops good. Price of paddy Rs. 90 to 125 per 100 baskets.
Do. („ 20th)	.....	No report received.
Henzada ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 45·62. Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing and transplanting progressing. Crops reported in good condition, but if more rain does not fall, failures must be expected. Price of paddy Rs. 90 per 100 baskets.
Thayetmyo ...	·17	Total rainfall 82·81. Public health and health of cattle good. Replanting still going on in Shweyloung township, but supply of seedlings for replanting insufficient. General appearance of young crops, except in the Kyotow circle, Pyapan township, where crops are slightly damaged by floods, good, but replanting continues. General prospects good. Price of paddy Rs. [illegible] to 94 per 100 baskets.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Henzada ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 80·28 Public health and health of cattle good. General appearance of crops good.
Thayetmyo ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 39·67. Public health good. Crop prospects unchanged. 40 deaths of cattle in Myede sub-division. Price of paddy Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
Shwaygyin ...	·22	Total rainfall 137·46. Public health and health of cattle good. Crops progressing favourably. Price of paddy Rs. 80 per 100 baskets.
Tavoy ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 190·36. Public health and health of cattle good. Prospects of crops good.
Mergui (Oct. 13th)	4·49	Total rainfall 161·29. Crops healthy with exception of 42 acres destroyed by blight in two circles. 35,000 acres ploughed. 17 deaths of cattle in Taiyet, Burma circle, otherwise health of cattle good. Price of paddy Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
		General Remark.—Scarcely any rain has fallen during the week. The total rainfall up to date is much less over most of the provinces than last year. The deficiency varies from 12 to 20 per cent. in different districts. Crop prospects are reported favourable, although in parts of Prome, Bassein, and Amherst districts. The drought of the past week appears to have injuriously affected the crops in the higher and lighter lands. Public health continues good. Cattle mortality not increasing anywhere. Price of paddy keeping steady.
Assam—(Oct 24th)		
Gauhati ...	No rain	Weather seasonable. Mornings and nights foggy and cool. Public health fair. Prospects of crops good. Land being ploughed for mustard.
Sylhet ...	·37	Crop prospects good. Small-pox and cholera in places.
Silchar ...	·44	Days warm. Nights cool. Reaping of *aus* crops finished. Prospect of *sali* crops good. Ploughing for winter crops progressing. Common rice 17½ seers per rupee. Four deaths from small-pox reported from Sadr and 3 from Katigora.
Dibrugarh ...	·20	Weather getting cold. Prospect of crops good. District healthy.
Mysore and Coorg—(Oct. 24th)		
Bangalore ...	2·79	Crops in good condition. *Ragi* fast ripening. Prospects [illegible]. Water and pasturage ample.
Mysore ...	1·07	Rain general in district. Crops revived and doing well. Prospects promising.
Mercara ...	·16	Coffee berries are ripening. Paddy crop coming into ear in some parts of the country. *Ragi* crop harvested. Yield short.
		General Remarks.—Rain from 2·0 to 4·72 all over the province. Agricultural operations continue. Condition of standing crops in all district reported on favourably. Public health good. Prices almost stationary.
Berar & Hyderabad—(Oct. 24th)		
Amraoti ...	5·75	The crops have been injured to some extent from excessive rain and *rabi* sowing has been delayed. Wheat 16 and *juari* [illegible] seers per rupee.
Akola ...	5·80	Rain unseasonable and injurious to standing crops.
Hyderabad ...	·88	Total from 1st January 29·83. *Abi* crops prospering. *Kharif* crops in some places damaged by excessive rain. *Rabi* and *tabi* sowings commenced. Cholera broken out again in two talukas. Prices: wheat 15½, coarse rice 11, white *juari* 23, yellow *juari* 23½, *tur* 22 seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States—(Oct. 24th)		
Sehore ...	1·16	Health and prospects good. Recent rain favourable for *rabi* crops.
Gwalior (Gwalior) ...	*Nil*	Health good. Rain wanted for *rabi* crops. *Juari* has suffered somewhat for want of rain.
Sutna ...	·53	Weather now clear. Health good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	*Nil*	Sowings of opium and other *rabi* crops commenced. Very slight fever in the bazar. Public health otherwise good. Weather favourable.
Geona ...	0·55	Health and prospects good.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	2·17	Health and agricultural prospects good.
Sehore ...	1·98	Weather rainy. Health and prospects good.
Nowgong ...	4·10	Health and prospects good.
Manpur (Nowgong) ...	·50	Prospects good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Oct. 24th)	No rain	Total rainfall 52·95. Cold weather apparently setting in.
Sirohi („ 21st)	No rain	Total rainfall 16·39. Tanks and wells full. Health good. Crop prospects good. Fine mornings and cool evenings.
Marwar („ 19th)	No rain	Total rainfall 11·03. Eight months' water in Jodhpore city. Tanks and wells all filling up. Health good. Crop prospects good on the whole. Prices stationary. Weather comparatively clear and close. Clouds vanishing.
Meywar ...	.....	No report received.
Harowti (Oct. 20th)	No rain	Total rainfall to date at Deoli, 16·44; Tonk, 19·07; Kotah, 24·56; Shahpura, 13·72. Weather seasonable. Health good.
Jhallawar („ 19th)	·06	Total rainfall 29·65. Weather cloudy and unseasonably cold. Health good.
Ajmere („ 23rd)	No rain	Total rainfall 16·84. Slight fever in district. Prospects fair.
Jeypore ...	.....	No report received.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Oct. 23rd)	No rain	Total rainfall 14·19. More rain urgently wanted for *rabi* sowings. Prices fluctuating. Fever prevailing.

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

REPORT ON SITES IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY SUITABLE FOR PAPER MILLS WORKED BY WATER.

No. 7073, dated 22nd September 1883.

From—J. MONTEATH, Esq., Acting Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Revenue Department,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Finance and Commerce.

The reports of the Executive Engineers who were directed, as stated in my letter No. 987, dated 6th February last, to make the further enquiries ordered by the Government of India in their letter No. 4036, dated 28th September last, regarding suitable sites having a water-supply sufficient for the purposes of paper mills, having now been received, I am instructed by His Excellency in Council to communicate, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council, the results of the enquiries instituted by those officers. The object of the Government of India is to ascertain if there exist in this Presidency suitable sites "where there would be an unfailing supply of 150 cubic feet of water per minute all the year round," and it is stated (paragraph 3) that it is desirable that the site to be selected for the establishment of such a mill should be near the coast in order that the foul water issuing from the mill should pass at once into the sea. The enquiries of the officers who were entrusted with the duty have accordingly been confined to sites situated on the sea coast.

2. It appears from the reports received on the subject that the following are the sites which satisfy the requirements specified :—

(1) Wanta Gavier in Surat. The site is about 6 miles below Surat.

(2) Varacha situated about 5 miles above Surat.

(3) Sasu-Naoghar in the Bassein taluka in the Thana Collectorate.

3. At site No. 1 there is an unfailing supply of more than 150 cubic feet of water per minute all the year round, but the water is said to be brackish for about four months in the year. The Executive Engineer who inspected the spot states that it will only be necessary to construct here a filtering well with a force pump to draw water to a height of about 40 feet from the river, and estimates that the cost of constructing such a well and pump will be Rs. 6,000.

4. The site at Varacha has also, it is reported, an unfailing water-supply of more than 150 cubic feet of water per minute all the year round with the advantage that the water is sweet. A filtering well with a pump to draw water to a height of about 60 feet from the river will have to be constructed as at site No. 1, with piping to the extent of about a mile to carry off the dirty water into a ditch (called Kankru Khari cut). The cost of constructing these works is estimated at Rs. 15,000.

5. A sketch map showing the positions of these two sites with their neighbourhood, prepared by the Executive Engineer is herewith forwarded. It will be observed that the Wanta Gavier site has both road and water communication with Surat, where there is a railway station; the communication between the Varacha site and Surat does not appear to be good, but the distance is not great.

6. The site at Sasu-Naoghar is situated about 6 miles east of Bassein on the north bank of the Bassein creek immediately opposite Ghodbandar in the Salsette taluka. A sketch map prepared by the Executive Engineer, Northern Konkan, showing the position of this site and other particulars is appended. A paper mill was established at this site some years ago by Messrs. Johnson and Littlewood. The works were commenced in 1871, and completed in about 1877, and the manufacture of paper was commenced; but the undertaking failed almost immediately, principally on account of the want of sufficient capital and of a sufficient supply of cheap material and by reason of sickness amongst the employés. The works constructed consisted of a masonry dam across the stream, forming a small reservoir from which water was raised for the use of the mill by a pumping engine, three large corrugated iron roofed sheds containing the boilers, engines and paper manufacturing machinery and two masonry filtering and settling tanks. The total cost of the works is estimated by the Executive Engineer to have been Rs. 80,000 or thereabouts.

7. The site is said to possess the following advantages for the establishment of a paper factory :—

(a) For water supply there is already available a small perennial stream, which in the hot weather has a constant flow of from 10 to 15 cubic feet per minute and is considerably greater at other seasons.

(b) Great facilities for largely increasing this supply at a small cost by constructing a small dam across the narrow gorge through which the stream flows from the hills to the plain.

(*c*) The waste and foul water from the mill can be discharged at once into the stream below the dam, and thence into the creek. The small village of Sasu-Naoghar, which is the only village on its course, could be supplied with water at a small cost from the water system of the mill.

The site can be placed within fair communication with Bombay and so with the rest of India by sea, rail and road. It is about six miles from the Bassein Road Station of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway to which, however, there is no road beyond a country track. It is three-fourths of a mile only from the bank of the creek, where country boats from Bombay can touch, though there is at present neither road nor landing stage. From Ghodbandar, which is immediately opposite to the site, a good made road seven miles long leads to the Baroli Station of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway and thence to Bombay.

8. As regards the water-supply, the Executive Engineer states that the present supply from the stream was apparently considered sufficient for the purposes of the mill started there by Messrs. Johnson and Littlewood, as the dam already constructed is not intended to form a large storage reservoir, but merely a pool for retaining the night's flow of water in the hot season and for the convenience of feeding the suction pipe of the pump. He thinks, however, that if necessary a larger supply can be secured at but a small cost, as the valley possesses peculiar facilities for accumulating a very large quantity of water with only a short low dam. It will be seen from the sketch plan appended that several valleys, together with a very large catchment area, unite into one wide flat valley, the only outfall from which is a narrow rocky gorge, affording an excellent position for a dam.

9. With reference to the question of the cost which would have to be incurred in the construction of the necessary storage and other works the Executive Engineer observes:—

"Without taking an accurate survey and levels of this valley and gorge, it is of course impossible to give any details as to storage capacity of the reservoir at different levels and as to heights and length and therefore of the cost of the dam required. But from inspection it would appear that a dam about 20 feet high would form a very large reservoir that would much more than supply any possible requirements, while such a dam would not exceed 60 to 80 feet in length at the deepest part and 120 to 150 at the top. The mill too being immediately below the site of the dam, there would be no heavy outlay for iron piping.

"The machinery, &c., already constructed was not protected in any way, and remains exactly as on the day the mill stopped work. As the sheds are open at the sides, it has been completely exposed to the weather, is greatly damaged by rust and rendered almost useless. The masonry dam and tanks, however, only need small repairs to make them again serviceable. It would require a sum of Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 40,000 to re-establish these works."

10. The Executive Engineer suggests that if it is ever intended to make use of the works already constructed and thus to resume operations at this place, it would be necessary to pay particular attention to the selection of a good site for the erection of sheds or huts for the work-people and the construction of the sheds on a sufficiently high plinth or platform, a thorough clearance of the jungle and vegetation for some distance around the place, and the removal of the stream of vegetation and dead leaves. He attributes the sickness which prevailed among the employés of the mill to neglect on the part of the owners of these precautions, especially the last, as the small stream which supplies drinking-water is overgrown in places with jungle and also receives the drainage of rice-fields. If, however, the valley be dammed and a reservoir formed, there would, in his opinion, be no danger from a contaminated water-supply.

11. It will be seen from the foregoing remarks that of the three sites mentioned, that at Sasu-Naoghar possesses decided advantages for the establishment of a paper mill at a comparatively small cost. Judging from the description given of it by the Executive Engineer, the site appears to His Excellency in Council to be suitable in all respects for the establishment of a paper mill on a sufficiently large scale to allow of its being worked economically, the only drawback being the unhealthiness of the place. This evil, however, can be minimized by the adoption of the precautionary measures suggested by the Executive Engineer and such other arrangements as experience may show to be necessary, and no serious obstacle need therefore be apprehended from it.

12. I am to state that an application was lately received from Messrs. Pelly and Company for the grant of a site at Panvel in the Thana Collectorate for the establishment of a paper mill; but on enquiry it appeared that the site applied for was unsuited for the purpose, and applicants have been so informed.

No. 3875, dated 26th October 1883.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the above be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India* for general information.

D. M. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

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SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India

Nº 44.} CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF IRRIGATION AND RAINFALL FOR THE YEARS 1881-82 AND 1882-83 IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

Works.	Items.	Area of the Districts in Acres.	Cultivable Area in Acres.	Cultivated Area in Acres.	AREAS IRRIGATED. Sown from April to November 1882, *i.e.*, 1st Crop. Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82. Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	1. Ganjam.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
	Government Land	528,350	357,002	325,703	140,728	2,160	. .
	Inam Land	142,668	133,503	117,021	49,064	. .	8,566
	Zemindari	1,070,160	847,040	60,180	38,600	18,687	. .
	Total	1,741,178	1,337,545	502,904	228,392	12,281	. .
	2. Vizagapatam.						
	Government Land	176,850	131,942	132,386	44,069	2,293	. .
	Inam Land	42,195	41,869	24,450	13,593	. .	4,226
	Zemindari	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
	Total	219,045	173,811	166,836	57,662	. .	1,933
	3. Godavari.						
Godavari Anicut	Government Land	. .	. .	. .	244,269	. .	5,747
	Inam Land	. .	. .	. .	137,334	1,400	. .
	Zemindari	. .	. .	. .	108,043	. .	989
	Total	. .	. .	. .	489,646	. .	5,336
All other works	Government Land	. .	. .	. .	35,791	. .	13,685
	Inam Land	. .	. .	. .	16,976	. .	5,892
	Zemindari	. .	. .	. .	531	74	. .
	Total	. .	. .	. .	53,298	. .	19,003
Total	Government Land	1,865,867	1,069,279	627,525	280,060	. .	19,432
	Inam Land	448,178	449,899	335,016	154,310	. .	3,992
	Zemindari	1,545,600	750,720	559,360	108,574	. .	915
	Total	3,859,645	2,269,898	1,521,901	542,944	. .	24,339
	4. Kistna.						
Kistna Anicut	Government Land	. .	. .	. .	172,246	. .	4,167
	Inam Land	. .	. .	. .	43,899	. .	940
	Zemindari	. .	. .	. .	51,168	. .	5,763
	Total	. .	. .	. .	267,313	. .	10,870
All other works	Government Land	. .	. .	. .	23,113	5,234	. .
	Inam Land	. .	. .	. .	2,443	. .	486
	Zemindari	. .	. .	. .	3,840	3,840	. .
	Total	. .	. .	. .	29,396	8,588	. .
Total	Government Land	3,426,022	2,206,791	1,461,964	195,359	1,067	. .
	Inam Land	667,696	637,362	424,100	46,342	. .	1,426
	Zemindari	952,942	. .	. .	55,008	. .	1,923
	Total	5,046,660	2,844,153	1,886,064	296,709	. .	2,282
	5. Nellore.						
Penner Anicut	Government Land	162,558	111,544	43,905	29,403	2,283	. .
	Inam Land	39,413	34,705	22,788	9,322	. .	2,606
	Zemindari	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
	Total	201,971	146,249	66,693	38,725	. .	323
All other works	Government Land	2,161,480	1,385,943	704,590	78,337	8,119	. .
	Inam Land	687,429	624,128	303,277	24,929	5,891	. .
	Zemindari	1,660,160	1,052,160	. .	. .	. .	. .
	Total	4,509,069	2,962,231	1,007,867	103,266	14,010	. .
Total	Government Land	2,324,038	1,497,487	748,495	107,740	10,402	. .
	Inam Land	726,842	558,833	326,065	34,251	3,285	. .
	Zemindari	1,660,160	1,052,160	. .	. .	. .	. .
	Total	4,711,040	3,108,480	1,074,560	141,991	13,687	. .

AREAS IRRIGATED. Sown from December 1882 to March 1883, *i. e.*, 2nd Crop. Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82. Increase.	Decrease.	Whole Year, 1882-83. Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82. Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage of Increase or Decrease in 1882-83.	RAINFALL. 1881-82.	1882-83.	Percentage of Increase or Decrease in 1882-83.	Remarks as to the causes of Increase or Decrease.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Inches.	Inches.		
18,933	15,945	. .	159,661	18,105	. .	+ 12·70	. .	. .	. .	
14,324	10,326	. .	63,388	1,760	. .	+ 2·86	. .	. .	. .	
223	223	. .	38,823	18,910	. .	+ 95·02	. .	. .	. .	
33,480	26,494	. .	261,872	38,775	. .	+ 17·38	39·45	40·63	+ 2·99	
10,402	298	. .	54,471	2,591	. .	+ 5·00	. .	. .	. .	
1,211	481	. .	14,804	. .	3,745	— 18·78	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
11,613	779	. .	69,275	. .	1,154	— 1·64	42·09	51 93	+ 22·94	
5,157	. .	3,240	249,426	. .	8,987	— 3·47	. .	. .	. .	
3,297	. .	1,916	140,631	. .	516	— 0·36	. .	. .	. .	
5,342	1,253	. .	113,385	264	. .	+ 0·23	. .	. .	. .	
13,796	. .	5,903	503,142	. .	9,239	— 1·82	. .	. .	. .	
2,852	1,040	. .	38,643	. .	12,645	— 24·65	. .	. .	. .	
2,385	1,235	. .	19,361	. .	4,157	— 17·69	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	531	74	. .	+ 16·17	. .	. .	. .	
5,237	2,275	. .	58,535	. .	16,798	— 22·30	. .	. .	. .	
8,009	. .	2,200	288,069	. .	21,632	— 6·99	. .	. .	. .	
5,682	. .	681	159,992	. .	4,673	— 2·81	. .	. .	. .	
5,342	1,253	. .	113,916	338	. .	+ 0·29	. .	. .	. .	
19,033	. .	1,628	561,977	. .	25,967	— 4·42	26·59	39·65	+ 49·12	
295	. .	908	172,541	. .	5,075	— 2·86	. .	. .	. .	
509	274	. .	44,408	. .	666	— 1·48	. .	. .	. .	
3	. .	8	51,171	. .	5,771	— 10·14	. .	. .	. .	
807	. .	642	268,120	. .	11,512	— 4·12	. .	. .	. .	
2,642	1,232	. .	25,755	6,466	. .	+ 33·30	. .	. .	. .	
245	209	. .	2,688	. .	277	— 9·23	. .	. .	. .	
634	634	. .	4,474	4,474	. .	+ 100·00	. .	. .	. .	
3,521	2,075	. .	32,917	10,663	. .	+ 47·81	. .	. .	. .	
2,937	324	. .	198,296	1,391	. .	+ 0·70	. .	. .	. .	
754	483	. .	47,096	. .	943	— 1·97	. .	. .	. .	
637	626	. .	55,645	. .	1,297	— 2·28	. .	. .	. .	
4,328	1,433	. .	301,037	. .	849	— 0·28	29·22	40·07	+ 37·13	
9,392	. .	2,872	38,795	. .	581	— 1·49	. .	. .	. .	
5,847	. .	2,476	15,169	. .	5,082	— 25·03	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
15,239	. .	5,348	53,964	. .	5,671	— 9·52	. .	. .	. .	
54,564	. .	1,436	132,901	6,683	. .	+ 5·29	. .	. .	. .	
14,319	395	. .	39,248	6,286	. .	+ 19·05	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
68,883	. .	1,041	172,149	12,969	. .	+ 8·15	. .	. .	. .	
63,956	. .	4,308	171,696	6,094	. .	+ 3·68	. .	. .	. .	
20,166	. .	2,081	54,417	1,204	. .	+ 2·26	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
84,122	. .	6,389	226,113	7,298	. .	+ 3·34	27·01	33·62	+ 24·47	

Works.	Items.	Area of the Districts in Acres.	Cultivable Area in Acres.	Cultivated Area in Acres.	SOWN FROM APRIL TO NOVEMBER 1882, *i.e.*, 1ST CROP.		
					Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.	
						Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
	6. CUDDAPAH.						
	Government Land .	4,794,648	2,749,621	1,067,993	104,295	9,459	. .
	Inam Land . .	775,438	772,753	440,816	55,536	672	. .
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	TOTAL .	5,570,086	3,522,374	1,508,809	159,831	10,131	. .
	7. BELLARY.						
	Government Land .	2,946,986	2,750,158	1,113,940	29,027	4,553	. .
	Inam Land . .	815,300	815,300	491,380	11,367	338	. .
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	TOTAL .	3,762,286	3,565,458	1,605,320	40,394	4,891	. .
	8. ANANTAPUR.						
	Government Land .	2,674 804	2,035,440	821,317	42,297	. .	4,342
	Inam Land . .	613,504	603,455	330,826	21,420	2,746	. .
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	TOTAL .	3,288,308	2,638,895	1,152,143	63,717	. .	1,596
	9. KURNOOL.						
	Government Land .	3,505,539	1,612,494	962,484	25.759	837	. .
	Inam Land . .	991,472	991,472	672,994	16,770	976	. .
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	TOTAL .	4,497,011	2,603,966	1,635,478	42,529	1,813	. .
	10. CHINGLEPUT.						
CHEMBRAMBAKAM TANK.	Government Land .	. . .	. . .	14,258	8,560	. .	1,793
	Inam Land . .	. . .	. . .	4,192	2,590	. .	1,448
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	TOTAL .	. . .	. . .	18,450	11,150	. .	3,241
ALL OTHER WORKS	Government Land .	. . .	. . .	469.161	214,672	. .	19,500
	Inam Land . .	. . .	. . .	1,04,443	39,497	. .	1,694
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	34,163	4,631	1,448	. .
	TOTAL .	. . .	. . .	6,07,767	258,800	. .	19,746
TOTAL	Government Land .	. . .	. . .	483,419	223,232	. .	21,293
	Inam Land . .	. . .	. . .	108,635	42,087	. .	3,142
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	34,163	4,631	1,448	. .
	TOTAL .	. . .	. . .	626,217	269,950	. .	22,987
	11. NORTH ARCOT.						
PALAR ANICUT	Government Land .	. . .	. . .	. . .	42,461	12,047	. .
	Inam Land . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	4,176	. .	1,579
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	TOTAL .	. . .	. . .	. . .	46,637	10,468	. .
ALL OTHER WORKS	Government Land .	. . .	. . .	. . .	127.699	. .	4,543
	Inam Land . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	28,975	3,079	. .
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	TOTAL .	. . .	. . .	. . .	156,674	. .	1,464
TOTAL	Government Land .	2,430,798	1,186,165	588,939	170,160	7,504	. .
	Inam Land . .	211,570	183,299	98,615	33,151	1,500	. .
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	TOTAL .	2,642,368	1,369,464	687,554	203,311	9,004	. .

AREAS IRRIGATED.							RAINFALL.			Remarks as to the causes of Increase or Decrease.
SOWN FROM DECEMBER 1882 TO MARCH 1883, *i.e.*, 2ND CROP.			WHOLE YEAR, 1882-83.			Percentage of Increase or Decrease in 1882-83.	1881-82.	1882-83.	Percentage of Increase or Decrease in 1882-83.	
Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.		Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.						
	Increase.	Decrease.		Increase.	Decrease.					
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Inches.	Inches.		
19,602	. .	1,870	123,897	7,589	. .	+ 6·53	. .	. .	. .	The increase is due to favorable season.
7,210	. .	152	62,746	520	. .	+ 0·83	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
26,812	. .	2,022	186,643	8,109	. .	+ 4·54	27 79	28·82	+ 3·04	
1,442	. .	3,059	30,469	1,494	. .	+ 5·15	. .	. .	. .	
344	. .	1,747	11,711	. .	1,409	— 10·76	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	.	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
1,786	. .	4,806	42,180	85	. .	+ 0·20	17·02	25·04	+ 47·12	
29,630	5,509	. .	71,927	1,167	. .	+ 1·65	. .	. .	. .	The increase in the area cultivated is due to the gradual restoration of the agricultural capital and live stock reduced in the famine.
11,713	3,229	. .	33,133	5,975	. .	+ 21·97	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
41,343	8,738	. .	105,060	7,142	. .	+ 7·29	. .	21·96	. .	
3,493	1,137	. .	29,252	1,974	. .	+ 7·23	. .	. .	. .	
1,613	461	. .	18,383	1,437	. .	+ 8 50	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
5,106	1,598	. .	47,635	3,411	. .	+ 7·72	20·17	24·56	+ 21·77	
3,586	68	. .	12,146	. .	1,725	— 12·41	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	2,590	. .	1,448	— 36·20	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
3,586	68	. .	14,736	. .	3,173	— 17·73	. .	. .	. .	
89,899	25.328	. .	304,570	5,828	. .	+ 1·95	. .	. .	. .	
27,523	9,905	. .	67,020	8,211	. .	+ 19·96	. .	. .	. .	
2,377	1,280	. .	7,008	2,728	. .	+ 63·74	. .	. .	. .	
119,798	36,513	. .	378,598	16,767	. .	+ 4·63	. .	. .	. .	
93,484	25,396	. .	316,716	4,103	. .	+ 1·31	. .	. .	. .	
27,523	9,9 5	. .	69,610	6,763	. .	+ 10·77	. .	. .	. .	
2,377	1,280	. .	7,008	2,728	. .	+ 63·74	. .	. .	. .	
123,384	36,581	. .	393,334	13,594	. .	+ 3·58	54·14	44·63	+ 30·73	
9,623	. .	4,641	52,084	7,406	. .	+ 16·58	. .	. .	. .	
4,652	2,634	. .	8,828	1,105	. .	+ 14·89	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
14,275	. .	1,957	60,912	8,511	. .	+ 16·24	. .	. .	. .	
84,011	24,444	. .	211,710	19,901	. .	+ 10 37	. .	. .	. .	
16,811	684	. .	45,786	3,763	. .	+ 8·96	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
100,822	25,128	. .	257,496	23,664	. .	+ 10·12	. .	. .	. .	
93,634	19,803	. .	263,794	27,307	. .	+ 11·55	. .	. .	. .	
21,463	3,368	. .	54,614	4,868	. .	+ 9·78	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	
115,097	23,171	. .	318,408	32,175	. .	+ 10·00	36·84	40·50	+ 9·93	

Works.	Items.	Area of the Districts in Acres.	Cultivable Area in Acres.	Cultivated Area in Acres.	Sown from April to November 1882, *i.e.*, 1st Crop.		
					Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.	
						Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	12. South Arcot.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Pelandorai Anicut.	Government land	18,474	13,520	10,200	2,761	59	. .
	Inam land . .	3,582	3,438	3,404	288	. .	118
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	Total .	22,056	16,958	13,604	3,049	. .	59
All other Works.	Government land	2,947,038	2,226,433	1,154,978	257,581	. .	1,649
	Inam land . .	156,547	142,251	80,435	19,446	. .	4,970
	Zemindari . .	23,680	14,587	8,482	1,278	. .	82
	Total .	3,127,265	2,383,271	1,243,895	278,305	. .	6,701
Total .	Government land	2,965,512	2,239,953	1,165,178	260,342	. .	1,590
	Inam land . .	160,129	145,689	83,839	19,734	. .	5,088
	Zemindari . .	23,680	14,587	8,482	1,278	. .	82
	Total .	3,149,321	2,400,229	1,257,499	281,354	. .	6,760
	13. Tanjore.						
Upper Anicut .	Government land	1,229,714	910,925	825,617	728,902	45,399	. .
	Inam land . .	217,603	178,860	140,473	105,619	7,840	. .
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	Total .	1,447,317	1,089,785	966,090	834,521	53,239	. .
All other Works.	Government land	341,986	243,233	167,680	53,402	. .	27,002
	Inam land . .	412,098	287,067	4,123,044	38,726	. .	1,591
	Zemindari . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	Total .	754,084	530,300	4,290,724	92,128	. .	28,593
Total .	Government land	1,571,700	1,154,158	993,297	782,304	18,397	. .
	Inam land . .	629,701	465,927	263,517	144,345	6,249	. .
	Zemindari . .	191,633	147,466	43,853	. .	. .	. .
	Total .	2,393,034	1,767,551	1,300,667	926,649	24,646	. .
	14. Trichinopoly.						
	Government land	1,627,738	1,288,299	880,340	111,775	7,704	. .
	Inam land . .	233,187	190,092	123,841	15,817	. .	1,474
	Zemindari . .	410,200	308,245	. . .	. .	. .	. .
	Total .	2,271,125	1,786,635	1,004,181	127,592	6,230	. .
	15. Madura.						
	Government land	1,729,758	1,321,620	791,347	111,184	7,697	. .
	Inam land . .	217,941	199,774	115,628	9,659	1,267	. .
	Zemindari . .	590,197	213,273	4,200	20	4	. .
	Total .	2,537,896	1,734,667	911,175	120,863	8,968	. .
	16. Tinnevelly.						
Srivaikuntham Anicut.	Government land	97,331	71,815	52,613	(a)16,677	9,956	. .
	Inam land . .	6,969	5,863	3,883	693	413	. .
	Zemindari . .	5,227	3,457	2,203	509	509	. .
	Total .	109,527	81,135	58,699	17,879	10,878	. .
All other Works.	Government land	1,801,058	1,461,313	1,123,199	96,125	31,271	. .
	Inam land . .	263,078	231,075	181,977	6,111	1,158	. .
	Zemindari . .	921,120	744,831	628,986	5,909	1,972	. .
	Total .	2,985,256	2,437,219	1,934,162	108,145	34,401	. .
Total .	Government land	1,898,389	1,533,128	1,175,812	112,802	41,227	. .
	Inam land . .	270,047	236,938	185,860	6,804	1,571	. .
	Zemindari . .	926,347	748,288	631,189	6,418	2,481	. .
	Total .	3,094,783	2,518,354	1,992,861	126,024	45,279	. .

AREAS IRRIGATED.							RAINFALL.			
Sown from December 1882 to March 1883, *i.e.*, 2nd Crop.			Whole year, 1882-83.			Percentage of Increase or Decrease in 1882-83.	1881-82.	1882-83.	Percentage of Increase or Decrease in 1882-83.	Remarks as to the causes of Increase or Decrease.
Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.		Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.						
	Increase.	Decrease.		Increase.	Decrease.					
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Inches.	Inches.		
613	274	. .	3,374	333	. .	+10·95	. .	. .	. .	
136	. .	12	424	. .	130	—23·29	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	
749	262	. .	3,798	203	. .	+ 5·65	. .	. .	. .	
108,118	32,221	. .	365,699	30,572	. .	+ 9·12	. .	. .	. .	
12,330	. .	697	31,776	. .	5,667	—15·15	. .	. .	. .	
725	58	.	2,003	. .	24	— 1·20	. .	. .	. .	
121,173	31,582	. .	399,478	24,881	. .	+ 6·64	. .	. .	. .	
108,731	32,495	. .	369,073	30,905	. .	+ 9·15	. .	. .	. .	
12,466	. .	709	32,200	. .	5,797	—15·25	. .	. .	. .	
725	58	. .	2,003	. .	24	— 1·20	. .	. .	. .	
121,922	31,844	. .	403,276	25,084	. .	+ 6·63	28·31	33·90	+19·74	
62,207	. .	8,567	791,109	36,832	. .	+ 4·88	. .	. .	. .	
9,170	. .	906	114,789	6,934	. .	+ 6·42	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	
71,377	. .	9,473	905,898	43,766	. .	+ 5·08	. .	. .	. .	
10,686	. .	2,693	64,088	. .	29,695	—31·61	. .	. .	. .	
18,012	. .	2,023	56,738	. .	3,614	— 6·00	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	
28,698	. .	4,716	120,826	. .	33,309	—27·61	. .	. .	. .	
72,893	. .	11,260	855,197	7,137	. .	+ 0·84	. .	. .	. .	
27,182	. .	2,929	171,527	3,320	. .	+ 1·98	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	
100,075	. .	14,189	1,026,724	10,457	. .	+ 1·03	39·57	42·79	+ 8·14	
50,203	. .	5,286	161,978	2,418	. .	+ 1·52	. .	. .	. .	
5,632	893	. .	21,449	. .	581	— 2·64	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	
55,835	. .	4,393	183,427	1,837	. .	+ 1·01	32·90	33·69	+ 2·40	
34,802	2,592	. .	145,986	10,289	. .	+ 7·59	. .	. .	. .	
3,900	. .	7	13,559	1,260	. .	+10·24	. .	. .	. .	
. .	. .	. .	20	4	. .	+25·00	. .	. .	. .	
38,702	2,585	. .	159,565	11,553	. .	+ 7·81	25·85	29·91	+15·71	
(b) 18,119	712	. .	34,796	10,668	. .	+44·21	. .	. .	. .	
831	28	. .	1,524	441	. .	+40·72	. .	. .	. .	
568	. .	31	1,077	478	. .	+79·80	. .	. .	. .	
19,518	709	. .	37,397	11,587	. .	+44·89	. .	. .	. .	
162,268	. .	2,963	258,393	28,308	. .	+12·30	. .	. .	. .	
13,767	407	. .	19,878	1,565	. .	+ 8·54	. .	. .	. .	
13,412	. .	248	19,321	1,724	. .	+ 9·79	. .	. .	. .	
189,447	. .	2,804	297,592	31,597	. .	+11·87	. .	. .	. .	
180,387	. .	2,251	293,189	38,976	. .	+15·33	. .	. .	. .	
14,598	435	. .	21,402	2,006	. .	+10·34	. .	. .	. .	
13,980	. .	279	20,398	2,202	. .	+12·10	. .	. .	. .	
208,965	. .	2,095	334,989	43,184	. .	+14·79	23·01	28·64	+24·42	

(a) Second crop in this district.
(b) First do. The increase in the total irrigated area is due to the more favorable character of the season in this than in the preceding year.

Works.	Items.	Area of the District in Acres.	Cultivable Area in Acres.	Cultivated Area in Acres.	Sown from April to November 1882, *i.e.*, 1st Crop.			Sown from December 1882 to March 1883, *i.e.*, 2nd Crop.			Whole year, 1882-83.			Percentage of Increase or Decrease in 1882-83.	Rainfall.			Remarks as to the causes of Increase or Decrease.
					Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.		Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.		Total Acres.	In comparison with 1881-82.			1881-82.	1882-83.	Percentage of Increase or Decrease in 1882-83.	
						Increase.	Decrease.		Increase.	Decrease.		Increase.	Decrease.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	17. Coimbatore.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Inches.	Inches		
	Government land	3,869,840	2,702,191	2,029,697	75,170	3,091	. .	19,278	. .	1,326	94,448	1,765	. .	+ 1·90	. .	. .	. .	Cultivation is on its increase on account of sufficient fall of rain.
	Inam land	324,889	288,076	239,997	8,581	. .	135	2,628	7	. .	11,209	. .	128	— 1·04	. .	. .	. .	
	Zemindari	94,090	80,502	78,563	133	. .	3	. .	. .	. .	133	. .	3	— 2·20	. .	. .	. .	
	Total	4,288,819	3,070,769	2,348,257	83,884	2,953	. .	21,906	. .	1,319	105,790	1,634	. .	+ 1·57	20·38	30·83	+51·27	
	18. Salem.																	
	Government land	3,655,271	1,814,709	1,126,516	90,810	14,392	. .	18,910	. .	1,679	109,720	12,713	. .	+ 13·10	. .	. .	. .	The increase in wet cultivation is due to the favourable character of the season with more copious and timely rainfall in the year.
	Inam land	259,793	154,635	94,163	7,395	. .	545	1,807	833	. .	9,202	288	. .	+ 3·23	. .	. .	. .	
	Zemindari	1,124,781	. .	. .	449	. .	. .	233	. .	. .	682	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	
	Total	5,039,845	1,969,344	1,220,679	98,654	13,847	. .	20,950	. .	846	119,604	13,001	. .	+ 12·19	27·04	38·30	+41·64	
Total Anicut	Government land	. .	. .	. .	1,245,279	58,037	. .	108,992	. .	19,174	1,354,271	38,863	. .	+ 2·95	. .	. .	. .	
	Inam land	. .	. .	. .	303,921	2,962	. .	24,442	. .	2,324	328,363	638	. .	+ 0·19	. .	. .	. .	
	Zemindari	. .	. .	. .	159,720	. .	6,243	5,913	1,214	. .	165,633	. .	5,029	— 4·03	. .	. .	. .	
	Total	. .	. .	. .	1,708,920	51,756	. .	139,347	. .	20,284	1,848,267	34,472	. .	+ 1·95	. .	. .	. .	
Total of other Works	Government land	. .	. .	. .	1,661,834	26,089	. .	721,734	89,434	. .	2,383,568	115,523	. .	+ 5·09	. .	. .	. .	
	Inam land	. .	. .	. .	386,305	. .	12,952	155,774	24,439	. .	542,079	11,487	. .	+ 2·16	. .	. .	. .	
	Zemindari	. .	. .	. .	55,391	25,940	. .	17,604	1,947	. .	72,995	27,887	. .	+ 61·82	. .	. .	. .	
	Total	. .	. .	. .	2,103,530	39,077	. .	895,112	115,820	. .	2,998,642	154,897	. .	+ 5·44	. .	. .	. .	
Grand Total including Anicuts and other Works	Government land	41,992,110	27,650,437	16,496,352	2,907,113	84,126	. .	830,796	70,260	. .	3,737,839	154,586	. .	+ 4·31	. .	. .	. .	
	Inam land	7,318,980	6,685,577	4,418,148	690,226	.	9,990	180,219	22,115	. .	870,442	12,128	. .	+ 1·41	. .	. .	. .	
	Zemindari	8,589,720	4,162,281	1,419,990	215,111	19,697	. .	23,517	3,161	. .	239,628	22,558	. .	+ 14·06	. .	. .	. .	
	Total	57,900 810	38,498,295	22,334.490	3,812,450	93,833	. .	1,034,459	95,536	. .	4,846,909	189,369	. .	+ 4·06	29·31	34·97	+19·31	

Camp Chinnammanur,
4th August 1883.

W. WILSON,
Director of Revenue Settlement and Agriculture.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, 1883, UP TO 31st AUGUST 1883.

Canal Division.	Water distributed during August, 1883. Depth in Canal at regulating gauge in feet. Full supply.	Depth in Canal at regulating gauge in feet. Actual average throughout.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Allotted charge.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Actual average throughout.	Total area of irrigation during current fasl.	Total area for the corresponding period of last year.
Upper Ganges. Northern	10·00	8·98	950	360	48,319	48,282
Upper Ganges. Anúpshahr	7·00	5·93	1,100	834	54,089	54,434
Upper Ganges. Meerut	8·10	7·07	925	1,682	69,452	68,937
Upper Ganges. Bulandshahr	7·20	5·93	925	603	78,303	64,750
Upper Ganges. Aligarh	5·50	4·64	1,300	763	82,952	72,327
Lower Ganges. Narora	9·00	5·02	975	223	14,592	13,497
Lower Ganges. Mainpuri	7·00	3·00	600	265	32,531	34,124
Lower Ganges. Cawnpore	8·20	6·06	825	506	47,768	49,193
Lower Ganges. Etáwah	5·80	2·8	975	451	63,836	63,870
Lower Ganges. Bhognipur	7·00	3·18	950	135	25,759	21,072
Total Upper and Lower Ganges Canals	...	...	9,525	5,822	517,601	490,486
Eastern Jumna Canal	4·74	5·02	1,300	1,424	93,302	95,380
Agra Canal	8·50	7·77	1,300	627	50,392	43,123
Rohilkhand	...	...	...	...	26,096	21,731
Bijnor	...	...	...	...	1,516	1,471
Dún	...	...	...	...	4,585	4,668
Jhánsi	...	...	...	...	36	23
Hamírpur	...	...	...	...	51	27
Total	...	...	...	...	693,579	656,909

Zila.	Land irrigated (approximate). Sugarcane.	Indigo.	Rice.	Cotton.	Other food-grains.	Fodder crops.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Rain-fall. Total from 1st April to end of August, 1883.	Average of ten previous years for the same period.
Saháranpur	16,801	1,794	26,462	693	2,628	521	1,243	50,142	10·1	25·9
Muzaffarnagar	41,999	4,615	21,091	2,762	4,322	2,215	3,825	80,829	13·4	21·7
Meerut	63,308	17,628	7,717	11,189	15,413	3,825	2,573	121,653	7·7	20·6
Bulandshahr	6,095	53,110	46	11,648	12,051	3,901	1,721	88,572	11·5	19·0
Aligarh	588	45,561	245	4,835	8,581	422	1,558	61,790	16·3	17·8
Muttra	1,111	10,007	...	10,382	1,133	204	1,262	24,099	12·3	18·2
Agra	1,278	4,453	7	1,138	677	105	479	8,137	12·8	19·7
Etah	1,306	26,267	324	1,404	3,907	84	1,135	34,427	12·1	20·5
Mainpuri	2,895	34,417	959	1,132	5,634	844	1,789	47,670	10·5	22·9
Fatehgarh	2,234	14,842	642	602	2,293	270	88	20,971	11·4	22·1
Etáwah	5,273	42,489	891	314	2,111	649	1,073	52,800	12·2	19·8
Cawnpore	4,846	41,400	1,490	24	1,577	21	1,712	51,070	14·7	19·8
Delhi	...	30	...	22	...	2	32	86	8·1	18·8
Gurgaon	1,134	4,797	14	11,315	249	1,259	281	19,049	9·8	18·3
Dehra Dún	768	...	3,516	...	...	...	301	4,585	29·3	57·2
Bijnor	1,480	...	36	...	...	...	...	1,516	16·6	27·9
Tarái	1,270	...	4,232	...	...	...	...	5,502	27·2	34·9
Pilibhit	813	...	2,244	...	...	...	...	3,057	22·6	33·8
Bareilly	4,668	...	12,869	...	...	...	...	17,537	12·2	29·4
Jhánsi	23	...	2	7	...	...	4	36	11·3	24·5
Hamírpur	10	...	4	...	...	...	37	51	18·1	22·0
Total	157,900	301,410	82,791	57,467	60,576	14,322	19,113	693,579	...	...
Total for the same period last year	191,133	304,394	73,769	44,549	21,050	5,936	16,078	656,909	...	...
Increase	...	...	9,022	12,918	39,526	8,386	3,035	36,670	...	...
Decrease	33,233	2,984	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Remarks.

Supply— *Cubic feet per second.*

Entering head of Ganges Canal		5,804
„ Lower Ganges Canal		1,780
		7,584
Expended—		
Ganges Canal	4,242	
Lower Ganges Canal	1,580	
	5,822	
Escaped—		
Anúpshahr Branch, Ganges Canal	88	
Meerut Division, ditto	79	
Bulandshahr ditto ditto	7	
Narora ditto, Lower Ganges Canal	393	
Mainpuri ditto ditto	56	
Cawnpore ditto ditto	580	
Etáwah ditto ditto	314	
Bhognipur ditto ditto	205	
Percolation from the Narora Division	82	
Ditto ditto Mainpuri „	54	
	1,858	
	7,680	
Deduct drainage water	96	
	7,584	

Executive Engineer, Northern Division, Ganges Canal, reports that there was severe drought during the first three weeks of the month, after which there were scattered showers, which sufficed for miscellaneous crops. A heavy flood in the Ganges on the 6th checked supply in canal for three days.

Executive Engineer, Anúpshahr Branch, Ganges Canal, reports that there has been a great demand since the 10th August, but, owing to small areas of cane and indigo, the area irrigated does not exceed that of last year.

Executive Engineer, Meerut Division, Ganges Canal, reports that demand was full in the upper half of the Division during the whole month, and began about August 5th. The canal was maintained to full supply, and the very greatest difficulty was experienced in getting water equally distributed owing to the great gul clearance.

Executive Engineer, Bulandshahr Division, Ganges Canal, reports that the increase in irrigated area is due to the drought which commenced about the 4th August. More might have been done, if so large an area of old irrigation had not required water at the same time. The indigo stood the drought well, but got water about the end of August.

Executive Engineer, Aligarh Division, Ganges Canal, reports that the long break in the rains necessitated the opening of all distributaries between the 6th and 11th instant. The demand for water was very great till the 21st, when a general fall of rain was registered in the Division, varying from half an inch to three inches; this had the effect of stopping irrigation on some channels and reducing the demand for canal water.

Executive Engineer, Mainpuri Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports a strong general demand for water from the 10th to the 20th; after that date demand limited to the central portion of the division. The increased area irrigated during the month is due entirely to the failure of the rains, and, it will be seen, is mainly under food grains. Average rainfall during the month over the whole Division 3·1 inch, but over the central portion only 1·3 inches.

Executive Engineer, Cawnpore Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the decrease is due to the reasons noted in the return for May.

Executive Engineer, Bhognipur Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that hot west winds during the first half of the month caused general demand for irrigation, so distributaries were re-opened from the 15th, but heavy general rain falling from the 20th to the 23rd stopped all further demand during the month.

Executive Engineer, Eastern Jumna Canal, reports that the decrease in sugarcane and rice was explained in previous reports. The extended irrigation of other crops was mainly practised during the last few days of the month, and very little of it has come into this month's return. There was a serious stoppage of rain from the 17th July to the 27th August.

Executive Engineer, gra Canal, reports that the dryness of the season caused some 5,000 acres of cotton and juar, &c., to be watered in August, chiefly in the Gurgaon and Muttra districts, but water was chiefly given to canal crops.

Executive Engineer, Rohilkhand Canals, reports that there was general light rain on the 4th, except at Bareilly and Nawabganj, and occasional showers until general rain fell on the 21st, and again still heavier rain from the 26th to the 28th, up to which date water was in steady demand for rice and kharif grain crops. Demand has temporarily ceased now in the 2nd sub-division, but more rain is wanted for rice in the 1st sub-division. All the earthen dams have been breached again. All the water was being utilized during the month, except in Dehra, where dams were broken and the river in flood.

Executive Engineer, Dún Canals, reports light but sufficient rain during the month, and a considerable falling-off in area of sugarcane, owing to little profit being realized from it last year.

No remarks from the other Divisions.

ALLAHABAD,
The 26th September 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON THE AGRA CANAL FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1883.

Nature of Traffic.	Agra Canal. Principal items of Traffic. Up. Mds.	Up. No.	Down. Mds.	Down. No.	Total up and down. Mds.	Total up and down. No.
Grains—						
Wheat	...	...	2,675	...	2,675	...
Gram	...	...	850	...	850	...
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paddy or dhán	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bejhar or mixed grain	...	...	1,250	...	1,250	...
Dál—						
Urd	...	...	...	...	...	...
Múng	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arhar	...	...	...	...	...	...
Masúri	...	...	...	...	...	...
Juár	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bájra	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maize or Indian-corn	...	...	...	...	...	...
Barley	...	...	75	...	75	...
Total	...	...	4,850	...	4,850	...
Cotton	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oilseeds	...	...	150	...	150	...
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	...
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	...
Building materials	2,900	...	...	...	2,900	...
Miscellaneous goods	...	...	20	...	20	...
Firewood	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bamboos	...	...	...	...	...	...
Timber—						
Poles and unsquared timber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Karis and squared timber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Logs	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous timber	...	...	650	...	650	...
Live-stock	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand Total	2,900	...	5,670	...	8,570	...
Total during corresponding period of last year	...	...	25	...	25	...
Increase	2,900	...	5,645	...	8,545	...
Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...

Remarks.

Particulars.	Agra Canal. 1883.	1882.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	315	1
Ton mileage	31,338	23
Value of goods	R 13,500	R 8
Number of passengers	...	...

ALLAHABAD,
The 26th September 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1883.

	UPPER GANGES CANAL. Principal items of Local Traffic. Up. Mds.	Nos.	Down. Mds.	Nos.	Total up and down. Mds.	Nos.	LOWER GANGES CANAL. Principal items of Local Traffic. Up. Mds.	Nos.	Down. Mds.	Nos.	Total up and down. Mds.	Nos.	UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS. Principal items of Through Traffic. Up. Mds.	Nos.	Down. Mds.	Nos.	Total up and down. Mds.	Nos.	UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS. Principal items of Local and Through Traffic. Up. Mds.	Nos.	Down. Mds.	Nos.	Total up and down. Mds.	Nos.	Remarks.
Grains.																									
Wheat	123	...	6,355	...	6,478	...	...	...	3,126	...	3,126	...	...	...	3,220	...	3,220	...	123	...	12,701	...	12,824	...	
Gram	...	...	40	...	40	...	255	...	...	...	255	...	312	...	...	...	312	...	567	...	40	...	607	...	
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Paddy or dhán	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Bejhar or mixed grain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Dál — Urd	...	...	500	...	500	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	...	500	...	
Dál — Múng	37	...	50	...	87	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	...	50	...	87	...	
Dál — Arhar	1,358	...	...	...	1,358	...	1,325	...	...	...	1,325	...	1,085	...	...	...	1,085	...	3,768	...	...	...	3,768	...	
Dál — Masúri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Juár	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Bájra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Maize or Indian-corn	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Barley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total	1,518	...	6,945	...	8,463	...	1,580	...	3,126	...	4,706	...	1,397	...	3,220	...	4,617	...	4,495	...	13,291	...	17,786	...	
Cotton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	333	...	333	...	...	...	23	...	23	...	...	...	356	...	356	...	
Oil-seeds	...	...	6	...	6	...	...	...	1,127	...	1,127	...	...	...	235	...	235	...	...	...	1,368	...	1,368	...	
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	...	126	...	...	...	126	...	...	...	1,461	...	1,461	...	126	...	1,461	...	1,587	...	
Metals	56	...	175	...	231	...	25	...	300	...	325	...	36	...	...	...	36	...	117	...	475	...	592	...	
Building materials	7,569	...	4,473	...	12,042	...	4,550	...	58,821	...	63,371	...	...	...	2,053	...	2,053	...	12,119	...	65,347	...	77,466	...	
Miscellaneous goods	111	...	556	...	667	...	25	...	379	...	404	...	...	...	4,350	...	4,350	...	136	...	5,285	...	5,421	...	
Firewood	3,725	...	3,550	...	7,275	...	9,660	...	13,075	...	22,735	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,385	...	16,625	...	30,010	...	
Bamboos	...	...	140	2,800	140	2,800	20	400	...	...	20	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	400	140	2,800	160	3,200	
Timber — Poles and unsquared timber.	...	...	2,364	2,125	2,364	2,125	90	180	...	...	90	180	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	180	2,364	2,125	2,454	2,305	
Timber — Karis and squared timber.	...	...	3,722	4,363	3,722	4,363	275	280	...	...	275	280	...	...	...	...	...	...	275	280	3,722	4,363	3,997	4,643	
Timber — Logs	200	10	...	...	200	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	3	...	...	60	3	260	13	...	...	260	13	
Miscellaneous timber	...	...	540	1,080	540	1,080	288	576	...	...	288	576	...	...	25	50	25	50	288	576	565	1,130	853	1,706	
Live-stock	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Grand Total	13,179	10	22,471	10,368	35,650	10,378	16,639	1,436	77,161	...	93,800	1,436	1,493	3	11,367	50	12,860	53	31,311	1,449	110,999	10,418	142,310	11,867	
Total during corresponding period of last year	125	...	1,280	...	1,405	...	9,644	102	36,099	250	45,743	352	...	...	2,886	...	2,886	...	9,769	102	40,265	250	50,034	352	
Increase	13,054	10	21,191	10,368	34,245	10,378	6,995	1,334	41,062	...	48,057	1,084	1,493	3	8,481	50	9,974	53	21,542	1,347	70,734	10,168	92,276	11,515	
Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

Particulars.	Upper Ganges Canal (local). 1882.	1883.	Lower Ganges Canal (local). 1882.	1883.	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through). 1882.	1883.	Total, Upper and Lower Ganges Canals. 1882.	1883.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	51	1,310	1,680	3,445	106	473	1,837	5,228
Ton mileage	2,763	58,558	167,122	92,011	29,992	92,385	199,877	242,954
Value of goods R	4,161	39,471	67,416	34,856	11,456	23,256	83,033	97,583
Number of passengers	...	64	...	106	...	1	...	171

Allahabad,
The 26th September 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. & Oh., P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF IN THE PUNJAB FOR 1883-84. UP TO 31st AUGUST 1883.

Canal Division.	Water distributed during August 1883. Depth in Canal at Regulating Gauge. Full supply.	Actual throughout.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Estimated full supply.	Actual average throughout.	Navigation, Return Canal. Principal items of Traffic. Up.	Down.	Land irrigated (approximate). Zila.	Acres.	Rainfall. Average.	During month.	Chief crops (approximate). Name.	Area in acres.	Remarks.
Bári Doáb Canal — 1st Division	4·9	5·3	3,073·6	1,612	...	...	Gurdáspur	17,781	8·18	4·1	Cotton	21,921	The Bári Doáb Canal was closed for 17 hours on the 12th August for the repair of rapid No. 7. There is an increase of 21,147 acres, as compared with the corresponding month of last year; this is due to the partial failure of the rains which has necessitated the irrigation of much Jowár, Chari, and other fodder crops usually dependant on the rainfall. There has been heavy and general rain in September, so that the demand has since fallen off; but this Kharif promises to be the largest on record. The increase of irrigation during the month was 38,528 acres.
Bári Doáb Canal — 2nd Division, Main Branch, Lower	4·6	4·0		1,219	...	...	Amritsar	54,833	8·16	3·25	Rice	20,650	
Bári Doáb Canal — 2nd do., Lahore Branch	3·35	3·7		850	...	...	Lahore	67,334	4·04	1·20	Sugarcane	9,249	
Bári Doáb Canal — Passed out of Escapes	...	...	...	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	Others	88,128	
Total Bári Doáb Canal	...	...	3,073·6	3,720	...	...	...	139,948	...	...	...	139,948	
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	3,073·6	2,765	...	...	...	118,801	...	...	...	118,801	
Western Jumna Canal — Karnál Division	4·33	4·70	2,546	327	...	642,712 kurries, bullies, &c.; 48,066 cubic feet wood, and 12,478 mds. firewood.	Umballa	1,980	10·85	6·24	Cotton	35,217	The operations of the month on the Western Jumna Canal show an increase of area irrigated of 23,726 acres, and of 15,247 acres, as compared with last year. The scanty rainfall has strained the resources of the canal to the utmost.
Western Jumna Canal — Delhi do.	5·70	5·30		737	...		Karnál	37,709	4·73	0·60	Rice	46,547	
Western Jumna Canal — Hánsi do.	9·00	8·66		1,183	...		Delhi	32,932	5·80	...	Sugarcane	65,485	
Western Jumna Canal — Do. Bulla Head	8·80	8·10		310	...		Rohtak	36,023	3·60	0·30	Others	28,491	
Western Jumna Canal — Passed out of Escapes	...	...	...	287	...		Hissár	36,829	3·60	...	...	...	
							Jhind	29,144	3·50	...	...	...	
							Bíkaner	201	...	...	...	...	
							Kalsia State	916	...	...	...	...	
Total Western Jumna Canal	...	...	2,546	2,844	...	642,712	...	175,734	...	...	...	175,734	
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	2,546	2,057	...	191,144	...	160,487	...	...	...	160,487	
Inundation Canals — Upper Sutlej Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	Lahore	12,168	...	...	Detail not obtainable for want of establishment.	...	On the Inundation Canals there is a decrease of 84,877 acres, as compared with last year, which is due to the short supply in the canals, owing to the low state of the rivers.
Inundation Canals — Lower Sutlej and Chenab Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	Montgomery	28,000	...	...		...	
Inundation Canals — Indus Canals	...	...	...	...	...	...	Mooltan	170,255	1·09	...		...	
Inundation Canals — Muzaffargarh Canals	...	...	...	...	...	...	Dera Gházi Khan	108,981	2·07	...		...	
							Muzaffargarh	159,072	...	...		...	
Total Inundation Canals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	478,476	...	...	...	478,476	There is an increase of 36,394 acres on the Perennial Canals, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year.
Corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	563,353	...	...	...	563,353	
Perennial Canals, Grand Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	315,682	...	...	...	315,682	
Do. corresponding period of last year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	279,288	...	...	...	279,288	

J. E. CATTON,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., Punjab, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XXXIX OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 7th October 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 6th October 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 7th October 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 6th October 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84
			R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
	Guaranteed.												
29th Sept. 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	2,03,191	1,181	...	(a)	...	(b) 26,78,526	596	(c) 22,86,617	511	...	3,91,909
6th Oct. 1883	Oudh and Rohilkhand	547	67,379	123	547	94,716	173	25,12,834	169	29,78,854	202	4,66,020	...
6th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	1,54,174	228	749	1,96,478	262	47,39,829	258	59,69,211	297	12,29,382	...
6th ditto	Madras	861	1,21,607	141	861	1,17,508	136	37,08,404	159	34,57,564	149	...	2,50,840
6th ditto	South Indian	655	65,584	100	655	74,136	113	20,24,233	114	21,03,400	119	79,167	...
13th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	4,46,690	306	1,451	3,94,332	272	1,61,34,897	410	1,69,32,503	432	7,97,606	...
6th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	1,41,810	308	461	1,74,093	378	49,41,909	395	57,28,643	460	7,86,734	...
	TOTAL	4,830	12,00,435	249	4,724	10,51,263	223	3,67,40,632	281	3,94,56,792	299	27,16,160	...
	State.												
13th Oct. 1883	East Indian	1,507	7,36,155	488	1,509	8,51,614	564	2,21,85,095	543	2,62,23,677	644	40,38,582	...
6th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	2,860	87	56	5,610	101	1,01,166	120	1,54,619	106	53,453	...
6th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,552	57	27	1,447	54	35,551	48	42,772	59	7,221	...
6th ditto	Northern Bengal	230	49,425	215	239	50,000	209	9,98,326	158	10,71,559	169	73,233	...
6th ditto	Tirhoot	75	10,097	135	166	16,162	97	3,28,033	149	4,48,151	101	1,20,118	...
25th Aug. 1883	Patna-Gya	57	17,479	307	...	(a)	...	(e) 1,82,944	152	(f) 1,63,758	187	...	19,186
6th Oct. 1883	Cawnpore-Achnera	138	8,312	60	138	10,555	76	2,67,849	72	2,83,197	76	15,348	...
13th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	587	49	12	708	59	23,239	71	24,140	75	901	...
13th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,116	1,47,521	132	1,117	1,93,640	173	51,28,231	169	61,89,154	205	10,60,923	...
13th ditto	Wardha Coal	45	9,793	218	45	11,110	247	2,67,481	219	3,56,904	294	89,423	...
13th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	4,455	45	149	11,084	74	2,70,384	102	6,50,003	162	3,79,619	...
6th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	21,673	135	161	23,868	148	6,95,132	159	6,98,915	161	3,783	...
13th ditto	Sindia	75	4,280	57	75	4,834	64	1,56,647	77	1,54,927	77	...	1,720
6th ditto	Punjab Northern	409	53,859	132	420	47,312	113	14,93,893	137	15,87,832	140	93,939	...
6th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	89,497	136	660	94,166	143	21,52,541	120	38,05,508	214	16,52,967	...
6th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	2,075	65	32	2,656	83	40,673	47	52,873	61	12,200	...
13th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	...	89	8,540	96	...	...	2,15,644	90	2,15,644	...
	TOTAL	3,168	4,23,465	134	3,386	4,81,722	142	1,21,42,090	141	1,58,99,956	171	37,57,866	...
	Assisted Company.												
29th Sept. 1883	Bengal Central	...	...	...	...	(a)	...	...	...	(h) 54,660	60	54,660	...
	Native States.												
6th Oct. 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal	193	11,758	61	193	11,495	60	4,62,604	88	5,02,057	96	39,453	...
6th ditto	Nizam's	121	19,021	157	121	15,554	129	4,51,048	137	4,12,981	126	...	38,067
6th ditto	Mysore	86	5,141	60	86	8,765	102	1,46,571	63	1,40,668	61	...	5,903
13th ditto	Jodhpore	19	399	21	19	380	20	(i) 7,939	27	19,701	39	11,762	...
	TOTAL	419	36,319	87	419	36,194	86	10,68,162	95	10,75,407	95	7,245	...
	GRAND TOTAL	9,924	23,96,374	241	10,038	24,20,793	241	7,21,35,979	268	8,27,10,492	298	1,05,74,513	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,78,06,223	141	4,26,83,911	154	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,43,29,756	127	4,00,26,581	144	56,96,825	...

(a) Return not received.
(b) Total receipts from 1st April to 30th September 1882.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 29th September 1883, inclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway.
(d) Excludes mileage of Eastern Bengal Railway (172).
(e) Total receipts from 1st April to 26th August 1882.
(f) Total receipts from 1st April to 25th August 1883.
(g) Excludes mileage of Patna-Gya State Railway (57).
(h) Total receipts from 1st April to 29th September 1883.
(i) Total receipts from 24th June to 7th October 1882.
(j) Excludes mileages of E. B., P.-G. and Bengal Central Rys. (172+57+86).

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENTS OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 1st AND 2nd HALVES OF SEPTEMBER 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 1662, 1663, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106 AND 2107 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA," DATED 13th AND 27th OCTOBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts	Rice. Wheat. Present fortnight.	Rice. Wheat. Past fortnight.	Rice. Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Barley. Present fortnight.	Rice. Barley. Past fortnight.	Rice. Barley. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Best sort. Present fortnight.	Rice. Best sort. Past fortnight.	Rice. Best sort. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Rice. Common. Present fortnight.	Rice. Common. Past fortnight.	Rice. Common. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Varagoo, Sawee, Cheena Common, Kutkee, Nurnee, Moraeo, *Eleusine Coracana, Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Varagoo, Sawee, Cheena Common, Kutkee, Nurnee, Moraeo, *Eleusine Coracana, Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Varagoo, Sawee, Cheena Common, Kutkee, Nurnee, Moraeo, *Eleusine Coracana, Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of last year.
		S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
	1st half of September 1883.																							R a. per maund.	R a. per maund.	R a. per maund.				
Western	Bangalore	10 11	10 13	10 11	11 11	11 12	12 13	12 9	10 9	8 9	15 10	10 10	6 11	4 28	2 27	14 0	29 7	28 4	4 28	4 29	7 28	8 26	12 29	1 30	5 96	0 96	0 96	0 12	4 12	8 13	8 12	0 13	0
	Kolar	14 8	14 ...	14 0	12 ...	12 0	12 ...	0 12	0 13	0 12	15 14	0 14	0 15	3 ...	0 ...	... ...	35 ...	34 0	4 ...	4 ...	34 0	36 0	28 34	3 34	6 172	6 172	6 172	0 12	4 13	8 12	8 12	0 13	3
	Tumkur	11 12	11 12	12 0	11 8	12 0	12 ...	0 13	0 12	0 13	8 13	8 13	8 13	0 ...	... ...	... ...	41 ...	40 0	4 0	4 0	40 0	35 0	28 39	0 340	6 340	6 340	6 340	0 11	0 12	8 10	8 12	0 12	0
	Mysore	14 11	14 12	13 0	13 10	13 10	15 ...	0 15	0 15	0 15	15 14	0 13	8 13	0 ...	... ...	... ...	28 ...	30 0	4 0	4 0	30 0	21 0	32 30	0 75	0 75	0 75	0 72	0 8	12 8	8 8	8 8	0 8	4
	Shimoga	14 11	14 13	13 0	13 10	15 12	15 ...	0 15	0 15	0 15	20 15	0 20	0 20	0 ...	... ...	... ...	37 ...	37 0	4 0	4 0	37 0	29 0	32 30	0 480	7 480	7 480	6 480	0 8	12 8	8 8	8 8	0 8	4
	Kadur	14 ...	14 0	14 0	15 ...	15 0	15 ...	0 15	0 17	0 17	20 17	0 20	0 20	0 ...	... ...	... ...	38 ...	38 0	4 0	4 0	38 0	25 0	32 23	0 54	0 54	0 54	0 64	0 3	8 4	8 3	8 3	0 3	0
Eastern	Sylhet	11 4	10 0	10 8	... ...	... ...	... ...	12 8	10 9	8 10	17 8	15 0	31 8	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	16 4	15 0	16 0	108 0	108 0	108 0	3 4	3 4	3 2	2 12	8 11	0
	Cachar	10 0	10 0	9 6	12 13	12 13	16 0	15 0	11 8	20 0	17 12	16 13	24 10	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	12 13	12 16	13 16	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 6	3 6	3 4	2 10	10 10	10
	Goalpara	20 0	20 0	22 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	13 0	13 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	14 8	14 0	14 0	64 0	80 0	120 0	3 4	3 3	4 11	0 12	4 12	0
	Cáre Hills	4 0	4 0	4 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	5 0	5 0	5 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	8 0	8 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 0	5 6	6 8	0 6	6 6	6
	Khasi and Jaintia Hills	15 8	18 0	20 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	12 4	12 4	13 0	20 0	17 0	18 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	9 12	9 13	8 12	160 0	160 0	200 0	3 8	3 8	5 11	0 8	8 0	0
	Naga Hills	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	6 8	6 8	6 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	8 0	8 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 0	4 8	8 8	0 8	8 0	0
	Lakhimpur	8 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	8 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	8 16	8 16	8 16	120 0	120 0	160 0	4 0	4 8	8 4	0 3	8 0	0
	Sibsagar	8 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	8 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	8 12	8 13	8 12	100 0	100 0	100 0	4 0	4 8	8 4	0 3	8 0	0
	Naga Hills	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	6 8	6 8	6 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	8 0	8 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	4 0	4 8	8 4	0 3	8 0	0
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	16 5	16 9	17 12	... ...	... ...	... ...	7 14	7 8	7 14	10 3	10 5	9 13	3 22	3 22	3 25	14 7	13 27	0 ...	... ...	0 27	0 28	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	125 0	125 0	125 0	4 12	5 0	5 8	0 5	0 6	0
	Bolarum	18 3	18 3	19 7	... ...	... ...	... ...	8 1	8 1	7 6	9 10	9 10	9 8	6 26	6 26	6 29	14 0	13 28	0 ...	... ...	0 28	0 28	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	116 14	116 14	116 14	4 11	4 11	4 12	0 12	0 12	0
	Chudderghat	13 8	13 8	13 8	... ...	... ...	... ...	7 0	7 0	7 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	8 23	8 23	8 27	13 9	13 9	0 ...	... ...	0 27	0 28	0 ...	0 ...	0 ...	80 0	80 0	80 0	4 11	4 11	4 12	0 6	0 6	0
Rajputana Agency.	Bhuswára (Meywar Agency)	21 4	21 0	21 14	... ...	... ...	... ...	10 0	10 0	8 12	15 0	17 8	18 12	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	3 13	... ...	... ...	R a. per maund. 10 10	R a. per maund. 10 10	R a. per maund. 10 11	4 ...	4 ...	4 ...	0 ...	0 ...	0

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Statistical Branch.)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 30th OCTOBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—The rainfall has moderated in Southern India, and agricultural prospects are fair in Madras, Mysore, and Bombay, but the river remains low in Sind, and there is a scarcity of water. In Berar cotton has suffered from the late excessive rains, but other crops are doing well. Rain is wanted in parts of Central India and Rajputana for the *rabi*, otherwise prospects are favourable.

Very little rain has fallen in British Burma; some damage has already been done to rice on high lands, and serious fears are entertained for the later sown crop if the break continues.

There has been practically no rain during the week throughout the whole of Northern India. Rain is wanted for rice in Upper Assam, and the prospects of the rice harvest are growing worse in Bengal, where *rabi* operations are also being seriously delayed. In the Central Provinces the weather is seasonable and prospects are excellent. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and Punjab the *rabi* sowings are in need of rain, but prospects are on the whole fair.

Harvesting of the *kharif* is still in general progress. In Madras the yield of *cholum*, *ragi*, &c., is reported below the average in several districts, and in the North-Western Provinces the *kharif* crops have suffered from the comparatively deficient rainfall.

Fever is prevalent in parts of Bengal, otherwise the public health is satisfactory.

Prices continue to rise in Bengal, and are steady elsewhere.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Oct. 31st)		
Bellary ...	1·22 (average of five stations).	Standing crops generally good. Harvest *cumboo*, yield below average Gingelly good. *Ragi* moderate. Eight deaths from cholera in one town.
Kurnool ...	·24 (average of eight stations).	Crops damaged from excessive rain. Harvest *cholum*, *sajja*, *kewa*, and indigo, yield below average.
Ganjam ...	2·69 (average of twelve stations).	Standing crops generally good. Fever and small-pox in parts of one taluk.
Kistna ...	1·16 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops good. Harvest *cumboo*, *cholum*, *korra*, and maize, yield below half. Cattle-disease and small-pox in parts.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	1·82 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops good. Harvest *ragi* and *cumboo*, yield half. Small-pox slight in two taluks. Seven deaths from cholera in one village. Cattle-disease slight in two taluks.
Coimbatore ...	1·52 (average of sixteen stations).	Standing crops good. Harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, and *cumboo*, yield average. Twenty-two deaths from cholera in three taluks. Fever and cattle-disease slight.
Tanjore ...	2·29 (average of thirteen stations).	Standing crops good. Harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, and *cumboo*, yield below average. Fifteen cases of cholera.
Madura ...	1·23 (average of seven stations).	Standing crops fair. Harvest paddy, yield average. Slight cholera in parts.
Malabar ...	1·76 (average of fourteen stations).	Second crop cultivation progressing. Small-pox slight in eight taluks. Fever slight in three taluks.
Travancore ...	3·846	Sowings nearly over. Fever in parts. *General Remarks.*—General prospects good.
Bombay—(Oct. 31st)		
Kurrachee ...	No rain	Weather sultry. River at Kotri on 27th, 6 feet 9 inches against 8 feet 5 inches on same date last year. Want of water much felt. Small-pox in two villages in Sehwan taluka, 8 fresh cases, 1 death, 3 remaining sick. Fever generally prevalent. Cattle decease in four talukas. Harvesting operations in progress. Wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 28 and 36, in Sehwan 32 and 36, in Ghorabari 20, 30 and 40, and in Shahbandar 20, 32 and 40 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	.....	*Kharif* harvesting continues. *Rabi* operations in progress. Small-pox in three, fever in seven, and cattle-disease in five talukas. Wheat 25, *Bajri* 38, *juari* 44, red rice 26, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	.....	*Kharif* harvest continues. Standing crops thriving. Slight fever in some talukas. Cattle-disease in Viramgaum taluka. *Bajri* 28¾ and wheat 25 lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	.....	Cholera in Attarsumba mahal of Kadi division, and in Gandevi. Harvesting of *kharif* and sowing of *rabi* commenced. Sugarcane and cotton in good condition. *Bajri* 28 and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	.....	Cutting operations continue. Fever in Olphad, Pardi, and Mandir. Locusts in Chorasi, no damage. Cholera in Jalalpur 31 cases, 16 deaths, in Bulsar 12 cases, 7 deaths, in Pardi 16 cases, 5 deaths, and in Surat 1 death. *Juari* 39 and *nagli* 44½ lbs. per rupee.
Nasik ...	.....	Rain ceased. *Rabi* sowing commenced. Heavy rain damaged *bajri* and cotton crops. Locusts throughout the district, damaging crops in a few villages of Kalwan and Baglan and in rare cases elsewhere. Cattle-disease in Shirwadi and Wani, Niphad taluka. Cholera in Nasik 3 attacks, 1 death. Fever in Chandor taluka. *Bajri* 31, wheat 28, and rice 22 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Colaba (Bombay) ...	*No* rain	Abnormal temperature 1° warm to 1° cool. Abnormal wind north-easterly and dry from 27th to 30th.
Poona ...	.....	Cold season set in. *Rabi* sowing progressing. *Bajri* 43 and *juari* 50 lbs. ; in Poona *bajri* 34 and *juari* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	Jamkhed, 1·69 ; Parner, ·51 ; Karjat, ·20 ; Shrigonda, ·15 ; none in the rest.	Average total rainfall in the district up to date 35·72. Reaping of *bajri* in progress and sowing of *rabi* continued throughout the district. Cholera 6 attacks, 2 deaths. *Bajri*—maximum 54 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 39 in Akola ; *juari*—maximum 78 lbs. in Shrigonda, minimum 48 in Akola.
Sholapur ...	No rain	*Kharif* crops in good condition. *Rabi* sowing in progress. *Bajri* 54 and *juari* 65 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar ...	General rain throughout the district, heaviest being at Nargund, 3·35 ; Hangal and Karajgi above 2·00 ; Dharwar and five other stations above 1·0 ; Mundargi none and elsewhere less that 1·0.	Rice being harvested in western talukas. *Juari* crop coming into ear ; all crops including cotton fairly good. Ague in two and cattle-disease in three places. *Juari* 49 to 88 lbs. and rice 26 to 41 per rupee.
Kanara ...	Karwar, ·22 ; Kumpta, ·31 ; Sirsi, 2·80 ; Hallial, 1·63.	Total rainfall 143·71. Small-pox continues in Siddapur. Fever in Akola and Yellapur. Rice harvest continues. Common rice at Karwar 12½, in district average 15¼ seers per rupee. Weather fair.
Rajkot ...	.....	Weather fair. General health feverish. Earthquake in Songad on the 20th. *Bajri* 30 and *juari* 35 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—River still low in Sind. Want of water much felt in Kurrachee. Rain in a few districts. *Kharif* being harvested and *rabi* sown. Injury by locusts in parts of Tanna, Colaba, Nasik, and Satara. Cholera abated. Fever and cattle-disease continue.
Bengal—(Oct. 31st)		
Chittagong ...	*Nil*	Weather fine, with misty mornings at times. Prospects of crops favourable. Prices stationary. Cattle-disease continues. General health good.
Dacca ...	*Nil*	*Ashini* paddy being harvested. Injury to *amun* paddy apprehended for want of rain. Prospects of winter crops good.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	*Nil*	Prospects of late paddy crops continue unfavourable. Cultivation of winter crop somewhat retarded by early cessation of the rains. Price of cotton and rice varies from 14 to 21½ seers per rupee. Health of people generally good.
Moorshedabad ...	*Nil*	Bright cool weather. Strenuous efforts being made to save late rice by irrigation, which are likely to be partially successful. Sowings for cold weather harvest being vigorously pushed forward in spite of the drought. Prices rising. Public health good.
Rajshahye ...	*Nil*	Light clouds. *Ropa* paddy on high ground fast drying. Paddy on low lands fair in parts. *Rabi* sowings delayed for want of rain. Prices on the increase.
Burdwan ...	*Nil*	No prospect of rain, and no alteration can now be expected in the state of the crops. A 4-anna outturn may be expected.
Rungpore ...	.....	No report received.
Bhagalpur ...	*Nil*	Prospects not favourable. High land paddy will yield nothing ; low land paddy where irrigation is possible will yield from 8 to 12 annas, but the general average will not exceed 8 annas. Preceding week's rain not enough for *rabi* sowings.
Purneah ...	*Nil*	Prospects of crops unfavourable. Rain wanted for *rabi* sowings Rice will probably average from 8 to 10 annas. Much fever. A little cholera spreading from Caragola.
Patna ...	*Nil*	The little rain of preceding week has done no good to paddy crops. Sowing of *rabi* crops in progress.
Durbhunga ...	*Nil*	Owing to early cessation of the rains, there will scarcely be an 8-anna rice crop in the district. *Rabi* sowings are also injuriously affected. Prices steadily rising.
Hazaribagh ...	*Nil*	Weather dry and growing cool. Paddy crops materially injured by the dry weather. *Rabi* crops sown in places are also perishing for want of moisture in the ground. Prices rising rapidly. General health good.
Cuttack ...	*Nil*	Weather seasonable. Cutting of early rice completed with indifferent outturn. Late rice on high lands suffering from drought. Rain urgently wanted. Public health generally good.
		General Remarks.—The rains have apparently ceased, and the cold weather is setting in. No rain fell in any of the reporting districts during the week. The rain of the preceding week in Behar and in certain other parts was very slight, and did no appreciable good to the withering rice crops ; on the other hand, it somewhat improved the prospects of the *rabi* cultivation in Behar. The *rabi* cultivation is also being seriously affected by the drought. Prices are steadily rising in most districts owing to the bad prospects of the rice harvest. The reports from the eastern districts and from Julpaigoorie and Cooch Behar are favourable. In these parts only the rice harvest is expected to turn out pretty fair. Fever is prevalent in some districts ; elsewhere the general health is reported to be satisfactory.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Oct. 30th)	No rain	The crops lately sown have sprouted from last week's rain. The rice crop is almost entirely lost, and sugarcane will only be an 8-anna outturn. Slight fluctuation in prices. Bazaars well supplied.
Allahabad („ 31st)	No rain	Much rain is wanted in tracts where none fell last week ; but prospects are good on the whole. *Rabi* sowings in progress, and *kharif* crops being harvested. Health good. Prices nearly stationary.
Gorakhpur („ 28th)	No rain	Rain wanted. *Rabi* ploughings well on. Cholera disappearing. Prices steady.
Jhansi („ 29th)	·8 in pargana Man	The rainfall was most beneficial to the crops in pargana Man. Cutting of *kharif* commenced. Sowing of *rabi* in progress ; seed already sown is germinating. Prices stationary. Health of people and cattle good.
Agra („ 30th)	No rain	*Kharif* crops are suffering much from drought. *Rabi* sowings going on. Well irrigation continues. Slight fever in four parganas. General health good. Prices steady.
Bareilly („ „)	No rain	Harvest proceeding. Prices stationary. Common rice has fallen. Fever increasing with slight sporadic cholera.
Meerut („ „)	No rain	Weather cool. Health good. *Kharif* crops are being harvested. Supplies sufficient. Prices steady.
Kumaun („ „)	No rain	Sky sometimes cloudy. *Rabi* sowings begun. General health good. Cattle-disease continues. Prices unchanged.
Lucknow („ „)	No rain	Cool at night. *Rabi* sowing nearly finished. *Hewat* crops doing well ; but rain is wanted. Condition of people and cattle good. Markets well supplied. Prices steady,
Partabgarh („ „)	.....	Prices almost stationary. *Rabi* sowings in full swing, where the water is available to moisten the soil. *Bajri* outturn a fair one. *Jarhan* is drying up in places. General health good.
Sitapur („ „)	.....	Rain much wanted. Health good. Prices again somewhat fluctuating.
Fyzabad („ „)	No rain	Wheat, gram, and barley are being sown. *Mash* and *jarhan* dying for want of rain. Public health good. Condition of cattle fair.
Rae Bareli („ 29th)	No rain	*Kharif* is being cut ; outturn of unirrigated lands very poor. *Rabi* sowings in progress. General health good. Supplies sufficient. Prices almost stationary.
Cawnpore („ 30th)	.....	*Rabi* sowings in progress. The outturn of *kharif* will be small owing to early cessation of rains. Health of people good and no sickness among cattle. Prices steady.
Farukhabad („ „)	.....	Weather seasonable. *Fever abating.* Crops fair on the whole, but poor in the Kaimganj tashil and parganas Muhammadabad and east Shamsabad of the Sadr tashil. *Rabi* sowings going on.
		General Remarks.—The *rabi* sowings are in progress and prospects are fair ; the *kharif* crops have sufferred in most districts from the comparative want of rain. The markets are sufficiently supplied and prices generally steady. The health of the people and cattle is good. There is some cattle-disease in Kumaun.
Punjab—(Oct. 31st)		
Delhi ...	.....	Health good. Price of barley risen. Prices of other food-grains stationary.
Hissar ...	.....	Health good. Prices stationary.
Umballa ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* crops harvested, yield below the average. Prices steady.
Jullundur ...	.....	Health good. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Prices falling.
Amritsar ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* being harvested. Prices falling.
Sialkot ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices stationary.
Ferozepore ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices stationary.
Lahore ...	.....	Health and condition of crops good. Slight fall in price of wheat. Prices of other food-grains stationary.
Rawalpindi ...	·20	Seasonal fever in the Attock and Kahuta tahsils. Health elsewhere good. *Kharif* harvest average. *Rabi* under cultivation. Prices falling.
Mooltan ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* nearly harvested. Prices steady.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	.....	Health good. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Prices steady.
Peshawar ...	.....	Slight fever still prevalent. Prices falling.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain in the Rawalpindi district, none elsewhere. Health and *kharif* prospects are generally good, but rain is needed throughout the province for the *rabi* sowings.
Central Provinces—(Oct. 31st)		
Nagpur ...	.....	Weather cloudy. Wheat sowing progressing. Health good. Prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...	.....	Weather cloudy at times. Rice being reaped. *Kharif* outturn expected to be a little below average. Cotton good, picking commenced in places. *Rabi* sowing in progress. Prices stationary. Health good.
Saugor ...	.....	*Rabi* sowings in progress. Crops favourable. Health fair. Prices steady.
Seoni ...	.....	Weather cloudy. Reaping progressing. *Rabi* sowing in hand. Fever prevalent. Wheat 23 and rice 17 seers per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Colaba (Bombay) ...	No rain	Abnormal temperature 1° warm to 1° cool. Abnormal wind north-easterly and dry from 27th to 30th.
Poona ...	.....	Cold season set in. *Rabi* sowing progressing. *Bajri* 43 and *juari* 50 lbs. ; in Poona *bajri* 34 and *juari* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	Jamkhed, 1·69 ; Parner, ·51 ; Karjat, ·20 ; Shrigonda, ·15 ; none in the rest.	Average total rainfall in the district up to date 35·72. Reaping of *bajri* in progress and sowing of *rabi* continued throughout the district. Cholera 6 attacks, 2 deaths. *Bajri*—maximum 54 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 39 in Akola ; *juari*—maximum 78 lbs. in Shrigonda, minimum 48 in Akola.
Sholapur ...	No rain	*Kharif* corps in good condition. *Rabi* sowing in progress. *Bajri* 54 and *juari* 65 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar ...	General rain throughout the district, heaviest being at Nargund, 3·35 ; Hangal and Karajgi above 2·00; Dharwar and five other stations above 1·0 ; Mundargi none and elsewhere less that 1·0.	Rice being harvested in western talukas. *Juari* crop coming into ear ; all crops including cotton fairly good. Ague in two and cattle-disease in three places. *Juari* 49 to 88 lbs. and rice 26 to 41 per rupee.
Kanara ...	Karwar, ·22 ; Kumpta, ·31; Sirsi, 2·80 ; Hallial, 1·63.	Total rainfall 143·71. Small-pox continues in Siddapur. Fever in Akola and Yellapur. Rice harvest continues. Common rice at Karwar 12½, in district average 15⅛ seers per rupee. Weather fair.
Rajkot ...	.....	Weather fair. General health feverish. Earthquake in Songad on the 20th. *Bajri* 30 and *juari* 35 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—River still low in Sind. Want of water much felt in Kurrachee. Rain in a few districts. *Kharif* being harvested and *rabi* sown. Injury by locusts in parts of Tanna, Colaba, Nasik, and Satara. Cholera abated. Fever and cattle-disease continue.
Bengal—(Oct. 31st)		
Chittagong ...	*Nil*	Weather fine, with misty mornings at times. Prospects of crops favourable. Prices stationary. Cattle-disease continues. General health good.
Dacca ...	*Nil*	*Ashini* paddy being harvested. Injury to *amun* paddy apprehended for want of rain. Prospects of winter crops good.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	*Nil*	Prospects of late paddy crops continue unfavourable. Cultivation of winter crop somewhat retarded by early cessation of the rains. Price of cotton and rice varies from 14 to 21¾ seers per rupee. Health of people generally good.
Moorshedabad ...	*Nil*	Bright cool weather. Strenuous efforts being made to save late rice by irrigation, which are likely to be partially successful. Sowings for cold weather harvest being vigorously pushed forward in spite of the drought. Prices rising. Public health good.
Rajshahye ...	*Nil*	Light clouds. *Ropa* paddy on high ground fast drying. Paddy on low lands fair in parts. *Rabi* sowings delayed for want of rain. Prices on the increase.
Burdwan ...	*Nil*	No prospect of rain, and no alteration can now be expected in the state of the crops. A 4-anna outturn may be expected.
Rungpore ...	.....	No report received.
Bhagalpur ...	*Nil*	Prospects not favourable. High land paddy will yield nothing ; low land paddy where irrigation is possible will yield from 8 to 12 annas, but the general average will not exceed 8 annas. Preceding week's rain not enough for *rabi* sowings.
Purneah ...	*Nil*	Prospects of crops unfavourable. Rain wanted for *rabi* sowings Rice will probably average from 8 to 10 annas. Much fever. A little cholera spreading from Caragola.
Patna ...	*Nil*	The little rain of preceding week has done no good to paddy crops. Sowing of *rabi* crops in progress.
[illegible]bhunga ...	*Nil*	Owing to early cessation of the rains, there will scarcely be an 8-anna rice crop in the district. *Rabi* sowings are also injuriously affected. Prices steadily rising.
Hazaribagh ...	*Nil*	Weather dry and growing cool. Paddy crops materially injured by the dry weather. *Rabi* crops sown in places are also perishing for want of moisture in the ground. Prices rising rapidly. General health good.
Cuttack ...	*Nil*	Weather seasonable. Cutting of early rice completed with indifferent outturn. Late rice on high lands suffering from drought, Rain urgently wanted. Public health generally good.
		General Remarks.—The rains have apparently ceased, and the cold weather is setting in. No rain fell in any of the reporting districts during the week. The rain of the preceding week in Behar and in certain other parts was very slight, and did no appreciable good to the withering rice crops ; on the other hand, it somewhat improved the prospects of the *rabi* cultivation in Behar. The *rabi* cultivation is also being seriously affected by the drought. Prices are steadily rising in most districts owing to the bad prospects of the rice harvest. The reports from the eastern districts and from Julpaigoorie and Cooch Behar are favourable. In these parts only the rice harvest is expected to turn out pretty fair. Fever is prevalent in some districts ; elsewhere the general health is reported to be satisfactory.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Oct. 30th)	No rain	The crops lately sown have sprouted from last week's rain. The rice crop is almost entirely lost, and sugarcane will only be an 8-anna outturn. Slight fluctuation in prices. Bazaars well supplied.
Allahabad („ 31st)	No rain	Much rain is wanted in tracts where none fell last week ; but prospects are good on the whole. *Rabi* sowings in progress, and *kharif* crops being harvested. Health good. Prices nearly stationary.
Gorakhpur („ 28th)	No rain	Rain wanted. *Rabi* ploughings well on. Cholera disappearing. Prices steady.
Jhansi („ 29th)	·8 in pargana Man	The rainfall was most beneficial to the crops in pargana Man. Cutting of *kharif* commenced. Sowing of *rabi* in progress ; seed already sown is germinating. Prices stationary. Health of people and cattle good.
Agra („ 30th)	No rain	*Kharif* crops are suffering much from drought. *Rabi* sowings going on. Well irrigation continues. Slight fever in four parganas. General health good. Prices steady.
Bareilly („ „)	No rain	Harvest proceeding. Prices stationary. Common rice has fallen. Fever increasing with slight sporadic cholera.
Meerut („ „)	No rain	Weather cool. Health good. *Kharif* crops are being harvested. Supplies sufficient. Prices steady.
Kumaun („ „)	No rain	Sky sometimes cloudy. *Rabi* sowings begun. General health good. Cattle-disease continues. Prices unchanged.
Lucknow („ „)	No rain	Cool at night. *Rabi* sowing nearly finished. *Hewat* crops doing well ; but rain is wanted. Condition of people and cattle good. Markets well supplied. Prices steady,
Partabgarh („ „)	.....	Prices almost stationary. *Rabi* sowings in full swing, where the water is available to moisten the soil. *Bajri* outturn a fair one. *Jarhan* is drying up in places. General health good.
Sitapur („ „)	.....	Rain much wanted. Health good. Prices again somewhat fluctuating.
Fyzabad („ „)	No rain	Wheat, gram, and barley are being sown. *Mash* and *jarhan* dying for want of rain. Public health good. Condition of cattle fair.
Rae Bareli („ 29th)	No rain	*Kharif* is being cut ; outturn of unirrigated lands very poor. *Rabi* sowings in progress. General health good. Supplies sufficient. Prices almost stationary.
Cawnpore („ 30th)	.....	*Rabi* sowings in progress. The outturn of *kharif* will be small owing to early cessation of rains. Health of people good and no sickness among cattle. Prices steady.
[illegible] („ „)	.....	Weather seasonable. Fever abating. Crops fair on the whole, but poor in the Kairagarh tahsil and pargunas Muhammadpur and east Shamsabad of the Sadr tahsil. *Rabi* sowings going on.
		General Remarks.—The *rabi* sowings are in progress and prospects are fair ; the *kharif* crops have sufferred in most districts from the comparative want of rain. The markets are sufficiently supplied and prices generally steady. The health of the people and cattle is good. There is some cattle-disease in Kumaun.
Punjab—(Oct. 31st)		
Delhi ...	.....	Health good. Price of barley risen. Prices of other food-grains stationary.
Hissar ...	.....	Health good. Prices stationary.
Umballa ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* crops harvested, yield below the average. Prices steady.
Jullundur ...	.....	Health good. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Prices falling.
Amritsar ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* being harvested. Prices falling.
Sialkot ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices stationary.
Ferozepore ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices stationary.
Lahore ...	.....	Health and condition of crops good. Slight fall in price of wheat. Prices of other food-grains stationary.
Rawalpindi ...	·20	Seasonal fever in the Attock and Kahuta tahsils. Health elsewhere good. *Kharif* harvest average. *Rabi* under cultivation. Prices falling.
Mooltan ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* nearly harvested. Prices steady.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	.....	Health good. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Prices steady.
Peshawar ...	.....	Slight fever still prevalent. Prices falling.
		General Remarks.—Slight rain in the Rawalpindi district, none elsewhere. Health and *kharif* prospects are generally good, but rain is needed throughout the province for the *rabi* sowings.
Central Provinces—(Oct. 31st)		
Nagpur ...	.....	Weather cloudy. Wheat sowing progressing. Health good. Prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...	.....	Weather cloudy at times. Rice being reaped. *Kharif* outturn expected to be a little below average. Cotton good, picking commenced in places. *Rabi* sowing in progress. Prices stationary. Health good.
Saugor ...	.....	*Rabi* sowings in progress. Crops favourable. Health fair. Prices steady.
Seoni ...	.....	Weather cloudy. Reaping progressing. *Rabi* sowing in hand. Fever prevalent. Wheat 23 and rice 17 seers per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces— *contd.*		
Hoshangabad ...	.....	Weather seasonable. Prospects good. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Fever prevalent. Wheat 15 and rice 10 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	.....	Weather clear and cool. Prospects good. *Rabi* sowing in progress. 20 deaths from cholera. Prices steady.
Raipur ...	.....	Prospects fair. Sowing in progress. Health good. Prices steady.
Sambalpur (Oct. 27th)	.....	Weather clear and cool. Prospects good. Health good. Common rice 35 seers per rupee.
		General Remarks.—*Rabi* sowing in progress under exceedingly favourable circumstances. The late rain having placed the ground in excellent order; the cotton crop has however sustained some injury.
British Burma— (Oct. 29th)		
Akyab ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 179·57. Public health good. 11 buffaloes died in Minbye township, elsewhere health of plough-cattle good. General appearance of crops good at present, but much rain wanted. *Lumphru* crops ripe in Naaf. If no rain falls soon, crops on high lands in Minbya will be destroyed. Crops near Akyab town appear good, but require more rain. Slight damage from insects in Koladan township.
Rangoon ...	0·66	Total rainfall 77·05. One death from small-pox, otherwise public health good. Price of paddy from Rs. 85 to 103 per 100 baskets.
Bassein ...	3·10	Total rainfall 89·58. One death from cholera and 1 death from small-pox in Myaungmya township. Cattle-disease slight in Bassein, Yegyi, and Lemyethna townships; 38 deaths in Myaungmya township. Crops promising, except in parts of Thabaung, Bassein, Ngapataw, and Yegyi townships. Floods have subsided later than usual in Thabaung and unprotected parts of Yegyi. Rain is required for recent plants. Slight damage from insects in four circles computing roughly about ⅛th of the paddy in affected circles is injured. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	0·29	Total rainfall 164·34. Public health and health of cattle good. Slight damage to crops by insects in two circles. Rain much wanted. No actual damage yet, but cultivators anxious; about 10 or 12 per cent. of crops may be lost by continual drought. In Moulmein town public health and health of cattle good. Crops have suffered from insects and on elevated lands from want of rain. Prospects at present not bad. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Toungoo ...	0·02	Total rainfall 77·46. Public health and health of cattle good. General appearance of crops good. Damage of crops in some [illegible] suffering from drought, anticipated.
Kyoukphyoo ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 156·98. Two deaths from cholera in Raori township, otherwise public health good. Health of cattle good.
Sandoway ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 206·49. Public health good. Early sowings ripening. More rain wanted for later sowings.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing and sowing completed. Rain wanted in Tamanaing township. Paddy in higher lands with little water beginning to suffer. General appearance of crops good. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 120 per 100 baskets.
Pegu	0·35	Total rainfall 119·18. Public health generally good. Cattle-disease lighter than usual at this season and not fatal. Rain has fallen during the week and prospects greatly improved altogether; crop prospects most favourable in low lands. Price of paddy from Rs. 95 to 100 per 100 baskets
Tharrawaddy (Oct. 20th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall 98·97. Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing finished and planting progressing Crops reported in good condition. Reaping commenced, about 141 acres have been reaped in Sangwey township. Price of paddy from Rs. 95 to 125 per 100 baskets.
Do. („ 27th)	.....	No report received.
Prome ...	Rain has fallen during the week in Mahathaman township, 0·07.	Total rainfall 45·69. Public health and health of cattle good. Two deaths of cattle from small-pox reported from Mahathaman township only. Crops are reported to be in excellent condition. No rain has fallen elsewhere and although as yet no damage has been done, another week of drought is viewed with grave apprehension, as far as the later plantings are concerned. If no rain falls there will be considerable failures in the high-lying lands. A thunderstorm is now impending. Price of paddy Rs. 85 per 100 baskets.
Thonegwa ...	0·22	Total rainfall 83·03. Public health and health of cattle good. Replanting progressing in Shweyloung township, but without success. Slight damage to crops in Pyapaw and Thonegwa townships. Price of paddy from Rs. 80 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Henzada ...	Good fall of rain at Okpa township on 26th.	Total rainfall 80·28. Public health and health of cattle good. Crops look healthy, but it is anticipated that unless rain falls soon, there will be a light yield of grain, perhaps 30 per cent. below average.
Thayetmyo ...	0·06	Total rainfall 39·73. Public health good. Three deaths from cattle-disease. Rice crop not yet all in ear. In Myede there will be five-sixths of full crops. Rain of three weeks ago would have increased cultivated area, but river floods have done damage in two circles. There may be two-thirds of full crop in Kama. Drought still doing damage there to an extent impossible at present to estimate. In Thayetmyo only one-third of culturable area is planted, a small fraction of this will yield nothing; in Mindon only half or three-fifths of full crops expected. Prices of paddy Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Shwaygyin ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 137·46. Public health and health of cattle good. Crops progressing favourably. No damage yet reported from want of rain, but owing to subsidence of floods, submerged crops have partly revived. Price of paddy Rs. 80 per 100 baskets.
Tavoy ...	Some rain fell in district, although none registered in town, 1·46.	Total rainfall 191·82. Public health and health of cattle good. The prospects of crops are reported to be in very good conditon.
Mergui (Oct. 13th)	.....	No report received.
		General Remarks.—Public health good. Mortality of cattle very slight. Decided deficiency in the rainfall during the week, compared with last year; total rainfall up to date much less than last year over nearly the entire province. The drought has done some injury to crops already and in most districts a continuance of drought seems likely to result in partial destruction of crops on the higher and lighter lands, and serious injury to the later transplanted paddy. Prices keeping up.
Assam— (Oct 31st)		
Gauhati ...	No rain	Weather seasonable. Mornings cool and foggy. *Sali* paddy in Barpetta doing well, but not in Sadr sub-division. Rain much wanted. Public health fair.
Sylhet ...	*Nil*	Crop prospects favourable. Public health generally good.
Silchar ...	*Nil*	Cold weather set in. Outturn of *aus* crops about 10 annas owing to the late floods. Prospects of *sali* crops good. Common rice 17½ seers per rupee. Sowing of winter crops commenced. Six deaths from small-pox reported from Lakhimpur and 3 from Sadr.
Dibrugarh ...	*Nil*	Weather cold. Prospects of crops good. Cattle-disease reported. Public health good.
[illegible]sore and Coorg— (Oct. 30th)		
[illegible]ngalore ...	·17	Standing crops and prospects of season good.
[illegible] ...	·57	Crops in fair condition. Prospects continue favourable.
[illegible] ...	1·31	Picking of coffee has commenced in some parts. Cardamom crop picked. An average outturn and prices fair. Prospects of new crop good.
		General Remarks.—Standing crops in all districts reported in good condition. Agricultural operations continue active. Harvesting of paddy, *ragi* crops, gram, and other grains in progress. Public health good generally. Fever prevalent in parts. Prices steady.
Berar & Hyderabad— (Oct. 30th)		
Amraoti ...	.....	General prospects good. Some damage has been done by excessive rain to cotton plants. Wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	.....	Standing crops generally good, except cotton which suffered from excessive rain.
Hyderabad ...	·48	Total from 1st January 30·31. *Abi* crops in good condition. Reaping of *kharif* and sowing of *rabi* and *tabi* crops continue. Cholera continues in one taluk. Cattle-disease broken out in another. Prices of wheat 15½, coarse rice 11, white *juari* 22½, yellow *juari* 27, and *tur* 22½ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (Oct. 31st)		
Indore ...	*Nil*	Weather seasonable. Nights cold. Agricultural prospects and health good. Prices steady.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	*Nil*	Health good. Rain wanted in northern districts for *rabi*.
Sutna ...	.....	Health and prospects good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	*Nil*	Weather seasonable. Prices of grain stationary. Public health good.
Gwalior ...	.....	Health fair. Crops good.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	*Nil*	Weather seasonable. Health and prospects good.
Sehore ...	*Nil*	Weather clear. Health and prospects good.
Nowgong ...	·68	Rain wanted. *Kharif* prospects fair. Health good. Prices steady.
Manpur (Bhopawar) ...	*Nil*	Prospects good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Oct. 31st)	No rain	Weather seasonable.
Sirohi („ 28th)	No rain	Tanks and wells full. Health good. Crop prospects good. Fine mornings and nights. Weather cold.
Marwar („ 26th)	No rain	Eight months' water in Jodhpore city. Tanks and wells almost full. Health good. Crop prospects good. Prices steady. Weather cloudy. Nights close and warm.
Meywar ...	.....	No report received.
Harauti (Oct. 27th)	No rain	*Kharif* crops being harvested. Weather clear. Health good.
Jhallawar („ 26th)	.....	Weather seasonable. Health and prospects good.
Ajmere („ 30th)	No rain	Weather seasonable. Ruddy sunsets continue. Sowing for rabi proceeds. Health good.
Jeypore („ „)	No rain	*Rabi* sowings completed. Weather seasonable. Health good.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Oct. 30th)	.....	Wells failing. Rain wanted. Slight fever.

ABSTRACT SHOWING THE RESULT OF EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA DURING THE MONTH OF JULY 1883.

No. I.—As to age and sex.

	Trinidad.				Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Grand Total.
Under 2 years	9	9	18	40·41 women to every 100 men.	9	9	18
From 2 to 10 years	22	17	39		22	17	39
„ 10 „ 20 „	98	33	131		98	33	131
„ 20 „ 30 „	220	97	317		220	97	317
„ 30 „ 40 „	15	5	20		15	5	20
„ 40 „ 50 „	1	...	1		1	...	1
Above 50	...	...	...		...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL	365	161	526	...	365	161	526

No. II.—As to places whence emigrants come to Calcutta for embarkation.

	Trinidad.			Total.		
Orissa	...	...	...	...	...	...
Western Bengal	2	...	2	2	...	2
Central ditto	1	5	6	1	5	6
Eastern ditto	1	...	1	1	...	1
Behar	59	25	84	59	25	84
North-Western Provinces	137	60	197	137	60	197
Oudh	120	60	180	120	60	180
Central India	4	6	10	4	6	10
Punjab	37	3	40	37	3	40
Nepal	1	1	2	1	1	2
Mixed, Madras & Bombay, ...	3	1	4	3	1	4
GRAND TOTAL ...	365	161	526	365	161	526

No. III.—As to caste and religion.

	Trinidad.			Total.		
Brahmins, high caste	103	41	144	103	41	144
Agriculturist ... } Hindoos ...	104	51	155	104	51	155
Artisans ... } Hindoos ...	16	1	17	16	1	17
Low caste ... } Hindoos ...	91	25	116	91	25	116
Musulmans	51	43	94	51	43	94
Christians	...	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	365	161	526	365	161	526

Memo.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
1. Hindoos ...	314	118	432
2. Musulmans ...	51	43	94
3. Christians ...	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	365	161	526

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF OCTOBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholam, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Pennisillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.			Districts.	Provinces.
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.		
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Madras.	Ganjam	8 13	8 13	8 13	...	...	...	16 8	17 0	17 13	19 10	17 14	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	35 3	35 3	35 3	26 10	26 10	26 10	215 13	215 13	215 13	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	15 8	Ganjam	Madras.
	Vizagapatam	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 0	11 5	11 5	11 5	24 18	24 18	21 10	37 11	37 11	31 11	24 3	26 5	26 5	37 6	32 13	22 3	95 3	95 3	93 5	14 10	14 10	15 3	14 0	14 0	14 0	Vizagapatam	
	Godavery	9 14	9 14	11 11	...	...	...	11 14	10 14	13 14	15 0	15 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	30 11	...	...	...	29 2	27 5	29 2	33 10	33 10	25 3	194 6	194 6	194 6	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	Godavery	
	Kistna	9 13	9 5	13 11	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 3	15 3	14 11	16 13	20 13	20 13	25 0	...	...	...	26 14	25 0	30 14	30 13	29 10	22 3	145 13	145 13	130 0	15 11	15 11	15 11	15 3	15 3	15 3	Kistna	
	Nellore	10 5	10 5	11 11	...	...	...	13 6	13 6	15 13	14 0	14 0	17 0	21 10	21 10	28 13	...	...	...	21 13	21 13	32 13	23 2	23 2	22 0	93 5	93 5	140 0	15 6	15 6	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	Nellore	
	Cuddapah	13 10	14 0	14 5	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	12 13	13 5	13 5	14 8	30 0	30 0	30 0	29 0	31 14	37 11	30 0	31 8	31 8	32 11	33 8	25 13	194 6	194 6	194 6	17 2	17 2	17 8	16 10	16 10	16 10	Cuddapah	
	Anantapur	13 6	13 6	13 6	...	...	...	11 13	12 13	12 13	14 0	14 0	14 0	33 0	33 0	31 14	30 2	30 2	18 13	32 0	31 0	37 0	37 0	31 5	...	...	...	...	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	Anantapur	
	Bellary	17 5	17 5	19 3	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	12 5	13 0	13 0	13 8	35 0	39 2	41 3	26 5	30 2	26 5	31 0	32 0	43 10	34 11	37 0	33 10	94 13	94 13	82 10	15 13	15 13	15 13	15 8	15 8	15 8	Bellary	
	Kurnool	12 2	12 11	12 11	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 2	12 2	11 6	35 10	38 6	34 14	33 11	33 11	20 10	...	...	...	33 0	33 0	24 11	138 13	147 3	178 13	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 6	14 6	14 6	Kurnool	
	Madras	11 0	11 0	10 13	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	12 14	15 2	15 2	14 5	23 0	22 5	23 0	20 8	23 13	25 0	26 0	24 11	28 0	26 2	26 2	25 0	85 0	85 0	87 8	16 14	16 14	16 11	16 8	16 8	16 3	Madras	
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 3	13 8	13 8	15 2	15 2	14 0	...	...	...	21 2	25 2	...	26 0	24 11	27 6	25 0	25 11	25 0	92 5	92 5	92 5	17 5	17 5	17 5	17 0	17 0	17 0	Chingleput	
	North Arcot	9 11	9 11	9 11	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 6	16 5	16 5	17 5	32 13	32 13	34 10	29 11	29 11	29 11	30 13	30 13	37 10	28 10	28 10	25 10	140 0	140 0	140 0	15 6	15 6	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	North Arcot	
	South Arcot	10 2	9 6	8 10	...	...	...	14 5	14 13	15 11	15 5	15 11	17 2	...	...	30 3	31 14	31 10	37 0	30 3	34 3	35 0	26 8	26 8	29 5	201 11	201 11	201 11	19 5	19 5	19 5	18 6	18 6	18 14	South Arcot	
	Tanjore	11 0	11 0	9 8	...	...	...	17 6	17 6	15 13	20 0	...	20 14	31 0	30 3	33 6	40 10	40 10	37 11	39 5	39 5	39 5	28 0	28 0	27 2	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 10	15 10	16 10	14 11	15 3	16 2	Tanjore	
	Trichinopoly	9 3	9 3	9 10	...	...	...	14 13	15 13	14 13	15 14	16 11	15 3	32 3	30 13	28 0	30 8	30 8	25 6	34 2	34 2	32 11	30 18	30 13	30 0	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 0	17 13	17 13	16 3	17 0	17 0	Trichinopoly	
	Madura	11 11	12 0	11 11	...	...	...	14 5	15 2	14 11	15 3	16 8	16 0	35 10	37 5	35 10	35 5	35 5	32 5	37 3	38 11	37 3	30 5	31 2	31 2	145 13	145 13	121 8	17 5	17 5	17 13	16 5	16 5	16 13	Madura	
	Tinnevelly	9 8	10 10	8 0	...	...	...	14 5	16 5	15 14	16 0	16 13	19 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 11	31 5	28 8	70 0	70 0	70 0	18 5	18 11	18 5	17 13	18 5	17 13	Tinnevelly	
	Coimbatore	13 2	13 2	10 11	...	...	...	14 6	14 6	13 8	15 6	16 6	14 14	26 2	27 13	26 2	31 13	31 13	28 10	32 8	34 6	34 6	25 0	25 0	25 0	131 3	131 3	131 3	15 2	15 2	14 11	14 10	14 10	14 10	Coimbatore	
	Nilgiris	10 10	10 10	9 8	...	...	...	11 3	11 3	9 10	12 0	12 0	11 3	20 0	20 0	23 2	21 0	21 0	21 0	21 10	19 10	24 14	24 14	19 14	19 14	161 13	161 13	161 13	13 0	12 14	11 14	12 0	12 0	11 0	Nilgiris	
	Salem	12 11	13 5	11 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	14 11	15 10	36 6	33 11	32 12	26 8	30 5	29 8	31 10	30 13	34 8	36 6	34 0	151 10	151 10	151 10	17 8	17 8	19 2	16 14	16 14	18 0	Salem	
	South Canara	8 10	8 10	8 10	...	...	...	9 11	9 11	8 11	14 3	14 3	10 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 3	22 3	19 3	109 5	109 5	116 6	18 6	18 6	16 13	17 8	17 8	15 13	South Canara	
	Malabar	7 14	7 14	9 6	...	...	...	15 6	15 6	14 10	16 3	16 3	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 14	21 14	21 14	26 14	26 14	22 11	121 8	121 8	121 8	14 6	14 6	13 8	13 8	13 8	12 10	Malabar	
Bombay.	Bombay	10 2	10 0	10 0	18 0	23 8	18 0	7 8	7 8	8 13	12 8	12 10	14 7	18 6	18 12	20 0	15 14	15 15	17 10	11 13	10 15	22 10	16 0	16 2	18 2	62 6	62 6	59 9	14 6	14 6	14 6	12 9	12 9	12 9	Bombay	Bombay.
	Ahmedabad	12 0	12 0	14 0	20 0	19 8	...	6 8	6 8	8 8	12 0	12 8	9 0	16 0	15 0	19 0	15 0	14 8	17 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	19 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	16 0	16 0	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	Ahmedabad	
	Kaira	11 7	11 7	13 5	20 0	20 0	22 14	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 13	13 10	16 0	16 0	15 0	20 0	14 14	13 14	14 16	18 13	18 0	...	15 8	15 8	18 13	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	Kaira	
	Surat	11 4	11 4	12 8	12 4	12 4	7 11	7 6	7 6	8 3	8 5	8 5	8 12	19 4	19 4	15 9	14 7	14 0	14 14	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	Surat	
	Broach	12 4	12 4	13 5½	...	...	...	9 15½	9 15½	11 1	12 12	12 12	12 9	16 0	16 0	16 9½	13 14	13 14	15 4	...	...	...	12 10	12 12	16 0	106 0	106 0	106 0	14 8½	14 8½	12 13	14 8½	14 8½	12 13	Broach	
	Tanna (Salsette)	10 5	9 12	12 14	12 14	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 9	10 9	11 4	18 10	18 10	18 10	14 6	14 6	15 0	25 11	25 11	25 11	18 14	18 4	14 15	71 0	71 0	71 1	15 12	15 12	14 5	15 10	15 10	13 13	Tanna (Salsette)	
	Colába (Alibág)	8 8	8 8	8 8	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	7 8	12 8	12 8	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 0	Colába (Alibág)	
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	15 12	14 14	14 2	...	...	...	7 10	7 9	7 4	12 10	10 13	10 15	18 9	17 11	18 11	16 0	15 2	15 5	14 4	14 4	14 4	15 4	15 4	15 8	128 0	128 0	128 0	15 8	15 8	14 8	14 8	15 5	14 5	Khandesh (Dhulia)	
	Násik	14 4	14 4	14 4	...	...	...	7 7	7 7	7 7	12 0	12 0	12 0	...	...	...	15 5	15 5	18 6	18 6	18 6	18 6	18 6	18 6	18 6	79 10	79 9	91 5	14 0	14 6½	14 9	13 13	14 4	14 7	Násik	
	Ahmednagar	15 13	14 5	13 4	...	...	...	8 13	8 11	9 11	10 8	11 2	12 0	26 0	27 0	27 6	18 1	19 6	22 8	...	...	...	16 11	16 11	14 15	68 0	68 0	68 0	13 10	13 10	11 15	13 6	13 6	11 11	Ahmednagar	
	Poona	12 10	12 10	12 10	9 4	9 4	...	9 13	9 13	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 4	21 12	21 12	26 2	17 4	17 4	20 11	...	...	...	14 10	20 1	16 0	71 0	71 0	80 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 4	12 8	Poona	
	Sholápur	14 8	14 8	13 5	...	...	...	10 7	10 7	10 7	11 5	11 5	11 5	24 13	27 10	30 10	22 1	22 1	26 14	...	...	...	16 0	18 8	11 12	100 0	100 0	130 0	10 8	11 0	12 0	10 0	10 8	11 12	Sholápur	
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	19 0	19 0	23 0	16 8	16 0	15 0	6 8	6 8	6 12	12 0	11 8	8 14	32 0	32 0	42 0	29 0	27 0	37 0	...	...	...	16 14	16 14	13 10	125 15	116 8	116 8	14 8	13 2	12 6	13 2	12 6	11 10	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	
	Satara	13 6	13 6	12 1	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	8 8	11 7	11 7	10 0	20 0	20 0	25 14	18 2	18 2	22 0	...	...	...	16 8	16 0	11 8	65 0	65 0	75 0	11 12	11 0	13 8	11 4	10 0	12 8	Satara	
	Belgaum	16 0	16 0	19 0	12 6	14 0	14 0	12 8	12 0	10 0	13 8	12 8	10 8	21 0	17 14	28 7	19 0	19 0	27 8	25 0	19 0	29 0	16 0	16 0	10 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	8 6	8 6	9 13	8 0	8 0	9 0	Belgaum	
	Dharwar (Hubli)	21 0	23 0	24 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	28 0	27 0	33 0	24 0	24 0	23 0	31 0	28 0	34 0	16 0	16 0	11 8	65 0	65 0	75 0	11 12	11 0	13 8	11 4	10 0	12 8	Dharwar (Hubli)	
	Ratnágiri	7 15	7 15	9 4	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	8 9	14 2	14 2	15 9	...	...	18 3	13 8	13 8	8 14	18 18	18 18	21 2	14 11	14 11	14 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 2	13 2	11 10	12 15	11 10	12 15	Ratnágiri	
	Kanara (Karwar)	9 0	9 0	10 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 8	12 0	11 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	16 0	12 8	12 8	13 0	213 5	213 5	213 5	12 0	11 8	13 5	11 0	10 8	12 0	Kanara (Karwar)	
	Pánch Mahals (Godhra)	10 8	10 8	11 6	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	11 6	13 5	13 5	15 0	20 0	20 0	32 0	14 8	12 13	16 0	20 0	20 0	23 0	9 5	9 5	9 5	65 5	65 5	65 5	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	Pánch Mahals (Godhra)	
	Aden	7 0	7 0	8 0	...	...	...	6 3	6 3	6 3	7 0	7 0	7 0	12 7	12 7	9 5	11 3	11 3	8 3	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	16 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	11 0	11 4	12 0	11 0	11 4	Aden	
	Asirgarh	13 12	13 12	14 8	...	...	...	11 12	11 12	10 4	13 10	14 0	12 0	18 13	19 0	24 7	17 12	17 12	22 0	17 8	17 8	...	14 9	12 13	16 7	80 0	80 0	80 0	14 1	13 9	14 11	14 0	13 7	14 10	Asirgarh	
	Baroda	10 8	9 15	10 5	15 8	13 10	14 6½	8 12	6 3	9 10	10 8	11 1	12 0	...	15 12	20 2	14 9	13 7	16 7	...	...	...	16 0	15 8	20 4	187 8	187 8	187 8	12 8	12 8	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	Baroda	
	Diesa	13 0	14 4	15 8	...	...	...	6 14	6 14	6 6	9 0	9 0	8 11	11 8	12 6	17 8	17 10	18 2	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Diesa	
	Nimach	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	26 4½	24 8½	80 0	80 0	70 0	16 0½	16 0½	16 6½	15 0	15 1½	16 0	Nimach	
	Nasirabad	18 8½	17 8	16 8	26 2	24 0	25 0½	6 0	6 0	6 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	22 0	20 10½	24 0	17 15	16 2½	17 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 8	70 0	70 0	70 0	50 0	50 0	55 0	40 0	40 0	48 0	Nasirabad	
	Rájkot	15 0	15 0	13 4	...	...	...	6 0	6 8	6 8	9 0	9 0	11 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	14 8	14 8	13 4	...	...	...	14 9	12 13	16 7	80 0	80 0	80 0	14 1	13 9	14 11	14 0	13 7	14 10	Rájkot	
	Upper Sindh Frontier	13 12	13 12	14 0	24 0	24 8	26 0	10 4	11 4	11 4	12 12	13 4	20 0	30 12	29 0	37 8	26 8	...	29 0	80 0	80 0	40 0	22 4	22 12	18 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 12½*	12 12½*	12 12*	12 8	12 8	12 8	Upper Sindh Frontier	
	Karachi	13 0	13 0	12 5	24 0	24 0	21 0	10 0	9 0	9 8	14 0	15 0	16 0	24 0	22 0	28 0	18 0	17 12	20 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	17 0	17 0	18 0	90 0	90 0	105 0	17 12	17 12	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	Karachi	
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	16 0	15 0	16 0	30 0	26 0	26 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	17 0	16 0	14 0	28 0	26 0	30 0	24 0	23 0	26 0	26 0	25 0	24 0	23 8	20 13	18 15	240 0	240 0	240 0	14 8	14 16	13 0	14 0	14 0	12 12	Haidarabad (Nakur)	
	Shikarpur	13 10	13 8	13 6½	25 0	22 8	24 8	11 13	11 12	12 8	15 6	16 0	18 15	28 0	26 12	30 2	26 0	25 2	27 2	...	...	...	20 8	20 0	19 8	138 0	110 0	110 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	Shikarpur	
	Sukkur	14 8	14 8	14 8	28 8	27 8	29 0	10 8	10 8	12 0	15 0	14 8	19 0	30 8	29 8	30 8	25 8	25 6	23 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	14 12	14 12	11 5	14 12	14 12	11 5	Sukkur	
	Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	11 8	12 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	12 15	...	...	...	17 14	18 6	22 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Prices per md. of 40 seers.						Thar and Parkar (Umarkot)	
																															₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.		
Bengal.	*Western Districts.*																																		*Western Districts.*	Bengal.
	Burdwan	13 8	13 4	13 4	25 0	25 0	40 0	15 0	17 8	24 0	20 0	26 0	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	20 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 15 8	2 15 4	2 14 6	13 2a	13 3	14 8	Burdwan	
	Bancoorah	14 0	13 0	13 8	12 0	14 0	15 0	14 0	19 0	21 0	16 12	25 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 4	17 8	18 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 3 6	3 3 6	3 1 0	12 0b	12 0	13 0	Bancoorah	
	Beerbhoom	15 8	15 12	13 4	...	...	...	18 0	16 8	17 0	22 8	22 8	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	21 0	19 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 1 3	3 2 9	3 5 0	12 0c	12 0	12 0	Beerbhoom	
	Midnapore	13 0	14 0	13 0	17 0	17 0	...	16 0	17 0	21 0	22 0	24 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	155 0	155 0	150 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	12 12	12 8	14 0	Midnapore	
	Hooghly	13 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 8a	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
	Howrah	13 4	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	13 8	14 0	14 8	16 8	19 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 12	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 12 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	Howrah	

* In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Culna 14 seers, Cutwa and Ramgoongo 13-4 seers.
† Retail prices of salt at Baipore 11 seers, at Onda 16 seers, at Mejia 9 seers, Bishenpore and Kotulpore 18 seers, and Indas 14 seers.

* In common use.
b In the interior retail prices of salt range from 11 to 13-2 seers.
c In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Serampore 13 seers and Johanabad 13-6 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF OCTOBER 1883 —*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bura), *Penicillaria Spicata.*		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
BENGAL—*continued.*	*Central Districts.*																		
	Calcutta	16 0	15 5	13 5	20 10	20 0	24 8	11 8	11 8	10 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	21 5	20 10	...	23 0	21 5	...
	24-Pergunnahs	13 5	12 12	13 5	17 8	18 0	20 0	8 0	8 0	10 8	13 5	13 5	17 0	16 0	16 0	...	13 5	...	...
	Nuddea	14 8	14 8	13 5	24 10	24 10	24 10	15 4	15 4	15 4	18 4½	18 4½	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Khoolna	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jessore	10 0	11 8	10 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	21 0	21 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Moorshedabad	16 0	16 12	16 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	14 6	20 0	21 8	21 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Dinagepore	16 0	16 0	13 4	14 8	16 0	14 0	19 0	19 0	20 0	21 0	21 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Rajshahye	16 0	16 0	13 8 to 14 4	29 0	29 0	32 0	13 8	15 0	16 13½	14 8	17 0 to 18 0	17 4 to 28 12	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Rungpore	13 5	13 5	16 0	...	...	...	13 5	13 5	14 0	19 0	19 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bogra	18 0	18 0	17 8	...	...	...	9 12	12 0	18 0	12 12	22 8	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pubna	18 0	18 12	17 4	...	...	...	8 4	8 4	9 4	17 4	17 4	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Darjeeling	7 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	8 0	8 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	12 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jalpáiguri	10 0	10 0	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	13 4	12 8	14 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Eastern Districts.																		
	Dacca	14 4	13 3	13 12	18 0	20 0	40 0	14 8	16 0	22 10	17 0	17 12	26 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Furreedpore	21 0	21 0	20 0	30 0	30 0	37 8	18 0	18 0	20 8	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	18 0	18 0	19 0	21 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mymensingh	12 0	12 0	11 8	...	...	...	13 4	13 4	26 8	16 0	18 12	27 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chittagong	11 8	11 4	9 0	...	...	...	13 8	16 0	14 0	16 0	17 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Noakholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	22 0	21 0	21 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tipperah	11 12	11 12	11 8	...	...	...	18 12	17 0	19 4	20 0	20 12	27 12	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	13 5	14 0	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	18 0	16 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Behar.																		
	Patna	21 0	21 0	22 0	29 0	29 0	28 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	18 0	18 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gya	17 0	17 8	18 0	23 0	23 0	23 8	11 0	12 0	12 8	14 8	16 8	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Shahabad	16 0 to 18 0	16 8 to 17 0	16 8 to 18 0	24 0	24 0	26 0	10 0 to 11 0	11 0 to 12 0	17 0	14 0 to 15 8	16 0 to 18 0	18 0 to 19 0	24 0	28 0	...	24 0	26 0	...
	Durbhunga	13 0	14 0	14 0	22 0	24 0	30 0	12 0	14 0	13 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mozufferpore	17 0	17 0	16 0	30 0	30 0	40 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	15 0	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sarun	17 0	17 0	16 8	29 0	28 0	28 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	17 8	17 8	21 0	28 0	29 0	35 0	...	...	...
	Chumparun	19 0	19 0	17 0	29 0	31 0	32 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	19 0	17 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Monghyr	17 13	17 13	17 13	26 4	27 12	36 12	11 8	13 10	15 12	13 2	16 4	17 13	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bhágalpur	15 2	15 2	15 2	21 7	25 4	35 5	12 10	15 10	17 11	15 2	18 7	19 9	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Purneah	18 0	19 0	14 0	...	...	...	14 0	15 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Maldah	18 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	20 0	21 0	18 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	14 0	13 8	13 0	...	...	...	14 0	17 8	16 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Orissa.																		
	Cuttack	13 2	13 2	15 12	...	...	...	13 2	13 2	15 12	21 0*	21 0	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pooree	10 8	11 13	9 0	...	...	...	15 12	21 0	19 0	19 11	23 10	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Balasore	14 0	16 0	14 0	...	...	...	10 0	16 0	25 0	16 0	23 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	CHOTA NAGPORE.																		
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																		
	Hazáribágh	14 0	15 0	13 0	20 0	24 0	18 0	9 8	10 0	10 0	15 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lohardugga	15 0	16 0	14 0	18 0	20 0	20 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Singbhoom	18 0	18 0	20 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	32 0	32 0	36 0	36 0	36 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Manbhoom	13 0	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	17 0	22 0	27 0	31 0	...	...	...	...	...	...

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt.						DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
											Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers.			Retail.					
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.			
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.			
BENGAL—*continued.*	*Central Districts.*																		
	Calcutta	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	21 5	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	13 5	13 5	14 9	Calcutta		
	24-Pergunnahs	16 0	...	...	17 8	18 0	21 4	90 0	80 0	90 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 13*e*	12 13	13 5	Nuddea		
	Nuddea	...	...	...	18 13	18 13	18 12	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	11 10½*f*	11 10½	11 10½	Khoolna		
	Khoolna	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	180 0	180 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	10 8*g*	10 8	11 0	Jessore		
	Jessore	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	10 12*h*	10 12	11 8	Moorshedabad		
	Moorshedabad	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	21 14	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 15 0	13 0*i*	13 0	12 0	Dinagepore		
	Dinagepore	...	...	...	17 12	20 0	14 0	180 0	160 0	160 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 3 6	11 8	11 8	12 0	Rajshahye		
	Rajshahye	...	...	...	19 8	19 8	21 9½	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 1 3	3 1 3	3 2 0	12 0*j*	12 0	12 12	Rungpore		
	Rungpore	...	...	...	17 3	17 3	15 0	110 0	110 0	130 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 5 3	11 14*k*	11 14	11 8	Bogra		
	Bogra	...	...	...	16 8	16 6	24 9	62 8	62 8	67 8	3 2 8	3 2 8	3 1 4	12 0	12 0	12 0	Pubna		
	Pubna	...	...	...	18 13	18 12	18 12	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 0 0	12 0*l*	12 0	12 12	Darjeeling		
	Darjeeling	12 0	12 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	9 0	126 8	128 0	160 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	8 0*m*	8 0	8 0	Jalpáiguri		
	Jalpáiguri	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4*n*	12 0	11 0			
	Eastern Districts.																		
	Dacca	...	...	...	19 8	19 0	20 0	99 0	90 0	101 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	13 5*o*	13 5	13 5	Dacca		
	Furreedpore	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	12 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	12 0*p*	12 0	12 0	Furreedpore		
	Backergunge	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	17 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	2 11 0	2 11 0	2 15 0	13 0*q*	13 0	13 0	Backergunge		
	Mymensingh	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	...*r*	12 4	13 0	Mymensingh		
	Chittagong	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	16 0	40 0	40 0	80 0	4 4 0	...	2 14 0	9 0*s*	10 0	13 0	Chittagong		
	Noakholly	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	3 2 0	3 2 0	10 0*t*	10 0	10 0	Noakholly		
	Tipperah	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	12 4*u*	12 4	12 8	Tipperah		
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	320 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	4 0 0	6 4	6 4	9 0	Chittagong Hill Tracts		
	Hill Tipperah	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Hill Tipperah		
	Behar.																		
	Patna	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	28 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	3 1 6	3 1 6	3 0 0	9 12	9 12	10 8	Patna		
	Gya	...	...	...	20 0	21 0	22 8	160 0	160 0	180 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 4 0	11 0*v*	11 0	11 8	Gya		
	Shahabad	...	...	28 0	25 0	25 0	28 8	120 0	120 0	100 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	12 8*w*	12 8	12 8	Shahabad		
	Durbhunga	27 8	30 0	40 0	18 0	22 8	22 8	160 0	180 0	160 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	10 0*x*	10 0	11 0	Durbhunga		
	Mozufferpore	...	...	...	23 0	22 0	25 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 3 0	12 0*y*	12 0	12 0	Mozufferpore		
	Sarun	30 0	30 0	38 0	25 8	26 0	28 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 5 0	3 4 0	3 3 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Sarun		
	Chumparun	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	23 0	...	...	...	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 5 0	11 0*z*	11 0	11 8	Chumparun		
	Monghyr	...	...	...	28 10	25 8	27 13	126 0	160 0	126 0	3 2 5	3 2 4½	3 1 0	12 1*z1*	12 1	13 1	Monghyr		
	Bhágalpur	...	...	...	22 11	22 11	26 8	151 14	151 14	151 8	3 1 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	12 10*z2*	12 10	12 10	Bhágalpur		
	Purneah	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 12 0	4 0 0	3 12 0	10 8*z3*	9 0	10 12	Purneah		
	Maldah	...	...	...	22 0	21 0	20 0	140 0	160 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	3 8 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Maldah		
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	...	...	...	19 0	18 0	19 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 8 0	3 12 0	3 4 6	10 8	10 0	11 4	Sonthal Pergunnahs		
	Orissa.																		
	Cuttack	18 6	15 12	13 2	18 6	18 6	21 0	80 0	80 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Cuttack		
	Pooree	...	...	...	17 1	17 1	14 0	96 0	120 0	120 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	13 8	13 0	13 4	Pooree		
	Balasore	...	...	...	14 0	16 0	13 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	3 2 0	9 3*z4*	9 3	13 12	Balasore		
	CHOTA NAGPUR.																		
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																		
	Hazáribágh	32 0	30 0	42 0	18 0	20 0	18 4	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 11 0	3 7 0	3 8 0	10 0*z5*	10 8	11 0	Hazáribágh		
	Lohardugga	38 0	30 0	30 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 2 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Lohardugga		
	Singbhoom	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	24 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	4 7 0	4 7 0	3 12 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	Singbhoom		
	Manbhoom	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	19 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 9 0	3 9 0	3 6 9	10 12	10 12	10 8	Manbhoom		

* In the interior retail prices of common rice vary from 26-4 to 32-6 seers per rupee.

a In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Baraset and Bussirhat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 10-8 seers, Barrackpore 12-12 seers, and Dum-Dum 13 seers.

b In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kooshtea and Choomdanga 13 seers, Meherpore 11-8 seers, and Ranaghat 11-14 seers.

c In Saikhira retail price of salt 11 seers.

d In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers, and Bongong 13 seers.

e In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Lalbagh 11 seers, Jungypore 12 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.

f In Nowgong retail price of salt 12 seers.

g In Gaibanda and Nilphamari retail price of salt 12 seers.

h In Serajgunge retail price of salt 13 seers.

i Retail price of salt at Kurseong 8 seers and Silligoree 10 seers.

k Retail price of salt at Falmcotta in Alipore sub-division 10 seers.

l In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Manickgunge 12 seers, Moonsheegunge 10 seers 10½ chittacks, and Naraingunge 13-12 seers.

m In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Goalundo 11 seers, Madaripore and Buanga 12 seers, and Gopalgunge 12-12 seers.

n In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 9-2 seers, Perozepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.

o In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishoreegunge 10-10 seers, Attea and Jamalpore 12 seers, and Netrokona 13-5 seers.

p Retail price of salt at Kumeriah 10 seers, and Cox's Bazar 8 seers.

q In the interior retail prices of salt range from 8 to 12-4 seers.

r In Brahmunberiah and Chandpore retail price of salt 13 seers.

s In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—In Nowada 10 seers, Jehanabad 12 seers, and Aurungabad 11 seers.

t In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Buxar 11-8 seers, Sasseram 11 seers, and Bhabooah 10-8 seers.

u In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madhubani 12 seers and Tajpur 11-8 seers.

v In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt in most places 11 seers, in some 11-8 seers, and in others 12 seers.

w In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 13 seers.

x In the interior retail prices of salt are as follow:—Beguserai 11-8 seers and Jamui 11 seers.

y In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Banka 11 seers, Muddehpoora 10-8 seers, and Soopoie 12 seers.

z In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kissengunge 10 seers and Arrareah (at Ranegunge) 10 seers.

z1 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishengunge 10 seers and Arrareah (at Ranegunge) 10 seers.

z2 Retail price of salt at Bhudrunk 8 seers.

z3 Retail price of salt at Chatra 11 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF OCTOBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a. per md.	R a. per md.	R a. per md.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Assam.	Sylhet	12 8	11 4	10 8	...	...	...	11 8	12 8	14 0	17 8	17 8	31 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	16 4	16 12	108 0	108 0	108 0	3 5	3 4	3 2	12 0	12 8	12 12	Sylhet	Assam.
	Cachar	9 6	10 0	10 0	16 0	12 13	20 0	16 0	16 0	21 5	17 12	17 12	22 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	12 13	16 13	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 8	3 6	3 4	10 10	10 10	10 10	Cachar	
	Goálpárá	17 8	20 0	23 0	...	...	...	15 0	13 0	13 0	17 8	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 4	14 0	14 0	80 0	80 0	120 0	3 4	3 4	3 4	12 8	11 0	12 0	Goálpárá	
	Gáro Hills	4 0	4 0	4 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 0	5 0	5 6	8 0	8 0	6 6	Gáro Hills	
	Kámrúp	16 0	15 8	18 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 4	12 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	13 4	12 8	200 0	200 0	160 0	3 8	3 8	3 5	11 8	11 0	12 0	Kámrúp	
	Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	12 0	11 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	8 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Darrang	
	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	13 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	120 0	100 0	100 0	4 0	4 0	3 12	9 0	9 0	10 0	Nowgong	
	Sibságar	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	16 0	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 8	Sibságar	
	Lakhimpur	9 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	11 0	10 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	4 8	4 0	5 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Lakhimpur	
	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	6 10	...	8 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 8	9 0	10 8	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	4 19	4 12	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	
	Nága Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	6 0	8 0	5 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 0	2 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	16 0	16 0	13 0	2 8	2 8	3 0	Nága Hills	
Oudh.	Dehra Dún	18 0	17 8	18 8	26 0	26 0	28 0	6 8	6 8	6 0	10 8	10 8	11 0	26 0	24 0	25 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	Dehra Dún	Oudh.
	Saháranpur	19 5½	18 13	20 15½	26 14	23 10½	32 4	7 8½	7 8½	10 12	12 14½	10 12	13 15½	26 14	26 14	30 1½	25 13	23 10½	25 13	20 0	24 0	25 0	129 0	129 0	129 0	13 2½	13 2½	12 1	12 14½	12 14½	11 13	Saháranpur	
	Muzaffarnagar	18 2	17 14	19 12	33 0	33 0	30 13	6 9	6 9	6 9	13 12	11 8	14 5	27 8	28 11	33 0	22 0	22 0	24 6	24 0	24 0	24 0	110 0	110 0	132 0	12 6	12 6	11 10	11 8	11 8	11 4	Muzaffarnagar	
	Meerut	17 8	18 0	19 0	27 8	27 8	27 0	6 0	6 0	5 8	13 0	13 0	15 0	27 0	27 0	27 0	19 0	19 0	23 0	23 0	23 0	23 0	110 0	110 0	110 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	11 8	Meerut	
	Bulandshahr	18 0	19 0	20 12	27 0	28 0	24 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	10 0	10 0	10 5	26 0	26 0	25 8	16 0	16 0	23 0	22 0	22 0	23 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	12 4	...	...	...	Bulandshahr	
	Aligarh	17 8	17 12	18 4	24 8	24 8	23 0	6 8	6 0	7 0	10 8	10 0	12 8	28 0	24 0	24 0	23 0	16 0	23 8	23 0	22 0	23 0	120 0	120 0	130 0	12 8	12 8	13 0	12 4	12 0	12 4	Aligarh	
	Kumaun	15 0	15 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 0	22 0	23 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	Kumaun	
	Garhwál	20 0	20 0	24 0	22 0	22 0	27 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	15 0	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	30 0*	30 0*	30 0*	14 0	12 0	12 0	280 0	280 0	280 0	9 0	9 0	6 14	8 0	8 2	7 8	Garhwál	
	Bijnor	19 2	19 2	18 0	29 0	29 8	27 0	11 4	10 2	11 8	13 8	12 6	13 12	...	...	21 6	...	...	19 2	9 0	9 0	9 0	280 0	280 0	280 0	9 0	9 0	...	11 8	11 8	11 0	Bijnor	
	Moradabad	20 0	20 10	19 6	28 2	29 6	23 2	9 4	9 0	9 6	14 0	13 0	14 6	28 0	25 8	26 4	16 4	15 4	18 2	21 6	21 14	22 4	135 0	135 0	135 0	...	...	...	12 8	12 8	11 14	Moradabad	
	Budaun	20 1½	20 4	17 13½	29 6	30 0	22 3	6 0	6 0	9 9½	16 12½	16 8	17 11	...	...	...	...	18 0	21 9½	21 14	21 14	21 14	125 0	125 0	137 8	12 10	12 10	12 0	11 6	11 6	11 2	Budaun	
	Bareilly	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 3	24 9½	20 6	192 0	192 0	192 0	11 6	11 6	11 1½	11 1½	10 12½	10 8	Bareilly	
	Sháhjahánpur	20 12	20 8	18 8	34 0	33 8	24 8	10 0	10 0	9 4	17 8	15 12	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Sháhjahánpur	
	Tarái Pergunnahs	23 12	24 6	22 0	37 8	40 0	32 0	8 12	8 12	10 0	14 6	14 0	17 0	33 12	40 0	...	25 0	25 0	...	25 8	23 3	21 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 0	13 0	12 10	11 0	11 0	11 8	Tarái Pergunnahs	
	Muttra	17 4	17 8	17 12	23 8	23 8	25 8	7 0	7 0	...	12 0	11 0	14 0	23 0	23 0	24 0	20 0	18 0	24 0	20 0	19 0	21 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	11 4	11 4	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 8	Muttra	
	Agra	17 8	17 0	17 4	24 8	24 8	25 0	5 8	5 8	6 0	11 8	11 8	14 0	24 0	23 0	26 0	18 0	18 0	24 0	21 8	21 8	25 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	14 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	Agra	
	Farukhabad	18 8	18 11	17 2½	27 10	26 12	22 0	7 4	7 4	6 13	12 11	12 9	14 4	24 13	24 12	24 5	23 6	23 7	22 5½	23 8	23 0	25 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	13 0	12 8	13 0	12 0	Farukhabad	
	Mainpuri	18 0	17 0	18 8	25 0	22 8	23 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 14	24 13	22 1½	150 0	150 0	156 8	12 4	12 4	12 0	11 9	11 10	11 8½	Mainpuri	
	Etáwah	17 8	17 0	18 8	22 0	22 8	22 8	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 0	12 0	14 8	24 0	24 0	27 0	19 8	19 8	24 0	23 0	21 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Etáwah	
	Etah	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	26 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Etah	
	Jalaun	19 0	19 0	17 8	20 0	20 0	20 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Jalaun	
	Jhánsi	21 9	21 4½	21 10½	32 6	30 9	30 15½	7 14½	7 8	8 0	13 0	12 12	15 0	30 0	28 11	28 0	22 8	22 8	...	29 0	29 0	30 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	10 0	10 0	11	Jhánsi	
	Lalitpur	23 8	21 6	20 8	37 8	36 0	35 0	9 0	9 0	11 0	11 0	11 8	13 0	36 0	33 4	28 0	26 0	24 8	26 0	30 6½	28 14	28 2½	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 13	11 0	12 8	10 13	10 0	11 8	Lalitpur	
	Cawnpore	18 12	19 0	18 0	29 0	28 8	26 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	13 8	13 8	15 0	30 0	27 0	27 0	26 0	24 0	27 0	33 0	31 0	29 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	Cawnpore	
	Fatehpur	16 14	16 14	16 10	25 12	25 12	24 8	10 8	10 8	12 12	14 0	14 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 8	29 8	25 12	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	12 8	11 0	11 0	Fatehpur	
	Bánda	23 0	23 0	17 8	32 0	32 0	22 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	13 0	12 8	16 0	40 0	36 0	33 0	34 0	33 0	30 0	40 0	37 0	33 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Bánda	
	Allahabad	17 4	17 8	17 2	28 12	29 0	25 0	11 0	11 0	11 8	16 0	15 0	18 0	30 8	31 0	31 0	29 0	30 0	29 8	29 0	29 12	25 2	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	11 4	10 8	10 8	10 0	10 0	Allahabad	
	Hamírpur	18 11	18 9	15 14	23 10	...	18 0	9 4	8 4	10 0	13 8	9 4	...	25 14	27 14	27 0	25 14	26 14	27 2	34 14	32 8	28 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 4	10 8	10 0	Hamírpur	
	Jaunpur	18 5	19 0	19 0	24 11	30 5	29 10	7 1	7 12	7 12	12 12	14 2	15 8	...	...	...	...	...	19 11	25 6	28 4	22 9	148 12	148 12	120 0	10 12	10 12	9 11	10 10	10 10	9 9	Jaunpur	
	Gorakhpur	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Gorakhpur	
	Basti	17 0	18 0	18 8	28 0	30 0	28 0	12 0	12 0	13 8	15 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	23 0	160 0	160 0	140 0	8 8	8 8	9 8	8 0	8 0	9 0	Basti	
	Azamgarh	16 4	16 10	17 11	22 2	24 12	24 6	10 5	10 5	10 5	14 0	14 0	14 12	31 0	31 0	...	20 10	20 10	27 11	25 1	24 0	20 10	147 8	147 8	147 8	10 8	10 8	10 8	9 14	9 14	9 13	Azamgarh	
	Mirzapur	17 0	16 0	15 0	26 0	25 0	20 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	12 0	16 0	26 0	26 0	27 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	25 0	26 0	21 0	70 0	70 0	100 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	8 0	9 0	Mirzapur	
	Benares	16 13	16 13	15 11½	23 5	25 12	23 9	10 13½	10 5	11 6	16 13	17 1	17 14	26 0	26 0	26 0	27 2	25 8	24 15	24 6	24 2	20 13	90 0	90 0	120 0	10 6½	10 6½	11 4	9 13½	10 2	10 2	Benares	
	Gházipur	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Gházipur	
	Balia	19 5	18 12	16 8	27 0	26 4	25 0	10 4	10 0	10 0	18 0	17 8	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 6	25 0	26 4	130 0	90 0	100 0	11 9	11 4	11 4	11 0	11 4	9 0	Balia	
	Pilibhít	21 2½	21 14	18 12	37 8	37 8	27 0	15 0	15 0	16 4	17 5	16 4	18 12	...	...	32 0	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	18 13	150 0	150 0	150 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	11 8	Pilibhít	
	Sultánpur	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Sultánpur	
	Partábgarh	18 4	20 0	18 11	28 12	32 8	28 1	15 0	16 0	17 4	18 0	18 0	18 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 8	28 0	19 15	200 0	200 0	220 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 10	10 10	10 4	Partábgarh	
	Fyzabad	18 0	17 6	17 2	28 0	28 0	26 12	10 0	10 0	11 0	16 0	16 8	19 6	34 8	38 0	35 0	...	...	...	28 0	26 8	22 4	120 0	120 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Fyzabad	
	Kheri	22 4	22 0	19 0	31 0	36 0	25 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	14 0	14 0	18 0	38 0	44 0	44 0	...	...	...	27 0	26 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Kheri	
	Lucknow	18 4	17 12	17 12	27 8	27 7	25 2½	6 0	6 0	6 0	13 4	12 14	16 5½	27 0	27 2	24 8	24 0	23 6	24 0	24 0	23 3	21 11	115 0	115 0	110 0	11 2½	11 2½	10 8	10 10½	10 10½	10 0	Lucknow	
	Bára Banki	18 8	18 8	18 0	28 0	26 0	25 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	14 0	14 0	18 0	34 0	36 0	35 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	26 0	25 0	22 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Bára Banki	
	Bahraich	16 0	16 0	17 0	32 0	34 0	29 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	14 0	14 0	18 0	34 0	34 0	52 0	22 0	22 0	13 0	30 0	30 0	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 8	Bahraich	
	Rai Bareli	19 0	19 0	18 12	28 0	27 8	27 8	...	...	...	17 8	15 0	17 4	...	...	24 0	22 0	22 0	23 8	26 8	25 0	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	11 0	12 0	9 0	Rai Bareli	
	Sitapur	21 14	21 6	19 8	35 8	34 8	25 4	8 0	8 0	8 0	17 0	16 2	21 0	28 0	28 0	...	25 0	25 0	20 0	28 12	27 8	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	11 8	11 8	10 8	Sitapur	
	Gonda	21 8	21 5	20 4	39 0	39 4	28 0	15 8	15 0	16 4	16 10	15 8	18 12	41 0†	39 12†	40 0†	22 0	21 2	24 0	33 2	32 8	26 12	200 0	200 0	240 0	11 4	11 4	11 4	11 0	11 0	11 0	Gonda	
	Unáo	18 0	18 8	18 0	26 0	27 0	25 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	14 0	14 0	15 0	30 0	28 0	33 0	21 0	21 0	25 0	25 0	26 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 8	Unáo	
	Hardui	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Hardui	
N. W. Provinces.	Gujránwála (a)	23 0	22 4	26 12	42 0	37 0	50 0	...	...	...	14 0	13 0	14 0	32 0	32 0	35 0	28 0	28 0	25 0	32 8	32 8	28 4	95 0	95 0	95 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	15 0	15 0	15 0	Gujránwála (a)	N. W. Provinces.
	Lahore (b)	22 0	22 0	26 0	32 0	32 0	48 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	13 0	36 0	32 0	30 0	24 0	24 0	27 0	32 0	31 0	32 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Lahore (b)	
	Ferozepore	21 0	21 0	25 0	36 0	36 8	42 0	...	...	...	11 0	10 8	11 0	36 0	40 0	0	...	...	...	33 0	35 0	37 8	100 0	100 0	90 0	13 12	13 4	12 4	13 8	13 0	12 0	Ferozepore	
	Sirsa (c)	20 8	21 0	23 0	36 0	35 0	43 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	35 0	32 0	44 0	28 0	29 0	35 0	37 0	35 0	38 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 8	12 8	11 8	12 0	11 0	11 0	Sirsa (c)	
	Hissar (b)	19 8	18 8	17 8	30 0	28 0	33 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	29 0	27 0	34 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	28 0	27 0	30 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 8	12 8	11 4	12 0	11 8	11 8	Hissar (b)	
	Rohtak (d)	19 0	18 0	18 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	22 0	22 0	26 0	21 0	21 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	26 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Rohtak (d)	
	Gurgaon	20 0	20 0	20 0	27 0	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	13 0	23 0	25 0	28 0	22 0	22 0	27 0	22 0	22 0	23 8	80 0	80 0	85 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	11 8	11 8	Gurgaon	
	Delhi (e)	18 8	18 8	20 0	25 0	24 0	26 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	26 0	24 0	28 0	22 0	20 0	23 0	22 8	22 0	25 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	11 12	Delhi (e)	
	Karnal	18 8	18 8	20 0	27 0	27 8	31 0	...	...	...	12 8	11 0	13 0	23 0	24 0	35 0	21 0	22 0	20 0	24 0	24 0	26 8	150 0	160 0	140 0	14 0	14 0	13 11	13 12	14 0	13 8	Karnál	
	Umballa (f)	20 0	20 8	24 0	28 0	28 0	33 0	...	...	...	11 4	10 0	13 0	30 0	32 0	36 0	16 0	15 0	26 0	26 0	26 0	29 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 10	14 0	14 8	13 8	Umballa (f)	
	Ludhiana (b)	23 8	23 0	23 0	36 0	34 0	37 0	...	...	...	11 0	10 8	12 8	34 0	33 0	40 0	27 0	25 0	25 0	30 6	31 0	31 0	100 0	80 0	80 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	11 0	14 0	14 8	Ludhiana (b)	
	Simla (g)	16 0	15 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 8	19 4	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	11 4	11 4	12 0	10 12	10 8	10 1	Simla (g)	

* Mandwa. † Maize. (a) Wheat, Barley and rice falling. (b) Prices falling. (c) Barley, jowar and gram falling; wheat and bajra rising. (d) Wheat and gram falling; salt rising. (e) Wheat, barley, bajra, jowar, gram and salt falling. (f) Wheat and jowar rising; rice and bajra falling. (g) Prices have remained pretty steady.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF OCTOBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bairnsh Millet (Cumboo, Bajri, *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bairnsh Millet (Cumboo, Bajri, *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bairnsh Millet (Cumboo, Bajri, *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Cumboo, Murhwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum,* &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Cumboo, Murhwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum,* &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavarn, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Cumboo, Murhwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum,* &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Punjab—*continued.*	Kángra	20 0	20 0	24 0	32 0	32 0	40 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	24 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	10 8	10 8	†	10 0	10 0	Kángra	Punjab—*continued.*
	Jullundur (*a*)	21 8	21 8	26 12	32 0	30 0	38 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	8 0	34 0	30 0	35 0	26 0	25 0	20 0	28 0	27 0	32 0	110 0	110 0	110 0	14 8	14 8	14 6	14 0	14 0	14 0	Jullundur (*a*)	
	Hoshiárpur	20 0	20 0	27 8	25 0	25 0	40 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 8	11 0	28 0	29 0	35 0	20 0	20 0	16 0	27 8	25 0	30 0	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	13 12	13 12	13 8	Hoshiárpur	
	Gurdáspur (*b*)	24 8	24 8	30 0	28 0	28 0	45 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	30 0	30 0	28 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	28 0	27 0	31 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 4	13 4	13 8	12 8	12 8	13 0	Gurdáspur (*b*)	
	Amritsar (*c*)	23 8	23 0	25 8	33 4	30 0	43 8	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 8	35 0	35 0	31 4	27 8	24 8	23 8	31 12	31 4	35 4	90 0	80 0	80 0	15 6	15 6	14 12	15 0	15 0	14 6	Amritsar (*c*)	
	Siálkot (*a*)	24 8	23 8	29 0	36 0	35 0	50 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	35 0	32 0	34 0	30 0	30 0	25 0	29 8	27 0	27 0	120 0	120 0	130 0	15 8	15 8	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 8	Siálkot (*a*)	
	Gujrát (*d*)	25 0	23 0	28 8	40 0	37 0	46 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	40 0	38 0	36 0	40 0	35 8	33 0	29 8	28 8	25 12	100 0	100 0	100 0	*	*	*	15 4	15 0	15 0	Gujrát (*d*)	
	Jhelum (*a*)	25 0	23 0	25 0	32 0	36 0	39 8	...	...	...	8 0	10 0	10 0	34 0	33 0	27 0	38 0	36 0	26 0	27 0	28 0	25 8	120 0	120 0	160 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	15 8	15 8	Jhelum (*a*)	
	Ráwalpindi (*e*)	25 12	25 0	23 12	40 0	34 0	37 0	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	14 0	40 0	44 0	40 0	45 0	45 0	33 0	32 8	32 8	24 4	84 0	82 0	85 0	15 4	15 4	14 8	15 0	15 0	14 4	Ráwalpindi (*e*)	
	Shahpúr	27 0	27 0	22 12	40 0	41 0	32 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	12 0	36 0	36 0	28 0	34 0	34 0	28 0	33 0	37 0	23 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	Shahpúr	
	Jhang (*f*)	20 8	20 0	19 12	28 8	31 8	36 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 8	10 0	26 0	24 0	22 0	32 0	31 0	14 0	27 5	26 0	23 12	200 0	200 0	200 0	14 4	13 8	15 0	14 2	13 4	14 12	Jhang (*f*)	
	Montgomery	17 8	17 8	21 0	29 0	30 0	30 0	...	...	...	5 8	5 8	5 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 0	30 0	31 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	Montgomery	
	Mooltan (*g*)	16 0	15 8	17 4	28 0	27 0	30 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	28 0	27 0	30 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	25 0	25 0	24 0	90 0	90 0	90 0	14 0	13 12	14 8	13 8	13 8	14 4	Mooltan (*g*)	
	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	17 0	17 0	18 8	26 0	26 0	26 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	7 0	21 0	21 0	18 0	17 0	17 0	22 0	21 8	21 8	20 0	90 0	90 0	120 0	*	*	*	13 8	13 8	12 8	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	
	Dera Ghází Khán	18 8	17 8	18 12	27 8	27 8	23 12	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	7 8	32 8	33 12	26 4	30 0	30 0	23 12	21 14	23 12	18 2	125 0	100 0	100 0	30 10	30 10	31 14	27 8	27 8	28 2	Dera Ghází Khán	
	Dera Ismail Khán (*i*)	20 0	20 10	20 8	29 6	32 8	27 10	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 3	34 6	40 0	37 1	30 0	30 0	23 12	25 0	26 4	22 15	125 0	125 0	100 0	47 8	47 8	58 0	45 0	45 0	55 0	Dera Ismail Khan (*i*)	
	Bannu	29 6	28 2	30 10	38 2	35 0	45 0	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	10 0	40 0	37 8	45 0	33 12	30 0	27 15	31 14	30 10	30 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	Bannu	
	Kohát	20 1	19 12	18 8	32 8	33 2	29 5	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	13 0	30 10	30 10	28 0	30 10	30 10	29 5	28 1	28 1	20 6	81 0	102 0	102 0	68 14	68 14	96 15	63 12	63 12	81 0	Kohát	
	Peshawar (*j*)	21 0	20 5	19 0	32 12	33 0	36 10	...	...	...	11 5	11 5	9 8	26 10	24 0	28 4	29 9	27 12	15 12	26 14	24 10	17 10	105 0	105 0	96 0	39 0	44 8	58 8	38 0	43 0	56 0	Peshawar (*j*)	
	Hazára (*k*)	25 0	25 8	25 8	40 0	40 0	41 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	36 0	38 0	...	28 0	28 0	...	24 0	...	...	140 0	140 0	70 0	13 0	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 0	Hazára (*k*)	
Central Provinces.	Saugor	28 12	28 8	20 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 8	28 0	25 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	9 12	9 4	8 12	9 8	9 0	8 8	Saugor	Central Provinces.
	Damoh	27 0	26 8	22 8	...	...	...	12 8	12 0	14 0	13 8	13 8	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	39 0	39 0	33 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	10 4	9 8	9 12	10 0	9 4	9 8	Damoh	
	Jubbulpore	21 0	20 0	17 8	21 0	22 0	27 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	15 0	16 0	16 0	27 0	24 0	25 0	18 0	17 0	16 0	27 0	26 8	26 0	130 0	130 0	130 0	11 8	11 8	11 10	11 0	11 4		Jubbulpore	
	Mandla	27 0	26 0	20 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	15 8	20 0	19 0	15 0	27 0	24 0	25 0	18 0	17 0	16 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	255 0	255 0	255 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	Mandla	
	Seoni	22 0	21 0	17 8	...	...	...	13 8	12 8	12 8	20 0	18 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	45 0	47 0	35 0	255 0	255 0	255 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	Seoni	
	Narsinghpur	17 8	17 8	16 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 0	10 0	12 0	11 8	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	25 0	16 0	220 0	220 0	220 0	11 8	11 0	11 8	11 0	10 8	11 0	Narsinghpur	
	Hoshangabad	15 3	15 6	15 7	...	...	...	4 8	4 0	4 8	10 11	9 9	11 4	...	31 0	23 10	...	19 4	23 10	24 0	24 0	26 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	Hoshangabad	
	Nimár	17 0	16 8	16 0	...	...	...	12 9	12 9	...	14 14	14 14	12 8	20 10	30 10	30 0	21 0	20 0	24 15	23 8	23 8	23 10	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	9 8	10 8	10 8	9 0	Nimár	
	Betúl	18 0	18 0	15 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	9 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	19 8	20 0	...	...	...	...	20 4	20 4	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 13	13 13	13 0	13 0	12 12		Betúl	
	Chhindwára	25 8	25 8	17 0	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	9 0	15 8	14 8	13 0	31 0	31 0	23 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	320 0	320 0	240 0	8 8	8 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 8	Chhindwára	
	Wardha	20 0	20 0	18 12	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 12	14 0	12 0	11 8	26 0	27 0	23 0	...	...	...	16 8	18 0	15 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	Wardha	
	Nagpur	19 4	18 12	17 12	...	...	...	9 0	8 12	9 12	16 0	16 0	17 4	31 4	29 8	25 12	...	...	...	29 0	29 8	20 0	150 0	150 0	125 0	12 0	12 0	12 4	11 0	12 0	12 0	Nágpur	
	Chánda	19 0	19 0	18 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	13 0	27 8	30 8	24 0	...	...	...	20 0	21 0	24 0	140 0	140 0	150 0	12 0	12 0	10 12	11 12	11 12	10 8	Chánda	
	Bhandára	22 0	22 0	19 0	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	10 0	22 0	22 8	22 8	35 0	35 0	22 0	...	...	...	21 12	20 8	18 4	140 0	140 0	150 0	12 0	12 0	12 4	11 0	12 0	12 0	Bhandára	
	Bálaghát	20 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	15 0	27 0	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 8	21 8	27 0	360 0	360 0	360 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 8	Chánda	
	Raipur	22 0	21 0	28 8	...	...	...	15 8	17 8	21 0	29 8	31 8	41 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 0	22 0	21 0	96 0	96 0	...	10 4	10 4	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 12	Bhandára	
	Bilaspur	26 0	26 0	45 0	...	...	...	44 0	47 8	48 0	54 0	58 0	68 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	27 0	30 0	275 0	275 0	275 0	9 4	9 4	10 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	Bálaghát	
	Sambalpur	15 0	15 0	21 0	...	...	...	29 12	27 0	35 0	33 4	32 0	44 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 8	28 8	31 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	11 4	10 0	9 0	11 0	9 0	8 8	Raipur	
																				123 4	123 4	150 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	8 0	Bilaspur	
																				34 0	34 0	52 0	120 0	128 0	110 0	11 0	11 12	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Sambalpur	
British Burma.	*Arakan Division.*																			15 8	16 8	24 0											British Burma.
	Akyab	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received						*Arakan Division.* Akyab	
	Northern Arakan	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	...	9 0	10 0	...	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	...	8 0	Northern Arakan	
	Kyoukpyoo	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received				Kyoukpyoo	
	Sandoway				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					Sandoway	
	Pegu Division.																															*Pegu Division.*	
	Rangoon Town	15 5	11 2	15 5	...	...	...	11 10	11 4	12 9	12 3	12 3	13 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 5	19 2	21 1	320 0	320 0	320 0	50 11	50 11	50 11	22 10	22 10	22 10	Rangoon Town	
	Tharrawaddy	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Tharrawaddy	
	Prome	9 11	9 11	10 6	...	...	...	11 3	9 9	13 7	13 12	13 1	17 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 13	15 9	12 7	139 11	139 11	139 11	25 5	25 5	29 9	16 9	16 9	18 10	Prome	
	Irrawaddy Division.																															*Irrawaddy Division.*	
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 15	11 15	14 5	15 10	15 10	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	183 8	183 8	183 8	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	Henzada	
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 6	9 6	11 9	14 11	14 11	17 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 6	18 6	14 15	295 3	295 3	184 8	39 6	39 6	37 5	35 7	35 7	35 7	Thonegwa	
	Thayetmyo	9 4	9 4	10 15	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 3	11 13	11 13	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	17 1	245 0	245 0	245 0	25 5	25 5	26 4	18 15	18 15	18 15	Thayetmyo	
	Tenasserim Division.																															*Tenasserim Division.*	
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	9 0	12 2	12 2	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	12 2	12 2	12 3	15 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 3	12 8	12 2	220 0	220 0	220 0	20 15	35 8	32 5	20 8	25 5	22 12	Moulmein Town & Amherst	
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 12	12 6	13 12	17 15	17 15	22 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	399 3	399 3	399 3	24 2	24 2	24 2	16 1	16 1	16 1	Tavoy	
	Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	12 13	16 0	14 3	14 3	18 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	22 0	30 12	14 1	14 1	18 12	Toungoo	
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 18	9 18	12 7	10 6	10 6	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 8	12 8	12 9	250 0	250 0	250 0	35 6	35 6	32 3	18 14	18 14	18 4	Shwaygyin	
	Salween	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Salween	
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Secunderabad	Hyderabad Assigned Districts.
	Bolarum																															Bolarum	
	Chudderghat																															Chudderghat	
	Amráoti	15 0	15 8	16 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	28 0	26 0	26 0	16 0	16 0	...	17 0	17 0	21 0	64 0	64 0	70 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	11 8	Amráoti	
	Akola	17 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	26 0	27 0	26 0	21 0	21 0	21 0	17 0	16 0	20 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Akola	
	Ellichpur	16 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	27 0	26 0	28 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	15 0	15 0	17 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	Ellichpur	
	Buldána	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	24 0	25 0	32 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	15 0	16 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	11 0	10 0	Buldána	
	Wún	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	9 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	29 8	30 8	31 8	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	27 0	200 0	200 0	100 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 8	Wún	
	Basim	21 8	21 0	21 0	...	...	...	6 0	5 12	5 4	13 0	13 0	13 0	29 0	28 0	36 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	27 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 0	10 8	9 8	9 0	10 0	9 0	Basim	
																				19 0	20 0	26 0											

(*a*) Prices falling. (*b*) Gram falling. (*c*) Wheat, barley, bajra, and gram falling. (*d*) Wheat, barley, bajra, jowar and gram falling. (*e*) Wheat, barley, jowar and gram falling. (*f*) Wheat bajra, jowar, gram and salt falling; barley and rice rising. (*g*) Wheat, barley, and jowar falling. (*h*) Barley, bajra and gram falling. (*i*) Wheat, barley, jowar and gram rising. (*j*) Wheat, bajra and gram falling. (*k*) Prices steady.

* No wholesale salt sold. † Not cleared by Deputy Commissioner.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF OCTOBER 1883 —*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Mysore	Bangalore, Kolar, Túmkúr, Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga, Kadur, Chitaldroog	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Bangalore, Kolar, Túmkúr, Mysore, Hassan, Shimoga, Kadur, Chitaldroog	Mysore
Coorg	Coorg	8 9	8 11	9 3	10 4	9 14	8 2	15 9	15 3	10 2	20 10	19 14	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	31 0	20 4	30 9	29 14	22 12	110 0	110 0	110 0	10 3	10 3	8 7	9 12	9 11	8 7	Coorg	Coorg
Nagpore	Jeypore	17 0	17 0	17 0	25 0	24 0	24 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	8 8	8 0	9 0	25 0	23 0	20 0	21 0	21 12	21 0	...	...	...	23 0	22 0	21 8	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	14 4	14 12	14 12	14 0	Jeypore	Nagpore
	Kishengurh	17 8	17 4	17 8	24 0	22 0	26 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	23 8	22 8	26 0	19 8	17 8	21 ...	...	...	...	24 0	23 12	21 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	Kishengurh	
	Kerrowlee	18 7	18 7	18 8	26 4	27 8	27 10	10 0	10 0	13 0	11 4	11 4	14 4	26 4	27 8	26 12	21 15	23 12	26 ...	...	...	...	27 8	30 0	27 8	...	...	...	13 6	13 5	14 2	13 0	13 0	14 0	Kerrowlee	
	Ulwur	18 4	18 6	20 11	23 10	24 10	31 7	8 10	8 10	9 0	10 8	10 8	12 8	24 0	23 7	27 0	21 15	23 0	27 10	...	...	...	22 5	*	24 8	...	...	...	12 4	*	12 5	13 0	*	11 13	Ulwur	
	Bhurtpore (City)	16 7	*	19 0	22 15	*	28 0	7 12	*	6 8	9 6	*	11 0	22 7	*	23 8	20 8	*	17 8	...	...	...	26 0	24 0	23 0	80 0	80 0	70 0	17 0	17 0	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	Bhurtpore (City)	
	Ajmere	16 0	16 0	16 8	25 0	23 8	24 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	19 0	20 0	23 0	20 0	18 0	19 0	...	...	...	28 8	25 8	22 10	...	...	...	18 8	18 6	18 8	12 12	12 12	12 12	Ajmere	
	Deoli Cantonment	20 14½	17 3	18 2	29 1	24 15	22 4	...	...	...	9 11	8 4	10 13	23 13	20 13	20 0	18 0	18 0	20 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	R a. p. per md.	R a. p. per md.	R a. p.	...	...	...	Deoli Cantonment	
	Erinpura	15 9	15 9	17 4	23 13	23 13	23 9	...	...	...	7 11	7 11	8 7	19 11	19 11	20 9	19 0	19 0	20 7	...	...	...	21 4	21 4	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 1 3	3 1 3	3 1 3	12 0	12 0	12 0	Erinpura	
	Sirohee	13 8	13 0	...	21 0	20 0	...	7 0	6 8	...	8 0	7 8	...	14 0	14 0	...	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	20 0	18 0	...	160 0	160 0	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	...	12 5	12 5	...	Sirohee	
	Abu	12 12	12 9	14 12	18 8	18 12	22 12	6 8	6 8	6 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	13 12	13 12	18 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 12	21 6	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 3 0	3 3 0	3 3 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	Abu	
	Anadra	14 0	13 12	16 8	21 0	20 12	25 12	7 0	7 0	7 0	8 8	8 8	9 0	...	...	...	15 8	14 12	20 8	...	...	...	18 0	17 0	24 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4	12 4	12 4	Anadra	
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	21 0	21 0	22 0	25 0	25 0	30 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	24 0	†	†	†	3 10 0	3 10 0	...	11 0	11 0	9 0	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	
	Meywar (Oodeypore)	15 6½	14 7½	14 7½	21 14	18 12	20 5	9 6	8 15½	10 2½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 12½	15 3½	16 0½	200 0	200 0	200 0	S. Ch. 10 15 R a. p. per md.	S. Ch. 10 8½ R a. p. per md.	S. Ch. 9 15½ R a. p. per md.	10 8½	10 2½	9 12½	Meywar (Oodeypore)	
	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	21 4	21 4	21 14	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	7 8	16 4	15 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	87 8	85 0	85 0	...	...	...	3 12 0	...	...	10 10	10 10	11 4	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	
	Partábgarh („)	17 8	17 15	20 3	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	10 5	11 14	11 14	14 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 11	20 5	24 6	...	...	...	2 7 0	...	...	16 4	16 7½	15 12	Partábgarh („)	
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	16 8	...	...	21 4	...	...	6 4	...	...	7 8	...	...	20 0	...	...	20 10	...	...	...	...	...	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	16 4	...	...	Marwar (Jodhpore)	
	Bikaneer	10 4	10 8	13 14	...	...	...	3 6	3 8	3 4	6 0	5 12	6 8	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	23 8	...	...	...	17 8	18 0	18 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	Bikaneer	
	Boondee	23 12	24 0	17 0	38 4	36 0	27 0	10 8	10 0	10 0	11 8	11 0	10 10	36 4	34 8	33 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	36 0	34 8	28 0	140 0	160 0	160 0	13 4	11 8	12 8	12 0	11 4	12 4	Boondee	
	Kotah	24 0	22 8	18 4	25 0	25 0	14 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	13 4	30 0	28 0	25 0	12 8	13 8	15 0	...	...	...	30 0	28 0	27 8	240 0	240 0	240 0	13 8	12 8	12 12	13 0	12 0	12 4	Kotah	
	Tonk	21 0	20 0	14 9	31 0	29 0	22 6	6 8	6 8	7 0	8 8	8 8	10 0	30 8	28 12	24 7	...	...	21 4	...	...	...	31 0	29 4	22 2	100 0	107 0	160 0	13 8	13 8	12 6	13 4	13 4	11 12	Tonk	
	Jhallawar	18 13	18 4	14 2½	20 0	20 0	15 15	...	...	...	7 14	7 1	10 2	27 11	25 0	19 8	17 1	17 1	17 15	...	...	...	23 4	25 5	20 8	...	...	...	10 2	10 2	10 14	9 14	9 14	10 10	Jhallawar	
	Shahpoora	20 4	20 1	16 14	26 8	25 8	21 12	10 0	10 0	11 12	15 0	15 0	14 8	23 4	23 0	18 6	16 0	15 0	18 4	...	...	...	23 8	23 8	21 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	12 14	12 14	13 14	12 12	12 12	13 10	Shahpoora	
	Dholpur	16 12	17 0	18 11	23 10	24 12	28 11	9 13	10 2	12 6	10 9	10 11	10 2	23 10	23 5	24 6	21 12	21 10	23 2	...	...	...	24 3	24 12	27 9	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 3	12 10	12 10	12 6	Dholpur	
Central India.	Indore, Gwalior, Goona, Baghelkhand (Sutna)	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Indore, Gwalior, Goona, Baghelkhand (Sutna)	Central India.

* Not received.

† Eight pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XL OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 14th October 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 13th October 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 14th October 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 13th October 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	
	Guaranteed.												
20th Oct. 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	1,84,214	1,071	172	(a)90,753	528	30,65,931	634	(a)25,14,892	522	. . .	5,51,039
13th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhand	547	86,830	159	547	84,339	154	25,99,664	169	30,62,883	200	4,63,219	. . .
13th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	1,72,676	255	735	2,23,305	304	49,12,505	258	61,86,524	299	12,74,019	. . .
13th ditto	Madras	861	1,12,046	130	861	1,04,760	122	38,20,450	158	35,68,048	148	. . .	2,52,402
13th ditto	South Indian	655	64,667	99	655	78,836	120	20,88,900	113	21,83,229	119	94,329	. . .
20th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	4,71,320	323	1,451	3,84,468	265	1,66,06,217	407	1,73,07,921	425	7,01,704	. . .
13th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	1,50,354	326	461	1,77,141	384	50,92,264	393	58,98,016	457	8,05,752	. . .
	TOTAL	4,830	12,42,107	257	4,882	11,43,602	234	3,81,85,931	281	4,07,21,513	298	25,35,582	. . .
	State.												
20th Oct. 1883	East Indian	1,507	8,74,863	581	1,509	6,22,964	413	2,30,59,958	544	2,68,46,641	635	37,86,683	. . .
13th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	38	2,940	89	56	5,010	89	1,04,106	119	1,59,629	106	55,523	. . .
20th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,930	71	27	964	35	37,480	49	43,736	58	6,256	. . .
13th ditto	Northern Bengal	230	46,534	202	239	38,300	160	10,44,860	160	11,09,859	169	64,999	. . .
13th ditto	Tirhoot	75	11,381	151	166	17,064	103	3,39,364	149	4,65,215	101	1,25,851	. . .
25th Aug. 1883	Patna-Gya	57	20,469	359	. .	(b)	.	(c)1,82,944	152	(d)1,64,232	137	. . .	18,712
13th Oct. 1883	Cawnpore-Achnera	138	8,803	64	138	9,307	67	2,76,652	71	2,91,290	75	14,638	. . .
20th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	687	57	12	636	53	23,926	71	24,766	74	840	. . .
20th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,116	1,78,952	160	1,117	1,95,590	175	53,07,183	169	63,71,495	204	10,64,312	. . .
20th ditto	Wardha Coal	45	9,684	215	45	11,107	247	2,77,164	219	3,68,999	293	91,835	. . .
20th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	4,505	46	149	9,437	63	2,74,889	100	6,60,007	158	3,85,118	. . .
13th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	22,743	141	161	21,018	131	7,17,874	158	7,20,127	160	2,253	. . .
20th ditto	Sindia	75	4,603	61	75	4,527	60	1,61,249	76	1,59,986	76	. . .	1,263
13th ditto	Punjab Northern	409	73,753	180	421	50,133	119	15,67,646	138	16,40,185	139	72,539	. . .
20th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	1,00,352	152	660	1,07,027	162	22,52,893	121	39,61,532	214	17,08,639	. . .
13th ditto	Kaunia-Dhuria	32	1,834	57	32	3,078	96	42,507	47	55,951	63	13,444	. . .
20th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	. .	. . .	.	89	7,150	80	. . .	. .	2,21,812	89	2,21,812	. . .
	TOTAL	3,168	4,89,120	154	e3,387	4,80,348	142	1,26,10,737	141	1,64,18,821	171	38,08,084	. . .
	Assisted Company.												
20th Oct. 1883	Bengal Central	. .	. . .	.	35	2,188	63	. . .	. .	59,154	60	59,154	. . .
	Native States.												
13th Oct. 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal	193	11,910	62	193	14,086	73	4,74,514	87	5,16,416	96	41,902	. . .
13th ditto	Nizam's	121	17,598	145	121	15,757	130	4,68,646	138	4,29,016	127	. . .	39,630
13th ditto	Mysore	86	8,066	94	86	14,151	165	1,54,637	64	1,54,819	64	182	. . .
20th ditto	Jodhpore	19	503	26	19	580	31	(f)8,443	27	20,400	38	11,957	. . .
	TOTAL	419	38,077	91	419	44,574	106	11,06,240	96	11,20,651	96	14,411	. . .
	GRAND TOTAL	9,924	26,44,167	266	e10,333	23,98,676	224	7,49,63,866	269	8,51,66,780	296	1,02,03,914	. . .
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	3,90,16,734	140	4,32,03,966	150	. . .	. . .
	NET RECEIPTS	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	3,59,46,132	129	4,19,59,344	146	60,13,712	. . .

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway.
(b) Receipts not received.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 26th August 1882.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 25th August 1883.
(e) Excludes mileage of Patna-Gya State Railway (57).
(f) Total receipts from 24th June to 14th October 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

DESTRUCTION OF WILD ANIMALS AND VENOMOUS SNAKES IN BRITISH INDIA.

No. $\frac{48}{1618\text{-}1628}$.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Home Department (Public),—dated Simla, the 3rd November 1883.

Read—

Resolution of the Home Department, No. 48—1780-90, dated 8th November 1882, reviewing the reports on the results of the measures adopted for exterminating wild animals and poisonous snakes in British India during the year 1881.

Read also the following letters from the Local Governments and Administrations submitting returns for the year 1882, and reports of special measures adopted in some cases:—

From the Government of Madras, No. 738A., dated 14th June 1883.
" " Bombay, No. 3052, dated 21st August 1883.
" " Bengal, No. 2531, dated 18th September 1883.
" " North-Western Provinces and Oudh, No. 2725, dated 1st August 1883.
" " Punjab, No. 1512, dated 29th June 1883.
" Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 1508-81, dated 12th April 1883.
" " British Burma, No. 482-66N., dated 19th March 1883.
" " Coorg, No. 2-1, dated 2nd April 1883.
" " Assam, No. 742, dated 25th May 1883.
" Resident at Hyderabad, No. 258, dated 27th June 1883.
" Chief Commissioner, Ajmere and Mhairwarra, No. 399, dated 16th May 1883.

RESOLUTION.

The Statement appended to this Resolution shows in detail for each Province the number of persons and cattle killed by wild animals and snakes, and the number of wild animals and snakes destroyed, with the rewards paid for their destruction during the year 1882, as compared with the previous year.

2. The following tables compare the general results of the year under report with those of the previous year:—

Number of human beings and cattle reported killed.

	Persons killed. By wild animals.		By snakes.		Total.		Cattle killed. By wild animals.		By snakes.		Total.	
	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.	1881.	1882.
Madras	238	275	1,064	920	1,302	1,195	8,668	9,374	270	320	8,938	9,703
Bombay	141	75	1,024	1,190	1,165	1,265	2,398	2,967	191	131	2,589	3,098
Bengal	1,367	1,267	9,268	9,191	10,635	10,458	8,423	8,332	154	228	8,577	8,560
North-Western Provinces and Oudh	470	393	5,010	5,680	5,480	6,073	7,971	8,286	317	318	8,288	8,604
Punjab	27	26	744	939	771	965	4,083	2,793	69	126	4,152	2,919
Central Provinces	268	285	985	1,058	1,253	1,343	2,929	3,835	26	54	2,955	3,889
British Burma	34	37	135	145	169	182	898	969	150	360	1,048	1,329
Coorg	*Nil*	*Nil*	*Nil*	*Nil*	*Nil*	*Nil*	191	288	*Nil*	*Nil*	191	288
Assam	211	214	189	167	400	381	2,802	3,972	16	30	818	4,002
Hyderabad Assigned Districts ...	18	25	197	190	215	215	3,013	3,170	836	569	3,849	3,739
Ajmere and Mhairwarra ...	3	9	54	39	57	48	264	554	*Nil*	22	264	576
TOTAL ...	2,757	2,606	18,670	19,519	21,427	22,125	41,640	44,540	2,029	2,169	43,669	46,707

Number of wild animals and snakes reported destroyed, and amount of rewards paid.

	Wild Animals.				Snakes.			
	Destroyed.	Rewards.	Destroyed.	Rewards.	Destroyed.	Rewards.	Destroyed.	Rewards.
	1881.		1882.		1881.		1882.	
		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.
Madras ...	1,429	20,251 5 0	2,055	44,111 9 0	*Nil*	*Nil*	*Nil*	*Nil*
Bombay ...	1,367	4,965 13 0	1,824	4,882 15 0	207,113	6,214 0 0	262,348	5,125 2 0
Bengal ...	4,213	23,316 3 0	5,867	26,036 1 0	10,282	3,430 5 0	32,187	6,417 13 0
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	3,037	8,434 14 0	2,932	8,235 12 0	1,142	56 5 3	16,389	2,022 14 4
Punjab ...	1,411	4,856 3 0	1,549	5,083 6 0	22,279	1,587 4 0	6,065	534 9 6
Central Provinces...	1,351	15,842 0 0	1,608	19,161 8 0	1,493	562 8 0	1,853	681 11 0
British Burma ...	1,059	4,260 8 0	1,379	8,836 0 0	2,990	27 0 0	2,681	1 0 0
Coorg ...	15	215 0 0	27	240 0 0	16	4 0 0	114	11 4 0
Assam ...	1,176	7,552 2 0	1,093	7,853 8 0	300	34 0 0	313	33 10 0
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	216	2,156 0 0	253	2,320 8 0	332	45 8 0	353	44 14 0
Ajmere and Mhairwarra.	5	*Nil*	5	20 0 0	21	*Nil*	110	*Nil*
Total ...	15,279	90,850 0 0	18,591	1,26,781 3 0	254,968	11,960 14 3	322,421	14,872 13 10

3. These figures show that the number of human beings killed has risen from 21,427 to 22,125, and of cattle from 43,669 to 46,707. If the cattle be valued at Rs. 20 per head, the actual money loss to the cultivators was Rs. 9,34,140. The largest mortality, as in the previous year, occurred in Bengal and in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, in which Provinces 16,531 persons were returned as killed :—

	Bengal.	N. W. P. & Oudh.
By wild animals	1,267	393
,, snakes	9,191	5,680
	10,458	6,073

Snake-bite caused 19,519 of the total number of deaths. Of the remaining deaths, 895 were caused by tigers, 278 by wolves, and 207 by leopards. Under the head caused by "other animals" 1,037 deaths are shown, of which 661 occurred in Bengal and 143 in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. Of the 661 deaths in Bengal, 359 were by jackals and 202 by alligators. No details are given in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh returns of the "other animals" which caused 143 deaths in those Provinces. Nor are the details under this head given in the returns of the Provinces of Madras, Punjab, Central Provinces, and British Burma.

It is noticed that in some cases deaths caused by domesticated animals and by hornets, bees, wasps, poisonous lizards, scorpions, and the like, are entered. Such deaths should not be shown in these returns.

4. The loss of cattle by wild animals and snakes amounted to 46,707 head, an increase of 3,038 over the figures of last year. The heaviest loss is reported from the Madras Presidency, *viz.*, 9,703 head. Bengal and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh were the next heaviest sufferers in this respect, the loss in these Provinces having amounted to 8,560 and 8,604 respectively. Tigers, leopards, and wolves were most destructive and account for 40,788 deaths, as under—

Tigers	16,157
Leopards	15,970
Wolves	8,661

Tigers and leopards were particularly destructive to cattle in the Central Provinces, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and wolves in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

It is noticed that the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh has directed the inclusion in the returns of sheep and goats under the heading "cattle." The attention of that Government is invited to paragraph 2 of the Resolution of this Department No. 48—1585-95, dated the 4th October 1881, which ordered the exclusion of sheep and goats from these returns.

5. The number of wild animals destroyed has increased from 15,279 to 18,591. The most satisfactory increase occurred in the Madras Presidency, where under the orders of the Local Government the full amount of the sanctioned reward is now given in every case, the practice hitherto having been to pay the full amount only in special cases. The number of wild animals destroyed in Bengal was 5,867 against 4,213 in the previous year; but the figures for the year under report erroneously include 879 dogs killed at Barrackpore, and also apparently a number of jackal cubs, for which rewards were paid in the belief that they were wolf cubs. The increase in this respect in the Central Provinces from 1,351 to 1,608 and in British Burma from 1,059 to 1,378 is satisfactory. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and Assam there was a decline in the number of wild animals destroyed, while the rise in the Bombay Presidency from 1,367 to 1,824 in the year under review was chiefly due to 870 animals being shown under the head "other animals" against the Thar and Parkur districts. No details of how this number is composed are given. In the other Provinces no appreciable increase has taken place.

6. The only Provinces which show a large destruction of snakes are Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab. The first mentioned Province returns 262,348 out of a total of 322,421 shown as destroyed throughout British India. In the other three Provinces the figures respectively stand at 32,187, 16,389, and 6,065. The large number of snakes killed in the Patna Division is explained to be mainly due to the prompt payment of rewards. Under the system sanctioned by the Local Governments last year, rewards are paid on the authority of certificates granted by selected indigo-planters, who not only grant certificates, but are also generally empowered to pay the rewards, and recoup themselves by bills, supported by the certificates as vouchers. This system meets with the entire approval of the Government of India. The Governor General in Council trusts that Municipalities will continue to pay attention to this matter, as it is chiefly in such places that measures of extermination are likely to prove most successful. At the same time Local Authorities should not fail to remember that one of the most effectual practical means of diminishing the danger to human life from venomous snakes is the removal from town or village sites or their vicinity of aloe, cactus or thorn hedges, ruined houses and walls, and the like, which harbour and afford cover to these reptiles.

7. The total amount paid in rewards compared with the preceding year was as follows :—

	For the destruction of— Wild animals.	Snakes.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1881 ...	90,850	11,961	1,02,811
1882 ...	1,26,781	14,873	1,41,654
Increase ...	35,931	2,912	38,843

There was thus an increase of Rs. 35,931 in the expenditure incurred in the destruction of wild beasts and Rs. 2,912 in killing snakes. This result is principally due to increased rates of rewards given in Madras and British Burma, as well as to the larger number of animals destroyed in these Provinces.

8. The special measures adopted in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, to which reference was made in paragraphs 6 and 7 in the Home Department Resolution of the 8th November 1882, have not proved satisfactory. In place of those measures the Local Government has sanctioned the grant of more liberal rewards in the divisions and districts which have been specially exposed to the ravages of wolves; and of a reward of 2 annas per head for all venomous snakes killed outside of municipal limits.

9. The results are, on the whole, slightly more satisfactory than in the previous year, so far as the returns relate to persons killed by wild animals; but cattle deaths and the mortality caused by snake-bites are considerably in advance of the previous year's figures. The Government of India again desire to express an earnest hope that practical measures to reduce the lamentable loss of life caused by wild animals and snakes will be energetically prosecuted by all Local Governments and Administrations.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Resolution, with the appended Table, be forwarded to Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance, and that it be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

Statement showing the results of the measures adopted in British India with the view of exterminating wild animals and venomous snakes during the year 1882.

1		2								3									4												5
		Number of persons killed by								Number of cattle killed by									Number of animals and snakes destroyed and amount of reward paid for their destruction.												
Province.		Elephants.	Tigers.	Leopards.	Bears.	Wolves.	Hyenas.	Other animals.	Snakes.	Total number of persons killed.	Elephants.	Tigers.	Leopards.	Bears.	Wolves.	Hyenas.	Other animals.	Snakes.	Total number of cattle killed.	Elephants.	Amount of reward.	Tigers.	Amount of reward.	Leopards.	Amount of reward.	Bears.	Amount of reward.	Wolves.	Amount of reward.	Hyenas.	Amount of reward.	Other animals.
																				Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.	
Madras	1881	3	135	47	1	...	...	52	1,064	1,302	...	3,328	3,214	65	1,709	149	203	270	8,938	...	.....	189	5,965 2 0	837	12,766 15 0	149	802 12 0	26	90 0 0	166	621 0 0	62
	1882	5	206	28	11	...	...	25	920	1,195	...	3,271	3,839	23	1,714	167	360	329	9,703	3	200 0 0	278	13,249 1 0	1,205	27,931 8 0	215	1,358 8 0	24	110 0 0	289	1,256 0 0	41
Bombay	1881	...	11	23	...	12	...	95	1,024	1,165	...	731	479	...	928	98	162	191	2,589	...	.....	61	1,248 0 0	244	2,450 0 0	21	156 0 0	243	1,046 0 0	11	.....	787
	1882	...	10	7	3	3	...	52	1,190	1,265	...	1,277	595	...	1,020	69	6	131	3,098	...	.....	71	1,326 0 0	220	1,905 0 0	16	132 0 0	394	1,381 0 0	31	72 0 0	1,092
Bengal	1881	20	378	137	40	41	4	747	9,268	10,635	87	3,791	2,996	85	428	258	778	151	8,577	...	.....	640	11,211 13 0	[illegible]	3,776 4 0	147	323 12 0	898	5,960 12 0	278	525 0 0	1,269
	1882	21	355	111	47	62	10	661*	9,191	10,458	5	4,071	3,370	45	487	134	220	228	8,560	1	.....	574	11,084 0 0	890	3,559 0 0	258	593 4 0	1,231	9,320 8 0	449	896 8 0	2,464
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	1881	8	45	8	7	192	2	208	5,010	5,480	...	1,244	4,381	150	1,375	139	682	317	8,288	...	.....	82	846 0 0	372	1,762 8 0	348	975 0 0	1,329	4,341 6 0	258	472 8 0	148
	1882	4	23	13	14	193	2	143	5,680	6,073	7	1,307	3,487	122	2,002	369	902	318	8,604	...	.....	92	875 0 0	327	1,551 0 0	429	1,193 8 0	1,798	4,107 8 0	254	459 12 0	32
Punjab	1881	...	3	...	3	4	1	16	744	771	...	24	1,902	9	1,787	265	6	69	4,152	...	.....	1	15 0 0	138	840 8 0	5	.....	1,238	3,072 3 0	3	.....	26
	1882	1	...	...	1	5	...	10	939	965	...	41	1,797	83	766	103	3	126	2,919	...	.....	24	200 0 0	171	1,022 8 0	22	.....	1,285	3,822 8 0	3	.....	44
Central Provinces	1881	2	166	15	10	2	1	52	985	1,233	...	1,602	1,018	15	33	38	223	26	2,955	...	.....	195	9,370 0 0	445	4,002 0 0	197	892 0 0	259	1,088 0 0	254	488 0 0	1
	1882	...	156	30	8	6	...	85	1,058	1,343	...	2,068	1,170	6	82	24	485	54	3,889	...	.....	256	11,400 0 0	517	4,860 0 0	216	972 0 0	296	1,309 0 0	323	620 8 0	...
British Burma	1881	3	13	1	...	...	...	17	135	169	1	720	129	...	18	...	30	150	1,048	2	200 0 0	81	1,380 0 0	63	599 0 0	46	305 0 0	...	.....	...	.....	867
	1882	1	10	12	2	...	...	12	145	182	...	731	195	2	6	...	35	360	1,329	2	.....	93	[illegible]	122	[illegible]	99	835 0 0	...	.....	...	.....	1,062
Coorg	1881	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	154	...	...	...	...	...	191	...	.....	6	[illegible]	7	[illegible]	...	.....	2	.....	...	.....	...
	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68	220	...	...	...	...	...	288	...	.....	8	[illegible]	19	[illegible]	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...
Assam	1881	22	131	4	13	3	...	38	189	400	...	2,274	408	...	8	4	108	16	2,818	...	.....	289	[illegible]	192	[illegible]	76	556 8 0	...	.....	...	.....	619†
	1882	28	129	5	22	...	...	30	167	381	5	3,033	730	11	116	38	39	30	4,002	2	150 0 0	316	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	73	552 8 0	...	.....	...	.....	545
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	1881	...	7	4	1	2	...	4	197	215	...	709	386	18	1,689	126	85	836	3,849	...	.....	12	210 0 0	116	1,533 8 0	1	5 0 0	43	198 8 0	44	220 0 0	...
	1882	...	6	1	6	9	2	1	190	215	...	484	481	3	2,098	103	1	569	3,739	...	.....	14	270 0 0	164	1,377 8 0	1	5 0 0	91	453 0 0	43	215 0 0	...
Ajmere-Merwarra	1881	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	54	57	...	30	124	...	101	1	2	...	264	...	.....	1	.....	2	.....	1	.....	...	.....	...	.....	1
	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	39	48	...	166	86	...	280	...	25	22	576	...	.....	...	.....	4	20 0 0	...	.....	...	.....	1	.....	...
Total for 1882		60	895	207	114	278	14	1,037	19,510	22,125	17	16,517	15,970	205	8,661	1,007	2,076	2,167	46,707	8	350 0 0	1,726	48,009 1 0	3,736	44,881 8 0	1,329	5,641 12 0	5,119	20,503 8 0	1,393	3,519 12 0	5,280
Total for 1881		58	889	239	75	256	8	1,232	18,670	21,427	88	14,496	15,281	342	8,076	1,078	2,279	2,029	43,669	2	200 0 0	1,557	36,421 15 0	3,397	38,606 3 0	991	4,016 0 0	4,538	16,696 13 0	1,014	2,326 8 0	3,780

1	5
Province.	Remarks.
Madras	
Bombay	Bombay.
Bengal	Bengal.
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	North-Western Provinces and Oudh.
Punjab	Punjab.
Central Provinces	Central Provinces.
British Burma	British Burma.
Coorg	Coorg.
Assam	Assam.
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Hyderabad.
Ajmere-Merwarra	Ajmere.
Total for 1882	
Total for 1881	

4												5
Number of animals and snakes destroyed and amount of reward paid for their destruction.												
Leopards.	Amount of reward.	Bears.	Amount of reward.	Wolves.	Amount of reward.	Hyenas.	Amount of reward.	Other animals.	Amount of reward.	Snakes.	Amount of reward.	Total number, excluding snakes destroyed.	Total amount of reward, including snakes.	Remarks.
C.	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.	
837	12,766 15 0	149	802 12 0	26	90 0 0	166	621 0 0	62	5 8 0	...	.....	1,420	20,251 5 0	
1,205	27,931 8 0	215	1,358 8 0	24	110 0 0	289	1,256 0 0	41	6 8 0	...	.....	2,055	44,111 9 0	
244	2,450 0 0	21	156 0 0	243	1,046 0 0	11	.....	787	65 13 0	207,113	6,214 0 0	1,367	11,179 13 0	Bombay.
220	1,905 0 0	16	132 0 0	394	1,381 0 0	31	72 0 0	1,092	66 15 0	262,348	5,125 2 0	1,824	10,008 1 0	
[illegible]	3,776 4 0	147	323 12 0	898	5,960 12 0	278	525 0 0	1,269	518 10 0	19,282	3,430 5 0	4,213	25,74 8 0	Bengal.
890	3,559 0 0	258	593 4 0	1,231	9,320 8 0	449	896 8 0	2,464	582 13 0	32,187	6,417 13 0	5,867	32,453 14 0	
372	1,762 8 0	348	975 0 0	1,829	4,341 6 0	258	472 8 0	148	37 8 0	1,142	56 5 3	3,037	8,491 3 3	North-Western Provinces and Oudh.
327	1,551 0 0	429	1,193 8 0	1,798	4,107 8 0	254	459 12 0	32	49 0 0	16,389	2,022 14 4	2,032	10,258 10 4	
138	840 8 0	5	.....	1,238	3,072 3 0	3	.....	26	28 8 0	22,279	1,587 4 0	1,411	6,443 7 0	Punjab.
171	1,022 8 0	22	.....	1,285	3,822 8 0	3	.....	44	38 6 0	6,065	534 9 6	1,549	5,617 15 6	
445	4,002 0 0	197	892 0 0	259	1,088 0 0	254	488 0 0	1	2 0 0	1,403	562 8 0	1,351	16,404 8 0	Central Provinces.
517	4,860 0 0	216	972 0 0	296	1,309 0 0	323	620 8 0	...	.....	1,853	681 11 0	1,608	19,843 3 0	
63	599 0 0	46	305 0 0	...	.....	...	.....	867	1,776 8 0	2,090	27 0 0	1,050	4,287 8 0	British Burma.
122	[illegible]	99	835 0 0	...	.....	...	.....	1,062	3,081 0 0	2,081	1 0 0	1,378	8,837 0 0	
7	[illegible]	...	.....	2	.....	...	.....	...	.....	16	4 0 0	15	219 0 0	Coorg.
19	[illegible]	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	...	.....	114	11 4 0	27	251 4 0	
192	[illegible]	76	556 8 0	...	.....	...	.....	619†	61 2 0	300	34 0 0	1,176	7,586 2 0	Assam.
[illegible]	[illegible]	73	552 8 0	...	.....	...	.....	545	51 0 0	313	33 10 0	1,093	7,887 2 0	
116	1,533 8 0	1	5 0 0	43	198 8 0	44	220 0 0	...	.....	332	45 8 0	216	2,201 8 0	Hyderabad.
164	1,377 8 0	1	5 0 0	91	453 0 0	43	215 0 0	...	.....	353	44 14 0	253	2,365 6 0	
2	.....	1	.....	...	.....	...	.....	1	.....	21	.....	5	.....	Ajmere.
4	20 0 0	...	.....	...	.....	1	.....	...	.....	118	.....		20 0 0	
3,736	44,881 8 0	1,329	5,641 12 0	5,119	20,503 8 0	1,393	3,519 12 0	5,280	3,875 10 0	322,421	14,872 13 10	18,591	1,41,654 0 10	Total for 1882
3,397	38,606 3 0	991	4,016 0 0	4,538	16,696 13 0	1,014	2,326 8 0	3,780	2,495 9 0	254,968	11,960 14 3	15,279	1,02,810 14 3	Total for 1881

* 350 by jackals.
202 by alligators.

† 555 Boars. } 1881.
64 Other animals. }
523 Boars. } 1882.
20 Buffaloes. }
2 Rhinoceros. }

IMPORTATION OF PETROLEUM INTO INDIA.

No. 934, dated Calcutta, the 16th July 1883.

From—C. MACAULAY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

With your letter No. 891, dated the 26th June 1882, were forwarded two sets of rules framed by the Government of India under sections 7 and 9 of the Petroleum Act, VIII of 1881, and it was stated that if the Lieutenant-Governor found them sufficient for the purpose of controlling the petroleum trade in Bengal, and was prepared to accept them as they stood, they might be taken as sanctioned by the Government of India, and published under section 18 of the Act. If, on the other hand, they were found to be incomplete or inaccurate, it was requested that they might be resubmitted with the necessary explanations and amendments as soon as practicable.

2. As it was urgently necessary that Government should have legal power to stop cargoes of "dangerous petroleum" before their arrival within the port of Calcutta, the rules under section 7 were published under the notification of this Government, dated the 18th July 1882, in the form in which they had been received from the Government of India. They were, however, only intended to be merely provisional to obviate immediate inconvenience, and they were therefore simultaneously referred to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce for such modifications as they might desire to suggest. The publication of the rules under section 9 was postponed pending the receipt of the opinion of the Chamber as to their general applicability. The Chamber, however, expressed no opinion of their own in the matter. Meanwhile proposals were received from merchants interested in the petroleum trade for the establishment of a depôt for the landing and storage of oil at Mateabrooj. As these proposals opened up other questions connected with the rules to be adopted, it was considered desirable that the subject should be considered as a whole. The Lieutenant-Governor therefore referred the question of the rules to be issued under section 9, and the measures to be taken to facilitate the storage, testing, and passing of oil, to a Committee specially appointed for the purpose. As the result of their deliberations, the Committee have submitted certain proposals which, if adopted, will necessitate considerable modifications in the rules under both section 7 and section 9. I am accordingly directed to submit, for the consideration of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of the Committee's report, and the dissents which have been recorded by some of their number, together with the following remarks of the Lieutenant-Governor.

3. Among other proposals, the Committee have, in paragraphs 9 to 18 of their report, recommended the adoption of a certain procedure in dealing with the case of oils either covered by a recognised certificate or not so covered, which, on arrival in India, and after landing is permitted, are found not to satisfy the test required by the Act; or, in other words, come under the definition of "dangerous petroleum." It appears to the Lieutenant-Governor, however, that before the course proposed by even the majority of the Committee can be adopted, and indeed before such measures as have already been adopted under the orders of Government during the past twelve months can be legally taken, it is necessary that the law should be amended. The word "import" is defined to mean "to bring into British India by sea or land." Any petroleum having its flashing point (*i.e.*, the *lowest* temperature at which it flashes) below 73° is "dangerous petroleum," and the law only provides for the import of dangerous petroleum under certain conditions, one of which is that it be declared that only dangerous petroleum can be used for the purpose for which the petroleum is intended. The law clearly contemplates proof that petroleum flashes at or above 73° before it can be landed [*vide* section 7, clause (*b*)] except as dangerous petroleum under license. The procedure recommended cannot therefore be prescribed by rules under the existing law. The proposals of the Committee can only be considered on the understanding that the law will be amended so as to render their adoption legal.

4. The principal points in the Committee's report which require consideration are—(1) whether American certificates should, under any circumstances, be accepted as conclusive, rendering a further test in this country unnecessary; and (2) whether the present definition of "dangerous petroleum" should be rigidly adhered to, and any oil which gives a single flash below 73° be considered dangerous.

As regards the first point, the Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the majority of the Committee in thinking that neither the American certificates nor any other well-recognized certificates can be accepted as obviating the necessity for testing the oil in India. The question is not whether the certificates which accompany the oil are reliable or not. Such certificates are possibly sufficient to prove that the oil, when tested at the port of shipment, gave a *bonâ fide* flash at or above 73° as certified; but experience has shewn that the same oil, on arrival in India, sometimes flashes at a lower temperature, and it is to avoid the risk of oil below the prescribed limit coming into the Indian market that the test in this country is necessary. The object is to provide, not against explosions in America or elsewhere, but against explosions in India. The Committee have recorded their opinion that, so

far as they are aware, "in no country where oil is imported, and where a standard exists, is the American certificate accepted as being conclusive," and the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that in India the Government can place itself in no more advanced position in this matter than other countries, which enforce a test. Indeed, in India there is all the stronger reason for enforcing a test on account of the great climatic differences, and the results of the experiments conducted last year by Mr. Redwood and the Government Chemical Analysts in Calcutta. The arguments put forward by Mr. Libby, of New York, in his letter of the 21st December last, a copy of which was received with your endorsement No. 111 of the 26th January last, in support of the proposal to accept the American certificates as conclusive, are therefore inconclusive, and the Lieutenant-Governor would not attach any importance to them.

5. As regards the second point, the Lieutenant-Governor thinks it is incumbent on Government to guard especially against any tendency to introduce inferior and more dangerous oils into Indian consumption. The question of limit of standard was fully considered before the Act of 1881 was passed; and after the fullest enquiry and consideration, in the course of which different standards were suggested, it was eventually decided that 73° was the lowest limit which could possibly be allowed. Though the importation and landing of all cargoes of oil for the purposes of testing in the manner proposed by the Committee might be legalised, the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that Government should adhere to the present legal standard of 73°, below which no oil should pass into use; and that, instead of the discretionary power which it is proposed should be exercised by Government in passing oil slightly below the standard, a provision should be made that, in the event of a flash, other than the first flash,—which should be disregarded,—being obtained below 73°, while if the average result of a number of samples does not fall below 70°, it shall devolve upon the consignee to pay a penalty of (as Messrs. Schroder, Smidt and Company suggest) three annas a case to Government, and to bear all the expenses of exposing such oil till its quality is improved so as to reach the legal standard. The result of such a procedure, which legislation could secure, would be to induce a careful exportation from America; to maintain the legal standard; and to ensure, as far as India is concerned, that no dangerous oil passed into consumption.

6. With reference to paragraphs 19 to 25 of their report, the Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Committee in thinking that the establishment of a depôt of the kind described by them for the landing and storage of petroleum is desirable. It is not clear, however, that Mateabrooj would be the best site for it. A scheme is now under consideration for improving the port accommodation by constructing docks and jetties at or near Garden Reach, and this may interfere with the selection of Mateabrooj. Moreover, the Lieutenant-Governor does not see why, with the railway completed to Diamond Harbour, the depôt should not be placed there; but if this is to be done, it will be necessary to indent for a competent Examiner from England for this particular duty, and to fix his residence at Diamond Harbour. The rapid expansion of the trade appears to justify this course, and it is unlikely that the Chemical Examiner to Government, with all his other duties, would be equal to the requirements of the petroleum business.

7. The Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Committee in the recommendations made by them in paragraphs 26 and 27 of their report regarding oil intended for batching and lubricating purposes, and small quantities of oil imported from the United Kingdom in iron drums, and in the rules proposed by them under section 9 of the Act.

No. 2621, dated Calcutta, the 8th June 1883.

From—H. J. REYNOLDS, Esq., President of the Petroleum Committee,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

With reference to Mr. Baker's endorsement No. 393, dated the 19th February, I have the honour to submit, for the consideration and orders of Government, the report of the Committee appointed to report on the measures to be taken to facilitate the storage, testing and passing of oil, and the rules to be issued under section 9 of the Petroleum Act VIII of 1881.

REPORT.

The Members of the Committee appointed by the Resolution of the Government of Bengal in the Municipal Department, dated the 19th February 1883, to consider certain questions relating to the trade in petroleum, beg to submit the following report for the consideration and orders of the Government.

2. Meetings of the Committee were held at the office of the Port Commissioners on the 2nd, 9th, 16th and 30th of March. The papers forwarded with the Government Resolution were fully considered, and the Committee had also before them the correspondence relating to oil used for lubricating purposes, which was forwarded with Mr. Bayley's letter No. 513 of the 3rd March 1883, and the memorial from Mr. Gregory, which was sent under Mr. Baker's endorsement No. 571 of the 9th idem.

To the report thus drafted, a dissent was recorded by Mr. O'Keefe on behalf of himself and Mr. Bleeck, which supplied fresh information regarding the New York procedure. As

this appeared to be the most correct information that had been obtained, the Committee considered it right to reconsider that part of their report which was based on incomplete data and held another meeting on the 3rd May for this purpose. The report, as then amended, is that which is now submitted.

3. We desire to preface our report by saying that, while we fully recognise the necessity of legislating regarding the importation of petroleum, we are disposed to think that the dangers supposed to attend the storage and transport of the ordinary petroleum of commerce have been exaggerated. The importations into Calcutta alone were 5¾ millions of gallons in 1881-82, and the trade has since been increasing with startling rapidity, the quantity imported during the first eleven months of 1882 having exceeded 12 millions of gallons. Yet, in the handling of these enormous stocks, we can call to mind only one serious accident, which occurred when a cargo boat laden with oil caught fire in consequence of the oil which had escaped from a leaking case coming in contact with the fire used by the boatmen for cooking on board. This accident would not have happened if anything like reasonable care had been used, and we are therefore inclined to think that the past history of the trade does not show any urgent necessity for extraordinary precautions. Besides this, a few minor accidents have occurred, but of a kind which might have happened with any other inflammable substance; and we believe that it is unnecessary for us to point out that petroleum cannot explode or ignite spontaneously. The trade is of much commercial importance, and we should be unwilling to see it hampered by any kind of interference not really required for the protection of the public.

4. The orders under which we were appointed instruct us to report on the question of the rules to be issued under section 9 of the Act, and the measures to be taken to facilitate the storage, testing and passing of oil. We observe that no direct reference is made to rules under section 7; but as that section refers to the importation, testing and landing of petroleum, we do not understand ourselves to be precluded from offering suggestions connected with these matters. We have not, however, gone into the question (which is raised in some of the papers before us) of altering the standard of 73° Fahr., as that standard is fixed by the Act and cannot be modified without legislation.

5. The following remarks are intended to explain the system under which American petroleum is imported into Calcutta by sea, and at present this is almost the only* description of oil which enters the Hooghly. This oil is shipped from New York, and is imported in tins enclosed in wooden cases, the tins being assumed to be air-tight. A case contains 2 tins, each holding 5 American gallons, the net weight of the oil in a case being about 65 lbs. An oil vessel ordinarily brings no other cargo, and the number of cases sent by a single vessel is often from 40,000 to 50,000 and is sometimes as high as 70,000. The whole of the cargo of a vessel is usually consigned to a single Calcutta firm.

6. The oil is tested before shipment, and a certificate of its quality as ascertained by the test is sent by the shippers to the consignee. The method of testing as ascertained by Mr. O'Keefe is stated to be as follows. As the oil leaves the refining stills, it is run into large receiving tanks, some of which will hold several hundred thousand gallons of oil. While the oil is being run into these tanks, it is tested by the refiners' own people, who add oil of an inferior or superior quality, or adopt other means to bring it up to such a standard as will pass the inspector's tests when it is required to be shipped. It is only run into the export tanks when actually sold and about to be shipped. It is at this stage that the duties of the inspectors commence. They are nominated and paid by the buyers, not by the refiners, and their duty is to prevent the shipment of any oil in the buyers' vessel that does not comply with the conditions of the contract made with the sellers.

7. The mode in which the testing is conducted is as follows. Certain export or filling tanks are told off to the cargo about to be packed and shipped, and these tanks are filled from the large storage tanks. The inspector then draws samples from the top, middle, and bottom of each filling tanks, and at once tests the samples so drawn. If the tests are in accordance with the terms of the contract, the oil in the filling tanks is passed, and packing and exporting at once commence. From time to time during the filling of the tins the inspectors draw samples from the taps through which the oil is being run from the filling tanks into the tins, and these samples are tested to eliminate any chance of the contents of the filling tanks being inferior. As fast as the tins are filled they are soldered, packed in wooden cases, and sent direct on board the ship; and one of the duties of the inspector is to satisfy himself that the oil he has tested is actually placed on board the buyer's vessel.

8. The question then arises, with reference to this procedure, whether the New York certificates might be accepted as final, as urged in Mr. Libby's letter to the Governor General. The majority of the Committee cannot recommend this. It should be placed on record that, so far as we are aware, in no country where oil is imported, and where a standard exists, is the American certificate accepted as being conclusive. On the contrary, in those places in which the question of the testing of oil has been carefully worked out, the American certificates have ceased to be accepted. We therefore find ourselves unable to recommend that the American certificate should be accepted as conclusive, and that a second test in this country should be dispensed with. It seems to us that the check of an Indian test is precisely what is required

* This was written before the recent information was received that there is a probability ere long of a large trade springing up in Rangoon and other oils.

to guarantee that no oil below 73° is imported. It is evident from the dissent of the minority of the Committee that every effort will be made to import oil as near the margin as possible, and this, if the New York tests are accepted as final, will infallibly result in some oil below the limit being imported into Calcutta.

9. The next point to be considered is when and where this test should be applied. Shall the oil be tested before the cargo is landed or afterwards? On this point we have no hesitation in recommending that all oil which purports to be covered by an American (or other recognised) certificate should be landed first and tested afterwards. The only argument in favour of testing the oil before it is landed is that if the oil turns out to be "dangerous," it is difficult to know what to do with it. It cannot be reshipped, for no ship will take it, and it cannot be allowed to pass into consumption. This objection is not, we believe, of any great practical importance. In the great majority of cases oil covered by an American certificate will be found to pass the test in this country. In a few exceptional cases, it may prove to be below the standard, but its quality can be improved by exposure, and it will never be necessary to reship it. On the other hand, the arguments in favour of applying the test after the oil is landed are practical and forcible. When oil is tested before landing, it is impossible to get an average sample of the cargo. The examiner must take a case from the limited number of cases to which alone access can be obtained, and there in no security that this really represents the quality of the entire shipment.

10. The American certificate is ordinarily sent to the consignee; but we understand that there would be no difficulty in having it, or a copy of it, appended to the captain's copy of the bill of lading. On the production of this certificate, whether by the captain or the agent, the oil would be allowed to be landed at the authorised place of import, and sample cases would be selected by the river police, or by the godown officers, and sent to the Chemical Examiner to be tested. One case in every 10,000 of the cargo should be selected for this purpose. The oil should not be removed from the godown till the Chemical Examiner has certified it not to be "dangerous" within the meaning of the Act; but as soon as this certificate has been received, the portion of the cargo which it covers may be removed.

11. Cargoes not protected by an American or other recognised certificate should not be allowed to be brought above Budge-Budge in the first instance. A sample case should be taken from the ship at Budge-Budge, and sent to the Chemical Examiner to be tested. If this sample passed the test, the vessel might then be brought up, and the oil landed under the same conditions as in the preceding paragraph.

12. It may be thought that this proposal is inconsistent with the remark which we have made above, that a sample taken from the ship affords no guarantee of the quality of the entire cargo. But the truth is that while we attach little or no value to the examination of this sample case, we attach very great importance to the detention of the vessel at Budge-Budge. The practical effect of our proposals would probably be that no vessel would ever come unprovided with the necessary certificate. An instance has been brought to our notice in which a Calcutta firm desired to import 2,000 gallons of highly refined oil from the United Kingdom. The firm had to wait nearly three months before they could obtain a shipping order, as there is no official in England authorised to give a certificate, and no ship would take the oil at the risk of detention in the Hooghly. We should wish to make it the interest of the vessel to bring a certificate, and we would give such a vessel every facility in landing its cargo as speedily as possible. These facilities would be denied to vessels not bringing such certificates, and the result would be that the certificate would always be brought.

13. It will be asked, what procedure we propose for adoption in the event of a cargo, or part of a cargo, being unable to pass the test, after authority has been given for landing it. In deciding this question, we think that a marked distinction should be made between samples which are only slightly below the test and those which are decidedly and dangerously below it. In testing a case, the Chemical Examiner will generally take the mean results obtained from six samples. If this result shows a flashing point of not less than 70°, we think the importer should be authorised to demand that five more cases should be similarly tested, and if none of these should give results below 70°, and the general average of all the six cases is not less than 73°, we would allow the oil to be passed, the average being taken as representing the quality of the cargo. But if the mean of the tests of any one case should give results below 70°, we think that this would afford *primâ facie* evidence that part of the oil is of decidedly inferior quality and that the cargo is of a mixed character, and we would lay down a rule that no part of it should be removed from the godown till it has been surveyed in the presence of a committee. The committee should consist of the Chemical Examiner, of one member to be nominated by the consignee, and one to be nominated by Government. The cargo should be examined in their presence, and if the result of the examination confirms the previous testing and shows that part of the oil flashes below 70°, we consider that no part of the cargo should be removed from the godown till the oil has been exposed, and its quality sufficiently improved to allow of its passing the test of 73°.

14. It seems desirable to explain somewhat more fully our reasons for drawing this distinction. We should not generally be in favour of the principle of allowing the average results of a number of cases to be taken into account, and thus permitting bad cases to be covered by good ones. But in view of the evidence which shows the variable results of the test to the extent of 2 or 3 degrees, we think there can be no serious danger in allowing an average

to be taken, so long as no case on which the average is based tests below 70° and the average of the whole together amounts to 73°. But if the mean testing of any case shows a figure below 70°, this implies an element of danger which ought not to be disregarded. It will have been seen from what has been said in paragraph 7 that the oil is tested by tanks, and therefore the fact of the oil in a single case being of a quality which flashes below 70° is sufficient to show that one whole tank, or, say, at least about 1,000 cases, a material proportion of the cargo, is of a kind which ought not to be permitted to pass. We are of opinion that the risk which would attend the passing of such oil into consumption is sufficient to justify the precautions which we have recommended to be taken. It must be remembered that cases of a bad quality mixed with cases of good quality are more likely to cause an accident owing to the purchasers being less on their guard than a cargo of uniformly inferior oil.

15. We have considered the case in which the general average of the samples examined proves to be not less than 73° and no sample falls below 70°. But suppose the general average to lie between 70° and 73°, no sample being below 70°. We find that some difference of opinion exists in this case upon the point whether any discretion shall be exercised in granting a certificate that such oil is not "dangerous." In testing a case the Chemical Examiner would perhaps take six samples, and would enter the mean of the results as the true figure. Suppose this average spread over 5 or 6 cases to give a flashing point of 72°. Is it desirable to allow a discretion that the oil should nevertheless be passed as being practically safe, and if so, by what authority is this discretion to be exercised?

16. In a paper of questions circulated by the Chamber of Commerce to the principal firms interested in the trade, question 15 ran as follows: Is it desirable that Government should have a discretionary power as to the admission of petroleum which, though slightly under the test required by the Act, may yet in their opinion be imported and used without danger to the public? To this question Messrs. Beer and Company say: "Certainly not, as this would interfere with the importation of high class oil." Messrs. Kettlewell, Bullen and Company, Messrs. Ernsthausen and Oesterley, and Messrs. Hobson and Connor all say—"Yes; the Government of India should have this discretionary power." Messrs. Hobson and Connor add that there should be no hard-and-fast rule; and that though in England the legal standard is 73°, the London Examiners practically pass oil which flashes at 70°. Messrs. Ralli Brothers say that if any discretionary power is left to Government, it should be as small as possible, and very strictly defined. Messrs. Schroder, Smidt and Company recommend that, if the oil is not below 72°, consignees should be allowed to import it on paying a fine of (say) 3 annas a case to Government.

17. On this it is to be observed that, although this last proposal would probably have a good practical effect, it is doubtful whether it could legally be carried out. Moreover, it does not allow any discretion to be used if the oil is below 72°. But if a rigid standard of 72° is to be adopted, or if (as Messrs. Ralli recommend) the limit of variation is to be strictly defined, we might as well keep to the rigid legal standard of 73°. It is said that every degree by which the flashing point is raised adds 1 per cent. to the cost price of the oil: and the danger of allowing any discretionary power lies (as Messrs. Beer have pointed out) in the fact that shippers will be tempted to send oil of the lowest quality which may be expected to have a fair chance of being passed. On the other hand, in view of the evidence which shows that two samples of oil from the same case have been known to give results differing by three or four degrees, we think it impossible to say that the fact of a sample flashing at 72° shows conclusively that the cargo of which it forms a part is in any degree more dangerous than another cargo which was found to flash at 74°.

18. On the whole, however, we are disposed to recommend that no discretionary power should be given. The standard of 73° was adopted after very full consideration. The Bengal Committee recommended 83°; the Government of Bengal proposed 78°; and the Select Committee eventually fixed on 73° as the minimum which could safely be allowed. It is also to be remembered that in paragraph 13 we have recommended that an importer should have the benefit of the average results of a number of samples, so long as no sample falls below 70. If this average does not reach the standard of 73°, it will only be necessary to keep the oil exposed till its quality is sufficiently improved. It is possible that a standard of 72° would practically be equally safe, but we should not wish to encourage the importation of oil which hovers upon the debateable ground between danger and safety. If it is known that the standard will be rigidly adhered to, consignees will be careful to import, not oil which may possibly pass the test, but oil which is certain to pass it. If it should be still thought however that a discretion should be permitted, we would allow it only in cases of cargoes covered by an American or other recognised certificate showing a flashing point of not less than 73°, and we would require the orders in each case to be issued by Government.

19. We are of opinion that Mateabrooj is the most suitable locality for a petroleum depôt, and we consider that with the exception mentioned in paragraph 27 no oil should be landed on the Howrah side of the river, nor on the Calcutta side at any other ghât than Mateabrooj. The Port Commissioners have lately had this question under their consideration, and they came to the conclusion that in view of the probable construction of additional jetties in the neighbourhood of Garden Reach, there would be some danger in establishing a petroleum depôt at Matteabrooj, and that it would be better to select a site about a mile lower down the river. We are quite prepared to admit that a petroleum depôt could not suitably be

placed in the immediate neighbourhood of jetties and shipping. But we see no objection to the selection of this site, at any rate as a provisional arrangement. It is important that the place of landing and storage should be as near the town as considerations of safety will permit: and it is to be remembered that while the construction of jetties at Garden Reach is a contingency still future, the requirements of the petroleum trade are immediate and pressing. There will be no insuperable difficulty in shifting the site of the depôt hereafter, if circumstances should make it necessary to do so.

20. The plot of ground immediately below Mateabrooj ghât is occupied by Messrs. Cook and Company, who have erected temporary stables there. This land has also been used of late for the storage of petroleum. The land further to the west belongs to Mr. Gregory, and is already used for landing and storing petroleum, and some pucka sheds have been erected on it. We think that the whole or a sufficient part of these two plots should be acquired by Government and made over to the Port Commissioners, who are the most suitable body to be entrusted with the regulation of the petroleum traffic. It would perhaps be found an economical arrangement in the end to take up at once the whole of both the above plots, as land in that neighbourhood is sure to rise greatly in value. There should be three (or possibly four) floating pontoons (which we should be inclined to prefer to fixed jetties), placed at a sufficient distance from each other to allow a ship to lie alongside each pontoon, and to discharge overside at all states of the tide. Each pontoon should be connected by a double line of tram rails with a godown behind. These godowns should be substantially but inexpensively built of brick and corrugated iron, should be well ventilated, and each of them should be large enough to contain a full cargo of petroleum, say 70,000 cases. The godowns should be at some distance from the river-bank, in order both to facilitate the removal of the cases by road, and to avoid the risk of oil escaping into the river. To each godown should be attached a shed, in which the work of repairing tins and cases might be carried on; and it would be advisable to have one or two separate godowns for the storage of oil which might be unable to pass the test. We do not think it would be necessary to have an office or laboratory for the Chemical Examiner at the depôt. The work of testing could be better done at his office at the Medical College.

21. The course of procedure would then be as follows: The vessel on arrival would take up her station at one of the pontoons under the directions of the Harbour Master. On the production of the required certificate, the work of landing would begin at once, the cases being delivered overside into the trucks, which would be run along the rails into the godown. Out of every 10,000 cases landed, a sample would be taken and sent to the Chemical Examiner to be tested. The landing and storing of a cargo of 50,000 cases could probably be completed in 12 to 15 days, and the Chemical Examiner's certificate would be ready for each 10,000 cases by the time the landing was completed, so that the oil could, if necessary, be transported at once as passed. At present a ship takes from 30 to 40 days to discharge a cargo of petroleum, and the time which would be saved represents a great saving of expense. We think that no special regulations would be necessary under clause (*d*) of section 7 of the Act. The arrangements for landing and storing the oil might safely be left to the discretion of the Port Commissioners and their officers.

22. It will be understood from what we have said that we desire to recommend that the discharge of cargoes of petroleum should be absolutely prohibited except at the authorised depôt; and the charges for landing and storing the oil must therefore be regulated in such a manner as not to lay any unreasonable burden on the trade. Neither the Government nor the Port Commissioners would desire to make any large profit out of the traffic; and it would only be necessary to fix such fees as would cover the interest on the capital outlay, and the cost of establishment and maintenance. If, however, the Port Commissioners are to be responsible for the oil, some thing must be added for insurance.

23. With regard to the expenditure required, we can give nothing more than a very vague estimate. We have no sufficient data for calculating the cost of acquiring the land. The valuations given in the Board of Revenue's letter No. 795A. of the 4th December 1882 are avowedly of the most approximate character; and an estimate which was prepared by Mr. Heysham at the request of the Port Commissioners gives very different results. The pontoons are estimted by the Port Commissioners to cost Rs. 36,600 each, and the total cost of three pontoons, complete with bridges and gangways, would be nearly two lakhs of rupees. The estimate of the Port Commissioners for each of the godowns (to contain 50,000 cases) is Rs. 55,560; but we consider that the proposed style of the godowns is needlessly expensive, and that a godown to hold 70,000 cases might be built for Rs. 20,000, or Rs. 25,000. There would be some further expenditure for roads, filling up tanks, laying rails, making up the river bank, &c.; and possibly the total capital expenditure might be represented by a sum of seven lakhs, which (at 6½ per cent. for interest and sinking fund) implies an annual charge of Rs. 45,500. The Port Commissioners estimate the necessary establishment at Rs. 58,920 annually, an estimate which we are inclined to think unnecessarily high; and the charges for repairs, municipal taxes and contingencies would perhaps bring up the total to Rs. 1,00,000, or possibly to Rs. 1,20,000 a year.

24. We find that 241 vessels arrived in the first 11 months of 1882, bringing 1,201,341 cases of oil. As the trade is still rapidly expanding, we may fairly estimate for 30 vessels and 1,500,000 cases. We have little doubt that the ships would be willing to pay Rs. 30 per diem for the use of the pontoons; and, taking 12 days as the minimum for each ship,

this would give 360 days' pontoon hire, and the actual amount would probably be more. A charge of one anna per case might be made for landing. This charge to include repair of leaky cases, storage in the godown for any period not exceeding one month, and delivery from the godown into carts. The receipts from this would be Rs. 93,750. Godown rent at the rate of 3 pie per month might be charged for all cases left in the godowns for more than a month; and we think it would be reasonable to estimate that there would always be 1,00,000 cases paying this rent. The receipts according to this estimate would be Rs. 10,800 + 93,750 + 18,750 = Rs. 1,22,300.

25. It will be clear that these estimates are little more than conjectural; and we merely put them forward as tending to show that, as far as it is possible to judge at present, a petroleum depôt at Mateabrooj might be worked on conditions which would be satisfactory to the trade, and at a cost lower than the charges now incurred. But it must be evident that no guarantee can be given to the importing firms that the charges will be upon the scale above suggested. The only pledge which Government can give would be that the charges shall be regulated by the expenses, and not with the view of making the trade a source of public revenue. In the general interests of the port it would be reasonable to allow the Port Commissioners to make some margin of profit, but a small percentage would be sufficient for this.

26. With regard to oil intended for batching and lubricating purposes, we do not think that any other orders are necessary than those already issued by the Government notification of the 19th February 1883.

27. We understand that two or three Calcutta firms are in the habit of importing from the United Kingdom small quantities of oil of a superior quality in iron drums for the purposes of their own business. The fact that the oil is imported in iron drums is alone a sufficient guarantee of its quality, as the drums are expensive, and are of little value when empty. This oil is imported as part of a general cargo, and we learn that the importing firms are put to much inconvenience by the application of the ordinary petroleum rules to these imports. We fully accept the principle that the trade should be left as free as is compatible with the provision of precautions necessary for the public safety; and we do not think that the public safety is in any way compromised by these small importations of highly refined oil. We are therefore disposed to recommend that the rules should be declared not to apply to importations from the United Kingdom of petroleum in iron drums in quantities not exceeding 2,000 gallons by one vessel, but that such petroleum may be brought up and landed in the same manner as ordinary cargo. We believe that there could be no possible element of danger in this relaxation of the rule, as it is practically certain that no dangerous petroleum would ever be imported as part of a general cargo.

28. The foregoing paragraphs sum up the recommendations which we desire to make regarding the importation, testing and landing of petroleum, and its storage at the depôt. We now proceed to consider the question of the rules to be passed under section 9 of the Act, for the grant of licenses for the possession and transport of petroleum.

29. The draft rules framed by the Government of India and forwarded to the Government of Bengal with Mr. Mackenzie's letter No. 891 of the 26th June 1882 are objected to in several particulars by the firms engaged in the trade, as involving unnecessary interference with the course of business, and containing some stipulations which it will be practically impossible to comply with. We have examined the rules, and we think that these objections are not altogether without reason.

30. The transport of oil is effected either by carts, by rail, or by boats. We are of opinion that no restrictions need be put on the removal of oil by carts (that is to say, by ordinary country carts); indeed we doubt whether the wording of the law would justify any such restrictions. The transport of non-dangerous petroleum in quantities not exceeding 500 gallons cannot legally be interfered with, and no cart will take more than 20 cases, or 200 gallons. We are of course aware that it is a common practice to send off a string of carts at the same time; but we think that each cart should be treated as a separate item of transport, and we are satisfied that the removal of petroleum during the daytime by ordinary country carts is not attended with any danger which calls for special orders for its regulation. The transport of petroleum in carts by night is dangerous, owing to the practice of carrying a lighted lantern under the body of the cart. Oil from a leaking case may fall upon this lantern, and may cause a conflagration. We think, therefore, that petroleum should not be removed in carts except between sunrise rnd sunset; but this would seem to be more properly a matter for regulation by the police, and we doubt whether any rule on the subject could legally be issued under the Petroleum Act.

31. It also appears to us to be unnecessary that the Government should lay down rules under the Act for the transport of petroleum by railway. This is a matter which may safely be left to the Railway Companies, and on the State Railways it would be open to the Superintendent to make any regulations which might be thought proper.

32. The main difficulty is in regulating the transport of petroleum by boat. Boats are loaded at Cossipore for Lower Bengal and Midnapore. These are open dinghees, carrying perhaps 50 or 60 cases each. There is a large trade with Eastern Bengal, carried on in covered boats, which start from Kidderpore or Balliaghatta, and take up to 1,000 cases each. The

draft rules prescribe that the oil is to be taken in covered boats, that no fire or light is to be allowed on board, and that the route and the place of destination are to be specified in the license. Petroleum in quantities exceeding 500 gallons will generally, though not always, be taken in covered boats; but we are not aware that any special advantage or security is obtained by the use of covered boats, and the stipulation seems to us to be unnecessary. The rule that no fire or light shall be allowed on board the boat would, no doubt, be a useful safeguard, but the objection to it is that it is impracticable to enforce it. There is of course a certain element of danger in allowing fire on board a boat laden with inflammable oil; but the draft rule seems to treat petroleum as if it were much on the same level as gunpowder, and we think that such stringent precautions are not required by the real necessities of the case. The clauses requiring the route and the place of destination to be specified on the license seem to have been modelled on the rules of the Salt Department. The dealers object to them as unnecessarily hampering their business, and we see no sufficient reason for retaining them. We are inclined, however, to think it desirable that a boat laden with petroleum (in any quantity exceeding 500 gallons) should be required to carry a distinctive flag, which would indicate the nature of its cargo. This rule would not only warn other boats of the nature of the cargo, but also the necessity of carrying this flag would serve to impress upon the boatmen the fact that they were bound to use more than ordinary precautions against fire. We consider that the license need only state the place from which the petroleum is to be conveyed, the fact that it is to be conveyed by boat, the quantity of petroleum covered by it, and the time for which the license is to be in force. The fee for the transport of petroleum by boat we would recommend to be fixed at one rupee for every thousand gallons or part thereof, no license being, of course, required for the transport of a quantity not exceeding 500 gallons. A license should be in force for six months. We would not require licenses to be taken for the transport of petroleum by cart or by railway.

33. With regard to the possession of petroleum, we are disposed to think that if a strict rule were made (as we recommend should be done) that within the town of Calcutta no license shall be granted for the storage of more than 5,000 cases in one place, some of the conditions provided by the draft rules might be dispensed with. In the suburbs, this limitation to 5,000 cases would be less necessary, and we should not object to the grant of licenses up to 50,000 cases, if it were desired to have them. But we doubt whether there would be any real occasion for the grant of licenses for more than 5,000 cases. Such a quantity would be quite sufficient for purposes of retail sale; and for other purposes it would be just as convenient, and much safer, to take the oil direct from the depot at Mateabrooj, which would in effect be a kind of bonded warehouse for petroleum. While, therefore, we would not absolutely prohibit the grant of licenses outside Calcutta for quantities in excess of 5,000 cases, we should be inclined to discourage them by requiring a considerable increase in the fee. We would suggest that the fee for a license not exceeding 1,000 cases should be Rs. 12 per annum, that an additional two rupees should be charged for each thousand cases, or part of a thousand cases, between 1,000 and 5,000, and that an additional fee of Rs. 4 should be charged for every thousand cases above 5,000. With these limitations as to the quantities to be stored in one place, we think it would only be necessary to provide further that the building shall be of masonry with a terraced or iron roof, and that either the doors and other openings shall be built up to a height of two feet, or the floor shall be sunk to that depth. The condition in draft rule 4, which requires the building to be surrounded by an embankment and trench, need only be enforced in the case of premises situated within 100 yards of the river, or Tolly's Nullah, or the Circular Canal, and even in these localities we are not inclined to attach much value to the condition, as the trench, when filled with water, would be an element of danger rather than of security.

34. As to the forms of licenses, we think that the license for possession should be in the form C appended to the draft rules, and that the condition should be those proposed in the draft. Licenses for the transport of petroleum by boat might be in the following form, no conditions being endorsed on them, except the regulation which we have suggested, requiring the boat to carry a distinctive flag :—

License is hereby granted to *A. B.* to transport by boat from petroleum not exceeding cases of 10 gallons each, and the undersigned hereby acknowledges to have received a fee of Rs. on account of this license.

This license shall be in force until the day of 18 Dated

For Calcutta and the suburbs the license (whether for possession or transport) might be granted by the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner of Police, and elsewhere by the District Magistrate or Joint Magistrate.

35. We would ask that it may be understood that our proposals in this report are intended to apply to the ordinary petroleum of commerce, that is to say, to petroleum which is, or purports to be, of a "non-dangerous" character. "Dangerous" petroleum is of two kinds, imported cargoes which do not purport to be dangerous, but which may be unable to pass the test, and petroleum of an avowedly dangerous character imported in small quantities for special purposes. It will have been seen from the preceding paragraphs of this report how we propose to deal with the former of those classes. If it is covered by an American or other authorised certificate, we would allow it to be landed; but we would not permit it to be removed from the godown till it had passed the test. If no certificate is furnished, we would not permit the oil to be landed at all, unless a sample case of it passed the test. We do not believe that

oil of this class will be found to present any practical difficulties. We do not think that the orders under which we were appointed require us to submit any suggestions for the treatment of petroleum of an avowedly dangerous character.

H. J. REYNOLDS, *President.*

H. L. HARRISON,
HENRY PRATT,
C. J. H. WARDEN,
(Dissent, paragraph 13.)
J. W. O'KEEFE,
(Dissenting from paras. 8 and 15 to 18.)
WM. BLEECK,
(Dissenting from paras. 8 and 15 to 18, and also 13.)
} *Members.*

In signing this report, I wish to add that the compulsory testing of oil in this country makes it impertative upon the Government to provide the Chemical Examiner with thoroughly reliable testing instruments, which, it is evident from the report of the Board of Analysts, he does not at present possess.

HENRY PRATT.

The 2nd June 1883.

I dissent from the views of my colleagues as expressed in paragraph 8 of the report that a cargo of petroleum cannot be identified as that tested in New York. Importers receive—

1st.—The refiner's invoice or bill of parcels.

2nd.—The Inspector's certificate of testings.

3rd.—The certificate of the loading of the cargo.

4th.—The bill of lading and policy of insurance.

These documents go to prove that the oil is that originally tested and no other. A further certificate of the discharge of each cargo has to be given by importing firms, Collectors of Custom and United States Consuls in Indian ports on the discharge of each cargo. What further identification is necessary, I am at a loss to conceive. To suppose that the oil cannot be identified is to discredit the several documents on which the business is based.

I also dissent from the paragraphs 15 to 18 of the report in so far as a discretionary power is not recommended to be given to the Local Governments of the three presidencies. Against the views of Messrs. Beer & Co. (who are brokers and not importers) the views of four extensive importing firms are stated, and three of these firms agree that a discretionary power should, in certain extreme cases, vest in the Local Governments. To put a case in point, an importer buys in good faith a cargo of 60,000 cases refined petroleum for Calcutta properly vouched for as 73° in accordance with the Indian law. The cargo arrives here, is tested, and is found to be 72° or 72·5°, or half to one degree under the standard. Under the recommendation of my colleagues, the whole of this cargo would have to be exposed and improved at a first cost of Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000. This loss would be increased materially if the cargo had been sold "to arrive" as is the custom, and the contract was cancelled by the buyer. Besides there would be the disrepute attaching to such a cargo owing to its having been pronounced "dangerous" on landing. When it is considered, *vide* paragraph 14 of the report, that there is frequently found to be a variation of 2° to 3° in the test of a sample of oil, taken from the same tin, tested by the same Abel's instrument, and manipulator; that different instruments and manipulators frequently give varying results; that the tests are affected prejudicially by the instrument being out of level by barometric and thermometric changes, &c., in fact in many different ways, I am in the interest of the trade (though not opposed to the limit of 73° in accordance with the law) strongly of opinion that a discretionary power to pass refined petroleum showing a variation of half to one degree should be vested in Local Governments, provided that in no single instance was any test found under 70°. My object in making this recommendation is to prevent the dead-lock and heavy loss, which two or three importing firms here suffered in 1882, owing to the want of a discretionary power being vested in the Local Government under Act VIII of 1881. Petroleum which tests at 70° Abel is not less safe than oil testing 73° Abel, and it appears to me that an extensive and rapidly growing trade should not be subjected to an extreme hard-and-fast rule, especially when it is admitted that the test is in itself defective. If the recommendation of my colleagues is accepted, importers will have to buy oil 2° to 3° above that required by the law in this country, or they will not be safe in carrying on the trade. This was not contemplated by Act VIII of 1881. The Home Government, I am informed, pass refined petroleum down to 70°, if bought in good faith and certified in America as 73°. If

this is so in England, where the trade is done in casks, which are not air-tight, why should not the like liberal course be followed here in canned oil, the cases or tins being air-tight, and the oil incapable of improvement by contact with the air. I do not recommend so much as this; but I think it is very desirable not to hamper this new trade unduly. I should like to see it legislated for in a liberal manner, and not in the somewhat narrow spirit proposed.

That divergent results are obtained by the Abel's instrument is clearly proved.

For instance, it is mentioned in the report on petroleum testing in India made by Mr. Boverton Redwood, at the request of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and dated London 11th November 1882, that when Dr. Warden was testing official sample No. B4 (drawn from one of the four cargoes of petroleum stopped by the Indian Government upon Dr. Warden's report) that it did not comply with the terms of the Indian Act; he made it flash first at 66°, then at 70°, and then at 71°. Mr. Redwood then made three tests of the same sample by Dr. Warden's own instrument, and it flashed on each occasion at 76°!!

These extraordinary discrepancies appear to show that in the interest of an important trade, and as a measure of common justice to all, those whose pecuniary interests are affected by the Petroleum Act, it is the duty of the Government to procure a thoroughly experienced examiner either from England or America, before they assume the serious responsibility of stopping oil for alleged non-compliance with the terms of the law.

In legislating on the subject, the Government are dealing with the interest of one of the poorest populations in the world, to whom on the one hand the raising of the cost of one of their daily necessaries by even one pie is of importance, and a danger to be avoided; yet who, on the other hand, require to be protected by their Government from the consequences of their own ignorance of what is safe or unsafe in such an article as petroleum.

The decision as to what is judicious lies with the Government, and I must presume their opinion to be that a test of 73° Abel meets all requirements of safety as they have legislated on that basis.

I therefore fail to see that any obligation rests upon the merchants engaged in the trade to import oil of even one degree higher test than is laid down in the statute. Their proper course as business men is to secure oil that will comply with the requirements of the Indian law, and in this respect their interests and those of the Indian consumers are identical.

Stripped of all verbiage, the argument used in the report means that the officials charged with the administration of the Act are unable to decide, within a few degrees, whether the oil that is imported does or does not comply with the law, and it is therefore recommended that importers should purchase oil several degrees above the legal standard to be on the safe side, whatever happens.

In all legislation dealing with standards, and more especially legislation that imposes what are practically *enormous pecuniary penalties* upon the importers of goods that are said not to comply with the legal standard, the very first duty of a Government is to provide an absolutely correct test standard, and no penalty can be properly inflicted upon a subject said to be in default, until such accurate standard of measurement has been provided and applied. This principle is recognised by every civilised Government.

In the case of petroleum there are, no doubt, difficulties in providing such a standard as will be found to be accurate under all conditions, climatic and otherwise, but a duty ought not to be evaded merely because it is difficult. Professors Abel and Redwood have advised Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India (*vide* Parliamentary Paper on East India Petroleum Testing, dated 20th July 1882) that it is practicable to devise precautions, the adoption of which shall insure the attainment of accurate results in testing petroleum in India, and the duty of the Indian Government is clearly to secure such results at whatever cost of trouble or experiment.

The Imperial German Government, before legislating on the petroleum question for the German Empire, made an exhaustive series of experiments, in the course of which it was found that the flashing point of petroleum varied with barometric and thermometric changes. Careful experiment enabled them to tabulate these variations for the use of their official examiners, and the variations are provided for in the German law. If, after careful experiment, it is found that the variations of the Indian climate have to be provided for, this should be done in the Indian Act, or we may again see the anomaly witnessed here in 1882 of petroleum being refused admittance into our ports, and pronounced to be "dangerous" in the hot season that might have been imported without challenge during the cold season. Until an accurate standard is devised for testing petroleum in India, I dissent from the views of my colleagues that the local Government should not have a discretionary power of passing oil, no portion of which tests under 70°, and the average of tests of which does not fall under 72°. I agree with the other portions of the report.

J. W. O'KEEFE.

I agree with the above.

With the admitted variation in Abel's instrument, it may happen accidentally, as it has happened before, that a flash is obtained at 69° or under, and then several flashes up to or above 73°. I would recommend that any isolated flash showing a variation of three or more degrees should be discarded as casual and unreliable, as it appears to me that such flash must be due to influences affecting the correctness of the instrument.

W. BLEECK.

Calcutta, 26th May 1883.

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1. I dissent regarding paragraph 13, in which the procedure recommended to be adopted in the case of oils which fail to flash at 73°F., the standard of the Petroleum Act of 1880, is discussed.

2. The testing of petroleum in this country is surrounded with certain difficulties, and this is more especially the case with low flash oils. Recognising the difficulty, paragraph 13 was elaborated in order to obviate, as much as possible, any loss which might ensue to importers who had *bonâ fide* imported oil which flashed in America above 73°F., Abel, but which, on arrival in India, might be found to flash at a somewhat lower temperature.

3. This concession demands, on the part of traders, co-operation. Knowing, as they well do, the difficulties which surround the application of the test here, it is their duty to meet the difficulty half-way, and not to import knowingly oils which, experience has shown, will fail to satisfy the requirements of the Indian Act. The spirit in which the suggested concession has been met by Messrs. Kettlewell Bullen and Messrs. Ernsthausen and Oesterly is evident from their joint dissent.

4. The Petroleum Act of 1880, as it at present stands, requires that an oil shall not flash below 73°F. when tested in India in Abel's apparatus. Hitherto the flash point of an oil as determined in America has been considered *the flash*; in other words, interested parties have attempted to give an impress of infallibility to the American certificates. The Secretary to the Bremen Chamber of Commerce thus records the German opinion on the infallible accuracy of the American Inspector's test:—"The Bremen petroleum exchange (being the largest of its kind in Europe) will, from the 1st January 1883, cease to act on the American Inspector's certificates, which have not always been found to be reliable."

5. The same sample of oil will not invariably give the same flash when tested by the same operator on the instrument; and when different operators using different apparatus test the same sample, the results are still less likely to be in perfect accord, unless the mean of a large number of determinations be compared. These are facts which the American trade do not like to admit, and for very obvious reasons.

6. More than one test, therefore, of each sample is requisite, and the instrument used, and the manner of manipulating the oil before testing, must be similar. The American certificates are based on the application of *one test* to each sample. There is no evidence to show that the apparatus used by the American Inspectors are verified instruments, and not, modifications of the Abel's instruments. In fact, there is no evidence to show that the American Inspectors are acquainted with the requirements of the Indian Petroleum Act, and in proof of this I would quote the following extract from a letter from Mr. J. McGee (case trade) to the address of Messrs. Rally & Co., New York, regarding the form of petroleum certificate suggested by me last year:—"Second, it would *be necessary that certified copies of Indian Petroleum Act of 1881 should be furnished to the Inspectors for their guidance.*"

7. The Indian Petroleum Act requires that imported oil shall not flash below 73° when the test is applied in a specified manner in India. The Act does not recognise any possible changes in the character of an oil through climatic causes; and inasmuch as the Act has not been amended, it is reasonable to infer that Government are at present not prepared to admit the possible deterioration of oil through the effects of climate.

8. After the experiences of last year, importers must be well acquainted with the brands which will, and which may not, pass the Indian test. If cargoes are purchased on the basis of 115° fire-test—which both Messrs. Redwood and Libby consider a very uncertain test, that it is a "toss up" whether when the oil is re-tested on Abel's apparatus if it will flash below or at 73°F.—any difficulty which may arise in India is due entirely to the importer's own fault.

9. I therefore suggest, in modification of paragraph 13, the following procedure for oils which are found to flash below 73°F. in India. After the Chemical Examiner has satisfied himself that an oil flashes below 73°F., a committee should be convened without delay, consisting of four members, to survey the cargo. One member to represent the importer, one the Chamber of Commerce, one to be appointed by Government, and the Chemical Examiner to be an *ex-officio* member. If, on examination of the cargo, a single sample is found to flash below 73°F., the penalty for illegal importation of petroleum as defined in the Act should be enforced, and the oil dealt with in such a manner as the Government of India may deem fit. The object therefore with which the committee suggested by me would meet would be somewhat different to the duties of the committee as suggested in the draft rules drawn by the Commission. It appears to me that this is the only mode by which the requirements of the Act can be carried

out; it entails no hardship on anybody, and will most certainly prevent the importation of low flash oils, and also a repetition of the unseemly squabbles which took place last year.

10. On the other hand, if the plan recommended by the committee be adopted, certain importers will knowingly bring in low flash oil, and then by threat and clamour try to "run" the iconsignments. Clap trap and verbiage regarding "killing the trade," "depriving the teeming millions in Hindustan of light" by demanding an oil which shall fully satisfy the requirements of our Indian Petroleum Act may be taken for what it is worth. Locally manufactured oil of 100° flash Abel is in the market, and will no doubt before long be supplied in sufficient amount to compete very seriously with the American product, unless, as a gentleman largely interested in the American oil trade remarked to me, "if we have any competition with Rangoon oil, we will buy up the little place and shut it up."

CALCUTTA MEDICAL COLLEGE;
The 10th May 1883.

C. J. H. WARDEN.

No. 111, dated India Office, London, 12th July 1883.

From—The Secretary of State for India,

To—The Government of India.

In continuation of my despatch No. 68, dated 26th April last, and with reference to your letter, No. 11 (Judicial) of 17th April last, and to previous correspondence, on the subject of the testing of petroleum oil in India, I now transmit, for the consideration of Your Excellency, a copy of a final letter from Sir F. Abel, enclosing a joint memorandum by himself, Mr. Boverton Redwood, and Surgeon-Major J. B. Lyon, the Chemical Analyser to the Bombay Government.

2. These papers will, I trust, enable you to deal satisfactorily with this subject. You will observe that there are three distinct points which will require your consideration:—

First. The question whether any, and if so what, amendments should be made in the schedule of the Petroleum Act, 1881. With reference to this, Sir F. Abel points out that the joint memorandnm specifies the nature of certain precautions and corrections, the adoption of which will go very far to counteract or rectify variations between flashing points of petroleum observed in India and in other countries, and which are sufficiently definite and simple to enable your Government to dispose of this question.

Secondly. Sir F. Abel reiterates his opinion that the standard of petroleum oil, 73° F., fixed by the Act of 1881 as that at which the oil may be safely imported into or used in India, is too low, and ought to be raised to 78° F. It would appear from the correspondence transmitted with your letter of 17th April last, that this alteration is likely to be strongly opposed by the trade, as tending to raise the price of American petroleum to the Indian consumer. It will be for Your Excellency to decide, upon a careful consideration of the evidence as to the comparative danger of different qualities of the oil in a tropical climate, whether or not to follow the recommendation of Sir F. Abel upon this point in any amendment of the existing law.

Thirdly. The joint memorandum states, and Sir F. Abel in his letter repeats, that even with all precautions there is likely, especially in the case of oils close to the standard of 73° F., to be a variation of about 3° F. between the test of oil before shipment and its test on arrival in India. The joint memorandum suggests that "steps should be taken to acquaint the trade with the fact that the retesting in India of shipments of petroleum is liable to furnish results about 3° F. lower than the flashing point recorded before shipment." The result of this would of course be that the shipper of petroleum from America would be obliged to buy petroleum 3° F. better than the nominal Indian standard. Having regard to the fact that all petroleum exported from America to India must be officially tested and certified, and to the arguments urged by Mr. W. H. Libby in this letter addressed to Your Excellency, dated the 21st December 1882, I would suggest, for your consideration, whether, in the event of the flashing point being raised, as suggested by Sir F. Abel, to 78° F., a rule might not be laid down somewhat to the following effect. If an importer does not produce an American certificate showing that the petroleum, when shipped, was fully up to the Indian standard, he should be strictly bound by the Indian test, and the petroleum rejected if that test shows that the petroleum does not entirely comply with the requirements of the law. But if the petroleum is covered by such a certificate, in the form and under the conditions which the Government of India may lay down, a margin of variation of 3° F. might be allowed between the test shown in the certificate and that obtained in India, and the petroleum rejected only if the Indian test, with this allowance, shows it to be below the standard fixed by the law.

I desire to call the attention of Your Excellency to the fact that Surgeon-Major Lyon has spent his privilege leave in England in assisting Sir F. Abel in the investigations necessary for the preparation of the joint memorandum now transmitted, and I request that my acknowledgments for this service may be communicated to Mr. Lyon.

Dated Woolwich, 11th June 1883.

From—Sir F. A. Abel,

To—Sir Louis Mallet, C.B.

Referring to my letter to you, dated 10th April, and to the correspondence relating to the difficulties experienced in the application of the Abel test for petroleum in India, I have now to report that Dr. Lyon and Mr. Redwood have in conjunction with one of my Assistants, Dr. Kellner, carried on many experiments in my Department for some weeks past, and that I have, from time to time, discussed with those gentlemen the results obtained, and their bearing upon the solution of the problems which have presented themselves.

Without venturing to suggest that the necessary experiments for completely establishing the satisfactory working of the test in India have reached finality, as this can only be done by a continuance of our experiments in India on Dr. Lyon's return, I am glad to be able to state that an understanding and definite conclusions have been arrived at between us on several important points, and that just before the departure of Dr. Lyon we were able to agree upon the terms of the accompanying memorandum, and upon the recommendations which it embodies.

I submit that those conclusions and recommendations are sufficiently definite and simple to enable the authorities in India to deal with them.

They specify, in the first place, the nature of certain simple precautions and corrections, the adoption of which will go very far to counteract or rectify variations between flashing points observed in India and in other countries, arising out of fluctuations in atmospheric pressure, and the effects of long exposure of the oils to tropical temperatures, or the prevalence of such temperatures at the time of testing.

Secondly, it is pointed out that, even with the adoption of the precautions recommended, it will be right and just to apprise the trade that a difference to the extent of 3° Fahrenheit may be liable to occur between the flashing point of an oil having a flashing point close to present standard, before shipment, and its flashing point when afterwards tested in India.

I enclose herewith a table of corrections to be used in allowing for variations in atmospheric pressure, in accordance with section 1 of our joint memorandum.

With respect to the suggestions made by the Secretary of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, which are referred to in the letter from the Government of India to the Secretary of State, and which are dealt with in a report* by Mr. Pritchard and Dr. Lyon, of February-March 1883, I have to offer the following few remarks:—"All general arguments" in favour of adopting a higher standard in India than 73° F., "such as that the average temperature of the air being higher in India than in England," &c., "were carefully considered" before the Indian Act was passed, as a reference to the papers will show, and the result of that careful consideration was the determination on the part of the Indian authorities to raise the standard, at any rate to 78°, which determination was altered, at the last moment, only upon representations of the Chamber of Commerce, which, with all respect, I consider did not furnish legitimate grounds for such alteration.

* No. 11 of 1883.

Very strong representations were made of the great hardship to the trade which would result from the raising of the standard a few degrees as proposed. In the face of this fact I received with much interest the intelligence from Dr. Lyon that, since the difficulties respecting the Calcutta shipments arose, the chief proportion of the oil which has been imported into India has had flashing points not lower than 76° F. The reasonableness of the proposal to raise the standard to 78°† has, I submit, been well demonstrated by the readiness with which oils approaching that flashing point have been supplied to India without any pressure being brought to bear upon the trade. The latter circumstance is also a sufficient answer to that part of the "demi-official" communication of Mr. Boverton Redwood to Mr. Libby, in which the former says that he has "no hesitation in affirming that any increase in the present standard of test for petroleum imported into British India . . . would unnecessarily embarrass the commercial future of the product." This statement is, moreover, scarcely in harmony with the admission some time since made to me by Mr. Redwood, that a raising of the standard to 78° would not be embarrassing to the trade. This admission I considered very valuable, as Mr. Redwood may be said to represent the interests of the trade in England; it is also shown to be well founded, by the facts above stated.

† Out of the 14 samples of petroleum received from India for examination on 17th February, and reported on by me on 30th April, five had flashing points of 78° and upwards.

I would only say, with respect to Mr. Libby's letter, that my view as to the reasonableness and the great desirability of adopting a decidedly higher standard for India than for England as demonstrated by the earlier correspondence, was at the time arrived at without any thought, as to whether the satisfactory working of the flashing tests would be promoted by the adoption of such a course. I would point out, at the same time, that the difficulties connected with the passing of oils in India by that test have been chiefly consequent upon the exportation from America to India of shipments, including oils, which only just comply (and some of which did not comply) with the legal standard.

There is no question that it is only with such oils that the difficulties in testing arise which it has been our endeavour to overcome, and it is a legitimate additional argument, furnished me by Mr. Libby, in favour of somewhat raising the standard (it having now been demonstrated that the trade can voluntarily raise it without embarrassing themselves), that such a step would have the effect of reducing to a minimum any possible cause of dispute between exporters and examiners in India.

There is no doubt of a so-called "deterioration" of some descriptions of petroleum taking place during transhipment to India and storage there during the hot season; that is, of a reduction of their flashing points by several degrees, which are only recovered by prolonged keeping of such oils at lower temperatures; this refers to oils having originally flashing points at about, or somewhat below, the standard.

As regards the acceptance of American certificates as final under conditions satisfactory to the Government of India, I cannot see any important objection to be raised to the adoption of such a course; but I consider that the raising of the present legal standard to 78° is most desirable, and that valid and reasonable objections to such course do not exist.

Memorandum relating to the employment of the Abel test for determining the flashing point of petroleum in India.

The difficulties which have arisen in applying the Abel test to the examination of samples of petroleum in India, in accordance with the instructions laid down in the Indian Petroleum Act, 1879 (42 & 43 Vict., c. 47), have been carefully considered and thoroughly discussed by us, and we have also conducted joint experiments bearing upon several points which relate to the application of the test in a tropical climate.

The following are the conclusions to which we have been led:—

1. The necessity for making corrections in the flashing points observed with the Abel test, for variations in atmospheric pressure, has been established by experimental observations here and in Germany, and also in India. These have shown that variations to the extent of 1° 6′ to 2° F. occur in the observed flashing point of one and the same sample of oil for every inch of variation in the height of the barometer.

In Germany a scale of corrections has been officially adopted, which is based upon an average variation of 1° 6′ F. in the flashing point per inch of barometer, and we recommend that the same scale of corrections be adopted for use in India, as, although it may be somewhat within the mark, its employment has the advantage of promoting uniformity in recording observations.

2. The liability of petroleum oils to exhibit in tropical countries flashing points as much as 6° to 7° lower than those furnished by the same oils in a temperate climate, which has been demonstrated by experiments at Woolwich and in India, is due to a great extent to the separation of vapour from the oil, consequent upon the agitation of the liquid, when the cup of the test apparatus is filled.

The depression of the flashing point may also be due, in part, to the effect of a tropical temperature upon the oil, or upon the operation of testing.

Several methods have suggested themselves for counteracting the difficulties arising out of these circumstances, the relative efficiency of which we have carefully considered, while bearing in mind the importance of securing uniformity in practice, on this point, at the hands of different operators, and the necessity for guarding against a possibility of the introduction of modifications by different workers, in the prescribed mode of proceeding. We have come to the conclusion that, when an oil, tested in accordance with the present instructions, furnishes a flash at 66° F., upon first applying the test flame, or, subsequently, at some other temperature intermediate between that and 73° F., the best course to be pursued is to recommence the test at 56° F., the oil having been first cooled down sufficiently to allow of this being done.

With this simple modification of the existing instructions we believe that oils, which it has hitherto been impossible to test satisfactorily in India, will furnish concordant results in the hands of different operators, and results not differing to any great extent from those obtained in a temperate climate with the particular oils tested.

3. Our experiments have not, however, so far, indicated that there is any practically available method of entirely overcoming in all cases the effect of a tropical climate upon the flashing point of petroleum oils, or upon the results obtained with the Abel test; hence, even with the adoption of the modification proposed in the instructions for testing, some oils will still be liable to show a depression of the flashing point to the extent of about 3° F. We therefore consider it necessary that steps should be taken to acquaint the trade with the fact that the re-testing in India of shipments of petroleum is liable to furnish results about 3° lower than the flashing point recorded before shipment.

In accordance with the conclusions given in the foregoing, we recommend that the following instructions should, in the Schedule of the Indian Petroleum Act, be substituted for the "Note" (paragraphs 3 and 4) of Section 5:—

"When a sample of oil has furnished a flashing point below 73° F., the test having been applied in accordance with the instructions laid down by the Act, a fresh portion of the sample

is to be re-tested, having in the first instance been cooled down to such an extent that the operation of testing may be commenced when the indicated temperature of the oil is 56° F.

"If it is desired to employ the test apparatus to determine the flashing points of oils of very high volatility, the mode of proceeding is to be modified as follows:—The air chamber which surrounds the cup is filled with cold water to a depth of 1½ inches, and the heating vessel or water bath is filled as usual, but also with cold water. The lamp is then placed under the apparatus, and kept there during the entire operation. If a very heavy oil is being dealt with, the operation may be commenced with water previously heated to 120° instead of with cold water."

We consider that, with the adoption of these recommendations, the carrying out of the instructions, as laid down in the Schedule of the Act, suffice for the attainment of trustworthy and concordant results with the Abel test in India.

At the same time, as an instance has occurred in which a somewhat different construction to that intended was put upon the second paragraph of Section 5 of the Schedule, whereby the result attained was liable to be somewhat affected, we consider that it will be desirable, on a revision of the Schedule, to adopt measures which will preclude the possibility of any practically applicable variation in the period during which the test flame is dipped into the cup.

F. A. ABEL.

BOVERTON REDWOOD.

11th June 1883.

J. B. LYON, *Surgeon-Major.*

Barometer in Inches.

27	27·2	27·4	27·6	27·8	28	28·2	28·4	28·6	28·8	29	29·2	29·4	29·6	29·8	30	30·2	30·4	30·6	30·8	31
Flashing Point in Degrees Fahrenheit.																				
60·2	60·5	60·8	61·2	61·5	61·8	62·1	62·4	62·8	63·1	63·4	63·7	64	64·4	64·7	65	65·3	65·6	66	66·3	66·6
61·2	61·5	61·8	62·2	62·5	62·8	63·1	63·4	63·8	64·1	64·4	64·7	65	65·4	65·7	66	66·3	66·6	67	67·3	67·6
62·2	62·5	62·8	63·2	63·5	63·8	64·1	64·4	64·8	65·1	65·4	65·7	66	66·4	66·7	67	67·3	67·6	68	68·3	68·6
63·2	63·5	63·8	64·2	64·5	64·8	65·1	65·4	65·8	66·1	66·4	66·7	67	67·4	67·7	68	68·3	68·6	69	69·3	69·6
64·2	64·5	64·8	65·2	65·5	65·8	66·1	66·4	66·8	67·1	67·4	67·7	68	68·4	68·7	69	69·3	69·6	70	70·3	70·6
65·2	65·6	65·8	66·2	66·5	66·8	67·1	67·4	67·8	68·1	68·4	68·7	69	69·4	69·7	70	70·3	70·6	71	71·3	71·6
66·2	66·5	66·8	67·2	67·5	67·8	68·1	68·4	68·8	69·1	69·4	69·7	70	70·4	70·7	71	71·3	71·6	72	72·3	72·6
67·2	67·5	67·8	68·2	68·5	68·8	69·1	69·4	69·8	70·1	70·4	70·7	71	71·4	71·7	72	72·3	72·6	73	73·3	73·6
68·2	68·5	68·8	69·2	69·5	69·8	70·1	70·4	70·8	71·1	71·4	71·7	72	72·4	72·7	73	73·3	73·6	74	74·3	74·6
69·2	69·5	69·8	70·2	70·5	70·8	71·1	71·4	71·8	72·1	72·4	72·7	73	73·4	73·7	74	74·3	74·6	75	75·3	75·6
70·2	70·5	70·8	71·2	71·5	71·8	72·1	72·4	72·8	73·1	73·4	73·7	74	74·4	74·7	75	75·3	75·6	76	76·3	76·6
71·2	71·5	71·8	72·2	72·5	72·8	73·1	73·4	73·8	74·1	74·4	74·7	75	75·4	75·7	76	76·3	76·6	77	77·3	77·6
72·2	72·5	72·8	73·2	73·5	73·8	74·1	74·4	74·8	75·1	75·4	75·7	76	76·4	76·7	77	77·3	77·6	78	78·3	78·6
73·2	73·5	73·8	74·2	74·5	74·8	75·1	75·4	75·8	76·1	76·4	76·7	77	77·4	77·7	78	78·3	78·6	79	79·3	79·6
74·2	74·5	74·8	75·2	75·5	75·8	76·1	76·4	76·8	77·1	77·4	77·7	78	78·4	78·7	79	79·3	79·6	80	80·3	80·6
75·2	75·5	75·8	76·2	76·5	76·8	77·1	77·4	77·8	78·1	78·4	78·7	79	79·4	79·7	80	80·3	80·6	81	81·3	81·6

No. $\frac{25}{1480\text{-}1484}$

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Judicial),—under date Simla, the 5th November 1883.

Read again—

Home Department Judicial Proceedings, July 1882, Nos. 24-119.
" " September " " 342-474.
" " October " " 329-355.
" " December " " 89-92.
" " January 1883 " 275-277.
" " February " " 164-173.
" " March " " 190-192A.
" " April " " 224-227.
" " June " " 11-14.
" " July " " 83-85.
" " " " " 190-192.

Read also—

Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 934, dated the 16th July 1883, forwarding the report of a Committee appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor to consider certain questions connected with the importation and testing of petroleum.

Statistics and Commerce Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 111, dated the 12th July 1883, forwarding a copy of a final latter from Sir. F. Abel enclosing a joint memorandum by himself, Mr. Boverton Redwood and Surgeon-Major J. B. Lyon, the Chemical Examiner to the Bombay Government, relating to the application in India of the Abel's test for determining the flashing point of Petroleum.

RESOLUTION.

Last year several large cargoes of petroleum oil which, as appeared from certificates obtained by the consignors, had before shipment in America satisfied flashing tests purporting to be equivalent to those prescribed by the Petroleum Act, 1881, were refused admittance at Indian ports by reason of failing, when examined in India, to pass the test required by the Act. This test, which is embodied in the schedule to the Act, is that generally known in the trade as Abel's test. In consequence of the detention of these cargoes, questions were raised by the consignees and others interested in the petroleum trade as to the suitability of the standard test and the uniformity of the results obtained by it when applied under the conditions of a tropical climate. Steps were accordingly taken by the Government of India to have the whole subject of the definition of the legal standard and of the manner of its application thoroughly investigated, in view to a final and authoritative solution of the difficulties and doubts which had arisen. In respect of those points which depend upon scientific considerations, a patient and careful inquiry has now been completed by experts both in England and in this country. The final report of the English analysts, including Sir Frederick Abel himself, is appended to the despatch of the Secretary of State of the 12th July last read in the preamble. In addition, however, to the scientific questions regarding the present standard, the Government of India have also had under consideration the improvement of the existing practice in regard to the storage, testing and passing of shipments of the oil and of the procedure to be followed in respect of its importation generally. On this subject the Governor General in Council has derived very valuable assistance from the labours of the Calcutta Committee appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, whose report is forwarded with the letter from that Government, No. 934, dated 16th July 1883.

2. With regard to the measures which should be taken to place the importation of petroleum into India on a safe and satisfactory basis, the Governor General in Council has resolved to initiate legislation in amendment of the present law, so as to give effect to the modifications which appeared to be desirable in the existing procedure.

3. The following are the points to which the Secretary of State in his despatch read in the preamble draws attention as requiring to be now finally settled:—

First, the question whether any, and if so what, amendments should be made in the schedule of the Petroleum Act, 1881.

Secondly, the expediency of raising the standard at which petroleum may be safely imported into or used in India from 73°F., as now fixed by the Act, to 78°F.

Thirdly, the desirability of allowing in the case of petroleum imported under an American certificate a margin of variation of 3°F. between the test shown in the certificate (not being under 78°F.) and that obtained in India, the oil being rejected only if the Indian test, with this allowance, shows it to be below the standard fixed by the law.

4. As regard the first point—the amendment of the schedule to the Act—it is now generally admitted that the directions as given in the schedule for applying the test require modification. The joint memorandum of Sir F. Abel and Messrs. Redwood and Lyon forwarded with the despatch quoted indicates the nature of the precautions and corrections

which [illegible] for adoption to counteract or rectify variations and secure trustworthy [illegible] between flashing points observed with the Abel test in India and in other [illegible]. The amendments suggested, however, do not seem to be altogether complete. It is stated at the close of the memorandum that, on a revision of the schedule, measures should be adopted to preclude the possibility of any practically applicable variation in the *period* during which the test flame is dipped into the cup." This period is thus described in clause 1, paragraph 5: "The slide is slowly drawn open, while the pendulum performs three oscillations, and is closed during the fourth oscillation." The memorandum omits to state how this particular clause is to be amended, nor is it stated whether any modification is required where gas or oil torches are respectively used. In view to the preparation of a complete and satisfactory schedule, the Board of Analysts in Bengal will, with the permission of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, be requested to consider the suggestions in the memorandum and in Sir F. Abel's reports, and to submit (in communication with Surgeon-Major Lyon, the Analyst at Bombay, who has been in personal consultation with Sir F. Abel on the subject) a carefully revised set of instructions, taking into special account the foregoing points and incorporating a reference to the corrections to be made for atmospheric pressure.

5. The next question is whether any change in the standard for dangerous petroleum is demanded. Sir F. Abel is of opinion that the standard of 73°F. fixed by the Act is too low and ought to be raised to 78°F. It may be true, as Sir F. Abel says, that petroleum, especially oil having originally a flashing point about, or somewhat below, the present legal standard, has a tendency to deteriorate during the voyage to India and during storage there in the hot season; but, on the other hand, it has been found by experience that once the tins are opened the oil rapidly loses its volatile vapours and rises in flashing point under the conditions of Indian heat. Moreover, the proposed alteration in the standard would, the Government of India believe, be strongly opposed by those engaged in the petroleum trade. The Calcutta Committee remark in paragraph 3 of their report "that the past history of the trade does not show any urgent necessity for extraordinary precautions." The Bombay Chamber of Commerce have arrived at the same conclusion, and state their belief that any advance in the present standard of 73° of Abel's test is not only unnecessary in the interests of the public safety, but would impose a serious restriction on the trade. For these reasons the Government of India are of opinion that no sufficient grounds have been shown for raising by law the standard deliberately adopted in 1881, and which experience has not proved to be in fact really dangerous.

6. The third and last point to which the Secretary of State directs attention in the despatch quoted is the desirability of enacting, in the case of petroleum covered by an American certificate, a rule allowing, under such conditions as the Government of India may lay down, a margin of variation of 3°F., the oil being rejected only if the Indian test with this allowance shows it to be below the legal standard. The Secretary of State would not approve of any modification of the present practice so long as the standard remains at 73°; but he suggests for consideration whether in the event of the flashing point being raised to 78°, effect might not be given to such a rule. This point has been carefully considered, and the Governor General in Council has come to the conclusion that it would be dangerous to sanction any departure from the principle of the strict maintenance of the legal standard, or to allow oil which, when fairly tested, fails to satisfy that standard to pass merely on the ground of possible climatic variations. Since the Government of india have decided, as indicated in the preceding paragraph, to preserve the present standard prescribed by the Act, adherence to this principle will be the more necessary, and accordingly those engaged in the petroleum traffic should understand that any oil imported as ordinary petroleum which does not entirely comply with the requirements of the law will be rigorously rejected. As shipments of the oil from more temperate climates are occasionally liable when re-tested in India to furnish results about 3°F. lower than the flashing point recorded before shipment, trade arrangements should be made in view of that contingency.

7. The Government of India observe with satisfaction that the conclusion at which they have arrived on this question is supported by the opinion of the Calcutta Committee. The majority of that Committee declare that they cannot recommend the acceptance of the American certificates as final, or support the proposal to dispense with a second test in this country. They further desire it to be placed on record that so far as they are aware, in no country where oil is imported, and where a standard exists, is the American certificate accepted as conclusive; but that, on the contrary, in those countries in which the question of the testing of the oil has been carefully worked out, the American certificates have ceased to be accepted. It seems to them that the check of an Indian test is precisely what is required to guarantee that no oil below 73° is imported. If any relaxation is permitted, they believe that every effort will be made to import oil as near the margin as possible, and that the infallible result will be that some oil below the limit will be imported.

8. The Government of India now pass on to consider the points in which the existing procedure on importation may be impoved so as to facilitate the storage, testing and passing of the oil. It is their desire that the rules which may be framed for this purpose, while providing sufficient safeguards against the entry of oil which does not strictly comply with the requirements of the law, shall at the same time serve to relieve the trade from all unnecessary risk and restriction. The contemplated legislation will accordingly provide that the Local Government may make rules as to the selection of samples for testing and as to the arranging

of samples. Where different tins selected from a consignment represented to be of one uniform quality give different flashing points, legal provision will be made, by rule or otherwise, that if the oil from no single sample tin flashes below 70°, the oil should be passed, provided the average of all the sample tins examined gives a flashing point of 73° or over. The Government of India concur in the view of the Calcutta Committee that no discretion should be allowed when the average given by the tins examined falls below 73°, and that a consignment represented to be of one uniform quality should not be admitted without rectification of which any one sample tin flashes below 70°. It is to be understood that in determining the flashing point of the oil contained in any single tin, the analyst will not be bound by the first experiment, but that after a series of experiments he may set off against one another, by striking an average or otherwise, such of the results obtained as would be so set off by a scientific man making like experiments for any other purpose and pronounce as the final result of the series of experiments what he finds the true flashing point of the contents of the tin to be.

9. As regards the procedure to be followed in regulating importation, the Act at present recognises only two classes of oil—(*a*) "dangerous petroleum," avowedly imported as such under license; and (*b*) petroleum which is not dangerous. The importation or the bringing into British India by sea or land of "dangerous petroleum," *i.e.*, petroleum flashing below 73°, otherwise than as allowed by section 4 of the Act of 1881 is illegal. The Calcutta Committee, while, as already stated, not prepared to grant any advantage to "certificated petroleum of the non-dangerous class in respect of the fulfilment of the legal test, recommend that a distinction should be recognised between "certificated" and "uncertificated" oil in regard to the conditions of time and place in the application of the test. They would allow oil certified and shipment not to fall below the standard required by the Indian law to be landed first and tested afterwards, while "uncertificated" cargoes would be detained at some distance from the port, and not allowed to enter until samples had been submitted and been found to satisfy the test. The object the Committee have in view is to induce all shippers to accompany their consignments of petroleum with certificates. The Government of India have however, in legislating in the matter, to consider the cases of other ports besides Calcutta. In Madras, for instance, it is often impossible owing to the surf to insist on a vessel lying by until samples have been tested, while from the smaller ports samples might have to be sent all the way to Madras. In consequence, it seems to His Excellency the Governor General in Council that the simpler course will be to continue to regulate the importation of petroleum "declared dangerous" and intended for manufacturing purposes by sections 4 to 6 of the Act, and to provide in the case of all other petroleum that no restriction shall be placed on its importation, but that power shall be taken for the Local Government to regulate the landing of the oil at such places and under such conditions as to storage as the Government may prescribe, no petroleum being allowed to be removed for consumption until it has been certified by the Government Examiners to satisfy the legal standard. In modifying the law in this manner, it will be further necessary to empower the Local Government—

(1) to order the rectification by the consignees within a time to be fixed by the Government in each case of any oil found to be below the standard; or as an alternative—

(2) to allow, within a time fixed as before, the oil to be passed out for manufacturing purposes as dangerous petroleum, subject to the rules regulating dangerous petroleum; and

(3) failing (1) and (2), to order the destruction of the oil.

10. In amending the Act, power will taken to provide for the special treatment of exceptional cases, such as the importation of small quantities of highly rectified oil in iron drums. The levy of fees to cover warehouse rent and the cost of the necessary buildings and establishments will also be legalised.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Resolution be forwarded to the Governments of Madras and Bombay and to the Chief Commissioner of British Burma for information; also to the Government of Bengal, with a request that, with the permission of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, steps may be taken to obtain from the Board of Analysts at Calcutta, and submit to the Government of India, a set of instructions referred to in paragraph 3.

A. MACKENZIE,

Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 6th NOVEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—There has been heavy rain during the past week in the coast districts of the Madras Presidency which has inundated the crops in parts, but general prospects continue good in Madras and Mysore. Rain has also fallen throughout the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country, doing slight injury to standing crops in several districts. Great scarcity of water prevails in Kurrachee and locusts are destructive in three districts of the Deccan. Rain is needed in Ulwar, otherwise the reports from Central India and Rajputana are favourable.

No rain fell in Assam and very little in Burma and more is wanted in both for the rice crop, but general prospects are good.

Slight and partial showers have occurred in the Central and Southern parts of Bengal, which have done some good, but, except in the Eastern districts and Cooch Behar and Jalpaiguri, the greater part of the rice crop on high lands has been already destroyed, and the crops on low lands are in a critical condition. *Rabi* sowings are also seriously impeded. In the Central Provinces the outlook continues favourable, although some injury has been caused to cotton and linseed by cloudy weather. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and Punjab, prospects are fair, but rain is much needed for the *rabi* in both provinces.

Harvesting of the *kharif* is still in progress in most provinces, and the outturn has generally proved to be under the average. *Rabi* sowings are also progressing and promise fairly well, except in Bengal.

Cholera in a sporadic form exists in Madras and parts of Northern India, and fever is prevalent, otherwise the public health is fair.

Prices continue to rise in Bengal.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Nov. 7th)		
Bellary ...	1·47 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops generally good. Harvest *cumboo* and *cholum*, yield below average. *Ragi*, *kowa*, and gingelly about average. Six deaths from cholera.
Kurnool ...	1·78 (average of eight stations).	Crops damaged from excessive rain. Harvest *cholum*, *sujja*, *kowa*, and indigo, yield below average.
Ganjam ...	4·19 (average of seventeen stations).	Standing crops generally good. Fever and small-pox slight in one taluk.
Kistna ...	0·55 (average of nine stations).	Crops under water in two taluks, elsewhere in good condition. Cattle-disease, fever, and small-pox in parts.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	5·72 (average of eleven stations).	Standing crops good. Harvest *ragi*, &c., yield half. Fifteen deaths from cholera. Small-pox slight in one taluk.
Coimbatore ...	2·32 (average of sixteen stations).	Standing crops good. Harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, and *cumboo*, yield average. Fifty-four deaths from cholera. Fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease slight.
Tanjore ...	3·44 (average of thirteen stations).	Standing crops generally good. Harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, and *cumboo*, yield below average. Fourteen deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	2·48 (average of eight stations).	Standing crops fair. Harvest paddy, yield above average. Dry crops average. Slight cholera in parts.
Malabar ...	4·65 (average of fourteen stations).	Second crop cultivation progressing. Small-pox and fever slight.
Travancore ...	6·651	Sowing nearly over. Fever in parts. *General Remarks.*—General prospects good.
Bombay—(Nov. 7th)		
Kurrachee ...	No rain	Fever generally prevalent. River at Kotri on 5th, 6 feet 4 inches against 7 feet 5 inches on same date last year. Want of water much felt. Small-pox prevalent in two villages of Sehwan taluka, 11 fresh cases, 1 death, 10 remaining sick. Cattle-disease in three talukas. *Keon* worm in *til* crop in Tatta. Harvesting going on. Wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 28 and 36, in Manjhand 22, 30 and 40, in Tatta 24, 32 and 36, and in Sujawal 24, 32 and 42 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	.....	*Kharif* harvesting continues. *Rabi* operations in progress. Small-pox in five, fever in eleven, and cattle-disease in five talukas, Wheat 25, *bajri* 38, *juari* 40, red rice 26, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad ...	.....	*Kharif* harvest progressing. Standing crops healthy. Fever in some talukas. Cattle-disease in Viramgaum. *Bajri* 29 and wheat 26 lbs. per rupee.
Baroda ...	.....	Slight cholera continues in the Naosari and Attarsumba mahals. Harvesting of *kharif* and *rabi* sowing in progress. *Bajri* 31 and rice 24 lbs. per rupee.
Surat ...	.....	Sowing of *rabi* crops commenced. Cutting of *kharif* crops continues. Fever in some talukas. Cholera in Jalalpur, 20 cases, 7 deaths, Bulsar 13 cases, 7 deaths, and Surat 16 cases, 6 deaths. Destruction of locusts continues. *Juari* 39 and *nagli* 44 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Nasik ...	Heavy rain at Niphad	*Bajri* and cotton suffered from excessive rain. *Kharif* reaping and *rabi* sowings vigorously continue. Locusts damaging crops in ghat villages. Health good. *Bajri* 33, wheat 28½, and rice 22½ lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	·86 on 3rd	Abnormal temperature 1° cool to 3° warm. Vapour in air defective on 31st and very excessive from 2nd to 6th. Abnormal wind northerly.
Poona ...	.....	The unseasonable rain has injured crops. Weather clearing. Prices—*bajri* 44 and *juari* 50 lbs.; in Poona *bajri* 34 and *juari* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	Nagar, 1·31; Shrigonda, ·83; Parner, ·82; and from ·05 to ·32 in six talukas; and none in two.	Total rainfall in the district 36·10. Reaping of *bajri* and sowing of *rabi* in progress throughout the district. Cholera 9 attacks, 3 deaths. *Bajri*—maximum 54 lbs. in Shrigonda, minimum 36 in Nagar, *jauri*—maximum 72 in Newasa, minimum 51 in Akola.
Sholapur ...	1·54	Total rainfall 39·92. *Rabi* sowings retarded in places, owing to excessive rain in Karmala taluka. *Rabi* sown second time. If rain continues cotton crops will suffer. Cholera in Malsiras taluka 7 cases, 3 fatal. *Juari* 55 and *bajri* 34 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar ...	Rain at Dharwar, Ranibennur and Kod, 1·25; elsewhere less than 1·0; minimum at Hubli, ·23.	Reaping of rice in Dharwar, Hangal, and Kalghatgi talukas interrupted by rain. Early crops good and in ear in most places; late crops germinated in parts and being sown in others. Cattle-disease in three and ague in two talukas. Prices unchanged.
Kanara ...	Karwar, 3·67; Kumpta, 3·39; Sirsi, ·66; Hallial, 1·22.	Total rainfall 147·38. Rice harvest continues still. Small-pox 1 death in Siddapur and 1 in Sirsi. Fever prevails in three talukas. Common rice at Karwar 13 and in district average 15¼ seers per rupee. Weather rainy.
Rajkot ...	.....	General health feverish. Weather fair. *Bajri* 30 and *juari* 35 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—River very low in Sind. Rain throughout the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country. Crops injured by it in parts of Poona, Nasik, Belgaum, and Kaladgi. Locusts doing damage in parts of Colaba, Satara, and Nasik. *Kharif* harvest and *rabi* sowing continue. Fever generally prevalent. Cholera, cattle-disease, and small-pox in a few districts.
Bengal—(Nov. 7th)		
Chittagong ...	*Nil*	Weather fine. Rain wanted for standing crops. Prospects favourable. Prices steady. General health good. Cattle-disease still reported.
Dacca ...	*Nil*	Paddy being harvested. Good crops. Sowing of mustard and pulses continues.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	·01	Prospects of late rice on high lands very unsatisfactory; crops on low lands promise fairly. Rain very much needed, but seems unlikely to fall. Cultivation of winter crops partially hindered by early cessation of the rains. Price of common rice varies from 12 seers 5 chittaks to 19 seers per rupee. Public health generally good.
Moorshedabad ...	There was an insignificant shower of rain confined to the centre of the district in the north.	Weather overcast with bursts of sunshine. Failure of late rice expected elsewhere; one-third to half of an average crop will probably be saved by irrigation. Indigo suffered irretrievably, and oil seeds, pulses, and cereals more or less damaged by insects. Sugarcane promises well. There is a reaction against the excessive rise in price of rice reported last week which was evidently due to a panic on the part of the holders.
Rajshahye ...	*Nil*	*Amun* on high land destroyed and being used as fodder. *Rabi* likely to be a short crop.
Burdwan ...	Slight rain; Cutwa, ·23; Raneegunge, ·57.	Prospects decidedly bad. Rain much wanted. Public health not very good. Fever prevalent.
Rungpore ...	*Nil*	Weather cool and seasonable. Prospects of crops gloomy. Prices risen. Fever prevalent.
Bhagalpur ...	*Nil*	Prospects not favourable. Paddy on high lands suffering. About 8 annas outturn expected. *Rabi* sowings also being delayed. Price of rice 15 seers 2 chittacks per rupee. Fever reported from Soopole sub-division.
Pürneah ...	*Nil*	Prospects unfavourable. Rain wanted for *rabi* crops; probable outturn of rice crop from 8 to 10 annas. Common rice 16 seers per rupee. Fever raging; sporadic cases of cholera reported.
Patna ...	*Nil*	Paddy suffering much for want of rain. *Rabi* sowing going on. Cholera and fever still reported from interior.
Durbhunga ...	*Nil*	*Rabi* sowings obstructed, except in south of district. There will scarcely be an 8-anna rice crop throughout the district and prices will be very high. No distress noted, yet fever very prevalent.
Hazaribagh ...	·86	Weather clear and growing cool. Late rain has done material good to *rabi* crops, but little to paddy. Prices steady. Public health good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—*contd.*		
Cuttack ...	·40	Weather now and then cloudy. *Laghu sarad* ripening; *garu sarad* in ear; high land paddy suffering from drought. Coarse rice 20 seers per rupee. Public health good.
		General Remarks.—Slight rainfall has been reported from parts of Burdwan, Orissa, and Chota Nagpore divisions, and also from the districts of Gya and the Sonthal Parganas. It has been of some benefit to the rice on the low and irrigated lands and to the cultivation of the *rabi* crops in those parts. The general outlook of the province, however, is serious, save in the eastern districts, and in the northern districts of Julpaigoorie and Cooch Behar, from which the reports are rather favourable. The rice on the high lands has been mostly destroyed, and has also suffered to a more or less extent on the low lands. The prospects of the *rabi* crops also are not good, and unless rain falls soon, they too will be very deficient. Prices have risen throughout the province. From some districts the rise has been reported to be very considerable. Fever, as usual at this season, is prevalent in some districts; else where the public health is pretty good.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Nov. 6th)	*Nil*	Prospects of *rabi* sowing good. Autumn fever moderating. Prices fluctuating slightly. Bazars well supplied.
Allahabad („ 7th)	*Nil*	Weather seasonable. *Kharif* being harvested. *Rabi* sowings continue. Late rice being irrigated. Health good. Prospects good. Prices lower.
Gorakhpur („ 5th)	*Nil*	*Rabi* ploughings advanced. Rain wanted. No cholera in city, but some sporadic cases in district. Prices steady.
Jhansi („ „)	*Nil*	*Kharif* crops suffering from deficiency of rain. *Rabi* sowings continue. Prices show a tendency to fall. Health of people and cattle good. Fodder scarce.
Agra („ 6th)	*Nil*	*Kharif* crops continue to suffer from drought. *Rabi* sowings going on where water is available. Fever in four parganas, but general health good. Prices steady.
Bareilly („ „)	*Nil*	Harvest approaching completion. Prices stationary. Fever continues. Cholera in one village only. Cattle in good health.
Meerut („ „)	*Nil*	*Kharif* harvest almost completed. *Rabi* sowings in full progress, and nearly all wheat. Health good. Supplies sufficient. Prices steady.
Kumaun („ „)	.....	Weather fine, getting colder at nights. Wheat is being sown. General health good. Cattle-disease continues. Prices unchanged.
Lucknow („ „)	*Nil*	Winter setting in. *Rabi* sowings nearly finished. Rain wanted for the *mash* crop. Condition of people and cattle good. Markets well supplied. Prices stationary.
Partabgarh („ „)	.....	Grains cheap. *Rabi* sowings well in hand and germinating fairly, but tanks are almost dry, and the spring level in wells has fallen very considerably, rendering irrigation precarious. General health good.
Sitapur („ „)	*Nil*	General health good.
Fyzabad („ „)	*Nil*	Sowing of wheat, barley, and gram is going on; *mash* and *jarhan* injured for want of rain. *Rabi* sowings also need rain. Public health and condition of cattle good.
Rae Bareli („ 5th)	*Nil*	Weather seasonable *Urd*, *mothi*, *juari*, and rice withering for want of rain. *Rabi* sowings in full swing. General health good. Supplies sufficient. Prices steady.
Cawnpore („ 6th)	.....	Late *kharif* crops being harvested, and *rabi* sowings in progress. Health of people and cattle good. Prices almost stationary.
Farukhabad („ „)	.....	Weather seasonable. Health fair, but fever still lingers in some parts. *Rabi* sowings nearly complete, but some dry land will be left unsown. No cattle-disease.
		General Remarks.—The *rabi* sowings are progressing, and the seed germinating fairly; some dry land, however, in Farukhabad and elsewhere cannot be sown without rain. Slight cholera lingers in Bareilly and Gorakhpur. The markets are well supplied, but fodder is scarce in Jhansi.
Punjab—(Nov. 7th)		
Delhi ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* harvesting in progress. Outturn below the average. *Rabi* sowings commenced. Prices stationary.
Hissar ...	.....	Health good. Prices stationary. Crop prospects unaltered.
Umballa ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* crops harvested. Yield below the average. Prices steady.
Jullundur ...	.....	Health good. Yield of *kharif* crops average. *Rabi* sowings continue. Prices steady
Amritsar ...	.....	Health good. Prices stationary.
Sialkot ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices falling.
Ferozepore ...	.....	Health and crop prospects good. Prices steady.
Lahore ...	.....	Health and condition of crop good. *Rabi* sowings are flourishing. Prices steady.
Rawalpindi ...	.....	Seasonable fever in three tahsils. Health elsewhere good. *Kharif* crop harvested, outturn average. Prices stationary.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Punjab—*contd.*		
Mooltan ...	.....	Health good. *Kharif* harvested. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Prices steady.
Dera Ismail Khan ...	.....	Fever slightly prevalent. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Prices steady.
Peshawar ...	.....	Fever still prevalent. Prices falling.
		General Remarks.—There has been no rain during the week, but it is needed throughout the province for the *rabi* sowings. Fever is prevalent in the Rawalpindi, Dera Ismail Khan, and Peshawar districts. Health elsewhere is good.
Central Provinces—(Nov. 7th)		
Nagpur ...	.....	Weather bright and cool. Cotton and linseed somewhat damaged. Wheat sowings progressing. Prices slightly fallen.
Jubbulpore ...	.....	No report received.
Saugor (Nov. 6th)	.....	Weather clear. *Rabi* sowings nearly finished. *Til* and rice being cut. Prospects good. Prices stationary. Health fair.
Seoni ...	.....	Weather clear and cool. *Rabi* sowings progressing. Cotton being picked. Fever increasing. Prices falling.
Hoshangabad ...	.....	Weather seasonable. Prospects good. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Fever prevalent. Wheat 16 seers and rice 11 seers per rupee.
Khandwa ...	.....	Weather cool and pleasant. Prospects good. *Rabi* sowings progressing. Nine deaths from cholera. Wheat 17½, *juari* 18¾, and gram 20¼ seers per rupee.
Raipur ...	·78	*Kharif* outturn expected to be below average. *Rabi* sowings progressing. Health good. Prices steady.
Sambalpur (Nov. 3rd)	·78	Weather close and cloudy. Prospects favourable. Inferior rice nearly all reaped. Pulses promising. Health good. Common rice 33½ seers per rupee.
		General Remarks.—The late cloudy weather has done some damage to the young linseed as well as to cotton. *Rabi* sowings are now rapidly progressing under most favourable circumstances.
British Burma—(Nov. 3rd)		
Akyab ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 179·57. Three deaths from cholera in Kaladan, otherwise public health good. Eight deaths of cattle in Kaladan township, elsewhere health of cattle good. Crops in good condition in Naaf township. *Launghi* paddy ripe but unreaped yet. Rain much wanted in Rathidoung township and crops suffering somewhat. Crops slightly injured by insects in Kyelet and suffering from want of rain in East Writtoung.
Rangoon ...	0·12	Total rainfall 77·67. Two fatal cases of small-pox reported, otherwise public health during the week good. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to Rs. 108 per 100 baskets.
Bassein (Oct. 27th)	0·30	Total rainfall 88·46. Public health good. Eleven deaths of cattle in
Do. (Nov. 3rd)	1·68	Bassein, 9 in Thaboung, 11 in Yegyi, and 15 in Kyonpow townships. Crops in fair condition. Rain still required in some parts for late planting. Price of paddy from Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
Amherst (Moulmein) ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 164·34. Public health and health of cattle good. Damage to crops by insects in five townships and by salt water in three townships. About 10 per cent. of crops liable to damage from drought. In Moulmein town public health and health of cattle good. Crops have suffered from insects and in elevated lands from want of rain. Prospects on the whole not bad. Price of paddy from Rs. 90 to Rs. 100 per 100 baskets. From the 23rd October small portion of early paddy reaped.
Toungoo ...	·29	Total rainfall 77·75. Public health and health of cattle good. Rain wanted. General appearance of crops good.
Kyoukphyoo ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 156·08. Slight cholera in sporadic form in district. Health of cattle good. Crops on sandy parts of district and at distance from watercourses suffering much from want of rain. Crops in low-lying and stiffer soil in good condition.
Sandoway ...	0·38	Total rainfall 2 06·87. Public health and health of cattle good. Crops favourably reported on from all parts of districts. Early sowings reaped in a few places. A little more rain wanted for later sowings.
Hanthawaddy ...	.....	Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing and sowing completed. General appearance of crops good. Price of paddy Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
Pegu ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 119·18. Public health fairly good. Very little cattle-disease. Crops on low lands good, on uplands suffering somewhat from want of rain, but not extensively as yet. Heat intense during week, but rain expected. Price of paddy Rs. 95 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy (Oct. 27th)	1·0	Total rainfall 99·97. Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing completed ; 229,798 acres have been planted. Crops reported in good condition except in Moza circle, Gyobingouk township, where crops have been slightly damaged by rats. About 171 acres have been reaped in the Sangiva township. Price of paddy from Rs. 95 to Rs. 150 per 100 baskets.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—*contd.*		
Prome ...	·06	Total rainfall 45·75. Public health and health of cattle good. Area under paddy about 6,500 acres more than last year. Prospects of crops remain the same as reported last week. Price of paddy Rs. 83 per 100 baskets.
Thonegwa ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 83·03. Public health good. Eight deaths of cattle in Dyedye township. More rain wanted in Donabyoo township. Part of destroyed crops replanted in Yandoon and Shweyloung townships. Crops in Pyopou and Dyedye townships good. About 700 acres destroyed by floods during last rise of river in part of Thonegwa township. Price of paddy Rs. 85 to Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
Henzada ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 80·28. Public health and health of cattle good. Some rainfall in Myandung township ; still fear of scarcity, unless more rain falls, especially in northern townships.
Thayetmyo ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 39·73. Public health good.
Shwegyin ...	·18	Total rainfall 137·64. Public health and health of cattle good. Crops progressing favourably. Price of paddy Rs. 80 per 100 baskets.
Tavoy ...	*Nil*	Total rainfall 191·82. Public health and health of cattle good. Prospects of crops very good. The early crop is being reaped. Wages of reaping from 25 to 30 baskets of paddy per man.
Mergui (Oct. 20th)	3·10	Total rainfall 168·64. Public health good. Cattle and crops healthy.
Do. („ 27th)	4·10	Price of paddy Rs. 80 per 100 baskets.
		General Remarks.—Public health good. No increase of cattle-disease. Rainfall for the week and up to date very deficient compared with last year. Crops on the low-lying lands progressing favourably. The later paddy and the crops on ligh lands suffering in parts from want of rain. On the whole the outlook appears more favourable than was reported last week. Price of paddy keeps steady.
Assam— (Nov. 7th)		
Gauhati ...	*Nil*	Weather seasonable. Mornings and nights cool and foggy. Rain much needed for rice crop. Land being ploughed for mustard. Public health fair.
Sylhet ...	*Nil*	State and prospects of crops satisfactory. Public health good.
Silchar ...	*Nil*	Weather cloudy. Prospects of *sali* crops good. Sowing of winter crops continues. Common rice 16$\frac{13}{16}$ seers per rupee. No fresh cases of small-pox reported
Dibrugarh ...	*Nil*	Weather cold. Prospects of crops good. Public health good.
Mysore and Coorg—(Nov. 6th)		
Bangalore ...	3·20	
Mysore ...	2·75	
Mercara ...	4·53	Cardamom picking completed, yield fair. Coffee picking commenced on several estates, crop good, but recent rains interfered with picking. Rice crop coming into ear.
		General Remarks.—Rain has fallen generally throughout the province ; Kolah, 5·46 ; Chickmagalar, 2·82. Standing crops in good condition. Agricultural operations in fair progress. Prospects satisfactory. Prices stationary. Public health good.
Berar & Hyderabad—(Nov. 6th)		
Amraoti ...	.....	Weather clear and cool. *Rabi* sowing commenced. Cotton being picked. Wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	.....	*Kharif* outturn expected to be below the average. *Rabi* sowings in hand.
Hyderabad (Nov. 9th)	·57	Total rainfall from 1st January 30·88. Reaping of *kharif* and sowing of *rabi* and *tabi* crops continue. *Abi* crops flourishing. Cholera prevails in two and cattle-disease in one taluka. Prices—wheat 16, coarse rice 11¼, white *juari* 22¼, yellow *juari* 27½, and *tur* 21½ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States—(Nov. 7th)		
Indore ...	*Nil*	No change. Weather seasonable. Nights cold. Health good. Prices much the same as last week.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	*Nil*	Health good. Weather seasonable. Prices stationary.
Sutna ...	.....	Health and prospects good.
Rutlam ...	.....	No report received.
Neemuch ...	*Nil*	Weather cold. Prospects and public health good.
Goona ...	.....	Health fair. Crops good.
Bhopal ...	.....	No report received.
Agar ...	*Nil*	Health and prospects good.
Sehore ...	*Nil*	Health and prospects good.
Nowgong ...	*Nil*	Prospects fair. Public health good. Prices steady.
Manpur (Bhopawar) ...	0·20	Health good. Prices stationary. The sowing of *rabi* crops commenced.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Nov. 7th)	.....	Weather seasonable. Fever prevalent.
Sirohi („ 4th)	.....	Tanks and wells good. Health good. Crops being cut. Weather seasonable.
Marwar („ 2nd)	.....	Eight months' water in Jodhpore city. Tanks and wells almost full. Health good. Crop prospects good. Weather clear. Prices stationary.
Meywar ...	.....	No report received.
Harowti (Nov. 3rd)	.....	*Rabi* prospects—at Kotah good, in other districts fairly good. Cholera reported from Kotah, elsewhere health good.
Jhallawar („ 2nd)	.....	*Kharif* crops good. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Health good.
Ajmere („ 6th)	.....	Fever prevalent in district. *Rabi* sowing progressing.
Jeypore („ „)	.....	Crops thriving. Health good.
Bhurtpore ...	.....	No report received.
Ulwur (Nov. 6th)	.....	*Rabi* sowings commenced. Rain wanted. Wells failing. Health good.

E. C. BUCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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Nº 46.} CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* GAZETTE OF INDIA *will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.*

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SUPPLEMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENTS OF PRICES CURRENCY AND WAGES FOR THE 2nd HALF OF AUGUST 1883, AND 1st HALF OF SEPTEMBER 1883.

AND 1st HALF OF OCTOBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice. Best sorts.			Rice. Common sorts.			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.
		S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
BRITISH BURMA.	**2nd half of August 1883.**																								
	Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 7½	12	6 14	13	12	7	11 15½	11	15	0 27 5	12	6	12	7½	2	14	13	7
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 9½	13	7½	14	13	8	11 15½	11	15	0 27 3	12	6½	12	8	2	14	13	7
	1st half of September 1883.																								
	Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 7½	12	6 14	13	12	7	11 15½	11	15	0 27 5	12	6	12	7½	2	14	13	7
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 9½	13	7½	14	13	8	11 15½	11	15	0 27 3	12	6½	12	8	2	14	13	7
	2nd half of September 1883.																								
	Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 7½	12	6 14	13	12	7	11 15½	11	15	0 27 5	12	6	12	7½	2	14	13	7
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 9½	13	7½	14	13	8	11 15½	11	15	0 27 3	12	6½	12	8	2	14	13	7
	1st half of October 1883.																								
	Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 7½	12	6 14	13	12	7	10 15½	11	15	0 27 3	12	6	12	7½	2	14	13	7
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 9½	13	7½	14	13	8	11 15½	11	15	0 27 3	12	6½	12	8	2	14	13	7

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.
(Statistical Branch.)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XLI OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 21st October 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 20th October 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 21st October 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 20th October 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
27th Oct. 1883	Eastern Bengal(a)	172	1,43,191	832	172	86,877	505	32,09,122	640	25,96,766	520	. . .	6,14,356
20th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhand	547	84,320	154	547	97,980	179	26,83,985	169	31,59,271	199	4,75,286	. . .
20th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	1,93,988	287	735	1,73,122	236	51,06,493	259	63,59,646	297	12,53,153	. . .
20th ditto	Madras	861	1,16,765	136	861	1,15,291	134	39,37,215	157	36,81,004	147	. . .	2,56,211
20th ditto	South Indian	655	66,242	101	655	77,215	118	21,55,142	113	22,61,127	119	1,05,985	. . .
27th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	5,48,766	376	1,451	4,28,065	295	1,71,54,983	406	1,77,36,492	421	5,81,509	. . .
20th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	1,50,182	326	461	1,80,537	392	52,42,445	390	60,81,401	455	8,38,956	. . .
	TOTAL	4,830	13,03,454	269	4,882	11,59,087	237	3,94,89,385	281	4,18,73,707	295	23,84,322	. . .
	State.												
27th Oct. 1883	East Indian	1,507	8,22,737	546	1,509	7,48,920	496	2,38,82,695	544	2,75,95,561	631	37,12,866	. . .
20th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	3,012	91	56	5,380	96	1,07,118	115	1,65,009	103	57,891	. . .
20th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,450	54	27	1,398	52	38,930	50	45,136	58	6,206	. . .
20th ditto	Northern Bengal	230	39,105	170	239	36,430	152	10,33,965	160	11,46,289	168	62,324	. . .
20th ditto	Tirhoot	75	9,341	125	166	14,569	88	3,48,704	150	4,79,784	100	1,31,080	. . .
8th Sep. 1883	Patna-Gya	57	7,943	139	. .	(b)	.	(c)1,96,769	149	(d)1,76,470	135	. . .	20,299
27th Oct. 1883	Cawnpore-Achnera	129	9,745	71	129	9,669	70	3,00,997	74	3,00,090	75	12,093	
27th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	13	779	58	13	974	68	24,705	71	25,875	73	779	
27th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,116	1,82,401	164	1,117	2,09,680	188	54,89,674	169	65,81,175	208	10,91,501	
20th ditto	Wardha Coal	45	8,840	196	45	7,890	175	2,86,004	218	3,78,890	290	92,886	. . .
27th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	5,123	52	149	10,198	68	2,80,012	98	6,70,147	155	3,90,135	. . .
20th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawadi Valley	161	32,189	200	161	21,819	136	7,50,013	160	7,42,874	159	. . .	7,139
27th ditto	Sindia	75	6,579	88	75	8,065	108	1,67,828	77	1,68,708	78	880	. . .
20th ditto	Punjab Northern	409	55,259	135	421	58,080	138	15,22,905	133	17,06,549	140	83,644	. . .
20th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	1,11,105	168	660	1,07,108	162	23,63,998	123	40,75,912	213	17,11,914	. . .
20th ditto	Kaunia-Dhuria	32	1,440	45	32	2,038	64	43,947	47	58,088	63	14,141	. . .
27th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	. .	. . .	.	89	6,600	74	. . .	. .	2,27,514	88	2,27,514	. . .
	TOTAL	3,168	4,74,351	150	e3,387	4,99,612	148	1,30,90,969	141	1,69,48,110	170	38,57,141	. . .
	Assisted Company.												
	Bengal Central	21	586	28	35	2,004	57	(f)586	28	61,236	60	60,650	
	Native States.												
20th Oct. 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal	193	10,892	56	193	13,902	72	4,85,406	86	5,30,417	95	45,011	. . .
20th ditto	Nizam's	121	14,852	123	121	15,443	128	4,33,498	137	4,44,890	127	. . .	88,608
20th ditto	Mysore	86	18,157	211	. .	(b)	.	(g)1,54,637	64	(h)1,54,819	64	182	. . .
27th ditto	Jodhpore	19	680	33	19	690	36	9,073	28	21,074	33	12,001	. . .
	TOTAL	419	44,581	106	(i)333	30,035	90	11,32,614	95	11,51,200	96	18,586	. . .
	GRAND TOTAL	9,945	26,45,659	266	j10,146	24,39,658	240	7,75,96,249	269	8,76,39,814	304	1,00,33,566	. . .
	Gross Estimated Expenses	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	4,03,34,946	140	4,44,84,507	149	. . .	. . .
	Net Receipts	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	3,72,61,303	129	4,31,55,307	145	59,04,304	. . .

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Provincial Railway.
(b) Receipts not received.
(c) Receipts from 1st April to 9th September 1882.
(d) Receipts from 1st April to 8th September 1883.
(e) Exclusive of Rajputana State Railway (M).
(f) Total receipts from 30th to 21st October 1882.
(g) Total receipts from 1st April to 14th October 1882.
(h) Total receipts from 1st April to 13th October 1883.
(i) Exclusive mileage of Nizam's State Railway (M).
(j) Exclusive mileage of Patnagya and Mysore State Railways (M + M).

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.*,
Offg. Under-Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No. 994 R.C., dated Simla, November 8, 1883.

ORDER—By the Government of India, Public Works Department.

ASSAM-BEHAR RAILWAY.

Proposal for establishing through railway communication *viâ* Tirhoot and Northern Bengal between the North-Western Provinces and Oudh on the one side and Assam on the other.

Read the following papers:—

Despatch No. 72 Railway, dated Simla, 26th May 1883.

From—The Government of India, Public Works Department,
To—The Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India.

We have had under consideration the question of establishing through railway communication, *viâ* Tirhoot and Northern Bengal, between the North-Western Provinces and Oudh on the one side and Assam on the other, by uniting the lines already constructed and in course of construction as portions of the Tirhoot and Northern Bengal Railways, and by an extension of the Rungpore Branch to Dhubri.

2. The necessity for the completion of this east and west line of communication on the north of the Ganges has long been recognised, and at our request the Government of Bengal has now submitted a complete scheme connecting Sonepore, the terminus of the Bengal and North-Western Railway on the north bank of the Ganges, with Dhubri on the Brahmaputra, in Assam.

3. After full deliberation, we are strongly impressed with the importance of completing this project, unconnected portions of which already exist; the communications will be most valuable as affording to the redundant population of Tirhoot a ready means of transport to the Province of Assam, where the demand for labor is ever increasing, as well as in opening out some of the richest tracts of Upper Bengal; as a famine protection work too, its benefits in time of drought would be incalculable. The Famine Commission of 1880 in their Report state: "The parts in which the effect of drought have been most serious are,—(1) a tract extending along the borders of Nepal, from the Gunduk to the Kosi river, 250 miles by 50." Again: "In Northern Bengal the districts of Behar and Bhagalpore north of the Ganges also require the extension of the lines already constructed."

4. Towards the completion of these lines considerable progress has already been made. Parbattipore having been selected, after careful surveys, as the point at which such an Assam-Behar connection should cross the Northern Bengal Railway, a branch of that Railway was carried eastward as far as Kaunia on the river Teesta. But in view of the anticipated heavy expense of bridging that river, as well as three others beyond, the continuation to Dhubri, which is finally accepted as the connecting point with Assam, was deferred indefinitely after the embankment had made considerable progress, and temporary arrangements consisting of light tramways and ferries were established. The construction of these tramways we reported to your Lordship in our Railway Despatch No. 165 of the 26th December 1881.

Westward from Parbattipore, a branch to Dinagepore is approaching completion.

On the Tirhoot side a considerable advance has been made. The Tirhoot Railway system, starting from the Ganges nearly opposite the Mokameh Station of the East Indian Railway, has been opened as far as Bettiah to the north-west, and Jhinjharpore to the east of Durbhunga, and a second connection with the Ganges is in progress, *viz.*, from Mozufferpore to Hajipore, where a bridge across the Gunduk will effect a junction with the Bengal and North-Western Railway.

5. In order to establish complete communication between both Bettiah and Baraitch in the west with Dhubri, whence Messrs. McNeile and Company's fast steamers and vessels of other Companies run to Upper Assam, it is only necessary to make good three breaks, *viz.* :—

(1) To connect Sonepore with Hajipore by a bridge over the Gunduk.

(2) To complete communication between Jhinjharpore and Dinagepore.

(3) To extend the Rungpore Branch from Kaunia to Dhubri, a distance of 54 miles.

6. In regard to the first break we would invite your Lordship's attention to paragraph 4 of the note by the Chief Engineer of Bengal, which is enclosed. The bridge with its connections has been estimated to cost Rs. 14,24,114; but after consultation with our Consulting Engineer for State Railways, we are of opinion that by the substitution of ten spans for eight, this work can be constructed for Rs. 12,00,000. With respect to the question whether the bridge should form part of the Bengal and North-Western or of the Tirhoot Railway, we would point out that it is only by crossing the river Gunduk that the Hajipore section of the Tirhoot Railway system can be placed in connection with the line of communication about to be established by the Bengal and North-Western Railway Company from Baraitch to Sonepore, and thence by a ferry across the Ganges to the East Indian Railway. This bridge, while thus of vital importance to the Tirhoot system, is of comparatively less moment to the Bengal and North-Western Company. We therefore consider that on the former and not on the latter the duty of construction should devolve. Moreover, the Bengal Government have already agreed (*vide* paragraph 7 of letter No. 2529R., dated 1st August 1882, which accompanied our Despatch No. 173R. of the 26th December 1882) to undertake this connection as a Provincial work, and we consider that there are no sufficient grounds for relieving them of the obligation. It would be manifestly inexpedient to interpose a small piece of line, some two or three miles in length, between two Railways constructed on totally different terms. This question has been discussed at some length, and we trust that your Lordship will concur in the conclusion we have arrived at.

7. The second break has been for some time under survey, together with a short Branch from Saifgunge to Munihari on the Ganges, whence a conection with the East Indian Railway at Sahibgunge may be effected by a ferry. The Bengal Government consider that this will be a very valuable feeder.

8. With reference to the third break, we beg to explain that in December last the inadequacy of the temporary arrangements referred to above in our 4th paragraph was strongly urged upon us by the Chief Commissioner of Assam personally; and in February our Hon'ble Colleague Mr. Hope, in company with our Director General of Railways, and the Chief Engineer to the Government of Bengal, thoroughly examined the line of communication. Proceeding from Kaunia to Mogulhât, and thence to Dhubri along the unfinished embankment of the projected railway, the return journey was accomplished by steamer, tramway, cart, ferry, and light tramway, through Kurigaon. This return journey was found to fully justify the complaints of the Chief Commissioner; the existing arrangements are utterly unfit for the main communication between two provinces. The Dhurla and Brahmaputra rivers alter their courses perpetually, throwing up banks here and cutting away there, so that any arrangement made on this route can only be most temporary, involving serious incovenience to passengers. The frequent changes, moreover, entail considerable outlay, so much so that during the last half-year the working expenses of the tramways were 97·10 per cent. of the gross earnings. The result of this visit thus was to condemn the existing route entirely. On the other hand, the original line, *vid* Mogulhât, was proved, by the condition of the embankment, to need the provision of much less water-way than had been supposed. Through this advantage, together with the adoption of a different system of bridging, it was evident that the connection could be established for a sum considerably less than the amount, one and a quarter million sterling originally estimated for its completion.

9. In consequence of the additional information thus gained on this question, the Government of Bengal were requested to have a careful revision of the project carried out, which resulted, we are glad to state, in it being shown that the line of rails could be extended to Dhubri at a cost of about 56 lakhs of rupees.

10. The importance of this extension has of late been much enhanced by the fact that the construction of the Assam Railway from the Makum Coal Field will enable coal to be brought down to Dhubri, and effect large savings in the working expenses of the Northern Bengal and Tirhoot Railways.

The value of the connection, moreover, to the Province of Assam, and the overcrowded territories to the westward, is emphatically stated in the concluding paragraph of the letter from the Government of Bengal, of which a copy is enclosed.

11. Notwithstanding, however, the great importance we attach to the completion of the entire line of communication, we do not at the present time ask your Lordship's sanction to the extension of the Rungpore Branch to Dhubri, as, although this forms an integral part of the whole scheme, it was not included in Schedule A of our Despatch of the 23rd January last on Railway Policy. We hope, however, to be before long in a position to show such savings on the estimates in that schedule as will unable us to carry out this extension without causing any excess in the aggregate estimates, and we may then address your Lordship again on the subject.

12. Excluding the Rungpore-Dhubri section then, our present proposals, to which we ask your Lordship's sanction, comprise—

		Miles.	Estimate rupees.	Miles.	Estimate rupees.
1.	Sonepore to Hajipore ...	...	...	2·5	14,24,114
2. A.	Jhinjharpore to Gongareeria	16·5	10,85,485		
2. B.	Gongareeria to the Kosi ...	85·5	88,64,400		
2. C.	Ferry across the Kosi ...	4·0	4,09,000	206·5	1,46,48,850
2. D.	Kosi to Purneah ...	55·0	30,24,975		
2. E.	Purneah to Dinajpore ...	87·0	66,11,055		
2. F.	Munihari Branch and Ferry	18·5	12,54,635		
	Total ...			209	1,60,73,764

We have not yet received detailed estimates for the sections marked B, C, and D, and the figures therefore entered above must be taken as approximate only. The complete estimates will be awaited before final sanction is communicated to the Government of Bengal for the construction of these portions, but we have no reason to believe that the amounts now entered will prove insufficient to any appreciable extent.

13. For these works, we have provided Rs. 1,69,00,000 in the Schedule A. (*b*) to our Despatch No. 29 of the 23rd January 1883, *viz.* :—

	Rs.
Hajipore-Sonepore	12,00,000
Pipraghat-Saifgunj Munihari-Dinajpore }	1,57,00,000

14. With reference to the requests made by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in paragraphs 18 and 19 of the enclosure, we may state that we consider that the Gunduk bridge should be a Provincial work, for the reasons given in our separate Despatch of this date, and also that we see no necessity for disturbing existing arrangements and calculations by writing back certain sums already spent from Provincial balances. The suggestion that the Rungpore-Dhurbi connection should be Imperial, and that the amount already laid out by the Government of Bengal should be refunded to them, will not require consideration until the line is about to be taken in hand.

15. We have already briefly alluded to some of the benefits which may be expected from the completion of these lines, and your Lordship will observe, from paragraph 17 of letter No. 1761R. of the 6th April 1883 from the Government of Bengal, that the net return on the capital cost is estimated at upwards of 4½ per cent. As a financial undertaking, therefore, the prospects are good; and as a means of opening out a country rich in produce, but subject at times to the evils of severe drought, we consider it of the greatest importance, and trust that we may receive at an early date the approval of your Lordship to the construction of the works specified in paragraph 11. Bearing in mind the traffic results of the Northern Bengal and the open portions of the Tirhoot Railway, we have no hesitation in saying that the conditions required of a Productive Public Work will be fulfilled.

16. We attach an index map showing the sections of railway constructed, in course of construction, and now proposed.

No. 1761R., dated 6th April 1883.

From—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department.

In reply to your No. 206R.E. of the 1st instant, I am directed to say that the Lieutenant-Governor fully concurs in the remarks regarding the exceedingly unsatisfactory state of the route between Kaunia and Dhubri, owing to the uncertain character of the Dhurla and Brahmaputra rivers. Every effort has been made to meet the existing difficulties; but the Lieutenant-Governor is quite satisfied that they cannot be effectually overcome till a through and uninterrupted line of railway communication has been established to Assam.

2. The orders conveyed in the letter under reply have received the careful attention of the Chief Engineer, and the best estimates that can be framed from all available information have been prepared for each section of the line of 410½ miles between Sonepore, the terminus of the Bengal and North-Western Railway, and Dhubri, the nearest point in the province of Assam.

3. Full particulars are given in the accompanying note by the Chief Engineer, but for convenience of reference the totals are here brought out in tabular form, and indirect charges have been added:—

Number.	Description.	Miles.	Sections completed and opened for public traffic.	Sections under construction.	Sections for which estimates have been submitted for sanction.	Sections for which estimates are submitted herewith.	Totals.	Remarks.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
I	Sonepore to Hajipore	2·5	...	...	...	14,24,114	14,24,114	
II	Hajipore to Mozufferpore	34·0	...	21,35,464	...	...	21,35,464	Sanctioned in Government of India No. 132R.C., of 8th February 1883.
III	Mozufferpore to Jhinjharpore	79·5	55,23,193	...	...	...	55,23,193	
IV	Jhinjharpore to Gongareria	16·5	...	...	10,85,485	...	10,85,485	Submitted for sanction with No. 1082R. of 5th March 1883.
V	Gongareria to the Kosi	26·5	...	...	...	22,64,500	22,64,500	Approximate estimates. Detailed estimates under preparation.
VI	Ferry across Kosi ...	4·0	...	...	...	4,09,000	4,09,000	
VII	Kosi to Purneah ...	55·0	...	...	...	30,24,975	30,24,975	Approximate estimate based on preliminary investigations.
VIII	Purneah to Dinagepore	87·0	...	...	66,11,055	...	66,11,055	Estimates submitted with No. 1531R. of the 22nd March.
IX	Dinagepore to Parbatipore	19·25	...	11,40,324	...	...	11,40,324	Under construction as a *Provincial* work.
X	Parbatipore to Kaunia	33·25	28,19,033	...	...	...	28,19,033	
XI	Kaunia to Dhubri ...	54	...	...	...	62,26,074	62,26,074	Includes expenditure already incurred, Rs. 6,42,926.
		410·5	83,42,226	32,84,788	76,96,540	1,33,48,663	3,26,72,217	
	Munihari Branch ...	13·5	...	...	9,04,635	...	9,04,635	Estimates submitted with No. 1531R. of the 22nd March.
	Sahebgunge ferry ...	5	...	...	3,50,000	...	3,50,000	Ditto Ditto.
	Total ...	429·0	83,42,226	32,84,788	89,51,175	1,33,48,663	3,30,26,852	Total Direct charges.
	Indirect charges.							
	Capitalization of abatement of Land Revenue	...	7,400	3,000	15,000	6,000	30,400	Approximate
	Leave and Pension Allowances	...	1,90,500	32,500	1,31,000	2,04,600	6,46,600	
	Interest during construction	...	12,49,000	1,19,000	3,24,000	4,60,000	21,46,000	
		...	14,47,900	1,54,500	4,70,000	6,70,600	28,23,000	Total Indirect charges.
		...	97,90,126	34,39,280	94,31,175	1,40,19,263	[illegible]	Grand Total Direct and Indirect charges.

The estimates provide for a branch line to Munihari, 13½ miles, and a steam ferry to Sahebgunge on the East Indian Railway, from which considerable traffic may be expected.

4. From the above statement it appears, as remarked by the Chief Engineer, "that of the 410½ miles, 113½ are open for traffic and 53½ are under construction. For 103½ miles estimates have been submitted to the Government of India for sanction, and for the remaining 86 miles estimates, more or less in detail, are now submitted. In addition to the above, and in connection with item VIII, estimates for a branch line to Munihari, 13½ miles, and for a steam ferry across the Ganges to Sahebgunge, 5 miles, have been submitted."

5. The first section from Sonepore to Hajipore includes the bridge across the river Gunduck, consisting of eight spans of 250 feet each, and an approach on 140 brick arches from the western side. The necessity for this latter work has been explained in the letter from this office No. 3689R. of the 7th December, from which a quotation will be found in the 5th paragraph of the Chief Engineer's note. The Lieutenant-Governor again recommends the adoption of this description of approach, and the concession of the use of the arches to the proprietor of the ground on which the fair is held, on the condition that he makes a free gift of all the land required for the construction of the works.

6. Regarding the second and third sections, Hajipore to Muzufferpore and Mozufferpore to Jhinjharpore, no remarks are necessary; the works on the second section are already making good progress, and the third section was formally opened to public traffic by the Lieutenant-Governor in January last.

7. The plans and estimates for the fourth section, Jhinjharpore to Gongareria, 16½ miles, have been submitted to the Government of India with this office No. 1082R.C. of the 5th March 1883, in which, and the papers accompanying it, particulars of this part of the project will be found. In reply, this Government has been informed in the letter noted on the margin that sanction to the construction of this section is withheld pending the consideration of the whole project. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets this delay, because it is obviously impossible that the railway can be allowed to terminate abortively in a paddy field, as is literally true at Jhinjharpore, and in any case the line must be carried on to the banks of the Kosi. For the reasons advanced in the letter above quoted, he would again urge that early sanction to the estimates for this section be accorded, so that the work may be put in hand without any further loss of time.

No. 259R.C. of 15th March 1883.

8. During the past cold season the fifth section from Gongareria to the right bank of the Kosi at Bulloah has been located, and the detailed estimates are now under preparation; but an approximate estimate, amounting with rolling stock to Rs. 22,64,500, has been furnished by the Manager of the Tirhoot State Railway. The distance being only 25½ miles, the mileage rate reaches the high figure of Rs. 88,803; the country itself is level, but the numerous streams crossed require a large amount of waterway, which accounts for the high mileage rate.

9. It cannot be disguised that the establishment of a ferry across the river Kosi presents many formidable difficulties; but to bridge it would be out of the question at present, and the best arrangement for the crossing of the river, about four miles in width, would be to provide three steamers of light draught. With these, and temporary lines on the *dearah*, we must content ourselves until the growth of traffic warrants the expenditure required for the construction of a bridge.

10. From the Kosi to Purneah the country is said by the Manager of the Northern Bengal State Railway, to be exceedingly easy for the construction of a line of railway, which would run on a high ridge of well cultivated country free from floods and pass through at least one important mart. No rivers are crossed, and, with the exception of four miles near the Kosi and five miles near Purneah, hardly any waterway will be required. The estimated cost of this section is therefore, as may be expected, exceedingly low—Rs. 55,000 per mile.

11. For the description of the ninth section from Purneah to Dinagepore, 87 miles, with the branch to Munihari, 13½ miles, and ferry to Shahebgunge, reference is made to this office No. 1531R. of the 22nd March 1883, and papers which accompanied it. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that early sanction may be accorded to these estimates.

12. Between Dinagepore and Parbatipore, on the Northern Bengal Railway, 19¼ miles, the construction of the line is well advanced, and the Lieutenant-Governor hopes to open it for traffic at the end of the next rainy season, when the banks have thoroughly consolidated.

13. The tenth section from Parbatipore to Kaunia forms a portion of the already completed line of the Northern Bengal Railway, and needs no remarks.

14. Between Kaunia and Dhubri, 54 miles, the embankment is throughout ready to receive the rails. The first portion between the rivers Teesta and Dhurla, a distance of 14 miles, is occupied by the light railway on two feet six inch gauge, which will be taken up if it is decided that the rivers are to be bridged. A most careful revision of the estimates of this section has been made in the Chief Engineer's office, with the result that the amount has been reduced from Rs. 1,22,26,473, the sum originally estimated by Mr. White, to Rs. 62,26,074, inclusive of the expenditure already incurred. The amount required to complete the section is, however, only Rs. 55,8[illegible]. The manner in which this immense reduction in the estimates has been effected is fully explained in the note by the Chief Engineer, paragraphs 18 and 19. In the estimates for the bridges over the four large rivers—Teesta, Dhurla, Sunkosh, and

B

Gungadhur—a saving of Rs. 48,13,541 has been made by (1) reducing the amount of waterway originally allowed by 2,751 lineal feet (paragraph 18 of note); and (2) by a complete change in the designs. For the costly brick cylinders, which were to have been sunk 80 feet below the river-bed, and the wide spans of 250 feet originally proposed, it is intended now to substitute girders, with spans of 100 feet, supported on screw-piles sunk 50 feet into the bed protected by rubble-stone brought from Dhubri.

15. The expenditure, which has actually been incurred on the road from Kaunia to Dhubri, is shown in the statement which accompanies the estimates of this section as follows :—

Province.	Works.	Establishment.	Tools and Plant.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bengal	2,91,007	72,750	29,101	3,92,859
Assam	1,85,235	46,309	18,523	2,50,067
Total ...	4,76,242	1,19,060	47,624	6,42,926

Expenditure on works has been ascertained from the accounts, after excluding that incurred on timber bridges and all other temporary works which will not be useful for the metre-gauge railroad. The figures entered for establishment and tools and plant have been calculated at the usual rates of 25 and 10 per cent. respectively on the cost of the works, as actual expenditure on those heads cannot be ascertained.

16. The amount for which the sanction of the Government of India is now required to complete the whole project is Rs. 2,16,56,912, exclusive of indirect charges made up as shown in the following statement —

No. of section.	Description.	Miles.	Sections for which estimates have been submitted for sanction.	Sections for which estimates are submitted herewith.	Total.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I	Sonepore to Hajipore	2·5	...	14,24,114	14,24,114
IV	Jhinjharpore to Gongareria ...	16·5	10,85,485	...	10,85,485
V	Gongareria to the Kosi ...	25·5	...	22,64,500	22,64,500
VI	Ferry across the Kosi ...	4·0	...	4,09,000	4,09,000
VII	Left bank of Kosi to Purneah ...	55	...	30,24,975	30,24,975
VIII	Purneah to Dinagepore ...	87	66,11,055	...	66,11,055
XI	Kaunia to Dhubri	54	...	55,83,148	55,83,148
	Total ...	244·5	76,96,540	1,27,05,737	2,04,02,277
	Munihari Branch	13·5	9,04,635	...	9,04,635
	Sahebgunge ferry	5	3,50,000	...	3,50,000
		263·0	89,51,175	1,27,05,737	2,16,56,912
	Indirect charges	...	4,70,000	6,70,600	11,40,600

17. It is difficult to say what the receipts on the whole line will be, but there seems to be no valid reason why they should fall short proportionately of those on the Tirhoot and Northern Bengal State Railways. During the past year the mileage receipts were Rs. 6,912 and Rs. 8,049 respectively, the average of which, Rs 7,480, applied to the total length of the line under notice (410½ miles) would give the sum of Rs. 30,70,540 on the gross receipts, and allowing one-half for working expenses, the net profits would yield 4·69 per cent. on the total cost of the line, Rs. 3,26,72,217. It may be accepted that this result will be attained in the course of a very few years after the opening of the line, and there is every ground for the assurance that the rapid development of traffic, evidenced every where on the railways of Bengal, will extent to this line also with ultimate promise of still better results. The Chief Engineer alludes, in the last paragraph of his note, to the saving that may be effected in working expenses on these lines of railway by the use of coal from Assam. This is not an unreasonable prospect, but the Lieutenant-Governor defers comment on the subject until there has been a further development of the operations on the Makum coal-fields.

18. It remains now to consider to what extent this Government may fairly be expected to accept financial responsibility for the undertaking. It will be remembered that the ninth section, Dinagepore to Parbatipore, is being constructed with Provincial funds, and that a sum of Rs. 3,92,859 has been expended on works in the eleventh section, which will be permanently useful for the metre-gauge railway. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts the Government of India, when according sanction to the whole project, will be in a position to order a refund of the amount expended from Provincial sources in these two sections. The Parbatipore-Dinagepore section was commenced by the Bengal Government at a time when money was not available from the Government of India; but a large Imperial scheme, such as that which is now under consideration, it would be open to many administrative objections that a small section of this extensive undertaking should be classed under a separate heading.

19. Mr. Rivers Thompson is of opinion that the bridge across the river Gunduck with its western approach, constituting section No. I, and the line from Kaunia to Dhubri, section XI, should be treated as Imperial works—the first in its connection with Bengal and North-Western Railway, and the second in consideration of the immense benefit which will certainly accrue to the province of Assam from the construction of the line. In his opinion these two sections should therefore be excluded from the category of works for which this Government may be expected to render itself financially liable. On this basis the sum for which the Bengal Government will have to pay interest into the Imperial Treasury will be represented by the capital cost of the whole system of railways from Hajipore on the river Gunduck to Kaunia on the Teesta. For the greater portion of this the Government of India have already accepted the Lieutenant-Governor's guarantee, and for the remainder, as shown in the statement below, he is willing now to undertake the responsibility :—

1	2	3	4	5	6
Section.	Description.	Section to which sanction has been accorded as Provincial.	Section for which estimates have been already submitted, but to which sanction has not been accorded.	Sections for which estimates are now submitted.	Total.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
IV	Jhinjharpore to Gongareria ...	...	10,85,485	...	10,85,485
V	Gongareria to the Kosi ...	...	...	22,64,500	22,64,500
VI	Ferry across the Kosi ...	...	...	4,09,000	4,09,000
VII	Kosi to Purneah ...	...	...	30,24,975	30,24,975
VIII	Purneah to Dinagepore ...	...	66,11,055	...	66,11,055
...	Branch to Munihari ...	...	9,04,635	...	9,04,635
...	Sahebgunge ferry ...	...	3,50,000	...	3,50,000
IX	Dinagepore to Parbattipore ...	11,49,324	...	...	11,49,324
	Total ...	11,49,324	89,51,175	56,98,475	1,57,98,974

20. In conclusion, I am to say that the Lieutenant-Governor attaches very great importance to the early completion of this main line of railway, and urges that no delay may be allowed to occur in according sanction to the estimates, and especially to that of the last section. The present communication with Assam is acknowledged to be as bad as it can well be, and at the same time it is incapable of any practical improvement even by temporary expedients. The completion of the great scheme to which these papers refer will bring incalculable advantages to that province, especially in the promotion of its tea industry, and in the facilities to a free immigration from over-crowded districts for the clearance of its waste lands; and it is only by bridging the four intervening rivers, and thus enabling the metre-gauge engine to pass without interruption to Dhubri, that an effective and permanent solution of the difficulty can be arrived at.

Note by H. C. LEVINGE, Esq., *Chief Engineer, Bengal, Railway Branch, on the project for a line of railway from Sonepore, nearly opposite Patna, to Dhubri in Assam, dated 11th March 1883.*

It is desired that the line of railway from Sonepore, the terminus of the Bengal and North-Western Railway nearly opposite Patna, to Dhubri on the river Brahmaputra in Assam be considered as one project. This line, which passes through the Tirhoot and Northern Bengal Railway systems, and thus connects them, will be 410½ miles in length. Of this, some portions have been opened for traffic, and some are under construction, while for others estimates have been submitted, and for others again only surveys have been made, as follows :—

	Miles.	
I.—From Sonepore, the terminus of the Bengal and North-Western Railway, to Hajipore, including the bridge across the Gunduck	2·5	Estimate and plan submitted herewith.
II.—From Hajipore to Mozufferpore ...	34·0	Estimate sanctioned, and work in progress.
III.—From Mozufferpore to Jhinjharpore ...	79·5	Line open for traffic.
IV.—From Jhinjharpore to Gongareria ...	16·5	Estimates submitted for sanction with No. 1082R., dated 5th March 1883.
V.—From Gongareria to the Kosi ...	25·50	Line has been located; approximate estimate given; detailed estimates are under preparation.
VI.—Ferry across the Kosi	4·	
VII.—From the Kosi (left bank) to Purneah ...	55·0	Preliminary investigation made and approximate estimate prepared.
VIII.—From Purneah to Dinagepore ...	87·0	Estimate submitted for sanction with No. 1531R., dated 22nd March 1883.
IX.—From Dinagepore to Parbattipore on the Northern Bengal Railway ...	19 25	Works in progress.
X.—From Parbattipore to Kaunia on the Teesta	33·25	Line open for traffic.
XI.—From Kaunia to Dhubri ...	54·00	Estimates submitted herewith.
Total ...	410·5	

2. It thus appears that of the 410½ miles, 113¾ are open for traffic, and 53¼ are under construction. For 103½ miles estimates have been submitted to the Government of India for sanction, and for the remaining 86 miles estimates, more or less in detail, are now submitted. In addition to the above, and in connection with item VIII, estimates for a branch line to Munihari, 13½ miles, and for a steam ferry across the Ganges to Sahebgunge, 5 miles, have been submitted.

3. It will be necessary, in the first place, in order to arrive at a clear understanding of the whole project, to consider each part separately.

4. *I.—Sonepore to Hajipore.*—The terminus of the Bengal and North-Western Railway has been located opposite the race course at Sonepore, somewhat over one mile from the bank of the Gunduck, across which it is considered necessary, for reasons given in the note by the Chief Engineer on the Hajipore-Mozufferpore Railway, to construct a bridge. He remarks: "If this is not done, three ferries—two across the Ganges and one across the Gunduck—will be permanently required, as well as a *dearah* line, estimated by the Manager of the Tirhoot State Railway at 10 miles in length, which would have to be removed annually at great expense; whereas after the construction of the bridge only one ferry will be necessary." The bridge, which has been designed by Mr. Warden, will be a handsome structure, consisting of 8 spans of 250 feet each, with ample headway for boats, the girders resting on masonry piers, founded on brick cylinders sunk from 33 feet to 80 feet into the bed of the river, where a hard stratum of red clay exists. The banks are hard and quite permanent, so that no danger from their erosion need be apprehended.

5. The approach to the bridge from the west passes through the ground occupied by the great annual fair at Sonepore, and it has been found absolutely necessary to construct it on arches. The reasons for adopting this description of approach have been fully set forth in the letter from this office to the Government of India quoted in the margin, as follows:—

No. 3689R. of the 7th December 1882.

Para. 2. The delay in replying to your letter has been caused by the necessity of making full and careful enquiry regarding the alignment of the railway to the east of the station (Sonepore), and the position of the proposed bridge across the Gunduck. As laid out, the line will run at a high level through the whole length of the fair at which vast numbers of people annually assemble. This alignment was objected to by the owner of the land, who memorialized the Lieutenant-Governor urging alteration of the line, on the ground that the fair would otherwise be virtually destroyed. The Chief Engineer has, however, satisfied himself by personal inspection that it is not possible to alter the line so as to avoid the fair, and at the same time to secure a favorable crossing of the river. Along with the local civil officers and the owner of the land on which the fair is held, he went over the whole of the ground, and it has now been finally decided to adopt the present alignment, * * * * and to construct an arched viaduct as the approach to the bridge. This will add to the cost of the line; but on no other condition is it possible to secure at once the advantages of a site for the station near Sonepore, and a good crossing of the river. The zemindar has promised, in the presence of the Magistrate and Collector of the district (Mr. Quinn), to make a free gift of the land required for the viaduct, if he is allowed the use of the arches, and this concession the Lieutenant-Governor considers should be granted.

6. The estimated cost of the bridge and approaches is as follows:—

	Rs.
Bridge as per detailed estimate	11,93,016
Viaduct of 140 arches ditto	1,11,367
Land	5,000
Earthwork	18,331
Ballast	8,400
Permanent-way, 2½ miles	40,000
Plant	40,000
Establishment as per detailed estimate	1,08,000
	14,24,114

In the Note by the Chief Engineer on the Hajipore-Mozufferpore Railway, dated 17th June 1882, it was stated that the cost of the bridge, including approaches, would probably not exceed 12 lakhs of rupees; but at that time it was not anticipated that an arched viaduct would be required on the western side. The viaduct as designed consists of 134 semi-circular brick arches of 15 feet span each and 6 of 5 feet.

7. The estimate now submitted make no provision for a ferry across the Ganges, or a branch line from the East Indian Railway at Bankipore to Deegah on the bank of that river, as it is understood that these works will be carried out by the Bengal and North-Western Railway Company, and that the ferry will be established and worked by that Company.

8. *II.—Hajipore to Mozufferpore.*—The estimates for this part of the line were sanctioned in letter from the Government of India No. 132R.C. of the 8th February last, and the works are in progress. The cost, including 12 miles of permanent-way for temporary lines on the *dearah*, is estimated at Rs. 21,35,464, exclusive of indirect charges.

9. *III.—Mozufferpore to Jhinjharpore.*—This portion of the line is open for public traffic, and may be divided into two portions—*1st*, Mozufferpore to Durbhunga, which has been open some years; and *2nd*, Durbhunga to Jhinjharpore, known as the Eastern Extension, which has only recently been opened. There is no possibility of arriving at the exact cost of the first portion, as the accounts have been kept for the whole line; but as the total cost of the Tirhoot Railway up to November last was Rs. 55,91,708, and the length open was 78 miles, the mileage cost was Rs. 71,688, which would give for the 55 miles from Mozufferpore to Durbhunga

the sum of Rs. 39,42,840. For the Eastern Extension, 24½ miles, to Jhinjharpore, the estimate is Rs. 15,80,353. The cost of the third section may therefore be taken as Rs. 55,23,193 for the length, 79·5 miles, or Rs. 69,476 per mile.

10. *IV.—Jhinjharpore to Gongareria.*—The estimates for this short length, 16½ miles, were submitted to the Government of India for sanction with this office letter No. 1082R. of the 5th March 1883. Exclusive of indirect charges, the estimate is Rs. 10,85,485, or Rs. 65,787 per mile.

11. *V.—Gongareria to the right bank of the Kosi near Bullooah.*—This portion of the line, 25½ miles in length, has been located during the present season, and the plans and estimates are under preparation. The estimated cost of the line has been approximately stated by the Manager of the Tirhoot State Railway at Rs. 21,37,000, exclusive of rolling stock, and allowing Rs. 5,000 per mile on that account, the cost will be Rs. 22,64,500, or Rs. 88,803 per mile. The mileage rate for this length is therefore higher than in any other part of the Tirhoot system; but this is accounted for by the larger amount of waterway required.

12. *VI.—Ferry across the river Kosi.*—The Manager, Northern Bengal Railway, in his report No. 127W. of the 8th February last, states that "the width of the river is about three miles, of which, on the 20th January, only ⅓ mile was running water, the remainder being a sandy *chur*. Between Nawabgunge and the Kosi are two considerable channels, and two smaller ones, which would probably require 1,000 feet of bridging to enable trains to run throughout the year to the ferry. No better position can be obtained for a ferry within British territory, as the river widens very rapidly, and at Nathpore only about five miles south of Nawabgunge it is five miles in breadth. From enquiry made on the spot, there would appear to be sufficient water in the running channel of the Kosi for a steamer of two feet draught to ply throughout the year." The distance may be taken at four miles, and for the ferry itself three steamers of light draught and four flats should be provided; the cost of all this will amount to Rs. 4,09,000.*

		Rs.
* 4 miles permanent-way @	... 16,000 =	64,000
3 Steamers @ ...	... 75,000 =	2,25,000
4 Flats @ ...	... 30,000 =	1,20,000
		409,000

13. *VII.—Left bank of the Kosi to Purneah.*—With the exception of the four miles of line between the bank of the river and Nawabgunge, and of about five miles of low ground between Kusbah and Purneah, "the line," says the Manager, "will run on a high ridge of country shown as nearly as possible on the map by yellow dots, which is free from floods; no rivers are crossed, and only local drainage will have to be dealt with. The country traversed is highly cultivated, and a very heavy traffic leads to Kusbah." The estimated cost Rs. 30,24,975, or Rs. 55,000 per mile, which, judging from the very easy character of the country to be traversed, should be sufficient.

14. *VIII.—Purneah and Dinagepore.*—This protion of the railway has been fully described in the Chief Engineer's note of the 23rd February last, and in the report of the Manager of the Northern Bengal Railway. The distance *vid* Saifgunge is 87 miles, and the estimated cost Rs. 66,11,055, or Rs. 75,987 per mile, exclusive of indirect charges. To this must, however, be added the sum of Rs. 9,04,635 for the branch to Munihari, 13½ miles, and Rs. 3,50,000 for the Sahebgunge ferry flotilla, making the total Rs. 78,65,690. Between Purneah and Dinagepore there are several large rivers and some heavily flooded country to be encountered, which raise the cost of construction; but the traffic receipts calculated in two different ways quite independently of each other show that a net profit of nearly 5½ per cent. on the capital may be expected soon after the opening of the line.

15. *IX.—Dinagepore to Parbattipore on the Northern Bengal Railway.*—Length 19¼ miles. This line is under construction and in an advanced state. The works are being carried out with *Provincial* funds at an estimated cost of Rs. 11,49,334.

16. *X.—Parbattipore to Kaunia.*—This length, 33¼ miles, which is open for traffic, forming part of the Northern Bengal Railway, brings the line up to the right bank of the Teesta. As in the case of item No. 3, there are no means of arriving at the actual cost of this portion of the Northern Bengal Railway, the average mileage cost of the whole line must be ascertained and applied to the length under notice. The total cost of the 230 miles of the Northern Bengal Railway has been Rs. 1,95,00,000, which gives an average of Rs. 84,783 per mile. The cost of the 33¼ miles from Parbattipore to Kaunia may, therefore, be taken as Rs. 28,19,033.

17. *XI.—Kaunia to Dhubri*—For the whole distance, 54 miles, the embankment has been thrown up, and the earthwork completed in a most satisfactory manner; it is, in fact, throughout the whole length ready to receive the rails; but the rivers and streams have not been bridged. On so much of the road as lies in the province of Assam, and in places in Bengal also, substantial wooden bridges have been constructed at the larger flood openings and brick culverts for the minor drainages; the latter in Assam only. It will be necessary, however, to substitute permanent bridges for the wooden structures now existing, and to bridge the main rivers and streams. For all this, the estimates, now submitted, provide. Between the rivers Teesta and Dhurla opposite Mogulhat a railway of 2′ 6″ gauge has been laid down, and is being worked with fair success. It is proposed, as soon as the bridge across the Teesta has been constructed, to take up the rails and utilise them elsewhere.

18. The estimates of the cost of the whole 54 miles, which were originally prepared by Mr. White, amounted to Rs. 1,22,26,473. Since then most of the land has been acquired. The earthwork, except inclined approaches to bridges, has been completed, and several minor bridges have been constructed. The estimates now submitted provide for the works required to complete and equip the line. Opportunity has been taken to ascertain carefully the waterway required at the larger bridges, for which allowance on far too liberal a scale had been made in the first estimates. The designs for the bridges have also been changed. Mr. White proposed brick piers on wells sunk 80 feet in the sand, with spans of 250 feet. In the altered design the spans have been reduced to 100 feet, and cast-iron screw piles substituted for the piers. It is proposed to sink these piles 50 feet, and to protect them with rubble stone brought from Dhubri. Examination of Mr. White's drawings shows that he had allowed in most cases a number of land spans; but as the embankments have for several years been in existence for the full height, far above flood level, and quite up to the margins of the rivers on each side, it is evident that no additional waterway, beyond that included between the banks of the rivers, is required, and all that has been allowed in the designs now prepared is one hundred feet on either side on which to come and go in case of erosion of the bank, and possibly it may be deemed advisable, in actual construction, not to allow even this. The comparison in the case of the four larger rivers is as follows :—

Name of river.	Actual widths between banks.	Waterway allowed by Mr. White.	Waterway now allowed.	Difference saved.
Teesta	3,500	4,194	3,733	461
Dhurla	2,920	4,194	3,200	994
Sunkosh	1,640	2,884	1,813	1,071
Gungadhur	1,900	2,360	2,135	225
Total ...	9,960	13,632	10,881	2,751

19. The whole of the estimates have been most carefully revised by Mr. Warden, with the result that the amount required to complete the railway on the metre gauge from Kaunia to Dhubri is Rs. 55,83,148 only. Even allowing for works already done, the saving on the original estimates is so great that it may be as well to run through the several items and note the principal points of difference :—

Preliminary.—Rs. 14,175 provided in the original estimates not now required, as all preliminary investigation has been done.

Land.—Rs. 1,10,544. Most of the land having been acquired, Rs. 10,000 only have been retained for station sites, &c.

Earthwork.—Most of the earthwork having been done, Rs. 80,000 out of an estimate of Rs. 5,87,190 have been retained.

Bridges.—Culverts already constructed in the province of Assam reduce the estimate of minor bridges from Rs. 1,66,681 to Rs. 1,04,208. The alteration of design and the reduction in water way of major bridges from 17,055 feet to 14,304 feet effect a saving of no less than Rs. 48,13,541. The whole of these reductions in the major bridging are in the four bridges over the Teesta, Dhurla, Sonkosh, and Gungadhur. Each pier has been calculated to bear, with safety, 190 tons and a wind pressure of 50lbs. per square foot.

Fencing—Has been increased from Rs. 1,35,713 to Rs. 1,72,800, as Mr. White's rates were too low.

Ballast and Permanent-way.—The rates in the original estimates under this head were also too low. The estimates now stand at Rs. 11,17,622 instead of Rs. 10,80,362.

Stations and Offices.—The original estimate of Rs. 3,78,845 has been reduced to Rs. 3,38,200, the provision made for temporary buildings in the original estimate having been considered very unnecessarily large.

Station Machinery.—This item, on the other hand, was under-estimated, only Rs. 30,639 having been provided, whereas not less than Rs. 1,08,000 will be required.

Plant.—For this Rs. 1,62,000 has been allowed in the new estimate, instead of Rs. 3,02,383 as there is a large quantity of plant on the Northern Bengal Railway available for the work which can be transferred at a low rate.

Rolling Stock.—For first equipment of the line Rs. 5,000 per mile should be sufficient Rs. 2,70,000 has, therefore, been provided, instead of Rs. 4,86,000 in the original estimate.

Electric Telegraph.—For this Rs. 67,935 was included in the first estimate. The whole amount has now been struck out as not being required under the rules in force.

Establishment.—Ten per cent. has been taken as usual on all items except rolling stock and plant. This amounts to Rs. 4,68,286 as against Rs. 11,94,633 in the original estimate.

20. The actual expenditure already incurred on works which will be permanently useful for the metre-gauge railway is shown in the accompanying statement. Including the usual allowance for establishments and tools and plant, it may be taken at Rs. 6,42,926, of which Rs. 3,92,859 were expended in Bengal and Rs. 2,50,067 in Assam. This sum added to the estimate now submitted for the completion of the line, Rs. 55,83,148, brings up the total cost of this section to Rs. 62,26,074, and the mileage rate to Rs. 1,15,297.

21. We can now, from the figures above given for each section, summarize the total cost of the 410½ miles from Sonepore to Dhubri :—

	Miles.	Estimate or cost. Rs.
I.—From Sonepore to Hajipore	2·5	14,24,114
II.—From Hajipore to Muzufferpore	34·0	21,35,464
III.—From Mozufferpore to Jhinjharpore	79·5	55,23,193
IV.—From Jhinjharpore to Gongareria	16·5	10,85,485
V.—From Gongareria to the Kosi	25·5	22,64,500
VI.—Ferry across the Kosi	4·0	4,09,000
VII.—From the Kosi to Purneah	55·0	30,24,975
VIII.—From Purneah to Dinagepore	87·0	66,11,055
IX.—From Dinagepore to Parbattipore	19·25	11,49,324
X.—From Parbattipore to Kaunia	33·25	28,19,033
XI.—From Kaunia to Dhubri	54·0	62,26,074
Total ...	410·5	3,26,72,217

The mileage cost of the main line, including the Gunduck bridge and viaduct and the heavy bridging in the XIth section, is only Rs. 79,591, which, it will be observed, is considerably under the actual cost of the Northern Bengal Railway. To this estimate should also be added that of the branch to Munihari, 13½ miles, and that of the steam flotilla for the Sahebgunge ferry, amounting to Rs. 12,54,635. The total estimated cost will therefore be Rs. 3,39,26,852, exclusive of indirect charges.

22. The amount for which sanction is required is, however, Rs. 2,16,47,937 as follows :—

	Miles.	Rs.
I.—Sonepore to Hajipore	2·5	14,24,114
IV.—Jhinjharpore to Gongareria	16·5	10,85,485*
V.—Gongareria to the Kosi	25·5	22,64,500
VI.—Ferry across the Kosi	4·0	4,09,000
VII.—Kosi to Purneah	55·0	30,24,975
VIII.—Purneah to Dinagepore	87·0	66,11,055*
XI.—Kaunia to Dhubri	54	55,83,148
	244·5	2,04,02,277
Munihari branch	13·5	9,04,635*
Sahebgunge ferry	5·0	3,50,000*
Total ...	263·0	2,16,56,912

23. No statistics are available from which to compute the probable receipts on the whole line. There is, however, no reason to believe that they will fall short, proportionally, of those on the Northern Bengal Railway. It is confidently expected that that line will, in the current official year, give a net profit of nearly 6 per cent. on its capital. Now, as the capital cost of this project will be less than that of the Northern Bengal Railway mile for mile, and as the working expenses are invariably less in proportion as the line is longer, it follows that the net profits, if the mileage receipts are equal, will be more than on the Northern Bengal Railway. It must not be forgotten also that on the completion of the line to Dhubri, Assam coal can be introduced for use on this Railway and the Northern Bengal Railway main line, by

* Estimates already submitted for sanction.

which the working expenses will be still further reduced. On this subject further information will be given when particulars have been obtained. If this view of the prospects of the line be accepted, there can be no doubt the work should be pushed on as fast as possible.

Telegram, dated 17th October 1883.

From—Secretary of State, London,
To—Viceroy, Simla.

Your 15th. Assam-Behar Railway commencement sanctioned. Despatch by next mail.

ORDER.—Ordered, that these papers be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India* for general information.

W. S. TREVOR, *Col., R.E.,*
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Printed and Published for the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA *at the* GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BRANCH PRESS, *Simla.*

SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India.

Nº 47.} CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* GAZETTE OF INDIA *will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.*

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No Official Orders or Notifications, the publication of which in the GAZETTE OF INDIA *is required by Law, or which it has been customary to publish in the* CALCUTTA GAZETTE, *will be included in the* SUPPLEMENT. *For such Orders and Notifications the body of the* GAZETTE *must be looked to.*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

RETURNS OF ACCIDENTS ON INDIAN RAILWAYS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1883.

No. 1244R. T., dated Simla, the 7th November 1883.

RESOLUTION—By the Government of India, Public Works Department.

Read again—

Public Works Department Resolution No. 1040R.T., dated 19th October 1882.

Public Works Department Resolution No. 933R.T., dated 27th August 1883.

Read also—

Returns of accidents to trains, &c., on the open lines of railway in India for the quarter ending 30th June 1883.

OBSERVATIONS.—As compared with the corresponding quarter of the previous year, with an increase of 398 miles, or 4 per cent. in the open mileage, and of 1,987,479 miles, or 19·84 per cent. in the train mileage, the number of accidents to trains, rolling stock, permanent way, &c., shows an increase of 21, or 1·94 per cent. only. The numbers chiefly vary on the following railways :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
South Indian	30	...
Great Indian Peninsula	...	24
Sind, Punjab and Delhi	30	...
Oudh and Rohilkhand	24	...
Punjab Northern	26	...
Indus Valley and Kandahar	22	...
Rajputana-Malwa	...	18
Wardha Coal	...	35
Tirhoot	...	17
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	10	...

2. On the South Indian Railway the increase principally took place under "trains running over cattle" and "fire in trains," the number of

accidents under the former being 74 against 52, and under the latter 9 against 2.

3. Of the decrease of 24 accidents on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, 14 were under "goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails," and 9 under "slips in cuttings or embankments."

4. On the Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railway the number of cases of "failure of machinery, &c., of engines" increased from 3 to 17, and that of "failure of couplings" from 1 to 15.

5. The increase on the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway chiefly occurred under "cattle accidents," the number being 43 against 22.

6. On the Punjab Northern State Railway the increase was due to the number of cases of "fire in trains" having been 32 against 5 in the corresponding quarter of 1882.

7. On the Indus Valley and Kandahar State Railway the increase was the largest under "bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines" and "miscellaneous accidents." The number of accidents under each of these two heads was larger by 11. Under "trains running over cattle" there was a decrease of 10 accidents.

8. On the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, while the number of catte accidents decreased from 76 to 66 and that of miscellaneous accidents from 37 to 3, there were increases under other heads, the total showing a decrease of 18 accidents.

9. Of the decrease of 35 accidents on the Wardha Coal Railway 14 were under "failure of tyres" and 15 under "fire in trains." The number of accidents under the former was *nil* against 14, and under the latter 8 against 23.

10. The decrease on the Tirhoot Railway was almost wholly due to there being not a single case of "failure of machinery, &c., of engines" during the quarter under review, while in the corresponding previous period there were 16 accidents of this description.

11. On the Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley State Railway there was no noticeable increase under any particular head.

12. The casualties resulting from accidents to trains, &c., were, among passengers, 19 injured against 1 killed and 9 injured, and among servants 12 injured against 13 killed and 16 injured. The increase in the number of casualties to passengers appears to be due to six passengers having received slight bruises by a collision which took place on the Madras Railway, on the 31st May 1883, between a mail and a goods train, due to the pointsman turning the former on to the main line instead of on to the platform siding; and five passengers having been slightly injured by a collision on the Calcutta and South-Eastern Railway between two passenger trains, caused by the carelessness of the pointsman in allowing both the trains into the same siding.

13. As regards the decrease in the casualties to servants, it is observed that in the corresponding quarter of 1882 four men were killed on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway by a collision between a goods train and a pump truck, and 1 killed and 5 injured on the Madras Railway by a wagon getting away while being shunted, and colliding with an Inspector's trolly.

14. The following table exhibits the number of accidents under the different classes, and the number of persons killed and injured thereby:—

Description of Accidents.	Number of Accidents.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	2	..	5	..	..	..	5
Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines, and vehicles standing foul of the line	20	..	10	..	..	..	10

Description of Accidents.	Number of Accidents.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Collisions between goods trains or parts of goods trains	28	..	..	..	3	..	3
Collisions between light engines	5	..	..	..	2	..	2
Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	14	..	..	..	..	..	..
Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	75	..	..	..	1	..	1
Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	11	..	..	..	1	..	1
Trains running into stations at too high a speed	8	..	..	..	..	..	..
Trains running over cattle on the line	413	1	..	..	..	1	..
Ditto over obstructions on the line	37	1	..	..	..	1	..
Ditto through gates at level crossings	21	..	..	..	1	..	1
The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	34	..	..	..	..	..	..
The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	74	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ditto of tyres	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ditto of wheels	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ditto of axles	13	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ditto of couplings	44	..	..	..	..	..	..
Broken rails	10	..	..	..	..	..	..
The flooding of portions of permanent way	9	..	..	..	..	..	..
Slips in cuttings or embankments	12	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fire in trains	158	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	21	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other accidents	92	1	4	..	4	1	8
Total	1,104	3	19	..	12	3	31

15. The number of derailments of goods trains or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., decreased from 109 to 75, or by 34, of which 6 are due to the East Indian Railway, and 14 to the Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

16. While the number of cattle accidents increased by 10 on the East Indian Railway, 9 on the Madras, 22 on the South Indian, and 21 on the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, the number on the Indus Valley and Kandahar and the Rajputana-Malwa Railways decreased by 10 on each line.

17. The number of cases of "bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines" rose from 16 to 34, of which 10 were on the Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railway, 18 on the Indus Valley and Kandahar, and 5 on the Rajputana-Malwa. The number of cases of "failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines" were also large on these lines, being 17, 22, and 15 respectively out of a total of 74. It is noteworthy that there was no accident of this kind on the Tirhoot State Railway, although 16 such cases occurred on that line during the corresponding period of the previous year.

18. Out of a total of 44 cases of failure of couplings, 15 were on the Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railway, and 11 on the Rajputana-Malwa.

19. On the Muttra-Hathras Railway the number of cases of broken rails shows a large decrease, being only 2 against 14.

20. Fire broke out in trains in 158 instances, of which 57 or 36 per cent. were on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, 32 or 20 per cent. on the Punjab Northern, and 30 or 19 per cent. on the Indus Valley and Kandahar Railway.

21. The casualties to passengers from causes other than accidents to trains, &c., were —

	Killed.	Injured.
From falling between carriages and platforms	. .	2
Falling on to the platform, ballast, &c., when getting into or out of trains	2	3
Whilst crossing the line at stations	1	. .
Falling out of carriages during the travelling of trains	7	31
Other accidents	. .	3
TOTAL	10	39

22. And the accidents to servants in the employ of railways, or of contractors, whilst performing duties connected directly with the transit of passengers and goods, from causes other than accidents to trains, &c., were—

	Killed.	Injured.
During shunting operations	6	15
Falling off engines, vans, wagons, &c.	4	16
Coming in contact with overbridges, &c., during the travelling of trains	. .	3
Coming in contact, while shunting with vehicles, &c., standing in adjoining lines	1	. .
Getting on or off trains, engines, &c.	1	13
Whilst loading, unloading, or sheeting	. .	14
Whilst breaking, spragging, or chocking wheels	. .	1
Whilst working at cranes or capstans	1	. .
Whilst working on the permanent way or in sidings	1	. .
Whilst walking along the line on the way home or to work	1	. .
Whilst walking, crossing, or standing on the line	12	12
Whilst passing between vehicles	2	. .
Whilst attending to the machinery of engines, cleaning them, &c.	. .	2
Whilst attending to gates at level crossings	1	2
Falling or being caught between vehicles and platforms	1	1
Falling off ladders, scaffolds, platforms, &c.	. .	1
By falling of lamps, wagon-doors, timber, weights, &c.	. .	2
Whilst coupling or uncoupling wagons	. .	9
Miscellaneous	3	25
TOTAL	34	116

23. Of other persons killed and injured by running trains, &c., 1 was killed and 1 injured whilst passing over the line at level-crossings; 31 were killed and 3 injured whilst trespassing on the line; 7 are supposed to have committed suicide; and 6 were killed and 2 injured from miscellaneous causes.

24. The following table shows the total number of persons killed and injured from causes connected with the working of trains as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1882 :—

	2ND QUARTER, 1882.		2ND QUARTER, 1883.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
PASSENGERS.				
From causes beyond their own control	. .	10	. .	22
From misconduct or want of caution	5	26	10	36

	2ND QUARTER, 1882.		2ND QUARTER, 1883.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
SERVANTS.				
From causes beyond their own control	16	33	2	28
From misconduct or want of caution	26	91	32	100
OTHERS.				
Whilst passing at level crossings	7	1	1	1
Trespassers, including suicides	26	8	38	3
Other persons	3	1	6	2
TOTAL	83	170	89	192

25. In addition to the above, 17 persons are reported to have been killed and 73 injured in yards, workshops, &c., and 72 passengers to have met death in carriages and at stations from causes unconnected with the working of trains.

RESOLUTION.—The attention of the officers concerned should be invited to the increase in the number of cases of failure of "machinery, springs, &c., of engines" and of couplings on the Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railway, and cases of "fire in trains" on the Punjab Northern State Railway.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Resolution, together with the abstract returns compiled by the Government of India, be communicated to the Governments, Administrations, and Officers noted in the margin for information.

The Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab.
The Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Assam, and British Burma.
The Residents, Hyderabad and Mysore.
The Agents to the Governor General for Rajputana, Central India, and Beluchistan.
The Director General of Railways.
The Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways.

Ordered also, that copies be forwarded to the Secretary of State for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

Ordered further, that this Resolution, with the abstract returns, be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

G. F. L. MARSHALL, *Major, R.E.*,
Under-Secretary.

TABLE No. 1.

GENERAL TOTAL.

NUMBER of PERSONS reported during the Second Quarter of 1883 as KILLED or INJURED on the several RAILWAYS open for Traffic in INDIA, distinguishing between PASSENGERS, RAILWAY SERVANTS, and OTHER PERSONS; and distinguishing also, in the case of the two former Classes, between ACCIDENTS happening from Causes beyond their own Control and ACCIDENTS happening otherwise.

Mean mileage open.	RAILWAYS.		PASSENGERS.						RAILWAY SERVANTS OR SERVANTS OF CONTRACTORS.						OTHER PERSONS.										TOTAL ALL CLASSES.	
			From Causes beyond their own Control.		From their own Misconduct or want of Caution.		Total.		From Causes beyond their own Control.		From their own Misconduct or want of Caution.		Total.		Whilst passing over Railways at Level-Crossings.		Trespassers and Suicides.		Miscellaneous not included in preceding columns.		Total.			
			Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
(a) 1,652 / 1,653	East Indian	1882	...	4	1	3	1	7	...	9	7	28	7	37	...	...	11	2	...	...	11	2	19	46
		1883	...	1	3	12	3	13	1	10	14	17	15	27	...	...	12	1	1	1	13	2	31	42
	GUARANTEED.																							
858 / 861	Madras	1882	...	...	1	3	1	3	1	5	1	4	2	9	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	4	12
		1883	...	6	...	...	...	6	...	2	1	6	1	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	14
(b) 655 / 655	South Indian	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	4	1	1	...	1	...	...	1	2	1	6
		1883	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	1	6	1	6	...	...	2	1	1	...	3	1	4	10
(c) 1,450½ / 1,456½	Great Indian Peninsula	1882	...	1	...	1	...	2	8	7	4	22	12	29	...	...	2	1	...	...	2	1	14	32
		1883	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	4	6	18	6	22	...	...	5	1	...	1	5	2	11	27
(d) 460½ / 461	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	1882	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	9	4	9	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	7	9
		1883	...	2	...	1	...	3	...	...	3	10	3	10	...	1	2	...	...	...	2	1	5	14
(e) 172½ / (f) 206½	Eastern Bengal	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	2	2	1	...	3	1	...	...	4	1	6	3
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
(g) 663½ / (h) 734½	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	1882	...	2	...	7	...	9	2	4	1	7	3	11	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	6	20
		1883	...	2	3	7	3	9	1	2	1	19	2	21	...	...	3	...	2	...	5	...	10	30
547 / 547	Oudh and Rohilkhand	1882	...	...	...	2	...	2	1	...	1	3	2	3	...	...	3	1	...	...	3	1	5	6
		1883	...	...	1	2	1	2	...	...	3	2	3	2	...	...	5	...	...	...	5	...	9	4
	IMPERIAL STATE.																							
397 / 421	Punjab Northern	1882	...	1	...	4	...	5	...	...	1	5	1	5	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	2	2	12
		1883	...	...	...	4	...	4	...	...	...	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
(i) 660 / 660	Indus Valley and Kandahar	1882	...	2	1	1	1	3	1	3	2	3	3	6	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	6	9
		1883	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	3	1	...	1	3	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	3	6
(j) 1,189½ / (k) 1,228	Rajputana-Malwa	1882	...	...	1	4	1	4	...	...	5	2	5	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	7	6
		1883	...	...	1	3	1	3	...	...	2	10	2	10	1	...	8	...	...	...	9	...	12	18
45 / 45	Wardha Coal	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	PROVINCIAL STATE.																							
29 / 52	Calcutta and South-Eastern	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		1883	...	5	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
27½ / 27½	Nalhati	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
233 / 230	Northern Bengal	1882	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	3	...	2	1	5	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	6
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
32 / 32½	Kaunia-Dharlla	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
85 / 166	Tirhoot	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	...
		1883	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	2	1
29 / 29	Muttra-Hathras	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...
86½ / 86½	Cawnpore-Farukhabad	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
98 / 149	Nágpur and Chhattisgarh	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
161 / 161	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	1
		1883	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	NATIVE STATES.																							
194 / 198	Bhavnagar-Gondal	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		1883	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
59½ / 59½	Gaekwar of Baroda's	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
121 / 121	Nizam's	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	..	...	..	...	...
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
86 / 86	Mysore	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
... / 19	Jodhpore	1882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		1883	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9,941½ / 10,340	TOTAL ...	1882	...	10	5	26	5	36	16	33	26	91	42	124	7	1	26	8	3	1	36	10	83	170
		1883	...	22	10	36	10	58	2	28	32	100	34	128	1	1	38	3	6	2	45	6	89	192

(a) Includes the Sindia, Dildarnagar-Ghazipore, and Patna-Gya State Railways and 5 miles each Branch of the Tirhoot State Railway.
(b) Exclusive of the Pondicherry Branch.
(c) Inclusive of the Branch State lines worked by the Company.
(d) Includes the Patri Branch worked by the Company.
(e) Inclusive of the Pundukha Branch of the Northern Bengal State Railway.
(f) Includes the Pundukha Branch of the Northern Bengal State Railway and Tista Bunn and Rangpur-Bogwag sections of the Eastern Bengal Railway.
(g) Exclusive of 15 miles between Ghaziabad and Delhi worked over by the Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railway Company.
(h) Exclusive of 13 miles of the East Indian Railway from Ghaziabad to Delhi, but inclusive of the lengths of the Sirhind Canal, and Escwind to Gandaniny Walla Branch lines, worked by the Company.
(i) Includes 7 miles from Mooltan to Mooltanbad Junction of the Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railway, worked over by the Indus Valley Railway.
(j) Includes the Mhow-Ajmere line, worked as a branch of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway system.
(k) Includes the Mhow-Ajmere and Rewari-Ferozepore lines, worked as branches of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway system.

TABLE No. 2.

NUMBER of PERSONS reported during the Second Quarter of 1883 as KILLED or INJURED on the several RAILWAYS open for Traffic in INDIA, distinguishing between PASSENGERS, RAILWAY SERVANTS, and OTHER PERSONS, and classifying, as far as practicable, the Nature and Causes of the Accidents occasioning the Death or Injury.

PASSENGERS.

RAILWAYS.	From accidents to trains, &c. See Table No. 4. Killed.	Injured.	From causes other than Accidents to Trains, &c. 1. From falling between carriages and platforms. Killed.	Injured.	2. Falling on to the platform, ballast, &c., when getting into, or out of, trains. Killed.	Injured.	3. Whilst crossing the line at stations. Killed.	Injured.	4. By closing of carriage doors. Killed.	Injured.	5. Falling out of carriages during the travelling of trains. Killed.	Injured.	6. Other accidents. Killed.	Injured.	Total. Killed.	Injured.	Total Passengers. Killed.	Injured.
GUARANTEED.																		
East Indian ...	...	...	...	2	1	3	...	...	...	...	2	6	...	2	3	13	3	13
Madras ...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
South-Indian ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	3
Great Indian Peninsula ...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bombay, Baroda and Central India ...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	3
Eastern Bengal ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sind, Punjab and Delhi ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	9	...	...	3	9	3	9
Oudh and Rohilkhand ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	2	1	2
IMPERIAL STATE.																		
Punjab Northern ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	4	...	4
Indus Valley and Kandahar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	3	...	3
Rajputana-Malwa ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	3	1	3
Wardha Coal ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PROVINCIAL STATE.																		
Calcutta and South-Eastern ...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Nalháti ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kaunia-Dharlla ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	2	...
Muttra-Háthras ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cawnpore-Farukhabad ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
NATIVE STATES.																		
Bhavnagar-Gondal ...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Gaekwar of Baroda's ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mysore ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ... 1883 ...	...	19	...	2	2	3	1	...	...	...	7	31	...	3	10	39	10	58
TOTAL ... 1882 ...	1	9	1	2	1	1	1	2	...	1	1	19	...	2	4	27	5	3[illegible]

SERVANTS.

RAILWAYS.	From accidents to trains, &c. See Table No. 4. Killed.	Injured.	From causes other than Accidents to Trains, &c. 1. During shunting operations. Killed.	Injured.	2. Falling off engines, vans, wagons, &c. Killed.	Injured.	3. Coming in contact with over-bridges, &c., during the travelling of trains. Killed.	Injured.	4. Coming in contact, while shunting, with vehicles, &c., standing in adjoining lines. Killed.	Injured.	5. Getting on or off trains, engines, &c. Killed.	Injured.	6. Whilst loading, unloading or sheeting. Killed.	Injured
East Indian	...	1	3	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	1
Madras	...	...	1	2	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
South-Indian	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
Great Indian Peninsula	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	1
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sind, Punjab and Delhi	...	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	4
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Punjab Northern	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Indus Valley and Kandahar	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rajputana-Malwa	...	...	...	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Wardha Coal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Calcutta and South-Eastern	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nalháti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Kaunia-Dharlla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muttra-Háthras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mysore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL 1883	...	12	6	15	4	16	...	3	1	...	1	13	...	14
TOTAL 1882	13	16	8	13	6	20	...	1	...	...	2	13	1	8

SERVANTS (continued) — From causes other than Accidents to Trains, &c.

RAILWAYS.	7. Whilst breaking, spragging or chocking wheels. Killed.	Injured.	8. Whilst working at cranes or capstans. Killed.	Injured.	9. Whilst working on the permanent-way or in sidings. Killed.	Injured.	10. Whilst walking along the line on the way home or to work. Killed.	Injured.	11. Whilst walking, crossing or standing on the line. Killed.	Injured.	12. Whilst passing between vehicles. Killed.	Injured.	13. Whilst attending to the machinery of engines, cleaning them, &c. Killed.	Injured.
East Indian	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	4	...	1	...	...	...
Madras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South-Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Great Indian Peninsula	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	...	...	...	...
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sind, Punjab and Delhi	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Punjab Northern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indus Valley and Kandahar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Rajputana-Malwa	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wardha Coal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Calcutta and South-Eastern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nalháti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Kaunia-Dharlla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muttra-Háthras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mysore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL 1883	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	12	12	2	...	...	2
TOTAL 1882	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	4	7	2	1	...	1

RAILWAYS.	14. Whilst attending to gates at level-crossings. Killed.	Injured.	15. Falling or being caught between vehicles and platforms. Killed.	Injured.	16. Falling off ladders, scaffolds, platforms, &c. Killed.	Injured.	17. By falling of lamps, wagon-doors, timber weights, &c. Killed.	Injured.	18. Whilst coupling or uncoupling wagons. Killed.	Injured.	19. Miscellaneous. Killed.	Injured.	Total. Killed.	Injured.	Total Servants. Killed.	Injured.
East Indian	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	13	15	26	15	27
Madras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	8	1	8
South-Indian	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	1	6
Great Indian Peninsula	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	3	6	18	6	22
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	2	3	9	3	10
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	4
Sind, Punjab and Delhi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	3	2	20	2	21
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	3	2
Punjab Northern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	5
Indus Valley and Kandahar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	3
Rajputana-Malwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	10	2	10
Wardha Coal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Calcutta and South-Eastern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Nalháti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	4
Kaunia-Dharlla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Muttra-Háthras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Mysore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL 1883	1	2	1	1	...	1	...	2	...	9	3	[illegible]	34	116	34	128
TOTAL 1882	2	2	1	1	...	2	1	1	2	11	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	42	124

OTHERS.

RAILWAYS.	Whilst passing over the line at level-crossings. Killed.	Injured.	Trespassers. Killed.	Injured.	Suicides. Killed.	Injured.	Miscellaneous. Killed.	Injured.	Total Others. Killed.	Injured.	Total all Classes. Killed.	Injured.
East Indian	...	...	8	1	4	...	1	1	13	2	31	42
Madras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	14
South-Indian	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	3	1	4	10
Great Indian Peninsula	...	...	4	1	1	...	...	1	5	2	11	27
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	5	14
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sind, Punjab and Delhi	...	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	5	...	10	30
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	5	...	[illegible]	4
Punjab Northern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Indus Valley and Kandahar	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	3	6
Rajputana-Malwa	(a) 1	...	(b) 8	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	12	13
Wardha Coal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Calcutta and South-Eastern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Nalháti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	[illegible]
Kaunia-Dharlla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]
Muttra-Háthras	...	...	...	...	...	...	(c) 1	...	1	...	1	[illegible]
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mysore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL 1883	1	1	31	3	7	...	6	2	45	6	89	192
TOTAL 1882	7	1	19	8	7	...	3	1	36	10	88	1[illegible]0

(a) One owner of a cattle was killed by a train accident at an unprotected level-crossing gate, not [illegible]
(b) One owner of a cattle was killed by a train accident whilst attempting to save the animal [illegible]
(c) One cartman was killed by a train accident, not entered in column "Passengers" under "From accidents to trains, &c., see Table No. 4" of this table.

TABLE No. 3.

ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the Second Quarter of 1883, as having occurred on the several RAILWAYS open for Traffic in INDIA, distinguishing the different Classes of Accidents, and the Number of Passengers and Others, and of Railway Servants, KILLED or INJURED in each Class of Accidents.

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

	EAST INDIAN.							GUARANTEED. MADRAS.							SOUTH INDIAN.							GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA.						
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	6	..	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	2
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	7	..	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	..	..	..	8	...	...	..	2	...	2
4. Collisions between light engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	..	..	...	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	...	...	...	..	...	..	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	.	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	..	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	.	...	...	28	...	...	...	..	...	...
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	..	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...
9. Ditto over cattle on the line	43	...	...	...	...	..	...	29	.	...	...	...	..	...	74	...	...	...	...	...	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	11	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	.	...	..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings		...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	4	...	...	.	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	.	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	..	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	57	...	.	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	3	...	...	...	...	..		1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	1	...	2	...	3
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	73	...	...	...	1	..	1	49	...	6	...	...	...	6	95	...	...	...	...	...	..	175	...	3	...	4	..	7
Number of Passenger miles	214,344,282							52,817,426							60,137,774							102,945,071						
„ of Servants employed	27,100							5,727							7,153							23,035						
Train-mileage of all descriptions	2,987,656							479,454							401,612							2,873,876						

TABLE No. 3.—ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the Second Quarter of 1883, &c.—*continued.*

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

	GUARANTEED—*concluded.* BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA.							EASTERN BENGAL.							SIND, PUNJAB AND DELHI.							OUDH AND ROHILKHAND.						
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	1	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	.	...
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	..	..	...	
4. Collisions between light engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	.	...	.	12	...	..	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	.
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Ditto over cattle on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	..	...	...	...	...	...	9	..	...	...	...	...	...	43	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	...	...	2	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	..	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	...	...	..	...	..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	...	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	..	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	38	...	2	...	1	...	3	12	...	...	...	2	...	2	99	...	...	...	1	...	1	53	...	...	...	...	...	...
Number of Passenger miles	58,075,262							26,739,861							63,677,306							41,277,133						
„ of Servants employed	6,298							6,765							15,637							4,846						
Train-mileage of all descriptions	605,058							201,757							840,198							505,078						

TABLE No. 3.—ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the Second Quarter of 1883, &c.—*continued.*

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

	IMPERIAL STATE.																								PROVINCIAL STATE.							
	PUNJAB NORTHERN.							INDUS VALLEY AND KANDAHAR.							RAJPUTANA-MALWA.							WARDHA COAL.							CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN.						
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	...	...	5
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Collisions between light engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	8	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	..	...	.	...	...	...	2	...	..	...	...	..	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Ditto over cattle on the line	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	66	(a)1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	(a)1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	2	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	66	...	...	...	...	...	...	165	...	...	...	3	...	3	143	2	...	...	...	2	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	5	...	...	...	5
Number of Passenger miles			25,915,571							19,627,808							86,830,592							998,894							4,347,959				
„ of Servants employed			3,180							4,896							9,661							420							335				
Train-mileage of all descriptions			224,955							592,351							1,335,910							21,022							33,793				

(a) Not passenger, see foot-note to Table No. 2.

TABLE No. 3.—ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the Second Quarter of 1883, &c.—*continued.*

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

	PROVINCIAL STATE—*continued.*																																			
	NALHATI.							NORTHERN BENGAL.							KAUNIA-DHARLLA.							TIRHOOT.							MUTTRA-HATHRAS.							
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines, and vehicles standing foul of the line	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Collisions between light engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Trains running over cattle on the line	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	(a)1	...	...	...	1	...
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	...	...	...	1	...
Number of Passenger miles			705,541							8,758,943							241,155							6,492,866							2,076,059				
„ of Servants employed			154							1,994							147							1,618							177				
Train-mileage of all descriptions			10,136							162,811							5,824							103,406							11,189				

(a) Not passenger, see foot-note to Table No. 2.

TABLE No. 3.—ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the Second Quarter of 1883, &c. —*continued.*

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

	PROVINCIAL STATE—(*concluded.*)																NATIVE STATES.											
	CAWNPORE—FARUKHABAD.							NAGPUR AND CHHATTISGARH.							RANGOON AND IRRAWADDY VALLEY.							BHAVNAGAR-GONDAL.							GAEKWAR OF BARODA'S.						
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Collisions between light engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Ditto over cattle on the line	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	3	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Number of Passenger miles			4,468,181						4,529,353							14,247,395							8,551,432							1,659,628					
„ of Servants employed			399						2,847							1,233							674							231					
Train-mileage of all descriptions			24,205						132,081							149,774							170,244							18,278					

TABLE No. 3.—ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., reported during the Second Quarter of 1883, &c. —*concluded.*

SEE ALSO TABLE No. 4.

	NATIVE STATES—*concluded.*																		TOTAL ALL RAILWAYS.							
	NIZAM'S.							MYSORE.							JODHPORE.											
	No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.		No.	Number of Passengers and others.		Number of Servants.		Total all Classes.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	5	...	...	...	5
2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, engines and vehicles standing foul of the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	10	...	...	...	10
3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	...	...	...	3	...	3
4. Collisions between light engines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	2	...	2
5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75	...	...	...	1	...	1
7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	1	...	1
8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Ditto over cattle on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	413	(a)1	...	...	...	1	...
10. Ditto over obstructions on the line	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	(a)1	...	...	...	1	...
11. Ditto through gates at level-crossings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	...	...	...	1	...	1
12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	74	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Ditto of tyres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Ditto of wheels	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Ditto of axles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Ditto of brake apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Ditto of couplings	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. Ditto of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, culverts, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Broken rails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Slips in cuttings or embankments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Fire in trains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	158	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	92	1(a)	4	...	4	1	8
TOTAL ALL CLASSES	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1,104	3	19	...	12	3	31
Number of Passenger miles			5,631,448						2,885,722							(b)							817,982,662				
„ of Servants employed			705						619							(c)							125,351				
Train-mileage of all descriptions			74,253						27,563							3,662							12,006,146				

(a) Not passengers, see Table No. 2.

(b) Certified figures have not been received.

(c) Figures not received.

TABLE

No. 4.

ACCIDENTS to TRAINS, ROLLING-STOCK, PERMANENT-WAY, &c., on the several RAILWAYS open for Traffic in INDIA during the Number of RAILWAY

Second Quarter of 1883, distinguishing the different Classes of ACCIDENTS, the Number of PASSENGERS and OTHERS, and the SERVANTS Killed or Injured thereby.

RAILWAYS.	1. Collisions between passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains.	2. Collisions between passenger trains and goods or mineral trains, or trains and vehicles standing foul of the line.	3. Collisions between goods trains, or parts of goods trains.	4. Collisions between light engines.	5. Passenger trains, or parts of passenger trains, leaving the rails.	6. Goods trains, or parts of goods trains, engines, &c., leaving the rails.	7. Trains or engines travelling in the wrong direction through points.	8. Trains running into stations or sidings at too high a speed.	9. Trains running over cattle on the line.	10. Trains running over obstructions on the line.	11. Trains running through gates at level-crossings.	12. The bursting of boilers or tubes, &c., of engines.	13. The failure of machinery, springs, &c., of engines.	14. The failure of tyres.	15. The failure of wheels.	16. The failure of axles.	17. The failure of brake apparatus.	18. The failure of couplings.	19. The failure of tunnels, bridges, viaducts, or culverts, &c.	20. Broken rails.
East Indian...	...	2	7	...	...	1	...	...	43	11	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
GUARANTEED.																				
Madras	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	29	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Indian	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	74	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Great Indian Peninsula...	...	2	8	3	1	28	...	...	26	1	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Bombay, Baroda and Central India... ...	...	1	2	...	1	4	...	1	...	..	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sind, Punjab and Delhi ...	...	5	5	...	3	12	...	...	9	2	4	10	17	...	...	2	...	15	...	...
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	43	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
IMPERIAL STATE.																				
Punjab Northern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indus Valley and Kandahar ...	...	...	1	1	...	8	2	2	53	6	...	18	22	...	..	...	...	6	...	...
Rajputana-Malwa	...	2	2	...	3	...	8	5	66	5	3	5	15	...	...	9	...	11	...	5
Wardha Coal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
PROVINCIAL STATE.																				
Calcutta and South-Eastern ...	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	7	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	3	...	...
Nalhâti	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Northern Bengal	1	3	...	...	...	5	...	...	4	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Kaunia-Dharlla	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mattra-Hathras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley ...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	1	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
NATIVE STATES.																				
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Mysore	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL 1883 ...	2	20	28	5	14	75	11	8	413	37	21	34	74	1	2	13	...	44	...	10
TOTAL 1882 ...	1	11	28	2	10	100	16	1	379	43	13	16	71	15	1	12	...	13	2	12

RAILWAYS.	21. The flooding of portions of permanent-way.	22. Slips in cuttings or embankments.	23. Fire in trains.	24. Fire at stations, or involving injury to bridges or viaducts.	25. Other accidents.	Total all Classes.	Numbers of Passengers and others. Killed.	Numbers of Passengers and others. Injured.	Number of Servants. Killed.	Number of Servants. Injured.	Total all Classes. Killed.	Total all Classes. Injured.	Mean miles of Railway open.	Number of Passengers carried.	Train mileage of all descriptions.	Passenger mileage.	Per mile open. Number of passengers carried.	Per mile open. Train mileage of all descriptions.	Per mile open. Passenger mileage.	Total passengers. Per million of passengers. Killed.	Total passengers. Per million of passengers. Injured.	Total passengers. Per million passenger miles. Killed.	Total passengers. Per million passenger miles. Injured.
East Indian...	...	...	2	2	3	73	...	...	...	1	...	1	1,653	3,268,394	2,987,656	214,344,282	1,977	1,807	129,670	...	...	...	...
GUARANTEED.																							
Madras	...	...	13	...	1	49	...	6	...	...	...	6	861	1,162,988	479,454	52,817,426	1,351	557	61,344	...	5·158	...	0·114
South Indian	...	...	9	1	1	95	...	...	...	...	...	...	655	1,466,851	401,612	60,137,774	2,239	613	91,813	...	...	...	...
Great Indian Peninsula...	3	11	57	9	18	175	...	3	...	4	...	7	1,456½	1,779,442	2,873,876	102,945,071	1,222	1,973	70,679	...	1·686	...	0·029
Bombay, Baroda and Central India... ...	2	...	1	...	23	38	...	2	...	1	...	3	461	2,063,627	605,058	58,075,262	4,476	1,312	125,977	...	0·969	...	0·024
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	...	2	12	...	...	...	2	...	2	206½	788,506	201,757	26,739,861	3,814	976	129,334	...	...	...	...
Sind, Punjab and Delhi ...	1	...	3	...	11	99	...	...	...	1	...	1	734½	1,200,877	840,198	63,677,306	1,635	1,144	86,695	...	...	...	...
Oudh and Rohilkhand	...	...	1	...	...	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	547	831,051	505,078	41,277,133	1,519	923	75,461	...	...	...	...
IMPERIAL STATE.																							
Punjab Northern	...	...	32	5	3	66	...	...	...	...	...	...	421	556,484	224,955	25,915,571	1,322	534	61,557	...	...	...	...
Indus Valley and Kandahar ...	...	...	30	2	14	165	...	...	...	3	...	3	660	407,379	592,351	19,627,808	617	898	29,739	...	...	...	...
Rajputana-Malwa	...	1	...	...	3	148	(a)2	...	...	...	2	...	1,228	1,500,382	1,395,910	86,830,592	1,222	1,088	70,709	...	.	...	...
Wardha Coal	...	...	8	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	39,677	21,022	998,894	882	467	22,198	...	...	...	...
PROVINCIAL STATE.																							
Calcutta and South-Eastern ...	...	...	1	...	...	18	...	5	...	...	...	5	52	331,370	33,793	4,347,959	6,373	650	83,615	...	15·088	...	1·149
Nalhâti	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	27½	32,866	10,136	705,541	1,206	372	25,891	...	...	...	...
Northern Bengal	...	...	...	...	2	21	...	.	...	...	...	...	230	180,590	162,811	8,758,943	785	708	38,082	...	...	...	...
Kaunia-Dharlla	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	..	...	..	...	32½	23,024	5,824	241,155	713	180	7,478	...	...	...	...
Tirhoot	...	...	...	...	2	9	...	...	...	..	...	...	166	192,386	103,406	6,492,866	1,159	623	39,114	...	...	...	...
Mattra-Hathras	...	...	...	...	1	6	(a)1	...	...	...	1	...	29	106,155	11,189	2,076,059	3,661	386	71,588	...	...	...	...
Cawnpore-Farukhabad	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	86½	165,797	34,205	4,468,181	1,917	395	51,655	...	...	...	...
Nágpur and Chhattísgarh ...	...	...	...	1	...	13	...	...	...	..	...	...	149	195,992	132,081	4,529,353	1,315	886	30,398	...	...	...	...
Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley ...	1	...	...	...	7	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	161	487,279	149,774	14,247,395	3,027	930	88,493	...	...	...	...
NATIVE STATES.																							
Bhavnagar-Gondal	...	...	...	...	1	6	...	3	...	...	...	3	193	191,550	170,244	8,551,432	992	882	44,308	...	15·881	...	0·351
Gaekwar of Baroda's	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	59½	83,921	18,278	1,659,628	1,416	308	28,011	...	...	...	...
Nizam's	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	121	109,493	74,258	5,631,448	905	614	46,541	...	...	...	...
Mysore	...	...	1	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	86	90,459	27,563	2,835,722	1,052	321	33,555	...	...	...	...
Jodhpore	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	18,872	3,662	...	993	193	...	...	...	...	..
TOTAL 1883 ...	1	...	...	...	...	1,104	(a)3	19	...	12	3	31	10,340	17,275,412	12,006,146	817,982,662	1,671	1,161	79,109	...	1·099	...	0·033
TOTAL 1882 ...	9	12	158	21	92	1,083	1	9	13	16	14	25	9,941½	13,135,808	9,159,496	635,089,735	1,321	921	63,879	0·076	0·635	0·002	0·014

(a) Not passengers, see foot-note to Table No. 3.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF OCTOBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE, IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bajra Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kararu, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.			Districts.	Provinces.
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.		
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Madras.	Ganjam	8 13	8 13	8 13	...	...	...	17 0	16 3	17 13	17 14	19 10	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	35 3	35 3	35 3	26 10	26 10	26 10	215 13	215 13	215 13	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	15 8	Ganjam	Madras.
	Vizagapatam	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 8	9 0	11 5	11 5	11 5	23 13	24 13	21 10	23 13	27 11	31 11	24 3	24 3	25 3	37 6	37 6	22 3	95 3	95 3	93 5	14 10	14 10	15 3	14 0	14 0	14 0	Vizagapatam	
	Godavery	9 14	9 14	12 10	...	...	...	11 14	11 14	13 14	14 0	15 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	28 13	...	...	...	29 2	29 2	32 13	35 11	33 10	23 2	194 6	194 6	194 6	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	Godavery	
	Kistna	9 13	9 13	13 11	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 11	15 13	15 3	16 5	21 5	20 13	25 11	...	...	...	26 14	26 14	29 6	30 13	30 13	22 13	145 13	145 13	145 13	15 11	15 11	15 11	15 3	15 3	15 3	Kistna	
	Nellore	10 5	10 5	12 10	...	...	...	13 6	13 6	15 13	14 0	14 0	17 0	21 10	21 10	28 13	...	...	24 6	21 13	21 13	31 13	23 2	23 2	22 0	93 5	93 5	140 0	15 6	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 5	Nellore	
	Cuddapah	13 10	13 10	15 6	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	12 6	13 5	13 5	13 11	30 13	30 0	31 10	30 6	29 0	33 6	30 0	30 0	31 8	34 6	32 11	26 11	194 6	194 6	194 6	17 2	17 2	17 8	16 10	16 10	16 10	Cuddapah	
	Anantapur	13 6	13 6	12 8	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	11 13	14 0	14 0	13 0	33 0	33 0	30 14	30 2	30 2	17 14	32 0	32 0	37 0	37 0	30 3	...	...	...	...	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	13 2	Anantapur	
	Bellary	18 3	17 5	19 3	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	12 5	13 0	13 0	13 8	49 6	35 0	37 2	36 5	26 5	30 2	38 0	30 0	33 13	34 11	34 11	33 10	94 13	94 13	82 10	15 13	15 13	16 6	15 8	15 8	16 2	Bellary	
	Kurnool	11 2	12 2	12 11	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 5	11 13	12 2	11 6	37 0	35 0	35 10	35 0	33 11	28 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	188 13	188 13	190 8	14 13	14 13	15 3	14 6	14 6	14 13	Kurnool	
	Madras	11 0	11 0	10 13	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	12 14	15 2	15 2	14 5	23 0	23 0	23 0	22 6	20 8	25 0	26 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	85 0	85 0	87 8	16 14	16 14	16 11	16 8	16 8	16 3	Madras	
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 3	14 3	13 8	15 2	15 2	14 5	...	...	...	21 2	21 2	...	26 0	26 0	27 6	25 11	25 0	25 0	92 5	92 5	92 5	17 5	17 5	17 5	17 0	17 0	17 0	Chingleput	
	North Arcot	9 11	9 11	9 11	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 0	16 5	16 5	15 6	32 13	32 13	29 2	29 11	29 11	26 6	28 3	30 13	33 6	30 3	30 13	30 13	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 0	17 0	17 13	16 3	16 3	17 0	Trichinopoly	
	South Arcot	9 6	10 2	8 10	...	...	...	14 13	14 5	15 11	15 5	15 5	17 8	...	...	30 3	33 14	31 14	35 6	40 5	37 8	36 6	30 5	30 5	31 2	97 3	145 13	121 8	17 13	17 5	17 13	17 5	16 5	16 13	Madura	
	Tanjore	11 0	11 0	9 14	...	...	...	17 0	17 6	16 3	20 0	20 0	20 14	35 0	31 0	36 10	40 10	40 10	40 10	...	...	...	29 11	29 11	28 8	70 0	70 0	70 0	18 5	18 5	18 5	17 13	17 13	17 13	Tinnevelly	
	Trichinopoly	9 3	9 3	9 10	...	...	...	14 13	14 13	14 6	15 14	15 14	14 14	32 3	32 3	28 0	30 8	30 8	29 3	32 13	32 13	29 8	35 2	34 8	28 8	131 3	131 3	131 3	14 2	15 2	14 11	13 10	14 10	14 10	Coimbatore	
	Madura	11 11	11 11	11 11	...	...	...	13 14	14 5	14 11	15 3	15 3	15 10	37 5	35 10	35 10	35 5	35 5	32 5	21 13	21 10	20 13	28 0	28 0	28 14	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 3	15 10	16 2	14 11	14 11	15 10	Nilgiris	
	Tinnevelly	9 3	9 3	8 0	...	...	...	14 5	14 5	15 14	16 0	16 0	19 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	34 3	34 2	34 2	30 13	30 13	30 13	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 0	17 0	17 13	16 3	16 3	17 0	Trichinopoly	
	Coimbatore	13 2	13 2	11 8	...	...	...	14 6	14 6	13 8	15 6	15 6	14 14	27 13	26 2	27 0	28 10	31 13	33 6	40 5	42 5	42 5	28 0	28 0	28 14	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 3	15 10	16 2	14 11	14 11	15 10	Tanjore	
	Nilgiris	10 10	10 10	9 3	...	...	...	10 6	11 3	10 6	11 10	12 0	11 8	21 10	20 0	23 2	22 6	21 0	21 0	34 2	34 2	34 2	30 13	30 13	30 13	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 0	17 0	17 13	16 3	16 3	17 0	Trichinopoly	
	Salem	12 11	12 11	11 0	...	...	...	15 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	15 0	15 0	36 6	36 6	28 8	39 8	36 8	36 8	40 5	37 8	36 6	30 5	30 5	31 2	97 3	145 13	121 8	17 13	17 5	17 13	17 5	16 5	16 13	Madura	
	South Canara	9 0	8 10	8 8	...	...	...	9 11	9 11	8 11	13 3	14 3	9 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 11	29 11	28 8	70 0	70 0	70 0	18 5	18 5	18 5	17 13	17 13	17 13	Tinnevelly	
	Malabar	7 3	7 14	9 6	...	...	...	14 10	15 6	14 10	15 6	16 3	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 13	32 13	29 8	35 2	34 3	28 8	131 3	131 3	131 3	14 2	15 2	14 11	13 10	14 10	14 10	Coimbatore	
																				21 10	21 10	21 10	23 3	24 14	19 14	161 13	161 13	161 13	13 0	13 0	13 5	12 0	12 0	12 0	Nilgiris	
																				34 3	30 13	29 2	34 8	34 8	33 8	151 10	151 10	151 10	17 8	17 8	17 0	16 14	16 14	16 0	Salem	
																				20 3	20 3	16 5	23 3	23 3	17 11	109 5	109 5	116 6	18 6	18 6	15 13	17 3	17 3	14 13	South Canara	
																				17 8	21 14	19 11	26 14	26 14	25 3	121 8	121 8	121 8	14 6	14 6	15 5	13 8	13 8	14 6	Malabar	
Bombay.	Bombay	10 2	10 2	10 0	16 8	18 0	18 0	7 8	7 8	8 9	11 7	12 8	14 6	17 0	18 6	20 0	15 15	15 14	16 13	11 5	11 13	14 2	15 13	16 0	17 5	62 6	62 6	62 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	12 9	12 9	Bombay	Bombay.
	Ahmedabad	12 0	12 0	14 0	20 0	20 0	...	6 8	6 8	8 8	12 0	12 0	9 0	16 0	16 0	19 0	16 8	15 0	19 0	...	...	...	15 4	15 8	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	16 8	16 0	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	Ahmedabad	
	Kaira	11 7	11 7	13 5	17 12	20 0	22 14	10 0	10 0	10 0	13 5	12 13	16 0	...	16 0	20 0	15 4	14 14	14 16	20 0	18 13	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	Surat	
	Surat	11 2	11 4	12 8	12 4	12 4	7 11	7 6	7 6	8 3	8 4	8 5	8 12	19 4	19 4	15 9	14 3	14 7	14 14	...	...	...	12 10	12 10	17 13½	106 0	106 0	106 0	14 8½	14 8½	13 5½	14 8½	14 8½	13 5½	Broach	
	Broach	12 2	12 4	12 9	...	...	...	9 12	9 15½	11 1	12 10	12 12	13 5	16 0	16 0	16 13½	13 10	13 14	15 4	25 11	25 11	25 11	13 4	13 14	14 15	71 0	71 0	71 1	15 12	15 12	14 5	15 10	15 10	13 13	Tanna (Salsette)	
	Tanna (Salsette)	10 10	10 5	9 12	12 14	12 14	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 9	10 9	11 4	18 10	18 10	18 10	14 6	14 6	15 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	Colába (Alibág)	
	Colába (Alibág)	8 8	8 8	9 0	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	7 8	12 8	12 8	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 4	14 4	14 6	140 0	140 0	140 0	13 0	13 0	14 2	12 14	12 14	14 0	Khandesh (Dhulia)	
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	15 12	16 12	14 2	...	...	...	7 10	7 10	7 4	12 10	12 10	10 15	18 9	18 9	18 11	16 0	16 0	16 2	18 6	18 6	27 9	15 4	15 4	15 8	128 0	128 0	128 0	15 8	15 8	14 8	15 5	15 5	14 4	Násik	
	Násik	14 4	14 4	14 4	...	...	...	7 7	7 7	7 7	12 0	12 0	12 0	...	...	...	15 5	15 5	18 0	...	...	...	17 14	18 11	17 5	75 0	79 10	91 5	12 4½	14 0	14 11	12 2	13 13	14 9	Ahmednagar	
	Ahmednagar	14 6	15 13	13 4	...	...	...	8 14	8 13	10 4	10 13	10 8	11 10	26 3	26 0	28 0	18 8	18 0	21 2	15 6	15 6	...	14 15	16 11	14 15	71 0	71 0	80 0	13 10	13 10	12 8	13 6	13 6	12 4	Poona	
	Poona	12 10	12 10	12 10	9 4	9 4	...	9 13	9 13	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 4	21 12	21 12	26 2	17 4	17 4	20 11	...	...	...	16 14	14 10	18 5	71 1	71 0	80 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 4	12 8	Sholápur	
	Sholápur	14 8	14 8	12 11	...	...	...	11 7	10 7	11 1	12 4	11 5	12 4	25 14	24 13	34 8	23 14	22 1	28 8	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	12 0	100 0	100 0	130 0	10 8	10 8	12 6	10 0	10 0	11 12	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	19 0	19 0	28 0	16 8	16 8	15 0	8 8	6 8	6 12	12 0	12 0	9 0	34 0	32 0	39 0	32 0	29 0	35 0	25 0	25 0	39 0	16 0	16 0	16 8	65 0	65 0	75 0	11 8	11 12	13 8	11 0	11 4	12 8	Belgaum	
	Satara	13 6	13 6	12 1	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	8 3	11 7	11 7	10 0	19 0	20 0	25 9	17 2	18 2	21 11	31 0	31 0	35 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	8 6	8 6	9 13	8 0	8 0	9 0	Dharwar (Hubli)	
	Belgaum	16 11	16 0	19 0	12 0	12 6	14 0	12 3	12 8	10 0	12 9	13 8	10 8	21 0	21 0	30 0	19 0	19 0	27 0	21 2	18 13	21 2	14 11	14 11	15 6	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 2	13 2	12 8	12 15	12 15	12 5	Ratnágiri	
	Dharwar (Hubli)	21 0	21 0	23 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	28 0	28 0	32 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	18 0	18 0	16 0	12 8	12 8	13 0	213 5	213 5	213 5	14 0	12 0	13 5	13 0	11 0	12 0	Kanara (Karwar)	
	Ratnágiri	8 9	7 15	11 14	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	8 9	14 2	14 2	15 9	...	...	18 3	18 3	18 3	18 3	20 0	20 0	23 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	Pánch Maháls (Godhra)	
	Kanara (Karwar)	9 0	9 0	10 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 8	12 8	11 0	13 8	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 5	9 5	9 5	65 5	65 5	65 5	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	32 0	Aden	
	Pánch Maháls (Godhra)	10 8	10 8	11 6	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	11 6	13 5	13 5	15 0	20 0	20 0	32 0	14 3	14 3	16 0	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	15 2	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 0	11 7	12 4	12 0	11 7	Asirgarh	
	Aden	7 0	7 0	8 0	...	...	...	6 3	6 3	7 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	12 7	12 7	11 3	11 3	11 3	9 5	18 10	17 8	...	14 9	14 9	16 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	14 1	14 1	14 13	14 0	14 0	14 12	Baroda	
	Asirgarh	13 12	13 12	14 2	...	...	...	11 12	11 12	10 4	13 10	13 10	11 6	18 12	18 13	26 4	17 13	17 13	22 0	...	...	...	15 5	16 0	19 6	137 8	137 8	137 8	12 8	12 8	12 2	12 0	12 0	12 0	Disa	
	Baroda	10 8	10 8	10 8	11 11	15 3	15 5	8 12	8 12	9 6	10 8	10 8	12 8	15 12	...	...	15 12	14 9	15 15	...	...	...	21 0	20 8	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	Nimach	
	Disa	12 2	13 0	15 8	...	...	...	6 14	6 14	6 6	9 0	9 0	8 11	10 7	11 8	17 8	16 0	17 10	19 0	...	...	...	29 0	28 0	25 9	86 14	80 0	70 0	16 0½	16 0½	15 6	15 0	16 0	16 0	Nasirabad	
	Nimach	18 4	18 0	16 0	26 0	25 0	18 0	9 0	9 0	9 8	10 0	10 0	11 0	35 0	32 0	23 0	14 0	14 0	18 0	...	...	...	14 2	14 0	17 4½	70 0	70 0	75 0	50 0	50 0	55 0	40 0	40 0	48 0	Rájkot	
	Nasirabad	20 0	18 8½	17 4	27 0	26 2	25 2½	6 0	6 0	6 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	22 11	22 0	24 0	19 6	17 15	17 0	...	...	...	22 12	22 4	17 4	200 0	160 0	160 0	†12 12½	†12 12½	†12 15½	12 12	12 8	12 12	Upper Sindh Frontier	
	Rájkot	15 10	15 0	15 5	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	6 8	9 0	9 0	11 4	17 2	17 0	18 10	16 2	14 8	16 0	58 0	80 0	...	17 2	17 4	18 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	†12 12½	†12 12½	†12 15½	12 12	12 8	12 12	Karachi	
	Upper Sindh Frontier	13 12	13 12	14 0	24 8	24 0	24 0	10 0	10 4	11 4	13 4	12 12	20 0	32 0	30 12	40 0	26 8	26 8	26 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	18 0	17 0	18 0	90 0	90 0	105 0	17 11	17 12	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	Haidarabad (Nakur)	
	Karachi	13 2	13 0	12 10	24 0	24 0	20 0	9 0	10 0	9 8	15 9	14 0	16 8	24 0	24 0	24 0	19 0	18 0	18 0	26 0	26 0	24 0	22 0	17 0	18 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	14 8	14 8	14 0	13 0	14 0	14 0	Shikarpur	
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	14 0	16 0	16 0	27 0	30 0	26 0	13 8	13 0	13 0	16 8	17 0	17 0	28 0	28 0	35 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	...	...	...	21 4	23 8	19 5	240 0	240 0	230 0	14 4	14 8	13 10	14 0	14 0	18 5	Sukkur	
	Shikarpur	14 8	13 10	13 2½	26 0	25 0	24 14	12 4	11 13	13 0	16 0	15 6	19 5	27 8	28 0	29 2	26 0	26 0	27 4	...	...	...	20 8	20 8	19 8	120 0	138 0	145 0	13 4	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	11 5	Tharand Parkar (Umarkot)	
	Sukkur	15 0	14 8	14 8	28 0	28 8	28 8	11 8	10 8	12 0	15 8	15 0	19 8	30 8	30 8	32 8	25 8	25 8	23 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	160 0	160 0	14 12	14 12	11 5	14 12	14 12	11 5		
	Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	11 8	11 8	16 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	13 0	...	...	...	16 15	17 14	21 12																		
																													Prices per md. of 40 seers.							
																													₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.	₹ a. p.					
Western Districts.	Burdwan	15 0	13 8	13 4	25 5	25 0	40 0	12 0	15 0	21 0	16 8	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	21 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 0 4	2 15 8	2 15 0	12 15a	13 2	13 8	Burdwan	Western Districts.
	Bancoorah	16 0	14 0	14 8	14 0	12 0	17 0	12 8	14 0	22 0	16 0	16 12	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 4	18 0	320 0	240 0	...	3 3 6	3 3 6	3 1 0	12 0b	12 0	13 0	Bancoorah	
	Beerbhoom	15 0	15 8	13 4	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	17 0	16 8	22 8	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	20 0	19 8	160 0	160 0	200 0	3 1 3	3 1 3	3 1 0	12 0c	12 0	13 0	Beerbhoom	
	Midnapore	12 0	13 0	12 0	15 0	17 0	...	14 0	16 0	21 0	18 0	22 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 4	16 0	17 0	155 0	155 0	155 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	12 12d	12 12	13 8	Midnapore	
	Hooghly	13 °0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	8 0	9 0	10 0	14 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 9e	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
	Howrah	13 4	13 4	13 0	...	...	...	12 12	13 8	15 0	14 8	18 8	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	19 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 13 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	Howrah	

a In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Cuiwa 13-4 seers, Raneegunge 13 seers.
b Retail prices of salt at Raipore 11 seers, at Mejia, Bishenpore and Indas 13 seers, at Senamukhi 12 seers, and at Kotulpore 13-12 seers.

* The figure now quoted is correct. † In common use.

c In the interior retail prices of salt range from 11 to 13 seers.
d In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Ghattal 14-4 seers and Contai 11-8 seers.
e In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Serampore 13 seers and Jehanabad 12-8 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF OCTOBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumnoo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumnoo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumnoo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verugu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Naglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verugu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Naglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Verugu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Naglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
	Central Districts.																															*Central Districts.*	
	Calcutta	15 6	16 0	13 11	20 10	20 10	20 0	11 0	11 8	10 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	20 10	21 5	...	21 5	23 0	...	18 13	20 0	21 5	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	13 5	13 5	14 9	Calcutta	
	24-Pergunnahs	13 4	13 5	13 5	16 0	17 8	21 4	8 0	8 0	10 0	13 5	13 5	16 0	20 0	16 0	...	...	13 5	...	17 8	17 8	17 8	80 0	90 0	100 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 13*f*	12 13	13 5	24-Pergunnahs	
	Nuddea	14 8	14 8	13 5½	24 10	24 10	24 10	11 14	15 4	15 4	18 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 13	18 13	18 12	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	11 10½*g*	11 10½	11 10½	Nuddea	
	Khoolna	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	20 0	22 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	180 0	180 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	10 8*h*	10 8	11 0	Khoolna	
	Jessore	11 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	13 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	20 0	22 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	11 8*i*	10 12	11 8	Jessore	
	Moorshedabad	15 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	32 0	12 0	15 0	15 0	16 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	20 0	22 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	13 5*j*	13 0	12 0	Moorshedabad	
	Dinagepore	15 0	16 0	14 4	15 0	14 8	14 8	12 0	19 0	18 0	15 8	21 0	25 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	17 12	14 8	160 0	180 0	160 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	11 8*k*	11 8	12 0	Dinagepore	
	Rajshahye	13 5	16 0	14 4	22 8	29 0	32 0	12 0 to 13 0	13 8	18 8 to 15 0	13 8 to 14 0	14 8	18 12 to 21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	19 8	21 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 0 0	3 1 3	3 2 0	12 0	12 0	12 12	Rajshahye	
	Rungpore	13 5	13 5	16 0	...	...	...	10 0	13 5	14 0	13 5	19 0	20 0	..	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 3	15 0	110 0	110 0	130 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 5 3	11 14*l*	11 14	11 8	Rungpore	
	Bogra	16 8	18 0	15 0	...	...	...	10 8	9 12	15 12	15 0	12 12	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 12	16 8	15 0	62 8	62 8	67 8	3 2 8	3 2 8	3 2 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Bogra	
	Pubna	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 4	9 8	14 8	17 4	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 13	18 13	18 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 0 0	12 0*m*	12 0	12 0	Pubna	
	Darjeeling	7 0	7 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	128 0	126 8	160 0	4 0 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	8 0*n*	8 0	8 0	Darjeeling	
	Jalpáiguri	10 0	10 0	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	12 8	13 4	14 0	16 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 4 0	12 40	12 4	11 0	Jalpáiguri	
	Eastern Districts.																			16 0	16 0	16 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 40	12 4	11 0		
	Dacca	14 4	14 4	14 5	18 0	18 0	40 0	16 0	14 8	22 10	18 0	17 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	*Eastern Districts.*	
	Furreedpore	22 0	21 0	20 0	30 0	30 0	37 0	15 0	18 0	20 0	18 0	20 0	21 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	19 8	17 10	97 0	90 0	101 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	13 0*p*	13 5	13 5	Dacca	
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	16 0	17 0	15 0	19 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	12 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	12 0*q*	12 0	12 0	Furreedpore	
	Mymensingh	12 0	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	11 8	13 4	26 8	15 0	16 0	27 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	18 0	17 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 11 0	2 11 0	3 1 0	13 0*r*	13 0	11 0	Backergunge	
	Chittagong	12 8	11 8	9 0	...	...	...	14 0	13 8	14 0	22 0	16 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	12 4*s*	12 4	13 0	Mymensingh	
	Noakholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	22 0	21 0	21 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	12 0	16 0	40 0	40 0	80 0	3 4 0	4 4 0	2 14 0	10 8*s*1	9 0	13 0	Chittagong	
	Tipperah	13 0	11 12	11 8	...	...	...	18 8	18 12	17 8	19 8	20 0	27 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	3 2 0	10 0*t*	10 0	10 0	Noakholly	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 4	13 0	13 5	13 14	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 4	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	12 0*u*	12 4	12 8	Tipperah	
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	16 0	18 0	20 0	19 0	20 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	320 0	...	...	6 0 0	4 0 0	8 0	6 4	9 0	Chittagong Hill Tracts	
	Behar.																			14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Hill Tipperah	
	Patna	20 0	21 0	22 0	32 0	29 0	28 0	13 0	15 0	14 0	16 0	18 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	28 0	27 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	3 0 0	3 1 6	3 0 0	11 0	10 0	10 8	*Behar.* Patna	
	Gya	17 0	17 0	18 8	21 0	23 0	23 8	11 0	11 0	12 0	14 8	14 8	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	23 8	160 0	160 0	180 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	11 0*v*	11 0	12 0	Gya	
	Shahabad	16 0 to 17 0	16 0 to 18 0	16 0 to 18 0	24 0	24 0	26 0	10 0 to 11 0	10 0 to 11 0	17 8 to 18 0	15 0	14 0 to 15 8	18 0 to 19 0	23 0	24 0	...	24 0	24 0	...	27 8	24 0	25 0	28 0 to 29 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	12 8*v*1	12 8	12 8	Shahabad	
	Durbhunga	13 0	13 0	15 0	23 0	22 0	28 0	11 0	12 0	14 0	12 8	14 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	10 0*w*	10 0	11 0	Durbhunga	
	Mozufferpore	15 0	17 0	18 0	25 0	30 0	30 0	9 0	10 0	12 0	11 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	23 0	24 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 5 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 8*x*	12 0	12 0	Mozufferpore	
	Sarun	17 0	17 0	16 0	25 0	29 0	30 0	9 8	10 0	10 0	16 0	17 8	22 0	25 0	28 0	38 0	...	...	...	24 0	25 0	28 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	11 0*y*	11 0	12 0	Sarun	
	Chumparun	19 0	19 0	16 0	31 0	29 0	30 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	18 0	19 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	32 0	22 0	24 0	23 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 5 0	11 0*z*	11 0	11 0	Chumparun	
	Monghyr	18 9	17 13	16 13	27 4	26 4	31 8	12 5	11 8	14 11	13 15	13 2	16 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	24 0	23 0	...	...	...	3 6 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	11 0*z*1	11 0	11 0	Monghyr	
	Bhágalpur	15 2	15 2	13 14	22 11	21 7	27 12	12 10	12 10	18 15	15 12	15 2	21 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 2	23 10	27 13	126 0	126 0	105 0	3 2 5	3 2 5	3 1 0	12 1*z*1	12 1	12 9	Bhágalpur	
	Purneah	16 0	18 0	14 0	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	18 0	16 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 11	22 11	26 8	151 8	151 14	151 8	3 1 0	3 1 0	2 14 0	12 10*z*2	12 10	12 10	Purneah	
	Maldah	16 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	10 0	16 0	16 0	12 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	11 0*z*3	10 8	10 12	Maldah	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	13 0	14 0	13 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 8	16 0	18 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	22 0	21 0	160 0	140 0	120 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 6 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Sonthal Pergunnahs	
	Orissa.																			17 0	19 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 6 0	3 8 0	3 2 0	10 8*z*4	10 8	11 0		
	Cuttack	13 2	13 2	15 12	...	...	...	13 2	13 2	15 12	21 0*	21 0	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	*Orissa.* Cuttack	
	Pooree	10 8	10 8	12 8	...	...	...	15 12	15 12	22 8	19 11	19 11	27 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 6	18 6	13 2	80 0	80 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Pooree	
	Balasore	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96 0	96 0	120 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	13 8*z*5	13 8	13 4	Balasore	
	CHOTA NAGPORE.																			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																			14 0	14 0	12 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	4 2 0	4 2 0	3 2 0	9 2*z*6	9 8	12 8	CHOTA NAGPUR.	
	Hazáribágh	14 8	14 0	14 0	18 0	20 0	...	9 8	9 8	11 0	14 8	15 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...													*South-Western Frontier Agency.*	
	Lohardugga	16 0	15 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	14 0	16 0	22 0	18 0	20 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 0	32 0	42 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 10 0	3 11 0	3 7 6	10 8*z*7	10 0	11 0	Hazáribágh	
	Singbhoom	20 0	18 0	20 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	24 0	32 0	36 0	28 0	36 0	48 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	34 0	38 0	30 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	4 7 0	4 7 0	3 12 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	Lohardugga	
	Manbhoom	18 0	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	17 0	21 0	22 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Singbhoom	
																				24 0	24 0	24 0	180 0	180 0	180 0	3 10 0	3 9 0	3 12 0	10 12*z*6	10 12	10 12	Manbhoom	
																				16 0	16 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 10 0	3 9 0	3 12 0	10 12*z*6	10 12	10 12		

* In the interior retail price of common rice varies from 26-4 to 30-8 seers per rupee.
f In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Baraset and Bussirhat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 10-8 seers, Barrackpore 12-12 seers, and Dum-Dum 12 seers.
g In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Koushtea and Choomlanga 13 seers, Meherpore 11-8 seers, and Ranaghat 11-14 seers.
h Retail price of salt both in Satkhira and Bagirhat 11 seers.
i In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers and Bongong 13 seers.
j In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Lalbagh 11 seers, Jungypore 12 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.
k Retail price of salt at Raigunge 10-8 seers and Nitpore 12 seers.
l In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Gaibanda and Nilphamari 12 seers and Kurigram 13 seers.
m In Serajgunge retail price of salt 13 seers.
n Retail price of salt at Kurseong 8 seers and Silliguree 10 seers.
o Retail price of salt at Fallacotta in Alipore sub-division 10 seers.
p In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Manicksgunge 12 seers, Moonsheegunge 10 seers 10½ chittacks.
q In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Goalundo 11 seers, Madaripore 12 seers, Bnauga 12-8 seers, and Gopalgunge 13-12 seers.
r In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 10-10 seers, Perozepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.
s In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishoregunge 10-10 seers, Attea 12 seers, Jamalpore 11-4 seers, and Netrokona 12-8 seers.
t Retail price of salt at Kumeriah 10 seers and Hathazaree and Cox's Bazar 8 seers.
u In the interior retail prices of salt range from 8 to 12-4 seers.
v In the interior retail prices of salt are as follow:—Brahmunberiah 12 seers and Chandpore 13 seers.
w In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jehanabad 12 seers, and Aurungabad 11-8 seers.
x In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Buxar 11-8 seers, Sasseram 11 seers, and Bhabooah 10-8 seers.
y In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madhubani 11 seers and Tajpur 11-8 seers.
z In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt range from 10-8 to 12-8 seers.
*z*1 In the interior retail prices of salt are as follow:—Sewan 11 seers and Gopalgunge 12 seers.
*z*2 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt range from 10 to 13 4 seers.
*z*3 In the interior retail prices of salt are as follow:—Beguserai and Jamui 11-8 seers.
*z*4 Retail prices of salt both in Begusarai and Jamui 11-8 seers.
*z*5 In Banka, Muddehpoora and Soopole retail price of salt 11 seers.
*z*6 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kissengunge 10 seers and Arrareah (at Ranegunge) 10 seers.
*z*7 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Deogurh 12-8 seers, Godda 11 seers, and Rajmehal 12 seers.
*z*8 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Deogurh 12-8 seers, Godda 11 seers, and Rajmehal 12 seers.
*z*9 In Khoorda retail price of salt 13 seers.
*z*10 Retail price of salt at Bhudruck 8 seers.
*z*11 Retail price of salt at Chatra 11 seers and Khurrackdiha 11-4 seers.
*z*12 Retail price of salt at Daltongunge 10 seers.
*z*13 In Govindpore retail price of salt 11 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF OCTOBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	*R a.*	*R a.* per md.	*R a.*	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Assam.	Sylhet	12 8	12 8	10 8	...	...	...	12 0	11 8	14 0	17 8	17 8	31 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	16 13	108 0	108 0	108 0	3 4	3 5	3 2	12 8	12 0	12 12	Sylhet	Assam.
	Cachar	9 6	9 6	9 2	13 5	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	21 5	17 12	17 12	25 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	12 13	14 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 8	3 8	3 6	10 10	10 10	10 10	Cachar	
	Goálpárá	22 8	17 8	22 0	...	...	...	11 8	15 0	12 0	16 0	17 8	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	13 4	16 0	62 0	80 0	120 0	3 4	3 4	3 8	12 4	12 8	11 0	Goálpárá	
	Gáro Hills	4 0	4 0	4 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	10 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 0	5 0	5 6	8 0	8 0	6 6	Gáro Hills	
	Kámrúp	15 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	12 8	12 0	12 0	19 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	14 0	12 0	200 0	200 0	160 0	3 8	3 8	3 6	11 0	11 8	11 12	Kámrúp	
	Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	8 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Darrang	
	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 8	8 0	13 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 ‹	8 0	8 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	4 0	4 0	3 12	9 0	9 0	10 0	Nowgong	
	Sibságar	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	18 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 8	Sibságar	
	Lakhimpur	9 0	9 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	8 0	9 0	8 0	12 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 0	160 0	160 0	200 0	4 8	4 8	5 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Lakhimpur	
	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	...	6 10	8 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	8 0	10 0	10 8	9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	...	...	...	5 0	4 12	5 0	8 0	5 0	8 0	Khási & Jaintiá Hills	
	Nága Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	6 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 0	2 0	2 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	16 0	16 0	13 0	2 8	2 8	3 0	Nága Hills	
N. W. Provinces.	Dehra Dún	18 0	18 0	18 8	26 0	26 0	28 0	6 8	6 8	8 6	10 8	10 8	11 0	26 0	26 0	25 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	22 8	22 8	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	S. Ch. 11 0	S. Ch. 11 0	S. Ch. 10 8	10 8	10 8	10 0	Dehra Dún	N. W. Provinces.
	Saháranpur	19 5½	19 5½	20 15½	25 13	26 14	32 4	7 8½	7 8½	10 12	12 14½	12 14½	15 1	26 14	26 14	30 1½	25 13	25 13	25 13	24 11½	24 11½	26 14	129 0	129 0	129 0	13 2¼	13 2½	12 1	12 14½	12 14½	11 13	Saháranpur	
	Muzaffarnagar	18 2	18 2	19 12	31 14	33 0	30 13	6 9	6 9	6 9	13 4	13 12	15 6	26 6	27 8	33 0	23 2	22 0	24 6	24 14	24 6	25 13	110 0	110 0	132 0	12 8	12 6	11 10	11 8	11 8	11 4	Muzaffarnagar	
	Meerut	17 0	17 8	18 8	29 0	27 8	27 0	6 8	6 0	6 0	13 0	13 0	15 0	27 0	27 0	27 0	21 0	19 0	23 0	23 8	23 0	25 0	110 0	110 0	110 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Meerut	
	Bulandshahr	18 4	18 0	19 12	27 0	27 0	24 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	10 0	10 5	25 0	26 0	25 8	21 0	16 0	24 0	24 0	22 8	22 0	23 0	120 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	11 14	..	...	...	Bulandshahr	
	Aligarh	18 0	17 8	18 4	24 8	24 8	23 0	6 8	6 8	7 0	10 8	10 8	13 0	28 0	28 0	24 0	23 0	23 0	23 0	22 8	22 0	23 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 8	12 8	13 0	12 0	12 4	12 8	Aligarh	
	Kumaun	15 0	15 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	18 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	13 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	12 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Kumaun	
	Garhwál	21 0	20 0	24 0	22 0	22 0	27 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	15 4	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	30 0*	30 0*	30 0*	9 0	9 0	9 0	280 0	280 0	280 0	8 8	9 0	7 8	7 13	8 0	6 14	Garhwál	
	Bijnor	18 14	19 2	17 12	29 4	29 0	26 2	11 13	11 4	13 4	13 8	13 8	14 1	...	...	21 6	21 6	21 6	...	22 8	21 6	22 12	135 0	135 0	135 0	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 0	Bijnor	
	Moradabad	20 0	19 2	18 28	28 2	23 2	9 4	9 4	9 6	14 0	14 0	16 4	28 0	28 0	26 4	16 4	16 4	16 4	23 12	21 14	21 14	21 14	125 0	125 0	125 0	12 10	12 10	12 0	12 8	12 8	11 14	Moradabad	
	Budaun	21 9½	20 1½	18 0	31 3	29 6	22 12½	6 0	6 0	6 9½	15 9½	16 12½	17 6	...	28 3	...	27 9½	...	24 0	24 9½	25 3	21 0	192 0	192 0	192 0	12 0	11 6	11 1½	11 6	11 1½	10 12½	Budaun	
	Bareilly	19 6	18 12	17 3	26 4	26 4	23 12	7 8	7 8	8 12	15 0	13 2	17 8	27 8	27 8	25 0	25 0	20 0	23 8	23 12	23 2	21 14	125 0	125 0	125 0	12 3	12 3	12 3	11 14	11 14	11 4	Bareilly	
	Sháhjahánpur	22 8	20 12	18 12	35 4	34 0	24 4	9 12	10 0	9 4	18 4	17 8	19 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	25 12	21 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 0	13 0	12 2	11 0	11 0	10 12	Sháhjahánpur	
	Tarái Pergunnahs	22 8	23 12	21 0	35 0	37 8	30 0	8 12	8 12	10 0	15 0	14 6	17 8	31 4	33 12	25 0	25 0	25 0	35 0	20 0	20 0	19 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	11 8	11 4	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Tarái Pergunnahs	
	Muttra	17 8	17 4	17 0	23 8	23 8	24 8	7 0	...		12 0	12 0	15 0	23 0	23 0	24 0	20 0	20 0	21 8	22 0	21 8	23 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	14 0	14 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 0	Muttra	
	Agra	17 0	17 8	17 8	23 0	24 8	25 0	5 0	5 8	6 0	11 8	11 8	14 0	23 0	23 0	25 0	20 8	20 8	22 0	21 8	21 8	23 8	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	Agra	
	Farukhabad	18 14½	18 8	17 4½	27 15	27 10	21 11½	7 4	7 4	6 13	13 6	12 11	14 14½	24 14½	24 13	...	23 5	23 6	22 1	23 12	23 12	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	12 4	12 4	11 8½	11 8	Farukhabad	
	Mainpuri	18 4	18 0	19 0	24 0	25 0	24 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	7 0	10 0	13 0	...	...	...	21 0	...	23 0	25 0	24 0	27 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	Mainpuri	
	Etáwah	18 8	17 8	19 0	22 0	22 0	22 8	6 0	6 0	6 0	12 0	12 0	14 8	24 0	24 0	27 0	25 8	19 8	25 0	23 2	22 2	23 12	150 0	165 0	150 0	12 4	12 6	12 0	11 4	11 12	12 0	Etáwah	
	Etah	19 14	19 3	19 8	26 12	25 12	24 8	7 8	7 0	8 0	13 0	12 12	13 8	...	...	23 0	22 10	20 8	22 8	31 0	29 0	30 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	9 8	Etah	
	Jalaun	19 8	19 0	19 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	33 0	32 8	30 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	11 6	11 6	Jalaun	
	Jhánsi	21 4½	21 9	22 1	33 0	30 0	32 6	37 4	8 0	7 14½	8 0	13 0	15 0	30 0	30 0	28 0	22 8	24 8	...	29 0	29 0	28 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	13 8	13 8	12 12	13 0	13 0	12 8	Jhánsi	
	Lalitpur	23 1	23 8	21 8	37 8	37 8	36 0	10 0	9 0	11 0	13 0	11 0	15 0	35 8	36 0	29 4	26 0	26 0	28 0	28 8	27 4	28 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	11 0	11 0	12 0	Lalitpur	
	Cawnpore	19 0	18 12	18 0	29 8	29 0	28 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	14 0	13 8	16 8	30 0	30 0	27 0	26 8	26 0	28 0	40 0	40 0	35 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	11 0	11 0	Cawnpore	
	Fatehpur	16 14	16 14	16 10	25 12	25 12	24 8	11 4	10 8	12 12	15 8	14 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 4	29 0	25 12	150 0	120 0	140 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	Fatehpur	
	Banda	23 0	23 0	19 0	30 0	32 0	23 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	12 0	13 0	18 0	40 0	40 0	35 0	33 0	34 0	32 8	38 4	34 14	32 10	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 13	11 8	11 14	11 0	10 8	10 8	Banda	
	Allahabad	17 6	17 4	17 6	28 2	28 12	25 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	15 12	16 0	19 0	32 8	30 8	32 8	31 0	29 0	30 0	26 14	25 6	23 4	148 12	148 12	148 12	10 12	10 12	10 12	10 10	10 10	10 10	Allahabad	
	Humirpur	20 4	18 11	18 9	22 8	23 10	18 0	10 0	9 4	11 12	12 0	13 8	...	28 4	25 14	28 2	29 4	25 14	30 6	29 11	28 13	25 3	160 0	160 0	160 0	10 9½	10 9½	11 3	10 6½	10 6½	10 6½	Humirpur	
	Jaunpur	19 0	18 5	19 0	26 14	24 11	29 10	7 12	7 1	7 12	12 12	12 12	15 8	31 1	...	...	22 9	...	19 11	27 0	27 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	140 0	8 8	8 8	9 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Jaunpur	
	Gorakhpur	18 0	18 14	18 14½	27 0	27 0	27 0	11 11	12 2½	13 8	16 8	16 3	20 11	32 6½	34 3	36 0	...	...	...	24 6	25 1	20 10	147 8	147 8	181 8	10 8	10 8	10 8	9 14	9 14	9 12	Gorakhpur	
	Basti	18 0	17 0	18 12	25 12	28 0	28 0	10 0	12 0	16 0	15 0	15 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	21 0	80 0	70 0	100 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Basti	
	Azamgarh	16 4	16 4	17 11	22 2	22 2	24 6	10 5	10 5	14 12	14 0	14 12	25 1	31 0	...	20 10	20 10	20 10	30 10	24 2	24 2	21 11	90 0	90 0	120 0	10 11	10 6½	11 4	9 13½	9 13½	10 2	Azamgarh	
	Mirzapur	16 8	17 0	15 0	26 0	26 0	22 0	10 0	10 0	13 8	13 0	16 0	27 0	26 0	28 0	25 0	24 0	25 0	25 0	25 1½	24 11½	21 11	128 12	128 12	130 0	10 15½	10 15½	10 15½	10 5	10 5	10 5	Mirzapur	
	Benares	16 13	16 13	16 4	23 14	23 5	24 15	10 5	10 13½	11 6	16 4	16 13	17 14	26 0	26 0	26 0	26 0	27 2	25 8	25 12	26 6	25 0	100 0	130 0	100 0	11 8	11 9	11 4	11 8	11 0	11 4	Benares	
	Gházipur	18 0	18 10½	19 5	24 7	27 11	27 11	9 0	9 0	10 15½	14 0	14 2½	15 7	24 7	28 5	25 12	26 1½	25 14	25 8	25 12	26 1	25 0	150 0	150 0	140 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	18 8	12 8	12 8	Gházipur	
	Balia	19 5	19 5	16 8	27 0	27 0	25 0	9 0	10 4	10 0	15 8	18 0	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	19 9	150 0	150 0	140 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	18 8	12 8	12 8	Balia	
	Pilibhít	20 8	21 2½	18 11	36 0	37 8	25 9	15 0	15 0	17 12	20 0	17 15	19 14½	35 0	...	32 8	...	...	...	25 12	26 6	25 0	100 0	130 0	100 0	11 8	11 9	11 4	11 8	11 0	11 4	Pilibhít	
	Sultánpur	20 0	20 0	20 8	32 0	32 0	32 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	18 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	19 9	150 0	150 0	140 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	18 8	12 8	12 8	Sultánpur	
	Partábgarh	18 6	18 4	19 4	29 13	28 12	30 0	16 14	15 0	19 6½	18 12	18 0	20 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	31 0	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 4	12 0	12 0	11 12	Partábgarh		
	Fyzabad	17 0	18 0	16 14	26 8	28 0	26 0	10 0	10 0	11 6	16 0	16 0	17 12	30 0	34 8	34 0	...	...	...	26 5	27 8	21 10½	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 13	10 10	10 6	Fyzabad	
	Kheri	22 0	22 4	19 0	33 0	31 0	25 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	14 0	14 0	18 0	40 0	38 0	44 0	...	...	...	26 0	28 0	28 8	120 0	120 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 0	Kheri	
	Lucknow	18 5½	18 4	17 3½	28 12	27 8	24 8	6 6	6 0	6 6	14 4	13 4	15 12	27 9	27 0	24 8	25 4	24 0	25 4	27 0	26 0	22 0	140 0	130 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	10 12	10 0	Lucknow	
	Bára Banki	19 0	18 8	17 8	28 0	28 0	25 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	15 0	14 0	15 8	36 0	34 0	33 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	27 0	24 0	22 4	180 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	11 0	9 8	9 8	Bára Banki	
	Bahraich	21 8	16 0	17 0	40 0	32 0	29 0	16 0	10 0	11 8	18 0	14 0	18 0	43 0	34 0	52 0	22 0	22 0	13 0	34 8	30 0	26 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	10 8	11 0	9 12	Bahraich	
	Rai Bareli	19 4	19 0	19 8	37 8	38 0	27 0	...	...	...	17 4	17 8	18 0	...	...	29 8	29 0	23 0	39 8	30 6	28 12	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 8	12 0	11 8	11 8	10 8	Rai Bareli	
	Sitapur	21 15	21 14	19 8	36 11	35 8	25 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	17 5	17 0	21 0	28 6	28 0	..	25 0	25 0	28 10½	33 0	33 2	26 12	200 0	200 0	240 0	11 8	11 4	11 8	11 4	11 0	11 8	Sitapur	
	Gonda	21 4	21 8	19 14	38 4	39 0	27 12	15 8	15 8	15 12	16 14	16 10	19 2	42 0†	41 0†	46 10†	22 0	22 0	24 0‡	26 0	25 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 8	Gonda	
	Unáo	18 0	18 0	18 8	26 0	26 0	26 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	16 0	14 0	15 0	32 0	30 0	33 0	21 0	21 0	21 0‡	25 5	23 7	22 8	200 0	200 0	240 0	9 6	9 6	9 6	7 8	7 8	8 7	Hardui	
	Hardui	18 5	17 13	20 6	30 0	30 0	27 11	5 10	5 10	5 10	11 4	11 4	12 14	...	23 7	...	...	...	16 14														
Oudh.																																	Oudh.	
Punjab.	Gujránwála (a)	22 8	23 0	26 4	40 0	42 0	50 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	32 0	32 0	40 0	28 0	28 0	25 0	31 4	32 8	31 4	95 0	95 0	95 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	15 0	15 0	15 0	Gujránwála (a)	Punjab.
	Lahore (b)	23 0	22 0	24 8	38 0	32 0	45 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	13 0	38 0	36 0	30 0	24 0	24 0	27 0	35 0	32 0	32 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Lahore (b)	
	Ferozepore	21 0	21 0	23 0	35 0	36 0	41 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	36 0	36 0	...	...	...	...	33 0	33 0	39 0	100 0	100 0	90 0	13 8	13 12	12 0	13 8	13 8	12 0	Ferozepore	
	Sirsa (c)	20 8	20 8	23 0	36 0	36 0	43 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	35 0	35 0	48 0	28 0	28 0	35 0	36 0	37 0	40 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 8	12 8	11 8	12 0	12 0	11 0	Sirsa (c)	
	Hissar (d)	20 0	19 8	17 8	29 0	30 0	33 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	28 0	29 0	34 0	23 0	25 0	26 8	28 0	28 8	30 0	120 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	11 0	10 8	11 8	Hissar (d)	
	Rohtak (d)	19 0	19 0	17 12	27 0	25 0	24 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	22 0	22 0	25 0	21 0	21 0	22 0	25 0	24 0	26 0	100 0	80 0	85 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Rohtak (d)	
	Gurgaon (e)	20 0	20 0	20 0	27 0	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 0	23 0	23 0	28 0	22 0	22 0	26 0	25 0	24 0	27 0	130 0	120 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Gurgaon (e)	
	Delhi (f)	18 8	18 8	20 0	24 8	25 0	26 8	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	24 0	26 0	29 0	20 0	22 0	23 8	24 0	24 0	27 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	12 4	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	Delhi (f)	
	Karnál	19 0	18 8	20 0	27 0	27 0	31 0	...	...	...	12 8	12 8	13 0	23 0	23 0	31 0	21 0	21 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	24 0	150 0	150 0	140 0	14 0	14 0	13 12	13 12	13 12	13 8	Karnál	
	Umballa (g)	20 8	20 0	24 4	28 0	28 0	33 0	...	...	...	11 4	11 4	13 0	30 0	30 0	36 0	16 0	16 0	26 0	27 0	26 0	29 8	150 0	150 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 10	14 0	14 0	13 8	Umballa (g)	
	Ludhiána	23 8	23 8	24 0	38 0	36 0	33 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	12 8	34 0	34 0	40 0	26 0	27 0	25 0	31 0	30 0	33 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	14 8	Ludhiána	
	Simla (b)	17 0	16 0	18 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	20 8	20 4	80 0	80 0	80 0	11 4	11 4	10 12	10 8	10 8	10 1	Simla (b)	

* Mandwa. † Maize. (a) Prices rising. (b) Prices falling. (c) Gram rising. (d) Barley and gram falling. (e) Wood falling. (f) Barley, bajra, and jowar rising. (g) Wheat and gram falling.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF OCTOBER 1883—*continued*.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Punjab—*continued*.	Kángra	20 0	20 0	24 0	32 0	32 0	40 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	24 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 8	Kángra	Central Provinces.
	Jullundur (*a*)	21 8	21 8	25 0	34 0	32 0	40 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	8 0	36 0	34 0	38 0	24 0	26 0	22 0	...	29 0	28 0	31 8	110 0	110 0	110 0	14 8	14 8	14 6	14 0	14 0	14 0	Jullundur (*a*)	
	Hoshiárpur	20 0	20 0	28 0	25 0	25 0	45 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	28 0	28 0	40 0	20 0	20 0	17 0	...	27 8	27 8	30 8	110 0	110 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	13 12	13 12	13 12	13 8	Hoshiárpur	
	Gurdáspur	24 8	24 8	32 0	30 0	28 0	45 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	30 0	30 0	40 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	29 0	28 0	31 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 4	13 4	13 8	12 8	12 8	13 0	Gurdáspur	
	Amritsar (*b*)	23 8	23 8	25 8	37 0	33 4	43 8	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 8	37 0	35 0	34 0	31 0	27 8	23 0	...	34 8	31 12	36 4	90 0	90 0	85 0	15 6	15 6	14 12	15 0	15 0	14 6	Amritsar (*b*)	
	Siálkot	24 8	24 8	27 0	39 0	36 0	47 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	35 0	35 0	34 0	31 0	30 0	25 0	...	31 0	29 8	28 0	120 0	120 0	130 0	15 8	15 8	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 8	Siálkot	
	Gujrát (*c*)	25 8	25 0	29 12	40 0	40 0	46 0	...	...	...	11 8	12 0	14 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	36 0	...	28 12	29 8	27 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	*	*	*	15 8	15 4	15 0	Gujrát (*c*)	
	Jhelum (*a*)	25 0	25 0	25 0	33 0	32 0	43 0	...	...	...	12 0	8 0	10 0	34 0	34 0	32 0	38 0	38 0	32 0	...	29 0	27 0	26 0	120 0	120 0	160 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	15 0	15 8	Jhelum (*a*)	
	Ráwalpindi (*d*)	27 0	25 12	24 0	41 0	40 0	40 0	...	...	...	11 12	7 8	14 0	...	40 0	40 0	46 0	45 0	32 0	...	35 0	32 8	24 8	95 0	84 0	85 0	15 6	15 4	14 12	15 4	15 0	14 8	Ráwalpindi (*d*)	
	Shahpúr	27 0	27 0	22 0	40 0	40 0	32 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	12 0	36 0	36 0	28 0	34 0	34 0	32 0	...	39 0	38 0	23 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	Shahpúr	
	Jhang (*e*)	19 6	20 8	20 0	29 0	28 8	37 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 0	10 8	24 0	26 0	30 0	30 0	32 0	24 0	...	26 12	27 5	26 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	14 4	14 4	15 0	14 2	14 2	14 8	Jhang (*e*)	
	Montgomery (*a*)	18 0	17 8	20 0	...	29 0	32 0	...	...	...	5 8	5 8	5 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	32 0	31 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	Montgomery (*a*)	
	Mooltan (*f*)	16 8	16 0	17 4	28 0	28 0	28 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	26 0	28 0	30 0	25 0	24 0	26 0	...	28 0	25 0	24 0	90 0	90 0	90 0	14 0	14 0	14 8	13 8	13 8	14 4	Mooltan (*f*)	
	Muzaffargarh (*g*)	17 8	17 0	18 8	27 0	26 0	28 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	7 0	22 0	21 0	18 0	23 0	17 0	22 0	...	22 0	21 8	20 0	90 0	90 0	120 0	*	*	*	13 8	13 8	12 8	Muzaffargarh (*g*)	
	Dera Ghází Khán	18 2	18 8	18 12	25 0	27 8	25 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	7 8	31 4	32 8	30 0	27 8	30 0	28 12	...	26 9	25 0	23 0	125 0	125 0	100 0	29 14	30 10	30 0	26 14	27 8	27 8	Dera Ghází Khán	
	Dera Ismail Khán	20 10	20 0	20 4	31 4	29 6	27 6	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 1	33 12	34 6	37 8	30 0	30 0	30 1	...	29 6	31 14	28 7	80 0	80 0	80 0	50 0	47 8	60 0	47 8	45 0	56 4	Dera Ismail Khan	
	Bannu	28 2	29 6	30 5	36 4	38 2	48 12	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	10 0	40 0	40 0	50 0	32 8	33 12	35 0	...	29 6	31 14	28 7	80 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	100 0	120 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	Bannu	
	Kohát (*h*)	20 6	20 1	18 13	33 2	32 8	30 9	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	12 13	30 10	30 10	35 12	31 14	30 10	37 10	...	26 12	28 1	19 2	102 0	81 0	120 0	68 14	68 14	102 0	63 12	63 12	87 0	Kohát (*h*)	
	Pesháwar (*a*)	21 8	21 0	19 8	37 0	32 12	38 0	...	...	...	11 5	11 5	10 12	30 14	26 10	34 8	33 8	29 9	22 0	...	28 0	26 14	20 0	107 0	105 0	96 0	40 0	39 0	58 8	38 8	38 0	56 0	Pesháwar (*a*)	
	Hazára	26 0	25 0	25 8	40 0	40 0	41 0	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	...	38 0	36 0	...	30 0	28 0	...	...	23 0	24 0	17 0	80 0	140 0	70 0	...	13 0	...	12 0	12 0	...	Hazára	
Central Provinces.	Saugor	28 12	28 12	20 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 0	27 8	25 0	120 0	160 0	160 0	9 12	9 12	8 12	9 8	9 8	8 8	Saugor	British Burma.
	Damoh	28 0	27 0	23 8	...	...	...	13 8	12 8	13 8	14 8	13 8	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	29 0	31 8	110 0	110 0	200 0	10 8	10 4	10 0	10 4	10 0	9 8	Damoh	
	Jubbulpore	23 0	21 0	18 0	23 8	21 0	26 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	16 0	15 0	16 0	30 0	27 0	26 0	16 0	16 8	17 8	...	30 0	27 0	28 0	120 0	130 0	120 0	11 8	11 8	11 10	11 0	11 0	11 4	Jubbulpore	
	Mandla	26 0	27 0	21 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	16 0	21 8	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	40 0	45 0	34 0	256 0	256 0	256 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	8 0	Mandla	
	Seoni	22 8	22 0	17 8	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	12 8	20 0	20 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	26 0	18 0	220 0	220 0	220 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	11 0	10 0	11 4	Seoni	
	Narsinghpur	19 0	17 8	16 8	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	10 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 8	24 0	26 8	140 0	140 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 12	Narsinghpur	
	Hoshangabad	15 12	15 3	15 7	...	...	...	4 8	4 8	4 8	10 3	10 11	11 4	...	...	24 4	...	...	24 4	...	23 8	23 8	21 10	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	9 8	10 8	9 0	Hoshangabad	
	Nimár	17 8	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	15 15	14 14	13 0	20 10	20 10	30 0	20 0	21 0	24 0	20 4	20 4	18 10	160 0	160 0	120 0	13 13	13 13	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 12	Nimár				
	Betúl	18 0	18 0	15 0	...	...	...	12 0	10 8	12 0	13 0	11 0	13 0	19 8	19 8	20 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	18 0	16 0	320 0	320 0	240 0	8 8	8 8	9 0	Betúl			
	Chhindwára	25 8	25 8	16 8	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	10 0	15 0	15 8	13 0	31 0	31 0	22 0	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	18 0	28 0	29 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Chhindwára			
	Wardha	20 0	20 0	19 8	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	10 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	24 0	26 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	21 0	20 0	20 8	100 0	100 0	130 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	11 8	Wardha			
	Nágpur	19 12	19 4	17 4	...	...	...	9 12	9 0	9 12	16 0	16 0	17 4	31 4	31 4	25 12	...	...	...	...	21 12	21 12	18 0	120 0	140 0	150 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	11 12	11 12	Nágpur			
	Chánda	20 0	19 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	16 0	35 8	27 8	26 0	...	...	...	...	20 0	21 8	28 0	360 0	360 0	360 0	...	...	..	9 8	9 8	10 0	Chánda			
	Bhandára	21 12	22 0	19 8	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 12	22 0	22 0	23 12	42 0	35 0	23 12	...	...	...	...	23 0	23 0	22 12	95 0	96 0	..	10 4	10 4	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 12	Bhandára			
	Bálaghát	20 0	20 0	17 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	15 0	27 0	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	27 0	30 0	275 0	275 0	275 0	9 4	9 4	10 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	Bálaghát			
	Raipur	24 4	22 0	26 0	...	...	...	15 8	15 8	20 0	30 8	29 8	36 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 8	28 8	29 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	11 4	11 4	9 4	11 0	8 12	Raipur			
	Bilaspur	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Bilaspur		
	Sambalpur	16 8	15 0	21 0	...	...	...	27 12	29 12	35 0	31 0	33 4	44 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 8	15 8	24 0	120 0	120 0	110 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Sambalpur			
British Burma.	*Arakan Division.*																																*Arakan Division.*		
	Akyab	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Akyab		
	Northern Arakan																																Northern Arakan		
	Kyoukpyoo	...	...	18 0	...	...	...	9 7	...	18 0	11 0	...	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0	...	4 0	50 0	...	160 0	...	...	...	...	30 0	...	36 0	Kyoukpyoo		
	Sandoway	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 2	...	22 14	19 2	...	26 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 6	469 11	...	469 11	...	...	...	...	39 0	...	...	Sandoway		
	Pegu Division.																																*Pegu Division.*		
	Rangoon Town	13 4	15 5	15 5	...	...	...	11 6	11 10	12 3	12 8	12 8	12 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 10	12 5	19 7	320 0	320 0	320 0	50 11	50 11	50 11	22 10	22 10	22 10	Rangoon Town		
	Tharrawaddy	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Tharrawaddy		
	Prome	9 11	9 11	12 2	...	...	...	12 3	11 3	14 15	14 7	13 12	19 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 7	13 13	19 2	139 11	139 11	139 11	25 5	25 5	29 9	16 9	16 9	18 10	Prome		
	Irrawaddy Division.																																*Irrawaddy Division.*		
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 12½	13 3½	16 13	13 5	13 10	19 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 15½	10 15½	13 8	284 7½	284 7½	339 4	24 5½	24 13½	31 15	22 2½	22 2½	29 7	Bassein		
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 4	11 15	14 5	13 0	15 10	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	183 8	183 8	183 8	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	Henzada		
	Thonegwa	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Thonegwa		
	Thayetmyo	9 4	9 4	12 1	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 11	11 13	11 13	15 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	18 7	245 0	245 0	245 0	25 5	25 5	17 12	18 15	18 15	14 3	Thayetmyo		
	Tenasserim Division.																																*Tenasserim Division.*		
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	9 0	9 0	12 2	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	12 2	12 2	12 2	15 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 2	12 2	12 2	220 0	220 0	220 0	20 15	20 15	32 5	20 8	20 8	22 12	Moulmein Town & Amherst		
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 12	13 12	13 12	17 15	17 15	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	399 3	399 3	399 3	24 2	24 2	24 2	16 1	16 1	16 1	Tavoy		
	Mergui	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 9	14 9	17 5	16 10	16 10	21 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	428 0	428 0	428 0	24 5	24 5	26 1	14 5½	14 5½	14 5½	Mergui		
	Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 10	12 13	13 5	12 13	14 3	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 9	12 8	12 9	24 0	24 0	24 0	23 8	22 0	30 12	18 12	14 1	18 12	Toungoo		
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 13	9 13	12 7	11 5	10 6	13 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	250 0	250 0	250 0	35 6	35 6	32 3	18 14	18 14	18 4	Shwaygyin		
	Salween	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Salween		
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Secunderabad	Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	
	Bolarum																																Bolarum		
	Chudderghat																																Chudderghat		
	Amráoti	15 0	15 0	15 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	17 0	17 0	22 0	64 0	64 0	70 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Amráoti		
	Akola	17 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	8 0	13 0	13 0	11 0	26 0	26 0	30 0	21 0	21 0	20 0	...	17 0	17 0	22 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	Akola		
	Ellichpur	17 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	12 0	10 0	28 0	27 0	27 0	24 0	22 0	22 0	...	14 0	15 0	16 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 0	Ellichpur		
	Buldána	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	24 0	24 0	32 0	22 0	22 0	28 0	...	14 0	15 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 0	Buldána		
	Wún	17 0	18 0	18 0	12 0	13 0	11 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	11 8	13 0	12 0	29 4	29 4	27 0	...	...	...	...	14 0	15 0	27 0	200 0	200 0	100 0	...	...	...	10 0	11 0	11 8	Wún		
	Básim	22 0	21 8	21 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 4	14 0	13 0	13 4	30 0	29 0	36 0	...	...	...	...	19 0	19 0	26 2	60 0	64 0	64 0	10 8	10 0	9 2	10 0	9 0	9 0	Básim		

(*a*) Prices falling. (*b*) Barley, bajra, jowar and gram falling. (*c*) Wheat and salt falling; rice and gram rising. (*d*) Wheat, barley, rice, bajra, gram and salt falling. (*e*) Wheat, bajra, jowar and gram rising; barley and rice falling. (*f*) Jowar rising; wheat, bajra and gram falling. (*g*) Wheat, barley, bajra, gram and salt falling. * No wholesale salt sold. (*h*) Gram rising, barley and bajra falling.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF OCTOBER 1883 —*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Mysore	Bangalore	10 2	10 12	11 6	11 5	11 15	12 4	9 15	9 8	10 2	11 2	10 8	11 2	29 14	28 4	33 6	...	...	...	32 11	30 0	34 9	29 6	29 3	34 13	113 3	96 0	96 0	12 4	12 4	13 4	12 0	12 0	13 0	Bangalore	Mysore.
	Kolar	...	...	...	12 0	11 4	11 2	12 8	12 0	13 15	15 0	14 0	15 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	43 0	36 0	34 0	30 0	30 0	37 10	172 6	172 6	172 6	12 4	12 4	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 3	Kolar	
	Túmkúr	13 8	14 0	14 8	12 0	11 8	13 0	14 0	13 0	12 8	14 8	14 0	13 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	46 0	40 0	46 0	40 0	36 0	45 0	340 0	340 0	340 0	11 8	11 0	12 8	11 0	10 8	12 0	Túmkúr	
	Mysore	11 0	11 0	12 4	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 4	13 0	12 0	35 0	34 0	32 0	...	...	...	30 0	28 0	27 0	33 0	34 0	33 4	75 0	75 0	78 0	8 12	8 12	8 8	8 8	8 8	8 4	Mysore	
	Hassan	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Hassan	
	Shimoga	13 10	14 3	14 11	15 12	15 9	17 14	14 11	14 11	10 8	18 14	18 14	13 10	42 0	42 0	35 11	...	...	...	37 13	42 0	35 3	33 10	33 10	36 12	480 0	480 0	480 0	10 8	10 8	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	Shimoga	
	Kadur	14 0	14 0	15 0	15 0	15 6	14 0	22 0	18 0	11 0	24 0	20 0	14 0	...	...	..	...	...	...	42 0	40 0	25 0	36 0	34 0	23 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	Kadur	
	Chitaldroog	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Chitaldroog	
Coorg	Coorg	8 8	8 9	9 4	10 2	10 4	9 2	15 11	15 9	10 5	20 10	20 10	13 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 10	31 0	20 5	29 11	30 9	21 5	110 0	110 0	110 0	10 1	10 3	9 2	9 7	9 12	8 7	Coorg	Coorg
Rajpootana.	Jeypore	17 0	17 0	17 2	25 0	25 0	23 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	8 8	8 8	9 0	24 0	25 0	20 0	22 0	21 0	20 8	...	...	...	23 4	23 0	21 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	14 4	14 12	14 12	14 0	Jeypore	Rajpootana.
	Kishengurh	17 8	17 8	18 8	24 0	24 0	27 0	8 0	8 0	9 8	9 0	9 0	11 0	23 8	23 8	27 0	19 8	19 8	22 0	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	Kishengurh	
	Kerrowlee	18 2	18 7	18 8	26 14	26 4	27 10	10 0	10 0	13 0	10 10	11 4	14 4	26 4	26 4	26 12	20 10	21 15	26 4	...	...	...	27 8	27 8	27 8	...	...	...	13 8	13 6	14 2	13 0	13 0	14 0	Kerrowlee	
	Ulwur	18 12	18 4	19 14	23 13	23 10	30 6	8 10	8 10	9 0	10 8	10 8	12 8	23 0	24 0	28 10	18 15	21 15	35 12	...	...	...	23 0	23 8	27 15	...	...	...	15 7	15 7	15 13	14 12	14 12	15 6	Ulwur	
	Bhurtpore (City)	17 1	16 7	19 3	22 9	22 15	29 8	7 12	7 12	6 12	9 2	9 6	11 0	22 7	22 7	26 4	19 11	20 8	22 8	...	...	...	22 11	22 5	26 0	...	...	...	12 4	12 4	12 5	12 0	12 0	11 13	Bhurtpore (City)	
	Ajmere	16 0	16 0	16 0	25 0	25 0	24 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	19 0	19 0	22 0	19 0	20 0	16 0	...	...	...	26 0	26 0	24 0	80 0	80 0	70 0	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	16 10	Ajmere	
	Deoli Cantonment	21 3	17 3	18 4	20 8	24 15	22 15	...	...	...	9 4	8 4	11 8	24 0	20 13	20 0	21 3	18 0	20 12	...	...	...	29 4½	25 8	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 10	12 12	12 12	Deoli Cantonment	
																													R a. p.	*R a. p.* per md.	*R a. p.*					
	Erinpura	16 4	15 9	17 14	25 2	23 13	31 10	...	...	...	7 8	7 11	8 0	20 0	19 11	20 2	20 0	19 0	23 6	21 4	21 4	23 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0 6	3 1 3	3 0 0	12 6	12 0	12 4	Erinpura	
	Sirohee	13 8	18 8	*	25 0	21 0	*	6 8	7 0	*	8 0	8 0	*	14 0	14 0	*	15 0	16 0	*	...	...	...	18 0	20 0	*	160 0	160 0	*	3 0 0	3 0 0	*	12 5	12 5	*	Sirohee	
	Abu	12 12	12 12	15 0	19 0	18 8	22 0	6 8	6 8	6 8	7 10	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	14 2	13 12	17 12	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	11 12	11 8	11 8	Abu	
	Anadra	14 0	14 0	16 8	22 0	21 0	14 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	8 4	8 8	9 0	...	...	...	16 0	15 8	20 4	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	24 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4	12 4	12 4	Anadra	
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	20 0½	21 0	22 0	25 0	25 0	26 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	20 0	24 0	†	‡	‡	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 9 10	11 0	11 0	11 2¼	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	
																													S. Ch	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Meywar (Oodeypore)	16 0½	15 6½	15 8½	22 10½	21 14	21 7½	9 6	9 6	10 8½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 15½	16 12½	17 3	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 11½	10 15	9 12¼	11 5½	10 8½	9 15½	Meywar (Oodeypore)	
																													R a. p.	*R a. p.* per md.	*R a. p.*					
	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	19 6	21 4	21 12	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 12	16 4	16 4	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32 8	37 8	33 12	...	...	...	4 3 9	...	...	9 6	10 10	10 10	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	
	Partábgarh („)	16 9	17 3	18 11	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	10 0	11 14	11 14	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 9	19 11	25 0	...	...	...	2 7 0	...	...	16 4	16 4	15 8	Partábgarh („)	
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	16 4	16 8	...	21 4	21 4	...	6 4	6 4	...	7 8	7 8	...	21 4	20 0	...	18 12	20 10	...	...	...	...	20 4	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	16 4	...	Marwar (Jodhpore)	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Bikaneer	10 7	10 8	13 10	...	...	...	3 6	3 8	3 4	6 4	5 12	6 8	...	...	...	16 4	18 0	23 0	...	...	...	17 4	18 0	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	Bikaneer	
	Boondee	23 12	24 0	17 0	38 4	36 0	27 0	10 8	10 0	10 0	11 8	11 0	10 10	36 4	34 8	38 0	..	...	...	...	...	...	36 0	34 8	28 0	140 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	11 8	12 8	12 0	11 4	12 4	Boondee	
	Kotah	24 0	24 0	17 0	25 0	25 0	14 4	8 0	8 0	9 0	11 0	11 0	13 4	32 0	30 0	23 8	12 8	12 8	15 0	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	26 8	240 0	240 0	240 0	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 0	13 0	12 12	Kotah	
	Tonk	21 0	20 0	14 9	31 0	29 0	22 6	6 8	6 8	7 0	8 8	8 8	10 0	0 8	28 12	24 7	...	...	21 4	...	...	...	31 0	29 4	22 2	100 0	107 0	160 0	13 8	13 8	12 6	13 4	13 4	11 12	Tonk	
	Jhallawar	18 13	18 13	15 6	20 0	20 0	14 12	...	...	...	8 9	7 14	10 6	31 0½	27 11	20 3	17 1	17 1	19 4	...	...	...	24 1	23 4	21 5	...	...	...	10 7½	10 2	10 14	10 3½	9 14	10 10	Jhallawar	
	Shahpoora	20 4	20 1	16 14	26 8	25 8	21 12	10 0	10 0	11 12	15 0	15 0	14 8	23 4	23 0	18 6	16 0	15 0	18 4	...	...	...	23 8	23 8	21 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	12 14	12 14	13 14	12 12	12 12	13 10	Shahpoora	
	Dholpur	16 9	16 12	17 15	23 10	23 10	28 4	10 2	9 13	10 2	10 11	10 9	12 6	23 7	23 10	23 10	20 5	21 12	25 2	...	...	...	24 7	24 3	27 4	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 3	12 10	12 10	12 6	Dholpur	
Central India.	Indore	15 8	15 0	16 8	...	...	...	9 3	9 3	9 3	10 14	10 0	10 14	23 0	24 0	26 10	21 14	18 3	22 14	...	...	...	18 0	17 7	18 7	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	12 5	11 6	11 6	12 0	Indore	Central India.
	Gwalior	17 6	17 2	17 4	21 15	21 4	21 0	7 9	7 1	7 13	9 2	9 1	10 1	24 10	25 2	23 5	20 9	19 13	21 11	...	...	...	22 12	23 5	24 3	127 12	127 12	109 8	...	...	...	12 0	11 14	11 14	Gwalior	
	Goona	25 0	25 0	21 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	8 8	8 8	9 8	40 0	40 0	27 0	20 0	20 0	16 8	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 8	12 8	12 10	12 0	12 0	12 0	Goona	
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	25 4	26 12	20 1	41 4	50 0	32 6	7 0	7 0	8 0	19 4	19 12	21 14	38 12	37 0	34 12	30 0	30 0	28 0	...	...	...	36 2	40 0	33 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 4	12 8	11 5	11 8	11 12	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	

* Not received. † Ten pies per bundle. ‡ Eight pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

J. WESTLAND,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENTS OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 2nd HALF OF SEPTEMBER AND 1st HALF OF OCTOBER 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 2106, 2107, 2152 AND 2153 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA", DATED 27th OCTOBER AND 10th NOVEMBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice. Best sort.			Rice. Common.			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nugiee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.
		S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
	2nd half of September 1883.																																
Mysore	Bangalore	10 8	10 11	11 2	11 7	11 11	12 0	9 13	9 10	9 11	10 13	10 10	11 2	28 10	31 4	30 15	...	...	...	29 1	29 7	29 9	29 5	29 12	30 13	96 0	96 0	96 0	0 12	4 12	4 13	4 12	0 12	0 13	0
	Kolar	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	10 3	12 0	12 0	13 15	14 0	14 0	14 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	33 0	35 0	32 2	28 0	28 0	34 3	172 6	172 6	172 6	12 4	12 4	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 3	
	Túmkúr	14 8	14 9	14 0	11 8	11 8	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	13 8	13 8	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	41 0	41 0	39 0	37 0	36 0	39 0	340 0	340 0	340 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	10 8	10 8	11 8	
	Mysore	11 0	11 12	11 4	...	...	...	10 4	10 4	11 0	11 14	11 12	12 0	30 0	...	25 0	...	...	...	26 0	28 0	23 0	32 0	32 0	30 0	75 0	75 0	78 0	8 12	8 12	8 4	8 8	8 8	8 0	
	Shimoga	14 11	14 11	13 10	15 12	15 12	14 11	14 11	13 10	11 9	17 14	18 14	13 10	42 0	37 14	31 8	...	...	...	38 1	37 4	32 0	34 10	34 10	31 8	480 0	480 0	480 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 8	10 8	
	Kadur	14 0	14 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	17 0	15 0	11 0	19 0	17 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	38 0	38 0	25 0	32 0	32 0	23 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 0	
Rajpootana.	Bikaneer	10 8	10 6	13 6	...	...	...	3 8	3 6	3 4	5 12	5 12	6 8	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	20 8	...	...	...	18 0	17 12	17 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	
	1st half of October 1883.																																		
Mysore	Bangalore	10 12	10 8	11 7	11 15	11 7	12 11	9 8	9 13	10 1	10 8	10 13	11 3	28 4	28 10	32 1	...	...	...	30 0	29 1	33 0	29 3	29 5	33 3	96 0	96 0	96 0	12 4	12 4	13 4	12 0	12 0	13 0	
	Kolar	...	...	...	11 4	12 0	11 2	12 0	12 0	13 10	14 0	14 0	14 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	36 0	33 0	34 0	30 0	28 0	36 8	172 6	172 6	172 6	12 4	12 4	13 8	12 0	12 0	13 3	
	Túmkúr	14 0	14 8	14 0	11 8	11 8	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 8	14 0	13 8	13 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	40 0	41 0	41 0	36 0	37 0	41 0	340 0	340 0	340 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	8 10	8 10	8 12	
	Mysore	11 0	11 0	11 4	...	...	...	11 0	10 4	11 0	13 0	11 14	12 0	34 0	30 0	25 0	...	...	...	28 0	26 0	24 0	34 0	32 0	30 8	75 0	75 0	78 0	8 12	8 12	8 4	8 8	8 8	8 0	
	Shimoga	14 8	14 11	13 10	15 9	15 12	16 13	14 11	14 11	11 9	18 14	17 14	13 10	42 0	42 0	33 10	...	...	...	42 0	38 1	34 2	33 10	34 10	31 8	480 0	480 0	480 0	10 8	10 8	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	
	Kadur	14 0	14 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	18 0	17 0	11 0	20 0	19 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	40 0	38 0	25 0	34 0	32 0	23 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 0	
Central India.	Indore	15 0	14 8	16 13	...	...	...	9 3	8 9	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	24 0	20 0	28 3	18 2	19 3	22 14	...	...	...	17 7	17 2	17 12	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 6	11 6	6 ...	
	Gwalior	17 2	16 12	17 7	21 4	21 0	20 9	7 1	7 5	7 13	9 1	9 2	10 1	25 2	24 4	23 5	19 13	18 12	22 7	...	...	...	23 5	22 13	24 10	127 12	109 8	109 8	...	...	...	11 14	11 7	11 14	
	Goona	25 0	23 12	21 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	8 8	8 9	8 9	40 0	36 0	26 0	20 0	20 0	16 8	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	25 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 8	12 8	12 10	12 0	12 0	12 0	
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	26 12	26 1	20 5	50 0	43 0	35 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	19 12	17 12	21 0	37 0	37 8	32 8	30 9	30 0	29 14	...	...	...	40 0	36 9	30 14	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 4	12 8	11 8	11 8	11 12	

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

J. WESTLAND,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Comparative Statement of the Net Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenue) for the first seven months of the official year 1883-84, and of the twelve preceding years.

(IN THOUSANDS OF RUPEES.)

Year.	For the seven months, April to October. Bengal. On Imports of Liquors.	Bengal. On other Imports.	Bengal. On Exports.	Bengal. Total Revenue.	Bombay. On Imports of Liquors.	Bombay. On other Imports.	Bombay. On Exports.	Bombay. Total Revenue.	Sindh. On Imports of Liquors.	Sindh. On other Imports.	Sindh. On Exports.	Sindh. Total Revenue.	Madras. On Imports of Liquors.	Madras. On other Imports.	Madras. On Exports.	Madras. Total Revenue.	British Burma. On Imports of Liquors.	British Burma. On other Imports.	British Burma. On Exports.	British Burma. Total Revenue.	Total British India. On Imports of Liquors.	Total British India. On other Imports.	Total British India. Total Import Revenue.	Total British India. Export Revenue.	Total British India. Total Revenue.	Year.
1871-72	5,80	41,51	11,68	58,99	4,21	23,72	2,19	30,12	73	71	97	2,41	2,01	7,31	8,29	17,61	90	2,39	10,72	14,01	13,65	75,64	89,29	33,85	1,23,14	1871-72.
1872-73	7,16	42,07	12,77	62,00	3,19	23,87	1,80	28,86	65	65	1,29	2,59	2,26	6,86	6,55	15,67	1,82	2,71	19,53	24,06	15,08	76,16	91,24	41,94	1,33,18	1872-73.
1873-74	5,84	40,14	9,35	55,33	3,46	23,11	1,78	28,35	71	46	66	1,83	2,07	7,87	8,06	18,00	1,95	2,78	15,46	20,19	14,03	74,36	88,39	35,31	1,23,70	1873-74.
1874-75	6,68	45,52	6,83	59,03	3,88	26,13	1,94	31,95	66	38	76	1,80	2,01	7,95	7,83	17,79	2,28	3,75	10,24	16,27	15,51	83,73	99,24	27,60	1,26,84	1874-75.
1875-76	6,92	43,56	8,11	58,59	3,90	22,60	3,45	29,95	73	54	92	2,19	2,37	8,33	7,68	18,38	2,18	2,78	18,51	23,47	16,10	77,81	93,91	38,67	1,32,58	1875-76.
1876-77	7,23	37,99	7,41	52,63	4,57	22,10	58	27,25	90	42	13	1,45	3,20	7,42	5,02	15,64	2,59	3,04	13,00	18,63	18,49	70,97	89,46	26,14	1,15,60	1876-77.
1877-78	8,46	47,56	8,64	64,66	4,89	25,79	52	31,20	1,19	49	22	1,90	3,07	4,63	1,14	8,84	2,81	3,33	9,65	15,79	20,42	81,80	1,02,22	20,17	1,22,39	1877-78.
1878-79	7,45	38,84	7,75	54,04	4,78	23,32	1,25	29,35	1,03	32	11	1,46	3,29	5,48	2,50	11,27	4,02	3,95	14,44	22,41	20,57	71,91	92,48	26,05	1,18,53	1878-79.
1879-80	6,68	35,70	5,23	47,61	5,19	19,68	1,02	25,89	1,79	45	11	2,35	3,11	5,34	3,70	12,15	3,96	3,60	17,39	24,95	20,73	64,77	85,50	27,45	1,12,95	1879-80.
1880-81	7,52	34,66	6,51	48,69	4,89	28,25	1,03	34,17	2,60	64	13	3,37	2,82	6,14	5,21	14,17	2,68	4,53	19,36	26,57	20,51	74,22	94,73	32,24	1,26,97	1880-81.
1881-82	7,50	32,69	8,80	48,99	5,89	25,50	85	32,24	2,24	71	17	3,12	2,78	5,69	3,38	11,85	3,93	4,42	22,92	31,27	22,34	69,01	91,35	36,12	1,27,47	1881-82.
1882-83	8,02	2	8,84	16,88	5,83	—105*	78	5,56	2,03	4	31	2,38	3,18	1	2,41	5,60	4,67	5	28,37	33,09	23,73	—93*	22,80	40,71	63,51	1882-83.
1883-84	7,83	9	10,21	18,13	6,07	22	69	6,98	2,06	2	26	2,34	2,88	7	3,10	6,05	4,56	10	20,29	24,95	23,40	50	23,90	34,55	58,45	1883-84.

* The amount refunded is greater than the duty collected.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
STATISTICAL BRANCH;
Calcutta, 20th November 1883.

D. M. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XLII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 28th October 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 27th October 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 28th October 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 27th October 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
3rd Nov. 1883	Eastern Bengal(a) .	172	1,27,875	743	172	92,086	535	33,36,997	643	26,95,271	522	. . .	6,41,726
27th Oct. 1883	Oudh and Rohilkhand	547	94,363	173	547	99,377	182	27,78,348	169	32,58,296	199	4,79,948	. . .
27th ditto .	Sind, Punjab & Delhi .	676	2,01,638	298	735	1,95,968	267	53,08,131	260	65,45,789	295	12,37,658	. . .
27th ditto .	Madras . . .	861	1,27,862	149	861	1,35,509	157	40,85,332	158	38,53,391	149	. . .	2,31,941
27th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	80,277	123	655	84,851	130	22,35,419	113	23,46,020	119	1,10,601	. . .
3rd Nov. 1883	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	6,33,119	434	1,451	4,78,558	330	1,77,88,102	410	1,82,17,228	418	4,29,126	. . .
27th Oct. 1883	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	1,65,879	360	461	1,81,666	394	54,08,324	389	62,64,425	453	8,56,101	. . .
	TOTAL .	4,830	14,31,013	296	4,882	12,68,015	260	4,09,40,653	281	4,31,80,420	294	22,39,767	. . .
	State.												
3rd Nov. 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	7,79,600	517	1,509	9,60,703	637	2,46,62,295	543	2,85,56,264	631	38,93,969	. . .
27th Oct. 1883	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	33	8,274	251	56	6,850	122	1,15,392	120	1,71,859	106	56,467	. . .
27th ditto .	Nalhati . .	27	874	32	27	1,401	52	39,804	49	46,569	57	6,765	. . .
27th ditto .	Northern Bengal .	230	38,884	169	239	39,390	165	11,22,849	161	11,89,464	169	66,615	. . .
27th ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	75	12,757	170	166	15,638	94	3,61,461	150	4,94,383	100	1,32,922	. . .
29th Sep. 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	8,259	145	. .	(b)	.	(c)2,86,311	159	(d)2,80,855	149	. . .	15,456
27th Oct. 1883	Cawnpore-Achnera .	138	10,338	75	138	10,320	75	2,96,735	71	3,07,819	74	11,084	. . .
27th ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	859	72	12	808	67	25,564	71	26,307	73	743	. . .
3rd Nov. 1883	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,116	1,76,026	158	1,117	2,22,950	199	56,65,700	168	67,96,270	203	11,30,570	. . .
27th Oct. 1883	Wardha Coal . .	45	13,084	291	45	14,282	317	2,99,088	220	3,94,967	293	95,879	. . .
27th ditto .	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	6,091	62	149	9,988	67	2,56,102	97	6,80,412	152	3,94,310	. . .
27th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . .	161	40,909	254	161	24,184	150	7,90,923	163	7,67,267	159	. . .	23,656
3rd Nov. 1883	Sindia	75	7,418	99	75	8,261	110	1,75,241	78	1,77,725	79	2,484	. . .
27th Oct. 1883	Punjab Northern .	409	55,850	137	421	58,212	138	16,78,756	138	17,66,341	140	87,585	. . .
27th ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	1,33,039	202	660	89,799	136	24,97,037	125	41,65,975	210	16,68,938	. .
27th ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	1,454	45	32	3,419	107	45,401	47	60,328	63	14,927	. . .
3rd Nov. 1883	Rewari-Ferozepore .	. .	. . .	.	89	4,260	48	. . .	. .	2,31,550	87	2,31,550	. . .
	TOTAL .	3,168	5,14,111	162	e3,387	5,09,782	151	1,36,36,364	143	1,74,98,091	169	38,61,727	. . .
	Assisted Company.												
3rd Nov. 1883	Bengal Central . .	21	624	30	35	2,076	59	(f)1,207	31	63,436	60	62,229	. . .
	Native States.												
27th Oct. 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	193	11,383	59	193	14,200	74	4,96,789	85	5,44,531	94	47,742	. . .
27th ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	15,169	125	121	13,540	112	4,98,667	137	4,61,381	127	. . .	37,286
20th ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	7,180	83	. .	(b)	.	(g)1,72,794	69	(h)1,61,246	65	. . .	11,548
3rd Nov. 1883	Jodhpore . . .	19	503	26	19	1,060	56	(i)9,576	28	22,134	39	12,558	. . .
	TOTAL .	419	34,235	82	(j)333	28,800	86	11,77,826	95	11,89,292	95	11,466	. . .
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,945	27,59,583	277	k10,146	27,69,376	273	8,04,18,345	269	9,04,87,503	293	1,00,69,158	. . .
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	4,17,50,344	139	4,59,26,167	149	. . .	. . .
	NET RECEIPTS .	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	3,86,68,001	130	4,45,61,336	144	58,93,335	. . .

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway.
(b) Return not received.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 30th September 1882.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 29th September 1883.
(e) Excludes mileage of Patna-Gya State Railway (57).
(f) Total receipts from 16th to 28th October 1882.
(g) Total receipts from 1st April to 21st October 1882.
(h) Total receipts from 1st April to 20th October 1883.
(i) Total receipts from 24th June to 28th October 1882.
(j) Excludes mileage of Mysore State Railway (86).
(k) Excludes mileages of Patna-Gya and Mysore State Railways (57+86).

H. F. HANCOCK, *Colonel, R.E.,*
Offg. Deputy Secretary.

SIMLA,
The 19th November 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

MEMORANDUM ON THE WEATHER EXPERIENCE IN INDIA DURING THE SIX MONTHS, MAY TO OCTOBER 1883.

No. 111 Met.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department,—dated Calcutta, the 23rd November 1883.

METEOROLOGY.

RESOLUTION.

READ the following—

Memorandum on the Weather experience in India during the six months, May to October 1883.

The weather of May, in Northern India, was far from uniform. During the first two-third of the month in North-Western and Central India, the temperature was excessive and the atmosphere very dry; while in Bengal and Assam the weather was cool and wet. In the latter Province, the rainfall was very heavy (27 inches having fallen in ten days at Silchar), causing the river Barák to rise 41½ feet above its zero level. After the 21st, however, these conditions were reversed. Showery weather set in over the Punjab and North-Western and Central Provinces, and the temperature fell to about 20° below the average; while in Assam and Bengal, the weather cleared and became warm and dry. In the Peninsula and Burma, there was but little worthy of note.

The monsoon rains were ushered in in Bengal and Orissa by a small cyclonic storm, which was apparently formed over the head of the Bay on the 13th June, reached the land on the 14th, and travelling to the north-west, occasioned heavy rain as far as Behar, beyond which Province the rains did not extend until quite the close of the month. The heaviest fall attributable to this depression was 12½ inches at Mozufferpore. On the Bombay side, the earlier portion of the month was characterized either by strong winds from a non-monsoon direction, or by light variable breezes; but, on the 24th, the regular monsoon current set in, and from that time onward blew steadily. About the 26th of the month a second cyclone of the weaker or monsoon type was formed over the Bay of Bengal. Thence it passed to Cuttack on the 30th, reached Seoni on July 1st, Indore on the 2nd, and lay between Rajkot and Karachi on the 3rd of that month. It thus passed on a due westerly course right across the Peninsula. The rain accompanying this cyclone was very heavy, and the resulting floods of the Taptee and in Gujarat were very destructive, interrupting railway communication and submerging much of the city of Surat.

As the general result, the monsoon rains were late in setting in on the Bombay side and throughout Western and North-Western India, and in the Peninsula the rainfall of the month was deficient; only in Bengal was it up to or above the average amount. These latter peculiarities were more or less characteristic of a large part of the season.

The disappearance of the cyclonic storm noticed above was followed by two or three days of fine weather and high barometric pressure. Rain then recommenced, and in Southern India, Bengal and the Eastern Peninsula, continued more or less steadily till the close of July. But in the Punjab, Rajputana and a large part of the North West and Central Provinces, the rain ceased about the 19th, and a drought set in, which lasted without intermission till nearly or quite the end of August.

August was a month of deficient rainfall in all parts of India, except the Provinces of Madras, Berar and Assam. The drought increased in extent and intensity during the earlier part of the month, the air became dry, the temperature high, and, on some days during the height of the drought, no rain fell over the whole of that part of the country lying to the northward of Belgaum and to the westward of Benares. On the 19th, however, when the prospects of the season were becoming critical, the weather changed, the air became damper, rain fell in the Central Provinces, and extending slowly to the North-West, reached the extreme north of the Punjab by the end of the month.

This changed weather lasted in North-Western India till about the middle of September, when the sky cleared, and the fine bright weather characteristic of the close of the rainy season set in. But, in the meantime, the amount of rainfall over the Punjab, Rajputana and Central Provinces was so heavy as considerably to exceed the normal total of the month. In other parts of India, rain continued to fall more or less steadily till near the close of September, and on the whole, the meteorological conditions of the month were of about the usual character. The rains apparently ceased in—

The Punjab, on the 10th.
Rajputana, on the 14th.
The North-Western Provinces, on the 18th.
Central Provinces, on the 25th.

With the cessation of the rains, the usual rise of temperature occurred in these Provinces.

In October, the fine dry weather which had already become established in North-Western India, extended further to south and east, and the autumnal rains of the transitional period set in on the Coromandel Coast. In each case, the change occurred rather earlier than usual. Over

Bengal and Assam, in the first ten days of the month, the rainfall was very light as compared with the normal average. There were sharp showers on the 12th, 13th and 14th, and with these showers the rains ceased, apparently for the season, so that the total at the end of the month was very small. The deficiency was greatest in Orissa and Lower Bengal, where it amounted to over 9 inches, while at Darjeeling it was 6 and at Burdwan 4 inches. The Madras reports shew that north winds were felt on the Ganjam Coast on October 9th, whence they gradually extended towards Madras. The sky during this time became much more cloudy all over the Presidency, and from the 12th, heavy rain fell almost daily until the 18th, the wind on many occasions blowing from a south-east rather than from a north-east direction. After that date, until the 27th, the weather was much more settled. But quite at the close of the month conditions again changed; a small barometric depression was formed in the south-west of the Bay, and proceding slowly northward, occasioned a good deal of rain all along the Coromandel and Ganjam Coasts. On the Bombay side, generally, fine weather, chequered by occasional showers, prevailed till the 18th, when a small disturbance was formed over the Presidency, accompanied with very unsettled weather and heavy rain, This lasted for three days, when the depression broke up, the sky cleared, and the wind changed. From the 22nd to the end of the month the weather was fine.

Summing up the rainfall of the whole season from June 1st to October 31st, it appears that five-eighths of the stations enumerated in the daily reports had less than the average amount and three-eighths more than the average. Akyab shows the greatest deficiency, *viz.*, 38 inches, and Akola the greatest excess, *viz.*, 41½ inches. And taking the mean of the stations as classified under their respective Provinces, there has been a mean deficiency in—

The Punjab of	3·4 inches.	Central India of	8·8 inches.
The North-Western Provinces	12·0 „	Rajputana	6·8 „
Assam	7·1 „	Sind, Gujrat, &c.	2·7 „
Bengal	3·7 „	Burma of	14·2 „

and a mean excess in—

The Central Provinces, of	2·8 inches.	Madras, Mysore and Coorg	1·1 inches.
Berar	33·8 „	Ceylon	12·0 „
Bombay	7·4 „		

W. L. DALLAS,
Asst. Metl. Reporter to the Govt. of India.

Additional Note.

In a note appended to the last semi-annual weather report, after adverting to the unusually heavy winter and spring snowfall on the North-West Himalaya, to which the latest addition was made on the 28th and 29th May, it was stated—"If the mountains of Lahoul, Spiti and other more distant ranges have shared this fall, if it is as extensive as it is apparently heavy on the visible ranges, and if the views which the experience of recent years seems to justify, *viz.*, that an unusual extent and thickness of snow on the Himalaya is productive of dry north-west and west winds in North-Western India are valid, we must be prepared for a long spell of dry weather and a retarded rainfall in the Upper Provinces. The present season will serve as a test of the validity of the above view."

The result has been stated in the foregoing memorandum. It was not exactly in accordance with the terms of the above forecast, inasmuch as the setting in of the rains in the Upper Provinces took place only a few days later than on the average, and rather more than a fortnight of rainy weather preceded the period of drought which had been foreseen, and which set in on the 19th July. But there were indications that throughout this rainy interval the influence of the snowfall was operative. On the North-West Himalaya the rain of the first half of July was accompanied with frequent thunder-storms and hail-storms (always a sign of an unsteady monsoon), and in clear intervals the upper clouds could be seen drifting steadily from the north-west, proving the existence at no great height of the dry current which, about the 19th, descended and replaced the monsoon, prevailing over the whole of North-Western India and Rajputana, and influencing the winds even down to the Deccan on the south and to Behar on the east.

Notwithstanding then, that, as subsequent information showed, the heavy snowfall of the winter did not extend to Lahoul, Spiti, the Pangi Valley and Ladak, but was restricted to the outer snowy range, even this sufficed to cause a prolonged drought, and I am decidedly of opinion that the experience of the present season has given strong confirmation of the validity of the view on which the forecast was based.

H. F. BLANFORD,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

ORDER.—Ordered that the papers be printed in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

(True Extract.)
E. C. BUCK,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASONS AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 13th NOVEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Rain continues in Madras and the southern districts of Bombay, and general prospects are good in both Presidencies, though some damage has been done by unusually heavy rain in parts of the former. Scarcity of water is still felt in Sind. In Hyderabad, Central India, and Rajputana the *rabi* crops are generally in good condition and promise well. Recent rain in Burma has improved the condition of rice on high lands and later transplanting and clear weather is now needed. In Assam and Bengal there has been no rain, and serious injury has been done to the rice crop in the western and southern districts of Bengal, the crop on high lands having been mostly destroyed.

Prospects continue excellent in the Central Provinces. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh slight showers have fallen in a few districts; the *rabi* crops are fair but require rain.

The *kharif* harvest is now approaching completion in most provinces; *rabi* sowings continue, but are backward in Bengal owing to absence of rain.

Prices are rising in Bengal and Burma and are generally steady elsewhere.

The public health is good, but cholera still lingers in some districts in Southern India.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Nov. 14th)		
Bellary	·14 (average of 4 stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest *cholum, cumbu,* yield below average; gingelly, *ragi, karra,* about average; 14 deaths from cholera.
Kurnool	1·22 (average of 6 stations).	Harvest *cholum, sajja, karra,* indigo, yield below average.
Ganjam	·71 (average of 6 stations).	Standing crops generally good; fever and small-pox slight in one taluk.
Kistna	·9 (average of 11 stations).	Standing crops good; those submerged recovering; harvest black paddy, *cholum, karra,* yield below average; small-pox, fever and cattle-disease in parts.
Chingleput (Madras)	3·4 (average of 11 stations).	Standing crops injured by excess of rain in parts, elsewhere in good condition; harvest *kar,* paddy, &c., yield half; 12 deaths from cholera; small-pox slight in 3 talukas.
Coimbatore	2·79 (average of 16 stations).	Standing crops damaged by excessive rain in parts, elsewhere in good condition; harvest paddy, *cholum, ragi, cumbu,* yield about average; 83 deaths from cholera; fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease slight.
Tanjore	3·33 (average of 14 stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, *cholum, ragi, cumbu,* yield about average; 14 deaths from cholera.
Madura	2·74 (average of 8 stations).	Standing crops fair; harvest dry crops, yield average; cholera in parts.
Malabar	3·4 (average of 14 stations).	Second crop cultivation progressing; small-pox and fever slight.
Travancore	·668	Sowing over; fever in parts. *General Remarks.*—General prospects good.
Bombay—(Nov. 14th)		
Kurrachee	*Nil*	River at Kotri on 11th 6 ft. 2 inches against 6 ft. 9 inches on same date last year; fever generally prevalent; cattle-disease in 2 talukas; some loss of cows in Mirpur Batoro; harvesting in progress; small-pox prevalent in 3 villages in district; 9 fresh cases, 6 deaths; wheat, red rice and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 28, and 36; in Kotri 32 and 32; in Sakro 16, 26 and 44, and in Mirpur Batoro 22, 30 and 36 lbs. per rupee respectively.
Hyderabad	. . .	Cold has set in fairly; small-pox in 5, fever in 9 and cattle-disease in 5 talukas; wheat 26, *bajri* 38, *jowari* 42, red rice 26, and white rice 22 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad	. . .	*Kharif* harvest progressing; *rabi* sowing commenced; standing crops healthy; fever in some talukas; *bajri* 28¾ and wheat 25½ lbs. per rupee
Baroda	. . .	Slight cholera in Navsari, Mahuwa and Sangad mahals; fast disappearing from Attansamba; harvesting of *kharif* and sowing of *rabi* in progress; *bajri* 31 and rice 24 lbs. per rupee.
Surat	. . . .	Sowing of *rabi* crops continues; fever generally prevailing in district; cholera in Surat; 6 cases, 5 deaths; in Jalalpur 40 cases, 14 deaths, and in Bulsar 9 cases, 2 deaths; few locusts remain to be destroyed; *jowari* 38 and *nagli* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Nasik	*Nil*	*Kharif* reaping and *rabi* sowing vigorously continued; locusts diminishing; full grown locusts have appeared from other parts; public health good; fever in Chandor Taluka; *bajri* 33, wheat 28½ and rice 22½ lbs. per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay)	*Nil*	Abnormal temperature 1° warm to 3° cool; vapour in air excessive on 7th and 13th; abnormal wind southerly from 9th to 11th.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Poona	. . . . .	Weather clear; *rabi* sowing progressing; prices—*bajri* 44 and *jowari* 52 lbs. per rupee; in Poona *bajri* 34 and *jowari* 43 lbs
Ahmednagar	·12 in Parner	*Bajri* reaping and *rabi* sowing in progress; cholera in Karjat. 7 attacks, 2 deaths; locusts in Shrigonda; cattle-disease in Newasa; *bajri* maximum 57 lbs. per rupee in Shrigonda; minimum 39 lbs. in Nagar; *jowari* maximum 72 lbs. in Shrigonda, minimum 54 lbs. in Akola.
Sholapore	At Sholapore ·01, total 39·93.	Cholera in Malsiras taluka, 15 cases, 3 fatal; reaping of *kharif* and sowing of *rabi* crops being completed; *jowari* 65 and *bajri* 57 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar	Slight rain throughout the district.	Reaping of rice generally commenced; other early crops good and in ears; sowing of late crops nearly completed; fever and cattle-disease in 2 talukas; rice 24 to 41 lbs. and *jowari* 49 to 88 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara	In Karwar ·23, in Kumta 1·65, Sirsi 1·42, and in Halial ·52, total 147·61.	Rice harvest continues above ghât but nearly completed on coast; fever prevails above ghât talukas; small-pox in Panawar; common rice in Karwar 11 seers 51 tolas, in district average 15¼ seers.
Rajkot	. . . . .	In some parts of Sorath Halar and Gohelvad fever prevailing, in other parts general health good; weather cool; *bajri* 30 and *jowari* 35 lbs. per rupee. *General Remarks.*—River still low in Sindh; slight rain in 7 districts; agricultural prospects generally good; *kharif* harvesting and *rabi* sowing nearly completed in some districts, in progress in others; fever in most districts; cholera in parts of Guzerat and the Deccan; cattle-disease and small-pox in a few places.
Bengal—(14th Nov.)		
Chittagong	*Nil*	Weather fine with cloudy mornings at times; prospects of crops fair, but rain is wanted; prices somewhat high; general health good; cattle-disease continues.
Dacca	*Nil*	Paddy being harvested; rain wanted for winter crops.
24-Pergunnahs	*Nil*	Prospects of late paddy crop continue very unfavourable; yield not expected more than average eight annas, except in south of district; cultivation of winter crops hindered by early cessation of the rains; common rice 13 to 19 seers per rupee; health of people generally good, though cases of fever reported from Baraset, Bussirhat and Sudder Sub-divisions.
Moorshedabad	*Nil*	Weather cool and dry; *amun* on high land in a bad state, on low land and in irrigated places it is good; on the whole an eight-anna crop expected; *rabi* sowings being hindered owing to want of rain fever prevalent in thana Dewanserai and in Jungipore town.
Bajshahye	*Nil*	Weather cool; *amun* on high land being used as fodder; *rabi* being sown in most places; fever here and there; cholera has appeared in Nattore town.
Burdwan	*Nil*	Prospects of crops unfavourable; public health fair.
Rungpore	*Nil*	Weather seasonable; prospects of *amun* paddy bad; other crops good; prices of food-grains stationary; fever prevalent.
Bhagulpore	*Nil*	Rice on high land withering up and being used as fodder, on low land still reported good; *rabi* cultivation going on, but prospects not favourable; fever prevalent in Soopole Sub-division; rice 13 seers 14 chittacks per rupee.
Purneah	*Nil*	Prospects of rice crop not favourable; *rabi* sowings being pushed on; common rice 16 seers per rupee; fever raging; cases of cholera reported here and there.
Patna	*Nil*	Rice crop failing except where water can be obtained; *rabi* sowing continues, but rain is required; *rahar*, cotton and sugarcane growing well; public health good.
Durbhanga	*Nil*	Paddy on high land withering; *rabi* germinated looks green yet, but wants rain; prices rising; fever prevalent in south.
Hazareebagh	*Nil*	Weather clear and cold; prospects of rice not improved, a four to six-anna crop expected; *rabi* plants doing well; public health good.
Cuttack	*Nil*	Late rice crop ripening, in some places being cut; partial loss of crops apprehended for want of rain; price of rice almost unchanged; public health good. *General Remarks.*—The week has been rainless throughout these provinces, and the cold weather is fairly setting in; the reports on the state and prospects of the crops continue to be satisfactory from the eastern districts with the exception of Furreedpore and Mymensingh, and from the districts of Julpigoree and Cooch Behar; from Orissa and Manbhoom also the reports are not bad, as the injury done to the rice crop is said to have been partial and not considerable; from all other parts, however, the accounts are very unfavourable; the rice crop has been mostly destroyed on the high land, and has also been damaged to a greater or less extent on the low land; in these parts the *rabi* crops also are not favourable; in some places cultivation is going on, but not satisfactorily for want of sufficient moisture in the ground, in others it is quite at a standstill; prices of rice generally continue to rise; in some districts the rise is said to have been already very considerable; general health of these provinces is pretty satisfactory, though fever is reported to be prevalent in some districts.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
N.-W. Provinces and Oudh—(Nov. 14th)		
Benares (Nov. 13th)	*Nil*	Weather colder; no fever; *rabi* prospects good; prices rising slightly.
Allahabad („ 14th)	*Nil*	*Rabi* sowings in great part completed and young crops germinating well; health good; prices stationary.
Gorakpur („ 12th)	*Nil*	*Rabi* ploughings well advanced; late rice lost; tanks nearly dry; health fair; prices steady.
Jhansi („ 13th)	*Nil*	Cutting of *juar* and *tili* commenced; *kharif* outturn will be below average owing to insufficiency of rain; *rabi* sowings are in progress; prices falling; health of people and cattle good; fodder and water for cattle becoming scarce.
Cawnpore („ „)		Weather clear; harvesting of late *kharif* crops approaching completion and *rabi* sowings in progress; health good; prices slightly fallen.
Farukhabad(„ „)		Weather seasonable; fever still lingers in Chibramau, otherwise health of people fair; *kharif* outturn moderate; *rabi* sowings still going on in some villages.
Agra. („ „)	*Nil* .	*Kharif* crops suffering; *rabi* sowings continue; slight fever in four parganas; but general health good.
Bareilly („ „)	Slight shower in parts.	*Kharif* harvest nearly finished; *rabi* crops doing well; market stationary except a fall in rice; health of people and cattle good.
Meerut („ „)	Slight rain, prospect of more	Weather cloudy; *rabi* sowings nearly completed; health good; supplies sufficient; prices stationary.
Kumaun („ „)	. . . . .	Rain on the 11th probably general over the district and enough for the present for sowing the *rabi*; public health good; cattle-disease continues; prices unchanged.
Lucknow („ „)	No appearance of rain.	Weather becoming colder; *rabi* sowing finished; *hewat* crops doing well; rain wanted; condition of cattle normal and of people good; markets well supplied; prices stationary.
Partabgrah („ „)	. . . . .	Grain cheap; *rabi* crops germinating fairly; rain is much wanted.
Rae Bareli („ 12th)	*Nil*	Weather seasonable; no rain; on unirrigated land *rabi* sowings retarded for want of rain; general health good; prices steady; supplies sufficient.
Sitapur („ 13th)	. . . . .	Weather cloudy during the week for 2 days; wind variable; rain much wanted; *rabi* sowings almost completed; markets well supplied.
Fyzabad („ „)	. . . . .	*Rabi* sowings nearly finished; condition of cattle and people good. *General Remarks.*—Rain has fallen in Kumaon and Saharanpore; clouds and slight showers are reported in several other northern districts; elsewhere the weather is clear with falling temperature; *rabi* prospects fair; public health good.
Punjab—(Nov. 14th)		
Delhi	. . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings in progress; prices stationary.
Hissar	Slight rain in Hissar and Sirsi. 1·9	Health good; prices stationary.
Umballa	. . . .	*Rabi* sowings in progress; health good; prices steady.
Jullundur	9	Health good; *kharif* harvested; *rabi* sowings continue; prices steady
Amritsar	·7	Health good; prices fluctuating.
Lahore	. . . .	Crop prospects improved; prices steady.
Ferozepore	. . . .	Health and crop prospects good; prices fluctuating.
Siálkot	·9	Health and crop prospects good; *rabi* sowings in progress; prices stationary.
Ráwalpindi	1·05	Health good; prices falling.
Peshawar	. . . .	Fever decreasing; *rabi* sowings commenced; prices fluctuating.
Mooltan	·8	Health good; *rabi* sowings in progress; prices steady.
Dera Ismail Khan		Health good; *rabi* sowings in progress; prices steady.
		General Remarks.—Rain in a few districts; health good; *rabi* sowings in progress.
Central Provinces—(Nov. 14th)		
Nagpur	. . . . .	Weather clear and cool; *rabi* sowings completed; prospects good; public health good; prices stationary.
Jubbulpore	. . . . .	Weather clear and cold; reaping of *kharif* crops and cotton-picking continue; *rabi* sowings in progress; wheat 25 and rice 14 seers per rupee; health good.
Saugor (Nov. 13th)	. . . . .	Weather cloudy; *rabi* sowings finished; *kharif* crops being harvested; cotton being picked; prices stationary; health fair.
Seoni	. . . . .	Weather cool; *rabi* sowings nearly finished; inferior rices nearly all reaped; fever very prevalent and fatal; price of wheat stationary, of rice risen.
Hoshangabad	. . . . .	Weather seasonable; prospects good; *rabi* sowings in progress; fever prevalent; wheat 16 and rice 10 seers per rupee.
Khandwa	. . . . .	Weather clear; *rabi* sowings continue; prospects good; 9 deaths from cholera; prices steady.
Raipur	. . . . .	Rice being harvested; outturn of *kodo* and *til* expected to be better than last year; cotton-picking in hand; *rabi* prospects good; public health good; prices steady.
Sambalpur (Nov. 10th)	. . . . .	Weather cold and seasonable; prospects good; health good; common rice 33⅓ seers per rupee. *General Remarks.*—*Rabi* prospects very favourable; sowings continue; weather pleasant and seasonable.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burmah—(Nov. 14th)		
Akyab	0·16	Total rainfall 179·73; public health good; 43 cattle died in two townships; elsewhere health of plough cattle good; in Naaf crops in very good condition, not suffering from want of rain; in Myohung where crops were suffering, late rains caused improvement; in Kyelet appearance of crops good.
Rangoon	2·19	Three deaths from small-pox, otherwise public health good; price of paddy Rs. 100 to 103 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 79 36 inches.
Bassein	0·29	Public health good; rain of last few days has improved the crop; price of paddy Rs. 100 to 120 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 88·75 inches.
Prome	2·41	Public health good; 24 deaths of cattle in Mahathaman; rain has fallen but it is feared too late; crops on the higher lands have not matured; in many places the ears are without grain; some are being reaped for fodder; from information given by Thugyes it would appear that loss from drought will be comparatively small; total rainfall 48·16 inches.
Kyoukpyu	0·49	Public health good; health of cattle good; no alteration in price of paddy; total rainfall 156·87.
Sandoway	1·98	One death from cholera in Sandoway town, elsewhere public health good; agricultural prospects favourable; total rainfall 208·85 inches.
Hanthwaddy	. . . .	Public health good; health of cattle good; ploughing and sowing completed; general appearance of crops good; price of paddy Rs. 80 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Pegu	3·50 inches rain fell in last two days, accompanied by high wind.	Public health good; cattle-disease rare; crop prospects good; damage to crops by wind near sea, but not excessive; crops on high lands excellent; price of paddy Rs 85 to 90 per 100 baskets.
Thongwa	4·19	Public health good; 5 deaths of cattle; crops throughout the district much benefited by the rain, which has fallen everywhere; slight damage from drought previous to rainfall, reported from Dedaye and Donabyoo townships; price of paddy Rs. 85 to 100 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 87·22 inches.
Henzada	Rain throughout Henzada sub-division. 045	Public health and health of cattle good; prospects of crops much improved and now good; total rainfall 80·73 inches.
Thyetmyo	1·27	Public health good; paddy area 45,077, 16,927 acres less than last year; prospects little altered by rainfall; total rainfall 41 inches.
Moulmein	0·73	Public health and health of cattle good; about 1,315 acres under paddy or 270 less than last year; prospects and general appearance not bad; crops have suffered from insects and in high lands from drought; reaping of early paddy commenced on the 23rd October; price of paddy Rs. 90 to 100 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 165·07 inches.
Amherest (Moulmein)	. . . .	Public health and health of cattle good; slight damages to crops from insects in 7, from floods in 3 townships; about 10 per cent. of crops liable to damage from drought.
Tovoy	2·97	Public health and health of cattle good; prospect of crops very good; yield expected to be over the average; area under paddy about 51,870 acres or about 700 acres more than last year; total rainfall 194·79 inches.
Shwegyin	0·58	Public health and health of cattle good; harvest prospects promising; about 80,200 acres under paddy against 79,100 last year; price of Rs. 85 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 138·22 inches.
Toungoo	1·32	Public health and health of cattle good; general appearance of crops good; total rainfall 79·07 inches.
		General Remarks.—Rainfall for the week in excess of the rainfall for the corresponding week last year, but total for the year still very deficient; public health and health of cattle good; the rain during the week has revived much of the failing crop on the high lands and has done good to the later transplanted paddy; if fine ripening weather sets in soon now the prospects of the crop will be good; price of paddy rising a little.
Assam—(Nov. 14th).		
Gauhati	*Nil*	Weather seasonable; mornings foggy and nights cool; rain much wanted; prospects of crops not good; public health good.
Sylhet	*Nil*	State and prospects of crops good except in Karimganj sub-division where the prospects of *sali* crop is said to be not favourable; public health is also on the whole good.
Cachar	*Nil*	Days warm, nights cool; sowing of winter crops in progress; prospects of *sail* crops good; common rice 16½ seers per rupee; small-pox abating.
Dibrugarh	*Nil*	Weather cloudy; prospects of crops good; district healthy.
Mysore and Coorg—		
Bangalore (Nov. 14th)	·03	Rain has fallen throughout the province; crops in a thriving condition; agricultural operation in active progress; prospects good; prices satisfactory; seven deaths from cholera reported in the Hannalli and Davangeri taluks, Shimoga district, otherwise public health good.
Mysore	1·30	
Mercara	·22	Picking of coffee proceeding; crop good; paddy crop coming into ear; fair weather desired.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Berar & Hyderabad—		
Amraoti (Nov. 14th)	. . . .	Weather cool and pleasant; cotton-picking commenced; *rabi* sowings in progress; wheat 16 and *jowari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola	. . . .	Weather cool; *rabi* sowings progressing; prospects good.
Hyderabad (Nov. 14th)	Average rainfall during week ·12. Total from 1st January 31 inches.	Sowings *rabi* and *tabi* and reaping of *kharif* crops continue; cholera continues in one taluka; no cattle disease; prices, wheat 15¾, coarse rice 12, white *jowar* 23, yellow *jowar* 27½ and *tur* 21 seers per hali sicca rupee.
Central India States—(Nov. 14th)		
Indore	*Nil*	Weather cloudy; days warm, nights cold; weather good; prices stationary.
Sutna	. . . .	Health and prospects good.
Neemuch	*Nil*	Health good; weather seasonable.
Goona	. . . .	Health fair; crops good; wheat 26 seers per rupee.
Agar	*Nil*	Crop prospects satisfactory; *rabi* sowing commenced; health good.
Sehore	. . . .	Weather clear; crops and public health good.
Nowgong	. . . .	Weather unseasonably hot; rain wanted; agricultural prospects fair; harvest failed in Datia; prices steady.
Bhopawur Manpur	*Nil*	Prospects good; two fatal cases of cholera reported from Burwani between 23rd and 29th October 1883.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Nov. 14th)	Drops	Weather cloudy and windy; fever prevalent.
Sirohee („ 11th)	Drops	Tanks and wells in good condition; health good; crops all cut; sowing for barley crops begun; weather fairly cool; cloudy last day or two.
Marwar	. . . .	Only 3 months' water in Jodhpur city; tanks and wells almost full; health good; crops good; weather clear; nights moderately cool; prices stationary; *rabi* sowings in progress.
Meywar (Nov. 11th)	. . . .	Tanks, wells and health very good; sowing completed; young crops thriving; weather seasonable.
Harowtee („ 10th)	. . . .	Crop prospects fairly good; health good.
Jhallawar („ 9th)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; health and prospects good.
Ajmere („ 13th	. . . .	Sowing for *rabi* proceeds; weather cloudy and warm.
Jeypore („ „)	Drops	Weather cloudy; prices unchanged; health fair.
Ulwur („ „)	. . . .	*Rabi* sowings continue; prices rising; health good.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 20th NOVEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—There has been no noticeable alteration in the weather and prospects recorded in the previous week's summary. The rainfall has been lighter in Madras and entirely absent from Bombay. The crops in those Presidencies and in Central India, Rajputana, Punjab, North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Central Provinces are generally doing well, but an early rainfall would much benefit the young *rabi* crops in Northern and Central India.

In Bengal the weather continues clear and rainless, and prospects are unchanged. No report has been received from British Burma.

The public health continues fair, except for the prevalence of fever and slight cholera in parts.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—		
Bellary	. . . .	Standing crops generally good; harvest *cholum*, *cumbu*, *ragi*, oil-seeds, yield below average; twenty-seven deaths from cholera.
Kurnool	. . . .	Standing crops good; harvest yellow *cholum*, *koora*, indigo, yield below average.
Ganjam	. . . .	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy; cholera, small-pox slight in one taluk.
Kistna	. . . .	Standing crops good; harvest *cholum*, maize, gingelly, black paddy, *koora*, yield below average; fever increasing; small-pox, cattle-disease in parts.
Chingleput (Madras)	. . . .	Standing crops injured by excess of rain in two taluks, elsewhere in good condition; harvest *kar*, &c., yield half; eight deaths from cholera; small-pox slight.
Coimbatore	·24 (average of 6 stations).	Standing crops damaged by excessive rain in two taluks, elsewhere fair; harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, *cumbu*, yield about average; twelve deaths from cholera; fever, small-pox, cattle-disease slight.
Tanjore	2·38 (average of 10 stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, *cumbu*, yield below average; forty deaths from cholera.
Madura	·57 (average of 7 stations).	Standing crops fair; harvest dry crops, yield average; cholera severe in Madura town and slight elsewhere.
Malabar	·99 (average of 9 stations).	Second crop cultivation progressing; small-pox, fever, cattle-disease slight.
Travancore	1·122	Standing crops good; fever in parts.
		General Remarks.—General prospects good.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—(Nov. 21st)		
Kurrachee	No rain	River at Kotri on 14th 5 feet 10 inches, against 6 feet 15 inches on same date last year; fever generally prevalent; cattle-disease in 3 talukas; harvesting operations in progress; prices—in Karachi wheat 24, red rice 28 and *bajri* 36; in Dadu 30 and 48; Tatta 24, 32 and 36, and in Jate 20, 32 and 40 respectively.
Hyderabad	. . . . .	Cotton-picking has commenced; fever in eight, small-pox in four, and cattle-disease in four talukas; wheat 25, *bajri* 35¼, *jowari* 40, red rice 26, and white rice 28 pounds per rupee.
Ahmedabad	. . . . .	*Kharif* crops nearly harvested; *rabi* sowing continued; fever in some talukas; *bajri* 29 and wheat 25¼ pounds.
Baroda	. . . . .	Slight cholera in Navsari and Mohwa mahals; fever in some parts of Navsari and Kadi divisions; harvesting of *kharif* and sowing of *rabi* in progress; *bajri* 32 and rice 24 pounds.
Surat	. . . . .	Crops healthy; fever and cholera more or less in some talukas; *jowari* 37 and *nagli* 45 pounds.
Nasik	No rain	*Kharif* reaping and *rabi* sowing vigorously continued; crops damaged by locusts in parts of Baglan, Kalwan and Dindori; locusts in flight southwest; public health good; fever in Kalwan taluka; wheat 31, *bajri* 32, and rice 25.
Colaba (Bombay)	No rain	Abnormal temperature 1° cool to 1° warm; vapour in air normal; wind normal.
Poona	. . . . .	*Kharif* crops being reaped; *rabi* sowing completed; two deaths from cholera in Indapur taluka; *bajri* 44 and *jowari* 52 pounds, in Poona *bajri* 34 and *jowari* 43.
Ahmednagar	No rain	*Bajri* reaping nearly finished and *rabi* sowing in progress; cholera in Karjat one attack; locusts in Shrigonda; cattle-disease in Newasa; *bajri* maximum 54 pounds in Jamkhed, minimum 39 in Nagar: *jowari* maximum 72 pounds in Jamkhed, minimum 54 in Akola.
Sholapore	No rain	Cholera in Malsiras taluka; four cases, one fatal; reaping of *kharif* and sowing of *rabi* crops being completed; *jowari* 64 and *bajri* 55 pounds.
Dharwar	. . . . .	Reaping of rice crop in progress; that of early *jowari* commenced in 6 talukas; other early crops good; sowing of late crops nearly completed; fever and cattle-disease in 2 talukas; rice 25 to 41 and *jowari* 52 to 88 pounds per rupee.
Kanara	. . . . .	Weather fair; small-pox continues in Kumpta, Nonalvar and Siddapur; reaping of *bakal* crops such as *ragi*, &c., continues above ghat; common rice *Karwar* 11 seers 51 tolas, district average 15½ seers per rupee.
Rajkot	. . . . .	Weather cool; fever continues in some parts; *bajri* 30 and *jowari* 35 pounds.
		General Remarks.—River continues low in Sind; *kharif* reaping and *rabi* sowing being completed in some districts; injury from young locusts in parts of Satara and Nasik; fever generally prevalent; slight cholera; cattle-disease and small-pox in few places.
Bengal—(Nov. 21st)		
Chittagong	. . . *Nil*	Weather clear and cold; there are complaints of want of rain causing short outturn, but the harvest will be generally good; prices steady; health good; cattle-disease lingers in a few places.
Dacca	. . . *Nil*	Paddy being harvested; sowing of pulses going on; prospects good, but rain wanted.
24-Pergunnahs	. . *Nil*	Prospects of late rice continue unfavourable; average yield estimated at from eight to ten annas; *rabi* sowings partly retarded by drought; price of common rice varies from 11½ to 19 seers per rupee; public health generally good, except in Bussirhat where fever rather prevalent.
Moorshedabad	. . *Nil*	Weather getting cooler; *amun* in south-east of district promises a 12 to 14-anna crop; on irrigated lands it is doing well; want of rain prevents *rabi* sowings, and will impair the crop that is on the ground; fever prevalent in Jungipore town, and in several other places of the sub-division.
Rajshahye	. . . *Nil*	Weather cold; outturn of paddy on high lands considered likely to be from two to four annas, and of paddy on low lands four annas; *rabi* except in low lands requires rain.
Burdwan	. . . *Nil*	Yield of *amun* will be about one-third of a full crop; prospects of *rabi* crops also not favourable.
Rungpore	. . . *Nil*	Weather cool; prospects of *amun* paddy bad; other crops good; prices stationary; fever prevalent.
Bhaugulpore	. . *Nil*	Rice on high lands is a failure; crop on low ground will yield from six to ten annas outturn; prospects of *rabi* crops also not favourable; a good deal of *rabi* lands not sown this year; much fever in north; price of rice 13 seers 14 chittacks per rupee.
Purneah	. . . *Nil*	Yield of rice crop very poor; *rabi* sowing progressing; price of common rice 15 seers per rupee, with tendency to rise daily; public health not good; much fever and a few cases of cholera.
Patna	. . . *Nil*	Rice on high lands has withered; on low lands the *rabi* crop will be fair, but on high lands rain is still wanted; public health good.
Durbhunga	. . . *Nil*	Paddy on high-lands drying up; *rabi* sowings still going on, but rain is much wanted; prices rising; fever prevailing in Tajpore and Madhubani sub-divisions.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—*contd.*		
Hazareebagh	. . *Nil*	Weather seasonably cold; rice harvest commenced; a 4-anna crop expected; prospects in the Giridi sub-division gloomy; a total failure of rice in portions of three or four thanas reported; rices rising; a few cases of small-pox reported; general health good.
Cuttack	. . . *Nil*	Earlier sorts of rice crop being cut; later sorts ripening; partial loss of rice crop apprehended for want of rain; *rabi* crops promising well; price of common rice 21 seers per rupee; public health good.
		General Remarks.—The cold weather has now fairly set in; there has been no rain in any part of the province during the week; in almost all parts of Eastern Bengal and Orissa, and in Julpigoree and Cooch Behar the rice harvest, as already reported, will be fair, but in all other parts of the Province it will be very poor; in these parts most of the crop on the high lands has been lost, and even on the low lands the rice has suffered; the state of the *rabi* cultivation also is backward; sowings are being retarded for want of rain, except where means of irrigation exist; fever is prevalent in some districts, otherwise the public health is good.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—(Nov. 21st)		
Benares	.(Nov. 20th) *Nil*	Rain required in Chandauli Tahsil; health of men and cattle good; outturn of sugarcane crop only half the average; bazars well supplied; prices fluctuating slightly.
Allahabad	.(„ 21st) *Nil*	*Rabi* sowings nearly finished; young *rabi* doing well; health good; *kuari* rice risen 3 seers the rupee; no other material change.
Gorakhpore	.(„ 19th) *Nil*	Tanks nearly empty; *rabi* sowings in progress; health fair; prices steady.
Jhansi	.(„ „) *Nil*	*Kharif* crops suffering; area sown with *rabi* crops is much smaller than in former years for want of moisture; prices almost stationary; health of people and cattle good.
Rai Bareli	.(„ „) *Nil*	*Rabi* crops germinating fairly; *kharif* is being harvested; general health good; markets well supplied; prices almost steady.
Cawnpore	.(„ 20th)	Outturn of late *kharif* crops on unirrigated land poor; *rabi* sowings progressing; health of people and cattle good; market steady.
Farukhabad	.(„ „)	Weather seasonable and occasionally cloudy; fever in parts of the district; *rabi* sowings going on in some places.
Agra	(„ „) *Nil*	*Kharif* continues to suffer; *rabi* being sown and irrigated; slight fever in 2 parganas; general health good; prices steady.
Bareilly	(„ „)	Rain required for *rabi*; prices steady; health good.
Meerut	(„ „)	Weather cold and clear; *rabi* sowings nearly completed; cane pressing commenced; health good; supplies sufficient; prices stationary.
Kumaun	(„ „)	Weather fair; wheat has been sown; general health good; cattle-disease continues; prices unchanged.
Lucknow	(„ „)	Weather becoming colder; some of the *hewat* crops are being cut; rain wanted; condition of people and of cattle normal; markets well supplied; prices stationary.
Partabgarh	(„ „)	*Rabi* sowings continue; fields have to be irrigated before being sown; *jarhan* where irrigated ripening; where unirrigated, drying up; prices steady; health good.
Sitapur	(„ „) *Nil*	*Rabi* germinating well and so far prospects are favourable; general health good.
Fyzabad	(„ „) *Nil*	Wind westerly; rain wanted; *mash* and *jarhan* suffering from drought in part of district; public health and condition of cattle good.
		General Remarks.—No rain has fallen during the weak; the *rabi* sowings continue with irrigation where possible; the public health is good and the markets sufficiently supplied; cattle-disease is still reported from Kumaon.
Punjab—(Nov. 21st).		
Delhi	. . . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings nearly completed; prices stationary.
Hissar	. . . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings continue; prices stationary.
Umballa	. . . . .	Health good; *kharif* harvested; yield below average; *rabi* sowings continue; prices falling.
Jullunder	. . . . .	Health good; *kharif* harvested; *rabi* sowings in progress; prices steady.
Amritsar	. . . . .	Health good; prices stationary.
Lahore	. . . . .	Health and crop prospects good; fall in price of Indian-corn; prices of other food-grains stationary.
Ferozepur	. . . ·6 at Sadr, ·4 at Ferozepur city and ·2 at Jellalabad.	Health and crop prospects good; prices steady.
Sialkot	. . . 1	Health and crop prospects good; *rabi* showings continue; slight fall in prices.
Rawalpindi	. . . 1·9	Health good; prices falling.
Peshawar	. . . . .	Small-pox prevalent; *rabi* sowings completed; prices steady.
Mooltan	. . . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings continue; slight rise in prices.
Dera Ismail Khan	. . . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings in progress; prices stationary.
		General Remarks.—Rain in the Sialkot, Ferozepur, Rawalpindi and Shapur districts; small-pox is prevalent in Peshawar; health elsewhere good; *rabi* sowings in progress.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provinces—		
Nagpur (Nov. 21st)	. . . .	Weather clear and cool; *rabi* crops promise well; health generally good; prices stationary.
Jubbulpore („ „)	. . . .	Weather clear and cold; reaping of *kharif* crops and cotton-picking progressing; *rabi* sowings continue; wheat 25 seers, rice 15 seers per rupee; health good.
Saugor („ 20th)	. . . .	Weather cloudy; *kharif* harvest in progress; cotton being picked; *rabi* crops favourable; prices stationary; health fair.
Seoni („ 21st)	. . . .	Weather clear and cool; *rabi* sowings completed; *kharif* harvest produced average outturn; fever prevalent; prices stationary.
Hoshangabad („ „)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; prospects good; *rabi* sowings continue; *juari* being harvested; fever prevalent; wheat 18 seers, rice 10 seers per rupee.
Raipur („ „)	. . . .	Weather cool; cutting of rice and *tili* progressing; *rabi* sowings almost completed; cotton-picking continues; health good; prices steady.
Sambalpur („ 17th)	. . . .	Weather cold and clear; inferior rices cut; prospects favourable; health good; common rice 33½ seers per rupee.
Khandwa . . .	. . . .	Weather clear; prospects good; *rabi* sowings continue; two deaths from cholera; prices steady.
		General Remarks.—Harvesting of *kharif* crops in progress; *rabi* sowings almost completed; a few cases of cholera in the Narbada valley, and the Nimar district.
Assam—(Nov. 20th)		
Gauhati . . .	No rain	
Sylhet . . .	No rain	Weather seasonable; *paddy* crop doing rather poorly owing to want of rain; mustard cultivation in progress; public health fair.
Cachar . . .	2·20	State and prospects of crops fair; public health good.
		Weather cold; reaping of *sail* crops commenced; sowing of winter crops nearly finished; common rice 16 seers per rupee; no small-pox reported.
Dibrugarh . . .	0·13	Weather cold; prospects of crops good; district healthy.
Mysore and Coorg—		
Bangalore . . .	·35	There has been an absence of rain throughout the province; the break has benefited the crops which are in excellent condition; prospects very good; cholera still prevalent in the Shimoga district; health of the province otherwise good; prices satisfactory.
Mysore . . .	No rain	
Mercara . . .	·48	Showers of rain which have fallen have done more harm than good to the standing rice crops; picking of coffee proceeding.
Berar & Hyderabad—		
Amraoti . . .	. . . .	Weather cool; cotton-picking progressing; *rabi* sowings nearly completed; wheat 16, *jowari* 26 seers.
Akola . . .	. . . .	*Rabi* sowings progressing; *kharif* crops being cut.
Hyderabad . . .	No rain	Sowing of *abi* and reaping of *abi* crops continue; fever and ague prevail in two taluks and cholera in one; no cattle disease; prices—wheat 15½, coarse rice 11½, white *juar* 23, yellow *juar* 28½, and *tur* 20 seers per hali sicca rupee.
Central India States—		
Indore . . .	No rain	Health good; weather seasonable; prices stationary.
Morar (Gwalior) . .	No rain	Health good; weather seasonable; rain wanted for *rabi* crops; prices stationary.
Sutna . . .	No rain	Health good.
Neemuch . . .	. . . .	Crops thriving; public health good.
Goona . . .	. . . .	Health and crops good.
Sehore . . .	No rain	Weather clear; crops and public health good.
Nowgong . . .	No rain	Rain wanted; prospects fair; weather seasonable; general health good; prices steady.
Bhopawur . . .	No rain	Prices steady; health good; one fatal case of cholera occurred at
Manpur . . .		Bawi Bagot on 10th instant.
Rajputana—		
Abu . (Nov. 21st)	. . . .	Seasonable and cold; fever abated.
Sirohee . („ 18th)	. . . .	Tanks, wells and health good; crop sowing, seasonable; cold nights and mornings.
Marwar . („ 16th)	. . . .	Three months' water in Jodhpore city; tanks and wells almost full; health good; *kharif* almost gathered; *rabi* sowings in progress; partially cloudy; few drops on night of 10th; cold increasing; prospects of existing crops good; prices stationary.
Meywar . („ 18th)	. . . .	Tanks, wells and health very good; young crops thriving; seasonable.
Harowtee . („ 17th)	. . . .	Crop prospects fairly good but rain needed; cool, clear; health good; prices stationary.
Jhallawar („ 16th)	. . . .	*Rabi* sowing continues; fever reported in some districts.
Ajmere . („ 20th)	No rain	Seasonable; health good.
Jeypore . („ „)	. . . .	Seasonable; prospects fair; health good.
Ulwur . („ „)	. . . .	*Rabi* sowings continue; prices falling; health good.

E. C. BUCK,

Secretary to the Government of India.

Printed & published for the GOVT. OF INDIA *at the Office of* SUPDT. GOVT. PRINTING, *166, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.*

SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India.

№ 48.} CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* GAZETTE OF INDIA *will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.*

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE *may receive the* SUPPLEMENT *separately on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or nine Rupees if sent by Post.*

No Official Orders or Notifications, the publication of which in the GAZETTE OF INDIA *is required by Law, or which it has been customary to publish in the* CALCUTTA GAZETTE, *will be included in the* SUPPLEMENT. *For such Orders and Notifications the body of the* GAZETTE *must be looked to.*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

MANNER IN WHICH MEASURES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS ARE IN FUTURE TO BE CARRIED OUT.

No. 3 / 168—183.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Archæology),—under date Calcutta, the 26th November 1883.

Read the undermentioned papers :—

Despatch from Secretary of State, No. 39, dated 31st July 1878, Public Works Department.

Despatch to Secretary of State, No. 160 (Financial), dated 25th May 1880.

Despatch from Secretary of State, No. 43 (Public Works Department), dated 11th November 1880.

Resolution Nos. 1—30-42, dated 2nd February 1881.

From Curator of Ancient Monuments, dated 2nd February 1881.

Resolution Nos. 1—8-17, dated 12th August 1881.

To Curator of Ancient Monuments, No. 24, dated 25th February 1882.

From Secretary of State, No. 15 (Public Works), dated 9th March 1882.

To Curator of Ancient Monuments, dated 21st April 1882.

Resolution Nos. 3—167-181, dated 8th November 1882.

Resolution, dated 8th June 1883, Nos. 1—58-74.

Read—

Report of the Curator of Ancient Monuments for 1881-82.

RESOLUTION.

The appointment of Curator of Ancient Monuments was sanctioned by the Secretary of State in November 1880 for a term of

three years only, in view to the settlement within that period by each Local Government of a complete scheme of conservation for each province. Major Cole has, since he took charge of his office in January 1881, visited most of the Local Governments, and in the notes and memoranda which form Appendices of his reports has indicated in respect of many of the principal monuments what measures of conservation are in his opinion required. It is important that the Local Governments should now settle, in communication with the Government of India, the general lines upon which their operations will in future be conducted. The lists of objects of antiquarian interest received from the different provinces show that very much information as to the number and character of existing monuments has been collected; and the Curator's memoranda and suggestions indicate sufficiently clearly the general direction which measures of conservation ought to follow.

2. The Governor General in Council notices, however, that the Curator has not apparently placed himself in such free communication with the officers of the Archæological Survey as was desirable, and this is to be regretted. It is true the reports show that Major Cole has at times consulted General Cunningham; but as far as Madras and Bombay are concerned, he appears to have had no communication with Dr. Burgess whose great experience and sound knowledge, both archæological and architectural, would have been of much service in preparing the necessary lists, and determining the mode in which repairs should be planned.

3. The Governor General in Council desires that each Local Government will now, with as little delay as possible, take up the lists of ancient monuments for its province as given in Major Cole's Report for the year 1882-83, and, as regards Northern, Eastern and Central India, in communication with General Cunningham, and as regards Madras and Bombay, in communication with the Archæological Surveyor of Southern and Western India, prepare classified lists and a detailed report showing—

I.—Those monuments which from their present condition and historical or archæological value ought to be maintained in permanent good repair.

II.—Those monuments which it is now only possible or desirable to save from further decay by such minor measures as the eradication of vegetation, the exclusion of water from the walls, and the like.

III.—Those monuments which from their advanced stage of decay or comparative unimportance it is impossible or unnecessary to preserve.

4. The monuments in classes I and II should be further subdivided, thus—

I (*a*) and II (*a*).—Monuments in the possession or charge of Government, or in respect of which Government must undertake the cost of all measures of conservation.

I (*b*) and II (*b*).—Monuments in the possession or charge of private bodies or individuals.

In respect of classes I (*a*) and II (*a*), the report should show what arrangements it is proposed to make for the due carrying out of the necessary measures of conservation. Definite provision should be made for the proper custody and up-keep of each monument in these classes. The Government of India do not wish to interfere in the details of these arrangements, but they desire to be satisfied that each Local Government has at its disposal the means for the intelligent and judicious treatment of any questions that may arise in connection with the preservation of buildings of such importance. The Governor General in Council considers that the cost of these measures is a legitimate charge upon the Public Works allotment of each province, but will be prepared to consider in very special cases whether any further assistance should be granted from Imperial funds.

In respect of classes I (*b*) and II (*b*), it should be reported what funds are available for their conservation; and whether the custodians can be induced to allow the inspection, direction, and control of Government officers in such matters. It may be advisable in some instances to offer small subsidies in view to securing the necessary amount of supervision, but this should only be proposed where the monument is one of primary importance, and its due conservation cannot be otherwise secured. In general it may be hoped that the local officers and the Local Government will be able to induce those interested to take proper steps for maintaining the buildings in their charge.

5. If hereafter it should become apparent that the Local Governments require advice or instructions with reference to the proper mode of preserving or treating any monument, the Government of India will be happy to arrange for procuring this from the best available authorities. Meantime, as above intimated, the Local Governments should, besides referring to General Cunningham and Dr. Burgess, freely consult the Curator of Ancient Monuments in the preparation of the lists and reports now ordered, remembering that Major Cole's services will not be available in that capacity after the 28th January 1884 when the period for which his appointment was sanctioned by the Secretary of State will expire.

6. In the Annual Administration Reports of each province full information should be given as to the measures of conservation carried out during the year and as to the condition of all monuments in classes I and II.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Local Governments and Administrations, to the Director General of the Archæological Survey, and to the Curator of Ancient Monuments in India for information and guidance. The Curator, before his term of office expires, should arrange to visit any important monuments not yet seen by him, submitting his notes, as before, to the Local Governments concerned.

Ordered also that a copy be forwarded to the Foreign, Public Works and Finance Departments for information; and that the Resolution be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

(True Extract.)

A. MACKENZIE,

Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

RULES FOR THE LEVY AND EXPENDITURE OF FEES ON MASONRY GRAVES AND MONUMENTS IN CEMETERIES AND CHURCHES THROUGHOUT INDIA.

The following Resolution is to be substituted for Resolution bearing the same numbers and date:—

No. $\frac{5}{196-212}$

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Ecclesiastical)—under date Simla, the 9th August 1883.

Read again—

Home Department Resolution Nos. 4—248-63A., dated the 27th December 1882, sanctioning certain alterations in Rule II of Section II of the Rules contained in Home Department Notification, dated 12th December 1877, for the levy and expenditure of fees on masonry graves and monuments in cemeteries and churches throughout India.

Read also—

A letter from the Government of the Punjab, No. 1527, dated the 2nd ultimo, bringing to notice an alleged inconsistency in revised Rule II.

RESOLUTION.

The Governor General in Council is pleased to decide that revised Rule II of the Rules referred to in the preamble shall run as follows:—

A further fee of one rupee per square foot shall be levied for the erection of a masonry monument in a burial ground, reduced to eight annas per square foot when the monument is of stone or marble, provided that the minimum fee payable for a monument shall be Rs. 5. No monument shall in any case be more than 3 feet in height. For a simple headstone or flat slab of stone or marble not more than 3 feet 6 inches in height and 2 feet in width, a fee of Rs. 5 shall be payable. A fee of Rs. 75 shall be levied on a faculty for the erection of a monument in a church.

Notes.—(1) A tablet on the wall of a cemetery shall be regarded as a monument.

(2) "Simple headstone."—A cross of not greater height or length than 3 feet 6 inches is included in this description.

(3) In the case of a monument erected over a masonry grave, the aggregate of the fees under this Rule and Rule I will be one and a half rupees for each square foot of ground occupied, but when the monument is of "stone or marble," the aggregate of the fees in question will be one rupee per square foot.

(4) The term "stone or marble" does not include "slate."

(5) The fees of Rs. 75 levied on a faculty, drawn in the case of non-Government churches by the present incumbents of the office of Registrar of the Diocese in Calcutta and Bombay, shall cease on a vacancy occurring in that appointment. The money is to be spent in charity as in the case of Government churches.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Resolution be forwarded to the Government of the Punjab, with reference to the letter thence, No. 1527, dated the 2nd July 1883, and to other Local* Governments and Administrations for information; to the Public Works and Military Departments, and the Department of Finance and Commerce; to the Bishop's Chaplain, the Venerable the Archdeacon of Calcutta, and the Senior Chaplain of the Church of Scotland.

*Madras.	Central Provinces.
Bombay.	British Burma.
Bengal.	Assam.
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	Coorg.
	Hyderabad.

Ordered further, that the Resolution be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

(True Extract.)

A. MACKENZIE,

Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT SHOWING THE RESULT OF EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1883.

No. 1.—As to Age and Sex.

	Demerara.				Mauritius.				Surinam.				Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Grand Total.
Under 2 years	10	9	19		9	11	20		12	12	24		31	32	63
From 2 to 10 years	18	23	41		23	16	39		20	8	28		61	47	108
„ 10 to 20 „	98	33	131		48	20	68		63	26	89		209	79	288
„ 20 to 30 „	238	109	347		137	53	190		228	88	316		603	250	853
„ 30 to 40 „	24	17	41		43	16	59		12	6	18		79	39	118
„ 40 to 50 „	3	3	6		3	3	6		1	3	4		7	9	16
Above 50 „	.	1	1		.	1	1		1	.	1		1	2	3
Grand Total	391	195	586	449 women to every 100 men.	263	120	383	425 women to every 100 men.	337	143	480	4032 women to every 100 men.	991	458	1,449

No. 2.—As to Places whence Emigrants come to Calcutta for embarkation.

	Demerara.				Mauritius.				Surinam.				Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Grand Total.
Orissa	.	.	.		1	.	1		1	.	1		2	.	2
Western Bengal	.	.	.		2	.	2		.	2	2		2	2	4
Central ditto	1	1	2		8	7	15		.	2	2		9	10	19
Eastern ditto	.	.	.		5	2	7		2	.	2		7	2	9
Behar	91	45	136		103	54	157		39	17	56		233	116	349
N.-W. Provinces	180	66	246		91	38	129		133	65	198		404	169	573
Oudh	67	30	97		35	12	47		78	22	100		180	64	244
Central India	6	2	8		5	4	9		17	13	30		28	19	47
Punjab	2	1	3		5	1	6		36	2	38		43	4	47
Nepal	.	.	.		2	1	3		6	2	8		8	3	11
Mixed, Madras and Bombay, &c.	44	50	94		6	1	7		25	18	43		75	69	144
Grand Total	391	195	586		263	120	383		337	143	480		991	458	1,449

No. 3.—As to Caste and Religion.

	Demerara.				Mauritius.				Surinam.				Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Males.	Females.	Grand Total.
Brahmins, high caste	76	27	103		46	12	58		85	25	110		207	64	271
Hindus: Agriculturists	128	39	167		83	33	116		83	21	104		294	93	387
Hindus: Artisans	20	9	29		7	4	11		19	3	22		46	16	62
Hindus: Low castes	135	87	222		77	46	123		115	65	180		327	198	525
Musulmans	32	33	65		50	25	75		35	29	64		117	87	204
Christians	.	.	.		.	.	.		.	.	.		.	.	.
Grand Total	391	195	586		263	120	383		337	143	480		991	458	1,449

MEMO.	M.	F.	Total.
1. Hindus	874	371	1,245
2. Musulmans	117	87	204
3. Christians	.	.	.
Total	991	458	1,449

T. W. HOLDERNESS,

Offg. Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

	Raj-pootana.			Provinces.
	Sha	Ton	Boo	Deo

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 2nd HALF OF OCTOBER 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 2226 AND 2227 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA", DATED 24th NOVEMBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

RAJPOOTANA.	PROVINCES.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice. Best sort.			Rice. Common.			Grent Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bajrah Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kuttoo, Verugoo, Sawan, Cheena, Corgoo, Murwa, Nagles, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana,* &c.			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.				Salt. Retail.			
			Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.
			S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
		Delhi Cantonment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 4	4 12	4 12	8 0
		Boondee	24 8	23 12	17 0	40 0	38 4	28 0	10 0	10 8	10 0	11 8	10 8	10 0	46 4	29 0	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	37 0	36 0	30 0	160 0	140 0	160 0	12 0	12 8	12 12	4 12	4 13	12 12
		Tonk	20 8	21 0	15 9	30 12	31 0	23 0	7 8	8 7	8 6	9 8	10 8	9 8	40 8	25 1	24 8	... ...	... ...	21 9	... ...	... ...	... ...	32 0	31 0	22 12	100 0	100 0	100 0	13 0	13 8	13 6	6 13	4 13	12 10
		Shahpoura	19 14	20 4	17 8	30 0	26 8	21 12	6 12	6 8	6 6	8 10	10 8	9 8	30 12	18 10	14 4	... ...	... ...	18 12	... ...	... ...	... ...	23 4	23 4	21 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	13 0	14 8	14 12	0 14	0 12	12 12

J. WESTLAND,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASONS AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 27th NOVEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—With the exception of the Madras Presidency and one district in Assam, no rain is reported for the past week from any of the reporting stations. The want of rain has involved to a large extent the failure of the rice crop in Bengal and has greatly retarded the *rabi*. In all other Provinces the *rabi* prospects are fair, but the young crops in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh require rain. The *kharif* harvest and *rabi* sowings have been nearly completed in the Bombay Presidency and Central and Northern India. Some damage is still caused by locusts in one district of Bombay, but the plague has generally abated. In Sindh the river continues low.

The latest report received from Burma is for the week ending 17th November and shows that the paddy crop promises a good yield in spite of some damage from past unfavourable weather.

The public health is generally good, but slight cholera, small-pox, and fever exist in some provinces.

Prices remain unchanged except in Bengal, where they are unsteady.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects
Madras—(Nov. 28th)		
Bellary		Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, *ragi*, yield average; *cholum*, *cumbu*, oil-seeds, below average; 36 deaths from cholera.
Kurnool		Standing crops good; harvest, yellow *cholum*, paddy, yield about average.
Ganjam		Standing crops generally good; fever, small-pox slight in one taluk.
Kistna		Dry paddy partially blighted in one taluk, otherwise standing crops good; harvest, black paddy, *cholum*, *korra*, yield below average; fever prevalent; small-pox, cattle-disease in parts.
Chingleput (Madras)	3·51 (average of 11 stations).	Standing crops good; harvest, *kar* and dry grains, yield half; eight deaths from cholera, small-pox slight.
Coimbatore	·8 (average of 14 stations).	Standing crops, *cumbu*, *cholum* damaged by excessive rain in two taluks, elsewhere fair; harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, *cumbu*, yield average; 350 deaths from cholera including those not reported last week; small-pox, cattle-disease in parts.
Tanjore	2·12 (average of 14 stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, *cumbu*, yield below average; seventy-six deaths from cholera.
Madura	1·58 (average of 8 stations).	Standing crops fail; harvest, dry crops, yield about average; cholera severe in Madura town, and elsewhere slight.
Malabar	·85 (average of 10 stations).	Second crops progressing; cholera, fever, small-pox slight.
Travancore	·19	Standing crops good; fever in parts. *General Remarks.*—General prospects good.
Bombay—(Nov. 28th)		
Kurrachee	No rain	River at Kotri on 22nd, 5 feet 7 inches against 5 feet 8 inches on corresponding date of last year; one case of small-pox occurred in Kurrachee on 19th, imported by a lad who arrived from Makran on 15th; disease also prevalent in five villages in districts, four fresh cases, sixteen remaining sick; fever generally prevalent; cattle-disease in Gorabari and Sujawal talukas; early *rabi* crops coming on; prices—wheat, red rice and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 28 and 32; Sehwan 32 and 36; Sakro 16, 28 and 42, and Shahbandar 20, 32 and 40 lbs. per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad		Weather unseasonably warm; fever in eight, small-pox in three, and cattle-disease in four talukas; prices of grains steady.
Ahmedabad		*Rabi* sowing progressing; slight fever in Viramgam, Dholka, and Modasa; *bajri* 29 and wheat 25½ pounds per rupee.
Baroda		Slight cholera in Naosari mahal still continues; fever in some parts of Naosari and Kadi Divisions; harvesting of *kharif* and sowing of *rabi* almost completed; prices—*bajri* 33 and rice 24 pounds per rupee.
Surat		Crops healthy; fever and cholera more or less in some talukas; *juari* 37 and *nagli* 45 pounds per rupee.
Nasik	No rain	*Kharif* reaping and *rabi* sowing nearly completed; *rabi* crops where sown have germinated well; locusts have damaged crops in parts of Baglan, Kalwan, and Dindori; public health good; fever in Kalwan taluka; wheat 31, *bajri* 32, and rice 25 pounds per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay)	No rain	Abnormal temperature 0° to 3° cool; vapour in air defective; wind normal.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*concld.*		
Poona	. . . . .	Sowing of *rabi* nearly completed, *bajri* 44 and *juari* 52; in Poona *bajri* 34 and *juari* 43 pounds per rupee.
Ahmednagar	No rain	*Bajri* reaping finished; *rabi* sowing continued; locusts in Shrigonda cattle-disease in Newasa; *bajri*—maximum 55 pounds per rupee in Sheogaon, minimum 39 lbs. in Nagar; *juari*—maximum 72 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 54 lbs. in Sangamner.
Sholapore	No rain	Cholera in Malsiras taluka, 30 cases, 12 fatal; sowing of *rabi* completed; *juari* 63 and *bajri* 54 pounds per rupee.
Dharwar	. . . . .	Rice crops being reaped; reaping of other early crops commenced sowing of late crops nearly completed; cholera at Medleri in Ranebennur, out of 5 cases, 4 fatal; fever in five and cattle-disease in one taluka; rice 25 to 41 and *juari* 45 to 88 pounds per rupee.
Kanara	. . . . .	Fever in Halliyal and Mundgud; small-pox in Kumpta and Honawar, 9 cases, 1 death in Siddapur; preparing land for cultivating second rice crops on coast; common rice at Karwar 11¼, district average 15 seers per rupee.
Rajkot	. . . . .	Weather cold; fever continues in some parts; *bajri* 31 and *juari* 35 pounds per rupee. *General Remarks.*—River still falling in Sind; damage from locusts continues in parts of Nasik; *kharif* harvesting and *rabi* sowing completed in most districts; fever general; slight cholera and small-pox in seven, and cattle-disease in ten districts.
Bengal—(Nov. 29th)		
Chittagong	*Nil*	Yield of rice will not be favourable; earlier sorts of the crop being harvested; prices steady; cattle-disease lingers; public health good.
Dacca	*Nil*	Paddy being cut; sowing of pulses continues; prospects fair, but some damage to crops apprehended for want of rain.
24-Pergunnahs	*Nil*	Prospects of late rice continue unfavourable; average outturn estimated at from eight to ten annas; cultivation of *rabi* crops much hindered by want of rain; price of common rice varies from 12 to 19 seers per rupee; public health generally good; sporadic cases of cholera reported from the Baraset, Barrackpore, and Dum Dum sub-divisions, and fever prevalent in the Bussirhat subdivision.
Moorshedabad	*Nil*	Weather overcast; harvesting of late rice has commenced; the crop is a total failure, except on irrigated and low-lying lands; cold weather crops have generally suffered from drought, but *teel*, *arhar* and *kalai* are doing fairly well; prices falling slightly; public health good, except in the north, where fever is still prevalent.
Bajshahye	*Nil*	Some of the *amun* rice being reaped; in Nattore yield will not be good; transplanted paddy will be about a 4-anna crop; paddy on low lands may average 6 annas for the whole district; *rabi* crops want rain.
Burdwan	*Nil*	State of *amun* rice and *rabi* crops bad; sowing of *rabi* crops partially stopped for want of rain; sugarcane also suffering; public health fair.
Rungpore	*Nil*	Weather seasonable; prospects of *amun* rice bad, other crops fair; prices stationary; fever prevalent.
Bhagulpore	*Nil*	*Rabi* sowings still going on, the soil being moistened by irrigation wherever this is possible; prospects of *rabi* crops not good; a good deal of rice which suffered from drought has been cut as fodder price of rice 13 seers 14 chittacks per rupee.
Purneah	*Nil*	Prospects of crops not good; *rabi* sowings going on; price common rice 15 seers per rupee; much fever and a few cases of cholera reported.
Patna	*Nil*	Harvesting of paddy has commenced; *rabi* germinating well rain wanted; public health good.
Durbhanga	*Nil*	There will be a six to eight-anna rice crop in the north of the district, but less in the centre, and very little indeed in the south; unless rain falls within the next few days the *rabi* will be destroyed entirely; prices very high; fever very prevalent, though not in an epidemic form.
Hazareebagh	*Nil*	Weather clear and cold; harvesting of paddy continues; prospects of *rabi* crops not favourable owing to want of rain; common rice selling at 15 seers per rupee; general health good.
Cuttack	*Nil*	Earlier sorts of *sarad* rice being cut; later kinds flowering in some places; crops on high lands partially suffering from drought; common rice selling at 20 seers per rupee at Cuttack, and 28 to 36 seers in the interior; public health good. *General Remarks.*—There has been no rain in any part of the province; the rice crop has to a great extent failed, and will be very poor; the prospects of the *rabi* crops also are generally reported to be very unfavourable; want of rain is very much felt for the progress of the *rabi* sowings, and for the growth of the crops already sown; prices are high all over the province; in some districts they are rising still, in some they remain stationary, and in others they are falling slightly; fever, as usual at this season, is prevalent in some districts, otherwise the public health is satisfactory.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
N.-W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares .(Nov. 27th)	*Nil*	Prospects of *rabi* harvest good, but rain is somewhat wanted; health of men and cattle good; prices rising slightly.
Allahabad .(„ 28th)	*Nil*	*Rabi* sowings nearly completed; crops doing well; irrigation where possible in progress, health good; prices risen; prospects good.
Gorakhpore .(„ 26th)	*Nil*	*Rabi* prospects poor; prices slightly rising.
Jhansi .(„ „)	*Nil*	Harvesting of *kharif* commenced; the area sown with *rabi* is smaller than usual and the crops are germinating.
Agra .(„ 27th)	*Nil*	The *rabi* sowings continue with irrigation where possible; health good; prices steady.
Bareilly .(„ „)	*Nil*	Prices steady; health of people and cattle good.
Meerut .(„ „)	*Nil*	*Rabi* sowings completed; crops generally germinating well; rain would be beneficial; health good; prices steady and supplies sufficient.
Kumaun .(„ „)	*Nil*	Clouds collected, but have gone; *rabi* germinating well; health good; cattle-disease still prevalent, but slighter; prices stationary.
Lucknow .(„ „)	*Nil*	Weather cold with west wind; *bajri* and *mash* are being cut; cultivators irrigating their newly sown *rabi* crops; condition of people good; markets well supplied; prices stationary.
Partabgrah .(„ „)	. . . .	Prices show a slight rise; *rabi* sowings still continue; *jarhan* being cut everywhere; outturn in parts of Kunda fair, but in the remaining tahsils very poor; small-pox in one or two villages in Kunda tahsil; general health good.
Sitapur .(„ „)	. . . .	Clear during week with light west wind; *rabi* being irrigated; health good.
Fyzabad .(„ „)	*Nil*	*Rabi* crops germinating fairly; condition of people good and of cattle normal; markets well supplied; prices almost steady.
Cawnpore .(„ „)	*Nil*	Prospects of *rabi* crops on irrigated land good; sowing nearly finished; general health of people good and no sickness amongst cattle; prices cheaper.
Rae Bareli .(„ 26th)	*Nil*	*Rabi* crops geminating fairly, *kharif* is being harvested; general health good, except a few cases of small-pox in tahsil Rae Bareli; markets well supplied; prices almost steady.
Farukhabad .(„ 27th)	. . . .	Weather seasonable, clear sky throughout the week; fever diminished; *rabi* well up, but rain wanted. *General Remarks.*—No rain has fallen; the *rabi* prospects are generally fair; the markets are sufficiently supplied, and prices in most districts steady; a few cases of small-pox are reported in Rae Bareli and Partabgarh, and there is some fever in Saharanpur and Farukhabad, otherwise the public health is good.
Punjab—		
Delhi .(Nov. 28th)	. . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings nearly completed; prices almost stationary.
Hissar .(„ „)	. . . .	Health good; crop prospects unchanged; prices steady.
Umballa .(„ „)	. . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings in progress; prices stationary.
Jullundur .(„ „)	. . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings in progress; prices steady.
Lahore .(„ „)	. . . .	Health and crop prospects good; prices stationary.
Ferozepur .(„ „)	. . . .	Health and crop prospects good; prices stationary.
Sialkot .(„ „)	. . . .	Health and crop prospects good; prices stationary.
Rawalpindi .(„ „)	. . . .	Health and crop prospects good; rise in prices.
Peshawar .(„ „)	. . . .	Small-pox and fever prevalent; prices falling.
Mooltan .(„ „)	. . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings nearly finished; prices steady.
D. I. Khan .(„ „)	. . . .	Health and crop prospects good; prices stationary.
Amritsar .(„ „)	. . . .	Health good; prices fluctuating. *General Remarks.*—There has been no rain during the week; the health of the province, except in the Peshawar district, is good; *rabi* sowings still continue, but are nearly finished.
Central Provinces—		
Nagpur .(Nov. 27th)	. . . .	Weather cool and clear; rice and other crops being cut; *rabi* sowings finished; prices stationary.
Jubbulpore .(„ „)	. . . .	Weather clear and cold; *kharif* crops being reaped; cotton picking continues; *rabi* sowings progressing; prospects favourable; wheat 24 and rice 15 seers per rupee; health good.
Saugor .(„ „)	. . . .	Occasionally cloudy; *kharif* harvest in progress; *rabi* crops favourable; prices steady; health fair.
Seoni .(„ „)	. . . .	Weather clear and cold; reaping of rice progressing; fever unusually prevalent; prices stationary.
Hoshangabad („ „)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; prospects good; *rabi* sowings completed; cotton picking in progress; fever prevalent; wheat 16 and rice 10 seers per rupee.
Raipur .(„ „)	. . . .	Weather cool and pleasant; harvesting of rice and *tili* continues; cotton picking in progress; *rabi* sowings finished; public health good; prices fluctuating; common rice 29½ and wheat 26½ seers per rupee.
Sambalpur .(„ 24th)	. . . .	Weather cold and clear; prospects good; harvesting in progress; later rice ripening; health good; common rice 28¾ seers per rupee.
Khandwa .(„ „)	. . . .	Weather clear; *rabi* sowings continue; one death from cholera; prices steady. *General Remarks.*—*Kharif* harvesting almost completed; *rabi* sowings continue in some districts; prospects favourable; health fair.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma—		
Akyab (Nov. 17th)	. . . .	Report not received.
Kyoukpyu . . .	. . . .	Report not received.
Sandoway . . .	. . . .	Report not received.
Rangoon (Nov. 17th)	. . . .	One death from small-pox, otherwise public health good; paddy no supplies; prices nominal.
Hanthawaddy („ „)	. . . .	Public health and health of cattle good; ploughing and sowing completed; paddy area about 1,720 acres more than last year; rain of past 8 or 10 days has done great good; if no more rain falls full crop expected; general appearance of crops good; prices of paddy from Rs. 90 to 95 per 100 baskets.
Pegu . . („ „)	For week ending 10th Nov. 1·32 For week ending 17th Nov. 3·50	Public health good; cattle-disease slight; scarcely any damage to crops from high winds last week; generally a great improvement on higher lands; prospects unusually good throughout; total rainfall 12·4 inches.
Tharrawaddy (Nov. 3rd)	0·10	Public health good; two deaths of cattle reported; about 251,608 acres of paddy land have been ploughed and 229,798 acres planted; crops reported in good condition; about 170 acres have been reaped in the Sangwe township; price of paddy from Rs. 95 to 115 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 100·07 inches.
„ . („ 10th)	3	Public health and health of cattle good; slight damage to crops in Gyobingook from floods; paddy area about 22,604 acres more than past year; the later paddy and the crops on high lands suffering in parts from drought; general appearance favourable; price of paddy Rs. 95 to 150 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 103·07 inches.
„ . („ 17th)	. . . .	Report not received.
Prome . . .	4·53	Public health and health of cattle good; ploughed fields all planted out, but the area 1,379 acres less than last year; this decrease is attributed to deficient rainfall on higher lands; heavy rains of week have done some damage to plants in Paungde Sub-division but have on the whole much improved the prospects of crops throughout the district; price of paddy Rs. 85 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 52·69 inches.
Bassein . . .	14·87	Public health good; 17 deaths of cattle; heavy rain of week has irretrievably spoilt the reaped paddy, one-third of planted, and one-fifth of sown; ordinary crops, judging from fields near Bassein, are badly injured, only later crops have benefited; price of paddy Rs. 100 to 120 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 103·64 inches.
Thongwa . . .	6·87	Public health and health of cattle good; slight damage from drought reported from Shwelaung and Pantonaw townships and from wild elephants from Dedaye; price of paddy Rs. 85 to 100 per 100 baskets; total raintall 94·09 inches,
Henzada . . .	5·90	Public health and health of cattle good; prospects of crops in Myanoung Sub-division much improved; great damage has been caused in Kyangin by floods; rice selling at Rs. 5 a basket; total rainfall 86·63 inches.
Thayetmyo . . .	6·28	Public health good; 56 deaths of cattle; crop mostly in ear; heavy rain of week has prevented much loss; crops will be two-fourths or one-half short; price of paddy Rs. 100 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 47·28 inches.
Amherst . . .	. . . .	Public health and health of cattle good; ripening crops very good; reaping commenced; paddy area estimated to be 20,000 acres more than last year; some damage has been caused by drought and inundation by sea; season's loss has been averted by late rain.
Moulmein town . .	1·21	Public health and health of cattle good; about 1,315 acres under paddy; about 200 acres have been reaped, outturn about 5,000 baskets; wages of reaping 8 annas per day, by contract about Rs 3-4 per acre; condition of ripening paddy good; outlook favourable; opening price of paddy Rs. 88 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 166·28 inches.
Shwegyin . . .	1·30	Public health and health of cattle good; harvest prospects promising; price of paddy Rs. 88 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 139·52 inches.
Tavoy . . .	·65	Public health and health of cattle good; prospects of crops very good; reaping of early paddy progressing; total rainfall 196·44 inches.
Mergui . (Nov. 3rd)	1·15	Public health good; crops and cattle healthy; reaping has commenced in some places; but the main portion of the crops is unripe yet; 35 acres destroyed by flood; price of paddy Rs. 80 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 169·79 inches.
„ . („ 10th)	1·40	Public health good; cattle healthy; reaping has commenced in some places, but the main portion of the crop is unripe yet; price of paddy Rs. 80 per 100 baskets; total rainfall 171·19 inches.
Toungoo . .	·61	Public health and health of cattle good; prospects of crops good; total rainfall 9·68 inches.
		General Remarks.—Public health good; no excessive mortality among cattle except in Thayetmyo, where there has been a slight increase of disease; rainfall for the week has been considerably in excess of the fall last year in the same week; all over the province and in the four districts of the Irrawaddy Division, the fall has been heavy; Bassein had unprecedentedly heavy rain for this time of the year; the rain has on the whole done great good to the paddy crop; in Bassein however damage has been caused to some reaped paddy and to a considerable area of standing crop by the excessive rain; the prospects in the chief paddy-producing districts, Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Thongwa, Tharrawaddy, and Amherst, are excellent; a larger area is under paddy than last year, and full crops are expected; the prospects in Henzada, which is also a large paddy-growing and exporting district, are good; the rain appears to have come too late in Prome and Thayetmyo to retrieve the loss in crop and deficiency in cropped area caused by the past unseasonable drought; on the whole there is promise of a full crop on a larger area than last year.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Assam—		
Gauhati (Nov. 28th)	No rain	Weather seasonable; mornings foggy; prospects of *sali* crops not satisfactory for want of rain; sowing of mustard in progress; public health fair.
Sylhet . .	*Nil*	Prospects of crops fair; cholera and small-pox reported from parts of interior.
Cachar . . .	*Nil*	Weather cold; reaping of *sali* crops continues, sowing of winter crops not finished; common rice 16 seers per rupee; public health good.
Dibrugarh . . .	0·21	Weather cloudy; reaping of sali *dhan* commenced; cholera reported in the station.
Mysore and Coorg—		
Bangalore . .	*Nil*	Crops in good condition, harvesting of *ragi* commenced; agricultural operations in active progress throughout the province; prospects good; cholera still prevalent in Duvangere taluk, Shimoga district; public health otherwise good; no material change in prices.
Mysore . . .	*Nil*	
Mercara . . .	*Nil*	Picking and pulping of coffee proceeding, outturn good and will fully realize estimates; rice crop ripening fast.
Berar & Hyderabad—		
Amraoti (Nov. 28th)	. . . .	Weather cool; *kharif* harvest in progress, *rabi* sowings continue; cotton picking in hand; wheat 16 and *juari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola . . .	. . . .	Reaping of *kharif* crops and cotton picking progressing, *rabi* sowings continue.
Hyderabad (Nov. 28th)	*Nil*	Sowing of *rabi* and reaping of *abi* crops continue; fever and ague prevailing in some talukas; no cattle-disease; prices—wheat 15, coarse rice 11½, white *juari* 24, yellow *juari* 30, and *tur* 20½ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States—		
Indore (Nov. 28th)	*Nil*	Health good; weather seasonable; prices slightly less than last week.
Morar (Gwalior) . .	*Nil*	Health good; weather seasonable.
Sutna . . .	*Nil*	Health good.
Neemuch . . .	*Nil*	*Rabi* crops thriving; public health good.
Goona . . .	. . . .	Health and prospects good.
Agar . . .	*Nil*	Health and prospects good.
Nowgong . .	*Nil*	Weather fair; health good; prices falling.
Bhopawur . .	*Nil*	Prices stationary; sixteen cases of cholera reported at Dharampur, Dhar of which nine were fatal.
Manpur . .		
Sehore . . .	*Nil*	Weather clear; crops and public health good.
Rajputana—		
Abu . (Nov. 28th)	. . . .	Weather seasonable.
Sirohee . („ 25th)	. . . .	Tanks, wells, and health good; crops being sown; weather seasonable.
Marwar . („ 23rd)	. . . .	Three months' water in Jodhpore city; tanks and wells almost full; health good; *kharif* gathered; *rabi* sowing still continues; weather partially cloudy and moderately cold, night close and warm, indications of rain: prices stationary.
Meywar . („ 25th)	. . . .	Tanks, wells, health, and crop prospects good; weather seasonable.
Harowtee . („ 24th)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; health good.
Jhallawar („ 23rd)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; health and prospects good.
Ajmere . („ 27th)	. . . .	*Rabi* sowings completed; weather cold and seasonable.
Jeypore . („ „)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; prices steady; health good.
Ulwur . („ „)	. . . .	*Rabi* sowing continues; prices steady; health good.

E. C. BUCK,

Secretary to the Government of India.

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OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SEPARATE REVENUE.

Statistics.

PAPERS REGARDING THE SUGGESTED ABOLITION OF THE ENGLISH DUTY ON GOLD AND SILVER PLATE, AND THE SYSTEM OF COMPULSORY HALL-MARKING.

The following papers are published for general information :—

Dated 11th January, 1883.

From—G. HICKIE, Esq., Secretary to the Calcutta Trades' Association,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

In the year 1880 an earnest attempt was made in England by those interested in the silversmiths' and goldsmiths' trade to procure the abolition of the English duty on silver plate, and an alteration of the restrictive laws relating to compulsory Hall-marking of silver and gold wares. A petition, presented to the English Parliament by certain artists and designers in metal work, and which is annexed hereto (see Appendix A), clearly sets forth the grievance of which they complain, and shows that the duty of 1*s.* 6*d.* an ounce imposed by the English law on all silver wares manufactured for sale in England tends materially to limit the demand for artistic work in silver, and, coupled with the system of compulsory Hall-marking, greatly lessens the consumption of silver as a raw material.

2. As bearing on the same important question, the Committee of the Trades' Association submit herewith a copy of certain resolutions adopted by the Goldsmiths' and Silversmiths' Free Trade Association at a meeting held in London in September 1880 (see Appendix B).

3. It seemed at first that these efforts to procure the repeal of an injurious tax, which, taken in connection with the laws for compulsory Hall-marking, is of a protective character, would be successful, but other considerations ulti-

mately prevailed, and the matter was referred to by Mr. Gladstone in his Budget speech in these words:—

"The next subject is one of very small dimensions indeed, but one which presents very considerable difficulty as well as inducement, and that is the subject of the duties on silver plate. The revenue it produces is no more than about £48,000 a year; but there are two reasons why, if we could, we ought to get rid of it. The first is the general advantage which never fails to attend the removal of Excise duty upon the products of British industry; and there is another special reason, which is, that there is every reason to believe that India is well qualified to supply us with silver wares in a manner advantageous to herself and to the trade and people of this country. These are the reasons in favour of the alteration of the duty, and they are very weighty reasons, but unfortunately there are reasons against the removal of the duty, in the ordinary manner which the House may consider as weighty, or weightier still. When I say 'the ordinary manner,' I mean the immediate removal of the duty. In the first place, in order to get rid of this £48,000 a year, you must not only give up that sum—which you might be willing enough to do—but if you remove this duty immediately which undoubtedly would be the best way of doing it, you must be prepared to meet a claim for drawbacks, which, in the first place, is enormous, in relation to the amount of duty, and totally transcends all the dimensions of ordinary ideas as to the drawbacks on taxable commodities, but which is open to the still greater objection that it is impossible to shut the door against drawbacks in the nature of fraud. When I come to make enquiry as to this drawback, gentlemen of the greatest intelligence and respectability in the trade say they think the drawback might be perfectly well covered by £170,000, or three and a half years' revenue. I have not the smallest doubt as to the perfect good faith of all that proceeds from the leading members of the trade; but it is not in their power, nor in the power of anybody, to assure us that we should not be subject to another demand, perhaps as great, in respect of fraudulent claims. I cannot say what that would be; but in the whole circumstances we do not see our way to proceed to the removal of this duty by the ordinary form of an immediate removal altogether without a corresponding claim in another direction. I am sorry to say the problem puzzles me, and I can suggest nothing better than that which is, as a rule, not to be resorted to, *viz.*, that the difficulties of this case might very gradually be provided for by such an annual reduction of the duty as would not disturb sensibly the course of trade; and I shall submit to the House a Resolution proposing that instead of 1*s.* 6*d.* an ounce, which is the amount now chargeable, the duty shall be reduced annually by three pence an ounce until it expires. The gold duty we do not propose to touch. That is a duty so peculiar that I really do not know how to deal with it under present circumstances; but I do not think there is any such reason for touching the duty of gold as there is for touching the ordinary duty on silver. I make that proposal not as the best thing conceivable, but as being the best that can be done under present circumstances."

4. Subsequently Mr. Gladstone moved the omission of the clause relating to the silver duty from the Revenue Bill in the following terms:—

"The Customs and Inland Revenue Bill was in Committee of the House of Commons on May 23rd, and Mr. Gladstone moved the omission of clause 7, dealing with the silver plate duty. On Sir G. Campbell asking why the clause was to be abandoned, Mr. Gladstone said the difficulties attending drawback on this subject were very great—much more serious than he had imagined. He had had considerable doubt as to the validity of the claim for drawback, and specially for full drawback; but under the clause it had not been proposed to give any drawback at all, but to proceed by a gradual method of reduction. Representations which had been made to him induced him to think that he could not persevere with a clause which affected not so much the interests of the trade, so called, as those of the working people. There had been great deadness in the condition of the trade, and he shrank from applying to it any measure which would have had a more or less paralysing effect. He had been obliged to let the matter stand over at this time, but other communications might yet take place. Mr. Ritchie then suggested that the right honourable gentleman should definitely abandon the clause, as the members of the trade would suffer if it were to be held *in terrorem* over them, but Mr. Gladstone said he could not give a pledge that, under no circumstances, would the question be reopened. There might arise other modes of dealing with it. Sir A. Lusk then observed that the clock and watch-making trade had entirely gone away from Clerkenwell. The people wanted something to do and could not get it; and it was no use to tell them to buy in the cheapest market if they had nothing to buy with. After a few more words from Mr. Onslow and Mr. Maciver the clause was negatived."

5. It will be seen that the importance of this question to the people of India is fully recognised in the above remarks, and there can, the Committee think, be no doubt that the repeal of this protective duty, which is imposed on all foreign silver plate imported into England, would, in course of time, tend to the improvement of exchange by promoting the consumption of silver and developing a large trade in silver goods, where none now exists, between this country and Great Britain; no trade is possible under the existing conditions of the law, because all Indian silver manufactures are subject to the tax of

1*s.* 6*d.* per ounce; they are also required to be Hall-marked before they are submitted for sale, under a penalty, in failure of their being so marked, of £10 for each piece of plate so exposed; the articles are, further, liable to be broken up by the Assay Office if the silver of which they are made fails by one-fourth of a grain to come up to the English standard of fineness, which differs considerably from the Indian standard of the rupee. English manufactures other than plain ware are submitted for the assay mark in the rough state, and before they are finished, to avoid the defacing operation of assaying and marking; but this is manifestly impossible in the case of Indian manufactures. The beautiful silver work of Cashmere, Guzerat, Cutch, the Punjab, and Southern India, is therefore kept entirely out of the English market by these prohibitive and protective duties, to the manifest disadvantage of the English purchaser as well as to the detriment of the Indian manufacturer.

6. One of the greatest evils of the present Hall-marking system in England is the destruction of the work if the silver is found to be only a quarter of a grain under the specific standard; in such cases the articles are entirely broken up and rendered fit only for the melting pot. So small a deviation from the English standard can make no real difference in the intrinsic value of silver ware to the purchaser, since it represents the value of only about the eighth of a farthing per ounce. Much of the highly-chased and elaborate work of the Indian silversmith cannot be made in soft pure silver, as the metal requires to be alloyed to a certain degree of hardness to enable it to be worked up to perfection.

7. The complicated and elaborate system of working this tax in England also operates unfavourably in many ways for the English manufacturers and exporters of silver goods. A firm in Calcutta recently had an elaborate and artistic piece of mechanical silver work made in London to order, the drawback for which for export amounted to £20; they were obliged, however, to forego this considerable sum because the English Custom House refused to allow the drawback unless the work was taken to pieces and the silver weighed, for the purpose of the drawback, separately from the other parts, and as the article was from the nature of its construction an extremely difficult piece of work, and could not be undone and put together again without much delay, the firm were obliged unjustly to suffer the loss.

8. The Committee annex a paper from the "Jeweller and Metal-worker" on the tax on silver plate, which gives some interesting information on the matter (see Appendix C).

9. The Committee think that they have now said enough to show the great importance of this subject to the Public and the Government of India as well as to the Indian manufacturer of silver goods. It has also an important bearing on the general question of a larger consumption of silver, and the consequent amelioration of its present reduced value, and above all on the possible development of a considerable trade in silver manufactures with England. The Committee would therefore respectfully urge on the Government the desirability of bringing the subject prominently to the notice of the British Government, with a view to the speedy repeal of this most restrictive and impolitic tax, and the amendment of the laws applying to the system of Hall-marking to the extent of rendering the application of that system non-compulsory.

APPENDIX A.

PETITION OF ARTISTS ON THE SILVER DUTY.

(*This petition was presented to Parliament by* MR. MUNDELLA, M.P., *and* MR. L. COURTNEY, M.P.)

To—The Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of the undersigned Artists, designers in metal work, educated in schools in connection with the Science and Art Department, South Kensington.

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your petitioners are greatly interested in the attempt now being made to abolish the taxation of gold and silver plate, and to alter the laws relating to Hall-marking of those wares.

2. That your petitioners have long since found that the trade of the silversmith offers no inducement to artists to adopt it as a profession, owing to the limited demand for artistic silver productions.

3. That your petitioners are convinced that the duty of 1*s.* 6*d.* an ounce, which amounts, at the present price of silver, to a tax of 33 1-3 per cent. upon the value of the raw material, materially assists in limiting the demand for artistic productions.

4. That your petitioners are further convinced that the duty, coupled with the laws relating to the system of compulsory Hall-marking, limits the number of manufacturers, inasmuch as the hindrances to trade are such as prevent "outsiders" from engaging in the business, although there is nothing in silver, as distinguished from other metals, offering difficulties to the amateur.

5. That your petitioners have great reason to believe that if the duty were abolished, and if Hall-marking were rendered a voluntary institution under a system more in accordance with the practice of modern trade, an important development of the art of the silversmith might confidently be expected in the United Kingdom.

6. That the laws relating to the gold and silver trades have lately been under the consideration of a Select Committee of your honourable House, and that, with a single dissentient the duties have been condemned, the report recommending their abolition "whenever the state of the revenue shall permit."

7. That although the Select Committee, by a majority of one, recommended that Hall-marking should remain as at present—a compulsory proceeding—your petitioners humbly submit that the balance of evidence brought before honourable members was strongly in favour of a voluntary system of Hall-marking.

8. The freedom of trade being an established principle in the case of all other kindred trades, a *primâ facie* case was presented by several of the witnesses in favour of an extension of those principles to the gold and silver trades.

9. That artists have a direct interest in freedom of trade which, as it affects the demand for commodities, opens out new fields for their employment, encouraging them to study at home and abroad, with a view to the cultivation of their taste and the acquirement of knowledge of the respective manufactures.

10. That art would suggest that the quality of the material is of but little importance as compared with the artistic design and execution of manufactures.

And your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your honourable House, taking all these facts into consideration, will "as soon as the state of the revenue shall permit," give effect to the recommendation of the Select Committee, by abolishing the duties upon gold and silver plate, and that the laws relating to the gold and silver trades may all be abolished, and that a new Act may be passed providing for a voluntary system of Hall-marking easily accessible to manufacturers and dealers throughout the United Kingdom.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

APPENDIX B.

At a meeting of "The Goldsmiths' and Silversmiths' Free Trade Association" held September 10th at the Office of the Association, 12, Pall-Mall East, Mr. Edward J. Watherston presiding, it was unanimously resolved—(1) "That the question of the depreciation in the price of silver and the fall in the value of

the Indian rupee demands the early attention of Her Majesty's Government; that, in order to restore its market value, it is desirable that no hindrances to its use for manufacturing should be permitted any longer to prevail; that the duty of 1*s.* 6*d.* per ounce upon manufactured plate, and the laws relating to the system of compulsory Hall-marking, in addition to being unjust and subversive of the principles of modern commercial legislation, are in the highest degree impolitic, as inviting the consumption of a raw material the value of which for currency purposes it is essential should be maintained." (2) "That a copy of the foregoing Resolution be forwarded to Her Majesty's Ministers."

APPENDIX C.

A tax upon silver plate was first originated in the year 1719, to assist in the reduction of the National Debt, which had become considerably enlarged by the cost of the *Spanish War*, and it was thought to reduce those costs principally by taxing the British silversmiths' industry. This tax, by the mode in which it was made to apply to the trade, soon proved very depressive to it; even at that time, for in 1758 it was repealed, the main cause being "for the encouragement of trade." It, however, was soon again imposed, namely, 1784, this time to pay for the *American War*. The tax was soon afterwards increased, and again in the years 1804 and 1815, and all for war purposes. The *French War*, which occurred at the last-named period, having cost £601,500,343, an enormous addition to the National Debt. To the makers of heavy silver goods paying duty, its retention may prove a source of profit, by the charging of the purchasing public the full duty of 1*s.* 6*d.* per ounce upon all their purchases, and pocketing the allowance usual for drawback. Therefore we may expect a few, and very naturally too, exclaiming in favour of things remaining as they are.

We have said to manufacturers of *special and heavy goods* doubtless a profit may be made of some magnitude where a considerable trade is annually conducted out of the tax. But why should the few profit by it to the injury of the many? The makers of *light and fancy goods*—which have to pay the tax—cannot possibly make any such profit by the means just indicated. The time occupied in finishing the work—which is much more defaced in marking than the heavy and solid—by the workman after the process of *compulsory Hall-marking* more than absorbing the value of the drawback allowed, and instead of a gain there is an *actual loss*. Assuming, then, that the duty tax is a net gain to a few manufacturers, it is a disadvantage and a drawback to a great many others, who would like to see its entire abolition, acting as it does injuriously to them, not only pecuniarily, but also in other ways. Firstly, because it so enhances the selling price of an article as to almost forbid its sale. The fact is readily enough shown by taking any small article of jewellery, and comparing it with one of the same weight and design of execution that has paid duty on the manufacture. We have simply to point out that the former, while equal to the latter in every way, can be purchased at from 20 to 40 per cent. less, an unusually large margin of difference in the cost of an article, when contending with dull times, such as have been experienced in the jewellery trades for a very considerable period now. Secondly, because the retention of the duty tax for the advantage of the comparatively few, as against the interests of great numbers, is really and absolutely bad in principle; it fosters a tax upon knowledge; it inflicts an injustice upon the precious metal trades by harassing its members; it crushes skilled enterprise in the production of artistic work; in the manufacture of plate—which is now the principal work taxed—*especially* it keeps old patterns and designs in the market which are best able to stand the cumbersome system of marking now in operation at the assay halls, to the exclusion of the more showy and tastefully designed work. Such obstacles to the gold and silver plate trade discourage a taste for design, as well as business enterprise, by having a tendency to lessen the demand for such articles, and so cause manufacturers' stocks to move but slowly through there being too much sameness of design, and which our present system of compulsory Hall-marking every article of plate—as well

as some other—has every tendency to encourage. The system of compulsory Hall-marking in England, to which all duty-paying articles are subjected, being so crude and distinctive in its application, that it has in a manner prevented the production of designs in conformity with the times, as regards style and taste; it has, therefore, as it were, hampered the English silver trades, and promoted the advancement of foreign trade in place of our own. A very good argument in support of this testimony is to be raised by the gradual decrease in the number of ounces upon which duty has of late years been paid, and of drawback allowed for exportation. The statistics show a remarkable and continuous diminution in the weight of silver on which duty has been paid.

During the period of the five years between 1855-59, the decrease was 192,500ozs., being 994,360ozs. in the former year and 801,860ozs. in the latter, and the weight on which the drawback was allowed from 156,440ozs. to 116,146ozs., a decrease of 40,294ozs. And during the period of five years from 1875-79 the decrease was 140,152ozs., being 880,493ozs., on which duty was paid in the former year, and 740,239ozs. in 1879. In the same period the weight on which the drawback was allowed decreased 35,059ozs., from 120,280ozs. to 85,121ozs. And last year the weight on which the duty was paid still showed a further decrease of 101,619ozs. from the former year, the amount being 638,620ozs These figures show a rapidly increasing decline in both the manufacture and exports of silver plate, and it is more than obvious that this decline must still continue year by year as time rolls on, unless the existing restrictions are removed.

As a further proof of the injury this unjust tax does the silver trade, we may mention the enormous increase in the manufacture of silver chains, lockets, and bracelets, since the duty was removed about two years ago. Before the duty was taken off these articles, there was no demand, and the manufacture was avoided, the call being for articles not Hall-marked, which of course meant the evasion of the duty, and not an objection to Hall-marked work, but purchasers preferred the risk of having a little inferior metal in their wares to paying so much above the nominal value of the metal they were purchasing in the shape of a heavy tax. Now the duty has been wisely taken off these articles, an enormous demand has sprung up for them with the Hall-mark upon them, clearly showing that it was the duty *alone* that proved such a source of hindrance to their former manufacture, by the considerably enhanced price it caused to be put upon the work, subject to its restrictions.

Dated 30th December, 1882.

From—ROBERT G. ORR, Esq., Chairman, Madras Trade Association,
To—The Right Honourable the Governor of Madras.

I have the honour, by the direction of the Committee of the Madras Trade Association, to address Your Excellency with reference to the serious disadvantages which operate against the importation into England of Indian silver plate, and which, under the existing English law and procedure, virtually amount to prohibition.

2. In the hope that it will please Your Excellency to take such steps as may be deemed desirable towards bringing prominently before the Secretary of State for India the anomalous position in which the silver industries of India are placed with regard to importation into England, the Association beg leave to offer the following explanatory observations.

3. In the first instance, *all* silver *plate* taken into England, whether as private property or intended for sale, is charged at the Customs with a duty of eighteen pence per ounce. It is scarcely necessary to say that this duty operates as a serious discouragement to the development of any silver industry; it has been well said that "it is subversive of the principles of modern fiscal legislation, obstructive to art progress, and an insurmountable obstacle to technical education in its application to silversmith's work;" and, if this be

true as to levying an invidious duty in England, it is equally true in its effects upon the silver industries of India.

4. Notwithstanding the levy of this burdensome and obstructive duty, the curious anomaly exists that, even after the English Government receive that duty, they forbid the goods being dealt in, excepting under conditions which amount practically, as concerns the Indian produce, to prohibition of sale in England.

5. Under laws dating back more than 500 years, the gold and silversmiths of London were empowered to furnish those who manufactured silver below a certain standard, and in the present day the "Hall" authorities, against whom there is no remedy and no appeal, wield with absolute despotism the extraordinary powers conferred upon them in the middle ages.

6. The law is that all silver plate, but not jewellery, shall be of a certain standard of fineness and then "Hall-marked" under a penalty of £10 and confiscation. If the manufactured plate, under any circumstances, be found below the English standard, it is at once mercilessly "smashed and battered" as if it contained or embodied the plague or some other fell disease.

7. But even if the Indian manufacturer have complied with the law, if he has specially obtained English standard silver—the rupee is considerably below that standard—and has paid eighteen pence per ounce, he is met with a further difficulty and an insurmountable objection. The silver plate must, before marking, be "scraped and assayed," and this process is performed so clumsily and ruthlessly that the English manufacturer finds it necessary to take back his goods to the workshop to be repaired and "done up;" he, therefere, sends his wares to the Hall in an unfinished state before being polished or burnished.

8. It is obvious that this course is not open to the Indian manufacturer (except at prohibitive cost), who must be content to run the risk of seeing his *finished* goods "mauled," and in some instances injured beyond recovery.

9. This simple statement of the difficulties which attend the importation of Indian silver plate into England appear to the Trades' Association to present strong grounds for an urgent representation to the Home Authorities for the removal of an impolitic and invidious duty. The Association are of opinion that the recent large-minded abolition of duties in India on English manufactures might well be followed by the mother country, in promptly and completely abolishing the silver duties, or at least in sweeping away the absurd and anomalous privileges so successfully exercised by the Hall authorities, manifestly to the protection of the English silver trade interest, but banefully injurious to the production of Indian art and industry.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras, Revenue Department,—No. 8, dated 8th January 1883.

Read—

Memorial from the Chairman, Madras Trade Association, dated 30th December 1882.

Order thereon by the Government of Madras.

Ordered that of the two copies furnished of this memorial, one be forwarded for the favourable consideration of the Secretary of State for India and the other to the Government of India.

No. 1, dated 9th January, 1883.
From—The Government of Madras,
To—The Secretary of State for India.

We have the honour to submit a memorial from the Madras Trade Association pointing out the difficulties which the importer of silver plate into England has to encounter.

2. We believe that these difficulties have not been in any degree exaggerated, and we trust that Her Majesty's Government will consider whether their removal is not possible. As matters stand at present, the English market is closed to plate of Indian manufacture, and one of those industries for which there is in this Presidency undoubted aptitude and which it is our special desire to foster, is greatly discouraged.

No. 26, dated 23rd January, 1883.
From—The Government of India,
To—The Secretary of State for India.

On the 17th March 1882, we telegraphed to Your Lordship's predecessor in the following terms:—

"We desire very earnestly to press upon Her Majesty's Government the importance of repealing the silver duty this year if possible. We believe that this would be a very gracious act at a time when we have repealed our custom duties; it would give much satisfaction to the public here, and would be highly politic."

2. In a Despatch No. 137 of May 4th, 1882, Lord Hartington made the following remarks:—

"I caused the substance of your telegram of the 17th of March last, relative to the importance of repealing the silver duty, to be communicated to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his Financial Statement, delivered in Parliament on the 24th of April, remarked that he is not prepared to make any proposals for the repeal of the duty at the present time, although he recognised that there were two reasons which recommended its abolition, the first and special one being the strong opinion expressed by Your Government in favour of its early removal, and the second the embarrassment to the market and hindrance to trade caused by its maintenance."

3. The Madras Government have forwarded to us a copy of their Revenue despatch of January 9th, 1883, in which they submit to Your Lordship a memorial from the Madras Trades' Association, pointing out the difficulties which the importer of silver plate into England has to encounter. "We believe", the Madras Government add—

"that these difficulties have not been in any degree exaggerated, and we trust that Her Majesty's Government will consider whether their removal is not possible. As matters stand at present, the English market is closed to plate of Indian manufacture, and one of those industries for which there is in this Presidency undoubted aptitude, and which it is our special desire to foster, is greatly discouraged."

4. We have now the honour to forward a representation from the Calcutta Trades' Association on the same subject.

5. Whether we consider this question from the point of view of the English consumers or from that of the foreign importers of silver, the desirability of abolishing the present duty, if the adoption of such a course be possible, is so obvious that we need not dwell on the subject at any length. Mr. Gladstone, in the speech of which an extract is given in paragraph 3 of the memorial from the Calcutta Trades' Association, stated that "the reasons in favour of the alteration of the duty" were "very weighty." We venture to think, however, that there are two considerations in connection with this subject which render the repeal of this duty specially desirable. The first of these considerations is that, inasmuch as the system under which the duty is at present levied places the English silversmith at an advantage compared to his foreign competitor, it is not in harmony with the general policy of Her Majesty's Government in such matters. The second is that the repeal of the duty, whilst conferring a benefit on the English consumers of silver, will also act beneficially on the general financial position of the Government of India.

6. As regards the first of these two points, we think there can be no doubt that, under the existing system, the English silversmith is to a certain extent protected against foreign competition. If the fineness of the imported articles is inferior in however slight a degree to the English standard of fineness, which differs considerably from the Indian standard of the rupee, not only is the sale of the articles in England prohibited, but they are liable to be broken up and

thus rendered valueless as works of art. It may be said that Indian silversmiths should only manufacture articles for export of the required fineness. But this is not in all cases possible. The Calcutta Trades' Association points out that—

"much of the highly-chased and elaborate work of the Indian silversmith cannot be made in soft pure silver, as the metal requires to be alloyed to a certain degree of hardness to enable it to be worked up to perfection."

Again, many of the articles manufactured in India are of very delicate workmanship which cannot, when they have once been finished, be assayed and hall-marked without being injured. On this subject the Calcutta Trades' Association say that—

"English manufactures other than plain ware are subjected to the assay and marked in the rough state, and before they are finished, to avoid the defacing operations of assaying and marking, but this is manifestly impossible in the case of Indian manufactures."

7. Turning to the second point mentioned above, namely, the extent to which the repeal of the duty would act beneficially on the general financial position of the Government of India, we need hardly point out that any measure tending to increase Indian exports and draw some portion of the population, however small, away from agriculture to manufactures, would, in any case, be very desirable. To these general considerations may, however, be added the argument that, in view of the large sterling payments to be made annually in England by the Government of India, it is especially to be desired in Indian interests that any duty tending to obstruct the consumption of silver in the form of plate, &c., should no longer be levied.

8. To these considerations we may perhaps add another which is of a political rather than a purely fiscal nature. It cannot be doubted that the recent abolition of the import duties, although highly beneficial to India, has been regarded by a considerable section of the Indian community as having been dictated in the interests of England. By those who hold such views it is urged that, after the large sacrifices India has made to give complete freedom to trade, it is not unreasonable to expect that a small fiscal reform of this nature, which would benefit India, should be made by Her Majesty's Government in England. Apart from the purely fiscal aspects of the question, we venture to think it would be desirable, on political grounds, to remove this grievance.

9. For these reasons we beg strongly to support the request of the Trades' Associations of Calcutta and Madras. We trust that it will be found possible to abolish the silver duty in connection with the financial arrangements of the year 1883-84.

10. As regards the question of drawbacks, which we understand constituted a consideradle difficulty when the matter was under consideration a year ago, we may perhaps be allowed to mention that in all the customs reforms carried out in India, no drawback has ever been allowed, although we have received frequent representations from individuals to the effect that, by reason of certain fiscal changes, a pecuniary loss has been entailed upon them.

No. 74, dated 10th May, 1883.
From—The Secretary of State for India,
To—The Government of India.

With reference to your letter dated the 23rd January last, No. 26 (Finance and Commerce), I forward herewith, for the information of Your Excellency, a copy of correspondence with the Treasury on the subject of the English plate duties, and of the system of compulsory Hall-marking.

Dated 22nd February, 1883.
From—J. K. Cross, Esq., Under-Secretary of State for India,
To—The Secretary to the Treasury.

In continuation of Sir Louis Mallet's letter of the 7th instant, I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to forward herewith, for

submission to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, a copy of a letter from the Government of India, forwarding with their strong support a memorial from the Calcutta Trades' Association, in which that Association presses for the early repeal of the English import duties on Indian plate.

I am to request that you will direct their Lordships' attention to the last paragraph of the letter of the Government of India on the subject of drawbacks.

Dated 13th March, 1883.

From—LEONARD COURTNEY, Esq., Secretary to the Treasury,

To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State in Council of India, that they have read with attention the memorial presented to the Secretary of State by the Gold and Silversmiths' Free Trade Association, and the letter from the Government of India, forwarding with strong support a memorial from the Calcutta Trades' Association in favour of the repeal of the gold and silver plate duties.

I am to say that the strongly-expressed wishes of the Government of India are entitled to, and receive the respectful consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

I am at the same time to point out that the financial equilibrium of the Budget must be a primary consideration with the Imperial Government, and that the question at issue in this case is complicated by the large amount of drawback for which a claim was put forward.

My Lords fear that they cannot hold out strong hopes of compliance with the wishes of the Indian Government, even in more favourable circumstances than now exist, until the trade are prepared to propose or accept such an arrangement in respect to drawback as Her Majesty's Government can recommend to Parliament.

My Lords have communicated to the Board of Trade and the Goldsmiths' Company the paper on Hall-marking received by Lord Kimberley from the Governor of Madras, and have requested to be favoured with the views both of the Company and of their Lordships of the Board of Trade upon the grievance therein stated.

My Lords desire to judge the whole question on its own merits, and they therefore will only note the difference, of which the Secretary of State in Council is doubtless aware, between the cotton duties imposed until recently in India and the gold and silver plate duty. The former were purely and avowedly protective, but the latter is not so, the Customs duty on gold and silver plate being only framed to countervail the excise duty imposed upon the home manufacture.

Dated 9th May, 1883.

From— SIR LOUIS MALLET, C.B., Under-Secretary of State for India,

To—The Secretary to the Treasury.

I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th March, and to request that you will convey to the Lords of the Treasury the Earl of Kimberley's great regret that their Lordships can hold out no stronger hope than that given in your letter of the repeal during the present Session of the duties on gold and silver plate.

With regard to the remarks in the 2nd paragraph of your letter, as to the difficulty which the question of drawbacks, occasions, Lord Kimberley desires me again to request their Lordships' attention to the statement of the Government of India, referred to in my letter of 22nd February, that no drawbacks have ever been allowed in that country in cases of customs reforms, notwithstanding frequent representations of pecuniary loss entailed.

I am directed to add that Lord Kimberley is unwillingly to pass over without notice the statement, which appears to His Lordship inaccurate, at the close of your letter that the Indian cotton duties were "purely and avowedly protective." These duties, I am to remind you, were originally imposed purely for fiscal purposes, and at a time when no Indian manufactures existed which they could operate to protect; they were subsequently modified at different times in order to remove the protection which it was found that they were alleged to afford to certain classes of Indian-made goods; and they have recently been entirely abolished, in common with import duties upon many other articles.

No. 39, dated 22nd June, 1883.

From—The Government of India,

To—The Secretary of State for India.

We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Lordship's Despatch No. 74 (Statistics and Commerce) of May 10th, 1883, enclosing for our information a copy of correspondence with the Treasury on the subject of the English plate duties and of the system of compulsory Hall-marking.

2. In Mr. Leonard Courtney's letter of March 13th, 1883, which forms the second enclosure to this Despatch, the following passage occurs:—

"My Lords" (*i.e.*, the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury) "desire to judge the whole question on its own merits, and they therefore will only note the difference, of which the Secretary of State in Council is doubtless aware, between the cotton duties imposed until recently in India and the gold and silver plate duty. The former were purely and avowedly protective, but the latter is not so, the customs duty on gold and silver plate being only framed to countervail the excise duty imposed upon the Home manufacture."

3. In Sir Louis Mallet's letter of May 9th, 1883, which forms the third enclosure of the Despatch under reply, Your Lordship has pointed out, in terms in which we entirely agree, the inaccuracy of the statement which we have quoted above. Not only is it inaccurate to say that the Indian cotton duties were "avowedly protective," for, as is remarked in Sir Louis Mallet's letter, "these duties were originally imposed purely for fiscal purposes," but, as a matter of fact, the greater portion of the Indian cotton duties never acted protectively at all. The protective element was entirely eliminated from the Indian Tariff, so far as the cotton duties were concerned, on March 13th, 1879, when all cotton goods containing no yarn of a higher number than 30s were exempted from duty. The duties which were abolished in March 1882 did not act protectively. On this subject we beg to draw Your Lordship's attention to paragraphs 82-86 of the Financial Statement for 1883-84, which are to the following effect:—

"The twist which is imported from Europe does not compete with Indian twist. For years past the great bulk of the twist imported has been of counts much higher than any that can as yet be made in the Indian mills, which limit themselves to the production of twist of counts not exceeding 32 (mule) and 20 (water). All such kinds of English twist were freed from duty in March 1878.

"Of the grey piece-goods imported, those classes which compete with Indian-made goods were also exempted from duty in March 1879.

"White piece-goods are hardly produced at all as yet in India, except experimentally in one or two of the Bombay mills. As I have already mentioned, there has been a large decline in the imports of this class of goods.

"The piece-goods classed as 'other sorts' are not made in India.

"The remission of the Customs duties last year did not, therefore, in any way affect Indian mills, which have had to work without the protection of 3½ per cent. on twist since March 1878, and 5 per cent. on grey piece-goods of counts below 30s since March 1879. As was pointed out in the Financial Statement of last year (paragraphs 210 and 211), the duty which was abolished last March really protected one class of Manchester goods against another, and even to some slight extent protected English goods against those manufactured in India. The duty forced trade into an artificial channel by stimulating the consumption of the coarser kinds of goods and discouraging the use of medium and finer classes to the extent of a differential rate of 5 per cent."

4. If the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury are still under any misapprehension on this point, we think it would be very desirable that their attention should be again drawn to it. There can, in our opinion, be no comparison whatsoever between the Indian cotton duties, as they existed subsequent to March 13th, 1879, and the gold and silver plate duties in England which, as we remarked in the 6th paragraph of our Despatch of 23rd

January 1883, protect the English silversmith to a certain extent against foreign competition.

5. As regards the question of drawbacks, we would again draw attention to the point to which allusion is made in the 10th paragraph of our Despatch No. 26 of January 23rd, 1883, and in Sir Louis Mallet's letter to the Secretary to the Treasury of May 9th, 1883. No drawbacks have ever been allowed in India in the case of customs reforms, notwithstanding the frequent representations of pecuniary loss entailed upon individuals by reason of these reforms.

6. It was with great regret that we learned that Her Majesty's Government were not only unable to abolish the gold and silver plate duties immediately, but that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury could not "hold out strong hopes of compliance with the wishes of the Indian Government, even in more favourable circumstances than now exist, until the traders are prepared to propose or accept such an arrangement in respect to drawbacks as Her Majesty's Government can recommend to Parliament." We are, of course, aware, in the words of Mr. Courtney's letter of March 13th, 1883, that "the financial equilibrium of the Budget must be a primary consideration with the Imperial Government;" but we venture to hope that, in view of the smallness of the amount of revenue involved, it will be possible at some early date to preserve fiscal equilibrium without the maintenance of these highly objectionable duties; whilst we cannot but consider that the payment of drawbacks should not be allowed to stand in the way of their abolition. Under these circumstances, we would again press the matter upon the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

No. 186, dated 18th October, 1883.

From—The Secretary of State for India,

To—The Government of India.

With reference to your letter No. 39 (Separate Revenue) of 22nd June last, I enclose, for Your Excellency's information, a copy of further correspondence with the Treasury on the subject of plate duties.

2. I do not think it advisable to continue the discussion on this subject with the Treasury at present.

Dated 10th August, 1883.

From—Sir LOUIS MALLET, C.B., Under-Secretary of State for India,

To—The Secretary to the Treasury.

In continuation of my letter dated May 9th last, relative to the proposed repeal of the duties upon gold and silver plate, I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to transmit herewith, for the consideration of the Lords of the Treasury, a copy of a letter from the Government of India, No. 39, Separate Revenue, dated 22nd June last.

I am directed to request that you will be so good as to call the attention of their Lordships to the last paragraph of the letter.

Dated 22nd September, 1883.

From—LEONARD COURTNEY, ESQ., Secretary to the Treasury,

To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

With reference to Sir Louis Mallet's letter of 10th ultimo (R. S. & C. 1643), I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to request you to inform the Secretary of State for India in Council that my Lords have read with interest the remarks by the Government of India on the protective character of the former duties of cotton imported into India.

It would not be seemly for my Lords to controvert the views expressed by the Government of India on the objects of their fiscal arrangements. But, on the other hand, with reference to the last paragraph of the letter from the Government of India to which Lord Kimberley calls their Lordship's attention, they must remark that it is for them to judge whether, and when, Parliament can be asked to charge on the tax-payers large sums (under the name of drawback) to be paid to the holders of silver goods in order to relieve the purchasers of silver, who generally belong to the wealthier class of the community, from the present tax on plate.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS IN BENGAL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1883-84.

Areas leased for Irrigation up to the end of August 1883.

Circle.	District.	Canal.	Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilised.	Approximate area of land irrigated during the year up to the end of the month.	Approximate area of land under irrigation up to the same date last year.	DETAILS OF AREAS LEASED. Annual leases. Five years. All crops.	Five years. Kharreef.	Khurreef.	Rubbee.	Sugarcane.	Bhadoi.	Hot weather.	Total.	Grand Total.	Rainfall, 1883-84. During month.	Rainfall, 1883-84. Up to end of month.	Rainfall, 1882-83. During month.	Rainfall, 1882-83. Up to end of month.	Remarks.
			C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	
Orissa	Cuttack	Kendrapara	1,269	554·92	67·21	4,267	54,063					31		66	779	7,440					
		Gobri	572·32	116·46	3·43	.	4,000														
		Pattamoondee	1,042	53·53	9·43	346	13,000														
		High Level, Section I.	675	97·58	31·24	1,088	14,200														
		Taldunda, 1st Reach	1,500	136	136	260	9,954														
		Ditto, 2nd do.	650	39	39		22,309														
		Matchgong	650	81	81	5,493	64														
	Balasore	High Level, Section II	732·16	115·37	115·37	101	1,134														
		Ditto, do. III	732·16	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .														
	Total		. . .	. . .	11,057	120,709	. . .	. . .	14,249	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	100,490	32,334	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	
South-Western.	Midnapore	Midnapore	1,411	190	124	71,966	83,234		73,311												
	Howrah	Panchkoorah	523	. . .	. . .	9,894	10,212		10,174												
	Total		. . .	. . .	. . .	81,860	94,036		83,485												
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .		92,927												
Soane.	Shahabad	Western Main	4,343	1,530	157	6,613	3,990	4,860	6,661	1,797	682	381			2,178	7,088	2·00	23·17	10·63	16·55	
		Dumri	1,226	319	305	18,490	12,457	15,006		7,080		1,832		6	9,096	24,042	4·72	25·05	13·28	26·34	
		Arrah	1,660	925	899	62,536	60,560	62,021	350	9,628	67	1,502	155	66	18,128	74,209	5·25	29·74	7·19	25·19	Whole month discharging.
		Eastern Main				277	306	214		120				7,003	343	343					No discharge during the month.
	Patna and Gya	Patna	1,468	871·71	829·21	18,966	17,663	13,147	4,466	6,466	202	22	8	90	5,845	18,707					
	Total		. . .	. . .	. . .	97,432	85,247	85,248	5,460	25,990	269	3,833	160	7,139	65,091	120,339	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	89,193	. . .	36,541	200	10,260	. . .	. . .	50,175	106,368	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	
	Grand Total		. . .	. . .	. . .	190,939	299,992	85,248	97,744	26,068	269	4,375	160	7,387	87,024	220,016	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	
	Grand total of the corresponding period of last year.		. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	89,193	126,416	59,075	200	10,466	. . .	. . .	77,691	330,300	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	

C. W. ODLING,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
P. W. Department.

The 6th November 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS IN BENGAL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1883-84.

Areas leased for irrigation up to the end of September 1883.

Circle.	District.	Canal.	Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilized.	Approximate area of land irrigated during the year up to the end of the month.	Approximate area of land under irrigation up to the same date last year.	DETAILS OF AREAS LEASED.								Rainfall, 1883-84.		Rainfall, 1882-83.		Remarks.
								Five years. All crops.	Five years. Khurreef.	Annual leases.					Grand Total.	During month.	Up to end of month.	During month.	Up to end of month.	
										Khurreef.	Rubbee.	Sugarcane.	Bhadoi.	Hot weather.	Total.					
			C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	Acr.	Acr.	Acr.	Acr.	Acr.	Acr.	Acr.	Acr.	Acr.	Acr.	Acr.	In.	In.	In.	In.	
Orissa	Cuttack	Kendrapara	1,269	438	156·49	4,595	55,225	. . .	6,739	. .	. .	693	51	. .	66	779	7,518	9·01	52·60	16·81	74·23	
		Gubri	372·82	125·20	11·05	. . .	4,096	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	. . .					
		Pattamoondee	1,042	39·24	16·32	524	13,809	. . .	550	. .	. .	2	. .	. .	15	17	567					
		High Level, Section I.	675	160·21	14·25	1,026	14,260	. . .	1,426	. .	. .	67	3	. .	16	86	1,512					
		Taldunda, 1st Reach.	1,300	158	158	9,954	. . .	. . .	323	. .	203	22	. .	41	265	588					
		Taldunda, 2nd Reach.	650	. . .	. . .																	
		Matchgong	650	120	120	5,723	23,309	. . .	5,720	. .	220	56	. .	90	346	6,066					
	Balasore	High Level, Section II.	727·16	. . .	. . .	187	230	. . .	. . .	. .	. .	233	. .	. .	233	233						
		High Level, Section III.	727·16	. . .	. . .	. . .	1,117															
		Total	. . .	. . .	. . .	22,009	111,046	. . .	14,758	. .	1,143	345	. .	228	1,726	16,484	. .	. .	. .	. .		
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	123,823	. .	4,004	308	. .	. .	4,312	128,135	. .	. .	. .	. .		
South-Western	Midnapore	Midnapore	1,411	741	564	72,989	84,802	. . .	73,726	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	73,726	4·10	42·25	9·37	54·11	Whole month discharging.	
	Howrah	Panchkoorah	522	112	92	10,055	10,424	. . .	10,174	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	10,174	6·12	49·12	7·56	40·15	23 days discharging.	
		Total	. . .	. . .	. . .	83,044	95,226	. . .	83,900	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	83,900	. .	. .	. .	. .		
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	93,469	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. . .	93,469	. .	. .	. .	. .		
Sone	Shahabad	Western Main	4,342	2,428	368	7,709	6,097	4,914	3,766	. .	381	. .	. .	4,147	9,061	4·86	28·03	2 53	21·08		
		Buxar	1,226	496	493	28,166	19,896	15,565	13,699	. .	1,932	20	69	15,720	31,295						
		Arrah	1,660	1,274	1,172	73,816	65,305	53,600	24,355	. .	1,502	159	7,003	33,019	85,619	4·54	29·59	2·79	29·13		
	Patna and Gya.	Eastern Main	1,466	928·29	745·44	544	501	214	220	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	220	434	2·54	32·28	3·76	28·95		
		Patna				27,593	23,439	14,435	9,705	. .	. .	8	28	67	9,806	24,231						
		Total	. . .	. . .	. . .	137,828	115,328	87,718	51,745	. .	3,823	205	7,139	62,912	150,630	. .	. .	. .	. .		
	Total of the corresponding period of last year.		. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	62,193	. . .	46,325	2,347	10,275	. .	. .	59,947	122,139	. .	. .	. .	. .		
		Grand Total	. . .	. . .	. . .	242,881	319,600	87,718	98,658	51,745	1,253	4,168	205	7,367	64,638	251,014	. .	. .	. .	. .		
	Grand Total of the corresponding period of last year.		. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	62,193	217,292	46,325	7,231	10,563	. .	. .	64,259	343,743	. .	. .	. .	. .		

The 8th November 1883.

C. W. ODLING,
Under-Secy to the Govt. of Bengal, P. W. Dept.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF IN THE PUNJAB FOR 1883-84, UP TO 30th SEPTEMBER 1883.

Canal Division.	Water distributed during September 1883. Depth in Canal at Regulating Gauge. Full supply.	Depth in Canal at Regulating Gauge. Actual throughout.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Estimated full supply.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Actual average throughout.	Navigation Return Canal. Principal items of Traffic. Up.	Down.	Land irrigated (approximate). Zila.	Acres.	Rainfall. Average.	During month.	Chief crops (approximate). Name.	Area in acres.	Remarks.
Bari Doab Canal. 1st Division	4·9	4·4	3,073·60	1,199	. .	. . .	Gurdáspur	18,655	5·59	8·70	Cotton	22,076	On the Bári Doáb Canal there is an increase of 15,730 acres as compared with the corresponding month of last year, and of 41,464 acres as compared with the season of 1881-82. The increase during the month has been rather small (only 12,544 acres); this is due to the heavy rain in the early part of the month. The demand for water however again increased towards the end of the month, and there can now be no reasonable doubt that this Kharif will be the largest on record.
2nd Division, Main Branch, Lower	4·6	3·4		764	. .	. . .	Amritsar	59,921	4·40	9·05	Rice	21,195	
2nd do., Lahore Branch	3·35	3·1		585	. .	. . .	Lahore	73,916	3·90	13·00	Sugarcane	9,274	
Passed through Escapes	. .	. .	. . .	192	. .	. . .	. . . . .	. . .	. .	. .	Others	99,947	
Total Bári Doáb Canal	. .	. .	3,073·60	2,740	. .	. . .	. . . . .	152,492	. .	. .	. . . . .	152,492	
Corresponding period of last year	. .	. .	3,073·60	2,164	. .	. . .	. . . . .	136,762	. .	. .	. . . . .	136,762	
Western Jumna Canal. Karnál Division	4·33	4·66	2,546	−65	. .	649,287 kurries, bullies, &c.; 49,414 cubic feet timber, and 71,021 mds. firewood.	Umballa	2,413	4·6	10·03	Cotton	68,192	The operations on the Western Jumna Canal during the month show an increase of 13,686 acres, and as compared with last year of 22,300 acres. The rainfall in September has enabled the canal to save a large area of crops that would otherwise have perished.
Delhi do.	5·70	5·61		905	. .		Karnál	43,580	3·0	6·73	Rice	50,155	
Hánsi do.	9·00	9·15		1,364	. .		Delhi	36,456	3·2	5·50	Sugarcane	35,301	
Do. Bulla Head	8·80	7·92		303	. .		Rohtak	37,892	2·9	5·20	Others	35,772	
Passed through Escapes	. .	. .	. . .	405	. .		Hissár	37,937	2·1	1·70	. . . . .	. . .	
							Jhind	30,024	1·9	5·50	. . . . .	. . .	
							Bikaner	201	. .	. .	. . . . .	. . .	
							Kalsia State	917	. .	. .	. . . . .	. . .	
Total Western Jumna Canal	. .	. .	2,546	2,812	. .	649,287	. . . . .	189,420	. .	. .	. . . . .	189,420	
Corresponding period of last year	. .	. .	2,546	2,387	. .	194,505	. . . . .	167,120	. .	. .	. . . . .	167,120	
Inundation Canals. Upper Sutlej Division	. .	. .	. . .	. . .	. .	. . .	Lahore	13,000	. .	. .	Detail not obtainable for want of establishment.	. . .	On the Inundation Canals the decrease is entirely due to the unfavorable condition of the rivers during the late season. In Muzaffargarh Division 139,040 acres only are shown against 159,072 in preceding month. This is due to Rabbi irrigation having been included in the returns for August. The estimated Rabbi area to end of September in this Division is 97,321 acres, and will be reported in return for October.
Lower Sutlej and Chenab Division	. .	. .	. . .	. . .	. .	. . .	Montgomery	28,000	. .	. .		. . .	
Indus Canals	. .	. .	. . .	. . .	. .	. . .	Mooltan	170,255	0·65	2·0		. . .	
Muzaffargarh Canals	. .	. .	. . .	. . .	. .	. . .	Dera Gházi Khan	109,218	0·35	. .		. . .	
							Muzaffargarh	139,030	. .	. .		. . .	
Total Inundation Canals	. .	. .	. . .	. . .	. .	. . .	. . . . .	459,503	. .	. .	. . . . .	459,503	
Corresponding period of last year	. .	. .	. . .	. . .	. .	. . .	. . . . .	544,569	. .	. .	. . . . .	544,569	
Perennial Canals, Grand Total	. .	. .	. . .	. . .	. .	. . .	. . . . .	341,912	. .	. .	. . . . .	341,912	On the Perennial Canals there is an increase of 38,030 acres as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year.
Do. corresponding period of last year	. .	. .	. . .	. . .	. .	. . .	. . . . .	303,882	. .	. .	. . . . .	303,882	

J. E. CATTON,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., Punjab, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL KHARIF IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, 1883, UP TO 30th SEPTEMBER 1883.

Canal Division.	Water distributed during September, 1883: Depth in Canal at regulating gauge in feet. Full supply.	Depth in Canal at regulating gauge in feet. Actual average throughout.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Allotted discharge.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Actual average throughout.	Total area of irrigation during current fasl.	Total area for the corresponding period of last year.
Upper Ganges. Northern	10·00	8·30	950	212	49,945	48,778
Upper Ganges. Anúpshahr	7·00	5·38	1,100	513	58,654	54,556
Upper Ganges. Meerut	8·10	6·48	925	1,403	78,024	72,045
Upper Ganges. Bulandshahr	7·20	5·46	925	138	81,483	69,638
Upper Ganges. Aligarh	5·50	4·51	1,300	468	87,825	72,457
Lower Ganges. Narora	9·00	3·27	975	17	14,592	13,497
Lower Ganges. Mainpuri	7·00	1·2	600	66	34,043	34,124
Lower Ganges. Cawnpore	8·20	3·80	825	223	50,331	51,907
Lower Ganges. Etáwah	5·80	3·54	975	360	65,156	69,698
Lower Ganges. Bhognipur	7·00	3·74	950	. .	25,818	21,072
Total Upper and Lower Ganges Canals	. .	. .	9,525	3,400	545,871	507,772
Eastern Jumna Canal	4·74	3·06	1,300	814	111,547	104,665
Agra Canal	8·50	6·7	1,300	183	59,489	43,123
Rohilkhand	. .	. .	. .	. .	31,034	24,231
Bijnor	. .	. .	. .	. .	1,516	1,471
Dún	. .	. .	. .	. .	4,585	4,668
Jhánsi	. .	. .	. .	. .	55	42
Hamírpur	. .	. .	. .	. .	51	50
Total	. .	. .	. .	. .	754,148	686,022

Zila.	Land irrigated (approximate): Sugarcane.	Indigo.	Rice.	Cotton.	Other food-grains.	Fodder crops.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Rain-fall. Total from 1st April to end of September, 1883.	Rain-fall. Average of ten previous years for the same period.
Saháranpur	16,809	1,802	29,062	1,010	3,622	822	1,258	54,385	14·0	30·8
Muzaffarnagar	42,034	4,615	22,868	4,062	8,742	3,201	4,388	89,910	15·3	27·5
Meerut	63,309	17,629	8,455	14,946	26,973	5,193	2,814	139,319	12 5	26·2
Bulandshahr	6,098	63,145	59	13,353	14,748	4,787	2,026	94,216	16·8	23·8
Aligarh	588	45,591	287	5,486	10,291	525	1,562	64,330	17·3	23·0
Muttra	1,111	10,007	. .	11,861	3,260	214	1,321	27,774	13·6	24·1
Agra	1,278	4,487	13	1,925	3,158	145	490	11,496	16 6	25·0
Etah	1,306	26,302	686	1,743	4,815	138	1,142	36,132	18·5	24·4
Mainpuri	2,895	34,418	1,385	1,427	6,955	983	1,844	49,907	19·6	28·6
Fatehgarh	2,234	14,842	648	696	3,124	276	90	21,910	15·2	26·8
Etáwah	5,273	42,489	1,069	316	2,333	740	1,100	53,320	18·0	24·2
Cawnpore	4,846	41,400	1,677	1·8	2,650	132	2,151	52,964	17·4	23·0
Delhi	. .	33	. .	22	. .	22	34	111	13·6	25·2
Gurgaon	1,134	4,808	14	11,765	525	2,582	305	21,133	16·7	24·4
Debra Dún	768	. .	3,516	. .	. .	. .	301	4,585	34·6	67·8
Bijnor	1,480	. .	36	. .	. .	. .	. .	1,516	20·6	34·5
Tarái	1,270	. .	4,872	. .	. .	. .	. .	6,142	34·6	40·6
Pilibhit	813	. .	2,244	. .	. .	. .	. .	3,057	25·0	42·6
Bareilly	4,668	. .	17,167	. .	. .	. .	. .	21,835	14·0	37·0
Jhánsi	26	. .	9	8	. .	. .	12	55	13·3	30·1
Hamírpur	10	. .	4	. .	. .	. .	37	51	25·5	26 7
Total	157,950	301,568	94,071	68,728	91,196	19,760	20,875	754,148	. .	. .
Total for the same period last year	191,215	310,226	82,050	47,780	31,900	6,314	16,537	686,022	. .	. .
Increase	. .	. .	12,021	20,948	59,296	3,446	4,338	68,126	. .	. .
Decrease	33,265	8,658	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .

Remarks.

	Cubic feet per second.
Supply— Entering head of Ganges Canal	5,187
» Lower Ganges Canal	644
	5,831
Expended— Ganges Canal	2,734
Lower Ganges Canal	666
	3,400
Escaped— Anúpshahr Branch, Ganges Canal	263
Meerut Division, ditto	426
Bulandshahr ditto ditto	164
Narora ditto, Lower Ganges Canal	390
Mainpuri ditto ditto	88
Cawnpore ditto ditto	390
Etáwah ditto ditto	611
Bhognipur ditto ditto	418
Percolation from the Mainpuri Division	6
	2,746
	6,146
Deduct drainage water	315
	5,831

Executive Engineer, Northern Division, Ganges Canal, reports that during the month the supply in river met all demands, on the 28th September the rope was put across the river and work on head bunds begun. There was fair rain during the early part of the month, but not sufficient for rice; sugar in parts also took water. The outturn of irrigated crops is good.

Executive Engineer, Meerut Division, Ganges Canal, reports that the demand latterly has been universal for late autumn crops and *paleo* of *do fasli*; the closure of Rajbahas in the upper part of the division was impossible on account of sugar and rice.

Executive Engineer, Bulandshahr Division, Ganges Canal, reports that on the 4th and 5th of the month there was heavy rain all over the division which completely stopped irrigation, it was showery up to the 15th after which west wind began to blow which created a demand again for water for sugar, cotton, and maize, about the 24th September.

Executive Engineer, Aligarh Division, Ganges Canal, reports a general and heavy fall of rain on the 4th and 5th of the month which stopped the demand for canal water.

Executive Engineer, Narora Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that there were showers and rain up to the 15th when they ceased altogether, and there was little or no demand.

Executive Engineer, Mainpuri Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the demand for water was limited to the first and last few days of the month, and that general rain fell over the division from the 4th to the 15th

Executive Engineer, Cawnpore Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the deficiency is due to the rainfall of the 10th to 16th which stopped all further demand.

Executive Engineer, Etáwah Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the decrease is chiefly in indigo, for reasons given in former reports.

Executive Engineer, Bhognipur Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that all distributaries were closed throughout the month; rain fell at intervals up to the 15th sufficient for most kharif crops.

Executive Engineer, Eastern Jumna Canal, reports that there was general rain on the 2nd and 3rd, and that canal was closed from the 5th to the 14th inclusively; the increase in area is due to the dry weather of August, and is principally under maize and cotton.

Executive Engineer, Rohilkhand Canals, reports that heavy rain fell on the 6th, and again on the 9th, 10th and 13th, which brought the rains to a close; the water was all used for rice irrigation except on the Dhora river, where it could not be utilized owing to dams being breached; there was a steady demand throughout after the rain ceased; the Kicha and Kailas canals had to be closed for silt clearance, and were not re-opened till the end of the month. Water is now in great demand and will be wanted for rabi paleo.

Hamírpur return reported blank.

No remarks from the other Divisions.

ALLAHABAD,
The 25th October 1883.

W. P. V. HORST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1883.

Grains.	Upper Ganges Canal. Principal items of Local Traffic. Up. Mds.	Up. Nos.	Down. Mds.	Down. Nos.	Total up and down. Mds.	Total up and down. Nos.
Wheat	925	. .	7,663	. .	8,588	. .
Gram	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Rice	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Paddy or dhán	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Bejhar or mixed grain	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Dál: Urd	40	. .	. .	. .	40	. .
Dál: Múng	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Dál: Arhar	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Dál: Masúri	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Juár	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Bájra	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Maize or Indian-corn	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Barley	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Total	965	. .	7,663	. .	8,628	. .
Cotton	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Oil-seeds	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Salt	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Metals	21	. .	82	. .	103	. .
Building materials	24,280	. .	10,775	. .	35,055	. .
Miscellaneous goods	634	. .	110	. .	744	. .
Firewood	1,825	. .	1,180	. .	3,005	. .
Bamboos	. .	. .	645	12,900	645	12,900
Timber: Poles and unsquared timber.	. .	. .	1,701	1,701	1,701	1,701
Timber: Karis and squared timber.	60	80	1,044	1,044	1,104	1,124
Timber: Logs	. .	. .	320	16	320	16
Miscellaneous timber	1,500	3,000	180	360	1,680	3,360
Live-stock	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Grand Total	29,285	3,080	23,700	16,021	52,985	19,101
Total during corresponding period of last year.	2,862	. .	11,375	28,350	14,237	28,350
Increase	26,423	3,080	12,325	. .	38,748	. .
Decrease	. .	. .	12,329	. .	9,249	. .

Grains.	Lower Ganges Canal. Principal items of Local Traffic. Up. Mds.	Up. Nos.	Down. Mds.	Down. Nos.	Total up and down. Mds.	Total up and down. Nos.
Wheat	. .	. .	853	. .	853	. .
Gram	3,104	. .	. .	. .	3,104	. .
Rice	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Paddy or dhán	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Bejhar or mixed grain	7	. .	. .	. .	7	. .
Dál: Urd	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Dál: Múng	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Dál: Arhar	2,427	. .	. .	. .	2,427	. .
Dál: Masúri	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Juár	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Bájra	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Maize or Indian-corn	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Barley	100	. .	. .	. .	100	. .
Total	5,638	. .	853	. .	6,491	. .
Cotton	. .	. .	57	. .	57	. .
Oil-seeds	. .	. .	25	. .	25	. .
Salt	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Metals	36	. .	. .	. .	36	. .
Building materials	315	. .	9,348	. .	9,653	. .
Miscellaneous goods	6	. .	1,206	. .	1,212	. .
Firewood	400	. .	. .	. .	400	. .
Bamboos	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Timber: Poles and unsquared timber.	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Timber: Karis and squared timber.	. .	. .	12	12	12	12
Timber: Logs	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Miscellaneous timber	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Live-stock	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Grand Total	6,395	. .	11,501	12	17,896	12
Total during corresponding period of last year.	2,113	. .	27,006	402	29,119	402
Increase	4,282	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Decrease	. .	. .	15,505	390	11,223	390

Grains.	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals. Principal items of Through Traffic. Up. Mds.	Up. Nos.	Down. Mds.	Down. Nos.	Total up and down. Mds.	Total up and down. Nos.
Wheat	. .	. .	5,440	. .	5,440	. .
Gram	227	. .	. .	. .	227	. .
Rice	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Paddy or dhán	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Bejhar or mixed grain	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Dál: Urd	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Dál: Múng	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Dál: Arhar	47	. .	. .	. .	47	. .
Dál: Masúri	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Juár	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Bájra	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Maize or Indian-corn	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Barley	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Total	274	. .	5,440	. .	5,714	. .
Cotton	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Oil-seeds	250	. .	. .	. .	250	. .
Salt	. .	. .	177	. .	177	. .
Metals	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Building materials	. .	. .	475	. .	475	. .
Miscellaneous goods	. .	. .	3,653	. .	3,653	. .
Firewood	400	. .	. .	. .	400	. .
Bamboos	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Timber: Poles and unsquared timber.	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Timber: Karis and squared timber.	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Timber: Logs	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Miscellaneous timber	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Live-stock	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Grand Total	924	. .	9,745	. .	10,669	. .
Total during corresponding period of last year.	501	. .	8,573	. .	9,074	. .
Increase	423	. .	1,172	. .	1,595	. .
Decrease	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .

Grains.	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals. Principal items of Local and Through Traffic. Up. Mds.	Up. Nos.	Down. Mds.	Down. Nos.	Total up and down. Mds.	Total up and down. Nos.
Wheat	925	. .	13,956	. .	14,881	. .
Gram	3,331	. .	. .	. .	3,331	. .
Rice	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Paddy or dhán	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Bejhar or mixed grain	7	. .	. .	. .	7	. .
Dál: Urd	40	. .	. .	. .	40	. .
Dál: Múng	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Dál: Arhar	2,474	. .	. .	. .	2,474	. .
Dál: Masúri	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Juár	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Bájra	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Maize or Indian-corn	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Barley	100	. .	. .	. .	100	. .
Total	6,877	. .	13,956	. .	20,833	. .
Cotton	. .	. .	57	. .	57	. .
Oil-seeds	250	. .	25	. .	275	. .
Salt	. .	. .	177	. .	177	. .
Metals	57	. .	82	. .	139	. .
Building materials	24,595	. .	20,598	. .	45,193	. .
Miscellaneous goods	640	. .	4,969	. .	5,609	. .
Firewood	2,625	. .	1,180	. .	3,805	. .
Bamboos	. .	. .	645	12,900	645	12,900
Timber: Poles and unsquared timber.	. .	. .	1,701	1,701	1,701	1,701
Timber: Karis and squared timber.	60	80	1,056	1,056	1,116	1,136
Timber: Logs	. .	. .	320	16	320	16
Miscellaneous timber	1,500	3,000	180	360	1,680	3,360
Live-stock	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Grand Total	36,604	3,080	44,946	16,033	81,550	19,113
Total during corresponding period of last year.	5,476	. .	46,954	28,752	52,430	28,752
Increase	31,128	3,080	. .	. .	29,120	. .
Decrease	. .	. .	2,008	12,719	. .	9,639

Remarks.

Particulars.	Upper Ganges Canal (local). 1882.	Upper Ganges Canal (local). 1883.	Lower Ganges Canal (local). 1882.	Lower Ganges Canal (local). 1883.	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through). 1882.	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through). 1883.	Total, Upper and Lower Ganges Canals. 1882.	Total, Upper and Lower Ganges Canals. 1883.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	523	1,947	1,070	657	333	392	1,926	2,996
Ton mileage	19,649	87,940	41,680	29,079	56,429	72,928	117,758	189,947
Value of goods R	29,372	40,111	14,463	21,864	27,025	18,545	70,860	80,520
Number of passengers	101	283	16	. . .	. .	25	117	308

ALLAHABAD,
The 25th October 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. & Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON THE AGRA CANAL FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1883.

AGRA CANAL.

Nature of Traffic.	Principal items of Traffic. Up. No.	Up. Mds.	Down. No.	Down. Mds.	Total up and down. No.	Total up and down. Mds.	Remarks.
Grains—							
Wheat							
Gram							
Rice							
Paddy or dhán				1,225		1,225	
Bejhar or mixed grain				450		450	
Dál—							
Urd							
Múng							
Arhar							
Masúri							
Juár							
Bájra							
Maize or Indian-corn							
Barley							
TOTAL				1,675		1,675	
Cotton							
Oil-seeds							
Salt							
Metals							
Building materials		1,300		600		1,900	
Miscellaneous goods							
Firewood							
Bamboos							
Timber—							
Poles and unsquared timber							
Karis and squared timber							
Logs							
Miscellaneous timber							
Live-stock							
GRAND TOTAL		1,300		2,175		3,475	
TOTAL DURING CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF LAST YEAR							
INCREASE		1,300		2,175		3,475	
DECREASE							

AGRA CANAL.

Particulars.	1883.	1882.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	123	
Ton mileage	10,052	
Value of goods	₹ 4,912	
Number of passengers		

Agra Navigation Channel closed for clearance on 15th September.

W. P. V. HORST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

ALLAHABAD,
The 25th October 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XLIII OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 4th November 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 3rd November 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 4th November 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 3rd November 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
17th Nov. 1883	Eastern Bengal(a)	172	1,30,204	757	172	91,552	532	34,67,201	647	27,90,716	523	. . .	6,76,485
17th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhand	547	1,15,086	210	547	1,00,663	184	28,93,434	170	33,59,489	198	4,66,055	. . .
10th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	2,11,849	313	735	1,85,373	252	55,19,980	262	67,40,618	294	12,20,638	. . .
17th ditto	Madras	861	1,31,550	153	861	1,01,527	118	42,16,882	158	39,59,894	149	. . .	2,56,988
10th ditto	South Indian	655	77,587	118	655	58,897	90	23,13,006	113	24,04,953	118	91,947	. . .
17th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	7,62,233	523	1,458	4,16,164	285	1,85,50,335	410	1,86,34,495	414	84,160	. . .
10th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	1,76,682	383	461	1,42,212	308	55,85,006	389	64,13,988	449	8,28,982	. . .
	TOTAL	4,830	16,05,191	332	4,889	10,96,388	224	4,25,45,844	283	4,43,04,153	292	17,58,309	. . .
	State.												
24th Nov. 1883	East Indian	1,507	10,01,058	664	1,509	8,25,819	547	2,56,63,353	547	2,93,72,986	628	37,09,633	. . .
17th ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	2,737	83	56	4,430	79	1,18,129	132	1,76,289	105	58,160	. . .
17th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,161	43	27	1,372	51	40,966	49	48,041	57	7,075	. . .
17th ditto	Northern Bengal	230	41,577	181	239	41,100	172	11,64,426	162	12,30,564	169	66,138	. . .
17th ditto	Tirhoot	75	10,264	137	166	14,530	88	3,71,725	149	5,07,308	99	1,35,583	. . .
20th Oct. 1883	Patna-Gya	57	9,647	169	. .	(b)	.	(c)2,82,216	170	(d)2,41,088	145	. . .	41,128
10th Nov. 1883	Cawnpore-Achnera	138	12,011	87	138	11,357	81	3,08,746	72	3,19,645	75	10,899	. . .
10th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	874	73	12	674	56	26,438	71	26,965	73	527	. . .
17th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,116	1,87,555	168	1,117	2,00,580	180	58,53,255	168	69,89,049	202	11,35,794	. . .
17th ditto	Wardha Coal	45	9,238	205	45	3,108	69	2,08,326	220	3,99,650	286	91,324	. . .
17th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	6,983	71	149	7,991	54	2,95,341	97	6,88,443	149	3,93,102	. . .
10th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	31,061	199	161	26,941	167	8,21,992	164	7,92,442	159	. . .	29,550
10th ditto	Sindia	75	7,279	97	75	6,815	91	1,82,521	78	1,85,468	80	2,947	. . .
10th ditto	Punjab Northern	419	51,625	123	421	56,340	134	17,32,783	137	18,21,312	140	88,529	. . .
17th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	1,42,453	216	660	76,238	116	26,39,490	127	42,32,736	207	15,93,246	. .
10th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	2,179	68	32	2,601	81	47,580	48	62,820	63	15,240	. . .
17th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	. .	. . .	.	89	4,980	56	. . .	. .	2,35,098	85	2,35,098	. . .
	TOTAL	3,178	5,16,6:2	163	e3,387	4,58,907	135	1,41,93,934	143	1,79,56,918	171	37,62,984	. . .
	Assisted Company.												
17th Nov. 1883	Bengal Central	21	772	37	35	2,120	61	(f)1,979	32	65,756	61	63,777	. . .
	Native States.												
10th ditto	Bhavnagar-Goudal	193	11,200	58	193	9,302	48	5,08,079	85	5,53,509	93	45,430	. . .
17th ditto	Nizam's	121	6,696	55	121	12,927	107	5,05,363	134	4,72,818	126	. . .	32,545
10th ditto	Mysore	86	7,219	84	86	4,523	53	1,87,193	70	1,89,275	71	2,082	. . .
17th ditto	Jodhpore	19	736	39	19	700	37	(g)10,312	28	22,812	39	12,500	. . .
	TOTAL	419	25,941	62	419	27,452	66	12,10,947	95	12,38,414	95	27,467	. . .
	GRAND TOTAL	9,955	31,49,614	316	e10,239	24,10,186	235	8,36,16,057	270	9,29,38,227	293	93,22,170	. . .
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	4,33,35,113	140	4,72,07,644	149	. . .	. . .
	NET RECEIPTS	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	4,02,80,944	130	4,57,30,583	144	54,49,639	. . .

(a) Exclusive of the Company's share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway.
(b) Return not received.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 21st October 1882.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 20th October 1882.
(e) Excludes mileage of Patna-Gya State Railway (57).
(f) Total receipts from 18th October to 4th November 1882.
(g) Total receipts from 24th June to 4th November 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under Secretary.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 7th December 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASONS AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 4th DECEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—During the past week there has been light rain in British Burma, Assam, and Eastern Bengal, but none elsewhere.

In Madras and Mysore harvesting is still going on. Standing crops are in good condition. In Bombay the *kharif* harvest is nearly over and the *rabi* crops are doing well; but in two districts cotton has been injured by late rains. The river is now rising in Sindh. In the Berars and Hyderabad cotton is being picked and the *kharif* harvested, and the prospects of the *rabi* are favourable.

In Central India and Rajputana rain is required for the *rabi* crops in parts; but general prospects continue good.

In the Punjab and North-Western Provinces and Oudh *rabi* sowings have been nearly finished and are germinating fairly well, but rain is wanted. Cloudy weather has prevailed in the Northern Districts, but no rain has fallen.

In the Central Provinces the prospects of the *rabi* crop are reported to be very favourable.

In Bengal there has been a change of weather, the sky being overcast and slight showers having fallen. General prospects continue unfavourable; the *rabi* sowings have been greatly affected by want of rain, much land has been left unsown, and the outturn of the rice crop, which is now being harvested, is expected to be very poor in all save the Eastern Districts and Orissa.

In British Burma the prospects of the rice crop, which has been sown over a larger area than usual, are generally good, but some loss has been caused in the Arakan Division and Bassein by excessive rain.

Slight small-pox and fever are prevalent in most Provinces, and sporadic outbreaks of cholera still occur in Southern India, otherwise the public health is good.

Prices continue to fluctuate in Bengal.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(Dec. 5th)		
Bellary		Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy and *ragi*, yield average; *cholum*, *cumbu*, *korra*, and oil-seeds, below average; nineteen deaths from cholera.
Kurnool		Standing crops good; harvest paddy, yield above average.
Ganjam		Fever and small-pox slight in one taluk.
Kistna		*Cholum* partly affected by insects in two taluks, otherwise standing crops good; harvest dry grains and black paddy, yield below average; fever prevalent, small-pox and cattle-disease in parts.
Coimbatore		Harvest paddy and *ragi*, yield average; *cumbu* below average; 79 deaths from cholera; fever, small-pox, and cattle disease in parts.
Tanjore	·18 (average of 1 station).	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, *cholum*, and *ragi*, yield below average; 152 deaths from cholera.
Madura		Standing crops fair; harvest dry crops, yield about average; cholera severe in Madura town; elsewhere slight.
Malabar		Second crop in good condition; small-pox and fever slight.
Travancore		Standing crops good; fever in parts.
		General Remarks.—General prospects good.
Bombay—(Dec. 5th)		
Kurrachee		Fever generally prevalent; cattle-disease in 3 talukas, loss of 60 buffaloes, 57 cows, and 89 sheep and goats; river at Kotri on 28th 6 feet 3 inches against 5 feet 2 inches on same date last year; no fresh case of small-pox in Karachi; disease prevalent in 5 villages in districts, 20 fresh cases, 3 deaths, 16 remaining sick; prices—wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Karachi 24, 28, and 32; in Manjhand 22, 30, and 40; in Ghorabari 20, 30, and 40; and in Sajawal 24, 36, and 44 lbs. per rupee respectively.
Hyderabad		Average outturn of *kharif* crop is reported to be 11 annas 4 pies; weather seasonable; small-pox in 6, fever in 10, and cattle-disease in 4 talukas; wheat 26, *bajri* 35½, *jowari* 41, red rice 24, and white rice 20 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmedabad		*Rabi* sowing nearly completed; standing crops healthy; slight fever in Viramgaum, Sanand, Molasa, and Dholka; *bajri* 30 and wheat 26¼ lbs. per rupee.
Baroda		Slight cholera in Naosari Mahal still continues; fever in some parts of Naosari, Baroda, and Kadi divisions; cotton and sugar crops in good condition; *rabi* sowing almost completed; prices—34 to 35 and rice 24 to 25 lbs. per rupee.
Surat		*Rabi* crops healthy; fever and cholera still prevailing in some talukas; *jowari* 38 and *nagli* 47 lbs. per rupee.
Nasik		Reaping of *kharif* and sowing of *rabi* crops nearly completed; *rabi* crops healthy; public health good; no cattle disease; wheat 33, *bajri* 34, and rice 24 lbs. per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Colaba (Bombay)		Average abnormal temperature 3° cool; vapour in air defective; wind normal.
Poona		Harvesting of *kharif* completed; *bajri* 43 and *jowari* 50 lbs. per rupee; in Poona, *bajri* 34 and *jowari* 43 lbs. per rupee.
Ahmednagar		*Bajri* reaping finished; *rabi* sowing finished, except in Newasa and Akola; locusts in Shrigonda; *bajri* maximum 57 lbs. per rupee in Shrigonda, minimum 39 lbs. in Nagar; *jowari* maximum 72 lbs. in Jamkhed, minimum 49 lbs. in Sheogaon.
Sholapore		Cholera in Malsiras taluka, 6 cases, 3 fatal; cotton crop somewhat injured in Barsi and Sholapore talukas; *jowari* 62 and *bajri* 55 lbs. per rupee.
Dharwar		Reaping of rice crops nearly completed, that of other early crops in progress; sowing of late crops completed; cholera in 3 villages of Ranibennur, out of 8 cases 2 fatal; fever in 5 and cattle-disease in 2 talukas; rice 24 to 41 and *jowari* 52 to 88 lbs. per rupee.
Kanara		Much fever in Haliyal and Mundgod; small-pox in Hanawar and Sidapore; sowing second rice crop on coast; common rice in Karwar 11½ seers per rupee, in district average 15½ seers per rupee.
Rajkot		Weather cold; fever continues in some parts; *bajri* 31 and *jowari* 35 lbs. per rupee.
		General Remarks.—River rising in Sindh; *kharif* harvesting and *rabi* sowing operations completed except in 5 districts; young *rabi* crops doing well; cotton crops slightly injured by late rain in parts of Sholapore and Satara; fever in most districts; slight cholera, cattle-disease, and small-pox in a few places.
Bengal—(Dec. 5th)		
Chittagong	·11	Weather alternately cloudy and fair; outturn of rice crops not promising; cold-weather crops doing well; prices stationary; cattle-disease has abated; general health good.
Dacca	*Nil*	Rice crop good; rain wanted for cold-weather crops.
24-Pergunnahs	·06	Prospects of both late rice and winter crops unfavourable; harvesting of late rice proceeding, average yield estimated at about 8 to 10 annas; cultivation of pulses and other winter crops not progressing favourably owing to the dryness of the soil; average price of common rice from 12¼ to 16 seers per rupee; public health fair, though sporadic cases of cholera and fever reported from most parts of the district.
Moorshedabad	*Nil*	Weather bright and cool; *amun* is being reaped; an eight-anna crop is expected on an average; winter crops suffering from want of rain, but those on *dearah* lands doing well; fever still prevails in the Jungypore town; cholera has broken out in thana Shamshirgunge.
Rajshahye	*Nil*	Weather cloudy; *amun* reaped in parts of the district; *rabi* wants rain, but on *dearah* lands it is said to be a good crop; prices easier.
Burdwan		A few drops of rain; weather overcast; in the Raneegunge subdivision the *amun* is estimated at a 4½-anna crops; sugarcane is beginning to feel the effects of drought, and rain is much wanted for winter crops; general health indifferent.
Rungpore	*Nil*	Weather cloudy and cool; *amun* is being reaped; prospects bad; the crop on high lands is almost a total failure; transplanting of tobacco going on; prices stationary; fever prevalent.
Bhagulpore	*Nil*	Prospects unfavourable; rice harvest has commenced; the crop on high lands has almost altogether failed, on low lands it is expected to yield on an average an outturn of from 4 to 8 annas; *rabi*, where sown, is still green and strong, and, if rain falls, may yield a fair outturn, but a good deal of land has remained unsown; price of rice 13 seers 14 chittacks per rupee.
Purneah	*Nil*	Weather cloudy to-day (4th); prospects of crops bad if no rain falls; *rabi* sowings only made here and there; price of common rice 14 seers per rupee; fever still continues.
Patna	*Nil*	Paddy is being reaped, it will be a poor crop; *rabi* coming on well; irrigation is being resorted to where practicable, but rain is much wanted; public health good.
Durbhanga	*Nil*	Weather cloudy to-day (4th); a very poor rice crop is being harvested; *rabi* stunted for want of moisture in the soil; fever not increasing.
Hazareebagh	*Nil*	Weather cold and cloudy since the night of 3rd; rice harvest continues, but outturn unfavourable; *rabi* prospects not improved; a few cases of small-pox still reported; public health good.
Cuttack		Weather cool and cloudy; slight rain on 3rd, and it was raining at the time of report; rice crop on high lands is being reaped, on low lands it is ripening; winter crops doing well; price of rice almost unchanged; public health generally good.
		General Remarks.—The weather was cloudy in almost all districts, and there was a slight rainfall in Chittagong, the 24-Pergunnahs, Burdwan, and Cuttack; it is still raining in Calcutta; the general prospects of the crops continue to be very unfavourable; the cold-weather crops are generally much in need of rain, so also is sugarcane in some places; a good deal of land is said to have remained unsown with cold-weather crops on account of the continued drought;

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
		the earlier kind of the rice crop is being harvested, and the later kind is ripening; the rice crop, as already reported, will yield a very poor outturn; in some districts the average outturn will not exceed four annas; Eastern Bengal and Orissa will have a fair crop, but even in these parts it will be much below the average in some places; in some districts the prices continue to rise, in others they have fallen slightly, and in others again they remain stationary; fever is still prevalent in several districts.
N.-W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares .(Dec. 4th)	No rain	Land being irrigated where feasible; in other parts rain is required; bazars well supplied; prices falling slightly; no sickness of men or cattle.
Allahabad .(„ 5th)	No rain	Crops doing well; health good; prices risen.
Gorakhpore .(„ 3rd)	No rain	Tanks nearly dry and rain much wanted; small-pox and fever in north; prices slightly rising.
Jhansi .(„ „)	No rain	*Kharif* outturn will be below the average; harvesting in progress; *rabi* crops germinating; prices stationary; health of people and cattle good.
Cawnpore . („ 4th)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; *rabi* crops being irrigated and have germinated fairly well; health of people good, except few cases of small-pox in 3 tahsils; markets well supplied.
Farukhabad . („ „)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; sky clear; fever here and there, but not extensive; prospects of crops hopeful, but rain wanted; condition of cattle good; markets well supplied
Agra .(„ „)	No rain	*Rabi* sowings nearly completed; health good; prices steady.
Bareilly .(„ „)	. . . .	*Rabi* being irrigated extensively; rain much wanted; weather cloudy.
Meerut .(„ „)	No rain	*Rabi* crops flourishing; irrigation commenced; health good; supplies ample; prices steady.
Kumaun .(„ „)	. . . .	Clouds again gathering, otherwise no change in agricultural prospects; health good; cattle-disease still prevails; prices unchanged.
Lucknow .(„ „)	No rain	Weather cold; westerly wind; *hewat* crops nearly harvested; *rabi* crops are being watered from wells and tanks; rain wanted; condition of people and cattle good; markets well supplied; prices steady.
Partabgarh .(„ „)	. . . .	Reports as to *rabi* crops from all tahsils fairly good; sowings still continue; small-pox reported from a few villages in Kunda, health otherwise good.
Rae Bareli .(„ 3rd)	No rain	Wind westerly; *rabi* prospects fair; isolated cases of small-pox in the districts; markets well stocked; prices almost stationary.
Sitapur .(„ „)	No rain	Prospects fair; prices fluctuating; markets well supplied; general health good.
Fyzabad .(„ „)	No rain	Prospects of *rabi* crops on irrigated land good; general health good; prices stationary.
		General Remarks.—The weather has been cloudy in several northern districts, but no rain has fallen; *rabi* prospects are fair, but rain is generally needed; the markets are sufficiently supplied and prices in most districts steady; the public health is fairly good, some fever and small-pox being reported.
Punjab—(Dec. 5th)—		
Delhi . . .	. . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowing completed; prices stationary.
Hissar . . .	. . . .	Health good; rain required for *rabi* sowings.
Umballa . . .	. . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings finished; prospects good; prices steady.
Jullundur . . .	. . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings finished; prices falling.
Lahore . . .	. . . .	Health and condition of crops good; prices steady.
Ferozepur . . .	. . . .	Health and crop prospects good; prices falling.
Sialkot . . .	. . . .	Health and crop prospects good; prices stationary.
Rawalpindi . . .	. . . .	Health and crop prospects good; prices falling.
Peshawar . . .	. . . .	Small-pox prevalent; prices falling.
Mooltan . . .	. . . .	Health good; *rabi* sowings nearly finished; prices fluctuating.
Dera Ismail Khan .	. . . .	Health and harvest prospects good; prices steady.
Amritsar . . .	. . . .	Health good; rise in prices of barley, *jowar*, and rice; prices of other food-grains stationary.
		General Remarks.—No rain during the week; small-pox is prevalent in Peshawar, health elsewhere good; *rabi* sowings nearly completed.
Central Provinces—		
Nagpur . (Dec. 5th)	. . . .	Weather clear and cold; crop prospects good; fever prevails to some extent; prices of wheat falling.
Jubbulpore . („ „)	. . . .	Weather clear and cold; reaping and cotton picking continues; *rabi* sowings approaching completion; wheat 25 seers and rice 15 seers per rupee; health good.
Saugor .(„ 4th)	. . . .	Weather clear and cool; *kharif* harvest nearly finished; prospects favourable; health good; prices stationary.
Seoni .(„ 5th)	. . . .	Weather cool; reaping and threshing of rice progressing; *rabi* crops promising; fever prevalent; prices stationary.
Hoshangabad („ „)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; crop prospects good; cotton picking in progress; fever prevalent; wheat 16 seers and rice 10 seers per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provs.—*contd.*		
Raipur . (Dec. 5th)	. . . .	Weather chilly and cloudy latterly; *kharif* harvest almost finished; estimated outturn of rice in Sunga and portions of Drug varies from 4 to 8 annas in the rupee; cotton being picked; *rabi* prospects good; public health good; prices fluctuating; common rice 27½ seers, and wheat 28¼ seers per rupee.
Khandwa .(„ „)	. . . .	Weather cold and clear; crop prospects good; *rabi* sowings continue; fever prevalent; prices steady.
		General Remarks.—*Kharif* harvest approaching completion; prospect of *rabi* crops very favourable; health good.
British Burma—		
(Nov. 29th)		
Akyab .(Nov. 17th)	3·36	Total rainfall 183·09 inches; public health and health of cattle good; crops in Naaf township and Koladan damaged by salt water inundation; reports from other townships favourable.
„ .(„ 24th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall 183·09 inches; public health and health of plough cattle good; Naaf and Koladan slight damage of crops by salt water inundation in the former; *loungphroo* crops being reaped; in Writaung west about 136 acres destroyed by salt water inundation; in Rathaidaung late rainfall not sufficient, and crops in some places suffered a little, in other townships crops good.
Kyoukphyu . („ 17th)	2·62	Total rainfall 159·19 inches; public health and health of cattle good; cyclone of 14th and 15th has damaged crops in vicinity of Kyoukphyu, extent not known; price of paddy and rice gone up 25 per cent., but will probably fall again shortly.
„ .(„ 24th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall 159·19 inches; public health and health of cattle good; crops much damaged in Ramri and Kyoukphyu townships by cyclone of 13th and 14th instant, estimated yield will not be more than half that of last year.
Sandoway .(„ 17th)	11·32	Total rainfall 220·17 inches; three deaths from sporadic cholera in town, otherwise public health good; weather stormy; heavy rain and wind has caused some damage to crops, actual loss unknown.
„ .(„ 24th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall 220·17 inches; three deaths from cholera in town, otherwise public health good; estimated damage to crops in central township owing to heavy rain and wind reported last week 72½ tons.
Rangoon . .	. . . .	Four fatal cases of small-pox, otherwise public health good; paddy no supplies; prices nominal.
Hanthawaddy . .	. . . .	Public health and health of cattle good; 44,224 acres have been ploughed in Hmawbi township; one-seventh of the paddy crops in Hmawbi have been destroyed by floods; price of paddy Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
Pegu	*Nil*	Total rainfall 124·00 inches; public health and health of cattle good; crops unusually heavy and in fine condition; price of paddy nominal up to 100.
Tharrawaddy (Nov. 17th)	2·40	Total rainfall 105·47 inches; public health good; 7 deaths of cattle in Sanywe township; crops good; about 322 acres have been reaped in the 5 townships; slight damage done to crops in Gyobingauk and Minhla townships from flooding of Myitmaka, Bawbin and Myole Chaungs; price of paddy from Rs. 100 to 125 per 100 baskets.
„ .(„ 24th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall 105·47 inches; public health good; cattle-disease rare; about 702 acres of paddy land have been reaped in the Sanywe township; the crops on higher lands have not matured; in some places the ears are without grain; slight damage on account of flooding has been done to the crops in the Minhla township and loss from drought in the Tapon township; report of areas affected not received; crops in other places flourishing; price of paddy stationary.
Prome . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 52·69 inches; public health and health of cattle good; ploughed fields all planted out; crops much benefited by late rains and there is every prospect of good harvest; on high-lying lands the rain has come too late, but the heavy rains 10 days ago seem to have freshened up the country all round, and much is now promising which before seemed likely to turn out a failure; price of paddy Rs. 65 per 100 baskets.
Bassein . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 103·64 inches; public health good; cattle-disease slight in Lemyethna; 17 deaths in Bassein township; reaping commenced in parts of district; price of paddy from Rs 100 to 125 per 100 baskets.
Thongwa . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 94·09 inches; public health and health of cattle good; about ½ of the replanted crops in the flooded parts of the Shwelaung township good; slight damage to crops from floods in Kyonton and Kyriklat circles, Pyapon township, and from drought in Seitha and Kyonmange circles, Thongwa township, otherwise agricultural prospects good; price of paddy from Rs. 95 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Henzada . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 86·63 inches; public health and health of cattle good; prospects of crops good; owing to recent heavy rains, crops have been slightly damaged by flood in Myanoung sub-division and Okepo township; reaping commenced.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burma— (Nov. 29th)—*contd.*		
Amherst (Moulmein) .	. . . .	Total rainfall 166·28 inches; public health and health of cattle good; condition of ripening crops good; reaping progressing on early paddy; in Moulmein town public health and health of cattle good; reaping progressing of *shangale* and *yahine* paddy, average outturn about 20 baskets an acre; nearly 180 acres reaped this week; wages of reaping same as last reported; ripening paddy in good condition; price of *shangale* risen to 100 and *yahine* to Rs. 90 per 100 baskets.
Shwegyin . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 139·52 inches; public health and health of cattle good; price of paddy Rs. 85 per per 100 baskets.
Toungoo . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 79·68 inches; public health and health of cattle good; prospects of crops good.
Tavoy . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 195·44 inches; public health and health of cattle good; prospects of crops very good; estimated area of crops damaged up to date 300 acres. *General Remarks.*—No rain during the week; monsoon at an end total rainfall considerably less in Akyab and Bassein and in the coast districts of the Tenaserim Division than last year; elsewhere rainfall up to average; in Akyab damage caused by inundation of salt water in parts of the Naaf and Koladan townships, and in Kyoukpyu and Sandoway some injury to the ripening crop by the hurricane of 14th and 15th November; in parts of Prome and Tharrawaddy the rain of the middle of November came too late to save the crops on the higher and more thirsty lands, much of which had dried up before the rainfall; some slight damage by floods in Thongwa and Henzada; with these exceptions the prospects of a full crop appear excellent; reaping has commenced of the early rice; cattle-disease very rare; public health good.
(Dec. 1st) Akyab . . .	0·06	Total rainfall 183·15; public health and health of cattle good; *letori* crops in Naaf ripe; 50 acres injured in Naaf and 236 in Writtaung west Chittagong by salt water inundation; also slight damage in Koladan and Kyelet townships; crops not sufficiently matured in some places in Rathidaung for want of rain; in other townships crops fair.
Rangoon . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 84·23; two deaths from small-pox, otherwise public health good; paddy no supplies; prices nominal.
Bassein . . .	2·40	Total rainfall 106·04; public health good; cattle-disease slight in Thaboung township; one-third of crop in Myoungmeya sub-division reported injured by late rain; price of paddy Rs. 100 to 130 per 100 baskets.
Prome . . .	0·79	Total rainfall 53·48; public health and health of cattle good; crops reported in good condition; rain has done great good, but continuance would be injurious; price of paddy Rs. 85 per 100 baskets.
Kyoukphyu . . .	1·66	Total rainfall 160·85; public health and health of cattle good; damage to crops in Kyoukphyu and Ramri townships estimated at one-third of average yield; township officers' reports not yet received; price of paddy Rs. 25 per 100 baskets.
Sandoway . . .	2·27	Total rainfall 222·24; two deaths from cholera in districts, otherwise public health good; agricultural prospects slightly unfavourable; early sowings all reaped; reaping of later sowings retarded on account of rain; reaping wages Rs. 2 per acre.
Hanthawaddy . .	. . . . .	Public health and health of cattle good; 45,303 acres ploughed in Hmawbi township, but one-seventh has been destroyed by floods; price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy . .	0·80	Total rainfall 106·27; public health and health of cattle good; probable area actually cultivated with paddy 229,798 acres, or an increase of about 23,624 acres; monsoon at an end; condition of reaping crop good, about 1,099 acres have been reaped in Sangune township; price of paddy Rs. 95 to 125 per hundred baskets.
Thonegwa . . .	0·55	Total rainfall 94·64; one death from small-pox, otherwise public health good; 2 deaths of cattle; some damage from recent excessive rain in Shwayloung township and from floods caused by cyclonic wave in Dedaye township; plants in flower somewhat injured; price of paddy Rs. 90 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Henzada . . .	0·20	Total rainfall 86·83; public health and health of cattle good; prospects of crops good; reaping progressing; 500 acres of miscellaneous cultivation reported destroyed by floods in Zaloom township.
Thayetmyo . . .	1·37	Total rainfall 48·65; public health good; 4 deaths of cattle in Myede sub-division from cow-pox; reaping begun; rain during last few days has slightly damaged the crops; prices of paddy Rs. 110 per 100 baskets.
Shwaygyin . . .	0·16	Total rainfall 139·68; 17 deaths from small-pox reported, otherwise public health good; health of cattle good.
Mergui (Nov. 17th) .	4·65	Total rainfall 175·84; public health good; cattle healthy; reaping commenced, but main portion of crop not yet ripe; 8 acres destroyed by blight; paddy area about 580 acres more than last year; price of paddy Rs. 80 per 100 baskets.
„ („ 24th) .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 175·84; public health good; cattle healthy; reaping commenced, but main portion of crop not ripe yet; price of paddy Rs. 80 per 100 baskets.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burmah—*contd.* Amherst (Moulmein) .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 166·28; public health and health of cattle good; some 2,000 acres damaged by salt-water in Suaton township; reaping of *kankyi* paddy commenced; reaping wages 10 annas per man per day; price of early paddy about Rs. 87 per 100 baskets; in Moulmein town public health and health of cattle good; 200 acres of *shangale* and *yalune* paddy reaped during the week, outturn about 20 baskets an acre; price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 95 per 100 baskets.
Toungoo . . .	0·20	Total rainfall 79·78; public health good; prospects of crops good.
Tavoy . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall, 195·44; public health and health of cattle good; prospects of crops very good; estimated area of damaged crop 300 acres; price of paddy from Rs. 50 to 65 per 100 baskets. *General Remarks.*—Public health good; no cattle-disease worth speaking of; some rain has fallen over most districts during the week; reaping commenced; the area under paddy is larger than last year, but the increase is not yet accurately ascertained; the crop prospects are still good throughout the province with the exception of parts of the Arakan division and Bassein where considerable damage has been caused by excessive rain.
Assam— Gauhati . (Dec. 4th)	No rain	Weather cloudy; lands being broken for *ahu* cultivation; rain wanted for mustard; public health fair.
Sylhet . . .	*Nil*	Crop prospects unchanged; cattle-disease has appeared.
Cachar . . .	0·12	Weather cold and cloudy; sowing of winter crops finished; reaping of *sali* crops in progress; common rice 16 seers per rupee; no small-pox reported.
Dibrugarh . . .	0·08	Weather cloudy; harvesting *sali dhan*; cholera reported in the station.
Mysore and Coorg— Bangalore . (Dec. 5th)	No rain	Harvesting of *ragi* continues; crops in good condition; agricultural operations in progress throughout the province; cholera and small-pox still prevalent in Darangere taluk, Shimogah district; prices have slightly fallen; public health good.
Mercara . . .	No rain	Picking and pulping coffee proceeding, outturn good; every promise of a fine rice crop.
Berar & Hyderabad— Amraoti . .	. . . .	*Kharif* harvest in progress; *rabi* crops favourable; wheat 16 and *jowari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola . . .	. . . .	Weather cool; *rabi* crops good; cotton gathering in progress.
Hyderabad . .	No rain	Sowing of *rabi* and reaping of *abi* crops continue; fever, ague and cattle-disease prevail in some talukas; prices—wheat 15½, coarse rice 12½, white *jowar* 23½; yellow *jowar* 31 and *tur* 21¾ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— Indore . (Dec. 5th)	*Nil*	Health good; weather seasonable; prices slightly less than last week.
Morar (Gwalior) . .	*Nil*	Health good; weather seasonable; rain required for *rabi* crops.
Sutna . . .	*Nil*	Health and prospects good.
Neemuch . . .	. . . .	Weather cold; crops thriving; public health good.
Goona . . .	. . . .	Health and prospects good.
Agar . . .	*Nil*	Health and prospects good.
Sehore . . .	*Nil*	Health and prospects good.
Nowgong . . .	*Nil*	Health good; weather seasonable; prices falling.
Rajputana— Abu . (Dec. 5th)	. . . .	Cold moderate; weather seasonable.
Sirohee . („ 2nd)	. . . .	Tanks, wells, and health good; crops all sown; weather seasonable.
Marwar . (Nov. 30th)	. . . .	Three months' water in Jodhpur City; tanks and wells almost full; health good; *kharif* all gathered; *rabi* in good condition; cold increasing; prices stationary.
Meywar . (Dec. 2nd)	. . . .	State of wells and tanks very good; health and crops good; weather seasonable.
Harowtee . („ 1st)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; health good; crop prospects fair; prices fallen.
Jhallawar (Nov. 30th)	. . . .	*Kharif* harvested; *rabi* sowings completed; health good.
Ajmere . (Dec. 4th)	. . . .	Slight fever prevalent in district.
Jeypore . („ „)	. . . .	Weather cold and seasonable; prospects fair; prices stationary; health good.
Ulwur . („ „)	. . . .	*Rabi* crops coming up; wells failing; prices steady; health good.
Nepal— Katmandu (Nov. 30th)	*Nil*	Weather cold and seasonable; fields being prepared for the sowing of spring crops; rain wanted.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

[TELEGRAPH.]

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1883.

CLASS OF MESSAGES.	ROUTE. West. Via Teheran. No.	Via Teheran. Indian Value.	Via Turkey. No.	Via Turkey. Indian Value.	Persian Gulf. No.	Persian Gulf. Indian Value.	Via Suez. No.	Via Suez. Indian Value.	East. Via Amoy. No.	Via Amoy. Indian Value.	Via Madras. No.	Via Madras. Indian Value.	Via Rangoon. No.	Via Rangoon. Indian Value.	Native Burma. No.	Native Burma. Indian Value.	Ceylon. No.	Ceylon. Indian Value.	TOTAL. No.	TOTAL. Indian Value.
INDIAN.																				
Sent	3,482	₹ a. 22,152 16	125	₹ a. 353 13	20	₹ a. 78 11	3,025	₹ a. 990 6	13	₹ a. 33 10	750	₹ a. 14,622 15	208	₹ a. 750 10	360	₹ a. 536 11	1,677	₹ a. 3,111 10	9,660	₹ a. 43,600 5
Received	1,954	10,046 12	148	630 6	47	159 9	3,580	12,858 5	7	23 6	813	2,349 3	292	847 13	...	...	1,614	2,956 12	8,455	29,873 2
TOTAL	5,436	32,199 11	273	983 3	67	238 4	6,605	13,848 11	20	57 0	1,563	16,972 2	500	1,598 7	360	536 11	3,291	6,068 6	18,115	73,473 7
TRANSIT.																				
From East to West—																				
Recd. Vid Madras	332	2,618 10	15	42 0	7	19 14	5,088	20,811 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,442	23,491 13
Recd. „ Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Recd. „ Lainghs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Recd. From Ceylon	24	73 8	1	3 1	...	...	349	937 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	374	1,014 2
From West to East—																				
Sent. Vid Madras	1,103	5,388 8	144	409 6	5	16 5	3,617	15,997 5	4	19 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,872	21,676 6
Sent. „ Rangoon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sent. „ Lainghs	...	...	3	26 9	...	...	5	28 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	55 6
Sent. To Ceylon	84	328 11	6	18 1	...	...	197	624 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	287	970 12
From West to West—																				
Recd. Vid Bombay	...	...	...	...	6	30 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	30 6
Sent. Vid Bombay	...	...	2	10 8	2	11 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	21 12
From East to East—																				
Recd. From Ceylon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58	225 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	58	226 8
Recd. Vid Madras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58	250 6	58	250 6
TOTAL	1,543	8,354 5	171	509 9	20	77 7	9,256	38,399 0	4	19 14	58	225 8	...	...	...	...	58	250 6	11,109	47,736 1
GRAND TOTAL																			29,224	1,20,209 8

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC WITH INDIA BY THE INDO-EUROPEAN AND RED SEA ROUTES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 1883.

ROUTE.		Number of Messages by each Route (exclusive of Transit). To India.	From India.	Total.	Percentage of Number. To India.	From India.	Total.
Indo-European	*Vid* Teheran	1,954	3,482	5,436	34·11	52·35	43·91
Indo-European	„ Turkey	148	125	273	2·58	1·88	2·20
Indo-European	Persian Gulf *vid* Karachi	47	20	67	0·82	0·30	0·54
Red Sea	*Vid* Suez	3,580	3,025	6,605	62·49	45·47	53·35
	TOTAL	5,729	6,652	12,381	100·00	100·00	100·00

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF NOVEMBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawes, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawes, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawes, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Madras.	Ganjam	8 13	8 13	8 13	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	17 13	17 14	17 14	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 10	26 10	26 10	215 13	215 13	215 13	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	13 13	Ganjam	Madras.
	Vizagapatam	15 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 0	9 0	12 6	11 5	11 5	25 14	23 13	21 10	24 11	23 13	22 13	42 2	37 6	21 2	93 5	95 3	93 5	14 10	14 10	15 3	14 5	14 0	14 0	Vizagapatam	
	Godavery	9 14	9 14	12 10	...	...	...	11 14	11 14	13 14	14 0	14 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	30 11	...	...	...	23 3	26 14	...	194 6	194 6	161 13	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	Godavery	
	Kistna	9 13	9 13	13 11	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 11	15 13	15 13	16 5	21 5	21 5	25 0	...	...	...	30 13	30 13	30 13	145 13	145 13	145 13	15 11	15 11	15 11	15 3	15 3	15 3	Kistna	
	Nellore	10 5	10 5	12 10	...	...	...	13 6	13 6	15 13	14 0	14 0	17 0	21 10	21 10	28 13	...	...	...	23 2	23 2	22 0	93 5	93 5	93 5	15 6	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 5	Nellore	
	Cuddapah	14 11	13 10	15 6	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	12 6	13 5	13 5	14 2	32 6	30 13	31 10	33 5	30 6	33 5	34 6	37 0	27 8	194 6	194 6	194 6	17 2	17 2	17 8	16 10	16 10	16 10	Cuddapah	
	Anantapur	13 6	13 6	12 8	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	12 13	13 0	14 0	14 0	35 0	33 0	33 0	30 2	30 2	28 8	44 13	37 0	32 8	...	...	...	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	Anantapur	
	Bellary	17 5	18 3	19 3	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	12 5	13 0	13 5	13 0	41 3	49 6	37 2	28 3	26 5	30 2	35 13	34 11	30 3	94 13	94 13	85 0	15 13	15 13	16 6	15 8	15 8	16 2	Bellary	
	Kurnool	11 2	11 2	12 11	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 5	11 13	11 13	11 6	37 0	37 0	37 0	35 0	35 0	25 0	32 3	32 3	25 8	135 2	138 13	190 8	14 13	14 13	15 3	14 6	14 6	14 13	Kurnool	
	Madras	10 10	11 0	11 2	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	12 3	15 2	15 2	13 0	23 0	23 0	23 0	29 0	22 6	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 6	26 0	28 6	26 2	26 2	25 5	Madras	
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 3	14 3	12 0	15 2	15 2	12 13	...	...	...	22 6	21 2	...	25 11	25 11	24 3	92 5	92 5	92 5	17 5	17 5	17 5	17 0	17 0	17 0	Chingleput	
	North Arcot	9 11	9 11	10 3	...	...	...	14 0	13 8	14 0	16 5	16 5	16 0	32 13	32 13	30 14	29 11	29 11	26 6	33 6	35 0	25 10	140 0	140 0	140 0	15 6	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 5	North Arcot	
	South Arcot	10 2	9 6	8 10	...	...	...	14 13	14 13	16 2	15 5	15 5	17 8	...	...	30 3	30 13	33 14	35 6	38 3	38 3	26 2	201 11	201 11	201 11	19 5	19 5	18 14	18 6	18 6	18 6	South Arcot	
	Tanjore	11 0	11 0	9 8	...	...	...	16 10	17 0	16 3	20 0	20 0	20 6	38 3	35 0	38 3	40 10	40 10	40 10	39 5	39 5	28 0	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 3	15 3	16 10	14 11	14 11	16 2	Tanjore	
	Trichinopoly	9 3	9 3	9 3	...	...	...	14 6	14 13	14 0	15 14	15 14	15 3	32 3	32 3	...	30 8	30 8	31 11	34 2	34 2	32 11	97 3	97 3	97 3	17 0	17 0	17 13	16 3	16 3	17 0	Trichinopoly	
	Madura	11 11	11 11	9 6	...	...	...	13 14	13 14	13 14	15 3	15 3	16 0	35 10	37 5	35 10	35 5	35 5	33 13	40 5	40 5	36 6	72 14	97 3	121 8	16 6	17 13	17 13	15 14	17 5	16 13	Madura	
	Tinnevelly	9 8	9 8	9 8	...	...	...	14 5	14 5	15 8	16 0	16 0	19 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 11	29 11	27 3	70 0	70 0	70 0	18 5	18 5	18 5	17 13	17 13	17 13	Tinnevelly	
	Coimbatore	13 2	13 2	11 8	...	...	...	14 6	14 6	13 0	15 6	15 6	14 14	27 13	27 13	26 2	28 10	28 10	31 13	31 3	31 3	28 8	131 3	131 3	131 3	15 2	14 2	14 11	14 11	13 10	14 10	Coimbatore	
	Nilgiris	10 10	10 16	9 8	...	...	...	9 8	10 6	9 10	10 6	11 10	11 3	20 0	21 10	23 2	22 6	22 6	21 0	21 10	21 10	23 3	161 13	161 13	161 13	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Nilgiris	
	Salem	12 11	12 11	10 11	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	13 2	16 0	16 0	14 2	36 6	36 6	27 5	29 8	29 8	29 8	30 13	30 13	30 13	151 10	151 10	151 10	17 8	17 8	16 6	16 14	16 14	15 6	Salem	
	South Canara	9 8	9 0	8 10	...	...	...	9 11	9 11	9 11	13 8	13 8	10 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	34 3	34 3	30 13	109 5	109 5	116 10	18 6	18 6	15 8	17 3	17 3	14 13	South Canara	
	Malabar	8 10	7 3	10 0	...	...	...	12 8	14 10	14 10	13 0	15 6	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 3	20 3	23 3	109 5	109 5	116 10	18 6	18 6	15 5	13 8	13 8	14 6	Malabar	
Bombay	Bombay	10 4	10 2	10 0	17 0	16 8	17 7	7 8	7 8	8 9	12 1	11 7	13 15	18 1	17 0	18 14	15 15	15 15	18 9	21 14	17 5	12 13	121 8	121 8	121 8	14 6	14 6	15 5	13 8	13 8	14 6	Bombay	Bombay.
	Ahmedabad	11 8	11 7	11 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	7 6	7 6	8 8	11 0	12 0	13 0	17 0	16 0	19 0	15 0	16 8	17 0	11 2	11 5	12 13	62 6	62 6	62 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	12 9	Ahmedabad	
	Kaira	11 7	11 7	11 7	16 0	17 12	22 14	10 5	10 0	10 0	13 5	13 5	15 4	...	...	20 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 4	Kaira	
	Surat	11 2	11 2	12 8	12 4	12 4	12 6	7 6	7 6	8 3	8 4	8 4	8 12	19 4	19 4	15 9	14 3	14 3	14 14	20 0	20 0	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	Surat	
	Broach	12 2	12 2	12 9	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	11 1	12 10	12 10	13 5	16 0	16 0	16 13½	18 10	18 10	15 4	14 0	14 0	14 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	Broach	
	Tanna (Salsette)	10 5	10 10	9 12	12 14	12 14	...	8 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	11 4	18 10	18 10	18 10	14 6	14 6	15 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	Tanna (Salsette)	
	Colába (Alibág)	8 8	8 8	9 0	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	7 8	12 8	12 8	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	Colába (Alibág)	
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	16 10	15 12	14 2	...	...	...	7 9	7 10	7 4	12 11	12 10	10 15	18 9	18 9	20 0	14 15	16 0	16 3	14 0	14 0	14 0	106 0	106 0	106 0	14 8½	14 8½	13 5½	14 8½	14 8½	13 5½	Khandesh (Dhulia)	
	Násik	14 4	14 4	11 6	...	...	...	7 7	7 7	7 7	12 0	12 0	12 0	20 6	...	22 6	16 5	15 5	17 0	15 0	15 0	12 10	106 0	106 0	106 0	15 12	15 12	14 5	15 10	15 10	13 13	Tanna (Salsette)	
	Ahmednagar	14 5	14 6	13 4	...	...	...	8 11	8 14	10 4	10 10	10 13	11 5	27 5	26 3	27 10	17 6	18 8	22 4	25 11	25 11	25 11	78 0	71 0	71 0	15 12	15 12	14 5	15 10	15 10	13 13	Colába (Alibág)	
	Poona	12 10	12 10	12 10	9 4	9 4	...	9 13	9 13	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 4	21 12	21 12	26 2	17 4	17 4	19 9	13 4	13 4	15 14	78 0	71 0	71 0	15 8	15 8	14 8	15 5	15 5	14 4	Násik	
	Sholápur	13 9	14 8	13 0	...	...	...	10 7	11 7	10 15	11 5	12 4	12 4	25 0	25 14	32 12	24 13	23 14	27 9	18 6	18 6	29 4	140 0	140 0	140 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	15 5	15 5	14 4	Ahmednagar	
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	19 0	19 0	22 0	16 8	16 8	14 12	6 8	6 8	6 12	11 8	12 0	9 12	33 0	34 0	35 8	31 8	32 0	31 12	15 6	15 6	15 6	128 0	128 0	128 0	15 8	15 8	14 8	15 5	15 5	14 4	Poona	
	Satara	13 11	16 11	18 3	12 0	12 0	14 0	12 8	12 8	10 6	13 0	12 9	11 6	20 2	21 0	30 0	16 6	19 0	27 0	16 0	18 0	20 0	75 5	75 0	91 5	12 9½	12 4½	14 10½	12 6	12 2	14 9	Ahmednagar	
	Belgaum	16 8	21 0	23 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	24 0	24 0	27 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	Pánch Mahála (Godhra)	
	Dharwar (Hubli)	21 0	8 9	11 14	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	8 9	14 2	14 2	15 9	...	...	20 13	13 8	13 8	18 4	20 0	20 0	20 0	65 5	65 5	65 5	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	32 0	Aden	
	Ratnágiri	9 14	9 0	10 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	11 12	12 8	12 0	15 1	13 8	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	9 5	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 4	11 12	12 4	12 4	11 12	Asirgarh	
	Kanara (Karwar)	9 0	9 0	10 8	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	13 5	13 5	15 0	15 0	20 0	20 0	32 0	14 8	14 8	16 0	17 8	17 8	15 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 4	11 12	12 4	12 4	11 12	Baroda	
	Pánch Mahála (Godhra)	10 8	10 8	11 6	...	...	...	6 3	6 3	7 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	12 7	12 7	11 3	11 3	11 3	8 9	18 5	18 4	14 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	14 15	14 1	14 13	14 9	14 0	14 12	Dísa	
	Aden	7 0	7 0	8 0	...	...	...	11 12	11 12	10 4	14 3	13 10	11 4	18 8	18 12	26 4	17 12	17 12	23 0	18 11	18 10	...	187 8	187 8	187 8	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Nimach	
	Asirgarh	13 12	13 12	14 3	...	...	...	8 3	8 12	10 0	10 13	10 8	11 13	15 12	15 12	18 13	16 5	16 12	20 0	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	13 8	12 8	13 0	Nasirabad	
	Baroda	10 8	10 8	10 0	12 13	11 11	14 12	6 14	6 14	7 6	9 0	9 0	8 14	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	90 0	86 14	70 0	*16 0½	*16 0½	*16 6½	15 0*	15 0*	16 0*	Rájkot	
	Dísa	12 14	12 2	15 0	...	...	...	6 14	6 14	7 6	9 0	9 0	8 14	10 0	10 7	14 8	8 16	8 16	10 8	...	...	...	60 0	70 0	80 0	45 0	50 0	55 0	35 0	40 0	48 0	Upper Sindh Frontier	
	Nimach	19 0	18 4	16 0	33 0	26 0	15 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	10 8	10 0	10 0	23 0	22 11	24 0	19 8½	19 6	17 0	50 0	58 0	...	200 0	200 0	160 0	†12 12½	†12 12½	†12 10½	12 12†	12 12†	12 8†	Karachi	
	Nasirabad	18 15½	20 0	17 8	25 14	27 0	25 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	23 0	22 0	24 0	19 0	19 0	17 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	100 0	90 0	105 0	17 11	17 11	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	Haidarabad (Nakur)	
	Rájkot	15 8	15 10	15 9	...	...	...	6 8	6 0	6 8	9 0	9 0	11 8	17 4	17 2	19 0	15 6	15 2	16 8	24 0	26 0	24 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	14 8	14 8	14 0	13 0	13 0	14 0	Shikarpur	
	Upper Sindh Frontier	13 12	18 12	14 4	22 12	24 8	24 8	10 0	10 0	11 4	13 4	13 4	20 0	32 0	32 0	40 0	26 8	26 8	26 0	22 0	24 0	21 4	240 0	240 0	240 0	13 1	14 4	13 4	13 0	14 0	13 0	Sukkur	
	Karachi	13 6	13 2	12 10	20 0	24 0	21 0	9 6	9 0	9 8	13 0	15 0	16 0	22 0	24 0	24 0	18 0	19 0	18 0	19 8	20 8	21 8	120 0	120 0	160 0	13 8	13 4	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	Thar and Parkar (Umarkot)	
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	14 0	14 0	16 0	24 0	27 0	26 0	11 0	13 8	13 0	15 0	16 8	17 0	23 0	28 0	30 0	20 0	24 0	23 0	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	160 0	14 12	14 12	11 5	14 12	14 12	11 5		
	Shikarpur	13 14	14 8	12 11½	28 0	26 0	23 8	12 0	12 4	12 0	15 8	16 0	20 0	29 0	27 8	32 0	25 12	26 0	27 0															
	Sukkur	15 8	15 0	14 8	20 8	28 0	28 0	10 8	11 8	12 0	15 8	15 8	19 8	31 8	30 8	32 8	25 8	25 8	25 8															
	Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	12 0	11 8	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 8	12 6	13 2	...	...	...	17 4	16 15	22 14															
Western Districts.																																		
Bombay	Burdwan	16 2	15 0	13 8	24 12	25 5	37 0	12 12	12 0	23 4	16 8	16 8	24 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 8	18 0	19 8	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 1 4	3 0 4	2 15 0	12 12a	12 15	13 8	Burdwan	Bombay.
	Bancoorah	18 12	16 0	13 12	16 0	14 0	15 0	13 0	12 8	22 0	17 8	16 0	27 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	18 8	320 0	320 0	40 0	3 3 6	3 3 6	3 0 0	12 0b	12 0	13 0	Bancoorah	
	Beerbhoom	15 0	15 0	13 4	...	...	...	13 8	15 0	16 8	15 0	16 8	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	19 8	160 0	160 0	200 0	3 1 8	3 1 8	3 2 5	12 0c	12 0	13 0	Beerbhoom	
	Midnapore	12 0	12 0	12 0	15 0	15 0	16 0	14 0	14 0	20 0	16 0	18 0	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 4	17 0	155 0	155 0	155 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	12 8c1	12 12	13 8	Midnapore	
	Hooghly	13 0	13 0	15 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 0	13 0	14 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	20 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 9d	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
	Howrah	13 8	13 4	13 0	...	...	...	12 8	12 12	15 0	14 8	14 8	17 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	17 0	19 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 13 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	Howrah	

Prices per md. of 40 seers.

																										R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.						
																										3 1 4	3 0 4	2 15 0	12 12a	12 15	13 8	Burdwan	Western Districts.
																										3 3 6	3 3 6	3 0 0	12 0b	12 0	13 0	Bancoorah	
																										3 1 8	3 1 8	3 2 5	12 0c	12 0	13 0	Beerbhoom	
																										2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	12 8c1	12 12	13 8	Midnapore	
																										2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 9d	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
																										3 0 0	3 0 0	2 13 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	Howrah	

a In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Culna and Cutwa 14 seers, Ranegunge 13 seers.

b Retail prices of salt at Raipore 11 seers, at Onda 16 seers, at Mejia, Bishenpore, and Indas 13 seers, at Sonamukhi and Kotulpore 12 seers.

* Sambhur salt.

† In common use.

c In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10-12 to 13-8 seers.

c1 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Ghattal 13-12 seers and Contai 13 seers.

d In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Serampore 13 seers and Jehanabad 14-8 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF NOVEMBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumnoo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumnoo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumnoo, Baira), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nagiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a. p.	R a. p.	R a. p.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
	Central Districts.																															*Central Districts.*	
	Calcutta	14 0	15 6	13 11	20 0	20 10	23 12	8 14	11 0	10 0	14 9	16 0	17 12	20 10	20 10	...	22 10	21 5	...	...	...	...	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	13 5	13 5	14 9	Calcutta	
	24-Pergunnahs	13 0	13 4	13 5	17 8	16 0	16 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	13 5	13 5	18 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	100 0	3 5 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 4*f*	12 13	13 5	24-Pergunnahs	
	Nuddea	14 8	14 8	14 8	24 10	24 10	...	12 5	11 14	15 8	13 5½	13 5½	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	11 10½*g*	11 10½	11 10½	Nuddea	
	Khoolna	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	180 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	10 8½	10 8	11 0	Khoolna	
	Jessore	12 0	11 0	10 0	...	...	...	12 4	13 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	11 8*i*	11 8	11 8	Jessore	
	Moorshedabad	16 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 4	16 0	16 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 0*j*	13 5	12 0	Moorshedabad	
	Dinagepore	14 8	15 0	13 12	14 0	15 0	13 5	12 0	12 0	20 0	15 8	15 8	27 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 4 0	11 8*k*	11 8	12 0	Dinagepore	
	Rajshahye	13 8	13 5	15 0	22 8	22 8	26 4	12 0	12 0 to 13 0	15 0 to 18 0	13 8 to 14 0	13 8 to 14 0	19 11 to 20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 1 3	3 1 0	3 2 0	12 0*l*	12 0	12 12	Rajshahye	
	Rungpore	11 14	13 5	20 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	13 5	13 5	13 5	22 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	110 0	110 0	130 0	...	3 5 0	3 0 0	...*m*	11 14	13 5	Rungpore	
	Bogra	15 12	16 8	12 0	...	...	...	9 12	10 8	15 12	15 0	15 0	28 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67 8	67 8	67 8	3 2 8	3 2 8	3 2 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Bogra	
	Pubna	18 0	18 0	17 4	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 8	13 8	14 8	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 0 0	12 0*n*	12 0	...	Pubna	
	Darjeeling	7 0	7 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	110 0	128 0	160 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	8 0*o*	8 0	8 0	Darjeeling	
	Jalpáiguri	10 0	10 0	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	13 4	12 8	14 0	14 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4*p*	12 4	11 0	Jalpáiguri	
	Eastern Districts.																															*Eastern Districts.*	
	Dacca	16 0	14 4	13 5	16 0	18 0	40 0	14 0	16 0	22 10	16 0	18 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97 0	97 0	101 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	2 15 0	12 0*q*	12 0	13 5	Dacca	
	Furreedpore	22 0	22 0	19 0	18 0	30 0	37 0	12 0	15 0	17 8	14 0	18 0	21 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	12 0*r*	12 0	12 0	Furreedpore	
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 0	15 0	15 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	100 0	2 11 0	2 11 0	3 0 0	13 0*s*	13 0	13 0	Backergunge	
	Mymensingh	12 8	12 0	12 4	...	...	...	11 0	11 8	20 0	14 8	15 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	12 4*t*	12 4	12 12	Mymensingh	
	Chittagong	11 0	12 8	9 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 0	22 0	22 0	28 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 4 0	2 14 0	13 0*u*	10 8	13 0	Chittagong	
	Noakholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	19 0	22 0	19 0	21 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 2 0	10 0*v*	10 0	10 0	Noakholly	
	Tipperah	13 0	18 0	12 0	...	...	...	17 0	18 8	18 0	18 12	19 8	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	Tipperah	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 4	12 4	13 5	13 14	13 14	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	12 0*w*	12 0	12 8	Chittagong Hill Tracts	
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	20 0	18 0	19 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	320 0	320 0	320 0	...	...	4 8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Hill Tipperah	
	Behar.																															*Behar.*	
	Patna	20 0	20 0	22 0	29 0	32 0	28 0	13 0	13 0	14 0	14 0	16 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Patna	
	Gya	17 0	17 0	16 0	23 0	21 0	24 8	10 8	11 0	12 8	13 0	14 8	20 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	28 0	27 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	Gya	
	Shahabad	16 0 to 17 0	16 0 to 17 0	16 0 to 17 0	28 8	24 0	27 0	10 0 to 11 0	10 0 to 11 0	12 8 to 18 0	13 8 to 14 0	14 8 to 15 0	19 0	24 0	23 0	...	24 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	23 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	Shahabad	
	Durbhunga	13 0	13 0	15 0	23 0	23 0	35 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	13 0	12 8	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29 0 to 30 0	120 0	120 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	12 8*x*	12 8	12 8	Durbhunga	
	Mozufferpore	17 0	15 0	17 0	25 0	25 0	30 0	10 0	9 0	12 0	13 0	11 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 1 6	3 10 0	3 10 0	12 6*y*	10 0	11 0	Mozufferpore	
	Sarun	15 8	17 0	16 0	24 0	25 0	32 0	9 8	9 8	10 0	13 0	16 0	20 0	22 0	25 0	36 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 4 0	3 5 0	3 4 0	12 0*z*	11 8	12 0	Sarun	
	Chumparun	19 0	19 0	16 0	31 0	31 0	30 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	19 0	18 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	11 0*a1*	11 0	12 0	Chumparun	
	Monghyr	17 13	18 9	17 14	21 0	27 4	33 9	10 8	12 5	16 13	11 9	13 15	18 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 5 0	11 0*a2*	11 0	11 0	Monghyr	
	Bhágalpur	15 2	15 2	15 12	22 11	22 11	32 13	11 15	12 10	18 15	13 14	15 12	22 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126 0	126 0	126 0	3 2 5	3 2 5	2 15 0	12 1*a3*	12 1	13 9	Bhágalpur	
	Purneah	15 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 0	15 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	151 8	151 8	151 8	3 1 0	3 1 0	2 14 0	12 10*a4*	12 10	12 10	Purneah	
	Maldah	17 8	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	12 0	10 0	16 0	13 0	12 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	10 8*a5*	11 0	11 0	Maldah	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	14 0	13 0	14 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	17 0	16 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	120 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	Sonthal Pergunnahs	
	Orissa.																															*Orissa.*	
	Cuttack	13 2	13 2	13 2	...	...	...	13 2	13 2	15 12	21 0*	21 0	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 4 0	3 6 0	3 2 0	11 0*a6*	10 8	11 8	Cuttack	
	Pooree	10 8	10 8	12 8	...	...	...	14 7	15 12	22 8	19 11	19 11	27 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 13 0	2 12 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Pooree	
	Balasore	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96 0	120 0	120 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	13 3	13 3	13 4	Balasore	
	CHOTA NAGPORE.																															CHOTA NAGPUR.	
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																															*South-Western Frontier Agency.*	
	Hazáribágh	15 8	14 8	14 0	18 0	18 0	16 0	9 8	9 8	11 0	15 0	14 8	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	240 0	240 0	240 0	3 9 0	3 10 0	3 4 0	10 0	10 8	11 0	Hazáribágh	
	Lohardugga	15 0	16 0	14 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	14 0	14 0	22 0	18 0	18 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	120 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 14 0	9 0	9 0	10 8	Lohardugga	
	Singbhoom	16 0	20 0	20 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	18 0	24 0	36 0	22 0	28 0	44 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	180 0	180 0	180 0	4 7 0	4 7 0	3 12 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	Singbhoom	
	Manbhoom	13 0	13 0	13 0	...	...	...	14 8	16 0	17 0	20 0	21 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 8 0	3 10 0	3 12 0	10 12*a8*	10 12	10 12	Manbhoom	

* In the interior retail price of common rice varies from 26-4 to 30-8 seers per rupee.
f In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Baraset and Bussirhat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 10-8 seers, Barrackpore 12-12 seers, and Dum-Dum 12 seers.
g In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Koosbtea 13 seers, Meherpore 11-8 seers, Chooadanga 12 seers, and Ranaghat 11-14 seers.
h In Satkhira and Begirhat sub-divisions retail price of salt 11 seers per rupee.
i In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers and Bongong 13 seers.
j In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Lalbagh 11 seers, Jungypore 12 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.
k In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Jhenidah, Magura and Narail 12 seers and Bongong 13 seers.
l Retail price of salt at Raigunge 10-8 seers and Nitpore 10 seers.
m Retail price of salt at Nattore and Nowgong 12 seers.
n Retail price of salt at Nattore and Nowgong 12 seers.
o In Nilphamari and Gaibanda sub-divisions retail prices of salt 12 seers.
p In Nilphamari and Gaibanda sub-divisions retail prices of salt 12 seers.
q In Serajgunge retail price of salt 13 seers per rupee.
r Retail price of salt at Kurseong and Silligoree 8 seers.
s Retail price of salt at Kurseong and Silligoree 8 seers.
t Retail price of salt at Fallscotta in the Alipore sub-division 10 seers per rupee.
u Retail price of salt at Fallscotta in the Alipore sub-division 10 seers per rupee.
v In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Manickgunge 12 seers, Moonsheegunge 10 seers 10⅔ chittacks, and Naraingunge 13 seers.
w In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Manickgunge 12 seers, Moonsheegunge 10 seers 10⅔ chittacks, and Naraingunge 13 seers.
x In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Goalundo 10-8 seers, Madaripore and Shanga 12 seers, and Gopalgunge 13-14 seers.
y In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Goalundo 10-8 seers, Madaripore and Shanga 12 seers, and Gopalgunge 13-14 seers.
z In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Goalundo 10-8 seers, Perosepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.
a1 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 10-10 seers, Perosepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.
a2 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Patuakhali 10-10 seers, Perosepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.
a3 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kishoregunge 10-10 seers, Attea 13 seers, Jamalpore 11-4 seers, and Netrokona 13-6 seers.
a4 Retail price of salt at Kumeriah 10 seers and Hathamaree and Cox's Bazar 8 seers.
a5 In the interior retail prices of salt range from 8 to 13-4 seers.
a6 In Chandpore and Brahmunberiah sub-divisions retail prices of salt 13 seers.
a7 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Sunar and Sasseram 11-8 seers, and Bhabooah 11 seers.
a8 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madhubani 11 seers and Tajpur 11-8 seers.
a9 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Madhubani 11 seers and Tajpur 11-8 seers.
b1 In the Seetamurrhee sub-division retail price of salt 11 seers per rupee.
b2 In Gopalgunge sub-division retail price of salt 13 seers.
b3 In the interior retail prices of salt range from 10 to 13 seers.
b4 In the interior retail prices of salt are as follow:—Beguseral 10-8 seers, and Jamul 11-8 seers.
b5 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Banka 11 seers, Muddehpoora 10-8 seers and Soopole 11-8 seers.
b6 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Kissengunge 10 seers and Arrareah (at Haneeganj) 11 seers.
b7 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Rajmehal 13-8 seers, Godda 11 seers.
b8 In the sub-divisions retail prices of salt are as follow:—Rajmehal 13-8 seers, Godda 11 seers.
b9 In Bhaduruk retail price of salt 8 seers per rupee.
c1 Retail prices of salt at Raganathpore 12 seers, Burrabazar 10 seers, and Govindpore 11 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF NOVEMBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, &c. (Kavaru, Sawee, Cheena, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, &c. (Kavaru, Sawee, Cheena, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, &c. (Kavaru, Sawee, Cheena, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Ragi, Veraru, Coraloo, Nuglee). *Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Present fortnight.	Ragi, Veraru, Coraloo, Nuglee). *Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Past fortnight.	Ragi, Veraru, Coraloo, Nuglee). *Eleusine Coracana, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a.	R a. per md.	R a.	R a.	R a.	R a.		
ASSAM.	Sylhet	13 0	12 8	12 0	...	...	...	11 4	12 0	14 0	16 8	17 8	31 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108 0	108 0	108 0	3 6	3 4	3 4	11 8	12 8	12 4	Sylhet	ASSAM.
	Cachar	9 2	9 6	10 0	12 13	13 5	16 0	15 4	16 0	21 5	16 0	17 12	24 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	62 0	120 0	3 4	3 4	3 4	8 0	12 4	12 0	Cachar	
	Goálpárá	20 0	22 8	24 0	...	...	...	11 4	11 8	13 0	13 4	16 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 6	5 0	5 6	6 6	8 0	6 6	Goálpárá	
	Gáro Hills	4 0	4 0	4 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	11 0	10 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200 0	200 0	160 0	3 8	3 8	3 12	11 0	11 0	10 8	Gáro Hills	
	Kámrúp	14 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 8	12 0	15 0	19 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Kámrúp	
	Darrang	...	...	..	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	100 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Darrang	
	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	13 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	200 0	4 4	4 4	4 8	9 0	8 0	8 8	Nowgong	
	Sibságar	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	6 8	6 8	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 8	4 8	5 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Sibságar	
	Lakhimpur	9 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	10 0	6 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 8	4 8	5 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Lakhimpur	
	Khásí & Jaintiá Hills	6 10	...	8 0	...	...	...	8 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Khásí & Jaintiá Hills	
	Nága Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	6 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	200 0	4 8	4 8	5 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Nága Hills	
																										S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.						
N. W. PROVINCES.	Dehra Dún																									16 0	16 0	13 0	2 8	2 8	3 0	Dehra Dún	N. W. PROVINCES.
	Saháranpur																															Saháranpur	
	Muzaffarnagar																															Muzaffarnagar	
	Meerut																															Meerut	
	Bulandshahr																															Bulandshahr	
	Aligarh																															Aligarh	
	Kumaun																															Kumaun	
	Garhwál																															Garhwál	
	Bijnor																															Bijnor	
	Moradabad																															Moradabad	
	Budaun																															Budaun	
	Bareilly																															Bareilly	
	Sháhjahánpur																															Sháhjahánpur	
	Tarái Pergunnahs																															Tarái Pergunnahs	
	Muttra																															Muttra	
	Agra																															Agra	
	Farukhabad																															Farukhabad	
	Mainpuri																															Mainpuri	
	Etáwah	No return received																														Etáwah	
	Etah																															Etah	
	Jalaun																															Jalaun	
	Jhánsi																															Jhánsi	
	Lalitpur																															Lalitpur	
	Cawnpore																															Cawnpore	
	Fatehpur																															Fatehpur	
	Bánda																															Bánda	
	Allahabad																															Allahabad	
	Hamírpur																															Hamírpur	
	Jaunpur																															Jaunpur	
	Gorakhpur																															Gorakhpur	
	Basti																															Basti	
	Azamgarh																															Azamgarh	
	Mirzapur																															Mirzapur	
	Benares																															Benares	
	Gházipur																															Gházipur	
	Balia																															Balia	
	Pilibhít																															Pilibhít	
OUDH.	Sultánpur																															Sultánpur	OUDH.
	Partábgarh																															Partábgarh	
	Fyzabad																															Fyzabad	
	Kheri																															Kheri	
	Lucknow																															Lucknow	
	Bára Banki	No return received																														Bára Banki	
	Bahraich																															Bahraich	
	Rai Bareli																															Rai Bareli	
	Sitapur																															Sitapur	
	Gonda																															Gonda	
	Unáo																															Unáo	
	Hardui																															Hardui	
PUNJAB.	Gujránwála (a)	22 4	23 8	27 8	40 0	40 0	55 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	32 0	32 0	40 0	28 0	28 0	25 0	...	...	...	95 0	95 0	95 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	15 0	15 0	15 0	Gujránwála (a)	PUNJAB.
	Lahore (b)	23 0	23 0	25 0	40 0	38 0	45 0	...	...	...	13 0	11 0	13 0	38 0	38 0	30 0	24 0	24 0	27 0	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Lahore (b)	
	Ferozepore	24 0	21 0	23 0	36 0	35 0	42 0	...	...	...	12 0	11 0	12 0	37 0	36 0	0 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	90 0	13 0	13 8	12 0	13 0	13 8	12 0	Ferozepore	
	Sirsa (c)	20 8	20 8	23 8	36 0	36 0	44 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	36 0	35 0	44 0	29 0	28 0	35 0	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 0	Sirsa (c)	
	Hissar	20 0	20 0	19 0	29 0	29 0	32 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	28 0	28 0	34 0	22 0	23 0	27 0	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	80 0	12 0	12 0	11 10	11 8	11 0	11 4	Hissar	
	Rohtak (d)	19 0	19 0	18 0	27 0	27 0	24 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	24 0	22 0	35 0	20 0	21 0	24 0	...	...	...	120 0	130 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Rohtak (d)	
	Gurgaon (e)	20 0	20 0	20 0	26 8	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	13 0	22 0	23 0	29 0	21 0	22 0	25 0	...	...	...	140 0	130 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Gurgaon (e)	
	Delhi (f)	18 0	18 8	19 8	26 0	24 8	25 8	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	21 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	12 8	13 0	12 8	11 8	12 0	11 8	Delhi (f)	
	Karnál	19 0	19 0	20 0	26 0	27 0	32 0	...	...	...	12 8	12 8	12 0	24 0	23 0	32 0	22 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	160 0	12 4	12 4	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	Karnál	
	Umballa (g)	20 12	20 8	23 8	24 0	28 0	32 0	...	...	...	11 4	11 4	14 8	28 0	30 0	40 0	18 0	16 0	28 0	...	...	...	150 0	150 0	140 0	13 15	14 0	13 12	13 12	13 12	13 8	Umballa (g)	
	Ludhiana (h)	28 0	23 8	26 0	33 0	38 0	38 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	12 8	34 0	34 0	40 0	25 0	26 0	27 0	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 10	14 0	14 0	14 8	Ludhiana (h)	
	Simla (i)	17 0	17 0	16 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 0	...	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	11 4	11 4	10 0	10 8	10 8	10 0	Simla (i)	

* No wholesale salt sold. (a) Wheat rising; gram falling. (b) Prices falling. (c) Bajra and jowar falling; gram rising. (d) Bajra rising; jowar and gram falling. (e) Barley, bajra, jowar and gram rising; wood falling. (f) Wheat, salt, rising; barley, bajra and gram falling. (g) Wheat, bajra and gram falling, barley and jowar rising. (h) Prices rising. (i) Prices pretty steady.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF NOVEMBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorgaum.*			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Cornoo, Murwa, Naglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.			Districts.	Provinces.
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.		
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Punjab—*continued.*	Kángra	20 0	20 0	24 0	32 0	32 0	40 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	24 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	Kángra	Punjab—*continued.*
	Jullundur (*a*)	21 8	21 8	26 0	32 0	34 0	44 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	8 0	32 0	36 0	40 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	31 0	29 0	34 0	110 0	110 0	105 0	14 8	14 8	14 6	14 0	14 0	14 0	Jullundur (*a*)	
	Hoshiárpur (*b*)	21 0	20 0	26 0	28 0	25 0	36 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	28 0	28 0	36 0	20 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	28 8	27 8	30 8	111 0	110 0	110 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	13 12	13 12	13 12	Hoshiárpur (*b*)	
	Gurdáspur	24 8	24 8	32 0	28 0	30 0	45 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	30 0	30 0	40 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	31 0	29 0	31 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 4	13 4	13 8	12 8	12 8	13 0	Gurdáspur	
	Amritsar (*c*)	23 8	23 8	27 4	38 0	37 0	53 0	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 8	37 0	37 0	39 0	31 0	31 0	25 8	...	...	...	35 0	34 8	37 8	90 0	90 0	85 0	15 6	15 6	14 12	15 0	15 0	14 6	Amritsar (*c*)	
	Siálkot (*b*)	23 8	24 8	28 0	40 0	39 0	47 0	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	17 0	35 0	35 0	34 0	36 0	31 0	27 0	...	...	...	34 0	31 0	26 0	120 0	120 0	130 0	15 8	15 8	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	Siálkot	
	Gujrát (*d*)	26 0	25 8	29 4	40 0	40 0	46 0	...	...	...	12 0	11 8	14 0	40 8	40 0	40 0	40 8	40 0	38 8	...	...	...	30 8	28 12	27 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	*	*	*	15 8	15 8	15 0	Gujrát (*d*)	
	Jhelum	25 0	25 0	25 0	33 0	33 0	39 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	10 0	34 0	34 0	32 0	38 0	38 0	32 0	...	...	...	31 0	29 0	25 8	120 0	120 0	160 0	16 0	16 0	16 8	15 0	15 0	15 8	Jhelum (*a*)	
	Ráwalpindi (*e*)	27 12	27 0	24 0	45 0	41 0	40 0	...	...	...	14 4	11 12	14 4	45 0	...	40 0	45 0	46 0	35 0	...	...	...	36 0	35 0	24 8	...	95 0	85 0	...	15 6	15 0	...	15 4	14 8	Ráwalpindi (*e*)	
	Shahpúr (*b*)	27 0	27 0	22 0	41 0	40 0	34 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	12 0	38 0	36 0	30 0	36 0	34 0	32 0	...	...	...	41 0	39 0	24 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	Shahpúr	
	Jhang (*f*)	20 0	19 6	20 0	32 0	29 0	35 0	...	...	...	10 0	9 8	10 0	32 0	24 0	30 0	32 0	30 0	22 0	...	...	...	28 8	26 12	28 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	14 12	14 4	14 8	14 8	14 2	14 4	Jhang (*f*)	
	Montgomery	18 0	18 0	20 0	28 0	...	31 0	...	...	...	5 8	5 8	5 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 0	31 0	31 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	Montgomery	
	Mooltan (*g*)	16 0	16 8	17 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	...	...	...	13 0	11 0	10 0	25 0	26 0	30 0	25 0	25 0	26 0	...	...	...	27 0	28 0	23 8	90 0	90 0	90 0	14 8	14 0	14 4	14 0	14 0	13 8	Mooltan (*g*)	
	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	...	17 8	18 8	...	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	5 0	7 0	...	22 0	18 0	...	23 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	22 0	20 0	...	90 0	120 0	*	*	*	...	13 8	13 0	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	
	Dera Gházi Khán	18 15	18 2	18 7	28 12	25 0	26 4	...	...	...	11 4	10 0	7 8	32 12	31 4	32 8	29 1	27 8	31 14	...	...	...	21 14	21 14	18 12	100 0	125 0	100 0	28 12	29 14	30 0	27 8	26 14	27 8	Dera Gházi Khán	
	Dera Ismail Khán (*i*)	20 10	20 10	19 15	31 4	31 4	28 4	...	...	...	7 10	8 0	9 1	32 8	33 12	38 2	28 12	30 0	29 8	...	...	...	27 0	26 9	24 8	125 0	125 0	100 0	42 8	50 0	62 8	40 0	47 8	60 0	Dera Ismail Khán (*i*)	
	Bannu	28 2	28 2	30 10	37 8	36 4	47 8	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	9 6	45 0	40 0	50 0	32 8	32 8	37 8	...	...	...	31 4	29 6	27 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	120 0	60 0	80 0	100 0	Bannu	
	Kohát (*j*)	19 12	20 6	18 3	33 2	33 2	29 5	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	14 0	30 10	30 10	35 12	31 14	31 14	37 0	...	...	...	25 8	26 12	20 6	102 0	102 0	120 0	68 14	68 14	102 0	63 12	63 12	87 0	Kohát (*j*)	
	Pesháwar (*k*)	21 12	21 8	19 10	31 8	37 0	38 0	...	...	...	11 10	11 5	10 12	30 3	30 14	33 8	32 13	33 8	24 4	...	...	...	28 8	28 0	20 8	110 0	107 0	91 0	43 9	40 0	55 4	42 0	38 8	53 0	Pesháwar (*k*)	
	Házára (*b*)	28 0	26 0	...	43 0	40 0	42 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	13 0	40 0	38 0	...	36 0	30 0	...	...	...	...	25 8	23 0	17 0	80 0	80 0	70 0	...	...	13 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Házára (*b*)	
Central Provinces.	Saugor	25 0	23 12	19 0	...	...	...	10 0	8 0	10 0	12 0	10 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 8	28 0	26 0	140 0	120 0	160 0	9 12	9 12	8 12	9 8	9 8	8 8	Saugor	Central Provinces.
	Damoh	29 0	28 0	22 8	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 8	14 8	14 8	14 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	29 0	31 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	11 0	10 8	9 8	10 12	10 4	9 4	Damoh	
	Jubbulpore	29 0	28 0	17 12	28 0	22 8	20 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	15 0	16 0	15 0	29 0	30 0	28 0	17 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	27 0	30 0	29 0	110 0	120 0	120 0	11 8	11 8	11 12	11 0	11 0	11 6	Jubbulpore	
	Mandla	26 8	26 0	20 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	16 0	21 0	21 8	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	25 0	40 0	40 0	34 0	256 0	256 0	246 0	...	...	...	10 0	9 0	9 0	Mandla	
	Seoni	21 8	22 8	17 8	...	...	...	12 0	13 8	12 8	19 0	20 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	26 0	17 8	220 0	220 0	220 0	11 0	11 8	11 6	10 12	11 0	11 4	Seoni	
	Narsinghpur	19 0	19 0	16 8	...	...	...	10 0	9 8	10 0	12 8	12 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 8	25 8	26 8	140 0	140 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 12	Narsinghpur	
	Hoshungabad	16 9	15 12	15 7	...	...	...	4 0	4 8	5 0	10 14	10 3	13 0	...	...	...	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 10	23 8	23 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 12	11 8	10 6	11 0	10 0	10 0	Hoshungabad	
	Nimár	17 8	17 8	16 0	...	...	...	12 9	13 10	...	15 15	15 15	13 0	18 12	20 10	30 0	20 0	20 0	24 0	...	...	...	20 4	20 4	19 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	13 13	13 13	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 12	Nimár	
	Betúl	18 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	19 8	19 8	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 8	15 0	16 0	18 0	18 0	16 0	320 0	320 0	240 0	10 8	8 8	9 8	10 0	8 0	9 0	Betúl	
	Chhindwára	25 8	25 8	16 0	...	...	...	8 8	8 8	10 0	15 0	13 0	13 0	31 0	31 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	18 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	9 0	9 0	9 8	10 0	8 0	8 8	Chhindwára	
	Wardha	20 0	20 0	19 0	...	...	...	10 0	9 0	9 8	16 0	14 0	12 4	25 0	26 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	21 0	18 0	120 0	100 0	135 0	12 8	12 0	11 0	12 0	11 0	12 0	Wardha	
	Nágpur	20 8	19 12	17 12	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	9 12	16 0	16 0	16 0	31 0	31 4	25 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 12	21 12	18 0	120 0	120 0	150 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	11 12	11 12	Nágpur	
	Chánda	20 0	20 0	19 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	15 0	16 0	37 0	35 8	37 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 8	20 0	27 0	360 0	360 0	360 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	11 0	Chánda	
	Bhandára	20 4	21 12	19 8	...	...	...	10 8	10 0	9 12	20 0	22 0	23 4	35 0	42 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 8	23 0	22 8	112 2	95 0	...	11 8	10 4	11 0	10 0	9 4	10 0	Bhandára	
	Bálaghát	20 0	20 0	17 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	15 0	27 0	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 0	26 0	30 0	275 0	275 0	275 0	10 0	9 4	11 0	9 4	10 0	9 0	Bálaghát	
	Raipur	24 4	24 4	29 8	...	...	...	15 8	15 8	21 0	30 8	30 8	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 8	26 8	31 8	64 0	64 0	64 0	11 4	11 4	9 4	11 0	10 0	10 0	Raipur	
	Biláspur	28 8	28 8	42 0	...	...	...	28 8	28 8	36 0	34 2	39 0	54 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	123 4	123 4	140 0	29 12	24 0	49 0	120 0	120 0	130 0	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	8 0	Biláspur	
	Sambalpur	14 8	16 8	19 13	...	...	...	24 8	27 12	35 0	29 12	31 0	44 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	14 8	24 0	120 0	120 0	110 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Sambalpur	
British Burma.	*Arakan Division.*																																			*Arakan Division.*	British Burma.
	Akyab	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Akyab	
	Northern Arakan																																			Northern Arakan	
	Kyoukpyoo																																			Kyoukpyoo	
	Sandoway	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 2	17 2	27 7	22 14	19 2	33 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	469 11	469 11	469 11	...	...	...	39 0	39 0	28 6	Sandoway	
	Pegu Division.																																			*Pegu Division.*	
	Rangoon Town	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rangoon Town	
	Tharrawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 2	...	16 5½	7 14	...	17 13½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	535 11	...	535 11¾	...	...	...	22 5	...	27 7¾	Tharrawaddy	
	Prome	12 2	9 11	12 2	...	...	...	10 5	12 8	13 7	13 1	14 7	17 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	139 11	139 11	139 11	25 5	25 5	29 9	16 9	16 9	18 10	Prome	
	Irrawaddy Division.										10 12	13 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...										*Irrawaddy Division.*	
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 15	12 12½	...	10 12	13 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	281 10	284 7½	...	24 5	24 5½	...	22 2	22 2¼	...	Bassein	
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 15	10 4	14 5	10 6	13 0	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	183 8	183 8	183 8	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	Henzada	
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 6	...	10 12	10 7	...	14 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	184 8	32 4	...	47 5	25 5	...	37 5	Thonegwa	
	Thayetmyo	9 4	9 4	12 1	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	11 11	11 13	11 13	15 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	184 8	...	22 7	184 8	25 5	25 5	17 2	18 15	18 15	14 3	Thayetmyo	
	Tenasserim Division.																																			*Tenasserim Division.*	
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	9 0	9 0	12 2	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	12 2	12 2	12 2	15 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	220 0	220 0	220 0	35 8	20 15	32 5	25 5	20 8	22 12	Moulmein Town & Amherst	
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 12	13 12	18 12	17 15	17 15	19 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	399 3	399 3	399 3	24 2	24 2	24 2	16 1	16 1	16 1	Tavoy	
	Mergui	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 9	14 9	17 5	16 10	16 10	21 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	428 0	428 0	428 0	24 5	24 5	26 1	14 5½	14 5½	14 5½	Mergui	
	Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 10	10 10	18 5	12 13	12 13	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	24 0	23 8	23 8	30 12	18 12	18 12	18 12	Toungoo	
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 8	9 13	10 10	9 9	11 5	12 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	250 0	250 0	250 0	25 4	35 6	32 3	18 14	18 14	18 4	Shwaygyin	
	Salween	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Salween	
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	15 8	15 8	17 4	...	...	...	8 4	8 4	7 8	11 4	11 4	9 13	23 0	22 3	25 14	28 4	27 0	...	...	...	...	29 9	29 9	...	14 13	14 7	17 4	125 0	125 0	125 0	10 11	10 11	11 1	10 3	10 3	10 8	Secunderabad	Hyderabad Assigned Districts.
	Bolarum	17 0	18 0	20 4	...	...	...	8 6	8 1	7 6	10 7	10 4	10 0	27 0	27 0	30 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116 14	116 14	116 14	...	...	...	10 12	10 12	11 1	Bolarum	
	Chudderghat	14 0	14 0	13 8	...	...	...	7 8	7 0	7 0	10 0	10 0	9 8	26 0	25 8	27 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 15	15 7	19 10	80 0	80 0	64 0	12 8	12 8	11 8	9 8	9 8	9 8	Chudderghat	
	Amraoti	16 0	15 0	16 0	10 8	10 0	11 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	28 0	28 0	28 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	14 0	17 8	80 0	80 0	70 0	12 8	12 8	11 8	12 0	12 0	11 0	Amraoti	
	Akola	17 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	7 0	13 0	13 0	11 0	26 0	26 0	28 0	21 0	21 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	23 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Akola	
	Ellichpur	17 8	17 0	16 8	9 8	9 8	9 8	6 8	6 8	6 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	24 0	24 0	32 0	22 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	78 0	8 0	7 8	16 0	17 0	22 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	Ellichpur	
	Buldana	18 0	18 0	19 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	11 5	11 8	12 0	29 4	29 4	27 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 8	15 8	16 12	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 8	10 8	10 8	Buldana	
	Wún	18 0	17 0	18 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 4	13 0	14 0	14 0	32 0	30 0	40 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	24 0	64 0	60 0	64 0	10 8	10 8	9 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	Wún	
	Basim	22 0	22 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	19 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 0	Basim	

(*a*) Prices are fortnightly. (*b*) Prices falling. (*c*) Barley and gram falling. (*d*) Wheat, rice, bajra, jowar and gram falling. (*e*) Wheat, barley, rice, and gram falling; bajra rising. (*f*) Wheat, barley, rice, bajra, jowar, gram and salt falling. (*g*) Wheat, rice, jowar, gram, rising; salt falling. (*h*) Statement not received.

* No Wholesale salt sold. (*i*) Rice, bajra, jowar and salt rising; gram falling. (*j*) Wheat and gram rising. (*k*) Barley, bajra and jowar rising; wheat, rice, gram, salt and firewood falling.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 1st HALF OF NOVEMBER 1883 —*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Mysore	Bangalore																													Bangalore	Mysore
Mysore	Kolar																													Kolar	Mysore
Mysore	Túmkúr																													Túmkúr	Mysore
Mysore	Mysore	No	return	received	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	No	return	received					Mysore	Mysore
Mysore	Hassan																													Hassan	Mysore
Mysore	Shimoga																													Shimoga	Mysore
Mysore	Kadur																													Kadur	Mysore
Mysore	Chitaldroog																													Chitaldroog	Mysore
Coorg	Coorg	8 6	8 8	9 5	9 15	10 2	9 7	15 5	15 11	10 6	21 0	20 10	13 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 12	29 10	22 4	29 3	29 11	23 4	110 0	110 0	110 0	9 12	10 1	9 6	9 10	9 7	8 11	Coorg	Coorg
Rajpootana	Jeypore	16 0	17 0	17 0	25 0	25 0	24 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	8 8	8 8	9 0	24 0	24 0	20 0	21 8	23 0	22 0	...	...	...	23 0	23 4	21 8	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	14 4	14 12	14 12	14 0	Jeypore	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Kishengurh	17 8	17 8	16 8	24 0	24 0	27 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	23 8	23 8	26 8	19 8	19 8	19 0	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	25 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	Kishengurh	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Kerrowlee	18 12	18 2	19 4	25 10	26 14	26 4	10 0	10 0	15 0	10 10	10 10	17 8	25 10	26 4	28 12	22 8	20 10	25 0	...	...	...	27 8	27 8	28 12	...	...	...	13 15	13 8	14 6	13 12	13 4	14 0	Kerrowlee	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Ulwur	18 0	18 12	20 2	23 3	23 13	29 5	8 10	8 10	9 0	10 8	10 8	12 4	21 4	23 0	28 11	18 9	18 15	23 8	...	...	...	22 11	23 0	28 3	...	...	...	15 7	15 7	15 13	14 12	14 12	15 4	Ulwur	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Bhurtpore (City)	17 10	17 1	19 3	22 15	22 9	29 8	7 12	7 12	6 12	9 6	9 2	11 0	22 15	22 7	26 4	20 11	19 11	22 8	...	...	...	28 3	22 11	26 0	...	...	...	12 4	12 4	12 5	12 0	12 0	11 13	Bhurtpore (City)	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Ajmere	16 0	16 0	16 0	24 0	25 0	24 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	19 0	19 0	23 0	18 0	20 0	18 0	...	...	...	25 0	26 0	24 0	80 0	80 0	70 0	17 0	17 0	...	15 0	15 0	15 0	Ajmere	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Deoli Cantonment	21 12½	21 3	17 4	31 9	30 8	23 4	...	...	...	9 4	9 4	12 12	25 3	24 0	22 0	25 8	21 3	20 12	...	...	...	30 6	29 4	24 0	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	14 0	13 10	13 10	12 12	Deoli Cantonment	Rajpootana.
																													R a. p. per md.	R a. p. per md.	R a. p.					
Rajpootana	Erinpura	16 4	16 4	17 14	25 2	25 2	31 10	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	8 0	20 0	20 0	20 6	20 0	20 0	23 6	...	...	...	21 4	21 4	23 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0 6	3 0 6	3 0 4	12 6	12 6	12 4	Erinpura	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Sirohee	13 8	13 8	17 0	25 0	25 0	30 0	6 8	6 8	7 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	14 0	14 0	17 0	18 0	15 0	21 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	27 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 5	12 5	12 5	Sirohee	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Abu	12 12	12 12	15 10	20 0	19 0	22 4	6 8	6 8	6 12	8 0	7 10	8 0	...	...	...	14 8	14 2	17 4	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	20 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	3 8 0	3 8 0	...	11 12	11 8	Abu	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Anadra	14 0	14 0	17 0	28 0	22 0	25 4	7 0	7 0	7 4	8 4	8 4	9 0	...	...	...	16 8	16 0	19 8	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	23 8	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4	12 4	12 4	Anadra	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	18 0	20 0½	22 0	21 0	25 0	28 0	...	...	...	12 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	21 0	24 0	†	‡	†	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 9 6	11 2	11 0	11 2½	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	Rajpootana.
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
Rajpootana	Meywar (Oodeypore)	15 10	16 0½	14 13½	22 10½	22 10½	21 14	7 13	9 6	10 8½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 8½	17 15½	17 3	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 8 R a. p. per md.	11 11½ R a. p. per md.	10 8½ R a. p. per md.	12 1½	11 5½	10 2½	Meywar (Oodeypore)	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	18 12	19 6	23 8	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	8 12	17 8	16 4	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33 12	32 8	37 8	...	...	...	3 8 6	...	...	11 4	9 6	10 10	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Partábgarh („)	16 11	16 9	19 11	...	...	...	10 0	8 12	10 0	13 2	11 4	12 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 11	19 9	25 0	...	...	...	2 7 0	...	...	16 4	16 4	15 8	Partábgarh („)	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Marwar (Jodhpore)	16 4	16 4	*	21 4	21 4	*	6 4	6 4	*	7 8	7 8	*	19 6	21 4	*	18 2	18 12	*	...	...	...	20 0	20 4	*	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 10	15 0	*	Marwar (Jodhpore)	Rajpootana.
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
Rajpootana	Bikaneer	10 10	10 7	13 10	...	...	...	3 7	3 6	3 4	5 12	6 4	6 8	...	...	...	18 4	16 4	23 0	...	...	...	17 8	17 4	20 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	Bikaneer	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Boondee	24 8	24 8	17 0	40 0	40 0	28 0	9 8	9 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 8	38 4	38 4	39 0	..	..	...	...	...	...	37 0	37 0	30 4	120 0	120 0	160 0	12 8	12 8	12 12	12 4	12 4	12 8	Boondee	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Kotah	24 0	24 0	17 6	25 0	25 0	14 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	13 4	32 0	32 0	28 8	16 0	12 8	15 0	...	...	...	32 0	30 0	26 8	240 0	240 0	240 0	13 8	13 8	12 12	13 0	13 0	12 4	Kotah	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Tonk	20 12	20 8	15 3	30 0	30 12	24 2	6 8	6 8	7 0	8 8	8 10	9 8	30 0	30 12	25 14	24 4	24 8	30 14	...	...	...	30 0	32 0	23 15	100 0	100 0	160 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 4	13 0	Tonk	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Jhallawar	19 0	18 13	15 11½	20 0	20 0	12 0	...	...	...	8 14	8 9	10 2	31 7	31 0½	30 7½	17 1	17 1	18 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 7½	10 7½	10 14	10 3½	10 3½	10 10	Jhallawar	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Shahpoora	20 2	19 14	17 8	28 12	30 0	21 8	11 0	11 0	12 4	14 4	14 4	14 5	24 0	24 4	18 0	19 0	14 0	18 0	...	...	...	23 0	23 4	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	14 0	13 14	14 3	13 10	14 0	14 0	Shahpoora	Rajpootana.
Rajpootana	Dholpur	16 7	16 9	18 13	28 6	28 10	30 0	10 2	10 2	10 2	11 4	10 11	13 6	23 6	23 7	27 6	20 2	20 5	26 10	...	...	...	24 8	24 8	27 4	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 3	12 10	12 10	12 6	Dholpur	Rajpootana.
Central India.	Indore	15 12	15 8	15 8	...	...	...	9 3	9 3	9 3	10 14	10 14	10 0	21 14	23 0	25 4	19 8	21 14	30 0	...	...	...	8 0	18 0	20 13	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	12 5	11 6	11 6	12 5	Indore	Central India.
Central India.	Gwalior	17 7	17 8	16 13	23 5	21 15	21 15	7 13	7 9	7 13	9 2	9 2	10 5	24 10	24 10	23 1	19 7	20 9	21	...	...	...	2. 15	22 12	23 1	109 8	127 12	91 4	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	11 4	Gwalior	Central India.
Central India.	Goona	26 0	25 0	21 8	20 0	20 0	20 0	9 0	8 0	9 0	10 0	8 8	9 8	40 0	40 0	27 0	20 0	20 0	16	...	...	...	35 0	32 0	25 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	13 0	12 0	11 8	Goona	Central India.
Central India.	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	26 9	25 4	20 0	47 5	41 4	33 10	7 0	7 0	8 0	18 12	19 4	22 0	36 6	38 12	35 0	29 8	30 0	28 0	...	...	...	35 8	36 2	32 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 4	12 8	11 4	11 5	11 12	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	Central India.

* Not received.

† Eight pies per bundle. ‡ Ten pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

J. WESTLAND,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENTS OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 1st AND 2nd HALVES OF OCTOBER 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 2150, 2151, 2224 AND 2225 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA", DATED 10th AND 24th NOVEMBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Rice.				Wheat.			Barley.			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowary), *Holcus Sorghum.*			Bajree (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagoo, Sawee, Cheena, Coralo, Murhwa, Nuchee, &c.), *Paspalum Kora, Milliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt.					
		Best sort.		Common.																							Wholesale.			Retail.		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.
		S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	1st half of October 1883.																															
	Secunderabad					15 15	16 5	17 12				3 22	3 25	14 27	0 27	0 ...	... 0	29	29	9 28 4	13 8 16 6	19 7 19 7	15 8 15 0	125 0	125 0	80 0	125 0	125 0	80 0	10 14	10 14	... ...
	Bolarum					18 3	18 2	19 7				6 26	6 29	0 33	0 33	... ...	0 33				19 7	19 7	0 18	116 14	116 14	80 0	116 14	116 14	80 0	10 12	10 12	... ...
	Chudderghat					13 8	13 8	13 8				0 23	0 26	0 24	0 32	... ...	0 34				15 8	15 0	0 18	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	9 8	9 8	... ...
	2nd half of October 1883.																															
	Secunderabad					15 8	15 17	17 12				3 22	3 25	14 27	0 27	... ...	... 0	29	29	9 28 4	14 7	15 7	14 0	125 0	125 4	80 0	125 0	125 4	80 0	10 14	10 14	... ...
	Bolarum					18 0	18 3	19 10				6 26	6 30	1 ...	0 32	... ...	0 34				19 7	20 7	17 0	116 14	116 14	80 0	116 14	116 14	80 0	10 12	10 12	... ...
	Chudderghat					14 0	13 8	14 0				0 24	0 28	0 25	8 24	8 24	8 25				15 0	14 0	15 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	9 8	9 8	8 8

J. WESTLAND,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Statistical Branch.)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION PROPOSED TO BE HELD AT SYDENHAM.

CIR. No. 89 Ex.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department,—dated Calcutta, the 11th December 1883.

MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS.

RESOLUTION.

Read the following despatch—

No. 185 (Statis. and Comce.), dated India Office, London, the 18th October 1883.

From—*Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India,*
To—*The Government of India.*

I enclose a copy of a letter from the Crystal Palace Company with reference to an International Exhibition proposed to be held at Sydenham next year.

Dated Crystal Palace, London, the 12th September 1883.

From—G. G. CLEATHER, ESQ., *Manager, Crystal Palace Company,*
To—*Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.*

I have the honour to inform you that the Directors of the Crystal Palace propose to hold an International Exhibition of arts, manufactures, and scientific, agricultural, and industrial products at the Crystal Palace next year, commencing about April 3rd and closing the end of October.

The Directors have appointed as Executive Commissioner Mr. G. C. Levy, C.M.G., a gentlemen who has had considerable experience in the management of Exhibitions.

The Directors venture to hope that Your Lordship will notify to the Governor General of India the fact that such an Exhibition is to be held, with the view to his bringing it under the notice of the various Governments.

As it is important that no time should be lost, I shall be obliged by your giving the subject of this letter your earliest consideration.

ORDER.—Ordered, that copy of the foregoing papers be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin, with a request that publicity may be given to them in the Local Government Gazettes.

Madras.	Punjab.
Bombay.	Central Provinces.
Bengal.	British Burma.
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	Assam.

Ordered also, that the papers be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India.*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS OF FASL RABI IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, 1883, UP TO 31st OCTOBER 1883.

Canal Division.	Water distributed during October, 1883. Depth in Canal at regulating gauge in feet. Full supply.	Depth in Canal at regulating gauge in feet. Actual average throughout.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Allotted discharge.	Gross Consumption, cubic feet per second. Actual average throughout.	Total area of irrigation during current fasl.	Total area for the corresponding period of last year.
Upper Ganges. Northern	10·00	9·20	950	146	2,413	607
Upper Ganges. Anúpshahr	7·00	5·99	1,100	855	14,123	2,072
Upper Ganges. Meerut	8·10	7·58	925	1,566	12,515	6,433
Upper Ganges. Bulandshahr	7·20	6·55	925	974	32,808	11,765
Upper Ganges. Aligarh	5·50	4·89	1,300	965	30,119	55,094
Lower Ganges. Narora	9·00	4·86	975	259	2,077	1,441
Lower Ganges. Mainpuri	7·00	3·30	600	330	4,358	4,049
Lower Ganges. Cawnpore	8·20	4·35	825	467	7,600	8,340
Lower Ganges. Etáwah	5·80	3·36	975	941	. .	265
Lower Ganges. Bhognipur	7·00	3·70	950	298	1,298	22
Total Upper and Lower Ganges Canals	. .	. .	9,525	6,801	107,311	70,088
Eastern Jumna Canal	4·74	4·62	1,300	1,288	6,957	5,394
Agra Canal	8·50	7·73	1,300	951	18,207	4,112
Rohilkhand	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Bijnor	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Dún	. .	. .	. .	. .	1,471	1,888
Jhánsi	. .	. .	. .	. .	74	8
Hamírpur	. .	. .	. .	. .	246	196
Total	. .	. .	. .	. .	134,266	81,686

Zila.	Land irrigated (approximate). Wheat.	Barley.	Gram.	Other food-grains.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Rain-fall. Total from 1st October, 1883, to end of the month.	Average of ten previous years for the same period.
Saháranpur	2,043	146	93	18	1,401	3,701	. .	·5
Muzaffarnagar	2,311	374	63	195	2,096	5,039	. .	·6
Meerut	18,583	2,045	62	2,105	458	23,253	. .	·8
Bulandshahr	23,3 2	2,421	3	3,604	7,163	36,503	. .	·7
Aligarh	,413	1,784	5	336	12,269	23,807	. .	·5
Muttra	246	233	515	947	3,181	5,122	. .	·9
Agra	1,463	153	370	181	2,393	4,560	. .	·4
Etah	2,590	1,031	3	779	3,132	7,535	. .	·7
Mainpuri	1,091	493	. .	661	3,071	5,316	. .	·5
Fatehgarh	57	1	. .	1,066	56	1,180	. .	·7
Etáwah	436	57	50	134	552	1,229	. .	·8
Cawnpore	1,643	3,011	. .	1,219	608	6,481	. .	. .
Delhi	. .	. .	. .	. .	82	82	. .	·8
Gurgaon	2,800	1,203	841	1,031	2,792	8,667	. .	1·0
Dehra Dún	1,248	5	. .	4	214	1,471	. .	·8
Bijnor	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	·4
Tarái	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	·8
Pilibhit	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	·8
Bareilly	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	1·0
Jhánsi	40	. .	30	4	. .	74	.3	·4
Hamírpur	. .	. .	. .	234	12	246	. .	·5
Total	67,276	12,957	2,035	12,518	39,480	134,266	. .	. .
Total for the same period last year	28,022	27,005	1,249	5,540	19,870	81,686	. .	. .
Increase	39,254	. .	786	6,978	19,610	52,580	. .	. .
Decrease	. .	14,048	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .

Remarks.

Supply— Cubic feet per second.

Entering head of Ganges Canal		5,998
,, Lower Ganges Canal		2,123
		8,121
Expended—		
Ganges Canal	4,506	
Lower Ganges Canal	2,295	
	6,801	
Escaped—		
Anúpshahr Branch, Ganges Canal	28	
Meerut Division, ditto	116	
Bulandshahr ditto ditto	5	
Narora ditto, Lower Ganges Canal	188	
Mainpuri ditto ditto	77	
Cawnpore ditto ditto	247	
Etawah ditto ditto	120	
Bhognipur ditto ditto	154	
Percolation from the Narora Division	336	
Ditto ditto Mainpuri ditto	49	
	1,320	
		8,121

Executive Engineer, Northern Division, Ganges Canal, reports that there has been only a small demand for "paleo," considering the previous drought. Previously irrigated sugar has taken water steadily.

Executive Engineer, Meerut Division, Ganges Canal, reports that the high supply in the canal has enabled much paleo to be done.

Executive Engineer, Bulandshahr Division, Ganges Canal, reports that the demand for water has been excessive, and that seed sown on unirrigated land is germinating badly.

Executive Engineer, Aligarh Division, Ganges Canal, reports that there was a strong demand throughout the month for rabi paleo and kharif crops that had been irrigated previously.

Executive Engineer, Narora Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the demand for "paleo" was, considering the dryness of the season, very slack, and that the cultivators have evidently given up hope of securing crops off 'dofasli' land this rabi Cotton and juar suffered from the dryness of the season in places, but it was a little too late for economical irrigation of them this month.

Executive Engineer, Mainpuri Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the Bewar Branch was opened on the 8th, and that there was a strong demand for kharif irrigation and rabi paleo, late kharif crops being cut and rabi crops being sown towards the end of the month.

Executive Engineer, Cawnpore Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that the decrease is in the wheat and barley crops, the early sowings of which have not as yet received their first water.

Executive Engineer, Etawah Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that water is being taken for kharif crops and for preparing land for rabi sowings.

Executive Engineer, Bhognipur Division, Lower Ganges Canal, reports that there was no rain during the month, that distributaries were re-opened after clearances about the 20th, and that there was a moderate demand for paleo.

Executive Engineer, Eastern Jumna Canal, reports that water has been in great demand. The area irrigated is far in excess of what is shown, but it will come into next month's return.

Executive Engineer, Agra Canal, reports that 'paleo' for rabi began at the end of September, and there has been universal demand for it throughout October. Cotton, juar, and sugarcane also took water up to the 20th October.

Executive Engineer, Rohilkhand Canals, reports that there was a demand throughout the month for late rice and rabi paleo, that the supply in all the rivers and canals is below the average and insufficient to meet the demand, and that about 3,000 acres of rabi paleo were done during the month in addition to the rice.

No remarks from the other divisions.

NOTE.—In addition to the above the following kharif irrigation was also effected, exclusive of that in the Etawah Division, which has not been reported:—

Canal.	Sugarcane.	Indigo.	Rice.	Cotton.	Other food grains.	Fodder crops.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
Bulandshahr Division, Ganges Canal	. . .	. . .	. . .	1,336	4,798	442	. . .	6,576
Narora Division, Lower Ganges Canal	3	. . .	. . .	80	82	. . .	23	188
Rohilkhand Canals	. . .	. . .	3,761	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	3,761
Bijnor Canals	60	. . .	68	. . .	. . .	. . .	68	196
Eastern Jumna Canals	457	401	216	1,500	4,803	843	—1,509	6,411
Total	520	401	4,045	2,916	9,683	1,285	—1,418	17,132

ALLAHABAD,
The 23rd November 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON THE AGRA CANAL FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 1883.

Nature of Traffic.	Agra Canal. Principal items of Traffic. Up. Mds.	Up. No.	Down. Mds.	Down. No.	Total up and down. Mds.	Total up and down. No.
Grains—						
Wheat	925	. . .	2,718	. . .	3,643	. . .
Gram	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Rice	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Paddy or dhán	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Bejhar or mixed grain	. . .	. . .	1,407	. . .	1,407	. . .
Dál—						
Urd	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Múng	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Arhar	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Masúri	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Juár	. . .	. . .	400	. . .	400	. . .
Bájra	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Maize or Indian-corn	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Barley	. . .	. . .	125	. . .	125	. . .
Total	925	. . .	4,650	. . .	5,575	. . .
Cotton	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Oil-seeds	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Salt	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Metals	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Building materials	4,975	. . .	1,900	. . .	6,875	. . .
Miscellaneous goods	. . .	. . .	3,600	. . .	3,600	. . .
Firewood	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Bamboos	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Timber—						
Poles and unsquared timber	. . .	. . .	1,400	. . .	1,400	. . .
Karis and squared timber	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Logs	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Miscellaneous timber	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Live-stock	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Grand Total	5,900	. . .	11,550	. . .	17,450	. . .
Total during corresponding period of last year	1,550	. . .	2,153	. . .	3,703	. . .
Increase	4,350	. . .	9,397	. . .	13,747	. . .
Decrease	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .

Remarks.

Particulars.	Agra Canal. 1883.	Agra Canal. 1882.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	641	136
Ton mileage	59,692	7,168
Value of goods	R 22,375	5,094
Number of passengers	. . . . .	. . . . .

ALLAHABAD,
The 9th November 1883.

W. P. V. HÖRST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh. P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC ON UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 1883.

	UPPER GANGES CANAL.				UPPER AND LOWER GANGES CANALS.				LOWER GANGES CANAL.				REMARKS.
	PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF LOCAL TRAFFIC.				PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF THROUGH TRAFFIC.				PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF LOCAL TRAFFIC.				
	Up.		Down.		Up.		Down.		Up.		Down.		
	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	Mds.	Nos.	
GRAINS.													
Wheat	700		6,463		981		6,818		7,163				
Gram					14,384								
Rice					45				4,005				
Paddy or dhán									45				
Bejhar or mixed grain			112				112		112				
Urd													
Dál { Múng	56				56				56				
Arhar	275				2,983				275				
Masúri					226								
					35								
Juár													
Bájra					342				342				
Maize or Indian-corn													
Barley			100				100		100				
TOTAL	1,031		6,675		19,052		7,030		7,706				
Cotton													
Oil-seeds			31		1,798		81		31				
Salt	154				154				154				
Metals	36		125		751		155		161				
Building materials	33,789		8,575		37,142		18,950		42,364				
Miscellaneous goods	339		634		1,402		6,804		973				
Firewood	2,100		1,800		3,270		1,800		3,900				
Bamboos	2,780	2,780	3,523	70,460	2,780	2,780	5,423	108,460	3,523	70,460			
Timber. { Poles and unsquared timber.			622	622			622		3,402	3,402			
Timber. { Karis and squared timber.	24	24	440	440	570	570	440	440	464	464	168	168	
Timber. { Logs			220	11			220	11	220	11			
Miscellaneous timber	800	1,600			346	692	56	112	800	1,600	332	166	
Live-stock													
GRAND TOTAL	41,053	4,404	22,645	71,533	19,052	1,256	2,512	6,054	63,698	75,937	8,957	358	38,500	12,557	38,112	21,514	
TOTAL DURING CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF LAST YEAR.	8,886	50	31,383	125,552	2,512	56	1,900	112	43,269	125,602	1,199	42	8,833			10,032	
INCREASE	32,167	4,354			16,540	1,200	612	5,942	20,429		7,758	316	3,724		38,112	11,482	
DECREASE			11,738	54,019						49,665							

Particulars.	Upper and Lower Ganges Canals (through).		Upper Ganges Canal (local).		Lower Ganges Canal (local).		Total, Upper and Lower Ganges Canals.	
	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.	1882.	1883.
Tonnage, including weight of timber and bamboos	867	998	1,590	2,340	368	1,788	2,825	4,128
Ton mileage	193,412	192,675	81,534	136,500	43,833	230,870	318,779	367,370
Value of goods	86,647	1,02,987	40,596	42,171	70,356	1,19,412	1,97,599	1,62,304
Number of passengers	15	15	149	62	46	118	195	67

W. P. V. HORST,
Offg. Asst. Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. & Oudh, P. W. D., Irrigation Branch.

ALLAHABAD,
The 8th November 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XLIV OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total length open.	Receipts for week ending 11th November 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total length open.	Receipts for week ending 10th November 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 11th November 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 10th November 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
24th Nov. 1883	Eastern Bengal	172	1,39,103	809	172	1,09,222	635	36,06,304	652	28,99,938	527	. . .	7,06,366
17th ditto	Oudh and Rohilkhand	547	99,599	182	547	94,585	173	29,93,033	170	34,50,924	197	4,57,891	. . .
17th ditto	Sind, Punjab & Delhi	676	2,57,063	380	735	1,86,170	253	57,77,043	266	69,27,096	293	11,50,053	. . .
24th ditto	Madras	861	1,17,724	137	861	1,02,250	119	43,34,606	157	40,64,644	148	. . .	2,69,962
24th ditto	South Indian	655	66,103	101	655	68,581	105	23,79,109	113	24,74,107	118	94,998	. . .
24th ditto	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	6,36,997	437	1,458	5,85,105	401	1,91,87,332	412	1,92,28,912	414	41,580	. . .
17th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	1,64,588	357	461	1,85,969	403	57,49,594	388	66,04,771	448	8,55,177	. . .
	TOTAL	4,830	14,81,177	307	4,889	13,31,882	272	4,40,27,021	284	4,56,50,392	292	16,23,371	. . .
	State.												
1st Dec. 1883	East Indian	1,507	10,34,467	686	1,509	8,93,406	592	2,66,97,820	551	3,02,66,392	627	35,68,572	. . .
24th Nov. 1883	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	8,738	265	56	4,580	82	1,26,867	127	1,78,704	103	51,837	. . .
24th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,276	47	27	1,158	42	42,241	49	49,335	57	7,094	. . .
24th ditto	Northern Bengal	230	51,721	225	239	5,244	219	12,16,147	164	12,86,646	171	70,499	. . .
24th ditto	Tirhoot	85	11,881	140	166	16,296	98	3,83,607	149	5,25,831	100	1,42,224	. . .
20th Oct. 1883	Patna-Gya	57	7,197	126	. .	. . .	.	2,82,203	170	2,53,257	153	. . .	28,946
17th Nov. 1883	Cawnpore-Achnera	138	12,605	91	138	12,368	89	3,21,351	73	3,32,285	75	10,934	. . .
24th ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghasipur	12	901	75	12	697	57	27,339	71	27,509	72	170	. . .
24th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,116	1,99,311	179	1,117	2,44,750	219	60,53,566	169	72,38,813	203	11,85,247	. . .
24th ditto	Wardha Coal	45	12,156	270	45	15,035	334	3,20,482	222	4,14,448	288	93,966	. . .
24th ditto	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	6,299	64	149	14,082	95	2,99,385	95	7,01,514	147	4,02,129	. . .
17th ditto	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	31,429	195	161	30,421	189	8,53,421	165	8,26,334	160	. . .	27,087
24th ditto	Sindia	75	6,929	92	75	7,726	103	1,89,450	78	1,95,571	81	6,121	. . .
17th ditto	Punjab Northern	419	65,713	157	421	59,714	142	17,98,496	135	19,03,378	141	1,04,882	. . .
17th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	1,73,051	262	660	71,463	108	28,12,541	132	43,14,404	204	15,01,863	. .
24th ditto	Kaunia-Dhurla	32	1,749	55	32	2,867	90	49,329	48	65,372	64	16,043	. . .
24th ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	. .	. . .	.	89	5,220	59	. . .	. .	2,40,318	84	2,40,318	. . .
	TOTAL	3,188	5,90,956	185	3,387	5,38,807	159	1,47,75,425	145	1,85,53,719	169	37,78,294	. . .
	Assisted Company.												
24th Nov. 1883	Bengal Central	21	805	38	35	2,332	67	2,784	34	68,088	61	65,304	. . .
	Native States.												
17th ditto	Bhavnagar-Gondal	193	8,585	45	193	11,785	61	5,16,664	83	5,65,294	93	48,630	. . .
24th ditto	Nizam's	121	13,904	115	121	15,404	127	5,19,267	134	4,88,518	126	. . .	30,749
17th ditto	Mysore	86	5,959	69	86	5,251	61	1,93,152	70	1,94,526	71	1,374	. . .
24th ditto	Jodhpore	19	612	32	19	830	44	10,924	28	23,627	30	12,703	. . .
	TOTAL	419	29,060	69	419	33,270	77	12,40,007	94	12,71,965	95	31,958	. . .
	GRAND TOTAL	9,965	31,36,465	315	10,239	27,99,697	273	8,67,43,057	272	9,58,10,556	291	90,67,499	. . .
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	4,48,18,612	141	4,86,72,583	148	. . .	. . .
	NET RECEIPTS	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	4,18,44,445	131	4,71,38,021	143	52,93,579	. . .

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under Secretary.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 14th December 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASONS AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 11th DECEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—There has been slight rain in three districts of the Madras Presidency, where the standing crops are good. In the Bombay Presidency some injury has been caused in one district by past excessive rain and in two others by blight, but on the whole the *rabi* crops promise well.

In the Berars and Hyderabad cotton-picking is in progress, and the *rabi* crops are satisfactory. In Central India and Rajputana prospects continue good, but rain is much wanted in one of the Rajputana States, and grass is scarce.

In the Punjab *rabi* sowings are still going on, and prospects are favourable. Rain is generally needed in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh for the *rabi* crops, but those on irrigated lands are doing well. In the Central Provinces the crops are generally promising, though some injury has occurred from frost.

Rain has fallen throughout the greater part of Bengal and Assam, the heaviest falls being reported from Chittagong and Cachar. It has greatly benefited the *rabi* crops in Bengal which were very backward. More rain is needed in western districts, particularly in the Patna Division where none fell. Harvesting of rice is in progress, and, except in Eastern Bengal, and Orissa, the yield will probably be very poor.

An unusually heavy fall of rain occurred in Akyab, and rain has also fallen in three other districts of British Burma. The rice crop which is now being reaped has suffered from salt water, floods and other causes, but the outturn on the whole is expected to be good.

Fever, small-pox, and cholera exist in several districts, but are not epidemic.

Prices are falling in the Punjab.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects
Madras (Dec. 12th)—		
Bellary		Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy and *raqi*, yield average, other dry grains, pulse, and oil seed below average; seven deaths from cholera.
Kurnool		Standing crops good; harvest paddy, yield above average.
Ganjam	1·42 (average of 15 stations).	Paddy harvest commenced; fever and small-pox slight in one taluk.
Kistna	·3 (average of 1 station).	Standing crops good; harvest dry paddy and *cholum*, yield below average; fever and small-pox prevalent, cattle-disease in parts.
Chingleput (Madras)		Standing crops good; harvest *kar* paddy and dry grains, yield below average; twenty-two deaths from cholera.
Coimbatore		Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, *cholum*, *ragi*, and *cumbu*, yield average; 128 deaths from cholera, fever and cattle-disease in parts.
Tanjore	·20 (average of 11 stations).	Standing crops generally good; rain wanted in parts of one taluk; harvest paddy, *cholum*, and *ragi*, yield below average; 223 deaths from cholera.
Madura		Standing crops fair; harvest dry crops, yield about average; cholera decreasing in Madura town, elsewhere slight.
Malabar		Second crop in good condition, except in two taluks; small-pox, fever, and cattle-disease slight.
Travancore		Standing crops good; yield of first crop average; cholera slight. *General Remarks.*—General prospects good.
Bombay—(Dec. 12th)—		
Kurrachee		River at Kotri on 6th 5 feet 4 inches, against 4 feet 6 inches on corresponding date last year; fever generally prevalent; cattle-disease in 5 talukas; loss of 60 buffaloes in Sujawal; 2 fresh cases of small pox in Kurrachee, one imported from Mekran and the other from Bombay; disease prevalent in 5 villages; in districts 8 fresh cases, 2 deaths, 14 remaining sick; *rabi* crops coming on; prices—wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 28 and 30, in Kotri 36 and 34, in Tatta 24, 28 and 36, and in Jati 20 and 32 lbs. per rupee respectively.
Hyderabad		Weather seasonable; small-pox in mild type in 5, fever in 11, and cattle-disease in 4 talukas; wheat 25½, *bajri* 25½, *jowari* 40, red rice 24, and white rice 20 pounds per rupee.
Ahmedabad		Standing crops healthy; slight fever in Dholka, Viramgaum, and Sanaud; small-pox in Gogo; *bajri* 29¾ and wheat 26¼ pounds per rupee.
Baroda		Cholera disappeared from Naosari division; fever in some parts of Naosari, Baroda, and Kadi divisions; cotton and sugarcane in good condition; *rabi* sowing completed; harvesting of *kharif* crops almost finished; prices—*bajri* 38, rice 23 and 24 pounds per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Surat		*Rabi* crops healthy; fever generally prevails in almost all talukas; cholera in Chikli, 15 cases, 9 deaths; *jowari* 40 and *nagli* 48 pounds per rupee.
Nasik		*Kharif* crops nearly reaped; young *rabi* crops healthy; public health good; no cattle-disease; *bajri* 31, wheat 33, and rice 23 pounds per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay)		Abnormal temperature 6° to 2° cool; vapour in air defective; wind normal.
Poona		*Rabi* crops thriving; prices—*bajri* 41 and *jowari* 52; in Poona *bajri* 35 and *jowari* 48 pounds per rupee.
Ahmednagar		*Rabi* sowing finished in parts; *bajri*—maximum 54 pounds in Jamkhed, minimum 39 in Sangamner; *jowari*—maximum 72 in Jamkhed, minimum 48 in Sangamner.
Sholapore		Cholera in Malsiras taluka, 3 cases, 1 fatal; *rabi* crops, especially *jowari*, have suffered from the late excessive rains; *jowari* 59 and *bajri* 55 pounds per rupee.
Dharwar		Reaping of rice crop completed, that of other early crops in progress; cotton suffering from blight in Ron; other crops good; cholera decreasing, one case fatal; fever in 5 and cattle-disease in one taluka; rice 25 to 41 and *jowari* 52 to 88 pounds per rupee.
Kanara		Much fever in Halyal and Mundgod; small-pox in Kumpta, Hanawar, and Siddapur; rice harvest nearly completed above ghat; common rice in Karwar 12, in district average 17 seers per rupee.
Rajkot		General health good; weather cold; *bajri* 29 and *jowari* 35 pounds per rupee. *General Remarks.*—River low in Sind; *rabi* crops in Sholapur injured by late excessive rain; cotton and *jowari* suffering from blight in parts of Dharwar and Kaladgi; *rabi* prospects otherwise good; fever, cholera, cattle-disease, and small-pox in several districts.
Bengal—(Dec. 13th)		
Chittagong	8·45	Heavy rain has partly damaged the standing crop, and the outturn will be indifferent; prices gradually rising; general health good.
Dacca	1·59	Harvesting of *amun* paddy nearly completed; *roachia* paddy being cut; prospects of winter crops good.
24-Pergunnahs	3·34	Prospects of crops continue unfavourable; rain has done some injury to the paddy already cut, but not removed from the field, but has done good to *rabi* crops; average yield of the rice harvest estimated at from 8 to 10 annas; price of common rice 16 seers per rupee; public health fair, though cases of cholera and fever reported from almost all parts of the district.
Moorshedabad	1·08	Weather seasonable; the rain has come too late to benefit the *amun* rice, the prospects of which are unchanged; it has, however, much improved the condition of the *rabi* crops; prices stationary; fever still prevalent in the north of the district.
Rajshahye	1·09	Crops benefited by rain, but mustard has suffered slightly; price of rice reported easier in Nowgong.
Burdwan	2·2 Cutwa . 0·63 Culna . 1·76 Raneegunge 0·54	Rain has improved prospects of *rabi* crops; fever prevalent in the sudder, elsewhere public health fair.
Rungpore	0·32	Weather seasonable; *amun* is being reaped; *rabi* crops benefited by rain; fever prevalent.
Bhagulpore	0·26	Prospects of *aghani* rice not good; average expected yield in Banka 6 annas, in the sudder sub-division from 4 to 8 annas, except in thana Colgong, where the outturn will be only 2 annas; in Mudehpoorah from 6 to 8 annas; prospects of *rabi* crops not absolutely bad, but more rain is much needed for them; price of rice 14 seers per rupee.
Purneah	0·10	On the 5th; prospects of both late rice and winter crops unfavourable; late rice is being harvested; average yield estimated at from 6 to 8 annas; cultivation of winter crops retarded, owing to want of moisture; common rice selling at 14 seers per rupee; public health improving.
Patna	*Nil*	*Rabi* crops germinating well, but rain is much wanted; reaping of paddy still going on; public health good.
Durbhanga	*Nil*	Rice crop is being harvested with a poor outturn; *rabi* suffering from want of rain; prices slightly falling; fever very prevalent.
Hazareebagh	0·44	Weather bright and cold; more rain would benefit the pulses and oilseeds to a great extent; small-pox in the sudder station; public health generally good.
Cuttack	0·96	Weather cold; *sarad* rice on high lands is being cut, and on low lands it is ripening; *rabi* crops doing well; price of rice almost unchanged; public health generally good. *General Remarks.*—More or less rain fell throughout the provinces during the week, except in Darjeeling and Julpigoree, and in the Patna division and parts of the Bhagalpur division; the rain has been very beneficial to the *rabi* crops; in Backergunge, it is said that

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
		the rain, accompanied by wind, has done considerable damage by making the paddy fall and breeding insects; the paddy harvest is in progress, and will generally yield a very poor crop, except in Eastern Bengal and Orissa where the outturn is expected to be fair; fever is still reported to be prevalent in several districts.
N.-W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares .(Dec. 11th)	No rain	Peas and mustard have flowered and gram has budded; prospects fair; no sickness of men or cattle; prices of food-grains have risen as importations into the city from surrounding parts have slackened.
Allaha'ad .(„ 12th)	No rain	Crops on dry tracts want rain; health good; prices slightly fallen.
Gorakhpore .(„ 9th)	No rain	Irrigation actively carried on; small-pox and fever in north; prices stationary.
Jhansi .(„ 10th)	No rain	Harvesting of *kharif* still in progress; *rabi* crops doing well; winter rains much needed; prices almost stationary; health of people and cattle good.
Agra .(„ 11th)	No rain	*Rabi* being irrigated, but rain much needed; health good; prices steady.
Bareilly .(„ „)		Rain much needed; a slight rise in prices of *juar* and rice; health of people and cattle satisfactory.
Meerut .(„ „)	No rain	Rain wanted for unirrigated crops; health good; supplies sufficient and prices steady.
Kumaun .(„ „)		Weather quite fair; wheat springing up; general health good; cattle-disease continues; prices unchanged.
Lucknow .(„ „)		Weather clear; no rain; *rabi* and poppy crops are being watered; condition of people and cattle good; markets well supplied; prices unchanged.
Partabgarh .(„ „)		*Rabi* crops fairly good; barley and wheat being irrigated; prices almost stationary; fever and small-pox reported from a few villages in Kunda tahsil, health otherwise good.
Sitapur .(„ „)		Rain much wanted throughout the district; general health good.
Fyzabad .(„ „)	No rain	Irrigation of *rabi* crops going on; prospects fair; public health good; condition of cattle normal.
Rae Bareilly („ 10th)	No rain	*Rabi* crops on irrigated land look well; rain much needed; general health fair; markets well stocked; prices steady.
Cawnpore .(„ 11th)		Weather clear and cold; young *rabi* crops on irrigated land flourishing, but rain much wanted; small-pox in 4 parganas, otherwise health of the people good; prices slightly cheaper.
Farukhabad („ „)		Weather seasonable; sky clear; slight fever and small-pox here and there; prospects of crops hopeful.
		General Remarks.—No rain has fallen, it is generally needed; the markets are sufficiently supplied, and prices in most districts steady; the public health and condition of cattle are on the whole good, though slight fever and small-pox continue in several districts, and cattle-disease is still reported in Kumaun.
Punjab—(Dec. 12th)—		
Delhi		Health good; slight fall in prices.
Hissar		Health good; prices steady.
Umballa		Health and *rabi* prospects good; prices stationary.
Jullundur		Health good; prices falling.
Lahore		Health good and crop prospects good; prices steady.
Ferozepur		Health good; *rabi* sowings in progress; fall in prices of barley, grain and *jowar*; slight rise in price of wheat.
Sialkot		Health and harvest prospects good; prices stationary.
Rawalpindi		Health good and *rabi* prospects good; prices falling.
Peshawar		Small-pox still prevalent; prices falling.
Mooltan		Health good; *rabi* sowings nearly completed; prices steady.
Dera Ismail Khan		Health and harvest prospects good; prices steady.
Amritsar		Health good; prices falling.
		General Remarks.—No rain during the week; small-pox is still prevalent in Peshawar; health elsewhere is good; *rabi* sowings nearly completed.
Central Provinces—		
Nagpur .(Dec. 13th)		Weather clear and cold; prospects continue favourable; rice, *juari*, and cotton being gathered; fever declining; prices of *juari* falling.
Jubbulpore .(„ „)		Weather clear and cold; reaping continues, outturn anticipated below average; cotton picking in progress; *rabi* sowings almost completed; prices stationary; health good.
Saugor .(„ 11th)		Weather very cold; *kharif* harvest nearly finished; *rabi* prospects excellent; slight damage caused by frost; health good; prices stationary.
Seoni .(„ 13th)		Weather cool; rice threshing in progress; *tur* damaged by frost; fever prevalent; wheat 23½ seers, and rice 18 seers per rupee.
Hoshangabad („ „)		Weather clear and cold; prospects good; cotton picking in progress; fever prevalent; wheat 18 seers, *juari* 24 seers, and rice 10 seers per rupee.
Raipur .(„ „)		Weather clear and chilly; *kharif* crops almost harvested; *rabi* prospects favourable; public health good; prices rising; common rice 27½ seers, and wheat 25½ seers per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central Provs.—*contd.*		
Sambalpur .(Dec. 8th)	·90	Weather clear and cold; inferior rices being threshed, and found to be light in grain; health good; common rice 38½ seers per rupee.
Khandwa .(„ 13th)		Weather cold; *rabi* sowings completed; prospects good; fever prevalent; prices stationary.
		General Remarks.—Weather clear and cold; threshing is in progress; *rabi* prospects generally good; fever in some districts.
British Burma— (Dec. 8th)		
Akyab . . .	7·43	Total rainfall 190·58; public health good; 15 deaths of cattle; 112 acres in Naaf damaged by drought and 200 acres in Writtoung east, also 30 acres from inundation of salt water; no reports yet received of damage on account of late rains.
Rangoon . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 84·23; 3 deaths from small-pox, otherwise public health good; paddy no supplies; prices nominal.
Bassein . . .	0·28	Total rainfall 106·32; public health good; 76 deaths of cattle; land revenue remissions largely applied for in Shegwin and Kangyidaung townships; on the whole a crop equal to last year's cannot be anticipated; price of paddy Rs. 100 to 125 per 100 baskets.
Prome . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 53·48; public health and health of cattle good; only 6 deaths of latter reported; crops reported in good condition; harvest commenced on 26th November; price of paddy Rs. 85 per 100 baskets.
Kyoukphyu . . .	. . . .	District report not yet received.
Sandoway . . .	0·42	Total rainfall 222·86; 2 deaths from cholera, otherwise public health good; agricultural prospects same as last week; reaping later sowings commenced.
Hanthawaddy . .	. . . .	Public health and health of cattle good; some damage from inundation of salt water in Tamanaing township; one-seventh of crop destroyed by floods in Hmawbi township; some damage also in Hlaing township; price of paddy from Rs. 95 to 105 per 100 baskets.
Pegu (Dec. 7th) . .	3·75	Total rainfall 128·34; small-pox and measles reported in two circles, otherwise public health good; health of cattle generally good; prospects of crops good; some slight damage by insects reported; late rains have improved paddy in high lands; reaping commenced in some circles; price of paddy Rs. 120 per 100 baskets.
„ („ 8th) . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 128·34; small-pox and measles still prevailing to a limited extent, otherwise public health good; cattle healthy; paddy being reaped; price of paddy Rs. 90 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Tharrawaddy . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 106·27; public health good; cattle healthy; paddy area 229,798 acres or an increase of 51,176, not 33,624 acres as reported last week, over last year's area; 230 acres reported as destroyed by drought and flood in the Minhla and Gyobingouk townships; condition of reaping crop good; about 7,884 acres reaped in Samgre township; price of paddy Rs. 95 to Rs. 125 per 100 baskets.
Thonegwa . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 94·64; public health good; 12 deaths of cattle; slight damage to crops by insects in Shweyloung township, otherwise agricultural prospects good; price of paddy Rs. 90 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Henzada . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 86·83; public health and health of cattle good; paddy estimated destroyed by flooding of hill stream, 4,200 acres in Okpo, 2,000 in Kanaung, and 4,037 in Kyangin townships; reaping progressing; crops promise well where not destroyed by floods.
Thayetmyo . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 48·65; public health good; reaping begun; price of paddy Rs. 110 per 100 baskets.
Shweygyin . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 139·68; public health and health of cattle good; harvesting commenced in high lands; price of paddy Rs. 90 per 100 baskets.
Amherst (Moulmein) .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 166·28; public health and health of cattle good; reaping progressing; in Moulmein town public health and health of cattle good; reaping of *kankyi* paddy commenced on 4th instant, nearly 20 acres of *kankyi* and 200 acres of *shangli* and *yahaing* paddy reaped, outturn about 4,400 baskets; price of paddy Rs. 80 to 90 per 100 baskets.
Tenasserim . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 79·88; public health good; prospects of crops good.
Tavoy . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 195·44; public health and health of cattle good; prospect of crops very good; reaping of early paddy completed; price of paddy Rs. 50 to 65 per 100 baskets.
Mergui . . .	. . . .	No report received.
		General Remarks.—Health of man and beast good; no rain during week, except in Akyab where an unusually heavy fall took place for this season of the year; considerable damage has been done in various districts by inundations of salt water, floods, drought and here and there by insects; but these causes of damage are always more or less present, and cannot materially affect the general character of this year's crop compared with the crop of last year; Bassein is the only district which was suffered seriously from the unprecedentedly heavy rain of the middle of November; on the whole the prospects of the crops continue good; reaping has begun in several districts.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Assam—(Dec. 12th)		
Gauhati	0·75	Weather seasonable; mornings and nights foggy; reaping of *sali* crops in progress; sowing of mustard nearly finished; public health fair.
Sylhet	2·57	Unusual heavy rain has done harm to rice crops; prospects not favourable; public health good.
Cachar	7·21	Weather cold; reaping of *sali* crops continues; common rice 15 seers per rupee; general health good.
Dibrugarh	0·21	Weather cold; harvesting *sali dhan*; cholera abating.
Mysore and Coorg—		
Bangalore (Dec. 12th)	*Nil*	Standing crops in good condition; harvesting of *ragi* continues; prospects of season favourable; public health good; prices stationary.
Mysore		No report received.
Mercara (Dec. 12th)	*Nil*	Paddy harvest commencing, yield likely to be good; coffee crop half picked, yield satisfactory; much difficulty experienced in obtaining carriage for the crop to the coast, cart hire demanded high.
Berar & Hyderabad—		
Amraoti (Dec. 12th)		Weather cool; cotton gathering and *kharif* harvest progressing; *rabi* crops good; wheat 16 and *jowari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola		Cotton picking in hand; *rabi* crops in good condition.
Hyderabad (Dec. 12th)	*Nil*	Sowing of *rabi* and *abi* crops continues; public health generally good, but cholera prevails in one taluka; prices—wheat 15¼, coarse rice 12½, white *juar* 24½, yellow *juar* 29, and *tur* 23¼ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States—		
Indore (Dec. 12th)	*Nil*	Health good; weather seasonable; prices same as last week.
Morar (Gwalior)	*Nil*	Health good; weather seasonable; prices stationary.
Sutna	*Nil*	Health good.
Neemuch		Public health and agricultural prospects good; prices of grain rising.
Goona		Health and prospects good.
Agar	*Nil*	Health and prospects good.
Sehore	*Nil*	Weather clear; prospects and health good.
Nowgong	*Nil*	Weather clear; health good; prices steady.
Rajputana—		
Abu (Dec. 12th)		Cold pretty severe; weather seasonable.
Sirohee („ 9th)		Tanks and wells fair; health and crop prospects good; weather seasonable.
Marwar („ 7th)		Three months' water in Jodhpur city; tanks and wells almost full; health good; *kharif* gathered; *rabi* crops flourishing; cold intense; prices stationary.
Harowtee („ 8th)		Crops fair, but rain urgently needed; weather clear; crops and health good; some small-pox; prices steady; grass supply scanty.
Jhallawar („ 9th)		Weather seasonable; *rabi* crops good; some fever.
Ajmere („ 11th)	*Nil*	Few cases of cattle-disease reported from Merwara.
Jeypore („ „)	*Nil*	Weather seasonable; prospects fair; prices steady; health good.
Ulwur („ „)		*Rabi* sowings continue; prices steady; health good.

E. C. BUCK,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House on Friday, the 7th December, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.
The Hon'ble J. Gibbs, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir A. Colvin, K.C.M.G.
The Hon'ble Rájá Siva Prasád, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Durgá Charan Láhá.
The Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds.
The Hon'ble H. S. Thomas.
The Hon'ble G. H. P. Evans.
The Hon'ble Kristodás Pál, Rai Bahádur, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble T. M. Gibbon, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble R. Miller.
The Hon'ble Amír Alí.

NEW MEMBERS.

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBON, the Hon'ble MR. MILLER and the Hon'ble MR. AMÍR ALÍ took their seats as Additional Members.

BENGAL REGULATION XIX OF 1810 REPEAL BILL

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved for leave to introduce a Bill to repeal Bengal Regulation XIX of 1810 within the territories administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces. He said:—

"The object of this Bill, which has been prepared on the recommendation of the Local Government, is to repeal Bengal Regulation XIX of 1810 (*for the due appropriation of the rents and produce of lands granted for the support of mosques, Hindú temples, colleges, and other purposes; for the maintenance and repair of bridges, saráís, kattras, and other public buildings; and for the custody and disposal of nazúl property or escheats*) within the territories administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces. So far as the Regulation vests the superintendence of saráís in the Board of Revenue, it is at variance with the existing practice, as saráís are now managed in the North-Western Provinces entirely by the executive authorities under the immediate orders of the Government, and the Local Government reports that the other provisions of the Regulation, which provide for the management of lands granted as charitable and educational endowments and the superintendence of escheats, are not required for the territories under its administration.

"Though the Regulation, in so far as it relates to saráís, is obsolete also in the Lower Provinces, it is still in active operation in those Provinces with regard to a few trusts and small endowments administered by the Board of Revenue, and still governs the procedure there with regard to escheats. Under these circumstances, it has been considered best to confine the Bill to the North-

Western Provinces and to leave it to the Bengal Legislature to legislate for the Lower Provinces if it thinks necessary."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

BURMA COURTS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Burma Courts Act, 1875. He said:—

"The object of this Bill is to make certain amendments in the Burma Courts Act, 1875 (XVII of 1875), which experience has shown to be required.

"In the Act as it at present stands, the presiding officers of the Courts of the lowest grades are termed Extra Assistant Commissioners of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd class respectively. In 1882, the Subordinate Executive and Judicial Service in British Burma was reorganized, and the designations of the service were changed. The term Extra Assistant Commissioner was restricted to Extra Assistant Commissioners of the 1st and 2nd classes under the old system; and Extra Assistant Commissioners of the 3rd class were styled Myo-ôks. The result is that the present designations of the Subordinate Judicial Officers do not correspond with the designations given to the Subordinate Civil Courts by the Act. This difficulty has hitherto been ignored. Now, however, the Judicial Commissioner, Mr. Jardine, is of opinion that, as the law stands, the nomenclature used in the Courts Act should be adhered to as regards all officers of the Subordinate Judicial Service appointed to preside in Civil Courts. He advises the Chief Commissioner that questions of jurisdiction may arise and may cause inconvenience and loss to suitors; and he reports that a case of the kind has already occurred. This being the view taken by the Judge of the highest Appellate Court, the Chief Commissioner has addressed the Government of India on the subject. He wishes that all doubt on the point should be removed by substituting the words 'Extra Assistant Commissioner' for the words 'Extra Assistant Commissioner of the 1st and 2nd class,' and the word 'Myo-ôk' for the words 'Extra Assistant Commissioner of the 3rd class,' wherever they occur in the Courts Act. With this view section 3 of the Bill has been drafted. It gives the amendments made by the section retrospective effect from the 1st April, 1882, the date of the reorganization of the Subordinate Service.

"Further difficulties have also arisen from the provisions of sections 8 and 9 of the Act. Under recent orders, the Chief Commissioner has power to create additional Myo-ôkships; but, in consequence of the provisions of section 8 of the Act, additional Myo-ôks appointed by the Chief Commissioner can do no civil work unless the sanction of the Government of India is first obtained to the creation of an additional Civil Court. Again, the duties performed by Extra Assistant Commissioners and those performed by Myo-ôks are practically of the same description. The exigencies of the public service often render necessary the appointment of a Myo-ôk to succeed an Extra Assistant Commissioner or of an Extra Assistant Commissioner to succeed a Myo-ôk in the charge of a township; and the result is that an officer who should preside in a Court of grade (*a*) is appointed to preside in a Court which has hitherto been a Court of grade (*b*), or *vice versâ*. Such changes have from time to time been made by the Chief Commissioner. The Judicial Commissioner is of opinion that, having regard to the provisions of sections 8 and 9 of the Act, such an interchange cannot legally be effected except by, or with the previous sanction of, the Governor General in Council. The inconvenience which would arise if it were held to be necessary to submit a reference to the Government of India on every occasion such as those described is apparent. The administration of the province, and particularly the administration of civil justice, would be seriously hampered. Sections 4 and 5 of the Bill therefore re-enact sections 8 and 9 of the Act in such a form that the Local Government is empowered to vary the number of Courts of grades (*a*) and (*b*), and to vary the local limits of the jurisdiction of these Courts without the previous sanction of the Government of India, and section 6 legalizes the variations in the numbers, and

limits of the local jurisdictions, of these Courts, which have heretofore from time to time been made by the Chief Commissioner instead of by the Governor General in Council or by the Chief Commissioner without the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council.

"The Chief Commissioner states that the Deputy Commissioners in certain districts are overburdened by the pressure of civil appellate duties to the detriment of their executive work, and that, in order to increase their efficiency as executive officers, it is necessary to relieve them of some portion of their appellate jurisdiction. With this object, sections 7 and 8 of the Bill have been prepared. The latter section, which is based on the recommendation of the Chief Commissioner, gives him authority to invest an Assistant Commissioner with power to hear certain civil appeals which would ordinarily be heard by the Deputy Commissioner. The former section empowers the Chief Commissioner to transfer to Commissioners of Divisions all or any part of the appellate jurisdiction exercisable under the Act by Deputy Commissioners. It seems desirable to provide this second and additional mode of affording the proposed relief to Deputy Commissioners, as it is possible that the result of transferring civil appellate work from the Deputy Commissioner to the Assistant Commissioner may not always prove satisfactory.

"Lastly, under section 38 of the Act, the Chief Commissioner is only empowered to appoint and remove the presiding officers of the Court of the Extra Assistant Commissioner of the 3rd class (now styled the Myo-ôk). The presiding officers of all the other Courts under the Act must be appointed by the Governor General in Council. These provisions have been found to cause practical inconvenience, and the Government of India see no reason why the Chief Commissioner should not have, in regard to civil jurisdiction, like powers to those which the Criminal Procedure Code gives him in regard to criminal jurisdiction. Accordingly, section 9 of the Bill amends section 38 of the Act and confers power on the Chief Commissioner to appoint and remove the presiding officers of all the Courts mentioned in section 6 of the Act with the exception of the Court of the Judicial Commissioner; the power to appoint the presiding officer of that Court being reserved to the Governor General in Council."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

INDIAN EMIGRATION BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to the Emigration of Natives of India.

RANGOON TRAMWAYS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to authorize the making, and to regulate the working, of Street Tramways in Rangoon.

BENGAL TENANCY BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY moved that the Hon'ble Mr. Amír Alí be added to the Select Committee on the Bill to amend and consolidate certain enactments relating to the law of Landlord and Tenant within the territories under the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE AMENDMENT BILL.

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said:—

"I would now ask the members of this Council to remain for a short time, while I make a statement upon the important subject of the Bill, which is now before the Council, for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code. The

course which I am taking upon this occasion is, no doubt, not provided for by the Rules of Business of this Council, but it is not without precedent, and it cannot be doubted that it is advantageous, upon special occasions, that the Viceroy should reserve to himself the right to make, upon behalf of the Government, a statement in this Council, although no question is technically before it, in reference to a matter of great public interest. And I am the more justified, as it seems to me, in taking this somewhat unusual course, because I have observed that complaints have been made in many quarters of the silence of the Government during the last two months upon the question to which I am about to refer, and that it has been said that they ought, before this, to have given some explanation to the public of the steps which they had been taking in regard to this matter. I, and I am sure all my colleagues, greatly regret that it should have been thought by any one that the Government of India have in any respect acted with a want of consideration for the feelings of the opponents of this measure, or with any want of courtesy to those who have addressed representations to the Government upon the subject. I can truly say that nothing could be further from our intention than any such want of courtesy or of consideration, and I hope I may be pardoned for saying that nothing could be further from my personal character and disposition than to treat those who are opposed to me on any public measure with any want of consideration or courtesy.

"The statement which I am now about to make will show, as it seems to me, conclusively, that this is the case in regard to the complaint of which I have just spoken, because that statement will establish clearly that the Government were not, until within the last few days, in a position to make any public declaration whatever on any part of their proceedings in reference to this matter. And even now what I have to say may be looked upon as somewhat premature, and must, in some respects, be incomplete, because in the absence of two important members of the Executive Council, who have not yet arrived in Calcutta,—His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and General Wilson, without whose presence various matters connected with the measure itself, and the mode of proceeding in regard to it, ought not to be determined by the Government,—I am not yet, on some points, in a position to say more than that these points have still to be considered by the Executive Council. But, nevertheless, under the circumstances to which I have adverted, I have thought it right not to delay to state to this Council, at its first meeting here in Calcutta, what has been the action of the Government in regard to this Bill since the conclusion of the sittings of the Legislative Council in this city last March. But as there is no question before the Council at this moment, and as, therefore, this is not the occasion for discussion, I feel bound to abstain from anything like controversy or even argument, and to confine myself for the present as much as possible to a bare statement of facts.

"It will be in the recollection of all the members of this Council that the last step which was taken with respect to this Bill, on the 9th of March last, was to order that it should be referred, in the usual manner, to the Local Governments for their consideration and report. That reference was duly made, and in course of time the opinions of the Local Governments began to come in. As they came in, they were, of course, each of them carefully examined by the members of the Government. The last of these reports of Local Governments reached Simla on the 24th of July, and the Government then lost no time in carefully and deliberately considering the course which they thought ought to be pursued with respect to this measure, after the examination of the various opinions which had been offered upon it; and they were in a position to address the Secretary of State upon the subject on the 10th of August last.

"I do not think that any one will say, looking to the great importance of this question, and the necessity of proceeding with all due deliberation in regard to it, that any time was lost by the Government, if, having received the last of the opinions of Local Governments on the 24th July, they were ready to lay their views before the Secretary of State in a despatch which left Simla on the 10th of August following.

"In that despatch, the Government of India, while expressing their opinion that the principles of policy upon which the Bill is founded ought not to be abandoned, proposed certain modifications of the measure, calculated, as they hoped and believed, to remove objections which had been urged against some of its proposals upon grounds which did not raise the question of principle. These modifications were the following:—They proposed that the jurisdiction to be conferred by the Bill upon Native Magistrates over European British subjects should be confined to District Magistrates and Sessions Judges *ex officio*. They proposed to leave unchanged the present powers of the Local Governments with respect to the appointment of Justices of the Peace; and they also proposed to adopt a suggestion of Sir Charles Turner, the Chief Justice of Madras, for amending section 526 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. That section enacts that 'whenever it is made to appear that a fair and impartial enquiry cannot be had in any Criminal Court, or that some question of law of unusual difficulty is likely to arise,' the High Court may transfer a case to another Court or to itself. Sir Charles Turner suggested that the High Court should be authorised to make the transfer in any case in which it should be made to appear that 'it was expedient for the ends of justice,' and that it would be desirable to supply what appeared to be a defect in the section by directing that in any case in which, before the commencement of the hearing, the Government, the complainant, or the accused should notify to the Court an intention to make an application for transfer, the Court should adjourn the hearing for such reasonable time as might be required to enable an application to be made and an order obtained upon it.

"These were the modifications which were suggested in our despatch on the 10th August to the Secretary of State. I, in accordance with what I have said just now, shall not upon the present occasion enter into any arguments of these points. Whenever an opportunity for debate arrives, the Government will be quite ready to state the grounds upon which they suggested those modifications, and the views which they entertain in respect to the effect which they will have upon the provisions of the Bill.

"That, in brief, was the nature of the proposals contained in the despatch. To make this statement complete, I ought to say that our hon'ble friend and colleague General Wilson, in regard to this despatch as to the former one, maintained the position which he had previously taken up of objecting to the measure altogether. The despatch, as I have said, went home on the 10th of August; it was considered by Her Majesty's Government at home and by the Secretary of State in Council; and in a reply, dated the 8th of November last, the Secretary of State in Council expressed his concurrence in the proposals of the Government of India. That reply reached Calcutta last Saturday, the 1st of December, and this, consequently, is the earliest opportunity which has been afforded to me since that despatch came into the hands of the Government for making any statement with regard to this matter.

"There is also another question, connected not with the substance of this measure but with the manner of proceeding with it, to which I wish to refer on this the earliest opportunity. In the month of September last, the Government received a memorial from the Chairman of the Anglo-Indian Defence Association, which contained two requests. The first was that the papers which had been received from the Local Governments in connection with this Bill should be published at once; and the second was that further proceedings with regard to the Bill should be stayed until Parliament had had an opportunity of considering the Bill and expressing its opinion upon it. In the reply which was sent to that memorial the memorialists were informed that their first request had already been complied with, and that the papers relating to the matter had been published in the Gazette, where they appeared, I think, on the 8th of September. They were published at the earliest moment possible; we only waited until we had ascertained that the despatch we had sent home was in the hands of the Secretary of State, and until we were informed that he had no objection to the publication of the papers. The second request of the memorialists, namely, that any further proceedings with regard to the Bill should be put off until Parlia-

ment had had an opportunity of discussing the question and of pronouncing an opinion upon it, related to a matter which was essentially and entirely in the hands of Her Majesty's Government. Any question concerning proceedings in Parliament necessarily can only be determined by the Government at home. Such questions are altogether beyond the scope of the Government of India, and the Cabinet alone can decide what course should be taken upon any matter involving the proceedings of either House of Parliament. The memorial was forwarded by the next mail after it had been received to the Secretary of State, and his opinion on the subject of postponement was asked by the Government of India, who only said that the questions raised by the Bill ought in their judgment to be settled, one way or the other, before the end of the next sittings of the Legislative Council in Calcutta. In the same despatch in which the Secretary of State replied to our general proposals, he replied also to that particular request of the Anglo-Indian memorial, and he informed us that Her Majesty's Government do not see any good reason why a measure, which lies entirely within the competence of this Legislative Council and is already before that body, should be postponed till Parliament meets, and they conclude therefore that the Bill will be taken up in the ordinary course of business, so that it may be disposed of during the usual session of the Legislative Council at Calcutta.

"I stated in the debate on the 9th March last as my personal opinion that, if the opponents of the Bill desired to appeal to the House of Commons, I should be the last person to object to such a course. I entertain the same feeling still, and I have made no concealment of it. It will be observed that the Secretary of State in his reply leaves a certain discretion to the Government of India as to the mode of proceeding with regard to this Bill within well-defined limits. I am not yet in a position, in consequence of the absence of the two members of the Executive Council to whom I have referred just now, to say exactly when the next step with regard to this Bill will be taken. It is a subject which will be considered shortly by that Council. The next step, in the ordinary course of business, will be the reference of the Bill to a Select Committee, who will consider the Bill and any amendments which may be proposed in it, and due notice will of course be given to hon'ble members of this Council before any motion to refer the Bill to a Select Committee is brought before them.

"Such is the statement which I desire to make as to the action of the Government of India in respect to this Bill since March last. It shows clearly, as it seems to me, that, until last Saturday, when the despatch from the Secretary of State reached Calcutta, the Government here was not in a position to make any public declaration on the subject. The question was one which was originally referred to the Secretary of State, and the proposed proceedings of the Government of India received his sanction. It was one which, from the circumstances of the case, could not be dealt with by the Government of India, except in consultation with Her Majesty's Government; and one of the points, that relating to the proposal to postpone the Bill until after the meeting of Parliament, was wholly within the province of Her Majesty's Government at home, and could only be decided by them. Until, therefore, we were in possession of the views of Her Majesty's Government, we were debarred altogether from saying anything in public on the subject. I have, however, seen it said that, when Her Majesty's Government at home determined on the course which they were going to take, and the answer which they proposed to send, that course might have been communicated to the Government of India by telegram, and that, after having received that telegram, the Government of India might have made a statement to the public. Now, it appears to me, first, that it would have been inconsistent with ordinary practice, and with official propriety, to make a public statement of this kind upon a telegram unless Her Majesty's Government had directed that we should do so. But, further than that, I cannot think it would have been at all safe for the Government of India to have made any such statement upon a telegraphic communication. Suppose that that had been done, and suppose that when the despatch came, and had been made known to the public, it had been possible to say that there was any inconsistency between the statement made upon the

telegraphic communication and the precise words of the despatch from the Secretary of State. I leave it to the members of this Council to consider whether that would not have produced a result very far from desirable.

"It seems to me that it was absolutely necessary that I should be in a position to do what I have done to-day, namely, to use the precise language of the Secretary of State in explaining his views. Until the words in which those views were expressed were in my possession, I could not with any discretion have spoken in public upon the subject. Then I must also say that it appears to me that the proper place to make the first public declaration upon any proceedings connected with a measure which is before this Legislative Council is in this Legislative Council itself. I think that members of Council might have complained perhaps, if I, as the President of this Council, had made any such statement elsewhere. I am sure that most legislative bodies would undoubtedly have felt that in such a case some kind of slight had been cast upon them, although I have such confidence in the good feeling of the members of this body that I believe that, if I had been in a position to make such a statement, and had thought it right in the interest of the public to do so, some weeks ago, and at a time when this Council was not sitting, they would have overlooked any apparent discourtesy which might have been involved in such course; and, if an opportunity had been afforded me, I should probably not have hesitated to avail myself of it. But, as I have said before, the information was not in my possession until last Saturday, and this is the first public occasion on which a statement of that kind could have been made.

"I will say no more now. The immediate occasion is not, as I have said, one which admits of the introduction of any controversial matter, but I cannot conclude these few remarks without repeating that those who think that I or my colleagues have felt a cold indifference to the representations of those who are opposed to this Bill, are entirely in error. The silence we have maintained till now has, as I have shown, been a necessary silence. Now that I have spoken, I earnestly trust that no word which has fallen from me will tend to add to the bitterness of the present controversy."

The Council adjourned to Friday, the 14th December, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.

FORT WILLIAM;
The 14th December, 1883.

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The Gazette of India.

№ 51.} CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1883.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PRICE LIST OF CAST-IRON GOODS MANUFACTURED AT THE BURRAKUR IRON WORKS.

[The prices are given in rupees per ton delivered into wagons at Sitarampore Railway Station.]

Number of item.	DESCRIPTION.	Rate per ton.	REMARKS.
		₹	
1	Cast-iron sleeper plates with jaws, Denham Olphert's patent, for broad gauge railways .	66	The material used is of such quality that a test bar of 2″ × 1″ section, by 3 feet bearing, carries in the centre a weight of 28½ cwt., with ⅜th inch deflection before fracture.
2	Cast-iron sleeper plates with jaws, Denham Olphert's patent, for metre gauge railways .	68	
3	Cast-iron sleeper plates with jaws, for small gauge railways, Denham Olphert's patent, with Molesworth's wedge (for curves). .	70	
4	Cast-iron railway chairs	66	
5	Cast-iron socket pipes, ordinary dimensions, tested, with turned spigots and fossets .	95	
6	Cast-iron socket pipes, tested, but not faced .	90	
7	Flange pipes, ordinary dimensions, tested, with faced joints	120	
8	Bends, tee and cross pieces for pipings of ordinary dimensions	120 to 150	
9	Plain columns with moveable capital and bottom plate	110	
10	Cast-iron floor plates, 4′ × 2′ × ⅝″ to ¾″ thick	90	
	Any other dimension	90 to 110	
11	Fire bars	120 to 130	
12	Castings for the Telegraph Department—		
	1. Sockets for telegraph posts—		
	a.—No. 244S	90	
	b.— ,, 245S	90	
	c.— ,, 246S	90	
	d.— ,, 243S	95	
	e.— ,, 250BS	125	
	f.— ,, 250CS	125	
	g.— ,, 250DS	135	
	h.— ,, 250ES	115	
	2.		
	a.—No. 250BD	110	
	b.— ,, 250CD	100	
	c.— ,, 250DD	95	
	d.— ,, 250ED	110	
	3. Cross feet	100 to 120	
	4. Anchors or stays	125	

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF NOVEMBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*.			Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*.			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c.			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.			Districts.	Provinces.
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1882.		
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Madras.	Ganjam	8 13	8 13	8 13	...	...	...	17 0	17 0	19 6	17 14	17 14	21 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	215 13	215 13	215 13	...	...	...	13 13	13 13	13 13	Ganjam	Madras.
	Vizagapatam	10 8	15 0	8 0	...	...	...	12 5	9 8	9 0	13 10	12 6	11 5	23 13	25 14	17 13	23 13	24 11	26 11	93 5	93 5	93 5	14 10	14 10	14 0	14 5	14 5	13 6	Vizagapatam	
	Godavery	9 14	9 14	12 10	...	...	...	12 14	11 14	13 14	15 0	14 0	18 0	19 3	23 0	29 13	...	...	...	194 6	194 6	161 13	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	Godavery	
	Kistna	9 13	9 13	13 11	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	15 11	14 2	15 13	16 5	21 5	21 5	25 0	...	...	...	145 13	145 13	145 13	15 11	15 11	15 11	15 3	15 3	15 3	Kistna	
	Nellore	10 5	10 5	12 10	...	...	...	13 14	13 6	15 13	14 8	14 0	17 0	22 2	21 10	28 13	...	...	...	93 5	93 5	93 5	14 13	15 6	14 13	14 13	14 13	14 5	Nellore	
	Cuddapah	14 0	14 11	16 3	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	12 6	13 5	13 5	14 8	33 3	32 6	31 10	33 5	33 5	33 5	194 6	194 6	194 6	17 2	17 2	17 8	16 10	16 10	16 10	Cuddapah	
	Anantapur	13 6	13 6	12 8	...	...	...	11 13	11 13	12 13	13 0	13 0	14 0	35 0	35 0	33 0	30 2	30 2	23 8	...	...	...	14 5	14 3	14 5	14 5	14 5	14 5	Anantapur	
	Bellary	16 5	17 5	19 3	...	...	...	12 5	11 13	12 5	13 8	13 0	13 8	46 5	41 3	37 2	32 0	28 3	30 2	94 13	94 13	94 13	15 13	15 13	15 13	15 8	15 8	15 8	Bellary	
	Kurnool	11 2	11 2	13 5	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	10 5	11 13	11 13	11 6	37 0	37 0	37 0	35 0	35 0	...	88 13	88 13	88 13	14 13	14 13	15 3	14 6	14 6	14 13	Kurnool	
	Madras	10 10	10 10	11 2	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	12 8	15 2	15 2	13 6	23 0	23 0	23 0	29 0	29 0	25 0	...	...	...	16 14	16 14	16 11	16 8	16 8	16 3	Madras	
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 3	14 3	12 11	15 2	15 2	13 10	...	...	...	22 6	22 6	6 ...	85 0	85 0	87 8	17 5	17 5	17 5	17 0	17 0	17 0	Chingleput	
	North Arcot	9 11	9 11	10 3	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	13 2	16 5	16 5	14 8	32 13	32 13	29 2	29 11	29 11	26 6	92 5	92 5	92 5	18 6	18 6	14 11	18 6	18 6	18 6	North Arcot	
	South Arcot	10 2	10 2	9 0	...	...	...	15 3	14 13	14 5	17 2	15 5	16 10	...	...	...	32 5	30 13	33 14	140 0	140 0	140 0	19 5	19 5	19 5	18 6	18 6	18 6	South Arcot	
	Tanjore	11 0	11 0	9 6	...	...	...	16 10	16 10	15 13	20 0	20 0	19 10	41 5	38 3	35 13	43 8	40 10	40 10	201 11	201 11	201 11	19 5	19 5	19 5	18 6	18 6	18 6	Tanjore	
	Trichinopoly	9 3	9 3	9 14	...	...	...	15 2	14 6	13 11	15 14	15 14	15 3	32 3	32 3	3 ...	35 10	30 8	31 11	194 6	194 6	194 6	15 3	15 3	15 10	14 11	14 11	15 3	Trichinopoly	
	Madura	11 11	11 11	9 11	...	...	...	18 5	13 14	13 6	15 3	15 3	16 0	37 5	35 10	38 14	35 5	35 5	33 13	194 6	194 6	194 6	16 13	16 6	17 13	16 3	16 3	17 0	Madura	
	Tinnevelly	9 3	9 3	9 3	...	...	...	14 5	14 5	14 5	16 13	16 13	16 0	19 3	...	...	...	...	...	77 13	72 14	121 8	18 5	18 5	18 5	17 13	17 13	17 13	Tinnevelly	
	Coimbatore	13 2	13 2	11 8	...	...	...	14 6	14 6	13 0	15 6	15 6	14 14	27 13	27 13	27 13	31 13	28 10	33 6	70 0	70 0	70 0	15 2	15 2	14 11	14 11	14 11	14 10	Coimbatore	
	Nilgiris	9 14	10 10	9 3	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 10	10 6	10 6	11 3	22 5	20 0	23 2	21 11	22 6	21 0	131 3	131 3	131 3	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Nilgiris	
	Salem	12 11	12 11	10 11	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	13 2	16 0	16 0	14 2	36 6	36 6	26 6	29 8	29 8	29 8	161 13	161 13	161 13	17 8	17 8	16 0	16 14	16 14	15 6	Salem	
	South Canara	9 8	9 8	9 0	...	...	...	9 11	9 11	9 11	14 3	13 3	10 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	151 10	151 10	151 10	16 6	18 6	15 8	15 5	17 3	14 13	South Canara	
	Malabar	8 10	8 10	8 10	...	...	...	13 0	12 8	15 0	13 13	13 0	15 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	121 8	121 8	121 8	15 5	14 6	15 5	14 6	13 8	14 6	Malabar	
Bombay.	Bombay																												Bombay	Bombay.
	Ahmedabad																												Ahmedabad	
	Kaira																												Kaira	
	Surat																												Surat	
	Broach																												Broach	
	Tanna (Salsette)																												Tanna (Salsette)	
	Colába (Alibág)																												Colába (Alibág)	
	Khandesh (Dhulia)																												Khandesh (Dhulia)	
	Násik																												Násik	
	Ahmednagar																												Ahmednagar	
	Poona																												Poona	
	Sholápur																												Sholápur	
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)																												Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	
	Satara																												Satara	
	Belgaum																												Belgaum	
	Dharwar (Hubli)																												Dharwar (Hubli)	
	Ratnágiri																												Ratnágiri	
	Kanara (Karwar)																												Kanara (Karwar)	
	Pánch Mahâls (Godhra)																												Pánch Mahâls (Godhra)	
	Aden																												Aden	
	Asirgarh																												Asirgarh	
	Baroda																												Baroda	
	Diisa																												Diisa	
	Nimach																												Nimach	
	Nasirabad																												Nasirabad	
	Rájkot																												Rájkot	
	Upper Sindh Frontier	return		received	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received									Upper Sindh Frontier	
	Karachi	13 12	13 12	14 4	22 12	22 12	26 8	10 0	10 0	11 4	13 4	13 4	20 0	32 0	32 0	40 0	22 12	26 8	26 0	50 0	50 0	...	22 12	22 12	21 0	200 0	200 0	160 0	12 12½	12 12½	13 1	12 12	12 12	13 0	Karachi	
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	13 4	13 6	12 10	23 0	20 0	21 0	9 4	9 6	9 8	15 0	13 0	17 0	22 0	23 0	24 0	15 0	18 0	18 0	10 0	10 0	9 8	18 0	17 0	16 0	95 0	100 0	105 0	17 11	17 11	17 13	17 0	17 0	17 0	Haidarabad (Nakur)	
	Shikarpur	14 0	14 0	12 8	24 0	24 0	24 0	11 0	11 0	14 0	14 8	15 0	18 8	23 0	23 0	29 0	20 0	20 0	25 0	10 0	10 0	9 8	20 0	20 0	16 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	14 8	14 8	14 6	13 0	13 0	14 0	Shikarpur	
	Sukkur	14 0	13 14	12 12	24 14	28 0	23 12	12 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	15 8	19 12	22 0	29 0	21 8	26 8	25 12	23 14	24 0	24 0	20 4	21 0	22 0	20 4	240 0	240 0	250 0	14 0	13 8	13 7	13 8	13 8	13 5	Sukkur	
	Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	15 0	15 8	14 12	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	12 0	15 8	15 8	19 8	28 8	31 8	32 8	20 8	23 8	24 8	...	...	...	19 8	19 8	21 8	120 0	120 0	160 0	13 8	13 8	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	Thar and Parkar (Umarkot)	
		12 0	12 0		...	...	...	...	...	...	12 8	12 8	13 4	...	...	...	17 8	17 4	23 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	112 0	120 0	141 0	14 12	14 12	11 5	14 12	14 12	11 5		
																													Prices per md. of 40 seers.							
																													R a. p.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*		
Bengal.	*Western Districts.*																												*Western Districts.*	Bengal.
	Burdwan	15 0	16 2	13 8	22 8	24 12	37 0	14 2	12 12	23 4	19 8	16 8	24 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 6	19 8	19 12	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 0 4	3 1 4	2 14 6	12 15*a*	12 12	13 12	Burdwan	
	Bancoorah	15 0	18 12	13 0	14 0	16 0	14 8	13 0	13 0	19 0	17 8	17 8	27 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	19 0	280 0	320 0	80 0	3 3 6	3 3 6	3 0 0	12 0*b*	12 0	13 0	Bancoorah	
	Beerbhoom	15 0	15 0	13 0	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	16 0	15 0	15 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	18 0	20 0	160 0	160 0	180 0	3 0 0	3 1 3	3 1 0	12 0*c*	12 0	12 0	Beerbhoom	
	Midnapore	16 0	12 0	12 0	15 0	15 0	16 0	11 0	14 0	20 0	16 0	16 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	17 0	155 0	155 0	155 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	12 8*d*	12 8	13 8	Midnapore	
	Hooghly	13 8	13 0	15 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 0	13 0	13 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 8	17 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	2 14 0	13 9*e*	13 9	13 9	Hooghly	
	Howrah	13 8	13 8	13 4	...	...	...	12 8	12 8	16 0	14 8	14 8	18 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	15 0	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 13 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	Howrah	

a In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Culna 14 seers, Cutwa 13-12 seers, and Raneegunge 13 seers.
b In the Bishenpore sub-division the retail price of salt was 13 seers per rupee.
c In the Rampore Hat sub-division the retail price of salt was 12 seers per rupee.
d In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Ghattal 14-12 seers and Contai 13 seers.
e In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Serampore 13 seers and Jehanabad 13-8 seers.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF NOVEMBER 1883 —*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

PROVINCES.	DISTRICTS.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumnoo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumnoo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumnoo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Naricee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Naricee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Naricee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	DISTRICTS.	PROVINCES.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	*R a. p.*	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
BENGAL—*continued.*	*Central Districts.*																																	*Central Districts.*	BENGAL—*continued.*
	Calcutta	13 5	14 0	14 0	18 13	20 0	24 8	7 5	8 14	10 0	14 9	14 9	17 12	20 10	20 10	...	20 0	22 10	...	14 0	14 0	21 5	90 0	90 0	90 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 10 0	13 5	13 5	14 9	Calcutta	
	24-Pergunnahs	13 5	13 0	12 6	16 0	17 8	17 8	8 0	8 0	9 8	16 0	18 5	17 0	...	16 0	...	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	90 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 0 0	12 4[f]	13 5	24-Pergunnahs	
	Nuddea	14 8	14 8	16 0	24 10	24 10	22 15	12 5	12 5	14 8	13 14	13 5½	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 14 1	11 10[g]	11 10½	11 10½	Nuddea	
	Khoolna	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 0	14 0	16 0	24 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 12	18 13	18 12	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	10 8[h]	10 8	11 0	Khoolna	
	Jessore	12 4	12 0	11 0	...	...	...	12 4	12 4	15 0	16 0	16 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	12 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 10 0	3 2 0	3 0 0	10 12[i]	11 8	11 8	Jessore	
	Moorshedabad	17 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 4	16 0	16 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	17 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	12 0[j]	12 0	12 0	Moorshedabad	
	Dinagepore	16 0	14 8	18 0	13 5	14 0	21 0	18 0	12 0	16 0	16 0	15 8	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	19 0	23 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	...	3 6 0	3 6 0	11 8	11 8	11 0	Dinagepore	
	Rajshahye	15 12	13 8	15 0	30 0	22 8	33 12	12 0	12 0	13 8 to 17 0	13 8 to 14 0	13 8 to 14 0	19 11 to 21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 8	14 0	16 0	180 0	160 0	160 0	3 2 6	3 1 3	3 2 0	12 0[k]	12 0	12 12	Rajshahye	
	Rungpore	10 0	11 14	20 0	...	...	...	8 10	10 0	13 5	12 0	13 5	22 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	21 0	280 0	240 0	240 0	3 2 6	3 1 3	3 2 0	12 0[k]	12 0	12 12	Rungpore	
	Bogra	15 0	15 12	9 12	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	15 0	16 8	15 0	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	16 0	15 0	110 0	110 0	120 0	...	...	3 0 0	13 5[l]	13 5	13 5	Bogra	
	Pubna	18 12	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	7 8	8 0	10 0	14 4	13 8	23 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	15 0	10 8	67 8	67 8	67 8	3 2 8	3 2 8	3 2 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Pubna	
	Darjeeling	7 0	7 0	8 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	5 0	5 0	6 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 12	18 0	18 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 2 0	3 2 6	3 0 0	12 4[m]	12 0	13 12	Darjeeling	
	Jalpáiguri	10 0	10 0	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	9 0	13 4	14 0	14 0	14 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	11 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Darjeeling	
	Eastern Districts.																			13 0	13 0	8 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4[n]	12 4	11 0	Jalpáiguri		
	Dacca	15 8	16 0	12 4	15 8	16 0	40 0	14 4	14 0	20 0	17 0	16 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	13 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 4[n]	12 4	11 0	*Eastern Districts.*	
	Furreedpore	22 0	22 0	20 0	30 0	30 0	35 0	12 8	12 0	18 8	16 0	14 0	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Dacca	
	Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 8	18 0	20 0	97 0	97 0	101 0	3 1 0	3 4 0	2 15 0	12 12[o]	12 0	13 5	Furreedpore	
	Mymensingh	12 8	12 8	12 8	...	...	...	10 0	11 0	20 0	13 8	14 8	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	16 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	12 0[p]	12 0	13 0	Backergunge	
	Chittagong	11 0	11 0	10 0	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	15 0	18 0	22 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	2 11 0	2 11 0	3 0 0	13 0[q]	13 0	13 0	Mymensingh	
	Noakholly	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	22 0	18 0	19 0	25 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	13 0	40 0	40 0	120 0	3 3 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	12 8[r]	12 4	12 8	Chittagong	
	Tipperah	13 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	15 4	17 0	22 0	18 8	18 12	29 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	12 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 0 0	2 14 0	11 0[s]	13 0	13 0	Noakholly	
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 4	12 4	18 5	13 14	13 14	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	3 6 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	10 0[t]	10 0	10 0	Tipperah	
	Hill Tipperah	10 0	10 0	10 0	...	...	...	14 0	15 0	18 0	16 0	18 0	26 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 4	17 0	...	...	...	3 5 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 0[u]	12 0	12 4	Chittagong Hill Tracts	
	Behar.																						...	...	...	...	...	4 8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0		
	Patna	20 0	20 0	22 0	29 0	29 0	28 0	13 0	13 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	22 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	14 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Hill Tipperah	
	Gya	17 0	17 0	18 8	21 0	23 0	26 0	10 8	10 8	12 0	13 8	13 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
	Shahabad	17 0	16 0 to 17 0	16 0 to 17 0	28 8	28 8	27 0	10 0	10 0 to 11 0	18 0	13 8	18 8 to 14 0	19 0 to 20 0	24 0	24 0	...	24 0	24 0	...	25 0	27 0	25 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 4 0	11 0[v]	11 0	12 0	*Behar.*	
	Durbhunga	15 0	13 0	14 0	22 0	23 0	40 0	11 8	11 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 0	20 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	180 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 4 0	11 0[v]	11 0	12 0	Patna	
	Mozufferpore	18 0	17 0	18 0	25 0	25 0	35 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	14 0	13 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	19 0 to 20 0	23 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	3 1 0	12 8[w]	12 8	12 8	Gya	
	Sarun	16 0	15 8	16 8	22 0	24 0	34 0	9 0	9 8	10 0	13 0	13 0	22 0	21 0	22 0	36 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 1 6	3 1 6	3 10 0	12 6[x]	12 6	11 0	Shahabad	
	Chumparun	18 0	19 0	17 0	31 0	31 0	30 0	10 0	14 0	18 0	14 0	19 0	21 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 8	22 0	22 4	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	12 0[y]	12 0	12 0	Durbhunga	
	Monghyr	17 13	17 13	21 0	21 0	21 0	31 8	10 8	10 8	16 13	12 9	11 9	18 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 0	24 0	45 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 2 0	11 0[z]	11 0	12 0	Mozufferpore	
	Bhágalpur	15 2	15 2	16 6	24 0	22 11	32 13	11 15	11 15	16 6	13 14	13 14	22 11	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	20 0	21 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 5 0	11 8[z1]	11 0	11 0	Sarun	
	Purneah	14 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...	14 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	15 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	23 0	23 0	22 8	126 0	126 0	126 0	3 2 5	3 2 5	3 1 0	12 1[z2]	12 1	12 13	Chumparun	
	Maldah	18 0	17 8	18 0	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	16 0	13 0	13 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	19 15	21 8	27 13	126 0	126 0	126 0	3 3 0	3 1 0	2 14 0	12 10[z3]	12 10	12 10	Monghyr	
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	13 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	12 0	14 0	16 0	16 0	17 0	23 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 13	22 11	27 12	151 8	151 8	151 8	3 3 0	3 1 0	2 14 0	12 10[z3]	12 10	12 10	Bhágalpur	
	Orissa.																																	*Orissa.*	
	Cuttack	14 7	13 2	13 2	...	...	...	13 2	13 2	17 1	21 0*	21 0	26 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 10 0	11 0[z4]	10 8	11 0	Purneah	
	Pooree	9 3	10 8	11 11	...	...	...	14 7	14 7	21 0	19 11	19 11	27 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 0	18 0	19 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	Maldah	
	Balasore	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	16 0	21 0	16 0†	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	17 0	19 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	3 2 0	3 4 0	3 2 0	11 12[z5]	11 0	11 8	Sonthal Pergunnahs	
	CHOTA NAGPORE.																																		
	South-Western Frontier Agency.																																	*Orissa.*	
	Hazáribágh	15 0	15 8	16 0	...	18 0	24 0	9 0	8	10 0	14 0	15 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	23 10	80 0	80 0	160 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Cuttack	
	Lohardugga	14 0	15 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	28 0	14 0	14 0	22 0	18 0	18 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 1	17 1	17 8	100 0	100 0	120 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	2 12 0	13 3	13 3	13 4	Pooree	
	Singbhoom	16 0	16 0	20 0	24 0	24 0	28 0	22 0	18 0	36 0	28 0	22 0	44 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	15 0	160 0	120 0	120 0	4 0 0	4 2 0	3 2 0	9 0[z6]	9 2	12 12	Balasore	
	Manbhoom	13 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 8	17 0	21 8	20 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...													CHOTA NAGPUR.	
																																South-Western Frontier Agency.	
																				20 0	20 0	24 0	160 0	180 0	180 0	4 0 0	4 7 0	3 12 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	Singbhoom	
																				15 0	16 0	17 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 6 0	10 12[z9]	10 12	10 8	Manbhoom	

* In the interior the retail price of common rice ranged from 21 to 34-3 seers per rupee.
† The rise in the price of common rice was merely temporary owing to a large and sudden demand for grain for export.
[f] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Baraset and Bussirhat 13 seers, Diamond Harbour 11 seers, Barrackpore 12-12 seers, and Dum-Dum 13 seers.
[g] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Kooshtea and Chooadanga 13 seers, Meherpore 11-8 seers, and Ranaghat 11-14 seers.
[h] In the sub-divisions the retail price of salt was 11 seers per rupee.
[i] Both in the Satkhira and Bagirhat sub-divisions the retail price of salt was 11 seers per rupee, and in the Bongong sub-division 13 seers per rupee.
[j] The retail price of salt in the Jhenidah, Magura, and Narail sub-divisions was 12 seers per rupee, and in the Bongong sub-division 13 seers per rupee.
[k] The retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Lalbagh 11 seers, Jungypore 12-8 seers, and Kandi 11-8 seers.
[l] In the sub-divisions the retail price of salt was 12 seers per rupee.
[m] Both in the Nattore and Nowgong sub-divisions the retail prices of salt at per rupee were :—Nilphamari and Gaibanda 12 seers and Kurigram 13 seers.
[n] In the sub-divisions the retail price of salt was 13 seers per rupee.
[o] In the Serajgunge sub-division (at Fallacotta) the retail price of salt was 10 seers per rupee.
[p] In the Alipore sub-division (at Fallacotta) the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Maniekgunge 13 seers, Moonsheegunge 10 seers 10½ chittacks, and Naraingunge 13 seers.
[q] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Goalundo 10-8 seers and Madaripore 12 seers.
[r] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Patuakhali 10-10 seers, Perozepore 11 seers, and Bhola 9 seers.
[s] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Attea 12 seers, Jamalpore 11-4 seers, Netrokona 12-8 seers, and Kishoregunge 10-10 seers.
[t] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt was 9 seers per rupee.
[u] In the Cox's Bazar sub-division the retail price of salt was 9 seers per rupee.
‡ In the Fenny sub-division the retail price of salt was 9 seers per rupee.
[v] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Brahmunberiah 12 seers and Chandpore 11 seers.
[w] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Jenanabad 12 seers, Newadah 10 seers.
[x] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Buxar 11-8 seers and Saaseram and Bhabooah 11 seers.
[y] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Tajpur 11-8 seers and Mádhubani 11 seers.
[z] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Seetamurhee 11 seers and Hajipur 11-12 seers.
[z1] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Sewan 11 seers and Gopalgunge 12 seers.
[z2] In the sub-divisions the retail price of salt was 10-8 seers per rupee.
[z3] In the Bettiah sub-division the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Begusarai 10-8 seers and Jamui 11-8 seers.
[z4] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Jenanabad 12 seers, Newadah 10 seers.
[z5] In the sub-divisions of Banka, Muddehpoora, and Soopole the retail price of salt was 11 seers per rupee.
[z6] In the sub-divisions the retail price of salt was 11 seers per rupee.
[z7] In the Arrareah sub-division (at Baneegunge) the retail price of salt was 11 seers per rupee.
[z8] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Deoghur 12 seers, Godda 11 seers, Rajmehal 13 seers.
[z9] In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Bhuddruck sub-division the retail price of salt was 8 seers per rupee.
[z10] In the Giridih sub-division (at Karagdeha) the retail price of salt was 11-4 seers per rupee.
[z11] In the Palamow sub-division (at Daltongunge) the retail price of salt was 10-2 seers per rupee.
[z12] In the Lohardugga sub-division the retail price of salt was 11 seers per rupee.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF NOVEMBER 1883—*continued*.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee), *Panicum Miliaceum*, &c. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R a.	R a. per md.	R a.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Assam.	Sylhet	14 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	10 0	11 4	14 0	16 0	16 8	31 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 8	16 8	16 0	108 0	108 0	108 0	3 5	3 6	3 4	12 0	11 8	12 4	Sylhet	Assam.
	Cachar	9 6	9 2	10 0	12 13	12 13	20 0	15 4	15 4	22 12	16 0	16 0	26 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 13	14 4	13 5	80 0	80 0	80 0	3 9	3 8	3 5	9 2	10 10	11 13	Cachar	
	Goálpárá	20 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	12 4	11 4	13 0	13 4	13 4	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 8	14 4	15 0	80 0	80 0	120 0	3 4	3 4	3 8	12 4	13 0	11 0	Goálpárá	
	Gáro Hills	4 0	4 0	4 0	...	...	...	8 0	5 0	5 0	16 0	11 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	5 0	5 6	5 6	8 0	6 6	6 6	Gáro Hills	
	Kámrúp	14 0	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	11 0	12 0	12 0	18 0	15 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	12 0	11 4	200 0	200 0	160 0	3 10	3 8	3 12	10 8	11 0	10 8	Kámrúp	
	Darrang	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	10 0	10 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	8 12	160 0	160 0	160 0	4 8	4 8	4 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	Darrang	
	Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	13 8	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	10 0	8 0	120 0	120 0	100 0	4 0	4 0	5 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Nowgong	
	Sibságar	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	6 8	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 8	10 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	4 8	4 4	4 8	9 0	9 0	8 0	Sibságar	
	Lakhimpur	8 0	9 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	12 0	5 8	6 8	9 0	8 0	8 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	16 0	11 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	4 8	4 8	5 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Lakhimpur	
	Khásí & Jaintiá Hills	6 0	6 10	8 0	...	...	...	8 2	8 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	11 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Khásí & Jaintiá Hills	
	Nága Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	6 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	16 0	16 0	13 0	2 8	2 8	3 0	Nága Hills	
N. W. Provinces.	Dehra Dún																									S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.				Dehra Dún	N. W. Provinces.
	Saháranpur																															Saháranpur	
	Muzaffarnagar																															Muzaffarnagar	
	Meerut																															Meerut	
	Bulandshahr																															Bulandshahr	
	Aligarh																															Aligarh	
	Kumaun																															Kumaun	
	Garhwál																															Garhwál	
	Bijnor																															Bijnor	
	Moradabad																															Moradabad	
	Budaun																															Budaun	
	Bareilly																															Bareilly	
	Sháhjahánpur																															Sháhjahánpur	
	Tarái Perguunahs																															Tarái Perguunahs	
	Muttra																															Muttra	
	Agra																															Agra	
	Farukhabad																															Farukhabad	
	Mainpuri																															Mainpuri	
	Etáwah	No return received																														Etáwah	
	Etah																															Etah	
	Jalaun																															Jalaun	
	Jhánsi																															Jhánsi	
	Lalitpur																															Lalitpur	
	Cawnpore																															Cawnpore	
	Fatehpur																															Fatehpur	
	Bánda																															Bánda	
	Allahabad																															Allahabad	
	Hamírpur																															Hamírpur	
	Jaunpur																															Jaunpur	
	Gorakhpur																															Gorakhpur	
	Basti																															Basti	
	Azamgarh																															Azamgarh	
	Mirzapur																															Mirzapur	
	Benares																															Benares	
	Ghásipur																															Gházipur	
	Balia																															Balia	
	Pilibhít																															Pilibhít	
Oudh.	Sultánpur																									S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.				Sultánpur	Oudh.
	Partábgarh																															Partábgarh	
	Fyzabad																															Fyzabad	
	Kheri																															Kheri	
	Lucknow																															Lucknow	
	Bára Banki	No return received																														Bára Banki	
	Bahraich																															Bahraich	
	Rai Bareli																															Rai Bareli	
	Sitapur																															Sitapur	
	Gonda																															Gonda	
	Unáo																															Unáo	
	Hardui																															Hardui	
Punjab.	Gujránwála (a)	23 4	22 4	27 4	40 0	40 0	45 0	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	18 0	32 0	32 0	40 0	28 0	28 0	25 0	...	...	...	95 0	95 0	95 0	15 4	15 4	15 4	15 0	15 0	15 0	Gujránwála (a)	Punjab.
	Lahore	23 0	23 0	25 0	40 0	40 0	45 0	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	13 0	38 0	38 0	50 0	24 0	24 0	27 0	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	70 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	Lahore	
	Ferozepore	22 0	24 0	23 0	36 0	36 0	48 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	37 0	37 0	0 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	90 0	13 4	13 0	13 12	13 0	13 0	13 8	Ferozepore	
	Sirsa (b)	22 0	20 8	24 0	37 0	36 0	44 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	32 0	36 0	45 0	27 0	29 0	33 0	...	...	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Sirsa (b)	
	Hissar	20 0	20 0	20 0	30 0	29 0	33 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	10 0	28 0	28 0	34 0	21 0	22 0	27 0	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	12 8	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 0	Hissar	
	Rohtak (c)	19 8	19 0	18 8	26 0	27 0	24 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	24 0	24 0	26 0	20 0	20 0	23 0	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	11 10	11 8	11 8	11 4	Rohtak (c)	
	Gurgaon (d)	20 0	20 0	20 0	26 8	26 8	28 4	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	13 0	24 0	22 0	29 0	21 0	21 0	25 0	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	120 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	Gurgáon (d)	
	Delhi (e)	18 8	18 0	19 0	25 8	26 0	25 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	15 0	25 8	24 0	27 0	21 0	21 0	25 0	...	...	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	12 8	12 8	11 8	11 8	11 8	11 8	Delhi (e)	
	Karnal	20 0	19 0	20 0	28 0	26 0	32 0	...	...	...	11 8	12 8	12 0	24 0	24 0	32 0	20 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...	140 0	140 0	160 0	12 4	12 4	12 0	12 0	11 12	11 8	Karnál	
	Umballa (f)	21 12	20 12	24 0	24 0	24 0	32 0	...	...	...	12 0	11 4	14 8	28 0	28 0	40 0	18 0	18 0	26 0	...	...	...	150 0	150 0	140 0	13 15	13 15	13 12	13 12	13 12	13 8	Umballa (f)	
	Ludhiána	23 8	23 0	25 8	33 0	33 0	40 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	12 0	34 0	34 0	42 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	...	...	...	100 0	100 0	100 0	14 0	14 0	14 10	14 0	14 0	14 8	Ludhiána	
	Simla	...	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	22 0	22 0	19 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	11 4	11 4	9 8	10 8	10 8	9 0	Simla	

(a) Wheat and gram falling. (b) Wheat, barley, and gram falling; bajra and jowar rising. (c) Wheat falling; barley, gram, and wood rising. (d) Jowar and gram falling; wood rising. (e) Wheat and jowar falling; barley and gram rising. (f) Wheat and rice falling; gram rising.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF NOVEMBER 1883—*continued.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
Punjab—*continued.*	Kángra	24 0	20 0	24 0	30 0	32 0	40 0	...	...	...	15 0	14 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jullundur (*a*)	21 8	21 8	25 8	30 0	32 0	42 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	8 0	34 0	32 0	40 0	22 0	24 0	23 0
	Hoshiárpur	22 0	21 0	27 0	28 0	28 0	36 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	28 0	28 0	36 0	20 0	20 0	24 0
	Gurdáspur	†	24 8	32 0	†	28 0	48 0	...	...	...	†	14 0	16 0	†	30 0	36 0	†	14 0	14 0
	Amritsar (*b*)	22 8	23 8	26 0	36 0	38 0	50 0	...	...	...	12 8	13 8	14 8	36 0	37 0	40 0	30 0	31 0	25 8
	Siálkot	24 0	23 8	29 0	40 0	40 0	45 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	18 0	36 0	35 0	34 0	36 0	36 0	27 0
	Gujrát (*c*)	26 0	26 0	29 12	40 0	40 0	48 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 0	41 8	40 8	40 8	41 8	40 8	40 0
	Jhelum	25 0	25 0	25 0	35 0	33 0	39 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	10 0	34 0	34 0	32 0	35 0	38 0	32 0
	Ráwalpindi (*d*)	27 0	27 12	22 4	44 0	45 0	40 0	...	...	...	15 8	14 4	15 0	50 0	45 0	38 0	44 0	45 0	37 8
	Shahpúr (*e*)	27 0	27 0	23 0	42 0	41 0	35 0	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	14 0	38 0	38 0	30 0	37 0	36 0	32 0
	Jhang (*f*)	21 0	20 0	20 8	32 0	32 0	34 8	...	...	...	9 6	10 0	8 0	28 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	23 0
	Montgomery	18 8	18 0	20 0	28 0	28 0	32 0	...	...	...	6 0	5 8	5 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mooltan (*g*)	16 0	16 0	17 0	28 0	28 0	29 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	25 0	25 0	30 0	25 0	25 0	26 0
	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	18 8	17 5	20 0	28 0	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	7 0	25 0	23 0	18 0	25 0	22 0	23 0
	Dera Ghazi Khán	17 8	18 15	18 2	28 12	28 12	28 12	...	...	...	8 12	11 4	7 8	32 8	32 12	31 9	25 0	29 1	31 4
	Dera Ismail Khán (*i*)	20 10	20 10	21 9	30 14	31 4	33 0	...	...	...	8 0	7 10	9 1	31 6	32 8	40 0	28 12	28 12	31 8
	Bannu	26 4	28 2	28 7	35 2	37 8	47 8	...	...	...	8 12	8 12	9 6	45 0	45 0	50 0	31 4	32 8	37 8
	Kohát (*j*)	19 12	19 12	18 10	33 2	33 2	29 5	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	12 12	31 14	30 10	35 12	33 2	31 14	35 12
	Pesháwar (*k*)	22 0	21 12	19 14	32 0	31 8	39 0	...	...	...	11 10	11 10	11 6	32 13	30 3	38 0	34 2	32 13	25 0
	Házára	28 0	28 0	25 8	42 0	43 0	42 0	...	...	...	14 0	13 0	12 0	40 0	40 0	...	36 0	36 0	...
Central Provinces.	Sangor	25 0	25 0	19 8	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	33 0	...	30 0	...	...	...
	Damoh	28 0	29 0	23 0	...	...	...	12 8	13 8	16 0	13 8	14 8	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jubbulpore	22 8	22 0	18 0	28 8	28 0	21 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	14 0	15 0	17 0	30 0	29 0	30 0	19 0	17 0	19 0
	Mandla	26 0	26 8	20 0	...	...	...	14 0	15 0	14 0	18 5	21 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Seoni	22 0	21 8	18 0	...	...	...	13 0	12 0	12 0	20 0	19 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Narsinghpur	19 0	19 0	16 8	...	...	...	9 8	10 0	10 0	12 8	12 8	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hoshangabad	16 9	16 9	15 7	...	...	...	4 0	4 0	5 0	10 11	10 14	13 0	...	...	21 4	...	...	21 4
	Nimár	17 8	17 8	16 0	...	...	...	12 9	12 9	...	15 15	15 15	13 13	18 12	18 12	24 0	20 0	20 0	23 0
	Betúl	18 0	18 0	16 0	...	...	...	12 8	12 0	12 0	14 0	13 0	12 8	19 8	19 8	23 0	...	...	...
	Chhindwára	25 8	25 8	14 8	...	...	...	7 8	8 8	9 8	11 8	15 0	12 8	27 0	31 0	17 8	...	...	...
	Wardha	24 0	20 0	19 0	...	...	...	9 0	10 0	8 0	12 0	16 0	14 0	27 0	25 0	23 0	...	...	...
	Nágpur	22 4	20 8	17 4	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	9 0	16 0	16 0	16 12	31 12	31 4	26 12	...	...	...
	Chánda	21 4	20 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 0	16 0	11 0	41 4	37 0	26 0	...	...	...
	Bhandára	21 8	20 4	17 0	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	9 0	20 0	20 0	23 0	35 0	35 0	24 4	...	...	...
	Bálaghát	20 0	20 0	17 0	...	...	...	20 0	18 0	15 0	27 0	27 0	28 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Raipur	28 4	24 4	28 5	...	...	...	13 4	15 8	22 0	27 8	30 8	37 5	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Biláspur	27 8	28 8	36 0	...	...	...	23 12	28 8	36 0	34 0	34 2	49 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sambalpur	16 8	14 8	16 4	...	...	...	24 8	24 8	35 0	28 0	29 12	52 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
British Burma.	*Arakan Division.*																		
	Akyab	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Northern Arakan																		
	Kyoukpyoo																		
	Sandoway																		
	Pegu Division.																		
	Rangoon Town	11 0	12 3	15 5	...	...	...	11 2	10 8	12 3	12 0	11 12	12 9	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tharrawaddy	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Prome	10 6	12 2	12 2	...	...	...	10 5	10 5	13 7	11 7	13 1	17 2	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Irrawaddy Division.																		
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 13	10 15	14 8	11 5	10 12	16 3	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 15	7 15	14 5	15 10	10 6	19 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Thonegwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 6	9 6	10 12	10 7	10 7	14 11	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Thayetmyo	9 4	9 4	12 1	...	...	...	8 15	10 0	11 11	10 15	11 13	15 9	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tenasserim Division.																		
	Moulmein Town & Amherst	9 0	9 0	12 2	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	12 2	12 2	12 2	15 5	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 12	13 0	13 12	17 15	17 15	19 6	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mergui	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 9	14 9	...	16 10	16 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Toungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	9 2	10 10	18 5	10 10	12 13	21 5	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Shwaygyin	...	...	...	...	...	...	7 15	8 8	10 10	8 14	9 9	12 7	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Salween	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hyderabad Assigned Districts.	Secunderabad	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bolarum																		
	Chudderghat																		
	Amráoti	18 0	16 0	16 0	9 0	10 8	11 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	28 0	26 0	28 0	22 0	16 0	21 0
	Akola	17 0	17 0	16 0	...	...	...	7 0	7 0	7 0	13 0	13 0	12 0	26 0	26 0	28 0	21 0	21 0	20 0
	Ellichpur	18 0	18 0	15 0	10 0	10 0	12 8	8 0	7 0	8 8	10 0	10 8	10 5	26 0	27 8	27 0	16 0	12 8	25 0
	Buldána	19 0	18 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	23 0	24 0	32 0	22 0	22 0	28 0
	Wun	18 0	18 0	18 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	11 0	11 8	12 0	29 4	29 4	24 0	...	...	...
	Basim	25 0	22 0	21 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	5 4	14 0	13 0	14 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	...	...	...

(*a*) Prices are fluctuating.
(*b*) Wheat, barley, rice, bajra, jowar, and firewood rising; gram falling.
(*c*) Barley and bajra falling.
(*d*) Wheat, barley, bajra, and gram rising; rice and jowar falling.
(*e*) Bajra, jowar, and gram falling.
(*f*) Rice, jowar, and gram rising; wheat falling.

IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Lesser Millets, Bajri, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Bajri, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Bajri, &c. (Kavaru, Varagu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nugiee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.			
...	...	...	21 0	21 0	21 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	Kángra	Punjab—*continued.*
...	...	...	31 0	31 0	35 0	110 0	110 0	105 0	14 8	14 8	14 6	14 0	14 0	14 0	Jullundur (*a*)	
...	...	...	30 0	28 8	34 0	110 0	110 0	110 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	13 12	13 12	13 12	Hoshiárpur	
...	...	...	†	31 0	31 0	†	120 0	120 0	†	13 4	13 8	†	12 8	13 0	Gurdáspur	
...	...	...	36 0	35 0	37 0	80 0	90 0	85 0	15 6	15 6	14 12	15 0	15 0	14 6	Amritsar (*b*)	
...	...	...	34 0	34 0	27 8	120 0	120 0	130 0	15 8	15 8	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	Siálkot	
...	...	...	31 0	30 8	27 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	*	*	*	15 8	15 8	15 4	Gujrát (*c*)	
...	...	...	31 0	31 0	25 8	120 0	120 0	160 0	16 0	16 0	16 8	15 0	15 0	15 8	Jhelum	
...	...	...	35 8	36 0	25 12	85 0	...	80 0	15 8	...	14 8	15 4	...	14 4	Ráwalpindi (*d*)	
...	...	...	41 0	41 0	28 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	Shahpúr (*e*)	
...	...	...	28 0	28 8	29 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	15 0	14 12	15 8	14 8	14 8	15 0	Jhang (*f*)	
...	...	...	32 0	31 0	33 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 0	12 0	13 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	Montgomery	
...	...	...	26 0	27 0	25 0	90 0	90 0	90 0	14 8	14 8	14 4	14 0	14 0	14 0	Mooltan (*g*)	
...	...	...	23 0	22 0	20 0	100 0	90 0	100 0	*	*	*	13 8	13 8	13 8	Muzaffargarh (*h*)	
...	...	...	21 4	21 14	20 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	28 12	28 12	30 0	27 8	27 8	27 8	Dera Ghazi Khán	
...	...	...	27 6	27 0	26 9	125 0	125 0	100 0	52 8	42 8	53 0	50 0	40 0	50 0	Dera Ismail Khan (*i*)	
...	...	...	30 0	31 4	28 2	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	120 0	60 0	60 0	100 0	Bannu	
...	...	...	28 12	28 8	20 6	96 0	110 0	110 0	43 9	43 9	57 4	42 0	42 0	55 0	Pesháwar (*k*)	
...	...	...	26 0	25 8	19 0	80 0	80 0	70 0	...	...	13 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	Házára	
...	...	...	31 0	30 8	27 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	9 12	9 12	9 8	9 8	9 8	9 0	Sangor	Central Provinces.
...	...	39 0	39 0	32 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	10 8	11 0	10 8	10 4	10 12	10 0	Damoh		
...	...	...	28 0	27 0	28 0	100 0	110 0	120 0	11 10	11 8	11 14	11 4	11 0	11 8	Jubbulpore	
25 0	25 0	25 0	40 0	40 0	30 0	256 0	256 0	256 0	...	...	...	9 8	10 0	9 8	Mandla	
...	...	...	23 0	23 0	18 0	220 0	220 0	220 0	11 4	11 0	11 4	11 0	10 12	11 4	Seoni	
...	...	...	24 8	24 8	25 8	140 0	140 0	160 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	10 8	10 12	Narsinghpur	
...	...	...	23 5	21 10	23 8	160 0	160 0	160 0	11 12	11 12	10 8	11 0	11 0	10 0	Hoshangabad	
...	...	...	20 4	20 4	18 0	160 0	160 0	120 0	13 13	13 13	13 0	13 0	12 12	12 12	Nimár	
16 8	15 8	15 8	18 0	18 0	16 0	320 0	320 0	240 0	10 8	10 8	8 8	10 0	10 0	8 0	Betúl	
21 0	21 0	17 8	27 0	28 0	16 8	200 0	200 0	200 0	10 0	9 0	8 8	9 0	8 0	8 0	Chhindwára	
...	...	...	18 0	17 0	24 0	159 0	120 0	130 0	12 0	12 8	12 0	11 0	12 0	11 0	Wardha	
...	...	...	21 12	21 12	21 12	120 0	120 0	150 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 12	11 12	11 12	Nágpur	
...	...	...	21 0	21 8	22 0	120 0	112 0	...	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	Bhandára	
...	...	...	25 0	26 0	25 0	275 0	275 0	275 0	10 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	10 0	Bálaghát	
...	...	...	26 8	26 8	32 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	9 12	11 4	9 8	9 8	11 0	9 0	Raipur	
128 4	123 4	130 0	29 12	29 12	29 0	120 0	120 0	130 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	8 0	Biláspur	
...	...	...	13 0	13 0	22 6	120 0	120 0	110 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Sambalpur	
															Arakan Division.	British Burma.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Akyab, Northern Arakan, Kyoukpyoo, Sandoway	
															Pegu Division.	
...	...	...	11 6	12 0	19 7	320 0	320 0	320 0	50 11	50 11	50 11	22 10	22 10	22 10	Rangoon Town	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Tharrawaddy	
...	...	...	10 6	10 6	15 9	139 11	139 11	139 11	25 5	25 5	29 9	16 5	16 9	18 10	Prome	
															Irrawaddy Division.	
...	...	...	10 15	7 10	13 0	281 10	281 10	13 8	21 4	24 5	31 13	18 5	22 2	29 7	Bassein	
...	...	...	...	...	...	183 8	183 8	183 8	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	29 9	Henzada	
...	...	...	18 3	18 3	22 7	184 8	184 8	184 8	32 4	32 4	47 5	25 5	25 5	37 5	Thonegwa	
...	...	...	13 8	13 13	18 7	245 0	245 0	245 0	25 5	25 5	17 12	18 15	18 15	14 3	Thayetmyo	
															Tenasserim Division.	
...	...	...	12 2	12 2	12 2	220 0	220 0	220 0	35 8	35 8	32 5	25 5	25 5	22 12	Moulmein Town & Amherst	
...	...	...	...	...	...	399 3	399 3	399 3	24 2	24 2	24 2	16 1	16 1	16 1	Tavoy	
...	...	...	...	...	...	428 0	428 0	...	24 5	24 5	..	14 6	14 5½	...	Mergui	
...	...	...	9 7	12 9	12 9	24 0	24 0	24 0	25 0	23 8	30 12	14 1	8 12	18 12	Toungoo	
...	...	...	...	...	...	250 0	250 0	250 0	35 6	25 4	32 3	18 14	18 14	18 14	Shwaygyin	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Salween	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received			Secunderabad, Bolarum, Chudderghat	Hyderabad Assigned Districts.
...	...	...	16 0	16 0	22 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	12 8	12 8	11 8	12 0	12 0	11 0	Amráoti	
8 0	8 0	7 8	16 0	16 0	23 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Akola	
...	...	...	13 0	13 0	17 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	Ellichpur	
...	...	...	16 0	14 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	11 0	Buldána	
...	...	...	15 0	14 0	24 0	200 0	200 0	100 0	...	...	...	11 0	10 0	11 8	Wun	
...	...	...	18 0	17 0	26 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	10 8	10 8	9 8	9 8	10 0	9 0	Basim	

(*g*) Gram rising.
(*h*) Wheat, barley, jowar, bajra, and gram falling.
(*i*) Prices generally falling.
(*j*) Barley and jowar rising; rice, gram, and salt falling.
* No wholesale salt sold.
† Not received.
(*j*) Bajra, jowar, and gram falling.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT INDIA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF NOVEMBER 1883—*concluded.*

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat. Present fortnight.	Wheat. Past fortnight.	Wheat. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Barley. Present fortnight.	Barley. Past fortnight.	Barley. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (best sort). Present fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Past fortnight.	Rice (best sort). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Rice (common). Present fortnight.	Rice (common). Past fortnight.	Rice (common). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Present fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Past fortnight.	Great Millet (Cholum, Jowari, *Holcus Sorghum*). Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Present fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Past fortnight.	Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), *Penicillaria Spicata*. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Present fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Past fortnight.	Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragu, Sawee, Cheena, Coraloo, Murhwa, Nurlee), *Panicum Miliaceum, &c.* Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Gram. Present fortnight.	Gram. Past fortnight.	Gram. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Firewood. Present fortnight.	Firewood. Past fortnight.	Firewood. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Wholesale. Present fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Past fortnight.	Salt. Wholesale. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Salt. Retail. Present fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Past fortnight.	Salt. Retail. Corresponding fortnight of 1882.	Districts.	Provinces.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.		
Mysore.	Bangalore																															Bangalore	Mysore.
	Kolar																															Kolar	
	Túmkúr																															Túmkúr	
	Mysore	No return received																														Mysore	
	Hassan																															Hassan	
	Shimoga																															Shimoga	
	Kadur																															Kadur	
	Chitaldroog																															Chitaldroog	
Coorg	Coorg	8 9	8 6	9 1	9 8	9 15	9 9	14 5	15 5	10 8	20 9	21 0	14 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 4	28 12	23 4	28 12	29 8	23 15	110 0	110 0	110 0	10 5	9 12	9 9	9 10	9 10	8 13	Coorg	Coorg
Rajpootana.	Jeypore	16 0	16 0	17 0	26 0	25 0	24 8	6 0	6 0	6 0	8 8	8 8	9 0	24 0	24 0	23 0	21 0	21 8	21 8	...	...	...	23 0	23 0	21 8	...	...	...	15 0	15 0	16 4	14 12	14 12	16 0	Jeypore	Rajpootana.
	Kishengurh	18 0	17 8	17 0	24 0	24 0	27 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	9 0	9 8	24 0	23 8	27 0	18 8	19 8	20 0	...	...	...	26 0	24 0	25 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 12	16 0	15 8	Kishengurh	
	Kerrowlee	18 12	18 12	20 0	26 14	25 10	27 8	10 0	10 0	15 0	10 10	10 10	17 8	26 4	25 10	28 12	21 4	22 8	24 4	...	...	...	28 2	27 8	28 12	...	...	...	14 4	13 15	14 6	14 0	13 12	14 0	Kerrowlee	
	Ulwur	18 0	18 0	20 2	23 1	23 3	29 15	8 10	8 10	9 0	10 8	10 8	12 7	22 0	21 4	28 10	18 10	18 9	24 7	...	...	...	22 12	22 11	29 0	...	...	...	15 7	15 7	15 13	14 12	14 12	15 5	Ulwur	
	Bhurtpore (City)	17 3	17 10	18 13	22 15	22 15	29 4	7 12	7 12	6 12	9 6	9 6	11 0	22 7	22 15	26 12	20 7	20 11	24 4	...	...	...	22 7	23 3	26 12	...	...	...	12 4	12 4	12 5	12 0	12 0	12 0	Bhurtpore (City)	
	Ajmere	16 0	16 0	16 0	24 0	24 0	24 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	20 0	19 0	24 0	18 0	18 0	17 0	...	...	...	25 0	25 0	24 0	80 0	80 0	70 0	17 0	17 0	17 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	Ajmere	
	Deoli Cantonment	21 0	21 12½	17 8½	31 4	31 9	22 5	...	...	...	9 8	9 4	11 8	29 15	25 3	23 0	25 8	25 8	21 4	...	...	...	29 4	30 6	24 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 10	13 10	12 12	Deoli Cantonment	
																													R a. p.	R a. p. per md.	R a. p.					
	Erinpura																															Erinpura	
	Sirohee	No return received																														Sirohee	
	Abu																															Abu	
	Anadra																															Anadra	
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	18 0	18 0	22 0	23 0	21 0	28 0	...	...	...	15 0	12 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 0	23 0	25 0	†	†	†	3 8 0	3 10 0	3 4 0	11 8	11 2	12 5	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Meywar (Oodeypore)	15 10	15 10	14 13½	23 7	22 10½	22 10½	7 13	7 13	10 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 5½	19 8½	17 9½	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 8	12 8	10 8½	12 1½	13 1½	10 2½	Meywar (Oodeypore)	
																													R a. p.	R a. p. per md.	R a. p.					
	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	18 12	18 12	22 8	...	...	...	11 4	10 0	7 8	17 8	17 8	18 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	33 12	37 8	...	...	...	3 8 6	...	...	11 4	11 4	10 10	Bánswára (Meywar Agency)	
	Partábgarh („)	17 0	16 11	19 1	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 5	12 13	13 2	13 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 9	19 11	26 14	...	...	...	2 7 0	...	...	16 4	16 4	15 7	Partábgarh („)	
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received					Marwar (Jodhpore)	
																													S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.					
	Bikaneer	10 0	10 10	12 0	...	...	...	3 8	3 7	3 4	6 0	5 12	6 10	...	...	...	16 8	18 4	22 0	...	...	...	17 0	17 8	16 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 8	Bikaneer	
	Boondee	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received					Boondee	
	Kotah	25 0	24 0	17 12	25 0	25 0	14 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	13 4	35 0	33 0	24 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	26 8	240 0	240 0	240 0	13 8	13 8	12 4	13 0	13 0	11 12	Kotah	
	Tonk	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received					Tonk	
	Jhallawar	19 14	19 0	16 2	20 0	20 0	11 15½	...	...	...	8 14	8 14	10 2	32 4½	31 6½	30 6	15 13	17 1	18 6	...	...	...	26 8	24 8½	23 11	...	...	...	10 14	10 7	10 14	10 10	10 3½	10 10	Jhallawar	
	Shahpoora	No return received			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	No return received					Shahpoora	
	Dholpur	16 9	16 7	18 5	22 4	23 6	30 1	10 2	10 2	10 2	11 4	11 4	12 6	23 6	23 6	29 1	20 9	20 2	27 0	...	...	...	23 7	24 8	27 9	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	13 3	12 10	12 10	12 6	Dholpur	
Central India.	Indore	16 8	15 12	15 0	...	...	...	9 3	9 3	9 3	10 14	10 14	10 0	22 10	21 14	25 4	18 7	19 3	18 7	...	...	...	19 3	18 0	20 0	100 0	100 0	100 0	12 0	12 0	12 5	11 6	11 6	12 2	Indore	Central India.
	Gwalior	17 6	17 7	17 3	24 0	23 5	21 13	7 5	7 13	7 13	9 2	9 2	10 5	23 11	24 10	23 12	19 3	19 7	21 8	...	...	...	22 12	21 15	23 5	109 8	109 8	91 4	...	...	...	11 14	12 0	11 14	Gwalior	
	Goona	27 0	26 0	22 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	9 8	40 0	40 0	28 0	22 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	36 0	35 0	27 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 8	Goona	
	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	26 0	26 9	19 12	42 0	47 5	35 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	17 8	18 12	21 12	39 0	36 5	34 8	30 0	29 8	28 15	...	...	...	32 1	35 8	33 3	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 0	12 0	12 7	11 4	11 4	11 11	Baghelkhand (Sutna)	

† Eight pies per bundle.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(*Statistical Branch.*)

J. WESTLAND,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF [redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Comparative Statement of the Net Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenue) for the first eight months of the official year 1883-84, and of the twelve preceding years.

(IN THOUSANDS OF RUPEES.)

YEAR.	FOR THE EIGHT MONTHS, APRIL TO NOVEMBER.																					
	BENGAL.				BOMBAY.				SINDH.				MADRAS.				BRITISH BURMA.				TOTAL BRITISH INDIA.				
	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	On Exports.	Total Revenue.	On Imports of Liquors.	On other Imports.	Total Import Revenue.	Export Revenue.	Total Revenue.	
[illegible]	[illegible]	49,00	13,13	68,84	4,79	29,86	2,58	37,23	86	86	1,17	2,89	2,29	8,15	9,00	19,44	1,06	2,79	12,17	16,02	15,71	90,66	1,06,37	38,05	1,44,42	1871-72.
72-73	8,38	48,46	14,63	71,47	3,52	28,03	2,21	33,76	73	81	1,49	3,03	2,59	7,85	7,18	17,62	1,98	3,15	21,34	26,47	17,20	88,30	1,05,50	46,85	1,52,35	1872-73.
[illegible]	[illegible]	46,[illegible]	10,59	63,84	4,18	29,42	2,19	35,79	78	67	77	2,22	2,37	8,96	8,74	20,07	2,16	3,04	15,87	21,07	16,27	88,56	1,04,83	38,16	1,42,99	1873-74.
[illegible]	7,61	52,61	8,00	68,22	4,21	30,06	2,43	36,70	75	48	87	2,10	2,20	9,16	8,66	20,02	2,66	4,12	10,80	17,58	17,43	96,73	1,14,16	30,76	1,44,92	1874-75.
[illegible]	8,18	50,73	9,06	67,97	4,41	25,82	3,56	33,79	83	67	95	2,45	2,79	9,55	8,18	20,52	2,49	3,23	18,80	24,52	18,70	99,00	1,08,70	40,55	1,49,25	1875-76.
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	8,51	61,21	5,42	26,64	68	32,74	1,01	50	16	1,67	3,54	8,21	5,48	17,23	2,87	3,49	13,45	19,81	21,23	83,15	1,04,38	28,28	1,32,66	1876-77.
[illegible]	9,65	54,56	10,34	74,45	5,64	31,43	62	37,69	1,34	60	27	2,21	3,56	5,60	1,38	10,54	3,21	4,00	9,93	17,14	23,30	96,19	1,19,49	22,54	1,42,03	1877-78.
[illegible]	8,67	45,[illegible]0	9,11	62,88	5,62	29,17	1,37	36,16	1,26	39	16	1,81	3,72	6,20	2,95	12,87	4,60	4,48	15,09	24,17	23,87	85,34	1,09,21	28,68	1,37,89	1878-79.
[illegible]	7,83	42,20	5,93	55,96	6,15	24,13	1,17	31,45	2,06	49	14	2,69	3,39	6,18	4,53	14,10	4,12	4,14	17,75	26,31	23,85	77,14	1,00,99	29,52	1,30,51	1879-80.
[illegible]	8,54	40,52	7,27	56,33	5,61	35,12	1,26	41,99	3,09	75	15	3,99	3,31	7,17	5,52	16,00	3,12	5,24	21,19	29,55	23,67	88,80	1,12,47	35,39	1,47,86	1880-81.
[illegible]	8,55	37,49	9,88	55,92	6,65	30,82	1,01	38,48	2,56	91	22	3,69	3,21	6,61	3,49	13,31	4,54	5,14	24,53	31,21	25,51	80,97	1,06,48	39,13	1,45,61	1881-82.
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	*6,57*	*-1,05**	*92*	*6,44*	*2,27*	*3*	*38*	*2,68*	*3,59*	*2*	*2,65*	*6,26*	*5,23*	*5*	*20,32*	*34,60*	*26,94*	*—90**	*26,04*	*43,29*	*69,33*	*1882-83.*
[illegible]	*9,28*	*17*	*11,48*	*20,93*	*7,10*	*30*	*89*	*8,29*	*2,42*	*2*	*33*	*2,77*	*3,35*	*8*	*3,48*	*6,91*	*5,18*	*11*	*21,45*	*26,74*	*27,33*	*68*	*28,01*	*37,63*	*65,64*	*1883-84.*

* The amount refunded is greater than the duty collected.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
STATISTICAL BRANCH;
Calcutta, 17th December 1883.

J. WESTLAND,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

SYNOPSIS OF TRANSACTIONS OF THE GUARANTEED RAILWAY COMPANIES FROM THE COMMENCEMENT

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Mileage.				Capital Subscribed.						Capital Withdrawn.							Capital Outlay.						Revenue Account			
				During 1882.			To end of 1882.			During 1882.			To end of 1882.				On Construction account.		On Stores.							
Open for traffic.	Mean length open during 1881.	Under construction on 31st December 1881.	Railway.	In England.	In India.	Total.	In England.	In India.	Total.	In England.	In India.	Total.	In England.	In India.	Total.	Balance of Capital in the Government Treasury to meet further expenditure.	During 1882.	To end of 1882.	During 1882.	To end of 1882.	Suspense (Capital Advance Account).	Total.	Gross earnings.	Working expenses.	Net earnings.	Contribution to Provident Fund.
				£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
150·91	159·91	..	Eastern Bengal	....	....	....	3,228,364	16,486	3,244,850	37,098	41,001	4,803	1,666,933	1,585,976	3,252,914	8,064	5,014	3,171,244	4,202	88,219	6,549	3,252,914	561,525	228,001	333,524	3,22
862	859½	..	Madras	102,200	..	102,200	10,568,349	....	10,568,349	80,255	83,757	3,502	5,648,443	4,798,771	10,447,214	121,135	28,980	10,224,913	41,213	229,583	7,287	10,447,214	634,202	398,542	235,660	..
(a)663	663	..	South Indian	....	....	....	4,315,879	1,276	4,317,155	58,111	44,066	14,045	2,875,033	1,472,856	4,347,889	30,734	20,573	4,122,887	4,484	223,890	1,112	4,347,889	360,210	225,820	134,390	..
(b)460·90	458·38	20·28	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	99,938	..	99,938	8,035,327	21,672	8,056,999	201,894	115,394	86,500	4,628,519	3,400,480	8,028,999	28,000	90,124	7,767,091	11,323	313,085	51,177	8,028,999	932,817	473,487	459,330	..
(c)1,457·75	1,453·20	..	Great Indian Peninsula	....	....	....	23,135,195	571,826	23,707,021	350,749	350,345	404	13,739,326	9,873,137	23,612,463	94,558	106,677	23,122,885	104,703	489,647	69	23,612,463	3,241,627	1,577,892	1,663,735	5,62
546·85	546·85	..	Oudh and Rohilkhund — Main Line	500,064	..	500,064	6,065,025	424,419	6,489,444	154,519	59,445	213,934	3,149,468	3,317,559	6,467,027	22,417	112,173	6,131,636	43,025	297,257	38,134	6,467,027	526,284	346,147	180,137	..
..	..	120	Oudh and Rohilkhund — Northern Extension	....	....	....	500,064	....	500,064	3,682	57,275	60,957	3,682	57,275	60,957	439,107	59,657	59,657	1,868	1,868	568	60,957	....	....	....	..
663½	663½	..	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	....	....	....	10,903,320	86,333	11,079,653	89,761	126,315	36,554	5,609,406	5,386,046	10,995,452	84,201	7,837	10,634,757	23,233	361,459	755	10,995,452	919,630	606,966	312,664	..
			Total	297,926	..	297,926	66,841,523	1,122,012	67,963,535	976,069	645,088	330,981	37,320,815	29,892,100	67,212,915	750,620	405,333	65,235,070	118,305	2,005,004	97,159	67,212,915	7,176,305	3,856,335	3,319,970	..
				£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
150·91	159·91	..	Eastern Bengal	....	....	....	3,528,516	1,79,816	3,53,08,362	4,04,705	4,57,008	52,303	1,81,84,784	1,72,01,552	3,54,86,336	87,074	54,697	3,15,95,393	45,840	9,62,388	71,445	3,54,86,336	61,25,726	24,87,288	(d)36,38,438	35,20
862	859½	..	Madras	11,14,903	..	11,14,903	11,52,91,079	....	11,52,91,079	8,75,710	9,13,716	38,203	6,16,19,374	5,23,20,234	11,39,69,608	13,21,471	3,16,144	11,15,44,508	4,40,594	25,04,600	70,500	11,39,69,608	69,18,571	43,47,730	25,70,841	..
(a)663	663	..	South Indian	....	....	....	4,50,35,259	13,320	4,50,48,579	6,06,374	4,59,824	1,46,550	3,09,00,344	1,54,69,045	4,53,69,289	3,20,701	2,11,673	4,30,21,429	46,783	23,36,248	11,603	4,53,69,280	37,58,714	23,56,386	14,02,328	..
(b)460·90	458·38	20·28	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	10,90,227	..	10,90,227	8,76,58,115	2,36,425	8,78,94,540	22,02,182	12,58,830	9,43,643	5,04,92,937	3,70,96,154	8,75,89,091	3,05,449	9,83,169	8,47,31,902	1,23,525	34,15,476	5,58,287	8,75,89,091	1,01,76,190	51,65,317	50,10,873	4,74
(c)1,457·75	1,453·20	..	Great Indian Peninsula	....	....	....	25,23,85,944	62,38,099	25,86,22,043	38,26,252	38,21,948	4,404	14,98,83,552	10,77,08,947	25,75,90,499	10,31,544	11,63,742	25,22,49,649	11,43,198	53,41,604	754	25,75,90,499	3,53,63,201	1,72,13,368	1,81,49,833	61,35
546·85	546·85	..	Oudh and Rohilkhund — Main Line	....	....	....	6,06,50,254	42,44,192	6,48,94,446	15,45,181	5,94,155	21,39,336	3,14,94,675	3,31,75,597	6,46,70,272	2,24,174	11,21,726	6,13,16,362	4,30,244	29,72,567	3,81,343	6,46,70,272	52,62,844	34,61,473	18,01,371	..
..	..	120	Oudh and Rohilkhund — Northern Extension	50,00,637	..	50,00,637	50,00,637	....	50,00,637	36,822	5,72,746	6,09,568	36,822	5,72,746	6,09,568	43,91,069	5,96,571	5,96,571	18,683	18,683	5,686	6,09,568	....	....	....	..
663½	663½	..	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	....	....	....	11,99,27,122	9,41,818	12,08,68,940	9,79,215	13,77,984	3,08,769	6,11,93,524	5,87,56,870	11,99,50,394	9,18,546	85,498	11,60,15,535	3,08,000	39,43,088	8,229	11,99,50,394	1,00,32,324	66,21,444	34,10,880	..
			Total	27,95,501	..	27,95,501	72,11,64,926	1,18,53,760	73,30,18,626	1,04,76,641	71,22,508	13,54,133	40,29,06,012	32,23,29,866	72,52,35,048	77,83,578	42,55,840	70,40,71,349	13,29,286	2,14,94,654	3,30,955	72,52,35,048	7,76,37,570	4,16,53,006	3,59,84,564	91,80

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE GUARANTEED RAILWAY COMPANIES FROM THE COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATION TO END OF THE YEAR 1882.

	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
	1882.		CAPITAL OUTLAY.						REVENUE ACCOUNT, 1882.						GUARANTEED INTEREST PAID FOR 1882.			GUARANTEED INTEREST FROM COMMENCEMENT TO END OF 1882.							LOSS TO STATE.			CONTROL.		LAND.					
			ON CONSTRUCTION ACCOUNT.		ON STORES.																														
	TOTAL.	Balance of Capital in the Government Treasury to meet further expenditure.	During 1882.	To end of 1882.	During 1882.	To end of 1882.	Suspense (Capital Advance Account).	TOTAL.	Gross earnings.	Working expenses.	Net earnings.	Contribution to Provident Fund.	Interest charged on Capital yet drawn.	Surplus profits.	In England.	In India.	TOTAL.	In England.	In India.	TOTAL.	Net earnings from commencement to end of 1882.	Contribution to Provident Fund from commencement to end of 1882.	Interest charged in surplus half-years on Capital yet drawn from commencement to end of 1882.	Railway Company's moiety of surplus profits from commencement to end of 1882.	During 1882.	From commencement to end of 1882.	State charge for control for 1882.	State charge for control from commencement to end of 1882.	Value of land made over during 1882.	Value of land made over from commencement to end of 1882.	Value of land restored to Government during 1882.	Value of land restored to Government from commencement to end of 1882.	Loss of land revenue on land made over during 1882.	Loss of land revenue on land made over from commencement to end of 1882, capitalised.
	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
52	3,54,86,336	87,074	54,697	3,15,35,303	45,840	9,62,388	71,445	3,54,86,336	61,25,726	24,87,288	(a)36,38,438	35,201	3,876	17,90,659	16,72,327	4,623	16,76,950	2,95,21,512	1,62,342	2,96,83,854	3,18,27,861	1,75,123	2,23,228	39,08,407	8,98,233	21,62,937	29,203	23,71,039	12,623	18,32,696	...	5,49,007	...	1,61,8[illegible]
34	11,39,69,608	13,21,471	3,16,144	11,15,44,598	4,49,594	25,04,690	70,500	11,39,69,608	69,18,571	43,47,730	25,70,841	. . .	. . .	. . .	56,89,011	. . .	56,89,011	11,71,53,621	. . .	11,71,53,621	5,08,75,868	. . .	. . .	...	31,18,170	6,65,77,753	1,00,632	19,48,044	87	9,91,19[illegible]	3	1,32,535	2[illegible]	8,29,7[illegible]
6	4,53,69,280	3,20,701	2,11,673	4,30,21,429	46,783	23,36,248	11,603	4,53,69,280	37,58,714	23,56,386	14,02,328	. . .	13,228	. . .	21,28,643	. . .	21,28,643	2,94,13,011	. . .	2,94,13,011	1,27,46,326	. . .	14,13[illegible]	...	7,38,543	1,26,80,858			4,521	16,16,847	62	57,986	1,780	5,44,780
54	8,75,89,091	3,05,449	9,83,169	8,47,31,902	1,23,525	34,15,476	5,58,287	8,75,89,091	1,01,76,190	51,65,317	50,10,873	4,746	4,569	16,12,692	42,99,906	3,239	43,03,165	8,33,43,810	1,97,486	8,35,41,296	5,01,63,721	62,202	7,8[illegible]	18,38,577	98,461	3,49,86,204	1,39,843	30,63,257	29,859	57,81,701	. .	67,187	48	4,78,6[illegible]
947	25,75,90,499	10,31,544	11,63,742	25,22,49,649	11,48,198	53,41,664	754	25,75,90,499	3,53,63,201	1,72,13,368	1,81,49,833	61,350	. . .	64,11,765	1,24,55,490	37,710	1,24,93,200	23,67,08,405	45,15,452	24,12,23,857	18,40,42,856	1,88,193	58,5[illegible]	1,23,78,847	23,80,400	6,98,96,612			26,114	*54,61,015	. .	14,11,765	1,427	4,04[illegible]
97	6,46,70,272	2,24,174	11,21,736	6,13,16,362	4,30,244	29,72,567	3,81,343	6,46,70,272	52,62,844	34,61,473	18,01,371	. .	. . .	. . .	29,52,855	7,145	29,60,000	3,27,90,455	4,01,397	3,31,91,852	1,49,39,915	. . .	. . .	. . .	11,58,629	1,82,51,937	66,271	8,61,565	71,455	8,90,472	678	27,971	[illegible]	2,33,29[illegible]
46	6,09,568	43,91,069	5,96,571	5,96,571	18,683	18,683	5,686	6,09,568	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	1,07,622	. . .	1,07,622	1,07,622	. . .	1,07,622	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	(7,622	1,07,622								
70	11,99,50,394	9,18,546	85,498	11,60,15,535	3,08,000	39,43,088	8,229	11,99,50,394	1,00,32,324	66,21,444	34,10,880	. . .	. . .	. . .	60,33,905	6,971	60,40,876	10,83,07,684	5,21,268	10,88,28,952	3,82,06,550	. . .	. . .	21,122	26,29,996	7,06,43,524	81,230	17,81,734	4,350	11,24,098	. .	1,16,191	3,975	1,65,447
36	72,52,35,048	77,83,578	42,55,840	70,40,71,349	13,29,286	2,14,94,654	3,30,955	72,52,35,048	7,76,37,570	4,16,53,006	3,59,84,564	91,80[illegible]	20,673	98,15,116	3,53,39,759	59,708	3,53,99,467	83,76,46,150	57,97,915	84,34,44,065	38,31,03,097	4,25,[illegible]18	3,03,8[illegible]	1,81,46,553	45,65,728	27,92,16,911	4,07,667	1,00,31,298	1,48,413	1,76,98,022	743	23,62,642	12,927	28,18,427
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£								
76	3,252,914	8,064	5,014	3,171,244	4,202	88,219	6,549	3,252,914	561,525	228,001	333,524	3,227	356	164,144	153,297	424	153,721	2,706,143	14,878	2,721,021	2,917,554	16,053	20,[illegible]	358,234	82,160	198,223								
71	10,447,214	121,135	28,980	10,224,913	41,213	229,588	7,287	10,447,214	634,202	398,542	235,660	. .	. . .	. . .	521,493	. . .	521,493	10,766,582	. . .	10,766,582	4,663,621	. . .	. . .	. . .	285,832	6,102,961								
56	4,347,889	30,734	20,573	4,122,887	4,484	223,890	1,112	4,347,889	360,210	225,820	134,390	. .	1,172	. . .	203,995	. . .	203,995	2,818,747	. . .	2,818,747	1,221,523	. . .	1,33[illegible]	. . .	70,777	1,598,580								
80	8,028,999	28,000	90,124	7,767,091	11,323	313,085	51,177	8,028,999	932,817	473,487	459,330	4[illegible]	419	147,830	394,158	299	394,457	7,639,849	18,104	7,657,953	4,625,841	5,702	7[illegible]	168,536	9,026	3,207,070								
37	23,612,463	94,558	106,677	23,122,885	104,703	489,647	69	23,612,463	3,241,627	1,577,892	1,663,735	5,634	. . .	587,745	1,141,753	3,457	1,145,210	21,698,269	413,918	22,112,187	16,870,595	17,251	5,36[illegible]	1,134,728	219,028	6,398,940								
59	6,467,027	22,417	112,173	6,131,636	43,025	297,257	38,134	6,467,027	526,284	346,147	180,137	. .	. . .	. . .	295,286	714	296,000	3,279,046	40,139	3,319,185	1,493,992	. . .	. . .	. . .	115,863	1,825,193								
75	60,957	439,107	59,657	59,657	1,868	1,868	568	60,957	. . .	. . .	. . .	. .	. . .	. . .	10,762	. . .	10,762	10,762	. . .	10,762	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	10,762	10,762								
46	10,995,452	84,201	7,837	10,634,757	28,233	361,450	755	10,995,452	919,630	606,966	312,664	. .	. . .	. . .	553,108	639	553,747	9,028,205	947,783	9,975,988	3,502,267	. . .	. . .	1,936	241,083	6,475657								
90	67,212,915	750,620	405,333	65,235,070	118,305	2,005,004	87,159	67,212,915	7,176,205	3,856,855	3,319,440	8,4[illegible]	1,947	999,719	3,273,859	5,868	3,279,385	58,847,603	534,822	59,382,425	35,395,393	39,006	27,9[illegible]	1,663,434	432,155	25,817,386								

* Includes R5,411 for value of land in Nagpur and Central Provinces made over prior to 1876 and R18,603 for value of land in those Provinces made over between 1877-80, not hitherto included in these statements.

(*a*) Includes 8 miles of foreign lines.
(*b*) ,, 22·12 ditto.
(*c*) ,, 169·50 ditto.
(*d*) ,, R1,19,989 reserved from the net earnings of the first half of 1882, for renewal of Permanent Way and Rolling Stock.
,, R10,800 reserved from the net earnings of the second half of 1882, for renewal of Permanent Way and Rolling Stock.

NOTE.—Column 40=(27, 28, [illegible], 32)—26.
,, 41=(35, 37, 38, 39)—36.

A. FILGATE, *Lieutenant-Colonel, R.E.,*
Accountant General, Public Works Department.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. XLV OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 18th November 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 17th November 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 18th November 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 17th November 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
			₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
	Guaranteed.												
6th Nov. 1883	Eastern Bengal(a) .	172	1,57,031	913	172	94,844	551	37,63,335	660	29,94,782	528	. . .	7,68,553
17th ditto .	Oudh and Rohilkhand	547	1,10,869	203	547	1,11,083	203	31,03,902	171	35,59,063	197	4,55,161	. . .
17th ditto .	Sind, Punjab & Delhi .	676	2,58,607	383	735	1,90,606	259	60,35,650	269	71,35,794	293	11,00,144	. . .
24th ditto .	Madras . . .	861	1,09,888	128	861	1,12,989	131	44,44,494	155	41,62,464	147	. . .	2,82,030
24th ditto .	South Indian . .	655	78,152	120	655	69,433	106	24,57,621	113	25,44,580	118	86,959	. . .
24th ditto .	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	6,58,531	452	1,458	6,45,795	443	1,98,45,863	413	1,98,81,098	415	35,235	. . .
17th ditto .	Bombay, Baroda and Central India . .	461	1,91,785	416	461	2,07,136	449	59,41,379	389	68,13,278	448	8,71,899	. . .
	TOTAL .	4,830	15,64,863	324	4,889	14,31,886	293	4,55,92,244	285	4,70,91,059	292	14,98,815	. . .
	State.												
1st Dec. 1883	East Indian . .	1,507	9,73,508	646	1,509	8,93,542	592	2,76,71,328	554	3,11,59,934	626	34,88,606	. .
24th Nov. 1883	Calcutta and South-Eastern . . .	33	2,992	91	56	5,460	98	1,29,859	127	1,84,164	103	54,305	. . .
24th ditto .	Nalhati . .	27	1,185	44	27	1,131	42	43,426	48	50,618	57	7,192	. . .
24th ditto .	Northern Bengal .	230	54,661	238	239	50,000	209	12,70,808	166	13,37,546	172	66,738	. . .
24th ditto .	Tirhoot . . .	85	13,855	163	166	18,179	110	3,97,462	150	5,42,040	99	1,44,578	. . .
20th Oct. 1883	Patna-Gya . . .	57	8,055	141	. .	(b) . . .	.	(c)2,82,203	170	(d)2,53,257	153	. . .	28,946
17th Nov. 1883	Cawnpore-Achnera .	138	13,265	96	138	11,767	85	3,34,616	73	3,43,852	75	9,236	. . .
24th ditto .	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	999	83	12	928	77	28,338	71	28,437	72	99	. . .
24th ditto .	Rajputana-Malwa .	1,116	2,23,263	200	1,117	2,47,950	222	62,75,829	170	74,77,566	203	12,01,737	. . .
24th ditto .	Wardha Coal . .	45	10,434	232	45	10,956	243	3,30,915	222	4,25,152	286	94,237	. . .
24th ditto .	Nagpur & Chhattisgarh	98	6,736	69	149	16,403	110	3,06,121	95	7,17,917	146	4,11,796	. . .
17th ditto .	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley . .	161	35,409	220	161	30,962	192	8,88,830	167	8,57,219	161	. . .	31,611
24th ditto .	Sindia	75	5,791	77	75	6,807	91	1,95,241	78	2,02,378	82	7,137	. . .
17th ditto .	Punjab Northern .	419	56,043	134	421	52,345	124	18,54,539	138	19,55,723	141	1,01,184	. . .
17th ditto .	Indus Valley and Kandahar . . .	660	1,58,964	241	660	92,293	140	29,71,505	136	44,28,176	203	14,56,671	. .
24th ditto .	Kaunia-Dhurla . .	32	2,250	70	32	2,799	87	51,579	49	68,336	65	16,757	. . .
24th ditto .	Rewari-Ferozepore .	. .	. . .	.	89	5,720	64	. . .	. .	2,44,072	83	2,44,072	. . .
	TOTAL .	3,188	5,93,902	186	(e)3,387	5,53,700	163	1,53,61,271	146	1,91,16,453	169	37,55,182	. . .
	Assisted Company.												
24th Nov. 1883	Bengal Central . .	21	993	47	35	2,906	83	(f)3,777	37	70,994	61	67,217	. .
	Native States.												
17th ditto .	Bhavnagar-Gondal .	193	12,256	64	193	11,885	62	5,28,920	83	5,77,371	91	48,451	. . .
24th ditto .	Nizam's . . .	121	15,716	130	121	16,128	133	5,34,983	134	5,04,564	126	. . .	30,419
17th ditto .	Mysore . . .	86	5,520	64	86	4,744	55	1,98,672	70	1,99,270	70	598	. . .
24th ditto .	Jodhpore . . .	19	494	26	19	600	32	(g)11,418	29	24,227	89	12,809	. . .
	TOTAL .	419	33,986	81	419	33,357	80	12,73,993	93	13,05,432	94	31,439	. . .
	GRAND TOTAL .	9,965	31,67,612	318	(e)10,239	29,15,391	285	8,99,02,613	274	9,87,43,872	292	88,41,259	. . .
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES .	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	4,64,78,390	141	5,01,68,523	148	. . .	. . .
	NET RECEIPTS .	. .	. . .	.	. .	. . .	.	4,34,24,223	133	4,85,75,349	144	51,51,126	. . .

(a) Exclusive of the Co.'s share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway.
(b) Return not received.
(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 21st October 1882.
(d) Total receipts from 1st April to 20th October 1883.
(e) Excludes mileage of Patna-Gya S. Railway (87).
(f) Total receipts from 16th October to 18th November 1882.
(g) Total receipts from 24th June to 18th November 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.,*
Offg. Under-Secretary.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 15th December 1883.

E

No. XLVI OF 1883.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

Latest Return received.	Railways.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 25th November 1882. Total.	Per mile open.	Total mean length open.	Receipts for week ending 24th November 1883. Total.	Per mile open.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 25th November 1882. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Receipts from 1st April to 24th November 1883. Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total Increase in 1883-84.	Total Decrease in 1883-84.
	Guaranteed.		₹	₹		₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
1st Dec. 1883	Eastern Bengal (*a*)	172	1,61,040	936	172	90,906	529	39,24,375	668	30,85,688	528	...	8,38,687
24th Nov. 1883	Oudh and Rohilkhand	547	1,20,944	221	547	1,09,265	200	32,24,845	173	36,66,783	197	4,41,938	...
24th ditto	Sind, Punjab and Delhi	676	2,32,083	343	735	2,12,795	289	62,67,733	271	73,55,776	293	10,88,043	...
1st Dec. 1883	Madras	861	1,08,305	126	861	1,25,149	145	45,54,199	155	43,06,756	147	...	2,47,443
1st ditto	South Indian	655	60,537	92	655	70,698	108	25,18,158	113	26,15,760	117	97,602	...
24th Nov. 1883	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	7,10,681	487	1,458	7,28,694	500	2,05,56,544	414	2,06,18,529	417	61,985	...
24th ditto	Bombay, Baroda and Central India	461	2,08,688	453	461	2,05,782	446	61,50,067	391	70,26,707	448	8,76,640	...
	TOTAL	4,830	16,02,273	332	4,889	15,43,289	316	4,71,95,921	286	4,86,75,999	293	14,80,078	...
	State.												
1st Dec. 1883	East Indian	1,507	9,96,474	661	1,509	9,46,261	627	2,86,80,768	557	3,21,06,195	626	34,25,427	...
1st ditto	Calcutta and South-Eastern	33	10,279	311	56	6,240	111	1,40,138	128	1,90,673	104	50,535	...
24th Nov. 1883	Nalhati	27	1,349	49	27	1,104	41	44,775	48	51,722	56	6,949	...
1st Dec. 1883	Northern Bengal	230	54,123	235	239	51,260	214	13,25,553	168	13,89,370	173	63,817	...
1st ditto	Tirhoot	85	14,595	172	193	17,857	93	4,16,474	153	5,58,145	99	1,41,671	...
10th Nov. 1883	Patna-Gya	57	11,987	210	...	(*b*)	...	(*c*)3,07,306	168	(*d*)2,76,458	152	...	30,848
1st Dec. 1883	Cawnpore-Achnera	138	9,492	69	138	11,173	81	3,44,108	73	3,54,896	75	10,788	...
1st ditto	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	710	59	12	787	66	29,047	71	29,194	72	147	...
1st ditto	Rajputana-Malwa	1,116	2,31,577	208	1,117	2,89,550	259	65,07,406	171	77,53,559	204	12,46,153	...
1st ditto	Wardha Coal	45	12,117	269	45	23,333	519	3,46,397	225	4,48,412	298	1,02,015	...
1st ditto	Nagpore and Chhattisgarh	98	8,250	84	149	17,843	120	3,14,371	94	7,36,340	145	4,21,969	...
24th Nov. 1883	Rangoon and Irrawaddy Valley	161	33,993	211	161	30,026	186	9,22,822	168	8,87,712	162	...	35,110
1st Dec. 1883	Sindia	75	5,938	79	75	7,926	106	2,01,178	78	2,10,302	82	9,124	...
24th Nov. 1883	Punjab Northern	419	60,633	145	421	54,107	128	19,15,172	139	20,09,830	104	94,658	...
24th ditto	Indus Valley and Kandahar	660	1,51,999	230	660	1,06,502	161	31,23,504	141	45,89,448	202	14,15,944	...
1st Dec. 1883	Kaunia-Dharla	32	2,683	84	32	2,558	80	54,262	50	70,999	65	16,737	...
1st ditto	Rewari-Ferozepore	...	...	..	89	5,320	60	...	...	2,47,346	82	2,47,346	...
	TOTAL	3,188	6,02,725	191	(*e*) 3,414	6,25,586	183	1,59,92,513	148	1,97,54,406	169	37,61,893	...
	Assisted Company.												
1st Dec. 1883	Bengal Central	21	1,366	46	35	2,138	61	(*f*)5,143	42	73,134	61	67,991	...
	Native States.												
24th Nov. 1883	Bhavnagar-Gondal	193	12,610	65	193	16,466	85	5,41,530	82	5,95,247	91	53,717	...
24th ditto	Nizam's	121	14,192	117	121	18,794	155	5,49,175	133	5,23,652	127	...	25,523
24th ditto	Mysore	86	4,444	52	86	4,642	54	2,03,116	69	2,03,912	70	796	...
1st Dec. 1883	Jodhpur	19	549	29	19	740	39	(*g*)11,967	29	24,788	38	12,821	...
	TOTAL	419	31,795	76	419	40,642	97	13,05,788	93	13,47,599	95	41,811	...
	GRAND TOTAL	9,965	32,41,638	325	(*e*) 10,266	31,57,916	308	9,31,80,150	275	10,19,57,333	291	87,77,200	...
	GROSS ESTIMATED EXPENSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,81,17,150	142	5,18,07,388	148	...	...
	NET RECEIPTS	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,50,62,983	133	5,01,49,945	143	50,86,962	...

(*a*) Exclusive of the Co.'s share of the earnings of the Bengal Central Railway.
(*b*) Return not received.
(*c*) Total receipts from 1st April to 11th November 1882.
(*d*) Total receipts from 1st April to 10th November 1883.
(*e*) Excludes mileage of Patna-Gya State Railway (57).
(*f*) Total receipts from 16th October to 25th November 1882.
(*g*) Total receipts from 24th June to 25th November 1882.

R. A. SARGEAUNT, *Major, R.E.*,
Offg. Under-Secretary.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 21st December 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT SHOWING THE RESULT OF EMIGRATION FROM THE PORT OF CALCUTTA DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1883.

No. 1.—As to Age and Sex.

	Demerara. Males.	Females.	Total	Proportion of women to men.	Trinidad. Males.	Females.	Total.	Proportion of women to men.	Total. Males.	Females.	Grand Total.
Under 2 years	6	10	16		10	11	21		16	21	37
From 2 to 10 years	19	12	31		20	18	38		39	30	69
„ 10 to 20 „	93	27	120		114	45	159		207	72	279
„ 20 to 30 „	260	96	356		219	87	306		479	183	662
„ 30 to 40 „	22	9	31		16	12	28		38	21	59
„ 40 to 50 „	2	2	4	35·54 women to every 100 men.	3	.	3	40·90 women to every 100 men.	5	2	7
Above 50 „	.	.	.		.	.	.		. .	.	. .
GRAND TOTAL	402	156	558	. .	382	173	555	. .	784	329	1,113

No. 2.—As to Places whence Emigrants come to Calcutta for embarkation.

Orissa	.	.	.	. .	1	.	1	. .	1	.	1
Western Bengal	4	2	6	. .	.	2	2	. .	4	4	8
Central ditto	3	.	3	. .	1	1	2	. .	4	1	5
Eastern ditto	.	.	.	. .	.	.	.	. .	. .	.	. .
Behar	74	32	106	. .	85	35	120	. .	159	67	226
N.-W. Provinces	214	90	304	. .	126	68	194	. .	340	158	498
Oudh	67	25	92	. .	73	32	105	. .	140	57	197
Central India	4	4	8	. .	13	6	19	. .	17	10	27
Punjab	12	1	13	. .	38	9	47	. .	50	10	60
Nepal	.	.	.	. .	4	.	4	. .	4	.	4
Mixed, Madras and Bombay, &c.	24	2	26	. .	41	20	61	. .	65	22	87
GRAND TOTAL	402	156	558	. .	382	173	555	. .	784	329	1,113

No. 3.—As to Caste and Religion.

Brahmins, high caste	67	27	94	. .	92	36	128	. .	159	63	222
Hindus. Agriculturists	111	20	131	. .	104	29	133	. .	215	49	264
Hindus. Artisans	20	12	32	. .	14	6	20	. .	34	18	52
Hindus. Low castes	140	47	187	. .	113	71	184	. .	253	118	371
Musulmans	64	50	114	. .	59	31	90	. .	123	81	204
Christians	.	.	.	. .	.	.	.	. .	. .	.	. .
GRAND TOTAL	402	156	558	. .	382	173	555	. .	784	329	1,113

MEMO.	M.	F.	TOTAL.
1. Hindus	661	248	909
2. Musulmans	123	81	204
3. Christians	. .	. .	. .
TOTAL	784	329	1,113

T. W. HOLDERNESS,
Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASONS AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 18th DECEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Rain has fallen generally over the Madras Presidency, Mysore, and Coorg. Slight falls have also occurred in two districts of Assam, but none elsewhere. Harvesting continues in Madras, and the standing crops promise well. In Coorg the ripe paddy has suffered slightly from the unusual rain, which has however done good to backward crops. In Bombay cotton is attacked by blight in two districts, but *rabi* prospects are generally favourable. In the Berars, Hyderabad, Central India, and Rajputana the prospects are also favourable, but rain is needed for the *rabi* in Jaipur and Ulwar. *Rabi* sowings have been completed in the Punjab, and the crops are looking well, though rain is required. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh prospects are fair, but the *rabi* crops on unirrigated lands stand in need of rain. In the Central Provinces the weather is favourable, and prospects good.

Last week's rain in Bengal, while benefiting the *rabi* crops, has been unfavourable to rice, which, except in Eastern Bengal and Orissa, will yield much below the average. The *rabi* in Behar is reported to be suffering much from want of rain.

In Burma the rice harvest is well advanced, and promises a good yield, though rain and floods have caused some loss in several districts.

Late heavy rains have also much injured the crops in the Sylhet district of Assam.

The public health is generally fair, but cholera is prevalent in parts of Madras.

Prices are high in Bengal, and normal elsewhere.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras (Dec. 19th)—		
Bellary	. . . . .	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, and *ragi*, yield average, other dry grains, pulse, and oil seeds below average.
Kurnool	·65 (average of 5 stations).	Standing crops good; harvest paddy, yield above average.
Ganjam	. . . . .	Standing crops good; harvest paddy progressing; fever and small-pox slight in one taluk.
Kistna	. . . . .	Standing crops generally good; harvest black paddy progressing; fever and small-pox prevalent; cattle-disease in parts.
Chingleput (Madras)	7·56 (average of 11 stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest *kar* paddy, yield below average; 35 deaths from cholera.
Coimbatore	1·62 (average of 14 stations).	Harvest paddy, *ragi*, *cumbu* and *cholum*, yield average; 194 deaths from cholera, fever, small-pox and cattle-disease in parts.
Tanjore	1·5 (average of 13 stations).	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, yield below average; 275 deaths from cholera.
Madura	·95 (average of 5 stations).	Standing crops fair; harvest dry crops, yield about average; cholera decreasing in Madura town, elsewhere slight.
Malabar	1·02 (average of 4 stations).	Second crop generally in good condition; small-pox, fever, and cattle-disease slight; four deaths from cholera.
Travancore	0·46	Standing crops good; cholera slight.
		General Remarks.—General prospects good.
Bombay—(Dec. 19th)—		
Kurrachee	. . . . .	River at Kotri on 13th 4 feet 9 inches against 4 feet 3 inches on same date last year; two fresh cases of small-pox in Karachi on 12th among Mekranis, in Bagdadi lines total 5, 1 death; disease in 9 villages, in district 53 fresh cases, 2 deaths, 42 remaining sick; cattle-disease in five talukas; some loss in Sujawal and Mirpur Batoro; *kharif* harvest completed; *rabi* sowing progressing; prices—wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Karachi 24, 28, and 32, in Dadu 30 and 40, in Sakro 16, 29, and 42, and in Shahbandar 20, 32, and 40 pounds per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad	. . . . .	Small-pox in 7 and cattle-disease in 5 talukas; prices of grain steady.
Ahmedabad	. . . . .	Young crops healthy; fever in Sanand; *bajri* 30 and wheat 26 pounds per rupee.
Baroda	. . . . .	Fever continues in some parts of Naosari division; cotton and *rabi* crops in good condition; pressing of sugarcane going on in Naosari division; prices—*bajri* 31 to 31½ and rice 24½ to 25½ pounds per rupee.
Surat	. . . . .	*Rabi* crops healthy; fever in many talukas; cholera in Chikli, 14 cases, 12 deaths; *juari* 38 and *nagli* 48 pounds per rupee.
Nasik	. . . . .	*Kharif* crops mostly harvested; *rabi* crops in good condition; public health good, except in 3 villages in which small-pox and fever exist; wheat 31, *bajri* 28, and rice 24 pounds per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay)	. . . . .	Abnormal temperature 2° to 6° cool; vapour in air defective; wind normal.
Poona	. . . . .	*Rabi* crops thriving; prices—*bajri* 40 and *juari* 50; in Poona *bajri* 35 and *juari* 48 pounds per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Ahmednagar	. . . . .	*Bajri* threshing commenced; *rabi* sowing finished in parts; locusts in Shrigonda, *bajri* maximum 54 pounds in Jamkhed, minimum 39 in Sangamner, *juari* maximum 72 in Jamkhed, minimum 48 in Kopargaon.
Sholapore	. . . . .	Cholera disappeared from Malsiras Taluk; *juari* 56 and *bajri* 54 pounds per rupee.
Dharwar	. . . . .	Slight rain in 6 talukas; rice being harvested; reaping of other early crops nearly completed; cotton suffering from blight in Karajgi and Ron; other late crops good cholera disappeared; disease in one taluka; rice 25 to 41 and *juari* 52 to 88 pounds per rupee.
Kanara	. . . . .	Fever continues in Hallyal and Mandgod, small-pox in Kumpta and Hanawar; cattle-disease in Karwar and Hanawar; rice common Karwar 12, in district average 15½ seers per rupee.
Rajkot	. . . . .	General health good; weather cold; *bajri* 31 and *juari* 36 pounds per rupee.
		General Remarks.—River still low in Sind; slight rain in parts of Dharwar and Belgaon; *rabi* prospects generally favourable; cotton suffering from blight in parts of Dharwar and Kaladgi; fever in most districts; slight cholera in four, and cattle-disease and small-pox in eight districts.
Bengal—(Dec. 19th)		
Chittagong	. . .	*Nil* — Weather seasonable; *amun* is being harvested, outturn indifferent; prices stationary; general health good.
Dacca	. . .	*Nil* — Paddy being cut; prospects of winter crops good; safflower being sown.
24-Pergunnahs	. .	*Nil* — Paddy is being harvested; the late rain has done some injury to the crop lying cut, but not stored; yield of paddy estimated at from 8 to 10 annas; prospects of *rabi* crops fair; price of common rice from 14 to 17½ seers per rupee; public health generally good, though cases of cholera and fever continue to be reported from some parts of the district.
Moorshedabad	. .	*Nil* — Weather warmer than last week; harvesting of *amun* proceeding; outturn will be rather more than half an average crop; *rabi* looking well; the rainfall of last week has allowed of large additional areas being sown; indigo very fine indeed; prices easier; public health good.
Rajshahye	. .	*Nil* — Weather cold; reaping of *amun* still going on; prospects of winter crops improving; public health fair.
Burdwan	. . .	*Nil* — Weather fine and cool; harvesting of *amun* continues, outturn expected to be bad; *rabi* crops slightly improved; public health fair.
Rungpore	. . .	*Nil* — Weather seasonable; harvesting of *amun* in progress, outturn short; prospects of cold-weather crops fair; sugarcane promises well; prices stationary; fever prevalent.
Bhagulpore	. . .	*Nil* — Rice crop is being harvested, outturn poor; rain much wanted for *rabi*; prospects not good; new rice selling at 15 seers per rupee; public health good.
Purneah	. . .	*Nil* — Paddy is being cut, outturn expected to be about 6 annas; *rabi* crops growing only on low-lying lands; price of coarse rice from 14 to 18 seers per rupee; public health improving.
Patna	. . .	*Nil* — Harvesting of paddy continues; rain much wanted for *rabi* crops; poppy growing splendidly; public health good.
Durbhanga	. . .	*Nil* — Harvesting of paddy proceeding, outturn poor; rain much wanted for *rabi*; prices rising slightly; fever decreasing.
Hazareebagh	. .	*Nil* — Weather very cold; rice harvest nearly over; *rabi* crops not promising owing to want of rain; small-pox still prevalent in the sudder station; public health generally good.
Cuttack	. . .	*Nil* — Weather cold; cutting of rice on high lands continues; on low lands it has commenced; lands being prepared for *dalua* rice; winter crops doing well; coarse rice selling at from 18 to 24 seers per rupee; public health good.
		General Remarks.—No rain fell in any part of the province during the week; the rain of the previous week was very beneficial to the *rabi* crops, but was somewhat injurious to the rice in places in Eastern Bengal; in Behar the *rabi* crops are suffering much from want of rain; rain is also still required for these crops in a few other parts of the province; the harvesting of rice is in full progress, and the crop is generally expected to yield from four to eight annas, and in certain localities even less than four annas; in Orissa and Eastern Bengal alone the outturn, as was previously reported, will be a fair one; high prices continue to prevail throughout the province in spite of the new rice coming into the market; fever is still prevalent in several districts, but in some it is said to be decreasing.
N.-W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares	(Dec. 18th) No rain	Weather cold and seasonable; peas, mustard, and gram have flowered, and general prospects of the *rabi* crops are favourable; rain required somewhat in places where irrigation is impracticable; no sickness; bazars well supplied; prices fluctuating slightly.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
N.-W. P. & Oudh—*contd.*		
Allaha ad (Dec. 19th)	. . . .	Crops doing well on the whole, though rain much needed in unirrigated tracts; health generally good; prices stationary.
Gorakhpur („ 16th)	No rain	Irrigation actively carried on; a good deal of fever in the north, also small-pox; prices slightly rising.
Jhansi („ 17th)	No rain	Harvesting of *kharif* continues; *rabi* crops prospering, but rain is much wanted; prices of food grains almost stationary; health of people and cattle good.
Agra („ 18th)	No rain	Irrigation going on; health good; prices steady.
Bareilly („ „)	No rain	Irrigated crops doing well; prices steady; slight fever reported from 4 tahsils.
Meerut („ „)	. . . .	Rain much needed; health good; supplies sufficient; prices slightly fallen.
Kumaun („ „)	No rain	Sky cloudy on Sunday, and snow fell on some high hill ranges; general health good; cattle-disease continues; prices unchanged.
Lucknow („ „)	No rain	Weather clear; prospects good; rain very much wanted for the high land *rabi* crops; condition of people and cattle good; markets well supplied; prices steady.
Partabgarh („ „)	No rain	Irrigation of *rabi* crops going on; small-pox and fever in Kunda tahsil, otherwise public health good; prices almost unchanged.
Sitapur („ „)	No rain	Weather cloudy; wind variable; prospects fair; markets well supplied;
Fyzabad („ „)	No rain	*Rabi* and poppy crops are being watered; peas and mustard have flowered; prospects fair; general health good; condition of cattle fair.
Farukabad („ „)	. . . .	Weather seasonable, clouds now and again; cattle-disease in one pargana which has produced some mortality.
Rae Bareilly („ 17th)	No rain	Weather seasonable; *rabi* crops doing well on irrigated lands; rain much wanted; general health good; supplies abundant; prices almost steady.
Cawnpore („ 18th)	. . .	Weather cold and occasionally cloudy; irrigation going on, and the *rabi* crops on irrigated land promising; general health of people good; small-pox decreasing; markets steady.
		General Remarks.—No rain has fallen; the *rabi* prospects are fair, but rain is generally required where irrigation is impracticable; small-pox and fever continue in a few districts, otherwise the public health is good; there is some cattle-disease in Farukabad and Kumaon; the markets are well supplied, and prices on the whole steady.
Punjab—(Dec. 19th)—		
Delhi	. . . .	Health good; prices fluctuating.
Hissar	. . . .	Health good; prices steady.
Umballa	. . . .	Health and *rabi* prospects good; prices stationary.
Jullundur	. . . .	Health good; sugarcane being pressed; prices falling.
Lahore	. . . .	Health and harvest prospects good; prices steady.
Ferozepur	. . . .	Health good; prices almost stationary.
Sialkot	. . . .	Health and harvest prospects good; prices stationary.
Rawalpindi	. . . .	Health good; *rabi* prospects good in four, and average in three tahsils; prices fluctuating.
Peshawar	. . . .	Small-pox prevalent; prices falling.
Mooltan	. . . .	Health good; prices stationary.
Dera Ismail Khan	. . . .	Health and crop prospects good; prices falling.
Amritsar	. . . .	Health good; prices steady.
		General Remarks.—No rain during the week, but it is wanted; health good, except in the Peshawar district; *rabi* sowings completed.
Central Provinces (Dec. 19th)—		
Nagpur	. . . .	Weather clear and cold; prospects favourable; *kharif* crops being gathered; public health good; prices of wheat falling.
Jubbulpore	. . . .	Weather clear and cold; reaping of *kharif* crops approaching completion; cotton gathering continues; *rabi* sowings completed; prices stationary; health good.
Saugor (Dec. 18th)	. . . .	Weather very cold; *kharif* harvesting continues; *rabi* prospects favourable; health good; prices stationary.
Seoni	. . . .	Weather very cold and frosty; threshing in progress; fever very prevalent; prices stationary.
Hoshangabad	. . . .	Weather very cold; prospects fair; cotton picking in progress; fever prevalent; wheat 18, *juari* 24, and rice 11 seers per rupee.
Khandwa	. . . .	Weather clear and cold; prospects good; fever prevalent; prices steady; *juari* 18¾ seers per rupee.
Raipur	. . . .	Weather cold and pleasant; threshing of rice commenced; *rabi* prospects favourable; public health good; prices rising; common rice 25 seers, and wheat 25¼ seers per rupee.
Sambalpur (Dec. 18th)	. . . .	Weather very cold and clear; rice threshing continues; prospects good; fever prevalent; common rice 31⅓ seers per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Weather clear and cold, and favourable to *rabi* crops; threshing continues; fever in some districts.
British Burma— (Dec. 15th)		
Akyab . . .		Report not received.
Rangoon . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 84·23; four deaths from small-pox, otherwise public health good; paddy no supplies; prices nominal.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burmah—*contd.*		
Bassein . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 106·32; public health good; 44 deaths of cattle; reaping progressing; price of paddy Rs. 85 to 110 per 100 baskets.
Prome . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 53·48; public health good; cattle healthy; crops reported in good condition everywhere except in Padoung township where 250 acres have been destroyed by floods, and in Mahathaman where 251 acres have been destroyed by drought; harvest going on well and most satisfactorily on the whole; price of paddy Rs. 85 per 100 baskets.
Thayetmyo . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 48·65; public health good; great scarcity prevails in some places; reaping progressing; price of paddy Rs. 110 per 100 baskets.
Shweygyin . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 139·68; public health and health of cattle good; harvesting progressing; price of paddy Rs. 100 per 100 baskets.
Kyoukphyu (Dec. 8th) .	2·97	Total rainfall 163·82; public health and health of cattle good; reaping already commenced; paddy has suffered considerably from cyclone and heavy rain; price of paddy Rs. 25 per 100 baskets.
„ („ 15th) .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 163·82; public health good; 74 deaths of cattle.
Sandoway . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 222·86; public health good; agricultural prospects favourable; reaping later sowings continuing; no transactions in paddy at present.
Hanthawaddy . .	. . . .	Public health and health of cattle good; some of the crop in the Samanaing township destroyed by inundation of salt water; price of paddy Rs. 75 to 106 per 100 baskets.
Pegu . . .	. . . .	Report not received.
Tharrawaddy . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 106·27; public health good; cattle healthy; about 180 acres in Gyobingouk township reported destroyed by drought and flood; main portion of crop unripe yet; condition of reaping crop good; about 15,844 acres reaped; reaping wages 8 annas per man daily.
Thonegwa . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 94·64; public health good; slight cattle-disease in Pyapon and Thonegwa townships; considerable damage to crops in Pyapon by recent rain; price of paddy Rs. 85 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Henzada . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 86·83; public health and health of cattle good; crops promse well where not destroyed by floods; reaping progressing.
Amherst (Moulmein) .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 166·28; public health and health of cattle food; reaping about half finished; quality of grain good; prices nominal; in Moulmein public health and health of cattle good; about 400 acres reaped; price of paddy Rs. 90 per 100 baskets.
Toungoo . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 79·88; public health and health of cattle good; prospect of crops good.
Tavoy . . .	*Nil*	Total rainfall 195·44; public health and health of cattle good; reaping progressing.
Mergui . (Dec. 1st)	0·10	Total rainfall 175·94; public health good; cattle healthy; one-third of crop reaped; price of paddy Rs. 80 per 100 baskets.
Do . („ 8th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall 175·94.
		General Remarks.—Public health good; health of cattle good, except in Kyoukphyu, Bassein and Thonegwa; harvest well advanced and prospect generally favorable, but crops damaged by rain and floods in Kyoukphyu, Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy, Prome, Thonegwa, and Henzada.
Assam—(Dec. 19th)		
Gauhati . . .	0·75	Weather cloudy; mornings and nights foggy; reaping of *sali* crop in progress; public health fair.
Sylhet . . .	*Nil*	Prospects of crops much injured by the late rains; small-pox reported from Karimganj and Sunamganj, and cattle-disease from South Sylhet.
Cachar . . .	*Nil*	Weather cold; reaping of *sali* crops continues; common rice 13$^{5}_{8}$ seers per rupee; general health good.
Dibrugarh . .	0·32	Prospects of all crops good; public health fair.
Mysore and Coorg—		
Bangalore . (Dec. 19th)	2·0	Standing crops in good condition; prospects of season favourable and public health generally good; prices—rice from 14 to 20, *ragi* 37 to 60, horse gram 33 to 50 seers per rupee.
Mysore . . .	2·96	
	Kolar 4·79 and general all over the Province.	
Mercara . (Dec. 19th)	2·80	Rain most unusual at this season of the year, has brought on backward rice crops, but has proved slightly injurious to paddy ripe for the sickle, and to the drying of coffee; it has caused also ripe berries to drop; paddy harvest has commenced in the Yelsavershime Taluk.
Berar & Hyderabad—		
Amraoti . (Dec. 19th)	. . . .	Weather clear and cold; cotton picking and *kharif* harvesting in progress; *rabi* prospects generally good; wheat 16 and *jowari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola . . .	. . . .	*Kharif* crops being harvested; *rabi* crops in excellent condition.
Hyderabad . (Dec. 19th)	*Nil*	Sowing of *rabi* and reaping of *abi* crops continue; public health generally good, but cholera prevails in one taluka; prices—wheat 15¾, coarse rice 9¾, pure wheat 22, yellow *juar* 27½, and *tur* 33 seers per current sicca rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Central India States—		
Indore . (Dec. 19th)	*Nil*	Health good; report same as last week.
Morar (Gwalior) . .	*Nil*	Health good; weather seasonable.
Neemuch . . .	. . . .	Public health good; agricultural prospects fair; weather cold.
Goona . . .	. . . .	Health and prospects good.
Sehore . . .	*Nil*	Weather clear; crops and health good.
Agar	*Nil*	Agricultural prospects satisfactory; health good; 7 fatal cases of cholera occurred in Sailana district on 9th instant.
Nowgong . . .	*Nil*	*Kharif* prospects fair; health good; weather seasonable; prices steady.
Rajputana—		
Abu . (Dec. 19th)	. . . .	Weather seasonable.
Sirohee . („ 16th)	. . . .	Tanks and wells fair; health and crop prospects good; weather seasonable; mornings and nights cold.
Marwar . („ 14th)	. . . .	Only two months' water in Jodhpur city; tanks and wells almost full; health good; crops good; cold sometimes intense and sometimes mild; prices stationary.
Meywar . („ 9th)	. . . .	Tanks, wells, health, and crop prospects good; weather seasonable; slight clouds.
Harowtee . („ 15th)	. . . .	Crops fair; weather colder; health good, some small-pox.
Jhallawar („ 14th)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; health and prospects good.
Ajmere . („ 18th)	*Nil*	Health good; no increase of cattle-disease in Marwar.
Jeypore . („ „)	*Nil*	Prospects fair, but rain wanted; prices stationary; health good.
Ulwur . („ „)	. . . .	*Rabi* sowing continues; rain wanted; health good.

E. C. BUCK,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House on Friday, the 14th December, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. Gibbs, C.S.I., C.I.E.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir A. Colvin, K.C.M.G.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Durgá Charan Láhá.
The Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds.
The Hon'ble H. S. Thomas.
The Hon'ble Kristodás Pál, Raí Bahádur, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mahárájá Luchmessur Singh, Bahádur, of Darbhangá.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble T. M. Gibbon, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble R. Miller.
The Hon'ble Amír Alí.

BENGAL REGULATION XIX OF 1810 REPEAL BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT introduced the Bill to repeal Bengal Regulation XIX of 1810 within the territories administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, and moved that it be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the *North-Western Provinces and Oudh Government Gazette* in English and in such other languages as the Local Government might think fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

BURMA COURTS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also introduced the Bill to amend the Burma Courts Act, 1875, and moved that it be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Messrs. Gibbs and Quinton and the Mover.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the *British Burma Gazette* in English and in such other languages as the Local Government might think fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

INDIAN EMIGRATION BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to the Emigration of Natives of India be taken into consideration. He said:—

"This Bill proposes to re-enact, with numerous amendments, the existing Foreign Emigration Act (VII of 1871). It does not apply to the emigration which takes place from one part of British India to another, whether by sea, as from Madras to British Burma, or by land, as from Bengal and the North-Western Provinces to Assam. Emigration by sea to British Burma was until recently governed by a special Act, but that Act has been repealed by an Act of the present year, and that form of emigration is now entirely free. Emigration to Assam and the adjoining districts is, as the Council are aware, governed by Act I of 1882. With this form of emigration we are not concerned at all to-day. Accordingly, we are not called upon to consider the difficult, interesting and important questions which arise in connection with inland emigration, such as the conditions and restrictions which it may be necessary to impose on the emigration of labourers to, or on their employment in, such regions as Assam, or the mode and extent to which it may be practicable or desirable to regulate, to facilitate or promote that great movement of population from one part of the Empire to another which has, for centuries, been operating, and still operates, to fill up and bring under cultivation the waste places of India. The present measure deals only with emigration to places outside the limits of British India, and the term 'emigration' is defined by the Bill as meaning, for the purposes of the Act, the departure by sea out of British India of a Native of India under an agreement to labour for hire in some country beyond the limits of India other than the Island of Ceylon or the Straits Settlements. It will be observed that the measure does not affect emigration to Ceylon or to the Straits Settlements. Ceylon may, for emigration purposes, be dealt with as if it were part of British India, and it is not necessary to place any special restrictions on emigration to that island. The Straits Settlements are in a very similar position. The Indian emigration to that colony takes place, I believe, exclusively from the Madras Presidency, and is at present regulated by a special Act (V of 1877) which applies only to that Presidency. We are now engaged in negotiations with the Government of the Straits Settlements, which will, I hope, before long enable us to repeal this Act, and to make emigration to that colony entirely free. But in the meantime, and as a temporary measure, we have thought it expedient to take power to extend the Act to other parts of British India in case it should be found necessary to regulate emigration from Calcutta to the Straits. I do not in the least anticipate that the Act will be found necessary, because I believe that no such emigration takes place, or is likely to take place.

"What we are concerned with, then, to-day, is the emigration which goes on from India to certain British and Foreign colonies in the West Indies and elsewhere, and which is, as I have said, at present regulated by an Act of 1871. Proposals for amending this Act have for many years been before the Government of India, and at last resulted in the preparation of the present Bill, which was introduced into this Council in the year 1881, was circulated for opinion in the ordinary way, and was sent to England for consideration both by the India Office and by the Colonial Office. A number of objections were raised by the Agents and other representatives of the colonies to various provisions of the Bill; and the Government of India was asked by Her Majesty's Government to suspend legislation until the opinions of the Colonial Governments, to whom the Bill had been sent, should be received. I mention this circumstance in order to explain the delay which has taken place between the introduction of the Bill and the presentation of the Committee's report. The delay has not been unfruitful of good results. The Government of India thought that it afforded an excellent opportunity for ascertaining by local inquiry the way in which the system of recruiting emigrants is actually carried on in India, the respects in which the present system is capable of improvement, the attitude of the people towards emigration, and

the possibility of making it more popular. Accordingly, with the consent of the Government of the North-Western Provinces, Major Pitcher was directed to make an inquiry in those Provinces into the points to which I have referred; and a similar inquiry was subsequently made by Mr. Grierson in Bihár, at the wish of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. To both those gentlemen—Major Pitcher and Mr. Grierson—we are deeply indebted for the admirable reports which they have sent in. Nothing is easier in this country than to collect opinions; nothing is more difficult than to get at facts; and it is as pictures of actual facts that these reports are so valuable. To quote the language of a Resolution which has been issued on the subject in the Revenue and Agricultural Department—

'They show in the clearest light the obstacles in the way of emigration, the difficulties with which even the most honest recruiter has to contend, and the extent to which popular prejudice can be allayed, or is unconsciously fostered by District-officers. Of such information there was much need. On the one hand, the Magistracy has been repeatedly charged with being hostile to emigration; on the other, grave accusations have been often brought against recruiters. Proposals, on the one hand, have been made to surround emigration with additional precautions, and have been objected to on the other as unnecessary and ruinously expensive. To arrive at the real condition of things was extremely difficult. Major Pitcher's and Mr. Grierson's reports have at least facilitated a decision. They show that the recruiter, though occasionally guilty of malpractices in the exercise of what is looked upon by a large number of people as a not very reputable calling, has to contend with many unnecessary difficulties; that he is frequently impeded in most objectionable ways by the police and the underlings of the Courts; that the registration of recruits is not unseldom perfunctorily performed; that unnecessary restrictions are sometimes imposed; and that generally a more friendly attitude on the part of the Government as represented by its local officers would lead to better results.'

"In addition to the inquiries made by these two officers, meetings were held in Calcutta in February, 1882, and in March last to consider the various suggestions which had been made for amending the emigration law. Mr. Buck, the Secretary of the Revenue and Agricultural Department, presided at these meetings, and they were attended by the local Agents for the different colonies. I believe I am right in saying that the proposals which we are now laying before the Council have, after careful examination, obtained the full approval of these gentlemen, as well as of the officers of the Indian Government who are charged with the care of emigrants. In fact, I may fairly say that few measures which have been laid before this Council have been made the subject of more minute and careful enquiries than the present Bill. It is essentially a measure of details, and we have every reason for hoping that the machinery will work smoothly and well.

"I have said that this is essentially a measure of details. There is, however, one important question of principle, which is discussed in the two reports to which I have referred, and about which, although it is not necessarily raised by the Bill, it may be as well to say a few words. It is this. What should be the attitude of the Government of India towards emigration to foreign countries? Should they encourage it, discourage it, or remain neutral? Both Mr. Grierson and Major Pitcher urge in forcible language the expediency of the State taking a more active part than it has hitherto taken in the promotion of emigration. They consider that the people in the more closely populated districts should be encouraged to emigrate; that information about the colonies should be disseminated by Government officers; and that the advantages of emigration should be taught in village-schools. But Sir A. Lyall, the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, whose opinion is entitled to the greatest weight, not only on personal grounds but because he is responsible for the government of the provinces from which the greatest flow of emigration takes place, is not prepared to go as far as this. He considers that measures such as have been suggested by Major Pitcher and Mr. Grierson might be misinterpreted, and he is doubtful whether emigration would benefit India as largely as is implied by their recommendations. He would, therefore, limit action for the present to removing all obstacles to emigration, to giving the people every facility to emigrate, and to strictly repressing the prejudiced opposition of the police and other Native subordinate officials. The question whether the one policy or the other should be adopted is not

definitely raised by the present Bill, because it depends much less on the way in which the measure is framed than on the way in which it is worked; and this is a matter which the Government of India are disposed to leave very much to the discretion of the Local Government. My own opinion, I must confess, coincides rather with that of Sir A. Lyall than with that of the advocates of a more active policy. I think our attitude towards emigration should be an attitude of benevolent and watchful neutrality, and that our great object should be to secure fair play to both parties,—the employers on the one side, and the emigrants and their friends on the other,—to take care that the former are not hampered by unnecessary and vexatious restrictions, or impeded by unreasonable prejudices, and to protect the latter, so far as we can, against being entrapped or deluded into unfair bargains or carelessly or oppressively dealt with after they have left their homes. This appears, I may add, to have been the view taken by the Famine Commissioners. The present measure has been framed, if not in affirmation of, at least in complete accordance with, this policy; and, whilst carefully providing for the protection of the emigrant, we have been equally careful not to throw any needless obstacles in the way of his employer.

"In order to explain the purpose and object of the several provisions which we have introduced into the Bill with this view, I must say something about the parties to the contract which is entered into by the person who emigrates within the meaning of this Act, that is to say, who departs by sea from British India under an agreement to labour for hire, and about the several stages in his progress from his home to his place of destination. The parties to the agreement are, of course, the employer on the one hand, and the emigrant or intending labourer on the other. But from the nature of the case, these two parties are not brought into immediate contact with each other at the stage with which alone our legislation is capable of dealing. The employer is represented by the Emigration Agent for the colonies and by the recruiters acting under him; the emigrant is assisted, and to some extent represented, by the officers of the Indian Government, who are specially charged with his protection against fraud, negligence or oppression. As to the employer's representative, it must, in the first place, be remembered that it is not every colony or foreign country that is permitted to receive emigrants from this country. Emigration within the meaning of the Bill is only allowed to certain countries, of which a list will be found specified in a schedule to the Bill, and to such other countries as the Government of India may choose to add to the list. The Government may not make any such addition unless it is satisfied that the Government of the country has made such laws and other provisions as the Governor General in Council thinks sufficient for the protection of emigrants to the colony during their residence there. Assuming that a colony is authorised to receive emigrants, it acts in this country through its Emigration Agent, who is appointed by the Government of the colony, but whose appointment is made subject to the approval of the Local Indian Government. Under the Bill as introduced, the Local Government was expressly empowered to revoke the approval; but this provision was strongly objected to by the Colonial Agents as derogatory to their position, and we have accordingly omitted it. Its insertion was perhaps due to excess of caution, for there is no reason to fear that any difficulty will arise from a Colonial Government insisting on the employment of an Agent whom our Government consider manifestly unfit to perform his duties.

"The Emigration Agent, then, is the principal official on the one side. The principal officials on the other are the Protector of Emigrants and the Medical Inspector of Emigrants, who are appointed by the Local Government and are stationed at the principal emigration-ports. The North-Western Provinces Government proposed that, with the view of securing uniformity of procedure in the various registering offices which are to be maintained under the Act, and of exercising a general supervision over recruiters, the Director General of Agriculture and Commerce and his assistants in these provinces should be appointed Sub-Protectors of Emigrants. We entirely concur in these proposals, but at the same time we do not think it is necessary to

make a special provision in the Bill for such appointments. We think that uniformity of procedure in the registering offices can be secured by executive order. We believe that the Director of Agriculture and Commerce and his assistants will be able to exercise the necessary supervision over the conduct of recruiters if they are invested—as a provision of the Bill enables them to be invested—with the powers of a Magistrate under the Act.

"Returning to the Emigration Agent. He conducts his local operations by means of persons called recruiters, who must on his application be licensed by the Protector of Emigrants. The license is good for a year, and, under the Bill as introduced, it restricted the operations of the recruiter to a particular specified area. This restriction has, however, been objected to by the Emigration Agents (whose objections are supported by the Secretary of State for the Colonies) as unnecessary, and as tending to increase seriously the cost of emigration. We admit the force of these objections, and, accordingly, under the Bill as it now stands, the recruiter's license extends to the whole area over which the Protector of Emigrants has authority, but it is not valid for any particular district until it has been countersigned by the Magistrate of the district. The Magistrate is empowered to refuse his countersignature if he has reason for believing that the recruiter is an unfit person, or that he has failed to perform any of the duties imposed on him under the Act. At the time when the Bill was prepared great complaints had been made of the malpractices of a class of persons who were described as sub-agents. We were informed that between the Emigration Agent and the recruiter there is almost always a third party, the sub-agent, who supervises the recruiter's operations, keeps his license, supplies him with funds, and generally keeps the depôt in the recruiting centre where the emigrants are collected together before being sent down to Calcutta. This person, we were told, was unknown to and unregulated by the law, and was sometimes of very doubtful character. Accordingly, in the first draft of the Bill, clauses were introduced specially providing for the appointment and remuneration of this sub-agent. However, when we went more closely into the matter, it appeared that these provisions were not really applicable to the facts as explained by Major Pitcher and Mr. Grierson. It turns out that the so-called sub-agent is not a recruiter of any distinct class at all, but is merely a head recruiter who sometimes recruits himself, and sometimes acts as an intermediate contractor between the Emigration Agent and the ordinary recruiters, and whose remuneration naturally takes the form of a commission. And the conclusion to which we came was that it would be impracticable to draw a legal distinction between these sub-agents and other recruiters, and that it would be preferable to continue treating them as recruiters, and to make them take out a recruiter's license. But we have added to the Bill a definition of 'recruiter' which makes it clear that the term includes head recruiters and others who collect emigrants, as well as those who personally engage in recruiting.

"Such being the recruiter, we have to take great care that he does not enlist his emigrants on false pretences. Accordingly, we provide that he must get from the Emigration Agent on whose application he is licensed a written or printed statement, signed by the Agent and countersigned by the Protector of Emigrants, and stating the terms of agreement which the recruiter is authorized to offer on behalf of the Agent to intending emigrants. This statement must be both in English and in the Vernacular, and the recruiter is bound to show it to any person whom he invites to emigrate, and also to a Magistrate or officer in charge of a police-station, if called upon to do so.

"Having provisionally enlisted his recruits, the first thing that the recruiter does with them is to house them temporarily in a place which I referred to just now as a depôt, but which does not go by that name in the Bill. The fact is that the term 'depôt' is confined by the existing law to the depôts which are established at the port of departure; and, as we considered it inadvisable to disturb the existing nomenclature, we thought it better not to give any specific name to these up-country depôts, if I may so call them. You will find them referred to in section 27 of the Bill as places for the accommodation of emigrants pending their registration or removal to the port of embarkation. Many complaints had been made about the way in which some of these places are kept and managed; and accordingly we have armed District Magis-

trates and other officers with extensive powers for their supervision and inspection.

"The mention of registration brings me to the next stage in the emigrant's career. Up to this point he is not under any contract binding him to emigrate. In order to become so bound, he must appear before a registering officer, have his name and certain particulars about him entered in a register, and then, and not till then, is he allowed to execute an agreement to emigrate. Until these formalities have been complied with, the recruiter is not allowed to carry him off to the port from which he is to emigrate. In the provisions relating to this branch of the subject, we have departed both from the existing law and from the proposals of the original Bill. Under the Bill as introduced, the work of registering had to be done by a Magistrate of a district or sub-division. The evidence collected by Major Pitcher and Mr. Grierson tends to show that these officers have not time to do the work thoroughly, and Major Pitcher has proposed Civil Surgeons, and Mr. Grierson the officers of the Registration Department, as appropriate registering officers. The Government of Bengal have accepted Mr. Grierson's proposals, and the Government of the North-Western Provinces is willing to give Major Pitcher's suggestion a trial whenever the Civil Surgeon is competent to do the work. The Bill does not decide the question either way, but merely gives the Local Government a general power to appoint persons to be registering officers, and places them under the control of the District Magistrate, or of such other officer as the Local Government may appoint on their behalf. I may explain that the reference to this 'other officer' is intended to cover the officials whom the North-West Government wished to appoint Sub-Protectors of Emigrants. I understand that there will be no difficulty in adjusting, by means of executive arrangements, their relation to the District Magistrate.

"So much as to the officers who are to do the work. Next, as to the way in which the work is to be done. Mr. Grierson has told us in his report a great deal about the way in which the present system of registering emigrants works, or rather fails to work, and he has drawn up a statement showing, in two parallel columns, the difference between what may be called the theory and the practice of registration. This statement is so instructive and so illustrative of the kind of way in which administrative provisions are apt to break down, that I will take the liberty of reading it to the Council. The present system of registration, and the practice, are here given in parallel columns:—

The system as ordained by law and by the Bengal Rules.	*The practice.*
1. The intending emigrant shall appear before a Magistrate, as defined in sections 3 and 85 of the Act.	The registering officer is rarely empowered under section 85.
2. The Magistrate shall examine the emigrant, and satisfy himself on three points, and on no more— (1) that he is of age; (2) that he understands the nature of his contract; (3) that he is willing to fulfil it.	The registering officer frequently rejects recruits for other reasons, such as, for instance, that he has not been medically examined, or that he is telling lies about his address.
3. The Magistrate shall enter certain particulars in a *book* kept for the purpose.	The Magistrate rarely, if ever, does so. The recruiter brings him an illegible, misspelt form, continually full of mistakes, which is kept in a bundle in the office. When, in rare instances, a book is kept, it is not kept "for that purpose," but inland and colonial registrations are kept mixed up together.
4. A copy of every registration, written on substantial paper, shall be furnished by the Magistrate to the emigrant registered.	A copy(?) is furnished, but it is not certified or compared. It is brought ready written by the recruiter, being frequently illegible, misspelt and full of mistakes. It is almost invariably on paper of the flimsiest description—the kind of paper used for cheap overland letters. In some cases the copy is not given to the coolie, but to the recruiter!!
5. *Authentic* copies of every such registration shall be *forthwith* forwarded *by* the Magistrate to the Emigration Agent.	This is hardly ever done. The recruiter brings another copy(?) similar to the above, which is signed by the Magistrate, but never compared. It is then usually returned to the recruiter.
6. And to the Protector of Emigrants.	Often not done. When it is, the copy (?) is another incorrect form filed by the recruiter.
7. A certain form of register is prescribed by the rules.	This form is sometimes not followed, and important columns, such as that for next-of-kin, are omitted.
8. Under the rules, monthly returns of emigration should be sent to the Protector.	In some cases these are not sent.
9. These returns should be correctly and intelligently filled up, as from them the figures for the Protector's annual report are drawn.	They are never correct. People are counted as emigrants who should not be counted, and *vice versâ*: hence the Protector's and the district figures never agree, *e.g.*, in Alipore, the district figures, quoted (I believe) in the Annual Administration Report, gave in one case 1,500 when the Protector's were only 700. The Protector's figures were correct.

"Now, I do not mean to say that our proposed system is certain to work quite smoothly and perfectly, nor can I feel sure that these, or indeed any other, legislative provisions will work precisely in the way in which we intend them to work. But at least we have done our best to take warning by what has been told us, and to devise a remedy for some of the most obvious defects in the existing system. In the first place, we propose to reverse the existing order of proceedings, and to make the registration come first and the execution of the emigrant's agreement afterwards We think that there is a better chance of the agreement being accurate and satisfactory in form and substance if it is drawn out in the office of the Magistrate or other registering officer after the intending emigrant has been passed and registered, than if it is drawn up, as it is under the present practice, by some illiterate person beforehand. The course of proceeding will be this. The recruiter will take his recruits before the registering officer, who in the Mufassal may or may not be the Magistrate of the district, and in the emigration-ports will be the Protector of Emigrants himself. The registering officer is to examine the recruit, apart from the recruiter, with reference to the agreement into which he proposes to enter, and is to satisfy himself that the recruit is competent and willing to enter into the agreement, that he understands its nature, that he has not been induced to enter by any coercion, undue influence, fraud, misrepresentation or mistake, that its terms are in conformity with law, that is to say, contain all the particulars which, as I shall presently explain, it is required by the Act or rules to embrace, and that it is in conformity with the statement which, as I have already explained, the recruiter is required to show the recruit. If he is satisfied on these points, he is to enter in a register-book the name of the recruit, and various particulars concerning him, including the name, sex, name of father, caste, occupation and age of the intending emigrant, and the name of the village or place of which he is a resident. It may be asked, what is the use of entering all these minute details? I will let Mr. Grierson answer.

'The objects,' he says, 'of a system of registration, I take it, are two-fold. One is to keep a record of the transaction, just as the record of any other contract is kept. This is a minor consideration. The other and more important object is to afford a connecting link between the coolie in the colony and his relations at home. A coolie communicates with his relations at home by means of letters and by means of remittances. His relations communicate with him by letter. Under a perfect system of registration a coolie ought to be able to send a remittance home to his friends, through the Emigration Agent and the Magistrate of his district, with the certainty of its reaching its destination; and a relation should be able to go to the Magistrate of a district and say, "My son emigrated in such-and-such a year; how can I send a letter to him?"'

"That is what we are anxious to do, to devise some means by which a coolie may be enabled to emigrate without being cut off completely from his relations and his home. And to this end we are endeavouring to supplement the improved system of registration, by giving effect to various suggestions which have been made for promoting a greater interchange of letters between the emigrants in the colonies and their friends at home, suggestions to which, I

need hardly say, full effect cannot be given without the co-operation of the Colonial Governments.

"When the intending emigrant has been duly registered, the next step is to execute the agreement, which is prepared in the office and executed both by the emigrant and the recruiter in the presence of the registering officer. It must contain on one side all necessary particulars as to the nature, duration and term of the emigrant's service, and, on the other, the particulars which have been already entered in the register. These will enable him to prove his identity if necessary. Three copies of the agreement are to be taken: one goes to the emigrant himself, the other to the recruiter, and the third is kept by the Protector of Emigrants. I need not follow in minute detail the subsequent movements of the emigrant. Suffice it to say that he is conducted to the emigration-depôt at the port of departure, which is supposed to be under the constant supervision and inspection of the Protector of Emigrants and Medical Inspector, and after a short stay there is duly shipped off in an emigrant-vessel. Every emigrant-vessel must be licensed, and the license must not be granted until the vessel has been surveyed and it has been ascertained that she is seaworthy, has proper and sufficient accommodation, is properly ventilated, has all the tackle, apparel and furniture requisite for her intended voyage, is properly manned and officered, and is, in fact, in all respects suitable for the carriage of emigrants. There is ample power to make rules as to the provisions, clothing, fuel and water which are to be supplied for the emigrants' use, and as to the staff of surgeons and attendants who are to be on board the vessel. And the Protector of Emigrants and the Medical Inspector are bound by the Act to see personally that these rules are complied with. The emigrant goes on board under their personal supervision, and the master of the vessel is required to execute a bond for the due performance during the voyage of the duties imposed on him by the Act. Thus every reasonable precaution is taken which our law can enforce that the emigrant shall be properly treated from the time when he leaves the place where he is recruited to the time when he lands in the colony for which he is bound. Further than this our law cannot follow him, and after this point we can only provide indirectly for his welfare by such influence as we can bring to bear on the Government of the country in which he has established himself. That influence is, however, of a very substantial kind, and may be enforced in extreme cases by the prohibition of emigration. There is a provision enabling the Governor General in Council to prohibit emigration to any particular country on certain grounds which are specified in the Bill and which are as follows:—

'(*a*) that the plague or any other epidemic disease dangerous to human life has broken out in the country;

'(*b*) that the mortality among emigrants in the country is excessive;

'(*c*) that proper measures have not been taken for the protection of emigrants immediately on their arrival in the country or during their residence therein;

'(*d*) that the agreements made with emigrants, as such, before their departure from India are not duly enforced by the Government of the country; and

'(*e*) that the Governor General in Council, having, either directly or through the Secretary of State for India in Council, addressed the Government of the country with a view to obtain information regarding the condition or treatment of emigrants therein, has not within a reasonable time received the information asked for.'

"Such are the general provisions of this measure. The differences between the first draft of the Bill and that which is now before the Council are very fully and minutely explained in the Report of the Select Committee, and I need not dwell on them further. It will be observed that the original draft of the Bill conferred on the Government extensive powers to make rules, and that we have in the present draft carried this power still further, by eliminating certain matters of detail from the Bill, and leaving them to be provided for by rule. I am sure that a measure of this kind, if it is to work well, must be made elastic, and that any attempt to fix and stereotype minute administrative details will probably produce either inconvenience or absurdities. Let me illustrate this from the English Emigration Law, of the working of which I happen to have some knowledge. The English Emigration Acts, or Passenger Acts as they are called, regulate with minute particularity the diet of the emigrant on board-

ship, even condescending to prescribe the precise amount of pepper which is to be served out to each emigrant every day. They were framed in the days of sailing-ships, when a voyage across the Atlantic was a long business, for which a considerable supply of salt-meat and other like provisions had to be laid in. A few years ago it was accidentally discovered that the steamers of one of the principal Atlantic lines, the *Cunard*, I think, were in the habit of complying with the requirements of the law by taking so many junks of salt-beef on each voyage from Liverpool to New York—and back again. Of course, nobody wanted it, nobody ate it, but there it was to satisfy the law. It is matters of this kind that we wish to leave to be regulated by rules which can be easily changed on being found to be unnecessary or unsuitable. The new Act will not be brought into operation until the rules are ready, but I believe that this will not involve very long delay. I understand that Mr. Grierson, to whom I have so often referred, is now engaged, under the instructions of the Bengal Government, in the preparation of an Emigration Manual, which will contain, not only the revised rules and forms, but also such information as may be requisite for explaining the emigration-system to those who have to work it and those who are to be brought under it."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble KRISTODÁS PÁL said that the very full report of the Select Committee on this Bill, and the lucid statement made by the hon'ble member in charge of it, showed that it had received a careful revision at the hands of the Select Committee. It also evinced a benevolent solicitude on their part for the protection and welfare of the poor Native emigrant. The question of the policy of emigration was not before the Council, and he would not, therefore, touch upon it. But it might be well asked whether, when large tracts of land lay unreclaimed and uncultivated in many parts of the country, undue encouragement should be given to emigration to foreign countries; but, as far as he understood the Bill, it would not give undue encouragement to such emigration. If he had understood his hon'ble friend correctly, he understood him to say that the Government occupied a position of neutrality, giving fair play to all parties who would come under the operation of the Bill. That, he thought, was a fair position, but all that he, as a Native of the country, wished to see was that the labourer who hired himself to go to foreign parts should on the one hand be treated as a free agent, and on the other should be protected from fraud, misrepresentation and oppression; and, if the Bill should attain that object, he thought the Council would have no reason to complain. Following the principle of the Bill, he ventured to propose, with His Excellency's permission, a few small amendments. Care had been taken in the Bill to provide for the proper explanation to the intending emigrant of the nature of the agreement which he would be called upon to execute. He thought it was highly desirable that, in the initial stage of the engagement, the emigrant should have a clear idea of the nature of the life he was about to enter upon. As far as he could judge from the detailed provisions of the Bill, great precautions had been taken to explain fully to the intending emigrant the nature of the engagement. But at the most important moment, when he had to make up his mind, he was left almost in the dark. Section 26 of the Bill provided—

"The recruiter shall produce the statement for the information of every person whom he invites to emigrate, or when called upon to do so by any Magistrate or officer in charge of a police-station."

Now, it was well known to hon'ble members that the emigrant was often an ignorant, illiterate person, unable to read the statement produced before him, and, if he asked the recruiter to read it, that man, if he was inclined to deceive him, might read a version not contained in the statement itself. So that, at the most important moment, when an illiterate emigrant was called on to make up his mind, he would be almost entirely in the dark as to what the contents of the statement might be, as to the character of the agreement, and as to the nature of the life he would be called upon to lead. He thought that at this stage it was of the utmost importance that every facility should be given to him to understand the nature of his engagement; and in that

view he proposed that the recruiter should be required to furnish the intending emigrant with a copy of the statement, so as to enable the emigrant to take it home to show to his friends and relatives, or the village-headmen, and consult them about it before making up his mind. He would be then in a position to know what he should do, and to understand the nature of the service required of him. He (RAÍ KRISTODÁS PÁL) had heard some objections taken to his proposal. In the first place, it had been said that it would impose extra cost on the Emigration Agent. He believed that the statement would be a printed paper and the additional cost would be a trifle: if a hundred copies of the statement were struck off, it would entail only the cost of the paper and printing. Then he was told that the recruiter would have to carry a heavy bag of paper. Now, he did not know the exact number of emigrants recruited in each district, or in each sub-division, nor had he any idea of the exact number of recruiters employed in each district; but he could not believe that a recruiter on the average engaged more than 100 recruits; and, supposing that he did engage 200, his bag would not be at all heavy if he had to carry some 200 papers of this kind. But, even if the recruiter was put to some slight inconvenience, he thought it a question for grave consideration whether the emigrant should not have a fair opportunity of considering the nature of the connection he was about to form at the very outset of his new career—and surely this was of far more importance than the question of a little heavier bag on the back of a recruiter. Then he was told that this provision was not necessary and would impose an obstacle in the way of emigration. He, for one, did not see how this would prove an obstacle in the way of emigration. The more intelligently and knowingly the emigrant acted, the better would it be for the cause of emigration. He was aware that in section 37 there was a provision that a copy of the agreement when executed should be furnished to the emigrant. Now, this was an after stage. After the agreement had been executed it would be too late for the emigrant to recede, supposing that he wanted to change his mind, and supposing that he came to know what he did not know before. He humbly conceived that the proposal which he had submitted to the Council was calculated to give the intending emigrant an opportunity to understand his real position before he made up his mind, and it was therefore of great practical importance. Upon these grounds, he would move that for sub-section (3) of section 26 the following sub-section be substituted:—

"(3) The recruiter shall give a true copy of the statement to every person whom he invites to emigrate, and shall produce the statement for the information of any Magistrate or officer in charge of a police-station when called upon to do so by the Magistrate or officer."

The Hon'ble MR. QUINTON said:—"While altogether sympathising in the anxiety of my hon'ble friend Raí Kristodás Pál Bahádúr that the intending emigrant should have full information as to the offers which the recruiter is authorised to make, and should not be led blindly into binding himself by a contract of such serious importance, I am unable to support the amendment.

"It appears to me that the provisions of the Bill are amply sufficient to secure the object we both have in view, and that the proposals of my hon'ble friend go far beyond what is reasonably required for that purpose.

"My hon'ble and learned friend Mr. Ilbert in his opening speech has pointed out that the recruiter under the Bill must be furnished with a written or printed statement, signed by the Emigration Agent and countersigned by the Protector of Emigrants, in English and in the Vernacular language of the local area to which the recruiter's license extends, of the terms which the recruiter is authorised to offer on behalf of the Agent to intending emigrants, and is also bound to produce the statement for the information of every person whom he invites to emigrate, or when called upon to do so by any Magistrate or officer in charge of a police-station.

"My hon'ble friend Raí Kristodás Pál is not satisfied with the production so enjoined, but would compel the recruiter to give to each person invited to emigrate a copy of the statement. Now, considering that probably not one per cent. of the persons likely to be so invited can read, this seems a very unnecessary precaution. The intending emigrant can procure full information as to the recruiter's offers, by having the statement read and explained to him when he reaches the depôt; and section 31, as we have heard, strictly enjoins on the Registering Officer the duty of examining the intending emigrant, apart from the recruiter, as to his competence and willingness to make the agreement, as to his comprehension of the nature of such agreement and as to his not having been induced to enter into it by unfair means. The Registering Officer must further draw up the agreement containing the particulars specified in the Bill, and furnish the emigrant with a copy of it. My hon'ble friend says that this will be too late; but, considering that the Registering Officer must ascertain from the emigrant that he understands and consents to the particulars contained in the agreement before it is drawn up, I do not see how this objection applies. He further urges that, if the man invited to emigrate gets a copy of the statement, he can take it home with him and consult the headman of his village; to which I would answer that so long as their present attitude towards emigration is maintained by zamíndárs, they are the last persons whom an intending emigrant would wish to consult.

"The story told by my hon'ble and learned friend of the salt beef carried from Liverpool to New York, and back again from New York to Liverpool, in order to comply with the English Passenger Acts, furnishes a warning against overloading our Bill with minute regulations. In my time I have registered, I suppose, several hundred emigrants, and the cases in which I have had to tell one to stand aside, because he did not know where he was going or what he was to get, were quite exceptional.

"When reading and writing become more widely diffused, and broad sides and hand-bills are likely to prove effective, the agencies will no doubt in their own interests readily adopt the latter; but, as things are at present, it appears to me unfair to impose on Agents and recruiters an obligation attended with considerable trouble and expense and enforceable by legal penalties, which is of no practical use.

"I may add that I have consulted my friend Major Pitcher, whose thorough acquaintance with the working of the recruiting system renders his opinion of great value, and that he fully concurs in the views I have expressed."

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT said that, when the Hon'ble Raí Kristodás Pál first gave him private notice of this amendment, he expressed his entire sympathy with the object the hon'ble member had in view, namely, to give the fullest possible information to the intending emigrant of the kind of bargain he was about to enter into; and said that he would be willing to accept the amendment, unless it appeared that there was any objection to it on administrative grounds. On a question of this kind the opinions of a gentleman like Mr. Quinton, who had taken a practical part in the work of registering emigrants, and of Major Pitcher, were entitled to considerable weight; and he was bound to say, after having heard what his hon'ble friend Mr. Quinton had said, and after taking into consideration Major Pitcher's opinion, that his own view was that the amendment which had been proposed was on the whole likely to cause greater inconvenience than would be justified by any good which was likely to follow from it, and that the best way of giving an intending emigrant full information of the bargain he was about to make was to be found in that provision of the Bill which imposed on the registering officer the duty of ascertaining whether he really knew where he was going, and what was the kind of undertaking upon which he was about to enter. For these reasons only, MR. ILBERT personally should vote against the amendment.

The Motion being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon'ble Amír Alí.	The Hon'ble R. Miller.
The Hon'ble Mahárájá Luchmessur Singh, Bahádúr, of Darbhangá.	The Hon'ble T. M. Gibbon.
The Hon'ble Kristodás Pál.	The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble H. S. Thomas.	The Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds.
The Hon'ble Durgá Charan Láhá.	The Hon'ble Sir A. Colvin.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter.	The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope.	Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley.	The Hon'ble J. Gibbs.
His Excellency the President.	His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

The numbers being equal, the President gave his casting vote with the ayes.

So the Motion was carried.

The Hon'ble RAÍ KRISTODÁS PÁL moved that in section 36, after the words "and term of service" the words "and the remuneration" be inserted. He said that his object in moving the amendment was this. When a man expatriated himself from his country for service in another country, he ought to know what he would earn there. The Bill gave him no information on that subject. It was true that the Bill provided for the passing of rules by Government, which, amongst other particulars, might include information as to the amount of wages; but he thought it was of the utmost importance that the Bill should specifically provide that the emigrant should be informed, even if approximately, of the wages he was to receive before he executed the agreement.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT said he was quite willing to accept this amendment. The Bill as originally drawn provided that the agreement should specify the daily or monthly wages the emigrant was to receive. But when the Select Committee came to consider how the form provided for the purpose should be filled up, they found great difficulty in cases in which the labourer was paid by the piece or the job, and accordingly they omitted the reference to wages, and merely provided that the agreement should provide the nature and terms of the service to be performed, and they intended that the information on this point should include, as far as possible, the remuneration he was to receive.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT said that, with the permission of the Council, he would ask leave to move a small amendment in section 71 of the Bill. As he had not given notice of the amendment, he was entirely in the hands of the Council as to whether or not he should move it. The amendment was this, that in section 71, for the word "proceeding" the words "embarking at that port" be substituted. The Bill was framed on the assumption that all the emigrants who were to go by a particular emigrant-vessel would be shipped at the same port; but it had been brought to the notice of the Government that it might be convenient in some cases for a vessel proceeding from Calcutta to stop at Madras and ship emigrants there. So far as he could judge, none of the provisions of the Bill would prevent this being done. The only difficulty which he thought might arise was in connection with some of the terms of the certificate to be given under the Act. Section 71 required a certificate from the Protector of Emigrants and the Emigration Agent for the country to which the emigrants were to be conveyed, to the effect that they had, in respect of all the emigrants proceeding in the vessel, done all that was required by the provisions of the Act, or by the rules made under the Act, to be done by the Protector and Agent respectively; and a technical difficulty might arise as to compliance with this requirement of the law. Therefore, he proposed that the certificate should not be in respect of all the emigrants "proceeding in the vessel," but only in respect of the emigrants embarking at the port to which the Protector and Agent belonged.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble RAÍ KRISTODÁS PÁL moved that for clause (*b*) of section 83 the following clause shall be substituted:—

"(*b*) fails to give a true copy of the statement with which he is provided under section twenty-six to any person whom he invites to emigrate".

He said that, as the first amendment imposed an obligation on the recruiter, it was necessary that there should be a penalty attached if the obligation was not fulfilled.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT observed that he thought this amendment was a necessary consequence of the amendment which had already been carried, and he had, therefore, no objection to offer.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The Hon'ble MR. AMÍR ALÍ expressed the satisfaction which was felt among all classes of the Indian community with this measure. The hardships to which emigrants were subjected, and the false representations of which they were very frequently victims, made some such measure absolutely necessary; and he had no doubt that, when this measure was passed, it would be regarded as a great boon by the classes which it would affect. There was, however, one point regarding which he entertained considerable doubts, and these doubts, he should also add, were to some extent shared by some of the leading members of the Native community. The point to which he referred was as to the limit of age contained in section 39 of the Bill. He mentioned his views to the hon'ble and learned member in charge of the Bill, and he learned from him that the matter had received careful consideration in the Select Committee, and therefore he was constrained to come to the conclusion that he would not be justified in raising a discussion on it at the present stage of the Bill.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

RANGOON TRAMWAYS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to authorize the making, and to regulate the working, of Street Tramways in Rangoon be taken into consideration. He said that this Bill was prepared for the purpose of giving effect to an agreement entered into between the municipality of Rangoon and Mr. Darwood, for the purpose of making street tramways in the town of Rangoon, on the understanding that all the roads were situated within municipal limits. But the Government had since been informed that part of one of these roads lay not within municipal limits but within the military cantonment. The simplest way to meet the difficulty, the Committee considered, was to add a section to the Bill providing that all the roads specified as roads over which tramways were to be constructed should, for the purposes of the Act and of the agreement, be deemed to be situate within the municipality, and they had accordingly added a section to that effect. The other amendments made by the Committee in the Bill were of a very trifling nature, and he need not allude to them.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that, in section 16, for clauses (*b*) and (*c*), the following be substituted, namely:—

"(*b*) does anything in such a manner as to obstruct any carriage using any such tramway; or

"(*c*) abets, within the meaning of the Indian Penal Code, the doing of anything mentioned in clause (*a*) or clause (*b*)".

He explained that the amendment was of a merely formal character.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

SUNDRY BILLS.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbs' name be substituted for Sir S. Bayley's as a member of the Select Committees on the following Bills:—

To amend the law relating to Local Self-government in British Burma.

To amend the Legal Practitioners' Act, 1879, and the Indian Stamp Act, 1879.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

SUCCESSION CERTIFICATES BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR A. COLVIN moved that the Hon'ble Mr. Gibbs' name be substituted for Sir S. Bayley's as a member of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to certificates granted under Act XXVII of 1860 (*an Act for facilitating the collection of debts on successions, and for the security of parties paying debts to the representatives of deceased persons*).

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Friday, the 21st December, 1883.

D. FITZPATRICK,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.

FORT WILLIAM;
The 21st December, 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Government House on Friday, the 21st December, 1883.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. Gibbs, C.S.I., C.I.E.
Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir A. Colvin, K.C.M.G.
The Hon'ble W. W. Hunter, LL.D., C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Durgá Charan Láhá.
The Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds.
The Hon'ble H. S. Thomas.
The Hon'ble G. H. P. Evans.
The Hon'ble Kristodás Pál, Raí Bahádur, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton.
The Hon'ble T. M. Gibbon, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble R. Miller.
The Hon'ble Amír Alí.

QUIETING OF TITLES (PANJÁB) BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved for leave to introduce a Bill for the Quieting of Titles depending on Decisions passed on appeal by certain Settlement-officers in the Panjáb. He said that the object of the Bill was to remove doubts, which had been raised by a recent decision of the Panjáb Chief Court, as to whether certain Settlement-officers had been duly empowered to exercise appellate jurisdiction in suits and other proceedings relating to land-revenue.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

UNIVERSITIES HONORARY DEGREES BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. GIBBS presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to authorize the Universities of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay to grant certain honorary degrees.

The Council adjourned to Friday, the 4th January, 1884.

D. FITZPATRICK,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.

FORT WILLIAM;
The 21st December, 1883.

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SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India.

Nº 52. CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1883.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT *to the* GAZETTE OF INDIA *will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.*

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

[TELEGRAPH.]

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1883.

CLASS OF MESSAGES.	ROUTE. WEST. VIA TEHERAN. No.	VIA TEHERAN. Indian Value.	VIA TURKEY. No.	VIA TURKEY. Indian Value.	PERSIAN GULF. No.	PERSIAN GULF. Indian Value.	VIA SUEZ. No.	VIA SUEZ. Indian Value.	EAST. VIA AMUR. No.	VIA AMUR. Indian Value.	VIA MADRAS. No.	VIA MADRAS. Indian Value.	VIA RANGOON. No.	VIA RANGOON. Indian Value.	NATIVE BURMA. No.	NATIVE BURMA. Indian Value.	CEYLON. No.	CEYLON. Indian Value.	TOTAL. No.	TOTAL. Indian Value.
INDIAN.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.		₹ a.
Sent	3,108	—10,589 12	116	364 2	62	211 13	3,280	136 3	18	40 8	759	9,539 8	153	350 3	450	665 13	1,652	2,857 12	9,598	—5,433 14
Received	1,901	9,397 4	150	488 3	51	191 9	3,754	13,641 12	10	20 2	727	2,111 9	184	500 6	. .	. .	1,608	3,242 2	8,385	29,592 15
TOTAL	5,009	—10,192 8	266	842 5	113	403 6	7,034	13,777 15	28	60 10	1,486	11,651 1	337	850 9	450	665 13	3,260	6,099 14	17,983	24,159 1
TRANSIT.																				
From East to West—																				
Recd. *Vid* Madras	249	1,987 6	11	29 10	7	24 6	4,913	19,670 15	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	5,180	21,712 5
Recd. „ Rangoon	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Recd. „ Laingha	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Recd. From Ceylon	28	112 8	3	7 3	. .	. .	390	1,078 4	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	421	1,197 15
From West to East—																				
Sent. *Vid* Madras	1,038	4,983 6	147	415 2	5	11 4	3,913	16,240 8	3	6 12	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	5,106	21,657 0
Sent. „ Rangoon	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	1	3 0	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	1	3 0
Sent. „ Laingha	. .	. .	2	9 0	. .	. .	4	22 15	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	6	31 15
Sent. To Ceylon	81	321 14	6	25 2	. .	. .	221	778 6	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	308	1,125 5
From West to West—																				
Recd. *Vid* Bombay	. .	. .	. .	. .	8	50 4	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	8	50 4
Sent. *Vid* Bombay	. .	. .	1	2 10	8	40 1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	9	42 11
From East to East—																				
Recd. From Ceylon	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	47	182 4	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	47	182 4
Recd. *Vid* Madras	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	36	138 15	36	138 15
TOTAL	1,396	7,405 2	170	488 11	28	125 15	9,442	37,793 15	3	6 12	47	182 4	. .	. .	. .	. .	36	138 15	11,122	46,141 10
																	GRAND TOTAL		29,105	70,300 11

ABSTRACT OF FOREIGN TRAFFIC WITH INDIA BY THE INDO-EUROPEAN AND RED SEA ROUTES FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1883.

ROUTE.		NUMBER OF MESSAGES BY EACH ROUTE (EXCLUSIVE OF TRANSIT). To India.	From India.	TOTAL.	PERCENTAGE OF NUMBER. To India.	From India.	TOTAL.
INDO-EUROPEAN	*Vid* Teheran	1,901	3,108	5,009	32·46	47·34	40·32
INDO-EUROPEAN	„ Turkey	150	116	266	2·56	1·77	2·14
INDO-EUROPEAN	Persian Gulf *vid* Karachi	51	62	113	0·87	0·94	0·91
RED SEA	*Vid* Suez	3,754	3,280	7,034	64·11	49·95	56·63
	TOTAL	5,856	6,566	12,422	100·00	100·00	100·00

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS FOR THE 2nd HALF OF NOVEMBER 1883 PUBLISHED IN PAGES 2310, 2311, 2316, 2317, 2318 AND 2319 OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "GAZETTE OF INDIA", DATED 22nd DECEMBER 1883.

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice. Best sort.			Rice. Common.			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), *Holcus Sorghum.*			*Bulrush Millet (Cumboo, Bajra), Penicillaria Spicata.*			Lesser Millets, Ragi, &c. (Kavaru, Veragoo, Sawee, Cheena Coraloo, Murhwa, Nuglee, &c.), *Panicum Miliaceum, Eleusine Coracana, &c.*			Gram.			Firewood.			Salt. Wholesale.			Salt. Retail.		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of last year.
		S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.	S. C.
Bombay	Bombay	10 6	10 4	10 0	17 0	17 0	17 15	7 8	7 8	8 12	11 11	12 1	12 11	19 2	18 1	19 6	15 15	15 15	17 10	11 8	11 2	14 1	15 15	16 7	18 0	62 6	62 6	62 6	16 12	14 6	14 6	14 6	14 6	12 9
	Ahmedabad	13 8	11 8	13 8	20 0	16 0	20 0	7 0	7 0	9 0	12 0	11 0	14 0	17 0	17 0	19 0	15 8	15 0	17 0	...	...	...	18 0	17 8	19 8	80 0	80 0	80 0	16 8	16 8	16 8	16 0	16 0	16 0
	Kaira	11 7	11 7	11 7	16 0	16 0	22 14	9 11	10 5	10 0	12 13	13 5	14 9	...	...	20 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	20 0	20 0	...	16 13	16 0	20 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 4
	Surat	11 2	11 2	12 8	12 4	12 4	12 6	7 6	7 6	8 3	8 4	8 4	8 12	19 4	19 4	15 9	14 3	14 3	14 14	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	16 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9
	Broach	12 2	12 2	12 9	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	11 1	12 12	12 10	13 5	16 0	16 0	18	13 14	13 10	15 4	...	...	...	12 10	12 10	17 13½	106 0	106 0	106 0	14 8½	14 8½	13 5½	14 8½	14 8½	13 5½
	Tanna (Salsette)	10 5	10 5	9 12	...	12 14	...	7 0	8 0	9 0	8 0	10 0	11 4	18 10	18 10	18 10	14 6	14 6	15 0	25 11	25 11	25 11	14 0	13 4	14 15	78 0	78 0	71 1	15 12	15 12	14 5	14 0	15 10	13 13
	Colába (Alibág)	8 8	8 8	8 8	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	8 8	8 12	8 12	8 15	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 0
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	16 10	16 10	14 2	...	...	...	7 9	7 9	7 4	12 10	12 11	10 15	20 4	18 9	20 0	16 1	14 15	16 3	...	...	...	16 0	14 4	17 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	14 0	13 8	15 0	13 14	13 6	14 12
	Násik	17 0	14 4	11 6	...	...	...	7 7	7 7	7 7	7 12	0 12	0 12	0 21	0 20	6 22	6 16	5 16	5 17	0 25	4 18	6 29	14 15	4 15	4 16	15 128	0 128	0 128	0 12	14 15	8 14	8 12	11 15	5 14
	Ahmednagar	14 12	14 5	13 2	...	...	...	8 13	8 11	9 7	11 3	10 10	10 14	25 0	27 5	25 6	17 10	17 6	21 0	...	...	...	19 2½	17 5	19 0	73 0	75 3	91 5	13 10½	12 9½	14 9	13 7	12 6	14 8
	Poona	12 10	12 10	12 10	9 4	9 4	...	9 13	9 13	11 0	11 0	11 0	12 4	23 15	21 12	23 15	17 4	17 4	18 6	15 6	15 6	...	17 4	16 2	14 15	68 0	68 0	68 0	14 3	13 10	12 8	13 15	13 6	12 4
	Sholápur	14 8	13 9	13 10	...	...	...	10 7	10 7	10 15	11 5	11 5	12 4	27 10	25 0	26 12	23 14	24 13	25 12	...	...	...	20 1	19 2	17 5	71 1	71 1	80 0	13 8	13 8	13 8	13 4	13 4	12 8
	Kaládgi (Bagalkot)	19 0	19 0	20 8	16 8	16 8	15 0	6 8	6 8	6 12	11 8	11 8	10 8	33 8	33 0	32 0	30 0	31 8	31 0	...	...	...	18 0	18 12	12 0	100 0	100 0	130 0	10 11	10 9	12 10	10 0	10 0	12 0
	Satara	15 11	13 11	10 11	...	...	...	9 9	8 14	8 3	11 7	11 7	10 0	19 13	18 15	18 10	18 2	18 2	18 2	...	...	...	16 14	16 14	13 10	145 0	145 0	129 7	13 13	13 13	13 13	13 2	13 2	13 2
	Belgaum	17 6	16 8	18 8	12 8	12 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	11 0	13 0	13 0	11 8	20 10	20 2	30 0	18 14	16 6	27 0	25 13	23 10	39 0	16 15	16 6	11 8	65 0	65 0	75 0	15 8	11 8	13 0	15 0	11 0	12 8
	Dharwar (Hubli)	21 0	21 0	23 0	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	14 0	28 0	28 0	30 0	24 0	24 0	27 0	31 0	31 0	35 0	16 0	16 0	12 0	80 0	80 0	89 0	8 6	8 6	9 13	8 0	8 0	9 0
	Ratnágiri	9 14	9 14	11 14	...	...	...	8 9	8 9	8 9	14 13	14 2	15 9	18 3	...	20 13	14 11	13 8	19 10	21 2	21 2	21 2	14 0	14 11	15 6	150 0	120 0	150 0	13 12	13 12	14 4	13 9	13 9	14 4
	Kanara (Karwar)	9 0	9 0	10 8	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	11 0	11 12	12 0	16 0	15 1	18 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	20 0	12 8	12 8	13 0	213 5	213 5	213 5	14 0	13 8	13 5	13 0	12 8	12 0
	Pánch Mahals (Godhra)	10 8	10 8	10 0	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	11 6	13 5	13 5	15 0	20 0	20 0	32 0	14 8	14 8	17 12	20 0	20 0	25 10	20 0	20 0	26 10	200 0	200 0	200 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	15 4	15 4	15 4
	Aden	7 0	7 0	8 0	...	...	...	6 3	6 3	7 0	7 0	7 0	8 0	12 7	12 7	11 3	11 3	11 3	9 5	...	...	...	9 5	9 5	9 5	65 5	65 5	65 5	...	...	...	32 0	32 0	32 0
	Asirgarh	13 12	13 12	14 4	...	...	...	11 12	11 12	10 4	14 4	14 3	11 5	19 7	18 8	25 13	17 12	17 12	22 4	...	...	...	16 8	17 8	15 3	160 0	160 0	160 0	12 4	12 4	12 0	12 4	12 4	12 0
	Baroda	10 8	10 8	8 9	5 11	11 12	13 15	5 8	3 8	8 3	9 15	11 11	10 13	12 4	17 8	15 12	17 8	17 8	16 5	15 12	17 8	18 11	...	14 0	14 0	16 5	80 0	80 0	80 0	14 10	14 15	14 10	14 7	14 9	14 9
	Diaa	12 15	12 14	14 9	...	...	...	6 14	6 14	7 6	9 0	9 0	9 0	16 0	10 0	14 8	16 0	16 0	17 6	...	...	...	14 8	14 3	19 0	137 8	137 8	137 8	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0
	Nimach	19 0	19 0	16 0	33 0	33 0	17 0	9 4	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...	23 0	23 0	23 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	...	...	...	13 8	13 8	12 0
	Nasirabad	18 13*	18 15½	17 8	25 0	25 14	24 8½	6 0	6 8	6 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	23 0	23 0	25 5½	19 0	19 8½	17 5½	...	...	...	27 0	27 1	26 8	90 0	90 0	76 10½	16 0½*	16 0½*	16 6½*	15 0*	15 0*	16 0*
	Rájkot	15 9	15 8	15 14	...	...	...	6 8	6 8	6 8	8 9	0 9	0 11	8 17	4 17	4 19	8 15	8 15	6 16 13½	...	...	...	14 4	14 2	18 12	60 0	60 0	80 0	45 0	45 0	55 0	30 0	35 0	48 0
H. A. Districts.	Secunderabad	16 5	15 8	16 12	...	...	...	8 4	8 4	7 14	11 11	11 4	9 13	23 0	23 0	25 14	28 4	28 4	4 ...	29 9	29 9	9 ...	16 12	14 13	16 12	125 0	125 0	125 0	10 14	10 11	10 14	10 6	10 3	10 6
	Bolarum	17 1	17 0	18 13	...	...	...	8 6	8 6	7 6	10 4	10 7	10 0	23 2	27 0	30 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 14	14 5	18 10	116 14	116 14	116 14	...	...	...	10 12	10 10	12 11
	Chudderghat	14 8	14 0	13 0	...	...	...	8 0	7 8	7 0	10 0	10 0	9 0	25 0	26 0	27 0	29 0	34 0	34 0	...	...	...	17 8	15 0	17 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	9 8
Mysore.	Bangalore	10 0	10 6	11 4	12 10	12 8	8 12	8 10	0 10	2 10	2 11	3 11	4 11	2 28	12 29	0 33	10 ...	...	...	35 11	35 4	33 3	31 7	31 11	31 11	96 0	96 0	96 0	12 4	12 4	12 12	12 0	12 0	12 8
	Kolar	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	11 2	12 0	12 8	13 10	16 4	16 0	13 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	46 0	44 0	35 0	34 0	32 0	37 10	192 0	192 0	172 0	6 12	4 12	4 13	8 12	0 12	0 13
	Túmkúr	13 8	13 8	14 8	12 0	12 0	13 0	13 8	13 8	12 8	14 0	14 0	13 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	41 0	44 0	41 0	40 0	38 0	43 0	340 0	340 0	340 0	11 8	11 8	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 8
	Mysore	9 8	10 8	12 4	...	...	...	12 8	11 0	9 12	14 4	13 4	11 0	32 0	33 4	30 0	...	...	...	28 0	28 12	23 0	33 0	36 0	31 0	75 0	75 0	78 0	8 12	8 12	8 4	8 8	8 8	8 0
	Shimoga	13 10	13 10	14 11	14 11	14 11	16 12	14 11	14 11	10 8	8 18	14 18	14 12	10 37	13 37	13 35	11 ...	...	...	37 13	37 13	35 3	33 9	33 10	29 6	480 0	480 0	480 0	10 8	10 8	11 0	8 6	10 8	10 8
	Kadur	14 0	14 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	21 0	21 0	11 0	23 0	23 0	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	42 0	42 0	25 0	36 0	36 0	23 0	64 0	64 0	64 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0
Rajpootana.	Deoli Cantonment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	13 8	14 4	13 14	13 6	14 0			
																										R a.p per maund.	R a.p.	R a p.						
	Erinpura	17 0	16 4	17 13	25 8	25 2	32 0	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	8 8	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 19	1 20	0 23	0 ...	...	...	20 10	21 4	23 1¼	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0	3 0	6 2	12 9	13 0	12 6
	Sirohi	13 8	13 8	16 0	25 0	25 0	30 0	6 8	6 8	7 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	14 0	14 0	17 0	18 0	18 0	21 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	26 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	12 5	12 5
	Abu	12 14	12 12	15 8	20 0	20 0	22 8	6 8	6 8	6 8	6 8	7 14	8 0	8 0	...	...	...	...	15 0	14 8	17 4	...	...	...	16 4	16 0	20 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	3 4	0	...	3 8	0 12	0	...
	Anadra	14 0	14 0	17 4	23 0	23 0	23 8	7 0	7 0	7 0	8 8	8 8	8 4	9 0	...	...	...	...	17 0	16 8	19 8	...	...	...	18 8	18 0	22 8	...	...	...	3 0	0	3 4	0 3	4 0	13 4
	Marwar (Jodhpore)	16 4	16 4	17 3	21 4	21 4	25 0	6 4	6 4	6 4	6 4	7 8	7 8	7 8	20 0	19 6	21 4	17 8	18 2	19 10	...	...	...	20 0	20 0	21 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15 0	15 10
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	Boondee	24 8	24 8	17 0	40 0	40 0	28 4	9 8	9 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	38 12	38 4	29 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	37 0	37 0	30 4	140 0	120 0	160 0	12 8	12 8	12 12	12 4	12 4	12 6
	Tonk	21 0	20 12	15 6	30 8	30 0	24 1	6 6	6 8	7 0	8 8	8 8	8 9	14 30	12 30	0 27	3 23	8 24	4 20	8 ...	...	...	30 4	30 0	24 1	100 0	100 0	160 0	13 8	13 8	13 12	12 13	13 4	13 4
	Shahpoora	20 2	20 2	17 8	29 4	28 12	21 8	11 0	11 0	12 4	14 4	14 4	14 5	24 0	24 0	19 9	20 0	19 0	18 8	...	...	...	25 8	23 0	21 13	160 0	160 0	160 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	13 14	13 10	13 13

* Sambhar.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Statistical Branch.)

J. WESTLAND,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASONS AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 25th DECEMBER 1883.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Rain continues to fall generally in the districts of the Madras Presidency where harvesting of paddy, *ragi*, &c., is in progress and standing crops are in good condition, though partial injury has been done in one district by excessive rain.

There has been no rain in any other province except slight showers in Dharwar, Bombay Presidency, and Sandoway in British Burma. The *rabi* crops in three districts of the Bombay Presidency are suffering from blight, otherwise prospects are good. In Mysore rice is being harvested and standing crops promise well. In the Berars and Hyderabad cotton is being picked and the *kharif* harvested, and the weeding of *rabi* crops has commenced. Prospects continue fair in Central India and Rajputana, but cotton has suffered from frost in Ulwar, and rain is needed in that State. In the Punjab and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the *rabi* crops on unirrigated lands require rain, but prospects are on the whole favourable. In the Central Provinces prospects are excellent.

In Bengal the outturn of the rice harvest is very poor and will, it is expected, fall short of the estimate even in Eastern Bengal and Orissa. The *rabi* has much benefited by the last showers, but more rain is much wanted. In British Burma the rice harvest is reported to be well advanced and the prospects generally excellent.

Cholera still lingers in the Southern Presidencies, and small-pox and fever are generally prevalent though not severe.

Prices continue to rule high in Bengal.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras (Dec. 26th)—		
Bellary	·30 (in one station).	Standing crops fair; harvest paddy, *ragi*, and horse gram, yield average, other dry grains, pulse, and oil-seeds below average.
Kurnool	. . . .	Standing crops good; harvest paddy progressing, yield above average.
Ganjam	. . . .	Fever and small-pox slight in one taluk.
Kistna	. . . .	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy, outturn below average; fever and small-pox prevalent, cattle-disease in parts.
Chingleput (Madras)	·57 (average of 9 stations).	Standing crops generally good, but injured partially by excessive rain in two taluks; harvest *kar* and paddy, yield below average; small-pox in three taluks, cholera more general, 32 deaths.
Coimbatore	1·00 (average of 15 stations).	Harvest paddy, *ragi* and *cumbu*, yield about average; 135 deaths from cholera, fever, and small-pox, cattle-disease in parts.
Tanjore	1·36 (average of 14 stations).	Standing crops good; harvest paddy, outturn average; 348 deaths from cholera.
Madura	1·22 (average of 8 stations).	Standing crops fair; harvest dry crops, yield about average; cholera decreasing in Madura town, elsewhere slight.
Malabar	·77 (average of 13 stations).	Second crop paddy in good condition, being harvested in three taluks; small-pox and fever in parts.
Travancore	·11	Paddy generally in ear; 9 deaths from cholera. *General Remarks.*—General prospects good.
Bombay—(Dec. 26th)—		
Kurrachee	. . . .	River at Kotri on 20th 4 feet 2 inches against 3 feet 11 inches on the same date last year; fever generally prevalent, cattle-disease in 3 talukas, loss of 59 cows and buffaloes in Manjhand and Sujawal; 3 fresh cases of small-pox in Kurrachee, total 81 deaths; disease in 12 villages in districts, 136 fresh cases, 14 deaths, 92 remaining sick; prices—wheat, red rice, and *bajri* in Kurrachee 24, 28 and 34, in Sehwan 28 and 40, in Ghorabari 20, 28 and 32, and in Mirpur Bitoro 22, 32 and 34 pounds per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad	. . . .	Small-pox still in 8, fever in 10, and cattle-disease in 4 talukas; wheat 25½, *bajri* 36, *jowari* 42, red rice 24, and white rice 20 pounds per rupee.
Ahmedabad	. . . .	Standing crops healthy; fever in Viramgam; *bajri* 30 and wheat 25½ pounds per rupee.
Baroda	. . . .	Fever in Attarsumba mahal of Kadi division; 4 cases of small-pox at Monekevada; pressing of sugarcane continues in Naosari division; prices—*bajri* 32 and rice 25 pounds per rupee.
Surat	. . . .	*Rabi* crops healthy; fever continues in some talukas; cholera in Chikli, cases, 2 deaths; *jowari* 41 and *nagli* 48 pounds per rupee.
Nasik	. . . .	*Kharif* crops harvested; *rabi* crops healthy; public health good; no cattle-disease; *bajri* 31, wheat 33, and rice 14 pounds per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay)	. . . .	Abnormal temperature 1° to 3° cool; vapour in air defective; abnormal wind, easterly.
Poona	. . . .	*Rabi* crops thriving; slight cattle-disease in Tirur taluka; prices—*bajri* 40 and *jowari* 50, in Poona *bajri* 35 and *jowari* 48 pounds per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—*contd.*		
Ahmednagar	. . . .	*Bajri* threshing continued; *rabi* sowing finished, except in Akola; young crops good except *jowari*; locusts in Shrigonda; *bajri*—maximum 54 pounds in Jamkhed, minimum 36 in Parner; *jowari*—maximum 72 in Jamkhed, minumum 44 in Harjat.
Sholapore	. . . .	Prospects of *rabi* crop unfavourable; prices of common staple food rising; *jowari* 54 and *bajri* 52 pounds per rupee.
Dharwar	Rain slight in three talukas.	Harvesting of rice crop in progress and reaping of other early crops completed; exotic cotton suffering from blight in three talukas; other late crops good; small-pox in Kod and fever in 5 talukas; rice 25 to 41 and *jowari* 52 to 88 pounds per rupee.
Kanara	. . . .	Sowing for second crop in progress on coast; plants springing up in places; harvest completed above ghat; fever in Yellapur, Haliyal, and Mundgod, cattle-disease in Honawar and Karwar, small-pox in Honawar and Kumpta; common rice in Karwar 12, district average 15⅓ seers per rupee; weather fair and cold.
Rajkot	. . . .	General health good; weather cold; *bajri* 29 and *jowari* 36 pounds per rupee. *General Remarks.*—River continues low in Sind; slight rain in parts of Dhatwar; *rabi* prospects good, except in Sholapur; crops suffering from blight in parts of Kaladgi, Belgaum, and Dharwar; slight cholera in parts of Surat, Tanna, and Satara; fever, cattle-disease, and small-pox in a few districts.
Bengal—(Dec. 25th)		
Chittagong	*Nil*	Weather seasonable; outturn of *amun* indifferent; prices stationary; general health good; cattle-disease in one outpost.
Dacca	*Nil*	Paddy being cut; *cheena, kaon*, and other winter crops being sown; prospects good.
24-Pergunnahs	*Nil*	Rice being harvested, outturn expected to be from eight to ten annas; cold-weather crops now doing well; price of rice 13 to 16 seers per rupee; public health generally good.
Moorshedabad	*Nil*	Weather very cold; *amun* being cut; *rabi* crops reported to be good; average price of rice 15 seers per rupee; public health good.
Rajshahye	*Nil*	Weather cold and seasonable; reaping of *amun* still going on, outturn poor; prospects of winter crops generally favourable; public health fair.
Burdwan	*Nil*	Weather fine and cold; *amun* being harvested, estimated outturn about six annas; prospects of *rabi* crops not good; public health fair.
Rungpore	. . . .	Report not received.
Bhagulpore	*Nil*	Outturn of rice crop in Banka will not exceed six annas; average outturn in Soopole reported to be seven or eight annas, and in the Sudder Sub-division from five to eight annas; prospects of *rabi* crops not favourable except in certain small areas; new rice selling at 13¾ seers per rupee.
Purneah	*Nil*	Rice crop being harvested, average outturn expected to be about eight annas in the north, and less in other parts of the district; *rabi* crops suffering from want of rain; price of common rice 16 seers per rupee; public health fair.
Patna	*Nil*	Harvesting of paddy is being pushed on; rain wanted for *rabi* crops; poppy growing well; public health good.
Durbhanga	*Nil*	Harvesting of paddy progressing, outturn very indifferent; *rabi* crops suffering from want of rain; prices rising slightly in some places; public health fair.
Hazareebagh	*Nil*	Weather very cold; harvesting of rice over; *rabi* crops promising in places where irrigation by wells is available; common rice selling at 14 seers per rupee; small-pox still prevalent in the sudder station; public health generally good.
Cuttack	*Nil*	Weather cold; yield of rice crop about ten annas; *rabi* crops doing well; common rice selling at from 18 to 20 seers per rupee; a few sporadic cases of cholera reported, otherwise public health good. *General Remarks.*—There has been no rain this week in any part of the province; rain is much wanted for the *rabi* crops in Behar; elsewhere the prospects of these crops have been improved by the late rain; the harvesting of the rice crop is being vigorously pushed on, but generally there is a very short outturn; even in Eastern Bengal and Orissa the crop will be less than was expected; in Furreedpore it will be only a seven-anna crop; in Mymensingh about the same crop is expected, and in Chittagong the outturn will not be satisfactory; in Cuttack and Balasore the average yield will be about ten annas; high prices continue to prevail throughout the province, though new rice has come into the market in several places; fever is still prevalent in several districts.
N.-W. Provinces and Oudh—		
Benares (Dec. 25th)	No rain	Weather fine but cold; rain wanted for crops, for which there is no facility for irrigation; no sickness; bazars well supplied.
Allahabad („ 26th)	. . . .	Irrigated crops doing well; rain greatly needed in unirrigated tracts; health generally good; prices slightly risen.
Gorakhpur („ 23rd)	No rain	Irrigation actively carried on; some fever and small-pox in district; prices steady.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
N.-W.P. & Oudh—*contd.*		
Jhansi .(Dec. 24th)	. . . .	*Rabi* crops doing well, but rain is wanted; water in wells being deficient; prices fluctuating; health of people and cattle good.
Cawnpore .(„ „)	No rain	Weather cold, and heavy dews in the night; *rabi* prospects on the whole fair; small-pox continues, and no sickness among cattle; prices easy.
Farukabad .(„ 25th)	. . . .	Weather seasonable; sky clear; small-pox reported as prevailing in the Terwa and Kanduj tahsils, more virulent in the former than in the latter; crops hopeful.
Rae Bareilly („ 24th)	No rain	Weather seasonable; sky cloudy on the 18th; *rabi* crops on irrigated land look well; general health good; markets well stocked; prices steady.
Agra .(„ 25th)	No rain	*Rabi* being irrigated, but it is suffering for want of rain; health good; prices steady.
Bareilly .(„ „)	No rain	Unirrigated crops beginning to suffer from want of rain and from frost; markets easy; mild fever prevalent, otherwise health good.
Meerut .(„ „)	No rain	Crops flourishing; supplies sufficient; prices slightly fallen; health good.
Kumaun .(„ 24th)	. . . .	Weather fine and cold; *rabi* growing up; health good; cattle-disease continues; prices stationary.
Lucknow .(„ 25th)	No rain	Weather very cold at night; prospects continue favourable; high land *rabi* crop needs rain very much; condition of people and cattle good; markets well supplied; prices stationary.
Partabgarh .(„ „)	No rain	Prices show slight changes; irrigation going on; small-pox in tahsil Kunda and Patti; general health good.
Sitapur .(„ „)	. . . .	Weather cold; health good; prices nearly steady; rain much wanted for unirrigated crops.
Fyzabad .(„ „)	No rain	Weather seasonable; rice crops doing well on irrigated lands; prices stationary; general health of people good.
		General Remarks.—No rain has fallen during the week; irrigation is being carried on where practicable; rain is generally needed elsewhere, but the *rabi* prospects are on the whole fair; small-pox and fever are reported in several districts; the markets are well supplied, and prices in most districts steady.
Punjab—(Dec. 26th)—		
Delhi . . .	. . . .	Health good; prices stationary.
Hissar . . .	. . . .	Health good; prices steady.
Umballa . . .	. . . .	Health good; prices rising.
Jullundur . . .	. . . .	Health good; sugarcane being pressed; prices steady.
Lahore . . .	. . . .	Health and condition of crops good; prices stationary.
Ferozepur . . .	. . . .	Health good; fall in prices of barley and *bajra;* prices of other food-grains stationary.
Sialkot . . .	. . . .	Health and crop prospects good; prices stationary.
Rawalpindi . . .	. . . .	Seasonal fever in Attock tahsil, health elsewhere good; state of crops good; prices fluctuating.
Peshawar . . .	. . . .	Small-pox prevalent; prices stationary.
Mooltan . . .	. . . .	Health good; prices stationary.
Dera Ismail Khan .	. . . .	Health good; crop prospects fair; prices steady.
Amritsar . . .	. . . .	Health good; prices steady.
		General Remarks.—No rain during the week, but it is wanted; small-pox prevalent in the Peshawar district, and seasonal fever in the Attock tahsil of the Rawalpindi district, health elsewhere good; *rabi* prospects generally good.
Central Provinces—		
Nagpur .(Dec. 26th)	. . . .	Weather cold and cloudy; *kharif* crops in excellent condition; *jowari* almost gathered; *rabi* crops promising; fever prevalent.
Jubbulpore („ 25th)	. . . .	Weather clear and cold; reaping of *kharif* crops completed; cotton-picking continues; prices stationary; health good.
Saugor („ 24th)	. . . .	Weather very cold; *rabi* prospects generally favourable, but in places the crops are languishing for want of rain; health good; prices stationary.
Seoni .(„ 26th)	. . . .	Weather clear with frosty nights; rain wanted for *rabi;* fever decreasing; prices stationary.
Raipur .(„ „)	. . . .	Weather very cold; rice is being threshed; *rabi* prospects favourable; health good; prices steady.
Khandwa („ „)	. . . .	Weather chilly and occasionally cloudy; crop prospects good; prices steady; *jowari* 18¾ and wheat 17½ seers per rupee.
		General Remarks.—Prices steady; prospects very favourable; health good.
British Burma—		
Akyab .(Dec. 15th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 190·58; public health good; ten buffaloes died at Urittang East, elsewhere health of cattle good; slight damage to crop in Kyalat township by flood; heavy rain and wind; reaping commenced in some places; price of paddy in Noaf from Rs. 20 to 22 per 100 baskets.
„ („ 26th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 190·58; three deaths from small-pox in Urittang West, otherwise public health good; eleven buffaloes died in Rathaidoung, elsewhere health of plough-cattle good; reaping in progress; reaping wages from Rs. 15 to 20 per diem for six-and-half acres; price of paddy in Noaf from Rs. 20 to 22 per 100 baskets.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
British Burmah—*contd.*		
Rangoon (Dec. 26th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 84·23; seven fatal cases of small-pox, otherwise public health good; no supplies of paddy; prices normal.
Bassein .(„ „)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 106·32; public health good; slight cattle-disease in Thaboung township; reaping completed in most parts of Ngathaingyoung sub-division; price of paddy from Rs. 110 per 100 baskets.
Prome .(„ „)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 53·48; public health and health of cattle good; reports state that one-third of the harvest has already been gathered, and that the outturn will be much better than that of last year; average cost of labour for reaping Rs. 2-8 per acre; price of paddy Rs. 85 per 100 baskets.
Amherst (Moulmein) („ „)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 166·28; public health and health of cattle good; reaping progressing; outturn estimated to show small increase over last year; public health and health of cattle good in Moulmein; about 100 acres of *kyankyi* paddy reaped; outturn 2,000 baskets.
Toungoo .(„ „)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 79·88; public health good.
Shweygyin .(„ „)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 139·68; small-pox reported in several villages of the Yehla circle, otherwise public health good; cattle healthy; harvesting progressing; price of paddy Rs. 120 per 100 baskets.
Sandoway .(„ „)	·32	Total rainfall up to date 223·18; public health good; agricultural prospects not unfavourable, but for late rain and wind crop would have been exceptionally good; damage caused has not been reported from northern and southern townships.
Hanthawaddy(„ „)	*Nil*	Public health and health of cattle good; paddy crops slightly damaged in the Tamanaing township; price of paddy from Rs. 95 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Pegu .(„ 15th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 128·34; slight fever and measles in Pegu, otherwise public health excellent; slight cattle-disease reported from Meyinzya, but details not yet received; reaping progressing vigorously; weather favourable; outturn considered full; price of paddy unaltered.
Tharrawaddy(„ 26th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 106·27; public health and health of cattle good; probable area actually cultivated with paddy 229·798; approximate increase is 51,176 acres as compared with last year; condition of reaping crop good; about 52,454 acres have been reaped in Sangwee, Gyobingauk, Minhla, and Tapun townships; wages of reaping 8 annas per man per day; price of paddy from Rs. 95 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Thonegwa .(„ „)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 94·64; public health and health of cattle good; one-fourth crops already reaped; price of paddy from Rs. 90 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Henzada .(„ „)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 86·83; public health and health of cattle good; reaping progressing; wages of reaping one basket of paddy per diem or Rs. 3 an acre per man; price of paddy from Rs. 75 to 100 per 100 baskets.
Thayetmyo .(„ „)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 48·65; public health good; cattle-disease bad in places; reaping about half finished; price of paddy Rs. 110 per 100 baskets.
Tavoy .(„ „)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 195·44; public health and health of cattle good; reaping and gathering of the crops progressing.
Mergui .(„ 15th)	*Nil*	Total rainfall up to date 175·94; public health good; cattle healthy; one-third of the crops has been reaped; price of paddy Rs. 75 per 100 baskets.
		General Remarks.—Public health generally good, but small-pox more or less prevalent in Akyab, Rangoon, and Shwegyin; health of cattle good, except in Akyab, Pegu, Bassein, and Thyetmyo; crop prospects for the most part excellent; reaping well advanced.
Assam—(Dec. 26th)—		
Gauhati . . .	*Nil*	Nights and mornings foggy and cool; reaping of *sali* crops in progress; public health fair.
Sylhet . . .	*Nil*	State and prospects of crops as reported last week.
Cachar . . .	*Nil*	Weather very cold; reaping of *sali* crops progressing; common rice 13-5/16 seers per rupee; general health good.
Dibrugarh . . .	*Nil*	Weather cold; prospects of crops good; public health good.
Mysore and Coorg—(Dec. 26th)—		
Bangalore . . .	. . .	Standing crops in good condition; harvesting of *ragi* and paddy continues; health good; prospects favourable.
Mysore . . .	*Nil*	Weather cloudy with high and boisterous winds; fever common; picking of coffee still progressing; outturn generally in excess of estimates; berries well formed and compact; rice harvest commenced, yield good.
Mercara . . .		*General Remarks.*—Rainfall slight in four districts; standing crops reported on favourably; harvesting of grain general throughout the province; prospects and public health good; prices unchanged.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week preceding.	State of agricultural prospects.
Berar & Hyderabad— (Dec. 26th)—		
Amraoti . . .	. . . .	Weather clear and cold; cotton picking and *kharif* harvesting in progress; *rabi* prospects good; wheat 16 and *jowari* 26 seers per rupee.
Akola . . .	. . . .	*Kharif* crops being harvested; *rabi* crops in good condition.
Hyderabad (Dec. 27th)	. . . .	No rain during week; weeding of *rabi* crop commenced; no sickness; prices—wheat 15½, coarse rice 12, white *juar* 30¾, and *tur* 24 seers per *halli sicca* rupee.
Central India States— (Dec. 26th)—		
Indore . . .	*Nil*	Health good; prices steady.
Morar (Gwalior) . .	*Nil*	Health good; prices steady.
Sutna . . .	*Nil*	Health good.
Nowgong . . .	. . . .	Health good; prices steady.
Bhopawar (Manpur) .	. . . .	No fresh cases of cholera have occurred since 11th December at Dutwara; prospects good.
Neemuch . . .	. . . .	Public health good; crops good.
Goona . . .	. . . .	Health and prospects good.
Agar	. . . .	Prospects of crops favourable; health at Agar good.
Sehore . . .	. . . .	Weather clear; prospects and public health good.
Rajputana—		
Abu . (Dec. 26th)	. . . .	Cold severe; weather seasonable.
Marwar . („ 22nd)	. . . .	About 2 months' water in the Jodhpore city; tanks and wells almost full; health good; *rabi* in good condition; prices stationary.
Harowtee . („ „)	. . . .	Weather unusually cold; health good.
Ajmere . („ 25th)	*Nil*	Few cases of cattle-disease in Merwara; health good.
Jeypore . („ „)	*Nil*	Crop prospects fair; prices steady; health good.
Ulwur . („ 24th)	. . . .	Frost injured cotton; rain wanted; health good.

E. C. BUCK,
Secretary to the Government of India.

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EXTRA SUPPLEMENT TO

The Gazette of India.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1883.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

No. 1411J., dated Calcutta, the 20th March 1882.

From—HORACE A. COCKERELL, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial, Political and Appointment Departments,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I am directed to submit, for the consideration of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a note† by Mr. B. L. Gupta, of the Bengal Civil Service, representing the anomalous position in which the Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service are placed under the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which limit the jurisdiction to be exercised over European British subjects in the interior to Judicial officers who are themselves European British subjects. Chapter VII of Act X of 1872, which deals with the subject, has been reproduced in the new Code of Criminal Procedure (*vide* Chapter XXXIII of Act X of 1882).

† Dated the 30th January 1882.

2. The question raised in Mr. Gupta's note is one which requires full consideration, and on which the Government of India will probably deem it desirable to obtain the opinions of all the Local Governments and Administrations, inasmuch as it may not be expedient to apply to the Madras and Bombay Presidencies a rule which may be applicable to Bengal. Mr. Gupta desired that the question of the jurisdiction to be exercised by Covenanted Civilians over Europeans in the mofussil might be considered in connection with the Bill to amend Act X of 1872; but the Lieutenant-Governor felt that a discussion on the subject could not with propriety be raised at the final reading of that Bill. Sir Ashley Eden is, however, of opinion that the matter should receive full and careful consideration, whenever, on any future occasion, a fitting opportunity occurs.

3. As a question of general policy, it seems to the Lieutenant-Governor right that Covenanted Native Civilians should be empowered to exercise jurisdiction over Europeans as well as over Natives who are brought before them in their capacity as Criminal Judges. Now that Native Covenanted Civilians may shortly be expected to hold the office of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, it is also, as a matter of administrative convenience, desirable that they should have the power to try all classes of persons brought before them. Moreover, if this power is not conferred upon Native members of the Civil Service, the anomaly may be presented of a European Joint Magistrate, who is subordinate to a Native District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, being empowered to try cases which his immediate superior cannot try. Native Presidency Magistrates within the towns exercise the same jurisdiction over Europeans that they do over Natives, and there seems to be no sufficient reason why Covenanted Native Civilians, with the position and training of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, should not exercise the same jurisdiction over Europeans as is exercised by other members of the Service.

4. For these reasons Sir Ashley Eden is of opinion that the time has now arrived when all Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service should be relieved of such restrictions of their powers as are imposed on them by Chapter XXXIII of the new Code of Criminal Procedure, or when at least Native Covenanted Civilians who have attained the position of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge should have entrusted to them full powers over all classes, whether European or Native, within their jurisdictions.

Jurisdiction over European British Subjects.

As the law now stands—Chapter VII of Act X of 1872‡—no Magistrate or Sessions Judge has jurisdiction to enquire into a complaint or to try a charge against a European British subject unless he is a Justice of the Peace and himself a European British subject. An exception to this rule is allowed

‡ Section 72.

within the limits of Presidency towns where, under Act IV of 1877, a Presidency Magistrate, whether himself a European or not, has the same jurisdiction over Europeans as over Natives of the country.

Previous to the passing of Act X of 1872 (the present Criminal Procedure Code) no Magistrate or Justice of the Peace, even though a European himself, had jurisdiction (outside the limits of the Presidency towns) to try a charge against any European British subject. But all Magistrates who were also Justices of the Peace had jurisdiction to enquire into charges against Europeans and to commit them to the High Court for trial. (See sections 39, 40 and 41 of Act XXV of 1861, the old Criminal Procedure Code). And by section 3, Act II of 1869, the Government was empowered to appoint any Covenanted Civil Servant to be a Justice of the Peace Under Act X of 1872, however, a Covenanted Civil Servant, even though a first class Magistrate and a Justice of the Peace, would have no jurisdiction over a European British subject unless he himself is a European British subject.

This provision of the law would give rise to an invidious distinction and to many practical inconveniences in the case of those Natives of the country who in the course of time expect to attain to the position of a District Magistrate or of a Sessions Judge. Hence, when the Bill for Act X of 1872 was still before the Council, an amendment to section 72 in favour of the Native members of the Covenanted Service was proposed by the Hon'ble Mr. Ellis. The * amendment was put to the vote and lost by a majority of *seven* against *five*. But it is remarkable that the minority in that instance comprised the highest officials of the State The President and Governor General, the Commander-in-Chief, the then Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and his successor in office, all voted for the amendment, and I would humbly invite attention to the utterances of those dignitaries on that occasion. Nothing can be added to the eloquence or the sound reasoning of those speeches, and I shall content myself with appending a few extracts for ready reference.

* See proceedings of the Governor General's Council on the Criminal Procedure Bill at a meeting held on the 16th April, 1872, published in the Supplement to the *India Gazette* of the 4th May 1872, page 572.

The Bill of the new Criminal Procedure Code now before the Council † proposes to perpetuate the distinction noted above, and the disability under which myself and other Indian members of the Service labour. The arguments which were uttered in 1872 for its removal present themselves with redoubled force after an interval of ten years. They are too obvious to require mention, and they would lose all their grace and much of their force if repeated by one who is personally interested in the matter. My only sentiment on the subject is, that if you do entrust us with the responsible office of a District Magistrate or of a Sessions Judge, do not cripple us in our powers. The question affects seriously the efficiency of district administration; and I make bold to trust that the expediency of a change in the law cannot but be recognized if the matter be put before the Council in its present true light.

† Section 443.

Since the passing of Act X of 1872, however, the constitution of the Civil Service has undergone an important change, with reference to which a few words need be said. Under a recent measure of Government, Natives of India have been appointed to the Covenanted Civil Service under a system of nomination and without the test of any competitive examination or a compulsory journey to England. This fact somewhat alters the aspect of the question discussed in the Council in 1872, and under existing circumstances stronger objections would probably be raised against any proposal to extend generally the criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects to all Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service. I would therefore venture to make a suggestion which would probably meet the urgent requirements of the case, at the same time that it would obviate all reasonable objections and command a general assent. I would propose that the extension of jurisdiction over European British subjects be limited to Natives of the country holding the office of a Magistrate of the District or of a Sessions Judge.

B. L. GUPTA.

Extracts from speeches of the Members of the Legislative Council upon an amendment proposed by the Hon'ble Mr. Ellis to sections 72, 76 and 77 of the Bill for the present Criminal Procedure Code (Act X of 1872) at a meeting held on the 16th April 1872 (see Supplement to India Gazette of the 4th May 1872.)

The Hon'ble Mr. Ellis.—In making the invidious distinction which was now proposed, if we excluded any Justice of the Peace from the exercise of certain powers, we were really casting a stigma on the whole educated native population of India. He might also urge that there would be considerable inconvenience in having such a distinction. But he preferred to put it on the broad ground that, if you had Native Covenanted Civil Servants, you ought not to bar them from exercising the powers of a Civil Servant, among which powers is the jurisdiction of a Justice of the Peace over European British subjects. By Act II of 1869 natives might be appointed Justices of the Peace, and on what ground, he would ask, was it proposed to restrict their powers as Justice of the Peace?

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.—The Council should adhere to the decision which had been come to by the passing of Act II of 1869, namely, that a Justice of the Peace must be either a European British subject or a Covenanted Civil Servant. To re-open that question and to limit the powers that might be exercised by any Justices who were Covenanted Civil Servants, appeared to His Honour to be somewhat invidious, and would be, as it were, setting themselves against the policy hitherto pursued. Viewing the matter in that ligh, the should be inclined to vote for the motion before the Council.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief said that the native members of the Covenanted Civil Service having been to Europe, having become acquainted with the European feelings, ideas and customs, and having qualified themselves to take their places with the European members of the Civil Service, His Excellency would frankly accept them as real members of the Covenanted Civil Service, and allow them to exercise all the functions which the European members exercised.

His Excellency the President said that his vote would be given in conformity with the opinion which had been expressed by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. His Excellency thought that the restriction would embody a stigma on the Native community in general. It was equivalent to stating that under no circumstances, as far as the administration of the law was concerned, could the Native attain to that degree of impartiality and courage which would justify the Government in reposing in his hands the powers of trying European British subjects.

He thought that by the restriction we in effect said to the European—"You are not to be tried in the mofussil by the agency by which you are tried in the High Court and in the Courts of the Magistrates in the Presidency towns, with the general approval and sanction of the European and Native communities." It was saying in effect that the Native who had attained to the position of the Sessions Judge was not competent to try a European British subject, but that he might try him when he became a Judge of the High Court and sat beside a European Judge. His Excellency could not but help thinking that there was practically no greater disparity in permitting these Native Civil Servants to try a European British subject, than in permitting Native Justices in the Presidency towns to try him. There appeared to His Excellency to be no such broad distinction whatever between the conditions of the society and of public opinion in this respect between the Presidency towns and the mofussil. There were now a great number of public-spirited men and a great deal of public spirit all over the provinces. Communications by rail, the dissemination of newspapers both in English and the Vernacular, and a great variety of other circumstances had destroyed that distinction which formerly existed between the Presidency towns and the mofussil. His Excellency did not himself consider that there was the slightest possibility that in the rare case of a Civil and Sessions Judge trying a European British subject in the mofussil there would be an abuse of justice.

The Hon'ble Mr. Ellis.—But he desired to add his testimony to the efficiency with which Native Magistrates had performed their duties in the Presidency towns, in the administration of justice to both Europeans and Natives, and he had no hesitation in saying that they had performed their duties with as much credit and efficiency as the European Magistrates. And if they had done that, he saw no reason why Natives in the position of Covenanted Civil Servants or Sessions Judges should not be equally competent to administer justice to the European in the mofussil. His hon'ble friend, Mr. Stephen, had remarked that in this matter we were not to consult the feelings of the Judge, but of those who were to be subjected to the jurisdiction. In answer to that Mr. Ellis would say that he saw no reason why that which did not hurt the feelings of Europeans in the Presidency towns should hurt in the mofussil.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.—After consideration, and having listened to the arguments, and given due weight to the weighty considerations which His Excellency the President had placed before the Council, His Honour was prepared to vote in favour of the very limited change which was proposed by the amendment.

The Hon'ble Sir Richard Temple.—He thought that the inference was undeniable that if the Natives were eligible to all the great offices of the administration, it seemed improper and unreasonable to say that they should not sit as Judges over Europeans in the mofussil for offences of the trivial nature over which it was proposed to give Justices of the Peace cognizance. After what had fallen from Hon'ble Member, he felt that he ought not to give a silent vote on the subject. He would vote in favour of the amendment of his hon'ble colleague, Mr. Ellis.

The question being put, the Council divided—

Ayes.	*Noes.*
His Excellency the President.	Hon'ble Mr. Strachey.
His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.	Hon'ble Mr. Stephen.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.	Major-General the Hon'ble H. W. Norman.
Hon'ble Sir R. Temple.	Hon'ble Mr. Inglis.
Hon'ble Mr. Ellis.	Hon'ble Mr. Robinson.
	Hon'ble Mr. Chapman.
	Hon'ble Mr. Stewart.

So the amendment was negatived.

Nos. 7—586 to 594, dated 28th April 1882.

From—A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Secretaries to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, N.-W. P. and Oudh, Punjab; Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, British Burma, Coorg, Assam; and Resident at Hyderabad.

I am directed to forward for consideration the accompanying copy of a letter* from the Government of Bengal on the subject of the position of Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, under those provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure which limit the jurisdiction to be exercised over European British subjects outside the presidency towns to judicial officers who are themselves European British subjects. It will be seen that, for the reasons set forth in paragraph 3 of this letter, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is of opinion that he time has arrived when all Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service should be relieved of such restrictions of their powers as are imposed by Chapter XXXIII of the new Code* of Criminal Procedure; or that at least Native covenanted civilians who have attained the position of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, should be entrusted with full powers over all classes of persons, European or Native, within their jurisdictions. It is certainly anomalous that a Native member of the Civil Service holding the position of a District Officer should be debarred from taking up cases which his European Assistants may try and of which he himself, if appointed Presidency Magistrate, would have full power to dispose. Before, however, taking any action of the kind suggested, the Governor General in Council would be glad to be favoured† on the subject.

* No. 1411J., dated 20th March 1882, and enclosure.

* Act No. X of 1882.

† Madras . . . } with the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council.
Bombay . . . }
N.-W. P. and Oudh . } with the opinion of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.
Punjab . . . }
Central Provinces . }
British Burma . . } with your opinion.
Coorg . . . . }
Assam . . . . }
Hyderabad . . . }

No. 329, dated 8th June 1882.

From—C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

In acknowledging your letter No. 7—586, dated 28th April 1882, on the subject of the position of Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service in respect of criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the presidency towns, I am to transmit the accompanying minutes which have been recorded by the Members of Government on this important question.

2. It will be observed that while the Right Hon'ble the Governor and His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief are in favour of the proposed extension of jurisdiction, the Hon'ble Messrs. Hudleston and Carmichael have recorded minutes of dissent.

Minute by the Honourable D. F. CARMICHAEL, *dated the 15th May 1882*

It is not true, as stated by Mr. Gupta,* whose error is not noticed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, that, previous to the passing of Act X of 1872 (the existing Code of Criminal Procedure), no Magistrate, even though a British subject himself, had jurisdiction (outside the presidency town) to try a charge against a British subject. From the earliest days of British settlement in India, the Governor and his Council of every plantation, factory, or fort, had plenary criminal jurisdiction over British subjects. After this, as each Supreme Court was established, British subjects resident in India, even without the presidency towns, became amenable to those Courts only. This restriction proving very inconvenient was removed in the Company's charter of 1813, which empowered District Magistrates—extended afterwards to all persons exercising full magisterial powers—to adjudicate all complaints preferred against any British subject of assaults or other injuries, not being felonies. So that for nearly sixty years before the present Code of Criminal Procedure came into force, the British Magistrate in the mufassal had pretty nearly the same authority which is given to him by that Code. The only considerable enlargement in the Code is the power given to a (British) mufassal Sessions Judge to deal with British subjects committed by the Magistrate, provided that no severer sentence than one year's imprisonment shall be inflicted on conviction.

* Paragraph 2.

S. cv—53, Geo. III, cap. 155.

2. It is important to notice Mr. Gupta's mistake, because, if we were going *now* for the first time to try British subjects in the mufassal, it would be difficult to defend the propriety of limiting the jurisdiction to British officials: but the case is different where it is proposed to legislate towards the forfeiture of an ancient privilege, dating perhaps—at any rate, this is the common superstition—from Magna Charta, which declares that no Englishman shall be condemned except *per legale judicium parium?*

3. I observe from Mr. Gupta's extracts that Sir James Stephen's view of the matter was that this is eminently a case where we should consult the feelings of those who are to be subjected to the jurisdiction. I agree entirely to this. Before the Company's charter of 1833 the Government of India had not equired the power of legislating as Mr. Gupta would desire. That statute gave them the power of investing the mufassal Courts with full criminal jurisdiction (the sentence of death excepted) over any of Her Majesty's natural-born subjects and the children of such subjects. Practically, however, except the petty jurisdiction given to a Sessions Court presided over by a British subject, in the present Code passed in 1872, nothing whatever has been done, and we know why it has not been done—the British Lion, a vulgar brute, no doubt, has wagged his tail and roared; that he would do so again now is, I think, pretty certain. To refuse the jurisdiction to the *covenanted* Native Magistrate is, I own, less defensible. He has lived some years in England, graduated at Oxford or Cambridge, and won his position by honourable competition with young English gentlemen. The members of the Civil Service receive him cordially; but 'Society' in India unfortunately does; we propose him at the Club where 'Society' blackballs him; and I fear the lower orders of the Briton in India are not prepared to accept him as one to be trusted with their personal liberty. If they accept the Native Magistrate in the presidency town, it is because there they are surrounded by thousands of public-spirited compatriots who, they are sure, would never allow them to be injured.

4. Lastly, I would observe that there is no little inconsistency about the treatment of this question at Calcutta. At one time it was enacted that, at all events, every British subject holding any of certain high judicial offices, ordinarily occupied by Natives, in the mufassal should be amenable to mufassal Courts for corruption in the exercise of such office. After some years this Act was repealed; and when during Lord Napier's Government here, the courts of the Travancore State convicted and punished a British subject, its treasurer, for fraud, an immense stir was made at the Foreign Office, and a law was quickly passed that no Native State could so proceed by inherent right or sovereignty, though the contrary practice had prevailed in Travancore for 85 years under the formal approval of the British Government. So at present, in Travancore, no Briton can be tried by a Magistrate who is not a Briton, and such Magistrate has no power at all till invested with it by the Governor General in Council. But if highly respectable Natives are to try Britons in British India, how can we refuse to let Natives of the same class do the same in Travancore territory, or in that of other civilised Native States?

5. After all, there is such a thing as *privilege;* this one is highly valued by those who possess it, and certainly does no harm to the Native population; while its surrender would, in my opinion, cause great exasperation, perhaps accompanied with much political mischief, amongst Her Majesty's natural-born subjects, their children and grandchildren, lawfully begotten, who now constitute the privileged class.

Minute by the Honourable W. HUDLESTON, *dated the 16th May 1882.*

I concur in opinion with my honourable colleague, Mr. Carmichael, that the proposed extension of jurisdiction would be impolitic, and is not expedient; and I would note that section 3, Act II of 1869, which empowers the Government of India and Local Governments to "appoint such and so many of the Covenanted Civil Servants of the Crown in India or *other British* inhabitants" to be Justices of the Peace in British India beyond the presidency towns (in which *any* persons not subjects of a foreign State may be so appointed), distinctly contemplated that the Covenanted Civil Servants would be *British* inhabitants. It was clearly not anticipated or perceived that the contrary might be the case.

2. The position in the presidency towns with their European population and *Bar* is essentially different from that of a mofussil Court, where, in this Presidency at least, the *accused* might very probably be the only European British subject within a circuit of 100 miles, and with all due recognition of the merits of the Native members of the Covenanted Service, I do not think the position would be a fair one. I am confident it would raise an outcry that would aggravate race friction far more than the removal of the *already existing* disability attaching to a small number of officials would allay it.

3. Mr. Gupta seems to me to wrongly assume that the *nominated* members of the *Native Civil Service* are members of the *Covenanted* Civil Service.

Minute by the Right Honourable M. E. GRANT-DUFF, *Governor of Fort St. George, dated the 22nd May 1882.*

I have read with great care and much respect the opinions of my honourable colleagues, Mr. Hudleston and Mr. Carmichael; but I cannot agree with them. It is, perhaps, a pity that a question was raised just now which affects so few people; but I see no answer to the claim made by Mr. Gupta which is logically defensible. It may be that to admit that claim may wake up bad passions, which are now slumbering; but I trust this will not be so. We cannot

stop where we are, if pressed to advance, without stultifying our past action. Very soon, if not immediately, the *Covenanted* civilian of Native birth must be put on precisely the same footing as his European colleague. Mr. Gupta does not quite ask for this, in consequence of a misconception which Mr Hudleston has pointed out; but there is no safe standing ground till we take up that position.

Minute by His Excellency SIR FRED. ROBERTS, G.C.B., C.I.E., *Commander-in-Chief, Fort St. George, dated the 23rd May 1882.*

I agree with the remarks of His Excellency the Governor. I don't see how in equity any difference can be made in the position and power of British and Native covenanted civilians.

No. 4622, dated 28th July 1882.

From—H. F. ASTON, Esq., Acting Under-Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay, Judicial Department,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

In answer to your letter No. 7—587 of 28th April last, enquiring as to the opinion of this Government on the question whether Native covenanted civilians, or at least those of them who have attained the position of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, should not be relieved of such restrictions as are imposed on their jurisdiction in relation to European British subjects by Chapter XXXIII of the new Code of Criminal Procedure, I am directed to state that, after consulting the higher judicial and magisterial officers in the Presidency on the question, and finding much diversity of opinion thereon, the Governor in Council has no hesitation in concurring with the preponderating opinion, which is to the effect that the disability of Native Judges and Magistrates in respect to the jurisdiction in question should certainly be removed from those Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service who attain to the position of District Magistrate and Sessions Judge.

No. 692, dated 27th May 1882.

From—The Officiating Secretary to Government, N.-W. P. and Oudh,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 7—568, dated 28th April 1882, on the subject of the position of Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service under those provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure which limit the jurisdiction to be exercised over European British subjects outside the presidency towns to judicial officers who are themselves European British subjects.

2. The opinions of several officers of experience have been received and considered, and copy of a note recorded by Mr. Duthoit, D.C.L., Officiating Judicial Commissioner of Oudh, is forwarded for information.

3. The officers consulted are generally agreed that jurisdiction over European British subjects cannot any longer be withheld from Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service as a class. They are unanimous in thinking that when a Native member of the Service has risen to the position of a Magistrate of a district or of a Sessions Judge, it is imperative that he should exercise over European British subjects the same jurisdiction as is exercised by European members of the Service who are Magistrates of districts or Judges. There is, however, some difference of opinion as to the circumstances under which the jurisdiction in question should be given to Native members of the Civil Service who hold other offices than those above named. In the opinion of the majority of those consulted, it should be conferred on all Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service who are possessed of the requisite judicial experience, and who have shown by their ability, judgment and strength of character, that they are fitted to exercise it. The Local Government would exercise its discretion as to the individual Native members of the Service upon whom the powers of a Justice of the Peace might be conferred. But the general statutory disability under which the Native Magistrates and Judges now labour ought, they think, to be removed.

4. Sir Alfred Lyall's views on the subject are briefly these. No European officer is appointed to be a Justice of the Peace, or Magistrate of a district or Sessions Judge, until he has been found to be, by experience and character, fitted to exercise the powers and perform the duties which are attached to these officers. During the period that ordinarily elapses before any officer can attain to the position of Magistrate of a District or Judge, or is appointed to be Justice of the Peace, ample opportunities are afforded of forming an opinion as to his qualifications for the offices in question; and he is not appointed to them if he has shown himself to be unfit to perform the duties and exercise the powers belonging to them. The interests of the European British subject and of the administration would, in Sir Alfred Lyall's opinion, be sufficiently provided for, if the general restriction, under which no one who is not himself a European British subject has jurisdiction over a European British subject, being removed, power be left with the Local Government to appoint as Justices of the Peace those Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service who have proved their fitness to exercise the jurisdiction. The Local Government would then apply the test of personal fitness to each particular case for Native, as well as for European, members of the Covenanted Civil Service.

5. On general principles of justice it must, Sir Alfred Lyall thinks, be admitted that the existing class differences between European and Native members of the same Service should be, is far as possible, removed. But so long as the special jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace, and the special procedure for the trial of European British subjects, are retained in our laws (and the Lieutenant-Governor would not have them withdrawn hastily, or upon a side-issue), it as reasonable and consistent to look specially to the qualifications of officers who are to use these exceptional powers. In these Provinces there has not yet been opportunity to form any very decided opinion about the character and qualifications of the Native members of the Service; and the time is still distant when it will be necessary to apply to the Native Civilians of these Provinces the test of personal fitness for the charge of a district, or for the post of Sessions Judge. On general grounds, however, Sir Alfred Lyall considers that the influences which are now brought to bear on Natives in the position of members of the Civil Service—influences arising from education and professional training, and from the responsibility that must necessarily fall upon them when placed on a level, and brought into comparison, with European officers, are rapidly rendering them as a class capable of exercising impartially the jurisdiction and judicial powers which are ordinarily exercised by European members of the Service.

6. It must, Sir Alfred Lyall thinks, be admitted that an officer who is appointed to be a District Magistrate should have jurisdiction over European British subjects. Inconveniences of various kinds would result if this jurisdiction were not enjoyed by every District Magistrate. A Native Covenanted Civilian, therefore, who is appointed to the charge of a district, ought to exercise this jurisdiction; for a Native Civilian, who may not be entrusted with the powers of a Justice of the Peace, is hardly fit to hold charge of a district. And if he as Magistrate of a district may be trusted to exercise the powers of a Justice of the Peace, he should retain them when, his charge of a district being temporary, he reverts to a subordinate post. For it would be unreasonable to let a restriction, in regard to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, operate so as to bring about the anomalous result that an officer, though considered fit to exercise certain powers when officiating as District Magistrate, is considered unfit to exercise them when he reverts to his former appointment.

7. Sir Alfred Lyall would therefore recommend that the Code of Criminal Procedure be so amended as to allow effect to be given to the views above expressed. Act II of 1869 has now been repealed, but section 22 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (X of 1882) forbids the Local Government to appoint any persons except European British subjects to be Justices of the Peace beyond the presidency towns. It would be necessary therefore to amend the section in such a manner as to allow Local Governments to appoint Native members of the Covenanted Service to be Justices of the Peace. It would be necessary in section 443 of the same Code to omit the words "and an European British subject"; in section 444 to omit all reference to European British subjects, and to repeal section 450. These amendments would enable the Local Government to carry out the views above expressed, whenever occasion might arise. In short, although the Lieutenant-Governor would not, for the present, advise that a Native Covenanted Civilian should be invested (save in very special cases) with the powers of a Justice of the Peace until he has been appointed, temporarily or permanently, to be Magistrate of a district, he would confer the powers of Justice of the Peace on every Native officer, whether a member of the Covenanted Civil Service or a commissioned civil officer in a non-regulation province, who may be appointed to be a Magistrate of a district.

Note by W. DUTHOIT, Esq., *Officiating Judicial Commissioner of Oudh, dated Lucknow, the 19th May 1882.*

There are, I suppose, two arguments in favour of restraining Natives of India from the exercise of jurisdiction in criminal trials over Europeans:—

I.—That, say what we may, the European is the dominant race in India, and as such is entitled to have its feelings considered and its prestige maintained:

II.—That it is doubtful whether, in the exercise of jurisdiction over Europeans, the Native judiciary would not be influenced by race prejudices.

There is, I think, much force in both these arguments.

As regards the former, I would remark that, go where we may in the East, we find that a claim to be judged by their peers is successfully asserted wherever Europeans are located in any numbers; and that there is much point in Mr. Fitzjames Stephen's remarks *(Supplement, Gazette of India, 4th May 1872, page 577)*—"There is no country in the world, and no race of men in the world, from whom a claim to absolute identity of law for persons of all races and all habits comes with so bad a grace as from the natives of this country, filled as it is with every distinction which race, caste and religion can create, and passionately tenacious as are its inhabitants of such distinctions." But the time has, I think, come when these considerations may wisely be disregarded; and I would not advocate the restriction of the powers of Native Covenanted Civilians upon an argument based upon mere sentiment. We have taken the Native into our most important governing body; let us treat him loyally, and, as far as may be, trust him.

In the latter of the two arguments, however, I find a valid reason for not placing our Native brothers quite on the same platform with ourselves.

As Mr. Gupta has pointed out, we have now two classes of Covenanted Civilians,—the men who have entered the Service by competition in England and the men who have been appointed to it by the Viceroy in India.

These two classes of men must, I think, be treated differently.

The men of the former class will, from the circumstances of the case, be men who have in their own persons overcome the caste and religious prejudices into which they were born, and who are more or less *au courant* with European feelings and customs. Those of the latter class, on the contrary, may often be men saturated with caste and religious prejudices, and ignorant of European modes of thought and feeling. In his own person a man of the former class is likely to be as impartial a Judge as his European brother, and to influence from outside he would probably be almost equally inaccessible. But can we, for a long time at any rate, look for the same impartiality, the same inaccessibility to outside influences, in the latter class of men? I think not. We must not, I think, expect for some time to come to find in the latter class of men officers of higher intellectual capacity or greater strength of character than we have at present in our Native Uncovenanted and Honorary Magistrates of good family. I do not know what officers of the last-mentioned classes may be like in other parts of India; but I am certain that in these Provinces, they are not men who can be fully trusted to do even-handed justice as between their own countrymen of different religions, or between their own countrymen and Europeans. When I say this, I do not mean that they would be likely as a rule to press hardly upon the European; I think, on the contrary, that they would, as a rule, unduly favour the European; all that I mean is that, from my experience of them, I could not always trust them to hold the scales fairly. It is apt to be assumed that Native Civilians will make good Judges. I take leave to doubt whether more than a small minority of the men appointed for some years to come by the Governor General will ever be fit for judicial employment.

Things being so, I would make a distinction between the two classes of Native Civilians.

I would make it the rule, in default of special cause to the contrary, to appoint men of the former class (the men appointed in England by the Secretary of State) to be Justices of the Peace under Act II of 1869. I would only appoint men of the latter class (the men appointed in India by the Viceroy) to be Justices of the Peace after it had been fully ascertained that they are men fitted by strength of character and judicial ability to exercise high judicial functions.

Assuming the appointment of Native Civilians as Justices of the Peace to be restricted as above, I would meet the difficulty by omitting the words "*and an European British subject*" from between the words "first class" and the words "shall enquire" in section 443 of the new Code of Criminal Procedure; by substituting for the words "*himself is an European British subject*" in section 444 the words "is a Justice of the Peace" and by substituting for the words "*an European British subject*" in section 450 the words "a Justice of the Peace."

It will perhaps be objected to this proposal that it interferes with the theory upon which the system of appointment of Native Covenanted Civilians of the Viceroy—*viz.*, that they should be treated in all respects as the Civilians sent out from England—is based. The objection is valid; but I would reply that as a fact the men appointed in India do not all of them come up to the standard of excellence which was propounded for them, and that the adoption of the proposal will not require an invidious distinction to be publicly made, but merely the laying down of a rule of practice to be privately observed by the Government of India and the Local Governments.

No. 703, dated 5th August 1882.

From—W. M. YOUNG, Esq., Secretary to the Government of the Punjab,
To—To the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I am directed to acknowledge your letter No. 7—589, dated 28th April 1882, forwarding, for an expression of the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, a copy of a letter from the Government of Bengal, recommending that all Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service should be relieved from such restrictions of their jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the presidency towns as are imposed by Chapter XXXIII of Act X of 1882, or that at least Native Covenanted Civilians, who have attained the position of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, should be entrusted with full powers over all classes of persons, European or Native, within their jurisdiction.

2. In reply, I am to say that Sir Charles Aitchison entirely concurs in the arguments quoted in the enclosures of your letter from the Proceedings of the Legislative Council of 16th April 1872, and has little to add to them. His Honour considers that Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service should be relieved from all restrictions and disqualifications imposed upon them under Chapter XXXIII of the new Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, by reason only of their not being European British subjects; and that such of them as may be from time to time appointed Justices of the Peace and Magistrates of the 1st class, or Sessions Judges, should be authorised by law to exercise all the powers and jurisdiction which a European British subject similarly appointed can exercise under that or any other Act.

3. Sir Charles Aitchison, moreover, is of opinion that the same powers ought to be conferred upon all Justices of the Peace and first class Magistrates, and upon all Sessions Judges, whether they are European or Native, and whether they belong to the Covenanted Civil Service or not. The powers and jurisdiction to be exercised by judicial officers should, His Honour thinks, depend entirely upon personal fitness, and in no respect upon race or service distinctions. It may be assumed that no one of any class will be appointed a Justice of the Peace or Magistrate of the 1st class or Sessions Judge who is not considered to possess the requisite qualifications, and the appointment ought, therefore, to carry with it all the usual powers and jurisdiction without regard to race, service, or creed. Under Act II of 1869, any British subject, whether European or Native, and whether belonging to the Covenanted Civil Service or not, may be made a Justice of the Peace, if he is considered properly qualified to act as such, and under section 5 of the Act, every such Justice of the Peace has power to commit European British subjects for trial before a proper Court, and to do all other acts which any Justice of the Peace may lawfully do; and this appears to Sir Charles Aitchison to be the broad and equitable principle which Government ought to follow. The restrictions introduced by the Code of Criminal Procedure upon the powers of Courts to enquire into and try charges against European British subjects, which rest exclusively on race distinctions, are, in His Honour's opinion, invidious and unnecessary. They are indeed a mere residuum of the time when Europeans were to a great extent under English law, with which Native Judges were not supposed to be acquainted, and should now be entirely abolished, having ceased to be defensible with the revision of the Codes.

No. 1694—86, dated 15th May 1882.

From—A. H. L. FRASER, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 7—590, dated 28th ultimo, regarding the position of Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service under those provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure which limit the jurisdiction to be exercised over European British subjects outside the Presidency towns to judicial officers who are themselves European British subjects. The Chief Commissioner is of opinion that Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service should be placed in this respect on the same footing as European members of the same service, and should be relieved of such restrictions of their powers as are imposed by Chapter XXXIII of the new Code of Criminal Procedure.

No. 360, dated 11th May 1882.

From—E. S. SYMES, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, British Burma,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 7—59, dated the 28th April, concerning the investiture of Native Civil Servants with power to try European British subjects within their jurisdiction.

I am to submit that, in the Chief Commissioner's opinion, it is desirable that Native Civil Servants should possess the same jurisdiction over European British subjects as is exercised by European Civil Servants. Native Civil Servants are and will usually be quite fit to exercise such jurisdiction.

European British subjects are liable to the jurisdiction of Asiatics in Upper Burma; and the Chief Commissioner does not apprehend that there would be any prolonged feeling against the change advocated by the Bengal Government among the better classes of Europeans in India.

No. 764, dated 26th May 1882.

From—C. J. LYALL, Esq., C.I.E., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular No. 593T., dated the 28th ultimo, in which you ask for the opinion of the Chief Commissioner on the proposals made by His Honour the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, that all Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service should be relieved of such restrictions of their powers as are imposed by Chapter XXXIII of the new Code of Criminal Procedure, or that at least Native Covenanted Civilians who have attained the position of District Magistrate and Sessions Judge should be entrusted with full powers over all classes of persons, European or Native, within their jurisdictions.

2. In reply, I am to say that if the proposal had been to do away altogether with the distinction between European and Native Magistrates in this respect, Mr. Elliott would not have supported it. The distinction is no doubt open to the charge of being invidious, and rests to a large extent rather upon sentiment and prejudice than upon reason. But that such prejudice did exist in great strength some years ago is notorious; and now that the feeling has somewhat died out, the measures taken for introducing equality between the races should be gra-

dual and tentative, in order to run no risk of re-awakening the antagonism which is passing away. It should not be forgotten, moreover, that besides the strong disinclination which would undoubtedly be felt by European British subjects in India to being made subject generally to the jurisdiction of Native Judges and Magistrates there are several practical reasons against that course which are not without great weight. An extensive conferment of these powers on Native Magistrates would involve the trial by them of Europeans in parts of the country where neither our police nor our jails are suited for dealing with such persons. The appearance of Europeans in Courts before a Native Magistrate, surrounded by Native amla, and guarded by Native police, accustomed only to deal with the generally tractable and (in the face of justice) submissive members of their own race, might easily lead to scandals in the administration of justice, which would be very regretable, and which would, Mr. Elliott fears, by the excitement and agitation, which they would create, lead to exacerbation and strengthening of that popular prejudice and race antagonism, which it has taken a long course of years to soften and abate.

3. But while these considerations, in the Chief Commissioner's opinion, should forbid any extensive conferment of jurisdiction over Europeans upon Native judicial officers at present, he is quite at one with Sir Ashley Eden in regard to the limited proposal now put forward. He thinks that there is room and reason for a distinction between Native Civilians appointed in England by competition, and those Native members of the Covenanted Service who have been appointed by nomination in India. The former class should, in his opinion, be placed in every respect on an equality with their British-born brothers in the service, and permitted, like them, if appointed Justices of the Peace, to deal with cases in which Europeans are accused. In the case of Native Civilians appointed in India, who have not had their experience enlarged, and their education broadened by a visit to Europe, he would confine the extension of these powers to such of them as have attained the grade of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, and have also been appointed Justices of the Peace.

4. The Chief Commissioner does not think that this slight progress in the direction of equality is likely to excite any serious opposition on the part of the European community. The feeling which ten years ago it would have encountered is, he believes, gradually dying out; and the experience which is being acquired of the efficiency with which Native officers administer justice is by degrees undermining it. The extension of Native agency in the public service, and the increase of the influence of the Native voice in all political matters, are palpable facts, and the European settler is learning that he must reconcile himself to the march of events and accept the inevitable.

No. 315—17, dated 16th May 1882.

From—MAJOR H. WYLIE, C.S.I., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Coorg,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

With reference to letter No. 7—592, dated the 28th ultimo, inviting the opinion of the Chief Commissioner of Coorg, regarding Native members of the Civil Service exercising jurisdiction over European British subjects, I am directed to state, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council, that Mr. Sandford is of opinion that the provisions of the present law of Criminal Procedure, which limit jurisdiction to try for criminal offences European British subjects to persons who are themselves European British subjects, are wise, and should, for political reasons, be maintained.

No. 345, dated 24th August 1882.

From—W. B. JONES, Esq., Resident at Hyderabad,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

Replying to your Circular No. 3—594 of 28th April last, I have the honour to submit, in original, a letter in which the Commissioner, Hyderabad Assigned Districts, discusses the matter there referred. The Judicial Commissioner, who was also consulted, is of opinion that "the time may be considered to have arrived for extending to Natives who have qualified for the Civil Service, and who have attained the position of District Magistrate, or of Sessions Judge and Justice of the Peace, jurisdiction over European British subjects."

2. My own opinion is that such jurisdiction should be exercised by—

(1) all Native members of the Civil Service who have attained the position of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge;

(2) by such other Native members of the Civil Service as the Local Government may specially empower in this behalf.

3. It is scarcely necessary for me to state in detail the reasons which induce me to give my opinion in favour of the small relaxation of the present law which His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal suggests. The principle that a European British subject shall only be tried by one of his own class has the sanction of a long history behind it. I certainly should not be disposed to rest a recommendation for a departure from it on considerations of mere administrative convenience. All that can be said is that the reasons by which the general principle might be defended have, from the days when it was first asserted, until now, been

gradually getting weaker, and that the reasons for the particular departure from the principle now proposed are the novel results of the altered circumstances of the Civil Service, and of India generally, and that, to use the Judicial Commissioner's expression, "the time has come" when the change ought to be made. It will be a small change in itself, but it will be an act of justice to those Natives of India whom we invite to take their places by our side as civil administrators, and will add one to the numerous measures which of late years have tended to bridge over the separation between Englishmen and their Indian fellow subjects, which began when, assuming the Dewani of Bengal, we constituted ourselves the sole civil administrators of the country.

4. I will only add that, while the proposed change appears to me to be demanded of us, as a measure of justice to Native members of the Civil Service, and of reasonable concession to general Native opinion, I cannot believe that it can be regarded by intelligent Europeans with serious dislike. In days when the interior of India was reached with difficulty, when no press, railways, telegraphs or bar existed, when Native Magistrates were untrained and unacquainted with European habits and feelings, an Englishman almost alone in an up-country district might with reason apprehend that he would not always obtain an impartial trial before a Native Magistrate. All this is now changed, and a claim which was formerly grounded on a reasonable apprehension, can, it seems to me, when concession is limited, as it is proposed to limit it, rest on little besides unreasonable class prejudice.

No. 32A., dated 1st June 1882.

From—A. P. HOWELL, Esq., Commissioner, Hyderabad Assigned Districts,

To—The Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad.

I have the honour to acknowledge your No. 319J., of the 8th instant, forwarding for opinion a letter from the Government of Bengal, with enclosure, relative to the jurisdiction to be exercised by Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service over European British subjects.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that the time has now arrived when all Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service should be relieved of such restrictions of their powers as are imposed on them by Chapter XXXIII of the new Code of Criminal Procedure, or when "at least Native Covenanted Civilians, who have attained the position of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, should have entrusted to them full powers over all classes, whether European or Native, within their jurisdictions. The grounds of this opinion are (1) that it is right, as a matter of general policy, that Covenanted Native Civilians should be empowered to exercise jurisdiction over Europeans as well as Natives; and (2) that it will be a matter of administrative convenience for Natives to exercise such powers, otherwise the anomaly might occur of a European Joint Magistrate, who is subordinate to a Native District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, being empowered to try cases which his immediate superior cannot try. It is added that as Native Presidency Magistrates within the presidency towns exercise the same jurisdiction over Europeans that they do over Natives, therefore there is no reason why Covenanted Native Civilians, with the position and training of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, should not exercise the same jurisdiction over Europeans as is exercised by other members of the service. These views are expressed upon a note by Mr. Gupta, of the Bengal Civil Service, representing the anomalous position in which Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service are placed by Chapter VII of the old Code, which is reproduced in Chapter XXXIII of the present Code.

3. The first point that occurs to me is, that the case is, unintentionally no doubt, very unfairly and incompletely stated by Mr. Gupta. He refers to the discussion of 1872, and says that nothing can be added to the eloquence or the sound reasoning of those who argued then in favour of the view which he advances now. He adds that the arguments of 1872 in favour of his view present themselves with redoubled force in 1882, and that "they are too obvious to require mention." Still he does mention them, and at length, in skilfully arranged "extracts for ready reference," and then he gives a reason, due to a recent but "important change" in the constitution of the Covenanted Civil Service, why there is admittedly less force in those arguments now than there was ten years ago.

4. To this I reply that if the arguments in favour of Mr. Gupta's view are all that they are represented to be, how is it that they were in the minority in 1872? Mr. Gupta attempts to make a point in the composition of that minority, but when I find Sir J. Stephen and Sir John Strachey voting on the same side, and that side the majority, it is idle to say that the arguments against which they voted are "too obvious to require mention." Mr. Gupta cites the authority of the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal (Sir George Campbell), who voted with the minority, but Mr. Gupta fails to notice in his extract, or even to allude to Sir George Campbell's admission, that he seldom had greater doubt and difficulty in making up his mind, and that when he did vote for the amendment, it was on the express ground that "it appeared to His Honour that what was now proposed was a minimum of change." It was not proposed to impose upon the European public the general liability to be tried by Native Magistrates, but only the possibility of being placed under the jurisdiction of three or

four Natives who had qualified themselves for admission into the ranks of the Covenanted Civil Service, and who, under the existing law, might be 'Justices of the Peace.' What then was Sir J. Stephen's argument? I give it, as Mr. Gupta gives the opposite views, in extracts: "In countries situated as most European countries are, it is no doubt desirable that there should be no personal laws; but in India it is otherwise. Personal, as opposed to territorial, laws prevail here on all sorts of subjects, and their maintenance is claimed with the utmost pertinacity by those who are subject to them. The Muhammadan has his personal law. The Hindu has his personal law. Women who, according to the custom of the country, ought not to appear in Court, are excused from appearing in Court. Natives of rank and influence enjoy, in many cases, privileges which stand on precisely the same principle; and are English people to be told that, whilst it is their duty to respect all these laws scrupulously, they are to claim nothing for themselves? that whilst the English Courts are to respect, and even to enforce a variety of laws which are thoroughly repugnant to all the strongest convictions of Englishmen, Englishmen who settle in this country are to surrender privileges to which, rightly or otherwise, they attach the highest possible importance? I can see no ground or reason for such a contention. I think there is no country in the world, and no race of men in the world from whom a claim for absolute identity of law for persons of all races and all habits comes with so bad a grace as from the Natives of this country, filled as it is with every distinction, which race, caste and religion can create, and passionately tenacious as are its inhabitants of such distinctions.

"It may be replied that to use this argument is to desert the characteristic principles of English government, and to make a point against an antagonist by surrendering what we ourselves believe. My answer is, that the general principle that all persons should be subject to the same laws is subject to wide exceptions, one of which covers this case. It is obvious enough; but possibly the best way of stating it will be to show how it applies to the particular matter before us. The English people established by military force a regular system of government, and, in particular, a regular system for the administration of justice, in this country, in the place of downright anarchy. The system of administering justice was, and is, beyond all question, infinitely better than any system which the English people found here; but it neither is, nor can be, the English system.

"It must of necessity differ from it in its characteristic features; and, although I am not one of those who blindly admire the English system of criminal justice, I say that, if English people in India like it, which they notoriously do, they have a perfect right to have it."

Again:—"The privilege as to jurisdiction is the privilege of the prisoner, not the privilege of the Judge. The European had an objection to be tried by the Native. Considering the position in which he stood, the question was, whether you would put him in a position in which he did not at present stand. You placed no slight upon the Native by saying that he could only try a man of his own race. What was there against the feelings of the Native in saying that? Why should any one feel a slight, because he was told that this particular man was to be tried in a particular way? On the other hand, it was a feeling, and not an unnatural one, that a man should wish to be tried by his own countrymen."

I think Mr. Gupta would have strengthened his case had he explained what is the answer now to Sir J. Stephen's arguments which commanded a majority ten years ago. Logically it would seem that as long as we have personal law in the country, as long as women and privileged Natives are excused from appearing in our Courts, as long as the European British subject has any rights and privileges under the law, so long should the present law, as to the Judge before whom the European British subject must be tried, be maintained. I submit that when a European discusses the question, he is exposed to the converse difficulty of that urged by Mr. Gupta, on the score of being personally interested, and that he is likely to be deceived by the false glamour of liberality attaching to his adoption of Mr. Gupta's view, which ought not, however, to obscure the real issue whether, under the circumstances of India, the European British subject should be deprived of the one privilege of personal law which he most values. The question is by no means so obvious as Mr. Gupta represents. I believe that the majority of non-official Europeans would answer it still as Sir H. Norman did, "He had the highest regard for the natives of the country, and particularly for those who had attained the very important position of a Magistrate of the first class; but looking to the peculiarities of our position here, and to the great differences of character between Natives and Europeans, he thought it was undesirable to allow the trial of European British subjects by Natives in the mufassal."

5. As to the arguments urged by the Government of Bengal, the first simply and admittedly begs the whole question on which Sir J. Stephen and Sir H. Norman took their stand. As for the second argument, based on administrative convenience, the question is, how often would such cases be likely to arise, and whether, if they did, the inconvenience would be so frequent, or of such consequence, as to supply an answer to the arguments of Sir J. Stephen and Sir H. Norman, which, I submit, are just as strong now as ever they were. In any case the plea of anomaly has far less force in India than elsewhere. Surely, too, it might be argued that Natives and Europeans are not on the same footing in fact in many ways, and that the law recognises this fact; that there must be some differences in the position of the European British subject from that of the Native, and that the law recognises these differences, and that the nationality of the Judge is no more invidious or special than the composition of the jury.

6. In conclusion, then, if I am asked for an opinion about a clause in a law which, although only just passed, and not yet actually in force, is considered by a high authority already to require to be amended in an important particular, I would admit that there is enough force in the plea urged by Mr. Gupta, and supported by the Bengal Government, to warrant a reconsideration of the question decided in the Legislative Council on the 4th May 1872. I go further and think that the point should be raised and discussed now, because in 1872 many of the speakers were hampered by pledges or *quasi*-pledges which prevented the question being really decided on its merits. And as to the merits of the question, I would say that it is no doubt desirable that there should be no personal laws, but that, in my humble opinion, the whole question of personal law should be considered together, and not the single point raised by Mr. Gupta. And if the question be raised, the decision should be final, for we cannot always expect the same serenity in the political horizon which we enjoy at present.

I append the replies of the Deputy Commissioners of Buldana and Amraoti, who were consulted on the subject.

In my opinion the time has certainly come when Native members of the Civil Service who have been made District Magistrates or Sessions Judges, should be entrusted with full powers over all classes, European or Native, within their jurisdiction.

AMRAOTI,
27th May 1882.

A. TULLOCH,
Deputy Commissioner.

I am of opinion that the invidious distinction should be abolished, or that an understanding should be arrived at under which Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service would be held to be disqualified for office as Sessions Judges or Magistrates of the District. I quite agree with Mr. Gupta, that if you entrust them with these responsible offices, you ought not to cripple their powers.

There is, however, no force in so much of the argument as is based on the fact that Native Presidency Magistrates and High Court Judges already have jurisdiction over Europeans. They are exposed to a publicity that renders their position exceptional. Mr. Gupta himself seems inclined to make distinction between Native Covenanted Civilians who have been trained in England and those who have not, and I think he does so rightly. I am therefore inclined to believe that the latter class of civilians should not hold office as Sessions Judges or Magistrates of Districts. In other words, I would make the experiment under restricted conditions, and confine the exercise of jurisdiction over Europeans to Native Civilians who have been trained in England.

BULDANA,
29th May 1882.

H. C. MENZIES, *Lieut.-Colonel,*
Deputy Commissioner.

A Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

X of 1882.

Whereas it is expedient to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects;

Preamble.

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Amendment of section 22.

1. For the last clause of section 22, the following shall be substituted:—

"may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint such persons as he or it thinks fit, who, being

(*a*) members of the Covenanted Civil Service,

(*b*) members of the Native Civil Service constituted under the Statute 33 Vic., cap. 3,

(*c*) Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces, or

(*d*) Cantonment Magistrates,

are invested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class, to be Justices of the Peace within and for the territories mentioned in the notification."

Amendment of section 25.

2. In section 25, after the words "British India" the following shall be inserted:—

"Sessions Judges and District Magistrates are Justices of the Peace within and for the whole of the territories administered by the Local Government under which they are serving."

Amendment of section 443.

3. In section 443, the words "and an European British subject" shall be omitted.

New section substituted for section 444.

4. For section 444 the following shall be substituted:—

"444. An Assistant Sessions Judge shall not exercise jurisdiction over an European British subject, unless he has held the office of Assistant Sessions Judge for at least three years, and has been specially empowered in this behalf by the Local Government."

Assistant Sessions Judges who may try European British subjects.

Repeal of section 450 and of the last sixteen words of section 459.

5. Section 450 and the last sixteen words of section 459 are hereby repealed.

X of 1882.

Construction of Act with Code of Criminal Procedure.

6. (*1*) In this Act "section" means section of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

(2) All references to that Code made in enactments heretofore passed or hereafter to be passed shall be read as if made to that Code as amended by this Act.

Saving for existing appointments.

7. Nothing in this Act shall affect the validity of any appointment made before the passing of this Act.

Statement of Objects and Reasons.

Shortly after the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1382, was passed, the question was raised whether the provisions of that Code which limit the jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the Presidency-towns to judicial officers who are themselves European British subjects should not be modified. It was thought anomalous that, while Natives of India were admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service and held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties, they should be deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace and to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the Presidency-towns.

2. After consulting the Local Governments, the Government of India has arrived at the conclusion that the time has come for modifying the existing law and removing the present bar upon the investment of Native Magistrates in the interior with powers over European British subjects. The Government of India has accordingly decided to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions.

3. With this object the present Bill has been prepared. In section one it amends section 22 of the Code, which provides that only European British subjects can be appointed Justices of the Peace, and gives the Government power to appoint to that office such persons as it thinks fit belonging to the following classes:—

(*a*) Members of the Covenanted Civil Service;
(*b*) Members of the Native Civil Service constituted by the rules made under the Statute 33 Vic., cap. 3;
(*c*) Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces; or
(*d*) Cantonment Magistrates,

and being persons invested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class.

4. The Bill then in section two amends section 25 of the Code, and makes all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace.

5. Section three repeals so much of section 443 of the Code as limits jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the Presidency-towns to Magistrates who are themselves European British subjects.

6. Section four repeals the similar provision of section 444 of the Code with regard to Sessions Judges.

7. Lastly, section five repeals section 450 of the Code, which provides for the case where the Sessions Judge of the division within which the offence is ordinarily triable is not an European British subject. The same section of the Bill also repeals so much of section 459 of the Code as provides that that section shall not be deemed to confer on Magistrates and Sessions Judges outside the Presidency-towns, not being European British subjects, jurisdiction over European British subjects.

C. P. ILBERT.

The 30th January 1883.

No. 16C., dated 16th March 1883.

From—D. FITZPATRICK, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department,
To—The Registrar, High Court, Calcutta.

I am directed to forward herewith 12 copies of a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, with Statement of Objects and Reasons, and to request that you will be so good as to move the Hon'ble the Judges of the High Court, Calcutta, to favour the Government of India in this Department, by the 15th July next, with an expression of their opinion on the provisions of the Bill.

No. 23-33C., dated 17th March 1883.

From—D. FITZPATRICK, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department,
To—All Local Governments and Administrations.

I am directed to forward herewith copies of the papers noted in the margin, and to request that His Excellency the Governor in Council / His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor / you will favour the Government of India with an expression of his / your opinion on the provisions of the Bill, and with the opinions of the Hon'ble the Judges of the High Court, / the learned Judges of the Chief Court, Punjab, / Madras, / Bombay, / North-Western Provinces and Oudh and of such other persons as His Excellency in Council / His Honour / you may think fit to consult on the subject.

Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.
Statement of Objects and Reasons.

* *Fort St. George Gazette.*
Bombay Government Gazette.
Calcutta Gazette.
North-Western Provinces and Oudh Government Gazette.
Punjáb Government Gazette.
Central Provinces Gazette.
British Burma Gazette.
Assam Gazette.

* *Calcutta Gazette.*
North Western Provinces and Oudh Government Gazette.
Punjáb Government Gazette.
Central Provinces Gazette.
British Burma Gazette.
Assam Gazette.

2. I am also to request that the Bill and Statement may be published in the * *Gazette* in English and in such other languages as His Excellency in Council / His Honour / you may deem proper, and that the dates of publication of both may be communicated in your reply.

The Publisher of the *Gazette of India* at Calcutta has been instructed to furnish the Publisher of the * *Gazette* with English copies of the Bill and Statement (in gazette form) for publication in the latter Gazette.

3. The reply to this letter should be sent in by the 15th July 1883.

Dated 5th March 1883.

From—The Members of the Calcutta Trades' Association,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

We have the honour to wait upon you with the accompanying copy of the Resolutions adopted at a General Meeting, held on the 1st instant, of the Calcutta Trades' Association, in regard to the proposed amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and to request that you will be so good as to lay the Resolutions before His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council.

Minutes of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Members of the Calcutta Trades' Association, held at the Dalhousie Institute on Thursday, the 1st March, 1883.

PRESENT:

Mr. H. Pratt, of the Firm of F. & C. Osler, Master of the Association *in the chair.*
„ D. J. Zemin, of the Firm of Lewis, Stewart and Co.
Hon'ble J. E. Caithness, of the Firm of Cooke and Kelvey.
Mr. George Irving, of the Firm of T. E. Thompson & Co.
„ A. H. Wallis, of the Firm of Manton & Co.
„ J. G. Womack, of the Firm of Harman & Co.
„ R. Y. Remfry, of the Firm of Hamilton & Co.
„ T. W. Spink, of the Firm of Thacker, Spink & Co.
„ C. F. Larmour, of the Firm of C. Lazarus & Co.
„ E. Read, of the Firm of Dykes & Co.
„ A. Summers, of the Firm of Watson & Summers.
„ H. H. Hopkins, of the Firm of Bathgate & Co.
„ A. J. Bridge, of the Firm of G. F. Kellner & Co.
„ E. G. Cuming, of the Firm of James Monteith & Co.
„ James Murray, of the Firm of James Murray.
„ A. E. Keell, of the Firm of Francis, Harrison, Hathaway & Co.
„ J. H. Herbert, of the Firm of Llewelyn & Co.
„ L. Richards, of the Firm of Francis, Ramsay & Co.
„ H. W. Hallett, of the Firm of Watts & Co.
„ D. M. Traill, of the Firm of D. M. Traill.
„ E. A. Dukes, Secretary, W. Newman & Co., Limited.
„ A. Acton, Secretary, Central Press Co., Limited.
„ R. J. Carbery, Secretary, R. Scott Thomson & Co., Limited.

The Notice convening the Meeting having been read, it was proposed by Mr. D. J. Zemin, and seconded by Mr. A. H. Wallis—

"That the Association regards with alarm the proposal now before the Government to amend the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, in so far as they relate to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects; and that the Association, now in meeting assembled, desires to record its emphatic disapproval of the proposed amendment as being impolitic, unnecessary and repugnant to the feelings of Her Majesty's European British subjects in India."

Carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. George Irving, seconded by the Hon'ble J. E. Caithness—

"That this Association, in view of the recent public demonstrations of feeling and opinion on this subject on the part of Her Majesty's European British subjects throughout the country, and the representations already made to the Government, feel it to be needless to submit, in respect thereof, a separate memorial; it desires, therefore, that copies of the Resolutions passed at this meeting be forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Legislative Department, with a letter signed by all the members of the Association, for submission to His Excellency the Viceroy in Council as an unanimous expression of the views of the Association, and of its respectful protest against the proposed alteration of the present law of Criminal Procedure, being Act X of 1882."

Carried unanimously.

The Meeting then closed.

No. 31, dated 8th March 1883.

From—The Hon'ble KRISTODAS PAL, C.I.E., Secretary to the British Indian Association,

To—The Additional Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I have the honour to forward, herewith, a joint memorial of several Native Associations to His Excellency the Viceroy in Council regarding the Criminal Jurisdiction Bill, and request the favour of your laying the same before His Excellency in Council.

To His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council.

The joint memorial of the British Indian Association, the Indian Association, the Muhammadan Literary Society, the National Muhammadan Association, the East Bengal Association and the Vakils' Association, High Court, Calcutta.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your memorialists regard with feelings of deep satisfaction and thankfulness the introduction into Your Excellency's Council of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, with a view to remove the judicial disqualification of race in the trial of European British subjects in criminal cases, as a step in advance towards the establishment of that equality in the eye of the law without the invidious distinction of country, race or religion, which is the just pride of British jurisprudence and polity, and the guiding principle of British rule in India.

That your memorialists have noticed with regret a statement to the effect that the Native community do not care for this measure. It is utterly unfounded. However limited the scope of the present Bill may be, the principle on which it is based is just, sound and righteous, and meets with their entire approval.

That your memorialists had originally intended to convene a public meeting, as the constitutional mode of procedure in matters of this kind, in order to give an emphatic contradiction to the statement noticed above; but remembering how apt is such a demonstration to lead to a display of passions and feelings, and to stir up race animosities and antipathy, which none can regret more than your memorialists do, they have thought fit to approach Your Excellency in Council on the subject in this form. Your memorialists have too high a regard for the non-official European community of India, and too keen a sense of the services they have rendered, by promoting the material advancement and contributing to the political education of the people of this country, to take any steps that, though perfectly lawful and constitutional, may have the effect of embittering feelings and setting class against class.

That relying on the wisdom, justice and liberality of Your Excellency's Government, and of Her Majesty's Government in England, and on the noble principles which actuate the great British nation in the government of peoples of many races and religions, which owe allegiance to the British Crown, your memorialists feel confident that Your Excellency in Council will not allow any clamour, taunt or threat, based on mistaken and prejudiced notions, to interfere with the progress and due enactment of this just and righteous measure.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Dated 6th March 1883.

From—H. W. I. WOOD, Esq., Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

By desire of the Hon'ble the Sheriff of Calcutta, I have the honour to forward, for submission to the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Governor General of India, copies, hereto annexed, of Resolutions adopted at a public meeting of the European community held at the Town Hall of this City on Wednesday, the 28th of last month, relative to the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code of 1872 so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

Resolutions adopted at a Public Meeting held at the Town Hall on the 28th February 1883.

FIRST RESOLUTION.—Proposed by J. J. J. Keswick, Esq., seconded by J. H. A. Branson, Esq., supported by W. Bleeck, Esq.

That in the opinion of this meeting the Bill for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code is unnecessary in the interests of justice; uncalled for by any administrative difficulty; based on no sound principle; founded on no experience, whilst forfeiting a much-valued and prized and time-honoured privilege of European British subjects; it confers no benefit upon Natives, whilst imperilling the liberties of European British subjects; it in no way affords any additional protection to Natives; it will deter the investment of British capital in the country by giving rise to a feeling of insecurity as to the liberties and safety of the European British subjects employed in the mufassal and also of their wives and daughters; and it has already stirred up on both sides a feeling of race antagonism and jealousy, such as has never been aroused since the mutiny of 1857.

SECOND RESOLUTION.—Proposed by J. Pitt-Kennedy, Esq., seconded by W. H. Pratt, Esq., supported by J. G. Apcar, Esq.

That memorials of protest be drawn up, and circulated for signature in Bengal and other Provinces; and, when duly signed, be presented to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council and to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India; and that the Sheriff be requested to sign the same on behalf of this meeting.

That petitions for the protection of the rights, privileges and liberties of Her Majesty's European British subjects be drawn up and circulated for signature in like manner, and, when duly signed, presented to both Houses of Parliament.

THIRD RESOLUTION.—Proposed by J. Murdoch, Esq., seconded by D. Cruickshank, Esq., supported by the Revd. H. Finter.

That a committee be formed consisting of the following gentlemen:—Messrs. Keswick, Flemington, Thomas, A. B. Miller, Apcar, Branson, Ezra, Gubboy, Finter, Madge, Murdoch and Cruickshank, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of preparing the memorials and petitions in terms of the last resolution.

To His Excellency the Most Honourable the MARQUIS OF RIPON, K.G., P.C., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E. *Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council.*

The memorial of the European British-born subjects of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress and Employés of the East Indian Railway Company.

MOST HUMBLY AND RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your memorialists have read with much concern the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill which was introduced into your Excellency's Council by the Hon'ble Mr. Ilbert on the 2nd February 1883, by which it is sought to invest Native Civil Servants with jurisdiction over European British subjects in criminal cases.

2. That your memorialists humbly submit that they have a constitutional right to be tried only by their peers and their country, and that in India they have always enjoyed the right of being tried by men of their own nationality, and have done nothing whatever to forfeit that right.

3. That, although the Natives of India have by force of conquest become subjects of the British Crown, they are, nevertheless, still aliens both in nationality and religion; and a European British subject appearing before a Court presided over by a Native Magistrate or Judge would be essentially before a foreign tribunal, without the advantage of that Consular protection which he would be entitled to in a foreign country.

4. That, in the humble opinion of your memorialists, the proposed amendment of the existing law is not only inopportune, but is calculated to engender class feeling and race antagonism, which your memorialists, who are collaborators with a very large number of Native Railway employés, cannot too strongly deprecate as being injurious in the extreme to European and Native alike and to the public service generally.

5. That your memorialists would draw your attention to the fact that no dissatisfaction has been expressed by the native community generally on the subject of the immunity from native jurisdiction now enjoyed by European British subjects, and that none of their privileges have been affected by the existing order of things. In proof that the present law, as a piece of class legislation, has been a success, and that cases coming under it should be enquired into and tried by trained European Magistrates, your memorialists beg to quote the opinion expressed by the Honourable the Legal Member of Council at the meeting of your Excellency's Council of the 2nd ultimo, in which he said—"and as to the facts with which we have to deal, no one who has studied the statistics and reports of the cases involving charges against European British subjects can fail to be struck with two things: first, that, as compared with the great mass of ordinary criminal business, *they are exceptionally rare*, and, secondly, that they are *exceptionally troublesome and difficult.*"

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6. That your memorialists, as Railway employés, are more likely to be injuriously affected by the proposed change in the law in respect of jurisdiction over European British subjects than other classes of the European community: first, on account of, in many cases, their isolation at stations far removed from European centres and Courts of revisional jurisdiction; and, secondly, owing to the great amount of technical and scientific evidence that is usually introduced into railway criminal cases, and which would be almost, if not quite, unintelligible to a Native Magistrate. A protracted trial, with all the heavy expenses attendant thereon, followed probably by an erroneous and perhaps ruinous judgment, might therefore, not unreasonably, be expected from the Judge's want of technical knowledge and experience in subjects with which European Judges are all more or less familiar. To illustrate the possible vexatious action of a Native Magistrate in a railway criminal case, your memorialists feel that they cannot do better than quote an instance which recently occurred in which the presiding Magistrate was a Native.

On the 19th November 1882, a collision occurred in the Howrah yard, and on the 22nd a line jamadar was prosecuted for carelessness in connection therewith before a Native Magistrate. The jamadar *admitted his guilt*, and formal evidence only was necessary to summarily dispose of the case; but the Magistrate, after recording some evidence, postponed the case until the 24th idem. When the case was resumed some technical evidence was tendered and rejected, and the trial was then postponed until the following morning at 8-30 o'clock for a local investigation. At the appointed hour *ten* Railway employés, European and Native, attended in the goods yard but the Magistrate did not come, and, after waiting in the yard at much inconvenience to the traffic and themselves until 12-30 P.M., they were all summoned by a court messenger to the court-house, only to be informed on their arrival there that the Magistrate had left, but that he would be in the yard at 2-30 P.M. Again the ten witnesses returned to the goods yard and had to wait there until dark, when a messenger arrived at 5-30 P.M. and said that the Magistrate could not come. Two days after this, notice was received that the case would come on for trial on the 29th November, but the Magistrate did not attend the yard until 4-30 P.M., and again postponed the case until the 4th December. The ten European and Native witnesses duly appeared on the latter date, *but only one of them* was called to give some slight formal evidence and, then, after all these adjournments, the prisoner was convicted on his own plea of "guilty."

7. That your memorialists, whilst fully and cordially recognizing the right of Natives to a share in the administration of the laws of this country, beg to point out that the proposed amendment, if it becomes law, will place European British subjects at a positive disadvantage when compared with the mass of the population of India. An *INDIAN* British subject will enjoy the high privilege of being tried by his countrymen or by European Magistrates who have been specially selected, educated and trained for the Indian Civil Service, and who have taken up their fixed residence in India; but *EUROPEAN* British subjects will be under the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates and Judges, whose ideas of western civilisation, manners and thought will have been gained only in India, or during two or three years' study in England, instead of their being subject, as at present, only to the jurisdiction of highly trained and educated Englishmen, who, being of their own nationality, have an intimate knowledge of their inner life, habits and manners.

8. That your memorialists would draw attention to the fact that a Native Magistrate of any class can exercise, under section 445 of the Criminal Procedure Code, nearly, if not all, the powers which a Justice of the Peace can exercise in England, inasmuch as he can issue process of arrest, making it returnable to himself or to any other Magistrate having jurisdiction.

9. That your memorialists would deprecate any argument founded on the basis that because Natives exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects in Presidency-towns, they should therefore exercise that jurisdiction outside Presidency-towns, as obviously misleading, seeing that the respective positions are widely different. In a Presidency-town any high-handed proceeding of a Magistrate would not of necessity imperil the liberty of the subject, as an immediate application could be made to the High Court and suspensory writ obtained within an hour; but in the Mofussil the European British subject would be entirely at the mercy of the local native authority, and would be liable to be degraded by actual confinement in an Indian gaol, perhaps with hard labour, in a most deleterious climate, before a distant High Court could be moved by the most energetic advocate to suspend a sentence which might ultimately prove to be unwarranted by law.

10. That your memorialists, in conclusion, would respectfully submit that the protection which has hitherto been afforded them by the existing law is no more than they are entitled to under the British Constitution, and, as Muhammadans, Hindus, Parsis, and many other races and sects in India are protected in the exercise of their own peculiar laws and customs by class legislation, your memorialists pray that the rights and liberties so dear to them, and which are menaced by the proposed amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, may not be withdrawn.

And your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

Dated 6th March, 1883.

From—H. W. I. WOOD, Esq., Secretary, Bengal Chamber of Commerce,

To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

At a Special General Meeting of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, held on Wednesday, the 21st of last month, resolutions were adopted with reference to the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code of 1882 so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects; and I am desired to forward copies thereof, hereto annexed, with the request that the same be submitted to the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Governor General of India.

Resolutions passed at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held on the 21st February, 1883.

Resolution.—Proposed by J. J. J. Keswick, Esq., seconded by James Murdoch, Esq.,—

That in the opinion of this meeting the alteration of the law proposed by the Government in the Bill entitled "A Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1882 so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects", calls for the unqualified disapproval of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and should be opposed to the utmost by every means in its power.

Second Resolution.—Proposed by J. W. O'Keefe, Esq., seconded by J. P. Thomas, Esq.,—

That a Sub-Committee of this Chamber be appointed to draw up a memorial to Government protesting against the Bill, and to take steps to procure signatures to the memorial throughout every district.

Third Resolution.—Proposed by the Hon'ble R. Miller, seconded by E. E. Bigge, Esq.,—

That the following members of the Chamber be invited to form the Sub-Committee for the foregoing purpose:—

J. J. J. Keswick, Esq., D. Cruickshank, Esq., J. Murdoch, Esq., J. Flemington, Esq., A. G. Watson, Esq., F. Aitchison, Esq., with power to add to their number.

Fourth Resolution.—Proposed by R. A. Turnbull, Esq., seconded by J. J. Guise, Esq.,—

That this Chamber confer with the Chambers of the Bombay and Madras Presidencies, so as to have united action against the Bill.

Dated 5th March, 1883.

From—C. B. WESTERHOUT, Esq., Chaplain of Ghaziabad,

To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

I have the honour to forward, herewith, a memorial signed by the residents of Ghaziabad, for the favourable consideration of His Excellency the Viceroy and Council, on the subject of the proposed Criminal Procedure Bill.

To His Excellency the Viceroy, President, and the Honourable Members of the Legislative Council for India.

The petition of the European British subjects of Ghaziabad, in the District of Meerut—

HUMBLY SHOWS,—That your petitioners view with extreme apprehension and alarm the introduction of the Bill for giving jurisdiction to Native Magistrates over European British subjects.

2. That, so far as your petitioners are aware, the only reason assigned for depriving them of a privilege which they have always been accustomed to look upon as a birthright, and which they most highly prize, is one of sentiment, and that in favour of a class of persons who themselves, as remarked by Sir FitzJames Stephen, have numerous privileges which are not accorded to your petitioners; *e.g.*, the exemption of *parda nishin* women from attendance in Civil Courts.

3. That the Honourable Member who introduced the Bill could not but admit that the present law had worked well; that the number of cases against European British subjects were few; and the existing qualified Magistrates quite sufficient to deal with them; and that the nature of the cases were such as required their determination by Magistrates of some experience and tried abilities. All these reasons, your petitioners submit, are in favour of making no alteration in the law as it is at present.

4. That the two principal reasons assigned for the proposed alteration, are—

1st.—The invidious position of Native Magistrates who are members of the Civil Service.

2nd.—The fact that the existing law is founded on a compromise.

Your petitioners would remark, as to the former, that it is no grievance, and that a mere sentimental feeling, so far as your petitioners are aware, has never been considered sufficient reason for depriving a class of persons of privileges which they highly [illegible] such privi-

leges work no injury to the non-privileged members of the community. Your petitioners would here remark that the same reason would apply for conferring the jurisdiction on all Native Magistrates of the first class.

As to the latter, your petitioners would beg to point out that it is this compromise which has conferred the present extended jurisdiction on Mufassal Magistrates and Sessions Judges. Prior to the Criminal Procedure Code, 1872, no European British subject could have been sentenced to imprisonment, however short, by a Mufassal Magistrate or Sessions Judge except for non-payment of a fine.

5. Your petitioners respectfully beg to point out how impossible it is for them to have any confidence in the Native Magistracy, when they are fully aware that the Natives themselves have no such confidence; and would, in all cases, prefer being tried by European Magistrates.

6. That the effect of the mere introduction of the Bill into Council has been to embitter the feelings between European British subjects and Natives. Your petitioners cannot do better in support of this allegation than refer to the article in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika** quoted at length by the *Englishman*.

* Headed "Empress *versus* Privileges of Cowards."

7. Finally, your petitioners would submit, that the state of native society is such as to make the appearance of an European woman before a Native Magistrate a disgrace to her; and especially in the eyes of the Natives themselves.

Your petitioners therefore pray that your Excellency in Council will be pleased to take this petition into your favourable consideration and to reject the Bill.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

To the Right Hon'ble the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

The Humble Memorial of the Anglo-Indian and European British subjects residing at Mirzapur in Upper India—

SHEWETH,—That your memorialists have learnt with surprise and alarm that a Bill has been introduced into the Legislative Council of India, having for its object the conferring, for the first time in the history of India, upon Natives of India, of criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects residing in the Mufassal.

2. Your memorialists have also learnt with surprise that the Government of India has given its sanction to this innovation in the law of India without being subjected to the slightest pressure proceeding from the Natives of India; that it has, of itself, thus raised this grave question of race antagonism, and that it bases its action principally on the ground that a large proportion of Covenanted Civilians—*i.e.*, Lieutenant-Governors, Commissioners and other salaried officials who have little or no stake in the permanence of British rule in India, and who can have very few more years to reside in India,—after being informed of the Governor General's opinion of the measure, have expressed themselves to be in favour of the same.

3. Your memorialists further notice with regret that the Government of India entirely failed to seek for any expression of opinion regarding this measure from either those European British subjects residing permanently in the Mufassal, whose lives and fortunes depend on the security of life and property in the Mufassal—the persons likely to be affected in their personal safety by measures of this kind—or the great body of English merchants, planters, traders and others, both in England and in this country, being those who are likely to suffer by depreciation in the value of their property.

4. Though your memorialists are as strongly impressed as any one can be of the desirability of extending the principle of equality in the judicial administration of India, where it can be done with safety and without disturbance, yet, considering the disproportion in numbers of Natives and Europeans in India, especially of Europeans residing in the Mufassal (about one to 5,000 Natives), your memorialists are as strongly persuaded that the principle of equality is not applicable in the present state of India, and that Natives, especially those in the Mufassal, are unprepared for, and will entirely misunderstand and misapprehend the announcement that Europeans are now by law liable to be punished by the Native Magistracy.

5. Your memorialists are also strongly convinced that no change in the law is necessary or expedient, and they most earnestly deprecate any further attempts on the part of those Europeans in India, whose power is great, but whose presence is temporary and not permanent, to encourage the Natives of India to agitate for positions in the administration and government of India on the principle of equality, while the following indisputable facts exist, namely:—

(*a*) The Natives of India are admittedly subject races; bearing the greatest enmity and animosity towards each other; dependant on European soldiers to keep the peace; and, except an insignificant number of individuals in the Presidency towns (who owe everything to compulsory education and contact with Europeans), are wholly unfit for independence.

(*b*) They have, unquestionably, more of liberty, peace and protection than any other people in the world who are subject to foreign domination.

(*c*) They already stand equal before the law; subject to the same Penal and Civil Codes as the dominant race.

(*d*) They have the benefit of personal laws to a greater extent than Europeans—Natives of rank and women being exempted from attendance in Courts of Justice.

(*e*) The number of Europeans in India are comparatively so small that to admit and enforce the principle of equality without reservation and without considerations of race or feeling in every department would reduce British power in India to a cypher, and make the British occupation of India unmaintainable, and eventually produce the same state of anarchy and disorder that prevailed before its conquest by the British.

(*f*) The principle of equality has no application among the Natives themselves, as their domestic and social institutions prove.

6. Your memorialists further submit that, with so many indications present in the minds of the people of India, namely:—

(*a*)—of their acknowledged unfitness for independence or self-government;

(*b*)—of their (with few exceptions) acknowledged unfitness to exercise jurisdiction over the liberty and lives of even their own fellow-countrymen;

(*c*)—of the necessity for excluding them from exercising any power except under proper safeguards;

(*d*)—of the necessity for excluding them from appointments in the Army, and taking part in the defence of their country against disturbers of the *Pax Britannica;*

to propose to grant them the principle of equality to the extent of permitting them to sit in judgment upon members of the dominant race seems to your memorialists residing in the Mufassal an unnecessary and dangerous innovation, which for many generations to come your memorialists (speaking on behalf of their wives and children) will never calmly acquiesce in or submit to.

7. Your memorialists unhesitatingly aver that should this Bill pass (which has already been spoken of by the Native papers as "an instalment" of what is to follow), there will be no adequate security or safety for your memorialists and European residents in the Mufassal, and the present peaceful state of India will, on the punishment of a European by a Native, be liable to disturbances of such a character as, if once set on foot, will produce greater anarchy and disorder than has been known in India for centuries.

8. Your memorialists would further observe that they perceive in this Bill, in which the principle of equality is affirmed, the prelude to others of a similar character calculated to destroy British interests in, and exclude Europeans from, Mufassal India. That if such is the ultimate aim and policy of the Government of India, your memorialists submit that the same should be boldly announced, and notified to your memorialists and the thousands of Europeans entering into and settling in the country.

Your memorialists therefore pray—

(1) that they may be heard by Counsel against the passing of this Bill;
(2) that the Bill may be thrown out;
(3) that the Bill, if passed, may be limited to Bengal, or places where residents will have the protection of European public opinion and the press.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

Memorial of certain Anglo-Indian and European British subjects of Saharanpore.

[This memorial is, *mutatis mutandis*, identical with that from Mirzapur.]

Memorial of certain Anglo-Indian and European British subjects of Cawnpore.

[This memorial is, *mutatis mutandis*, identical with that from Mirzapur.]

Dated 8th March 1883.

To His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

The Memorial of the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your memorialists have become aware of the desire of the Legislature to be informed of public feeling, in all classes concerned, in regard to a proposed change in the criminal law relating to the subjection of European British subjects to certain Native Magistrates in the Mufassal; and that, as loyal subjects, many of whom personally possess the status of European British subjects under the law, your memorialists submit for consideration the following objections which they hold against the change.

2. That it is a wise maxim of British statesmanship that legislation, and more especially important legislation, should wait upon necessity; and that no pressing necessity has been made out for this change, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons which has been given to the country.

3. That, in the absence of such necessity, the grounds advanced for the change are: that "it was thought anomalous that, while Natives of India were admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service and held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties, they should be deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace and to exercise jurisdiction over Europeans outside the Presidency town;" and that "the Government of India had accordingly decided to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions."

4. That, as regards the implied popularity of an assumed objection to an alleged anomaly, your memorialists have reason to believe that public feeling is very much divided on the subject, and that the preponderance of opinion weighs against, rather than for, the change, but that, at any rate, if the convictions of all thoughtful persons throughout the country, including responsible officials, missionaries, non-officials and native gentlemen of good family and real social influence in the interior, were carefully sought, it would be found that the right of a European British subject to be tried by his peers is not thought more anomalous, or in any way more offensive, and is probably thought much less so than the predominance of British power in India, and that all consistent objections which tell against the one—the mere fraction of a composite anomaly—tell with equal, if not greater, force against the other—the whole.

5. That, in the opinion of the European and Anglo-Indian community, the concessions to native prejudice made in connection with the administration of justice, such as the exemption of the native gentry and ladies from attendance as witnesses in our Law Courts, represent greater anomalies than any involved in the right of European British subjects to be tried by their peers. To such concessions the European community have never demurred; and they feel that, on this very account, the only right which they themselves have hitherto enjoyed should remain untouched.

6. That, without presuming to assert that the Indian Legislature has no strict legal power to enact that European British subjects may be tried by native judicial officers, your memorialists respectfully submit that a great constitutional difficulty underlies the proposed legislation. That during the many centuries through which the English people struggled for liberty and for the complete and practical attainment of the right of trial by one's peers, the possibility of the spectacle of an Englishman being tried by anybody but an Englishman was not, and could not have been, contemplated. That such a possibility has now arisen not only in India, but in several of the dependencies and colonies belonging to the British Empire, such as Cape Colony, Natal, New Zealand, and the West Indies. That, without denying the many virtues and merits of the Natives of India and of these other countries, it cannot be contended that they are the peers or equals of Englishmen. That the trial of an Englishman by a Native of any of these dependencies, that is to say, the trial of an Englishman by one who is not his peer, is an infringement of a great constitutional right. That your memorialists respectfully, but confidently, submit that the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland is the only Legislature which ought to deal with so momentous a trespass on the principle which is the foundation of English constitutional law.

7. That your memorialists crave leave to submit the following considerations to illustrate the force of the contention put forward in the last preceding paragraph, and to establish the fallacy of what is now popularly known as the argument from anomalies. A peer of the realm, charged with a felony in England, can only be tried by his peers, that is, by the House of Lords. If the principle which underlies the Bill which is now under consideration be sound, an English peer, charged with a similar offence in India, would be liable to be tried and punished by a Bengali Judge. *Ex hypothesi*, therefore, a Court presided over by a Bengali Judge in India would have a higher jurisdiction than a Court presided over by the Lord Chief Justice of England.

8. That if it is not certain that an Engish peer, charged with a felony in India, could not claim his constitutional right of being tried by the House of Lords, by parity of reasoning, an English commoner sojourning in India ought also, your memorialists submit, to be considered to have brought with him to India *his* constitutional right of being tried by *his* peers; that, speaking broadly and generally, a Native of India is not an Englishman's peer, and that, therefore, an Englishman in India cannot be liable to be tried by a Native of India.

9. That if one reason now relied upon for the proposed change is, that the administrative difficulty which has arisen in consequence of the appointment of Covenanted Native Civilians to the office of Sessions Judge was not anticipated on former occasions when the question was fully discussed, this reason, your memorialists submit, is not borne out by the provisions of either Act X of 1872 or Act X of 1882, which distinctly contemplated and expressly provided for the contingency of a Sessions Court presided over by a Judge who was not a European British subject. Your memorialists solicit attention to the terms of the two sections:

Section 77, Act X of 1872.—"If the Sessions Judge of the Sessions division within which the offence is ordinarily triable is not a European British subject, the case shall be reported by the Committing Magistrate for the orders of the High Court."

Section 450, Act X of 1882.—"If the Judge of the Sessions division within which the offence is ordinarily triable is not a European British subject, the case shall be reported by the Committing Magistrate for the orders of the highest Court of criminal appeal for the province within which such division is situate."

10. That as regards the allusion made in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, already quoted, to "race distinctions" in law, such an allusion derives all its significance from considerations of abstract justice which cannot, your memorialists respectfully plead, apply to a country sustaining the relation which India unavoidably bears to England; but that if it were applicable at all in this peculiar relation, the same abstract justice on which it relies would demand its enforcement, not against a single distinction, but against every distinction based on difference of race, and that the further action, which would be the only just outcome from any movement in this direction at all, would involve the simultaneous withdrawal of all the privileges and exemptions hitherto conceded to native gentlemen of rank and to native ladies, as well as to the removal of the legal civil disabilities under which European British subjects in a large class of suits between themselves on the one part as plaintiffs, and Muhammadans or Hindus on the other as defendants, are compelled to bear the burden of subjection to Muhammadan and Hindu laws.

11. That as regards the question of personal disqualification unhappily raised in the present discussion on jurisdiction, your memorialists would respectfully remind the Government of India that, as Sir J. FitzJames Stephen, an English jurist of great eminence, and an Anglo-Indian official of some experience, clearly pointed out on the occasion of a former discussion in 1872, "*the privilege as to jurisdiction is the privilege of the prisoner and not the privilege of the Judge*"; that it would alter the whole attitude consistently for many centuries taken by English law towards persons accused of offences, if allowances deliberately made, and carefully guarded from a tender regard for individuals placed in the painful position of persons accused of offences, and always held to be innocent unless and until proved to be guilty, were now suddenly withdrawn in deference to sentimental ideas about the personal dignity of Judges which find no place among English traditions.

12. That the right of trial by peers forms part and parcel of, and is inseparable from, the habitual concern disclosed by the English law for the accused, and that this concern commends itself to the Christian conscience as the root of many considerate arrangements, which conduce not only to the safety of the body, but also to the comfort of the mind, of a person who may be innocent whilst charged with a foul crime. That all such considerations possess a grave meaning in India, where an innocent accused person may be an Englishwoman, and where women are not treated by men with the chivalrous respect that has grown into a habit in Christian countries.

13. That, under these circumstances, attacks made by Natives in a hostile spirit on privileges conceded to accused persons, betoken, especially when connected in an illogical way with irrelevant questions of personal disqualification, a condition of mind that calls for repression rather than encouragement; and that such attacks, whatever position a few well-meaning Englishmen may thoughtlessly take up in regard to them, could never, your memorialists respectfully urge, be originated by a typical English Magistrate, or a typical English Judge. That the fascination which such attacks evidently possess for a class of over-sensitive Indian minds affords strong proof of the great difference between the English ideal of the judicial mind and the ideal which, in spite of education and external social influence, still prevails in this country; and that such attacks possess a serious significance for the Indian Government which has been understood to repose trust in the judicial qualifications of the educated native mind.

14. That if the proposition submitted by your memorialists be unassailable, namely, that the question of jurisdiction relates to the privileges of the accused, and not to the competence of the Court, a proposition abundantly proved by the numberless exemptions and distinctions based on race and social customs which it is apparently intended inconsistently to leave untouched after the solitary personal right claimed by European British subjects is given up, it should lead, your memorialists respectfully but earnestly urge, to a more careful consideration of the proposed amendment than it would appear yet to have received (judging from the papers published in connection with the Bill introduced into the Legislative Council) from the particular stand-point suggested in the present remarks.

15. That if, and when, so viewed, the right of European British subjects to be tried by their peers commends itself to unprejudiced minds as being not merely absolutely free from all such invidiousness as has unreasonably been imported into it, but also in perfect harmony with the right given to all accused persons in this country to challenge jurors of whose qualifications to understand them and do them justice they themselves (and not the Government or the trying officer) may entertain any doubt. No right-minded European British subject has ever felt offended at being so challenged by an unfortunate Native of India placed on his trial on a criminal charge, or thought of urging on the legislature a withdrawal of the right as involving a reflection on himself or a civil disqualification. Nor, if any wrong-minded European British subject thought fit to do so on the ground of some imaginary offence lurking in the right, or of any inconvenience which it caused to the administration of justice, is it conceivable that the legislature would grant the request.

16. That your memorialists sincerely and solemnly believe, and, therefore, humbly but gravely urge, that a truer lesson in self-culture, and therefore, one better calculated to serve their own higher interests in the end, would be taught to the small section of educated Natives, chiefly in the province of Bengal, who have no real personal interest whatsoever in this matter, but yet have demanded, or are demanding, not only the subjection of European British subjects in the Mufussal to Native Justices of the Peace, but also the prosecution of the principle under-

lying the proposed change to its logical extreme, if they were now kindly, but firmly, instructed in the real merits of the question which they have virtually raised, and are keeping open, as these appear to fellow-subjects who have done them no wrong and wish them no harm, than if their present more or less unworthy and wholly unfriendly feeling, and the politically dangerous and socially suicidal mood, of which it is the clear and melancholy evidence, were without sufficient consideration, gratified at much cost to their European British subjects and with no benefit whatever to themselves.

17. That, acting solely in self-defence, and without an unkindly thought or feeling towards those side by side with whom, in the providence of God, they are called to pass their lives in this country, your memorialists earnestly and solemnly pray that the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, now before the Council, may not be passed.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

On behalf of the Board of Direction, Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association.

Telegram from Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, to Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department,—dated 8th March, 1883.

At a numerously attended special general meeting of the Chamber, called to consider Bill amending Criminal Procedure Code, following resolutions were passed almost unanimously, three native members only dissenting. That, in the opinion of this meeting, the Bill for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code is, under existing circumstances, uncalled for, and ought not to have been introduced without first eliciting the opinions of the un-official classes, whom the proposed change in the administration of the law will affect. Special committee appointed to frame memorial to Viceroy praying abandonment of proposed amendment. Memorial will be forwarded shortly through Bombay Government, but Viceroy proposes stating his views on subject in Legislative Council on 9th instant. Detailed proceedings of meeting and memorial will not reach in time. Chamber respectfully commends resolutions to favourable consideration of Viceroy, submitting no real necessity exists for measure, nor has any pressure been brought upon Government to introduce it. Measure also considered premature, as Bill will affect whole Mufassal European community, while on other hand affecting status of only a few Natives in Bengal and Bombay. Further, measure pronounced inopportune, and calculated to imperil success of other important measures now pending.

Memorial of certain Anglo-Indian and European British subjects of Ghazipur.

[This memorial is, *mutatis mutandis*, identical with that from Mirzapur.]

Resolutions of the Public Meetings held at Muzaffarpur, Motihari, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Chapra, Barhoga (Siwan), on the 5th March, 1883, received through Honourable Sir S. C. Bayley.

RESOLVED—That all present at this meeting protest against any interference with the rights we enjoy as European British subjects in India. That we believe it is only ignorance of the position in which thousands of Europeans are placed in the interior that permitted the proposal to give Natives jurisdiction over European British subjects to be placed before the Council, and that we authorize the Secretary of the Bihar Indigo Planters' Association to request the Hon'ble Sir Steuart Bayley to place this our firm and indignant protest before His Excellency the Viceroy in the assurance that Lord Ripon will not permit our most cherished right of being tried by our peers to be taken from us:—

Meeting.	Chairman	Signatures.
Muzaffarpur	J. S. Begg, Dist. Honorary Secretary / W. B. Hudson, General Secretary	95
Motihari	Dr. J. H. G. Hill	54
Chapra	E. G. Williams	56
Darbhanga	M. Gale	23
Barhoga (Siwan)	D. N. Reid	38
* Samastipur (Jitwarpur)	W. S. Crowdy	28
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* Separate Resolution forwarded herewith.

Resolution of a Public Meeting held at Jitwarpur on 5th March, 1883, received through Honourable Sir S. C. Bayley.

MR. W. S. CROWDY having been voted to the chair.

Proposed by Mr. F. Mackinnon,

Seconded by Mr. W. S. Mackenzie,—

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the change in the law proposed by Government in the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, by which European British subjects in this country will lose the privilege which they have hitherto enjoyed of being tried by their countrymen, is an unjustified invasion of their rights, which they have done nothing to forfeit.

"The proposed amendment is not required by any administrative necessity, nor in the interests of justice; it will not in any way benefit Natives, while it will seriously endanger the liberties of Europeans in remote parts of the Mufassal.

"The principle of the proposed measure, if once admitted as a basis for legislation, must logically be carried out to still greater lengths in the way of interference with the rights of the European community in India, and calls for the unqualified condemnation and opposition of all those interested in preserving them"—(Carried unanimously.)

Proposed by Mr. S. Nicholson,

Seconded by Mr. W. Mackenzie.,—

"That the Secretary of the Bihar Indigo Planters' Association be requested to represent the resolution of this meeting, in combination with the resolutions of other meetings throughout these districts, in the proper quarters, and to co-operate generally with the committee appointed at the Calcutta meeting of 28th February last in petitioning the Indian and Home Governments".—(Carried unanimously.)

No. 330, dated 16th March, 1883.

From—W. C. MACPHERSON, Esq., Assistant Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Assam,

To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

At the instance of Mr. James Peters, of Hailakandi, in the Kachar District, I am directed to forward, in original, the minutes of proceedings of a meeting of tea-planters of Hailakandi in which they protest against the proposed amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Resolutions passed at a Meeting held at Hailakandi on the 1st March, 1883.

1stly.—Proposed that Mr. Peters take the chair. *Carried unanimously.*

2ndly.—That the following resolutions be communicated to the Assistant Commissioner:—

3rdly.—That notwithstanding Governmental promises to the effect that no Bill would become law without allowing full time for discussion, this Meeting deprecates the haste with which this Bill is being pushed on, as not allowing the European residents time to lay fully their views before Government, and strongly protests against the same.

4thly.—It was unanimously agreed that the present Meeting view with great apprehension Mr. Ilbert's Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, and beg to record a strong protest against the same, as likely, more especially in Mofussil districts like the tea-districts, to create a still further gap in the already existing race-prejudices, and as being likely to alienate capital from a district which has sprung into a prosperous condition by the aid of European energy and capital.

5thly.—That already, before this has become law, the Native Press are calling for more concessions and protesting against the control of coolies in Darjeeling; such a control, too, as contemplated being only what exists in every town in the United Kingdom. The Meeting, therefore, strongly protests against any of the contemplated concessions.

6thly.—That, under the above circumstances, as there is no time given to lay our views before Government in writing, it is resolved unanimously that the Assistant Commissioner be asked to telegraph the above resolutions to the Chief Commissioner, to be laid immediately before the Viceroy's Council.

With a vote of thanks to the Chair the Meeting dissolved.

No. 459 T., dated 23rd March, 1883.

From—B. G. GEIDT, Esq., Personal Assistant to Chief Commissioner, Assam,

To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am directed to forward, for submission to his Excellency the Viceroy, a copy of resolution passed by a Meeting of Planters held at Jorehat on the 16th March last, regarding the proposed amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Resolutions passed at a Meeting of European Planters held at Cinnawara, in the Jorehat District, on 16th March, 1883.

First.—That this Meeting views with indignant astonishment the proposed alteration of the Criminal Procedure Code giving Natives the power of trying Europeans, and thereby depriving the latter not merely of a privilege but of an inalienable right, that, namely, of every Englishman being tried by his peers, which it is difficult to believe that any Government, however despotic and arbitrary, could wish to deprive him of.

As the present state of the law, under which European British subjects can only be tried by Europeans, does not in any way interfere with the privileges of the Native population, nor involve any injustice towards them, the non-official Europeans of the community here unanimously resolve and pledge themselves to oppose and resist by every means in their power the proposed amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code, and, if the amendment becomes law, are strongly convinced that the relations between European and Natives, which hitherto have been most friendly, will be severely strained—a most unfortunate result, for which the Government will be entirely responsible through this ill-advised scheme. Already bitter feelings have been shown on both sides in consequence of it, and the growth of cordiality between the two races, which was the outcome of the policy of former Governments, has been thrown back to a lamentable degree.

Second.—That this Meeting condemns the policy of Government in attempting to degrade the status of the non-official European population without in any way consulting them, and deeply regrets that Government, while professing to do everything in its power to encourage private enterprise, should take such a step, which would undoubtedly be the means of driving away capital from the country generally, but more especially from an outlying province like Assam.

Third.—That copies of the above Resolutions be sent to the Chief Commissioner of Assam and to the Chamber of Commerce, to be forwarded to the Viceroy.

Supplementary memorial from certain employés of the East Indian Railway.

[NOTE.—The memorial is similar to that from the employés of the East Indian Railway, and is signed by 100 persons.]

Dated 4th April, 1883.

From—BABOO SAJANI KANT CHATTERJEA, Secretary, Burdwan Association,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I have the honour to forward herewith copy of certain resolutions adopted at a meeting of the inhabitants of District Burdwan held on the 18th ultimo to consider the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, and to request the favour of your laying it before His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

Resolutions adopted at a Meeting of Inhabitants of District Burdwan held on 18th March, 1883.

I. That, in the opinion of this Meeting, the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, recently introduced into the Legislative Council of India, by conferring criminal jurisdiction on Native members, possessing certain qualifications, of the Covenanted Civil Service of India, over European British subjects residing therein, is a just, wise and righteous measure.

II. That, in the opinion of this Meeting, the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, recently introduced into the Legislative Council of India, by conferring criminal jurisdiction on Native members, possessing certain qualifications, of the Covenanted Civil Service of India, over European British subjects residing therein, is calculated to remove a growing administrative inconvenience and to put an end to an unnecessary disqualification affecting the people of this country.

III. That, in the opinion of this Meeting, the judicial officers on whom the above jurisdiction is proposed to be conferred are not unfit, either by their education or their nationality to exercise the same.

IV. That the thanks of this Meeting be conveyed to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India for this fresh instance of his noble policy to promote in every respect the welfare and prosperity of this vast country the government of which is now committed to his care.

V. That the Burdwan Association be requested to forward the above resolutions on behalf of this Meeting to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India.

Memorial from certain European residents of Bareilly, Lucknow, and Jabalpur.

[NOTE.—These memorials are similar to that from Mirzapur.]

No. 2351, dated 5th April 1883.

From—C. G. W. MACPHERSON, Esq., Under-Secretary to Government of Bombay.

To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

At the request of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, I am directed to forward to the address of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India the accompanying memorial, dated the 22nd ultimo, praying that the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, now before the Legislative Council of the Government of India, may be abandoned.

Dated 22nd March 1883.

To His Excellency the Most Honourable THE MARQUIS OF RIPON, P.C., K.G., G.C.B., G.M.S.I., *Viceroy and Governor General of India.*

Memorial of Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That at a numerously attended General Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held on the 6th March 1883, to discuss the Criminal Procedure Code, 1882, Amendment Bill, now before the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Governor General, the following Resolutions were passed almost unanimously, three Native members of the Chamber only dissenting :—

1.—That in the opinion of this Meeting, the Bill for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code is, under existing circumstances, uncalled for, and ought not to have been introduced without first eliciting the opinions of the non-official classes whom the proposed change in the administration of the law will affect.

2.—That the following members of the Chamber, namely, the Chairman of the Chamber, Mr. M. Mowat, the Hon'ble W. M. Macaulay, Messrs. Bythell, Russell, L. R. W. Forrest and Blascheck, be appointed a Sub-Committee, with power to add to their number, to prepare a memorial to the Viceroy, praying that His Excellency may be pleased to abandon the proposed alteration in the law.

That the discussion which resulted in the passing of these resolutions is contained in the printed procedings of the Meeting which are appended hereto, and to which your Excellency's attention is respectully invited.

That the privilege which Englishmen have hitherto enjoyed, of being tried by their own countrymen, is one on which they set the highest value. It has never interfered in any way with the rights of the Natives, nor has it occasioned inconvenience to any appreciable extent in the administration of justice.

That the European communities acquiesced in the proposal to confer on Native Magistrates jurisdiction over Europeans in the Presidency-towns, in the well-grounded belief that in those towns there were sufficient safeguards for the efficient performance of the duties of their office. The example of other Judges, the vigilant criticism of an able and influential Bar, from whom the Magistrates at the same time receive valuable assistance in arriving at their decisions, and the influence of an intelligent public opinion, were generally felt to be sufficient guarantees against miscarriage of justice. But the case is widely different in the districts of the Mufassal, where a few isolated Europeans may have to contend with the prejudices of the surrounding people, who are necessarily ignorant of their customs and feelings. Even in England, in places where feeling runs high against the accused, it is not uncommon to change the venue in order to secure for him a fair and impartial trial. It is not unnatural for the Native Judge in the Mufassal, however able he may be, and anxious to dispense justice impartially, to be to some extent influenced, it may be unwittingly, by the prejudices of his own people: he enjoys none of the advantages which the Native Magistrates in the Presidency-towns possess, while the European who may be brought before him can neither have the assistance of his countrymen to defend him, nor the protecting influence of a strong and enlightened public opinion. Examples, indeed, are not wanting of the difference between the administration of justice in a place in the interior where an European British subject cannot have counsel to represent him, and where there is no public opinion, and the dispensing of justice in Bombay, where there is a strong Press and he can employ counsel to defend him

That the Code of Criminal Procedure was exhaustively discussed in 1872, and, after having been in force for ten years, was last year re-enacted, and came into force on 1st January 1883. A variety of alterations and amendments were introduced into the new code, after it had been submitted to the different local Governments for their opinions, but no alteration was made in that part of it which related to European British subjects. This, your memorialists respectfully submit, in itself showed that no practical reason, no real urgency, existed to justify the withdrawal of what is perhaps the only legal privilege which European subjects in India possess against many, on the same principle, which Natives of rank and influence enjoy.

That in the discussion in the Legislative Council on the 9th of March, your Excellency was pleased to admit that at present there is no irresistible necessity for introducing this measure, although it might be an inconvenience to the administration of justice and a hardship to suitors if the present state of things were allowed to exist. And the Honourable Mr. Gibbs cited as an example Carwar (where Mr. Tagore was Sessions Judge), in the neighbourhood of which large railway-works were being commenced. These works would, he said, bring European British subjects in considerable numbers into that district; and if they were not tried by the Sessions Judge, they would either have to be sent by sea to Bombay, or have to march 80 or 100 miles through a district which at many times of the year was injurious to health. The illustration was an unhappy one, inasmuch as the railway referred to is being carried inland from Marmagao through Portuguese territory, and not from Carwar. Supposing, however, a large number of Europeans had been attracted to the Carwar collectorate by the construction of a railway, your memorialists submit that it would have been preferable to have appointed an European Magistrate to the district, instead of altering the law of the land to meet an isolated and exceptional case such as the one in question.

That in a country such as India, whose population is composed of so many different races, languages and religions, it is in the highest degree impolitic to introduce fundamental changes in the law, affecting large and important sections, unless such changes are justified by urgent necessity; and your memorialists are of opinion that any such change now is premature and uncalled for.

That it has always been regarded as of great importance to the Government that harmony should exist between the Government and the general European population; and it is much to be regretted that Government did not take the precaution to elicit an expression of their opinion before the proposed Bill was introduced into the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Governor General.

Your memorialists therefore respectfully pray that your Excellency may be pleased to abandon the proposed alteration in the law.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Proceedings of the Special General Meeting of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, held on the 6th March, 1883.

A SPECIAL General Meeting of the Bombay Chamber, of Commerce was held on Tuesday, the 6th March 1883, at which the following members were present:—Mr. Cornforth (Aldridge, Salmon & Co.), Mr. Brandenburg (Bell, Brandenburg & Co.), Messrs. Russell and Macdonald (Benn, Ashley & Co.), Mr. Blascheck (A. Blascheck & Co.), Mr. Macaulay (Ewart, Latham & Co.), Messrs. Symons and Wilson (Finlay, Muir & Co.), Mr. Forbes (C. H. B. Forbes & Co.), Mr. Sorabjee Framjee (Framjee, Sands & Co.), Messrs. Gaddum and Bythell (Gaddum & Co.), Mr. Glade (Glade & Co.), Mr. F. Adam (W. & A. Graham & Co.), Mr. Cotton (Greaves, Cotton & Co.), Messrs. Forrest and Stewart (Killick, Nixon & Co.), Mr. Moir (Lang, Moir & Co.), Messrs. Comber, Beaufort and Glazebrook (Lyon & Co.), Mr. Miller (C. Macdonald & Co.), Mr. Mackay (Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co.), Messrs. Poole and Cassels (Peel, Cassels & Co.), Mr. Punnett (Punnett & Co.), Mr. Fachiri (Ralli Brothers), Mr. Mowat (Ritchie, Steuart & Co.), Mr. Sassoon (D. Sassoon & Co.), Mr. Steiner (Volkart Brothers), Mr. Wyer (Wallace & Co.), Mr. Ahmedbhoy Hubibhoy, Mr. Dinshaw Manockjee Petit, Mr. Nanabhoy Byramjee Jeejeebhoy, Mr. Balfour (the Bank of Bombay), Mr. Wood (the B. B. and C. I. Railway Company), Mr. T. Forrest (the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China), Mr. Lowell (the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris), Mr. Reid (the Oriental Bank Corporation), Mr. Parker (the P. & O. S. N. Co.), and Mr. Vizbhookundas Atmaram (Narandas Rajaram & Co.), and many other gentlemen who were not members of the Chamber. Mr. James Thorburn, of the firm of Messrs. Sir Charles Forbes & Co., Chairman of the Chamber, presided.

Criminal Procedure Code, 1882, Amendment Bill.

The CHAIRMAN in opening the proceedings said:—"Gentlemen, you are all, I dare say, very well aware that at a meeting of the Viceregal Council held in Calcutta early last month, the Honourable Mr. Ilbert, the Legal Member of the Government of India, asked leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code of 1882, which was only passed in the beginning of last year—in fact, it is only just a year old to-day, having been passed on the 6th March 1882. The object of our meeting to-day is to consider the propriety of that measure becoming law or being carried any further. We have come here to pronounce our opinion upon it, and to express our views as to whether the amendment should take effect or not. As all of you, who have been reading the daily Press, are aware, the question has been very warmly discussed, more particularly in Bengal, and it has also attracted very general attention in England. It is quite right, and quite proper, that we, as the representatives of the European mercantile community and also of the non-official community of this city, should meet to discuss this question and express our opinion upon it; but I trust that nothing that will be said in this room to-day will have the effect or be likely to stir up ill-feeling either between ourselves and the Government of this country or between ourselves and our native fellow-subjects. I think that a temperate expression of opinion will be not only more dignified, but it will probably carry more weight, and by adhering to that principle we shall avoid giving offence to, or wounding the feelings or susceptibilities of, those with whom I think it is our duty as fellow-subjects of the same sovereign to be on a good and friendly footing. We were obliged, gentlemen, to call our meeting at a very late hour for various reasons, and I don't intend for that reason, and also for the reason that other gentlemen will speak presently to the resolutions which have been circulated amongst you, to go minutely into the subject of this proposed Bill myself; but I shall, at the same time, before sitting down, take the opportunity of saying that I disapprove of the measure, and I shall give some reasons for saying so. The first thing that strikes me is that there is really no pressing necessity for this measure at all; and I don't think that we require to go any further than Mr. Ilbert's speech in asking leave to introduce this measure to show that this is the case. The Criminal Code, as you are aware, was last amended previous to 1882 in 1872, and this very question we are met to discuss

came on then; and although I don't wish to go minutely into what took place at that time, I may say that it was carried, by a majority of seven to five, that this amendment should not be given effect to. Mr. Ilbert takes great care to cite the opinions of the five who were in favour of that amendment being introduced into the measure, but he leaves out, or says nothing about, the opinions of the seven. I don't think it is likely that the whole of these seven were non-official members, for I think from our experience we may assume that no measure could be carried by a non-official majority in any legislative council in this country. To proceed, however, Mr. Ilbert starts by saying that from that time (1872) forward, when any suggestions were offered to the Government of India in the direction of the amendment of the Code, the question always came up. Now, one would have thought that, if that had been so, the Government would have taken the very earliest opportunity of ascertaining the opinions not only of their own officers but of the public generally, and would have acted as speedily as possible on the opinions they might receive. You have only to read a little further on, and it becomes quite apparent that for ten years they did nothing. This Code, as I have previously explained, became law a year ago to-day. The Government had completed all the amendments they intended to give effect to, and this question never came up at all, and, as Mr. Ilbert says himself, the now historical Mr. Gupta's letter or his suggestion that this amendment should be made in the Code came forward at the last moment when it was impossible to introduce it. What the Government afterwards did was to take the opinions of some of their own officers, and now we have the result before us. I think it is clear, as has been shown, that there is no pressing necessity for this measure in the shape of the proposed amendment. In fact, the only person whose name has been associated with it, as far as can be gathered, is Mr. Gupta, and, as Mr. Ilbert says, his letter gave rise to the discussion. That concludes what I have to say on that point, and I think there can be no question that there was no real necessity for introducing the measure, or any pressure brought upon Government to introduce it. Another point that strikes me, gentlemen, is this: it seems to me that the measure is premature. I have shown you from what Mr. Ilbert said that there was no pressing necessity for it, and I also think it unquestionably premature for this reason: this Bill will have the effect of touching the whole of the Mufassal European community, while, on the other hand, it will only affect the status of some six Native Civilians in Bengal, and I think I have seen it stated only one here. Therefore, I say that for that reason it is premature. I also say it is premature for this reason, that the Presidency-towns are in a very much more advanced state than the Mufassal. It is proposed to extend this measure to the whole country—to the most most outlying and backward districts, where you may say that civilization has been barely introduced, and I am of opinion that from that point of view the Bill is premature. If the mufassal was as advanced as our Presidency-towns are, then there might have been some reason for introducing a measure of this kind. I not only consider, however, that the measure is premature, but I also consider it has been introduced at a very inopportune moment. We all know that the Government have got at least three very important measures before them at the present moment, one of which at least introduces very radical and sweeping changes; and many people, including myself, I may say, think that the country is scarcely prepared or ripe for these measures. I cannot help thinking that, that being so, it was particularly inopportune to introduce the measure at the present time, when other important measures about which there has been, and is likely to be, a good deal of difference of opinion, are pending. Then, gentlemen, I also object to the Bill, because it was brought forward without allowing the classes who are likely to be affected by it any opportunity of being heard. It has been, in a sense, sprung upon us, and not only upon us, but, as you may have noticed in the debate to which I have referred, the Honourable Mr. Evans, one of the members of the Council, stated that he heard for the first time on the day of the meeting what the proposed measure was. He was ignorant of the character of the measure, and we also were ignorant of it until it was brought forward in the Council. It strikes me as being very much out of place to introduce a measure of this kind on the strength of the opinions elicited by a private circular, without the non-official community generally having an oppotunity of expressing their opinion upon a measure which was to affect them so closely as this measure does. It is all very well for gentlemen who would have the administration of the law to express approval of it, but it looks rather different to those who are certain to be affected by the administration of it; and I cannot help thinking that when this private circular—which none of us have seen, and which I should rather like to see—was sent round, probably, I think very likely, most of the officials to whom it was sent looked upon the question from a theoretical rather than from a practical point of view, without considering what effect the introduction of such a measure would have on the country. I notice further, gentlemen, that Mr. Ilbert says, in speaking of this circular, that its result was very remarkable. Well, I should think that he must have realised ere this that the effect of acting upon the circular has been very remarkable indeed. I think he must feel now, and I think that the Government of India must also feel, that they have made a blunder in bringing forward a measure of this kind without pressure, most inopportunely, and without the public likely to be affected by it having had an opportunity of expressing an opinion about it. I will not say more now, other gentlemen having to speak to the resolutions which have been circulated amongst you. I think it is quite likely I may have touched upon some points which other gentlemen may speak upon, and, if such is the case, I hope that they will enlarge upon and enforce, rather

than pass over any point that I may have alluded to. With these remarks, gentlemen, I call upon Mr. Mowat to speak to the first resolution."

MR. NANABHOY BYRAMJEE JEEJEEBHOY: "Mr. Chairman, before Mr. Mowat proposes the resolution, I should like to know whether you have received any letter from any one."

The CHAIRMAN: "We have received a letter from some of the members of this Chamber, and we have sent an answer to it. Have you got the answer?"

MR. NANABHOY: "It was the special desire of the members that it should be read before the meeting."

The CHAIRMAN: "I am asking whether you have got the answer?"

MR. NANABHOY: "That letter was for the informatian of the members."

The CHAIRMAN: "I don't consider that there was any necessity for its being read."

MR. NANABHOY: "Then you rule that that letter shall not be read. I bow to your decision."

The CHAIRMAN: "I have not given any decision as yet." (Laughter.)

MR. NANABHOY: "You say that the letter shall not be read."

The CHAIRMAN: "The letter to which you refer was received about half-past two. It objected to this Chamber taking up this question, and the answer which was sent to you by my directions was that we considered it quite competent for the Chamber to discuss this question; and if you had any reasons to give against its doing so, you ought to come here and state them."

MR. NANABHOY: "We are going to speak, and we have come here to speak."

The CHAIRMAN: "Very well."

MR. NANABHOY: "Then you rule that that letter shall not be read."

The CHAIRMAN: "There is no necessity that it should be read, seeing that you are here to speak and vote for yourself like any other member of the Chamber."

MR. MOWAT said—"In proposing the first resolution, which runs thus—'That in the opinion of this meeting, the Bill for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code is, under existing circumstances, uncalled for and ought not to have been introduced without first eliciting the opinions of the non-official classes whom the proposed change in the administration of the law will affect,'—I would draw your attention to the temperate manner in which it is worded; and in the remarks which I am about to make I mean to be considerate towards the various races interested in the Bill lately brought forward by the Government of India. Throughout the length and breadth of this vast empire it has been the leading subject of discussion for nearly a fortnight, and it has been taken up with more than ordinary warmth in Bengal; and the voice of England has not been silent. I most earnestly trust the tension which now exists will find a solution long before November comes round. Although we have been later in approaching the subject than our friends in Calcutta and Madras, we are not behind them in the interest we take in any matter affecting the criminal law by which our British-born fellow-countrymen are tried abroad. In order to grasp the leading facts, let me point out what was done in 1872. This subject was then thoroughly discussed, and the debates which took place in the Supreme Legislative Council possess more than ordinary interest. Although five eminent names, including an ex-Governor of Madras and the late Governor of Bombay, appear on one side, seven gentlemen who have also left their impress on India took the opposite view, and one of those was the distinguished lawyer, Sir James Stephen, who had charge of the then Criminal Procedure Bill. By this Act, which was the result of a compromise, Native Magistrates in the Presidency-towns were allowed jurisdiction over Europeans, but their power extended no further, and the reasons for so doing appear to me to be very strong. Gentlemen, with public opinion and a powerful Press such as we find in the great cities, we can understand why a difference was made between them and the Mufassal. But, even in the great Presidency-towns, cases arise which are surrounded with more than ordinary difficulty, and which tax the keenest intellects of the Bench and the Bar. At a great social banquet which took place in Bombay a little over three years ago, and at which I had the honour to preside, a Judge of the High Court, whose manly straight-forwardness and upright character have gained for him a wide circle of friends among all classes, expressed himself thus:—'The administration of justice in India, and no less in Bombay, is carried on with extreme difficulty, owing to the vast preponderance of unworthy testimony by the Native witnesses we have before us. A Judge in this country can only act on the facts in the case before him, and it would be impossible for us to form our judgments satisfactorily were it not for the admirable manner in which the cases are prepared by able and experienced solicitors and clerks, and for the arguments and the ability which are bestowed upon those facts by accomplished barristers.' (Cheers). If this is the case in one of the leading cities in the Empire, what safeguards must we insist on for the poor European in the districts? There are not able and experienced solicitors there; further, there are no accomplished barristers. But, gentlemen, I can tell you what will not be wanting. As a juryman I have had to listen to suborned witnesses; they and the other surroundings will find a place. An oath or affirmation to the uneducated Native classes is of little or no value; and are we to expose our countrymen to criminal charges made on such evidence? Far be it from me to speak otherwise than respectfully of Native Magistrates whom this country chooses to honour with the dignity. As educated men we expect a great deal from them. But I hold that, in a criminal charge against a European, things may arise on which an Englishman or British-born subject only can form a correct judgment. If, therefore, the Magistrate, witnesses and other surroundings are entirely Native, can we suppose that there will never be a miscarriage of justice? From the public Press, which has lately been flooded with literature on this subject, we find that the Native community are far from agreed, for in common fairness we may put Mr. Khory's letter of this morning against that of the Honourable Mr. Tyabjee. A leading Magistrate who had a great many years' experience in the Mufassal, when speaking to me quite recently, was not slow to point out the dangers which would beset the proposed alteration in the law. Perhaps a time will come when a revision of the existing Code may be considered with advantage; but it is clearly not now. The lower classes amongst the Native community must first be advanced. The non-official classes very justly complain that they have not been consulted in this matter, especially seeing that they will be affected by Mr. Ilbert's proposed change. The legal and official classes, however, were consulted, and we learn that they have not been unanimous. English capital is now pouring into the country for reproductive works, necessitating a large number of European employés. They consist of railway-servants, press and mill managers, cotton-agents and the like. In this Presidency, they are fewer in number than in the other two, but they are not the less deserving of our care and attention. (Applause.) Their probable future is a question for the sociologist, and I cannot say that I look upon it with anything like satisfaction. With the progress of works in the Mufassal their numbers will increase, but from the Natives who are making such rapid strides in education, they will have to suffer the keenest competition—a competition not likely to diminish. A large portion of those now labouring in the districts will never again behold the Island which gave them birth, while their familes will have to make the best of life under all the disadvantages of a tropical sun. These are the classes most likely to be seriously affected by the new Bill; and, as they can least protect themselves, it is our duty to see that their rights and privileges are kept inviolate. They supply that cheap European labour which at the present time is indispensable in the formation of public works. As a rule, many of them are poor, and the fee necessary to secure the services of an English barrister or a first class vakil for defence in a criminal charge is more than they are able to command. Let us therefore be careful and not deprive our poorer countrymen of privileges which they have hitherto enjoyed, and to which they attach the highest value. According to the best authorities, they now do this without in any way interfering with the rights of the Natives of the country. Sir James Stephen's remarks are valuable. He says:—'In countries situated as most European countries are, it is no doubt desirable that there should be no personal laws; but in India it is otherwise. Personal, as opposed to territorial, laws, prevail here on all sorts of subjects, and their maintenance is claimed with the utmost pertinacity by those who are subject to them. The Muhammadan has his personal law; the Hindu has his personal law. Women who, according to the custom of the country, ought not to appear in court, are excused from appearing in court. Natives of rank and influence enjoy, in many cases, privileges which stand on precisely the same principle; and are English people to be told that, whilst it is their duty to respect all these laws scrupulously, they are to claim nothing for themselves? That whilst English Courts are to respect, and even to enforce, a variety of laws which are thoroughly repugnant to all the strongest convictions of Englishmen, Englishmen who settle in this country are to surrender privileges to which, rightly or otherwise, they attach the highest possible importance? I can see no ground or reason for such a contention.' (Applause.) We have now to consider in a careful spirit what ought to be done? It is not too late for Government to withdraw the Bill, and this might be gracefully done in the interests of all concerned. No one wishes to see a race feeling exist, and our native fellow-subjects are no doubt as anxious on this point as we are. The Government is full of other schemes for their advancement, and it is a good old maxim not to have 'too many irons in the fire.' A thing may be done with dignity and prudence to-day, which the force of events, if not checked, may materially alter in a week's time. In conclusion, I appeal to the Imperial Government to withdraw a measure which under existing circumstances is unnecessary; I appeal to those in power to stem the current of class feeling which appears to have arisen on the other side of India, and which, if continued, may be fatal to the best interests of the country." (Loud applause.)

The Hon. W. M. MACAULAY: "Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—When I consented to second the resolution which Mr. Mowat has just read, I did so in the firm conviction that it is not desirable for us to follow the footsteps of our brethren in Calcutta in the manner of our opposition to the Bill. I think it is very much to be regretted that some of the speakers there permitted themselves so far to forget what they were saying and their duty to their fellow-subjects as to use language, which one, at least, has since apologised for. Such language cannot assist in achieving the object we have in view but would rather damage it. In speaking to the resolution I shall, with your permission, first refer to the second portion of it; and I confess to a feeling of very deep regret that the Government of India have introduced a measure of such vital importance to a large and most important section of the community without consulting one individual of the community affected by the measure. It is true, as Mr. Ilbert informed the Council, that the various Local Governments were consulted, and that none of them objected to it. We are also told that the opinions expressed by the officials who had been consulted showed an overwhelming concensus of opinion in favour of the proposed changed. But it was only a short time ago that a Bill which was passed through the local Legislative Council of Bombay, and supported by what was termed an overwhelming concensus of official opinion, was vetoed by the same Government that now attaches so

much importance to the same official opinion. I think, therefore, this leaves a door open to them by which they can gracefully retire. They can with very good ground assign as their reason for retiring from the position they have assumed, that they have acted on incorrect information. We have been told that the Judges of the High Court of Bombay have, with one exception, expressed themselves in favour of the measure. This may be so: but I think it not improbable—in fact, I have some grounds for saying so—that the opinion which was so given was more an opinion from a theoretical point of view, as the Chairman has observed, than from a practical point. If the Judges of the High Court here, whom we all respect, as was justly observed, had been asked to express their opinion as to the practical application of these changes to the whole of the Mufassal districts of India, to the outlying provinces of Assam, the Punjab and other partially civilised localities, I do not hesitate to say that there would have been amongst these Judges more than one dissentient. (Hear, hear.) It is a source of great regret to every right-thinking person that the Government of India did not take the public into their confidence at they had promised to do. It was perfectly easy for them to have ascertained to a nicety what the English public would think of the measure by consulting public bodies like this Chamber. There are also Planters' Associations, Trades Associations and such other bodies in various parts of India, who, on a reference being made to them, could have told that the measure would raise a storm such as we are now experiencing. Happily for us, the circumstances of Bombay, and even the Mufassal of Bombay, render the measure less objectionable, if confined to Bombay, than it would be if applied to the whole of India. In this city, of which I have had a very lengthened experience, I know that the feeling of amity that exists between the two races of Europeans and Natives is very different from what exists on the other side of India. Here there is more mutual confidence and friendship than elsewhere. I have heard many intelligent Native gentlemen, several of whom rank amongst my friends, express their opinion that, for their part, they would prefer to have their affairs dealt with by European Judges rather than by their own countrymen. We cannot on such a subject as this expect to have unanimity; but I think that there is a very strong section of the Native community who think that the Bill is not at all called for. In our daily mercantile experience we come in contact with numerous Natives; and in hundreds of cases they enter into contracts with Europeans, readily agreeing to refer their disputes to the arbitration of Europeans. This, I think, speaks volumes for the confidence they repose in the integrity of Europeans. That the measure is uncalled for at present there cannot be the slighest doubt. Until the introduction of the measure the other day before the Supreme Council, so far as I know, the question had slumbered since the discussion which took place in the Council in 1872. Our Native fellow-subjects have lately been more than satisfied and gratified by the radical changes which have been introduced, or which, to speak more correctly, are about to be introduced; and these changes will give them a good deal of power in the management of their own affairs. It is a great pity, as the Chairman has pointed out, that for the benefit of a few Native Magistrates the right of the many should be sacrificed. However, I think the number of Magistrates who will be affected by the Bill is not so very small as the Chairman believes. I think in this Presidency alone, some half-a-dozen magistrates would be affected by it. But, even if the number were ten times half-a-dozen, it is no justification for introducing a measure which is calculated to stir up strife and re-open wounds which we hoped had healed. When the local self-government scheme was not yet put into force, it is most inopportune that the Government should have introduced further legislation, especially of such a character as this I am afraid that, if the Bill be proceeded with, it will prejudice to a great extent the proper development of this scheme in the future. Great progress has been made within the last twenty years. Had it not been so, the modified change which permitted magistrates of Native birth to have jurisdiction over Europeans in the Presidency-towns, would not have been brought about. But I repeat that it is premature at this early stage to introduce such a radical change from laws which have always been in force since the country has been occupied by our countrymen." (Applause.)

MR. N. BYRAMJEE JEEJEEBHOY said: "Gentlemen,—I rise to propose an amendment to the proposition which is before the meeting. I am strongly of opinion that this Chamber will be exceeding its functions by committing itself to a proposition of this nature. Ever since the Chamber was first established, on 22nd September 1836, mainly owing to the exertions of Mr. Harry George Gordon, of Messrs. Ritchie, Stewart & Co., it has never ceased to interest itself in the commercial welfare of the city and port of Bombay, and has on numerous occasions rendered most valuable assistance and collected important information, not only to the advantage of the local commercial community, but to the Government of India, who has frequently consulted the Chamber on special important subjects. The Chamber has hitherto steered clear of all race-distinctions, and has shown itself most creditably above all race-prejudices. This characteristic of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce has been acknowledged and emphasized by the admission of Natives. The Chamber has always been considered an influential and representative body, but since the accession of Native members, its representative power and character has increased considerably; and, instead of representing only one class of the vast mercantile community of this city, it now lays claim, and very justly too, to be the advocate and mouthpiece of the whole commercial community of this Presidency, and is no longer the European Chamber of Commerce, but truly and literally the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. What does the Chamber represent as a body? It represents Bombay commerce, and should be very careful not to curtail its representative character by lending its influence to politico-sectarian sentimentality and race-questions. The Bengal Chamber and the Madras Chamber may be

excused for their action in the matter of the Jurisdiction Bill, composed as they are entirely of European merchants. It is not very long, gentlemen, since this Chamber extended its scope of usefulness and influence, but during the short time that has elspsed since the joining of the Native members, things have gone on very smoothly and harmoniously, and it would be a thousand pities were that harmony and unanimity to be unnecessarily disturbed. I do not wish to enter now into the controversy about this Bill which the Government of India, all the local Governments, Her Majesty's Secretary of State, and all the more distinguished officers of Government throughout India, considered necessary for the due administration of justice in this country; and all I wish to say is that such a proposition as that moved by Mr. Mowat should not, and could not, come appropriately from a mixed Chamber of Europeans and Natives. If the European merchants of Bombay are desirous of giving expression to their views about the Bill, by all means let them do so at a public meeting of the European citizens. I am aware that I shall be in a very small minority, and the proposition will most probably be passed in spite of my humble opinion; yet, gentlemen, I conscientiously believe it to be my duty to make that opinion known, and my feeble voice raised against what I respectfully submit and maintain is an unnecessary and untimely proceeding likely to disturb the harmony of the Chamber and to mar the good will which now happily characterises its proceedings. If this much-to-be-regretted action on the part of this Chamber will, as I apprehend it is sure to do, give rise to a strong counter-movement on the part of the Native community of Bombay, the Chamber will be responsible for creating any bad blood and angry feeling which may unhappily arise; and I am sure no one will be more sorry than I shall be if the commendable good feeling and harmony which exists in this Presidency amongst the different sections of our mixed community are needlessly disturbed or destroyed. Gentlemen, my first connection with the Chamber dates so far back as 1865, and from that time up to now I have never known a single instance in which the Chamber lent its influence or countenance to any question of race or class distinctions or differences, and it ought not to do so now. (Applause.) With these remarks I beg to propose as an amendment—'That, in the opinion of this Meeting, the action now proposed to be taken with regard to the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill is one foreign to the object and purposes of the Chamber, and that it is highly desirable, for many obvious and weighty reasons, that the Chamber decline to take up any politico-sectarian question.'"

MR. SORABJEE FRAMJEE PATEL said: "Gentlemen,—I rise with reluctance to second the amendment my friend Mr. Nanabhoy Byramjee Jeejeebhoy has proposed, for I consider it unfortunate for me at this juncture to be compelled to go against the wishes of gentlemen for many of whom I entertain the highest esteem: With not a few of them I have at times been associated in discussing important questions in a most friendly spirit, when serving as a member of the Committees of the Chamber. In fact, gentlemen, my connection, including that of my father, with the Chamber, dates as far back as the last 35 years or more; and I must admit that in this long interval both he and myself have received every kind consideration at its hands, as I am sure my Native friends who have since joined have also experienced. I therefore feel it the more incumbent to appeal to your good sense and judgment to avoid, as far as it may be in your power, taking any step that may tend to disturb the harmony which has for many years so hapily prevailed. What I beg of you, gentlemen, is to weigh calmly my request; for I am no less grieved at the disunion which your resolution will create in the Chamber than the ill-feeling and passions it is calculated to arouse throughout the great and varied commercial community of Bombay. The sequel of your step in this matter might unfortunately be either the holding of public meetings by those who are in favour of the Bill, or unpleasant, injudicious and imprudent writings in the Press. In both cases, no one, as you are aware, can answer for the lengths to which party feelings and passions may be carried by those who cannot command themselves. But the effect of all this will be certainly most disastrous to all concerned, and will excite bitter feelings and leave indelible reminiscences which it will take perhaps a full quarter of a century to efface. I have no wish, gentlemen, to enter into a lengthy discussion with such intelligent and liberal-minded members as those who are in favour of the resolution; but I cannot help drawing your attention to the fact that you cannot with propriety take up questions which are purely political, and do not affect the general commercial interests of the community, nor could you take up class-questions, much less grievances, of a particular race. In support of this assertion permit me to quote the very first of our Chamber's rules and regulations. It states that 'the object and duties of the Chamber shall be to encourage a friendly feeling and unanimity among commercial men on all subjects involving their common good, to promote and protect the general mercantile interests of this Presidency.' I ask, with your permission, does the action which the Chamber is asked to take tend to 'promote and protect the general mercantile interests of this Presidency?' Will it 'encourage a friendly feeling among the commercial classes on all subjects involving their common good?' Does it come within the category of 'the removal of all acknowledged grievances affecting merchants (European and Native) as a body, or affecting mercantile interests in general?' Certainly not. I am sure, gentlemen, if you will only dispassionately weigh my reasons and arguments, supported by the fact that they are based on the fundamental rules and regulations framed by this Chamber, you will, I doubt not, adopt the amendment proposed by Mr. Nanabhoy and seconded by myself. In coming to a conclusion on this important question, I beseech you not to let your party feelings be roused by what indiscreet persons may have said and written elsewhere." (Applause.)

MR. J. K. BYTHELL: "Mr. Chairman and Gentleman,—I came here this afternoon determined not to speak, but after the remarks made by my friends Mr. Nanabhoy and Mr. Sorabjee I should like to say a few words. Their argument, as I understand it, is that the Chamber has exceeded its functions, and that its functions ought to be limited to what they term measures affecting our commercial welfare. They are also of opinion that we are proposing to take steps now which are likely to raise class-prejudices and to create race-feeling. It appears to me that the Chamber is not exceeding its functions at all. A great many of us have representatives in the interior; and if we deal with a measure which is introduced into the Legislative Council affecting our welfare and detrimental to our interests, it seems to me that it is quite within our functions to bring the matter before the Chamber of Commerce, which is the only body in Bombay representing our interests. (Applause.) I think the two gentlemen who have just spoken are mistaken when they are inclined to think that the resolutions before the meeting will, if passed, foster class-prejudices. Native gentlemen know that we not only welcome them when they propose to join us, but that we have invited them and asked them to do so. I can say that during the time I was officially connected with the Chamber I did all I could to get my Native friends to join the Chamber. I have always wished to get as large a proportion of Native merchants and Native gentlemen connected with trade in the Chamber as possible, in order that it might be strictly representative of Bombay commerce and not merely representative of a class; and I think that these gentlemen will say, on reflection, that it is quite possible for us to be very strongly averse to having any of our European *employés* in the interior tried by Native Magistrates where we cannot get a European barrister, and yet have no feeling of antagonism towards our Native friends. Even in the case of Natives, cases have been known in which men have been tried and convicted in the interior with respect to matters which, if tried in Bombay, would have resulted immediately in an acquittal. Take for instance, the old Cotton Frauds Act. You know that in Dharwar and in many other parts of India, where there was no public opinion and no Press, Natives were prosecuted, convicted and fined for mixing cotton from adjoining fields; and, as I have told, gentlemen, Government servants, the same thing was being done here by European merchants, myself included, and that they should come and prosecute us in a place where we could get a barrister to defend ourselves. There is an example and a very forcible example, between the justice in a place where you cannot have counsel to represent you and have no public opinion, and the dispensing of justice in Bombay, where you have a strong Press and can employ counsel to defend you. (Applause.) It is quite possible for us to hold a strong opinion upon this subject and yet not be actuated by class-prejudices. (Hear, hear.) We don't object to Native gentlemen acting as Magistrates in Bombay, where there is a healthy public opinion, and where we can have our fellow-countrymen as counsel; and it appears to me that, if race-questions are raised, it is not the Chamber who is to blame, but the Government of India who stirred this matter up. (Applause.) The old state of things did no harm to anybody. Mr. Macaulay thinks that the Chairman was mistaken in stating that only one gentleman would be affected by having these powers given to him if the Bill is passed; but I have been informed that this is correct, and that there is only one gentleman in the Presidency on whom these larger powers would now be conferred under the amendment if the Bill were passed; and, therefore, why stir up all this class-prejudice and set us all by our ears in the manner that the Bill before the Government of India has done? (Hear, hear.) With reference to the question of giving more extended power to the Natives, I may say that I differ most materially from the Chairman that this proposed extension of municipal power is a mistake. When the Municipal Act under which our Corporation now sits was introduced, we had sixteen days' consecutive debate in Poona about it, and I protested most strongly against the inhabitants, who are allowed to elect one-half of the members of the Corporation, having no power virtually to do anything beyond voting the budget. In the same way, when the Mufassal Municipality Bill, which was passed in 1873, came on for consideration, I protested most strongly against the principle of the Bill, and contended that so long as you had the Collector in the chair a great many official members on the board and all the non-officials elected by the Chairman, it was a farce to call it a municipality at all. I would go in for giving the Natives much more power in these things; but while advocating their claims in that way, I must say I do object very strongly indeed to Europeans connected with our own firms in the interior being brought up before a Native Magistrate where we cannot have the assistance of our own countrymen to defend them. It has been spoken of as an anomaly that these things should exist: I know that this is delicate ground to touch on; but as a newspaper said the other day, 'If you are going to take up that argument, our whole position in India is an anomaly.' So long as we are in India, anomalies must exist, and it appears to me that the best course for the Government of India to take is to leave such matters alone, unless it can clearly be shown that great injustice is being inflicted upon somebody. In the case of this Bill, it is impossible to shew that injustice is being done. You cannot say that it is great injustice that half-a-dozen gentlemen invested with magisterial powers should not be permitted to try Europeans. We contend that this Bill, if passed into law, instead of allaying class-prejudices, will foster them to a great extent, and I hope that the Government of India will be induced to withdraw the Bill. I hope that the Native gentlemen connected with this Chamber will realise and see that it is quite possible for us to oppose this Bill and yet entertain very kindly feelings towards them, and that we are always very glad to see them amongst us." (Applause.)

MR. VIZBHOOKANDAS ATMARAM said: "As a party signing the protest* which has just been read over to the meeting, I feel constrained to say a few words so as to explain fully the reasons which have induced us to adopt this course in reference to the action it is intended to be taken in the name of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce regarding the all-engrossing and really burning question of the day. At the time when we made up our minds to enter this protest, we were fully alive to the fact that our motives in this matter were most likely to be misconstrued and misinterpreted, inasmuch as this question has unfortunately assumed an aspect which is gallingly painful to every true lover of India. It is certainly to be regretted that the tone and spirit of the opposition adopted in this matter in Bengal and Madras has called into existence race-antipathies, which certainly prevents a just, proper and considerate treatment of this question; but, so far as this meeting is concerned, it is unnecessary for us to go into the merits and demerits of this question, because I can assure you, gentlemen, that, in arriving at this decision, we have not at all been influenced by any arguments which have been or can be advanced for or against the Bill now before the Viceregal Council. We feel that this is not the place for discussing political questions involving sectarian interests. The only reason which has induced us to oppose the passing of the resolutions proposed at to-day's meeting is that the action of the Chamber in this matter is not one which it could legitimately, on a plain and rational construction of the objects of its constitution, adopt. The objects and duties of this Chamber, as its very name tacitly implies, and as its rules and regulations expressly declare, are to concern itself in matters purely commercial. The rules further provide that the only occasions on which it can, by its constitution, communicate with public authorities, are when subjects of *general mercantile interest* render them necessary. I fully admit that the objects and duties of the Chamber are expressed in general words; but I venture to state that it is not possible to include even within these general words the subject of the so-called criminal jurisdiction, except by putting a very strained and far-fetched construction upon the words used in defining such objects and duties. The question really involved in the Criminal Jurisdiction Bill is purely political, appertaining to one section of the community. It is certainly one in which the parties who may feel affected by it have a right to plead their case; but we feel that it ought not to be in the name of a body which is formed for commercial purposes, and not for advocating political or sectarain interests. We are fully aware that it has been alleged that this Bill will indirectly and remotely affect the commerce of the country, but I feel sure that this is simply a sort of wild and vague fear savouring of an irrational panic, which could hardly be reasonably entertained by any sensible person. We fully admit that the Jurisdiction Bill may be said to affect the European commuuity, and that may be a good reason for them as a body to make such representation as they may deem necessary, but we certainly think that, by itself, it is not sufficient justification for any action to be taken in the name of this Chamber. It is not improbable that legislative measures may hereafter be deemed necessary which may affect one or other of the numerous other communities existing in India, and which may also be, in some remote and indirect way, alleged to affect the commerce of the country. Now I ask you, gentlemen, could this Chamber of Commerce, consisting as it does of the most sensible and practical class of the people, establish by their action this day a precedent which may be quoted as an authority whenever it may be called upon to take up the cudgels for one community or other. I submit, gentlemen, for your careful consideration to-day, whether this Chamber, in the action it proposes to take, is not acting *ultra vires* and is not pledging itself to take action in matters which are purely and directly only political and involving sectarian interests. We feel satisfied that the resolutions proposed are not within the legitimate province of this Chamber, and we therefore feel it our duty to vote against the same, and to support the amendment just put before you by my friend Mr. Nanabhoy B. Jeejeebhoy."

The CHAIRMAN said that, before putting the resolution to the vote, he would say that, as their Native friends had argued for the most part that it was not competent for the Chamber to take up a question of this kind and discuss it, he would refer the meeting to the rule quoted by Mr. Sorabjee, in which it was stated that the object of the Chamber was "to obtain the removal, as far as such a society can, of all acknowledged grievances affecting merchants as a body, or mercantile interests in general." Section ten of the rules bore more particularly upon the question at issue. It was to the effect that one of the objects of the Chamber was "to discuss any measures of public interest which might arise." He (the Chairman) thought that the present question was a measure of very public interest, and that they were quite competent to discuss it. He thought that the Native gentlemen present that day must be satisfied from what they had heard that there was no wish on the part of any of the speakers to arouse class-prejudices. Every speaker had been very careful to keep the race-question in the background whilst urging in general terms the impropriety of introducing this measure or of pressing it any further.

The amendment was then put to the meeting and lost by a large majority, only the three Native gentlemen who had spoken voting for it. The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried.

MR. SORABJEE asked that the Chairman would record the protest against the discussion of the subject by the Chamber.

* Not read at the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said that the amendment would go on the records of the Chamber.

MR. SORABJEE said that the protest had not been read.

The CHAIRMAN said that, if the practice was adopted of reading letters at the meetings, the Chairman would have only empty chairs to address. (Hear, hear.)

MR. SORABJEE said that it was usually the custom to send a circular round asking whether such and such a subject should be taken up or not; but this had not been done on the present occasion.

The CHAIRMAN said that a certain amount of discretion must be left in the hands of the Committee.

MR. BYTHELL suggested that the protest should be recorded.

The CHAIRMAN said that the protest had been recorded, and would go on the record of the Chamber.

MR. NANABHOY said the first intimation that he had received that the meeting was to be held was at 2 o'clock on Monday, and he was not in office at the time.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Nanabhoy came to the meeting quite prepared to discuss the matter, and he did not see what he had to complain of. He was informed that the circular calling the meeting was sent to Mr. Nanabhoy's office twice.

MR. NANABHOY: "My house is not far away. I am living at Mazagon. The circular ought to have been sent there." (Cries of "nonsense," "absurd," &c.)

MR. CLEMENT POOLE said: "I beg to propose 'that the following members of the Chamber, namely, the Chairman of the Chamber, Mr. M. Mowat, the Hon'ble W. M. Macaulay, Messrs. Bythell, Russel, L. R. W. Forrest and Blascheck, be appointed a sub-committee, with power to add to their number, to prepare a memorial to the Viceroy praying that His Excellency may be pleased to abandon the proposed alteration in the law.' At this late hour I would not recapitulate the remarks made by the previous speaker, but I will say this, that the names of the committee read out to you are a sufficient guarantee that the memorial which will be presented to Government will be drawn up with moderation and good sense, and will be free from expressions which have reached us from other places." (Applause).

MR. BLASCHECK said: "I second the resolution. I abstain from making any further remarks at this late hour."

The proposition was then put to the meeting and carried.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

Memorial of employés of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway Company.

[This memorial is almost identical with that from the employés of the East Indian Railway, and is signed by S. Hartwell, Esq., Officiating Agent, and 183 other employés of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway.]

Memorial from European residents of Agra, Allahabad, Aligarh, Azamgarh, and Mirat.

[These memorials are, *mutatis mutandis*, identical with that from Mirzapur.]

Dated 18th April, 1883.

To His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India.

The humble memorial of the undersigned European and Anglo-Indian British subjects residing in the District of North Bhagalpur—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That Your Excellency's memorialists view with great apprehension Mr. Ilbert's proposed Criminal Code Amendment Bill.

II.—That they consider that this Amendment Bill is quite uncalled for, inasmuch as the Natives of this country enjoy numerous privileges which are denied to Europeans; and that the passing of the proposed measure will subject British-born men and women to the caprices and whims of Native officials, who are utterly ignorant of the habits, customs and feelings of Europeans; and your memorialists are of opinion that Mr. Ilbert's Bill is calculated to militate against their interests and rights as Britons—rights which they proudly maintain throughout the civilised world.

III.—That your memorialists believe that, while the proposed Amendment Bill confers no new advantages on the Natives of this country, it completely deprives Britons of that privilege which they have always been accustomed to look upon as a hereditary right, namely, that of trial by men of their own creed and colour; and that, should Mr. Ilbert's Bill be passed, Natives will be encouraged to institute vexatious and malicious cases in the Criminal Courts, on the most frivolous pretexts, simply with a view to harass and annoy European men and women, which, under the existing Criminal Procedure, they are unable to do.

IV.—That their long and intimate experience of the inhabitants of the Mufassul has shown them that most Natives themselves prefer to submit their lives and property to the impartial justice of European officials, rather than to the somewhat capricious judgment of their own countrymen. Is it to be wondered at, then, that Europeans, too, should concur with them in this respect?

V.—That many cases in which European British subjects are involved require an acute and critical knowledge of their manners and customs; and Your Excellency's memorialists are of opinion that a few years of legal study, even in Europe, are not sufficient to qualify Natives to administer that justice to Europeans which a better knowledge of their habits and sentiments would assure to them.

VI.—That the numerical disproportion between Europeans and Natives tends unmistakeably to show that something besides physical force has helped in the subjugation and consolidation of this empire; and that any deprivation of the rights of the former would undermine that great and subtile force of which British prestige forms a not unimportant part.

VII.—That the experiences of the mutiny years shewed that, had it not been for the Europeans of the Mufassal, Government would have found itself powerless against the exigencies of the moment; and that your memorialists are of opinion that those who poured out their blood in defence of that Government are now being but ill-repaid by the deprivation of one of their most cherished rights.

VIII.—In conclusion your memorialists, trusting in the great sagacity and wisdom hitherto displayed by Your Excellency, venture to express their earnest hope that their respectful protest may meet with Your Excellency's serious and favourable consideration.

And Your Excellency's memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Dated 19th April, 1883.

To His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India.

The humble memorial of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce—

SHEWETH,—That your memorialists have considered the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, and they beg respectfully to summit to Your Excellency in Council their deliberate and well-considered views respecting this measure.

Your memorialists venture to think that their views may be worthy of attention, because they, and those with whom they are connected, are brought into direct and intimate relations with the Natives of this country. Those views are based upon long and wide experience. Your memorialists hope, moreover, that the fact that they do not apprehend any personal application of the proposed measure in their own case, and that many of them may probably retire from the country before the fruits of the proposed change mature, will strengthen rather than weaken the force of their opinion. That opinion may not coincide with the sentimental and theoretical views of persons devoid of experience as to the actual circumstances of the country, or of those who ignore differences of race, creed, education and habits; but your memorialists trust that their sentiments deserve to be treated as something far removed from blind panic, unreasoning clamour or factious opposition. It commonly happens, indeed, that Englishmen come to this country imbued with benevolent or sentimental theories, most of which are based on the assumption that political equality between the European and Native races is possible and desirable; but such equality your memorialists consider an illusion, an illusion which has, indeed, a semblance of generosity, but which very slight experience suffices to strip of its specious attractions and altogether to dispel. Those who have not penetrated beneath the plausible surface which the Oriental usually presents to European eyes may continue to cherish such an illusion; but it is impossible for those to do so who, like your memorialists, are brought into daily contact with the various classes of the people in the ordinary transactions of life.

Your memorialists, as a body of mercantile men, are deeply interested in all that may affect the development of the resources of this country. They recognise that their interests as representing European capital in this country are bound up with the security and prosperity of the country, and are, therefore, identical with the true interests of their Native fellow-subjects. Your memorialists feel sure that it is not necessary to press upon the attention of Your Excellency in Council the disastrous effects of insecurity, or even a feeling of insecurity, upon trade and commerce. It is superfluous to insist upon so obvious a fact of experience as the sensitiveness of capital. A sense of insecurity, especially a sense of personal insecurity arising from want of confidence in the administration of criminal justice, cannot fail to paralyze capital and to arrest its flow into the country, while it will unjustly impose serious sacrifices on those who have already invested their capital in reliance upon the existing state of security.

Your memorialists regret that their experience compels them to condemn emphatically the present Bill, and to view with distrust the policy which appears to underlie it.

Your memorialists trust that it is not too late to express such an opinion. They submit that the admission of Natives into the Civil Service does not in the slightest degree preclude objection to the policy of the present measure. The public could scarcely be expected to foresee the present development of that policy, since the Government itself did not contemplate such a result, even down to the framing of the present Criminal Procedure Code. Nor did the large mass of opinions and reports submitted when that Code was in preparation indicate such a result as desirable, much less as inevitable; for, although nearly two hundred opinions were then laid before Your Excellency in Council, only one faintly foreshadowed any such measure. The Government admitted Natives into the Civil Service subject to the

restrictions at present existing. Had the Government then contemplated perfect equality of powers, it would doubtless have considered itself bound in fairness to make known its views at that time. Had any such development been foreseen, it would undoubtedly have called forth the same objection as is now urged against the present measure; which measure, it is now said, is a necessary consequence of the step then taken.

Your memorialists further venture to submit that neither the present measure, nor the policy upon which it appears to be based, are necessary or legitimate developments of the spirit of Her Majesty's Proclamation of 1858. If that Proclamation involved such changes as the present Bill contemplates, further advance in the same direction would be inevitable; so that the finality claimed for this measure could not exist. Her Majesty's Proclamation, however, does not profess to prescribe or define the course of future legislation, which is by law placed under the control of Your Excellency in Council.

Nor does Her Majesty's Proclamation declare, or even contemplate, that any larger share in the government or administration of the country than was then enjoyed by the Native races should be conceded to them, or that those races should attain greater power or influence. It declares that, "so far as may be," all Her Majesty's subjects, "of whatever race or creed," shall be freely and impartially admitted "to offices the duties of which they may be qualified by their education, ability and integrity duly to discharge." This declaration is not confined to any class of Her Majesty's subjects, and leaves their employment to be determined, subject to the existing law, by their fitness and other circumstances of the case.

The Proclamation initiated no new policy.

The view above submitted is that adopted by successive Governments, including the Government which framed and issued the proclamation. Their action shews that they did not consider themselves bound to accord to the Native races any greater share of the administration than the circumstances of the time rendered fitting. To attribute to them a different view would be to charge them with deliberate disregard of the settled policy of the country, since Natives were not, until recently, even eligible for the Civil Service.

Moreover, your memorialists venture to submit that it would not have been competent to Her Most Gracious Majesty, by proclamation, to prescribe the course of future legislation—a consideration which appears conclusive as to the true scope of the Proclamation in question.

Your memorialists, therefore, deem themselves at liberty to consider this proposed measure on its merits, both as regards its policy and its detailed provisions.

The policy of the Bill is set forth in the "Objects and Reasons," and has received further elucidation and development by Your Excellency in Council.

All parties agree in considering that policy to be the policy of forthwith conceding a larger share in the administration to the Native races. The conclusion that this is the policy of the Bill is forced upon your memorialists. The same conclusion is eagerly adopted by the Natives.

Your Excellency's speech in Council appears to confirm this view, since Your Excellency based the defence of the Bill, as your memorialists understand, upon the Queen's Proclamation, which Your Excellency appeared to consider a declaration of the principle of complete equality between the Englishman and the Native. The Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill is to the same effect; for it states that "it was thought anomalous that, while Natives of India were admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service and held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties, they should be deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace and to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the Presidency-towns;" it speaks of "removing the present bar upon the investment of Native Magistrates in the interior with powers over European British subjects," and then proceeds to say—"The Government of India has accordingly decided to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race-distinctions."

Your memorialists can discover no anomaly in the existing system beyond the natural anomaly that races differ, with the result that the subject race is unfit to govern the dominant race.

The Bill ignores this difference, and, assuming equality for the purposes contemplated, proceeds to bestow, upon certain classes of Natives, a further share in the administration of justice, irrespective of race and as a matter of right. The policy might have been more plainly stated; but it is impossible to escape the conclusion at which all parties have arrived as to its character.

This policy rests upon the assumption that a Native who has attained a certain position in the administration is, in all respects, as well qualified as an Englishman to perform all duties which an Englishman of similar position may be set to perform. To proceed to apply this theory—a theory requiring a bold disregard of fact and experience—to so delicate a matter as the administration of criminal justice between the two races, is surely not warranted, much less required by the Queen's Proclamation. That proclamation expressly provides for actual fitness in the person employed, of whatever race he may be, and significantly points to education and integrity as elements in the qualification. Your memorialists submit that no reasonable person can possibly ignore the difference of character arising from difference of race, or venture to assume that, even with like education and similar surroundings, such difference could be eradicated.

But here the original difference of character is heightened by difference of education, influences, habits, creed and aims. It appears to your memorialists that the policy in question

rests upon a confusion of ideas with regard to the Proclamation, namely, that the absence of disability implies fitness.

This policy your memorialists view with the utmost anxiety, and they regard the necessity of discussing it as a public misfortune. They cannot admit the assumption upon which it rests, or allow that a few years in England can possibly qualify Natives of this country to take the same share in the administration of the country as Englishmen. But the Bill does not contemplate that class alone or chiefly, but includes within its purview those educated in this country, surrounded by every influence which tends to widen the gulf of race-distinction.

Your memorialists are fully sensible of the wisdom of laying the foundations of government deep in the welfare of the governed, and they are always ready, when consulted, to approve any well-considered measures tending to the real benefit of the Natives. But your memorialists are convinced that it is cruel to them, and mischievous to the State, to affect to countenance such illusions as the policy of the present Bill seems calculated to encourage. Such illusions, if persisted in, are, in their opinion, calculated to cause grave and serious disaster throughout India, and that, too, at no very remote period of time.

This Bill, when originally brought forward, was rested solely on the ground that it would remove an anomaly. There was no suggestion of administrative difficulty, nor has any such difficulty been suggested as might not be surmounted without public detriment. It has, indeed, been stated that, inasmuch as one-sixth of the Civil Service may consist of Natives, there must ultimately be administrative difficulty; but it is obviously impossible at present to foresee whether it may not be quite easy to overcome that difficulty should it ever occur. It is, at any rate, sufficiently clear that no serious difficulty has at present arisen, or can at present arise. The suggested difficulty is, therefore, purely speculative.

On the other hand, the immediate mischief actually resulting from even the introduction of this Bill is, unfortunately, no longer a matter of speculation. Bitter race-feelings have been evoked by what is felt—and your memorialists think rightly felt—to be an unnecessary, ill-judged and ill-considered attack on justly cherished right. A wise statesmanship would, they venture to think, shrink from evoking such feelings, and would certainly not encounter such mischiefs in pursuit of any merely speculative good. But the harm does not stop there: the proposed tribunals will necessarily invite distrust instead of commanding that public confidence which is essential to the due administration of justice. Here surely is an administrative difficulty of sufficient magnitude to disturb all who value the efficient administration of justice. The mischief, moreover, does not stop even here; for out of the evils indicated mischievous results will arise, at present incalculable—distrust engendered, paralysis of enterprise and discouragement of the naturally loyal: these are but some of the baneful results which may be reasonably apprehended. Such fears, it is said, have been often entertained and as often falsified. It is true that English feeling as to matters affecting the relations between the two races is highly sensitive. This, however, seems to your memorialists the reverse of a reason for disregarding it; seeing that such sensitiveness arises from a perception of the danger involved in any disturbance of the relations at present existing. Your memorialists regret that they cannot admit that such fears have been unfounded in time past, for they feel that the position of Englishmen in India has been lowered, and consequently the foundations of British security perceptibly affected by every similar measure in the past.

Your memorialists, judging from past experience, cannot help fearing that like effects will accrue from the present measure, and that it must tend to deprive Englishmen settled in this country, comparatively few and often widely scattered, of that position which is universally felt to be essential not only to their welfare and to the safety of themselves and their families but also to the very existence of British rule. It is to such settlers that the real acquisition of India as an integral portion of the Empire may be traced and justly credited. It is the beneficent flow of peaceful commerce which has turned the desolation of conquest into fruitful prosperity.

And to what end is society to be thus moved to its depths?

Your memorialists respectfully submit that the susceptibilities of the entire British community deserve to be in the eyes of a British Government as worthy of consideration as the susceptibilities of a new Native officials. There can be no pretence of any injustice to be remedied; for these gentlemen entered the service upon the footing of the existing law, and, indeed, could not have obtained admission on the footing now claimed for them without exciting the same feelings as have now been aroused. The proposed measure seems to your memorialists to be in every way unjust and impolitic, uncalled for by administrative necessity, calculated to evoke feelings of race-antagonism which prudent statesmanship would allow to slumber, tending to create distrust of the policy of Government and to destroy confidence in the administration of the criminal law.

Your memorialists do not desire to dwell unnecessarily upon the details of the proposed measure. They venture, however, to call attention to a singular inconsistency in the utterances in Council respecting one provision of the Bill. The supposition that a Native would never be appointed a Cantonment Magistrate was welcomed as obviating what could not be denied to be a danger—the danger, namely, of allowing British soldiers to be tried by Native Magistrates. But surely it is part of the anomaly sought to be removed that a Native should not be so appointed; and it is strange to set about removing one anomaly in reliance upon the existence of

another. The satisfaction, however, created by the existence of that anomaly is rudely shaken when it is remembered that a Cantonment Magistrate may become subordinate to a Native Collector, who, as his superior magisterial officer, is in the exercise of his discretion entitled to assume jurisdiction in criminal cases ordinarily triable by a Cantonment Magistrate.

The Bill also, while empowering Natives to try Europeans, excludes Europeans from such functions; unless, indeed, such Europeans are members of the Covenanted Civil Service, Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces, or Cantonment Magistrates. The Bill, therefore, in pursuit, as is professed, of race-equality, creates race-inequality, and disqualifies, as was pointed out in Your Excellency's Council, a considerable and useful class of Magistrates, who would otherwise have exercised the function of trying Europeans with benefit to the community, as numerous members of this class have hitherto done.

In conclusion, your memorialists feel confident that Your Excellency in Council, solicitous for the welfare and prosperity of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, will accept the results of practical experience, and will give such weight as may be due to the views herein submitted. If, as your memorialists trust, those views recommend themselves as just,—if the opinion of your memorialists is, as they venture to hope, entitled to weight, as representing the feeling of the European mercantile community,—if Your Excellency in Council is satisfied that in passing this measure you will be disregarding the feeling of the mercantile and European community, even should that feeling fail to meet with sympathy from Your Excellency in Council,—then your memorialists cannot doubt that Your Excellency in Council will not shrink, in the interests of good government, from withdrawing the present Bill without further delay—a result for which your memorialists humbly pray.

Dated 19th April, 1883.

To His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India.

The humble memorial of the Committee of the Orissa People's Association, Cuttack.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your memorialists find themselves in duty bound to convey to Your Excellency their sincere and heartfelt gratitude for the introduction into Your Excellency's Council of the Bill for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code, with a view to remove certain invidious distinctions as to the trial of Native and European criminals—distinctions the existence of which is a stigma to a Christian Government, to a Government that professes to rule according to principles of justice and piety.

That, in doing so, they heartily agree with the British Indian and other Indian Associations and Societies in not convening a public meeting for contradicting the statement that the Natives are not interested in the measure for the reasons stated by them, namely, for avoiding unpleasantness by setting class against class and embittering feelings. For similar reasons, Your Excellency's memorialists content themselves with presenting this humble memorial at the same time feeling assured that, when Your Excellency's Government, in the discharge of its just and righteous duties, has taken up the matter, after noticing the growing discontent among the Indian nations expressed in several of their public papers, the Amendment Bill will be passed, and that all the attempts of its enemies to prevent it will prove fruitless.

That Your Excellency's memorialists further beg to state that, in some of the public papers of England, it is stated that the Natives are not at all interested in the said Amendment Bill of the Criminal Procedure Code, and that for that reason they do not agitate the point in question. But Your Excellency's memorialists humbly beg to state that the current of such agitations has from a distant past been running down to the present day, and that the editors of those papers make such a statement out of ignorance, or wilfuly represent the fact to influence the minds of the hon'ble members of the British Parliament.

That Your Excellency's memorialists entertain ardent hopes that, by removing all distinctions of race, country and religion, Your Excellency will firmly establish the glory of Her Majesty's Government in India.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

No. 373J.D., dated 30th April, 1883.

From—W. D. BLYTH, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am directed to submit to the Government of India the accompanying copy of a letter dated 19th instant, from the Honorary Secretaries, European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association, and its enclosures in original, being a memorial and connected papers from the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian residents of Monghyr on the subject of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill.

Dated 19th April, 1883.

From—J. W. FURRELL, Esq., and S. E. J. CLARKE, Esq., Honorary Secretaries, European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association,
To—The Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

We are directed by the Council of the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association to forward herewith,* in original, a memorial from the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian European British subjects, residents of Monghyr, on the subject of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, and to request that you will forward it through the proper channel to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

* A memorial in original from the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian European British subjects, residents of Monghyr.
One annexure, extracts from the memorial of the inhabitants of Cawnpore, paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 8.

To His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

The memorial of the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian European British subjects, residents of Monghyr in Bengal.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your memorialists have learnt with deep concern the proposed amendment in the Criminal Procedure Code whereby Native Magistrates in the Mufassal have been vested with criminal jurisdiction over European British-born subjects.

That your memorialists have seen and considered the memorial of the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association to Your Excellency on the subject.

That your memorialists fully appreciate and concur in the views and reasons therein expressed and given against the introduction of the proposed change in the existing law, and your memorialists pray that the same may be taken and read as part of this their memorial.

That your memorialists have also seen and considered the memorial of the inhabitants of Cawnpore to Your Excellency on the same subject.

That your memorialists entirely endorse the views expressed in paragraphs 5, 6, 7 and 8 (copies of which are hereto annexed) of the said memorial, and pray that the same may also be taken and read as part of this their memorial.

Your memorialists therefore humbly pray that the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill may not be passed.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Extracts from Memorial of Inhabitants of Cawnpore.

Paragraph 5.—Your memorialists are also strongly convinced that no change in the law is necessary or expedient, and they most earnestly deprecate any further attempts on the part of those Europeans in India whose power is great, but whose presence is temporary and not permanent, to encourage the Natives of India to agitate for positions in the administration and government of India on the principle of equality, while the following indisputable facts exist, namely :—

(*a*) The Natives of India are admittedly subject races, bearing the greatest enmity and animosity towards each other, dependent on European soldiers to keep the peace, and, except an insignificant number of individuals in the Presidency-towns (who owe everything to compulsory education and contact with Europeans), are wholly unfit for independence.

(*b*) They have unquestionably more of liberty, peace and protection than any other people in the world who are subject to foreign dominion.

(*c*) They already stand equal before the law, subject to the same Penal and Civil Codes as the dominant race.

(*d*) They have the benefit of personal laws to a greater extent than Europeans, Natives of rank and women being exempted from attendance in Courts of Justice.

(*e*) The number of Europeans in India are comparatively so small that to admit and enforce the principle of equality without reservation and without considerations of race or feeling in every department would reduce British power in India to a cypher and make the British occupation of India unmaintainable, and eventually produce the same state of anarchy and disorder that prevailed before its conquest by the British.

The principle of equality has no application among the Natives themselves, as their domestic and social institutions prove.

Paragraph 6.—Your memorialists further submit that, with so many indications present in the minds of the people of India, namely :—

(*a*) for their acknowledged unfitness for independence or self-government;

(*b*) of their, with few exceptions, acknowledged unfitness to exercise jurisdiction over the liberty and lives of even their own fellow-countrymen;

(*c*) of the necessity for excluding them from exercising any power except under proper safeguards;

(*d*) of the necessity for excluding them from appointments in the army, and taking part in the defence of their country against disturbers of the *pax Brittanica ;*

to propose to grant them the principle of equallity to the extent of permitting them to sit in judgment upon members of the dominant race seems to your memorialists residing in the Mufassal an unnecessary and dangerous innovation, which for many generations to come (your memorialists speaking on behalf of their wives and children) will never calmly acquiesce in or submit to.

Paragraph 7.—Your memorialists unhesitatingly aver that, should this Bill pass (which has already been spoken of by the Native papers as "an instalment" of what is to follow), there will be no adequate security or safety for your memorialists and European residents in the Mufassal, and the present peaceful state of India will, on the punishment of a European by a Native, be liable to disturbances of such a character as, if once set on foot, will produce greater anarchy and disorder than has been known in India for centuries.

Paragraph 8.—Your memorialists would further observe that they perceive in this Bill, in which the principle of equality is affirmed, the prelude to others of a similar character calculated to destroy British interests in, and exclude Europeans from, Mufassal India. That, if such is the ultimate aim and policy of the Government of India, your memorialists submit that the same should be boldly announced and notified to your memorialists and the thousands of Europeans entering into and settling in the country.

No. 2345, dated 2nd May, 1883.

From—R. D. MORRISON, Esq., for Agent, Eastern Bengal Railway Company,

To—The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India.

In accordance with a resolution come to at a meeting of the European employés of this Company held at Sealdah on the 5th March, 1883, I have the honour to transmit herewith a memorial duly signed by all the European British-born employés of the Company, and to solicit that it may be laid before His Excellency the Viceroy.

To His Excellency the Most Honourable the Marquis of Ripon, K.G., P.C., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

The memorial of the European British-born employés of the Eastern Bengal Railway Company

MOST HUMBLY AND RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—1. That your memorialists have read with much concern the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill which was introduced into your Excellency's Council by the Honourable Mr. Ilbert on the 2nd February, 1883, by which it is sought to invest Native Civil Servants with jurisdiction over European British subjects in criminal cases.

2. That your memorialists humbly submit that they have a constitutional right to be tried only by their peers and their countrymen, and that in India they have always enjoyed the right of being tried by men of their own nationality, and have done nothing whatever to forfeit that right.

3. That it was with this knowledge that your memorialists have such a right, and with no apprehension that they should not continue to enjoy it, that many of your memorialists took service in this country, and encouraged by their employérs, brought out their families and domiciled them here.

4. That although the Natives of India have by force of conquest become subjects of the British Crown, they are still aliens both in nationality and religion; and a European British subject appearing before a Court presided over by a Native Magistrate or Judge would be essentially before a foreign tribunal, without the advantage of that Consular protection which he would be entitled to in a foreign country.

5. That, in the humble opinion of your memorialists, the proposed amendment of the existing law is not only inopportune but is calculated to engender class-feeling and race-antagonism, which your memorialists, who are collaborators with a very large number of Native Railway employés, cannot too strongly deprecate as being injurious in the extreme to European and Native alike and to the public service generally.

6. That your memorialists would draw your attention to the fact that no dissatisfaction has been expressed by the Native community generally on the subject of the immunity from Native jurisdiction now enjoyed by European British subjects, and that none of their privileges have been affected by the existing order of things. In proof that the present law, as a piece of class-legislation, has been a success, and that cases coming under it should be enquired into and tried by trained European Magistrates, your memorialists beg to quote the opinion expressed by the Honourable the Legal Member of Council at the meeting of your Excellency's Council on the 2rd ultimo, in which he said—"And as to facts with which we have to deal, no one who has studied the statistics and reports of the cases involving charges against European British subjects can fail to be struck with two things: first, that, as compared with the great mass of ordinary criminal business, *they are exceptionally rare ;* and, secondly, that they are *exceptionally troublesome and difficult.*"

7. That your memorialists as Railway employés are more likely to be injuriously affected by the proposed change in the law in respect of jurisdiction over European British subjects than other classes of the European community: first, on account of, in many cases, their isolation at stations far removed from European centres and Courts of revisional jurisdiction; and secondly, owing to the great amount of technical and scientific evidence that is usually introduced into Railway criminal cases, and which would be almost, if not quite, unintelligible to a Native Magistrate; whilst a protracted trial, with all the expense attendant thereon, followed probably by an erroneous and perhaps ruinous judgment, might not unreasonably be expected from the Judge's want of technical knowledge and experience in subjects with which European Judges are all more or less acquainted.

8. That your memorialists, whilst fully and cordially recognizing the right of Natives to a share in the administration of the laws of this country, beg to point out that the proposed amendment, if it becomes law, will place European British subjects at a disadvantage when compared with the mass of the population of India, as they will then be subject to the jurisdiction of Magistrates and Judges whose ideas of western civilization, manners and thought will have been gained only in India or during two or three years' study in England at some English tutor's or cramming establishment, preparing for the Civil Service; whereas now European British subjects are triable only by highly trained and educated Englishmen, who have an intimate knowledge of their inner life, habits and manners which it is impossible for their Native coadjutors to obtain.

9. That your memorialists would draw attention to the fact that a Native Magistrate of any class exercises, under section 445 of the Criminal Procedure Code, nearly if not all the powers which a Justice of the Peace can exercise in England, inasmuch as he can issue process of arrest, making it returnable to himself or to any other Magistrate having jurisdiction.

10. That your memorialists would deprecate any argument founded on the basis that, because Natives exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects in Presidency-towns, they should therefore exercise that jurisdiction outside Presidency-towns as obviously misleading, seeing that the respective positions are widely different. In a Presidency-town, any high-handed proceeding of a Native Magistrate would not of necessity imperil the liberty of the subject, as an immediate application could be made to the High Court, and a suspensory writ obtained within an hour; but in the Mufassal the European British subject would be entirely at the mercy of the local Native authority, and would be liable to be degraded by a week's imprisonment, perhaps with hard labour, before a distant High Court could be moved by the most energetic advocate to suspend the sentence.

11. That your memorialists, in conclusion, would respectfully submit that the protection which has been hitherto afforded them by the existing law is no more than they are entitled to under the British Constitution: and, as Muhammadans, Hindus, Parsis and many other races and sects in India are protected in the exercise of their own peculiar laws and customs by class-legislation, your memorialists pray that the rights and liberty so dear to them, and which are menaced by the proposed amendment, may not be withdrawn.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

To His Excellency the Most Honourable the Marquis of Ripon, Viceroy and Governor General in Council.

Memorial of Ladies residing in Bihar.

MY LORD,—You have expressed yourself as willing to listen to any remonstrances against the proposed change in the Criminal Procedure Code which are based on arguments consistent with the declared policy of the Crown and Parliament. We, who are Englishwomen living in Bihar, ask you to listen to our remonstrances; for the mainspring of that policy is justice to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, and we submit that, should the provisions of Mr. Ilbert's Bill become law, they will do us grievous wrong.

Our grounds for remonstrating as Englishwomen against the proposed change in the Criminal Procedure Code are as follows:—

I.—We have no reason to expect that Native Judges will do us justice. We do not raise the question of their integrity, nor do we impute to them any want of will to be just. Our argument is that they can have no such knowledge of the characters and motives of civilised and educated women as shall fit them to judge them.

We see that in the social systems of India women are ignorant and enslaved. We see that up to this time the vast efforts of philanthropists have effected comparatively nothing to redeem them. We see the men of their races insensible to their degradation, if not contented with it. Therefore, we assert that men born or bred on such a system are unfitted to become the judges of women of a totally different type of society.

II.—Believing, as we do, that we cannot expect justice at the hands of Native Judges, in consequence of their ignorance of us, we beg to point out that one of the greatest of social evils would follow from the carrying into law of the provisions of Mr. Ilbert's Bill, namely, a considerable class of those amenable to them would be exposed to the uncertainty and anxiety which wait upon distrust of the efficiency of the administration of the law.

III.—We have no desire to add to the torrent of angry words which the proposed change in the Criminal Procedure Code has excited, but in conclusion we entreat you, for the sake of peace and concord, to withdraw this Bill. The harm which has already been done can never be undone, but possibly may be mitigated by removing the cause. It appears to us that the good it purposes to effect is truly insignificant compared with the evil it has caused and would continue to cause. We cannot expect you, in your high position, to appreciate the difficulties we feel in the way of cementing friendliness between ourselves and our Native neighbours; but these difficulties exist, and we earnestly and deliberately say that your proposal has added to them. We entreat you again, in justice to us, to listen to our prayer that you will withdraw this Bill. We, too, have been confided to your care by our Queen, and we, too, claim your consideration and justice.

Dated 26th April, 1883.

From—C. H. BROWNE, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Mysore Planters' Association,

To—His Excellency the Governor General of India in Council.

I have the honour to inclose your Lordship a copy of resolutions passed at meeting of the Mysore Planters' Association held in Chukmuglew on 19th ultimo, and pray that your Lordship may give the same due consideration, as being the expressed opinion of a body of European gentlemen, many of whom have spent a great portion of their lives amongst the Natives of India.

Resolutions passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting of Mysore Planters' Association held in Chukmuglew on 19th March, 1883.

I.—That gentlemen not members of this Association be admitted to this meeting.

II.—That, in the opinion of this Association, the alteration in the law proposed by Government, in the Bill entitled a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, demands the concerted opposition of the European community throughout India, as being an unnecessary sacrifice of a highly prized and necessary right to ideal legislation, as certain to depreciate the value of European capital invested in the Mufassal, and as certain to lead to the harassing of the European in the Criminal Courts.

III.—That the President and Honorary Secretary of this Association be appointed to take such steps in opposing this Bill as may be deemed most expedient, and to receive subscriptions towards the fund opened by the Chamber of Commerce, Madras, for the purpose of defraying expenses incurred in the opposition.

IV.—That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Resident of Mysore for his information, and with a request that he will forward the same to the Governor General in Council; also one to the Chamber of Commerce, Madras, with a hearty vote of thanks for the action taken by that body in defence of a privilege so necessary to the European in the Mufassal.

V.—That, in addition to the subscriptions guaranteed by the sub-associations to the fund inaugurated by the Chamber of Commerce, a subscription list be circulated amongst the Europeans in this district, whether members of this Association or not.

No. 3232, dated 14th May, 1883.

From—The Honourable C. GONNE, Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am now directed to reply to your letter No. 24C. of 17th March last, which conveys the request of the Government of India to be furnished with the opinion of the Bombay Government and of the Judges of the High Court and of such persons as this Government may think fit to consult on the provisions of the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

The Honourable the Acting Chief Justice of the High Court.
The Honourable Mr. Justice West.
The Honourable Mr. Justice Scott.
The Commissioner in Sind.
The Commissioner, N. D.
The Commissioner, C. D.
The Commissioner S. D.
The Honourable the Advocate General.
The Remembrancer of Legal Affairs.
The Honourable Sir Jamsetji Jijibhoy, *Bart.*
The Honourable Badrudin Tyabji.
John Fleming, Esq., C.S.I.
Rághunáth Náráyan Khoté, Esq., C.I.E.
Ráo Bahádur Mahádev Wásudev Barvé, C.I.E.
Khan Bahádur Bestonji Jehángir, C.I.E.
Kashináth Trimbak Telang, Esq., Barrister-at-law.
The Chamber of Commerce.
The Chairman of the Bombay Law Society.
The Chairman, Bombay Trades Association.

2. The opinions noted in the margin have been received and considered, and are forwarded for the information of the Government of India. Other opinions will be forwarded when received, but the Governor in Council has felt that the matter has now been so thoroughly discussed that he need no longer delay the submission of his own opinion.

3. The effect of the Bill is that, whereas at present no persons other than European British subjects can be vested with jurisdiction over such subjects unless they be Judges of the High Courts or Magistrates of the Presidency towns, it is proposed that such jurisdiction shall be made exerciseable—

(1) by all Native Sessions Judges and District Magistrates;
(2) by such (*a*) Native members of the service known as the Covenanted Civil Service, whether appointed by competition or nomination, (*b*) Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces, and (*c*) Cantonment Magistrates, as may be found fit.

4. The objects of the change are understood to be—

(1) to remove the anomaly that Natives who are admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service and held competent to discharge the highest judicial functions should be held incompetent to exercise jurisdiction over Europeans outside the Presidency towns, and
(2) to remove all distinctions of race in the determination of the Magistrates, other than District Magistrates, who can be vested with this jurisdiction.

5. As regards so much of the Bill as would give effect to the first object which the Governor in Council understands to apply solely to the case of Native Sessions Judges and District Magistrates, His Excellency is of opinion that it would be proper that the jurisdiction in question should be given to all Native Civilians who attain those responsible positions. An opinion of the Bombay Government to this effect was communicated in my letter No. 4622 of 28th July last, and to this opinion the present Government adheres for the following reasons:—

(*a*) Native District Magistrates when appointed, which will probably not be for several years, will be persons highly trusted and found fit to have European Assistants, and it would be anomalous and affronting to their self-respect that they should have less jurisdiction than their Assistants. The sorts and degrees of jurisdiction to be assigned to other magisterial officers of the mofussil are left to the discretion of Government according to its sense of what is best for the general public interests. But it is the obvious intention of the law that a District Magistrate should exercise *ex-officio* the full magisterial function in all its branches. He is charged with responsibility for the peace of his district; his position is exceptional and conspicuous; and if a Native, his duty in relation to Europeans will be discharged under moral guarantees for care and rectitude not inferior to those which operate in the case of Magistrates in the Presidency towns.

(*b*) Native Sessions Judges should have the jurisdiction because if fit for the ordinary duties of such high judicial office they will, in the opinion of this Government, be competent to preside over the trial of Europeans, associated as they must be with assessors or jury, of whom not less than half will be Europeans if so desired by the person tried; and because it might often be very inconvenient to Government and a hardship to Europeans and all persons concerned that there should be no authority in a district with power to sentence a European British subject to more than three months' imprisonment.

6. Considering, however, that this estimate of the competency of Native Sessions Judges, however supported by the opinions of experienced European officials, is not yet shared by the general European public, the Governor in Council would add the recommendation that in the event of the jurisdiction being given to Native Sessions Judges, any European accused, whether brought before a European or Native Sessions Judge, should have the right to be tried by jury even though the jury system may not have been extended by Government to the district in which the trial is held. In the mofussil a jury must be composed of an uneven number not more than 9 nor less than 3; a European accused may claim that at least half, which must be more than half, shall be Europeans; the verdict proceeds from the majority, and the Sessions Judge if differing can only refer the case to the High Court. Should the Sessions Judge concur with the majority and pass sentence, the alleged severity of such sentence can still be appealed against to the High Court as if it were a point of law.

The law provides for many distinctions in the procedure applicable to Europeans and Natives; but there is no matter in which Europeans by virtue of their national customs could claim a distinction more reasonably than that of trial by jury. The distinction would also be in harmony with the existing law which enables the Government to introduce the jury system in such districts and for the trial of such particular class of cases as it thinks proper. Under the late Code of Criminal Procedure (Act X of 1872) Europeans not being British subjects actually possessed the right which, it is now suggested, should be conferred on all Europeans, whether British subjects or not.

With the safeguards which the jury system affords no reasonable objection could be taken by Europeans to trial by Native Sessions Judges.

As regards so much of the Bill as would give effect to the second object, the Governor in Council is of opinion that the time has not arrived when all race distinction should be eliminated from magisterial qualification.

As a preliminary observation, His Excellency would submit that the total removal of race distinction appears to be impossible unless the Government either submits to a great restriction of their present practice in the matter of appointing Europeans to be Justices of

the Peace in the mofussil, or extends the qualification for receiving such office to Native Magistrates occupying many positions besides those mentioned in the Bill.

Political Agents who have to try Europeans committing offences in Native States can be made Justices of the Peace under the separate provisions of Section 6 of the Foreign Jurisdiction and Extradition Act of 1879, but as regards British territory outside the Presidency towns, the Bill as it stands would debar the Government from appointing any European to be a Justice of the Peace unless he happened to be a member of the Covenanted Civil Service, an Assistant Commissioner or a Cantonment Magistrate. But the necessities of our administration have hitherto from time to time required that the office should be conferred on Europeans filling many other positions, as for instance officers of the Staff Corps or Uncovenanted Service employed as Railway or City Magistrates and Medical Officers superintending sanitaria. Officers again are made Justices of the Peace for purposes other than the trial of Europeans, as for instance Military Officers for attesting enlistments, and Commissioners or Deputy Commissioners of Customs for adjudicating on goods liable to confiscation (Section 20 of Act XXIX of 1857).

Again, the Act as it stands would debar Government from utilising the services of non-official Europeans as Honorary Magistrates and Justices of the Peace for the control of their countrymen in particular localities. In this connection the total abolition of race distinction could not be maintained unless the qualification were extended to every Native of British India who might be made a 1st class Magistrate.

In the opinion of this Government no restriction whatever should be placed on the liberty of Government to utilise the services of European British subjects as Justices of the Peace at their discretion, and a distinction of race must at least continue to this extent that while all European British subjects are qualified for the office, only those Natives can be qualified who fill certain specified positions.

8. Attention being next confined to the question of the particular positions which should entitle Natives to the qualification, the Governor in Council proceeds to remark that the question put to him last year was whether all Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service or at least those who have attained the position of District Magistrates or Sessions Judges, should be entrusted with jurisdiction over Europeans. The Government were then of opinion that the jurisdiction should be given to those only who become District Magistrates or Sessions Judges. To this opinion (subject to the suggestion in paragraph 16, clause *b*) the Governor in Council adheres, and it follows that he would not extend the jurisdiction either to Native Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces, or to Cantonment Magistrates before whom, moreover, European soldiers and their wives are frequently brought. As no Native Officer of the Indian Army may sit on the Court-Martial of an English soldier, so should no Native be appointed a Cantonment Magistrate. In fact the instructions of the Secretary of State have hitherto been precise that only Military officers are to be so appointed.

9. After the public discussion of the question that has taken place, the Governor in Council feels bound to state why he holds that the jurisdiction should not be extended to Native Magistrates other than District Magistrates, although he is averse from relying on any of the numerous reasons that have been put forward, about which there is difference of opinion not only between Natives and Europeans, but also among the Europeans themselves.

He conceives it to be indisputable that Government must recognise the fact of the unwillingness of Europeans to be tried by Native Magistrates, and the bad consequences that are almost certain to ensue if this unwillingness be ignored—consequences involving disorder in our Courts of Justice and constant revivals of ill-feeling between the two races.

10. So far as this unwillingness is based on the idea of race superiority, it has not the sympathy of the Governor in Council, for no superiority is likely to be apparent when the European race is represented by a prisoner at the bar and the Native race by a highly educated and carefully chosen Magistrate. But the unwillingness is based also on the difference between the language, feelings and social customs of the two races, and however much its reasonableness even on this ground may be disputed, the Governor in Council is certain that it is honestly believed to be reasonable by the majority of Europeans.

In answer to this consideration the public exponents of Native views have urged that, so far as the appreciating faculty is concerned, Native Magistrates are as competent to try Europeans as European Magistrates are to try Natives. The Governor in Council concurs in this remark. Such disadvantage as arises from the difference of race is common to both cases. Indeed the Natives who learn English from their early youth, and increasingly adopt it for their own purposes, speak and understand English far better than most Englishmen speak and understand the vernaculars—and the inner life of Europeans is not more a sealed book to outside observers than that of Natives. But the distinction taken is this: The Natives are content to be tried by Europeans in spite of the difference of race which becomes, in fact, a positive advantage in proportion as it is desirable that an adjudicator should be cut off from all the social connection through which influences might reach his mind. The Europeans on the other hand, unaffected by any compensatory considerations, dislike, as they have always and everywhere disliked, the idea of being tried by persons not of their own race.

11. Their feeling partakes of intelligible anxiety in the case of those, seldom to be found in this Presidency, who are isolated from the community of their fellow-countrymen. It is impossible to ignore the propensity of the common people in India to resort to the Criminal Courts for the attainment of their various objects, the facility with which false witnesses for

any purpose can be hired in every town and village, and the encouragement that would probably be given to false charges as against Europeans, regarded as intruders on the land, by the fact that they could be brought before Native Magistrates. The Magistrate's impartiality would be an imperfect safeguard against the risk, and no safeguard against the annoyance to which the objects of such false charges would be exposed.

12. Their feeling again would naturally take an extreme form in relation to the trial of women. There is no point of contrast between Europeans and Natives so striking as the positions of consideration and disparagement assigned to women in their respective social systems. The apprehension that a European woman tried by a Native Magistrate might be treated with what would be regarded as inconsiderateness in European estimation, cannot be put aside as wholly unreasonable. Nor could it be easily obviated by attention to the Magistrate's qualifications, because the highest educational attainments may co-exist with hereditary prepossessions.

Our laws of procedure, civil and criminal, deviate* from the strict principles of English law in consideration of oriental sensitiveness on the subject of the appearance of women in Courts of Justice.

* Section 640 of Code of Civil Procedure.

13. The Governor in Council will next advert to the circumstance that Natives are now admitted to the ranks of the Covenanted Civil Service in the proportion of one in six; and to meet the argument that if it can be foreseen that the time must come when it will be absolutely necessary to vest them with jurisdiction over Europeans, the change should be effected as gradually as possible and a beginning should now be made, he would reply that administrative inconvenience may be undoubtedly incurred if the Native Sessions Judges are denied the jurisdiction, but the proportion of European Magistrates in the districts will always be so large that no necessity need be anticipated of the employment of any Native Civilian Magistrate in the trial of Europeans. In the 5th paragraph it has been shown that the position of a District Magistrate requires that he should be vested with the full magisterial function *ex-officio*.

14. Due note has been taken of the fact that the proposal in the Bill is not that all Native Civilian Magistrates should have jurisdiction over Europeans, but that the Governments should have the power to vest them with such jurisdiction when specially qualified to exercise it, but the Governor in Council would submit in answer that the exercise by the Governments of their proposed discretion, whether in giving or withholding the jurisdiction, would be a difficult and invidious task, liable constantly to cause either dissatisfaction to Europeans or disappointment to Natives. It is probable that the discretion would be variously exercised by the Administrations of different Provinces, and by successive Administrations in the same Province. If on the whole it is very sparingly exercised, there will be a notable disparity between the effect of the new law and the pre-announcement of its principles. And in any case the whole change of law and practice effected would constitute so small a step towards the desired end of perfect equality of Natives and Europeans before the law, that it is not worth while for the sake of it to offend the European community by depriving them of a statutory protection to which they attach the highest value.

15. The satisfaction that the change would afford to the Natives would, in the opinion of the Governor in Council, be insignificant in comparison with the pain it would cause to the Europeans. The real feelings of the Natives are not to be judged by the theoretical claims put forward in a heated controversy Judging from the previous tone of the Native Press in articles dealing with every topic of constitutional opposition, the Governor in Council believes that their sense of propriety has not been offended by the fact that the Europeans, who fill so strange a place in their community, are brought under special rules of criminal procedure and a special jurisdiction. They have seen, moreover, how little jurisdiction over Europeans is allowed even to European Magistrates outside the Presidency towns, and the Governor in Council can hardly doubt that the Native Magistrates themselves have been glad to be excused the jurisdiction altogether.

16. The mere disability therefore of Natives in this matter is not one that the Governor in Council can regard in the light of a serious political grievance. But it remains to consider whether an exceptional arrangement by which justice to Europeans is secured in the interests of public order involves practical injustice to their Native fellow-subjects. His Excellency has given careful consideration to the allegations that have been advanced on this head by Native leaders in the present controversy. They appear to be only two in number:—

(*a*) The first is that owing to the paucity of European Magistrates in the districts, Natives who suffer slight wrongs at the hands of Europeans experience such trouble in finding a Magistrate qualified to entertain their complaints, that they perforce forego redress, and the commission of similar wrongs is thereby encouraged. Those, however, who prefer this complaint are perhaps ignorant of Section 445 of the Code, which would enable the nearest Native Magistrate to take the same cognizance of an offence committed by a European as he could if committed by a Native, and also to issue process to compel his appearance, provided it be made returnable before a Magistrate having jurisdiction to try the case. The trouble of afterwards appearing with witnesses before the trying Magistrate would be common to both parties, and probably far more irksome to the European defendant than to the Native complainant; and the fact that he could be exposed to it through the instrumentality of a Native Magistrate appears as complete a precaution as the law could devise for

checking the impression that Europeans can commit petty wrongs on Natives with impunity.

(*b*) The second alleged ground of complaint is that European Magistrates are disposed to be unduly lenient to European offenders. Every case must be judged on its own merits and the Governor in Council will give no general opinion on the justice of this complaint, but he considers that the feelings of the Natives on the subject are natural and entitled to sympathetic consideration. He considers also that it is desirable to place the true motives of our legislation beyond suspicion. In his opinion, however, the amendment which the law requires for the reasonable satisfaction of the Natives on this head is not to allow the trial of Europeans by unaided Natives, but to give District Magistrates and other controlling authority power to order that any case appearing to call for such procedure should be tried by a Native Magistrate and a European Magistrate associated on one Bench, with provision for reference to the High Court in the event of their differing as to the verdict or sentence.

The change of law suggested could be effected by a short and natural addition to paras. 15 and 16 of the present Code of Criminal Procedure which provide for the appointment of Benches of Magistrates.

17. The Native Magistrate to whom this limited jurisdiction might be given should be of a specified magisterial class, for instance the 1st class, but not necessarily members of the Civil Service. In fact, in these recommendations no account is taken of the privileges of the Civil Service. If privileges are to be considered, there is no reason why the privileges of a few Native Civilians should outweigh those of the whole European community. Nor is there any gain in removing an invidious distinction between the powers of European and Native Civilian Magistrates by creating an equally, if not more, invidious distinction between Native Civilian Magistrates, of whom the great majority will owe their position to nomination, and the experienced men who are now filling the office of 1st Class Magistrate in the higher ranks of the Native Uncovenanted Service.

18. The recommendations of this Government then are (1) that District Magistrates and Sessions Judges should have the jurisdiction *ex-officio*; (2) that Europeans brought for trial before any Sessions Judge should have the right to claim a jury; (3) that provision should be made for the trial of cases likely to excite race antagonism by a European and Native Magistrate associated on the same Bench. Before deciding to make these recommendations, the Governor in Council submitted them as suggestions for the consideration of the Judges of the High Court and of the Advocate General and Legal Remembrancer. From the appended answers it will be seen that they have not received much support, but neither have any objections of weight been made against them, nor has any alternative proposal been suggested which the Governor in Council can prefer.

19. In the opinion of this Government, if the modifications of the Bill now proposed be regarded as no more than a compromise, it is one by which the Europeans will practically lose nothing and the Natives will gain. And if those authorities are correct who anticipate that it will not satisfy either party, the Governor in Council is confident that the dissatisfaction will be of the nature that subsides, whereas it is not likely that the adoption of an extreme course in either direction would be the final settlement of the dispute.

The following passage is extracted from the excellent speech lately made by the Sheriff of Bombay, Mr. Raghunáth Náráyan Khoté, C.I.E., at a meeting of Natives in the Town Hall: "It has been in the anxious contemplation of some people whether a medium course (and this is a fit case for a compromise) is not possible—such as might meet the convenience of the administration of criminal justice by the State—a course which, whilst it answered on the one hand the objections raised by the European population, would remove the disability of which the Natives could justly complain. Such a happy compromise would prevent the heart-burning between the two races, which is calculated to be daily increased if the present measure passed into law; for whenever any case involving race prejudices arose, the sore would open and keep festering."

Attention is also requested to the appended opinions of Mr. R. N. Khoté, C.I.E., the Honourable Mr. Badrudin Tyabji, and Sir Jamsetji Jijibhoy, who are distinguished representatives of the Hindu, Musalman and Pársi sections of the Bombay community.

20. The only technical argument that has been brought forward against the proposal to allow the Europeans a jury, is that the cases tried, being such only as would properly carry sentences not exceeding one year's imprisonment, will be of a petty character not usually submitted to juries. But a jury in a mofussil Court is a very different thing from a jury in England, and may consist only of three persons.

21. The only proposals for the modification of the Bill that have been suggested by persons whom this Government has consulted, and which call for remark, are three:—

(*a*) The first would simply extend the jurisdiction as *ex-officio* to District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, and go no farther. The opinion first given by this Government in July last was limited to this effect. But the great public interest that has since been taken in the question has led the Governor in Council now to regard the proposal as an incomplete satisfaction of the demands, whether of Natives or Europeans. There is reason to fear that it would be treated as a mere instalment in the settlement of the question. Moreover, the additional provisions which the

Governor in Council has ventured to suggest should, in his opinion, be passed as being just in themselves, irrespective of the exigencies of the present controversy.

(*b*) The second proposal is that Native Magistrates of the 1st class should be declared competent to try European British subjects if they make no objection. This appears to be already possible at the discretion of the Magistrate under Section 454 of the present Code. A provision by which a European accused could actually elect between a Native and a European Judge would certainly have the advantage of testing the reality of the objection of Europeans to be tried by Natives. But regarded as a compromise in a dispute which is mainly of sentimental importance, it can hardly be supposed that it would be satisfactory to the Natives to find that the exercise of jurisdiction by Native Magistrates had been transferred from the discretion of the Government to the discretion of European offenders. Also the proposal is open to the objection that it would enable an accused person to flatter his Judge.

(*c*) The third proposal is a variation on the mixed-Bench proposal adopted by this Government, and is to the effect that Native Magistrates of the 1st class should have the jurisdiction subject to the right of the accused European to claim to be tried by a mixed Bench. It is open to the same objections as the proposal last mentioned.

22. Finally, the Governor in Council trusts it may be borne in mind that so far as his opinions can have value from acquaintance with the feelings and interests of the people concerned, they must be taken as applicable solely to the Bombay Presidency. There is a great difference between the Natives of different parts of India, and this Government is in no position to judge how far and in what aspects the solution of the present question is of greater moment to Europeans circumstanced as they are in Bengal than to the Europeans of this Presidency. At the same time His Excellency desires to express the hope that Europeans in all parts of India would acknowledge the sufficiency of the modifications of the Bill above proposed to secure entire justice to themselves, and would approve the extension of equal guarantees for justice to their Native fellow-subjects.

Extracts from the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, and other laws referred to in letter to the Government of India, No. 3232 of the 14th May, 1883.

Section 274 of Act X of 1882 (paragraph 6).

274. In trials before the High Court the jury shall consist of nine persons.

In trials by jury before the Court of Session, the jury shall consist of such uneven number not being less than three, or more than nine, as the local Government, by order applicable to any particular district or to any particular class of offences in that district, may direct.

Section 307 of Act X of 1882 (paragraph 6).

307. If in any such case the Sessions Judge disagrees with the verdict of the jurors, or of a majority of the jurors, on all or any of the charges on which the accused has been tried, so completely that he considers it necessary for the ends of justice to submit the case to the High Court, he shall submit the case accordingly, recording the grounds of his opinion, and, when the verdict is one of acquittal, stating the offence which he considers to have been committed.

Whenever the Judge submits a case under this section, he shall not record judgment of acquittal or of conviction on any of the charges on which the accused has been tried, but he may either remand the accused to custody or admit him to bail.

In dealing with the case so submitted the High Court may exercise any of the powers which it may exercise on an appeal; but it may acquit or convict the accused of any offence of which the jury could have convicted him upon the charge framed and placed before it; and, if it convicts him, may pass such sentence as might have been passed by the Court of Session.

Section 418 of Act X of 1882 (paragraph 6).

418. An appeal may lie on a matter of fact as well as a matter of law, except where the trial was by jury, in which case the appeal shall lie on a matter of law only.

Explanation.—The alleged severity of a sentence shall for the purposes of this section be deemed to be a matter of law.

Section 269 of Act X of 1882 (paragraph 6).

269. The local Government may, by order in the official Gazette, direct that the trial of all offences, or of any particular class of offences, before any Court of Session, shall be by jury in any district, and may revoke or alter such order.

When the accused is charged at the same trial with several offences, of which some are and some are not triable by jury, he shall be tried by jury for all such offences.

Section 234 of Act X of 1872 repealed (paragraph 6).

234. Criminal trials before the Court of Session, in which a European (not being a European British subject) or an American is the accused person, or one of the accused persons, shall be by jury.

In such case the jury, if such European or American desire it, shall consist of at least one-half of Europeans, whether European British subjects or not, or Americans, if such a jury can be procured.

Provided that, in any district in which the local Government has not ordered that all trials before the Court of Session, or trials for all offences of the class within which the trial about to take place falls, shall be by jury, such European or American may elect to be tried without jury.

Section 6 of the Foreign Jurisdiction and Extradition Act, XXI of 1879 (paragraph 7).

6. The Governor General in Council may appoint any European British subject, either by name or by virtue of his office, in any such country or place to be a Justice of the Peace; and every such Justice of the Peace shall have in proceedings against European British subjects, or persons accused of having committed offences conjointly with such subjects, all the powers conferred by the Code of Criminal Procedure on Magistrates of the first class who are Justices of the Peace and European British subjects.

The Governor General in Council may direct to what Court having jurisdiction over European British subjects any such Justice of the Peace is to commit for trial.

Section 640 of the Civil Procedure Code, Act X of 1877 (paragraph 12).

640. Women, who according to the customs and manners of the country ought not to be compelled to appear in public, shall be exempt from personal appearance in Court.

But nothing herein contained shall be deemed to exempt such women from arrest in execution of civil process.

Section 445 of Act X of 1882 (paragraph 16, clause (*a*)).

445. Nothing in section 443 or section 444 shall prevent any Magistrate from taking cognizance of an offence committed by any European British subject in any case in which he could take cognizance of a like offence if committed by another person.

Provided that, if he issues any process for the purpose of compelling the appearance of an European British subject accused of an offence, such process shall be made returnable before a Magistrate having jurisdiction to inquire into or try the case.

Section 454 of Act X of 1882 (paragraph 21, clause (*b*)).

454. If an European British subject does not claim to be dealt with as such by the Magistrate before whom he is tried or by whom he is committed, or if, when such claim has been made before, and disallowed by, the committing Magistrate, it is not again made before the Court to which such subject is committed, he shall be held to have relinquished his right to be dealt with as such European British subject, and shall not assert it in any subsequent stage of the same case.

Unless the Magistrate has reason to believe that any person brought before him is not an European British subject, the Magistrate shall ask such person whether he is such a subject or not.

Accompaniment to Bombay Government letter No. 3232, dated 14th May, 1883.

Minute by the Honourable Lyttleton H. Bayley, *Acting Chief Justice, Bombay, on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, dated 5th May, 1883.*

1. This Bill goes very much further than the measure which was apparently in contemplation when my colleagues and I were consulted by the Government of Bombay in May 1882. I then stated my views at some length in my minute dated the 5th July 1882, and I adhered to the opinions I then expressed.

Objecting as I did most strenuously to the limited measure then advocated, for the questions were so framed that it was not difficult to see in what manner it was wished that the questions should be answered, I need scarcely say that notwithstanding the light thrown upon the present Bill by the "Objects and Reasons" and by Mr. Ilbert's speech in the Legislative Council in introducing it on the 9th March 1883, the present Bill has my most unqualified disapproval.

2. Mr. Ilbert at the end of his speech said: "We propose to substitute for the disqualification arising from race a qualification depending on tried personal fitness." That in my opinion contains a fallacy which goes to the root of the matter in dispute.

3. I deny that a Native Judge or Magistrate in the Mofussil, whether a Covenanted civil Servant or not, is fit to try a European British subject. He is in my opinion quite incompetent, and his very presence on the Bench will most probably lead to an increase in the very common practice in this country, a practice according to my experience not by any means confined to the Mofussil, of bringing false charges upon suborned evidence against persons of a different race whom it may be desirable to injure or get rid of.

4. In the debate in the Legislative Council at Calcutta in March 1857, one of the Judges of the then Supreme Court, Sir A. Buller, said, and I think most wisely, that they were practical men living in a land full of anomalies which they must deal with practically. He said, the Magistrates' Courts, though they gave the Natives far better justice than they ever had before, would give the European British subjects far worse justice than they had been used to. He did not think it was right to give poorer justice to the European British subjects to avoid anomaly if they could give them as good justice as before without hardship to the Natives. As to Native tribunals he thought that the European British subjects were right in objecting to them on the additional ground of race antagonism.

The Chief Justice of Bengal, Sir James Colvill, the very eminent and experienced Judge, who, until his death in 1880, delivered most of the more important judgments of the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the appeals from India, supported him, and drew attention to the well-known habit prevailing among Natives in the Mofussil of endeavouring to get rid of rivals by deliberately framed false criminal charges supported by false evidence, and said that the combination of executive and judicial functions in the persons of the Magistrates prejudiced and biased their minds and rendered the Magistrates' Courts in India very unsatisfactory tribunals. Sir Barnes Peacock, the Legal Member of Council, said that though he had introduced the Bill he would consider the arguments. No decision was ever taken on this question. The Mutiny broke out within two months with all its horrors, and race feeling rose to a fearful pitch. The Court of Directors withdrew the question from the Council, and it was resolved to continue the former system of having European British subjects tried solely by the Supreme Courts.

5. In 1859 there was another debate in the Legislative Council of India, which showed that Sir Barnes Peacock had been taught by the Mutiny the danger of carrying abstract principles to their logical conclusions in India without regard to consequences. Sir Barnes Peacock, probably the ablest, the weightiest and most acute Judge that has ever sat on the Indian Bench, had inserted in the Code then under discussion a provision disabling Natives in the Mofussil from even committing European British subjects for trial. Mr. Harrington (a very experienced and able civilian) thought this unnecessary. He said he had never advocated the trial of European British subjects by Natives, but he thought that they might be allowed to commit, and he taunted Sir Barnes Peacock with having at first advocated the sweeping Bill of 1857 and having now gone to the opposite extreme. Sir Barnes Peacock replied that he had never committed himself to it, and that even if he had done so, it was unfair of Mr. Harrington to remind him of it. After the Mutiny he claimed the right to change his mind and boldly avowed he had done so.

Sir Charles Jackson, a Judge of the Supreme Court at Calcutta, who had had considerable Indian experience, having been Advocate General of Bengal in 1848, whence in 1852 he was raised to be a Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Bombay and was changed back again to the Supreme Court at Calcutta in 1855 or 1856 agreed with Sir Barnes, pointed out the practical necessity of providing special tribunals for this particular class of persons, and showed the utter fallacy of arguing that because Natives were allowed to act as Justices in Calcutta, and to commit Europeans, therefore it was practically safe to let them do so in the Mofussil.

The Criminal Procedure Code of 1861 (Act XXV. of 1861) was eventually passed, leaving criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects practically as it was before.

6. When the Criminal Procedure Code of 1872 was before the Legislative Council of India, Sir James F. Stephen and Sir John Strachey with the other experienced men who made the settlement of 1872, had to decide, whether it was worth while, for the sake of asserting the principle (if principle it be) that all covenanted civilians should be empowered to try Europeans when they become full-power Magistrates, to risk the explosion which would inevitably have ensued, and which would have done incalculable mischief. The strong practical intellects of Sir James Stephen and Sir John Strachey declined to run the risk to avoid this petty anomaly, and they knew thoroughly the strong practical objections which exist to entrusting the jurisdiction to Natives. Accordingly they informally proposed to the European community through the non-official members that if they would consent to submit to the jurisdiction of the Magistrates' Courts and to the summary trials, they (Sir James F. Stephen, Sir John Strachey and others) would agree that no Natives, not even covenanted civilians, should have power to try European British subjects.

The High Court of Bombay was consulted by Government on the subject, and in a minute drafted by Mr. Justice Green, we all agreed to the proposal. The European community, to whom the proposals were informally made assented, and the arrangement was embodied in the report of the Select Committee, and became law.

7. I quote the opinions of the above distinguished judicial and other authorities as they support me in my opinion as to the danger to which Europeans in the Mofussil will be exposed if the Legislature allows them to be tried by Natives, and to show that I have very high authority for my opposition to the present unnecessary and in my opinion most dangerous measure, one which is calculated to imperil the liberties of the increasing numbers of Europeans who have settled and are settling in the Mofussil, and especially in the planting districts of Bengal, and along the slopes of the Himalayas to the confines of Cashmere.

8. Next it is to my mind quite impossible to suppose that a visit of two or three years to England is sufficient to enable a Native of India to become sufficiently Europeanised in thought, and sufficiently acquainted with European manners and customs to justify one with safety in entrusting him with the extremely difficult task of trying Europeans; whilst those Natives who have never left India are, many of them men of high caste, saturated with caste prejudices, have never been brought into social contact with Europeans, and are all of them totally ignorant of our manners, customs and habits of thought.

9. In the recent debate in the Legislative Council on the 9th March 1883 (I quote from the Supplement to the *Gazette of India* of April 21st, 1883, pp. 820-821) the present Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal said, "Ample and exhaustive as was the speech of my honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans, with a great deal of which I sympathized, there are great many facts which I could bring forward to support his contention that there is no administrative difficulty in connection with the matter, and I should have been inclined to challenge more strongly than he did the competency of the Native to try European British subjects. But this is not the occasion on which I shall press those views.

If it be the opinion of the Government of India that this is a case of temporary excitement which will soon die out, I am sure they are mistaken; for I feel that in the whole of my experience in India, this is unmistakeably the strongest and most united and unanimous expression of opinion, and of public discontent that I have ever known, and that the last state will be worse than the first. I could wish for myself that the Bill could be withdrawn, and I do so, not only for myself, but as expressing the opinion of a great many who have spoken to me on the subject, even though they support the principle of the Bill.

10. No one that I am aware of has ever disputed that false and malicious charges are frequently made in the Criminal Courts in India. In Civil cases, the Lords of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council have in their judgments repeatedly complained of the great want of truth which characterizes much of the evidence which comes before them in the appeals from India. In the course of a judgment delivered in the High Court at Calcutta on the 30th August 1879, Sir Richard Garth, C.J., said: "No evidence here, whether oral or documentary, is, as a rule, so reliable as it is in England." (*Sikhhu Chund* v. *Dulputty Sing*, Indian Law Rep. 5. Cal. 387.) And it is only a few years ago that a decision of a District Judge in this Presidency was appealed against to the High Court of Bombay on the ground that the Judge had refused to hear evidence of a custom alleged to exist in a part of Gujarat that women went with child for a period of 2 years and upwards, the question turning upon the illegitimacy of a child born considerably more than 9 months after the father's death. No doubt any amount of evidence would have been forthcoming in proof of the alleged custom.

When in Lucknow a few years ago I was told on very high authority that witnesses could be procured there for a few pice each to prove anything required, from a murder down to the most trumpery assault.

11. Then the presence of a Native Magistrate on the Mofussil Bench will in my opinion act as an encouragement to persons either on their own personal grounds, or instigated and bribed by others to lay false informations against European gentlemen and ladies residing in the district, whilst if the Magistrate were a European, they might, to some extent, hesitate to bring what they knew to be a false and malicious charge against an innocent person.

12. I have myself no practical knowledge of the Mofussil, never having resided in it for any length of time—but I can call in aid the assistance of those who know life in the Districts well, and on this point I cannot, I think, do better than quote a few words used by Sir Steuart Bayley (who is in favour of the Bill) in the debate last month in the Legislative Council at Calcutta: "But there is another aspect of the case of the opposition which I think deserves most attentive consideration, and this is the real danger in which the isolated European, living in the Mofussil, runs from having false cases trumped up against him. It is right that I should state publicly that this danger is a very real and very serious one, for probably no member of this Council has had the same experience as I have of the lives led by planters in the Mofussil. My own experience has given me a strong feeling on this matter, and any one who knows the extreme bitterness with which disputes about land are fought out in the Mofussil and the unscrupulous methods to which recourse is had in conducting these disputes before the Court, methods to which a planter cannot have recourse, will understand how precarious his position may become, and how essential to him it is that the law should be well and wisely administered."

13. I cannot in the least admit that, what some seem to think sufficient, *viz.*, the supervision of the High Court, will be an adequate safeguard to the European planters, managers and ladies scattered throughout the enormously wide districts of British India. Its action, when invoked, will be too late. The real injury will have been caused by the laying of the false information supported by false evidence, and by the hearing in the Magistrate's Court, long before the proceedings are ripe enough for an application to be made to the High Court.

14. In my Minute dated the 5th July 1882, I pointed out what appeared to me to be the fallacy of arguing that because in the Presidency towns Native Magistrates could try and sentence European British subjects, therefore it was practically safe to let them do so in the Mofussil. It has since been concisely said and in better language than my own—"How can Europeans object to Native Magistrates in the Mofussil and yet suffer them in the Presidency towns? The power and influence of the European community, the blaze of publicity, the Bar, the presence and powers of the High Court, are sufficient answers. Besides, the Presidency Magistrate's functions are strictly judicial, and the practice of deliberately attempting to ruin rivals or enemies by cunningly concocted false charges which is still as common as ever in the Mofussil is practically unknown in Calcutta."

15. In conclusion, I may be permitted to remark that in my Minute already referred to, I stated my belief that the limited proposal then placed before my colleagues and myself would "cause a great outcry and discontent among Europeans in India."

That the present Bill has raised a perfect storm of discontent is apparent to all of us. I have already quoted the recent weighty words of the very experienced civilian, the present Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal on that point. And I must say that, although of course regretting, but scarcely wondering at the strong language used by some of the opponents to the present Bill, I am glad to see that this project of legislation which is so unfair and prejudicial to the interests of the European community has met with the almost universal disapproval of my fellow countrymen in India, who, far more than members of the purely official and executive class can better realize the extreme danger to their liberties which this Bill will cause if it becomes law. It has roused race antagonism, which, it should be remembered, must always exist in a more or less degree in this country, as long as England holds it, which ofcourse she always will. The Bill in my opinion can do little, if any, practical good. It has exasperated Europeans throughout the length and breadth of India in the highest degree, is destroying the cordial relations and good feeling which have hitherto existed between Europeans and Natives, and ought in my opinion to be at once withdrawn before any further mischief is done.

16. The modified scheme put forward in the letter from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, dated the 17th April 1883, I strongly object to, as I entertain the decided opinion that no Native should be allowed to have jurisdiction to try European British subjects in the Mofussil.

Minute by the Honourable MR. JUSTICE WEST *on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British Subjects, dated 8th May 1883.*

The proposal on which the opinion of the High Court was taken last year was one for placing all members of the Covenanted Civil Service, whether Native or European, on the same footing with respect to their jurisdiction as Magistrates and Judges over Europeans accused of offences. We all supported that proposal with the exception of Mr. Justice Bayley. That learned Judge (now Acting Chief Justice), as his present minute informs us, was from the first strongly opposed to the policy on this subject of the Government of India which, within the proposed limits, his colleagues thought just and wise and logically necessary.

In this division of opinions I cannot forbear from giving expression to my great regret that the Chief Justice who last year gave the policy of the Government of India his unqualified support should not have put on record his views as to the measures now submitted for consideration. It is one of capital importance and one on which his colleagues would have greatly desired to have the guidance of his ability and public spirit. The delay that has occurred has prevented Mr. Justice Kemball, I understand, from recording his opinion, which, from his experience and moderation of character, would have been of great value.

The Bill as it has been framed goes to lengths, I think, for which none of us were prepared, and it has been brought forward in a way which but few of us would think discreet. The "turbulent pride" of my own countrymen and the "sensitive vanity" of Natives, offended by that turbulence on which I dwelt in my few remarks of last June, have both been manifested in a way which shows what important factors these characteristics are in the problem of Indian Government. After what has passed retreat is almost as hazardous as an advance on the part of the Indian Legislature. Angry passions and race antipathies have been stirred up in a way that I have not witnessed since the dreadful days of the Mutiny, and local legislation, however just and beneficent in its purposes and principles, will be carried on with the same risks as electrical experiments in the midst of a thunder cloud.

At the same time I think it impossible that there should now be any yielding of principle. The Government of India cannot afford to be hectored by any noisy section of its subjects; the lesson would be too soon and too fatally learned by every class in every district that it rules. The matter would, I believe, be best dealt with by withdrawing it altogether from the heated and unwholesome air of Indian politics and making it the subject of an imperial statute. This might readily be cast in a form which, while completely effective, would call forth but little or no opposition. In India it is impossible now, I fear, to frame any Act that will not excite vehement complaints and those venomous recriminations which rankle for a whole generation and make moral union impracticable.

If the matter is to be finally disposed of in India, I must state my conviction that the only safe principles to build on are the reverse of those set forth so vigorously by the Acting Chief Justice. If conspiracies and false accusations are so common as he thinks, if rancorous spite and perjury are so universal and so successful that is a terrible blot on the native character, but a terrible blot also on the British administration of India. Our criminal courts must be the most cruel instruments of injustice that the world has ever seen. We must have failed in our attempts to train native magistrates to conscientiousness and intelligent pride in doing their duty. We ought to acknowledge our failure and close every court not presided over by a European. The native magistrates must be either the tools or the accomplices of the worst of all criminals, and in either capacity can do nothing but mischief.

Now it would be a foolish thing to suppose, as some natives do ignorantly suppose, that the ordinary Englishman has not gained a great advantage over the ordinary Asiatic by the constitutional training which is for him the inheritance of so many centuries. Justice is

more in reality a matter of temperament of tradition and training than of mere cleverness. To this extent I think there is a reasonable basis for the desire of Europeans to be tried by their own countrymen rather than by natives of any other country. But they must know well that it is not every Englishman who is fit to be a magistrate or judge nor every Native who is unfit. They are bound to recognise that other people besides themselves have their pride and their prejudices, that universal jealousy would make their own position in this country untenable and that the organization of the tribunals must be regulated by considerations of the general good, not of what would best suit a small section of the community. If they do not recognize all this, their judgment is of little or no value, though, as the object of Government is to make subjects happy, their susceptibilities should still be wounded as little as may be compatible with the general welfare.

It is impossible that India should be permanently attached to England, except by the growth of some community of feeling between the people of the two countries. It is impossible that there should be such a community of feeling without some community of interests and employments. This has been the principle on which native gentlemen have been admitted to the Civil Service. They should be admitted sparingly enough to become imbued with its spirit and traditions. Thus admitted and carefully selected for the higher positions, there is no reason why they should not discharge their duties with credit to themselves and advantage to the public. The honour of our race is concerned in the experiment, and individual Englishmen must make some sacrifices for the sake of proving that they can train a nation.

If there is to be no movement, no participation of power with natives, what must be the result? The English will a generation hence be still more a caste than they are now. With their special advantages it is to be feared they may become an arrogant and unkind caste. Natives even of the highest character must meanwhile sink lower in their own esteem and grow more unfitted for the functions and position that we deny them. It is only by training and trial by selection and association that we can surround ourselves with worthy assistants and colleagues in the work of Government. Are we to put off the work indefinitely because it is attended with some difficulty? Will the difficulty grow less with time? Is not the difficulty very much in ourselves? And has not almost every Englishman who has worked with natives of the higher order found them on the whole sensible and right-minded? Grant that there is some prejudice at present against Europeans, is not this accounted for by a consciousness of not getting altogether fair play from Europeans? It appears to me, I confess, that to enrol natives in the Civil Service and then humiliate them as members of the service would be the surest of all means of spreading discontent amongst the most influential classes and of making moral and political progress impossible.

It is said that the task of trying European offenders exceeds the capacity of a native because of his ignorance "of our manners, customs and habits of thought." But if false and malicious accusations by natives are—as it seems they are—the chief evil to be guarded against, it is surely of more importance that the Magistrate should know the habits of thought of natives than of Europeans, and in this respect a Native Magistrate has a positive advantage. The advantage is not indeed so great as some people suppose. The sharp divisions of caste prevent the higher classes of Hindus from gaining an intimate knowledge of the ways of the lower classes, but still they know on the whole rather more than the European, and they are thus so far better fitted to sift the evidence of unprincipled witnesses. There is a great deal of exaggeration in what is said on this subject, and daily experience shows us that European Judges not knowing even a word of a native language still arrive on native testimony at convictions so strong that they act on them unhesitatingly in condemning native prisoners to death. The real difficulty in practice will arise from the habitual relations of domination and submission between Europeans and Natives. The associations thus created cannot on either side be shaken off at a moment's notice, and any want of strength or balance of character in a Native Magistrate trying an English rough is likely to lead the latter into some insolence or violence of a graver character than the petty offence of which he was first accused. The Native Magistrates who are to try Europeans ought to be as far as possible from peculiarities that would excite contempt or ridicule in the accused, and they should be placed if possible amid more decent and dignified surroundings than are common in the Mofussil.

As to the particular provisions of the Bill I am of opinion that it ought in the first instance to be limited, as the original project was to the object of placing native members of the Covenanted Civil Service on the same footing as their European comrades. When the experiment pushed thus far has proved successful and people have grown familiar with the exercise of the jurisdiction, it can be pushed a step further. It can also be withdrawn if necessary, or the Government may pause until a new stage in general development has been reached.

The European brought before a Native Magistrate should for the present have a right to claim trial by an English Magistrate. The necessity of giving security and of going to jail until they could be taken before a European would make most accused forego their privilege. The statistics could be gathered after a few years and the ground would thus be laid for a safe step in advance.

A European committed to the Sessions Court should in all cases be tried by jury. He thinks much of this mode of trial; Natives do not, but if a general feeling in favour of it should arise, I think there are probably but few districts in which it might not be introduced.

The Sessions Judge should himself preside at all trials of Europeans. They should not be handed over to the Assistant Judges. Section 4 of the Bill should be modified accordingly.

A Native Magistrate enquiring into a charge against a European should have authority to transfer the case at any stage to a European Magistrate. This would get rid of many practical difficulties in the least invidious way.

I think it undesirable that the District Magistrate should be empowered to constitute a special bench for the trial of a European. The exercise of the power would excite jealousy and distrust, and every case of acquittal of a European against the opinion of the Native Magistrate would be paraded as an instance of injustice through race prejudice. The District Magistrate should have power to withdraw or transfer any criminal enquiry whatever (as in fact he has under section 528, Civil Procedure Code) for good cause, and beyond this it is not, I think, desirable to go. The fewer occasions there are for expressed differences of opinion between Magistrates the better.

Articles (*b*), (*c*), (*d*) should, I think, be struck out of section 1 of the Bill. The time will have come for enacting them when article (*a*) has been proved successful by a few years' working.

Minute by the Honourable MR. JUSTICE SCOTT *on the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill dated 13th May 1883.*

Had I been asked to express an opinion on this measure six months ago, I should have minuted in its favour without hesitation. But the unofficial class in India is a most important body, and its opinion, when expressed with force and unanimity, as it has been on this matter, deserves careful consideration. I do not, however, find anything in the objections raised sufficient to make me change my mind, although they incline me to invest the proposed change with further guarantees.

It must be remembered that in 1836 the extension to Native Magistrates of jurisdiction over Europeans in civil disputes, and, in a less degree, the abolition of Grand Juries in 1865, raised a similar outcry. Yet even those who denounced them are now ready to admit the beneficial operation of both Acts.

It seems to me that the principle of this Bill is not only a sound one, but has been under discussion for many years, and has been already virtually admitted by the Government of India. It was thus stated by Mr. Ilbert when he introduced the Bill to the Council of India: "In the matter of a limited criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects to substitute for the disqualification arising from race a qualification depending on tried personal fitness."

In 1849 the principle was proposed, but it was thought the time had not come for its adoption. In 1856 and 1879 the Indian Law Commission strongly recommended that all classes should be made equally amenable to the same judiciary. In 1872 the principle again was brought forward and its adoption once more postponed, but only by a majority of one in the Council of India.

Meanwhile the circumstances of the case had changed. The Royal Proclamation of 1858 had announced Her Majesty's gracious will that, "as far as may be, the subjects of whatever race or creed should be impartially admitted to offices in the service of the Crown, the duties of which they might be qualified by their education, ability and integrity duly to discharge."

This was followed by the opening of the doors of the Covenanted Civil Service to such of the Natives of India who passed the requisite examinations.

In 1879 another important step was taken in the same direction. It was decided that a certain number of nominations of young Natives should be made, so as to bring up the number of Indians to the proportion of one-sixth of the whole number.

Thus the Civil Service was thrown open to the Natives of India. It was intended they should go to the Judicial side, and as a matter of fact I believe those that have entered have done so. To this fact must be added that Natives do not go much on leave and do not retire as European officials do. It is obvious that eventually the proportion of Native Judges will be nearer one-third or even one-half than one-sixth of the side of the service they have mainly chosen.

As their numbers increase and Natives have risen to the rank of Sessions Judge and first class Magistrate, it will be obviously impossible to deprive them of the powers attached to these offices. In the first place it would amount to a denial of the advantages of the service they have been invited to enter, and that invitation, instead of allaying discontent, would be a cause of Native irritation.

Then, again, as the number of Native Judges increase, the European judiciary will diminish. European tribunals will become rarer. Thus, unless this change is made, there will be an increasing denial of justice to all native suitors who may have been wronged by European British subjects, and cannot afford the expense and delay of attendance at a distant European tribunal. The increase of the number of European Judges is not possible. Already the cost of the Government of India is as great as its people can bear. The true remedy is to be found in the cautious utilization of the people of the country when they have been trained to the requisite fitness. There is no doubt of their power to reach the requisite fitness. It is sufficient to site the testimony of the Lord Chancellor given in the debate of the 10th April last, who, in his experience as a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council,

found "the judgment of the Native Judges of India bore most favourable comparison as a general rule with the judgments of the English Judges (of India)."

I now come to the objections that have been raised to the Bill. The first and most common is that race prejudice will influence Native Magistrates unfairly against the accused. The obvious reply is that race prejudice might all along have injured Mahomedans, Parsis, Native Christians and non-British Europeans, and yet no complaint has been heard. But there is another argument to which, I think, not enough weight has been given. Ever since 1836 Native Judges have had no race limit placed on their civil jurisdiction. European British subjects have come within their reach just as any other inhabitant of India. Now, it seems to me that if race antagonism is strong enough to destroy judicial impartiality at all, it would have worked on the Civil as much as on the Criminal side. The temptation is as great to injure a man in his pocket as in his person. Yet I have heard of no case of importance where injustice has been worked in the Civil Courts from this cause.

The next objection is that cases will be trumped up against Europeans and successfully carried through with the collusion of the Native Magistrate. There is no doubt a habit of perjury amongst the classes who appear in the Law Courts of this country. But I have rarely if ever heard of a Civil Native Magistrate being charged with such roguery, and if it has scarcely ever occurred on the Civil side, I do not see why it should happen more frequently on the Criminal side. The instant dismissal which would ensue on detection is, I think, a sufficient safeguard.

Another objection to the Bill lies in the absence of publicity in the Mofussil. This is a sound objection, which, however, must be annually decreasing in force. Since 1872, when the principle of this Bill was only rejected by one vote, railways have doubled in extent, telegrams and letters have doubled in number, and post offices and letter boxes have multiplied from 5,000 to 11,000. The inability of parties to obtain the assistance of Counsel is also urged, but to this objection I do not attach so much weight. The accused who can afford to pay for Counsel can afford to appeal against the decision.

The jurisdiction even of the Sessions Judge is so carefully limited, the power of intervention of the High Court so wide, and appeal so easy, that I do not attach very much weight even to the want of publicity. I think the European British subject will make his voice heard if he ever suffers a serious injustice. Nor have I any expectation that the introduction of this Bill as law will be followed by a host of unfounded charges. I am more afraid that the Native Magistrate may not have the moral strength to treat offending Europeans with due severity if they happen to be persons of local importance.

For this last reason, and in deference to the opinions of the non-official class who are the persons most affected by the proposed Bill, I adopt with a slight modification the proposal of the Government of Bombay to associate for the present a European Judge with the Native Magistrate in cases above a certain importance. But I would make the co-operation of the European Judge a matter of course. I would suggest that for this purpose High Court or Sessions Judges should go on circuit. Such a periodical visit would lend more publicity to Mofussil proceedings. The difficulty of a difference of opinion would arise, but might be solved by summary reference to the High Court.

The special privilege of jury-trial, if accorded to Europeans alone, would, I fear, excite a feeling of inequality, and I prefer the previous plan. Moreover, it would be difficult to find jurymen.

A third plan has been suggested in some quarters, to give the accused the option of being tried by the nearest European Judge or by the resident Native Judge. I think very likely the option would seldom be exercised. But it might be used as a means of expense, would certainly cause delay, and would oust the Native Magistrate from the jurisdiction which, as a Covenanted Civil Servant, he is in principle entitled to possess.

Finally, I think the test of fitness should be rigorously imposed. The Native Magistrate to whom this new jurisdiction is entrusted should as far as possible receive the training of a European Covenanted Civil Servant. Thus would be secured not only the ordinary intellectual qualifications, but the Native of India would also have experienced the civilizing influence of a residence in England. This rule would, no doubt, exclude the new Native Civil Service. But it would be within the principle of personal fitness, which is the avowed basis of the Bill.

No. 766, dated 8th May, 1883.

From—H. N. B. ERSKINE, Esq., Commissioner in Sind,

To—His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir JAMES FERGUSSON, BART., K.C.M.G., and C.I.E., Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

I have the honour to reply to Resolution No. 2258 in the Judicial Department, dated 2nd ultimo, calling for my opinion on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. The Statement of Objects and Reasons shows that the Bill has been prepared because "it was thought anomalous that while Natives of India were admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service and held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties, they should be deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace and to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the Presidency towns." Whether the long established custom that the British

in India should be tried only by Judges or Magistrates who are themselves European British Subjects is rightly described as an anomaly is of little consequence, but if it be admitted that it is so, then the long continued existence of such an anomaly surely indicates that its existence has not been permitted without good reason.

3. When writing in June last, regarding the changes proposed, I expressed an opinion that these were not needed, and the discussions that have since that time taken place have only strengthened and confirmed this opinion. Whatever may have been thought when the Bill was first introduced, there can be no question now that the changes it is sought to introduce would be highly unpopular to the European community. The feeling of dislike to being tried by a Native Magistrate may, in a certain sense, be unwarranted, but it is to me at all events a perfectly intelligible one, and I cannot therefore blame those who hold it.

4. The European British subject has hitherto enjoyed certain rights and these he is unwilling to lose. Any member of the Covenanted Civil Service who had become a Judge or a District Magistrate must, it may be presumed, be qualified to try a European British subject so far as mere legal knowledge and requirements go, but this would not in my opinion be reason sufficient for depriving the European British subject of his long enjoyed and highly valued right and privilege. I altogether fail to see that there are any grounds for fearing that the present state of the law is in any way likely to be productive of harm, and therefore whether the present law is anomalous or not I would wish to see it continued.

5. I have never been in a district in which there were not several European Magistrates, and so far as I am aware there are none such. For this reason I do not consider that so far as magisterial cases are concerned, any practical inconvenience is likely to be experienced by the law being maintained in its present form. Some slight inconvenience might be caused were the District Sessions Judge a Native gentleman who could not try a European prisoner, but this slight degree of inconvenience would not, in my opinion, justify the change proposed.

6. I do not consider it necessary to explain in detail why I object to the changes proposed. So much has recently been said and written on the subject that I could state nothing new. I fail altogether to see that the continuance of the present law is continuing an "invidious distinction," for, so far as my experience goes, the distinction occasioned no ill-will, and was thoroughly understood and appreciated by the Native community It is true that since the Bill has been publicly discussed the cry that the distinction is one that is unjust to the Native community has been raised, but this clearly is merely a result of the agitation caused by the proposed Bill and would never, it may confidently be asserted, have been heard had the Bill not been discussed, and I may add at times attacked with so much virulence by some of the European community. The agitation in favour of the Bill was in no sense spontaneous.

7. There is one other point to which I may refer as an argument against the Bill, namely, that it would not put an end to all distinctions between trials of European British subjects and Natives, and that anomalies would still remain which could only be removed by the repeal of the whole of Chapter 33 of the Criminal Procedure Code,—a course that I do not believe even the supporters of the present Bill would venture to recommend. This being so, matters had much better be left as they are.

No. 921, dated 10th May, 1883.

From—W. H. PROPERT, Esq., Acting Commissioner, Northern Division, Bombay,

To—C. G. W. MACPHERSON, Esq., C.I.E., Under-Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, Bombay.

I have the honour, as directed in Government Resolution No. 2258 of 2nd April 1883, Judicial Department, to submit the reports of the District Magistrates in this Division upon the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882. The District Magistrates of Kaira and Kolaba have forwarded, in original, separate reports by their Assistants and Deputies, and these also will be found amongst the papers herewith sent.

2. As regards my own opinion I have but little to add to the views I expressed as Collector and Magistrate of Khandesh when the question was mooted last year.

3. I then stated that a few years hence some or all of the changes now proposed by Mr. Ilbert will probably have to be made, but that in my opinion their introduction should be delayed as long as possible. I further stated that, *as a rule*, Native Magistrates in the Mofussil would rather not have the power to try Europeans, and this opinion I still hold.

4. I should now be glad to see Mr. Ilbert's Bill placed on one side and its further consideration deferred for an unlimited period, as I certainly think that the objections raised to its proposed provisions on the part of the European population of this country are based on solid grounds and are, therefore, worthy of consideration and respect.

5. It would, of course, be unbecoming for me or any other officer to hazard an opinion as to whether the Government of India can, just at this moment, shelve the Bill without loss of dignity. If, however, it be decided to proceed with the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code, I would earnestly recommend that the appointment of Justice of the Peace in the Mofussil be conferred *only* upon members of the Covenanted Civil Service, *i.e.*, those who gained their position by competition in England.

6. It would be easy for every one of us to argue at great length in support of our own

particular view of the question, but, as the matter has already been publicly and officially considered from every possible point of view, it is undesirable for individual officers to say more than is absolutely necessary. It may be taken as proved, however, that the general opinion of Europeans of every class, and of a few Natives also,* is opposed to a change in the law.

* *e.g., Vide* the opinion of the Magistrate, F. C., Mr. Bahmanji Modi of Kaira, herewith sent.

No. P.-775, dated 14th April, 1883.

From—E. P. ROBERTSON, Esq., Commissioner, Central Division, Bombay,
To—C. GONNE, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay.

With reference to the Government Resolution No. 2258, dated 2nd instant, I have the honour to state that in my letter No. P.-1345, dated 29th June 1882, I deprecated any change in the existing law as being unecessary and uncalled for.

2. Viewing the subject by the light of the very grave demonstrations of feeling that have been shown by the European community, it is clear that the opinion already recorded by me was correct. I would now go even further and urge that as there is no necessity for the measure it would be most impolitic to force the change which all experience has proved to be most uncalled for.

3. It cannot be urged that it is called for because the present law is a species of class legislation. Were that an argument to be admitted then all the special privileges that so many members of the Native community enjoy, such as immunity of certain classes from attendance at Civil Courts and the immunity granted to Pardah Nashin women, &c., &c., must in common sense and justice be swept away. Were this done the Natives who enjoy the privileges of so much special class legislation would be the greatest losers.

4. Europeans prize greatly their privilege of being tried by Europeans and by a jury of their countrymen before the High Court. While nothing practical is to be gained by a change in the law much will be lost. The question is not one which affects the Bombay Presidency so much as other places, as in almost every place in this Presidency ready access to European aid and counsel could be obtained. Anyhow the matter must not be dealt with in a sentimental manner. It is all very well to say that the Natives are fit for this and that duty, but they are not fit for all duties, and certainly they are not fit by training and experience to try Europeans. No Government has the right merely for the sake of uniformity and as a mere matter of sentiment to deprive anybody of its subjects of one of their most highly prized privileges; and if no better reason than mere sentiment and a desire to make the law uniform can be brought forward, the sooner all idea of any change in the law is abandoned the better. The proposal to change the law has already done much to undo the good feeling between the Europeans and Natives, and has overturned the labour of love and good feeling which has for the past 50 years actuated our best men. If the measure is pressed forward it will widen the breach between the races and the very first case in which a Native Magistrate deals unwisely and harshly with a European will cause a storm. It is only necessary to imagine a case in which a Native Magistrate should sentence a European to whipping or a case in which a European female should be unjustly sent to a jail or lock-up. The storm which would break over Government would be such as Government could ill bear, while the race antipathy would be so intensified as to defy all future attempts to allay it.

5. As the measure is unnecessary and uncalled for, and as no good can be derived from the change, why not leave good alone and let the law stand as it is.

No. 234 S.P., dated 6th May, 1883.

From—ARTHUR CRAWFORD, Esq., Commissioner, Southern Division, Bombay,
To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, Bombay.

I have the honour to state, with reference to the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1882, that I adhere to the opinion expressed by me on 22nd May last, No. P.-731—4, Confidential.

Government Resolution No. 2258, dated 2nd April 1883.

No. 731P., dated 22nd May, 1882.

From—ARTHUR CRAWFORD, Esq., Commissioner, Southern Division, Bombay,
To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, Bombay.

In reply to your letter No. 2985, Confl. of 13th instant, I beg to state that in my opinion it is very desirable to place all the members of the Covenanted Service, whether European or Native, selected by *competition*, on the same footing with regard to criminal proceedings against European British subjects. As regards those appointed by nomination (Native Civil Service) it will not be invidious, at least for some time to come, to lay down that they shall not try European British subjects, unless they have exercised magisterial powers for three years. A similar restriction has been placed on all Assistant Sessions Judges (*vide* section 444 of the new Criminal Procedure Code).

Opinion of the Honourable the Advocate General, Bombay, No. 31, dated 28th April 1883.

I do not consider the proposed modifications of the Ilbert Bill mentioned in your letter of the 22nd instant advisable.

I think they will not satisfy either party and will tend to keep alive the present agitation.

They will dissatisfy the Europeans because they abrogate the principle which exempts them from the jurisdiction of Natives in criminal matters and open the door to further concessions, and the Natives will not be satisfied with less than they expected, and will know that by continuous agitation the jurisdiction now given will be extended little by little until at last they are placed (as they consider they ought to be) upon an equal footing with Europeans.

In my opinion it is wisest to settle the matter once for all. Either drop the Bill or go through with it.

No. 560, dated 28th April 1883.

From—J. R. NAYLOR, Esq., Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, Bombay,
To—The Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

I have the honour, as desired in Government Resolution No. 2258 of 2nd April 1883, to submit my opinion upon the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. On the structure of the Bill I have no remarks to offer. It is designed to "remove from the Code at once and completely every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions," and this object it will no doubt effectually attain, if it becomes law.

3. But in the case of a Bill of this nature it is, I presume, the policy of, and necessity for, the proposed change in the law, rather than the manner of effecting that change, which the Government of India are desirous of obtaining opinions upon. This is a matter upon which I might write at much length, but as a great deal has already been written and said on both sides of the question, and I should only, in giving my own opinion in detail, repeat many of the arguments which have already been very ably stated by other persons, I will confine myself to a few observations which appear to me to strike at the root of the matter.

4. I take it that it has been demonstrated to conviction that the Bill is not required "for the more effectual and impartial administration of justice." The only other grounds upon which its necessity is urged are—

(1) The removal of the slur upon the character of Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, who, when they become District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, are not permitted by the present law to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects; and

(2) The administrative inconvenience which this disqualification is already beginning to cause and will hereafter cause increasingly, until the full proportion of Native Civilians have been appointed to the service and have risen to the grades of District Magistrate and Sessions Judge.

5. The law, as it at present stands, recognizes the fact that European British subjects object to their being liable to be tried by Native officers, both because they do not give those officers credit for being able to rightly understand and appreciate their motives or the evidence on which they might rely, and also because, as a rule (to which I am glad to be able to admit there are several honourable exceptions), they do not sufficiently trust those officers to believe that they would act impartially towards them. This is a feeling which is not confined to the non-official classes, but is almost universal amongst Europeans. Its existence has been so long recognized by the law that exemption from the jurisdiction of Native officers has come to be regarded by European British subjects as a highly prized privilege, their one safeguard against the intrigue, the deceit and the wily cunning with which they find themselves daily surrounded. The agitation caused by the publication of the Bill under consideration shows how great is the strength of this feeling still, and how averse the classes who will be affected by the change in the law are to part with their privilege.

6. The slur which is impliedly cast by the existing law upon the character of Native Judicial officers is due simply and solely to this intense regard which European British subjects resident in this country have for their own safety against false charges, false evidence and indiscriminating and perhaps partial judges. No Native who knows his own country can say that this feeling is unreasonable, no one with a spark of patriotism in his breast can say that it is unnatural. The question then arises, is it expedient for the sake merely of removing the implied slur upon the character of a few Native Judicial officers to deprive European British subjects of their cherished privilege? I think not. On the contrary, I think that the proposal to do so is unjust,—unjust to the English official classes to whom immunity from false prosecutions is as the breath of their nostrils; unjust to the non-official classes, engaged in trade or other industries, who can only venture to carry on their affairs in the remote parts to which they repair, if they are secure against dishonest and false inventions of Native rivals and cliques; still more unjust to the poorer classes of European British subjects settled or sojourning in different parts of India, themselves the mainstay of our power, or the descendants of the men to whose prowess and self-sacrifice we

Englishmen owe the possession of the country to-day and Natives owe the peace, the security and the prosperity which they enjoy under our rule.

7. But it is not merely the wish for the removal of an implied slur which appears to me to be actuating the large number of Natives who are interesting themselves in the passing of this Bill. Every Native fully understands the reason of the law as it now is and marvels, *not* that European British subjects should cling so closely to this one privilege which they enjoy, but that they should be content with so small an exceptional right. But it is obvious to them that the abolition of this last shred of distinction between themselves and European British subjects will finally bring both races to one common level. The desire to accomplish this end is, I believe, the motive which is really influencing those members of the Native community who are so busy at calling together meetings and memorializing Government in favour of the Bill; for, as has been frequently remarked in the course of the discussions on the measure, the Native community at large has no real interest or concern in the proposed change in the law, the only Natives whom it can affect are the few Native Officers in the Civil Service. If then the Bill be passed, will the political effect of the accomplished degradation of European British subjects be for good or for evil to the Empire? To me it seems that it will be fraught with evil.

8. The administrative inconvenience which it is alleged that the present law causes and will cause increasingly hereafter is, I submit, very much exaggerated. To take our own Presidency—there are at present but two Native Covenanted Civilians, one a Sessions Judge and the other an Assistant Sessions Judge. Mr. Tagore has been a Sessions Judge for some years now. So far as I am aware, not a single case has yet arisen in which his disqualification to try European British subjects has given rise to inconvenience. The railway works to which the Honorable Mr. Gibbs alluded in his speech in the Legislative Council as about to be commenced at Karwar are, I understand, still in the future, and, should they be commenced shortly, there are many other stations in the Presidency to which Mr. Tagore might be appointed—with satisfaction, probably, to himself where there is little or no European population amongst whom criminal cases are likely to rise. Mr. Tagore will not, in the ordinary course, be a Sessions Judge for some years to come. The Native Civilians appointed in this country are as yet only at the bottom of the list. It is clear, therefore, that in this Presidency the present law is not likely to lead to any administrative inconvenience for some years yet.

9. Nor will the administrative inconvenience which it may cause ever be considerable or unavoidable. One-sixth of the Civil Service only will be Natives, even when the rules under the 33 Victoria, Chapter 3, are in full force. At the most, therefore, one-sixth of the Sessions Judges and of the District Magistrates at any given time may be Natives. Surely the Executive Government would have no difficulty in locating this number so as to prevent any such inconvenience as the framers of this Bill wish to obviate. But if this should be found impossible, the difficulty might readily be met by enacting that if the District Magistrate is a Native, the jurisdiction over European British subjects ordinarily exercisable by District Magistrates shall vest in the Sessions Judge and *vice versâ*. It is scarcely probable that the District Magistrate and the Sessions Judge of a district will ever both be Native Civilians, and at any rate such a contingency could always be avoided by the Executive Government.

10. Assuming, however, that the state of the law should occasionally necessitate the transfer of a Magisterial or Sessions case against a European British subject to another district, that would not, after all, be a very great hardship. The very works, which furnished the Honorable Mr. Gibbs with his most forcible illustration of the hardship likely to arise, would in a short time result in establishing railway communication between Kárwár and Dhárwár, and the journey from one place to the other would be no more than the journeys which hundreds of suitors have now to make from the Khaira District to Ahmedabad, from the Broach District to Surat, from the Kolába District to Thana, and from the Sholapur District to Poona. The fact has been quite overlooked that railways and other means of rapid communication are being spread over the length and breadth of the country, simultaneously with the appointment of an increasing number of Native Civilians, and that by the time any serious difficulty is ever likely to occur, the transfer of a case to the adjoining district or the deputation of a special officer to try the case on the spot will be a matter of but very slight inconvenience. But were the probable inconvenience as great as the supporters of the Bill conceive it to be, I would still be of opinion that even that amount of inconvenience is worth submitting to for the sake of maintaining inviolate the right of a European British subject to be tried by none but a European British subject. If it be admitted—as it is on both sides—that for an offence requiring to be punished with more than a year's imprisonment, a European British subject ought to be sent to the High Court for trial, it is surely not extending his privilege unreasonably to say that in order that he may be tried by a fellow-countryman, even for a minor offence, his case shall, when necessary, be transferred to the nearest convenient district.

11. I am, for these and other reasons, of opinion that the proposed change in the Code of Criminal Procedure is quite unnecessary, that it unjustly and needlessly deprives European British subjects of a highly valued privilege which they now enjoy without any injury or injustice to the Natives, and that it will be productive, politically, of evil rather than good effects.

12. But it is possible that in view of the controversy caused by the introduction of the Bill, it may be deemed desirable to pass a measure which without depriving European British subjects altogether of their privilege may yet not disappoint the hopes to which the proposals of the Supreme Government have given occasion in the Native community. Such a measure might be framed in more ways than one.

13. The simplest and, to my mind, the most satisfactory solution would be to extend the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates and Sessions Judges, as already proposed, but to give every European British subject the right of "appealing unto Cæsar," the right, that is, of claiming to be tried by a European British subject. No doubt, many trivial cases would occur in which an accused person would rather submit to be tried by the Native Magistrate on the spot and at once than incur the delay and trouble involved in a transfer of his case elsewhere. Many instances also would certainly occur, and as years roll on there is reason to hope that their number would increase, in which the character of the Native official would be so well established and so highly respected that his jurisdiction would be voluntarily accepted. But if the right of the accused, being a European British subject, to claim to be tried by a European British subject were reserved, the prospect of being *constrained* to submit to the jurisdiction of Native officials, which is all that is really objected to by European British subjects, would be removed.

14. It would not be absolutely necessary that in every case in which a European British subject thus claimed his right to be tried by a European British subject the case should be transferred to another district. If it came before a District Magistrate who was a Native, it might be transferred to the Sessions Judge of the same district; if he were a European British subject and *vice versâ*, the law empowering the High Court to give the necessary directions and providing that the powers ordinarily exercisable by the one officer shall be exercised by the other for the special purposes of any such case.

15. So far as concerns cases which come before a Sessions Judge, it has been suggested to me that there would perhaps be no objection to remove the disqualification of Native Officers, if section 460 of the present Criminal Procedure Code, which provides that—

"in every case triable by jury or with the aid of assessors, in which a European (not being a European British subject) or an American is the accused person, or one of the accused persons, not less than half the number of jurors or assessors shall, if practicable and if such European or American so claims, be Europeans or Americans"

were repealed and in its place the provisions of section 234 of Act X of 1872, which directed that every trial of any such person before a Court of Session "shall be by jury" were restored and extended so as to include European British subjects. I have never been able to understand why the law should place Europeans (not being European British subjects) and Americans in a less favourable position than European British subjects. Such a distinction appears to me to be utterly unreasonable and selfish. But whilst I agree that Europeans, whether British subjects or not, and Americans should be placed on the same footing, I do not think that it would be expedient to make trial by jury compulsory in all cases against European British subjects which come before a Sessions Court. The limit of punishment which can be awarded in such cases by a Sessions Court is one year's imprisonment, which shows that the offences to be tried by it are not of so serious a nature as would usually be submitted to a jury. Moreover, the majority of Sessions Judges having no experience in the trial of cases by jury would find the change of procedure difficult to adopt satisfactorily in an occasional and rare case. But the chief argument against the suggestion is, I think, that it would not be acceptable to the opposers of the Bill whose great objection is that the trial should be presided over by a Native officer, for the popular mind attributes great power to the presiding Judge, even in trials by jury.

16. Another and, in my opinion, a better expedient would be to require that whenever a European British subject is arraigned before a Native Officer, he shall be entitled to claim that a Magistrate or Judicial Officer of standing who is a European British subject shall be associated with him on the Bench, and that in the event of a difference of opinion, whether as to law or as to fact, provision should be made for a reference of the point to the High Court for decision. This plan would probably answer well as regards cases coming before Native District Magistrates and would also meet the difficulty in cases triable in Sessions Courts with the aid of assessors, but it would be unsuitable in the few cases triable by jury. This last objection to it might be surmounted by directing that all trials of European British subjects in Sessions Courts shall be with the aid of assessors, and that for them trial by jury shall be confined to the High Court. This would also remove the practical difficulty which is likely to occur in some places of obtaining a sufficient number of Europeans or Americans to form "not less than half the number of jurors," if the accused person claims to be tried by such a mixed jury under section 451 of the Code.

17. I have restricted my remarks and proposals in this report to Native District Magistrates and Native Sessions Judges, because in the debate on the Bill in Council it appears to have been the general opinion that legislation is only necessary for Native Civilians of that standing. In that opinion I entirely concur and would earnestly deprecate the grant of jurisdiction over European British subjects, even in any modified degree or form, to Native officials of lesser standing.

Dated 7th May, 1883.

From—Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, Bart., Bombay,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 2595, dated 18th ultimo.

2. I have ventured to delay my answer, not because I had not made up my mind, but in order to observe and watch the proceedings of the meeting of Saturday last in the Town Hall.

3. I have long felt that the present was a fair case for a just compromise being arrived at whereby the irritation felt by the European community on account of the proposed change in the existing law would be soothed down.

4. That the unjust and impolitic restriction placed by the existing law ought to be removed does not in my humble opinion admit of much doubt. Even among the non-official European community will, I am sure, be found many who will be ready to acknowledge that the disability complained of by the Native community is to them a sore grievance and humiliation, and not a mere fanciful or sentimental hardship.

5. As to section 1 of the Bill I think that all persons holding the office and powers of a Magistrate of the first class should be invested with the powers of a Justice of the Peace. I am humbly of opinion that no invidious distinctions ought to be made between civilian or non-civilian officers.

6. By the removal of the disability against all Magistrates of the first class who are Natives, one grand aim will have been achieved at one stroke. It does not seem expedient that such a vexed question should be again and again mooted. If the disability as regards civilian Magistrates of the first class alone be removed, as the Bill at present purposes to do, the question will sooner or later arise upon what principle the continuance of the disability against officers belonging to the uncovenanted branch of the service is to be justified. When such a question is once more started for public discussion, angry passions will again run high.

7. In my humble opinion much of the irritation will subside if the European British subject, whenever brought up before a Native Magistrate of the first class, were given the privilege of claiming at his option the benefit of another Magistrate of the first class, who should be a European British subject, being associated with such a Native Magistrate on the Bench.

8. As to sections 2, 3 and 4 of the Bill I have no observations to offer.

9. I venture to think that Magistrates of the District and Sessions Judges, whether Native or European, ought to be given the jurisdiction *ex-officio* over European British subjects, the former by reason of their high and responsible position, and the latter not only because of a similar reason, but also because at Sessions trials they are not sole and independent Judges.

10. In the case of all trials of European British subjects at a mufassal Sessions, I think the accused should at his option be given a trial by jury, of whom at least half should be Europeans. If they prefer a trial by the Sessions Judge with the aid of assessors, I do not see why they should not have their choice, but the privilege of trial by jury ought to be given to them out of respect for their national usages, and this would go far to quiet the minds of the European community, who are so loud in their complaints against a Native Sessions Judge.

Dated 19th April, 1883.

From—The Honourable B. Tyabjee,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your favour No. 2595 of 1883 (Judicial Department), dated the 18th April 1883, requesting my opinion on the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, and to reply thereto as follows.

I have very carefully watched the proceedings in the Supreme Legislative Council in reference to this Bill; I have also read and considered what has been said and written both for and against the Bill at various public meetings and in the newspapers and elsewhere, and I must say that I have formed a very strong opinion both as to the justice and the necessity of the Bill in question.

The principle on which the Bill is founded seems to me perfectly unassailable; the object of legal machinery being simply to secure impartial justice, it ought to have no reference to the race of the Judge, but only to his qualifications. The question ought never to be whether a Judge is a European or a Native, but simply whether he is fit for the exercise of the powers entrusted to him.

The present state of the law is not only anomalous but unsatisfactory. A Magistrate of a lower grade, and therefore presumably less qualified, exercises jurisdiction, because he is a European British subject; while his superior, who is presumably better qualified, is declared incompetent to exercise, because he is a native of this country. It seems to me that this state of the law ought not to be permitted to continue, unless there are overwhelmingly strong reasons for it. The reasons put forward are as follows: (1) That Native Magistrates and Judges are likely to be swayed by their race prejudices in the decision of cases against Europeans; (2) That a great deal of perjury prevails in India and that false charges are often brought against innocent parties; (3) The difficulty of procuring Counsel and the absence of

public criticism in the Mofussil; (4) That the Native Magistrates and Judges are not acquainted with the habits and customs of the European community; (5) That a sound State policy requires that the prestige of the ruling race should be kept up and that the subjection of Englishman to the jurisdiction of the Natives of India will diminish this prestige; (6) That no administrative difficulty has arisen and therefore the Bill is premature.

As to the race prejudices, I am in a position to know that no such prejudices exist in the minds of the Native community against Europeans. The Native Magistrates and Judges may possibly be slightly prejudiced in favour of the European accused, they are not likely to be prejudiced against them. We have the experience of the Presidency towns to guide us on this matter on the specific point, and of the whole of India in regard to the administration of justice in general. Native Judges exercise plenary civil jurisdiction in the Mofussil over all classes, including Europeans. They exercise plenary criminal jurisdiction over all the native races of India, but I have never heard it alleged that Hindu, Mussalman or Parsi Judges have been guilty of partiality towards members of their own race or actuated by race prejudices against members of the other native communities. I consider this to be a conclusive answer to the insinuation that they would deal unjustly in the case of Europeans.

As to perjury, false charges, absence of Counsel and public criticism. In the first place these difficulties have been greatly exaggerated, and in the next place they have no special application to Native Magistrates and Judges. These difficulties are more or less incidental to the administration of justice all over India. They apply with precisely the same force to European Judges. They also apply to all other cases, both civil and criminal, in which the natives of India are concerned. The substitution of a European for a Native Magistrate will not affect the question in the least. The European Judge cannot, merely by reason of his race, detect a true charge from a false one. In order to do so he must have natural ability, knowledge of the law and judicial experience. But these are precisely the qualifications which are to be found in Native Judges to whom this Bill applies. Besides, if the Native Judges possess these qualifications sufficiently to try cases of murder and pass sentences of death against the Natives of India, it seems unreasonable to suppose that they are unfit to exercise the small amount of jurisdiction which the Bill confers upon them in regard to European British subjects. The chances are that they would use more care and caution in disposing of a case against an Englishman than ever against their own countryman.

As to want of acquaintance with the habits and customs of the European community. This is not true with regard to Covenanted Civil Servants who have spent years in England, nor with regard to those who have been educated in England or mixed freely with the Europeans in India. Besides this is not a difficulty which deserves very serious consideration. The English Judges, even Judges of the High Court, know next to nothing about the masses of the native community. Many of them do not even understand their language, and yet no one has ever argued that they are unfit to try natives of India by reason of their imperfect knowledge of the native community. Although a special knowledge of the ways of the accused may not, of course, be without its use, it seems to me that what is really essential in the administration of criminal justice is a knowledge of the law and of the world at large, combined with ability to appreciate evidence, in other words the very qualifications which the Bill secures to the European community in a remarkably high degree.

As to prestige of the Ruling Race, I cannot see that it will be in the least impaired by this Bill. The Europeans will still possess the privilege of being tried by specially qualified Judges and Magistrates. All the safeguards as to appeal, &c., are still preserved to them. Further, I think that the real prestige of the ruling race depends much more upon just and generous laws than upon the exception of the Europeans from the ordinary tribunals of justice.

As to administrative inconvenience, I think it is already grave and will become more and more intolerable every year. Further, it is unjust to compel a native of this country to incur the expense of going to a distant tribunal for redress because the Magistrate within reach is incapacitated merely by a race distinction.

On a careful consideration of these circumstances I have come to the unhesitating conclusion that no sound argument has been urged either against the principle or the details of this Bill, but I am convinced that there are strong affirmative reasons in its favour.

I think in the first place that it is highly impolitic to introduce questions of race in the administration of justice. I also think that the present state of the law draws an invidious distinction between European and Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, which ought not to be tolerated. I am also of opinion that trial of European British subjects exclusively by Judges of their own race is calculated to bring discredit on the administration of justice and to produce the impression that the anomaly is maintained, not so much for securing impartial justice, as for screening European offenders.

I do not think the Bill is at all premature. It is impossible to postpone these necessary amendments without serious inconvenience in the administration of justice. The Bill must—if not now—at least in 2, 3, 5, or 10 years hence, pass into law. In the mean time the friction between the races will go on increasing. The Native Covenanted Civil Servants who have attained high judicial posts must feel naturally annoyed at their subordinates enjoying more extensive jurisdiction than themselves. The moral effect of passing the Bill now, when it will be accepted as a measure of justice, cannot fail to be beneficial upon the native populations, whereas passing it 10 years hence will be regarded as nothing more than a concession to irresistible popular agitation.

I am convinced that the stability of the British Empire depends far more upon just and equal laws and upon a generous treatment of the people than upon anything else; and I am respectfully of opinion that this Bill is nothing more than the necessary outcome of the enlightened policy pursued by the British Government for the last 50 years, and that it will materially assist in promoting feelings of loyalty and attaching the people to the Throne.

But if the introduction of the Bill was in the first instance wise and politic, as I think it undoubtedly was, the passing of it now has become a matter of absolute political necessity. The moral effect upon the native populations of shelving or withdrawing the Bill, under the present circumstances, cannot fail to be pernicious. Such an act will be looked upon by them as a surrender of right and reason to passion and prejudice, as a triumph of turbulent agitation—however wrong—over calm and respectful representations, however just and well founded. It is impossible not to see the danger of such an idea taking hold of the minds of the 250 millions of the natives of this country.

I would therefore humbly, but strongly, advise the Government to pass this Bill into law, not only on account of its own intrinsic merits, but also on account of the exigencies of the situation.

Dated 4th May, 1883.

From—The Hon'ble Badrudin Tyabji, High Court, Bombay,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I regret that I have not been able to reply to your letters of the 23rd and 25th April fully before to-day. I have, however, been so busy during the last few days that I have scarcely had time to look about me.

I may say at once that I fully appreciate the difficulty in which the Government is placed, and I heartily sympathise with the object which the Bombay Government seems to have in view, *viz.*, to bring about a settlement of this vexed question in a manner not only equitable in itself, but with due regard to the feelings of the important communities concerned on each side.

In attempting a compromise two points must be carefully borne in mind: 1st, the necessity of removing all invidious distinctions between European and Native Magistrates and Judges of *the same position* as far as practicable, and 2ndly, the removal of all exceptional provisions calculated to produce the impression—rightly or wrongly—that Europeans are to have, to use Macaulay's words, "something more or something less than justice," or even justice of a kind different from that meted out to the Natives of India. Bearing these two points in mind I have satisfied myself that the proposals mentioned by you may be accepted as a reasonable compromise by both parties to the controversy.

So far as Sessions Judges and District Magistrates are concerned, your proposals are the same as those in Mr. Ilbert's Bill, and it would be impossible to interfere with them in the slightest degree without trenching upon the principle of the Bill. As I understand, however, the difference between Mr. Ilbert's Bill and your proposals is this—that whereas the former would merely authorise the Government to appoint first class Magistrates who are members of the Covenanted Civil Service or of the Native Civil Service or Assistant Commissioners or Cantonment Magistrates to be Justices of the Peace, you would make *all first class* Magistrates to be *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace just like the Sessions Judges and District Magistrates, with this proviso that under special circumstances the District Magistrate may associate a European Magistrate to sit with the Native Magistrate. After the best consideration I can give to the subject I think your proposal is an improvement on Mr. Ilbert's Bill, both from the European as well as the Native point of view. It ought to satisfy the Native community because it will not only remove the mark of inferiority from Native Magistrates, but also all grounds for even suspicion as to partiality, and it ought to satisfy the Europeans because they will be comforted by the presence of a member of their own community on the bench.

I do not think there is any danger of the Natives clamouring for the bench system *in addition* to the provisions in Mr. Ilbert's Bill.

As regards the jury, I see no objection to it if the option is given to all prisoners tried before the Sessions Court. The uniformity of a system of laws is highly desirable, and no exceptional provisions in favour of a particular race ought to be made, if it can possibly be avoided. Your suggestion on this point seems to me to be perfectly harmless, and if you think it would conciliate the European community, I for one would gladly accept it.

With reference to the general principle of the Bill I have already stated my views both to the Government—in the Press—and at the public meeting. You say that I have not dealt with the strongest of all objections, *viz.*, "the absolute unwillingness of Europeans to be tried by persons not of their own race as shown by them in whatever part of the globe they have settled,—Turkey, Egypt, China, Japan, &c." Now with all deference this unwillingness to be tried by Turkish, Egyptian, Chinese and Japanese Magistrates is founded not upon the difference of *race* but upon the proved incapacity or corruption of the judicial officers in those countries. Race has nothing to do with it. It is the quality of justice administered in those countries that has compelled Her Majesty's Government to secure special treaty rights not merely for British-born subjects, but ALL subjects of Her Majesty, whether natives of India or of England. Moreover there is nothing to prevent the Consular Courts from being presided over by Asiatic subjects of Her Majesty, provided they are fit for the post. If the

objection had been founded on mere difference of race, and not of qualifications, you would have expected similar arrangements in France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Russia, &c., all of which countries are peopled by races different from the English. Further, look at Ceylon—the Native Magistrates there exercise jurisdiction over Europeans, no less than over Natives. Again, I understand that in the French and Portuguese territories in India, no such distinction is recognized.

Although, therefore, I can understand and appreciate the feelings of the European community on this point, I cannot see any just or valid foundation for them.

Dated 23rd April, 1883.

From—John Fleming, Esq.,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your No. 2595 of the 18th instant, in which you inform me that the Governor in Council will be glad to have my opinion on the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

In reply I beg to state that I entirely approve of the decision of Government "to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based on merely race distinction."

That there is no immediate necessity for the change is in a sense true, but I cannot agree with those who regard the present disability of Native Magistrates as a mere sentimental grievance unworthy of serious attention.

To withhold from the Native Members of the Civil Service powers granted to Europeans is to maintain an invidious and to the former a humiliating distinction, calculated to lower their self-respect, and to rouse the indignation and resentment of the educated classes throughout the country; and I am therefore of opinion that Government has acted wisely in bringing forward this measure voluntarily, and anticipating an agitation, which is certain to come, if it be withheld.

With regard to the opposition which is being offered to the Bill, it is no doubt matter of serious concern that almost the whole non-official European community has been arrayed against it; but I respectfully submit that unless better reasons be advanced than any yet offered to the public, the removal of judicial disqualification based on race distinction should not be delayed.

The ascendancy of Englishmen in India will not be maintained by their hedging themselves round with privileges; and when men talk of their rights as members of the conquering race, they forget that every forward step in the British advance in India has been made with the aid of Native allies, and that our position in the country is largely dependant upon the good-will of the people.

It is natural that a man should prefer to be tried by one of his own race and speech, but it is simply absurd that a European should regard it as an indignity to be placed under the jurisdiction of a Native Member of the Civil Service.

As regards the fears expressed by the opponents of the Bill, that Native Judges are likely to favour their countrymen, and that false charges will be encouraged, they seem to me exaggerated and to a large extent without any tangible foundation.

It may be admitted as probable that the common people will more readily bring charges against Europeans (be they true or false) before a Native than a European Judge; but what justification is there for presupposing that the one will deal less impartially with such cases than the other?

The conduct of the Native Magistrates in the Presidency cities has not been impugned, and the suggestion that they would act differently if placed in some remote place in the interior and not subjected to the constant light of public opinion is a mere assumption.

For my own part, a long and intimate friendly intercourse with educated men in this country leads me to believe that the natives will do no discredit to the Service to which they have been admitted.

They are proud of the position they have attained, and will strive to justify their title to it as acting up to the noble traditions of the Service.

Since the beginning of this year I have been twice in the North-West and the Punjab, once before and once after the promulgation of this Bill, and on both occasions I saw a good deal of non-official Europeans and Eurasians; and I am satisfied from what I heard that the hostility to the Bill has been excited, not so much by the Bill itself as by the previous action of Government with respect to appointments of men of European race to the Uncovenanted Service and to the Public Works Department.

Intense indignation is not unjustly felt, at the declared preference of so-called natives over men of European origin, born and reared in the country, and I respectfully urge that Government should at once cancel all orders basing disqualification for employment on race distinctions.

I submit that the Government should recognise *fitness* only in making its appointments, engaging the best men it can get, irrespective of race and creed. At the same time I can

see no reasonable objection to a preference being given, other things being equal, to a *Native* over a *European*, meaning by the former a man born and brought up in the country whether of pure European or mixed blood or not, and by the latter, a man who has come from beyond seas.

I omitted to say above that I consider a European has a right to expect that those who have jurisdiction over him should thoroughly understand his language.

In the case of Native Members of the Uncovenanted Civil Service, this is guaranteed by the severe examination they have successfully passed; but in the case of the Native Civil Service it is probable that men will be sometimes appointed whose knowledge of English is imperfect, and from such jurisdiction over Europeans should be withheld.

Dated 23rd April 1883.

From—RAGHUNATH NARAYEN KHOTE,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay.

With reference to your letter No. 2595 of 18th instant, asking for my opinion on the proposed amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I have the honour to submit the following for the information of His Excellency in Council, as my humble view of the subject which His Excellency in Council has been pleased to refer for my opinion.

2. This amendment is but the natural outcome of the wise and benign policy of the British Government as proclaimed from time to time to Her Majesty's subjects in India. Time was when education had scarcely made any progress among the people of this country; when peculiar criminal laws had to be locally administered in different parts of the country quite unsuited to the usages and traditions of European British subjects; and when perhaps for the consolidation of the power and the preservation of the prestige of the British rule in the peculiar circumstances of a newly-subjugated and half-civilized country, a partial exemption in favour of Europeans from the ordinary local tribunals, and especially those presided over by natives, and the provision of exclusive criminal tribunals and an exclusive criminal procedure were necessary. But the conditions have now completely changed,—education has spread, and is spreading far and wide; a century and more has rolled over the conquered country; the consolidation of the Empire has been accomplished and its stability placed upon a permanent basis; a uniform Penal Code and law of procedure (with some exceptions only as to the law of procedure in the three Presidency Towns) have been promulgated throughout the length and breadth of the country; the removal of all distinctions of caste, colour or creed has been repeatedly proclaimed in statutes issuing from the Imperial Parliaments, and in Royal Proclamations issuing from the Throne. And the time has long since come when all distinctions between the trial of Europeans and of Natives ought to be altogether abolished.

3. Any distinctions favouring one class of subjects over another, in the present progressive state of the country, deeply wound the growing intelligence of the people, who plainly perceive and keenly feel such distinctions as so many violations of the plighted faith of the British Nation. Such distinctions are obviously mischievous, for they alienate the affections of the people, and are in direct opposition to the noble principle and policy of the British Government, *i.e.*, to rule India not by mere force, but through the affections of the people.

4. I am aware, on the other hand, that distinctions in favour of European British subjects have long existed and must needs be cherished by them as their vested birthright. It would convulse those who have hitherto enjoyed these to withdraw them altogether and at one stroke. This must be effected gradually as time and opportunity may favour the enforcement of the declared principle and policy of the British rule.

5. But the proposed amendment is indeed only a comparatively small advance in this direction. It only contemplates the placing of certain trusted and experienced Native Officers of Government in the exercise of the judicial office upon an equal footing with Europeans, and no more—but not the subjection of the British-born European indiscriminately to all the ordinary tribunals of the country which administer Criminal Justice to the people at large, nor to assimilate the peculiar procedure devised in his behalf to the ordinary procedure adopted far and wide in respect of the entire people. The proposed amendment is thus in itself a step of no large import, but is important in so far as it recognizes and carries out, even though it be to a limited extent, the grand principle of Government which underlies all administration in this country.

6. The opposition made by non-official European classes is to a great extent the result of short-sightedness and class prejudice, and especially of false notions of pride of race and superiority over Natives of this country.

7. The Europeans, who are thus opposing the measure, if they merely divest themselves of the notions which now cloud their judgment, will at once admit that under Native Officials they are likely to receive, if possible, more consideration than even under European Officials: for the former will naturally be careful to bear in mind, when trying European offenders, that their actions will be vigilantly watched in every direction, and they would rather err in leaning towards, than in being arrayed against, the European offender. All the fears entertained by those who oppose the Bill are more imaginary than real.

8. It is a matter well worthy of note that while Europeans profess the extremest aversion to being tried by natives *in theory, in practice* they frequently seek trial at the hands of Natives rather than of European Judges. On the 18th of this month prisoner Dwyer, a European soldier, was charged with the murder of a native up-country, and was put on his trial at the Criminal Sessions at the High Court just closed. He was alleged to be insane, but the European Counsel who defended him used his best endeavours to secure a Native Jury. He not only did not avail himself of the privilege which his client possessed of claiming a Jury, the majority of whom should be Europeans, but actually challenged no less than eight European Jurors, and he might have succeeded in getting an entirely Native Jury, had the law permitted his challenging more than eight Jurors without assigning reasons. I might quote as well another recent instance in which all the European offenders in a certain case at Allahabad preferred being tried by a Native Judge to being tried by a European.

9. The only inference that can be drawn from these and other similar instances is, that frequently European offenders do not *in practice* object to their trial before a Native Magistrate, although *in theory*, under false notions of superiority and pride of race, they may insist upon their right to be tried by Judges of their own nationality.

10. The oppositionists, too, have not even shrunk from using the argument against this Bill, that although highly educated, the natives do not possess that rectitude of character which is necessary for the impartial administration of justice. This assertion it is hardly necessary to combat, but if the Bill be now abandoned in consequence of their clamour on this ground, it would be inflicting undeserved degradation on the natives and attaching to them a cruel stigma, for they would thereby practically be proclaimed to the world as wanting in uprightness and moral character.

11. In conclusion, therefore, I beg leave to state that in my opinion the righteous and impartial policy of Her Majesty's Government towards India cannot be perfected so long as the oft-given generous promises of equal administration without distinction of caste, creed or colour is not carried out out in its integrity. The present proposal, therefore, to place trusted and experienced Native Officials on a par with their European brethren in the Service, so far as their powers relate to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, is a step tending in the right direction; and is not only in perfect unison with the generous and righteous policy England maintains in the government of India, but is imperatively demanded by that policy.

Dated 26th April, 1883.

From—MR. RAGHUNATH NARAIN KHOTE, Bombay,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I received yesterday your demi-official of the 23rd instant. I have already submitted my views on Mr. Ilbert's Bill generally in answer to the official reference which His Excellency was pleased to make to me. I had then scarcely any conception of the modified proposals, which were under the consideration of Government, and which are set out in yours under reply.

I have given to these proposals my best consideration, and taken as a whole I believe they are eminently calculated to suit the present exigency. My firm belief is that the scheme you have defined will soothe the irritation of the European population, while it will remove the evil complained of by the Natives. I take leave to deal with each proposal in order:—

(1).—District Magistrates, Native or European, doubtless must be given the jurisdiction *ex-officio*, but we all know that in practice they will have few or no opportunities of exercising it. They will enjoy the jurisdiction more as a compliment to their responsible position than from any actual need for the exercise of it, except in very rare cases. My impression is that in practice they now exercise original jurisdiction in exceptional cases only.

(2) & (3).—All Sessions Judges, whether Native or European, ought, I think, to have the jurisdiction *ex-officio*, but it would be to my mind desirable to make it imperative that they should be aided in such cases by a jury, of whom at least half should be Europeans. The same rule should apply to Assistant Sessions Judges. A trial with the aid of assessors would not, I think, give complete satisfaction. A trial by jury so constituted would have an almost magical effect on the European mind. I am persuaded that the opportunity might be taken to enlarge somewhat the limit of sentence, which it is competent to Sessions Courts to pass upon European culprits. The present limit of one year appears to me to be ridiculously low.

(4).—The Bench system as regards Magistrates of the first class would become a valuable amendment to Mr. Ilbert's Bill. It would satisfy all parties, and would have the additional advantage of removing the invidious distinction between civilian and non-civilian Magistrates of the first class. It would give greater confidence in the tribunal, when both concurred in the verdict or sentence, and the provision for a reference to the High Court in case of difference of opinion would remove all room for complaint. There would, I take it, be the remedy by appeal in case of conviction as at present.

Thus altogether the scheme appears to me an extremely satisfactory one, and I venture to hope that it will eventually find its way in the shape of amendment into Mr. Ilbert's Bill.

I am going to take advantage of the opportunity I have offered to me in convening the meeting next Saturday to set forth the outline of the scheme for the consideration of the speakers, and I will avail myself of the liberty held out to me to say that I have reason to believe such a scheme is at present under the consideration of Government. I will take care to indicate that nothing is known as to what conclusions Government may eventually arrive at.

I will also take the liberty of using the considerations, which you have given me as your own personal views. I agree with them *in toto*; and in putting them forward I fear I shall be using your own language for the simple reason that in conveying the same thoughts I cannot find any better of my own.

I saw Mr Badrudin this afternoon, but he had no time, so we shall meet tomorrow again to compare notes.

Dated 24th April 1883.

From—MAHADEV WASUDEV BARVE,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

With reference to your letter No. 2595, dated 18th instant, I have the honour to append a brief statement of my views on the "Native Jurisdiction Bill," a copy of which was enclosed in the letter under reply.

I cannot help thanking His Excellency in Council for giving me an opportunity of expressing my sentiments on the important Bill which has attracted so much public attention.

Notes on the Honourable Mr. Ilbert's "Native Jurisdiction Bill" by Mahadev Wasudev Barve, dated 24th April 1883.

The Bill has originated in a desire to remove certain legal disabilities under which the Native members of the Civil Service are placed in the matter of trying European British-born subjects. Its object is to place all the classes of Her Majesty's subjects in this country on a footing of equality in the eyes of law. The old law of Europe seems to have recognised distinctions between the followers of different religions, and the restrictions in the Indian law, now proposed to be dispensed with, are evidently a reminiscence of that law. In the early days of the British rule in this country these protective restrictions were excusable and, indeed, desirable, owing to, among other causes, the ignorance of Natives to understand the spirit of the English law which is so remarkable for its tender regard for the liberty and honour of an individual. Circumstances, however, have now vastly changed. The spread of English education among the Natives has raised their status, and they are found qualified for admission to the ranks of the Civil Service. Several of them, when invested with powers like those now proposed to be conferred upon them, have exhibited on the Bench moral rectitude in no way inferior to that of their English compeers. Indeed, I am not aware of any instance in which a Native has abused these powers to the prejudice of any European subject. Surely, such a case, if any, would have been pointed out and commented upon. The whole animated controversy which the Bill has given rise to, is at least *singularly* silent as to any instances of abuse of this sort.

But the desire to make the necessary amendments in the present law appears to have been prompted, not only by the improved tone observable in the official ability and rectitude of Natives, but by certain administrative difficulties which threaten to make legal proceedings in cases (for which the present Bill is intended to make a satisfactory provision) *clumsy* and circuitous, not to say that it would be inconvenient to the public and unnecessarily humiliating to the "pick and cream" of the Native Civil Service. The exclusion of Natives from the exercise of powers which are conferred upon European members of the Civil Service, of their own and sometimes of inferior standing, must have been a source of incessant uneasiness to them. These powers, considered by themselves, are not among the cherished objects of the ambition of any thoughtful Native in this country; but, when viewed in connection with other privileges which are liberally bestowed upon them, they have naturally become covetable objects, not for their own sake, but because exclusion from them is looked upon as a badge of inferiority.

If the amendments of the present Bill had been proposed about a year ago, when the whole Criminal Procedure Code was revised, they would probably have not evoked anything like the present violent and ungraceful opposition. Those who have studied carefully the history of English legislation in this country, which has always been animated with a desire to make the law progressive and equable, by curtailing provisions which savour of race prejudices and distinctions, have acquired such a confidence in the instinctive uprightness of British statesmanship that they do not feel any hesitation in saying that sooner or later the reform intended to be introduced by the present Bill will be carried out. But if on the present occasion the Bill were allowed to drop, simply for the interested opposition of a very small section of the community, it would show on the part of Government a painful disregard to the feelings of the people of this country, the more so especially as the opponents of the

Bill have not been able to show any reason for giving it up, except its being unnecessary and impolitic. But the necessity of the measure, as mentioned above, has been practically felt; and as to the complaint that the measure is impolitic, it may be more correctly said that the withholding of the said powers from Natives would be still more impolitic.

I am humbly of opinion that the time for extending the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates has arrived, and that as the powers under the amended law would be conferred only on such Native members of the Covenanted and Uncovenanted Civil Service as would show themselves deserving of them by several years' service of approved integrity and ability, the danger which it is alleged would result to the people of the class over whom the jurisdiction would be exercised, is simply imaginary and unfounded.

Dated 28th April 1883.

From—MR. PESTANJI JAHANGHIR,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government, Political and Judicial Departments, Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter No. 2595 of the 18th instant, in which you desire me, by the direction of His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor, to submit my opinion on the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. As the law at present stands, the exercise of criminal jurisdiction over what are called "European British subjects," outside the Presidency towns, is limited to Judicial Officers who themselves are European British subjects. In other words, those servants of the Crown in India who do not fall within the definition of "European British subjects" and who are chiefly Natives of the country are, though they are appointed to high posts and are deemed competent to discharge high judicial and administrative functions, declared incompetent by law to exercise criminal jurisdiction even of a very limited character over European British subjects outside the Presidency towns.

3. This disability arising out of race distinction is not only considered as opposed to the fundamental principle underlying the administration of the British Government in India, but is also felt as the source from which increasing administrative inconvenience will spring.

4. The Bill now before the Legislature proposes to do away with this artificial disability created by law, and to place the exercise of criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects on a basis which will be differentiated not as heretofore by distinction of race, but by distinction between the two great branches of the Civil Service, *viz.*, the Covenanted and Uncovenanted, the former including what is known as the statutory Native Civil Service. Assistant Commissioners in non-regulation provinces and Cantonment Magistrates are also proposed to be included in the category.

5. Further, though the disqualification arising from race is sought to be removed, the conferring of the powers necessary for the exercise of criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects is proposed, except in the case of Session Judges and District Magistrates who are to be Justices of the Peace ex-officio, to be permissive. It is left to the discretion of the Executive Governments to appoint to the office of the Justice of the Peace only such of the persons belonging to the classes named, as they may think fit.

6. This Bill, so far as it relates to the proposal of giving powers to Native Magistrates and Judges, has met with fierce opposition, chiefly from the non-official European community of India.

7. The Bill is opposed on the ground that under its provisions the personal liberty of European British subjects incurs grave risk of being jeopardised, and that European enterprise and capital of which India stands in so much need will be scared away from the country by such a feeling of insecurity.

8. The reasons assigned for this apprehension generally are, (1) incapacity of Native Magistrates and Judges to understand European manners and customs and ways of thought, (2) liability of Native Magistrates and Judges to be swayed by race prejudices, (3) prevalence of perjury and existence of a custom to get up false charges against innocent persons in India, and (4) absence of publicity and public opinion and of proper legal assistances in the mofussal.

9. These arguments and others of a more or less similar nature have been urged on the one hand and answered on the other with force and ability both in and out of Council, and in India and England generally. In fact, all that can be said on both sides of the question has been said; and I do not think there is now any new light to be thrown on the discussion of the subject.

10. I shall not therefore weary His Excellency the Governor with a repetition of what has already been said and said so well, but content myself with respectfully expressing my opinion in a general way that there is little or no real force in any of the arguments advanced against the Bill as above stated; and that the apprehensions entertained as to the insecurity in which the lives and liberties of European British subjects will be placed by the proposed measure and as to all the evil consequences arising therefrom, are groundless.

11. The existing legal safeguards in favour of European British subjects, the education and the moral surroundings of the Native Officials on whom the choice of powers will fall; the trial of mental and moral qualifications they will have undergone before being invested with powers; their skill in detecting frauds and falsehoods acquired from a course of previous

judicial training and from their more intimate knowledge of Native habits and thoughts; a vigilant supervision on the part of Government; a jealous watchfulness on the part of the European community generally; the knowledge on the part of the Native Judges and Magistrates that they are watched and are on their trial; the network of railways and electric wires all over the country which have annihilated all difficulties of time and space; the growth of an intelligent public opinion even amongst the Natives of the mofussal,—all these militate against the supposition of anything likely to go wrong in the way apprehended.

12. Similar fears were expressed and evils predicted when the so-called Black Act was passed in 1836; but time has proved them to be all groundless.

13. It is said that in Her Majesty's possession of Ceylon the Natives of the place exercise criminal jurisdiction over Europeans. If so, we have not heard of any evils arising out of such exercise of jurisdiction; and there is not a small influx of European enterpise and capital in Ceylon.

14. Other non-Asiatic nationalities such as Americans, French, Germans, Italians, &c., though they are generally akin to European British subjects in religion, habit and thought, and are not distinguishable from them in the eyes of the Natives of India, are not exempted from the jurisdiction, civil or criminal, of Native Judges and Magistrates; and it is not shown that they have suffered any inconvenience or hardship from the operation of such jurisdiction over them. And it appears somewhat inconsistent that the opponents of the Bill, while they evince so much anxiety for the safety of European British subjects, should not extend a tithe of their solicitude for the protection of other classes of Europeans and Americans, who have so many ties of affinities with them and who will equally be the objects of persecution or victims of incapacity at the hands of Native Magistrates and Judges.

15. But it appears that the opposition to the measure proposed arises not so much from a rational conviction of any serious dangers apprehended from its operation as from a sentiment that it would be *infra dig* and loss of prestige for the people of the ruling race to submit themselves to the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates and Judges. It is also just possible that the classes from which European criminals are drawn have a lurking fear that if the present Bill were to become law, justice will overtake them more speedily than under the present system which is productive of delay and inconvenience to all parties concerned.

16. The feeling of race superiority is a natural feeling and cannot be altogether ignored; and it must also be admitted that the preservation of English prestige is desirable from many points of view. But the English are eminently a practical and just people; and I have no doubt that when passions are subsided and when they come to learn by experience that a certain class of Her Majesty's servants who have been invested with certain powers have proved themselves worthy of exercising those powers, and that no harm has come out of the exercise of those powers, they will not be slow to extend the right hand of fellowship to their Native brethren. They will not be slow to recognize the change time has wrought, and to declare that it is alike unfair and inconsistent with the just principles of their own Government that a class of Crown Servants, otherwise qualified in every respect, should simply from the accident of their nationality, be under a perpetual ban of ignominy which is subversive of self-respect and a high moral tone.

17. I remember the time when there was a strong prejudice against Natives being made solicitors and barristers; and I also remember the days when it was considered simply blasphemous for a European to place himself under Native medical treatment. But I have seen these prejudices wearing off in my own lifetime. Now Native solicitors and barristers stand shoulder to shoulder and work side by side with their European brethren in the dispensation of Her Majesty's justice. European solicitors send briefs to Native barristers and *vice versa*. European solicitors and barristers plead before Native Judges. Native Surgeons don Her Majesty's uniform, and not only European gentlemen but also their families avail themselves of Native medical aid.

18. In the same way I feel sure that the honest English instinct will assert its ascendancy, and the prejudice against Europeans appearing for their trial before Native Magistrates and Judges will wear out in course of time; and perhaps after some years it will be wondered why so much enthusiasm, which might have been reserved for a better cause, was exhausted upon this little Bill.

19. In these circumstances, I humbly think that Government, in order to show every due deference to the feelings and sentiments of the large and important European community of India—important both to Government and the people of the country—should, for the present, introduce the measure in such a tentative form as the gradual working of it will in time disarm it of its fears and suspicions, and convince it that Government, while remaining loyal to the fundamental principles of the British rule in India, and while bound to remove all administrative inconvenience, will take no step which is not called by a change in time and circumstances. With this view, I would respectfully propose that powers to try European British subjects outside the Presidency towns in the limited way authorized by law should, for the present, as far as Natives are concerned, be conferred only on those Native servants who have entered or may hereafter enter the Covenanted Civil Service by open competition in England. The high test of proficiency they pass, their residence in the midst of Englishmen in England for a number of years, and their observation of English manners and customs and ways of thought will and ought to be a guarantee that they will properly discharge the functions entrusted to them. When this arrangement is found to work satisfactorily, as I have no doubt it will be,

and when further administrative inconvenience is felt, the process of giving powers to Natives may be carried further without, it is hoped, much opposition on the part of the European community of India.

20. This brings me to the consideration of what is called the "thin-end-of-the-wedge" argument. It appears to me that the fears, or I would rather say the anticipations, of the European community on this point are not unfounded. The present Government can speak only for itself. It cannot bind its successors. And it is impossible in the nature of things that in the varying vicissitudes of human affairs a kind of compact can be made and maintained for ever against any change whatever in some particular respect. An enlightened and progressive administration, whose *motto* is equality of status before the law, cannot look with complacency or indifference upon such personal laws or class privileges as may be found to hamper the good government of the country. All that the Government can say will be that it will make no change lightly, make no change which will not be called by the necessities of the administration.

21. The conclusions then at which I have arrived and which I have ventured to submit above with all respect and deference are—

1. That the principle of the Bill is perfectly sound and is in consonance with that lofty standard which the British nation has in its enlightened wisdom adopted in the Government of India.
2. That there are no grounds for apprehending any evil consequences from this measure to the lives and liberties of European British subjects or to the material development of India.
3. That the opposition to the measure has arisen more from a sentiment that it will be derogatory to the prestige of European British subjects to submit themselves for trial to Native Magistrates and Judges than from any other cause.
4. That this feeling on the part of a large and important community is, in present circumstances, entitled to all reasonable respect.
5. That this feeling will be temporary and will disappear as similar feelings in connection with other questions have disappeared under a calmer and juster appreciation of things.
6. That when Englishmen in India come to know by actual experience that the powers conferred upon a certain class of Native servants have been wisely used and that no mischief has arisen from the exercise of those powers, their natural instinct of justice and fair play will not recoil from recognizing the fact and admitting that it is, for the sake of a sentiment, as unfair to Government that their administrative work should be obstructed as to a deserving class of Her Majesty's servants that they should be branded with an everlasting stigma of infamy.
7. That to bring Englishmen in this frame of mind, it is desirable and expedient to proceed tentatively.
8. That with this object in view the desired powers may for the present be conferred on those Native Officers who have entered or may hereafter enter the ranks of the Covenanted Civil Service by open competition in England.
9. That when this arrangement is found to work satisfactorily, as no doubt it will be, the fears and suspicions now entertained will, to a great extent, be removed, and the system may be extended further as only administrative necessities may dictate.

22. Before concluding, I would refer to one point more, and I refer to it not as an objection or suggestion from me but as a point which is not clear to me. Under the Bill in question 4 classes of officers are eligible for the office of the Justice of the Peace:—(1) members of the Covenanted Civil Service, (2) members of the statutory Native Civil Service, (3) Assistant Commissioners in non-regulation provinces, and (4) Cantonment Magistrates. Section 7 of the Bill provides that "nothing in this Act shall affect the validity of any appointment made before the passing of this Act." Thus the powers as Justices of the Peace of European Military and other officers who may now be in the positions of Commissioners, Political Agents, Session Judges, District Collectors, &c., will not be affected; but such officers appointed after the passing of the Act will not be eligible for the office of Justice of the Peace. Unless, therefore, it be intended that all such officers, whether in regulation or non-regulation provinces, will in future be filled by members of the Civil Service only, it would appear that the Legislature, while trying to curtail the area of administrative inconvenience on the one hand, is, on the other, extending it, by placing a large class of servants of rank and position beyond the pole of jurisdictional powers.

Dated 26th April 1883.

From—K. T. TELANG, Esq., High Court, Bombay,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 2595 of 1883, Judicial Department, dated the 18th instant, requesting me to furnish Government with my opinion on the Bill for amending the Criminal Procedure Code, 1882, now before the Legislative Council

of His Excellency the Viceroy. And in reply to that letter, I beg to state my opinion as follows.

Dealing with the question raised by the Bill, first as one of principle only, I own that I cannot see any possible ground on which its main object can be assailed. That object is not only in complete consonance with the principles which have been laid down as the guiding principles of British administrative policy in this country during the past half century; it is also in consonance with the lessons which all the past history of the world teaches us. The more earnest and thorough-going the attempts made to weld into one corporate body with co-equal rights and privileges any two races standing in the position of governors and governed, the greater the stability of the Government, and the greater the permanent happiness of all classes of the population. This seems to me to be so manifest, and is, indeed, so far conceded by the opponents of the Bill in question, that it is quite unnecessary to labour that point any further. The point which is really raised for consideration by the opponents of the Bill, is not the propriety of passing the Bill in the abstract, but the propriety of passing it under the present circumstances of the country. I venture to think that there is nothing in those circumstances to take the Bill out of the operation of the general principle above adverted to.

For what are those circumstances? It is said that to invest even a small number of Native Magistrates, as this Bill proposes to do, with jurisdiction to try Europeans accused of criminal offences, is to interfere, to some extent, with the foundations on which British power rests in this country. With all due respect for the quarter from which this argument comes, I must say that I find it very difficult to consider it seriously. No one is more ready to admit than I am that in the present circumstances of the country the existence of British rule in India is absolutely necessary for her advancing in civilization. But I cannot see that the foundations of that rule are in any way injuriously affected by the provisions of the Bill under consideration. The fundamental principle laid down by successive Indian authorities for years past, from provincial Governors to the Houses of Parliament, is that Natives of this country should be associated, gradually, it may be, but still steadily, and more and more largely, in its administration. And the contention that the very short step now proposed to be taken in furtherance of that principle will in any way dislocate, so to speak, the foundations of British power here, is a contention which can only be accepted by one who is prepared to condemn as short-sighted politicians all the most eminent Englishmen who have studied Indian questions —from Elphinistone and Malcolm to Fawcett and John Bright. The British Empire in India does not rest on European placemen for its pillars. And if it did, it is not so weak and tottering that the addition of a few Native placemen or even their substitution for European placemen, need shake it in the slightest degree. But then it is said that the prestige of the British name will be gone if European accused persons are made triable by Native Magistrates, and British prestige is a most potent factor in the stability of British power in India. When the notion of prestige is made to do duty in this way, one may, I think, be pardoned for treating it very much as Carlyle did. But the truth is that the prestige of the British name, which ought to be sedulously guarded, is not the prestige of its might, but rather of its capacity and its readiness to do right. The former will be of but little avail if the latter is sacrificed. And how can the sacrifice of the latter be avoided if in the face of the great Proclamation of 1858, such distinctions as those which this Bill seeks to remove are kept up year after year and decade after decade, without even any slight and gradual interference? How can that sacrifice be avoided if the Government, which lays down an inflexible rule about the right of Mahar boys to go if they please for their education to the nearest public school, will nevertheless prevent Native complainants from going for redress against a European to the nearest of the established public tribunals of the land? But further if there is anything in the argument from prestige, it is conclusively answered by two observations from two different points of view. First, under the law as it stands, and as it has stood now for many years, in all civil cases wherever instituted, and in criminal cases in the Presidency towns, Europeans are already subject to the jurisdiction of Native judicial officers. And secondly, under the proposed Bill, Europeans and Natives are very far, even now, from being placed on a par in the Mofussil. In the face of these considerations it seems to me impossible to attach much weight to this argument from prestige.

A good deal has been said about the absence of public criticism in the Mofussil, and the difficulty of getting the help of competent counsel there; and something has also been said about the ignorance of Native Magistrates regarding the manners and customs of Europeans. I do not wish to deny that there is some force in these circumstances. But the first two of them apply as much to the cases of Native as of European accused persons. And as to the last, most of the persons on whom the jurisdiction is likely to be conferred will be men, who, by their education and their modes of living and thinking, will know a good deal more about the manners and customs of Europeans than European Magistrates ordinarily know about the manners and customs of Natives. Why then should not the Native Magistrate be trusted to administer justice as well to Her Majesty's European subjects as European Magistrates generally do to her Native subjects? And here, I think, it deserves to be remembered, though it seems not to have weighed at all with those who have publicly spoken on this subject, that if it is necessary for a judge to be familiar with the manners and customs of the class to which the person to be tried belongs, it is at least as necessary for him to be familiar with the manners and customs of the class to which the witnesses whose evidence has to be weighed belong. It follows, therefore, that in some important respects the Native Magistrate would actually be better equipped than the European Magistrate to try even those fabricated cases against Europeans about which we have heard and read so much during the past few weeks, and to detect that perjury about which such exaggerated and sensational statements have been frequently made.

I have not in the above remarks considered the suggestion that Native Magistrates will consciously do injustice to a European accused person merely because he is a European. All I need say upon that suggestion, which has been made in some quarters, is, that it is entirely unfounded. From all I know of my countrymen in Western India, and from all I could learn of my countrymen in Bengal while I was among them in connection with the duties of the Education Commission, I can confidently assert that there is no foundation for that suggestion, or for supposing that any such hostility to Europeans exists among educated Natives as the suggestion seems to imply.

It is further objected to this Bill, however, that no inconvenience has yet arisen which renders the proposal embodied in it necessary. Although I am no friend of over-legislation, I cannot accept this view. If I find a provision of the law, not defensible in principle, occasioning injury and inconvenience to any portion of Her Majesty's subjects, I think that provision ought to be abrogated. And if innocent persons, concerned as prosecutors or witnesses in cases where Europeans are the accused persons, have to be hurried over long distances from their homes, I consider the injury and inconvenience thence resulting to be grievances which claim redress at the hands of Government. The Procedure Code of 1872 took one step towards granting such redress. The present Bill takes another. I quite accept the view that there would be a good deal to say in favour of leaving things alone if the question was one merely between a sentimental desire for jurisdiction on the part of Native Magistrates, and a sentimental objection to such jurisdiction on the part of the European community. But that, I hold, is not the question here. The invidiousness of the distinction sought to be removed is only one consideration in favour of the change proposed to be made in the law. The anomalous, and sometimes practically inconvenient, results of that distinction and its inconsistency with the Queen's Proclamation are other considerations bearing upon the point which must be weighed together with the substantial injury to prosecutors and witnesses above alluded to. For my own part, I concede, or rather I ought to say I maintain, that the authorities should proceed gradually in the operation of curtailing these or any other personal privileges valued and long enjoyed by any class of Her Majesty's subjects. That I consider to be a sound principle of legislation. But applying that principle to the case now before us, I cannot perceive that any satisfactory and workable change could be suggested, which without being illusory, could be much smaller than the change proposed by the Bill.

This brings me to the details of the Bill, and it appears to me that no reasonable objection can be taken to section 2 and following sections. The only part of the Bill which seems to me fairly open to consideration is section 1. I have myself no practical suggestion to make regarding that section. But regarding the reference to Cantontment Magistrates in it, I must confess that I do not quite understand it. As regards the other three classes of officers mentioned in that section, they seem to me to stand on pretty much the same footing. But I do not think that there is any reason for preferring those who would fall under clause (*b*) of that section to the Deputy Magistrates who belong to the Uncovenanted Service. I confess that I have personally a very strong objection to the whole legislation by which the so-called "Native Civil Service" was constituted, nominally to supplement, but in effect to supplant, the Native Civil Service which formed an integral part of the great Covenanted Civil Service of Her Majesty. And if any one suggested the removal of clause (*b*) from Section 1, I should not be inclined to oppose that removal if, for no other reason, in order to induce Government to reconsider the whole subject of the admission of my countrymen into the Covenanted Civil Service. But under the law as it stands it would seem to be difficult to place the members of the classes designated in clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of section 1 on any unequal footing. It might, perhaps, be better to strike out clauses (*a*), (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) and simply give power to the local Governments to invest any Magistrate of the First Class with the powers of a Justice of the Peace. This, doubtless, confers on the executive Governments powers which, in strict principle, ought to be exercised by the Legislature directly. But strict principles cannot be logically applied where compromises have to be effected. And in this particular case the executive Governments are sure to be familiar with the probable results of the exercise of such powers on those who may be affected by them.

Upon the whole, then, I venture to give my voice, without hesitation, in favour of the principle of the Bill in question. If any changes in section 1 are likely to disarm the opposition to the Bill which has unfortunately arisen, I would humbly recommend their being accepted. The feeling which has given birth to that opposition is one which in some of its forms commands my sympathy, and I should be disposed to go a considerable way to avoid doing it any unnecessary violence. But a supporter of the Bill is not the best person to suggest any such changes as I have alluded to. At all events, having none such to suggest, I can only submit respectfully the general recommendation made above.

In conclusion I beg to apologise for the delay which has occurred in sending this reply by reason of pressure of other business.

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Dated 12th April, 1883.

From—J. GORDON, Esq., Secretary, Bombay Chamber of Commerce,

To—The Under-Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, Bombay.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2260 of the 2nd instant, forwarding a letter from the Government of India, Legislative Department, No. 246, dated the 17th March last, and of a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, with the Statement of Objects and Reasons which accompanied it, and requesting that Government may be favoured with the opinion of the Chamber on the provisions of the Bill.

The proposed amendments were discussed at a General Meeting of the Chamber held on the 6th of March last, and the proceedings of the Meeting and the Memorial of the Chamber thereon, dated 22nd idem, were duly forwarded to Government.

The Committee direct me to say that if any further expression of opinion is wanted now, or may be desired hereafter, the Chamber will be happy to furnish it.

Dated 10th May, 1883.

From—H. W. PAYNE, Esq., Chairman of the Bombay Law Society,

To—The Under-Secretary to Government, Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 2262 of 1883, dated 2nd April 1883, with its enclosures.

1. I placed the letter before the Committee of the Law Society, and the Committee after discussion passed the following Resolution :—

> That the Committee while thanking the Chairman for his courtesy in placing before them the letter in question, consider that its object is to elicit the individual opinion of the Chairman on the subject to which it refers, and are of opinion that the objects for which the Society is constituted will not be furthered by inviting a discussion among its members on the subject.

2. In explanation of the latter part of the Resolution of the Committee I beg to say that the Society is composed of the Solicitors of the High Court, European and Native, and the main objects of its constitution are to maintain the honourable character of their branch of the profession, to bring to the notice of the Court any malpractice of any of its members, and generally to promote the interests of its members as a body.

3. As the Committee considered that my individual opinion was called for, I respectfully beg to submit my views on the subject of your letter.

4. After very careful consideration I have come to the conclusion that the proposed amendment of the law will not be beneficial.

5. As an abstract question I quite admit the right of every inhabitant of India not to be subject to any judicial disqualification based merely on race distinction; but while admitting that right, I think it impossible to admit its application to the fullest extent where it conflicts with other rights or customs, or to the circumstances under which the Government of India have to legislate for the people of this country.

6. If it is asserted that, being a right, therefore it ought to be applied without regard to any other question, I do not see where one is to pause between the adoption of that principle and leaving the people of India to govern themselves.

7. The question seems to me to be—Will the proposed amendment of the law add to the contentment or happiness of the people of this country? Will it promote good order, and, involved in the above, is it in accordance with the state of things under which the Government of India has been established and rests?

8. First, to consider the grievance it is proposed to remedy, now, the principal objection of the educated native to his disqualification to exercise judicial powers over European British subjects in the Mofussil is that it is a stigma on his race and on his judicial integrity.

9. If it be such a stigma, it is shared by natives of almost all oriental countries. All the European States and the United States of America have insisted on the exclusive right in most of those countries of trying their own subjects in criminal cases by their own Consuls. Nations, such as Turkey and China, who are not wanting in pride, and who have at least as keen a sense of national feeling as the natives of India, have never made any great difficulty in conceding these claims of the European States. They appear to have acquiesced in them as fit and natural and carrying no stigma. The natives of India themselves have not been slow to recognise the advantage of such exclusive rights in the dominions of His Highness the Imaum of Muscat. And it is certain if the British were to leave India to-morrow, all the European States and the United States of America would insist upon this right of excluding the natives from exercising judicial power in criminal cases over their subjects.

10. But I contend, rightly looked at, that there is no real stigma cast upon the natives by the exclusion at all, and it is only a feeling of false pride which has been unfortunately fostered and fanned into existence which has led the educated natives to take up this question so warmly.

11. In proof of the foregoing remark I would point to the circumstance that most civilised nations where jury trials exist have recognised, in the institution of mixed juries for the trial of foreigners, the principle that the tribunal which pronounces on the guilt or innocence of a man charged with a criminal offence should not be such that the accused can beforehand disclaim confidence in its justice. The principle is also maintained in the Criminal Procedure Code in that a native can claim to be tried in Courts of Sessions by a jury, the majority of whom are not European British subjects (section 275); they have also the right of challenge on the ground of alienage, and European British subjects have similar rights.

12. I am not aware that the persons who are excluded in these cases from trying the accused consider themselves insulted because they are expressly excluded merely on the ground of race distinction, and I cannot see any difference between a Judge and juror; both have to pronounce on their consciences on the guilt or innocence of the accused, and in giving judgment on questions of facts both stand exactly on the same footing and are supposed to be of equal capacity.

13. The truth is that, the natives of India would not think the disqualification of a Native Magistrate to try a European British subject a grievance at all if it were also the law that the native could claim to be tried by a Native Magistrate, which claim, as a matter of right, stands on a higher footing than the claim of the Native Magistrate to try Europeans. It is, however, in the present state of things, impossible to allow of this right to the natives; but, that being so, is not a reason for taking it away from European British subjects who cherish it as a custom and for other reasons, in order that some few natives may not fee the distinction between the two races in this particular.

14. The real grievance therefore is that there is any distinction at all between Natives and European British subjects in the Government of this country, but that must remain.

15. To suppose that the mere doing away with this disqualification of the Native Magistrate will have any appreciable effect in abolishing the feeling of race distinction and so be likely to add to the contentment or happiness of the people, I think is taking an extreme view which is not justified by the facts.

16. It is after all a very small matter compared with what any thoughtful native must see who looks around him.

17. The British Government, however beneficent its intentions, is after all to the native a foreign Government, compelled by its position to maintain a foreign army and a civil administration mainly composed of foreigners, and keep under its own exclusive control the whole policy of the country, and to tax the people with their consent.

18. In fact, if he looks into the Criminal Procedure Code itself, he will still see that it contains important privileges in favour of European British subjects. I do not see how it can be reasonably expected that the doing away with this disqualification will promote the happiness of the people of this country. I think it will so far from allaying agitation only add to it, and the natives of India will not act like rational beings if they do not ask for a great deal more.

19. While therefore there is no real grievance, and the benefit to be derived from the proposed amendment appears very questionable, on the other hand it is a very serious matter to the European British subjects who are to be made subject to the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates, and as regards the efficiency of the Native Magistrates themselves. Rightly or wrongly the European British subjects are strongly opposed to it. It is said, of course, by those who support the Bill that this is the result of race prejudice. This may be unfortunate, but it is a fact which no amount of legislation will get rid of, and will only be brought forward more prominently whenever any question, such as this one, arises for discussion. The Statute Book will still contain anomalies of legislation which are only justified by it. It meets us at every step in our daily conduct as citizens or in social life. It is only the truth to say that the foundations of the British power in India rest upon it. It is useless to ignore it. The question to ask is, it being there, will the decisions of the Native Magistrates in the Mofussil, in cases where Europeans are concerned, command respect? The object of all criminal laws is to deter and not to punish, and if the tribunals are not trusted, more than half the effect of punishment is lost. The accused is no longer in the eyes of his countrymen a criminal but a victim to race prejudice, the evil influence of which is sure to be charged to the unfortunate Native Magistrate whose duty it may be to condemn. This will not add in my opinion, to the well-being of either Natives or Europeans, and will only be a fruitful source of ill-feeling between them.

20. Independently of this European British subjects have a profound feeling that in the Mofussil where they are scattered about, often in remote districts, they will be subjected to false charges before Native Magistrates which would never be brought before an European Magistrate.

21. The pain, anxiety and expense that an accused may suffer or be put to, though he may afterwards be declared innocent, may often be as great a punishment as any sentence the Magistrate may have power to inflict; and I do not consider the right of appeal as by any means a sufficient safeguard. Courts of appeal do not readily disturb findings on fact unless they can be shown to be manifestly wrong, and it is only in exceptional cases where there is not at least some sworn evidence to support a finding.

22. It may be said that the foregoing is sufficiently answered by the fact that Native Magistrates have been for many years acting in the Presidency towns, but I do not think these exceptions form any just answer, the circumstances being altogether different. All the safeguards of a vigilant press and the facilities of legal assistance are wanting: besides, the

European in the Mofussil is often alone without another European or even a respectable native near him. In the Presidency towns he is surrounded by others of his own class, and any transaction which may involve him in a dispute with a native is likely to be known to others who can bear witness for him.

23. Again, it is argued that the Native Judges of the High Courts have power to exercise full criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects; this is true, but I would beg to point out that the Native Judges do not sit alone in disposing of such cases; and the Native Judges of the High Court are chosen from native gentlemen who have had a long and very extensive practice in the High Courts as advocates and have obtained in their long residence in the Presidency towns an intimate acquaintance of affairs and special knowledge of Europeans and their manners and customs, which I do not think can possibly be attained by a native civilian, though he may have passed a short time in England. The native candidate for admission to the Civil Service must, during the period he is in England, pass his time in close application to his studies. When he comes out to India he is, in all probability, posted to some station in the Mofussil where he lives in a world of his own. I do not think that such a training is calculated to make any man a good judge of men or things, or to drive out the strain of hereditary predispositions which all writers on this subject declare exist for many generations until counterbalanced or overwhelmed by other influences of a more powerful character.

24. These remarks apply more forcibly to the members of the Native Civil Service constituted under the Statute 33 Vic., Cap. 3.

25. If administrative difficulties are apprehended by reason of the admission of large numbers of natives into the Civil Service, and an amendment of the law is thought necessary, then I would prefer to see that amendment take the form of permitting natives to have the right to claim to be tried by a Native Magistrate; any inequality in the law would then be got rid of, and I do not think much inconvenience would arise from it, as in my experience natives, as a rule, have no preference to be tried by a Native rather than by a European.

26. In conclusion, I beg to add that the proposed amendment of the law will, in my humble opinion, do more harm than good; that there is no necessity for it, as there is no well-founded complaint that justice is not properly administered on the present basis; and that as the present controversy has shown the European British subjects as a body to be violently opposed to it, and as they will be in the main affected by it, all the proposed benefit to be derived by the change in the law will be lost.

Dated 9th May, 1883.

From—D. S. KEMP, Esq., Secretary to the Trades' Association, Bombay,

To—The Under-Secretary to Government, Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your No. 2263 of 1883, dated the 2nd April, covering copy of letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department, and copy of Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, with its Statement of Objects and Reasons, and requesting for the information of Government a statement of my opinion on the provisions of the Bill.

Under another cover I forward to the address of the Chief Secretary to Government a memorial signed on behalf of the Bombay Trades' Association by the Secretary and myself, against the Bill. At the same time, in compliance with your request, and with the cognizance of my colleagues on the Committee, I willingly take this opportunity of expressing my individual opinion thereon.

The small extension of Native jurisdiction which will be the immediate and necessary effect of the Bill, is in my opinion unobjectionable, and, under a strict and watchful Government, the gradual admission of a moderate proportion of Native gentlemen of adequate education and training and imbued with the instincts of law, would not be a measure attended with danger. If this were all that the Bill provided for, it would in my opinion receive extensive support among the European community. But its scope is much greater.

The 1st section disqualifies European British subjects, not Magistrates of the First Class, from being entrusted with the powers of Justices of the Peace in the Mofussil. This provision, which does not appear to be contemplated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, seems to be an unnecessary accompaniment to the amendments embodied in Sections 3, 4, and 5. It will lower without any compensating advantage the status of European British subjects, and deprive them of the sense of responsibility which such status inspires. It will also have the probable effect of depriving isolated districts of the country, thinly sprinkled with Europeans, of an important moral guarantee for public order and stability. In case of occasions arising for the use of force in such districts, either to preserve the peace or in the interest of justice, circumstances readily suggest themselves under which the counsels of a European who, in his capacity of Justice of the Peace, had a right to be heard, would be of the greatest service in restraining the impetuosity, or strengthening the hands of the Native authorities. Two recent instances of coercion, the Junagad massacre, and the expulsion of Beluchi vagrants from the Bhusaval Railway Station, sufficiently illustrate Native impetuosity on the one hand and British coolness and self-restraint on the other.

It appears from the same section that the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects is to be extended not only to Natives who have received the training considered necessary in the case of European Civilians, but to those also who may be nominated without competition under the new Native Civil Service Rules, and to Native Uncovenanted Servants, of whose qualifications there is no statutory guarantee. Under these circumstances stronger grounds than have yet appeared are in my opinion necessary to persuade Europeans to surrender without protest what they have always considered as a cherished right—the privilege of being judged by their own countrymen. As the administration of justice has always been regarded as one of the most sacred functions by Englishmen, it is naturally claimed that the guarantees for its faithful exercise should not be relaxed. It is said that if a judge is qualified to administer justice to Natives, he is qualified to judge Europeans. But this is to proceed on the premature assumption that the general administration of justice in this country has been purified and elevated up to the English standard. Even were it possible that in times of tranquillity little or no miscarriage of justice should arise, yet any public excitement could not fail to re-act to the prejudice of justice, on minds which had not received the proper legal training, like those of non-competition Native Civil Servants.

For the reasons stated shortly above, I venture to think that the Bill should not pass in its present form. It seems right to grant extension of jurisdiction to Native Magistrates, but this ought to proceed step by step, both as regards the spheres or localities of their jurisdiction and the class of officers to whom it is granted. It seems as fallacious to bulk the whole of the Mofussil together for the purposes of this Bill as it is to treat all Native Civil Servants, Covenanted and Uncovenanted, as one class.

Dated 12th May, 1883.

From—W. R. FINCH, Esq., Manager, Indigo Concern, Shapore Oondie, Tirhoot,

To—The Most Noble the MARQUIS OF RIPON, K.G., Governor General of India.

It is with feelings of the most profound respect for your honesty of motive and diffidence as to my own powers that I venture to address you on the matter of the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill, a matter more serious than any which has occupied the attention of Government since the terrible days of the Mutiny.

Many angry words have been uttered, and bitter things written, and you, My Lord, would be more than human did not all this stir in you feelings of hostility to the utterers; but I submit, My Lord, that the merits of a case are not always to be gauged by the address of the advocate, and I would urge you, in the name of fair play, which, as an Englishman, you ought to possess, to put aside all anger from your bosom, and to approach and consider the subject in a calm manner.

It is one that affects many in position and, as a consequence, in purse. Then be patient, My Lord, in hearing and bearing. When men's interests are touched, they do not always use the language of moderation, and Your Lordship should remember that Englishman have ever been accustomed to speak out, and not, like the Oriental, express their meaning in honeyed words. It is, My Lord, the strong conviction and the knowledge that they have right on their side that has enabled them to speak trumpet-tongued even on Cæsar's threshhold; and Cæsar must listen.

For no fault or failing why are a loyal and devoted body to be deprived of their one privilege?

We are strangers amongst strangers, and our own ewe lamb is to be taken from us.

Deprive us, My Lord, of pay and place, these are in your gift, and only surrounded by such restrictions as equity places on you; but deprive us not of our most treasured privilege, and place not an Imperial race under the heel of an alien one—one that has never known freedom or liberty *as* we understand it. Remember that races physically cowardly are rarely morally brave. Moral courage is a most necessary qualification in rulers.

Do the men on whom you propose to confer such power as contemplated in this Bill show any sign of being different to their fellows in this respect?

Liberty is a tree of slow growth, and the blood of brave men was shed before it grew in England to its present magnificent proportions. Moral fibre is a produce of that tree: that tree a stranger to this soil.

You, My Lord, are a peer, and can claim to be tried by your peers. You are not even subject to be tried for your life and liberty by the ordinary men of your race, but you must be tried by your equals in rank. Then respect the privileges of those below you.

Now, My Lord, I humbly ask you to consider whether you would like this privilege to be taken from you. You would have even your countrymen trying you: how much less would you like a jury of foreigners sitting on the bench. My Lord, consider your own large privileges of being a representative in our country without any will or voice of the people. You have your rights as a peer. No one grudges you these rights, because God has not made all men equal. Why should you then try to equalize? It is against the natural order of things. Put yourself in our places, working here in a foreign land amidst aliens, in a climate which prematurely ages, even if life be given to work in; and ask yourself is it fair to surround us with more difficulties than we already contend with? This merely to remove an anomaly, and to confer further dignity on a particular few.

To injure the feelings of the many for the sake of the few is contrary to polity.

My Lord, do you consider that the universal voice of those affected by this Bill has been raised out of merely race-prejudice and hate? No: this unanimous protest has been caused by the deep-seated conviction that fair play will not have full swing, that our liberty will be in danger, and that we shall be placed in a position which will be misunderstood.

It is not the lust for power that we are credited with by our opponents that has stirred up the community affected, nor the desire that because we are conquerors, that therefore the right of might should be enforced, and those subjected by arms should be ground down and never again be allowed to rise.

My Lord, be fair to your countrymen. It is said in Sacred Writ that "there is safety in the counsel of the multitude." Listen to that counsel.

Credit your fellow-countrymen with not having lost all feelings of fair-play because they are here; believe that there are some hearts honest in intention, and not unkindly in their feeling to our Native fellow-subjects, and remember that we who cry out are those who have had most experience of the people.

If our Native brethren are fit to wield the power of trying us, why should the army not be open to Native Commissioned Officers? Why should there not be Native Volunteer Corps? Why should the Arms Act be in force?

India is a land of anomalies, the races heterogeneous you rule, and your duty to keep peace between them. Is this measure calculated to promote this peace?

Our privilege is our anomaly; let us keep it, or sweep every anomaly away.

My Lord, other and abler pens than mine have written, and the great in State, Law and Commerce have spoken; therefore it behoves me to say little in the way of argument; but ere concluding I would earnestly ask Your Lordship to consider that have you ever read in the history of men of a universal cry like this going up that had not more than mere prejudice and pride at bottom as its cause?

My Lord, seek yet more deeply for that cause.

No. 3429, dated 21st May, 1883.

From—C. G. W. MACPHERSON, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am directed to forward herewith a memorial from the Bombay Trades' Association, to the address of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council, on the subject of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

Dated 9th May, 1883.

To His Excellency the Most Honourable the MARQUIS OF RIPON, P.C., K.G., G.C.B., G.M.S.I., *Viceroy and Governor General of India.*

The Memorial of the Bombay Trades' Association.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That at a General Meeting of the Members of the Bombay Trades' Association held on the 14th March 1883, to consider, among other business, the Criminal Procedure Code, 1882, Amendment Bill now before the Legislative Council of India, it was resolved that a memorial be addressed to Your Excellency in support of that which had been resolved upon by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, and praying that the said Bill might be withdrawn.

2. That the Members of this Association concur with the views expressed in the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce addressed to Your Excellency, and dated the 22nd March 1883, in which they pray that the proposed legislation may be abandoned as being premature and unnecessary.

3. Your memorialists submit that, in Mufassal districts, where all influence and court surroundings are Native, Europeans are already at great disadvantage in seeking the protection of justice or access to the judicial authority, that they are thus deprived of much of the legal protection to which they are entitled, and that this state of things will be aggravated if the judicial officer is not a European.

4. That in the administration of justice in this country, many anomalies exist to the advantage of Natives of India, which more than sufficiently countenance the so-called anomaly in favour of Europeans now proposed to be removed; that some of these are considered by legal authorities to be grievous hindrances to justice and have no parallel in European countries; and that the fact of their existing in civil procedure while the Bill now before Your Excellency deals with criminal, does not affect the argument. Natives might gauge the alarm produced among Europeans by the proposed Bill by contemplating the excitement which would attend a proposal to remove some of these anomalies.

5. Your memorialists submit that all civilized free communities become reconciled to anomalies which are the results of compromise, and that, in the conflicts of race, compromises are the only results which are final.

6. That your memorialists regard the proposed amendment with the greater alarm, because, by the rules framed under Your Excellency's predecessor, Native gentlemen are yearly

appointed to the Civil Service without that guarantee of previous education and training, which is exacted from English candidates in competitive examination.

7. That your memorialists notice with the greatest apprehension and surprise the proposal to disable the Supreme or Local Government from nominating European British subjects other than Magistrates of the first class to be Justices of the Peace for the Mufassal; and they have been unable to discover any motive for this change either in the Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to the Bill or any circumstances which have come to their knowledge.

8. Your memorialists earnestly hope that the Bill now before the Legislative Council of India may not be passed into law.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

To His Excellency the Most Honourable GEORGE FREDERICK SAMUEL, MARQUIS OF RIPON, K.G., P.C., G.C.B., *Viceroy and Governor General of India.*

The Humble Memorial of the Native Inhabitants of Bombay at a Public Meeting assembled—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your memorialists observe with much satisfaction the Bill introduced into Your Excellency's Legislative Council, on the 9th February last, for the purpose of amending certain grave defects existing in the Code of Criminal Procedure at present in force in this country. These defects had been for many years past the subject of very considerable complaints which found formal and pointed expression in Your Excellency's Legislative Council in March 1882, when the present Code was passed and when an amendment having the same object as the present Bill was brought before the Council and withdrawn only upon a promise given that the subject would receive early and more careful consideration than could be bestowed on it at that time.

2. Your memorialists beg at the very outset to disclaim any desire for the removal of any privileges enjoyed and really valued by any particular class of Her Majesty's subjects when those privileges are such as involve no injury to any other class. But your memorialists hold that the privilege continued to British-born subjects of Her Majesty under the present Code of Criminal Procedure is one which, besides being singular as the only class privilege recognised in the administration of the criminal law, does involve injury, and very serious injury, to other classes of Her Majesty's subjects in this country; and they further hold that the curtailment of that privilege as attempted in the Bill now under discussion is in its extent the slightest that could be looked upon as at all meeting the circumstances of the case.

3. The administrative inconveniences which have been occasioned by the maintenance of the privilege in question; the inconvenience, not to say injustice, which parties to and witnesses in Criminal proceedings in which European British subjects are the accused persons, are put to in consequence of that privilege; the mark of inferiority which it implies on one gradually increasing class of officers in Her Majesty's Service, and the occasional injustice which must be expected to occur in the distribution of the various administrative districts to those officers if the said privilege is maintained untouched; all these are considerations which, taken together, ought, your memorialists submit, to strongly weigh with the British Government in India, having regard to the policy of that Government as often authoritatively declared, and nowhere in better or more forcible language than in the great Proclamation of 1858, in which Her Most Gracious Majesty used the following memorable words:—

"We hold ourselves bound to the Natives of our Indian territories by the same obligations of duty which bind us to all our other subjects, and those obligations, by the blessing of Almighty God, we shall faithfully and conscientiously fulfil." And again, "it is our earnest desire ..... to administer its government for the benefit of all our subjects resident therein. In their prosperity will be our strength, in their contentment our security, and in their gratitude our best reward. And may the God of all Power grant unto us and to those in authority under us strength to carry out these our wishes for the good of our people."

4. Your memorialists gladly admit that the principles above referred to have, in a general way, and to some extent, practically guided the Government of our country, and the history of British Indian administration in the past exhibits a constant, if somewhat slow, progress of equalising the status before the law of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects. Your memorialists accordingly consider the Bill in question as only one short step in the direction in which British policy in this country has uniformly progressed. And they can therefore only deplore the spirit of partisanship which the Bill has roused in a section of Her Majesty's subjects. But they cannot help feeling that that spirit has not been roused by this Bill alone, and that behind that spirit lies a strong antagonism to the whole policy of the present Government of India—a policy, which, your memorialists submit, is not only just and beneficent in itself, but is also in consonance with, and is the proper outcome of, principles which have been laid down for upwards of half a century by successive Parliaments, Secretaries of State for India, and the Governments of India, and above all, calculated to promote the best interests of both England and India.

5. Your memorialists maintain, that when the principle is once admitted that the natives of this country ought to be appointed in gradually increasing numbers to posts in the service of Her Majesty which in their ordinary functions include the trial of offences committed by

European subjects, a very strong case is made out for such legislation as is attempted in this Bill. It is the duty of the statesman to provide in due season for an adaptation of the whole administrative machinery to that principle before an overwhelming number of cases actually arise in which such adaptation may be specifically required.

6. Your memorialists would crave leave to add a few words upon certain specific points made in connection with this subject.

7. The existence of this anomalous and invidious distinction which the Bill seeks to remove is sought to be justified by the assumed incapacity of Native Magistrates to deal with cases in which British-born subjects are concerned. The grounds alleged for this assumption are:—(1) that Native Magistrates are likely to be swayed by race prejudices; (2) that they are not sufficiently acquainted with European manners and customs; (3) that much perjury prevails in India; (4) that false and trumped up charges are often brought against innocent parties; (5) that the aid of experienced counsel cannot be had in the mufassal.

8. First.—As to race prejudices, it must be remembered that the Magistrates who are to be entrusted with jurisdiction over Europeans will of necessity be tried and trusted servants of Government, who have gone through years of training, and who have by their qualifications attained high positions such as those of District Magistrates or as Session Judges. The other persons who are eligible for these extended powers are those Covenanted Civil Servants, Assistant Commissioners or Cantonment Magistrates only, who have been especially selected by Government to be Justices of the Peace.

9. Your memorialists would respectfully submit that it is impossible to suppose that any one of these Magistrates—most of whom must necessarily have been educated in England and have thus come into social contact with Europeans—could entertain any hostile prejudices against the English people. Surely the blessings of English rule—which no one knows better, which no one appreciates better, than the educated natives of India—are calculated to produce not a feeling of hostility, not a feeling of prejudice against the English people, but rather a feeling of respect, gratitude and admiration. The idea, therefore, of wilful injustice must, your memorialists submit, be dismissed as a gross and unjustifiable libel, unfair alike to the English Government in India and to the Native Magistrates.

10. Wilful injustice being thus out of the question, is there any reasonable ground for supposing that Native Magistrates are more likely to be unconsciously swayed by race prejudices than their European colleagues? In considering this question one must not forget the high training the Magistrates in question must have received before they are entrusted with the powers proposed to be given under the Bill,—nor the fact that Hindu Magistrates try every day questions in which Hindus, Parsis and Mussulmans may be opposed to each other, and *vice versa*. Now it has never been alleged that Hindu, Mussulman or Parsi Magistrates unjustly convict persons belonging to a different race or creed from their own. Then why should it be supposed that these Magistrates would be unjustly influenced by race prejudices in the case of Europeans only?

11. As to want of acquaintance with European manners and customs, your memorialists submit that this is not true in the case of Natives who have been educated in England, or even those who have received a high English education in this country, and who have for years mixed with Europeans in their own country and in India on a footing of equality and friendship. On the contrary, your memorialists would submit that Covenanted Native Civil Servants are likely to be better acquainted with European manners and customs than many European Magistrates are, and can generally be, with the habits and customs of the natives of this country.

12. In regard to perjury and false and trumped up charges, and the absence of counsel, surely experienced Native Magistrates are as well able to deal with these difficulties as their European colleagues, or rather more, from their intimate knowledge of Natives. These difficulties are not alleged to be confined to European cases only, but to occur in all cases. But if the Magistrates are able to detect perjury and to discover trumped up charges, even in the absence of counsel, when levelled against the natives of this country, surely they would be equally able to detect them when they have to try cases in which Europeans are concerned.

13. And your memorialists submit that the multiplication of railways and the telegraph has made it easy for parties to engage counsel, or to communicate readily with the Government or the High Courts, which could not have been done in former times; while the High Courts in India have now been invested with ample powers to transfer cases on all occasions where such a step may seem desirable. If then these Magistrates are admittedly competent to administer justice to the millions of India—it can hardly be seriously argued that they are unfit to deal with the few cases in which Europeans are concerned. Your memorialists cannot believe that Natives are more governed by race prejudices than Europeans. They think that quite the contrary is the fact.

14. Under these circumstances, your memorialists would respectfully ask whether it is just, dignified or politic to have one set of scales for administering justice to the Natives of this country and quite another for Europeans? Whether our Courts are good enough for trying questions of life and death for the 200 millions of Her Majesty's Indian subjects but not fit to try even the most trivial questions in regard to Englishmen, and whether the present exceptional and anomalous provisions of the law are not calculated to lead the Natives of this country to believe that they are intended more to screen European offenders than to secure impartial justice?

15. Lastly, your memorialists emphatically deny the gross misrepresentation that the Natives of this country care nothing for this Bill. They, on the contrary, assert that they are keenly and deeply interested in it. They have watched, and will continue to watch, its fate with the most intense anxiety. In the opinion of your memorialists the principle involved in this Bill is of the most vital importance to their interests and welfare. The question really is, whether the Natives of this country—no matter what their qualifications, their attainments, their learning, their experience, and their services in the cause of their country may be—are always to be treated as an inferior race of men; whether that inferiority is constantly to be marked by invidious and galling distinctions? And this question, as already indicated, has now to be considered as part of the still larger question: whether India is to be governed upon the righteous principles which were announced by Her Most Gracious Majesty and have guided Your Excellency's enlightened policy, or upon those of the opponents of this Bill?

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall for ever pray.

Report of the Proceedings of a Public Meeting of the Native Inhabitants of Bombay held in the Town Hall on 28th April, 1883.

In compliance with a requisition made by the leading Parsi, Hindu, and Mussulman residents in Bombay, a public meeting was convened by the Sheriff, Mr. Raghunath N. Khote, C.I.E., in the Town Hall, on Saturday (28th April, 1883), "for the purpose of considering the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure now before the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India."

The following are the names of the requisitionists, who represent the various native communities of this city:—

Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy.
Mungaldas Nathubhoy.
Byramjee Jeejeebhoy.
Dinshaw Manockjee Petit.
Budrudin Tyabjee.
Vurjeewandas Madhowdas.
Framjee Nosserwanjee.
Cursetjee Nosserwanjee Cama.
Jamsetjee Cursetjee Jamsetjee.
Nosserwanjee Manockjee Petit.
Mahomed Ali Rogay.
Mooljee Jaitha.
Sorabjee Framjee.
Jamsetjee Nosserwanjee Petit.
Nowrojee Furdoonjee.
V. N. Mendlik.
Pherozeshah M. Mehta.
Ahmedbhoy Hubibbhoy.
Treebhovundas Vurjeevundas.
Hurkisondas Nurrotumdas.
Thakarsey Muljee.
Kashinath Trimbak Telang.
Kaikhosro N. Kabrajee.
Byramjee Nosserwanjee Shirvai.
Shamarao Vithal.
Shivashankar Govindram.
Shantaram Narayan.
Cowasjee Hormusjee, G.G.M.C.
Jamsetjee N. Tata.
Manekshah Jahangirshah.
Pandurang Balibhadre.
Gokuldas K. Parekh.
Shivram V. Bhandarkar.
Framjee Dinshawjee Petit.
Dadabhai Naorojee.
K. R. Cama.
Narayan Ganesh Chandarackar.
Nagindas Tulsidas.
Ghanasham Nilkunth.
Muncherjee Nowrojee Banajee.
N. Byramjee Jeejeebhoy.
Peroshaw Merwanjee Jeejeebhoy.
Dhunjeebhoy Merwanjee Jeejeebhoy.
Pandoorung Dinanathjee.
Darashah Dorabjee Reporter.
Muncherjee Framjee Cama.
Nanabhai R. Chiebgar.
Vundravun Purshotumdas.
Sakharam Arjun.
Shantaram Vithul.
Nanabhai R. Ranina.
Tribhowandas Munguldas.
Heerjee Ardaseer Dady.
Sorabjee S. Bengalee.
Bomonjee Muncherjee Punthakey.
Laxmidas Khimjee.
Maneckjee Barjorjee.
Cursetjee Furdoonjee.
Thakurdas Atmaram Mehta.
Vijbhucandas Atmaram Mehta.
K. M. Shroff.
Ardeshir B. Patell.
Dinanath Raghunath Khote.
Pestonjee Eduljee Mehta.
Gokuldas Jagmohandas.
Ardaseer Framjee Moos.

The Town Hall was crowded to overflowing. There was not a foot of standing room to be had anywhere, and the Hall was almost literally packed from floor to ceiling, and many who were unable to find seats perched themselves on the backs of the chairs and on the cover of the key-board of the organ. The appearance of the leading men of the various communities was the signal for great cheering.

The attendance included the following:—Mr. Raghunath Narayen Khote, who was present to open the meeting in his official capacity as Sheriff of Bombay; the Hon. Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, Bart., the Hon. Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik, the Hon. Budroodin Tyabjee, Messrs. Vurjeevundas Madhowdas, Nusserwanjee Manockjee Petit, Lukhmidas Khimjee, Jairajbhoy Peerbhoy, Dadabhai Naorojee, N. Byramjee Jeejeebhoy, Mahomed Ali Rogay, C. N. Cama, Kurreembhoy Ebrahim, Cursetjee Furdoonjee, Pherozeshah M. Mehta, M. N. Banajee, B. M. Wagle, K. T. Telang, Homejee Cursetjee Dady, Cumroodin Tyebjee, Framjee Dinshaw Petit, Ahmedbhoy Hubibbhoy, K. N. Kabrajee, Bhaishunker Nanabhai, J. N. Tata, B.M. Punthakey, Bomonjee Pherozshaw, Hormusjee Nusserwanjee Vakil, N. R. Ranina, K. C. Bedarkar, Jamsetjee C. Jamsetjee, P. N. Wadia, Byramjee N. Servai, Hurkisondas Nurrotumdas, Shantaram Narayen, Nana Morojee, Dr. Succaram Arjun, Dr. Kavasjee Hormusjee, Messrs. Tirbhovundas Munguldas, N. K. Motabhoy, D. D. Davur, Muljee Thakersey, K. R. Cama, Muncherjee C. Murzban, Fazulbhoy Visram, Dinanath R. Khote, Vundravandas Purshotumdas

Dr. Shantaram Vithul, Dinshaw P. Kanga, Dhunjeebhoy Framjee, Dajee Abajee Khare, Dhunjeebhoy M. Jeejeebhoy, Dr. Ardeshir P. Cama, Messrs. Anundrao N. Vassudeo, Gokuldas Jugmohundas, Rehmoobhoy Hubibbhoy, Mirza Cousar, Gulam Mahomed Munshi, Thakoredas Atmaram, Amirudin Tyabjee, Vizbhukan Atmaram, Dinshaw Eduljee Vacha, Sunderrao Raghunath, Maneckshaw Jehangirshaw, Dr. Framjee Shapurjee, &c. On the platform were deputations of native gentlemen from the following places:—Ahmedabad, Broach, Poona, Sholapore, Surat, and Veerumgaum. The meeting was also attended by a deputation from the Anjuman-i-Islam of Bombay. With the exception of three or four Europeans, the audience was entirely composed of natives.

Mr. Raghunath Narayen Khote, C.I.E., Sheriff of Bombay, in opening the meeting, said—Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy and gentlemen—A requisition has been addressed to me by a most representative and influential number of gentlemen of all classes of the native community of Bombay. The requisition is to the following effect:—" We have the honour to request you to be good enough, to convene at an early date a public meeting of the native inhabitants of Bombay, to take place at the Town Hall, for the purpose of considering the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure now before the Legislative Council of His Excellency the Viceroy, the Governor-General of India.—We have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servants, Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Munguldas Nathubhoy, and others." "In compliance with the above request I hereby convene a public meeting of the native inhabitants to be held at the Town Hall, on Saturday, at 4 p. m." Gentlemen, my concern at the present moment is merely to open the meeting by declaring that it is duly convened. I need simply ask you to elect your own Chairman, and to proceed to transact the business which has brought you together: but in doing so it is impossible for me to play altogether a mechanical part. (Hear, hear.) It is impossible for me not to feel a sympathy with the motive of this meeting, nor is it possible for me to omit to give expression to that sympathy. It has been said that Mr. Ilbert's Bill affects only the Europeans in India, and that natives have no concern with it whatever. Can sophistry go further than this? (Applause.) It is true that whilst the European population of the country are opposing the abrogation of what they naturally feel is their legitimate privilege, natives on the other hand cannot sit silently and allow a measure to be shelved which promises to remove a disability that has hitherto rested on them by reason of their nationality. (Cheers.) If the natives remain quiescent, their inaction is liable to be misunderstood. They will be set down as extremely apathetic and indifferent, and unfitted by reason of this very silence of theirs for the removal of the disability that has attached to them. (Hear, hear.) The Government of India and the Provincial Governments and Administrations see the gross injustice and the practical inconvenience daily caused in the administration of the high charge which is entrusted them; and they are striving hard to remedy the evil. If we remain apathetic and silent, it might greatly weaken the hands of the Government, for advantage might be taken in England of our silence and apparent neglect; and the measure which we all hail with so much joy might be declared by the British Parliament as uncalled for. (Hear, hear.) It has been in the anxious contemplation of some people whether a medium course (and this is a fit case for a compromise) is not possible, such as might meet the convenience of the administration of criminal justice by the State; a course which, whilst it answered on the one hand the objections raised by the European population, would remove the disability of which the natives could justly complain. (Hear, hear.) Such a happy compromise would prevent the heart-burning between the two races, which is calculated to be daily increased if the present measure passed into law; for whenever any case involving race prejudices arose, the sore would open and keep festering. (Hear, hear.) I have reason to believe that some such compromise is already under the consideration of Government, and I devoutly hope that whatever course is ultimately determined upon, it will be such as will not only disarm to a great extent, if not altogether, the opposition now offered against Mr. Ilbert's Bill, but also remove the disability which attaches to our countrymen under the present law. (Applause.) Gentlemen, we may be quite sure that in a matter of such grave and national importance as this, the Government here and the Parliament in England cannot but be imbued with an anxious and sincere desire to do full justice to all parties concerned. Their one grand aim must be the greatest good of the greatest number; and while holding the scales of justice evenly towards all, they must so shape their course that no animosity of the races under their sway should be excited by anything they enact, or that the weak be overridden by the powerful while they look passively on. (Applause.) It is quite unknown, nor can I imagine, what final conclusions Government will arrive at regarding this matter; but of one thing we can be certain, and that is that they will devote to the subject the gravest and the most patient deliberation which it is possible for them to bestow upon it. (Applause.) Before I conclude, gentlemen, I earnestly trust that your proceedings will be characterised by such a dignified and dispassionate bearing as the gravity of the subject before you so imperatively demands. Let us be worthy of ourselves. (Cheers.) And now, gentlemen, I will leave the chair and request you to elect your own Chairman and proceed to the business of the evening. (Applause.)

Mr. Nosserwanjee M. Petit then proposed that Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, Bart., should be requested to take the chair.

Mr. Vurjeevandas Madhowdas seconded the proposition, which was agreed to.

Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy then took the chair amidst much cheering. He said—Gentlemen,—I confess to a sense of embarrassment at being called upon to preside at this large and

distinguished gathering, and could have wished that the task of addressing such a meeting as Chairman, on such a subject as has called us here to-day, had devolved upon some abler speaker. Nor is it conventional modesty that prompts this expression of my wish, for I see around me representatives of all sections of the native community—Hindus, Mahomedans, and Parsis—gentlemen occupying a prominent position in their respective spheres of life, and well known for their ability, independence, and public spirit. (Cheers.) That the occasion is one which justifies such a large and influential gathering will be easily understood. (Hear, hear.) You are aware, gentlemen, that we have met to-day to support an attempt at remedying an anomaly in the administration of the Criminal Law of the country—(applause)—an anomaly the removal of which the altered social and political conditions of India call for. (Renewed applause.) If this alone were our object, it will need all your endeavours to strenuously support it, as being a legislative measure intended and calculated to remove an unnecessary and invidious distinction between European and Native judicial officers, founded, not as we believe, on the question of personal fitness, but only on differences of race. (Cheers.) But our special object is to support an important principle involved in such legislation—to vindicate the wise, noble, and benevolent policy of the present Government of India from the unreasoning alarms of short-sighted statesmanship (applause), and to beseech the House of Commons and the Supreme Government to once more emphasise and carry out the solemn pledges and assurances given to the country by successive Parliaments and Secretaries of State for India and Indian Governments (cheers). This is an object which may well call for all your energy and earnestness. I need not tell you that such a policy, conceived in such a spirit of enlightened liberality, if faithfully and consistently carried out, would in the end be found to be the best preservation of the friendly relations between Europeans and Natives, both in political and social regards. (Hear, hear, and applause.) So much has already been said for and against the Bill and the principles involved in it, and the results which the carrying out of such principles would have on the administration of the country, that I will not take up your time here by going over the same ground. I will only exhort you to discuss the main object here with all the temper and coolness you can command, without going into irrelevent matters or raising side issues. (Hear, hear.) We in Bombay have, during the different stages of the controversy which the recklessness of some excitable persons on the other side of India has done so much to embitter, pursued a most dignified and honourable course, and discussed the burning question like sober, practical men of business, without being carried away by prejudice or feeling. (Hear, hear.) I have such confidence in the good sense and moderation of this meeting which I have the privilege now to address, that I believe no unpleasantness will mar the proceedings of to-day. (Hear hear.) I will only add that the present is the most opportune time for the natives of the country to approach the House of Commons on the subject, and assist it to decide the very important issues raised, with temperate and carefully reasoned memorials. These will show that the natives of India, so far from being indifferent to the proposed Bill and the broad principle underlying it, watch the policy to which that Bill owes its origin with the keenest interest. (Applause.) We regard it as a step in the right direction which the present conditions of the country loudly call for, and as a mere instalment of those liberal concessions which, we all confidently expect, will be made to us hereafter. (Hear, hear.) Let us confidently rely on the noble traditions and instincts of the justness and liberality of the House of Commons, whose verdict we will calmly await without any misgiving, as we feel sure that it will be swayed not by ignorance or prejudice, but by the most thoughtful, just, prudent, and liberal counsels. (Applause.) Before I sit down I may inform the meeting that deputations have arrived from Poona, Sholapore, Ahmedabad, Surat, Broach, and Veeramgaum, and there is also a deputation from the Anjuman-i-Islam. A letter has been received from Sir Mongaldas Nathoobhoy, expressing his regret at being unable to attend the meeting, and another from Mr. Byramjee Jeejeebhoy, C.S.I., who has been prevented by sickness from being present on the occasion. Also a letter from Mr. Framjee Nosserwanjee Patel, expressing regret for not being able to attend, was received. With these remarks I call upon the Hon'ble Budroodin Tyabjee to move the first Resolution. (Applause.)

The Hon'ble Budroodin Tyabjee, who was received with loud cheers, said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—I think I have been present at a great many public meetings on various important occasions, some of them held in this very Town Hall, but I do not remember to have ever witnessed a larger, a more influential, or a more representative gathering than I see before me this evening. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, the occasion which has brought us together is indeed an important one. We have met together for the purpose of discussing calmly and dispassionately, and I trust without loss of dignity to ourselves or injustice to others, the proposed amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure. Gentlemen, whatever may be the feelings excited elsewhere, whatever may be the causes which have given rise to those feelings, whoever may be responsible for them, I think we the citizens of Bombay have indeed good reason to congratulate ourselves upon the comparatively serene atmosphere in which we have the good fortune to live. (Hear, hear). Gentlemen, I am one of those who think that strong, passionate, or abusive language is the surest sign of a bad cause. (Applause.) And so convinced am I of the truth of this saying that I should indeed be sorry if a single word, expression or sentiment dropped this evening either from my own lips or from those of any other speaker that could be justly held to give cause of offence to any section of her Majesty's subjects, and specially to that important European community with whom it should be our constant aim to live in peace and harmony, and, if possible, on terms of friendship, and to whom,

in spite of recent occurrences, we must always look up with more or less of respect, esteem and even admiration. (Loud cheers.) But, Gentlemen, if I thus counsel moderation, it is certainly not because I don't feel indignant at the unparalleled insults that have been offered to our whole Indian community at a great public meeting recently held in the metropolis. (Applause.) But because I am anxious that our countrymen should afford a striking, a memorable example of forbearance and self-restraint, even under the most trying circumstances, and because I am convinced that no language that we could use could add one jot to the severity of the condemnation which has already been pronounced upon the Calcutta proceedings by no less a personage than Her Majesty's representative in India, in no less a place than the Supreme Legislative Council when His Excellency the Viceroy—(Loud cheers)—denounced the language of the Calcutta orators as the language of "violence, of exaggeration, of misrepresentation, and menace." (Loud applause.) Now, gentlemen, what are the proposals of the Government of India that have given rise to all this heated discussion, to all this violent agitation? They are simply to invest a very small and select number out of the ablest, the most experienced, and the most distinguished of our Native Magistrates and Judges with an infinitesimal jurisdiction over European British subjects! (Applause.) Gentlemen, the proposals are in themselves so small, and but for the principle involved so utterly insignificant, that it would indeed have required the power of prophecy to have foretold the storm that has burst over Calcutta and overwhelmed the European community there, in a whirlwind of passion, prejudice, excitement, and even frenzy. But, gentlemen, however much we may regret this ebullition of feeling, however much we may consider it unjustifiable, it yet behoves us I think in a case of this kind where the interests of privileges, real or imaginary, of the European community are concerned, to inquire carefully into their allegations, and to see if there is really any foundation for the alarm which they profess to feel. Now, gentlemen, what are the grounds on which this violent opposition to the bill is sought to be justified? First, it is alleged that the Native Magistrates and Judges are likely to be swayed by their race prejudices in the decision of cases against Europeans. But, gentlemen, is it true in the first place that we Natives of India have any such prejudices? Is it true that we entertain any hostile feelings towards the European community? Gentlemen, I beg to give that statement the most emphatic contradiction. I have known Englishmen who entertain the strongest prejudices against the Natives of India, who look upon them as an inferior order of beings—(ironical cheers)—who refuse to associate with them on anything like terms of equality, but I have not come across a single Native of India who entertains similar feelings towards the European community. (Loud cheers.) But, gentlemen, even assuming for a moment the existence of these race prejudices, what reason is there for supposing that our Native Judges and Magistrates are more likely to be swayed by them than their European colleagues? Do not Hindu, Mussulman, and Parsi Judges and Magistrates every day dispose of cases in which the parties appearing before them belong to races, creeds and nationalities entirely different from their own? (Hear, hear.) Then what ground is there for believing that these Judges and Magistrates who hold the scales of justice with perfect impartiality in the case of all other communities should lose their balance of mind in the case of Europeans only? Gentlemen, I am convinced that this difficulty about the race prejudices, so far as we are concerned, has no existence but in the imagination of the opponents of this Bill, and I am inclined to think that in advancing this argument they have unconsciously let the cat out of the bag, they have in fact been judging by their own standards. (Hear, hear, and applause.) But, gentlemen, it is further alleged that a great deal of perjury prevails in India, that false charges are often brought against innocent parties, and that the absence of counsel and of public criticism would make it impossible for the Native Judges and Magistrates to dispense impartial justice to Europeans. But surely, gentlemen, these difficulties have been vastly exaggerated. India cannot boast the monopoly of perjury. The famous claimant Tichborn was not a native of India (Loud applause.) But so far as these difficulties do really exist, they exist in all cases. (Hear, hear.) They are more or less inherent in the administration of justice. They are not peculiar to cases where Europeans only are concerned. They are not confined to Native Magistrates only. A European Magistrate has to contend with these difficulties no less than his Native colleagues. He cannot get rid of them by the mere superiority of his race. The only means which will enable him to cope with them, are not the place of his birth or the colour of his skin, but precisely those qualifications which will be found in the Native Magistrates and Judges to whom this Bill will apply, *viz.*, great natural abilities, high legal attainments, and a ripe judicial experience. (Hear, hear.) But, gentlemen, if our Native Magistrates and Judges possess enough of these qualifications to overcome these difficulties in the thousands of cases that come before them where other communities are concerned, why are we to assume that they would fail to do so only when Europeans are brought before them? (Hear, hear.) Surely, gentlemen, it is but reasonable to suppose that our Native Magistrates and Judges, considering the peculiar position of the European community in India, would use more care and caution in dealing with Englishmen than even with their own countrymen. But, gentlemen, it is further alleged that our Native Magistrates and Judges are not sufficiently acquainted with the habits and customs of the European community, especially the lower orders. If this is a sound argument, every European Judge in India ought to be at once deprived of his jurisdiction over the Natives of the country! For what can be clearer than that even the highest of our judicial officers, even the Judges of the High Court, know but little of the masses of the Native community. (Hear, hear.) If our Native Covenanted Civil Servants who have spent years in England, who

freely mix with the best classes of the European community in India, are incompetent to try European offenders, by reason of their imperfect knowledge of the habits of the accused, it follows that European Judges, fresh from England and knowing not a word of the Indian languages, must be still more unfit to try the Natives of this country. (Applause.) This is surely a *reductio ad absurdum*. The truth, gentlemen, is that, although a special knowledge of ways of the accused is not without its use, what is really essential in the administration of criminal justice is, a sound knowledge of the law and a thorough aquaintance with the world combined with ability to appreciate evidence. It seems to me therefore, gentlemen, that unless the Government is prepared to admit that the whole administration of justice in India is utterly rotten to the core, that our Magistrates and Judges, both European and Native, ordinarily dispense, not justice, but injustice, or in the alternative, that the present exceptional and anomalous machinery of the law is provided and kept up, not so much for securing impartial justice, as for screening European offenders, unless one or the other of these preposterous conclusions is admitted, it will be impossible for His Excellency the Viceroy to attach the smallest weight to arguments founded purely on these considerations. (Applause.) But, gentlemen, it is further argued that it is a highly cherished privilege of the European community, and that it ought not to be taken away, because it causes no injustice to the Natives of this country. But, gentlemen, what can be greater injustice than to compel an unhappy complainant who may have a grievance against an Englishman, to undertake a long and tedious journey, at great cost and inconvenience to himself and his witnesses in search of a European Magistrate, because forsooth the Native Magistrate near at hand is incompetent to dispose of the charge, by reason of his race. Further, gentlemen, what can be greater injustice to the whole Indian community than to declare even the ablest of our Native Magistrates and Judges, no matter what their qualifications may be, as an inferior order of men, incapable of rising to that height of judicial excellence which is supposed to be necessary to try cases against Europeans? Gentlemen, I venture to think that the present state of the law is not only unjust, but it is insulting to us. (Cheers.) It is insulting to us, first because it brands even the ablest, the highest, and the most distinguished of our judicial officers with a galling and a perpetual mark of inferiority. (Renewed cheers.) It is insulting to us because it draws an invidious distinction between the European and the Native members of the same Covenanted Civil Service. It is insulting to us because it exalts the European British subjects into such superior beings as to declare that even the highest of our judicial officers shall be incapable of imprisoning him a single day or fining him a single rupee; and it is insulting to us because it degrades our own countrymen to such a depth as to declare in the very next breath that the same incompetent and unfit Magistrates and Judges, who are incapable of trying even the most trivial case of assault against an Englishman, are yet fit and competent to try millions of our own countrymen for the gravest charges, and even to condemn them to death? (Loud and prolonged cheers.) Gentlemen, the height of absurdity could go no further, and yet forsooth these are the arguments ostensibly put forward for the purpose of defeating this just, generous, and above all extremely moderate and cautious measure. But, gentlemen, I believe that the real opposition to this Bill is founded, not upon any sincere apprehensions as to miscarriage of justice, not upon any belief in these flimsy arguments, the hollowness of which I have had no difficulty in exposing, and which are not likely to deceive any candid politician, much less the sagacious statesman into whose hands the destinies of this great empire have been committed, but upon a dislike, more or less conscious, more or less intense, of the whole of Lord Ripon's administration. (Hear, and applause.) Gentlemen, there is a large section of the Anglo-Indian community which cannot fully reconcile itself to that fundamental principle which has been so often declared and repeated over and over again by successive Viceroys, Ministers, Secretaries of State, Parliaments, and even by Her Gracious Majesty herself,—that principle, the recognition of which forms the key-note to the whole of Lord Ripon's policy, that principle on which are based all our political rights, just hopes and legitimate aspirations; that principle, namely, which declares that the Natives of India are entitled to a just share in the administration of their own country, and that a mere difference in race, colour or creed shall not be just ground for distinction in political treatment. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, there is no principle better grounded in moral justice or political wisdom. Other Viceroys there have been who have accepted and recognized this principle in words, but Lord Ripon—(cheers)—is the only who has had the courage, the sagacity, the generosity, the prudence and the firmness to give effect to it in deeds. (Applause.) Gentlemen, they must indeed be short-sighted politicians who cannot see the justice and wisdom and the perfect safety of this principle. Lord Ripon's policy, founded on a just and generous treatment of the Natives of this country, so far from losing England's hold upon India, will rivet it and chain the affection of the people to the throne. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I have great faith in the justice and the firmness of the Government of India, but I have still greater faith in the noble instincts and the love of fair play which characterize the British Parliament and the British public; but, gentlemen, if the introduction of this Bill was in the first instance wise and politic—as I think it undoubtedly was—the passing of it now has become a matter of absolute political necessity. (Applause.) The withdrawal of the Bill under the present circumstances could be looked upon as nothing less than the surrender of right and reason to passion and prejudice—as the triumph of turbulent agitation, however wrong—over calm and respectful representations, however just and well-founded. (Applause.) Gentlemen, the moral effect of such a proceeding upon our vast and varied populations cannot fail to be

disastrous in the last degree. But if, on the other hand, this Bill, even with the modification mentioned by my friend the Sheriff, becomes law now—when it may yet be accepted as a simple act of justice, no less voluntary than graceful and not merely as a concession—as ten years hence extorted by irresistible popular agitation it will—it will be so far from shifting themes if on the other hand, the Bill becomes law, now, as I hope and trust it will—when it may yet be accepted as act of justice no less voluntary than graceful and not merely as a concession as ten years hence, extorted by irresistible popular agitation, it will so far from shifting or weakening the foundations of the British Empire in India consolidate and strengthen them. (Cheers.) Let Lord Ripon's generous and enlightened policy be continued, and India, instead of remaining as at present a source of weakness to England, will become a tower of strength; the British power, instead of resting upon the bayonets of the soldiers or the craven fears of a conquered and abject population will rest upon the far more honourable —and the only, and I venture to think, true—firm and endearing foundation, *viz.*, the affections and the gratitude of a happy, prosperous, and contented people. (Loud applause.) I beg to move "that in the opinion of this meeting the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure is necessary for the just and impartial administration of justice, and is in consonance with the righteous policy which the British Government has followed in the administration of this country. (Applause.)

Mr. Pherozeshah M. Mehta, who was received with loud and prolonged cheers, said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—In rising to second the resolution which has been just moved by my honourable friend Mr. B. Tyabjee, in a speech which you will agree with me in admiring as equally remarkable for its ability and eloquence as for the studied and dignified moderation of its tone (Cheers), I confess that I undertake the task which has been assigned to me with some degree of trepidation. Within the last few days we have been generously inundated with advice to preserve the utmost judicial calmness and moderation, without the slightest admixture of even judicial severity, not to allow an angry word or syllable to escape us, while we are also to put forth our case with force and vigour. Now, gentlemen, this advice is more easy to preach than to practise, and though I have resolved to use my best endeavours to achieve this golden mean, I cannot quite escape a feeling of some nervousness as to the success of this rather difficult experiment. (Laughter.) But, gentlemen, I have one consolation that, in whatever I may say, I will be guided by two sentiments of which I am firmly and sincerely conscious, and which will never permit me to say anything which will be needlessly offensive or malicious. (Hear, hear.) If I entertain one political conviction more strongly than another, it is that this country, in falling under British rule, has fallen into the hands of a nation than which no other is better qualified to govern her wisely and well. Look among all the leading nations of the world, and you will not find one who, both by her faults and by her virtues, is so well adapted to steer her safe on the path of true progress and prosperity. (Cheers.) It is true that the English are a stubborn piece of humanity who might well be asked sometimes to take to heart the exhortation addressed once to the chosen people of God, "Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiff-necked," but it must be acknowledged, at the same time, that it is perhaps this very trait which has preserved this country from rash and extreme experiments and has put it on a path of sure, though slow, development. (Cheers.) Secondly, in setting up as a critic of Englishmen in India, I fully recognise that I do not set up any claim of superiority; I do not set up as a superior person who could have done better under similar circumstances. On the contrary, gentlemen, I believe most of the Natives who have devoted any thought to this subject are ready to recognise that if they were placed in the position of the dominant race, God knows how they might have strutted before high Heaven and performed antics which might make angels weep. (Hear, hear.) At the same time, gentlemen, I feel confident that Englishmen will frankly admit that this circumstance gives them no immunity from criticism, nor gives them any right to be impatient if they are judged by the principles they themselves have introduced and taught as the principles on which their work in this country must be finally judged. (Cheers.) The nervousness which I have admitted is therefore allayed by the consciousness that even if I err, I will not set down aught in malice. My fear and trembling, however, are not quite at an end, and that is in consequence of the attitude which our European friends have taken up in regard to the public expression of Native opinion on this Jurisdiction Bill which we are met here to consider to-day. That attitude is not unlike that of the amiable Scotchman described by Charles Lamb, who pitched into you for your presumption, if you ventured to go in for praise of his great national poet, and performed the same operation on you for your ignorance if you dared to find fault with him. (Laughter.) Much in the same humour, our European friends are disposed to rebuke us for our obstreperousness, if we make bold to express our opinion of this Bill in public meeting assembled, and are just as ready to take advantage of us on the score of our indifference if we sit quiet without blowing the feeblest counter-blast to the incessant sounding of trumpets and clashing of cymbals, which is kept up even until now all over the country, to fright away this poor little Bill. (Laughter and applause.) This attitude may lay claim, I admit, to some amount of rather grim humour, but I trust our European friends will not be very hard upon us, if we refuse to be tossed about in this manner on the two horns of such a dilemma as they present to us, and prudently hold fast by the one which does us least injury. But as soon as we decide, gentlemen, after anxious consideration, to hold a public meeting, another mine is sprung upon us. We are told that

we have no concern with this Bill at all. (Laughter); that it is only a little matter between Lord Ripon and the Europeans in India, in which the parties have got rather hot with each other, that, in fact, we have no *locus standi* at all to take part in the argument. Now, gentlemen, of all the cool and astonishing things which have been said in the controversy on this Bill (and they are not few), it seems to me that this is about the most cool and astonishing. (Applause.) For nothing can be clearer than that the Natives have the most immediate and vital concern in the subject-matter of this Bill. I do not refer here to the handful of Native Civilians who might get extended jurisdiction under it. I do not speak here of the educated English-speaking Natives, who might be supposed to sympathise with Native Civilians. But I speak of the masses of the Native population, and I say that they are as directly and strongly interested in this Bill as any European British-born subject. (Hear, hear.) As sure as there are two parties to an offence—the offending party and the suffering party—both, the one as well as the other, are interested in the trial in which they are respectively to appear as complainant and accused. Either may suffer by a miscarriage of justice. As courts of criminal law are constituted in the mofussil, the interest of the Natives is still more close and vital. If a European commits an offence against a Native, the latter has seriously to consider whether it would be worth his while to bring the offender to justice, remembering that he and his witnesses may have to bear no inconsiderable loss of time and trouble and expense in hunting after a qualified Magistrate. (Applause.) Has it never been inquired into in the course of this controversy how many offences committed by Europeans have never been brought to the cognisance of courts of justice, in consequence of the difficulties thus created by this dear and cherished privilege of being tried by their peers? (Hear, hear.) I can tell you, gentlemen, that the popular impression in the mofussil about this valuable privilege is that, it is simply an immunity practically enjoyed by Europeans from the consequences of a large class of offences committed by them against natives. (Applause.) Only the other day I happened to be at Surat and had a conversation about this bill, not with educated natives, but with true unsophisticated children of the soil from the other side of the Tapti. I will relate to you, gentlemen, the conversation I had with these natives, utterly unspoilt by a knowledge of English, particularly as it is advanced by the opponents of the bill, that the agitation in favour of it is created only by the educated natives, in which the masses take no interest whatsoever. They, the people I speak of, asked me if we in Bombay were not going to stir in the matter and support the bill, as they said that the privilege at present enjoyed by Europeans meant simply in a large number of cases immunity from prosecution altogether, as the trouble and expense of a trial before a competent magistrate were very great, and further as they had a very poor chance in the case of ordinary offences before a European Magistrate, when the offender was a European. And they gave me an instance within their own knowledge of a European (a man not highly placed, be it fairly admitted) who went about bragging in their part of the country that he could ill-treat natives as he liked, as no native magistrate could try him, and no European magistrate would believe any d—d lot of native witnesses. (Laughter and applause.) The word 'd—d' is a free translation of my own of the vernacular word used in the conversation. Gentlemen, I do not offer this European as a representative European, or this story either, as a representative story. It is, unfortunately, too much the fashion, both with natives and Europeans, to moralise on isolated instances as if they were always typical ones. But I think this story very forcibly illustrates both the interest which the natives have in the subject-matter of this Bill, and the interest which they take in the controversy and agitation about it. (Applause.) A *locus standi*, gentlemen, we most assuredly have in this controversy, if European British subjects hold that of the accused, we have the *locus standi* of the complainants. Now, gentlemen, I don't propose to take up your time by entering into a discussion of the merits of this bill, after the able and exhaustive treatment of it by Mr. Tyabjee. But all his arguments rest upon one assumption, his inferences follow logically and irresistibly, if there is no question about this assumption. Mr. Tyabjee was perfectly justified in arguing upon the basis of this assumption; for it is founded upon the declared policy of the Crown with regard to the Government of this country. But in the progress of the controversy, the opponents of the bill have perceived that their arguments cannot be maintained till they attacked the wisdom of this policy. So now they deliberately urge that this bill is in itself a matter of little moment, but their fears are aroused as it indicates the shifting of the foundations of British power in India. Denouncing the wisdom of the declared policy of the Crown, or urging that its declarations in that respect were not meant to be practically acted upon, they boldly say that India has been conquered by force and must be governed by force. In preaching this gospel of might with regard to the government of this country, they have found a devoted supporter in England in Sir Fitzjames Stephen, and a somewhat doubtful one in Lord Salisbury. They ridicule the policy of righteousness as one of weak sentiment, and seem almost to adopt, with scarcely disguised approval, the vigorous summary of their position given recently by Mr. Bright—(loud cheers)—in his own peculiarly happy manner, that, having won India by breaking all the Ten Commandments, it is too late now to think of maintaining it on the principles of the sermon on the mount. (Laughter and applause.) Our European friends will pardon me if I say that a good many of them have a sneaking, when they have not a pronounced, partiality for this proposition, while they consider that the platitudes about England's duty to India, and the other quotations from Lord Macaulay and others about a "policy of national wisdom, national prosperity, and

national honour" have no business to intrude in practical politics, but are only good enough to be spouted by native orators on public occasions. (Hear, hear.) For many years the policy of governing India on principles of justice and equality for all the Queen's subjects, of whatever caste and creed, has never been so openly and so furiously called in question as now. It therefore seems to me, gentlemen, that this is a time when, without overstepping the limits of our loyalty or our gratitude, we may properly and justifiably examine the propositions which have been thus advanced, and try to show that the declared policy of the Crown was adopted after long and careful consideration—not on grounds of weak sentiment, that it was adopted not simply because it was a policy dictated by honour and justice (which we cheerfully and gratefully acknowledge that it is), but also because it was a policy dictated by the true interest of England herself, because in no other way could England hope to preserve her great dependency with the greatest amount of safety and profit to herself. (Cheers.) In the first place, gentlemen, it is said that India was won by the sword. Now I say that Englishmen don't do justice to themselves when they read Indian history in this way. Though it cannot be denied that there are many pages in this history blotted by error and crime, England has won India not simply by the sword, but in a large measure by the exercise of high moral and intellectual qualities which have not only guided its victories, but have always been on the alert to neutralise its baneful influences. (Cheers.) But, gentlemen, however India was won, can it be maintained with safety and profit by the sword only? This is too large a question to be treated fully in a public meeting like this, but I will lay before you three considerations which, I think, show that it is impossible. First, India maintained by England by the power of her armies would be a heavy burden on her in case of her being involved in European complications. It is utterly improbable that England can always escape being dragged into the contests, rivalries and ambitions of the other European powers. What with France with her desire to extend her colonial empire, with Italy anxious for the African Coast right against her, with Russia intent upon extending and consolidating her power in Asia, with the other powers jealously watching these, however great and powerful England may be, the strain of such entanglements cannot but tell upon her, and one day she may find herself in a predicament in which India may simply hang as a millstone on her neck. (Loud applause.) We must not forget the contingency of the American powers appearing on the scene and complicating matters dreadfully. Ireland is another thorn in the side of England, and what a lesson she teaches as to how hard and difficult it is to undo the mistakes of a policy of force centuries after they were committed! How nobly has England been struggling to redeem the consequences of such a policy, and yet how slowly she succeeds in undoing the mischief of the past! But, secondly, there is another Nemesis attending a policy of force. That policy would require day by day larger English armies and larger English Civil services. In progress of time, large numbers of Englishmen trained in the maxims of despotism and saturated with autocratic predilections, would return to their native home, where they could not but look with intolerance on free and constitutional forms. This is no visionary speculation; careful English observers have already noticed traces of such a tendency. In the course of a few generations such a tendency, if not checked, would develope into a mighty influence, and the free and constitutional government of England which has been so long the pride of the world, would be placed in the deadliest jeopardy. (Cheers.) Rome was once proud of her sturdy freedom and her republicanism; she lost both in the extension of her despotic empire. She has left, however, a valuable lesson, and it has been well and truly said that, for the sake of all that she values most, her own freedom and civilization, England must raise India to her own level, or India will drag her down to hers. (Loud applause.) The third consideration on this point I have to lay before you relates to the benefit to be derived from the commercial intercourse between the two countries. With a policy of force, as I have said before, the resources of India would be drained in the first instance in maintaining large costly armies and huge services; the country would be thus too much impoverished to admit of her developing the great material resources which Nature has showered on her. In India, impoverished and emasculated, the English merchant would only be an emaciated attendant in the rear of the English soldier and the English civilian, and English commercial enterprise, more glorious even than her military enterprise, would find no congenial field. I have thus, gentlemen, very hastily and very imperfectly sketched the consequences to England herself of a policy of force. Now look at the other picture. With India educated, civilised, contented and loyal, what a help she would be to England in her time of need, what a field for commercial enterprise, what reciprocal benefits from intercommunion in every way! (Loud cheers.) How great England is even now, with her Indian possessions governed on the present declared policy of the Crown! She would wax greater and greater with every legitimate development of that policy. I say therefore, gentlemen, that of the two policies on which India could be governed, England has chosen that which will secure her own best interests with those of India herself, (Applause.) When, in the inscrutable dispensations of Providence, India was assigned to the care of England, one can almost imagine that the choice was offered to her, as to Israel of old. "Behold, I have set before you this day a blessing and a curse. A blessing, if ye will obey the commandments of the Lord your God which I have commanded this day; a curse if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I have commanded this day, to go after other gods which ye have not known." England has chosen wisely and well; she has discarded the temptations held forth by the passions of selfishness, prejudice and vain-glory, she has chosen to follow "the Eternal that maketh for

righteousness." She has deliberately declared by the mouths of her greatest and most trusted statesmen, she has proclaimed it through the lips of Her Gracious Majesty herself (cheers), that India is to be governed on the principles of justice, equality and righteousness, without distinctions of colour, caste or creed. (Loud applause.) Our English friends, therefore, gentlemen, must make up their minds to discuss this bill on the basis of this declared policy of the Crown. (Cheers). On that basis I say the case for passing the bill is simply irresistible, as my friend Mr. Tyabjee has shewn. I will only refer to one argument which may be shortly described as the 'anomaly' argument. Now, gentlemen, this word anomaly has a good deal to complain of as to the treatment it has received at the hands of the opponents of this bill. Never has any word in the English language before been so cruelly maltreated. But it must sit quiet under its injuries at present, as till the bill is passed, it cannot secure conviction before a European magistrate. This anomaly argument, however, is perfect if it is properly regarded. It derives its force from actual fact and experience. However anomalous the position of Englishmen in India, still it can be made, and has been made, the basis of a righteous policy. In the prosecution of that policy, native magistrates have already exercised jurisdiction over Europeans, with the most satisfactory success in the Presidency towns. Race feeling and native perjury have not been able to mar the experiment. But it is said that that is because of the existence of a public opinion in the Presidency towns which does not exist in the Mofussil. But this plausible argument yields to a close examination. The argument admits that public opinion is sufficient to countervail the dreaded consequences of race prejudice and false swearing. Let us see, then, if in the Mofussil there is not a force which can operate in the same way. I say that there is, and a stronger one than public opinion, that of the official opinion of the European district officers, which would work on the native magistrate more directly, and expeditiously and more closely, as all his interests and predilections and associations would closely connect him and make him dependent on them. (Applause). I say, gentlemen, this argument takes the whole question from the domain of speculation, and brings it within that of observed fact and experience, which establish that native magistrates can be safely trusted with jurisdiction over Europeans. Before concluding, however, I am desirous of saying a word about the storm of passion and prejudice which, commencing in the Calcutta Town Hall, has so spread over the whole land. (Hear, hear.) Some of my native friends are disposed to be very hard upon these angry and excited people. I, for one, gentlemen, however, am inclined to make great allowances for, nay, almost to treat with tenderness, this sudden ebullition of anger and fury, when I realize the real character of it. (Hear, hear, laughter, and applause.) Gentlemen, all men have their nobler and baser instincts struggling within them, and you will find that even in the most well-disciplined organizations, in the most well-balanced minds, after the nobler instincts have well established their sway, a moment comes when the smallest rift upsets the work of years, casts everything into confusion, and generates a whirlwind at which those who knew the men before as good and worthy stand aghast. (Cheers.) So it seems it has been the case with Europeans in India. But this abnormal ebullition lasts only for a short time, and I am sure, gentlemen, that soon after this Bill is passed—(cheers)—as passed it will be, Englishmen will themselves smile at the wonderful things they have said and done about this Bill. (Hear, hear.) At present dire prophesies are proclaimed as to the ill-feeling which has been created between Natives and Europeans by the introduction of this Bill, which is to leave effects for ever so long. Gentlemen, I will, with your permission, indulge in a truer vein of prophesy. The newspapers have recently informed us that Mr. Branson has left for England. (Laughter.) Most probably he will return a short time after this Bill is passed, and there has been time for angry feelings and prejudices to calm down. I can then picture to myself, Mr. Branson and Lalmohun Ghose, as soon as they meet in Calcutta, rushing into each other's arms—(loud laughter)—singing the song,

"As through the land at eve we went,
And plucked the ripened ears,
We fell out, my wife and I,
O, we fell out, I know not why,
And kissed again with tears.
And blessings on the falling out,
Which all the more endears,
When we fall out with those we love,
And kiss again with tears."

(Loud laughter and applause.) In presenting this touching tableau, I say, gentlemen, that this Bill, which Lord Ripon has introduced in the honest and well-considered prosecution of his far-sighted and sagacious administration, holds forth hopeful promises of improved relations between the Natives and Europeans in this country.

The speaker resumed his seat amidst great cheering.

The Honourable Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik said—Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy and gentlemen,—The task of reading the memorial which is to be adopted to-day has been entrusted to me, and before I carry it out, I take the liberty of submitting a few remarks for your consideration. If it were left to me, I should have preferred to place before you the resolution which I have to propose, without any prefatory speech, because after my two learned friends have exhaustively disposed of nearly all the arguments opposed to the acceptance of the Bill, little is left for me to say on that head. There are occasions when silence may be misconstrued, and I consider the present as one of those occasions. I shall, however, content myself with a few

words on matters on which my learned friends have not yet spoken, and to which no reference, except a passing remark, seems to have been made in the voluminous proceedings that have just come to hand of the debate in the Viceroy's Council. I believe, gentlemen, the present Bill is simply the historical outcome of the consistent, continued, high-minded, and generous policy of the Government of British India from the time of the Marquis of Hastings. (Cheers.) I pass over the period of more than forty years, down to the time of the passing of the so-called Black Act, which removed the civil disabilities of the trying judges here. All civil claims could after that Act be tried, and are now being tried, from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin, by all judges of all nationalities, according to the powers entrusted to them by the statute law of the country. At the time of the renewal of the last Charter, or rather at the time of the discussions for the renewal of the last Charter, in 1852-53, up came the question of the extension of the powers of proper persons selected from the native community to represent the various administrative branches of the service. Persons of mature experience, like Sir George Clark and Sir Frederick Halliday, questioned, on grounds which some of you might pronounce whimsical, the expediency of admitting natives into Legislative Councils and the superior branches of the service, and their several arguments in support of their views may be found in the Commission Books of 1853. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal (Sir Frederick Halliday) urged that if the natives of this country were appointed to high posts, it would occasion jealousy and other evils; and he mentioned the case of a gentleman appointed to a high office by Lord Dalhousie, in support of this view. But, gentlemen, experience has shown that those fears were groundless. The fact is that within ten years of giving his evidence Sir George Clark himself, in the Durbar-room of this very Town Hall, congratulated his Native colleagues in the Legislative Council on their admission into that assembly to assist the deliberations of Government. (Cheers.) Subsequent experience has shown, and will show, how far the natives have realized the expectations formed of them in the discharge of the important duties of legislators. The next step was to declare the High Courts open to the admission of qualified native gentlemen as judges of these courts, or of those courts which are known throughout the land as the courts of the Queen-Empress. Here, for the last twenty years, every subject of the Queen has been amenable to the civil as well as criminal jurisdiction of qualified native gentlemen who have the honour of seats on the benches of these high tribunals. Experience has also shown that even criminal sessions held by these judges have caused no inconvenience, no public scandal, no injustice, nothing unfair on the part of those who were either being tried, or those who tried them. When I have spoken of the very heads of the judicial administration, you will pardon me for not going into details. However, there is one point which I must here mention. As I have said, the present measure is simply the historical outcome of the educational and political policy of the Government of India. Gentlemen, the political policy was enunciated so far back as 1833, in the discussions which preceded that year with reference to the India Bill, which was passed. But in the educational policy there have been several changes and perturbations, and after the memorable year 1857 there were not wanting many, be they natives of India or foreigners, who attacked the policy of the State, on the ground that the education that was given was not the best calculated to promote the political interests of the British Empire. You will remember that the policy of the *Friend of India* at the time was, if I may say so without offence, certainly opposed to the interests of the people of that magnificent province where that paper is published, namely, the masses of Bengal. And when I say the masses of Bengal, I do not exclude the masses of their countrymen in other Presidencies. But you must remember that the tone of the paper takes its colour mostly from the writer's predilections for the inhabitants of Bengal. After examining the whole of the policy, in one of the articles which you will find in the early numbers of 1859, the writer pronounces unequivocally that much as he dislikes the young educated Bengali, or for that matter the young educated native, he prefers him altogether to those who are set up against him, namely, the old-fashioned and pliant people of "the good old times." (Cheers.) If, therefore, you review the several periods from 1853 to 1859, from 1859 to 1863, and from 1863 to 1883, you will find that a period of some twenty years has elapsed during which Native Covenanted Civilians have been discharging their high functions to satisfaction. For a period of nearly thirty years natives have been acting as judges of Her Majesty's High Courts. For more than twenty years native gentlemen of education and influence have been discharging their duties to the very best of their power in the various consultative Councils, both of the Supreme Government of India and of the provincial Governments of Bombay, Bengal, and Madras. If any disaster has resulted from any of these measures, if members of the Legislative Council like Mr. Quinton and Mr. James Gibbs—the honourable gentleman whom you have often heard in this hall (cheers)—if these gentlemen tell you that this Bill is an administrative necessity, all I can say is that we are in very good company in supporting a movement which has the approval of several successive Secretaries of State, both Conservative and Liberal, and several distinguished Viceroys, not the least distinguished of whom is the one who now fills to the glory of the British Empire the high office of the Queen's Deputy. (Loud cheers.) If, I say, the Bill, backed up by high legal and constitutional authorities, and by the voice of the impartial public represented by the House of Commons, and having for its object the practical, though it may be the distant, improvement of more than 250 millions of mankind, were presented to the public, and if the public were asked for its vote on the Bill, all I have to say is, that you will pause before you reject such high authorities as are in support of the measure. But seeing how you have received the speeches of my predecessors, I have no doubt

that with one unanimous verdict you will say that we should adopt such a memorial as the one which I shall now read and submit to your acceptance. (Cheers.)

The memorial is as follows:—

To His Excellency the Most Honourable George Frederick Samuel, Marquis of Ripon, K.G., P.C., G.C.B., Viceroy and Governor General of India.

The Humble Memorial of the Native Inhabitants of Bombay at a Public Meeting assembled

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your memorialists observe with much satisfaction the Bill introduced into your Excellency's Legislative Council, on the 9th February last, for the purpose of amending certain grave defects existing in the Code of Criminal Procedure at present in force in this country. These defects had been for many years past the subject of very considerable complaints which found formal and pointed expression in your Excellency's Legislative Council in March 1882, when the present Code was passed and when an amendment having the same object as the present Bill was brought before the Council and withdrawn only upon a promise given that the subject would receive early and more careful consideration than could be bestowed on it at the time.

2. Your memorialists beg at the very outset to disclaim any desire for the removal of any privilege enjoyed and really valued by any particular class of Her Majesty's subjects when those privileges are such as involve no injury to any other class. But your memorialists hold that the privilege continued to British-born subjects of Her Majesty under the present Code of Criminal Procedure is one which, besides being singular as the only class privilege recognised in the administration of the Criminal Law, does involve injury, and very serious injury, to other classes of Her Majesty's subjects in this country; and they further hold that the curtailment of that privilege as attempted in the Bill now under discussion is in its extent the slightest that could be looked upon as at all meeting the circumstances of the case.

3. The administrative inconveniences which have been occasioned by the maintenance of the privilege in question; the inconvenience, not to say injustice, which parties to and witnesses in criminal proceedings in which European British subjects are the accused persons, are put to in consequence of that privilege; the mark of inferiority which it implies on one gradually increasing class of officers in Her Majesty's service, and the occasional injustice which must be expected to occur in the distribution of the various administrative districts to those officers if the said privilege is maintained untouched; all these are considerations which, taken together, ought, memorialists submit, to strongly weigh with the British Government in India, having regard to the policy of that Government as often authoritatively declared, and nowhere in better or more forcible language than in the great Proclamation of 1858, in which Her Most Gracious Majesty used the following memorable words:—

"We hold ourselves bound to the Natives of our Indian Territories by the same obligations of duty which bind us to all our other subjects, and those obligations by the blessing of Almighty God, we shall faithfully and conscientiously fulfil." And again, "it is our earnest desire . . . to administer its Government for the benefit of all our subjects resident therein. In their prosperity will be our strength, in their contentment our security, and in their gratitude our best reward. And may the God of all Power grant unto us and to those in authority under us strength to carry out these our wishes for the good of our people."

4. Your memorialists gladly admit that the principles above referred to have, in a general way, and to some extent, practically guided the Government of our country, and the history of British Indian Administration in the past exhibits a constant, if somewhat slow progress of equalising the status before the law of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects. Your memorialists accordingly consider the Bill in question as only one short step in the direction in which British policy in this country has uniformly progressed. And they can therefore only deplore the spirit of partisanship which the Bill has roused in a section of Her Majesty's subjects. But they cannot help feeling that that spirit has not been roused by this Bill alone, and that behind that spirit lies a strong antagonism to the whole policy of the present Government of India—a policy, which your memorialists submit, is not only just and beneficent in itself, but is also in consonance with, and is the proper outcome of principles which have been laid down for upwards of half a century by successive Parliaments, Secretaries of State for India, and the Governments of India, and above all, calculated to promote the best interests of both England and India.

5. Your memorialists maintain, that when the principle is once admitted that the natives of this country ought to be appointed in gradually increasing numbers to posts in the service of Her Majesty which in their ordinary functions include the trial of offences committed by European subjects, a very strong case is made out for such legislation as is attempted in this Bill. It is the duty of the statesman to provide in due season for an adaptation of the whole administrative machinery to that principle before an overwhelming number of cases actually arise in which such adaptation may be specifically required.

6. Your memorialists would crave leave to add a few words upon certain specific points made in connexion with this subject.

7. The existence of this anomalous and invidious distinction which the Bill seeks to remove is sought to be justified by the assumed incapacity of Native Magistrates to deal with cases in which British-born subjects are concerned. The grounds alleged for this assumption

are:—(1) that Native Magistrates are likely to be swayed by race prejudices. (2) That they are not sufficiently acquainted with European manners and customs. (3) That much perjury prevails in India. (4) That false and trumped up charges are often brought against innocent parties. (5) That the aid of experienced counsel cannot be had in the Mufassal.

8. First as to race prejudices, it must be remembered that the Magistrates who are to be entrusted with jurisdiction over Europeans will of necessity be tried and trusted servants of Government, who have gone through years of training, and who have by their qualifications attained high positions such as those of District Magistrates or as Session Judges. The other persons who are eligible for these extended powers are those Covenanted Civil Servants, Assistant Commissioners or Cantonment Magistrates only, who have been specially selected by Government to be Justices of the Peace.

9. Your memorialists would respectfully submit that it is impossible to suppose that any one of these Magistrates—most of whom must necessarily have been educated in England and have thus come into social contact with Europeans—could entertain any hostile prejudices against the English people. Surely the blessings of English rule—which no one knows better—which no one appreciates better than the educated natives of India—are calculated to produce not a feeling of hostility, not a feeling of prejudice against the English people, but rather a feeling of respect, gratitude and admiration. The idea, therefore, of wilful injustice must, your memorialists submit, be dismissed as a gross and unjustifiable libel, unfair alike to the English Government in India and to the Native Magistrates.

10. Wilful injustice being thus out of the question, is there any reasonable ground for supposing that Native Magistrates are more likely to be unconsciously swayed by race prejudices than their European colleagues? In considering this question one must not forget the high training the Magistrates in question must have received before they are entrusted with the powers proposed to be given under the Bill,—nor the fact that Hindu Magistrates try every day questions in which Hindus, Parsees, and Mussulmans may be opposed to each other, and *vice versâ*. Now it has never been alleged that Hindu, Mussulman or Parsee Magistrates unjustly convict persons belonging to a different race or creed from their own. Then why should it be supposed that these Magistrates would be unjustly influenced by race prejudices in the case of Europeans only?

11. As to want of acquaintance with European manners and customs, your memorialists submit that this is not true in the case of Natives who have been educated in England or even those who have received a high English education in this country and who have for years mixed with Europeans in their own country and in India on a footing of equality and friendship. On the contrary, your memorialists would submit that Covenanted Native Civil Servants are likely to be better acquainted with European manners and customs than many European Magistrates are and can generally be, with the habits and customs of the Natives of this country.

12. In regard to perjury and false and trumped up charges, and the absence of counsel, surely experienced Native Magistrates are as well able to deal with these difficulties as their European colleagues, or rather more, from their intimate knowledge of Natives. These difficulties are not alleged to be confined to European cases only—but to occur in all cases. But if the Magistrates are able to detect perjury and to discover trumped up charges, even in the absence of counsel, when levelled against the Natives of this country—surely they would be equally able to detect them when they have to try cases in which Europeans are concerned.

13. And your memorialists submit that the multiplication of railways and the telegraph has made it easy for parties to engage counsel, or to communicate readily with the Government or the High Court, which could not have been done in former times; while the High Courts in India have now been invested with ample powers to transfer cases on all occasions where such a step may seem desirable. If then these Magistrates are admittedly competent to administer justice to the millions of India—it can hardly be seriously argued that they are unfit to deal with the few cases in which Europeans are concerned. Your memorialists cannot believe that Natives are more governed by race prejudices than Europeans. They think that quite the contrary is the fact.

14. Under these circumstances your memorialists would respectfully ask whether it is just, dignified or politic to have one set of scales for administering justice to the Natives of this country and quite another for Europeans? Whether our Courts are good enough for trying questions of life and death for the 200 millions of Her Majesty's Indian subjects but not fit to try even the most trivial questions in regard to Englishmen, and whether the present exceptional and anomalous provisions of the law are not calculated to lead the Natives of this country to believe that they are intended more to screen European offenders than to secure impartial justice.

15. Lastly, your memorialists emphatically deny the gross misrepresentation that the Natives of this country care nothing for this Bill. They, on the contrary, assert that they are keenly and deeply interested in it. They have watched and will continue to watch its fate with the most intense anxiety. In the opinion of your memorialists the principle involved in this Bill is of the most vital importance to their interests and welfare. The question really is, whether the Natives of this country—no matter what their qualifications, their attainments, their learning, their experience, and their services in the cause of their country may be—are always to be treated as an inferior race of men; whether that inferiority is constantly to be marked by invidious and galling distinctions? And this question, as already indicated, has now to be considered as part of the still larger question:—whether India is to be governed upon the

righteous principles which were announced by Her Most Gracious Majesty and have guided your Excellency's enlightened policy, or upon those of the opponents of this Bill?

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall for ever pray.

Bombay, April 1883.

Mr. Nanabhoy Byramjee Jeejeebhoy, who was received with loud cheers, said:—Honourable Sir and gentlemen,—I beg to second the Honourable the Rao Sahib's proposition for the adoption of the memorial. After what has fallen from my friends who have already addressed the meeting I believe very little is left for me to say in support of the memorial, which so forcibly speaks for itself. And yet, gentlemen, as a native of India, as a faithful, though humble, subject of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress, and as a citizen of Bombay, I feel I should not be content with the mere formal seconding of the resolution for the adoption of the memorial. Whatever its intrinsic worth may be, I feel that I should say a few words by way of a brief exposition of its great importance to some of the most vital concerns of my countrymen, the natives of India. I think this to be necessary, the more so when it is urged from quarters, if not quite friendly, certainly by no means deadly hostile to the Honourable Mr. Ilbert's Bill, that it does not concern the natives and, therefore, no natives need interfere in the matter of it, which, again, it is said, must be settled between the Government who have attempted the proposed amendments in the Criminal Procedure Code and the opponents of the same. We are in fact, asked by those who claim to be our friends to be quiet lookers-on as if we were nobodies having anything to do with the subject-matter of the much abused Bill. (Applause.) Now, gentlemen, you will have remarked from what is set out in the memorial that the bill concerns us natives of India as much as any other class of Her Majesty's subjects living or residing within the boundaries of Her Indian Dominions. (Hear, hear.) Our political status, our social well-being, our rights as British subjects guaranteed to us by Acts of Parliament and gracious Royal Proclamations, suggest to us the necessity of seeing the Honourable Mr. Ilbert's Bill become the law of the land. And when urged on by such necessity it cannot be a fault in us if we decline to remain passive observers of what is going on around us or in the country. Duty and interest alike have called us together here to raise our voice in the manner we are now doing in support of the political, necessary, and provident measure of the Government of the Most Noble the Marquis of Ripon. (Loud cheers.) By means of the memorial we shall convince all the world how earnestly we feel the great importance and high value of the proposed measure and render nugatory the misrepresentation referred to in that memorial, that the natives of this country care nothing for the Bill. We for ourselves and on behalf of our countrymen at large state in the most emphatic and unequivocal terms possible that we are "keenly and deeply interested" in the Bill, since the principle therein involved is of the most vital importance to our worldly concerns and welfare. (Loud applause.) That principle embraces the most momentous questions referred to at the end of the memorial, namely, whether the natives of this country, no matter what their qualifications, their attainments, &c., are always to be treated as an inferior race of men, and whether that inferiority is constantly to be marked by "invidious and galling distinctions." A partial solution of this question in a manner fitting the promises and policy of the British Government will be the passing into law of the Bill of the Honourable Mr. Ilbert. Hence the solicitude, and the eagerness of the Natives of India, specially the intelligent classes, to support actively the action of the Government of India in the matter. (Cheers.) Action taken, be it remembered, in consequence of the urgent, clearly pronounced, and oft-repeated wishes of the representatives of our countrymen in the Legislative Council and the public press for some legislation of the kind which the Bill now seeks to provide. We have assembled on the present occasion to prove by our demonstration of this day that we cannot remain passive while the modicum of justice due to our country according to the deliberate Acts of Parliament and solemn Royal Proclamations, is formally granted to us in the manner that the Bill of the Honourable Mr. Ilbert proposes to provide and our countrymen have been persistently praying for. And when doing so nothing is further from our intention and our act than doing the least harm or injury to our fellow British subjects. (Hear, hear.) While seeking for further administrative convenience to the State and agreeable redress from what we feel to be a grievance to ourselves, we have weighed carefully and dispassionately and with a lively sense of all that is due to our fellow British subjects. We have reflected seriously and deeply so as to make our memorial perfectly consistent with our desire to give no ground of just complaint to our European friends. Nor has our task been difficult or unpleasant excepting so far that we have had to do our work against not any valid or reasonable opposition to the Bill on the part of our European friends, but against their unjustifiable prejudices against our countrymen, mistaken notions about their so-called privileges. The same have been disposed of by previous speakers and to the effect as stated in the memorial which I am asking you to adopt. The memorial embraces answers to all the objections hitherto urged against the Bill, and in a manner that all independent judges must admit as sufficient in every sense. It clearly shows that the tendency of the Bill on becoming a pucca Act will be to improve the social and political status of the Natives, to add to the convenience of the Government, to strengthen the cause of public justice and to occasion no harm or humiliation to Europeans such as some of the opponents of the Bill are pleased to imagine without sufficient cause. Gentlemen, I would here refer you to what the state of affairs is under the present law and you will at once see the force of my arguments urging you to support the memorial in order to improve that state as regards the Natives without inconveniencing Europeans as far as the ends of justice are concerned. The introduction

of railways and the opening up of other industries in the interior of the country has enabled many Europeans generally of the artizan class to live in the mufassal and it very often occurs that these men come into collision with the Natives, and as the law stands at present any case in which a Native has to lay a complaint against a European, he is under a considerable disadvantage, in that he cannot obtain justice on the spot but must go in quest of it perhaps thirty or a hundred miles away from home where a European Magistrate may happen to be. In the majority of cases the complainant, who is a labourer earning three or four annas a day at the most, is obliged to put up with a wrong rather than give up his work for days together and to take his witnesses to the Court at other considerable sacrifices to himself. It is for the protection of such men, and not simply for the glorification of the native officials that a change in the existing law is called for, and I am surprised that there should be so much alarm exhibited by the better class of Europeans against the just and impartial provisions of the Bill. It is also surprising that foreigners should have joined in the opposition to the Bill, which affects only the limited class of British subjects defined in section 3, clause V, of the Criminal Procedure Code. Those Europeans and Eurasians who fall outside the definition given in the section above referred to, will not be worse than they are now were the Bill to become law to-morrow. They are at present as much liable to be tried by Native Judges and Magistrates as any Native, and if anything, the passing of the proposed amendment will be beneficial to them. I shall show how. Take a case in which a German gentleman in the mufassal has had a quarrel with his English servant or neighbour and the two obtain cross summons against each other. As the law is administered at present, the German could be proceeded with before the Native Magistrate on the spot, whereas the countercharge against the Englishman would have to be forwarded some 50 miles or a hundred to be adjudicated by a British Magistrate and a Justice of the Peace. Under the proposed amendment the German would have equal justice with the Briton and so would the Native. I am surprised at the demand which is being made in certain quarters to have justice dealt out according to the nationality of the opposing parties instead of the merits of the case. The same authorities that now watch the European judicial officer will, we are sure, guide the Native Magistrates on whom it is proposed to confer the extended jurisdiction. Are we to suppose that a man of a Native Sessions Judge's training, education and standing will allow his prejudices, if he has any, to so blind his judgment in any case coming up for trial before him, as to risk the chance of an ignominous dismissal and the inevitable ruin of his official position and professional reputation. The same safeguards which protect Her Imperial Majesty's poor and ignorant Native subjects in the mufassal will watch over her European subjects. Under section 499 of the Criminal Procedure Code even a European Sessions Judge has no power to pass a sentence upon a European British subject exceeding one year's imprisonment. Under section 335 of the same Code, the High Court has power with the consent of the Local Government to hold the criminal sessions at any places in the mufassal. At such sessions it would be competent to a Native Judge of the High Court to try a European British subject and to pass upon him the highest sentence known to the law. Under the statute creating the High Courts a Native barrister of five years' standing or a Native vakeel of ten years' standing is eligible for appointment as a Judge. Considering the block that at present exists in the Civil Service, it would take a Civilian 15 or even 20 years before attaining to the position of a Session Judge. How very anomalous then that a Native barrister of 5 years' standing, if he be so lucky as to obtain a seat on the bench of the High Court, can under the existing law try a European British subject in the mufassal, but not so a Native Civilian with a much greater amount of actual training as a Judge! But anomalies do not end here. Under the statutes obtaining in England any foreigner, much more a Native of British India, can obtain letters of naturalization in England giving him the status of a European British subject. With a view to evade the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates in the mufassal it would be competent to any Native of India by simply going through the formalities provided by the statute to obtain the status of a European British subject as defined by the Code. What the proposed amendment seeks is to confer upon a few well-tried and trusted officials of long service and assured antecedents a certain limited amount of jurisdiction over Europeans for the better administration of justice in this country, and I am fully confident that those men who will be chosen for the exercise of this privilege will do full justice and credit to the choice of the Government and the traditions of the service. Gentlemen, there are many other arguments which I could bring forward in support of the Bill, but I trust sufficient has been said to-day to convince you of the desirability of adopting the memorial, and as other speakers are to follow me, I content myself by seconding the resolution with the above remarks. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Nakoda Mahomed Ali Rogay who was accorded an enthusiastic reception, said—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—The resolution entrusted to my care is one which must of necessity be carried by this meeting, inasmuch as it relates to steps being taken for forwarding the memorial just read and adopted to the Government of India. I will not, gentlemen, take up your time by inflicting a speech upon you at this late hour and in this hot room, where we are nearly roasted up here. (Laughter.) But the importance of the occasion demands that I shall adduce some more arguments in favour of the Jurisdiction Bill, in continuation to those which had already been put forward by my friends the Honourable Budroodin Tyabjee, Mr. Pherozeshaw M. Mehta, the Honourable Rao Saheb V. N. Mandlik, and Mr. Nanabhoy Byramjee Jeejeebhoy. (Hear, hear.) The opponents of the Bill have laid a serious charge against the Viceroy of India, namely, that in introducing Mr. Ilbert's Bill in his Council he is actuated by the

anxiety of being popular among our countrymen. (Laughter and applause.) On calm consideration of the subject and the conduct of the Viceroy ever since he took the reins of Government, you will see how unfounded that statement is. You know how sensitive we were on the question of the abolition of the import duties, how our papers and public meetings held at the time denounced the Government and showed the depth of Native feeling on that subject, and yet the Viceroy, if he had been a popularity-seeking man, could even, if he were not powerful enough to resist the determination of the Home Government, easily have expressed an opinion against the import duties, as Lord Northbrook had done on another question, and as he himself, the present Viceroy, had done on the question of the payment of part of the cost of the Egyptian war by India. (Cheers.) This fact, taken in connection with his action in regard to the License Act, the Arms Bill, and the Vernacular Press Act, shows that the charge against the Viceroy being a popularity-seeking man is entirely unfounded and is based only on the imagination of the opponents of the Bill. (Loud applause.) The Vernacular Press Act, you will remember gentlemen, was passed by Lord Lytton; and Lord Cranbrook, who was our Secretary of State at the time, and a conservative, did not quite approve of it, and in a despatch on the subject laid down certain rules for the operation of the Act which made it to a certain extent harmless. (Cheers.) Both Liberals and Conservatives were to a certain extent agreed that the Act was perfectly unnecessary, and yet our Viceroy, immediately after taking the reins of Government, but waited and watched its operation, and then acted according to the dictates of his conscience. (Loud applause.) So much for the charges brought against the Viceroy of India of being a popularity-seeking man. (Hear, hear.) It has been alleged that the extension of the jurisdiction over European subjects to Native Magistrates will cause acts of injustice in the mufassal, but that argument has been ably disposed of by Mr. Pherozesha Mehta. (Hear, hear.) In Presidency-towns European of the higher status and rank, and all the members of their families, are subjected to the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates. If such high personages are subjected to the jurisdiction of our Magistrates, why on earth there should be any objection against the extension of the same privilege to the mufassal I cannot conceive. Are not public opinion and the public press necessary in every part of India to expose any act of injustice done to any class of Her Majesty's subjects, be they European or Native? I ask you that question. The answer is simple—They are. (Hear, hear.) Well then, where is the argument? It is simply absurd to say that only for the trial of Europeans public opinion and the public press are necessary in the mufassal. (Cheers.) There is not the least doubt that there are cases on record in which both European and Native Magistrates have committed acts of injustice, but these cases, I think you will all agree with me, are very few. (Hear, hear.) But the mere fact of there being such cases on record does not make European Magistrates, as a class, unfit to try Natives, nor on the other hand does it make Native Magistrates unfit to try Europeans. (Loud applause.) The only correct criterion for judging these matters by is, I think, the fitness of each official entrusted with magisterial powers to whatever class he may belong. Judicial training, long experience, and a reputation of being a good judge, are necessary for every class of Magistrate. It is just as dangerous to entrust full powers to inexperienced European members of the Civil Service as it is to any inexperienced Native member of the service. In both cases the necessary qualifications are experience and a reputation for judicial training, and nothing more. (Hear, hear.) In Ceylon, which is also a British possession, no such distinction of race existed as in apparent is this country. Those people who have been asserting that the passing of this Bill would check the flow of European capital into India have only to go to Ceylon to see how much European capital has been sunk in coffee and cinchona estates, and yet there exists no such distinction of race, and there has been no cry from the European residents in that colony. (Loud applause.) One of the local English papers here, only three days ago, sneered that this agitation in favour of the Jurisdiction Bill is confined to English-speaking Natives of India, and that the mass of the people, one and all, are in favour of the European agitation in regard to the Bill. (Loud laughter.) I must confess, as one of the English-speaking Natives, and one who has a more intimate knowledge of the masses than any European can boast of, that, so far as my information goes, I have not been able to authenticate the assertion made by this paper. (Renewed laughter and applause.) It may be that the editor of the *Times of India* may have some superhuman power of judging the feeling of the Natives. (Great laughter and cheering.) I will give you an instance of how Europeans regard Natives which came under my observation in travelling from Nugger to Puna in October last. Soon after my arrival at the junction where the Puna train meets with two European fellow-passengers, a party of European and Native soldiers came from Puna and halted there to catch the train from Dhond to Nugger. The European soldiers had, unfortunately for our peaceful slumbers, taken too much of something or other, and they created such a row by yelling and shouting that it was impossible to sleep. I was walking on the platform, and heard the Native soldiers speaking together, about the prizes won at the rifle match when one of the European passengers, a gentleman of military appearance, came up and bullied them for talking so loud and disturbing the passengers in the waiting-room. (Laughter.) Of course the poor fellows stopped, and said in a very low whisper one to the other, "See the justice of the Saheb. The European soldiers have been yelling and shouting, and no notice is taken, but while we have only been talking a little we have been bullied." (Cheers.) That is the feeling of the masses in such cases of injustice, and therefore the assertion made by the *Times of India* is altogether unfounded. (Cheers.) I only hope that this measure will be passed, and I am sure the results of the working of the Bill will be as has

been ably described in the poetry quoted by Mr. Pherozesha Mehta, which I need not repeat, but which you have all got in your memory at the present moment. At the same time, if we had not called this public meeting the enemies of the Bill would have said: "This agitation is confined to Bengali Baboos only. Mr. Gupta is only a Bengali Magistrate; it is only a local matter." But they forget that a question which affects Bengali Baboos affects all the Natives of India. (Loud applause.) Our seeming indifference, had we remained silent, would have been taken advantage of by those who want a privilege, the enjoyment of which is injurious to our interests, to be retained on the statute-book. (Cheers.) I see, gentlemen, that you are all impatient. (Hear, hear; no, no, and laughter.) I am always unfortunately placed at meetings of this kind, and cannot therefore do justice to the subject. (More laughter.) And my notes have been taken away by my friend Mr. Mehta. (Great laughter, which continued for several moments.) At the same time, you have been saved from the infliction of a speech which, so far as it went, I must admit was a poor one. (No, no, and laughter.) I have one consolation in sitting down, however, that able speakers who preceded me have adduced sufficiently potent arguments to carry the resolution which I have to propose, namely, "that the Committee of the Bombay Branch of the East India Association be requested to take necessary steps for forwarding the memorial to the Government of India." (Applause.)

Mr. Dinanath Raghunath Khote, who was accorded a warm reception, said,—Gentlemen, I have very great pleasure in seconding this proposition, which is only a natural sequel to your unanimous approval and adoption of this memorial. (Hear, hear.) It is necessary that the Government of India should be made aware of the views and opinion of the Natives of this country, as a body, in regard to the Jurisdiction Bill, and the forwarding to them of this memorial as the outcome of a meeting such as we have here to-night, of a fully representative character, will, in a measure, have the desired effect. (Applause.) Now, while commending this proposition to your favourable consideration, I beg leave to offer a few remarks on the general aspect of the question at issue. The present agitation against the Bill, as you are all aware, originated with a few planters in Bengal. If they had stood alone unbacked, and unsupported, their agitation would have died away without leaving behind the faintest trace of its existence. (Cheers.) Unfortunately, however, it has been made a common cause by the European community generally, and the result was the boisterous and unpatriotic meeting in the Town Hall of Calcutta. (Loud applause.) Now, gentlemen, all the opposition to this Bill is based on arguments which, when dropped into the crucible of analysis, appear alike sentimental, illogical and untenable. (Hear, hear.) We will here examine a few of them, and see first, how, in the absence of better and sounder reasons, the opponents have taken refuge in the stock argument of the "cherished and privileged rights of Britons." (Loud applause.) If it had been really and intrinsically a valued right involving no injury to the interests of the other and by far the larger portion of Her Majesty's subjects, we should have respected it with all our hearts. (Applause.) But when this alleged vested birth-right comes to be asserted irrespective of, and without regard to, the injustice which it inflicts on the other races, one cannot help losing patience at the boldness of this claim. (Hear, hear.) And what, may I ask, becomes of this right, the so-called birth-right in the Presidency-towns? If a "cherished birth-right," why has it been waived there? And has this waiver led to any serious evil consequences to the European community in the Presidency-towns? ("No," and applause.) This gives rise to another question. Was any opposition then made? If made, how did it become powerless? If not, why was the "cherished birth-right" not then thought of? But under whatever circumstances it was abandoned in the Presidency-towns, the fact remains that already in more places than one has this privilege been given up,—and this takes away from it the essentially "cherished" character with which it is now sought to invest it. Gentlemen, the removal of this privilege in the Presidency-towns is no uncertain indication of the ultimate fate of the present agitation (cheers); and well had it been for India, if the Anglo-Indians of our own day, profiting by the wholesome experience of the past, had paused, before attempting to disturb by their ill-timed agitation, the harmony which was being slowly but steadily developed between Europeans and Natives all over the land. (Applause.) Now, the privilege which we are asked to look upon as a "cherished" privilege was originally merely a temporary and a permissive privilege conceded to British-born subjects under the exceptional circumstances of a newly subjugated and half-civilized country, and in the absence of competent Natives eligible for higher posts in the administration of justice. (Cheers.) But times have changed. The consolidation of the Indian Empire is now an accomplished fact, and thanks to the benign policy of the British Government, the India of to-day is not what it was even half a century ago. (Applause.) We have now Native gentlemen quite prepared to undergo any inconveniences and privations to compete in intellectual accomplishments with Englishmen in the very land of their birth. (Cheers.) We have now Native gentlemen educated in India, quite able to vie successfully with Englishmen in every department of Her Majesty's service, which calls for the exercise of high intellectual powers. (Renewed cheers.) Now, it must be remembered that it is on men of this high mental calibre, who in addition are also the tried and trusted officials of the British Government, and who by their capacity and long and varied experience in the judicial line have gradually risen and reached the top of the graded ladder, that this extended jurisdiction is intended to be conferred. (Hear, hear, and applause.) But no! the oppositionists will have none of these, not even the picked flower of the land, and men with high accomplishments and undoubted credentials are set down as incapable of trying offences, how trivial soever, committed by Europeans. This, gentlemen, is a libel. (Applause.) It is

a libel on the education imparted in England, it is a libel on the education received by Native youths in India. And although we have not, so far, a fair share of the Native element in either of the services, covenanted or uncovenanted, yet the honourable and the unimpeachable manner in which those who have the good fortune to belong to them have been known to discharge the responsible functions of their respective offices; this, I say, gives a conclusive answer to such ungenerous and baseless insinuations. (Applause.) Equally unfounded and uncharitable is the attack, that Native Magistrates are liable to be influenced in the trial of Europeans by race prejudices. As a matter of fact, Native officials generally are and must, in the nature of things, be exceedingly cautious and circumspect in dealing with civil and even more with criminal cases in which Europeans are concerned. And if they err at all, the error in the majority of cases will be found to indicate a leaning in favour of the European. (Hear, hear.) Probably the leaders of the anti-jurisdiction movement who are now opposing the Bill, tooth and nail, may yet find to their utter chagrin and disappointment, when the Bill passes into law, which sooner or later it is destined to despite their antagonistic attitude, that European offenders will practically not object to be tried by calm, sedate, and experienced Native Magistrates. (Cheers.) It is also suggested that the Natives in the mufassal will, by virtue of this Bill, keep concocting conspiracies against Europeans. If it was not for the gravity with which such an argument is advanced, one would be tempted to treat it with silent contempt. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, such fears are absolutely chimerical and only serve to show the excited state of the mind which conceives them. I say it is monstrous to suppose that the poor, helpless people of the mufassal to whom the bare earning of a meagre livelihood is an effort they can scarcely cope with, will be able, even if they could dare, to indulge in the idle and costly luxury of false prosecutions against Europeans, who, when they are true and good, are almost worshipped and identified with Sircar and Ma-bap by these people in the mufassal. (Hear, hear.) But assuming for the sake of argument that any such cases did arise, have not the Europeans the advantages of the higher intelligence, the greater capacity of co-operation, all the facilities of the railway and the telegraph, and the voice of the public press in their favour, wherewith to counteract the effects of such a conspiracy? (Applause.) Now, another stock argument advanced with some stress by the oppositionists is that the time has not yet come for the introduction of this measure. Gentlemen, I can conceive of no argument more fatal to their cause than this. It is an irony of fate that when one has to defend a feeble cause one is unconsciously led into the use of arguments which cuts the ground from under one's feet. (Hear, hear.) Now what does the argument really mean?—this argument that the time and the imperative necessity for conferring this right on the Natives of India have not yet arrived? Does it not mean by implication that the much talked-of "cherished right" will vanish, and with it all objections to the Bill, when the necessity for its introduction asserts itself with overwhelming force? Does it not show a lamentable weakness on the part of the oppositionists to admit that a time will come when they will not be able to breathe the faintest murmur against this dreaded Bill? And is it not short-sighted policy, the policy of men but imperfectly schooled in the political academy, to oppose a measure for the poor satisfaction of shelving it when they feel sure that the unseen future may render it practicable any day? (Applause.) Let these gentlemen realise the invincible truths laid down by Mr. Wordsworth in his memorable letters to the *Bombay Gazette*. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) Gentlemen, I will here take the liberty to quote a sentence from one of these letters as directly bearing on the point I am just discussing. Mr. Wordsworth says:—"The real test of statesmanship is surely the capacity to foresee difficulties and emergencies and to divert and neutralise them by timely legislation." (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, the doctrine enunciated in this sentence is aptly illustrated by the native adage which upbraids the folly of procrastination and points out the unwisdom of setting about digging a well when the house is on fire. (Laughter.) Now, statesmen of the school of Sir FitzJames Stephen, whose extreme Conservatism is only another name for habitual coldness to all that means the true progress of India, inculcate the doctrine that India must be treated as a conquered country and governed by force. It is useless at this time of the day, and in an age of progress and enlightenment, to battle with a retrograde argument of this character. (Applause.) I would only refer such thinkers to the history of their own country, and hope they may take warning from the bitter experiences of the past. Men of this stamp are not only the enemies of Indian progress, but they may truly be declared as the enemies of England herself. Let them realize the declared principle and policy of just and equal administration without distinction of caste, creed or colour, vouchsafed to India, by Royal Proclamation, and rise to a correct appreciation of the growing necessities of this country. (Applause.) Let them sit at the feet of political thinkers like John Bright—(loud applause)—and learn that the only way to govern India is to govern it through the affections of its people. (Applause.) Gentlemen, I will not linger more on this subject, although the justness of one's cause inspires one with ardour. (Hear, hear.) Let us have implicit faith in the benign and generous policy of the English nation, whose noble instincts of justice and liberality will surely rise above the level of those Anglo-Indians who advocate a more or less narrow and short-sighted policy. (Applause.) Let us have full confidence in the Liberal House of Commons. (Applause.) Let us have unbounded confidence in every righteous Englishman, who is true to himself and to his country, and who, adapting the well-known Latin exclamation to himself, can fittingly say, "*Anglicus civis sum.*" (Loud and continued applause.)

Mr. Kassinath Trimbuck Telang, who was received with loud cheers, said—Mr. Chairman

and gentlemen,—The resolution which has been entrusted to me runs as follows:—"That the Committee of the Bombay Branch of the East India Association be also requested to take steps to have the memorial, with the necessary alterations, forwarded to the Honourable the House of Commons in England." In proposing this resolution, it would be wrong, on more than one ground, if I were to detain you with any lengthy speech of my own at this late hour, and especially after the able speeches which have been addressed to you. But the subject which we are met to consider to-night is one of such great importance that I trust the meeting will bear with me while I make a few remarks on it. I do not propose to travel over the ground occupied so well by the speeches of Mr. Budroodin and Mr. Pherozesha and the speakers who followed them. Nor, for obvious reasons, shall I say anything about the recent doings of our European friends in the Town Hall of Calcutta. These doings were of such a nature that, to borrow the language used on a celebrated occasion by a distinguished man now no more, the best rebuke we can administer to these gentlemen is to refrain from following so dangerous an example. (Cheers.) There was, however, one point, gentlemen, made, I believe, at the Calcutta Town Hall, and certainly made in the public press since, to which I feel bound to refer. It has been asserted that the Bengalis entertain feelings of hatred and hostility to the British nation. Well, gentlemen, having had the honour, as you are aware, of being appointed to serve on the Education Commission, I had recently to spend a few months in Calcutta. And during the period of my stay there I came into close, intimate, and frequent contact with the leaders of thought and the leaders in public affairs of the Bengali nation. And having frequently had frank conversations with many of them, having thus seen them in a sort of mental undress, so to speak, I venture to affirm, and to affirm very confidently, that this hatred and hostility is a mere figment of some alarmist brain, and has no existence in reality. (Loud cheers.) I think that, believing this, as I do believe it, to be the truth upon the subject, I am bound, if not by any other obligation, at least by gratitude for the kindness which I received from my Bengali brethren while I was among them, to make this statement to correct misapprehension. I need not, however, dwell any further on this point, and therefore I shall turn at once to the main subject to which I wish to address myself. As I have said, I do not intend now to go into any of the positive arguments in favour of the Jurisdiction Bill. But I propose to examine the main points made by an eminent man, Sir FitzJames Stephen, in his letter on the subject. Sir FitzJames Stephen has held high office in this country, and now occupies a distinguished position on the English Bench. He is not only a lawyer, but a writer on Jurisprudence and a political philosopher who has thought out the ultimate principles of the political creed which he holds. (Hear, hear.) And, therefore, I need not say that his authority on such a subject as ours is very high, and I should be the first in ordinary circumstances to defer to it, but in this case I must say that if I was an opponent of the Jurisdiction Bill, I should be afraid of Sir FitzJames Stephen's championship. Many years ago he wrote a work entitled "Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity" which, I think, may with substantial accuracy be characterised as the gospel of force. (Cheers.) In that work he set himself in obtrusive antagonism to the doctrines of modern liberalism, by which I do not mean what is called by that name in the jargon of English party politics, but I mean liberalism in the broader and higher sense, as signifying those political principles, which, for us here in India, are embodied in the great Proclamation of 1858. Well, as he holds those opinions it is plain that even his support, if he supported any measure of Government which involved any of those principles, would be an occasion of embarrassment. But apart from these general considerations, let us see for an instant what Sir FitzJames Stephen does say. His first proposition, not first in order in his letter, but first in importance, is that the policy of Lord Ripon's Government is shifting the foundations of British power in this country or, to use his own expression, is inconsistent with the foundations on which British power rests. Now, I deny this entirely. I say that the principles of Lord Ripon's administration, as pointed out in our memorial, are in consonance with the long established principles of the British Government as laid down by Parliament and the Crown. (Loud cheers). And I say, further, that those principles are in accord with the lessons to be derived from the study of past history. I remember being struck many years ago, in reading the history of the Romans under the Empire, with a passage in which the author said that one great lesson to be deduced from the history of Rome was that all conquering nations, in order to render their government in the conquered countries stable and permanent, must divest themselves of their peculiar privileges by sharing them with the conquered peoples. Now, gentlemen, we all know that it is the proud and just boast of Englishmen that they are the Romans of the modern world, and that the British Empire is in modern days what the Roman Empire was in ancient times. If so, are we wrong, are we unreasonable in asking that the lessons of Roman history, and, as Mr. Merivale points out, the lessons of the history of other ancient governments also, should be adopted by our British rulers? (Cheers.) Is it not quite proper and reasonable for us to ask that the countrymen of Clarkson and Wilberforce, of Gladstone and John Bright—(loud cheers)—should not only adopt those lessons but improve upon them, and rise superior to the countrymen of Marius and Sylla, the Triumvirs and the Cæsars? I venture to say, gentlemen, that if Britons are now content to fail to carry out those lessons, and to fall short of the generosity of the Romans, it will be regarded as not creditable to them by the future historian. And as a loyal subject of the British Government I should be sorry for such a result. (Loud and prolonged cheers.) We next come to Sir FitzJames Stephen's second point. He says—Oh! it is all very well to ask for the abolition of these special privileges of Europeans, but every other section of the Indian community

has its own privileges which the law recognises. And he gives as an instance the fact that Hindus, Mahomedans, &c., have their own special laws of inheritance administered to them. Now, I venture to say that no fair comparison can be made between laws of inheritance and laws of criminal procedure. The former does not affect any one save the special community to which it is administered. What does it matter to John Jones whether the property of Rama, or Ahmed, Muncherjee goes on his death to his sons or his daughters, his father or mother or widow? But a law of criminal procedure, as has been already pointed out by other speakers, affects the other communities in a most important respect. It is plain, therefore, that the two cases which Sir FitzJames Stephen treats as identical, are really distinguishable on essential points. Besides, it must be remembered that no other class privileges are recognised in the criminal law of British India; it is only in the civil law that they are so recognised. But, further, I am surprised at Sir FitzJames Stephen not alluding in his letter to one point relevant to this branch of the subject to which reference is made in his own volume already referred to. He has there pointed out that the British Government in India is, involuntarily it may be, but still actually, interfering with the personal laws of natives, even in matters connected with their religious beliefs, and is applying, as Sir FitzJames Stephen puts it, a constant and steady pressure to adapt them to modern civilization—so that the Government, as Sir FitzJames Stephen himself puts it, is really heading a revolution. If then the Government is actually interfering with the personal laws of us unenlightened and uncivilized natives, is there anything wrong in their interfering with those of the enlightened Britons, with whose views and opinions, feelings and wishes they are much more familiar, and in much greater sympathy? Is there anything unfair if we ask that the same measure should be dealt out to both? Sir FitzJames Stephen next refers to the special tribunals for Europeans maintained in Turkey and other countries. But there the European is protected from foreign courts to be subjected to British courts. Here he is protected from one class of British courts to be subjected to another. The difference is quite manifest between the two cases. Further, Sir FitzJames Stephen says it is only natural that everyone charged with a criminal offence should wish to be tried by one of his own race and colour. But this leads to a difficulty, namely, that natives may have a similar wish. And how does Sir FitzJames Stephen meet that? Why, he says that while no native understands English sufficiently to conduct a trial in that language properly *attempts* are made—mark the expression, attempts are made—to get European officers to study the vernaculars of the country. Now, gentlemen, I think it is not egotistical to say that the first part of the statement is the reverse of the truth. (Cheers.) For every one European that can be shown competent to conduct a criminal trial in a vernacular language, we can show at least one hundred natives even more competent to do so in English. (Loud cheers.) And as to the second part, we have not to rely only on our personal experiences. As we say at Law *habemus optimum testem confitentem reum*. Many years ago a book was published by a Bengal Civilian, called "Life in the Mofussil," in which he very candidly admitted that though he passed the examination in Bengali, he knew little or nothing of the language. (Loud laughter.) Here we have a test of the success of the *attempt* to which Sir FitzJames Stephen refers. I do not think, gentlemen, I need further detain you with Sir FitzJames Stephen's arguments. His principal points have, I venture to say, been satisfactorily answered. There is, however, one argument to which I should like to refer before sitting down. It is put forward in the *Times of India* by a gentleman who signs himself "Maratha," but whose nationality, from internal evidence, seems to be European and not Maratha. However, on the principle of measures, not men, we shall consider his argument as it deserves to be, whether it emanates from a veritable Maratha or not. He says natives are not fit and competent judges of Europeans, because the native papers are writing about the cases of deaths of natives at the hands of Europeans as if they were all cases of deliberate murder and the explanation of a ruptured spleen always untrue. He argues that as this view of the Native papers has not been disavowed by educated Natives, it indicates the state of their feelings towards Europeans, and renders them unfit judges for trying Europeans. Now, I am not one of those who believe that this explanation of the ruptured spleen is always untrue. (Laughter and applause.) I have no doubt that in many cases it is true, and that the language of many of our Native papers on the subject is exaggerated and without justification. But having admitted that, I do not admit the correctness of "Maratha's" argument. I will not, however, analyse it now, but put another argument on the other side. We all know that many Europeans have spoken of the Native communities in a way which means that they consider us all as, on the whole, a people given to perjury. This opinion, publicly expressed by some members of the European community, has not been disavowed by others. And therefore, according to "Maratha's" logic, the true conclusion to be derived from this is that Europeans are not fit judges for Natives. (Cheers.) This broad conclusion follows according to "Maratha's" principles. Certainly, in cases where Natives are charged with perjury Europeans would be, on those principles, unfit judges. Because whereas, according to the presumption of English law, the accused would have to be treated as innocent until the contrary was proved, in the mind of the European judge the Native prisoner would be guilty until he proved the contrary. Mark, I don't say this would be a correct result. But I say it follows if "Maratha's" argument is sound, I use it only as an *argumentum ad hominem*. See then the deadlock. You cannot have European judges, and you cannot have Native judges. How then is the administration of justice to be secured? (Laughter and cheers.) I do not think, gentlemen, I ought now to detain you any longer. We have a very good case; let us take it before the House of

Commons. It has been taken there already, in fact, by the opponents of the Bill. Let us place our view before the House. (Cheers.) By past experience we know that in such matters we can trust to the justice and sense of fair play of the British House of Commons. (Loud cheers.) Let us leave this matter also to their judgment, in the full confidence that it will be there decided on considerations free from all local passion and local prepossession. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. Vijbhucandas Atmaram said—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—The resolution which has been just read and submitted to you for adoption is one which would easily commend itself to the good sense of this meeting. In moving this resolution, I do not propose to address you any arguments touching the principle of the Bill for the Amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which is intended to confer upon a very few, tried, and efficient Native officials jurisdiction over European British-born subjects in criminal cases, because I feel that the previous speakers have ably and eloquently met, not only every possible objection that has hitherto been urged against this measure, but have, by incontrovertible facts and stern reasoning, established that it is a real necessity urgently called for to suit the exigencies of the improved and advanced circumstances of the country. At the time when the Government of India was taken over directly by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Empress of India, a solemn pledge was given to the unrepresented millions of this land, that the government of this country would be carried on without any distinction of creed or colour. The Proclamation then made forms the charter of our rights and liberties, and I say that the present Bill is one of the numerous other measures which are required to be carried out in order to secure for the Natives of this country the full benefit and enjoyment of the rights and privileges vouchsafed to them by the highest authority in the realm. As it is getting late, and you are impatient to leave this hot room, I will conclude by saying, in the words of Edmund Burke, "that the House of Commons will have another and a very different duty to perform on this occasion. They will be bound not to suffer public opinion, which often prevents judgment and often defeats its effects, to be debauched and corrupted. Whenever the public mind is misled it becomes the duty of the Commons of Great Britain to give it a more proper tone and a juster way of thinking." This sacred and responsible duty the Commons of Great Britain will, we all trust and hope, fully and effectually discharge, if necessary, in the present case with regard to their countrymen in this land. With these remarks, gentlemen, I beg to second the adoption of the resolution.

On the motion of Mr. Lukhimadas Khimjee, seconded by Mr. Jairaj Peerbhoy, the meeting unanimously voted thanks to the Sheriff of Bombay for convening the meeting.

Mr. Dadabhoy Nowrojee,—who was received with loud and prolonged cheers and the waving of hats and handkerchiefs, said,—Gentlemen, you must not expect a speech from me. (Loud cheers.) You have heard all that could be said from the previous speakers, who have treated the subject ably and exhaustively. My proposition now is simply this, that the Honourable Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy has presided to-day with so much ability that I think we ought to pass a cordial vote of thanks for his able conduct in the chair. (Loud cheers.)

The Honourable Rao Sahib V. N. Mandlik—According to the usage of public meetings, as my friend, the Chairman, cannot put this proposition before you, I beg with your kind indulgence to do the same.

The proposition was then carried with acclamation.

To the Most Honourable the Marquis of Ripon, K.G., P.C., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

The humble Memorial of the Committee of the Branch Indian Association at Kalna, in the District of Burdwan—

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—*1st.*—That your Excellency's humble petitioners are deeply grateful to your Excellency for the warm interest your Excellency takes in the real welfare of the Natives of this country. Guided by the noble principle not to rule this vast Empire of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India by the sword, your Excellency has condescended to carry out strictly and literally the golden words of Her Imperial Majesty's Proclamation of 1858.

2nd.—That your memorialists cannot but thank you most cordially for your Excellency's most purely disinterested and highly laudable endeavours to destroy the invidious distinction between Natives and Europeans in the trial of criminal cases.

3rd.—That your memorialists most warmly and sincerely support the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill which your noble Excellency has recently introduced into the Council of the Governor General for making laws and regulations. They consider the above Bill as a just, wise and righteous measure, calculated to remove a growing administrative inconvenience.

4th.—That your memorialists beg most emphatically to contradict the totally unfounded and wrong statement of the opponents of the measure that the Natives of this country do not crave for the boon your Excellency intends to confer upon them. They deem such a law as indispensably urgent, and sanguinely pray that your Excellency will pass it in due course.

5th.—That your Excellency's memorialists are fully convinced that, by the light of the education vouchsafed to the Natives of this country by the benign Government of Her Majesty,

many among them have become well qualified to hold the most honourable and responsible situations of the State. Some of them have, by their education, probity and capacity, been deemed worthy to occupy seats on the Bench of the highest tribunals in India.

6th.—That your Excellency's memorialists feel proud of those selected Natives who have acquitted themselves honourably in open and hard competition in England at the Covenanted Civil Service Examination and, after successfully passing through the ordeal, have been fortunate to enter that service of which the most onerous duties they are discharging most creditably.

7th.—Your memorialists therefore most respectfully pray that your Excellency will be pleased to pass the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill into law, and they earnestly hope that the Almighty God will help your Excellency in the above noble act.

And your Excellency's petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

In the name of the Branch Indian Association, Kalna—

Dated 19th May, 1883.

To His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council.

The humble Memorial of the Sadharan Hita Shadhini Sabha of Tarash, in the District of Pubna, Bengal—

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your memorialists regard with feelings of deep satisfaction and thankfulness the proposed amendment to the Criminal Procedure Code to remove the invidious distinction of race, religion or colour in the trial of European British subjects in criminal cases.

That your memorialists are in full conviction that it is the noble principle of the British jurisprudence and polity to put aside all distinction in the eye of law which is the just pride of the British Government in India.

That, being assured of your Excellency's wise and liberal policy and of noble principles which actuate your Excellency in the government of this country, your memorialists are confident that the proposed amendment to the Criminal Procedure Code will come to effect with the entire satisfaction and heartfelt gratitude of the Natives of India.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

To His Excellency the Most Honourable the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

The humble petition of Her Majesty's European British subjects in Southern India—

SHEWETH,—That your memorialists are British-born subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress of India, residing in that part of British India which is subject to the Governor and Council of the Presidency of Fort St. George and its Dependencies, and possess by right of birth all the liberties of English freemen in the constitutional relations of the subject to the Crown.

2. That amongst the most ancient and most cherished liberties of Englishmen is the privilege reserved to them by Magna Charta, that the Sovereign shall not exercise judicial authority over a freeman of England "*nisi per legale judicium parium suorum vel per legem terrae.*"

3. That your memorialists are entitled to the full benefit of these hereditary privileges, of which the accident of their residence in India should not in any way be permitted to deprive them.

4. That, from the date of the establishment of the British power in India, your memorialists have enjoyed these privileges; inasmuch as, by the laws in force in India, no European British subject could be arraigned for any offence whatsoever save before a Justice of the Peace (himself a British subject), nor could a British subject be tried for any offence involving any greater punishment than a fine before any tribunal except a Judge of the High Court and jury of his fellow-citizens in the Presidency-towns.

5. That, in the year 1869, an Act was passed by the Legislative Council of India authorising the various Local Governments to appoint "any persons" to act as Justices of the Peace within the towns of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay; and that, under this Act, certain Natives have, since that year, been appointed Magistrates of Police and Justices of the Peace within the three Presidency-towns, and have exercised jurisdiction over European British subjects, but only within the local limits of the said towns.

6. That a Bill has now been introduced into the Supreme Legislative Council of India, the object of which is to extend jurisdiction over European British subjects residing in India, to all District Magistrates and Sessions Judges and certain other Magistrates of the 1st class, whether European or Native, and in any part of the country.

7. Your memorialists submit that the existence of Native Magistrates possessing jurisdiction over Europeans within the Presidency-towns affords no valid argument in favour of the extension of this jurisdiction to Native Magistrates in the Mufassal. The Presidency Magistrate exercises his functions in the midst of a numerous and vigilant European population, by

whom any mistake on his part would be instantly detected. His Court is frequented by the reporters of the daily Press. It is thronged with legal practitioners, and a European Magistrate sits in the adjoining room. All these conditions would be wanting in the case of a Native Magistrate exercising jurisdiction over a European in the Mufassal.

8. That your memorialists are justified by the past in fearing that the infringement of their hereditary rights, now contemplated, cannot long remain limited to the class of Magistrates to whom it is now proposed to entrust enlarged powers. The same reason which has been adduced as necessitating the grant of jurisdiction over European British subjects to Native Magistrates of the 1st class can equally, and your memorialists doubt not will in time, if this Bill be passed, be applied to all classes of Magistrates; and similar arguments will be urged for an extension of the jurisdiction thus granted to Native Magistrates, until it may come to pass that Europeans may hereafter find themselves subject to the penalty of death at the hands of a Native Sessions Judge in the Mufassal.

9. That the only reason adduced for depriving your memorialists of their hereditary right of being tried by one of their own race is that this privilege constitutes an invidious distinction between European and Native British subjects. It is admitted that, in practice, the privilege has not operated to the prejudice of the administration of justice throughout the Indian empire.

10. That your memorialists regard with anxiety and alarm this attempt to deprive them of rights which they and their predecessors in this country have enjoyed since the foundation of British rule in India.

11. That the existing distinction between European and Native British subjects, which is now termed invidious, is entirely consonant with the invariable custom of the British Government to recognise and respect all the peculiar privileges and customs of the numerous different races which compose the population of this empire. Your memorialists may be allowed to cite, as one example, the privilege accorded to that section of the population which preserves the custom of secluding its female members from appearance in public. In their case, the Government has provided that such female members shall be exempted from the ordinary processes of law which secure the attendance of any member of the community to give evidence in Courts of Justice. Your memorialists may further cite the special privileges conceded to Brahmans when subjected to imprisonment in the jails of the country. In order to preserve their caste-privileges, such Brahmans are allowed special arrangements for the preparation of their food, and for other observances connected with their caste customs, and are further exempted from such forms of labour as would be contrary to their caste-prejudices; although the offences for which they have been sentenced may be of a class for which the law has provided the penalty of imprisonment with hard labour as ordinarily exacted. Such concessions, of which many other instances could be given, are manifestly a recognition of distinctions between one class of the population and another.

12. Your memorialists therefore contend that, in claiming for European British subjects the continuance of the special privilege of being tried by men of their own race, they ask no more than is daily conceded in various ways to other races in India; and therefore that the charge of invidiousness is not fairly applicable to the distinction which your memorialists seek to preserve. So long as differences of race and social customs are recognised and observed by the Government of India, your memorialists may fairly claim that this special privilege, to which their class attaches peculiar importance, should, in equity, be also observed.

13. That your memorialists have further good reason for deprecating the proposed alteration in the law. Your memorialists are most anxious to avoid any remarks which may appear to disparage the capacity or integrity of their Native fellow-subjects; but it is impossible to overlook the fact that the social customs and the domestic life of Natives of India are widely dissimilar from those of Europeans; that few natives, especially in the Mufassal, can have any opportunity of assimilating European forms of thought, or of acquiring any accurate idea of the customs and daily life of Englishmen, and their powers of observation, examination and judgment must be in great measure influenced by the customs and predudices of their special castes; and that, for these and many other reasons, the Native cannot be held to possess such common interest with the European as is contemplated by the legal maxim that an Englishman is entitled to trial by the judgment "*parium suorum*," and is therefore unfitted to exercise judicial authority over the Englishman.

14 Your memorialists would further point out that, owing to the presence of numerous missionaries scattered throughout Southern India, some, and possibly many of the cases affecting Europeans, which, if the proposed Bill become law, will fall to be tried by Native Magistrates, must be cases concerning to a greater or less extent the religious prejudices of the Natives. They submit that it would be a very doubtful boon to any Native Magistrate to require him to try a case in which he cannot be a disinterested arbiter; where, even if he can succeed in divesting himself of the prejudices of hereditary descent, early training and daily custom, he must be aware that, if his honest decision be opposed to the social prejudices of his caste-fellows, his verdict will inevitably imperil his social comfort for the rest of his life.

15. Your memorialists are also reluctantly compelled to refer to the very prevalent custom in India of preferring false charges. No Judge who has ever sat upon the Bench in India will deny that false charges and false evidence are matters of daily occurrence in Indian Courts. Your memorialists cannot but fear that to deprive them of the right of being tried by their countrymen will be but an invitation to the ill-disposed to practise against Europeans

the same custom of malicious accusation which the Natives of this country so commonly practise against each other. Even under the existing law such cases have occurred, and charges affecting the lives of Englishmen have only broken down under the searching investigation of an *English* Bench and an English Bar.

16. That, although the numerical strength of your memorialists is not great when compared with the teeming masses of the other races in British India, it yet remains an undisputed fact that your memorialists represent, almost exclusively, the most progressive arts and manufactures in Southern India, as well as a very large proportion of the capital employed in commerce, planting and other industries.

17. That the removal of the prerogative of race would also remove the principal source of the confidence with which European British subjects have acted as pioneers of civilization, and braved the dangers of a residence in outlying regions, where they were either altogether isolated or members of a numerically feeble community.

With the destruction of the bulwark of their liberty, the subordinate ranks of European British subjects in India will no longer be prepared to run the risks of residence in lonely places, where they, their wives and their children, will labour under all the disadvantages of the alien, without the one compensating advantage which they have hitherto enjoyed.

18. That the inevitable consequence of such a change in the condition of European subordinate employes in India will be the withdrawal from the empire of much European capital and a severe check to the progress of the material prosperity of the empire.

Your memorialists therefore pray—

(1) That this their memorial may be received.
(2) That your memorialists may not be deprived of any of the liberties enjoyed by English free men under Magna Charta.
(3) That, if uniformity of legislation be considered so great a necessity, such uniformity may be attained by repealing the anomaly created by Act II of 1869, whereby the appointment of Natives to exercise jurisdiction over Europeans in the presidency-towns is authorised.
(4) That the progress of reform in India and the improvement and development of her resources may not be impeded and jeopardised by proposals for legislation of a character calculated to create antagonism of races, or by sudden and subversive changes in the laws.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

No. 45, dated 26th May, 1883.

From—The PRESIDENT, HITCHINTAK SABHA, Vingorla,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I have the honour to forward a memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy in Council from the Native inhabitants of Vingorla in favour of the Jurisdiction Bill, and request you to place it before His Excellency in Council.

No. 44, dated 13th May 1883.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable George Frederick Samuel, Marquis of Ripon, K.G., P.C., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., Viceroy and Governor General of India.

Memorial of Native Inhabitants of Vingorla.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—We, the undersigned humble petitioners, Native inhabitants of Vingorla, Bombay Presidency, have the honour to submit the following few lines to Your Excellency's attention, in the hope of getting what we pray for therein.

We humbly trust Your Excellency in Council will pass the Jurisdiction Bill in the interest of the country which is introduced into Your Excellency's Legislative Council by Honourable Mr. Ilbert. This much-needed measure will not, we trust, be given up owing to the unfounded charge brought against Your Excellency's Government by the opponents. We are sure that Your Excellency, instead of yielding to misrepresentation, will remain steadfast to your purpose against all the opponents.

We are very much obliged to Your Excellency for governing the country wisely, impartially and in a manner to give happiness to us, the ever unfortunate Hindus. Ever since Your Excellency took up the reins of the Government of India this country has been advancing in peace and prosperity.

We are quite sure that Your Excellency's mind will not be prejudiced in respect to the Bill, though the opponents of the Bill bring serious charges against it. We know not the cause of some of the Europeans in India being soured against Your Excellency's administration. They attach that blame to Your Excellency, we think, from notions of their own superiority; that is to say, they cannot bear us to have authority over them, and so, for taking our side, they blame Your Excellency. We think that it would not be just to do away with this Bill now when it has obtained the public approval. Their very thoughts, expressed in some newspapers, tell us that their opposition only arises from mere self-interest. They are unmind-

ful of others' good, and in particular of that of the Hindus, whom they think of no account at all. We don't think—and not only we, but none would think—that it would cause any harm to them to confer the right stated in that Bill upon qualified Hindu officers.

After all, we have nothing more to say than to entreat Your Excellency to go by the just way, and to carry that Bill into execution as soon as possible.

The British power in India must be founded on the affection and the gratitude of the people of the country. Whatever short-sighted and interested partisans, led away by ignorance and prejudice, may say to the contrary, there is no doubt that English statesmen, with acute political vision and foresight, recognise this fact, and honestly strive to adapt their policy to the altered condition of the country.

The above-stated assembly hopes warmly that this memorial shall be forwarded to Parliament.

For which act of kindness we shall, in duty bound, ever pray and oblige.

Hoping every success to Your Lordship's efforts.

No. 3621, dated 29th May, 1883.

From—C. GONNE, ESQ., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 3232,* dated the 14th instant, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a minute by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Latham, Acting Judge of Her Majesty's High Court of Judicature at Bombay, dated the 21st idem, containing his opinion on the provisions of the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

* Printed as Papers No. 30.

Minute by the Honourable MR. JUSTICE LATHAM *on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, dated 21st May, 1883.*

If the matter on which our opinions are desired had been in the same position in which it was when I wrote my minute of last year, I should have been prepared to adhere entirely to the opinion expressed in that minute. That is, I should have thought it desirable to place all members of the Covenanted Civil Service, European or Native, on the same footing as regards their power of trying European British subjects, and should have entertained no objection to doing away with the special provisions of Chapter 33 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Unfortunately the matter is by no means in the same position as last year. The introduction of a Bill going beyond the proposals then laid before the Judges of this Court, and having an operation even wider in appearance than in fact, combined probably with circumstances not connected with this particular Bill, have created what I can only call a panic among the European British subjects who are the persons principally affected by the provisions of the Bill; and that panic has led to the use of violent language and the development of race animosity on the part of Europeans and Natives alike. At the present moment it is impossible to conceive of a more burning question to be dealt with by legislation; and yet it must be so dealt with, or the legislature appear to be overborne by popular clamour.

Now, while I have little sympathy with the panic and none with the passionate language and excited feelings which the Bill has occasioned, I feel that the existence of that panic and those feelings are matters which deserve the attention of the legislature. An improvement in criminal procedure may be too dearly bought at the price of placing the whole or a large part of the class who are the potential subjects of that procedure in opposition to the criminal law and the authorities who enact or administer it. And I should be disposed to confine the present alteration of the law within the narrowest limits compatible with the maintenance of the independence of the legislature and its refusal to yield to mere agitation. I would sacrifice some degree of ideal improvement to the more important object of preventing or minimising a conflict between the sentiments of an important section of the community and the provisions of the law.

The provisions of the Bill which, in my opinion, should at present become law, are—

(1) Section 2, making Sessions Judges and District Magistrates *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace.

(2) So much of Section 1 as allows the appointment of Native Members of the Covenanted Civil Service to be Justices of the Peace.

I should advise the remaining parts of the enabling provisions of the Bill to be dropped, excepting of course such alterations of the Code of Criminal Procedure as are necessary to give effect to (1) and (2).

With regard to the disabling provisions of the Bill, which have excited less attention but to me seem fully as important as its enabling provisions, I would urge their being dropped altogether. I can see no good reason why Government should deprive itself of the services of a class of Europeans who can satisfactorily discharge the duties of Justices of the Peace, and to

whom the persons brought before them can have no objection. I think that the attainment of a certain amount of symmetry in a branch of law for the most part unsymmetrical is an utterly inadequate reason for so doing. And I am certain that the administrative inconvenience which will be hereafter caused by the loss of the services of Europeans not falling within the classes enumerated in Section 1 of the Bill will far outweigh the convenience to result from the gain of the services of such Natives as may be selected from those classes.

With regard to the two points suggested for our consideration by the Government of Bombay, I would say as follows: I cannot approve of giving the right to a European accused to claim a jury although the jury system may not have been introduced into the district in which his trial is held. Whilst I believe that an impartial jury presided over by a competent Judge is the very best tribunal for the trial of a criminal charge, I am convinced that a partizan jury is the very worst of such tribunals. The most scandalous trials on record, as the English State trials of the 17th century, and those during the Reign of Terror, were so tried. And I fear that in outlying districts of the mofussil, if the case tried were that of a European charged with an offence against a Native, the jury would be certain to be partizan, and not the less so because it would probably contain partizans on both sides. I must also disapprove of the proposal to constitute special Benches composed of a European and a Native Magistrate for the trial of European British subjects, as this would be to set up a new difference when the desire is to remove old differences; and there would also be danger of an outcry in case of disagreement between the members of the Bench so composed.

In conclusion, I would observe that over 14 years' experience as Counsel and Judge in India has convinced me that the real administrative inconvenience connected with the trial of European British subjects in the mofussil arises from the very restricted powers of punishment which the Sessions Judge has in such cases, and the consequent necessity for the transmission of accused and witnesses to the High Court in matters of no great importance. In the present excited state of feeling it would not be wise to attempt to deal with a subject yet untouched; but I think that at a calmer time this is the direction in which it is most important to modify the existing law.

No. 3731, dated 2nd June, 1883.

From—C. GONNE, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 3621, dated the 29th ultimo, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a minute by the Hon'ble Sir Charles Sargent, Kt., Chief Justice of Her Majesty's High Court of Judicature, Bombay, dated the 10th idem, containing his opinion on the provisions of the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

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*Minute by the Honourable the Chief Justice (*SIR CHARLES SARGENT, *Kt.) on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, dated 10th May, 1883.*

I entirely approve of the principle of the Bill under consideration. I think that the time has arrived when the disability of the Natives of India to exercise original jurisdiction over British-born subjects outside the Presidency towns, as declared in sections 443 and 444 of the Criminal Procedure Code of 1882, ought to be removed. My reasons for arriving at that conclusion have been already stated by me in a minute addressed to the Government of Bombay in the course of last year, and I venture to repeat them on the present occasion:—

"I think the distinction in question, which is a highly invidious one, should be abolished. The only grounds, I apprehend, on which it has ever been sought to justify the withdrawal of Europeans from the jurisdiction of Native criminal tribunals are that it offends the feeling of a European, as a member of the governing race, to appear before a Native on a criminal charge, and that some regard is due to the pride of race: that their being amenable to Natives in criminal matters lowers Europeans in the eyes of the masses and weakens their authority, and, lastly, that a European is not likely to meet with justice at the hands of Native Magistrates and Judges. As the law pays no regard to these considerations in Presidency towns, where the Magistrates may be either Europeans or Natives, and indeed, in this town of Bombay, have been, since I have been in India, for the most part Natives, the real question seems to be, whether there are special circumstances in the case of a European residing in the mufassal which render it advisable to retain the distinction. Now that such may have existed in other periods of our Indian history, when the position of a European in the mufassal was a very isolated one, I can well believe, but at the present day, when owing to the speedy communication between the Presidency towns and all parts of the mufassal where Europeans are likely to be met with, the distinction between the mufassal and Presidency towns is fast disappearing for nearly all purposes, I cannot think there can be any sufficient reason for the distinction in question. As to fitness and legal attainments, the Native members of the Civil Service can surely compare favourably with the Native Magistrates in Presidency towns who too often have had no legal training whatever. And as to Europeans not having justice meted out to them

by Native Magistrates or Judges, my experience of Presidency Magistrates would lead to quite the contrary conclusion."

Whilst entertaining this view as to the general question, I am fully sensible as to the necessity of confining the jurisdiction over British-born subjects to those Natives whose training and antecedents in the judicial service afford a guarantee of fitness, moral as well as intellectual, to deal with the somewhat delicate questions which may be expected to call for their decision.

The provisions of the Bill, so far as it depends on the written law, appear to me to adequately fulfil the above condition. If the Bill becomes law, only those Natives will be able to exercise the jurisdiction who being members of the Covenanted Civil Service or Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces or Cantonment Magistrates have been invested with the powers of a First Class Magistrate, and it ought to be impossible, if the local Governments exercise but ordinary care in their selection from this limited and select class, for any Native to be appointed who is not deserving of the confidence of the European community.

Dated 4th June, 1883.

From—G. M. BARTON, Esq., Secretary, Indian Tea Association,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am desired to hand you, for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council, the accompanying copies of the memorial of the Indian Tea Districts Association, London, to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, with reference to the proposed amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

To the Right Honourable the Earl of Kimberley, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, dated April, 1883.

The memorial of the Indian Tea Districts Association

SHEWETH,—That your memorialists, interested in the important and increasing tea-growing industry of India, giving employment to a large number of European managers and assistants, more or less dispersed and isolated in the interior of the country, view with alarm and distrust the proposed amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code, by which, if passed, Europeans will be brought under the criminal jurisdiction of Native Magistrates and Judges.

That this abrogation of a much valued privilege is not proposed in response to any demand on the part of the people of India, but would appear to be dictated by no higher political considerations than the removal of a seeming legislative anomaly, and a questionable addition to administrative convenience.

That no grounds of urgency have been shewn for the removal of this anomaly from a body of laws interlaced with social customs, literally bristling with anomalies and exemptions in favour of the Natives, just as the entire structure of our dominion and Government of India rests on anomalies and race-distinctions seemingly adverse to them, but in reality as indispensable to their welfare as to the continuance of our rule.

That the plea of administrative inconvenience of the law as it exists has been shewn by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and other high authorities, to be either entirely groundless or insignificant in comparison with the wider issues raised.

That the removal of what may seem an invidious race-distinction may commend itself to the advocates of the amendment as being logically consistent, and in harmony with a policy of conciliation and encouragement of the Native races; but logical consistency in this sense, if rigidly followed, would lead to the abdication of our position as the governing race; and there is undeniably a wide field open for the exercise of such a policy without the surrender of the vital principle involved in this amendment,—a surrender emphatically condemned by an overwhelming consensus of enlightened opinion as being premature and dangerous.

That many of your memorialists have spent the best years of their lives in India, some of them in high administrative positions in the service of the Government, others in commercial and industrial pursuits, and have thus had ample opportunities of judging whether such a law as that now proposed, if passed, will tend to a more impartial and effectual administration of justice.

That while not denying to the Natives of India the possession of many excellent characteristics, your memorialists consider that, in their present stage of social and moral development, it would be unsafe and impolitic to entrust them with the power of exercising criminal jurisdiction over Europeans.

That while it has been said by the advocates of the measure that it would be applied tentatively and under certain tests, educational and otherwise, there can be little doubt that all such tests would prove more or less illusory, and that sooner or later the functions would come to be exercised by any and all Natives occupying the position of Magistrate or Judge.

That the fact of such precautions being deemed necessary is a tacit admission of the danger attending this legislative experiment, and of the uncertain ground on which the Government is venturing.

That only those who have resided long enough in the interior of India to become acquainted with the peculiarities of the Native character can understand the facility, and

apparent completeness, with which a trumped-up criminal charge, dictated by motives of malice or greed, could be brought against a European, isolated from his countrymen, without the safeguards of the Bar, the Press and an educated public opinion, and having only Natives to rely upon for support and legal assistance. The issues involved in such a case are momentous,—no less so than the personal liberty and honour of the man or woman, as the case may be; and to the man the probable shipwreck of his career in life, and serious if not irremediable, injury to valuable interests dependent on his personal supervision; to the woman a degradation, the possible nature and scope of which can be readily conceived by any one conversant with the habits and customs of the East.

That the tribunal trying such a case would require not only to be such as to command confidence in its technical ability and integrity, but also to be sufficiently in sympathy with the race and class of the person on trial to be able to discern the inherent probability of guilt or innocence. It is in this respect that a Native Judge, who might be otherwise of unimpeachable fitness, would be most likely to fail; and, in fact, Europeans whose conduct has brought them fairly within the action of the Criminal Court will be as likely to escape the just penalty of their guilt as the innocent to incur an unmerited punishment.

That the grave objections, moral and material, to this measure may be summed up as follows:—

1. A revival of race-jealousy and further mutual alienation of the interests and sympathies of the European and Native elements of the population.
2. An increased temptation to resort to false and vexatious charges against Europeans, with consequent danger to their liberty and property.
3. A check to the influx of European capital, and to the expansion of commercial and industrial enterprise, arising from the absence of the essential conditions of security.
4. A consequent prejudicial effect on the general prosperity of the country and the revenues of the State.

Under this aspect of the question we may be allowed to refer to the immense impetus that has been given in recent years to the prosperity of India by means of European capital and enterprise.

The tea-industry of India alone represents an investment of capital of not less than fifteen millions sterling, and an annual disbursement, in wages and otherwise, in connection with the investment, of about two and a half millions sterling. The revenues derived from the various provinces and districts in which the industry is prosecuted show a marked and progressive increase, clearly denoting the operation of cause and effect. This is but an example of what is taking place with various degrees of industrial activity throughout the country, and it is obviously the interest of Government to foster by every legitimate means a spirit of private enterprise so well calculated to promote these objects, and to refrain from legislation which would have a deterrent effect.

Your memorialists therefore pray that your Lordship will be pleased to withhold your assent to a Bill, not shown to be required in the abstract interests of justice, which will be otherwise highly injurious in its operation and is opposed and deprecated by those who would be amenable to its incidence with a manifestation of public feeling and unanimity which it would be unwise to ignore, and which should alone suffice to induce the withdrawal of the measure.

And your Memorialists will ever pray, &c.

Dated 26th May, 1883.

From—R. M. DALZELL, Esq., Proprietor, Dumlote Tea Estate, Kumaon,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I have the honour to enclose, for presentation to His Excellency the Viceroy in Council, the accompanying memorial of the tea-planters and landed proprietors, residents in Kumaon and Garhwal, North-West Provinces of India.

To His Excellency the Most Noble the Marquis of Ripon, K.G., P.C., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

The memorial of the undersigned Tea-planters, Landowners and Residents, in Kumaon and Garhwal, North-West Provinces of India

SHEWETH,—That in the matter of the Bill now before the Legislative Council of the Government of India, entitled the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Act, they consider it is uncalled for and unnecessary for the following reasons:—

1st.—Because it is in direct antagonism to the wishes and desires of those most interested in it, namely, the great body of the British residents in India.

2nd.—It is calculated still further to widen the undesirable breach that already exists between the Christian and heathen subjects of Her Majesty the Queen and Empress of India.

3rd.—In the opinion of your memorialists, such legislative measures, having for their object the further extension of Native jurisdiction in this country, will, if thoroughly tested by the voice of the Natives themselves, be found contrary to the wishes of the bulk of the inhabitants of India, who, so far from desiring an increase of Native officials or of Native jurisdiction over Europeans in the administration of law and justice, would hail with heartfelt satisfaction an increase of British officials in the said administration of law and justice; and this your memorialists believe would be abundantly verified by an appeal to the Natives of India themselves.

4th.—Your memorialists beg therefore most respectfully to urge that the said Bill, the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Act, may not be passed into law.

No. 809, dated 6th June, 1883.

Endorsed by the Home Department.

TRANSFERRED to the Legislative Department for disposal.

No. 3855, dated 8th June, 1883.

From—C. GONNE, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 3731,* dated the 2nd instant, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Millowners Association, Bombay, dated the 22nd ultimo, communicating the opinion of the Association on the provisions of the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

* Printed as paper No. 39.

Dated 22nd May, 1883.

From—J. GORDON, Esq., Secretary, Bombay Millowners Association,
To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2261, dated 2nd April, 1883, forwarding copies of a letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department, No. 24C., dated the 17th March, 1883, and of a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons which accompanied it, and requesting that Government might be favoured with the opinion of the Millowners Association on the provisions of the Bill.

These documents were submitted to a general meeting of the Association held on the 9th instant, when the following resolution was carried, the only Europeans (two) who were present, and who were members of the same firm, dissenting :—

"That the Committee be requested to inform Government, in reply to their letter dated 2nd April, 1883, that the Association approves of the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882."

No. 898 J.-D., dated 4th June, 1883.

From—F. B. PEACOCK, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am directed to submit the accompanying copy of a letter, No. 68, dated the 22nd ultimo, from the Honorary Secretaries, European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association, and its enclosure, in original, being a protest from the non-official European residents of the districts of Jessore, Nuddea, and Pubna against the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure.

No. 68, dated 22nd May, 1883.

From—Messrs. A. FURRELL, and S. E. J. CLARKE, Honorary Secretaries, European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association,
To—The Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

We are directed by the Council of the above Association to forward herewith, in original, a protest from the non-official European residents in the districts of Jessore, Nuddea and Pubna, in Lower Bengal, on the subject of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, and to request that you will forward it through the proper channel to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

Protest from the Non-official European Residents in the Districts of Jessore, Nuddea and Pubna, Lower Bengal.

We, the undersigned non-official European residents in the districts of Jessore, Nuddea and Pubna, hereby give our most emphatic protest against the proposed change in the Criminal Procedure Code, whereby we are to lose the privileges we have hitherto enjoyed, and are to be made amenable to the jurisdiction of Natives. That we view any such change with the greatest anxiety and alarm, knowing, as we do, the great dangers which such might lead to; and, in districts like these, where Europeans are so isolated and so few in number, we consider it specially dangerous and fraught with ruin for us in every way. We resolve that one of our number should forward this our firm and indignant protest to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, with the request that he will bring the same through the proper channel before His Excellency the Viceroy, in the assurance that Lord Ripon will not permit those privileges which we cherish so much, that (*sic.*) of being tried by our peers, to be taken from us.

No. 3897, dated 11th June, 1883.

From—C. GONNE, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 3855, dated the 8th instant, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a minute by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nánábhai Haridás, Acting Judge of Her Majesty's High Court of Judicature, Bombay, containing his opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

Minute by the Honourable Mr. Justice NÁNÁBHAI HARIDÁS *on the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of Jurisdiction over European British subjects, dated 2nd June, 1883.*

I am unable to agree with the Acting Chief Justice in his opinion on this Bill. He denies "that a Native Judge or Magistrate in the mofussil, whether a Civil Servant or not, is fit to try a European British subject."

2. In considering this matter one must not overlook existing facts. Every such Judge or Magistrate in the mofussil already has power to try Frenchmen, Germans, Italians, Greeks, Russians—in short all Europeans, except those who are British subjects. For years he has exercised it in a perfectly satisfactory manner. I am not aware of any instances in which he has shown his incompetence in the exercise of it. In principle what difference is there between the two classes of Europeans that renders such a Judge or Magistrate competent to try one of them, and at the same time incompetent to try the other? Besides, Native Magistrates in the Presidency-towns have for years possessed the power of trying both classes of European offenders. If competent to exercise such power in the Presidency-towns, it is difficult to see how they become incompetent when transferred to the mofussil, and competent again when re-transferred to the Presidency-towns. The present state of the law on this subject is utterly indefensible. A Judge's fitness for his post does not depend in the least upon the colour of his skin or upon the nationality of the prisoner to be tried, or upon the place where the Court is held; and any invidious race-distinctions ought not to be allowed to disfigure the Statute Book a day longer than may be absolutely necessary.

3. If a fear is really entertained in any quarter that the very presence of a Native on the Bench will lead to an increase in the practice, said to be very common in this country, "of bringing false charges upon suborned evidence against persons of a different race whom it may be desirable to injure or get rid of," such fear, is to say the least, most unreasonable. The presence on the Bench of Native Magistrates in the Presidency-towns has not led to any such result. There are Hindu Magistrates in the mofussil daily trying cases in which the accused are Mahomedans and *vice versâ*; and again there are both Hindu and Mahomedan Magistrates trying cases in which the accused are Europeans (other than "European British subjects") as well as persons of other alien races. But there is no warrant for asserting that perjury and subornation of perjury and false charges have increased there in consequence. Besides, since 1836, Native Judges in the mofussil have, in civil cases, exercised the same jurisdiction over European British subjects as over others. It yet remains to be discovered that those offences have increased in consequence.

4. I do not think there is much in the argument, which finds favour with some, that a Native Judge or Magistrate is incompetent to try European offenders by reason of his ignorance of European "manners, customs, and habits of thought"; and that two or three years' residence in England is not likely sufficiently to remove that ignorance in the case of a Native Civilian. This argument evidently rests on the assumption that no Judge is competent to try a prisoner with whose "manners, customs, and habits of thought" he is unacquainted. Now, can it be truly predicated of the European Judges and Magistrates, whether in the mofussil, or in the Presidency-towns, that they are acquainted with the "manners, customs, and habits of thought" of every prisoner whom they have to try? The fact is jurisdiction is not conferred at present upon this principle. It will not be difficult to find instances of European

Judges, some quite fresh from England, others with even less than two or three years' residence in India, and others again, even, after much longer residence, without any knowledge of a Native language or of Native "manners, customs, and habits of thought," trying Natives upon all sorts of charges. And yet who has ever thought of denying them such jurisdiction on that ground. What is perhaps of more importance is a knowledge of the "manners, customs, and habits of thought" of the Native witnesses, upon whose evidence the determination of the guilt or innocence of the accused depends; and it cannot justly be denied that, as regards that, a Native Judge or Magistrate is much better situated than any European can be.

5. As to the provisions of the Bill, I do not think they go far enough. It seems to me that, as is already the case in civil matters, the procedure of the Court in criminal matters also should be the same, whether the accused are Native subjects of Her Majesty or European subjects. There is no good reason for having special Courts or special modes of trial for the latter. All the subjects of Her Majesty must alike submit to the jurisdiction of the Courts established by Her representatives in India, and the same offences when proved in those Courts, in the ordinary way, should produce the same penal consequences irrespective of the caste of the offenders. All Her Majesty's subjects ought to be equal in the eye of the law. In the Presidency-towns the same tribunals try both classes of them, the same procedure or mode of trial obtains and on conviction the same consequences follow. The substantive criminal law is now the same in the Presidency-towns and in the mofussil. Why then should there be any difference in the procedure? I think with the Chief Justice (*see* his Minute of 7th June 1882) that the whole of Chapter XXXII of the Criminal Procedure Code may advantageously be repealed, a short enactment being passed providing that "No person shall by reason of his descent or place of birth be in any criminal proceeding exempted from the jurisdiction of any of the Courts." With reference to paragraph 2 of the "Statement of Objects and Reasons" accompanying the Bill, it seems to me that such an enactment would more effectually settle the question now before the Legislative Council. Having regard to the progressive policy of Government, and bearing in mind how the same question as regards civil cases was settled in 1836, one may safely say that some day or other it will have to be settled in the same way as regards criminal cases also. If so, it may as well be so settled now as ten or twenty years hence. The existing provisions of the law as to transfer of cases from one Court to another, appeals against convictions, suspension of sentences, and revision, are amply sufficient for the protection of Her Majesty's European subjects no less than for that of Her Native subjects; and all fear of their proving insufficient for that purpose is utterly unfounded. The longer the existing anomaly is allowed to continue in deference to the unreasoning clamour now raised for its continuance the greater will be the difficulty of removing it hereafter. If the Legislature had listened to similar clamour in 1836, the law on the subject of civil jurisdiction would to this day have continued in the same unsatisfactory state as before. There was no lack then of people predicting all manner of evil consequences from the passing of what is known as the Black Act. Half a century's experience of its working, however, has shown them to be false prophets, not one of those consequences having followed. Who can now say that the Government then were not perfectly justified in disregarding the opposition to it? Should it, however, be deemed expedient not to go the whole length just now, the Bill may be passed at once as it stands. To withdraw it is out of the question. It would be a retrograde move, likely to produce many embarrassments in future.

Section 10, Criminal Procedure Code.

6. With reference to the suggestions contained in the Chief Secretary's letter, dated 17th April 1883, it seems to me that, in trying to remove one invidious race distinction by legislation, care should be taken to avoid, if possible, the creation of another. All trials before a Court of Session in the mofussil are at present either by jury or with the aid of assessors, whoever the accused may happen to be (section 268, Criminal Procedure Code). If Europeans prefer the former mode of trial, the Natives are by no means opposed to it; and Government, having the power (section 269 of the same Code), may at once direct such mode to be adopted in all cases. In this way they will be conferring a boon which all Her Majesty's subjects will equally value. They will, at the same time, be removing another existing anomaly—different modes of trial in the Presidency-towns and in the mofussil. Education has made such progress in every part of India within the last thirty years as to justify a hope that no difficulty will be experienced in finding a sufficient number of competent persons to act as jurors, wherever a Court of Session is held. I am opposed on principle to the creation of special tribunals for the trial of any one class of Her Majesty's subjects; but if Government deem it expedient to do so, there is no necessity for any new legislation on the subject. They already have the power, under sections 15 and 16 of the Criminal Procedure Code, to direct two or more Magistrates in the mofussil to sit together as a Bench, and to make rules for the guidance of such Benches.

No. 4005, dated 14th June, 1883.

From—C. GONNE, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 3897, dated the 11th instant, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a minute by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pinhey, Judge of Her Majesty's High Court of Judicature, Bombay, containing his opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

***Minute** by the Honourable* MR. JUSTICE PINHEY *on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.*

Just a year ago we were asked by the Government of Bombay to state our opinion "as to whether all members of the Covenanted Service, whether European or Native, ought not to be placed on the same footing, and whether the distinction which now exists between the two classes in regard to their powers of trying Europeans should not be abolished."

2. I had long ago wished to see this distinction abolished, and I, therefore, unhesitatingly initialled a minute by the Chief Justice (Sir C. Sargent) answering the Government reference to this effect.

3. Reading again now the minute of Sir C. Sargent by the light of later experience, I regret that I initialled it; because, although I agree with the whole of that part of it which answers the Government reference, the last paragraph of that minute expresses an opinion on the general question of the propriety of subjecting all European British subjects to the jurisdiction of every Magistrate—whether European or Native—a question about which our opinion was not asked.

4. I am of course still of opinion that it is neither necessary nor just to make any distinction between the European and Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, or to refuse to the latter power to deal with European British subjects in the exercise of their criminal jurisdiction.

5. When the Secretary of State for India advertises yearly that so many appointments in the Covenanted Civil Service will be given away by open competition, he makes no exception or distinction as to Natives of India. If a Native of India is a successful competitor, he receives his appointment subject to no other condition than those which his European competitor has to accept. It seems to me unjust that a Native Covenanted Civilian, when he arrives in India, should find his rights and privileges cut down, merely because he is a Native of India, or that he should be subjected to any disability from which his European fellow-competitor is exempt.

6. And the distinction is in my opinion as unnecessary as it is unjust. The European and the Native pass the same test. You have, therefore, the same guarantee for the education and ability of each. You have the same guarantee for the moral character of the one as of the other. No Native of India ever has or ever will succeed in getting into the Covenanted Civil Service without residing some years in England, and consequently mixing in European society and acquiring a considerable knowledge of the manners and customs and habits of thought of Europeans.

7. If, then, the Bill had gone no further than to do away with the distinction between European and Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, so far as the exercise of criminal jurisdiction is concerned, it would have had my unhesitating and hearty support, but it goes much further; and, so far as it goes further, I think it unnecessary, impolitic and inopportune. Moreover, I object to it nearly as much for its disenabling and as for its enabling effect: for not only will it enable Government to give power to Natives of classes (*b*) and (*c*) to deal with European British subjects charged with criminal offences, but it will in future prevent Government from giving such power to Europeans who are not members of the Covenanted Civil Service, but who are now invested with the power. I refer to the class of European officers, who are called in the mofussil of this Presidency City Magistrates and to such Deputy Collectors as are Europeans. Members of this class are to be found at Karachi, Poona, Belgaum and other large towns.

8. I need say no more of the Bill, so far as it will disenable Europeans who are not Covenanted Civilians from dealing with Europeans charged with offences. Nor need I say anything of class (*d*) Cantonment Magistrates: for in this Presidency at least these are always (I believe) European British subjects, generally military officers.

9. Before I state my objections more fully as to classes (*b*) and (*c*) I wish to express it as my opinion, that the unreasonable and unseemly clamour which has been raised against the Bill by a portion of the European community in India has been raised in consequence of an entire misconception of the scope of the Bill. It seems to me that the European community, without any careful study of the Bill, have jumped at the conclusion that if the Bill becomes law every European will be liable to the jurisdiction of any, and every, Native Magistrate in respect of any, and every, offence with which he may be charged. The Bill of course does not contemplate any such extension of the criminal jurisdiction of Native Magistrates generally.

10. Besides class (*a*) Covenanted Civilians (all of whom should, in my opinion, have the same jurisdiction as to persons), and class (*d*) Cantonment Magistrates (all of whom, in this Presidency at least, are European British subjects), the Bill proposes to enable Government to give jurisdiction over European offenders to two classes of first class Magistrates, class (*b*) members of the Native Civil Service constituted under the Statute 33 Vic., cap. 3, and class (*c*) Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces, who may be either European British subjects or Natives of India. As to such Assistant Commissioners as are European

British subjects, the Bill would not alter the law that now exists. There are no Assistant Commissioners, such as the Bill names, either European or Native, subordinate to the Bombay High Court. Whatever be the objection to conferring on Native Civilians criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects, the same objection would, in my view, exist in the case of Native Assistant Commissioners. I shall, therefore, confine the rest of my remarks to class (*b*) Native Civilians appointed (by nomination and not by competition) in this country.

11. I have already said that I think the extension of the criminal jurisdiction of Native Civilians unnecessary, impolitic and inopportune. I will state my reasons for so thinking as shortly as I can.

12. *Unnecessary.*—The proposed change in the law has not been called for either by the persons on whom it is proposed to confer the jurisdiction, or by the persons over whom it is to be exercised. It is a matter of notoriety that the latter strongly object to it. I do not remember ever hearing of a case in which justice was either delayed or frustrated by reason of there being no European Magistrate within reach, when a charge was brought against a supposed European offender. Mr. Gupta, of the Bengal Civil Service, had a grievance and gave expression to it. The Bill, so far as I approve of it, would do away with this grievance and rightly so. No other Native has asked to be given power to try Europeans, and so far as I am capable of forming an opinion, very few Natives, if any, would wish to have to try Europeans.

13. *Impolitic.*—The new Native Civilians nominated in this country, so far as I have had an opportunity of testing their capacity, are inferior to the Covenanted Civilian, either European or Native, in ability, in education, even in the power of writing simple English. They have never been in English society. They have never associated on terms of equality (most of them have not associated at all) with English men and women. As they have never "crossed the black water," you have no test of their moral courage. As they are appointed without examination, you have no guarantee for their education beyond the poor one afforded by departmental examinations. They are not appointed on their own merits, but generally because their fathers are distinguished servants of Government or prominent citizens, or else because their fathers or uncles are greatly esteemed by some one in or out of the Government service, who has influence enough or perseverance enough to get his nominee appointed a civilian. I know as a fact that the Native community generally are greatly discontented with the present mode of nominating Natives to the Civil Service. Can it be politic to give to such as these a new power, a new jurisdiction over a proud and hitherto dominant (and perhaps it may justly be added domineering) race? I cannot think so. It is easy of course to be wise after the event, but I think my opinion on this point derives confirmation from the outburst of passion (Native as well as European) which the introduction of the Bill in the Legislative Council has produced; albeit Native and European alike have misconceived the scope of the Bill, however it was not a mere transient outburst of passion. The discussions that have taken place in the press and elsewhere during the pendency of the Bill have produced a state of race antagonism, such as I have never known since the terrible events of 1857.

14. *Inopportune.*—Of course, from what I have said above, I must consider that portion of the Bill to which I object is inopportune. But I do not say, and I do not think, that, as time goes on, the race distinctions, which it is the object of the Bill to modify, may not be modified as they have already been modified from time to time. But the method of recruiting the Native Civil Service must first be modified. The race antagonism which the inopportune introduction of this Bill has excited must be allowed to subside. It was decreasing rapidly before the Bill. It will again decrease if the Bill be altered to the extent that would be necessary, in my opinion, to make it a just and a wise Bill.

15. I cannot close these remarks without noticing that it appears to me that some of my colleagues in their observations appear to have fallen into the popular error of considering the scope of the Bill much wider than it is.

No. 866, dated 23rd May, 1883.

From—C. A. WILKINS, Esq., Officiating Registrar of the High Court, Calcutta,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In reply to your letter No. 16C. of the 16th March 1883, asking for an expression of the Judges' opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I am desired to say that the Judges have considered the Bill, together with its annexures, and the abstract of the proceedings of the Legislative Council, so far as they relate to that measure.

HIGH COURT.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, CRIMINAL.

Present:

The Hon'ble Sir Richard Garth, Kt., Chief Justice.
The Hon'ble H. S. Cunningham.
" " W. F. McDonell, V.C.,
" " H. T. Prinsep,
" " L. R. Tottenham,
" " A. T. Maclean,
" " J. F. Norris,
" " J. Q. Pigot,
" " J. O'Kinealy,
" " C. J. Wilkinson,
" " W. Macpherson,

Judges of the Court.

2. The Judges consider it to be their duty to express, without reserve, the views which they entertain, not only upon the form and language of the Bill, but on its general policy and probable effects.

3. The Statement of Objects and Reasons sets forth that, "after consulting the Local Governments, athe Government of India has arrived

at the conclusion that the time has arrived for modifying the existing law and removing the present bar upon the investment of Native Magistrates in the interior with powers over European British subjects; and that the Government has, accordingly, decided to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions."

With this view the Bill amends section 22 of the Criminal Procedure Code, which at present restricts the appointment of Justices of the Peace to European British subjects, by empowering the Government to appoint any Magistrate of the first class, who is either (*a*) a member of the Covenanted Civil Service, or (*b*) a member of the Native Civil Service constituted under 33 Vict., c. 3, or (*c*) an Assistant Commissioner in Non-Regulation Provinces, or (*d*) a Cantonment Magistrate, to be a Justice of the Peace.

4. The Bill next amends section 25 of the Code, so as to provide that all Sessions Judges and Magistrates of the District shall be Justices of the Peace for the territories of the Local Government under which they are serving. It then repeals so much of sections 443 and 444 of the Code, respectively, as limits jurisdiction over European British subjects to such Magistrates and Sessions Judges as are themselves European British subjects.

5. Accordingly, if this Bill becomes law, the effect will be that (1) all Native Sessions Judges and Magistrates of the District will, *ex-officio*, exercise the same jurisdiction over European British subjects as is now exercised by European officials of the same class; and (2) the Government will be empowered to invest any Native Magistrate of the first class, who is either a Covenanted Civilian, or has been appointed under 33 Vict., c. 3, or is an Assistant Commissioner in a Non-Regulation Province, or a Cantonment Magistrate, with the jurisdiction over European British subjects, which by the existing law is restricted to European British subjects.

6. Thus a Native Magistrate, who has been appointed to be a Justice of the Peace, will have jurisdiction (1) to enquire into any charge against an European British subject, and either commit him to the Sessions Court or High Court; or, (2) if the offence be one ordinarily triable by a Magistrate, to try it and impose a sentence of three months' imprisonment or fine up to Rs. 1,000, or both. A Native Sessions Judge or Assistant Judge empowered under section 444 will be competent to try a European British subject for any offence not punishable with death or transportation for life, and to impose a sentence of one year's imprisonment or fine of unlimited amount, or both. Cases for which, in the Sessions Judge's opinion, such a punishment is inadequate, will be transferred to the High Court.

7. Offences punishable with death or transportation for life will remain, in the case of European British subjects, exclusively triable by the High Court. The European British subject will retain his right, under section 451, of claiming a mixed jury or mixed assessors, his special rights of appeal under Chapter XXXI, and his right of applying to the High Court under section 456 in case of unlawful detention.

8. It must be remembered that in India the powers of police investigation, magisterial enquiry, and judicial trial are closely connected and are frequently combined in the same official. Under the Code of Criminal Procedure, as it now stands, any District or Sub-divisional Magistrate, as well as any other Magistrate specially empowered in this behalf (section 191), may take cognizance of any offence, that is, initiate criminal proceedings in respect of any offence (1) upon a complaint made, (2) upon a police report thereof, (3) upon information received from any person other than a police officer, or (4) *upon his own knowledge or suspicion*, that such offence has been committed.

9. It is the duty of the District or Sub-divisional Magistrate to direct investigations by the police. He receives their daily reports and very often has to instruct them on points which he may think that they have overlooked or misapprehended. It sometimes even happens that the investigation is taken out of the hands of the police and conducted by the Magistrate himself (section 159). The result of this is that a chief local Magistrate practically becomes the prosecutor and may become the Judge notwithstanding that he may have formed a strong opinion on the case behind the back of the accused without having heard his explanation or defence. This is the system in force in India; and although it is probably, for administrative reasons, unavoidable, it is an extremely dangerous system. It has certainly provoked adverse criticism: that it has not provoked more is probably due to the careful superintendence bestowed by District Magistrates, who have in Bengal hitherto been English gentlemen of the Covenanted Civil Service, whose education and training have made them fully sensible of the responsibilities which such a system as that described imposes on them in their own proceedings and also in supervising the proceedings of their subordinate Sub-divisional Magistrates. The present law protects European British subjects from the exercise of this dangerous combination of duties by any one but their own countrymen. The Bill under consideration proposes to remove this protection.

10. The general result, accordingly, of the proposed amendments will be to leave European British subjects in the possession of various important rights as regards the class of officer who can commit or try them, the form of trial, the right of appeal, and the power of invoking the aid of the High Court when they are unlawfully detained in custody; but to deprive them of the right, which they at present enjoy, that in every case the enquiry or trial shall be conducted by an European British subject. It will become the duty, *ex-officio*, of Native officers of a particular class to commit or try European prisoners, even in cases in which, in person or through the police, they have initiated investigations affecting them; and the Government

will be empowered to select from a wide area such other Natives as it thinks well to invest with such powers.

11. The position in which European British subjects would be placed by the proposed changes is one which they have never yet occupied, and in which the Legislature has on several occasions deliberately determined that it would not be wise to place them. On a review of the course of legislation since 1793, it is impossible, the Judges consider, to doubt that the intention and practice of the Government has been to surround the investigation and trial of offences, charged against European British subjects in the mufassal with special precautions and, amongst those precautions, to restrict the jurisdiction in such cases to European officials. Any doubts which the wording of particular Acts, as *e.g.*, Act VII of 1853, might have occasioned, have been removed by the express declarations of the Codes of 1861 and 1872, in both of which this restriction was deliberately enacted.

12. On the other hand, as regards European officials, the result of the proposed change will be to curtail considerably the powers now exercised by Government in the appointment of Justices of the Peace. At present, the Government can appoint such European British subjects as it thinks fit to be Justices of the Peace. This power has been hitherto extensively employed, and Europeans, other than Covenanted Civilians, have been appointed to be Justices of the Peace, and dispose, in a manner which the Judges believe to be satisfactory, of cases in which Europeans are concerned. Under the amended section, the Government will be unable to appoint any one who does not fall within one of the four classes specified in the amendment. There are at present in Bengal many such Justices of the Peace whose appointments would have been impossible under the amended section.

13. The first argument adduced in favour of the proposed change in the law, which the Judges propose to consider, is that on which His Excellency the Viceroy grounded his support of the Bill in the discussion of the 9th March in the Legislative Council, *viz.*, the expediency of taking at once a step which the policy of admitting Natives to the service rendered sooner or later inevitable. "It is surely clear," His Excellency observed, "that though there is not at the present moment an irresistible necessity for introducing this measure, as Lord Lytton's system develops, an irresistible difficulty will arise. When you have one-sixth of the Civil Service composed of Natives, it will be impossible to maintain the present restriction. Therefore what we had to consider was, is it better to wait until this necessity becomes overwhelming and irresistible, or is it better to introduce the system now? I confess, it appears to me, that it is far wiser and far more in the true and substantial interests of those over whom this jurisdiction is exercised, that it should be introduced now, when the persons who would obtain these powers are very limited in number; when the circumstances under which they enter the Civil Service insure their ability and character, and when all their proceedings can be carefully watched. Being few in number, it will be easier now than afterwards for the attention of the Local Governments and the public to be directed to their proceedings, and, being the men they are, it seems to me that they would be likely to set a good example and give a good tone to those who come after them. I hold it, therefore to be wiser to introduce the measure now, gradually, cautiously, and tentatively, than to wait till the change is forced upon us by necessity, and the powers, which are now to be given only to a few men, have to be given suddenly to a very much larger number of Native Civil Servants. This is the ground upon which I thought that the time had come when this change could best be made."

14. The Judges fully appreciate the necessity of adjusting the judicial machinery of the Courts to the declared policy of the Secretary of State as regards the employment of Natives in the judicial service. But they do not perceive that that policy necessarily involves any such change as that now suggested; nor, in any case, do they consider that the proper moment for making such a change has arrived, or that materials at present exist for deciding on the form which it ought to assume.

The accompanying table shows that of the Civilians on the Bengal list there are at present twelve Natives, either Covenanted Civilians, or persons admitted under 33 Vict., c. 3. Of these, two have been over 11 years in the service, one over 10, one over 9 years, one has been over 7 years. The rest have been under 5 years, and of these, five have served less than 3 years. Moreover, since 1875 only one Native Civilian has passed through the competitive examination, and that was in 1879. Since that year all the admissions have been under the Statute. There are, accordingly, only four officers who, in the ordinary course, would for some time to come be either Magistrates of the District or Sessions Judges. As regards the rest, no question is likely to arise for several years.

Names of Native Civilians appointed (1) in England and (2) in India.	Date of joining the Service.	Appointments held.		Approximate years when officers will become eligible for appointments either as		Remarks.
		Substantive appointments.	Officiating appointments.	Officiating Magistrates.	Or as Officiating Judges.	
Appointed in England.						
Mr. R. C. Dutt	10th July 1871	Joint Magistrate, 2nd grade	Magistrate and Collector, 3rd grade	.....	.....	He was first appointed to officiate as a Magistrate in September 1881.
„ B. L. Gupta	Ditto	Presidency Magistrate	*Nil*	.....	1893	He has elected the Judicial line.
„ A. Buroosh	9th July 1872	Joint Magistrate, 2nd grade	„	.....	.....	On furlough. He was appointed to act as a Magistrate in August 1880.
		(Substantive pro. tem.)				
„ K. G. Gupta	30th June 1873	Assistant Magistrate and Collector	Joint Magistrate, 1st grade	.....	.....	He has been offered an Acting Magistracy.
„ B. Dé	19th July 1875	Ditto	Joint Magistrate, 2nd grade	1884.	1886	
„ K. J. Badshah	8th September 1879	Ditto	*Nil*	1886.	1888	
Appointed in India.						
Koomar Rameswar Sing	2nd March 1878	Assistant Magistrate and Collector	*Nil*	1888.	1890	Has not yet passed the departmental examination by the Higher Standard.
Baboo Nanda Krishna Bose	27th January 1880	Ditto	„	1888.	1890	Ditto
Koomar Girindro Narain Deb	28th December 1880	Ditto	„	.....	.....	Has yet to pass by the Lower Standard.
Baboo Gopendra Krishna	3rd November 1882	Ditto	„	.....	.....	Ditto
Koomar Satiya Sree Ghosal	3rd February 1880	Ditto	„	.....	.....	
Maulvi Ashunuddin Ahmed	27th December 1881	Ditto	„	.....	.....	

N.B.—The last four Officers have not yet passed their examinations completely, and as officers are not considered eligible for promotion until they pass fully, it is difficult to determine the probable time when they will rise to the rank of Officiating Magistrates or Officiating Judges. It takes an officer 7 years or thereabouts from date of passing to rise to the position of an Officiating Magistrate, and about 9 years to get an Officiating Judgeship.

15. These figures appear to the Judges to indicate that the question of the jurisdiction of Native Civilians over European Biritish subjects cannot be regarded as in any way pressing for immediate solution. Though it may be intended that Native officials shall ultimately constitute a sixth of the entire Civil Service, there do not appear to be grounds for expecting that this intention will be realized for many years to come. It would appear, moreover, that various causes have, of late years, led Native candidates to refrain from seeking admission to the Civil Service by the competitive examination, and that the main body of Native Civilians will for the future be those who are appointed in this country under 33 Vict., c. 3. Such a state of things scarcely seems to justify prospective legislation on the ground that an irresistible necessity is impending, which can be at present more conveniently and safely met than at a later date. The Covenanted Native Civilians, who have passed into the service by the competitive examination, constitute, it is apparent, a small and dwindling class. So far as can be judged at present, the supply has come to a standstill; nor, as to admissions under 33 Vict., c. 3, does it appear that the Local Governments have found it feasible to carry out the provisions of the Act except on a very limited scale. Three officers appear to have been appointed in Bengal in 1880, one in 1881, one in 1882. At present, therefore, the measure can, it is obvious, scarcely be regarded as having passed beyond the stage of an experiment. How these officials will turn out is a question on which it is at present, and must be for some years to come, impossible to form any confident opinion. Even as regards the earlier appointments, the Judges are of opinion that they have been too few in number, and, in the majority of instances, have lasted for too short a time, to afford material for any safe generalization, or to justify, on the ground of ascertained fitness, a change in the policy of Government which would take away from European British subjects a privilege which, it is apparent, they regard as of high value and importance.

16. If some years hence, owing to the number of Native Civilians having greatly increased any administrative difficulty should arise and a change in the existing arrangements be considered necessary, such a change will, the Judges think, be more safely made at a time when there are better means than at present of judging both of the administrative difficulties which have to be met and of the capacity and character of the class of officials whose powers and responsibilities it will have the effect of enlarging. The increase in the number of Native officials will not render the supervision of their behaviour in any way more difficult than it is at present. On the other hand, longer experience and a better acquaintance with the particular points, as to which supervision is found to be necessary, would enable the superintending authority to perform its duties more efficiently. At any rate legislation, should it hereafter be necessary, would proceed on a basis of practical experience, not, as it is likely to do now, on mere conjecture as to the conduct and character of officers about whom scarcely anything is known.

17. In considering the question whether legislation is at present advisable, it is necessary to keep in view the wide distinction which exists between Native officers who have entered the Civil Service by competitive examination in England, and those who are nominated under 33 Vict., c. 3, in this country. The Judges are not prepared to admit that, even as regards the former class, the proposed change in the law is any way necessary or desirable: but here there is, at any rate, some guarantee for ability, moral character, and such insight into the feelings of Englishmen as a short residence in England may be supposed to confer. On the other hand, with the statutory Civilians there is absolutely no guarantee against the existence of the very defects which constitute the grounds of the reluctance of European British subjects to submit to their jurisdiction in criminal trials. They are described by the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh in a document, forwarded by the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces with his own reply to the Government of India, as "often being men saturated with caste and religious prejudice and ignorant of European modes of thought and feeling." One object of the Statute was, the Judges believe, to enable the Government to enrol in the ranks of its service Native gentleman of high birth and social position. It is easy to imagine cases in which a gentleman might have on these grounds great claims to a nomination under the Statute, who might yet be conspicuously deficient in many of the qualifications which are admittedly essential in the Judge who is to deal with cases in which European British subjects are concerned. It must be remembered that it is with officials of this class, not with successful competitors in the Civil Service Examination, that, in considering the present question, we have principally to deal: nor can the Judges lose sight of the fact that these Statutory Civilians will be appointed by a system of nomination which was abandoned by the Government 25 years ago in favour of competitive examination, and which can scarcely be expected to work more satisfactorily in India than it did in England. On the officers thus nominated the proposed change will confer a jurisdiction unknown to English law, a combination of inquisitional, magisterial and judicial powers, which may be justified by the necessities of the case of India, but which Englishmen in India may with some reason contend, should continue to be exercised in their own case, as it is at present, only by officials for whose competence or character they have some adequate guarantee.

18. The apprehensions which many Europeans entertain as to the results of the proposed change are not, in the Judges' opinion, without foundation. There is no doubt that the position of Europeans in the mufassal has many disadvantages. They are often completely isolated, they live among people alien to themselves in religion, nationality, social habits and political ideas. As owners of property and employers of labour, they are necessarily brought into collision with classes or individuals whose interests conflict with their own; and it is

impossible to ignore the fact that such a state of things exposes them to very considerable risks. The attention of the Government was forcibly drawn to this fact by the Hon'ble Sir Steuart Bayley in the debate of March 9th. "There is," he said, "another aspect to the case of the opposition which I think deserves most attentive consideration, and this is the real danger which the isolated European, living in the mufassal, runs from having false cases trumped up against him. It is right that I should state publicly that this danger is a very real and very serious one, for probably no Member of this Council has had the same experience as I have of the lives led by planters in the mufassal. My own experience has given me a strong feeling on this matter, and any one who knows the extreme bitterness with which disputes about land are fought out in the mufassal, and the unscrupulous methods to which recourse is had in conducting these disputes before the Court,—methods to which a planter cannot have recourse,—will understand how precarious his position may become, and how essential to him it is that the law should be well and wisely administered."

19. The Judges concur in the views here expressed; and they consider that the dangers thus described in the case of planters and manufacturers would be even greater in the case of persons in a humbler position in life—railway employés, artificers, and the like. These men are continually brought into contact with Natives in ways which may easily give rise to misunderstandings and ill-will. Should an accusation be brought against them, they labour under great disadvantages: they are often isolated from other Europeans; they generally have but an imperfect acquaintance with the vernacular languages; they are unable to retain the costly services of European advocates; and they might, in some circumstances, find it impossible to secure the assistance even of Native practitioners. It is easy to see how the grossest injustice might easily be inflicted in such cases by an officer who from any cause failed fully to realise the position of the accused. It is at any rate certain that Europeans of this class would feel an entire want of confidence in any but a European tribunal. On the whole, after making every allowance for temporary excitement and agitation, it is, the Judges think, impossible to doubt that European residents in the mufassal do really consider themselves to be, and in fact are, in a position which justifies them in regarding the privilege of being tried by a European, on whose independence and impartiality they can fully rely, as one of very real importance to them.

20. Accordingly, as the number of Native officials who will be affected by the proposed change is extremely small; as it seems probable that the majority of Native officials will for the future be statutory nominees appointed in this country without any guarantee as to ability and not, necessarily, possessing any acquaintance with the habits or feelings of Englishmen; as there is no evidence of any real demand for any such alteration; as the proposed change will disqualify a class of European officers who at present perform their duties to the entire satisfaction of the Government and the public; and as it cannot, it appears, be effected without a revival of animosities and class-feelings, which are, on every account, to be deplored, the Judges consider that nothing short of grave and pressing reasons could justify its introduction.

21. But, so far as their own observations go, the Judges are unaware of the existence of any of the reasons on which a legislative change is usually demanded. In the exercise of their duties of superintendence and revision, they have occasion to watch attentively the working of the criminal Courts, the returns of which are continually before them. Nothing in those returns indicates that there is at present any administrative inconvenience, any miscarriage of justice, any hardship inflicted on prosecutors, witnesses, or accused, or any dissatisfaction felt with the provisions of the Code as to the jurisdiction of the Courts. Some provisions of the Code are, the Judges are aware, believed by some persons to operate severely, and any measure for the reform of these would deserve consideration. It might be well, for instance, to consider the possibility of extending to Natives in the mufassal, under certain conditions, the right, of the nature of a *Habeas Corpus*, now exclusively enjoyed by Europeans, of applying to the High Court in cases of unlawful detention. But as regards the powers conferred on the several classes of Courts and the rights enjoyed by European British subjects in criminal cases, the Judges are not aware that there is any feeling of grievance or, except amongst a few individuals, any wish for change. On the contrary, the Judges believe, that the privileges now enjoyed by Europeans are readily acquiesced in by the main body of Natives, who understand and sympathise with the natural desire of Europeans to be tried by their own countrymen, and who appreciate the evils to which any alteration of the existing law may probably conduce.

22. They are confirmed in this view by the fact that, though the Criminal Procedure Code was for several years under consideration, and was criticised minutely by every Local Government, and though a very large body of official opinion was collected from every rank in the service, no suggestion on the subject was made by any responsible authority till Sir A. Eden's communication of the 20th March 1882, enclosing Mr Gupta's letter of 30th January 1882.

23. The Judges find that their views as to this part of the subject are endorsed by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, who, in his speech on 9th March, observed that "there were a great many facts which supported the contention that there is no administrative difficulty in connection with the matter," and expressed his conviction that "this measure is unnecessary in the present condition and constitution of the Native judicial Covenanted Service in Bengal."

24. On these grounds the Judges are of opinion that there is nothing in the present condition or prospects of the Service which renders a change of the law expedient; nor do they think that any necessity is likely to arise within any period sufficiently near to require or justify legislation, specially when that legislation arouses apprehensions and animosities which are on every ground matter of regret.

25. In connection with this part of the subject, it may be well to point out that the rapid development of railway and telegraphic communication, which has been urged by some of the supporters of the Bill as a reason for considering it to be free from danger, goes far, and will year by year go farther, to meet the argument based on administrative necessity. There are few parts of India and there will soon, it is to be hoped, be none in which a European cannot be forwarded to any place, in which it may be desired to try him, with ease, speed, and economy. Europeans in India are, for the most part, at the present day, for all practical purposes, far nearer to the tribunals, to which they are subject, than they have ever been before; and their transmission from one place to another will, year by year, become a matter of less difficulty.

26. The foregoing considerations, in the Judges' opinion, sufficiently dispose of the question of the expediency of introducing the measure at the present time. But some of the grounds on which the defence of the proposed change in the law was rested by the supporters of the Bill, seem to the Judges to call for observation. In the first place, as to the reasons adduced for the change. "The only object we have in view," it was observed by the Honourable Member who moved the introduction of the Bill, "is to provide for the impartial and effectual administration of justice. It is by this test that we desire our proposals to be tried." Tried by that test the proposal seems to the Judges indefensible, for no one has suggested that the present administration of justice is not effectual and impartial, or that it will become in any degree more impartial or more effectual by the proposed alteration. On the contrary, the proposal is that a class of cases, which are admitted to be of so "exceptionally troublesome and difficult a character" as to justify their exclusion from the cognizance of any but specially qualified tribunals, shall be no longer confined to a class of officials who, in their disposal, at present give entire satisfaction and command entire confidence, but shall become cognizable by officials who, speaking generally, offer a less complete guarantee for impartiality and independence,—who necessarily labour under the disadvantages arising from difference of nationality and social habits, and in whom the portion of the community concerned confessedly places less confidence than in the existing tribunals. If, as the Hon'ble Member says, the trial of Europeans is "apt to put an exceptionally severe strain on the judicial qualities of tact, judgment, patience, and impartiality," it is difficult to understand how the interests of justice can be promoted by committing these cases to officials who are regarded, and the Judges consider rightly regarded, as less qualified to deal with them than those who at present are empowered to do so. Under the proposed law any Native Assistant Commissioner, who has served long enough to become a first class Magistrate, might, in Assam or in any other Non-Regulation Province, be empowered to commit or try Europeans. Europeans may not unreasonably regard such an arrangement as providing less satisfactorily than the existing law for the impartial and effectual administration of justice in their own case. It is no disparagement of the integrity or ability of a Native Judge to say that he is necessarily more amenable to the external influences to which popular feeling, local prejudice or the wishes and interests of powerful individuals may give rise, than is a European officer, to whom such matters are for the most part unknown. It would be easy to conceive cases in which it would require no ordinary fortitude and independence on the part of a Native official to run counter to the prevailing sentiments of the society in which he lives. It not unfrequently happens that our superior officials are asked to transfer an important case from some Native Judge or Magistrate, not because from deficiency of experience or judicial knowledge he is unable to try it, but because one side or other apprehends (and sometimes even both sides unite in this respect) that some unknown or improper influence will be brought to bear on that officer.

27. In this respect it is necessary to point out that the present measure differs fundamentally from those by which in years past Europeans have been brought gradually within the jurisdiction of the civil and criminal Courts. On each of those occasions the reform had this strong justification that it was really demanded in the interest of an impartial and effectual administration of the law. Justice could not, it is obvious, be done between Europeans and others either in civil or criminal cases so long as a European could be brought before no tribunal nearer than the presidency town. Such a state of the law was in many cases tantamount to a denial of justice; and in criminal matters it practically, in all but very serious cases, secured impunity to the favoured class. On these grounds the changes, heretofore made, were justifiable and wise. But on the present occasion it cannot be suggested that the change will make the trial or punishment of European criminals in any one respect easier, speedier, cheaper or more certain.

28. One of the grounds most frequently alleged in support of the Bill was that the present state of the law was anomalous, and that this anomaly justified legislation. As to this, it is, the Judges think, enough to point out that the entire structure of Indian society and the British administration rests on personal laws, under which particular classes or individuals enjoy special rights apart from the general law applicable to the entire community. These rights have been solemnly guaranteed to the inhabitants of the country and are conscientiously respected by the Legislature and the Courts. The principle laid down in the preamble of 21 Geo. III, c. 70, that it was "expedient that the inhabitants should be maintained and protected in the enjoyment of all their ancient laws, usages, rights and privileges," has been consistently maintained: and the Act which at present regulates the Civil Courts in Bengal (Act VI of 1871) expressly provides that, in all questions regarding succession, inheritance, marriage or caste, or religious usage or institution, the personal law of Hindus and Muhammadans shall be the rule of decision. These personal rights are observed, so far as the Judges are aware, with

equal care, and with ready acquiescence, by the people in their dealings with one another. They are insisted on by the class concerned whenever they appear to be endangered. Only a year ago the entire Hindu and Muhammadan communities were exempted from some of the most important provisions of the "Transfer of Property Act" out of respect to the wishes of certain native gentlemen who were apprehensive that the proposed enactment might be regarded as discountenancing their view of the Hindu Law. Such being the universal rule, the English in India may, the Judges think, with some reason demand that a like regard may be paid to their personal rights, for which they have at any rate the prescription of long usage, which they highly prize, and which are not shown to conflict in any way with the rights of any class. The question asked in the course of discussion on the Code of 1872, when the law was placed on its present footing, seems to the Judges extremely pertinent—"Are English people to be told that, while it is their duty to respect all these laws scrupulously, they are to claim nothing for themselves? that, while the English Courts are to respect and even enforce a variety of laws, which are thoroughly repugnant to all the strongest convictions of Englishmen, Englishmen who settle in this country are to surrender privileges to which, rightly or otherwise, they attach the highest possible importance?"

29. Another ground urged in support of the proposed change in the law, is the invidious character of the existing distinction. If by "invidious" is meant that the law, as it stands, unfairly benefits Europeans to the detriment of natives, or that the privilege now enjoyed by Europeans can justly be regarded as offensive to native feeling, the Judges are unable to see any foundation for such a charge. It is not suggested that the rights now enjoyed by Europeans should be extended to the entire community, or that the proposed change would improve in any particular the general administration of the law. If by the abolition of the present rights of Europeans the natives would be benefited, the balance of advantages might have to be struck; but this is not the case. No practical advantage for natives is to be gained.

30. If even, apart from considerations of practical benefit, there were reason to think that the present state of the law was, or could reasonably be, regarded by natives as humiliating or insulting to them or their countrymen, the Judges would consider that the possibility of remedying such a state of things deserved serious attention. But they cannot believe that such is the case. There is nothing in the existing law which implies any personal disparagement to any one. There may be in the ranks of the native service officials who resent the existing law because it impliedly recognizes the existence of a difference between Europeans and natives, and because they regard such a recognition as obsolete, injurious and oppressive. The Judges cannot regard such feelings as deserving of sympathy or consideration. Those differences, as a fact, exist, and any attempt to ignore them would, the Judges believe, be unwise and disastrous. So far as the present measure encourages the belief in any class of the community that such differences have ceased to exist—that Hindus and Englishmen can live side by side, not only with just and equal laws, but with absolute identity of status in every particular, it must, the Judges consider, be regarded as a probable source of future difficulty. No reasonable official need feel aggrieved or humiliated because the law lays down a general rule that a class of especially difficult cases shall be tried by the officials who are confessedly most competent to try them, to whom their trial has hitherto been invariably confined, and to whom the class concerned earnestly desires that they should continue to be restricted. As was observed in the debate of 1872, "The privilege as to jurisdiction is the privilege of the prisoner, not the privilege of the Judge. The European has an objection to be tried by a native. Considering the position in which he stands, the question is whether you will put him in a position in which he does not at present stand. You place no slight upon a native by saying that he can only try a man of his own race. What is there against the feelings of the native in that? Why should any one feel a slight because he is told that a particular man is to be tried in a particular way. On the other hand, it is a feeling, and not an unnatural one, that a man should wish to be tried by his own countrymen." This feeling, as a fact, is recognized by the provisions of the Code which allow Europeans and natives alike to claim that at least half of the jury, by which they are to be tried, shall consist of persons of their own race.

31. Much reliance has been placed on the argument that for many years past Native Magistrates have in the Presidency towns exercised jurisdiction over European British subjects without giving rise to complaint. As to this, it is, the Judges think, enough to say that the position of the Presidency Magistrates, from the close proximity of the High Courts, the facilities thus afforded for supervision and control, the presence of a large and influential Bar, the activity of the local press, and the influence of public opinion renders it safe to entrust these officials with far more extensive powers than could be safely conceded in the case of Mofussil Magistrates. This view has been adopted by the Legislature, which empowers * a Presidency Magistrate to pass a sentence of imprisonment for six months or fine of Rs. 200 without any appeal, whereas in the mofussil 1st class Magistrates and Sessions Judges are unable to pass a higher sentence than one month or Rs. 50 fine without appeal; and in the case of European British subjects no order passed by either is unappealable. For these reasons the Judges cannot consider the experience of the Presidency Magistrates' Courts as in any degree justifying the investment of native officers in the mofussil with jurisdiction over Europeans.

* C. P. C., 411.

32. Lastly, the Judges have to consider the question of the finality of the Bill. They are

of course, perfectly satisfied that any assurances which may be given by the present Government or any members of it in that respect will be fully and faithfully adhered to. But such assurances would not be binding upon any future Government, and still less upon the native community. There would seem to be no elements of finality, either in the Bill itself, or in its subject-matter. There is no reason why those, in deference to whose wishes the Bill has been introduced, should accept it otherwise than as a prelude to still larger concessions; and it may probably be more difficult in the future for Europeans to protect their rights when the principle upon which those rights depend has once been invaded.

33. The Judges have endeavoured in the preceding remarks to explain why they consider the grounds for the introduction of the Bill to be insufficient. They believe that they have shown that it is justified by no necessity, either immediately present or sufficiently near at hand to require consideration: that the Native Civilians who enter the service by competition are a small and dwindling class: that nothing is as yet, or can be for many years, known of the officers appointed under 33 Vict., c. 3, except that they have not had the residence in England which is supposed by some to render the Covenanted Civilians competent to exercise the proposed jurisdiction; that the circumstances of mofussil life render the present privileges of Europeans in the Criminal Courts not a mere sentimental gratification but an important safeguard against a real danger: that the measure cannot be defended as contributing to the more effectual and impartial administration of justice—an object which the present law sufficiently attains, and which it is not pretended that the amended law would attain any better: that in this respect the present Bill differs from former measures of a like nature, which had for their object the removal of an acknowledged grievance: that the anomaly involved in the present state of the law is merely one instance of a state of things on which the entire structure of Indian society depends: that the right, which the proposed legislation will take away, ought not to be, and in fact is not generally regarded as invidious or oppressive: and finally that the Bill does not possess the elements of finality claimed for it, but on the contrary must, whatever be the wishes of the Government, be hereafter made the standing ground from which further innovations will be demanded. On these grounds the Judges feel bound to express their strong dissapproval of the Bill.

34. I am directed to state that the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mitter will record his opinions on the subject of the Bill in a separate minute.

No. 910, dated 1st June, 1883.

From—C. A. WILKINS, Esq., Officiating Registrar, High Court, Calcutta,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Dept.

In continuation of the High Court's letter No. 866 of the 23rd ultimo, communicating, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the views of the Court on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, I am directed to forward, for the consideration of His Excellency in Council, the accompanying printed copy of a Minute, dated 25th ultimo, recorded by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mitter on the same subject

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Minute by the HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MITTER *upon the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill, dated 25th May 1883.*

We have been asked to give our opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects. I think that, in submitting our opinion, it is not our province, as judicial officers, to discuss the principle of the Bill so far as it involves the general policy of the State.

I shall therefore confine myself to the consideration of the two following questions:—

(1) To what extent the Bill in question proposes to take away from the European British subjects any right or privilege which they have hitherto enjoyed;

(2) What would be the result of the proposed change in the Criminal Procedure Code on the administration of justice in the country.

With reference to the first question, it has been said that, as various sections of the community in India are allowed to enjoy their personal laws on various matters, the European British subjects should not be deprived of the privilege of being tried by a Judge who is himself a European British subject—a privilege hitherto secured to them by the personal laws which they have been allowed to retain in this country. So far as the criminal laws of the country are concerned, I am not aware of any distinction in their application to the people of the various races inhabiting British India. Whether a criminal be a Hindu, a Mahomedan, a Budhist, a Sikh, or a Parsee, he is subject to the jurisdiction of the same tribunal and is amenable to the same criminal laws.

But, apart from this, it seems to me that there is hardly any foundation for the statement that the personal laws which a European British subject has been allowed to retain in this country confer upon him the privilege of being tried only by a Judge who is himself a European British subject.

A native subject of British India would not be considered an alien in Great Britain. Subject to certain qualifications, which have nothing to do with the country of his birth, he would

be, I imagine, eligible there to be appointed a Justice of the Peace or a Judge of the High Court of Judicature. He would be eligible to serve as a juror in a criminal trial, whatever might be the nationality of the accused person. If what I have stated above be in accordance with the provisions of the English Law, then there is no foundation for the contention that the personal laws, which a European British subject has been allowed to retain in this country confer upon him the right or privilege of being tried by a Judge who is also a European British subject.

Then it may be said that, whether a European British subject enjoys that right in England or not, he has enjoyed that right in India since the commencement of the British Rule. It seems to me that this proposition is equally untenable. It is true that European British subjects, at the commencement of the British Rule in India, were conceded the right of carrying with them the laws governing them in England both in civil and criminal matters. In both these matters the provisions of the English Law were administered in cases in which they were concerned.

In the Presidency of Bengal, a Supreme Court of Judicature was established at Fort William in Bengal under 13 Geo. III, Cap. 63; the 14th section of which provided that the jurisdiction of that Court should extend "to all British subjects," who were residents of any part of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa then under the protection of the East India Company. By section 38 of this Statute, "the Governor General in Council and the Judges of the Supreme Court" were vested with the powers of Justices of the Peace within the settlement of Fort William.

By section 29 of 26 Geo. III, Cap. 57, European British subjects were declared amenable "to the Courts of Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery and Courts of General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace in any of the British settlements in India" for offences committed in India and other places mentioned therein.

By section 151 of 33 Geo. III, Cap. 52, power was given to the Governor General in Council to appoint any "Covenanted Servant" of the East India Company, or any "other British inhabitant," to act as a Justice of the Peace in any place in British India.

By section 19 of Regulation IX of 1793 and section 2 of Regulation II of 1796, it was declared that European British subjects were amenable only to the Supreme Court of Judicature at Calcutta, for offences committed in the interior of the country. Provisions were made in the latter Regulation and Regulation XV of 1806 for the commitment of such offenders to the Supreme Court at Calcutta.

By section 105 of 53 Geo. III, Cap. 155, a Magistrate of a District was empowered to take cognizance of certain defined petty offences committed by a European British subject against any "Native of India."

By section 1 of Act IV of 1843, provisions were made for appeals against the convictions of European British subjects by Magistrates and Justices of the Peace. This Act shows that a Magistrate of a District, although not a Justice of the Peace, was competent to take cognizance of complaints relating to offences mentioned in section 105 of 53 Geo. III, Cap. 155, committed by a European British subject.

The next legislation in India on this subject was Act No. VII of 1853. By section 1, the provisions of section 105 of 53 Geo. III, Cap. 155, and of Act IV of 1843, were extended to offences mentioned in it, committed "against the person or property of any person whatever." Under section 105, referred to above, it was restricted to such offences committed against *a Native of India.*

Section 2 of this Act says:—"The powers in such cases"—*i.e.*, cases coming within the purview of section 105 of 53 Geo. III, Cap. 155—"given to the Magistrate of the Zillah or District may be lawfully exercised by any Joint Magistrate, or other person lawfully exercising the powers of a Magistrate, in the case of any such offence as aforesaid, which may hereafter be committed within the district over which his authority extends."

Under section 3 of Act XV of 1843, a person, other than a European British subject, was eligible to be appointed a Deputy Magistrate exercising the full powers of a Magistrate. Under Act VII of 1853, therefore, a Deputy Magistrate, who was not a European British subject and who had not been appointed a Justice of the Peace, could, if vested with the full powers of a Magistrate, take cognizance of cases mentioned in section 105 of 53 Geo. III, Cap. 155. But the law on this subject was again altered by section 42 of Act XXV of 1861, which contained the proviso to the effect that the jurisdiction given by the aforesaid Statute and Act VII of 1853 should be exercised only by a Justice of the Peace.

The next legislation on the subject in question is Act II of 1869, by section 3 of which the Governor General of India in Council and the Local Governments were empowered to appoint Justices of the Peace "from the Covenanted Civil Servants of the Crown in India, or other British inhabitants." At that time, *viz.*, 1869, a native of this country was a member of the Covenanted Civil Service. This Act was followed by Act XXII of 1870, which confirmed certain laws affecting European British subjects, passed by the Governors of the Presidencies of Fort St. George and Bombay, and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in Council. These laws were further confirmed by 34 and 35 Vic., Cap. XXXIV, the second section of which provides that a Magistrate, who is a Justice of the Peace, is competent to commit a European British subject to the Court of Sessions or to the High Court, if he be authorised on that behalf by an Act of the Indian Legislature.

It will be convenient here to notice briefly the Jury Rules which obtained in the Supreme

Court at Calcutta. Under Geo. III, Cap. 63, section 34, it was provided that in the Supreme Court at Calcutta "all offences and misdemeanours," *whether committed by a European British subject or not*, "should be tried by a Jury of British subjects, *resident in the town* of Calcutta, and not otherwise." But by 7 Geo. IV, Cap. 37, it was declared that "all good and sufficient persons resident within the limits of the several towns of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay" should be deemed qualified as jurors. There was this further provision in this Statute, that the Grand Juries in all cases and all the Juries for the trial of persons professing the Christian religion should consist wholly of persons professing the Christian religion. But this latter restriction was abolished by 2 and 3 Will. 4, Cap. 117, section 2. By this last-mentioned Statute also, the Governor General in Council was authorised to appoint *any person*, resident within the territories in the possession and under the Government of the East India Company, and not being a subject of any foreign State, to act as a Justice of the Peace within the towns of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay.

The above is a brief summary up to the year 1872 of the history of the laws relating to the exercise of jurisdiction in criminal matters over European British subjects residing in India. Now it seems to me that they do not establish the existence of the privilege which has been claimed for them. There was no disability arising *from nationality* to a British Indian subject to fill the office of a Judge of the Supreme Court at Calcutta; and although by section 87, 3 and 4 Will. IV, Cap. 85, it was declared that no native of British India should, by reason of his religion, place of birth, &c., be disabled to hold any office under the East India Company, I have not been able to find any previous Statute by which such disability had been declared or created. At any rate, it is beyond all dispute that, since the passing of the aforesaid Statute, a native of British India was not under any disability to enter the Covenanted Civil Service of the East India Company; and, as a member of the Covenanted Civil Service, he was eligible to be appointed a Justice of the Peace. It is true that unless he was a Covenanted Civil Servant, he could not act as a Justice of the Peace out of the limits of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay. But his eligibility to be appointed a Justice of the Peace was declared in the year 1832, and the experience of the last fifty years, I believe, would warrant the proposed removal of this restriction as to the local jurisdiction.

In criminal trials, in the Supreme Court at Calcutta, all British Indian subjects residing within Calcutta were, as shown above, competent to act as Jurors whatever might be the nationality of the accused person.

From 1853 to 1861, a Native Deputy Magistrate, vested with the full powers of a Magistrate, could take cognizance of complaints against a European British subject for offences mentioned in section 105 of 53 Geo. III, Cap. 155. From 1861 to 1872, a native member of the Covenanted Civil Service, if vested with the powers of a Justice of the Peace and exercising the full powers of a Magistrate, could also deal with these cases.

Therefore it is clear that, since the commencement of the British Rule in India, a European British subject has not enjoyed *the privilege* of being tried by a Judge who is also a British subject.

This privilege or the right was, for the first time, conferred upon him under Act X of 1872, so far as the Criminal Courts in the interior of the country are concerned.

With reference to the second question stated above, it seems to me that the apprehensions entertained by those who oppose the proposed Bill are not founded on any tangible basis. They do not appeal or refer to any known fact or condition of things reasonably justifying their apprehension.

On the other hand, if the facts gathered from past experience be made the basis of our conclusion,—as legitimately they should be—it would at once appear that there exists no reasonable ground for the supposed apprehension.

The facts to which I refer here are—

(1) That the jurisdiction has been exercised by Native Judges from 1836 in civil cases in which European British subjects are concerned, without any complaint from them.

(2) That the jurisdiction in criminal cases against European British subjects has been exercised by Native Judges in the Presidency Towns for many years past, without any defect in the administration of justice.

(3) That the administration of justice by European Judges in criminal cases in which natives are concerned has been regarded by the people as wholly satisfactory.

(4) That the administration of justice by a Judge of one nationality or creed in a case in which one or both litigants happen to be of another nationality or creed has not been found to be productive of failure of justice.

I shall notice next some of the arguments which have been advanced against the force of these facts. It has been said that civil suits differ in many essential respects from criminal cases. The result of an erroneous decision in the former affects generally the property of the unsuccessful litigant, while the result of a similar error in the latter affects the personal liberty and the reputation of the unfortunate accused person.

No one can for a moment deny the existence of this distinction. But it does not in the least affect the force of the argument under consideration. That argument is that a Judge, who is proved to have successfully grappled with questions of law and fact in a given civil suit may be fairly presumed to be competent to show the same result in a criminal case also. The difference in the result of an error of decision in the two cases does not at all touch the force of this reasoning. Its force rests upon the ground that the facts to be investigated and the laws to be discussed are not of a different class, whether they arise in the decision of a civil suit or a criminal proceeding. The respective consequences of an erroneous decision have no sort of connection with this proposition.

The usual answer given to the argument drawn from the past administration of criminal justice by Native Magistrates in the presidency towns is, that there is a vast difference between the conditions of things existing there and those existing in the interior of the country. In the presidency towns, it is said, an accused person has the protection of a vigilant Press, a strong public opinion, and an easily available legal assistance, while such advantages do not exist in any appreciable degree in the mofussil. It is also said that the concoction of false cases is almost unknown in the presidency towns, while, in the interior of the country, trumping up of false charges is one of the commonest means of wreaking one's vengeance upon his enemy for a real or a supposed wrong.

It is certainly questionable whether, in the present state of things, it is correct to say that the advantages of a vigilant Press, a strong public opinion, and an efficient and easily available legal assistance are not enjoyed in an appreciable degree by the residents in the mofussil. But I shall not dilate upon this matter. I shall take it for granted that in these respects a Presidency Town differs from a *mofussil* station. Assuming that this difference exists between the two places, let us see what the argument really amounts to. Does it not amount to this—that in the presidency towns, being under the salutary check of the forces mentioned above, a Native Judge dare not go wrong willfully? This argument therefore casts an unjust aspersion on the character of the Native Judiciary—an aspersion which, if put to the test of actual facts, can be proved to be utterly groundless. In civil cases, in which European British subjects have been concerned, if the Native Judges have proved themselves to be fair, honest, efficient, and careful officers, is it not unjust to presume that in criminal cases they would prove themselves to be just the reverse? The argument drawn from the absence of a vigilant Press, &c., is, I presume, equally applicable to civil as well as to criminal cases.

I shall next notice the other alleged difference in the conditions of things between presidency towns and the interior of the country, *viz.*, the prevalence in the one, and the absence from the other, of the concoction of false cases against innocent persons. I shall assume, in this instance also, the existence of the difference. I suppose that those who advance this argument mean to say (although I have not seen it stated in so many words) that these cases are generally supported by perjured *native* witnesses. It would be no disparagement to the European Judges in this country (for whose ability I have the highest respect) to say that an honest Native Judge, by his superior knowledge of the character of the people, will be better fitted than his European colleagues to unravel the mazes of concoction and discover where the truth lies.

Then it has been said that the habits, manners and customs of the natives of this country are, in all respects, essentially different from those of Europeans. It cannot be expected from Native Judges, therefore, that, in cases in which European British subjects would be concerned, they would be able to form a correct opinion as to the real motives of an action of the accused person, if the motive of such action be a relevant matter for enquiry.

To this argument all the four facts, set forth above, afford a complete answer. I shall not further refer to Nos. 1 and 2, as their bearing has been sufficiently explained. But Nos. 3 and 4 contain, I believe, a more forcible refutation of this argument.

It may be safely asserted, without fear of contradiction, that the knowledge of European Judges of the habits, customs, and manners of the natives of this country is not in any degree superior to that of Native Judges, with fair English education, regarding European habits, customs, and manners.

The administration of criminal justice in the most important cases is now in the hands of European Judges. If the European Judges have been found to be successful in the administration of justice in the cases in which natives are concerned, there is every reason to hope that those Native Judges who would be entrusted with jurisdiction over European British subjects would acquit themselves with equal credit. I do not mean to say that the existence of a defect in the present system of administration of justice can justify the introduction of another defect of a similar nature. But what I mean to say is, that there is no ground for complaint against the present system, and it *is* therefore reasonable to hope that there would be no ground of complaint if the proposed change in the law be carried out.

Native Magistrates have hitherto exercised jurisdiction in criminal cases in which European British subjects are complainants. If they have given satisfaction in these cases, there is every reason to hope that there would be no failure of justice in cases in which European British subjects would be accused with the commission of an offence.

Of the European and Eurasian population in the interior of the country, I believe the descendants of the Europeans who do not come within the definition of European British subjects given in the Criminal Procedure Code form by no means an inconsiderable proportion. These persons in criminal cases have been, hitherto, subject to the jurisdiction of ordinary tribunals. No complaint has been made of any failure of justice in the hands of Native Magistrates, in cases in which persons of this class have been tried for offences alleged to have been committed by them. Their habits, manners, and customs are, in all essential respects, similar to those of the Europeans. This fact furnishes the most cogent refutation of the argument under consideration.

In conclusion, I desire to make one observation as to the provisions of the Bill itself. Under section 22 of the Code, as it stands now, any European British subject may be appointed a Justice of the Peace. Accordingly, a European British subject having the powers of a Magistrate of the first class, when appointed a Justice of the Peace, is competent to deal with cases in which European British subjects are accused with offences triable by a Magistrate. It is proposed to take away the power of the Government to appoint a judicial officer of this class to be a Justice of the Peace. The object stated for this proposed change is to remove judicial disqualification based merely on race distinctions. The same object may be gained, without taking away this power, by extending the operation of section 1 of the Bill. But, if it be thought inexpedient to extend its operation, I would venture to say that the object stated does not, in my opinion, warrant the proposed change so far as this class of officers is concerned.

Memorial of the Anglo-Indian and European British Subjects of Jaunpore.

[This memorial is, *mutatis mutandis*, identical with that from Mirzapur.]

No. 1159 J.-D., dated 15th June, 1883.

From—F. B. PEACOCK, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am directed to submit the accompanying copy of a letter* from the Honorary Secretary, European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association, with its enclosure in original, being a memorial addressed to His Excellency the Governor General in Council by certain European British subjects and others residing in India, in connection with the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure.

* Dated the 9th instant.

No. 72, dated 9th June, 1883.

From—J. W. FURRELL, Esq., Honorary Secretary, European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

On behalf of the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association, I beg to forward, for submission to His Excellency the Viceroy, the accompanying memorial of certain European British subjects and others residing in India against the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill.

The memorial bears 11,783 signatures.

Dated 9th June, 1883.

To His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council.

The humble memorial of the undersigned European British subjects and others, residents in India.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That by the existing law for the administration of criminal justice in British India, European British subjects charged with the commission, without the local limits of jurisdiction of the High Courts of Judicature of Bengal, Madras, Bombay and Allahabad, and of the Chief Court of Judicature of the Punjab, of offences against the criminal law, are entitled to be tried on such charges in the above-named High Courts or Chief Court, in case of offences punishable with death or transportation for life, and by European Judges and Magistrates in case of offences not so punishable; subject, nevertheless, to the proviso that such Magistrates shall not have power to sentence European British offenders to imprisonment exceeding three months, and that such Judges shall not have power to sentence them to imprisonment exceeding one year, but that they shall transfer to the High Courts for trial all cases in which they consider one year's imprisonment to be an inadequate punishment.

2. The right of British subjects in India to be tried by Judges being themselves European British subjects is not of recent introduction, but coeval with the establishment in this country of British Courts of criminal judicature; criminal jurisdiction over all persons subject to their rule was conferred by the Charters of 1661 and 1669 on the Governors and Councils of Madras, Bengal, and Bombay, who were constituted Courts of Oyer and Terminer, and the territorial limits of whose jurisdiction were defined by the Charters of 1726 and 1753. The jurisdiction of the Governors' Courts was transferred, in Bengal, to the Supreme Court at Fort William, established in 1774 under Statute 13 Geo. III., c. 63, with criminal jurisdiction over all British subjects in Bengal, Behar and Orissa, and in Madras and Bombay to the Recorders' Courts established in those towns in 1797 under Statute 37 Geo. III., c. 142, with criminal jurisdiction over all British subjects residing within the factories subject to, or dependent upon, the Governments of those provinces. The last-mentioned Courts were themselves replaced by, and their criminal jurisdiction over British subjects was vested in, the Supreme Courts established at Madras in 1801, and at Bombay in 1823, under the Statutes 39 and 40 Geo. III, c. 79, and 4 Geo. IV, c. 71, respectively.

3. The criminal jurisdiction over British subjects of these several Courts, whose Judges were themselves British subjects, was extended by various enactments to the new territories acquired from time to time by the East India Company.

4. The Charter of 1726, and the Acts and Charters under which the Supreme Courts were created, constituted the Governors and Councils of Madras, Bengal, and Bombay, the Governor General and the Members of his Council, and the Judges of the Supreme Courts, Justices of the Peace; but as these provisions were found insufficient for the due administration of justice in regard to offences committed by British subjects at a distance from the Presidency-towns, and in order to facilitate the commitment of such offenders for trial, the Statute 33 Geo. III, c. 52, empowered the Governor General in Council to appoint Justices of the Peace "from the covenanted servants of the East India Company, or other British inhabitants," to act within the provinces and Presidencies of Bengal, Madras and Bombay, and places subordinate thereto, and a later Statute, 47 Geo. III, c. 68, conferred on the Governors in Council of Madras and Bombay similar powers within their respective Presidencies in supersession to that extent of the above-mentioned powers of the Governor General in Council, but with the like restrictions as to the persons who might be appointed to act as Justices of the Peace outside the Presidency-towns. The powers thus conferred have been confirmed and extended to the Local Governments established in India since the dates of these Statutes by various Acts of the Indian Legislature, the last of which, being the existing Code of Criminal Procedure, was passed on the 6th of March 1882. Every one of these Acts prescribed that only European British subjects should be appointed Justices of the Peace outside the Presidency-towns. Native members of the covenanted civil service have, it is true, been appointed Justices of the Peace in pursuance of powers supposed to be given by Act II of 1869, but such appointments, your Memorialists submit, are in violation of the express language of the Act, identical in this respect with the words of the Statutes above-mentioned, and which clearly indicates that the civil servants appointed thereunder shall themselves be British inhabitants. Down to the 6th of March, 1882, therefore, the Indian Legislature fully recognised the inexpediency, to use no stronger expression, of conferring on Natives outside the Presidency-towns even so limited a jurisdiction as that of committing European British subjects for trial. In the Presidency-towns, where such powers were exercised under the direct supervision of the British Government and the watchful control of a large European community, where the Supreme Court was a criminal Court of Oyer and Terminer and where immediate redress for a wrongful commitment was obtainable, the same necessity for Native disqualification did not appear to exist; and accordingly the Statute 2 and 3 Wm. IV, c. 71, authorised the appointment, as Justices of the Peace for such towns, of any persons resident within the Company's territories without distinction of race. Considerations of a similar character seem to have prevailed in the occasional appointment of Natives of India to the magistracy of the Presidency-towns. Such appointments, however, have by no means proved a success, even in Calcutta. One of the first Native Presidency Magistrates, appointed in 1856, was dismissed or removed for gross judicial misconduct in 1858. No Native was, in consequence, appointed for twenty-one years afterwards; and although within the last few years Natives have been again appointed, yet the Bengali Magistrates have in many respects failed to discharge their duties as satisfactorily in public opinion as the European British incumbents of the office.

5. The criminal jurisdiction of the Supreme Courts over European British subjects was transferred to the High Courts established at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay in 1862, and at Agra in 1865, under the Statutes 24 and 25 Vic., c. 104, and 28 Vic., c. 15, and, as regards the Punjab, to the Chief Court of that province created by Act IV of 1866. Natives of India are made eligible to the benches of these several Courts. But the policy of their appointment is in some measure safe-guarded by the fact that the judicial duties of such Native Judges are discharged subject to the immediate control of their British colleagues, the check of a large, independent and vigilant bar, the criticism of an able and enlightened European Press, and the powerful influence of the collective educated opinion of the numerous British residents in the Presidency-towns.

Moreover, no Native Judge has hitherto sat in any of the High Courts singly to exercise original criminal jurisdiction over Europeans, but Native Judges have only sat as members of a Court of Appeal with European colleagues. Under Act XXI of 1863, a Recorder's Court was established at Rangoon with criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects in British Burma in respect of all offences not punishable with death, jurisdiction in the case of capital offences being reserved to the Calcutta High Court. The only statutory qualification for the Recorder's office is that the Judge must be a barrister of not less than five years' standing. It must be remembered, however, that when this Act was passed there was no Native barrister in India, and only one practising in England. No Native, as a matter of fact, has ever been appointed Recorder, and your memorialists submit that it was not in the contemplation of the Legislature that such an appointment ever could be made, and that therefore no special provision was deemed necessary.

6. The exclusive criminal jurisdiction over British subjects of the Courts established by Royal Charter continued till 1812, when the Statute 53 Geo. III, c. 155, empowered Zilla Magistrates (who were Justices of the Peace and therefore Europeans) to try British subjects for petty assaults or injuries accompanied with force committed on Natives at a distance from the Presidency-towns, and to punish such offenders by fine not exceeding Rs. 500, or, in default

of payment of the fine, by simple imprisonment for a period not exceeding two months. The criminal jurisdiction of the Company's Courts over European British subjects outside the Presidency-towns was never further extended.

7. On the 24th of January, 1857, Mr. (now Sir) Barnes Peacock, then Legal Member of the Legislative Council of the Governor General, moved the first reading of four Bills (framed by the Indian Law Commissioners appointed under the Statute 3 & 4 Wm. IV, c. 85) "for extending the jurisdiction of the Courts of criminal jurisdiction of the East India Company in Bengal, Madras, Bombay, and the North-Western Provinces, for simplifying the procedure thereof, and for investing other Courts with criminal jurisdiction." These Bills provided that no person whatever should, by reason of place of birth, or by reason of descent, be in any criminal proceeding whatever excepted from the jurisdiction of any of the criminal Courts. The Select Committee, however, to whom these Bills were referred for consideration, were of opinion that the jurisdiction of the Mofussil Courts in regard to the trial of European British subjects ought not to be extended, an opinion in which the majority of the Council concurred. But the Council went still further, and, on the 3rd of September 1859, at the instance of Mr. Peacock himself, inserted a clause which provided that "no person should be empowered by Government to hold a preliminary enquiry into cases triable by any of the Supreme Courts of Judicature, or to arrest, hold to bail or commit any European British subject, unless the person so authorised be a covenanted servant of Government or a European British subject." It must be borne in mind that no Native of India had at that time been admitted as a covenanted servant of Government, the result, therefore, of this clause was to exclude Natives from all criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects. In consequence of the enactment of the Indian Penal Code, it became necessary to refer these Bills back to another Select Committee, but the principle of Native disqualification, which had been thus deliberately adopted, was in no wise abandoned in the measure which was ultimately passed into law as Act XXV of 1861. The criminal jurisdiction as regards European British subjects of the Courts established by Royal Charter was left untouched by this Act, and, save so far as it was affected by the creation of the Recorder's Court at Rangoon and of the Chief Court of the Punjab, that jurisdiction continued unchanged till 1872.

8. On the 17th of December 1870 a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the procedure of Criminal Courts of Judicature not established by Royal Charter was introduced into the Legislative Council of India by Mr. J. F. Stephen, then Legal Member of Council, and was referred to a Select Committee. This Bill, as originally framed, did not touch the jurisdiction of the Charter Courts. On the 16th of December 1871, Mr. Stephen informed the Council that "the Select Committee had received a large number of opinions from the Local Governments and persons connected with the administration of justice in reference to the Bill, and amongst others they had received a most important paper from the Government of Bengal. That paper contained a suggestion that European British subjects should be made to a great degree amenable to the ordinary criminal Courts of the country." A reference to the paper alluded to shows that the Bengal Government advocated such an extension of jurisdiction to the Mofussil Courts on the express ground that these Courts were presided over by British officers. Upon a consideration of the suggestion so made, the Select Committee, after informally ascertaining the feeling of the non-official classes, recommended, with respect to the jurisdiction over European British subjects,—

"(*a*) The extension of the jurisdiction of Magistrates being Justices of the Peace, and, in the case of Mofussil Magistrates, European British subjects, to try European British subjects for offences which would be adequately punished by three months' imprisonment or fine of Rs. 1,000.

"(*b*) That Sessions Judges, being European British subjects, should be empowered to pass sentence on European British subjects of one year or fine, but that, in case of European British subjects pleading guilty or accepting the Sessions Judge's jurisdiction, the Court might pass any sentence provided by law for the offence in question.

"(*c*) That a European British subject convicted by a Justice of the Peace or a Magistrate should have the right of appeal either to the Court of Sessions or the High Court at his option.

"(*d*) That, in every case in which a European is in custody, he may apply to the High Court for a writ of *habeas corpus*, and the High Court shall thereupon examine the legality of his confinement and pass such orders as it thinks fit."

9. On the consideration by the Council of the Select Committee's Report, Sir Barrow Ellis moved that jurisdiction over European British subjects should be conferred on Native Magistrates of the first class being Justices of the Peace (that is to say, Native members of the covenanted civil service who had been admitted by competition in England, and whom he thought sufficiently Europeanised to be treated as Europeans); but the motion was negatived on a division of the Council after full and deliberate discussion, and the Bill modified according to the recommendations of the Select Committee, was passed on the 25th day of April 1872, as Act X of that year. The proposal to invest Native Magistrates with criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects evoked on every occasion strong opposition from the non-official European community; and the question of conferring such jurisdiction was not again raised in Council until the present year, notwithstanding the pregnant fact that Act X of 1872 was passed (? amended) in 1874, and that the whole law relating to the jurisdiction and procedure of the criminal Courts in India (including the Courts established by Royal Charter) was re-moulded by Act X of 1882. This last measure was framed in consultation with all the

Local Governments in India, and professed to embody the ripe conclusions of ten years' deliberation. While it was pending before the Legislative Council, officials interested in the administration of criminal law were invited to criticise and report upon it, and upwards of one hundred and fifty reports from officials, among whom were a number of Natives, besides criticisms from the different Local Governments, were received in answer to that invitation. Among these were fifteen reports from High Court Judges, thirty-two from Sessions, Additional and Assistant Sessions Judges, fifty-seven from District Magistrates, four from Presidency Magistrates, thirty-two from Commissioners of Divisions, seven from Judicial Commissioners, six from Chief Commissioners, five from Inspectors-General of Police, besides others from Deputy and Assistant Commissioners of Police, Small Cause Court Judges, Munsifs, Residents in Native States, and law officers of Government. Not one of these reports or criticisms, so far as your Memorialists have been able to ascertain, except one dated the 9th September 1879, from the then Officiating Chief Magistrate of Calcutta, a Native not belonging to the covenanted civil service, advocated the abolition of the existing rights and privileges of European British subjects. With these reports and criticisms before the Legislative Council, it was deliberately resolved in 1882 that it was neither just nor expedient that European British subjects should be rendered liable to the exercise of criminal jurisdiction by Native Magistrates outside the Presidency-towns.

10. Notwithstanding the fact that Act X of 1882, which purported to deal exhaustively with the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code, came into force only on the 1st of January 1883, yet, on the 9th of February 1883, a Bill to confer criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects without the Presidency-towns upon Native Magistrates and Judges being members of the covenanted civil service of India or of the Native civil service constituted under Statute 33 Vic., c. 3, or being uncovenanted Session Judges, or uncovenanted Assistant Commissioners or Cantonment Magistrates, was introduced by the Legal Member, Mr. Ilbert, into Your Excellency's Council and is now under consideration by that Council.

11. That from the discussions which have already taken place in such Council on the said Bill, and from the published official papers relating thereto, it appears that sanction was obtained for the introduction of the Bill from the Secretary of State for India in Council, and that confidential opinions had been obtained from the Local Governments in favour of some criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects being conferred on Native members of the covenanted civil service. It further appears that the Chief Commissioner of Coorg and the two Senior Members out of the four who compose the Madras Council are opposed to such a measure, and that the Government of Bengal was not consulted on the subject; such omission being justified as in accordance with ordinary practice, the measure having originated in a suggestion made by Sir Ashley Eden, the late Lieutenant-Governor, shortly before his departure from India. In view of the fact that the European population of Bengal far exceeds that of any other Presidency, it is, your Memorialists venture to think, to be regretted that, before the introduction of so important a Bill, steps were not taken to ascertain the opinion of the present Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and his judicial and magisterial officers, and also the opinions of the Chief Justice and Puisne Judges of the High Court of Bengal. It is, your Memorialists feel, matter for yet graver regret that no endeavour was made to ascertain the opinions and sentiments of the non-official European community, who were to be specially and peculiarly affected by the provisions of the Bill, with regard to a measure the principle of which that community had on all previous occasions condemned, and the re-introduction of which has led to a strong and general agitation and awakened profound feelings of indignation and distrust.

12. The effect of this Bill is to disqualify all Europeans not in the covenanted civil service and not being Assistant Commissioners or Cantonment Magistrates from being Justices of the Peace, that is, from trying or committing Europeans, and to render eligible in their place (*a*) Native members of the covenanted civil service chosen by competition in England (of whom there are only nine in all India); (*b*) members of the new Native civil service nominated in India without competition and without going to England; (*c*) Native uncovenanted District Judges; (*d*) Native uncovenanted Assistant Commissioners; and (*e*) Native Cantonment Magistrates (should any such be appointed).

13. Your Memorialists should observe that there is no statutory qualification for the office of Assistant Commissioner or Cantonment Magistrate, and nothing to prevent such offices from being filled entirely by Natives who are not covenanted civil servants; that almost all the tea grown in India is grown in districts under the criminal jurisdiction of Assistant Commissioners; and that there are more than one hundred of such officials in India.

14. Your Memorialists have been led to enquire into the origin of this astounding proposal, and find that it is the result of a compromise arising from differences of opinion of Your Excellency's Executive Council.

15. It appears from a despatch of the Government of India to the Secretary of State for India, dated the 9th September 1882, that a minority of the Council were in favour of the views expressed by Sir Charles Aitchison in a confidential communication, dated the 5th August 1882, that "the restriction introduced by the Code of Criminal Procedure upon the powers of Courts to enquire into and try charges against European British subjects, which (rest?) exclusively on race-distinctions, are invidious and unnecessary;" that is, that all exemption of Europeans in the interior or Mofussil should be swept away, that no person should be exempted from the jurisdiction of any criminal Court in India, and that any Native officer who has power

to try a Native for any offence and to pass any sentence upon him should have power to try a European for the same offence and to pass the same sentence upon him.

16. It appears from the same despatch that the majority of the Council declined to accept any such sweeping proposal.

17. It appears further that the Government of India did not think it worth while to legislate unless they could remove from the Statute-book all trace of what they term "race disqualification of Judges:" and, therefore, so far as your Memorialists can gather, as the majority of the Council refused to get rid of the "race disqualification" by qualifying the ordinary uncovenanted Native official, it seems to have been suggested that the desired symmetry in the Statute-book might be produced, and the anomaly got rid of, by disqualifying all the uncovenanted European officials (other than European Assistant Commissioners and Cantonment Magistrates), against whose efficiency and fitness there has never been any complaint, and who under the existing law are qualified to exercise criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects.

18. This curious compromise appears to have been adopted, and the present Bill seems to have been introduced to give effect to it, without the smallest attempt to ascertain the feelings of non-official Europeans, or to consider the outcome of this wholesale European disqualification.

19. The principle embodied in the measure is supported by arguments based on the so-called anomalous character of the present law, on the alleged invidiousness of the disqualification attaching to Native judicial officers, and, lastly, on certain administrative difficulties stated to have resulted, or as likely to result, from such disqualification.

20. It cannot be contended as a valid or reasonable argument that the right of European British subjects in India to be tried on criminal charges by Judges of their own race is open to any serious practical objection by reason of its special and limited character. In a country like India, subject by right of conquest to the dominion of an alien people, inhabited by numerous races of different origin and different creeds, swept as it has been by successive tides of foreign invasion, which have left behind them peculiar and exclusive privileges, as the hereditary rights of particular classes and special individuals,—where immutable laws of caste, surviving the shock of contending systems and accepted as divine by millions, have during countless ages circumscribed the sphere of individual action and defined gradations of rank dependent on birth alone, and which are neither to be won by merit nor purchased by wealth, until the very idea of equality has come to be regarded by a vast body of the population as a grave sin against the divine inheritance of birth, where too the avowed principle of British policy has hitherto been the conservation, so far as possible, of every existing right, whether founded on the fragmentary remains of ancient laws, or on the prejudices of religion, caste, or social customs,—in such a country and under such existing anomalous systems your Memorialists feel justified in urging that there is no special or unreasonable anomaly in the existence of the right now sought to be taken away, and that the anomaly, if such it can be called, must be sought for in the person of the Judge, and not in the conditions under which he is permitted to exercise jurisdiction. That a Native Magistrate, however much it is to be regretted, should ever have been invested with special jurisdiction over European British subjects within the Presidency towns, whilst he was excluded from the exercise of a like jurisdiction outside such Presidency-towns, is in no way anomalous to those who have even a limited experience of the social conditions, privileges, and prejudices existing in India, and can only appear anomalous to those who are ignorant of the distinctive circumstances under which these judicial and magisterial powers are exercised. All such anomalies, if such they be, must remain as inseparable constituents of the paramount anomaly of all, namely, the existence, in fact, of the supremacy of British rule in India.

21. The arguments based on the alleged injustice of the so-called judicial disqualification of Natives to try European British subjects on criminal charges are hardly worthy of serious consideration. They assume the existence of some right, inherent or conferred, which has been wrongfully invaded. Your Memorialists venture to submit that there cannot be a right to try Europeans existing in Natives, any more than there is a right in Englishmen in England to try peers of the realm for treason and felony.

22. Your Memorialists are at a loss to discover in which of the countless races of India this alleged right is supposed to exist. If in the heterogeneous mass of the Native races of India, then it may be well pointed out that their various social systems are entirely founded on the recognition of special rights and peculiar privileges. It can hardly be permitted, therefore, to any Native, of any race, creed or nationality, to argue that the existence of the right which the European British subject now enjoys in this respect is to be condemned because it is a peculiar race-protection. Your Memorialists would contend that, even were its maintenance claimed on no higher grounds than sentiment or prejudice, its existence could not afford a legitimate grievance to those whose personal laws have been expressly secured to them by British legislation, and in deference to whose social prejudices, allowed to override the requirements of impartial justice, their females who live or claim to live in seclusion, and their men of rank and position, are exempted from appearing in British courts of justice as witnesses. The special exemption of European British subjects has been recognized by the most thoughtful Natives as a requisite protection and as necessary for the employment of European capital in India. And your Memorialists confidently assert that the exclusion of European British subjects from the criminal jurisdiction of Natives has never formed a ground of complaint with the Native populations of India as a united body. The want of homogeneity amongst the Native inhabitants

of India, antipathies of creeds, inequalities of caste, the mutual distrust and jealousies of different tribes, the profound and unqualified contempt felt and expressed by the brave and hardy races of the North-West and of the Central Provinces for the Bengali, from whose ranks the Native covenanted civil servants are chiefly drawn, all combine to prevent the possibility of such a complaint.

23. The argument in this particular of invidious race-disqualification, which your Memorialists venture to think owed its origin entirely to European official inspiration, is confined to a few semi-Anglicised Natives and the limited class of youthful agitators whom they are enabled to influence. Even viewing, for the sake of argument, the subject of jurisdiction as a mere question of feeling, still your Memorialists venture to deny the justice of sacrificing the feelings of the whole European community in India to the vanity of a few Native officials, or to the aspirations of a small uninfluential class of the Native population of Lower Bengal. And since, in support of their supposed claim to criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects, it is urged that Native civil servants appointed by competition in England (a class which will form but a very small proportion of the entire Native covenanted civil service) by their education and by their residence in England have become thoroughly imbued with English ideas of justice, your Memorialists are justified in presuming that they have also arrived at a sufficient appreciation of the principles underlying the British system of trial by a man's own peers to regard their personal disqualification as no greater insult to their ability or integrity than a British juror would deem the demand of an accused alien to be tried by a mixed jury. The so-called disqualification of Native members of the covenanted civil service to try Europeans is really not a disqualification of the Judge, but a privilege of Europeans to insist on being tried in a Court presided over by a European, and it affects equally uncovenanted, as well as covenanted, Native officials. It would be as reasonable to speak of the privilege of Europeans to demand a jury composed one-half or more of Europeans as a disqualification of Native jurors.

24. So far as the alleged right is supposed to exist in the Native members of the covenanted civil service, its existence rests on the assumption that the admission of Natives to that service involves the promise that they shall be allowed to exercise every power which may be conferred on their European colleagues, and that their selection for any particular office necessarily implies their fitness to discharge all functions ordinarily appertaining thereto; and it has been urged that the continuance of race disqualification is repugnant to the spirit of Imperial legislation, which by Statute 3 & 4 Wm. IV, c. 85, declared that no Native subject should, by reason only of his religion, place of birth, descent, colour or any of them, be disabled from holding any place, office or employment, under the East India Company, and also of Her Majesty's Gracious Proclamation in 1858, announcing Her will that, as far as may be, Her subjects, of whatever race or creed, should be impartially admitted to offices in the service of the Crown, the duties of which they might be qualified by their education, ability, and integrity duly to discharge. But the guarded language of the Statute and of the Proclamation reserved all questions of political expediency; and the admission of Natives to the covenanted civil service afforded no grounds for the assumption that in respect to the Natives so admitted no such questions could possibly arise.

25. The existing law sufficiently provides for the appointment of Natives to all offices of emolument, even to those of District Judge and District Magistrate, and obviates all inconvenience arising from the right of Europeans within their jurisdiction to be tried by a European Judge or Magistrate, by making provision for the transfer of such cases to another Court, or, as it is termed in England, for a change of the venue; and it should be borne in mind that these cases are admitted to be rare by the mover and the supporters of the Bill.

26. Your Memorialists crave permission to point out that, in admitting Natives to the new statutory civil service of India, the Government has evinced a tender anxiety to avoid wounding all alien susceptibilities, even such as exist between the various Asiatic races of India *inter se*. In the notification gazetted on the 22nd of August 1879, it is stated that each Local Government is empowered to nominate certain Natives of India for employment in the civil service within the territories subordinate to such Local Government. It is, however, specially provided that Natives so admitted to the civil service shall be ordinarily appointed only to office in that province where they were first appointed; thus affirming the wise principle that it would be unjust and inexpedient to subject the Natives of one province to the jurisdiction of Natives of a different province, save only under the pressure of some exceptionally (*sic* in orig.) State requirement. The wholly repugnant customs and prejudices of Western and Eastern races infinitely increase the danger and injustice of subjecting European British subjects to the criminal jurisdiction of Native judicial officers.

27. Your Memorialists would humbly urge upon Your Excellency the grave objections which exist to empowering Natives in the Mofussil to try Europeans, on the ground of their unfitness to exercise such power.

28. Your Memorialists would further urge upon the consideration of Your Excellency that serious discontent may be engendered among European troops by Natives being rendered eligible for appointment as Cantonment Magistrates, and that, even if it be assumed that the Government will never exercise the power of appointing Natives to act as Cantonment Magistrates, but will continue, as heretofore, to appoint Europeans only to such offices, still a Native District Magistrate would be entitled at any time, under section 528 of Act X

of 1882, to withdraw any case from any Cantonment Magistrate within his district and to try such case himself.

29. The social system of the Native inhabitants of India, the seclusion of Native ladies in the zenana, the backward state of Native female education, prejudices of caste which make the Hindu regard contact with the European as contamination, and the bigoted character of the Muhammadan creed, prevent all possibility of free and unreserved intercourse between the European and Native communities, and the consequent growth of any real sympathy between them. In the absence of such sympathy, the Native Judge, however honourable and high-minded he may be, cannot properly appreciate the motives of European conduct, and is therefore incapacitated from forming a correct judgment on the natural presumptions of European actions. Moreover, whereas the European inhabitants of India have some security for the just and honest discharge of judicial duties by a fellow-countryman whose character and modes of thought have been moulded under a religious and moral system and domestic and external influences identical with, or similar to, those under which they have themselves been reared, and whose present actions continued to be governed by influences of the same character, in the case of Native Magistrates no such guarantees exist. It is impossible to believe that a few years of early manhood passed in England, or the intellectual training which these Magistrates may have undergone, can possibly suffice to change their whole moral nature, or to eradicate the ideas of right and wrong in which their childhood was trained, and which regulate the actions and sentiments of that society to the influence of which they are again subjected on their return to India. It is contrary to experience to believe that in so short a period they can have succeeded in stifling every prejudice of caste or race, or in emancipating themselves from the subtle influences of domestic and popular sentiment by which they are surrounded, and to which they have been subjected from early youth.

30. The domestic and social institutions of the Natives of India, whether Muhammadans or Hindus, based as they are upon a system of polygamy combined with female seclusion, have been developed on lines so opposed in the most essential particulars to those of Europeans, and have engendered as their necessary and indissoluble correlates such opposite habits, feelings and ideas, especially in matters concerning the relations and mutual conduct of the sexes, and all the incidents of such relations and conduct, as to render Natives of India wholly incompetent to estimate correctly or even intelligently the significance of facts connected with them, and consequently incompetent to arrive at just conclusions regarding them. The effect of the proposed measure would, therefore, be to transfer criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects in an important class of cases affecting the domestic happiness and peace of the parties concerned, from men who, by community of institutions, feelings and ideas, are competent to form correct conclusions, to men who, however honest they may be, must necessarily, from the absence of such community of institutions, feelings and ideas, be incapacitated from arriving at even intelligent conclusions concerning them.

31. That not only would serious risk thus arise of great injustice and misery being inflicted on innocent persons, but grave scandal and injury to the reputation of European British subjects would be created.

32. Your Memorialists further desire to point out that, owing to the disgrace which attaches in Native estimation to the appearance of respectable women in open Court, a feeling from which your Memorialists believe no Native is entirely free, an Englishwoman placed for trial before a Native Judge would encounter an unavoidable prejudice in his eyes, and thus be placed at a serious disadvantage; while in the eyes of the more ignorant spectators of her disgrace she would be covered with obloquy, to the injury of her self-respect and of the esteem of the Natives around her.

33. So great is the contempt in which the Muhammadan and Hindu Natives of India hold the female sex, that an Englishwoman brought before a Judge of either of these races to be tried for a criminal offence would be thereby subjected to a special indignity of the most galling kind, and one to which it would be in a high degree inhuman, unjust, and impolitic to expose her. A knowledge of this circumstance would furnish a dangerous temptation to Native dependents and others to persecute Englishwomen with false charges for the purposes of extortion and intimidation.

34. Not only are Europeans in the interior of the country isolated in the sense of being solitary units in the midst of tens of thousands of an alien race, but, by reason of difference of language, habits and feelings, and the absence of common ties and sympathies, they are also morally and socially isolated from the Natives around them. In consequence of this isolation, they stand at an insuperable disadvantage in respect of the means of combating, or even ascertaining the existence of, conspiracies to bring false charges against them, or of rebutting the evidence brought forward in support of such charges; and the only counterpoise to this disadvantage which they possess is the right of being tried by European British subjects, of which right the Bill would deprive them.

35. That the necessary protection which the European British subject now has against false charges, which constitute the common weapon of offence and annoyance amongst the Natives of India, which protection partly depends upon the feeling which such charges inspire in the mind of the British Magistrate, and partly upon the just severity of the punishment he awards to the offender, will be materially impaired, if not completely destroyed, when such charges can be preferred with comparative impunity before a Native Magistrate, who would regard them as the ordinary incidents of legal warfare and the natural weapon of the weak against the strong, reprehensible possibly, but still to be dealt with leniently and as of no great consequence, specially when directed against Europeans in the interior. It is well to remember, also, that the Native Press is for the most part antagonistic to Europeans, and generally takes a prejudiced view in all those cases in which there is a conflict, either criminal or civil, between members of the two races. It is only natural to suppose that Native Magistrates will in some degree be biassed by the expressions of opinion published in these papers.

36. Moreover, throughout the greater portion of India where European British settlers gather no strength from numbers, but live isolated from their fellow-countrymen, their exemption from the criminal jurisdiction of Native Magistrates has invested them in the eyes of the Natives by whom they are surrounded with a certain prestige, which in itself affords no little protection against the danger of false accusation. But, as the foundations of such prestige become undermined, and Europeans are lowered to the same level as that on which their accusers stand, they will necessarily be deprived of this protection also, and will be subjected to still more frequent harassment in this manner; and not only will the danger to themselves be thus materially increased, but their influence for good on the Native population in whose midst they live will be proportionately weakened.

37. It has been stated that the jurisdiction which Native Judges have exercised for many years in civil cases in which European British subjects may be concerned affords a conclusive answer to those who oppose the investment of Native Magistrates with criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects, that the objections and fears which are now expressed are identical with those expressed in 1836, and that time has shown the apprehensions then entertained to have been groundless. As regards the two latter statements, your Memorialists would point out that the agitation of 1836 was an agitation against the extension of the jurisdiction of the Company's Courts over British subjects, and was not specially directed against the investment of Native judicial officers with such jurisdiction; on the contrary, the leaders of Native society in Calcutta allied themselves in 1836 with their British fellow-subjects in opposing the extension of jurisdiction which was then contemplated. The fears then expressed have been in a great measure justified by events, and, so far as they may have been falsified by time, this has resulted only in consequence of the whole constitution and system of the Company's Courts having been subsequently altered. Your Memorialists, moreover, while abstaining from entering on an examination of the merits and defects of Natives as Civil Judges, deny that the exercise of civil jurisdiction by Native Judges affords an adequate, or indeed any, guarantee that Native Magistrates will exercise criminal jurisdiction over Europeans in a satisfactory manner. The conditions under which the two kinds of jurisdiction are exercised differ in every material particular. The very nature of a criminal complaint, the police agency by which evidence in its support is so frequently obtained, the character of the evidence itself, and the difficulty in many cases of disproving it, the position of the accused on his trial, his imperfect acquaintance with the vernacular language, and the legal liabilities to which he is subject before as well as after trial, all tend to place criminal proceedings on a wholly different footing from a civil action, and to displace any arguments in favour of the Bill attempted to be founded on past experience of the manner in which civil jurisdiction has been exercised by Native Judges. It is to be remembered also that a system of bribery is rampant throughout India, that the Native police are in very many instances excessively venal and corrupt, and that the promotion of the Magistrates and the police is to some extent dependent upon their record of conviction.

38. The administrative difficulties anticipated from a continuance of the so-called disqualification of Native Covenanted Civil Servants are, as your memorialists allege, difficulties of a purely visionary and theoretical character. There are at present not more than nine Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service selected by competition in England. Only two of these are of sufficient standing to be affected by the measure, and for several years to come not more than four or five can possibly come within its operation. But, even were their numbers far larger, there are numerous districts in India without a European resident, where the judicial functions of the Native Magistrate can be utilised without danger or fear of offence to any member of the community, and where his official dignity will not be wounded by the exemption of a single individual from his jurisdiction. In addition to this consideration there remains the fact that there is no district in India without at least one European magisterial officer. Moreover, in Bengal, where the Bill must admittedly have the most extensive operation, your memorialists have the public assurance of the present Lieutenant-Governor that no administrative difficulty will be felt.

39. Somewhat inconsistently with arguments founded on such supposed administrative difficulties, it is urged that the Bill will confer criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects on only a few Native officials, and that the removal once for all of all judicial disqualification dependent on birth alone carries with it an element of finality, and surprise is accordingly affected at any opposition to a measure which is said to rest on principles of natural justice, which will effect so small a change, and which cannot be further extended. The alleged finality of the measure is delusive, and the arguments founded on natural justice find their logical conclusion in the abolition of every distinctive right and privilege which the European British subject now enjoys, and, amongst others, those which the Bill has advisedly left untouched, the Courts by which he can be tried, the punishments they may inflict upon him, the mode of trial, his right of appeal, and his right to be brought before the High Court if wrongfully detained in custody. The principle of perfect equality, once admitted as para-

mount to every other consideration of State, would gain its crowning result in a Native Viceroy and a Native Commander-in-Chief.

40. As to the disqualification of all Europeans not being Covenanted Civil Servants, Assistant Commissioners or Cantonment Magistrates, your memorialists would remark that, so far from conducing to the better administration of justice, it will produce great practical inconvenience. At present, there are in Lower Bengal alone forty Uncovenanted European Deputy Magistrates with first class powers who are Justices of the Peace and have power to try Europeans, which powers it is admitted that they exercise satisfactorily and efficiently. These forty will not be affected by the Bill. But there are a large number of Europeans in the Uncovenanted Service who, as they attained first class powers, would have been made Justices of the Peace, and would have been authorised to try, as a matter of course, Europeans charged with petty offences. The Local Governments, if this measure passes, will be debarred from using the services of these men in their respective sub-divisions for the prompt and speedy adjudication of European cases, and such cases will have to be transferred to some Court presided over by a covenanted civilian; thus creating an absolutely gratuitous inconvenience, having no shadow of justification except the removal of an alleged anomaly, which is only one of numerous anomalies of the same description which the Government have determined to retain.

41. Your memorialists would point out that the Native statutory civil service, which it is proposed to substitute for the disqualified Europeans, is comprised of a new and comparatively untried class; that it will be many years before any member of that service will be senior enough to be invested with first class powers or to be made a District Judge or District Magistrate, so as to be empowered to try Europeans; that its members are chosen by nomination in India, not by competition or in England; that they are usually selected on account of the social position or influence of their families; and that they have been described in one of the confidential communications to Government, by the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh, as often "saturated with caste and religious prejudices and ignorant of European modes of thought and feeling," and not to be trusted to "hold the scales fairly." Your memorialists humbly submit that it cannot be for the interests of justice to disqualify experienced European Uncovenanted Deputy Magistrates, who are admittedly fit and efficient, and to substitute for them as Criminal Judges over your memorialists such a class as this.

42. Your memorialists would further point out that European Master Attendants have hitherto been constituted Justices of Peace in various ports in India, and have been found of great use in dealing with English and foreign sailors; and that in the interior a large number of non-official Europeans have been appointed Honourary Magistrates and Justices of the Peace, and as such have rendered valuable assistance to the Government in the administration of justice. It is now proposed, with no cause assigned therefor, to disqualify all such Europeans from being appointed Justices of the Peace. The Bill, therefore, so far from being an enabling Bill, as it has been termed by its supporters, is practically a disenabling Bill of a very sweeping character, and is entirely destructive of an important existing machinery of British administration in India.

43. The administrative working of the proposed measure, moreover, will lodge the Government of India in the following extraordinary and mischievous cross anomaly, that a large and increasing number of Europeans will be for the future unqualified to act as Justices of the Peace, and will therefore be incompetent to try European British subjects, although the Government will still have power to appoint them Honourary Magistrates with jurisdiction to try Native offenders; whilst, on the other hand, in the place of this disqualified class, Natives will be eligible to act as Justices of the Peace with the power of exercising criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects. If the Indian Government desire to remove any anomaly in the administration of criminal justice, it would surely have been wiser to have left to Europeans a criminal jurisdiction, naturally exercised over European British subjects, and to have confined Native Magistrates to a like jurisdiction over their Native fellow-subjects.

44. Your memorialists submit, moreover, that the right of European British subjects to be tried on criminal charges by European British Magistrates and Judges has infinitely stronger claims on justice than rest on sentiment alone, and is based on principles of policy which are inseparably bound up with the welfare of India and the prosperity of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, Native as well as European. Your memorialists claim that the preservation of that right is essentially expedient; for in no country is confidence in the administration of justice, and especially of criminal justice, more essential to the well-being of the community than it is in India, which owes to British capital and energy the recent rapid development of her natural resources, as illustrated by the railway system and the abnormal growth of tea, jute, coal and other industries—industries which contribute in so important a manner to the marked prosperity of her people, and which in years of scarcity or famine support millions of her Native inhabitants, who but for such support would perish miserably. Your memorialists regard the right to be tried by European judicial officers as a safeguard which has been of the utmost value to them in the past while initiating enterprise in the mofussil, and which will be essential to them in the future for the prosecution of those enterprises by which India has so much benefited; and your memorialists are anxious to impress upon Your Excellency that the enormous European capital which is already invested, and which is about still further to be invested, will assuredly seek other channels if British capitalists and their employés are forced to lose confidence in the Criminal Courts of the land by which they have hitherto been, partially, at all events, protected from persecution and aggression.

45. Your memorialists desire to remind Your Excellency that the British Government has been always careful to protect British subjects in Oriental countries from trial by Oriental tribunals. They fail to understand why this protection, which has been so universally and invariably accorded hitherto, should now be withdrawn in India, and they desire, moreover, to impress upon Your Excellency that the right which they seek so jealously to maintain is simply a protective right, and is in no sense capable of being construed as an invasion of the rights and privileges enjoyed by the Native subjects of Her Majesty in India. The grievous loss which they will sustain will bring no kind of compensatory gain to their Native fellow-subjects.

Your memorialists therefore humbly pray that Your Excellency will take into consideration the facts and arguments set forth in this their humble memorial, and that upon such consideration Your Excellency will deem it inexpedient and hurtful to the prosperity and welfare of the Empire to deprive your memorialists of their existing rights and privileges, and be pleased to direct the withdrawal as soon as possible of the Bill now before Your Excellency's Council, by which it is proposed to take away such rights.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

No. 494, dated 21st June, 1883.

From—Lieut.-Colonel E. R. C. Bradford, Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 32C., dated 17th March, calling for opinions upon the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, and, in reply, beg to submit my own opinion on the subject, and with it appendices containing the opinions of the following officers serving in Ajmer-Merwara:—

Mr. L. S. Saunders, Commissioner of Ajmer-Merwara;
Mr. J. R. Fitzgerald, Assistant Commissioner, Ajmer;
Mr. E. J. Kitts, ditto ditto;
Mr. T. C. Pears, ditto Merwara;
Pandit Bhagram, Judicial Assistant Commissioner, Ajmer.

2. As the law now stands, except in the Presidency-towns, no European British subject is amenable to the jurisdiction of any Magistrate or Justice of the Peace or Sessions Judge who is not himself a European British subject. The Bill provides that the exemption shall be removed. It makes all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace, and empowers the several Local Governments to appoint the last-mentioned office—

(*a*) any member of the Covenanted Civil Service, European or Native;
(*b*) any member of the Native Civil Service instituted under the Statute 33 Vic., cap. 3;
(*c*) Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces, European or Native;
(*d*) Cantonment Magistrates;

provided that all persons so appointed shall have been previously invested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class. Under the Bill, the Local Governments will no longer be competent to appoint to the office of Justice of the Peace any European British subject, unless he belongs to the Covenanted Civil Service, or is an Assistant Commissioner in a Non-Regulation Province, or a Cantonment Magistrate.

3. The object of the Bill, as described in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, is to remove all race distinctions. It is apparently designed to give full effect to the idea embodied in section 87 of the Act of William IV (3 & 4, chapter 85), which enacts that "no Native of the said territories (British India), nor any natural-born subject of His Majesty resident therein, shall, by reasons only of his religion, place of birth, descent, colour, or any of them, be disabled from holding any office or employment" under the Government of India.

4. The Bill has met with very strong and general opposition from the English unofficial community in this country. It has been supported by some, indeed by the majority of the Local Governments, but it has been opposed by the present Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and a few other officers of high standing. In the Legislative Council of the Governor General, the case against the Bill has been forcibly urged, not only by the non-official English members, but also in a very able speech by a Madras Revenue Officer and Magistrate of long experience; and it is generally understood that the objections which have been urged against it by the leading representatives of non-official English opinion, both in the Council of the Governor General and at public meetings, and in the English Press, are shared in by a large majority of the English officials throughout the country. I have reason to believe that, amongst the officers employed in this Agency, the majority deprecate the proposed legislation.

5. Having given my best consideration to the Bill and to the correspondence and discussions which have taken place with reference to it, I feel bound to say that the arguments against the measure are full of force and difficult to controvert. It must, of course, be admitted that the Statute of William IV from which I have quoted, and of which the substance was repeated, though with a slight modification, in the Queen's Proclamation of 1858, raises an argument against maintaining in our laws any disabilities founded upon distinctions of race, which is theoretically very strong; and the argument is strengthened in the case of the Native

members of the Covenanted Civil Service, who, having won their appointments at an open competition, have grounds for regarding themselves as eligible for any office or for any duty which is open to the English members of the Civil Service. The case of Native officials appointed under the Statute of 1870, and that of Native Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces, are, I think, less strong; but even in these cases, if the declaration embodied in the Statute of William IV were to be carried out to the full extent which the language used implies, there would doubtless be a difficulty in maintaining the distinctions which the Bill proposes to remove. But, as a matter of fact, the declaration in question cannot be acted on to the full extent of its literal significance. There will always be offices in India which, so long as British rule is maintained, must be reserved for members of the ruling race. It is not too much to affirm that under no conceivable circumstances will any Native of India, however emiment, be selected by Her Majesty's Government or by the Governor General for the chief administrative post in an Indian Presidency or Province, or as the chief representative of the Government of India at the Court of any of her principal Native feudatories.

6. It is perhaps to be regretted that this patent fact was not borne more carefully in mind by the framers of the statute; but, however this may be, the fact remains that, beyond a certain point, the language of the statute must be regulated quite as much by political considerations as by considerations based upon mere legal qualifications. This would seem to have been the view taken by the late Lord Lawrence when issuing the Resolution of the 19th August, 1867, where reference is made to the circumstance that "Natives entrusted with administrative duties have a difficulty in dealing with independent Europeans," and Local Administrations were required to frame their proposals for "opening up to Natives of ability and character a more important, dignified and lucrative sphere of employment" in the administration of British India, "with due regard to the expediency of providing English officials for all districts in which European settlers or travellers abound."

Again, in the despatch from the Duke of Argyll, under date the 8th April, 1869, the principle is emphatically asserted that "it is one of our first duties towards the people of India to guard the safety of our own dominion, and that for this purpose we must proceed gradually employing only such Natives as we can trust, and these only in such offices and in such places as, in the actual condition of things, the Government of India may determine to be really suited to them."

7. I must submit that these instructions have an important bearing upon the question involved in the Bill now under consideration. I should be disposed, however, to deal with that question from a somewhat different point of view, and to treat it rather as a question of retaining or withdrawing certain personal privileges and immunities hitherto enjoyed by persons of a particular class in their capacity as private individuals, than as a question of the rights and claims of officials; and, treating the question from this point of view, it appears to me that there is nothing invidious in continuing to European British subjects in the Provinces the exemptions from the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates and Judges in criminal cases, which has hitherto been accorded to them. In a country in which Native gentlemen of high rank are constantly exempted from appearing as witnesses before the Civil Courts, and in which a similar exemption is granted to Native women of certain classes not necessarily of high rank, I can perceive nothing invidious, nor indeed anomalous, in maintaining a law which continues to Englishmen and women a time-honoured exemption from the criminal jurisdiction of Courts presided over by Native Judges and Magistrates.

8. I would add that I do not believe that the exemption in question has been hitherto regarded by the great body of the Natives as a grievance; and I am persuaded that, if the Bill is passed, many very excellent Native judicial officers will regard the powers entrusted to them with dismay rather than satisfaction. It must not be forgotten that in some mofussil stations the exercise of the jurisdiction of a European Justice of the Peace over Englishmen charged with offences against the criminal law, where none but Native constables are available, is not always free from difficulty. That difficulty will be greatly increased when the Justice of the Peace is a Native; and there are many Native gentlemen, whose opinions are valuable, who fully recognize this fact.

9. The excitement and agitation among the English community which the publication of the Bill has aroused have, it cannot but be feared, emphasized race jealousies and antipathies which it will take time to allay, and with these feelings has arisen a factitious demand, especially on the part of some of the Natives possessed with a certain degree of English education, and in the Native Press, for the concessions offered in the Bill; but I have no doubt that, if the Bill is withdrawn, and if it is seen that the Government are resolved to abide by the settlement of the question arrived at in 1872, any soreness which may have been produced by the heated discussions of the last few months will gradually pass away.

10. It has been argued, in support of the Bill, that, if not at once, in the course of a few years, when full effect shall have been given to the rules passed under the Statute of 1870, administrative convenience will require that Native Judges and Magistrates shall be invested with the powers it is now proposed to confer upon them. I cannot think that this argument is well-founded. It appears to me that, with the rapid extension of railways which has gone on of late years and is still proceeding, there will be no practical difficulty in arranging for the trial of the few European British subjects who come before the Criminal Courts in the Provinces, even when the full number, namely, one-sixth, of the appointments of those grades shall have been filled by Natives; provided always that the rule laid down by Lord Lawrence

in 1867, of providing English officials "for those districts in which European settlers or travellers abound," shall be observed.

11. On the important question of the fitness of Natives to exercise criminal jurisdiction over Englishmen, I do not doubt that, in many cases, perhaps in most, justice would be efficiently and impartially administered in ordinary times by Native Judges and Magistrates, but I apprehend that, in times of excitement and in cases where caste-prejudices or religious prejudices were concerned, it is not so certain that a Native judicial officer, serving in a remote district, might not be influenced by motives and sentiments which it is very inadvisable to call into action. In a case, for instance, in which the accused was a Christian missionary, I can conceive a state of things in which it would be difficult to repose implicit confidence in the impartial action of even the most eminent Native functionary. The argument advanced in the debate in Council with reference to the ignorance of Natives of English family life and of English ways and manners is also, I think, deserving of serious consideration. Should it, however, be decided to introduce the proposed change into our criminal procedure, I would recommend that the measure be partially and locally applied. There may be certain parts of India where the division of class-feeling will be less real than in others; and I would propose, therefore, that discretion be given to Local Governments to declare certain areas to be scheduled districts for the purposes of the proposed amendment. I think it possible that the discretion which the Bill already gives to Local Governments will be calculated to give rise to invidious distinctions. Every first class Native Magistrate will regard the powers of Justice of the Peace as the final test of his fitness; and, should these powers be not given from reasons quite sufficient in the eyes of the Local Government, there will nevertheless be the feeling among Native Magistrates that their qualifications are not cordially recognised. The discretion to which I have above referred should be given to the larger Local Administrations, while, for the purposes of a small Administration, like Ajmer-Merwara, it would be well if the Government of India declared it to be a scheduled district.

12. With regard to the effects of the measure on the people it will concern in Rajputana, I see reasons for recording my dissent from the proposed change. It seems to me that one of the primary duties of the British Government is to secure peace between the naturally conflicting races of India. We are, from time to time, met with the danger which is always present in the race-antipathies of Hindus and Mussulmans. We have here in Rajputana in the railway population a class which cherishes an ignorant antipathy to Natives generally,—an antipathy which is most warmly reciprocated. This most deplorable fact is due to many causes. The Europeans in the railway have no opportunities of mixing with superior Natives. Their lives bring them into contact with those of a low social standing and, I fear, of low morality. The European on the railway sees peculation rife, and sees the Native official hard and cruel towards Natives; "ex uno disce omnes" is the natural process of thought in the minds of Europeans in the class I refer to; and the European employé consequently regards the Native generally as separated from himself by a very sharp race distinction.

13. Though it may sound paradoxical, I believe that, until these two classes have been brought to a better understanding of one another's good qualities and inherent weaknesses, the removal by artificial means of this race-distinction will but give fresh activity and bitterness to the antipathies which already exist. It is true that European officials and Natives of position are fitfully brought together, sometimes with the happy result that prejudices and misunderstandings are removed; but up to the present no such attempt has been systematically made to bring Europeans of lower grades and Natives of a similar rank together, and, until this much-desired object is attained, I would recommend that legislation be postponed.

Opinion of L. S. SAUNDERS, Esq., *Commissioner, Ajmer.*

In my opinion, the necessity for amending the Criminal Procedure Act, 1882, has not as yet been satisfactorily established; without such necessity there seems to be a general consensus of opinion that the Bill should be dropped. In that opinion I concur. Speaking of my own charge, however, it is true certainly that we have once or twice, for short periods, had only Native Magistrates in Merwara; but the ease with which travelling is now effected in India has never made it troublesome or difficult to arrange for cases in which Europeans are concerned to be tried before a European Magistrate, and I believe the time is far distant when any such practical difficulty will be seriously felt anywhere in India; for I hold it as extremely improbable that for many years to come we shall see any large tract of country entirely officered by Natives, for the following reasons.

2. There is scarcely a city or bazar in India, I believe, where there is not a latent element of serious discord existing between the factions of Hindus and Muhammadans; and, had not the utmost tact and impartiality been continuously employed in dealing with these cases, this discord might break any moment into a flame which would only be quenched by the exhibition of considerable power. This fact renders it essentially desirable, in my opinion, to keep a European officer at the head of the affairs of each district. Believing this to be an occasion on which an officer who has been many years in India (and has carefully watched Native society, and finds this feeling increasing as education spreads rather than diminishing) (*sic*), I feel bound openly to state my conviction, honestly and truthfully, however unpalatable it may be, so that there shall be no misunderstanding my meaning, and that our rulers, who are not

brought so directly in contact with Native society as we are, shall not blindly believe that these race and religious animosities are buried and forgotten, because they are so seldom allowed to break out and speak for themselves. Instances could easily be given which would show how soon an outbreak of this character would occur if either a Hindu or Muhammadan Magistrate was at the head of affairs. To ignore such cases is, I believe, as serious a political mistake as it is to make too much of them; but that they exist and are an ever threatening danger must, I think, be fully recognized and acknowledged.

3. The higher executive posts, such as Magistrates of the district, must, at all events in by far the majority of districts, therefore, I believe, be held by European officers; in fact, if a time ever comes when a large proportion of Natives are ready to step into these posts by right of their position or standing in the service, it will be found necessary to place some arbitrary limit on the number of districts in each province to be held by such persons; and, though I have always been an advocate for admitting Natives freely to all but the higher executive posts under our Government, I think we should act more honestly if we were at once to announce the fact that there are certain posts which we by right of our position (as aliens and conquerors of the country) declare a Native not to be eligible for. It is far better to do this now, when such posts are not asked for or claimed as a right by Natives, than to have to do it when some of these posts have been so held, than to wait till it has become apparent that this distinction between the races must be recognized.

4. Education has in the last 20 years made enormous strides, and these strides will doubtless be continued in mathematical proportion during the next 20 years, and it is essentially necessary that careers shall be opened out for this mass of educated men. An educated Native is, I believe, intellectually the equal, if not often the superior, of an ordinarily educated European, but an intellectual Native, however well educated he be, without the moral training and feelings inherent in most educated Europeans, is not well fitted to try even a male European criminally; but when it comes to be a question of trying a female European, can it be asserted that he is fitted to perform this duty properly and efficiently?

5. Any European in India who knows the estimation in which Natives hold the ladies of their own families cannot but answer this question in the negative; and I firmly believe that there is scarcely one Native Magistrate (even after he may have visited England) who could understand the position, and therefore do real justice to any European lady who might be so unfortunate as to be placed before him for trial. If, therefore, there was no other reason for considering the present amendment of the Code premature, I would submit that this alone would be sufficient reason to show that the time has not yet arrived, nor is it likely soon to arrive, when this Bill should be introduced, and can be accepted with safety to the general community.

6. That the Native Magistrates might, in all *ordinary* instances where men are concerned, be able to dispose of these cases satisfactorily, I will not deny. I know many Native Magistrates who would do so, and who would generally err on the side of leniency to Europeans I believe; but our law must be not only a fair weather law, and it is under extraordinary cases of class-feeling, where the weakness and instabilility of their character (owing to a want of thorough conscientiousness based on religious principles) would affect their judgment, and prove that the necessary discrimination, and unswerving honesty of purpose, which we look for in a judge as above all other requisites, is wanting, though it is undoubtedly true that the judicial branch of the service, as being the one in which rules and laws are most exactly laid down, is the branch of work in which the Native particularly excels.

7. If, notwithstanding all arguments that have been adduced by the opposers of this measure, it be still held that there is a practical necessity for proceeding with this Bill, I think a compromise should be sought for; and the only compromise which will be satisfactory to all concerned is that the prisoner should have the option of either being tried by the Native Magistrate or by an European officer. This is no novel proposal. Already the European on his trial before a Magistrate and Justice of the Peace has an option, under section 408 of the Criminal Procedure Code, to appeal either to the Sessions Judge or the High Court; and I would extend this option in cases of trial obliging the Native Magistrate to commit to a European Court, if trial before him were objected to; in petty cases, or where much inconvenience to witnesses, or detention of the prisoner, was likely to take place, the European prisoner would probably waive his right, and the trial could proceed before the Native Magistrate if he was a fit and capable man; otherwise the prisoner would demand to be committed to a higher Court, and this right should at least be secured to him.

Dated 17th April, 1883.

From—J. R. FITZGERALD, Esq., Assistant Commissioner, Ajmer,

To—The Commissioner, Ajmer.

If there is one principle which more than another has characterized our Government of India during the past ten years, and which must be further developed in the future, it is the more extended employment of the Natives of the country in almost every branch of the public service. I do not purpose to discuss whether the policy is a wise one. Personally I believe it to be so, but I wish to lay stress on its existence, and on the fact that its adoption has materially affected the question of giving Natives of India jurisdiction over European British subjects

since the matter came up for discussion in 1872. In that year proposals similar to those in the present Bill were rejected in the Council of His Excellency the Governor General by a bare majority. Since then the doors of both the Covenanted and the Uncovenanted Services have been opened wider to the Natives of India It is probably not too much to say that, where there was one in 1872, there are now five Natives of India who have a reasonable expectation of rising to the position of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, and this number must constantly and steadily increase. It can hardly be doubted that, in a few years, the introduction of some such Bill as that now before us will become not merely a matter of justice and policy but an absolute and imperative necessity.

Were it not for remarks which have been lately common in the Press and on the platform, it would seem hardly necessary to refer to the question whether carefully selected Natives of India are qualified to exercise the exceedingly limited and well-guarded powers with which it is proposed to invest them. We have seen them filling with ability and credit the high position of a High Court Judge; in every district in India they are deciding civil cases which involve property of large extent, or rights and privileges which are held dearer still than property. But I am not aware that they have ever been accused of any race partialities in cases where Europeans and Natives are antagonists.

It is still harder to believe that a Native Judge is less qualified than an Englishman to pronounce on the value of Native evidence or to detect perjury in Native witnesses.

To put the case on the lowest and most unworthy grounds, I believe that those who will be invested with these powers, being men of education and intelligence, will thoroughly recognise that they are on their trial, and, knowing that in these days of improved communications there is no corner of the Indian Empire so remote as to prevent an unjust decision prejudicial to an Englishman being brought into the fierce light of public opinion, will not dare to yield to any temptation of corruption or race bias.

The experience of the Presidency-towns strengthens the belief that Native Magistraters will exercise the proposed powers with discretion, and that miscarriage of justice is not more likely to become more common than it is at present.

The one direction in which they may be expected to fail is (as has lately been observed by a distinguished writer in the English Press) that possibly their decisions may be characterised by a want of courage.

The present measure has been framed with caution, and may be regarded as, in a great degree, tentative. If the worst apprehensions of the opponents of the Bill are fulfilled, it will be open to the Government to cease appointing Natives to the office of Justice of the Peace. If, on the other hand, the measure is now dropped, the time will assuredly come when it will not be possible to further delay the settlement of this question. Native opinion will almost certainly demand measures more extended than the present proposals, and as certainly they will be more fiercely opposed. If the measure could be quietly and permanently shelved, it would not be easy to advise proceeding further with it in the face of an opposition which, however exaggerated, unreasoning and deplorable, is without doubt real and widely spread. If we disregard the future, then I admit that the necessity for the alteration in the law is not urgent, but I have tried to show that, if the question be now laid aside, it must recur in a few years under circumstances which will make it far more difficult to deal with.

Although I believe that the passing of the proposed Bill into law is to be recommended on the lower grounds of political expediency, I think a few words should be said from the point of view of justice and consistency. Can it be right that we should do all we can to encourage higher education in the Natives of India and induce them to study the latest phases of modern thought and intellectual development, offer them responsible posts in the service of the State and make them Collectors, Sessions Judges, Judges of the High Courts, giving them, in a word, powers of life and death over their countrymen of full blood, and yet deny them the right to fine a drunken Eurasian? The desire to remove this blot appears to me to be something more than the weak sentimentality which it is represented to be by the opponents of the Bill.

Macaulay wrote in 1837 of the Sadr Court: "If it is fit to administer justice to the great body of the people, why should we exempt a mere handful of settlers from its jurisdiction? That distinction seems to indicate a notion that the Natives of India may well put up with something less than justice, or that Englishmen in India have a title to something more than justice. We proclaim to the Indian people that there are two sorts of justice—a coarse one which we think good enough for them, and another of superior quality which we keep for ourselves."

These words appear to me to apply *mutatis mutandis* with much force to the present situation.

No. 128 C., dated 9th April, 1883.

From—LIEUT. T. C. PEARS, Assistant Commissioner, Merwara,

To The Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara.

My opinion is that no amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, is at present required, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

No. 567, dated 12th June, 1883.

From—E. J. KITTS, Esq., Assistant Commissioner, Ajmer,

To—The Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara.

I have the honour to acknowledge your No. 683G., forwarding for opinion a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. I have known tolerably intimately several Native gentlemen who might be affected by section 1 (*c*) of the Bill, and from their relations with official and non-official European subjects who were their neighbours and with whom they were brought into frequent contact. I believe that the Bill, if passed, would work well, and that any apprehensions which at present exist would soon be allayed. At the same time I admit that, with all the non-official European British subjects referred to, the Bill was unpopular.

3. It seems, however, to me evident that the Bill may suit one part of India or one part of a Presidency or even one part of a district and not necessarily suit another, at any rate until some years later. I would prefer, therefore, to increase the discretion allowed to Local Governments in such a way as to empower them to restrict the local area within which the powers conferred under section 22, Criminal Procedure Code, can be exercised; an appointment might then be made with reference to a single town or a single taluq.

Note by BHAG-RAM, *Judicial Assistant Commissioner, Ajmer, dated 27th April, 1883.*

So much has already been said in newspapers, and in the *Gazette of India*, on the subject, that I hardly think an elaborate opinion is required.

The Bill has undergone a thorough criticism, and has given rise to a controversy between Anglo-Indians and Natives which is very much to be regretted.

The principal objections urged against the measure may be briefly summarized as the following:—

I.—That the Bill at once deprives Anglo-Indians of a privilege which they have enjoyed since the advent of British rule in India.

II.—That it subjects them to the jurisdiction of the members of a conquered race, whose status and social position are inferior to those of the conquerors.

III.—That Native Magistrates are not properly qualified, by reason of their defective knowledge of English and their ignorance of European habits and manners, to try cases against European British subjects.

On the other hand, it is alleged in favour of the Bill that it removes at once, and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions.

Any opinion expressed by a Native of India on the provisions of the Bill must naturally be a vindictive one, and place the writer in the anomalous position of an adversary attempting to disprove the disqualifications and imputations alleged against the race to which he belongs.

I have no intention of assuming that position, and would content myself with the remark that, irrespective of any statements made by either party, the British members of Indian administration are the only judges competent to determine this unfortunate question. They can, without any great amount of trouble or inconvenience, ascertain from their personal experience whether the Bill is likely to do any good or mischief, and whether race distinctions in these days of mental and social development should be allowed to form a barrier against the eligibility of Natives, otherwise qualified and competent, to discharge the important duty which they are intended to discharge.

An opinion coming from that quarter would be the best and most valuable opinion, affording ample materials for a sound judgment on the suitability or otherwise of the measure.

There is no doubt that India has undergone a material change for the better under the benign influence of British rule.

Recall the times of Muhammadan rule, when, suffering under a foreign yoke, the rigours of laws framed and exercised by an unprincipled and tyrannical class of rulers, the people of India were reduced to a state of utter demoralisation, ignorance and imbecility; and compare them with the results brought about by British rule.

No one can deny that the conquest of India by the British was not a conquest for the sake of plunder and devastation. It was admittedly a conquest in the cause of humanity—a conquest which had for its main objects the development of trade and the natural resources of the country, and the raising of the status of its people to a point more elevated than that sung by the Indian bards of antiquity.

How England has performed its mission does not require any great amount of investigation or research.

Under the paternal and fostering care of the British Government, the people of India have enjoyed all the benefits of a wise and impartial administration, their moral and intellectual powers have fully developed under the influence of Western science and thought, and they, who in Muhammadan rule were labouring under a long list of disqualifications and legal disabilities, are now eligible for important and high offices in the administration.

It is one of the moral principles of British law—nay, it is the pride of the British nation—that in the eye of the law all are equal. Disqualifications based merely on race distinctions are legally no disqualifications; and, if at one time they were allowed as a matter of political or administrative necessity, they must as a natural consequence cease when that necessity no longer exists.

If I am not mistaken, I am only quoting what has been emphatically declared by competent judges of Native character and ability, that at the present moment, when Natives are eligible for the appointment of High Court Judge, Sessions Judge and District Magistrate, the anomaly of excluding at particular class from this jurisdiction should undoubtedly be done away with.

I fail to understand why Anglo-Indians should vehemently oppose the measure, which is a natural outcome of English magnanimity and generosity.

If England had used the people of India like slaves, denied to them the boons of administration on a par with Anglo-Indians and effected all that was necessary to check their moral, physical and intellectual development, there would have been no occasion for the measure now brought forward; but, when, to all intents and purposes, it has acted generously and magnanimously, it should congratulate itself on the occasion when the people of India are just enabled to reap the harvest which, by the fostering care and industry of the ruling Power, has been brought to perfection.

Coming to the general question of ability, and an honest discharge of duty by Native Magistrates in the disposal of cases against Europeans, it may be safely asserted that the fears entertained by the opponents of the Bill are entirely groundless. Native Presidency Magistrates have not in any instance abused the exercise of their jurisdiction over European British subjects. Civil cases by and against Europeans are daily decided by Native Judges, without affording the least cause for complaints. Criminal cases, in which the complainants and witnesses are Europeans, are tried by Native Magistrates, and I have not heard of any miscarriage of justice brought about by a spirit of race antagonism, or by the incapacity of the Magistrate to sift the evidence or form a judgment regarding the demeanour and credibility of the witnesses produced before him. A Judge or Magistrate who fails to discharge his legal functions is not qualified to sit on the bench at all. Why, then, should fears be entertained regarding the conduct and capability of Native District Magistrates and Native Sessions Judges in the mofussil is not sufficiently clear?

Considering the limited scope of the Bill, there is every reason to hope that only the most competent and qualified Native gentlemen will be called on to try European British subjects, and there is no doubt they will acquit themselves honourably and creditably.

No. 884, dated 19th June, 1883.

From—C. J. LYALL, Esq., C.I.E., Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

On receipt of your Circular No. 30C., dated 17th March 1883, copies of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code were forwarded to the Judges of the Assam Valley and Sylhet, and to all Deputy Commissioners of the Province, with a Circular letter, a copy of which is enclosed. The replies of all officers thus consulted have now been received, and I am desired to submit copies of them to the Government of India, together with an expression of the Chief Commissioner's opinion regarding the Bill.

2. The Provincial Officers are, it will be found, in every case opposed to the Bill, and unanimously recommend its withdrawal. As their replies will, no doubt, be perused in their entirety, it is not necessary to enter on any elaborate summary of their contents, but it will be convenient to indicate as briefly as possible the nature of the arguments recorded.

(1.) Mr. Ward, Commissioner and Judge of the Assam Valley Districts, would not have opposed the conferment of the powers of Justice of the Peace on Native Covenanted Civilians when they rose to the rank of District Magistrate or Judge, and does not think such a proposal would have excited much opposition at first, though it cannot be adopted now in the present state of public feeling. But he objects to the Bill on the ground that the privilege hitherto enjoyed and highly valued by Europeans should not be taken away without grave reason, whereas no serious inconvenience can be alleged to arise anywhere from the present state of the law, and no inconvenience at all is felt in Assam. He holds that no strong Native feeling exists on the subject outside the Native official class, and they have no reason to feel slighted; and, further, he objects to the power given to Local Governments to appoint, because it would be exercised in very different ways—sparsely here, liberally there.

(2.) Mr. Muspratt, Judge of Sylhet, opposes the Bill on the grounds—(*a*) that in removing one anomaly it creates another by its circumscribed application to particular classes, and its disqualification of European Deputy Magistrates and non-officials; (*b*) that Europeans, who are the persons most affected, are convinced that they would not get justice from Natives, and their feelings should be respected; (*c*) that it is inopportune in time, because of the mental disturbance caused by the Local Self-government Scheme, and other important measures now pending,

and because the European and Native races are not yet amalgamated in feeling or on a par in intelligence.

(3.) Mr. Johnson, Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet, objects both to the details of the Bill,—*i.e.*, the distinction drawn between Covenanted and other classes, and the disqualification of European Uncovenanted Officers,—and to its principle, on the ground that race-distinctions cannot be ignored and that the conquered cannot love the conquering race. He considers the arguments for and against equally feeble, and, that being so, thinks the Bill should be withdrawn.

(4.) Mr. Wight, Deputy Commissioner of Cachar, holds that the powers of a Justice of the Peace might gracefully be given to Covenanted Civilians and to any Native who had reached the grade of District Magistrate, but that it would be inopportune to do so now; that all Natives, other than these, are unfit by prejudice and want of education to try Europeans; that it would be inexpedient to bring European ladies into the Court of a Native Magistrate, either as witnesses or otherwise; that Native Magistrates do not wish for these powers, and would be afraid to convict Europeans if they had to try them, so that the result of the measure would not tend towards justice; that no administrative difficulty is caused by the present law; and that an anomaly is not necessarily objectionable in India, which swarms with anomalies.

(5.) Mr. Driberg, Deputy Commissioner of Goalpara, thinks the Bill good in principle, but desires its withdrawal on account of the hostility with which it has been greeted.

(6.) Mr. Campbell, Deputy Commissioner of Kamrup, holds that there are no sufficient grounds for introducing the Bill, which is met by universal hostility; and that the privileges of Europeans should be respected as much as if they were Hindus or Muhammadans, who would resent the withdrawal of any of their present privileges.

(7.) Mr. Williams, Deputy Commissioner of Darrang, objects to the conferment of the powers on Classes (*b*), (*c*), and (*d*) of the Bill, but not to their conferment on Class (*a*),—at any rate as far as the persons hitherto appointed to that class are concerned. But he thinks the Bill, generally speaking, to be unnecessary and bad, and as it is bitterly opposed, he recommends its withdrawal.

(8.) Colonel Lamb, Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong, thinks the hostile tone of the Native Press proves that the class to whom the new powers would be given are not fit to receive them; that Europeans would be overwhelmed with false accusations; and that it does not follow that because Natives have been found able to try Natives, they should be able to try Europeans.

(9.) Colonel Campbell, Deputy Commissioner of Sibsagar, holds that a Native Magistrate cannot understand the feelings, or in many cases the speech, of Europeans, and that Europeans would be worried by false cases. Race distinctions cannot be ignored as long they exist.

(10.) Major Peet, Deputy Commissioner of Lakhimpur, is opposed to the whole line of policy of which the Bill is a part, *i.e.*, the tendency to put the races on an equality by levelling up or levelling down; and further holds that, whether bad or good, the Bill should be abandoned on account of the unprecedented excitement it has awakened.

(11.) Mr. McCabe, Deputy Commissioner, Naga Hills, approves only the extension of powers to Class (*a*) of the Bill. He objects to it as unimportant, and states that non-official Europeans feel hostile to Natives and think all Native Magistrates dishonest.

(12.) Colonel Clarke, Deputy Commissioner, Khasi and Jaintia Hills, thinks the Bill impolitic and unnecessary. Anomalies must exist in India; and this one can only be remedied some time hence, when the two races have been amalgamated in thought and feeling.

(13.) Captain Maxwell, Deputy Commissioner, Garo Hills, opposes the Bill on the ground that Englishmen are better capable than Natives of judging Europeans, and this is a substitution of the worse for the better. He thinks that Europeans will not, after the agitation of the last few months, submit to be tried by Natives.

3. These replies are written with the frankness and independence which the Chief Commissioner anticipated, and which become the character of the gentlemen who have written them. Much as he disagrees with some of the opinions, the Chief Commissioner would not have wished them to be in any respect modified or to be anything but the genuine expression of the views of the writers; and he is satisfied that the Government of India will share this feeling. Something has been said in the course of the controversy which has raged over the Bill, about the subservience of Government officers to the known wishes of the head of the Government. Mr. Elliott is glad to record his belief that he has not an officer serving under him who, when asked for his opinion on any subject, would not give free and unbiassed expression to it regardless of the views entertained, or supposed to be entertained, by higher authority; and who, if that opinion was overruled and the question decided against him, would not loyally and cheerfully carry out the orders he might receive.

4. I am now to submit the Chief Commissioner's own opinion about the Bill.

5. First, with regard to the details of the Bill. It will be remembered that the proposal originally circulated was to give the power of trying European British subjects to Covenanted Native Civilians, either before or when they have attained the position of a District Magistrate or Judge; and Mr. Elliott, in my reply, recommended that such powers should be given to Native Covenanted Civil Servants on the same terms as to their English compeers, and to Statutory Native Civilians when they had attained the rank of District Magistrate or Judge, but dissuaded the Government from abolishing altogether the race-distinction between European and Native Magistrates, as a step for which the time is not yet ripe. The Bill has gone far beyond that recommendation. It would make it possible for Statutory Native Civilians to try European British subjects when they have attained the powers of a First-class Magistrate, and it would give the same authority to Native Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces. (I omit all mention of Cantonment Magistrates, because there is no probability of a Native Cantonment Magistrate ever being appointed except as a coadjutor to a European Cantonment Magistrate; in which case the latter, and not the former, would receive the powers of a Justice of the Peace.) The Bill further disqualifies European non-officials and Uncovenanted European officials from receiving these powers. Mr. Elliott could not support any of these modifications. In the case of the Statutory Native Civilian he does not think that the test of having received the powers of a First-class Magistrate is sufficient: these powers are ordinarily given after a comparatively short term of service, and an officer's worth hardly begins to be known till it is seen how he exercises them: a much longer and severer test should be applied before powers are given, the misuse of which would cause so serious a scandal and would discredit the class to which such an officer belongs: and Mr. Elliott would certainly postpone their conferment till the Local Government, by appointing the Civilian to the post of District Magistrate or Judge, had asserted its complete confidence in his capacity, honesty, and discretion. Again, with regard to Native Assistant Commissioners, there are none in Assam; but from his acquaintance with some of those in Berar and Mysore, the Chief Commissioner has come to the conclusion that the same rule should apply to them as to the Statutory Civilians, and that they should not receive powers to try European British subjects unless the Government has a sufficiently high opinion of them to appoint them Deputy Commissioners of districts. Lastly, with regard to the disqualification of European Extra Assistants and Deputy Magistrates, Mr. Elliott would regret to see such a change. There are five such officers in this Province who have powers of a Justice of the Peace, and they have exercised the powers with credit and discretion. It would be an administrative inconvenience if, for the sake of a scientific classification, such officers were debarred in future from exercising these powers.

6. If, therefore, in May 1882 the Chief Commissioner had had this Bill before him, he would have been obliged to dissent from the details to which exception has been taken; he would have recommended the omission from the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the passage about removing at once and completely every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race-distinctions; but he would have advised that, if the power of trying European British subjects were confined to Natives being—

(*a*) Covenanted Civilians invested with the powers of a First-class Magistrate,
(*b*) Statutory Civilians appointed to be District Magistrates or Judges,

the Bill so amended should pass into law. Many things have happened since May 1882, and in the face of those events it does not necessarily follow that the same advice should be given now which would have been given then.

7. It will be in the recollection of the Government of India that the Chief Commissioner, in May 1882, drew attention to the race antagonism and to the prejudice which is still felt by non-official Europeans against Native Magistrates, but expressed his belief that the prejudice was dying out and that the measure then under discussion would not excite any great opposition. He admits now that he was mistaken in this prognostication, and that the feelings of mutual distrust appear to be as active as ever. Whether the storm of hostility with which the Bill has been met is entirely due to the Bill itself, or whether any such hostility would have been awakened had the Bill been confined to the provisions previously circulated to Local Governments, is open to question. But whatever may have been the origin of the excitement, there can be little doubt that the opposition now embraces all and every provision of the Bill, and that no compromise, such as a return to the proposals originally circulated, would satisfy the European public or lead them to look on the Bill with favour.

8. The question which the Government of India have to decide is, how much weight should be attributed to this opposition, and how far they would be justified in compelling one section of the community to submit to an enactment which they vehemently dislike, for the sake of improving the administration or raising the status of another section. And, in deciding this question, they must take into consideration not only the arguments for and against the Bill, but also the weight and volume of the opposition and its possible effects on the course of Government.

9. As to the arguments against the Bill, Mr. Elliott holds that they are for the most part based on an inaccurate appreciation of the facts, and are tinged by prejudice rather than by reason. He repudiates altogether the assertion that natives of the class who would be selected for such office are unfit, by reason of the difference of race, to understand the motives or argu-

ments of an accused person of European birth, or that there is the slightest reasonable probability of their misusing their power through malice. The whole history of the working of the Civil Courts in Assam seems to him a refutation of such arguments. These Courts have largely to deal with the interests and quarrels of European tea-planters and landowners; they are resorted to with no apparent disinclination; the results of appeals from their decisions show that the Native Judges of these Courts exercise their functions, and hold the balance between European and Native, with discretion and justice. No doubt a Civil Court has not the same powers over the person as a Criminal Court: it cannot order immediate arrest: the consequences of a miscarriage of justice in it are not so serious to the individual as they would be in a Criminal Court. But still the powers of a Civil Court are considerable: it can mulct a man of his property; it can brand him as untruthful or dishonest; it can commit him for contempt of court or imprison him for insolvency. If, then, there are no complaints about the conduct of these Civil Courts, but the comparatively inferior Native officials who preside over them are admittedly efficient and independent, it is not reasonable to suppose that the few men who might be selected from these on account of their special ability and high character would, when sitting in a Criminal Court, misconduct themselves in cases where Europeans are concerned. It seems to the Chief Commissioner that the matters which come up for decision in a Civil Court, such as questions of trading custom, of bonds, of loans, and of contracts are, as a rule, more intricate, and require more knowledge of the habits and feelings of the litigant class, than the questions which are raised in a criminal trial; and therefore the whole series of objections which are based on the supposed inferior ability of Native Magistrates to try such cases seem to Mr. Elliott to be wholly mistaken. He does not accept as probable the idea that Criminal Courts would be flooded with false charges, when Civil Courts are not so flooded. Indeed, he has no hesitation in adopting the opinion expressed by Mr. Johnson that the decisions of an able and experienced Native Magistrate would probably be much more sound and accurate than those of a young English Civilian during the first few years of his service in the country.

10. But though the arguments against the Bill seem weak, there remains the weight and volume of the opposition to it, and that appears to Mr. Elliott a much more serious matter. There is probably no Province in India in which it is as serious as in Assam. There are perhaps more European settlers in Bengal (outside of Calcutta) than in Assam, but they bear a smaller proportion to the mass of the population, and their interests, important as they are, are rivalled or overshadowed by other interests. In Assam they form a larger number, relatively to the population, than in any other part of India, and their interest in the country is more influential and important than the interest of any other class. They are the one intelligent, energetic, improving class in the Province; they are the natural allies and assistants of the District Officers; and any event which should set them in determined opposition to the Government would be in a high degree disastrous. The Deputy Commissioner, who should be on bad terms with his tea-planters, would probably deserve to be condemned for want of tact and managing power, and would find himself hampered at every turn, in Court and out of Court. Already since this Bill was introduced, the Chief Commissioner has painfully felt the estrangement it has produced, and the delay it has caused in carrying out useful reforms and improvements which were in progress. He thinks, therefore, that it would require a very strong case to justify any enactment which should exacerbate and perpetuate the alienation which at present exists.

11. No such case can, in his opinion, be made out for the Bill under discussion. The argument from administrative inconvenience is allowed to be a weak one: it does not exist in Assam at all, and nowhere can it become serious for several years. The Chief Commissioner's view is that the Bill, if modified as he has suggested, is a good one, and one which it was right to introduce; but that it is not one of much practical importance, and events have shown that it had better be withdrawn. The step was a step in advance, but not a great one; and it is not worth while to take it, when we see the injurious effects which it has produced, and is likely to go on producing, in other unexpected directions.

12. This recommendation to abandon the Bill is not made without regret; for the necessity of making any concession to overpowering hostility—any retreat in a course of policy which has hitherto been a continuous and successful advance—is a regrettable incident. But the Chief Commissioner feels that much larger issues are at stake than the success or failure of this particular Bill. The most painful part, to him, in all this bitter ebullition of feeling, has been the conviction that it has not been evoked by the Bill alone, but is the expression of a determined hostility on the part of non-official Europeans to the general scheme of raising the natives of India to a political equality with ourselves, and to a fair share in the Government of the country. He fears that it is the principle of local self-government that is being struck at under the guise of the "Ilbert Bill:" and if that is so, it is a cause for poignant regret that any provisions in the Bill should have been so drawn as to awaken opposition to the principle on which the morality of our tenure of the Government of India is based. Mr. Elliott believes he is in harmony with the feelings of most of his District Officers when he declares that, in recommending the abandonment of this Bill, he does not mean that the Government of India should in the smallest degree retreat from the general lines of policy on which the Bill was based. No one can hold more emphatically than he that our *raison d'être* in India rests on the gradual elevation of the natives of the country to share its government with us, and to take a larger and still larger share in that government as time goes on. He has no sympathy with the argument about the conquering and the conquered race: no permanent Government can possibly rest on such a basis; if the conquest of India was guided by Providence for the good of the country, it can only have been in order that we might introduce a system of government which shall by degrees obliterate the memories of the conquest. The only postulate is that reforms should be gradual and tentative, and that nothing should be done which, on a general survey of the whole, seems likely to produce more harm than good. It is Mr. Elliott's opinion that the measure under discussion will on the whole produce more harm than good, and he advises its withdrawal. He has seen, during his service in India, many measures of reform taken, and a general advance all along the line; in every case these measures have been successful, and the worst thing that could be said of them is that they might have been stronger or have been taken earlier. It need be no cause of shame to the Government of India, to admit that one step in advance has been proposed too soon, and should be receded from; nor need it be taken as an indication of any change in the general policy, or any relaxation of the desire to govern the country through and for the people of the country, as soon as it can be safely and conveniently done.

Circular No. 21, dated 5th April 1883.

From—W. C. MACPHERSON, Esq., C.S., Asst. Secy. to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

To—The Judges, Assam Valley Districts and Sylhet, and all Deputy Commissioners, Assam.

I am desired to forward a copy of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, and to ask for an expression of your opinion on its provisions. As the Bill has been and is vehemently opposed by the influential body of non-official Europeans in the country, it is desirable that you should take especial care to state your views with precision, in order that the Government may thoroughly understand on what grounds you do or do not recommend that they should persevere with the Bill.

2. The following are the principal lines of thought which may be followed on this subject: you may hold that the Bill is a good Bill, and that the opposition to it is either so mistaken or so factitious that it will subside when sound reason resumes its sway; or you may hold that the Bill is bad in principle and should not be adopted, even if it were not unpopular; or you may hold that the Bill, though sound in principle, is not of much importance, and that it would be unwise to proceed with it in the face of the genuine hostility which it has elicited. And, besides these main lines of thought, you may think it necessary to criticise the details of the Bill, and the classes to which it is proposed to extend the powers of a Justice of the Peace.

3. These suggestions are made, not to influence the expression of your opinion, which should be as frank and independent as possible, but to indicate the chief points to which your reply should be directed. It is necessary that your answer should be received by the end of May, as the Chief Commissioner is directed to submit the provincial report by the end of June.

No. 829G., dated 26th May, 1883.

From—W. E. WARD, Esq., Commissioner, Assam Valley Districts,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

I have the honour to reply to your circular letter No. 21, dated the 5th April 1883, in which my opinion is called for upon the proposed amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code.

2. It is difficult to say anything on this subject which has not been said before by others whose opinions are entitled to more weight than any that I can give; but, as I am decidedly opposed to the Bill, I think I am bound to state fully the grounds upon which my opposition is based.

3. The effect of the proposed amendment, if carried, may be stated thus. By the law as it now stands, no Mufassal Magistrate or Judge, who is not himself a European British subject, can be appointed a Justice of the Peace; and no one but a Justice of the Peace can try a European British subject on a criminal charge. In other words, no one but a European British subject can try a European British subject on a criminal charge. The Bill proposes—(1) to give Local Governments the power, if they think fit, to appoint any Covenanted Civilian, Assistant Commissioner or Cantonment Magistrate, who has first class Magistrate's powers, to be a Justice of the Peace without any regard to their nationality; (2) to make all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates *ex officio* Justices of the Peace, whether European British subjects or not, and without regard to their fitness to try European British subjects.

All Native Sessions Judges, therefore, and Native District Magistrates *ex officio*, as well as all Covenanted Civilians, Assistant Commissioners and Cantonment Magistrates, who have first class powers, and whom the Local Governments think fit to appoint Justices of the Peace, will have the following powers conferred upon them with respect to the trial of European British subjects, over whom hitherto they have exercised no jurisdiction whatever:—

(*a*) If a Judge, the accused may be sentenced to one year's imprisonment or fine, or both.

(*b*) If a District Magistrate or a Mufassal Magistrate of the first class, the accused can be sentenced to three months' imprisonment or Rs. 1,000 fine, or both.

4. It is scarcely necessary for me to refer to the strong European public feeling which has been excited all over India, and in this Province in particular, against this proposed change in the law; and, although I by no means adopt the view that, in India, Government measures should be made subservient to public feeling, I think it must be admitted that the European public have in the present instance some ground for alarm. I would recommend, therefore, that, in deference to the strong and not altogether unreasonable feeling that exists against the Bill, it should not be proceeded with, at any rate in its present shape, unless it can be shown that strong administrative grounds exist for doing so.

5. With reference to the question of administrative necessity as a ground for proceeding with the Bill, I do not think it can be said that any such necessity at present exists in any part of India. It certainly does not exist in this Province. Whatever inconveniences may arise 20 years hence may be considered when they do arise; but I do not think we need legislate now for possible inconveniences that may arise in the next generation.

The sole question to be considered now should be whether, having regard to public feeling on the subject, any such serious inconvenience exists at present, or is likely to arise in the next four or five years, from the present state of the law as would justify the Legislature in altering the law. I think it cannot be disputed that this question must be answered in the negative. In the first place, it will be a long time before any appreciable number of Natives will have risen to be District Magistrates or Sessions Judges; secondly, I do not anticipate any appreciable inconvenience even when the maximum proportion of one-sixth of the Civil Service is composed of Natives; for, long before that maximum is reached, it must be borne in mind that our communications throughout India will be considerably improved, and thus the inconveniences to parties and witnesses arising out of transfers of cases from one district to another will be considerably lessened. It is, moreover, very seldom that a Mufassal Judge is called upon to try a European (I have had only one such case in this division during the seven years I have been here); and, with regard to District Magistrates, it can always be arranged that, where the District Magistrate is a Native, the Joint Magistrate or Senior Assistant Commissioner at the head-quarters of the district shall be a European British subject and a Justice of the Peace with first class powers. In cases, therefore, against European British subjects with which a Magistrate is competent to deal, there is no reason to anticipate that any inconvenience whatever to witnesses and parties will ever arise by maintaining the law as it now stands. Thus, the inconveniences, which I understand it is one of the objects of the Bill to remove, seem to me to be inappreciable, and do not, I think, afford sufficient ground for proceeding with the Bill in face of the very strong public feeling which has been excited against it.

6. In speaking of public feeling, I refer, of course, solely to European public feeling. Native feeling I leave altogether out of consideration, because I do not think that in a matter of this kind it has any claim upon our consideration. The mass of the people certainly have no feeling whatever on the subject, one way or the other; and with regard to the upper non-official class of Natives, I do not think there is any ground for supposing that they ever wanted a change in the law until the present Bill was published. Even now they do not pretend that the Bill will do them any good. Many respectable Natives are against the proposed change; others only support it, because they think it affords another manifestation of the present benevolent policy of Government in granting them extended powers of local self-government. These latter have also taken up the view (which I think has rather been suggested to them by the discussions that have taken place on the Bill than by any original feelings entertained by themselves on the subject) that the privilege which the European now enjoys of being tried by his own peers is invidious and casts a stigma on the character and qualifications of Native Magistrates.

7. This brings me to the feelings of the Native official class upon the subject. As regards these, I must say that, if, before the Bill was published, they ever felt (which I very much doubt) the invidiousness of the distinction which prevents their trying Europeans, I cannot understand the feeling. I can conceive nothing more natural than that a European should prefer to be tried by one of his own race. Rightly or wrongly, he distrusts the Native Magistrate, whether we call the latter a Covenanted Civilian or by any other name. He has had practically no experience of the Covenanted Native Civilian, still less of the Statutory Civilian (a Native Cantonment Magistrate has, I understand, never been seen); and, as regards the Native Assistant Commissioners, it cannot, I think, be said that they are entitled as a class to any special confidence on the part of the European public, although no one will deny that there are many able officers to be found belonging to that class. Seeing, then, what European public feeling is in the matter, I cannot understand the desire of any Native Magistrate or Judge which prompts him to move the Government to disregard and crush that feeling. I cannot conceive any Native of education and right feeling, or possessed of any pride in his constitution, claiming the right to try a man who, with or without reason, does not expect justice from him? Indeed, I refuse to believe for a moment that any such Native feels in the least degree slighted at the thought that he can only try a man of his own race. It would be as reasonable to suppose that I feel slighted because the Criminal Procedure Code gives a Judge of my experience, with power to sentence a Native to death subject to confirmation by the High Court, and to transportation without such confirmation, power only to sentence a European British subject to one year's rigorous imprisonment and a fine. No doubt, there may be a few Native Magistrates whose vanity prompts them to think they should be empowered to try

Europeans. The feeling, however, is a bad one; and it is not towards gratifying the vanity of the few that legislation should be directed.

Then, again, I have not yet found any answer to the argument that, in the matter now under discussion, it is not the feelings of the Judge that we should consult but those of the people whom it is proposed to place under his jurisdiction. I see that one Hon'ble Member in the Council of His Excellency the Governor General, replying to this argument, said that he saw no reason why that which did not hurt the feelings of Europeans in Presidency towns should hurt them in the Mufassal; but I would submit that, whether we appreciate or not the reasons on which public feeling is based, we must, when legislating for the good of the people, recognize the fact that the feeling does exist.

8. I do not lose sight of the fact that, except in the case of Judges and District Magistrates whom the Bill declares to be *ex officio* fit to try Europeans, it is not proposed to give jurisdiction over Europeans to any but selected Native Magistrates. The Bill, however, gives unlimited discretion to Local Governments to select; and I do not think that public confidence in a Magistrate is likely to be enhanced by the fact that a Local Government has selected him; and any Bill which renders it possible for a European to be subjected to the criminal jurisdiction of a Native in whom the European public have no confidence is, I think, wrong in principle, and will, I fear, if passed into law, be not only productive of much bad feeling between Europeans and Natives all over India, but will probably also lead to many scandalous scenes in Courts presided over by Native Magistrates. It must also be remembered that a Local Government is a very variable abstraction. It possesses no very fixed ideas as to the fitness of persons or things. The head of a Local Government to-day may think that its powers of selection under this Bill ought to be rarely exercised; his successor to-morrow will think that they ought to be rarely withheld. In short, the action of Local Governments under the special powers conferred upon them by the Bill will, I am afraid, vary very much according to the individual views of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor or Chief Commissioner upon the general question now under discussion. The practical effect of the Bill, therefore, if passed, will simply be to shift the responsibility of deciding the general question from the shoulders of the Government of India to those of the Local Governments. This, I think, the European public are entitled to object to. The subject under discussion is of sufficient importance, I think, to require that the Imperial Legislature shall settle it one way or the other, and not leave it to less responsible shoulders. Moreover, the decision of the general question is one which should affect all European British subjects in India alike, and should not be left to be decided by Local Governments in such a way that the Europeans of one Province may find themselves deprived of privileges of which those in a neighbouring Province are in full enjoyment.

9. It is unnecessary to go into the question as to whether the European can claim the *right* to be tried by his own peers; it is sufficient to find that he has enjoyed the privilege of being so tried for many years and in many countries, and that he values that privilege highly. We, as rulers, cannot fail to appreciate this feeling, nor can we disregard it, even though we may think that it is based more on sentiment than on reason; for we know full well that many of our existing institutions continue to exist mainly by reason of the sentiment which attaches to them. This privilege, then, which the European values so highly, should not, I think, be taken away from him on any other ground than that of administrative necessity. When the matter is looked at in this light, it seems to me that the stigma theory has nothing to support it.

10. Upon the question as to whether Native Civilians and Assistant Commissioners can ever be trusted with the powers it is proposed to give them, I do not wish to give any decided opinion. I should be sorry to say that none are to be trusted, and, so long as there are any fit to exercise these powers, it can, of course, be said that Local Governments may very well be trusted to find out these men. I have myself never yet seen a Native Covenanted Civilian who has been to England, and I have only come across one Statutory Civilian, without seeing any of his work. I am scarcely, therefore, in a position to judge of the powers and qualifications of a Native Civilian. I would deprecate, however, any *a priori* theory that supposes that a Native who has been to England and competed for the Civil Service is, by reason of this fact alone, competent to try a European. Much more than this is required before any Native can enter into our feelings and motives, and appreciate or even understand our family and social relations. That he does not understand these things no Native would, I venture to think, attempt to deny; and I think the European may well ask, without being necessarily accused of stigmatizing the Native character or raising invidious distinctions, "Is any man fit to try me, whose entire habits of life, thoughts, feelings, opinions, are so entirely distinct from my own, and who may therefore frequently be led to pronounce a wrong judgment upon me by reason of his want of sympathy with me or a proper understanding of the real merits of the case against me?" Of course, if the validity of this argument is admitted with respect to the Covenanted Civilian proper, it applies with greater force to the Statutory Civilian and the Native Assistant Commissioner, who have never visited England at all.

11. No doubt, it may be said that the present Bill can do no harm if the number of cases in which a European will be tried by a Native will, as is anticipated, be so small; but I think legislative action should have something stronger to support it than the mere allegation that it is harmless. Moreover, I think the Bill, if carried into law, will do much harm; for, as already stated, it will, I have no doubt, produce an amount of bad feeling between Natives

and Europeans, especially among the lower classes, which it will take many years to eradicate. Nor do I think the fact that the punishing powers of Judges and Magistrates over Europeans convicted by them of a criminal offence are small any ground for giving those powers. This, of course, is merely another form of the argument that the Bill may be supported on the ground that it can do little or no harm.

12. A good deal has been written and said to the effect that, if the Bill is carried, European capital and enterprise will be driven out of the country, or, at any rate, will receive a severe check. I do not believe this for a moment, for the simple reason that cases will, I am sure, whatever happens to this Bill, be exceedingly rare in which a Native will ever sit in judgment upon a European; and European enterprise and capital are not so easily frightened from a country where such large profits are to be found as in India.

13. In conclusion, I would only add that, had the Bill confined itself to carrying out what Mr. Gupta originally proposed, namely, that Covenanted Civilians (excluding the Statutory Civilian) who rose to the position of a District Judge or Chief Magistrate of a district (Deputy Commissioner, as he is here called) should have *ex officio* powers to try Europeans, I do not think any one would have seriously objected; and, were it not that the present Bill has excited so much bad feeling, I should have been inclined to propose that it be modified to meet Mr. Gupta's proposal, and nothing more; but, in view of the present state of public feeling, and seeing what little real necessity there is for such a modified Bill, I should prefer seeing the present Bill withdrawn altogether without anything being offered in substitution for it. As an alternative proposal, however, I would suggest that the privilege which the European now enjoys of being tried by his own peers be continued to him, but that he be allowed to waive the privilege and submit himself to the jurisdiction of any Native Magistrate of the first class, whether he be a Covenanted Civilian or Assistant Commissioner, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Honorary Magistrate, or Deputy or even Sub-Deputy Magistrate. I am quite certain that, if a Bill of this kind were passed, many Europeans would, for their own convenience, waive their privileges in many cases, and assert them only in cases of difficulty or importance. It would be well also if, at the same time, Europeans were, by an amendment of the Code, allowed to submit themselves to the jurisdiction of European Judges and Magistrates in cases which, under the present law, these latter cannot now try. It is a serious thing for a European planter in Assam, and also for witnesses here, to feel that in a certain class of cases they must all, whether the accused or complainant wishes it or not, be sent up for trial and examination to the High Court at Calcutta, because the Judge has no power to pass a sentence exceeding one year's imprisonment and fine.

14. I notice that the Bill excludes Extra Assistant Commissioners, the Deputy Magistrates of Bengal and Honorary Magistrates, and this, too, whether they be European or Native, from being selected by Local Governments as fit to try Europeans. I do not understand why they should be excluded. If it be held that there must be some Assistant Commissioners with first class magisterial powers who are fit for selection to try Europeans, the same, I think, may certainly be said of any class of Magistrates who have first class powers.

15. I enclose the opinion of the only district officer who, up to date, has reported on the Bill. The Deputy Commissioner of Darrang has, I understand, reported to you direct.

No. 172 A., dated 4th May, 1883.

From—H. MUSPRATT, Esq., Judge of Silhet,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Circular No. 21 of 5th ultimo, giving cover to a copy of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code.

2. I beg to tender my sincere thanks to the Chief Commissioner for permitting me to express my opinions on the said Bill frankly and independently.

3. (1) I think the Bill should never have been drawn up in its present form, as it is very circumscribed in its application, and is totally opposed to the views given in the second ground of Objects and Reasons.

4. (2) I think the Bill was a mistake, as it is proposed to remove an anomaly and to confer new powers on some ten Government officials, without any consideration being given to the feelings of the thousands who will be affected by the amended law.

5. (3) I hold that the Bill has been introduced at a most inopportune time. The minds of the people are in a very unsettled state in consequence of the introduction of local self-government throughout India, by the proposed law of landlord and tenant in Bengal, and by the proposed Land Regulation in Assam.

6. (4) The proper time has not arrived for introducing a Bill to do away with race-distinctions. Very startling changes are proposed before the masses of the Native population are sufficiently advanced to understand that the object of the Bill was to raise the status of the Native Civilians, and not to lower the status of all European officials, whether covenanted or uncovenanted.

7. With reference to my first ground of objection, I notice that the Bill proposes to give jurisdiction over European British subjects to—(*a*) members of the Covenanted Civil Service, (*b*) members of the Native Civil Service, (*c*) Assistant Commissioners, and (*d*) Cantonment magistrates. The Bill thus excludes all the Subordinate Magistrates, whether European

British subjects or Asiatics, as though they were not only inferior in position, but also in judicial acumen.

8. It would, I consider, be most unjust to debar European Subordinate Magistrates altogether from holding jurisdiction over European British subjects. Numbers of those officers have for many years held such powers, and no one has ever charged them with acting unjustly when their fellow-countrymen have been tried in their Courts.

9. It may not be intended to deprive those already entrusted with the powers of Justices of the Peace; but why, I would ask, should not those that come after them (if fitted) be invested with similar powers? They must surely be quite as experienced, able, and trustworthy as the members of classes (*b*), (*c*), and (*d*).

10. If it is the desire of the Government of India to remove from the Code at once, and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based on race-distinctions, why should a new anomaly be created, and the powers already held by a large number of officers be taken away, in order to give more powers to a very small number not holding similar powers outside the Presidency towns?

11. It appears to me that the proposed change in the law would, in a very short time, create many instances of administrative inconvenience, and injured parties would have to travel to the sadr stations to prosecute petty charges that might, as hitherto, be tried by fully qualified European Deputy Magistrates at the sub-divisions.

12. I propose, in the next place, to consider why (2) the Bill was a *mistake*.

13. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated—"It was thought anomalous that Natives of India should be deemed incompetent to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the Presidency towns."

14. It appears to me that the greatest anomaly was in the granting of such powers to Natives of India in the Presidency-towns. I do not remember to have heard that the appointment of non-Europeans in Calcutta was ever considered a success. No Member of the Council in the debate on the proposed Bill named any one of them as a proof that the powers granted to Natives in Calcutta should be extended to the Mofussil.

15. The Government of India calls the proposed change the removal of every judicial disqualification based merely on race-distinctions, and asserts that it is an anomaly that Natives of India competent to discharge the highest judicial duties should be incompetent to be Justices of the Peace. Why, then, would the Government give the powers to Natives holding certain posts, and debar others of the same race who have long sat in the Courts as Magistrates, and have earned the confidence of the Governors of Provinces by their integrity and upright conduct?

16. When the English obtained possession of each portion of the Indian Empire, the Courts of the country were found to be so venal and corrupt that it was found imperatively necessary to legislate that European British subjects should only be tried by their fellow countrymen. They have continued to try them. Why, then, should that power now be withheld from them unless they are members of classes (*a*), (*c*), and (*d*)?

17. I consider that the distinction raised in the selection of officers to be empowered to try Europeans is a great mistake.

18. Mr. Elliott states in the circular that the proposed Bill has been, and is, vehemently opposed by the influential body of non-official Europeans in the country.

19. I maintain that they have just grounds for their opposition to the Bill, and their assertions clearly prove that the time is not yet arrived for the proposed change.

20. European British subjects are convinced that they should not be tried by Natives of India, who do not understand their manners, customs, and feelings; who do not entertain any respect for their own women; and who would prefer to have their women steeped in ignorance.

21. It cannot possibly cast any slur on those Native gentlemen who have won high positions in the Covenanted and Uncovenanted Services that they should not be asked or compelled to try charges brought against European British subjects. I have been a member of the Bengal Civil Service for 33 years, and I never heard such an assertion made before I read the speech of the Hon'ble Durga Churn Laha.

22. I can point out a stranger anomaly than the one that has led to the introduction of the present Bill, but I do not consider that it imposes any disparagement or casts any slur on me as a judicial officer. The present Deputy Commissioner of Cachar is under 11 years' service, and had not even arrived in the country when I was appointed Sessions Judge at Cachar; yet he is empowered, under section 30, Criminal Procedure Code, to sit *alone* to try any offence not punishable with death, while I have to try similar cases with the assistance of assessors.

23. Europeans are truly afraid of being tried in the Courts of Natives, whose fellow countrymen daily prove that their chief weapon of offence against a rival or an enemy is to bring against him a false charge backed up by perjured witnesses. Both Hindus and Muhammadans institute false charges, and it is not confined to the poor and ignorant of those two races.

24. In Assam, 2,336 false cases were detected in 1880, and 2,105 in 1881, or nearly ten per cent. of the cases instituted in each year, and over 25 per cent. of the charges brought were rejected. Of persons brought to trial, the numbers acquitted in 1880 and 1881 were respectively 4,862 and 4,956.

25. How, I would ask, can the Government expect that any European (man or woman)

would consent to be tried by a Court when the prosecutor, witnesses, investigating officer, Magistrate, mukhtars, and vakils are all aliens to him or her in race, feelings, and religion, &c.?

26. It is very unfortunate that the Government of India did not consult some of the officials who are daily hearing cases, and who could have understood both sides of the question, and would not have treated it as a matter solely of State policy and convenience.

27. This is the first time that the feelings of any class of officials have been consulted. It is a great mistake to pander to such sensitiveness. Government should rather have considered the feelings and antipathies of those who would be affected by the proposed Bill.

28. I cannot but feel that the determined opinion of Government, stated in their Objects and Reasons, has given rise to much of the strong language used in discussing the proposed changes in the law.

29. I next proceed to consider whether the Bill should have been introduced at the present time, and what effect it is likely to have on the Native races in Lower Bengal and Assam.

30. In 1882, the Government of India decided that local self-government should be started throughout the length and breadth of India.

31. It is unnecessary for me to specify what great changes were thus introduced, and how it has given importance to many things, many places, and many people. The majority of the people formerly took no interest in the matter of roads, education, &c.

32. Government are now desirous that the masses should think for themselves on the subject of self-government, and they have been called on to assist in the election of the members of the committees. The laws for carrying out self-government were only under discussion when this amendment of Criminal Procedure was notified.

33. The Code of Criminal Procedure was passed in March last year, and came into force on the 1st of January of the present year. The introduction in February of a radical change in selecting the officers to be appointed to try European British subjects by an amending Bill must arouse feelings in the Natives of India that the Code contained a very glaring error, which should not have occurred while the Code was before the Council of India. They would naturally enquire what changes were proposed; and what must they think of the announcement that Government had determined at once, and completely, to remove from the Code every judicial disqualification based merely on race-distinctions?

34. The only conclusion they could arrive at would be this. Government have held incorrect views, and have assigned a higher status to European Magistrates and Judges than they were entitled to hold, and that henceforth those officials were to be reduced to the same level as the Native Magistrates and Judges.

35. The Natives of India will learn that the proposed amendments disqualify all Uncovenanted European Magistrates, and place in their stead certain Native officials about whose fitness or abilities very few of them know anything.

36. What, then, can the masses think of the proposed changes and the hurry with which an amending Bill has been introduced before the Council?

37. This amending Bill, to my mind, strikes a heavy blow at the foundation of the structure of the Criminal Courts in India, and lowers all Magistrates and Judges in the eyes of the masses. No longer will they respect those officials. The administration of justice will be carried on under considerable difficulties (signs of these are already cropping up), and the hitherto smooth working of the Government officials in their intercourse with the masses of the people will be seriously affected.

38. The people do not feel respect for the Civil Courts. They pay heavily for the privilege of using them, and they consider that those Courts have been created for their convenience, to enable them to recover their rights, and in many cases to injure their enemies.

39. But the Criminal Courts have been reverenced, as they are backed up by enormous powers, namely, by the police and by the terrors of the jail and of transportation across the black waters. It is impossible at the present time to convince a villager that he will get the same justice before a fellow-countryman as before a "saheb;" and, until the mass of the people feel assured they will get equal justice before Asiatic and European Magistrates, the time has not arrived to introduce the proposed changes into the Code of Criminal Procedure

40. In the present year, a Bill affecting landlords and tenants in Bengal has been discussed in the Council. It has given rise to very conflicting opinions, and the landlords are as deeply moved by that Bill as the Europeans by this amending Bill. Silhat is convulsed by the proposed Land Regulation for Assam.

41. Heretofore the Government of India have felt their way, and have introduced changes in the law singly and cautiously. But now no less than three laws making vital changes are being started at one time in Lower Bengal and also in Assam.

42. I maintain that the present was a most inopportune time for the introduction of a law that must bring to the surface race-antipathies that were slumbering, but which might have ceased to exist in process of time.

43. In conclusion, I would most respectfully urge that this amending Bill should be withdrawn, and I sincerely trust that the hostility which it has elicited may be calmed down, and friendly feelings between all classes and races be restored.

No. 1005, dated 28th April, 1883.

From—H. L. JOHNSON, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Silhat,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

I had not intended expressing an opinion on the subject of the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill, with reference to your Judicial Department Circular No. 21, dated the 5th April, 1883. I thought I might leave the discussion of the measure to my successor; and I felt that my opinion, to be of use, should have been submitted a year ago. But, having learned that the Chief Commissioner wishes me to leave my opinion behind me, I submit a note on the subject. I am inclined to think the Bill wrong in principle. But I am sure that the time has not yet arrived for such a measure.

Note by H. L. JOHNSON, Esq., *Deputy Commissioner, Silhat.*

The advocates of the measure do not state what its principle is. They refer to some principle, but they do not give its shape. Mr. Gupta talks of an invidious race distinction; but race distinctions are not necessarily invidious. A man cannot help being a Bengali; and, if they were, you could not on that account abolish them, and therefore you must recognise them. Nobody has suggested (or *had* suggested till this proposal was brought forward) that Mr. Gupta is unfit to exercise the powers in question. Lord Ripon speaks of the Bill following necessarily from the admission of Natives to the Civil Service. But we admitted Natives to the Civil Service on the same principle that we opened it to competition, because we hate artificial privileges and monopolies. If we had suspected we were depriving the English race of any race-privilege by it, we would not have taken this step.

It cannot be that the advocates of the Bill disapprove of all recognition of status in our laws, (status is but another word for distinction of race). In this country, status still rules supreme, and our efforts to supersede it by contact have not been very successful. To this day we recognise the status of Mainpuris even in our jails.

I sympathise with those who say that we came here by an unfortunate accident; that it is doubtful if we do any good and that we should go as soon as we can. I think we should frame all our measures with a view to going. I therefore disapprove of the admission to high posts by competition (which appears to be a part of the principle of the Bill), because that system brings Bengalis to the front; and I am doubtful if they are the race who are destined to succeed us in the government of this great Indian Empire.

Then it is not suggested that we can settle down and amalgamate with the peoples of India—become a force leavening the whole mass, as we have done in Ireland. If we could do this, then our special status as a superior race is an obstacle, and should be swept away as wrong in principle. If we cannot do this, then we can only remain here as a superior and conquering race. It is on this fact that I hold that, opportunity offering, we should go.

It is hardly possible to discuss the principle of a measure the advocates of which are apparently not clear about it themselves—veil it in such phrases as "the more liberal view." But the opponents of the Bill have a clear and recognised principle of very respectable and ancient lineage; indeed, of scriptural authority. *Civis Romanus sum* has been in all ages a cry to conjure with, and in time and place is no doubt a highly admirable principle. Since the struggle for life and survival of the fittest theory came to be applied to politics, the part which race-distinction plays in the world is better appreciated scientifically, but before the days of science race was revered instinctively. When the Englishman says "I will not be tried by a Bengali," he has history, science, even the Apostle Paul, on his side. And, in the case before us, his assertion of his race superiority is specially justified by the fact that the Bengali belongs to a race he has conquered. His assertion of his race in the face of Egyptians, Chinese, Japanese, &c., looks like mere pride, but in the case of the races of India it is much more.

He has a feeling that a conquered race must necessarily dislike the conquering race. His experience of the Irish, whom he has admitted to equal laws, even to representation in his Supreme Council confirms the feeling. His experience in India, where he sees Natives carefully excluded from place and influence in the army, and even in the police, confirms the feeling. But he should at the same time remember that he submits to be tried by Irishmen, who are overtly more disloyal than the Bengalis, and probably hate their conquerors more. I make another objection to the principle of the Bill. It recognises a distinction between the Covenanted Civil Servants and other persons. Now whatever objection there may be to the recognition by the law of a difference of status which actually exists is natural, is indeed the most prominent fact in Indian history, past and present. The recognition for the first time in the Codes of a wholly artificial distinction is simply, from a liberal point of view, detestable. This objection is so obvious that I am surprised that a Government calling itself liberal should have proposed such a measure. I believe I am right in saying that the unrepealed laws and regulations of all the Presidencies may be searched through, and no case will be found in which members of the Covenanted Service are invested with judicial powers as such members. A proposal to abolish the Civil Service would not surprise me; a proposal to endow it, for the first time in the history of our rule, with special magisterial powers is in the highest degree retrograde.

Supposing these objections to the principle of the Bill to have been disposed of, I have only to consider whether the present is a convenient time for divesting ourselves of our status

as conquerors. I use a general phrase, because, if one condition of that status is admitted to be anomalous, other conditions are so too. Thus, if we submit to be tried by Natives of the country, we cannot refuse to allow Natives of the country to form volunteer corps; we can no longer reserve certain of the superior grades of officers in the army to the conquering race, and so on. Much has been made of the argument that Europeans have already submitted to be tried by Natives; that Judges of High Courts and Presidency Magistrates may try Europeans. One writer, an ex-Lieutenant-Governor and Member of Parliament, says, "How very small the change of practice is. As Judges of the High Court, Natives have unlimited criminal jurisdiction; every day Native Magistrates try Europeans in the Presidency towns." But I am informed that the Judges of the High Courts do not, as a matter of fact, hold criminal sessions; that in the last 100 years there has never been a Native Magistrate in the European quarter of Calcutta, and only in six or seven years in the Native quarter. I am informed that at Bombay the Native Magistrates are Parsis, to whom, I presume, the objection that they belong to a conquered race or races does not apply. The strength of this argument depends on the extent to which Europeans have submitted to be tried by Natives. And the answer to it is obvious. The anomaly between town and country law may be most simply removed by withdrawing from High Court Judges and Presidency Magistrates the obnoxious powers. This argument that he has submitted himself is peculiarly offensive to the Englishman. He had allowed a Native to be appointed a Magistrate of the Northern Division of Calcutta, and other Natives to be appointed High Court Judges, in the belief that these measures did not practically injure his status. European cases are few in the Northern Division, and he thought the Native Judge would not be deputed to hold criminal sessions. He had no intention whatever of surrendering his status. When, therefore, his, as he thinks, unfortunate carelessness or good nature in these two cases is quoted as a reason for going further, he feels that he has been "jockeyed," as it were, out of his rights.

Then it has been said the present system is inconvenient. One instance is quoted from Dhaka. But no inconvenience actually occurred—some one admitted it might occur. I know Dhaka very well, and I state that the inconvenience mentioned is wholly imaginary. You may make the whole district staff Native, and you will find plenty of European gentlemen ready to do a petty Magistrate's duties for nothing. Another instance is quoted from Bombay, but here the inconvenience is stated to have occurred in connection with a railway which, I am told, has never been commenced. In some respects, I think, the change would prove inconvenient. The privilege of trial by his own race follows the Englishman into the Native States of India. Englishmen take service under Natives in Mysore, Haidarabad and other Native States, and, though there are occasional difficulties, the reversal of the natural relation is not so injurious as might be expected. The reason probably is, that the Englishman retains his privilege of trial by his own race. If he had not that privilege, the Native States would probably not obtain his services, or would have to pay a higher rate for them. So I think that unless Europeans retain this privilege, the appointment of Natives to districts where there are many European settlers (and they are daily increasing in number) will be practically impossible.

Against the Bill, in its practical application, arguments have been brought forward, not much better than those above-quoted in its favour. I am quite sure that the average experienced Deputy Magistrate would be as good a Judge in the case of a European accused as he is in the case of a Native. I am not sure about a young man just out from England. I think I would allow him time to sow his wild oats before giving him much authority. But, speaking generally, Natives make as good, or better, Magistrates than Europeans.

The only argument against the Bill to which I attach any importance is that it stigmatises a very worthy and highly useful body of men—Native Magistrates, not members of the Covenanted Civil Service—as unfit to exercise certain powers. The blot can easily be remedied by giving powers indiscriminately, and dropping the wholly illiberal distinction between Covenanted and Uncovenanted Magistrates.

It seems to me that the advocates of the Bill have failed most signally in making out a case, and that the opponents of the Bill have failed equally signally. It seems to me to be a question of sentiment on both sides.

The advocates of the Bill think it looks well for the conqueror to submit himself to the conquered; it is a magnanimous thing to do. The opponents, I believe, honestly think that a Native is an abominable creature, not at all fit to rule over them.

In the absence of any conclusive or strong argument, one way or the other, we should, I think, follow the liberal course of consulting the persons interested in the matter. They have given an almost unanimous vote against the measure: that they disapprove of it is, of course, itself a strong argument against it. It never does to legislate against, without, above or beyond the people for whose benefit you legislate, as we have so often proved in our administration of India.

When the word "Native" is no longer used by the Europeans; when the Native no longer describes his conquerors as the "*sahib log*;" when there is no longer a natural distinction between Natives and their foreign conquerors—then we may expunge all recognition of that distinction from the Statute-book. At present, the measure is premature. Indeed, I personally think that, as long as we remain here, the necessity for such a measure will not—indeed cannot—arise, but then I hope for a speedy departure. If the Government of India is determined to take a step in the direction indicated, I would suggest throwing all Cantonmen;

Magistracies open to Natives. There is much analogy between Cantonments and Presidency towns. The European element is so strong that they cannot indulge in the fears (as I think fantastic) for which his isolated position gives the European in the Mofussil some excuse. Then we have the precedent of the Presidency towns. Let us now extend the principle established in the Presidency towns to Cantonments, hill stations and other places where Europeans are most predominant.

No. 1381, dated 11th May, 1883.

From—H. L. JOHNSON, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Silhat,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

Under my letter No. 1005, dated 28th April 1883, I forwarded some observations on the proposed Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill. The proposal to make all non-official Europeans incapable of service as Justices of the Peace escaped my notice. As the Chief Commissioner is aware, I would, if possible, get all petty magisterial work done for nothing. There seems no good reason for imposing this special disability on European British subjects. It is anomalous that a man who holds and exercises such powers in England should be disabled by changing his domicile to India.

No. 840 J., dated 31st May, 1883.

From—J. K. WIGHT, Esq., Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Cachar,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

In reply to your Circular No. 21, dated 5th April 1883, calling for an expression of opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, I have the honour to submit the following report.

In my humble opinion, the provisions of the Bill as they stand are altogether bad. The result of section 1 would be to disqualify the future European British Magistrates, even of proved competence and fitness, from being appointed Justices of the Peace, unless such Magistrates were either Cantonment Magistrates, Covenanted Civil Servants or Assistant Commissioners in the Non-Regulation Provinces. Now, there are scores of Magistrates, not belonging to any of these classes, who have been appointed Justices of the Peace, and who have fulfilled the duties of their office with credit. Why should such be debarred in future from being made Justices of the Peace? The Punjab Government has recorded its opinion that "the powers and jurisdiction to be exercised by judicial officers should depend entirely upon personal fitness." Again, the North-Western Provinces Government desire to appoint Native members who have proved their fitness. If, then, Europeans not belonging to any of the four classes above mentioned be personally fit, why should they not be appointed Justices of the Peace?

The second objection I bring against section 1 is that it enables Local Governments to appoint certain Natives as Justices of the Peace, and these, if first class Magistrates, will have the power to try Europeans.

I would consider this objection under different heads.

I fully admit that it would be a graceful concession to allow Natives belonging to the Covenanted Civil Service to become Justices of the Peace and to try Europeans. I use the word "concession" advisedly. To talk of their "claim" to such power is to misuse words. Claims they can have none. When they entered the service, they did so being well aware of the fact that, under the law, they could not try Europeans. Moreover, it appears to me to be ridiculous for a subject race to talk of their "claim" to try members of the conquering race. To talk of "justice" in demanding the concession is, in my view, equally ridiculous. "Justice" is obtained by the due and impartial administration of the existing laws of the land. What would be considered "justice" in one country is not considered so in another country, simply because the standard whereby to test the "justice" of any act differs in the two countries. If it is meant that the present laws are not justly and impartially administered by Europeans, then a case of injustice arises, and it becomes essential that other persons should be appointed who will administer the laws without partiality. But, before such a statement can be accepted, it is necessary to adduce proof, and up to date such proof has not been adduced. I am unable to believe that the Government is of opinion that the law is not justly administered by Europeans. Still less can I believe that the view of the Government is that the law will be administered with more impartiality by Natives than by Europeans. Hence all talk of "claim" and "justice" on the subject is, in my opinion, unwarrantable.

I say it would, under ordinary circumstances, be a graceful concession to extend the jurisdiction of Covenanted Native Civil Servants over Europeans; but, in the face of the violent opposition raised against such concession, I think it would be politically expedient to conclude that the time for making it had not yet arrived. Had the experiment been confined to this much only, I doubt whether any storm of opposition would have arisen. Had it arisen, I think the Government should have withdrawn the Bill, however much it lamented the prejudices of its European subjects. I draw a distinction between Covenanted Native Civil Servants and other Natives, because, in the case of he former, they have lived in Europe; they have mixed with Europeans; they have

learnt the peculiarities and idiosyncrasies of English people (at least to some extent); they have necessarily become acquainted in a way with their methods of action and habits of thought; they are partially competent to draw deductions from their behaviour; and they are not so apt to draw false conclusions from actions not understood. There is in every way a wide difference between them and those Natives "saturated with caste and religious prejudices, ignorant of European modes of thought and feeling." Of course, I assume that Government has no intention of appointing outcasted Hindus exclusively in the Civil Service. On the contrary, those who will be appointed under the Statute 33 Vic., cap. 3, will belong to the highest families, and so, no doubt, will be Native Assistant Commissioners in the Non-Regulation Provinces. Such gentlemen will be strict Hindus, and will be bound by their religious code. Now, are such persons competent to try Europeans, or to understand their actions? I do not believe in the use of abstract assertions, and so I will briefly give a few concrete instances. Take a charge of adultery. In this country a chaste woman is she who is supposed never to behold the face of any man but her husband and relatives. She dare not go out. To speak to, or be seen with, a stranger would involve the most fearful penalties. I have too often heard Native opinion—I mean the opinions of the educated Natives—on this subject. They are absolutely incapable of believing that the freedom of women is compatible with chastity. They attribute the grossest irregularities to all ladies, Native or European, who mix frequently and openly with the other sex. The published accounts of two Bengalis who visited England (and they may be assumed to be educated) prove conclusively what the judgment of Natives is about them. The most innocent action would be misconstrued by an orthodox Hindu, who would discover vice where the most perfect innocence existed. Any case in which there arises a question connected, however remotely, with the relations between the two sexes would be completely beyond the power and ability of an orthodox Hindu to comprehend. Thus, all questions of offences against marriage could not be tried by Natives.

Again, take the case of assault under provocation. Can a Native born and bred in the zanána, who has not mixed with Europeans, understand what is, and what is not, provocation? I have heard in open Court the most respectable persons tell each other "they lie." In Native society "you lie" is freely interchanged. At panchâyats I have heard it myself. The most foul abuse is occasionally interchanged by persons who ought to know better, yet there is apparently no resentment. There certainly is never an interchange of blows, nor the thought of any. Can a Hindu realise the grave provocation which the word "lie" raises to a European? Would he hold such a remark as any justification for a blow?

Again, take the case of mischief. A cow is a sacred animal to the orthodox Hindus, and it is as grievous a sin (if not more so) to take the life of a cow as to take the life of one's parents. According to the religious books, each hair of a cow is the seat of a god. So he who kills a cow commits a similar offence to killing a god. Suppose a European to kill a cow and to be tried by an othodox Bráhman. Is the latter qualified to pass sentence? Will he not be influenced in his estimate of the accused's guilt by his own religious belief? Why, the Sástrás actually enjoin on all good Hindus the absolute necessity of committing *perjury* in order to save the life of a cow. Are men of this stamp competent to try Europeans? I say most certainly not. We know that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal himself challenges "most strongly the competence of Native Magistrates to try Europeans." I think, therefore, I may be excused for holding the same opinion, and for shewing on what grounds I challenge their competence. Those Hindus who have shewn their contempt for the monstrous absurdities above mentioned, who have so far shewn their superiority above caste-prejudices to cross the *kálápani* and receive an English education, should be treated on a different footing. The extension of the proposed jurisdiction to them might be defended, but certainly not to the others. What would be the result? A constant heart-burning. Suppose cases of the sort above described to be laid before a Native, and suppose the Magistrate of the district to be a European, would not an accused European apply at once for a transfer? The law permits the District Magistrate to transfer cases. Why should he not do so? If he did so, he would incur odium among the Natives, and would be reflecting on the Native Magistrate. If he did not do so, he would incur greater odium among his own people, and, moreover, would be acting probably against the dictates of his own judgment. Most certainly in any case where European ladies were concerned (as witnesses or otherwise), the Magistrate of the district would invariably transfer the case to his own file. This would be a wanton reflection on the Native Magistrate, and yet a necessity. The indignity of a European lady being taken before a Native Magistrate, surrounded by Native ámlá and Native police, would be simply an intolerable scandal. Why the wife of the commonest ámlá in the Court could only be produced in a palkí or behind a pardá. What respect would the Natives have for such a lady, or for her husband, the latter perhaps a high official? The mere knowledge that it was possible to drag a European lady before the Criminal Courts would be an incentive for any evilly-disposed person to bribe a servant to bring a false charge. I would strongly deprecate a law that rendered the occurrence of so grave a scandal possible. False charges are notoriously very common in India, and are very easily got up.

I would point out that it is incorrect to talk of the disqualifications of the Natives in connection with this question of jurisdiction. The right of Englishmen to be tried by men of their own race and colour is a personal privilege (if the term privilege may be used). It is a possession of no recent date: no reflection is cast upon the Natives at all. If the Natives were Dutch, it would be the same thing. It is absolutely incorrect to talk of the disqualification of the Natives as the leading principle. It is nothing of the sort. An Englishman has a much cherished right of long standing. If this right (privilege be it) interfere with the exercise of certain powers by the Natives, it is an accident. But let the correct order of things be maintained. It is not the case that Natives were ever disqualified directly, and then certain privileges were given to Europeans. It is the accidental fact that the privilege has been enjoyed so long by Europeans that the Natives are indirectly disqualified.

Is it seriously meant that the Natives who practise polygamy, who treat their wives as caged birds, kept in the dark chiefly for the creation of sons, to perform the necessary shradh or funeral ceremonies for the repose of souls, who immolate infants of tender age to marriage, who compel infant widows to remain widows till death—are such competent to try European men and women? Is no account to be taken of the wide gap which lies between the feelings of Europeans and of Natives, of the caste-prejudices of the latter, of the low estimate they have of women?

No; I maintain that the Natives are not competent to try Europeans, and therefore section 1 of the Bill is bad altogether in principle. Why should the Judge's feelings be taken into consideration? Surely the person to consult is the accused.

The present orders are that Native Civil Servants to be appointed under the Statute 33 Vic., cap. 3, shall be ordinarily appointed only to office in that Province where they were first appointed. Does not this recognise the fact that men ought to be tried by men of their own Province, who can best understand their actions? Is not this, too, the foundation of section 275, Criminal Procedure Code? This section enacts that "In a trial by jury before the Court of Session of a person not being a European or an American, a majority of the jury shall, if he so desire it, consist of persons neither European nor American." That is to say, the ruling race of the country are declared to be incompetent to form a majority of the jury to try a Native. Why? Because the Natives can understand a Native better. If, then, to try a Native the majority of a jury cannot consist of Europeans, why should a Native alone be allowed to try a European? It is a right he never possessed, and therefore it has not been taken away from him; and I know of no law of Nature or God which makes the right to try Europeans inherent in the Native. If the right is conferred, it is a concession, and a concession only. But this question was never raised by the Natives themselves; there was never any clamour for such a Bill; there was no movement of any kind made in favour of such a Bill until the present one was introduced. It was founded on the sentimental grievance of an individual. It is not desired by the mass of Natives.

If Government proposed to pay a monthly salary of Rs. 100 to every English-speaking Bábu, no doubt there would be thousands in favour of such a Bill; or if Government proposed that any European convicted of assaulting a Native should be sent to jail without the option of a fine, no doubt thousands would welcome such a Bill. Where the Natives are to be benefited at the expense of the European by any particular Bill, it is not surprising that they should clamour for it.

When Government abolished *sati* and prohibited hook-swinging, and when it legalised widow remarriages, there was an outcry among the educated Natives; but what did this prove? Not that the mass of the people were with them, for they were not; so it is in this case. I maintain that the general public never wanted such a Bill. If a boon (so considered) is thrown at a man, it can hardly be expected that he will not accept it, even though he never dreamt of it. The *law* as it stands is the same for *all*. The privilege of administering it against a European is confined to Europeans. But I object to the Bill on other grounds. If the privileges of the ruling race be thus cast aside, what will happen to the numerous personal laws of the Hindus and Muhammadans? Will they not be threatened with abolition? Can Government confine itself to abolishing privileges of Europeans only? The turn of the Natives must come, and the present Bill will be used as a weapon against them. What opposition will they be able to offer when it is proposed to abolish their anomalies? And this brings me to the consideration of the grounds on which this Bill is brought forward. As far as I can make out, they are three—(1) to abolish an anomaly; (2) to abolish the invidiousness of the disqualifications (so-called) of Natives; (3) to remove administrative difficulties. These I would discuss one by one, taking them in inverse order.

The Provinces in which the largest number of Europeans live are undoubtedly Bengal and Assam. Yet what do these two Governments, which are the most intimately concerned with the Bill, say? His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal said in Council—"There is practically and really no administrative difficulty in connection with this matter." The Chief Commissioner of Assam appears to be of the same opinion, for he objected to any extensive conferment of jurisdiction over Europeans upon Native judicial officers at present. He advocated the claims only of Native *Corenanted* Civil Servants, and of Natives who may become District Magistrates or Sessions Judges. Now, as there is not a single Native in Assam belonging to either category, the conclusion is most obvious, namely, that in Assam there is no administrative difficulty which requires to be overcome. Moreover, the sole ground of the Chief Commissioner's advocacy was "the desire to make progress in the direction of *equality* between Native Covenanted Civil Servants and their British-born brothers." Every reasonable person will, I think, admit the necessity of this. It is inevitable in the march of progress that every year should see Europeans and Natives brought more and more on terms of absolute equality. But the Assam Government never advocated the Bill on the ground that it would remove administrative difficulties, for these do not exist.

In Burma, too, where there are may Europeans, there is no question of administrative difficulty. Thus, one of the chief grounds of the Bill is absolutely non-existent. Moreover, do the provisions of the Bill create "equality." No; they take away the privilege of becoming a Justice of the Peace from fit and competent Europeans in the Uncovenanted Service (unless they happen to be Cantonment Magistrates or Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces), and confer it on certain Natives. The double process, therefore, of levelling down and levelling up is performed at the same time, with the difference that the former is practised on the European, the latter on the Native. If my views be correct, there would seem to have been an error made by Mr. Quinton in Council when he said that Burma and Assam advocated the Bill on the ground of "administrative" convenience.

Next, as to the invidiousness of the disqualification of Natives. I have before pointed out that it is not a direct disqualification of Natives so much as a special privilege of Europeans. I would here take the liberty of commenting on certain views expressed in Council.

Mr. Quinton said:—"It is difficult to find any intelligible reason why an officer of sufficient judicial ability to be appointed a Presidency Magistrate should, when promoted or even transferred to a district beyond the Presidency, forfeit powers which he had been found to exercise in a satisfactory manner."

Again, the North-Western Government wrote:—"If a Native Civilian as Magistrate of the district may be trusted to exercise the powers of a Justice of the Peace, he should retain them when, his charge of a district being temporary, he reverts to a subordinate post" . . . . I would venture to point out that, in Non-Regulation Provinces, the Deputy Commissioner has very extensive powers; he can imprison up to seven years. If the same officer is transferred to a regulation district, he at once forfeits his powers: nor can the Government of India itself make him retain them.

Under section 30 of the Code, the North-Western Provinces and the Bengal regulation districts are excluded. Now, in Assam, Deputy Commissioners have for years been exercising the powers conferred under section 34. I am a Covenanted Civilian myself, and have exercised these powers. Nevertheless, when I am "promoted or transferred" to a Bengal regulation district, I shall at once forfeit my powers; nor will the Government itself be able to continue them on me. Is not this an exactly similar case? Have Europeans ever objected to this provision of the law? Does any one consider it a reflection on his fitness? Again, when a Joint Magistrate acts as Judge, he has certain powers. When he reverts to his jointship, does he retain them? It is not his *fitness* that ceases, but it is his cessation to hold a certain office; so it is with a Presidency Magistrate. Certain powers are attached to the office; any one holding the office enjoys them. On ceasing to hold it, he forfeits them, though his fitness remains the same. With all respect, therefore, to the high authorities quoted, I am unable to see what force there is in their argument.

Lastly, I would refer to the third objection, namely, that the privilege at present enjoyed by Europeans is an anomaly. The numerous personal laws and privileges of the Hindus and Muhammadans are surely greater anomalies. Is it not an anomaly that Native men should be exempted from personal appearance in a Civil Court, a privilege not enjoyed by the very highest European official or nobleman? Is it not an anomaly that, as mentioned by Sir Louis Jackson, a vakil who had practised 30 years in the Civil Courts should on his retirement be exempted from personal appearance in such Courts? Is it not an anomaly that Native women should be so exempt when not the highest English European lady in the land possesses that privilege? Is it not an anomaly that a Court should be debarred from seeing the demeanour of a witness, considering the express provisions of the law (section 363 of the Code), which enacts that the Judge or Magistrate *shall* record such remarks as he thinks material respecting the demeanour of a witness?

Is it not an anomaly that the highest European cannot hold land in the same *Province* in which he is serving, whereas a Native is permitted to hold land in the same *district* in which he is serving, even though he may be Settlement Officer or Deputy Collector? Is it not an anomaly that infants should be permitted to marry? Is it not worse than an anomaly—nay, almost a crime—that a girl, if she is not under 10 years of age, may be sacrificed to marriage? Was not a child killed in this way in Silhat, and the husband was acquitted, because it could not be proved whether the child was just under 10 or not? Is not this barbarity sanctioned by section 375 of the Penal Code, while at the same time for persons not husbands it is criminal to let to hire, &c., a girl under 16 (*vide* sections 372-373, Indian Penal Code)?

Is it not an anomaly that favour should be shown to pure Natives at the Roorkee College to the prejudice of Eurasians, who should combine in themselves the united privileges of the Europeans and the Natives from whom they originally sprung?

Is it not an anomaly that the commonest Native, should he happen to be a sepoy, should enjoy the privilege of being tried by a first class Magistrate, whereas the highest and most respectable Native in the land is liable to be tried by a third class Magistrate?

But it would be an endless job to record all the anomalies existing; and, if common Natives, who are sepoys, are to be so tenderly treated and the best trial secured to them, is it unreasonable that Europeans should make the same claims and be privileged to get the best trial, namely, that by a person of their own race and colour and habits of thought and feeling?

But what object is to be gained by removing one anomaly and leaving numberless others? Europeans will still have special Courts; they will still be liable to diminished punishments by Courts other than High Courts; they will still be able to appeal from a fine of one

anna, although a Native, punished on summary trial, will not be able to appeal from a sentence of three months' rigorous imprisonment.

Next, as to section 2. There is no doubt a great deal to be said in favour of allowing Sessions Judges and District Magistrates who are Natives to try Europeans. I am myself of opinion that there would be no serious objection to this. But here again I would say that it would be a pure "concession," reasonable enough, no doubt; still I doubt whether the step is actually *necessary* at the present moment. We have the authority of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for saying that, "in all his experience in India, the present is unmistakeably the strongest, most united and unanimous expression of popular discontent that he has ever witnessed." In the face of the deep and universal current of feeling disclosed by the agitation, I think it would be most inexpedient to grant even this concession just now, although I admit it is justifiable in more ways than one. What is the counterbalancing advantage contemplated? None. Will any reasonable person contend that the alteration in the law will, in the remotest conceivable degree, improve the moral, social or material prosperity of the Natives? We know on the highest authority that the moral, intellectual and political advance of the Natives depends upon the existence of harmonious relations between the two races. Is the success of the local self-government scheme to be imperilled by the creation of race-antagonism? Are the endless evils already caused, and those which may be caused in the future, counterbalanced by the removal of a sentimental grievance? Surely it must be evident to all what mischief has already been caused by the mere prospect of a change in the law.

I cannot conclude without making one point clear, as I do not desire to be misunderstood. What I wish to bring into prominent notice is that Natives are, from circumstances over which they have no control, incompetent and unfit to try Europeans in all cases (of course, in many cases there may be no difficulty of the sort). I do not for a moment insinuate that the Natives would *wilfully* pass improper judgments. They may be as just and as impartial as Europeans, but their unfitness is caused by their ignorance of European manners and customs. Natives may be as trustworthy and as honourable as Europeans, but it is no fault of theirs that they cannot understand Europeans. The fact, however, is undeniable, and this difficulty cannot be got over. And another point for consideration is this. The conferment of jurisdiction over Europeans on Natives will be a doubtful boon even for the latter. If a Native had to try a European of high standing, would he not be nervously anxious to acquit? The orders of Magistrates are upset by Judges, and those of Judges by High Courts, while those of the last are upset by the Privy Council. If a Native knew that his conviction of a European might possibly be upset on appeal, would he not be gravely apprehensive of being charged with a race-feeling, and of convicting on this account an innocent European? If the High Court or Judge were to upset such a conviction, would there not be a fearful outcry that an innocent European had been sacrificed to the animosity of the Natives? In the notorious Meres' case, would a Native, in the face of the conflicting testimony, have ventured to convict? In truth, whenever the conviction of a European by a Native was upset, on each occasion there would arise ill-feeling and animosity; and a few such cases occurring would be enough to produce grave political disturbances. It is the knowledge of these facts which would render a Native nervous, and so prevent him from convicting a European whom another European would not hesitate to punish. The European Judge would know that *he* was not exposed to evil insinuation; his action (if mistaken) would not at least be misconstrued. It is on these grounds also, I think, that the proposed jurisdiction of the Natives is objectionable.

In conclusion, I beg to apologise for any expression in this letter which may be deemed unbecoming or intemperate. The question at issue is one of the gravest and deepest political significance, and it may be that I have written in stronger terms than are necessary. But the instructions in your circular are that the "expression of my opinion should be as frank and as independent as possible." I have accordingly written without any reserve whatever.

No. 344, dated 24th April, 1883.

From—J. J. S. DRIBERG, Esq., Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara,

To—The Commissioner, Assam Valley Districts.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Macpherson's circular No. 21 of the 5th April, 1883, Judicial Department, forwarding for an expression of opinion a copy of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code.

2. It is a difficult matter to say anything for or against the Bill without going over old ground, and reiterating what has been written over and over again in the various newspapers, both by its supporters and its opponents.

3. I have no objection to urge to the principle of the Bill. I think it is a good one, and is the natural consequence of Natives of India receiving a high class education and obtaining high offices under the States. Before long Native members of the Civil Service must in the ordinary course become Magistrates of districts; and, as such, they must be entrusted with powers to try all classes of cases and all classes of offenders. It would be invidious to hold that a Native District Magistrate should not try certain persons, but that his assistant should have that power, because he is a European British subject. I do not think that the former would be

more liable to commit an error of judgment than the latter in ordinary cases that come before Magistrates. I know that all this has been said before, but, to my mind, it is the one and only argument in favour of the Bill. I allow it is a strong one too; but, in the face of the hostility it has elicited, I do not think the Government should proceed with the Bill. At any rate, if the Bill is to be read again, I think it should be limited to Native Civil Servants who are or may be District Magistrates or Sessions Judges, and should not be extended to Native Civil Servants generally or the other persons mentioned in paragraph 1. I suggest this in case it is proposed to press the Bill; but, as I have said, I would not advise this course on account of its unpopularity.

4. I enclose copy of report from Mr. Metcalfe, the Sub-divisional Officer of Goalpara.

No. 25, dated 13th April, 1883.

From—H. H. METCALFE, Esq., Sub-divisional Officer, Goalpara,

To—The Deputy Commissioner, Goalpara.

With reference to your memorandum No. 289 of the 9th instant, asking me for my opinion on the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill, I have the honour to say that I consider the Bill a good Bill in principle, but I do not think it ought to be adopted in face of the hostility it has excited between the European and the Native. Race-feeling is running high at present, and it might possibly affect a Native Magistrate's mind in his judicial dealing with Europeans.

No. 191 J., dated 22nd May, 1883.

From—A. C. CAMPBELL, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular No. 21, dated 5th April 1883, Judicial Department, forwarding for an expression of opinion a copy of the Bill for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code.

2. The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill fails to show any adequate reason for its introduction. After reciting that it was thought anomalous that Natives of India admitted to the Covenanted Service and held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties should be deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace, the Statement proceeds to declare the intention of the Government of India to remove the present bar upon the investment of Native Magistrates in the interior with power over European British subjects, and abolish completely every disqualification which is based on race-distinctions. The Statement does not show that any administrative necessity has arisen calling for so wide a change in the law. There has been no failure or miscarriage of justice demanding a remedy, neither was the measure sought for by any section of the Native community. The proposal emanated from a single Native Civilian, and the disqualification which he proposed to do away with is one of which he was fully cognisant when he entered the service.

The importance of this disqualification has been greatly exaggerated, for, arising, as it does, from social reasons, it throws no slight whatever on the persons disqualified.

3. In declaring its intention to place European British subjects under the jurisdiction of Natives in the Mofussil, the Government of India appears to have overlooked the fact that it could only do so by depriving them of a right which they have long enjoyed; and I may venture to say that, if such a right had been enjoyed by Mahomedans or Hindus, so important a declaration of spoliation on the part of the State would have been likely to cause the greatest commotion throughout India among the members of the nationality affected. The Government of India do not appear to have anticipated the widespread opposition which the proposed measure would excite—an opposition which is all the more entitled to consideration, because it proceeds from the most law-abiding and intelligent section of the community. That opposition does not appear to me either mistaken or fictitious. The chief grounds alleged by the European community against the Bill appear to me reasonable and deserving of the most careful consideration of Government.

I would beg to call special attention to the fact that the opposition to the present Bill is not confined to the class principally affected by it, but extends to all those communities and nationalities, who were conspicuous by loyal support of our rule during the mutiny. Armenians, Greeks, domiciled Europeans of other nationalities, all seem keenly sensitive to the importance of the present measure as affecting the prestige of British supremacy in India.

4. Considering the mischief the proposal has already caused, and the great excitement which prevails while it remains nominally pending in Council, I should be prepared to recommend its formal withdrawal at an early date.

No. 49 G., dated 18th April, 1883.

From—H. C. WILLIAMS, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Darrang,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

With reference to your Circular No. 21 of the 5th April, asking for an opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, I have the honour to reply that

I consider the Bill to be bad in many respects, and to be also very unnecessary. In the first place, I fail certainly to see what changes have taken place since the Bill for the new Criminal Procedure Code was introduced in 1881. If the Government of India then thought it so necessary and so advisable to give to Native Magistrates the power to try Europeans, why was it not included then, and not deferred to this year? If it was not then necessary, whence has the necessity arisen now? Personally I fail to see the necessity, either then or now, of a Bill like the present, which will practically give Local Governments authority to invest any officer with power to try Europeans. It is quite true that there is an apparent anomaly in the fact that Mr. Gupta as Presidency Magistrate may try Europeans, while his compeer Mr. Dutt, though in charge of a district, may not; and I quite sympathise with the few gentlemen who, having passed the same examination as European Magistrates, find themselves not invested with the same magisterial powers, though in the matter of their civil funds they have acquired the same advantages as their European compeers. But, allowing this to be a hardship, there can be no possible reason why what may be possibly a sweeping change should be introduced, as is now proposed in the amendment. If the Government of India consider that the five or six Covenanted Civilians who have passed in England should be given power to try Europeans, a Bill might have been especially introduced for them, on the understanding that such powers should not be given to others hereafter in the same way. If I remember correctly, special rules have been made in the Bengal Civil Fund to prevent other Native Civilians acquiring all the possible advantages the earlier Civilians may do.

In this case there would have been some opposition, but it would have been recognised as a special case, and there would not have been the steady determined opposition to the Bill which there now is. Admitting, therefore, that, *primâ facie*, there are some grounds for giving the Native Covenanted Civilians the powers now proposed, there is no possible reason why the classes (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) should be included in the Bill. At present, the possible persons are very few, one of those affected being an intimate friend of mine, and on whom I should have no objection to see the powers conferred; but there is always the danger that some future Government may pass an amendment that Assistant Commissioners are to include Extra Assistant Commissioners. And there is no doubt that, as far as the Province of Assam is concerned, it is this feeling which has led in fact to the opposition shown.

There are many Extra Assistants who, I am confident, would make good use of those powers; but there are most certainly a good many who would do the very reverse, while possibly acting quite within the law. In fact, I fail to see the slightest possible excuse for including classes (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) in the Bill. To return to class (*a*), the next point to consider is whether to oblige a certain small number, it is fair to the European community to deprive them of a long-standing and almost world-existing privilege.

There is undoubtedly a great deal of sentiment in the opposition to the Bill; but is there also not a great deal of false sentiment, arising from the radical theories of the quality of all men, on the part of those who hold that these powers should be given? At the time these gentlemen went to England, they knew then there was no probability of the powers now asked for being bestowed upon them, and therefore the disabilities they now lie under are not new or not unexpected. I quite admit that there may be cases in which it will be found very inconvenient for Collectors and Sessions Judges not to have powers to try Europeans; but the time has hardly arrived, and the character of the present Bill, and the opposition which it has created, will make it now more difficult than ever to legislate when occasion requires; for there is no doubt that the opposition is not temporary or factious, but steady and determined. No body can doubt that a large majority of officials sympathise with their non-official Europeans in their protests against the Bill, and perhaps, had they been consulted, the Government of India would not have now found itself in the dilemma it now is.

I have heard the objection taken that, as Native Judges try civil cases in which Europeans are concerned with satisfaction to all concerned, there would be no harm in extending the same power in criminal cases; but those who bring forward these objections entirely forget that, in civil cases, arrest can always be avoided for a time at least, while in criminal cases it follows at once on the case being decided, or even in its being instituted: there is no possible analogy between the two.

As regards the Native population generally, it is quite certain they take no interest in the Bill. A respectable Native in nine cases out of ten prefers to be tried by a European to a Native Magistrate.

In conclusion, therefore, I respectfully beg to enter a protest against the Bill on the grounds that, as far as classes (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) are concerned, it is quite unnecessary, while, with regard to class (*a*), the claims of the individual officers and the advantages to be derived from investing them with powers are outweighed by the disadvantages arising from the ignoring of what is esteemed by the majority of Englishmen a long-standing and valued right of trial by their fellow-countrymen. I forward the reply of the Sub-divisional Officer of Mangaldai in original.

No. 230, dated 13th April, 1883.

From—A. J. PRIMROSE, Esq., Assistant Commissioner, Mangaldai,

To—The Deputy Commissioner, Darrang.

With reference to your memorandum No. 27 I., forwarding copy of Circular No. 21 of 5th April, asking for criticism on the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, I have the honour

to state that I consider the Bill as bad in principle and one which should not be adopted even if it were not unpopular. In all the discussion excited by the Bill I have not as yet discovered any reply to negative Sir Fitzjames Stephen's maxim, that, in deciding the Court for the trial of an accused, the feelings of the accused and not those of the Judge should be kept in view. As I feel certain that an Englishman would strongly object to his being put on trial before a Native Magistrate, I have no hesitation in condemning the Bill without reserve, as likely to cause infinite disgust to the persons who are affected by it, without any counterbalancing advantage either to Europeans or to Natives. In my opinion, the better class of Natives neither wished for the Bill to be introduced, nor care to see it passed through the Council.

Dated 4th June, 1883.

From—COLONEL T. LAMB, Deputy Commissioner, Nowgong,

To—The Commissioner, Assam Valley Districts.

With reference to the Chief Commissioner's Circular No. 21, dated 3rd ultimo, calling for a frank and independent opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction by Natives over European British subjects, which has been vehemently opposed by the influential body of non-official Europeans throughout the country. Since the introduction of the Bill, the Native Press has shown such a violent race-antagonism to exist amongst that class of Natives from whom the Covenanted Civil Service is likely to be largely recruited, that the impolicy of the measure is placed beyond doubt, and would, of itself, justify the withdrawal of the measure, the Council not being aware of such a deep-seated hostility at the time the Bill was laid before it. So long as false cases can be easily trumped up, and as easily supported by false evidence, Europeans living, as they do, isolated in the Mufassal would be menaced with serious danger at every turn. They could not condescend to the same unscrupulous methods by which such cases are conducted by Natives; it would be like putting a man with a walking-cane to defend himself against a well-armed and experienced swordsman. To expose our fellow-countrymen and women to trial by the class of Natives alluded to would be unjust in the extreme.

3. During my experience of some 30 years, I have found European British subjects to have such a scrupulous regard for the rights of the Natives, that it would be unjust to deprive them of the much-cherished right of trial by their own countrymen, more especially as no inconvenience has been experienced owing to Native Magistrates not exercising the power which the Bill proposes to confer on them. The few Europeans who may commit offences can be easily dealt with by European Magistrates, in whom the Natives themselves have full confidence.

4. With regard to the "Objects and Reasons" of the Bill, I do not think it follows necessarily that, because Natives have been found qualified to exercise the highest judicial functions among their own countrymen, they are also qualified to be vested with the powers of a Justice of the Peace, and to exercise such powers over European British subjects. It might as well be argued that, because a bucolic can drive a plough, he is also qualified to mount a drag and drive a team of thorough-breds.

No. 441E., dated 30th April, 1883.

From—COLONEL A. E. CAMPBELL, Deputy Commissioner, Sibsagar,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular No. 21, dated 5th instant, in which you ask for my opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code.

2. The introduction of the Bill was, in my opinion, an unwise measure; for, although it may be the wish of Parliament (I say Parliament, because the Bill is the outcome of the Government policy admitting Natives of India to the Civil Service) to remove from the Code every judicial disqualification based merely on race-distinctions, yet the hostility evinced towards it, and which has appeared in the public prints, shows conclusively that race antagonism is only dormant, and that it only requires a measure of this kind to open old wounds and produce friction between the races.

In this district, there have been two largely attended meetings of the planters, and the resolutions condemning the Bill passed at these meetings have been published in the *Englishman*.

I cannot but think that those who are in favour of the Bill look at it from a Presidency town point of view, and ignore, or are ignorant of, the life of a European British subject in the Mufassal.

Any one acquainted with Mufassal life knows how easily and how often false charges are got up, and a solitary European is sometimes at the mercy of false witnesses. Now, with all due respect for the Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, I would submit that their early training, their short residence in Europe and their mode of life in this country do not fit them to sit in judgment on an Anglo-Saxon in the Mufassal; and I do not think they could enter into or understand the feelings and customs of an Englishman.

4. My remarks above refer only to Covenanted Native Civilians who have been to Europe, but they apply with still greater force to those members of the Native Civil Service who have not been to Europe, and who are included in the Bill.

5. There are European British subjects to be found in the Mufassal, both Irish, Scotch and English, whose speech would hardly be understood by the Native Civilian, who in the course of his life has never met with such but gauges all Englishmen by the standard of those he has met with in the course of his studies. I need hardly say that, if such British subjects were tried in the Mufassal by a Native Magistrate, although they did belong to the lower orders, yet their feelings ought to be understood and consulted, and this the presiding Magistrate could not do, and the result might be the judicial bench would be brought into contempt.

6. As far as my experience goes, all Englishmen are most jealous of their privilege to be judged by their peers; and in a country like this, where the Natives are of different races, and filled with every prejudice caste and religion can create, the introduction of the Bill is fraught with much future embarrassment and danger; and I therefore think it ought to be withdrawn.

Dated 3rd May, 1883.

From—MAJOR H. J. PEET, Deputy Commissioner, Lakhimpur,

To—The Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular No. 21, dated 5th April 1883, calling on me for a frank expression of my views on the provisions of the Criminal Code Amendment Bill.

2. You have indicated three lines on which the matter might be discussed—*1st*, that the Bill is good, and therefore must be passed *coûte que coûte*; *2nd*, that is bad, and therefore must not be passed; *3rd*, that, though good, it is unnecessary, and therefore should be withdrawn. I think there is a fourth view, which may and ought to be considered, and that is that, whether bad or good, the Bill must now, for political reasons, be withdrawn as speedily as possible.

3. It is simply impossible to exaggerate the ill that the introduction of this Bill has caused in an outlying district like this. I came out to India in 1860, when the old mutiny feeling was still strong. I learned my drill in the ruins of a bungalow at Agra, from which one of my elder brother officers and his family had escaped with difficulty from the mutineers. Natives were treated with scant courtesy in those days, but still there was no such feeling of intense bitterness as there is now between us and them, not even at Agra, Lucknow, nor Cawnpore. The feeling then was—I remember it well—that the natives had struck a blow for themselves, and had failed, and there was something of admiration for them in spite of the atrocities committed here and there. Gradually all feelings of bitterness expired, as things resumed their quiet course, and men began to half laugh at the ebullition of 1857-58, after the manner of Englishmen who have fought and done with it, or shook hands with our late enemies, and were perhaps better friends than before. Of late years, however, the policy of Government has been such as to put a stop to all *rapprochement* between the races. Quietly, insidiously but steadily, the so-called liberal policy has been introduced. I say *so-called*, because this is a matter which has nothing whatever to do with the party politics of England, which country of course bears no resemblance whatever to India. It is a policy expressly invented for India. Its base is empiricism, pure and simple; its avowed object, economy and removal of anomalies. Mistaken ideas of philanthrophy have taken the place of sound statesmanship. Parsimony has been substituted for judicious economy. Who is likely to be the better carpenter—he who buys the best tools procurable, or he who provides himself with cheap makeshifts? It has been declared in deed, if not in word, that all men in this country of diverse nationalities (of all places in the world) are equal—than which perhaps no more foolish proposition was ever enunciated. I would hold that no two men are equal—certainly no two races: and if the question lie between the Natives of India and Englishmen, the matter of superiority, physical, mental and moral, is simply not worth the arguing. Bengalis may be superficially more clever, more apt in picking up the rudiments of a subject, but I never in the 23 years I have been in this country saw a really clever Bengali. Some of the warlike races may be as strong physically as our people, but they lack real intellect. And as for morals, what can be expected from an Asiatic cult? Ignoring all this, the Government have gradually ruled that Natives should replace Europeans in as many posts as it is at present safe to entrust to them. I wonder that the very fact of their having to make this reservation was not sufficient to deter the Government from pursuing their suicidal course. Where lies the danger of entrusting posts of authority to Natives? Honestly answered, the reply is *rebellion*, nothing less nor more. Then, if it is unsafe now to trust Natives, how much more unsafe will it not be when we have educated them and trained them to combined actions? Every one must know this, conceal the knowledge how he may; and year by year every one has felt this sensation of insecurity more and more; year by year more concessions have been made to Natives; year by year the prestige of the Englishman has been lowered—that prestige by which and by our bayonets alone we hold the country, till at last we have Natives on the High Court Benches, and in the Legislative Council, and elsewhere. All this was borne silently, or nearly so, though we who live amongst non-officials know something of the spirit in which these signs of the times have been taken and read. The Native Press throughout the country chuckled at what it

could not believe to be our generosity, but thought to be our pusillanimity. The English Press as a rule maintained a dignified silence; the English papers, in fact, "behaved very well," as a member of Council puts it. Still the breach between the people was widening every day, and now at last comes a distinct cause of quarrel—a battle-gage thrown down. There can be no mistake whatever about the English having picked up the glove. As for the Natives, I do not believe that one in ten thousand, or perhaps in a hundred thousand, knows anything *at present* about the quarrel, but those who do are no less eager for the fray than the English. It is a question not of Bábú this or that having the power to try Europeans; it is a question of "izzat—" the question on which the typical Native will beggar himself and his family rather than give in. The Government have flattered and petted and promised all things to the Native; they educate him almost gratis; they retain all his old privileges and give him more; they surrounded him with all kinds of protective laws against the rapacity and brutality of the European, until at last he really thinks *he is* the European's superior, and that he is within a reasonable distance of seeing India in the hands of the Indians. On the other hand, Englishmen have at last awakened to all these facts. Men who have sunk their fortunes and spent their lives in this country see now to what we are tending, and they have put their feet down and said—"Thus far shall this policy go and no farther."

4. But it is no use saying, as I see some of the journals say, that this a question only between Europeans and the Government. It is distinctly a question (as the Native papers readily recognise) between Europeans and Natives.

5. I hold that it is a question which should never have been raised, but, whether I am right or wrong in this view, I think there cannot be two opinions as to the necessity for *the speedy* withdrawal of the Bill. Be it in its inception good or bad, it has roused, and its countenance before the public is rousing, such hostile feelings between the races that the sooner it is consigned to oblivion the better.

6. By saying this I do not wish it to be inferred that I have no arguments against the Bill. I could adduce what I consider the very strongest argument to show that it is bad, and that, even if good, it is utterly unnecessary. But arguments of this kind can be found in almost all the papers in this country and in England, and in the speeches of some of the members of the legislature, and they have been put forward much more forcibly and eloquently than I could propound them, and therefore I consider that it would be mere waste of time to enter further on the subject. The only argument in its favour that now seems to be pressed is the "administrative convenience" one. One hardly knows whether to smile at the audacity which produces such an argument as applicable to the present state of things (every one of course knowing perfectly well that there is absolutely no inconvenience whatever), or to weep at the shortsightedness of the policy which is quoted in favour of the argument, namely, that in the course of years a large proportion—one-sixth—of the Civil Service must be Natives. I would most respectfully reply that "I do not see the necessity." I know this is the line laid down by Her Majesty's Government; but it does not follow that it may not be rescinded. The Government will not, I suppose, deny that it can raise the percentage to two-sixths or more. Can it not also reduce it one-twelfth or to *nil*? If it is shown, as it undeniably has been shown, that Englishmen will not have this amendment, and if the benevolent but mistaken policy of the Home Government will cause administrative inconvenience, the remedy is obvious—let the policy be changed.

Dated 30th April, 1883.

From—Colonel W. S. Clarke, Deputy Commissioner, Khási and Jaintia Hills,

To— The Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Assam.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular No. 21, dated 5th April 1883, Judicial Department, forwarding a copy of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, and requesting an expression of opinion on its provisions.

The Bill is strongly opposed, it is stated, by the influential body of non-official Europeans in the country, and it is desired that the views taken may be stated with precision in order that the Government may thoroughly understand on what grounds it is recommended that the Bill should or should not be persevered with.

2. Three principal lines of thought, it is suggested, may be followed in considering the merits or demerits of the Bill,—one, that the Bill is a good one, and the opposition to it so mistaken or factitious, that it will subside when sound reason resumes its sway; the second, that the Bill is bad in principle, and should not be adopted even if it were not unpopular; and the third, that the Bill, though sound in principle, is not of much importance, and that it would be unwise to proceed with it in the face of the genuine hostility which it has elicited. Further, it is suggested that, if thought necessary, the details of the Bill itself may be criticised.

In the third paragraph of your letter it is requested that the expression of opinion should be as frank and independent as possible.

These instructions allow of full liberty in dealing with the subject.

3. As a fact, not only are the influential body of Europeans opposed to the Bill, *but the entire population of non-officials throughout India;* and, if my experience and knowledge serves me to good purpose, I think it will be found that the majority of the official classes are equally strongly opposed to its introduction; it is a national, not a class, question at all.

4. I cannot conceive that the present opposition is of a description which will be overcome by time and the passing away of the excitement which has been caused. It cannot be supposed that it is either mistaken or factitious; indeed, it is very real, and there can be no mistake as to their opinions on the part of those who have been prominent in leading public opinion on the matter—men of education, experience and long residence in the country, who know well what they think, and why they think it. There is no reason to suppose the feeling will pass away; indeed, there is, on the contrary, every reason to suppose it will be increased until the European public are satisfied that the Bill is to be withdrawn; and then, it is to be feared, a feeling of distrust, which is very much to be deplored, will remain.

5. I do not think it would be good in principle to allow that the Bill is not of much importance; it is a measure affecting very closely the interest of the whole body of Europeans in India, and every European individually; and to decide whether it is, or is not, to become law by simply attributing unimportance to it, would be practically to beg the question. It should be now, once and for all, settled whether the principles inculcated by this Bill are applicable under the circumstances of our rule and the position of Europeans in India, so that the latter may rest for ever satisfied that the Government of India will not again, in any time which can at present be foreseen, urge the adoption of a measure which will make Europeans in India triable before Native Magistrates and Judges in the Mufassal.

6. In generations to come, when, by education, morality, character and civilisation, the Natives of India, *men and women*, become equals of Englishmen and women; when England and India are united as practically one nation; when the two peoples live together; when the existing hatred of the Christian religion and caste-prejudices disappear; when the lives of the two peoples, their modes of thought, their manners and their morality conform more to each other—such a result might be deemed natural; but this is a question of the remote future—a future so distant as not in the present time to make the question worthy of serious discussion.

7. I would not argue in respect of the Bill on the point of principle at all, or, at all events, not solely. Good policy as well as principles must necessarily be considered in connection with the introduction of all important legislative measures in India; and on the score of good policy the Bill most certainly cannot, it seems to me, recommend itself to Europeans of experience and knowledge and long residence in the country.

There is, in the first place, no necessity calling for an amendment of the law in this direction. Theoretically, there would be greater administrative convenience; theoretically and on principle, it appears right that no disqualification should exist on the part of the Native Judge or Magistrate. But are the natural feelings of the European to be entirely overlooked? Is the fact of the isolated position of the European in the Mufassal, and the special protection which is his due under the circumstances, necessary indeed to permit him to exist out here in safety, and to work for his subsistence, after having laid out his capital in the country, perhaps expecting to stay a lifetime in it, is the privilege heretofore enjoyed, of being subject to trial only before his own countrymen, not to be considered, and considered seriously? Is the *prestige* of the European, a very important factor in the discussion, to be lowered? For no one of experience can say that, in truth and reality, it will not be lowered, and that the Natives themselves will not consider it to be so. The *prestige* of the European is a very valuable aid and strength to the Government in India, and any measure which tends to lower that *prestige* tends to weaken the Government and its hold on the country and the people. It will be argued probably that such a measure will not humiliate the European; will not lower him in the eyes of the Natives of India. To this I reply that no person who has had a sufficiently long experience in the country, and been closely and for years in contact with its people, and has a knowledge of their character and habits, and knows how they have hitherto regarded the Europeans as belonging to a vastly superior race,—a race strong, humane, just and honest,—and how they regard their own people as wanting in all these qualities, would argue in such a strain; and the fact is, that persons wanting in the kind of experience required are totally unfit to judge in such a matter. They have no knowledge of conditions as they really exist, no appreciation of the position, and cannot understand why principles applicable to a wholly different state of affairs should not apply to the state of affairs in India.

8. The particular reasons given for bringing forward the amendment are the removal of an anomaly, administrative convenience and the impartial administration of justice. But anomalies must exist; they exist in India in every direction; they exist at home in England; they exist throughout the world.

Similarly, administrative inconveniences exist in almost every department, but such inconveniences are suffered, unless serious and calling for speedy removal. Urgency cannot be pleaded in this case most certainly; for many years to come Native Civilians might profitably be employed in districts where there are no Europeans, and there must be a very large number of such districts, and the appointment of Natives to districts especially suitable on this ground for their employment would be a much more reasonable mode of meeting the difficulty than amending a law which has after years of preparation only just come into force, and investing Natives with the power to try Europeans.

The impartial administration of justice is in no way affected by the Bill, and why any such reason was urged in the deliberation on the Bill in Council is inconceivable.

The desire to have this power on the part of a few Native Civilians, or the desire on the

part of the Government in recognition of their education and general qualifications and position to confer it, are no good reasons. The whole question of the position of the European in India; the character not of the Native Judge, but of the Natives of the country generally, and the dangers and injustice to which a European would be liable to be exposed, must be considered; and lastly, the question of good policy, considering and acknowledging the truth as regards the basis on which British rule in India rests. England governs India by force of arms; and, however beneficent our rule, and however much we may wish the contrary were the case, this cogent fact must not, until it shall cease to be a fact, fail to be regarded. So long as England holds India by the sword, so long it is useless and unprofitable to talk of doing away with race-distinctions; the maintenance of race-distinction would be the more consistent policy.

No. 420, dated 28th May, 1883.

From—Captain H. St. P. Maxwell, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Garo Hills,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your circular No. 21 of 5th ultimo, asking for an expression of opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, introduced into the Council of the Governor General of India in February last.

2. In reply, I would state that, unless a very serious administrative difficulty arises, I would not recommend the adoption of the Bill. It stands to reason that an Englishman must understand an Englishman's ways of acting and thinking better than a Native of India, even if that Native of India was born and bred in England: the advantages become greatly enhanced when the latter has only resided in the foreigner's country for a far shorter period.

3. The Government of India, as is the case with the Government of any country where the governors and governed are of a different race and colour, is entirely dependent on the strength of its right arm. The word "loyalty," when referring to two peoples of this kind, has a different meaning: in the case of an European British subject, it means a fond heart towards the rulers of his own flesh and blood, whether they are in the ascendant or down in the mire; but the Natives of India can only be loyal to the Government of Great Britain so long as that Government is in power; overthrow that Government by a Government of their own, and I think he would be a coward indeed who would twit a man for transferring his affection to his own kith and kin.

4. However unpalatable may be the admission, the Government of India is the sword tempered by justice and mercy to the inhabitants of whatever colour or creed; it is impossible to suppose, with the agitation of the past four months before us, that the European British subject considers justice will be gained by permitting the Natives of India to hold criminal jurisdiction over him anywhere in the country; he fears greatly the result, for he knows that the tendency of a certain political creed is to level up, which in the present instance is to level down; and he also is aware that it is not possible for the Government in power to-day to bind its successors to-morrow. If the power to try the leading race is given to the few Natives to-day, it will be allowed to the many to-morrow, and the end of it will be that the non-official European will flee the country.

5. If the Natives of India are anxious to be tried by their own countrymen, by all means let them have their wish; but, as far as my experience goes of this country, the right of holding criminal jurisdiction over the conquering race is not desired by the Natives of India as a body, but is asked for by a few persons, who are of a people the reverse of brave, who are disloyal to the core, and who would be driven into the sea to-morrow if India was ruled as a colony.

6. I hope I may be forgiven for writing so plainly, but the Chief Commissioner in his circular advocates frank and independent comment; and I do so feeling confident that, if the amendment to the Bill is carried and the Bill passes into law, a great blow will be given to our *prestige* in India, and the hearts of 99 per cent. of the Europeans in the country will be filled with the utmost horror and dread.

No. 95, dated 9th May, 1883.

From—R. B. McCabe, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Naga Hills,

To—The Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular No. 21, dated the 5th ultimo, forwarding copy of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, and in reply I beg to express my opinion on its provisions as follows:—

2. The Bill, in my opinion, is of too wide and sweeping a nature. Had the proposed change been limited, in the first instance, to the investment of Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service only with powers over European British subjects, I believe that very little opposition would have been raised. The formidable array of four classes whom it is proposed to create Justices of the Peace has caused European non-officials to see a future Judge in every subordinate Native official, and has engendered the bitter hostility to the Bill evinced by the tea-planters of Assam.

3. I have had five years' experience in two of the most important tea-districts of the Assam Valley, namely, Lakhimpur and Sibsagar; and during the whole of that period I mixed freely with the European planters. The one idea is that no Native can be an honest man, and that no decision at which he arrives is uninfluenced by bribery or personal considerations. Their opposition to the Bill, however much mistaken it may be, is not factitious, and, in my opinion, will strengthen with time.

The conditions of a planter's life tend materially to the creation of the spirit of hostility displayed against the Bill. Alone in an outlying garden, with none but Natives around him, he becomes dogmatical, and to a certain extent tyrannical. Underlying his confidence to his own powers there is always a latent fear that a false charge may at any time be brought against him.

This fear has hitherto been minimised by his knowledge that he would have a fellow-countryman for Judge, but now he sees looming in the future false charges preferred before a truculent and alien Magistrate incapable of entering into his habits and mode of thought.

4. The Bill has elicited genuine hostility, and the advantages to be derived from passing it will be more than counterbalanced by the irritation which it will engender.

5. Considered as a link in the chain of measures for the progressive advance of the government of this country, the Bill may be important, but I consider that the advantages to be derived from it independently are so insignificant that I would strongly urge that it be withdrawn.

No. 100, dated 23rd June, 1883.

From—Shivram Hary Sathe and S. T. T. Chiplunkar, Secretaries, Puna Sarvajanik Sabha,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

We are directed by the Managing Committee of the Puna Sarvajanik Sabha to forward to you the accompanying memorial to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council on the subject of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, and to request you to lay the same before His Excellency in Council for his favourable consideration.

Dated 23rd June, 1883.

To—His Excellency the Most Noble the Marquis of Ripon, *K.G., G.M.S.I.*,
Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

The Humble Memorial of the Native Inhabitants of the City and Cantonment of Puna in public meeting assembled

Most respectfully sheweth,—That your memorialists have watched with great interest the progress of the Native Magistrates' Jurisdiction Bill, which was introduced in the Supreme Legislative Council in February last, and which was on the 9th of March last referred to the Local Governments for the detailed consideration of the provisions of the Bill.

Your memorialists do not regret the delay which this further reference has caused in the final passage of the Bill through the Council. As several provisions of the Bill have provoked a violent panic and opposition in an important section of the community, this further reference is in consonance with the declared policy of Your Excellency's Government to allow a full hearing to all parties concerned in any proposed legislative measure. As the Local Governments have already approved of the principle of the Bill, your memorialists feel a just confidence that they will re-affirm the wisdom and justice of the proposed legislation, and suggest such improvements as will consistently carry out the traditional policy of Her Majesty's Government in India. Your Excellency has declared from your seat in the Council that no violence, misrepresentation or menace will ever induce Government to swerve from the path of duty, and this noble assurance satisfies your memorialists that, notwithstanding the violent agitation in certain quarters, the proposed amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure will ere long become the law of the land.

The present opposition to the measure has had its counterpart on previous occasions whenever the Government proposed any change in the law by which the invidious distinctions of race and colour were likely to be curtailed, and a practical equality of rights and privileges was sought to be established between all classes of Her Majesty's subjects. The opposition is virtually founded upon a claim for the recognition of European British-born subjects as a superior caste with exceptional privileges. This claim, however, has been invariably negatived by Her Majesty's Government whenever it was advanced. The Court of Directors laid down the policy that there shall not be a governing caste in India, and this policy was affirmed by Parliament in 1833, and by the Indian Legislature in 1837, when Europeans were subjected to the civil jurisdiction of the Company's Courts. It was again re-affirmed in 1853, when the Civil Service was opened to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, and in the proclamation of 1858, when a similar declaration was vouchsafed by Her Most Gracious Majesty.

The change now sought to be made was first proposed by the highest authorities in 1849, during the administration of the Marquis of Dalhousie, and again in 1857. The same proposal was again made in 1872, on the occasion of the passing of the Criminal Procedure Code, and, though it was lost by a small minority at the time, the subject could not finally rest on the basis

then adopted, as it was inconsistent with the foundations of British supremacy in India, and the declared policy of the Crown and Parliament. The violent opposition that has been raised in certain quarters only furnishes an additional argument for abolishing all invidious distinctions which, so long as they are retained, demoralise the European section, and create uneasiness and discontent among Her Majesty's Native subjects.

The opposition in the present case is confessedly not so much against the particular measure under consideration as against the general policy followed by the Government of India during the last three years. That policy seeks to improve the political condition of the Native races and to promote their material prosperity. The opponents cling to the idea that several of the measures recently carried out will affect the vested interest and the monopoly of power they claim, and it is this circumstance which has aggravated the ill-feeling displayed by them. It, therefore, becomes more than ever necessary that Your Excellency's Government should persevere in its firm resolve to secure the final success of its noble policy.

Your memorialists will now briefly address themselves to the consideration of some of the principal grounds on which the present opposition is sought to be justified. The first of these grounds is that the privilege of being tried by Magistrates and Judges who are themselves European British subjects is a personal law with Europeans in this country, and that, as the Hindu, Muhammadan and Pársi communities have their own personal laws left intact, they have no reason to complain of the European community continuing to enjoy their privileges under a similar personal law. Your memorialists respectfully submit that such a special pleading is based upon an altogether misconceived notion. The Hindu and Muhammadan and Parsi communities do not, as is taken for granted, enjoy any special privileges whatever so far as criminal jurisdiction is concerned. In civil matters only, where the interests of other classes are in no way concerned, the Hindus and Muhammadans have their own laws, such as matrimonial laws and laws of inheritance and succession; but so do European subjects in India. No one asks for the repeal of the personal laws of inheritance, succession and marriage affecting Europeans as a community. It is to be remembered further that, while the Hindu and Muhammadan and Parsi communities have their own personal laws in common with the European and other communities for the adjudication of certain civil matters affecting them, they enjoy no privilege whatever as to who shall administer those laws. It is one thing to claim the benefits of a personal law, and quite another to claim that persons of a particular birth or nationality, and none other, shall administer that law.

Another ground which is urged against the proposed alteration in the Criminal Procedure Code is that it threatens with extinction the alleged inalienable birthright of Europeans of being tried by their peers. This contention is, your memorialists humbly submit, quite groundless, for this alleged birthright has reference to the trial by jury and not to the race or colour of the presiding Judge or Magistrate. The analogy attempted to be shown in favour of this contention from the practice followed in Turkey, Egypt, China, Japan and other foreign countries, where European subjects enjoy the privilege of being tried by special tribunals presided over by British Consuls, &c., is incorrect and not applicable to the Courts of this country, for the obvious reason that India, governed as she is by England, is not a foreign country with laws of her own. In Ceylon, which is circumstanced exactly as India is, the European settlers enjoy no such special privileges, which fact militates against the alleged inalienable character of the supposed birthright of Europeans. Another circumstance which proves the hollowness and absurdity of the extravagant theory is that, in the presidency-towns, European British subjects enjoy no such privilege, being subject along with their Native fellow-subjects to the criminal jurisdiction of the existing tribunals, no matter whether the presiding Magistrate or Judge be a Native or European. If the right were really inalienable, how can it be alienable in the presidency-towns and inalienable in the mufassal. Moreover, when European British subjects were allowed to settle in India, they were told that they should be subject to the same laws and institutions by which the Natives of the country were governed. Your Excellency's unequivocal declaration from your seat in the Council on the 9th March last, that it will not be your duty to listen to any arguments which were at variance with the declared policy of the British Crown and successive Parliaments, fills your memorialists with hopes that Your Excellency's Government will not swerve from the path of strict duty, but will, on the contrary, stand firm in giving effect to a policy laid down authoritatively and periodically re-affirmed by the Imperial Parliament.

The next argument of the opponents of the measure is that, if the proposed Bill is passed into law, it will deter Europeans from settling in the country, and thereby prevent not only the further investment of British capital in the mufassal, but will even tend to the withdrawal of that already invested. The utter collapse of all attempts to rouse English public opinion against the proposed legislative measure through the English Chambers of Commerce is a clear proof of the untenable character of this argument. As representing British investors of capital in India, these bodies, when appealed to, would not have declined to point out the evil tendencies of the proposed measure in this direction, if there had existed reasonable grounds for that apprehension. Similarly, wild fears were entertained when, nearly half a century ago, the European settlers in this country were subjected for the first time to the civil jurisdiction of the mufassal Courts, but the experience of the last fifty years has practically proved the extravagant character of those fears. Now, throughout the country the entire subordinate judicial service is, as a general rule, recruited from the educated Natives of the country, who

exercise original civil jurisdiction over European as well as Native subjects living within their local jurisdiction. And no suspicion has ever been breathed regarding the character of the administration of justice by these tribunals. Your memorialists, therefore, confidently trust that the same beneficial results will follow from the enactment of the proposed measure, the wisdom of which will be acknowledged not only by posterity but even by the present generation, and the present agitation will cease with the passing of the final decision.

Another argument relied upon by the opponents of the proposed measure is that, if it became law, Native Magistrates and Judges would be swayed by race prejudices in trying European British subjects, and that false charges would be very frequently brought against Europeans by the Natives, who are alleged to be perjurers. It is with the utmost pain that your memorialists refer to this point. It serves to show the evil results of allowing special caste privileges to any particular class of subjects. Your Excellency's memorialists feel confident that Your Excellency's Government will treat with the contempt they deserve the gratuitous libels upon the integrity and honesty of the Native magistracy and upon the national character of the Indian races. If Hindu, Parsi and Muhammadan Magistrates daily administer justice to parties belonging to opposite races without a suspicion being breathed against their integrity and honesty, your memorialists fail to understand the reason why the very same Magistrates should be considered incapable to deal out even-handed justice to European British subjects. That the assertions against the integrity and honesty of Native Magistrates are recklessly made is conclusively shown by the fact that instances are not wanting of European British subjects having voluntarily waived their right of being tried by Magistrates of their own race in favour of Native Magistrates, such instances having occurred even after the present agitation had been set on foot. Again, if the allegations regarding the trumped-up charges supported by false witnesses were true, they would mean that, notwithstanding all the efforts of the British Government and its representatives in this country to bring about a cordial understanding between Europeans and Natives, the latter entertained for the former nothing but unmitigated hatred and hostility—a state of things which the veriest pessimist would not care to endorse. Your memorialists feel convinced that nothing but the natural hauteur and unreasoning pride of belonging to a conquering nation leads a certain class to indulge at times in wild assertions of the nature referred to above, and that the most effectual mode of ensuring the cordiality of feelings between all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in India is to gradually abolish all invidious distinctions founded upon race, colour and creed, so that all may feel their equality in the eyes of law. Thus a constant source of irritation and suspicion between the two classes would be removed, and, as a necessary consequence, the foundations of British rule in India would be greatly strengthened.

In conclusion, your memorialists express an humble hope that the proposed legislative measure will soon be passed into law, without any compromise of the great principle of justice and equity on which it is based.

Dated 21st June 1883.

To—His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India in Council.

The Humble Memorial of the Orissa Association at Cuttack

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your memoralists observe with feelings of gratitude and joy that a Bill to amend Chapter XXXIII of the Criminal Procedure Code, which judicially disqualifies Native Magistrates to try European British subjects in criminal cases, has been introduced into Your Excellency's Council. This step, your memorialists are aware, will tend to remove an invidious distinction and an anomaly in the administration of criminal justice in British India.

2. That your memorialists beg to state, clearly and emphatically, that a measure of this sort has always been in request amongst the Native community, and that they regard this Bill with watchful interests and profound solicitude as one fraught with vital interests to the nation.

3. That your memorialists fervently hope that, under the wise and liberal government of Your Excellency, this just and righteous Bill will ere long be passed into law.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

No. 4026, dated 15th June 1883.

From—The HON'BLE C. GONNE, Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 4005, dated the 14th instant, I am directed to forward in original, for perusal if desired, 46 opinions of the officials consulted by this Government on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, and to request that they may be returned when no longer required.

2. I am to state that copies of the opinions of the Commissioners of divisions have already been transmitted to the Government of India with this Government letter No. 3232, dated the 14th ultimo.

3. The following is an analysis of the opinions of the officials consulted :—

In favour of proceeding with the Bill.	For not proceeding with the Bill.	In favour of confining the jurisdiction to District Magistrates and Sessions Judges.	In favour of confining the jurisdiction to competition civilians.	Suggesting some sort of compromise.	Approving of the principles of the Bill, but thinking its production premature.	Suggesting some modifications.	Total.
4	27	5	2	3	3	2	46

No. 645, dated 13th April, 1883.

From—C. P. H. Shaw, Esq., District Judge, Belgaum,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge Government Resolution No. 2258, dated 2nd instant, calling for my opinion on the proposed amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. I have again considered my letter No. 1072, dated 28th June 1882, and I see no reason to alter the opinion expressed therein. No doubt, the amendment proposed has caused a ferment amongst Englishmen in other provinces of British India, but in the Belgaum district there are only three aged pensioners of the British Army and two English missionaries other than public servants in civil and military employ, and I have had no opportunity of ascertaining what the feeling is amongst unofficial European British subjects in respect of the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code.

3. Assuming that Englishmen throughout British India are opposed to the alteration of procedure, I do not think the fact is any reason for postponing the amendment, so far as the classes named in the Statement of Objects and Reasons are concerned, though it may be, for the present, justification for not extending the Act to all Magistrates, first class, as I advocated.

4. I believe Native Magistrates generally are quite as trustworthy and impartial as are Magistrates in Malta, yet Englishmen in Malta are subject to the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates, and I believe with as little satisfaction, notwithstanding the Maltese Magistrates are Europeans, as they show to Native Magistrates in India (though I am bound to state that, in Malta, Maltese, not English, law is in force). The truth is Englishmen are not as free from race-prejudices as they fancy themselves to be, and this, too, while other races think Englishmen somewhat aggressive.

5. I am not aware that Englishmen are exempted from the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates in Ceylon, the Civil service of which is, I believe, very evenly shared by Singalese and Englishmen; and, before yielding to the clamour of Englishmen in India as evidenced by recent newspaper reports, I would suggest references to the practice in the different dependencies and possessions of Great Britain throughout the world; and whatever the result is, let the general policy of England govern the procedure in India. Neither Englishmen nor Natives of India could then have any just cause of complaint.

No. 2034, dated 10th April, 1883.

From—W. R. Pratt, Esq., District Magistrate of Satara,

To—The Commissioner of the Central Division, Bombay.

I have the honour, with reference to Government Resolution No. 2258 of the 2nd April [illegible], to state that I have nothing further to add to my opinion already contained in my letter No. 2990, dated the 19th May 1882, which was to the effect that the power to deal with Europeans is vested solely in Justices of the Peace, and, so that Government kept the power of investiture in their own hands, only to be exercised specially and in favour of men who are eminently fit, I could see no objection to allowing Native officials to deal with Europeans, in the same manner as they now deal with them in Bombay.

No. 2455, dated 1st May, 1883.

From—H. T. Ommanney, Esq., District Magistrate of Khandesh,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to reply to Government Resolution No. 2258 of the 2nd ultimo, on the amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. It would be a mere waste of time to endeavour to ring one more change out of the arguments that have been used at various times for and against the measure.

3. I shall content myself with giving my reasons in favour of the amendment.

4. About the abstract justice of the principle on which the amendment is based, there can be no question, and the change is therefore inevitable sooner or later. Such being the case, it is

good policy to introduce it while the number of Native Magistrates qualified to receive the new powers at the hands of Government is small.

5. The change of the law does not confer the enlarged jurisdiction on all, or even a class of, Native Magistrates, but gives Government the power of conferring the jurisdiction on individual Native Magistrates. Of course, Government would not appoint a Native as District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, unless they were assured of his fitness for the duties which this Act will impose upon him. There is thus a guarantee that only fit persons shall be enabled to try European British subjects.

6. It is useless to indulge in generalities about the unfitness of Natives for the new jurisdiction, when we have seen Natives occupying the places of Chief Justice of the High Court in Calcutta and Judge of the High Court in Bombay. There will, of course, be a heavy responsibility on Government regarding the selection of fit persons for the positions of Justices of the Peace and the offices which carry that distinction. The terms on which the Magistrate lives with Europeans, his equals in position, will necessarily come into consideration in each case. A friendly and unprejudiced association with Europeans would seem to be a necessity to a Native Magistrate understanding the motives and receiving the confidence of all classes of Englishmen. I know certainly one Native Magistrate who fulfils this condition, though he belongs to a Native State.

7. I do not feel bound to discuss the various arguments that have been used in opposition to the Bill, and will summarize my reasons for supporting it, as follows:—

(*a*) The abstract justice of the measure.
(*b*) The inevitable necessity of adopting such a measure, sooner or later.
(*c*) The good policy of doing so at once.
(*d*) The fact that the measure allows for strict control by Government over individual appointments.
(*e*) The fitness of a few Natives at the present moment not being doubtful.

No. 1, dated 18th May, 1882.

From—S. Tagore, Esq., District Judge, Kanara,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

With reference to your letter No. 2985 (Confidential), dated 13th instant, I have the honour to state that, in my opinion, all the members of the Covenanted Civil Service, whether European and Native, ought to be placed on the same footing in regard to their powers of trying European British subjects. There is no valid reason whatever why the Native members of the Civil Service who have been to Europe and have qualified themselves to take their places with the European Civil Servants should not be allowed to exercise all the functions which the European members of the Service exercise. It seems improper and unreasonable to say that a Native civilian who had attained to the position of a Sessions Judge was not competent to try a European British subject whom a Native Justice of the presidency-town was competent to try, or that a Native civilian who is fit to be entrusted with the entire charge of a district should be considered unfit to hold the preliminary trial of a European criminal, particularly when his European assistant would be competent to hold such a trial. The distinction which now exists between the two classes of civilians in the matter under consideration is invidious and unjust, and ought, in my opinion, to be done away with.

No. 552, dated 1st May, 1883.

From—S. Tagore, Esq., Sessions Judge, Kanara,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

With reference to Government Resolution No. 2258J.D., dated the 2nd April 1883, inviting opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Proce[illegible] so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I have the honour to refer Government to my letter No. 1, dated the 18th May 1882, on the subject, and to respectfully repeat my opinion that the law which creates a distinction between Native and European members of the Civil Service as regards jurisdiction over European British subjects is indefensible in theory, inconvenient in practice, and radically unsound. If the principle of admitting Natives of India into the Convenanted Civil Service is admitted, it cannot with any show of justice be contended that the Native Civil Servants should not be placed on a footing of equality with the European members of the Civil Service. It must be remembered that the only persons who will be entitled *ex-officio* to try European British subjects in the mufassal under the proposed Act are District Magistrates and Sessions Judges,—men who must necessarily be Civilians of 12 or 15 years' standing, men who must, from their very position and long experience, be presumed to be fully acquainted with the habits and customs of their European fellow-subjects and with the rules of etiquette obtaining among them. If such men are too incompetent to be invested with powers to sentence a European to a few months' imprisonment, it would certainly be the height of folly to entrust into their hands the life and liberty of millions of our fellow-subjects, who, dark-skinned though they be, are as much entitled to claim the protection of law and justice as the best born European

British subject. It must further be remembered that the actions of these Magistrates and Judges will be keenly watched and severely criticised by the European community whenever a case against the European British subject is taken before them. The argument based on the absence of enlightened public opinion in the mufassal no longer holds good. As observed by Dr. Hunter in his speech in course of the memorable debate on the Bill—"Englishmen in the interior have now the means of expressing the public opinion of their class with such promptitude and with such force as to constitute the strongest possible guarantee against the abuse of magisterial powers whether vested in European or Native hands." It has been alleged that the question, whether a European criminal ought to be tried by a Judge of his own race, is a matter of importance to the criminal alone, and that Natives have *no locus standi* in respect of the question of jurisdiction. Here one important circumstance is ignored, namely, the administrative inconvenience likely to be caused by the operation of the present law. When the Civil Service has been thrown open to the Natives of the country there is every prospect of some of them being put in charge of sub-divisions and even of districts. Under the existing Procedure Code, this means that there are to be large portions of the country within which Europeans may commit even the gravest crimes with impunity, for the simple reason that their trials can never take place but in Courts far removed from the scenes of occurrence. To avoid inconvenience of this kind it would be necessary to exclude Native Civilians, as Magistrates and Sessions Judges, from the advancing districts into which British enterprise comes, and to condemn them to backward or remote districts, where they will have less opportunity of distinguishing themselves or proving their fitness for higher offices. In other words, "Government will have to regulate its appointments not by the merits of an officer nor by his general fitness for a district, but by his power to deal with a small exceptional class of cases occurring within it." The present step is a small and cautious one. The only alteration proposed is this: It is proposed "to substitute, for the disqualification arising from race, a qualification depending on tried personal fitness." "It amount to this," as stated by Sir Arthur Hobhouse, the late Law Member of the Viceregal Council, in his letter to the *Times*, "that certain Government officials of long standing and of distinguished capacity shall not, because they are of pure Indian blood, be precluded from exercising over Europeans the very carefully-guarded amount of jurisdiction which is vested in other Provincial Magistrates." The same distinguished authority observes—"I cannot conceive that Europeans will be placed at any disadvantage on account of the partiality of a Native Judge, or that a Native Judge will be more prone to receive, or less quick to detect false accusations than an English or half-caste one." Indeed, it is difficult to understand what greater chances there are of miscarriage of justice in the trial of a European than that of an Indian criminal before a Native Magistrate, when the witnesses to be dealt with in both cases must belong to the same nationality, and the evidence to be sifted must present the same general features. The difference of nationality of the accused cannot reasonably be supposed to make any difference in the result, whether the trying authority be a European or a Native. The opposition to the proposed amendment, I submit, rests on no solid ground whatever, and is not justified by the result of concessions already made, in the face of similar clamorous opposition, to the dictates of reason, justice and sound policy. The Black Act of 1836 first subjected European settlers in the interior to the same civil tribunals as the Natives. That Act has now been in operation for nearly half a century, and no complaints are heard as to its working. Native Magistrates in the Presidency-towns try European British subjects without demur. Why a different result should be feared from the very cautious proposals for conferring criminal jurisdiction on certain specially selected Natives it is not easy to conceive.

No. 1815, dated 9th April, 1883.

Memo. by—G. Waterington, Esq., Magistrate, Sholapur,

With reference to Government Resolution No. 2258, dated 2nd instant, Judicial Department, the District Magistrate of Sholapur begs to state that, with all deference, he would now wish to modify the opinion expressed in his reply to Government Resolution No. 2985, (Confidential) of 13th May 1882. In that reply he stated that, as Native Covenanted Civilians have in other respects been placed on a similar footing with European members of the Service, it would be anomalous to deny them judicial powers over European British subjects. This anomaly still exists, but, after a full consideration of the recent discussion of the question in the public prints, and of the state of public feeling therein displayed, the undersigned is strongly of opinion that the measure should be abandoned.

No. 2539, dated 11th April, 1883.

Memo. by—J. Elphinston, Esq., Acting Collector and District Magistrate, Ahmadnagar.

The Acting Collector and District Magistrate of Ahmadnagar begs, in reply to the reference from Government as per margin, to submit a copy of a memorandum received from the Second Assistant Collector, Mr. P. C. Snow, of the Civil Service.

No. 2258, dated the 2nd April 1883.

2. Since writing on this subject last year, the views of the undersigned have become somewhat modified on the subject, in consequence of his perusal of the objections to the proposed alteration in the Jurisdiction Bill by Sir Fitzjames Stephen, Mr. Justice Jackson and the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

3. The undersigned now entirely agrees with the Bombay Chamber of Commerce in considering that in this country it is impolitic to introduce fundamental changes in the law affecting an important section of the population, unless such changes are justified by an urgent necessity, which is not now the case.

4. It is indisputable that, in this country, false complaints, backed up by false testimony, are far more common than in Europe or other countries. An instance has recently occurred in this district of such a case, where all the local bars were so far interested in the prosecution that no pleader at Ahmadnagar would undertake the defence of the accused. This was because it was a caste-dispute—"Bráhman against Native Christian"; and in such cases no sympathy can, as a rule, be expected from the local bar up-country, who are mostly Bráhmans. There are, doubtless, some glorious exceptions, who are not at all likely to be won over by caste-feeling, intimidation or persuasion to act in the least contrary to justice and fair play; but, as laws are generally framed for the control of the majority rather than of the enlightened minority of mankind, it appears desirable to limit the trial of Europeans by Natives to the presidency-towns, where there are so many lawyers of different nationalities and persuasions that it will be impossible for the entire bar to be closed against any particular accused person. The above remarks are directed to the ordinary pleaders in a mufassal Court rather than to the bench of Native Magistrates; but they come from the same class of people, though in all probability a Native Magistrate, who has attained to the position of a District Magistrate or Judge, is better educated than the ordinary pleader. The question, however, at issue is, what is the public opinion of his class and what are the principles which guide his inmost thoughts? If these last are far higher and purer than those of ordinary Hindus, such an officer (if he be possessed of firmness sufficient to decide justly, no matter what influence may be brought to bear upon him) is, no doubt, qualified to try Europeans. It has been suggested that Native Magistrates would be more liable to acquit Europeans, knowing the prejudices or opinions against investing them with powers to try them at all. This is equally an argument against investing them with such powers, where the only qualifications of the Court are the ability to see on which side the truth is, whether with the prosecution or defence, and an unswerving determination to administer pure justice, no matter what the consequences.

Dated 10th March, 1883.

Memo. by—P. C. Snow, Esq., Second Assistant Collector, Nagar.

I do not think the proposed change a good one, and imagine that the Bill in question would, instead of removing an anomaly, create several. Thus, for instance, if the proposed amendment had become the law of the land, it is most probable that cases would be constantly withdrawn from a Native Magistrate who ought to try them. This view of the case has been frequently quoted, the power of withdrawal, when necessary, has been dwelt upon, as one of the reasons why the proposed changes are unobjectionable. But such a state of things would appear to constitute a serious anomaly, and moreover, as time goes on, a dangerous one, inasmuch as race jealousies would be aroused. It is useless for me to dwell at any length on a subject which has been discussed from almost every possible point of view, so I shall merely add that, in my opinion, a Native, however well educated, is absolutely unfitted to try a European. To begin with, a Native Magistrate so often decides a case not on the clear and tangible evidence before him, but on what he supposes might have happened under the circumstances set out.

Secondly, he is quite incapable of appreciating a European's motives, or what has determined his course of action in particular cases. No temporary residence in England of two or three years will cure his defect. If it were possible to get Natives who had lived with Europeans from boyhood in Europe, the case might be altered. I do not believe that the main body of the people are in the least anxious to obtain for any of their Magistrates the powers proposed by the Bill; in short, the ordinary Native Magistrate in the Civil Service would probably far sooner not try a European if he could avoid it. The position of a Native Magistrate in a presidency-town seems to me quite different. His mind is permeated with European ways and ideas, and he has a strong European bar practising before him: under the circumstances, there is little fear of a failure of justice ensuing.

No. 1573, dated 10th April, 1883.

From—G. F. M. Grant, Esq., District Magistrate, Kaladghi,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

With reference to Government Resolution No. 2258, dated 2nd instant, I have the honour to state that my reply to Government Circular No. 2985, dated 13th May last, sufficiently expresses my opinion.

2. As it was made when I was at Kaira, and I cannot give No. and date, I may explain that it was to the effect that Natives selected without subjection to any tests, and who

had not necessarily ever been to England, might be wanting in the breadth of view desirable if they were to be empowered to try Europeans.

No. 1998, dated 12th April, 1883.

From—W. WOODWARD, Esq., District Magistrate, Nasik,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In reply to Government Resolution No. 2258 of the 2nd instant, forwarding for opinion what is known as the "Native Jurisdiction Bill," I have the honour to state that I see no cause to alter the opinion already expressed in my answer to Government Resolution No. 2985 of 13th May 1882, which was in favour of the extension of jurisdictional authority over European British subjects to Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service. To this limited extent it seems to me, as an official, fair and legitimate that no distinction should be admitted between Native and European officers.

2. But, looking at the matter from a politico-social point of view, I am not disposed to support the measure. In itself it is practically unimportant, and the serious disturbances it may give rise to and the strong race animosities it may raise are far weightier and more significant than the only cause which has been urged for its adoption, namely, the removal of an anomaly.

No. 1445, dated 14th April, 1883.

From—W. ALLEN, Esq., District Magistrate and Agent, Governor, Panch Mahals,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

With reference to the Bill for the amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, I have the honour to give my opinion as follows.

2. I think it would not be advisable to give the contemplated jurisdiction to Assistant Commissioners in the non-regulation provinces, nor to Cantonment Magistrates. It is certainly sometimes the case in non-regulation provinces that the control over those who administer the law is less strongly felt by them, and is consequently not so great a check as it would be in regulation provinces or nearer the seat of Government; and, moreover, it is often in non-regulation provinces that the cases in which the jurisdiction could be exercised would most frequently occur. I do not see on what grounds it is proposed to give jurisdiction to Cantonment Magistrates and not to Magistrates in general. There would be created a distinction which would be an anomaly of the same kind as is to be remedied by this Bill, and the only logical course would be to pass another Act extending the jurisdiction to all Magistrates.

3. I think it would be a dangerous piece of legislation to empower Natives to try British soldiers, and that, if the law is to be made, they should be specially exempted from the jurisdiction.

4. I think, however, in view of the fierce opposition it has excited, that the Bill is a mistake altogether, and ought to be withdrawn at once to allay the excitement that its introduction has raised. It appears from the Statement of Objects and Reasons that the object of the Bill is to remove an anomaly. There are, however, many anomalies that it is best to let alone. Our rule in this country is a far greater anomaly. The contemplated change would probably affect Europeans very little, and in practice the persons who found the authority most irksome and unpleasant would be the Magistrates and Judges empowered; but as the legislation is avowedly on a point of sentiment, is desired only by one or two individuals, is a matter of indifference to the mass of the Native population, and is bitterly opposed (foolishly it may be, but violently) by the whole of the non-official European community, it may be doubted whether it is advisable to perpetuate race animosity, to risk the loss of European capital, enterprise and intelligence already in the country and that might otherwise be attracted to it, and to create disaffection in a community (small indeed, but influential and of great importance to the stability of the Government) for the very unimportant result to be gained by the passing of the Act. If European capital and enterprise were to be checked by the alteration, a substantial loss inflicted on the general body of the Natives would be but poorly compensated for by a fanciful benefit to a very few.

No. 643, dated 13th April, 1883.

From—C. B. IZON, Esq., District Judge, Ratnagiri,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

With reference to Government Resolution No. 2258 of the 2nd instant, Judicial Department, I have the honour to report that, in my opinion, the proposed alteration of the Criminal Procedure Code is impolitic and uncalled for.

I am quite satisfied that, if carried into effect, it will appreciably diminish the amount of English capital invested in India.

I have seen the reply of my predecessor, Mr. Baker, to the reference No. 2985 of 13th May, 1882, and, as I agree with what is written in that reply, I think it unnecessary to add any further remarks.

No. 775P., dated 14th April, 1883.

From—E. P. ROBERTSON, Esq., Commissioner, Central Division, Bombay,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

With reference to the Government Resolution No. 2258, dated 2nd instant, I have the honour to state that, in my letter No. 1345P., dated 29th June, 1882, I deprecated any change in the existing law as being unnecessary and uncalled for.

2. Viewing the subject by the light of the very grave demonstrations of feeling that have been shown by the European community, it is clear that the opinion already recorded by me was correct. I would now go even further, and urge that, as there is no necessity for the measure, it would be most impolitic to force the change, which all experience has proved to be most uncalled for.

3. It cannot be urged that it is called for, because the present law is a species of class-legislation. Were that an argument to be admitted, then all the special privileges that so many members of the Native community enjoy, such as immunity of certain classes from attendance at Civil Courts and the immunity granted to pardanashin women, &c., &c., must in common sense and justice be swept away. Were this done, the Natives, who enjoy the privileges of so much special class-legislation, would be the greatest losers.

4. Europeans prize greatly their privilege of being tried by Europeans, and by a jury of their countrymen before the High Court. While nothing practical is to be gained by a change in the law, much will be lost. The question is not one which affects the Bombay Presidency so much as other places, as in almost every place in this Presidency ready access to European aid and counsel could be obtained. Anyhow, the matter must not be dealt with in a sentimental manner. It is all very well to say that the Natives are fit for this and that duty; but they are not fit for all duties, and certainly they are not fit by training and experience to try Europeans. No Government has the right, merely for the sake of uniformity and as a mere matter of sentiment, to deprive any body of its subjects of one of their most highly prized privileges; and, if no better reason than mere sentiment and a desire to make the law uniform can be brought forward, the sooner all idea of any change in the law is abandoned the better. The proposal to change the law has already done much to undo the good feeling between the Europeans and Natives, and has overturned the labour of love and good feeling which has for the past 50 years actuated our best men. If the measure is pressed forward, it will widen the breach between the races, and the very first case in which a Native Magistrate deals unwisely and harshly with a European will cause a storm. It is only necessary to imagine a case in which a Native Magistrate should sentence a European to whipping, or a case in which a European female should be unjustly sent to a jail or lock-up. The storm which would break over Government would be such as Government could ill bear, while the race-antipathy would be so intensified as to defy all future attempts to allay it.

5. As the measure is unnecessary and uncalled for, and as no good can be derived from the change, why not leave good alone and let the law stand as it is?

No. 1929, dated 22nd May, 1882.

From—C. F. BOULTON, Esq., Magistrate, Karachi,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your circular letter No. 2985 (Confidential), dated 13th instant, calling for my opinion whether the distinction which now exists (and will be continued by the new Criminal Procedure Code) between European and Native Magistrates of the Covenanted Service, in regard to their powers of trying European British subjects, should not be abolished; and with deference I offer the following remarks.

2. The proposal appears to maintain the distinction between European and Native Magistrates of the Uncovenanted Service, and merely to relieve Native Covenanted Magistrates of their disability to try European British subjects. It is not, then, that any practical inconvenience has been experienced in the disposal of complaints against European British subjects, but simply a question whether the position of Native Covenanted Magistrates should be improved.

3. At present, a European British subject being a vagrant, and not otherwise, that is, a man of presumably low character, can be tried by a Magistrate who is not a European British subject. The proposed change, which abolishes this distinction also, is one that seems to lower the status of all European British subjects in India, and, therefore, in my opinion, it is not desirable, unless any very great compensating advantages arise from it in the other direction; and these I am not able to see.

No. 1468, dated 11th April, 1883.

From—C. F. BOULTON, Esq., District Magistrate, Karachi,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Government Resolution No. 2258, dated 2nd instant, requesting my opinion on the provisions of the Bill, proposed by the Hon'ble Mr. C. P. Ilbert, to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the

exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, and beg to refer you to my letter No. 1929, dated 22nd May last, in reply to Government confidential letter No. 2985, dated 13th idem.

No. 859, dated 19th May, 1882.

From—M. B. BAKER, Esq., Acting District Judge, Ratnagiri,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your confidential letter No. 2985, dated 13th May, 1882, in which you ask my opinion whether, with reference to Chapter XXXIII of the new Criminal Procedure Code, all members of the Covenanted Civil Service, whether European or Native, ought not to be placed on the same footing, and whether the distinction which now exists between the two classes in regard to their powers of trying Europeans, should not be abolished.

2. There are only two Native members of the Civil Service in this Presidency who entered by public competition, and, as I am not acquainted with either of them, my remarks must be based solely upon such acquaintance as I may possess of Native character. In giving reasons for the view I hold, I have no particular individual in my eye, and my remarks must not be construed as casting any reflection upon any member of the Service to which I have the honour to belong.

3. Looking at the question in the abstract, it may be urged with much force that, as all subjects of Her Majesty are governed by the same substantive law, so all should in like manner be made amenable to the same adjective law; but the points on the other side are so important as, in my opinion, to render it most unadvisable that the present distinction should be abolished.

4. The first objection which I see to the change is the very strong repugnance which will most certainly be felt towards it by the European population generally. This repugnance may be unreasonable, but it should not on that account be ignored. Discontent among the Europeans in the country might be a source of great political danger, and no such risk should be run simply for the sake of establishing a theoretical equality between Europeans and Natives. Every one who has had opportunities of judging knows what the feelings of non-official Europeans on this point would be, and how vehemently they would resent the notion of being liable to be tried by a Native official. I cannot think that the time has yet come when their ideas on this point should be forcibly reformed by the legislature.

5. Secondly, under the new system, Natives are admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service without having, as a rule, gone to England at all. Their knowledge of English manners and ways of thought are, therefore, wholly derived from books. The trammels of caste are still strong upon them; for, however much they may mix with Europeans, their domestic relations are still governed by the system in which they were born and have been brought up, so that it is but natural that they should regard any question from a narrow point of view. The effect of education has not been to break down class distinctions. An educated Native, however much he may despise the religious feelings of the less enlightened, does not feel that those who are lower in caste are any nearer to him.

6. Of late years much has been said about offences, such as assaults, committed upon Natives by Europeans. In some of these death has ensued, and, though it has been clearly shown that the accused has not been legally guilty of anything more than "hurt," an outcry has been raised, which showed that the Native editors (who may, as a rule, be said to represent the educated classes) have rather dwelt upon the alleged brutality of the European than upon the legal bearings of the case. The tendency has been, in some cases, to punish Europeans in cases of this sort with far more severity than was required, or would have been used, had both the parties been of the same race. Any one going through a bazar on market days will see many petty assaults committed by Natives upon Natives, of which, especially if the aggressor has any social or official standing, no notice is taken, though analogous acts done by an European would lead to his prosecution and a great outcry about his brutality. I feel sure that, in spite of education, a Native, if a high-caste man, would vigorously and forcibly resent the indignity of a Dher's shadow falling upon him, and I fear that he would still be ready to visit heavily any infirmity of temper in an European which might lead to an assault. Similarly, a Native Magistrate would be unusually strong if he could resist the temptation of punishing an European severely, knowing that he would thereby gain the applause of the Native journalists, who belong to the same class as himself. As a rule, Native editors are pleased when an European is convicted, not because they feel any sympathy with the injured person, but because the culprit is an European.

7. Offences committed by Europeans are rare. I do not remember having had to deal with more than four in the whole of my service, three of which did not affect Natives at all; so that it may be said that the objections which I have pointed out are chimerical. But it must be remembered that if a change is once made, it cannot be undone, and we have to look to a state of things in which Native Covenanted Civilians have no practical knowledge of English manners and ways of thought.

8. The objections to which I have referred would not be so apparent in the case of Sessions Judges as in that of Magistrates, who are, I presume, included in the term "judicial officers" used in your letter. A Native who had risen to such a position would necessarily have

acquired considerable experience, and would have had more intercourse with Europeans. Besides, he would always have assessors to sit with him. But I question whether, from similar reasons, he would not be out of his element if he were called upon to hear an appeal in a case in which an European had been convicted.

9. It seems to me, too, that a great deal of what is written and urged by the so-called representatives of Native opinion has for its object the ascendancy of Brahmans rather than the good of Natives in general. A Bráhman would think little of seeing a Bráhman muccadum striking coolies to make them work; but he would be full of indignation against an European engine-driver who boxed his servant's ears for not having his dinner ready when he came home worn out with many hours' work. No better example of the way in which Natives sometimes regard crimes can be found than in the applause which welcomed Wassudeo Balwant Phadke after his conviction in the Puna Sessions Court. Sympathy, then, was on the side of the accused in spite of the injuries which he had done to his countrymen.

10. No equality can exist between Europeans and Natives until the latter take the lead by establishing some equality among themselves. The distinction which exists as to the jurisdiction of the Criminal Courts has caused no hardship, and its abolition may cause mischief which would far outweigh any good which could arise from establishing a theoretical equality between the two races. The Code certainly does provide some safeguard, by application to the High Court; but it is a far cry to Bombay from the outlying districts of the Presidency.

No. 510, dated 19th April, 1883.

From—M. B. BAKER, Esq., District Judge, Khandesh,
To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In reply to Government Resolution No. 2258 of the 2nd instant, I have the honour to refer you to my letter No. 859 of the 19th May last, which I addressed to the Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, on the subject, while I was Acting District Judge of Ratnagiri.

No. 82, dated 20th April, 1883.

From—W. R. HAMILTON, Esq., Magistrate, First Class, Ahmadnagar,
To—The District Magistrate, Ahmadnagar.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your No. 2446, dated 7th instant, asking my opinion on the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. The Government of India propose to remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions. This reform, like all other legislative reforms, must be judged not by its sentiment but by its expediency. It has hitherto been thought expedient to maintain the disqualification for obvious motives based upon the precarious and anomalous position of the English in India, and I am not aware that anything has occurred lately to justify its abolition. It is true that education has made considerable progress, and that the Native officers who would be invested with magisterial powers over Europeans would be men of considerable education; yet education is not everything, and, in fact, is but a small factor in a very great social and political problem. The peculiar temper and habits of the two races are of much more moment, and deserve far more consideration than the mere fact how much education an officer possesses. The common sense to judge accurately of the facts involved in a criminal case, and the firmness to act righteously and to do justice, are, perhaps, all that is necessary in a Magistrate without any great degree of culture; but, if the proposal is that certain Natives only should be invested with powers, we would witness the anomaly of the Native officers, who had grown grey in dispensing justice blamelessly, declared unfit to exercise powers over white men which the young and untried Native Covenanted Civilian would possess. If Natives are to possess such powers, it would be perfectly inconsistent to give them to raw youths and discard the experienced elders and greybeards, who have worked so long and honourably in their careers. Why should the young and inexperienced Native Civil Servant have powers which will be denied to the ablest of the Deputy Collectors? Who are the Deputy Collectors except men, who, as a rule, have been promoted for tried merit, and men possessing University degrees, who do precisely the same work as covenanted assistants, and are treated like dogs in comparison; and are they in any degree worse than the Covenanted Native Civilian? Again, who are the mamlatdars but intelligent and experienced men, who have for years possessed magisterial powers which they exercise carefully and intelligently, and who are every day passing the higher examinations prescribed for the Covenanted Civilian? If it were merely a question of giving powers to the most efficient Native officers, nothing would be simpler than to bestow them upon men who have proved themselves to be the most worthy in the actual business of life, and not upon mere scholars or upon the scions of the Native Civil Service with their supposed pretensions to nobility. It is obvious, as I have said, that education is a very small factor in this question, and that the proposed reform, instead of settling the question at once and completely, would be merely the beginning of far greater changes. The proposal in the present form is merely to give

certain powers to certain Natives, not because they are more fitted for their exercise than other Natives of greater experience and practised intelligence, but because they hold a certain position, and it is thought expedient to break down the distinction in this respect between the Covenanted English and the Covenanted Native officer.

In this view, the feeling of the European community has apparently not been considered, or has counted for nothing, but the frantic yell of disapprobation with which the proposal has been greeted has shown that the feeling of this community counts for something, and that it is deserving of some consideration. It is not a question whether these feelings are right or wrong, worthy or unworthy; the fact is, that the feeling of social difference between the two races is so distinct and marked and pronounced, that it is advisable to consider, before exciting them or wounding acute sensibilities, whether any worthy end is to be attained which will justify the Government in braving a popular outburst in order to attain it. There are many actions, very harmless in themselves, which are yet resented bitterly by persons who happen to attach undue importance to them. An Englishman walking into a Hindu temple to admire its architecture might unconsciously be risking his life when a fervid Hindu might consider his intrusion as an abominable desecration. Going into a mosque or tomb with boots on might excite a fanatic Musalman to violence, and the great shoe question has gathered round it an angry and stormy literature full of ominous mutterings and lurid wrath. There are some persons who can regard all these displays of temper with philosophic indifference, but the Europeans in India are not a collection of philosophers. Like the Vere de Veres, they have the passions of their kind, and, perhaps, it would be just as well to refrain from rousing these passions unnecessarily.

I presume the proposed reform can be defended on the ground that the trial of Englishmen by Englishmen produces great administrative inconvenience, and that it inflicts a great wrong upon the Indian people, which should be redressed. If it were true that this privilege caused a wrong to the Indian people, there might be some reason for abolishing it, but, as a fact, it is a mere matter of procedure and not of substantive law. When the Penal Code was passed against the protests of the European community, the Government very properly were firm in declaring that there should not be one law for the Native and one for the European, that there could not be two definitions of the same offence, and that both persons should be liable to the same punishment. But, as a matter of procedure, it left the execution of the law upon Englishmen to be carried out by Englishmen.

At first it was not very difficult to require that all cases against Europeans should be tried by the Supreme Courts at the presidency-towns under the safeguards afforded by the time-honoured system of trial by jury. But after a time the great number of Europeans who settled in the mufassal made it necessary to amend the law, and English Magistrates and Judges in the interior were empowered to try Englishmen, and pass certain light sentences upon them. If these powers are not enough, they may be increased, but I can see no reason why Natives also should have these powers. The places where English settlements are to be found are not many, the offences which the English are known to commit are very few, and with the exception, perhaps, of parts of the tea and coffee plantations, the settlements are all accessible by rail. With rare exceptions, there is not a place where an offender could not be placed before an English Magistrate in 24 hours. Kanára has been referred to, to point the inconvenience, but that difficulty is now fast disappearing, for the railway will shortly be opened, and communication will be opened north and south. In fact, every new mile of railway and every new span of telegraph helps to weaken the objection on the ground of inconvenience. If it is possible with rapid communication for a smaller army to hold a larger territory, it is also possible for fewer civilians to superintend larger areas than formerly; and within a few hours of the arrest of an offender the Magistrate and the criminal can now be brought together from widely different points.

Administrative inconvenience, therefore, there is really none, and, whatever there is, is rapidly disappearing. There is no wrong to the Indian people in requiring that Englishmen shall be tried by Englishmen, and, on the whole, this plan secures a firmer administration of justice than perhaps would be possible in the hands of Natives. Is it necessary, then, merely, for the sake of abolishing a distinction between Covenanted Native and Covenanted English officers, to make a reform which is not essential, in order to remedy a grievance which no one feels? The educated Native would easily understand that, if he is not entrusted with this power, it is not because he is not fitted to exercise it, but because it is not expedient that he should do so. The time may come when high Native officers will mix more freely among Europeans, and will be received upon a better social footing; and it is possible that a free intercourse may soften and ultimately remove prejudices and antipathies about which there can be no mistake at present. When that time does come, then a reform, which is now objectionable, will pass unchallenged, and will not want supporters. Till then nothing will be lost by it being postponed.

But if it is considered necessary to make some immediate advance towards that end, then the suggestion which has been made in the papers might be considered, and the accused may have the option of objecting to be tried by a Native Magistrate. The objection should be allowed not at the beginning of the enquiry, but on framing the charge, for, if the enquiry disclose no *primâ facie* case, the Magistrate would discharge the accused; but on framing the charge he should inform the accused that he is at liberty to object to the Magistrate going on with the case. If the objection is raised, the case should be transferred to an English

Magistrate, who should take up the case at the point at which it has been stopped, or recall the witnesses at his pleasure, or the Native Magistrate may, notwithstanding the objection, go on to hear and record the evidence for the defence, and then forward the proceedings with his opinion to an English Magistrate, who, if he concurs with the Native Magistrate, shall acquit the accused or pass sentence upon him, as the case may be; if he does not concur, the papers should be forwarded to the District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, if either of them is an Englishman, for disposal and final orders. In cases committed to the sessions, when the Judge is a Native officer, he should be assisted by assessors who are Europeans, or by a jury of Europeans. These suggestions, while they would afford the Native officer an opportunity to conduct the proceedings, would yet require that the guilt of the accused should be established to the satisfaction of one or more Europeans.

Memorandum by J. ELPHINSTON, Esq., *District Magistrate, Ahmadnagar,—No. 2779, dated 21st April, 1883.*

In forwarding this opinion of the City Magistrate on the subject of Government Resolution No. 2258, dated the 2nd instant, the Under-Secretary to Government in the Judicial Department is aware that only his own opinion was asked for. Mr. Hamilton is, with Mr. Snow, the only officer of pure European descent at present subordinate to the undersigned; it is, therefore, thought that his opinion may go for what it is worth as a representative of the class about whom Government propose to legislate in the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure.

No. 1497, dated 24th April, 1883.

From—H. E. WATSON, Esq., District Magistrate, Upper Sindh Frontier,
To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In reference to Government Resolution No. 2258 of 2nd instant, I have the honour to state that, since I replied to Government Resolution No. 2985 of 13th May last, the question as to whether certain Judges and Magistrates should be given jurisdiction in the mufassal over European British subjects, has been most fully and publicly discussed, and, considering the arguments adduced and the strong opposition there is to the Bill, I am now of opinion that it is not advisable to invest Natives with such jurisdiction. As the arguments against the Bill have been published and are well known to Government, it appears unnecessary for me to repeat them here, and I imagine that under the circumstances, a simple expression of opinion is all that is required of me.

Memorandum by G. W. BORRADAILE, Esq., *District Magistrate, Broach,—No. 1091, dated 16th May, 1882.*

In obedience to confidential No. 2985, dated 13th instant, from the Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, the District Magistrate, Broach, has the honour to express his opinion that fitness to be vested with certain powers should not depend on membership of the Covenanted Service.

2. If all members had entered by the same straight and narrow gate of competition, something might be said against creating an invidious distinction by refusing Natives the same jurisdiction as Europeans.

3. But, when some are entering in through the broad and easy way of private patronage, without having shown by any test their fitness for membership, the inadvisability of vesting these with the jurisdiction denied to those who have lacked the influence necessary for their appointment is obvious.

4. Whatever may be said in favour of vesting with the jurisdiction those who have entered by competition, there is very much more to be said against it, and personally the undersigned is opposed to any Native being so vested.

5. But he can conceive of no reason for so vesting, merely because they belong to the Service, all the Natives who are brought into it by luck or favour through nomination.

No. 140, dated 26th May, 1882.

From—MAJOR R. S. CRAWFORD, Deputy Commissioner, Thar and Parkar,
To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Replying to your confidential letter in the Judicial Department, No. 2985 of 13th May, 1882, I have the honour to submit an opinion that, as regards the provisions of Chapter XXXIII of the new Code of Criminal Procedure, it is inexpedient that all members of the Covenanted Service, whether European or Native, should be placed on the same footing until all the latter, besides acquiring an European education, shall in their private lives have put on the manners and customs of Western nations.

No. 161, dated 26th April, 1883.

Memo. from—MAJOR R. S. CRAWFORD, District Magistrate, Thar and Parkar,
To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

With reference to the Resolution of Government in the Judicial Department, No. 2258, dated 2nd instant, calling for opinion on the subject of the proposed Jurisdiction Bill, the District Magistrate, Thar and Parkar, has the honour to report that, as he was opposed to the measure mooted in Government Circular No. 2985, dated 13th May 1882 (*vide* District Magistrate's Confidential report No. 140, dated 26th May 1882), so also his opinion is that the present Bill should not be passed.

No. 411, dated 24th April, 1883.

From—A. H. SPRY, Esq., District Magistrate, Kaira,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

As directed in Government Resolution No. 2258, dated 2nd instant, I have the honour to express my opinion on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects. The subject has been so discussed in every part of India in all its bearings, that I am unable to put it in any new light or to add any fresh argument. I can only state my own views upon it. I would wish it, however, to be understood that I have no personal prejudice about the matter. If it happened that I had to be tried for any offence, I do not know any single Native Judge or Magistrate, first class, in this Presidency, whom I should doubt doing justice to me simply because I happened to be a European. I base my views on the grounds of necessity, expediency and policy.

2. The Bill is admittedly one to cure an anomaly. The British rule in India is full of anomalies, without the existence of which that rule could not last for a single day. I fail to see that the anomaly in question is greater than very many others, it certainly does not curtail the liberties of the general Native public in India, as many other anomalies necessarily do; and, by doing away with it, I do not see that any single Native British subject will be made a little the happier. I put out of the question the sentiments of agitators and would-be patriots of the advanced school, to whom anything that depreciates the European is a source of happiness; on the score of necessity I see no cause for amending the present law.

3. Had the Bill been brought under consideration at any other time, it would not have so much mattered, and it might even have passed into law without causing much commotion, or stirring up bitter and excited feelings. But to my mind the present time has been a most unfortunate one. During the past year, the whole attention of the Natives of India has been drawn to projected reforms in the shape of local self-government and other matters. Whatever the very small minority of educated and enlightened Natives may think of these reforms, they surpass the wildest imagination of the great masses of ordinary Natives, who have traditionally looked upon the "Sarcar" and its servants, the district officers, as the originators and wielders of all power and influence. They have scarcely begun to comprehend the bearing of these reforms, which tend to deprive European civil executive officers of the power and influence they have hitherto held, when this Bill makes its appearance, and looks to them as if Europeans were to be levelled down to the status of Natives. To their view, there has been a general cheapening of the Europeans, which I cannot look upon except as fraught with trouble, if not absolute danger, in the future. The English do not hold India by actual force so much as by prestige. If we now go deliberately destroying that prestige, we may to our cost find our hold on the Natives very insecure. For these reasons I look upon the Bill as not expedient and impolitic.

4. I beg to append the opinions of Mr. R. M. Kennedy, Divisional Magistrate, and Mr. Modi, first class Magistrate, to both of which I would invite attention.

No. 353, dated 12th April, 1883.

From—R. M. KENNEDY, Esq., Assistant Collector, Kaira,
To—The Collector of Kaira.

I have the honour to report with reference to your No. 343 of 9th April.

2. So many arguments on both sides of the question have been set forth in the papers, English and Indian, that it is, on the one side, extremely difficult to offer any report within reasonable compass, and, on the other, I am loth to take up your time by inadequately stating what has already been much better stated over and over again.

3. For my own part I regret that the Bill has been introduced.

(*a*) The law at present in force as to European British subjects constitutes a privilege, and does not take away jurisdiction. The privilege is one which, whether useful or not, for its own sake is useful in this country to emphasize the caste of the possessors of it, and, as such, is rather regarded with pleased acquiescence than with disfavour by the greater part of the people with whom I have come in contact. To abolish caste would undoubtedly be satisfactory to all, and specially so to myself, but this would raise a howl throughout the length and the

breadth of this district, and any beginning in that direction would be the reverse of pleasing to the Hindus, and, when done from the top, would be really disastrous; for, though I cannot admit that caste is self-respect, I am prepared to admit that want of caste occasions want of self-respect. And who are they who clamour for the change in the law? Hindus who have visited England, who by limited intercourse with lawyers of advanced views (I think I am right in saying this is the only society seen by Hindus in England) have learnt to see grievances others would not see, and who cannot be regarded as in any sense leading opinion in India, where they are outcasted for their pains on return.*

* I must carefully except Parsis who visit England with their parents and families, and who, as residents, have opportunity of seeing first class society.

(*b*) Secondly, the Bill will undoubtedly shake the confidence of all British men in the law—a great disaster in it itself, and just now likely to be more disastrous, when a scheme for local self-government is on its trial, which may, and probably will to further self-government, and when it is particularly desirable that all classes should pull together.

4. However, the Bill has been introduced; and such being the case, it only remains to make the best of it. To withdraw it altogether would, under present circumstances, be objectionable, as it could hardly be withdrawn without attracting observation; those indifferent to the Bill as to its merits would, I should fear, object very much to see it withdrawn. The Bill as it stands will, I hope, work satisfactorily for the ends of justice, and I may note that no real hardship could well be inflicted (*a*) if sections 408 and 416 are retained as they are in the present Bill, and (*b*) as Magistrates able to try European British subjects are to be Justices of the Peace, and therefore Taluká Magistrates, who would be prone to undue leniency as a rule, and would be subject to prejudice on special occasions, would be excluded. In Natives of Her Majesty's Covenanted and Uncovenanted Civil Service who are experienced Magistrates, I venture to think, complete reliance may be placed.

No. 121, dated 14th April, 1883.

From—B. E. MODI, Esq., First Class Magistrate, Ahmadabad,
To—The District Magistrate, Kaira.

With reference to your No. 343 of the 9th April 1883, desiring opinion on Mr. Ilbert's Bill for extending the criminal jurisdiction of Native Civilian Sessions Judges and District Magistrates and Assistant Collectors of approved qualifications over European British subjects, I have the honour to submit as follows.

Theoretically, the rights of men should be considered as equal everywhere; the white men have no rights superior to those of the negro slave, the Briton has no rights superior to those of the Hindu, and the twice-born Brahman must not be considered superior to the Bhangi and the Dher. But if we proceed upon the equality of the rights of man, then, in order to be consistent, we should not have the British ruling over us; we should be governing ourselves, and should have a republic, though it may be a question after what model that republic should be formed; for all the philosophers of the eighteenth century could not succeed in guiding the French people to choose a republic that was not worse than a despotic monarchy. We see that the principles of equality, liberty and fraternity cannot be followed in connection with the Government of India; we must make *expediency* our guide, though, perhaps, there may be some who would argue that whatever is not just cannot be expedient. I do not want to enter into any exposition of what is meant by right and just, but I need not say that all commonsense people understand what is meant by expedient. It means that which tends to secure the greatest amount of happiness and content under given circumstances.

The grounds on which I would dislike the proposed legislation are—

First, that there is no necessity for it, and second, that the mischief that would be caused by it, by creating race-feeling, would be quite out of proportion to the benefit that might be gained by courting popularity, so to speak, and by abolishing the "anomaly."

With regard to the necessity for the measure, it has been admitted, even by His Excellency the Viceroy, that there is not any great administrative inconvenience felt at present, but that he wants to provide for the future, when there will be many Native District Magistrates and Sessions Judges. Now, without going so far as to say that it was not a good policy to have yielded to the cry for the indiscriminate admission of Natives into the civil service, I would submit humbly that, even were all the District Magistrates and Sessions Judges Natives, still it would not cause much inconvenience if they had not the power to try European British subjects. In this Presidency, the number of Europeans is comparatively very small, but in the Bengal Presidency there is a large population of European planters and indigo-factors; and it has been said that these gentlemen often lose their temper and not unfrequently cause the death of mild Hindus, and that, owing to the necessity of going before the Calcutta High Court, justice is often defeated. I do not believe that such is the case. I cannot conceive how, owing to the necessity of going long distances, the witnesses would give false evidence. If anybody suffers more than another when a mufassal case is tried before a High Court, it is the accused, who is upon his trial, and who has to give large fees to his counsel.

With regard to the mischief caused by stirring up race-feeling, one has only to read the accounts of the meetings of Europeans held at different places, and also of the meetings of Natives in some places. And why all this great trouble? for what good? Simply for the sake of sweeping away an anomaly! But it should be noticed that this sweeping away of the anomaly will not tend to make the Native an equal of the Englishman. It will not increase

his loyalty towards the throne of our august and beloved Queen Empress; it will only tend to give a few Natives who will be fortunate enough to be District Magistrates and Judges the satisfaction of knowing that they can sit in judgment upon one of the conquering race.

And in this place I would humbly state that I do not agree with those who argue that the Natives will not administer justice evenly and honestly towards Europeans. The fears expressed in several quarters, that the Europeans would fare badly at the hands of Native Judges, should be dismissed from our mind at once. English education as given in Indian schools and colleges, and the contact with European professors and teachers, are sufficient to ingrain into the nature of the Natives the principles of honesty and straightforwardness. Why the Europeans should oppose this Bill is not that the Natives will not be just in their administration of the law, but because it would lower the prestige of the ruling race, and it would wound his pride. And let us see what is the position of the Native towards the European. The latter, coming to India for securing its commerce, found himself vastly superior to the Native in every respect—in the ability to carry on large commercial transactions, in the art of navigation, and in military tactics and personal bravery and bodily strength, and in the art of conquering other nations and governing them justly. The Briton, finding himself superior to the Hindu, conquered him, but he is just as well as powerful and strong; and he has therefore governed the other in such a way as to increase his happiness a hundred-fold. Of course, the Natives now forget from what condition they have been raised up by the Briton, and what blessings they now enjoy; but such is always the case. They would be happy if only they know what good things they have. But is it becoming in a Native now, when he has been taught by his benefactors how to cultivate his intellect, to turn round and say that he is not at all inferior to the other? It should, however, be remembered that the cry of equality is raised only by those who want to the become the equal of their superiors; these same liberal-minded persons would be greatly shocked if it was suggested to them that the persons inferior to them in social position wanted to become their equals. Let us consider what the Bramins would say to Dher and Bhangi Magistrates. Let us also consider how the Natives wanted the Shastris and Kazis to expound their laws; let us consider how the Parsis prize the privilege of having Parsi delegates in the adjudication of their matrimonial cases; and let us also consider how the Surat Nawabs had by law the power of deciding all cases affecting the members of their household. We see everywhere that there is a pride of race.

"Order is Heaven's first law, and, that confessed,
Some are, and must be, greater than the rest."

Against me personally it may be said that, when I thus write in opposition to the Bill, I, being a Parsi and an alien, have no patriotism, and that I am influenced by the fact that the Parsis have benefited greatly owing to the British. I may say that we have been in India for more than thousand years; we have been here before the time of Hengist and Horsa. I may also say that, if we have benefited owing to the advent of the British, so much the more reason that we should be content with our present subject condition. I may, however, be pardoned for indulging in a little personal pride that our own family has, instead of rising, only fallen in influence owing to the introduction of the several laws and regulations; but we have always been devoted to the British cause from the time that the first factory was established at Surat, and more than a hundred and twenty-five years ago two of our ancestors were killed by the seceders from the Surat Castle for rendering assistance to the British who were besieged in the factory. We were devoted to the British because we consider them a superior race; and I have no hesitation in saying that the Natives will be happy only as long as they feel that their rulers are a superior race. To the Brahmans the other people are bound to bow; but the Brahmans themselves never bow, they never raise their hands for *salam*, but they only extend them and give their blessings: the Sayyads extend their hands to be kissed by the other Muhammadans, but they never kiss the hands of the others. Now when there are such race-distinctions among the Natives themselves, why should they not make any difference between themselves and the ruling race. But a few Bengali Babus might say that they have discarded all the Native notion of inequality among men; a few Bengali Babus, however, are not the whole of India.

If the European population in India do not object to the Bill, then by all means let it be passed, but I would submit that it should not be passed against their wishes. We should not displease them. It has been pointed out by a very able defender of the Bill, Sir Arthur Hobhouse, that, when the Native Judges were invested with the power to hear and decide civil cases in which Europeans were concerned, there was the same amount of agitation and opposition from the Europeans of India, and that all sorts of evils were prophesied. I admit that all the evils now predicted by the Europeans will never come to pass; but I should earnestly desire that some deference should be paid to their race-prejudices.

No. 1620, dated 2nd May, 1883.

From—A. KEYSER, Esq., District Magistrate, Kolaba,
To—The Commissioner, Northern Division, Bombay.

With reference to Government Resolution No. 2258 of the 2nd April, 1883, circulating a draft Bill for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code, I have the honour to forward the reports of Mr. W. F. Sinclair and Mr. A. W. Hughes, Magistrates, first class.

2. I have little to add with them. I agree with Mr. Sinclair, except as regards the advisability of giving powers to Native Civil Servants who have attained their position by passing the competition in England.

3. I think no change is necessary. No administrative inconvenience has been felt by the present inability of Native Magistrates in the mufassal to try Europeans, and I do not think any is likely to occur in any future sufficiently near to make it necessary to legislate for it.

4. In the solitary district where the Magistrate of the district is likely to be a Native, or the few districts where some of the Sub-divisional Magistrates are Natives, there are sure to be other European Magistrates qualified to try the very few cases that occur where the defendants are British subjects of Her Majesty.

5. The reasons which have always existed for granting the European British subjects certain privileges still exists, and the arrangement that in a British dependency administered by British officers they should not be subject to the jurisdiction of any Magistrates but those of their own race, is such a natural one, that I think those who advocate the change should have much stronger arguments to support it than such academic or sentimental ones as are derived from the "anomaly" of the present state of the law (unless all distinctions between Natives and Europeans in Criminal Courts is to be done away with, which is not suggested—this would still exist), or the supposed injury to the feelings of a few highly placed officials, because they are not to try, say, once every five years, an Englishman who prefers to be tried by his own countryman, the latter being *cæteris paribus* better qualified to conduct the enquiry.

6. The feelings of those directly affected by the proposed change are certainly a more weighty subject for consideration, and, after it has been almost unanimously condemned by the whole non-official British community in India, there can be no doubt as to what they are.

7. Every Englishman in this country is regarded by the people as a representative of his Government. The spectacle of one of the "saheb log" hand-cuffed and sent to jail by order of a Native Magistrate is scarcely calculated to increase the prestige of the British Government, or strengthen a rule of which the consideration in which the ruling race is held by the populace is not the least support.

8. I submit these remarks, fragmentary and inadequate to the subject as they are. The matter has been so fully discussed in the Press and elsewhere, and my view of the matter so forcibly stated by Sir J. Stephen and other distinguished men, that I feel it would only be a waste of the time of Government for me to submit a report discussing the propriety of the proposed legislation at the length the subject deserves.

No. 27, dated 13th April, 1883.

Memorandum by—A. W. HUGHES, Esq., Magistrate of Alibag.

The undersigned, with compliments to the Collector of Kolaba, has the honour, in reference to his memorandum No. 1841 of 8th instant, to remark, in the matter of the proposal to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1882 so far as relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, that, as regards clause (*a*) of section 1, no amendment appears to be necessary. Europeans of all grades resident in India would no doubt very much prefer exercise of jurisdiction over them to be with their own countrymen, instead of with Natives of the Covenanted Civil Service, however highly educated and in other respects fitted for the proper discharge of their duties. If the power it is proposed to give to Native Civilians were granted, there would perhaps for the first few years afterwards be a tendency to undue leniency in their dealings with accused persons of European descent, but after that the probability is it would be the reverse, more especially if at any future time circumstances were to occur which would have the effect of stirring up race antagonism and strife, such as recent events have shown lie unfortunately only in a dormant state.

It is the candid opinion of the undersigned that, taking into consideration the relationship as existing between Great Britain and its extensive dependency, India, it is not expedient to legislate as is proposed by Mr. Ilbert's Bill; and, if this applies in the case of the highly educated Indian Covenanted Civilian, much more must it do so to the members of the newly constituted Native Civil Service, and others coming under clauses (*b*) and (*c*) respectively of section 3 of the Bill, who do not even possess that veneer of European civilization which the Indian Covenanted Civil Servant, from his three or four years' residence in England, is supposed to have acquired.

As regards the appointment of Native Civilians to Cantonment Magistracies with reference to clause (*d*) of the same section, the undersigned believes that such would be eminently distasteful even to the Native officers and men of the Native regiments, and, as a natural consequence, infinitely more so to the officers and men of British regiments. From the above remarks it will be considered unnecessary for the undersigned to offer any opinion upon the repeal, amendment or substitution proposed in sections 2 to 5 of the Bill.

No. 190, dated 12th April, 1883.

Endorsement by—M. PHELAN, Esq., District Magistrate, Kolaba.

Forwarded with compliments.

Taking the sections as they come 1 (*a*).—This refers to Native gentlemen who have gone to England and beaten Englishmen on their own ground. They have, moreover, been obliged

to study English law in English Courts; and if they are fit for the service at all they are fit for all its duties. Undersigned cannot see why they should be on a separate footing from European Covenanted Civilians.

(*b*), (*c*).—These two classes of officers are as alien from an European in habit of thought as inhabitants of another planet. They cannot understand an European accused, nor he them; and the Court and accused would be, if the latter were undefended by counsel, at cross-purposes the whole time. As a body, these officers in this Presidency do not seem to *want* the powers; and no inconvenience is caused by their not having them. Undersigned feels bound to say that they would be far more likely to err on the side of undue leniency than the other way.

(*d*) *Cantonment Magistrates.*—Undersigned is very strongly of opinion that the appointment of a Civilian Cantonment Magistrate of any sort is a mistake and leads to friction.

The appointment of a *Native* Cantonment Magistrate would probably lead to a very undesirable state of mind not amongst European troops only, but also in the Native regiments.

It is difficult to suppose that such an appointment can have been seriously contemplated; but perhaps the draughtsman had in his mind's eye the collapse of a case in Madras some ten years ago, on the discovery of a clever vakil, that the Magistrate was technically a Frenchman.

To section 2 the undersigned can see no objection.

Section 3.—To agree with what has been said above, instead of striking out the words "and an European British subject," there should be added to them "or a Covenanted Civil Servant appointed in England."

Section 4 et seq.—Unimportant.

No. 2078, dated 10th April, 1883.

From—F. D. MACKENZIE, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Thana,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

As directed in Government Resolution No. 2258, dated 2nd instant, I have the honour to submit herewith my opinion on the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code sent to me with the Government Resolution quoted above.

2. I venture to say, with all respect, that it is somewhat late in the day to call for the opinions of officials on a Bill which has provoked such a storm of opposition from the European community, and I somewhat shrink from going over the arguments against it. I consider, however, that the main objections to it are that it is entirely unnecessary, that it has been shown to demonstration throughout the country; that the Europeans affected by its provisions look upon it as one as the gravest possible injuries which can be done to their rights and privileges in this country; that if Government look upon this one privilege of Europeans as an anomaly, which *for that and no other reason*, it is desirable to remove, I can conceive no grounds on which the anomaly, say, of *purda nashin* women accused of serious offences being allowed to remain unseen by the Court trying them should not also be removed. That is an anomaly based purely on race distinctions, and the particular case I have in mind is one which I myself tried some years ago. The accused was a Native lady accused of very serious offences under the Penal Code, and special arrangements had to be made in my Court to prevent any person, from the trying Magistrate to the witnesses in the case, seeing the accused person!! For all that I could prove to the contrary, I never had the real accused in my Court at all; and such anomalies, which are liable to occur all over the country, are placidly regarded by the Legislature. The continent of India is crammed full of anomalies, and the effect of removing the particular one aimed at by the Bill is to rouse race feelings and jealousies of the very worst character.

3. In the face of the almost unanimous opposition by the European public to the Bill, and considering that this very question must have been discussed when Act X of 1882 was being revised, it seems to me most advisable that this tinkering of a Code which has been barely three months in existence should be dropped. Had there been any real need for such an amendment, it is not unreasonable to suppose that it would have been brought forward prominently when the Criminal Procedure Code of 1882 was being discussed; and I cannot imagine that anything has occurred within the short term which has elapsed since its publication to make it necessary for Natives to try Europeans.

No. 2916, dated 20th May, 1882.

From—COLONEL L. D'A. DUNSTERVILLE, District Magistrate, Haidarabad,
To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Replying to your No. 2985, Confidential, of 1882, dated the 13th instant, I have the honour to state that, in my opinion, all members of the Covenanted Service, whether European or Native, ought to be placed on the same footing, and that no sufficient reason can be found for maintaining the distinction which now exists between the two classes in regard to their powers of trying Europeans.

No. 1852, dated 3rd May 1883.

From—COLONEL L. D'A. DUNSTERVILLE, District Magistrate, Haidarabad,
To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Replying to Government Resolution No. 2258 of 2nd ultimo, I have the honour to state that, after the fullest consideration of the subject of Mr. Ilbert's proposed amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I find myself unable to recommend any fuller concession to the Native magistracy than that advocated in my letter No. 2916 of 20th May 1882, replying to Confidential Circular No. 2985 of 13th idem.

2. I advocated that concession under the impression that all Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service must needs be men thoroughly imbued with European ideas, as men should undoubtedly be who are entrusted with the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects; but I am assured by those who are in a position to know that this is not always the case; that the stay in England of these Native gentlemen is so short, and the trammels of caste and of natural ties are so strong, that no real change of ideas is effected; and that, in the majority of cases, the old legend holds true "*Cœlum, non animum, mutant, qui trans mare currunt.*"

3. Therefore, if the question put in the Government Resolution No. 2985 of 13th May 1882 were now before me for reply, I should be disposed to advise that no change be made in the existing law in relation to this matter.

4. I freely admit that there must be some Native gentlemen in the magistracy, whether Covenanted or Uncovenanted Civil Servants, who might safely be trusted with the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, but the selection of these would be difficult, and their numbers would be so few that it would hardly be worthwhile to legislate on their behalf.

5. In Sind we have no Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, and in the number of Native Uncovenanted Magistrates whose work has come under my observation during the 32 years that I have served on the Sind Commission, I could not name more than three or four to whom I would have willingly seen such powers entrusted.

6. It is not a question of ability but of impartiality. I have met with many very competent Native Magistrates, and with some very incompetent European Magistrates. There are a thousand and one things among the surroundings of the Native Magistrate which must, in many cases, make it very difficult for him to exhibit strict impartiality, whilst the European Magistrate in India, isolated as he is, has, in the first place, no temptation to be otherwise than impartial, and is, in the second place, fully aware that any exhibition of partiality, even in favour of a European, would infallibly lower him in the estimation of his fellows.

7. In my humble opinion, the time for abolishing all race-distinctions, in the manner proposed by Mr. Ilbert's Bill, will not have arrived until it can be said of the Native magistracy, as a whole, that their decisions are no more swayed by "fear, favour or affection" than are those of the European magistracy.

No. 766, dated 8th May 1883.

From—H. N. B. ERSKINE, Esq., Commissioner in Sind,
To—The Right Honourable the Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

I have the honour to reply to Resolution No. 2258 in the Judicial Department, dated 2nd ultimo, calling for my opinion on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. The Statement of Objects and Reasons shows that the Bill has been prepared because "it was thought anomalous that, while Natives of India were admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service, and held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties, they should be deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace, and to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the presidency-towns." Whether the long-established custom that the British in India should be tried only by Judges or Magistrates who are themselves European British subjects is rightly described as an anomaly is of little consequence; but, if it be admitted that it is so, then the long-continued existence of such an anomaly surely indicates that its existence has not been permitted without good reason.

3. When writing in June last regarding the changes proposed, I expressed an opinion that these were not needed, and the discussions that have since that time taken place have only strengthened and confirmed this opinion. Whatever may have been thought when the Bill was first introduced, there can be no question now that the changes it is sought to introduce would be highly unpopular to the European community. The feeling of dislike to being tried by a Native Magistrate may, in a certain sense, be unwarranted, but it is, to me at all events, a perfectly intelligible one, and I cannot therefore blame those who hold it.

4. The European British subject has hitherto enjoyed certain rights, and these he is unwilling to lose. Any member of the Covenanted Civil Service who had become a Judge or a District Magistrate must, it may be presumed, be qualified to try a European British subject so far as mere legal knowledge and requirements go; but this would not, in my opinion, be reason sufficient for depriving the European British subject of his long-enjoyed and highly-valued right and privilege. I altogether fail to see that there are any grounds for fearing that

the present state of the law is in any way likely to be productive of harm, and, therefore, whether the present law is anomalous or not, I would wish to see it continued.

5. I have never been in a district in which there were not several European Magistrates, and, so far as I am aware, there are none such. For this reason I do not consider that, so far as magisterial cases are concerned, any practical inconvenience is likely to be experienced by the law being maintained in its present form. Some slight inconvenience might be caused were the District Sessions Judge a Native gentleman who could not try a European prisoner, but this slight degree of inconvenience would not, in my opinion, justify the change proposed.

6. I do not consider it necessary to explain in detail why I object to the changes proposed. So much has recently been said and written on the subject that I could state nothing new. I fail altogether to see that the continuance of the present law is continuing an "invidious distinction," for, so far as my experience goes, the distinction occasioned no ill-will, and was thoroughly understood and appreciated by the Native community. It is true that, since the Bill has been publicly discussed, the cry that the distinction is one that is unjust to the Native community has been raised; but this clearly is merely a result of the agitation caused by the proposed Bill, and would never, it may confidently be asserted, have been heard had the Bill not been discussed and, I may add, at times attacked with so much virulence by some of the European community. The agitation in favour of the Bill was in no sense spontaneous.

7. There is one other point to which I may refer as an argument against the Bill, namely, that it would not put an end to all distinctions between trials of European British subjects and Natives, and that anomalies would still remain which could only be removed by the repeal of the whole of Chapter XXXIII of the Criminal Procedure Code—a course that I do not believe even the supporters of the present Bill would venture to recommend. This being so, matters had much better be left as they are.

No. 617, dated 8th May 1883.

From—W. H. CROWE, Esq., Acting Judge, Satara,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In reply to Government Resolution No. 2258, dated the 2nd April 1883, Judicial Department, calling for my opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I have the honour to make the following observations.

2. With regard to section 1 of the Bill, I can see no reason why any restrictions should be placed on the powers of the Local Governments, as they at present exist, to appoint any European British subject who is thought fit to be a Justice of the Peace. The narrowing of the class from which they may be appointed in the direction contemplated by the Bill is likely to prove inconvenient.

3. It is stated in the Objects and Reasons for the Bill that it is thought anomalous that, while Natives of India are held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties, they should be deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace and to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the presidency-towns. Leaving aside the question whether this state of things is anomalous or not, it appears to me that it is not the proper function of the legislature to make laws which shall be ideally symmetrical, but to frame such enactments as shall remedy the grievances and pressing needs of the people. No administrative difficulty has been felt in this Presidency, as far as I am aware, owing to the existing state of the law. The proposed change would confer jurisdiction on, at most, five or six officers; but, even if, looking forward to the future, when the Civil Service will have received large reinforcements of Natives, the investment with the proposed jurisdiction were of more universal application, it must be borne in mind that the criminal class of Europeans in India is not large. The cases that arise in which Europeans are concerned are few and far between, and it is, and will always be, possible, in view of the increased facilities of communication which are daily taking place, to make arrangements for the trial of European offenders without having recourse to a legislative enactment, which is liable to misconstruction and calculated to arouse the worst feelings towards our Native fellow-subjects.

4. No inconvenience to the general public is likely to arise from the present state of the law, as, by the provisions of section 445 of the Criminal Procedure Code, it is competent to any Magistrate to take cognizance of an offence committed by a European British subject, and, if necessary, issue process for compelling his attendance before a Magistrate having jurisdiction to enquire into and try the case.

5. There is another aspect which presents itself to my mind, which is that, if the idea of removing so-called anomalies from the Statute-book be once dominant, there is no knowing where it will end. It may occur to future legislators to take away the right which Europeans now enjoy, of being tried by a jury of which not less than half the number shall be Europeans or Americans; and gradually the privilege of being tried by his peers, which from the days of the Magna Charta an Englishman has so highly prized, will be altogether taken away to obviate a necessity which in practical politics has never been felt.

6. The Statement of Objects and Reasons goes on further to say that the Government of India has decided to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race-distinctions. It appears to me that, looking at the history of our

connection with India and the constitution of the present system of government of the British Empire in India, any legislation which has for its object the removal of disqualifications based merely on race-distinctions is altogether anomalous. The most cogent illustration of my meaning which occurs to me is suggested by a reference to the constitution of the Native army in India. However efficient as a soldier a Native may be, however qualified in all respects for regimental advancement, it is impossible in the present state of the law that he could be promoted to the command of a regiment.

7. There is yet another objection to the Bill which, from a political point of view, should not be lost sight of, which is, that it is not advisable to create a class of judicial officers which are declared not to possess the confidence of the people over whom they are to exercise jurisdiction.

8. Looking at the amount of race-antagonism which the discussion of this measure has provoked, looking also at the absence of all grounds for its introduction beyond what I may term sentimental ones, I am of opinion that any change in the law in the direction indicated is uncalled for and unnecessary.

No. 2041, dated 16th May, 1882.

From—A. C. JERVOISE, Esq., District Magistrate, Belgaum,

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 2985 (Confidential) of the 13th instant, respecting the trial of European British subjects by Native Covenanted Magistrates and Judges.

2. As a general question, I do not see any reason why Native Covenanted Magistrates and Judges should not exercise the same jurisdiction over European British subjects as can be exercised by European Covenanted Magistrates and Judges.

3. Chapter XXXIII of the new Code of Criminal Procedure relates, however, also to jurisdiction in criminal matters over Americans and Europeans other than British subjects.

4. It is to be noted that this chapter is titled "Criminal Proceedings against Europeans and Americans," though sections 443 to 451 refer exclusively to "European British subjects." Section 452 would appear from the wording to apply to *all Europeans* were it not for the marginal reference, which seems to limit it to European British subjects and Natives jointly accused.

5. Americans and Europeans who are not British subjects do not appear to be made amenable by this chapter to any magisterial jurisdiction. From this it would appear that they are subject to the jurisdiction of both European and Native Magistrates, and are only to be specially treated when brought before the Sessions or the High Courts.

6. The above remarks may not seem to have any reference to your letter under reply; but my object in making them is to represent that, in my opinion, if any change in the law is made, European British subjects, other Europeans and Americans should come under the same jurisdiction.

7. I would point out that, if Covenanted Magistrates are to be given jurisdiction over European British subjects, it will be necessary to amend section 22 of the new Code, as, under it, only European British subjects can be appointed Justices of the Peace outside the Presidency-towns; and I am under the impression that, apart from any provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, European British subjects can only be tried by Magistrates who are Justices of the Peace.

No. 1669, dated 23rd April 1883.

From—A. C. JERVOISE, Esq., District Magistrate, Belgaum,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to reply to Government Resolution No. 2258 of the 2nd instant.

2. The provisions of the Bill received with the Government Resolution appear to sufficiently meet the object it has in view. I conclude, however, that Government do not wish the replies to their reference to be confined to an opinion as to whether the provisions made in the Bill are likely to be effective or not, but to extend to the question as to whether the passing of such a Bill into law is advisable or otherwise.

3. The nature of the Bill is such that it is not easy for a Government officer to express dissent from its provisions without at the same time discussing the policy out of which it has been born. But I feel that it would be highly unbecoming in me, as an executive officer, to give any sign of questioning that policy.

4. When, in reply to Government circular No. 2985 of the 13th May 1882, I stated that I did not see why Native Magistrates should not have jurisdiction over European British subjects, I regret to say that I did not at the time see all that might be involved in that jurisdiction. As a Magistrate who had spent a considerable number of years in districts where almost the only European British subject besides the Government officers that ever appears is a person whose sole offence is that of being a vagrant, and whom I have never found to offend in any other way, I most inexcusably, I admit, went no deeper into the

question than so far as it affected such a class, and I did not see why a Native Magistrate should not be able to dispose of such vagrants as fairly and as intelligently as a European Magistrate; moreover, it appeared to me that, as there would always exist the power of the District Magistrate to transfer, if considered advisable, a case against a European British subject from the Court of a Native to that of a European Magistrate, the exercise of their jurisdiction over Europeans by Native Magistrates would be subject to the immediate control and supervision of the District Magistrate; and, so far as this district—and I might almost venture to add, this Presidency—is concerned, I should still hold to my former opinion, if it were not that I find myself face to face with the possibility—a possibility that even now I can scarcely bring myself to grasp—that it may be at some future time the case that the Magistrate of this district will himself be a Native. When this comes to pass, the guarantee that a European British subject would otherwise feel he had of being tried, if not actually by one of his countrymen, at all events by a Magistrate whose proceedings are subject to the immediate control of a European Magistrate, will be gone.

5. It is not without reason that a European British subject might object to being tried before a Native Magistrate where he cannot obtain (if he could afford it) the assistance of well-trained counsel, either of his own race, or one who may have by practice in cases where Europeans are concerned, acquired a knowledge of European habits, social and domestic unwritten laws, or other subjects which would enable him to clear points which might otherwise be incomprehensible to the Native Magistrate. But, even were his feelings against being tried by a Native Magistrate declared to be simple prejudice, it would have to be admitted it was a prejudice often shared by Natives themselves. I cannot believe that I am alone in my experience of numerous applications made by Natives, when they have been either honestly or dishonestly accused of offences, that their cases may be transferred for trial before a European Magistrate. Such applications are not, as far as I have seen, ever grounded on any supposed superior legal attainments of the European Magistrates, but on some idea that they will obtain a fairer hearing and a judgment which, whether favourable or not, they can rely on as conscientiously arrived at. I have little hesitation in asserting that, if those Natives who have raised their voices against the law, which is (I believe) in force in all colonies, that Europeans shall be tried by their own countrymen, were ever to have practical proof in their own persons that they had thereby debarred themselves from applying that their cases be tried before a European Magistrate, they would much regret the clamour they have made.

6. It may be argued that, if Natives are but little cognizant with those habits of Europeans—social, domestic, commercial or other—a knowledge of which would throw light on a case, there is almost, if not quite an equal, ignorance on the part of Europeans with respect to Natives, and that therefore they are not competent to administer justice to Natives. The answer to this is that it is not ever found that a Native prefers having his case tried by a Native instead of by a European, and that, therefore, however reasonable the sequel may appear, it is fallacious.

7. That there are many good Native Magistrates honest, straight forward and painstaking, I most cordially admit; but I believe these are the very men who not only do not desire to hold jurisdiction over Europeans, but would infinitely rather be without it. I am aware that, as Magistrates, they are not the class or grade to whom the Bill proposes to give such jurisdiction, but as a class of Native gentlemen they are in many cases the same.

8. I have read a great deal of what has been advanced against this Bill in unofficial circles, and have in common with others regretted that indignation and alarm have laid to much being said that was impolitic and unfair, and had therefore a tendency to alienate the sympathies of those who would be desirous of giving the speakers a hearing. Still the Bill is one which, in my humble opinion, should not pass into law without the evident assent of at least a majority of the race or class which alone it affects. No one knows better than do Native Magistrates how plausible are the complaints, how admirably supported by apparently honest evidence, which one Native will bring against any other whom he wishes to place in confinement. I do not wish to go far into the subject, but will only remark that in troublous times, if they should ever arise, few non-official European British subjects would feel that the liberty of themselves and their families would be secure while the highest magisterial authority in the district might be a Native with jurisdiction over them. It is no insult to any Native to suggest that such sense of insecurity would be felt,—it could not with reason be expected to be otherwise,—and the Bill must be looked at with non-official eyes.

9. The Bill is one which does not affect the Native community in the smallest degree. They did not seek it; but those whose vanity was fed with the idea of increased authority over Europeans are now like children who have been offered unexpected sweetmeats and cry that they should be withheld. But the Bill does vitally affect the non-official European colonists upcountry and at a distance from reliable legal assistance; and, with all due deference to adverse opinions, I maintain that it is by their voices, and the voices of those whose mercantile and other interests are involved in their comfort and sense of security, that the Bill should be judged.

10. The sole argument which is advanced as the reason for proposing the Bill is that it will remove an anomaly. Because a Native who has succeeded by passing certain examinations in entering the covenanted civil service is held "competent to discharge the highest judicial duties" with respect to his own countrymen, therefore he must be competent to discharge such duties with respect to a race of which he has, at best, but a superficial knowledge. The really important question as to whether the policy of removing the supposed anomaly is safe or sound is not even glanced at.

11. I have said enough to show that I most respectfully, but most emphatically, disapprove of the object of the Bill. But perhaps the best argument against it passing into law is the entire absence of any necessity for it.

No. 329, dated 23rd May, 1883.

From—C. P. Cooper, Esq., Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Resolution of Government, No. 2258 of the 2nd ultimo, forwarding for my opinion a copy of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

2. It appears to me to be but right and fair, and in accordance with the principles of British justice, that an accused person should be tried in open Court, in order that his own community may be cognizant of what is going on, so that if any error or failure of justice should take place in the trial, the voice of public opinion could readily reach those able to redress the wrong.

3. In Presidency-towns, a European is liable to be tried by a Native Magistrate, but such trial always takes place in the midst of a large European community, in the presence of members of the legal profession and of representatives of the Press, and, if any error or failure of justice did take place, it could very speedily be brought to the notice of the authorities, and redress easily obtained.

4. This state of things does not exist in the mofussil; for, except in a very few stations, the European community is very limited, legal assistance cannot be easily obtained, there are no representatives of an English Press, and a European accused would therefore be placed at an extreme disadvantage in the event of his being tried before a Native tribunal.

5. Under these circumstances, I am of opinion that the time has not yet arrived when Native Magistrates in the mofussil can be invested with the power contemplated in the Bill.

No. 464, dated 13th April, 1883.

From—W. S. Forman, Esq., District Judge, Hyderabad,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In reference to Government Resolution No. 2258 of the 2nd instant, I have the honour to make the following observations.

2. In the first paragraph of the Statement of Objects and Reasons accompanying the proposed Bill, it is stated that it was thought anomalous that Natives should be deemed incompetent to exercise jurisdiction over Europeans outside the Presidency-towns. I would observe with all deference that it seems to me that it is hardly worth while legislating merely to remove an anomaly. As long as an arrangement of any sort works well, I am humbly of opinion it is perfectly immaterial whether it is anomalous or not.

3. I do not see that much practical inconvenience has as yet been caused by the law as it stands, and with careful supervision by the executive I do not anticipate any future inconvenience.

4. As a practical instance of what I mean, I may mention the possible case of a Native gentleman in Sind being appointed to the Native civil service. It would be very easy for Government so to employ this gentleman as not to put him in a position when he would be likely to have to try Europeans.

5. I have had considerable experience as a Magistrate and Sessions Judge in this Province, and have known several Native gentlemen who have been, and now are, employed as first class and sub-divisional Magistrates. I have heard of no inconvenience caused by these gentlemen not having power to try Europeans.

6. It seems to me that as long as any part of Chapter XXXIII of the Criminal Procedure Code remains unrepealed, every judicial disqualification based merely on race-distinctions will not be at once and completely removed from the Code.

7. Personally, had I occasion to be tried by a Magistrate, I should care little, if at all, whether he were a European or an Asiatic, but the great majority of Europeans in India would, as they have shown, care very much; and I venture to question the expediency of removing an anomaly at the cost of exciting strong discontent among the non-official European community.

8. In conclusion, I would deferentially observe that, if anomalies are to be removed because they are anomalous, it becomes somewhat hard to justify the retention by Great Britain of her present position in India.

No. 3400, dated 18th May, 1883.

From—J. G. MOORE, Esq., District Magistrate, Puna,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In compliance with the request contained in paragraph 1 of Government Resolution in the Judicial Department, No. 2258, dated the 2nd ultimo, I have the honour to express my opinion on the subject of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. So much has been written and said about this Bill that, in expressing my dissent from its principles, I can add nothing new.

3. It is argued in favour of the Bill that an invidious distinction is at present drawn between European and Native members of the Civil Service, inasmuch as the latter are apparently deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace and to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects, and that this anomaly should be removed.

4. In my opinion, it is not a question of competency or incompetency on the part of Native members of the civil service. As far as those belonging to the covenanted civil service are concerned, I admit that, by education, they are competent. It is not in respect to the trying authority, but in respect to the persons liable to be tried, that I object to the provisions of the Bill.

5. The question, as I view it, is, are Her Majesty's Native subjects to be allowed certain privileges and concessions, while none are to be allowed to Her European subjects in India?

6. If all anomalies were abolished in this country, if all race-distinctions and caste-prejudices were removed, the case would be different; but when respect is paid by our Law Courts to the customs and caste-prejudices of Natives of India, Europeans in India may fairly claim equal consideration.

7. It is the desire of Her Majesty's Government that all accused persons, whether Natives or Europeans, should be placed on an equal footing when arraigned before a Court of Justice; but, if this Bill becomes law, this desire will not be fulfilled.

8. In a Presidency-town, it does not signify if a European be tried by a Native Justice of the Peace; he has numbers of his fellow-countrymen about him; he can, if he pleases, engage European counsel or a counsel who thoroughly understands English, and he feels that he will have a fair trial. But in some out-of-the-way corner of the Mufassal, without any knowledge, or perhaps a very imperfect knowledge, of the language of the district, without a fellow-countryman anywhere near, I hold that an accused European is placed at a very great disadvantage compared with a Native of India under similar circumstances.

9. If the passing of this Bill into law was called for in the interests of the country and of the people at large, it would of course be right to disregard the feelings of a particular section of the community; but there is no such justification for the measure, and, as the Bill has caused, and will not cease to cause, the greatest dissatisfaction to the most loyal subjects of Her Majesty in this country, I think that it should be withdrawn.

10. If a compromise is considered desirable, then let Native members of the covenanted civil service be made Justices of the Peace, and let Her Majesty's European British subjects have, as now, the option of being tried by European Judges and Magistrates.

No. 882, dated 2nd May, 1883.

From—E. T. CANDY, Esq., Acting District Judge, Thána,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to reply to Government Resolution No. 2258 of 2nd April 1883, on the subject of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. The Statement of Objects and Reasons says:—"It was thought anomalous that, while Natives of India were admitted to the covenanted civil service and held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties they should be deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace and to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the Presidency-towns."

I completely concur in that opinion. So long as the two conditions abovementioned are fulfilled, I cannot see how a Native judicial officer should be deemed incompetent to try European British subjects.

3. But those conditions are of the highest importance.

(*a*) The Native of India must be a member of the covenanted civil service.

(*b*) He must have risen to the highest judicial posts, that is, District Magistrate or Sessions Judge.

The first condition ensures his *general* fitness, the second his *judicial* fitness. Both are the complement one of the other.

A Native civilian may have shown signs of the highest judicial acumen, and yet be unfit from general training to try European British subjects; or he may, by residence in England or long mixing with Europeans, have acquired that intimate acquaintance with English thought and habit which is necessary to one trying European British subjects, but he may not have the judicial training and ability which are also necessary.

4. I therefore approve of section 2 of the Bill, which makes all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace; because these officers, when Natives of India, have shown their general fitness for that post by winning their admission to the covenanted civil service, and their judicial fitness by work and training, which have justified Government in making them Sessions Judges and District Magistrates.

5. But it may be said:—Under the rules made under the Statute 33 Victoria, chapter 3, Natives are now admitted to the civil service without undergoing the training and competition through which the ordinary members of the *covenanted* civil service have to pass. These Natives must in course of time become District Magistrates or Sessions Judges and *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace, and yet the first condition abovementioned is not fulfilled, for they have not shown their general fitness by winning their admission to the covenanted civil service. I admit the flaw, and I would therefore restrict section 2 of the Bill to those Sessions Judges and District Magistrates who are members of the *covenanted* civil service.

6. I know that it has been declared unwise or impracticable to make any distinction between Native members of the covenanted civil service and members of the Native civil service under the statutory rules. I would respectfully protest against this view. There is the widest possible difference between the two classes. It is no insult to Mr. A or Mr. B, who have lately been admitted to the civil service under the statutory rules, to say that there is no comparison between them and, say, Mr. Tagore. When Natives complained of the *exceptional* difficulty they felt in sending their sons home to compete for the covenanted civil service, the reply in my opinion seemed clear:—

It is only natural and proper that there should be *exceptional* difficulty, for a Native who wins a position in the covenanted civil service will hold an *exceptional* position; he will take part in the government of the country, having great power over the members of the dominant race. There is no indignity in this expression, for, as long as England is the paramount power in India, so long an Englishman must be a member of the dominant race.

7. It would be impertinent on my part to pursue this subject further, though I would fain show that the *natural* and inevitable result of admitting Natives to the civil service by the back-door of statutory rules, and then allowing them to rise to the highest executive and judicial posts, must be that in the end we (Englishmen) withdraw from all share in the government of the country. That may not happen for a long time, and it may be quite right and proper that it should eventually happen; but the point which strikes me forcibly is that we should honestly look at the future and admit that this will be (as far as we can see) the natural result of our policy, and that it is what we intend.

8. The admission of Natives to the civil service by the statutory rules, not being now under discussion, must be accepted as a fact which cannot be altered; but we must also accept the fact that there is a vast difference in the training of these gentlemen and in that of those who have won their admission to the covenanted civil service by competition, and that difference must be an important factor in considering their fitness to have criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects.

9. If it be ruled that, for sundry reasons, it is advisable to ignore this difference, and that the training and general acquaintance with English thought and habit which Native civilians under the statutory rules will obtain *after* their admission to the civil service may be taken as an equivalent of those advantages which a Native covenanted civilian has acquired *when* he enters the service (a proposition the truth of which I doubt), then section 2 of the Bill can stand as it is, and *all* Sessions Judges and District Magistrates (whatever their previous training) will be *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace.

10. But the Bill goes much further. It gives Government the power to appoint to that office any Native first class Magistrate who is a member of the covenanted civil service or of the Native civil service under the statutory rules, or who is an Assistant Commissioner in Non-Regulation Provinces. (I omit Cantonment Magistrates, as that class (*d*) is admittedly not meant to apply to Natives.)

Now, I presume that it will be admitted that some exceptional safeguards are necessary for the trial of European British subjects. Otherwise, why is there any distinction drawn at all in the Code? Why should a Sessions Judge be able to sentence a Native to death, while he cannot sentence a European British subject to more than one year's imprisonment. So it is only a question of degree. Where shall we draw the line? Shall we say that, when a Native civilian has reached the post of Sessions Judge or District Magistrate, he shall be *ex-officio* fit to exercise this exceptional jurisdiction (a line that is intelligible and easily defined), or shall we say that, after he has passed his departmental examinations and become a first class Magistrate, then, *if the Government thinks him fit*, he shall be invested with the exceptional jurisdiction?

11. I respectfully submit that this latter proposal amounts to an unsatisfactory, undefined line. How does Government propose to judge of the fitness in each case? By reports from the High Court as to the "cases" sent up by such and such an officer? I submit that, until the officer has exercised jurisdiction over European British subjects, it would be impossible for the High Court to judge of his capability in that direction. By confidential reports from the District Magistrate? This would be better; but still I submit it would cause grave anomalies. In district *A* the Magistrate might think that every Native first class Magistrate is fit to exercise such powers: in district *B* the Magistrate might think that in no case should a Native Magistrate have such jurisdiction. And how invidious would be the distinction.

In district *A* there might be a Native first class Magistrate of five years' standing exercising the powers, while in district *B* there might be a Native first class Magistrate of seven years' standing not exercising the powers. 'Why (the latter would say) am I debarred from exercising the full powers which my junior enjoys? Have I shown myself to be too independent, and is it feared that, if an European British subject comes before me for trial, I shall be unduly severe? Must I truckle to my superiors to attain to the full dignity of my office?' I feel sure that it would be soon found impracticable to draw the line according to the idea of Government as to each man's fitness, and the result would be to lay down a rule that every Native first class Magistrate directly he obtains his first class powers or after exercising his powers for six months or one or two years (whatever may be the limit fixed), should have the usual magisterial jurisdiction over European British subjects.

12. But the Bill says that only first class Magistrates, who are members of the Covenanted Civil Service or of the Native Civil Service under the statutory rules or are Assistant Commissioners, shall, when considered fit, exercise these powers. It omits all other Native first class Magistrates; and yet the Statement of Objects and Reasons says that the time has come to remove *at once and completely* every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions.

On what ground, then, are the numerous Native Mámlatdárs and Deputy Collectors who are first class Magistrates disqualified from exercising jurisdiction over European British subjects? They have passed the departmental examinations. The only difference between them and the Native Civilians under the statutory rules is that the former have won their position by good service and ability, while the latter have been selected under certain rules—rules which admittedly do not in the slightest degree touch the question of fitness to try Europeans.

13. The case of a district may be easily supposed where the District Deputy Collector has full executive and magisterial charge of talukas *A* and *B*, but cannot try Europeans, while a "statutory rule" civilian has charge of talukas *C* and *D*, and can try Europeans. Some of these Deputy Collectors and Mámlatdárs with first class powers are able men; and, if the Bill is passed as it stands, it will soon have to be amended in order to correct the "anomaly" pointed out above. Therefore, I submit that the Bill does not remove at once and completely every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions. And I also submit that for that to be done completely, that is, both subjectively and objectively, the term "European British subject" must be expunged from our Criminal Procedure Code. Is Government prepared to go that length? If so, let us honestly say that the present amendment of the law is only an instalment of the final corrections of all anomalies, to which we look forward in the future.

14. I know that a great deal of "sentiment" has been expressed on both sides of the controversy which has arisen regarding the Bill. But I do not think that on this side of India we can share the fears that our wives and daughters will run the risk of unjust convictions by Native Magistrates, or even of unjust prosecutions on the part of vindictive *darzis* or butlers; what I do fear is that Native Magistrates in the mufassal will not have the moral courage to convict an influential Englishman when his punishment is justly due. And therefore I recommend that the new jurisdiction should be confined to officers who have attained an assured position, that is, District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, and officers who hold a corresponding rank in Non-Regulation Provinces (Deputy Commissioners, &c.).

15 To sum up, my opinion is briefly:—

(*a*) If the Bill is not to be a final and complete correction of race anomalies in our criminal procedure, let this be clearly understood.

(*b*) If the trial of Europeans is to be hedged in with exceptional safeguards, then let the law stand as it is now (that is, that an European should be tried by an European for petty offences and by the High Court in important cases), with this important amendment, which I believe is amply sufficient for administrative purposes, that is, when a Native Covenanted Civilian attains the rank of Sessions Judge or District Magistrate, let him be considered fit to exercise the same jurisdiction as his European colleagues.

(*c*) If for administrative purposes it be thought necessary to go further, then let the statutory Civilian be put in the same rank with the Native Covenanted Civilian.

(*d*) If it be thought necessary to go still further, then let *all* Native first class Magistrates have jurisdiction over Europeans, but let there not be any ill-defined line, which leaves everything to the opinion of Government as to the personal fitness of each individual officer, and must perforce shut out many Native Magistrates who are as fit as those to whom the jurisdiction will be given.

No. 405, dated 1st May, 1883.

From—E. Cordeaux, Esq., Sessions Judge, Púna,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In compliance with Government Resolution No. 2258 of 2nd April 1883, I have the honour to submit the following observations on the draft Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. I would, in the first place, point out certain flaws in the draft, which appear to me to be due to oversight, and to point to undue haste in preparing the Bill, which is all the more to be regretted considering the amount of opposition and strong criticism the Bill has been subject to since its publication.

3. To begin with, the effect of the proposed amendment contained in section 1 of the Bill will be to exclude all members of the naval, military and uncovenanted services and all non-official persons from eligibility to be appointed Justices of the Peace. Such a result of the proposed legislation as this could scarcely have been seriously contemplated.

4. Again, why are Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces and Cantonment Magistrates specially introduced in this proposed amendment of section 22 of the Code? As European British subjects, they are already eligible, and as Natives, in the first place, there is, I imagine, nothing to prevent a Native from rising to the appointment of Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner in a Non-Regulation Province; so that, under the proposed law, a Native Assistant Commissioner would become eligible to be appointed a Justice of the Peace; while the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner would, if a Native, be ineligible; and, in the second place, a Cantonment Magistrate is, as a fact, always a European British subject.

5. In the next place, while provision has been made in the Bill to meet the case of Sessions Judges and District Magistrates, there is no reference to Additional or Joint Sessions Judges.

6. With regard to the merits of the Bill, I would submit that as the opportunity of introducing the proposed amendments was not taken when the present Code was before the Legislative Council of the Governor General, the removal or modification of the anomaly which the Bill is intended to do away with might very well have been left until some future re-settlement of the law.

7. At the same time, I can see no objection to the proposed amendment of section 25 of the Code; for I think, if any Native member, whether of the Covenanted or the Native Civil Service, is fit to be a Sessions Judge or District Magistrate, he should by virtue of his office be a Justice of the Peace. It is essential that the chief district tribunals to the jurisdiction of which European British subjects are amenable should not be reduced in number, and, therefore, the two principal tribunals in each district should always possess such jurisdiction, whether presided over by Europeans or Natives.

8. A change in the law in this respect is inevitable, and, as the Bill is now before the public, it may be as well to carry it through to this extent. A similar provision in favour of Commissioners, Deputy or Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces, with a view of preserving a sufficient number of tribunals exercising the necessary jurisdiction, might be introduced in the Bill.

9. Beyond this, I cannot see what occasion there is for any alteration in the existing law. I would, therefore, leave section 22 of the Code as it at present stands, without any amendment, the amendment of section 25 being sufficient for all practical purposes.

10. Section 443 of the Code should be amended by adding the words "or District Magistrate." The amendment of section 444 of the Code as proposed in the Bill is, of course, consistent with the proposed amendment of section 25.

No. 248, dated 4th May, 1883.

From—J. G. White, Esq., District Magistrate, Surat,

To—The Commissioner of Northern Division, Bombay.

Referring to Government Resolution No. 2258 of the 2nd ultimo, I have the honour to state that, in my opinion, the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, should be so framed as to provide—

(*a*) for the investment with powers over European subjects of all Native members of the civil service who may have attained to the position of a District Magistrate or of a Judge and Sessions Judge, or who may be acting in those appointments;

(*b*) for conferring similar powers on any Native civilian, being a Magistrate of the first class, who may have exercised judicial functions for not less than five years, and of whose fitness for the exercise of jurisdiction over Europeans the Government may entertain no doubt.

No. 2217, dated 15th May, 1883.

From—R. E. Candy Esq., District Magistrate, Kanara,

To—The Commissioner of Southern Division, Bombay.

In reply to your No. 4707, of 18th April 1883, I have the honour to submit copy of a report by Mr. Todd on the Jurisdiction Bill, and to give my opinion as follows:—

Every officer who rises to the important post of District Judge or District Magistrate must *ex-officio* have jurisdiction over Europeans, whether he be a European or a Native.

No Native should be promoted to either of these posts unless Government have good reason to believe he will exercise such jurisdiction with perfect impartiality.

I respectfully beg to submit that in no other case does the law call for any change, and, except in the case of District Magistrates or District Judges, no Native Magistrates outside the Presidency-towns should be invested with jurisdiction over European British subjects.

No. 452, dated 7th May, 1883.

From—J. H. TODD, Esq., Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Sirsi,

To—The District Magistrate of Kanara.

With reference to your endorsement No. 1641 of 11th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that I consider section 2 of the Jurisdiction Bill, which makes all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace, and, therefore, will confer jurisdiction over Europeans on Native Civilians who attain those positions, is quite unobjectionable.

2. In the Bombay Presidency, the positions of Sessions Judge and District Magistrate are attained to only after several years' service, and it appears to me quite unreasonable to suppose that an officer who is fit to perform the duties of the judicial and magisterial head of a district is not fit to be entrusted with the very limited jurisdiction over European offenders given to the Mufassal Courts by the Criminal Procedure Code. Europeans in the Mufassal are at present subject to the control of Native police-officers, and I should think that they would on this account be more liable to insult and annoyance than were they rendered liable to be tried by Native officers in the position of a Sessions Judge or District Magistrate.

3. With regard to the 1st section of the Bill, I think that Native officers under clauses (*a*) and (*b*) should not be eligible to be made Justices of the Peace till they had served some time in a magisterial capacity. I would make this term ten years. This would cause no inconvenience, as in every district there is nearly sure to be one or more Civilians of over ten years' service; and after ten years' service Government would be able very accurately to judge whether any Native Civilian would be likely to abuse his powers were he given jurisdiction over Europeans. With regard to the officers mentioned in clause (*c*), as I have no knowledge of from what manner of persons the post of Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces (when not Covenanted Civilians) are appointed, I cannot give an opinion as to their fitness to be given jurisdiction over Europeans. With regard to Cantonment Magistrates, I consider that, looking to the particular nature of their duties, military men should, as a rule, hold such appointments, and there can hardly be ever any serious difficulty in finding qualified military officers to fill such posts.

4. For the reason stated in paragraph 4 of this letter and because Assistant Sessions Judges would not always after three years' service as such have attained to ten years' service, I should alter the proviso to one that he should be of at least ten years' service.

No. 1368, dated 7th June, 1883.

From—M. H. SCOTT, Esq., Sessions Judge, Ahmadnagar,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In accordance with Government Resolution No. 2258 of 2nd April last, I have the honour to submit the following remarks on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

2. I am unable to understand why there should be any restriction with regard to the persons who may be appointed Justices of the Peace. By the proposed alteration, many persons otherwise admirably qualified will be ineligible for the office of Justice of the Peace; for instance, a Covenanted Civilian, who is a Justice of the Peace up to the date of his retiring from the service, would be ineligible the day following his retirement; and there are several officers who might usefully be invested with the powers of a Justice of the Peace who, not coming within the classes mentioned in section 22 as amended, or not being first class Magistrates, could not be appointed as Justices of the Peace.

3. It may be worth consideration whether Justices of the Peace might not be abolished in India. Such powers as are necessary could be conferred under the Code of Criminal Procedure. If it be deemed necessary to retain the office of Justice of the Peace in regard to matters other than criminal jurisdiction in such cases as is necessary, persons might be invested with the powers of a Justice of the Peace for such purposes as might be requisite only.

4. I adhere to my former opinion that Sessions Judges and District Magistrates or officers occupying positions with similar powers (Assistant Judges, F. P., for instance) may, if Natives, be vested with the same powers as regards European British subjects as European members of the Covenanted Civil Service holding similar appointments. But I do not think any further alteration in the present law as regards jurisdiction over European British subjects seems necessary. If an alteration be desirable, a beginning might be made by allowing an European British subject to accept, if he desired, the jurisdiction of a Court presided over by a Native officer, who would then have full power to try him as if he were himself an European British subject.

5. It might also be well if benches of Magistrates or Justices were formed, composed of both European British subjects and Natives, who might begin by trying petty cases and

eventually be invested with such powers as might be convenient. Or Native Assistant Judges at head-quarters might be empowered to try European British subjects in such cases as were referred to them by the Sessions Judge. In such cases, the accused might, on good ground being shown, object to the order transferring his case for trial, and would be able to apply to the Sessions Judge, during the trial, if necessary, with an appeal against conviction if found guilty.

6. I believe the appointment of Natives as Assistant Judges would be in every way satisfactory. They might be selected from the Subordinate Judges, and would supply a cheap and effective means of relieving the District and Sessions Courts. It would, of course, still be necessary that members of the Covenanted Service should be appointed as Assistant Judges to acquire the necessary training, but there are several districts which are at present without any Assistant Judge, and the experiment might be tried in these, at first, of appointing Native Assistants.

7. With regard to the principle of empowering Natives to try European British subjects, the fitness of the trying officers is not so much a consideration as whether it is necessary to deprive European British subjects of the privileges they now enjoy.

8. But, further, the position, feelings and ideas of the European British subjects most likely to be affected by the proposed changes should be carefully considered. The greater number of these persons belong to classes which always consider a Native, no matter how high his rank, as an inferior. Resistance to the jurisdiction of a Court, and possibly terrorism of the presiding officer, though eventually severely punished, may do much to bring the Court or the officer into contempt, or impair their usefulness, and may injure the officer concerned by destroying his firmness and confidence.

9. For, to be of any use, the Native officers empowered to try European British subjects will have to be stationed, as a rule, at a distance from any superior authority from whom they might obtain countenance or assistance.

10. There is perhaps not much fear that false complaints by Natives against European British subjects would increase if the Court ordinarily used were presided over by a Native in the usual course of things, but it is possible that, in some of the remoter districts, European British subjects, if rivals in business, might endeavour to injure one another at a busy season by false complaints, presumably made by subordinates against their employers, and these complaints might be met by the accused and his employer's terrifying the trying authorities. But such matters may be left to settle themselves. It will always be open to Government to appoint a European Magistrate where one seems to be required, or to substitute Native for European agency where advisable.

11. It is obvious that, if the number of European British subjects in India increases, as it has a tendency to do, and if the number of officers who can try European British subjects decreases or remains stationary, there must come a time when more or less jurisdiction over European British subjects must be conferred upon Native officers. It is also probable that, if such jurisdiction were conferred, a European British subject would prefer the nearer to the more remote tribunal in the majority of cases. The cases in which a Native Magistrate could try a European British subject would not be numerous, and would usually be trifling in nature; and a busy man would no doubt prefer to pocket his pride and be tried by a Native Magistrate rather than lose time and money by travelling to and from the Court of the European Magistrate.

12. The term "European British subjects" is, as has been pointed out during the debates on the Bill in the Viceregal Council, "a mere legal creation of the Indian Criminal Procedure Code." The applicability of the term since it was first used has been already more than once changed, and it may be changed again. The present definition is anomalous, because the great-grand-children of one brother may be European British subjects and those of another may not, though both brothers may have the same father and mother. And the child of a Native father and mother, if born in England, is an European British subject. It may be that some so-called European British subjects now in office may be, under the Code of Criminal Procedure, really Natives. "Colour has nothing to do with it, as Mr. Gibbs has observed; "a perfectly white person may not come within the definition, while a decidedly dark one may." And it must be in many cases an exceedingly difficult matter for an accused person to prove that he is an European British subject; and if an European British subject is always to insist on trial by an European British subject, he will either have to always carry his credentials with him, or possibly remain in custody or untried till he can procure them.

13. But, though it is easy to point out anomalies and suggest advantages, I think it is a question whether the time has come for so sweeping an alteration as that proposed. It is quite probable that the opposition which the Bill has provoked is in character much the same as that roused by the proposal to open museums, &c., on Sunday in England. The working classes consider that the day of rest itself would by the measure be endangered, and possibly finally lost to them, and they are extremely jealous and apprehensive on the point. Similarly, Europeans in India cannot believe that, if the proposed Bill becomes law, the privileges left to them may not be swept away. Whether they would be any the worse off if their privileges were so removed may be a question, but I certainly think the changes, if made, should be gradual.

No. 698, dated 10th April, 1883.

From—A. C. WATT, Esq., District Judge, Dharwar,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In reply to Government Resolution No. 2258 of 2nd April, 1883, forwarding a copy of a Bill, and the Statement of Objects and Reasons therefor, to amend the Criminal Procedure Code of 1882, I have the honour to inform you that, on again reading carefully my confidential letter No. 722 of 20th May, 1882, I see no reason, notwithstanding all the agitation which has taken place, to alter the opinion I then gave. My opinion, of course, only extends to the Bombay Presidency, as I have never served elsewhere.

2. I repeat that I think there ought not to be a distinction between European covenanted civil servants and the two Native covenanted civil servants in this Presidency who have entered the service by competition. But as regards those members of the covenanted civil service who have been more recently put in by selection or patronage, I do not think that, at all events for some years to come, it would be advisable to confer on them any jurisdiction in criminal cases over European British subjects.

No. 731 P. Confidential, dated 22nd May, 1882.

From—A. CRAWFORD, Esq., Commissioner, Southern Division, Bombay,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

In reply to your letter No. 2985, Confidential, of 13th instant, I beg to state that, in my opinion, it is very desirable to place all the members of the covenanted service, whether European or Native, selected by *competition* on the same footing with regard to criminal proceedings against European British subjects. As regards those appointed by nomination (Native civil service), it will not be invidious, at least for some time to come, to lay down that they shall not try European British subjects unless they have exercised magisterial powers for three years. A similar restriction has been placed on all Assistant Sessions Judges (*vide* section 444 of the new Criminal Procedure Code).

No. 234 S. P., dated 6th May, 1883.

From—A. CRAWFORD, Esq., Commissioner, Southern Division, Bombay,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to state, with reference to the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1882, that I adhere to the opinion expressed by me on 22nd May last, No. P. 731 Confidential.

No. 506, dated 23rd April, 1883.

From—LIEUT.-COLONEL G. C. GRANT, Sessions Judge, Karáchí,
To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

With reference to Government Resolution, Judicial Department, No. 2258 of 2nd April, 1883, forwarding for opinion copy of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I have the honour to submit my views briefly as follows:—

2. I wholly disapprove of the provisions of the Bill. The arguments against the proposed modification of the existing law have been so ably stated by the opponents of the Bill, and notably by Sir James Stephen, that it is needless for me to recapitulate them.

3. I imagine that one of the objects of the Government of India in consulting local officers is to ascertain whether, in the part of India with which they are connected, any administrative inconvenience exists in consequence of Native Magistrates not exercising jurisdiction over European British subjects, such as is alleged by the supporters of the measure. I have been in civil employ in Sind for 23 years and have been a Judge in the province for 20 years, and have never heard of any such administrative difficulties whatever. I feel confident that none exist.

4. If the Government of India, notwithstanding the overwhelming consensus of non-official European opinion against the Bill, are determined to proceed with it, I am of opinion that the proposed jurisdiction should be given only to Natives of the covenanted civil service who have attained the position of Sessions Judge or District Magistrate. In conclusion, I may state that I consider the proposed legislation most ill-timed and wholly unnecessary.

No. 921, dated 10th May, 1883.

From—W. H. PROPERT, Esq., Acting Commissioner, Northern Division, Bombay,
To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour, as directed in Government Resolution No. 2258 of 2nd April, 1883, Judicial Department, to submit the reports of the District Magistrates in this division upon

the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882. The District Magistrates of Kaira and Kolába have forwarded, in original, separate reports by their assistants and deputies, and these also will be found amongst the papers herewith sent.

2. As regards my own opinion, I have but little to add to the views I expressed, as Collector and Magistrate of Khandesh, when the question was mooted last year.

3. I then stated that a few years hence some or all of the changes now proposed by Mr. Ilbert will probably have to be made, but that, in my opinion, their introduction should be delayed as long as possible. I further stated that *as a rule*, Native Magistrates in the Mufassal would rather not have the power to try Europeans, and this opinion I still hold.

4. I should now be glad to see Mr. Ilbert's Bill placed on one side and its further consideration deferred for an unlimited period, as I certainly think that the objections raised to its proposed provisions on the part of the European population of this country are based on solid grounds, and are therefore worthy of consideration and respect.

5. It would, of course, be unbecoming for me or any other officer to hazard an opinion as to whether the Government of India can, just at this moment, shelve the Bill without loss of dignity. If, however, it be decided to proceed with the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code, I would earnestly recommend that the appointment of Justice of the Peace in the Mufassal be conferred *only* upon members of the Covenanted Civil Service, that is, those who gained their position by competition in England.

6. It would be easy for every one of us to argue at great length in support of our own particular view of the question, but, as the matter has already been publicly and officially considered from every possible point of view, it is undesirable for individual officers to say more than is absolutely necessary. It may be taken as proved, however, that the general opinion of Europeans of every class, and of a few Natives* also, is opposed to a change in the law.

* *E. g., vide* the opinion of the Magistrate, First Class, Mr. Bahmanje Modi, of Kaira, herewith sent.

No. 744, dated 23rd May, 1882.

From—G. M. MACPHERSON, Esq., District Judge, Surat,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to forward the report called for in Mr. Peile's letter No. 2985, Confidential, of 13th instant.

2. In my opinion, all members of the Covenanted Civil Service, whether European or Native, who have been selected in the ordinary way, but excluding those appointed in India, should be placed on the same footing as regards trying European British subjects. They have entered the service in the same way, they have had a good education to commence with, have passed the same examinations and have gone through the same training, while those of them who are Natives of India have acquired some knowledge of the ways of Europeans in their own country.

3. The great difficulty in making any changes in such matters is to know where to draw the line and where to stop. Theoretically, all men may have a right to be treated in the same way before Courts of law, before which all are equal. The obligation to obey the law and the liability to be punished for breaking it is the same in the case of all subjects, European or otherwise. A Court entrusted with power to decide whether one man has committed an offence within its cognizance should presumably be able to decide whether any other person has committed that offence. *Primâ facie* no man should be allowed to say to a Court of his land "You are fit to try A. B. for theft, but you are not fit to try me for the same offence." And it might be argued that the law should not speak virtually to that effect, by making personal distinctions as to certain classes, who are not to be tried or are to be tried by particular Courts. And the anomaly seems still greater when the restriction seems in favour of one special class, and is based simply on the nationality of the person tried or of the Judge who tries him. To the philosopher this may seem very unjust.

4. But other considerations come into play, and practically force us to this anomaly, which at first seem so unjust. I shall restrict myself simply to those which seem to me to bear on the restrictions above suggested by me. The very circumstances of the country make it inadvisable in the interests of justice that power to try European British subjects should be given to all Courts. To say "You shall try some European British subjects, but not all" would be still more unjust than to say "You shall try no European British subjects," for it would introduce both a personal and a class distinction. In the Presidency-towns, where there are numerous Europeans of all classes, the Presidency Magistrates try all irrespective of race. In large military stations, where there are European regiments, there are Cantonment Magistrates. In most other parts of the Presidency, except in one or two places where there are many railway employés, the Europeans chiefly met with are men of education and good social position; in many parts they are almost all officials. They are people who may be said never to commit the petty offences for which people are usually tried by the lower grades of Magistrates. Suppose a charge brought against one of them, whom one of these Magistrates acquitted; all the disaffected people in the neighbourhood would at once exclaim that the Magistrate was afraid to convict one who was probably a friend of the Magistrate's superior officer. However proper the acquittal might be, it would, as a matter of course, by many be put down to improper reasons. Now, when we see how often Native newspapers believe every European,

especially every European official, to be guilty of every charge brought against him even by anonymous correspondents, it may be imagined what would be the outcry against Europeans who were acquitted by the lower grades of the magistracy. From my own perusal of newspapers it seems to me that some papers believe every European official must be guilty of every offence suggested against him, and every acquittal of a European is considered a failure of justice. Much more would this be the case were Magistrates generally vested with the power to try Europeans.

5. Assuming, then, that for their own sake, and for the sake of justice, all Magistrates cannot be vested with this power, the question comes to be "Who should be so? Where should the line be drawn?" To select some Magistrates and leave out others of the same grade would lead to all sorts of personal reflections, while some who might pass very high examinations would be very unfit to be entrusted with the power. Again, the fact comes into play that the customs of the two races vary very much. It is often a complaint against Europeans that they know very little of the real habits and thoughts of the people of this country. But equally true it is that very few of the Natives of this country know much of our ways. Even of those who come into contact a good deal with Europeans, few understand our social habits, our freedom of intercourse, our domestic matters or those motives which go so far in forming the rule of life. Here, I think, we have a definite point where the line may be drawn.

6. A Civilian who has passed the examinations at home must of necessity have learned much more of European life and customs than one who has not been in Europe, but who, without leaving his own country, has been nominated to an appointment in the service. Living as one in a crowd, he must see more of European life, both good and evil, passing before him than he would do in this country. Wherein our habits differ from those of this country, wherein the motives and principles which mould our lives differ from those of his own countrymen, how the freedom of our domestic and social intercourse varies from what he has been accustomed to, are matters which he will see as a young man in England in a way that he can never do by mere intercourse with Europeans in this country.

7. Since I first thought of the subject when the Criminal Procedure Code of 1872 was under discussion, I have never seen why there should be any distinction of this nature between members of the Civil Service, occupying similar official positions, or why one Sessions Judge or Magistrate (of the Covenanted Civil Service) should have more or less power than another filling a corresponding office. But the "Native Civil Servants" appointed in India have had neither the same training nor the same advantages of residence in Europe as their countrymen who passed into the service by competition, and this seems to me to give a distinct place where to halt.

8. If the latter (the Native Civil Servants appointed in India) receive the power under discussion, apart from inherent disadvantages which I trust I have shown to exist, there will be the great disadvantage that there will be continual pressure to advance still further. It would be asked why a Magistrate who has passed his examinations creditably and done good service should be prevented from exercising the full magisterial powers vested in a man, his equal, who owing to patronage or interest had acquired one of a few appointments limited in number and therefore open to very few.

9. We live in an age when everything conceded leads to a demand for still more. In this matter, a very plausible cry might be raised for equality in the powers of Magistrates and Judges without invidious questions of birth and race. An outcry in this country as to this will meet a response from, and be re-echoed by, many in England, who know very little about India, but will shout for equal justice and equal privileges for all without regard to nationality. If people who receive their appointments owing to patronage are vested with the power in question, it will be asked why their countrymen for whom such appointments from their fewness could not possibly be found, but who have obtained equal magisterial rank and passed examinations in law, should not have the same power. It would be to little effect simply to say "Because one set was appointed to the Covenanted Civil Service and the others were not." It seems to me that a far more satisfactory answer would be "All who enter the service in the regular way have the full powers of the offices to which they are appointed."

No. 829, dated 10th May, 1883.

From—G. M. MACPHERSON, Esq., District Judge, Surat,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I have the honour to forward the report called for in Government Resolutions No. 2258 of 2nd April and No. 2746 of 23rd April 1883.

2. In my confidential No. 744 of 23rd May 1882, I replied to a letter so far on the same subject, and in it I stated that "in my opinion all members of the Covenanted Civil Service, whether European or Native, who have been selected in the ordinary way, but excluding those appointed in India, should be placed on the same footing as regards trying European British subjects." The reference then made in your No. 2985 (confidential) of 13th May 1882, was simply as to members of the Covenanted Service, whether European or Native. The Bill, however, now under report goes beyond that proposal, and includes "Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces or Cantonment Magistrates," as well as Civilians entering the service by competition and members of the Native Civil Service constituted under the Statute 33 Vic., chapter 3.

3. In my report above referred to, I expressed a strong opinion that the power of trying European British subjects should not be given to Native Civilians appointed in India. This I supported by showing that an outcry would be raised in favour of giving to uncovenanted officers, who had done good service and had done well as Magistrates, the same powers as might be given to the Native Civilians appointed without visiting England and studying there, as is necessarily the case with Civilians entering the service by the regular mode of competition. I would beg to refer to that report, and specially here I would quote from paragraphs 3 and 9. "The great difficulty in making any change in such matters is to know where to draw the line and where to stop. ..... We live in an age when everything conceded leads to a demand for still more." These remarks have been most fully justified by the fact that by many organs of Native opinion the concessions now proposed are looked on as only a first instalment, while it is claimed in violent language that every European British subject should be liable to be tried in any Court, without any restriction as to the amount of punishment to be inflicted, so long as it is within the limits laid down by the Penal Code, and does not exceed the general powers of the Court trying him.

4. During my recent absence on privilege leave, I learned facts which show that, in Bengal, the feelings with which many influential but non-official Englishmen living in the mufassal are regarded by their wealthy neighbours are such as would make it very difficult for a Native Magistrate living in those parts to administer strict and unbiassed justice in disposing of cases involving Europeans.

5. The outburst of race-feeling and animosity with which this Bill has been received by both sides confirms what I learned when absent on leave. I fear that this Bill has done more than almost anything else for long has done to rekindle feelings of animosity between Europeans and Natives, and that it has thrown us back years as regards any advance that may have been made towards more cordial feelings. I fear Government cannot withdraw the Bill altogether, as to do so would give rise to the thought that violent opposition to proposed legislation would force the Government to give it up. It only remains to see what modifications should be made in the present system.

6. I think there has been a good deal of loose talking and writing on the subject. European Judges and Magistrates have been talked of as 'privileged by their race to try Europeans.' The 'privilege' is that of the prisoner or accused person. A juror who is told to stand aside as objected to is not 'privileged' any more than is he who, being unchallenged, acts as juror. The privilege is on the part of the person who can make him stand aside. It is not my privilege that I can try a person whom Mr. Tagore (whose name has so often been mentioned in connection with this matter) cannot try. It is the prisoner who is 'privileged' to claim to be tried by another than Mr. Tagore. I am not aware that much injustice has been caused by the existence of this privilege on the part of European British subjects.

7. Again, it is said, and truly said, that it is an anomaly that this privilege should exist, or that a person entitled to try a Native for theft should not be able to try a European British subject for a similar offence.

8. The question arises whether it is intended to remove all such privileges and anomalies. Many Native gentlemen possess, under section 641 of the Civil Procedure Code, a privilege possessed by no Europeans under that Code, that of exemption from personal appearance in Civil Courts. Section 640 of the same Code exempts many Native women from personal appearance in Court (except when arrested in execution of civil process). These are privileges which tend to defeat justice. Natives look on a person exempt from appearance in Court as so far above the Courts. Examination by commission cannot be as effectual for the ends of justice as examination in open Court. No European lady, however high her rank, is allowed the privilege of these Native women, many of them very uneducated and deficient in culture. Are the people who now cry out so loudly against the injustice, which they allege is caused by the privilege of comparatively few European British subjects, prepared, for the ends of justice and for the sake of equality, to give up these privileges? Of course they are not, and Government has shown no intention of removing these privileges. It is an anomaly that assessors should be asked their opinions when these need carry no weight. To remove this anomaly except by the abolition of assessors is impossible. It would certainly be an anomaly that a European lady should be forced to appear as an accused party in the Court of a person whose wife is privileged not to appear even as a witness in a Civil Court. If all privileges and anomalies are not to be swept away, I object to the removal only of those which affect Europeans while those affecting Natives are allowed to remain in full force, especially as this anomaly is productive of good.

9. I have shown in my former report on this subject why I thought that, in the interests of justice, the right of trying European British subjects should not be generally given to Native Magistrates. I regret to say that, since writing that report, I have seen ample reason to justify part of my remarks in actual life. Without going into details, I have seen and learned of cases in which influential Native gentlemen were concerned, in which, though the trying Judge doubtless intended ultimately to act impartially, he gladly availed himself of every opportunity of putting off a decision or an order which might offend an influential man.

10. The proposed Bill would abolish some powers of Honorary Magistrates who are now Justices of the Peace. I understand that in Bengal there are numerous European Magistrates not in the Covenanted Civil Service who are Justices of the Peace. Such people could no longer be appointed under the proposed amendment. Thus, to enable a few people to try cases, many

will be disqualified. This will lead to the anomaly that such Europeans will be able to try Natives but not Europeans.

11. Thus, considering the state of angry feeling on the subject, and the little practical advantage to be gained from the change, I am of opinion that, were it possible, no change should be made at present. But this cannot be. The Government of India has gone too far to draw back. I think every Sessions Judge and District Magistrate should be *ex-officio* a Justice of the Peace, and be empowered to try European British subjects. No Magistrate has a right to be a Justice of the Peace, and it is no anomaly that one Magistrate, first class, should be a Justice of the Peace while another is not. But it is a great anomaly that a District Magistrate or Sessions Judge should not be able to try a European British subject who is liable to be tried by subordinate first class Magistrates in the same district. Government select the officers whom they are to appoint to be Magistrates or Sessions Judges in particular districts, and can thus avoid sending particular officers to districts where it would not be advisable that they should be. I think the privileges of *parda nishin* women are allowed to an extent never intended by the Legislature, which would scarcely intend that Native ladies who drive to a baudstand, or Native women who belong to families of low caste but wealthy, should be exempt from appearance in Court as witnesses. But, so long as this is done under High Court sanction, I do not think any Native can reasonably object if an English woman claims to be tried criminally by her countryman; and therefore I would give every female European British subject the right she now has. This of necessity implies that her husband, &c., shall possess the same right. I, therefore, think that, considering the unfortunate circumstances that have arisen, the only course is to amend the Bill so that every District Magistrate and Sessions Judge, members of the Covenanted Civil Service, shall *ex-officio* be Justices of the Peace and shall be able to try European British subjects, but that all European British subjects shall have the right of claiming to be tried by a Magistrate or Sessions Judge who is a Justice of the Peace and European British subject. As it would apparently be impossible to distinguish between those Native members of the Civil Service who are selected by competition and those who are appointed in India without leading to never-ending unpleasantness and assertions of right, and as I do not think the latter should as first class Magistrates be Justices of the Peace, I think only the Native members of the service who are District Magistrates or Sessions Judges should exercise the above right.

No. 1066, dated 12th April 1883.

From—G. B. REID, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Ahmadabad,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

With reference to the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, forwarded with Government Resolution No. 2258 of 2nd April 1883, I have the honour to report that the Statement of Objects and Reasons does not seem to me to give any satisfactory reason for changing the law. So long as Europeans are entitled to a trial in the High Court for all but trivial offences, it seems unnecessary to abolish one particular anomaly, especially when there is such a very strong feeling in the European community.

It is not a question which concerns the Native community or any considerable class of it, and the *amour propre* of a few Native Magistrates and Judges cannot be considered to weigh against the very strong feelings of thousands of Europeans.

Ten years have elapsed since the Criminal Procedure Code of 1872, and if any practical difficulty had been felt, the proposed change would presumably have been embodied in Act X of 1882, which it is now proposed to alter. This is in itself a strong argument against the existence of any present necessity.

On the other hand, if the Government of India pursue their present policy of introducing a large proportion of Native gentlemen into the service, it will be absolutely necessary for administrative reasons to give Native Judges and District Magistrates the same powers as their European brethren. It is impossible to predict, but I believe that the objection of non-official Europeans will be as strong ten years hence as it is now. It is, I think, much to be regretted that the Bill has been avowedly based on a wish to remove an anomaly instead of on the administrative necessity of having in each district a judicial officer competent to exercise the powers over Europeans in the Mufassal given to Judges and District Magistrates by Act X of 1872.

4. Speaking of the Bombay Presidency, I am of opinion that some such alteration will have to be made in the course of years, but there is not at present any necessity for it, and that the change should, at any rate, be limited to Judges and District Magistrates and officers of similar functions in non-judicial Provinces.

No. 1460, dated 13th April 1883.

From—J. R. MIDDLETON, Esq., District Magistrate, Dharwar,

To—The Commissioner, Southern Division, Bombay.

With reference to Government Resolution No. 2258, dated 2nd instant (Judicial Department), I have the honour to state that, in my opinion, the proposed change in the law is, in this Presidency at least, quite uncalled-for. For many years to come the number

of cases in which inconvenience would be caused by the present law will be very small. I have not seen a single instance quoted in which inconvenience had been felt. The Bill has been justified on the ground that cases may arise, for instance in Kanára, where the Judge is a Native, in which inconvenience might be felt. Practically, therefore, the present law is not found to be defective. Public opinion in favour of Native Judges and Magistrates was slowly ripening, and, if the Bill had been deferred until the number of these Native officers had increased, and the experience of a few cases had brought the disadvantages of the present law prominently to notice, the change would have met with little or no opposition.

2. Setting aside, however, the policy of making the change when there was no pressing necessity for it, and when it was certain to stir up bitter race animosities, I consider that the removal of the restriction which prevents Native officers of experience and proved ability from trying European British subjects is quite justifiable. The powers which even European Sessions Judges and first class Magistrates have as regards European British subjects are limited, and Native officers who have risen to either of these ranks may safely be invested with them.

No. 1879A, dated 31st May 1883.

From—F. H. SOUTER, Esq., Commissioner of Police, Bombay,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.
Statement of Objects and Reasons.

I have the honour to acknowledge the Resolution of Government in the Judicial Department, No. 2258 of 1883, dated 2nd ultimo, with copies of documents attached and noted in the margin, in which I am called upon for my opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. Perhaps few legislative measures in this country have so largely roused an influential body of the people in the same manner as the proposed Bill to vest Magistrates who are Natives of this country with jurisdiction over European British subjects.

3. In expressing an opinion now on this important question I do so with the advantage of having heard the subject fully and widely discussed in all its bearings, and, with these opportunities, combined with my long police experience, and after weighing the consensus of public opinion, I have arrived at the conclusion that the proposed measure is premature, and, if introduced at the present time, will be calculated to cause serious results prejudicial to the interests of European British subjects in India.

4. It appears to me, however, that the proposed jurisdiction over European British subjects might, in the first instance, be reasonably extended to Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, and also to those members of the Civil Service nominated in India without competition.

5. The very position of such officers, I submit, demands that the existing anomaly be removed, and their official duties wholly assimilated with those of the European Civilians, as to continue so marked a distinction would not only be invidious, but unquestionably detract seriously from the object which no doubt Government had in view when conferring so great a boon as the throwing open of the Covenanted Civil Service to the Natives of India.

I regret that, through inadvertence, this report should not have been submitted previous to my availing myself of my present privilege leave.

No. 520, dated 8th May 1883.

From—H. BATTY, Esq., Acting District Judge, Shikarpur,

To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

No. 2258 of 2nd April 1883, calling for opinion on Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, 1882, as regards the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

With reference to Government Resolution marginally quoted, I have the honour to give my opinion as follows.

1. It is proposed to empower Local Governments to invest Covenanted Civilians, members of the Native Civil Service, and Assistant Commissioners and Cantonment Magistrates with power to sentence European British subjects to imprisonment for three months or Rs. 1,000 fine. It is also proposed to give all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates jurisdiction over Europeans.

2. The measure has, no doubt, been much misunderstood by the general public and grossly misrepresented by individuals who must have known its import.

3. As regards the extension of the jurisdiction of first class Magistrates, I have the honour to state that, in my opinion, no advantage would be attained by the abolition of the peculiar privilege of European British subjects commensurate with the uneasiness and alarm which, it appears, such abolition would excite.

4. I am not aware of any practical inconvenience having ever arisen from the restrictions heretofore placed on the jurisdiction of first class Magistrates over European British subjects. The only inconvenience which suggests itself to me as likely to arise in some exceptional cases is that a European charged with some petty offence might, under the present law, have to be sent to another Magistrate in the same district to undergo his trial. As, however,

there are generally several European Magistrates in a district and an accused could always waive his privilege under section 454, this does not appear to call for a change in the law.

5. I do not think that objection can reasonably be taken to the existing state of the law merely on the ground that it preserves race distinctions, or that the proposed change would efface those distinctions from the Code.

6. The peculiar procedure which applies to Europeans is defensible on other grounds than invidious race distinctions. Very few Mufassal Magistrates have lived for any length of time in Europe or know very much of European customs. Both to the Magistrate and to the accused it would be a decided disadvantage, in cases against or between Europeans, to have the proceedings conducted in a language which was neither common to both, nor the language in ordinary use in the Court. Mufassal Magistrates, moreover, have not, as a rule, any special judicial training. In cases where race feeling would almost invariably arise, the appreciation of evidence would present exceptional difficulties. This seems to have been recognised by the Legislature in limiting the jurisdiction of even European British Magistrates to petty cases. It is not proposed to do away with this last-mentioned limitation of jurisdiction. It cannot, therefore, be said that the change would efface all race distinctions.

7. I do not myself think that the safety of Europeans would be at all endangered by the proposed change. I think it quite as likely that Native Magistrates would err, in such cases, on the side of leniency as on the side of severity. But the fact that the class to be affected by it regards the measure with distrust and alarm, and that no material advantage would be secured by it, is, in my opinion, sufficient ground for abandoning a measure which seems likely to produce no results but the race animosity which it is intended to dispel.

8. As to the jurisdiction of Sessions Judges, I think the case is different. There is only one Sessions Judge to a district where there may be many first class Magistrates. If the present disqualifications are preserved, the greatest inconveniences might occur. A European committed on a petty charge by a fellow countryman would have to go, in many cases, hundreds of miles, perhaps in custody, for trial by a High Court, and the expenses of the proceedings would be very considerable. A Native Civilian who has power to pass sentences of death on fellow natives of other castes and creeds must be monstrously unfit for his post if, after all his training and experience, he is not to be trusted to pass sentence of a year on a European or to transfer the case to a High Court. I fail to see any ground for disqualifying such Native officers except race-distinctions, which could not be otherwise than invidious.

No. 991, dated 19th May 1883.

From—H. Birdwood, Esq., Judicial Commissioner, Sind,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

With reference to Government Resolution No. 2258 of the 2nd *ultimo*, I have the honour to state that, though, in my opinion, it would have been advisable, for the reasons given in my letter No. 1003 of the 2nd June 1882, to have postponed any legislation for the amendment of Chapter XXXIII of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, for a few years, that is, until a further and general revision of the Code became necessary, still, as a Bill has now been introduced for the amendment of the Code so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, it is necessary to proceed with it.

2. I am of opinion that the proposed legislation should be limited, at present, to the following objects:—

(1) The exception as regards Presidency Magistrates in section 443 of the Code should be extended so as to embrace Magistrates in certain large towns, which should be named in the Bill.

(2) In all magisterial districts, the District Magistrate, whatever his race may be, should be made a Justice of the Peace, so as to give him power to enquire into and try charges against European British subjects under section 443.

(3) In section 444, the words "unless he himself is an European British subject" should be omitted, so as to give all Sessions Judges equal jurisdiction.

It seems obvious that an officer who is fit to be entrusted with the duties of a Sessions Judge or a District Magistrate is fit to deal with all classes of cases which may come before him, whatever may be the race of the accused person. If any member of the covenanted civil service showed by his conduct, in any way during the earlier years of his service, any unfitness to deal with any special kind of work which might come before him in a Court of Session or District Magistrate's Court, he would never, it may be presumed, be appointed to preside in any such Court.

(4) The restriction as regards Assistant Sessions Judges in the latter part of section 444 should be retained, whatever be the race of the Assistant Judge, and, as regards Magistrates below the rank of a District Magistrate, only those should be made Justices of the Peace (whatever their race may be) who have exercised magisterial powers for a certain number of years, say for at least five years, and whose fitness to be appointed Justices of the Peace has been ascertained by the District Magistrate and reported by him to Government.

3. I do not think that any further modification of the Code of Criminal Procedure is at present desirable. The modifications I have suggested will not affect any substantial privileges at present enjoyed by European British subjects. They will not affect the limited punishments to which offenders can be sentenced by Courts of Session and Magistrates; while they will remove the invidious distinction which now exists between two classes of covenanted civil servants in respect of their power to deal with certain cases.

4. It may be right, when the Bill comes again before the Legislature, to consider whether its provisions should be extended equally to all parts of India. In the Bombay Presidency, the moderate changes of the law which I have above proposed could probably be introduced without causing any strong dissatisfaction among any class of the community.

No. 567 J.-D., dated 10th May, 1883.

From—F. B. Peacock, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

With reference to your letter No. 25 C., dated the 17th March last, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of the circular letter* issued from this office, calling for the opinions of the Legal Remembrancer, of the Commissioners of Divisions, and of selected officers, European and Native, on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, together with copies of the replies† which have up to the present been received to that circular.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor, I am to say, has thought that it will possibly be convenient that he should forward copies of the replies† as they are received, as this will afford His Excellency the Governor General in Council an opportunity of an early consideration of each communication. Mr. Rivers Thompson will reserve his own remarks upon the Bill until after the receipt of all the reports of the local officers.

3. I am to add that the Bill and the Statement of Objects and Reasons were published in the *Uriya Gazette* of the 22nd and 29th March last and the 5th ultimo, and in the *Hindi Gazette* of the 17th and 24th ultimo and the 1st instant. The dates of publication in the *Bengali Gazette* will be reported in due course.

* Nos. 1518-19 J., dated the 27th March 1883.

† 1. Letter from the Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, No. 34, dated the 10th April 1883.
2. Note by J. Ware Edgar, Esq., C.S.I., Officiating Commissioner, Presidency Division, dated 26th April 1883.
3. Letter from the Commissioner of the Rajshahi and Kuch Behar Division, No. 135 J.-A., dated 2nd May 1883.
4. Letter from the Commissioner of the Chutia Nagpur Division, No. 104 J., dated the 2nd May 1883.

Nos. 1518-19 J., dated 27th March 1883.

From—F. B. Peacock, Esq., Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, Judl., Political, and Appointment Depts.,

To—All Commissioners of Divisions, the Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs.

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of a Bill (with Statement of Objects and Reasons) to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, and to request that you will be good enough [after consultation with selected officers, European and Native, in your division] to favour the Lieutenant-Governor with an expression of your opinion upon the principle of the Bill, and as to the question whether any administrative inconvenience at present arises, or is likely to arise in the future, from the exclusion of native covenanted civilians from the power of trying European British subjects on criminal charges.

2. Your reply to this letter should be despatched so as to reach this office at Darjeeling by the 15th May at the latest.

No. 34, dated 10th April 1883.

From—T. T. Allen, Esq., Officiating Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial, Political, and Appointment Departments.

In reply to your No. 1519 J. of the 27th *ultimo*, I have the honour to say that, in my opinion, the proposed Amendment Bill is philosophically and logically vicious in principle, politically inexpedient, and practically impossible, should the Europeans refuse to acquiesce.

2. I apprehend that, after what has been said elsewhere, no lengthened arguments are expected in support of my opinion, and I will content myself with merely referring to the remarks of Mr. F. Stephen in 1872, and the speeches of Messrs. Thomas and Evans, with whose reasonings I entirely agree.

3. If the Bill were passed tomorrow, there are many ways by which Europeans in the mofussil could frustrate and render impossible the exercise of the jurisdiction, and I quite anticipate that any district in which such a jurisdiction were forcibly introduced would very soon be thrown into disorder and confusion, while the Baboo Civilian might be artfully driven into such blunders and misconduct as would necessarily involve his official disgrace. The elements of disorder exist in every district; they are not dead, but sleeping. A very little stimulus and organization would let them loose with formidable force.

4. It has been taken for granted all through that the administration of justice by Native Magistrates in Calcutta is satisfactory, because I suppose complaints are not made against it. Now the absence of complaints is sufficiently explained by the class of Europeans who generally appear as defendants in these courts. Without having given any special attention to the subject, I have read from time to time the newspaper report of proceedings where cases of a more important character were under trial, and the opinion I entertain is that, should any competent person consistently and steadily watch these Police Courts of Calcutta, his conclusion would be that the administration of justice in them is very far from satisfactory, and that nothing but the obscurity and poverty of the vast majority of the defendants prevents a great deal more from being heard of their proceedings.

5. As to any administrative necessity for this amendment, I know of none such at present, and I see no prospect of any such in the near future. A District Magistrate is the one Magistrate in the district who does not need to be vested with special judicial powers, having practically ceased to be a judicial officer. A reference to the High Court's Annual Report on Criminal Justice will show how District Magistrates have in late years withdrawn from the exercise of original judicial functions.

Note on the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill of 1883 by J. WARE-EDGAR, Esq., *dated 26th April 1883.*

Although the opinions of the officers consulted by me will not be received in time to enable me to submit, before being relieved, the divisional report on the subject called for by Government, I feel bound to put on record my views, because almost all my service, from my first appointment to Cachar in 1863 until I left Chumparun in 1882, was spent in tea and indigo-growing districts. I have had therefore perhaps unequalled opportunities of studying the conditions under which these industries are carried on, and have been forced to devote much thought to the very difficult questions connected with the administration of criminal justice in cases in which Europeans are concerned, and the best means of affording effectual protection to the Natives of the country when their interests or rights get into conflict with those of members of the dominant race. Besides this, it appears to me that some most important points connected with the proposed measure have been overlooked, both by its opponents and its supporters, and that these points, if properly understood, would go far to account for the extraordinary outburst of indignation with which the Bill has been received, especially by Europeans living in the tea districts.

Chief among these matters are the real character and history of the compromise of 1872, and the radical and irreconcileable difference between the principle of the Bill as brought into Council, and all the proposals on the subject made since 1857, including that made last year by Sir Ashley Eden, on which the opinions of the Local Governments were obtained. The Hon'ble Mr. Evans, in his speech in Council of the 9th March, gave an account of what had happened previous to and in 1872, and it is not necessary for me to repeat what he has said. I shall merely therefore supply some omissions made by him.

In the first place, he has not brought out with sufficient clearness the facts that previous to 1872 there were really two distinct questions in dispute—the question of increasing the jurisdiction over European British subjects of those mofussil courts in which Europeans presided, and the question of giving jurisdiction to Natives over European British subjects; and that the opposition to the former of these proposals was at least as great as that to the latter. In illustration of this, I shall merely quote passages from a speech made by Sir Arthur Buller on the 7th March 1857, in which he acknowledged frankly that the privilege of British subjects to be tried before the Supreme Court could no longer be maintained, as its maintenance either entailed intolerable hardship upon honest men, or ensured impunity to crime. After this admission, he enumerated the courts to which it was then proposed to make European British subjects amenable. They were the Sessions Court, the Magistrate's Court, Courts presided over by First Assistants to Magistrates and Principal Sudder Ameens, and courts presided over by Second Assistants to Magistrates and Moonsifs, and said: "It was against these tribunals that British subjects protested against all as incompetent, and against some as open to the evil influences of personal prejudice and antagonism of race." Later on in the speech, after calling attention to the danger Europeans would run if liable to be tried by prejudiced Muhammadans, he took up the question of the European courts and asked whether any of the Members of Council really thought that "the boys who acted as Assistant Magistrates, or that the Magistrates themselves, wholly untrained, as they were, to their profession, and wholly unaided either by a jury or by any competent bar, were fitting depositaries of the vast powers proposed to be entrusted to them? He imputed to these gentlemen no fault save that of youth and inexperience. Fine, manly, intelligent young fellows they were, all fully his equals, he was free to admit—many greatly his superiors in natural abilities; but still the fact was undeniable: they were young and inexperienced, and youth and inexperience were not the best qualifications for the Bench."

The meeting prevented the further discussion of the Procedure Bill for some time, and when the matter was again taken up in 1859, the proposal to extend the jurisdiction of the mofussil courts does not seem to have been revived, but there was a very evident desire in the minds of some of the Members of Council to remove the disqualification under which Natives laboured in dealing with cases in which European British subjects were concerned. In the course of the debates on this subject, Sir Barnes Peacock, then Chief Justice of Bengal and Vice-President of the Council, made the following statement:—"The Honourable Member for Bengal had referred to the section of the Charter Act which said that no Native of India was disqualified, as such, from holding any place, office, or employment under Government. The present question related not to disqualification, but to qualification. A Native was not disqualified from becoming a member of the Civil Service. He might go to England, pass his examination, and come out as a Civil Servant. He was not disqualified from becoming a Civil Servant, or, when a Civil Servant, from being appointed a Justice of the Peace; but he was not qualified to be Justice of the Peace unless he was a Covenanted Civil Servant." It is quite clear from this that the Chief Justice considered that, under the statute then in force, a Native Covenanted Civil Servant was qualified to be a Justice of the Peace, and this opinion was not controverted by Mr. Harrington or Sir Charles Jackson, who followed Sir Barnes Peacock in debate.

In 1861 the question of extending the jurisdiction of the mofussil courts was not raised, so far as I recollect; but there was a controversy, much of which is scarcely intelligible to me, about the powers of Native Magistrates in dealing with European British subjects charged with offences. The results were that it was provided in section 39 of Act XXV of 1861 that no person who was not a Justice of the Peace should commit or hold to bail a European British subject, and that the jurisdiction given by Statute 53, George III, clause 155, section 105, and Act VIII of 1853, to Magistrates was restricted by section 42 to Justices of the Peace. Act II of 1869 consolidated and amended the law relating to the appointment of Justices of the Peace. Section III provided that the Governor General in Council for the whole of British India, and local Governments for the territories under their jurisdiction (other than the presidency towns), might appoint Covenanted Civil Servants of the Crown in India, or other British inhabitants, if properly qualified, to act as Justices of the Peace. This description was reproduced from the Statute. It did not, therefore, affect the qualifications of Native Covenanted Civilians to be made Justices of the Peace, and this, I well recollect, was fully understood by Europeans in the tea-districts. In July 1870, Mr. Stephen introduced a Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code of 1861, and this was referred to the Select Committee on 17th December of the same year. This Bill, as committed, contained a proposal to allow Sessions Judges to dispose of charges against European British subjects, if they did not claim their right to be tried before one of the High Courts.

While it was being considered in Committee, two circumstances occurred which had important consequences—Messrs. Romesh Chunder Dutt, Behary Lall Gupta, and Surendra Nath Banerjea, the first Native Covenanted Civilians appointed to Bengal, having arrived in India in September 1871, Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjea was, very unfortunately as I have always thought, posted to Sylhet. I was at Shillong when this happened, and there met many planters from Assam. Subsequently I spent some time in the Sylhet district on my way to Cachar, and of course saw many planters in both districts. Their uneasiness and even alarm were very great. They expected that Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjea would in a short time be made a Justice of the Peace, and they looked with great dread at the prospect of his being able not only to fine them heavily, but to commit them to the High Court. More than this, they assumed that there would be thenceforward a regular yearly influx of Native Civilians, many of whom would necessarily be sent to the tea districts, and in the course of time be made Justices of the Peace: and they prophesied that the consequence would be little short of ruin to the tea industry. Of course their forebodings were exaggerated, but I am bound to state that their fears of the result which might be expected to follow the employment of young and untrained Natives as Assistant Commissioners in the tea districts were not groundless, and that the planters would not have been the only or the chief sufferers. The injury done to the Natives of the tea districts, to the imported coolies in the gardens, and even to the Native officers themselves would have been far greater. The other matter to which I have alluded was a statement made in Council by Mr. Stephen on the 16th December 1871, to the effect that the Committee had received a most important paper from the Government of Bengal, containing a suggestion that European British subjects should be made, to a great degree, amenable to the ordinary criminal courts of the country. Mr. Stephen added that the matter would be considered in Committee, but that owing to its importance he wished to have it made public as soon as possible.

The position, therefore, at the end of 1871 was this: Under the existing law, Native Covenanted Civilians were qualified to exercise some jurisdiction over European British subjects. There were then three such Civilians who might be expected to get these powers at any early date, and one of them was posted to a district where he would have jurisdiction over members of the most sensitive and jealous class of Europeans in the country. All people interested in tea feared this much more than they did a moderate extension of the jurisdiction of the courts presided over by Europeans, and they knew that they could not get the law changed without the assent of some at least of the members of Government. On the other hand, all concerned in the administration of the tea districts felt that the existing law restricting the jurisdiction of the mofussil courts was intolerable, that the evils acknowledged to exist in 1857 had increased ten-fold, and that a change was absolutely necessary for the sake of the natives of the country. It was widely felt that such a change was immeasurably more important than any further removal of the disqualifications of Native Magistrates, or even the maintenance of the statutory qualification of Native Covenanted Civilians. There was, however, a very influential minority,

which though strongly opposed to any extension of the jurisdiction of any mofussil courts, did not share the alarm felt by the tea-planters at the prospect of Native Justices of the Peace exercising the restricted jurisdiction. Foremost among these was the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Napier of Magdala.

The result of all this was a compromise between the majority of the Select Committee and the non-official community, under which it was agreed that the non-official community should accept the extended jurisdiction of the mofussil courts, provided that none but a European British subject should have jurisdiction to enquire into a complaint or try a charge against a European British subject. This compromise was laid before Council by Mr. Stephen on the 30th January 1872, ten days before the assassination of Lord Mayo. It is probable, therefore, that the latter knew of it. It was not discussed in Council until 4th May, when Mr. Stephen distinctly stated that there had been a compromise with the general European population; and it is perfectly clear, from the whole course of the debate which followed, that the European community were held to have accepted the extended jurisdiction allowed to Justices of the Peace and Sessions Judges being European British subjects, on condition that Native Civilians, even when appointed to be Justices of the Peace under Act II of 1869, should not have any criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects. The Commander-in-Chief subsequently moved an amendment, which he described as his protest against any extension of the powers of Magistrate for dealing with European British subjects. He was unsupported in this, and Mr. Stewart, the non-official Member of Council, stated that, in his opinion, they were practically bound by the recommendations of the Committee. I think it will be perfectly clear that the majority of the Legislative Council in 1872 did not merely give up a portion of a proposed law in order to facilitate the passing of the remainder, but practically repealed a part of an existing law as the consideration for the acceptance by the European community of entirely new provisions was regarded by them with deep and traditional dislike, which was shared by one of the highest Members of the Executive Government, who would have been prepared to lead the opposition to the proposed innovation.

Personally, I have always regretted the disqualification of Native Covenanted Civilians, for I believe that the concession was unnecessary. A pledge not to employ them in tea or indigo districts would have satisfied the non-official community, and would have simply been giving sanction to a rule which should always be observed for the sake of all parties, but which is essential for the protection of the ryots in indigo districts and the coolies in tea districts. Apart, however, from the mistake which I hold to have been made in conceding the restriction in Act II of 1859, I can testify that no measure of the Government passed in my time has been more beneficent in its effects than the extension of the jurisdiction of the mofussil courts over European British subjects, and that its admirable results have been in a great measure due to its having been accepted loyally by the classes affected, instead of being forced on them without their consent. As regards the concession then made to them, I hold of course that it cannot preclude the present Government from removing the disqualification of Covenanted Civilians or other Natives, but I think that it made it the duty of the Government to do all in its power to obtain the consent of the European community to any changes in that direction before formally proposing them, and that great care should have been taken to make such proposed changes definite and clear, to leave no doubt as to their scope and ultimate effect, and to avoid unnecessarily wounding susceptibilities, or giving ground for fearing that the law could be made by the executive authorities to do more than was intended by the Legislature.

Now, I think that the present Bill can be shown to be grievously faulty in every one of these respects. The principle of the existing law is that the European British subject is to be tried by another European British subject. But to this rule there are exceptions, *viz.*, Native Presidency Magistrates and probably Native High Court Judges, and a Native Recorder of Rangoon, should one ever be appointed. Mr. Gupta, in his note of the 30th January 1882, proposed to add two more classes of exceptions, *viz.*, Native District Magistrates and Native Sessions Judges, the general rule remaining unaltered. In like manner, Sir Ashley Eden, the Governments of Madras and Bombay, the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West, the Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, British Burma and Assam, and the Resident of Hyderabad all proposed some sort of further exception to the existing rule, which all manifestly meant to retain. The Punjab Government was the only one which proposed to depart from the principle of the existing law. This principle has, however, been abandoned in the present Bill which proposes to substitute what may be called an official qualification for the race qualification. I would add all District Magistrates and Sessions Judges to the present list of *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace, contained in section 25 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and would disqualify the class of European British subjects now eligible for appointment as nominated Justices, and substitute for this class the following four classes:—(1) Members of the Covenanted Civil Service; (2) Native Statutory Civil Servants; (3) Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces; and (4) Cantonment Magistrates. Now, in the first place, this new scheme disqualifies large classes of official and non-official Europeans, from whom the ranks of Justices of the Peace have hitherto been recruited. Taking the Bengal Civil List for the current quarter, I find two lists of Justices of the Peace for Bengal, Behar, and Orissa,—one containing those actually now resident in the Mofussil, and the second containing those now in Calcutta or on furlough, or employed under other Governments. In the first list I find the names of 37 people who would not come under any of the classes in the proposed Bill. In the second list there are, I think, 64 such names, but I feel some doubt about one or two of

these. The total number of Justices in the two lists is 333, out of whom about 100 belong to classes who would be disqualified by the Bill. Among these I find officers of the Army and Navy, Deputy Magistrates and other uncovenanted servants of Government, tea and indigo planters, landowners, merchants and lawyers. Of course the appointments of the present Justices are protected by section 7 of the Bill; but that is not material to the present argument, which is that if the Bill were to be passed the Government would in the future be deprived of the services of large classes which have been found useful in the past. I may add that the power of appointing such persons to be Justices of the Peace will become even more valuable as railways got made through remote jungly tracts, and ships began to frequent out-of-the-way ports. It will then be often more desirable, mainly in order to protect the natives, to be able to vest the Superintending Engineer engaged in constructing a line of railway, or the chief officer of a port, with the power of dealing with offences committed by Europeans. From a purely administrative point of view, therefore, the inconvenience caused by the disqualification of so many classes of Europeans would be very much greater than any that could arise from the disqualification of Native Civilians rising to be Sessions Judge or District Magistrate. It is manifest that, as a matter of administrative convenience, it is desirable to have as many Magistrates as possible qualified to deal summarily on the spot with petty offences of Europeans living in outlying districts. It is also manifest that the effect of this Bill will be, in the future, greatly to diminish the number of such Magistrates, and it is very remarkable that no local Government or local official appears either to have recommended or contemplated such a change. I am wholly unable to discover any practical reason for disqualifying whole classes of Europeans, and thus diminishing the facilities for the prompt disposal of petty cases. The number of Europeans that will be disqualified is very much greater than the number of natives who will be even constructively qualified by the Bill, and it must be borne in mind that no complaint has been made against the fitness of those to be disqualified. If the substitution of an official qualification for the present qualification cannot be carried out without disqualifying in a wholesale way so many persons now qualified, and thus diminishing the facilities for dealing with charges against Europeans which it was the object of the compromise of 1872 to gain, the proposal is clearly a retrograde one as regards the efficient administration of justice.

If the classes declared to be qualified by the Bill are analysed, the objectionable character of its principle will be still clearer. I say nothing about Covenanted Civilians, but I feel bound to submit that the European community have good grounds for protesting against Statutory Civilians being at present declared qualified. The system introduced by Lord Lytton is still on its trial, and I am not prepared to declare it to be a failure, without further experience of it; but it is impossible to ignore the fact that it is emphatically condemned by many, among both Europeans and Natives, best qualified to judge, and I have not heard a word in its favour from any one whose opinion on the subject is worth having. But the most objectionable part of the Bill is that by which Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces are declared to be qualified. Covenanted Civilians and Statutory Civilians are both classes created and defined by law, and there can be no doubt as to what the terms connote, but Assistant Commissioner is a mere administrative expression, and the status and qualifications of the officers called by that name wholly depend upon executive authority. Yet of all the classes declared qualified in the new Bill, this is the one which touches the European British subject most nearly. It must be remembered that while there are only 71 regulation districts in the Bengal Presidency, including Burmah, there are about 105 non-regulation districts, and that tea is grown almost exclusively in these last. So far as I know, there is not a single tea-garden in a regulation district except that of Chittagong. Assam is non-regulation; so are Chota Nagpore, Darjeeling, Julpigori, the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Kangra, Kurseong, and, I think, the Doon. Besides this, there can be no doubt that the future of European enterprise, agricultural and industrial, lies in the wild undeveloped countries which now form the bulk of the Non-Regulation Provinces. In considering the bearing of the proposed legislation on the position of non-official Europeans in those provinces, we must not lose sight of the fact that, while the classes from whom Magistrates of districts and Sessions Judges in Regulation Provinces can be chosen are strictly limited by Acts of the British Parliament, there is absolutely no statutory restriction on the discretion of the Executive Government to appoint any person it chooses to be Deputy Commissioners in the non-regulation districts. For instance, no one but a Covenanted Civilian can be appointed Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs, except in certain cases expressly provided by Acts of Parliament, while any one may be appointed Deputy Commissioner of Cachar. Among the Deputy Commissioners and other officers who perform the duties of District Magistrates in the Non-Regulation Provinces, there are now about 50 Covenanted Civilians, the remainder being military officers or uncovenanted Europeans. As shown above, there is nothing in the law to prevent uncovenanted natives being appointed to these offices, but the officers so appointed would certainly be of great distinction and high character. There is not the same security about the Assistant Commissioners, who are now (including Judicial Assistant Commissioners) about 123 in number, several of these being natives, and of course it being possible that future vacancies may be largely filled up by natives, for, as pointed out above, the Assistant Commissioner is purely the creation of executive authority, which has in many cases changed the very title of the office. For instance, when I was first appointed to the non-regulation districts, the title was Assistant Superintendent in Cachar. In 1864 it was changed to Assistant Commissioner by an executive order. Below the Assistant Commissioners, there are about 280 officers called Extra Assistant Commissioners. These are mostly

Natives, and it is no injustice to them to say that in all the Non-Regulation Provinces known to me, they are below the standard of Deputy Collectors in regulation districts. If the present Bill were passed, there would be nothing in any law to prevent the Executive Government changing the designation of these officers to that of Assistant Commissioner, and thus making them qualified for appointment as Justices of the Peace. If it be said that this is a highly improbable contingency, I answer that the improbability does not affect my argument, which is that the term Assistant Commissioner has no legal connotation, and that it should not therefore be used to describe a class in a law where clearness and definiteness are essential.

I am compelled, on the grounds above stated, to record an emphatic condemnation of the principle of the Bill, as disqualifying large classes of men hitherto qualified, whose disqualification will cause distinct administrative inconvenience, as directly qualifying one class which has not yet shown any sign of fitness to exercise the powers to be entrusted to it, and another so-called class which has no defined legal existence, and as indirectly giving the Executive Government power to extend the qualification to a large and undefined body of officers, the greater number of whom are undoubtedly unfitted to be Justices of the Peace.

To the question whether I consider it advisable now to fall back on Sir Ashley Eden's alternative proposal, and give Native Covenanted Civilians who rise to be Magistrates or District Judges the same powers that Europeans have in the same capacities, I am obliged regretfully to answer that I do not. I have always been strongly in favour of the measure. The argument of administrative convenience has no doubt been made too much of, but there are other and, to my mind, stronger arguments derived from considerations of policy and equity, which there is no need to reproduce here. I believe and earnestly hope that before long it may be possible to remove the disqualifications created in 1872; but I see clearly that it ought not to be attempted at present. Apart from the fact that this limited measure will not affect that which Government has declared to be the great object of the present Bill—the removal *in toto* of the "race qualification of the Judge"—there are other reasons of overwhelming weight for the postponement of the measure. Angry passions have been aroused; a deep sense of injury has grown up, as, I think, not unnaturally, in the minds of the European non-official community; vague and wild suspicions have been formed of the ultimate intentions of the Government. Such conditions make calm consideration of, or assent to, a measure like this impossible; and the evils of forcing it on the community affected by it are so great and so alarming that the Government would not be justified in incurring them. I do not desire to go into the details of the evils, which will readily present themselves to the minds of officers who have had district experience; but I would add that, under such adverse circumstances, the gift of these new powers would be eminently disastrous to the recipients, and greatly increase their difficulties in discharging satisfactorily the very arduous and responsible duties of the posts to which they are about to be promoted.

No. 135JCt., dated 2nd May 1883.

From—Lord H. Ulick Browne, Commr. of the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

In reply to Government letter No. 1518J., dated 27th March 1883, with enclosures, I have the honour to report on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882.

I have consulted six selected officers in this division, of whom four are European district officers and two are natives; one of the latter is an experienced Native Deputy Magistrate, and the other the ablest of that class serving in the division.

2. None of the officers consulted have ever known any inconvenience to arise from the exclusion of Native Covenanted Civilians from the power of trying European British subjects on criminal charges. In my own experience, Mr. Dutt was for a short time in charge of a sub-division in which two or three Europeans resided, and Mr. B. L. Gupta acted as Magistrate of Rungpore, in which there are a number of Europeans of different classes stationed at Saidpore; and in neither instance was there any such inconvenience.

3. Indeed, when the circumstances anterior to, and connected with, the introduction of the Bill are considered, it seems scarcely possible that any real inconvenience can have been felt. The Code of Criminal Procedure was amended in March 1882 by the passing of Act X of that year, and the amending Bill was under consideration and discussion for a long time previously. Though divisional and district officers were invited to make suggestions, and though it was open to the public to do so, I believe no district or divisional officer, and no non-official, ever suggested the present measure; while it is certain that it, or something like it, would have been suggested if any inconvenience had been actually experienced. I think only one person in the whole country made any suggestion in the direction of the Bill, and he was a Native officer serving in Calcutta. If this impression is correct, it seems to indicate, without need of corroboration, that the measure is uncalled for; but there is something more to be said in support of that view. There can be no want of officers who exercise the power of trying European British subjects, as the Bill proposes to prevent all European Deputy Magistrates appointed hereafter from exercising those powers; there are few criminal cases in which Europeans are the accused; and lastly, the Bill originated in the personal representation of a Native Civilian, submitted in the interests of his own dignity and that of a few other Native Civilians and nothing more.

I think it can scarcely be denied, if the denial is to be supported by facts, that, speaking generally, there has been no administrative inconvenience, and that if such has ever been experienced, it can only have been in a very few isolated cases.

4. As regards inconvenience in the future for want of the provisions of the present Bill, the officers consulted think there is no reason to apprehend any worth thinking of, though Colonel Morton remarks that if Government chose to appoint a native to Julpigoree, then, on the complaint of a coolie that a tea-planter had boxed his ears, inconvenience would result if there was no qualified European magisterial officer at the station. Mr. Wace very naturally cannot conceive that, under the circumstances of Darjeeling, any but a European will ever be appointed to the charge of that district, whether the Bill becomes law or not, and the same may be said of Julpigoree. In the Legislative Debate of March last, His Excellency the Viceroy contemplated as many as one-sixth of the total number of Covenanted Civilians being natives in the course of time. Judging from the experience of the past as to the number of natives who enter the Civil Service by competition, that time must, under the operation of the present combined system of competition and nomination, be somewhat far off, as it is not to be supposed that Government, on seeing that natives are unsuccessful in the competition, will appoint a large number of them in this country, and thus take a decided step towards displacing the competitive system and returning to one of simple nomination. So, even if there were no strong objections to the Bill, it does not seem advisable to legislate for a somewhat distant future in a matter which contains elements of uncertainty. It may be, and it seems to me very probable, that long before we reach the time when one-sixth of the Covenanted Civilians are natives, Government will find out that the present system of nominating natives, under which alone is there any chance of that result, does not answer; and new as the system is, it would be an unsound basis on which to legislate for a future time. Even if, however, the nomination system is found to answer, and the proportion of one-sixth of natives is attained, it is not, after all, a large proportion, and so few cases would have to be transferred from one district to another for want of powers to try Europeans, that I should not expect any inconvenience worthy of consideration for want of the provisions of the Bill; certainly none that would (not outweigh, but) nearly equal the disadvantages of applying them.

5. Turning to the principle of the Bill, I find in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, signed by Mr. Ilbert, the following passages:—

"The Government of India has accordingly decided to settle the question of jurisdiction "over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code, at once and "completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions.

"With this object the present Bill has been prepared."

The Bill does not propose to abolish the special jurisdiction of the High Court, of Sessions Judges, and of Magistrates exercising first class powers over Europeans, or to alter the limited powers of sentencing them now exercised by Sessions Judges and by Magistrates with first class powers. There is thus, it seems to me, but little principle in the Bill, which is only a measure for modifying the exceptional privileges of Europeans on a single point, and is therefore proposed in the hope of securing an advantage which, even from the view of the supporters of the Bill, can only be a very slight one, while the disadvantages of the measure from the opposite point of view are enormous.

Mr. Wace observes as follows on the limited principle of the Bill—

"If it could be pretended that on the passing of this law all distinctions between the "two races would disappear from our legal procedure, one might be disposed to run some risk "to secure such an end. This proposed change, however, touches but one point of distinction. "The Government declares its intention of maintaining other privileges of the European, "the *habeas corpus*, the limitation of powers of Magistrates and Sessions Judges over Euro-"pean British subjects. Its maintenance of these privileges is an admission of the strongest "argument against this Bill. The other privilege, which it is now proposed to withdraw, "rests on the same principle. Disavow the principle in respect of one, and you must disavow "it as regards others, so far as logic and theory are concerned."

6. The next point for consideration is how far the very limited principle of the Bill really applies to the case to meet which it is directed. His Excellency the Governor General, in his speech in the Legislative Council, based the principle on the Queen's Proclamation of 1858, announcing that, *as far as may be*, Her Majesty's subjects, of whatever race or creed, be impartially admitted to offices in the public service, the duties of which they may be *qualified by their education, ability*, and integrity *duly to discharge*. There is first a reservation, which it may fairly be presumed was made to meet special circumstances, which it cannot be denied are found in the present case; and then, before the concession is to be applied, the subjects of it must be qualified to duly discharge the duties of the office to which they aspire. Here there arises a very important question which seems to be begged by the supporters of the Bill, *viz.*, whether Native Civilians are qualified to try European British subjects.

7. The supporters of the Bill represent, though it is in connection with the point of doing away with an anomaly, and not with that of the fitness of Native Civilians, which is assumed or taken for granted, that as natives have been in the habit of trying Europeans in Calcutta for many * years, and giving satisfaction, Native Civilians should try Europeans in the mofussil, and if they do, will give satisfaction there. The

* The present Under-Secretary of State for India said that for thirty years natives had been constantly and satisfactorily doing so.

first part of this representation has been shown by the *Englishman* newspaper to be a remarkable misconception of fact. Only three natives have held office as Magistrates of Calcutta during the entire period from 1856 to date, for an aggregate of about seven out of 27 years, and for 21 consecutive years no native sat on the bench. Again, out of the three Native Magistrates, one was removed because he gave the reverse of satisfaction. Thus the Bill cannot, as a matter of fact, be supported on the ground of Natives having sat as Magistrates in Calcutta and given satisfaction there. If, however, the facts were just the reverse, the English press, both in this country and at Home, have pointed out the great difference between the position of a Magistrate in Calcutta, watched by the press, the Bar, and the High Court working where false cases against Europeans are extremely rare, and obliged to be most careful in the discharge of his duties, and a Magistrate in the mofussil, without any such checks, working where a false case against a European is far from uncommon. To this I would add that, as a general rule, cases against Europeans in Calcutta are petty and easy, such as sailors charged with being drunk and disorderly (to which charges they frequently plead guilty), while cases against Europeans in the mofussil are often difficult, and the charges more serious. Very few cases against Europeans have come before me as a mofussil Magistrate in which a marked bias was not shown against the accused by native witnesses, and in which the evidence did not require much sifting. But as Mr. Ilbert has himself borne testimony to the difficult nature of such cases in the mofussil, nothing more need be said on that point.

8. On this question of the fitness of Native Civilians to try Europeans, the senior native officer consulted, Baboo Shama Churn Chatterjee, can see no difference between a civil and a criminal case, and argues that because natives have given satisfaction in trying civil suits, they are competent to try criminal cases, whoever may be accused therein. Baboo Hurry Mohun Chundra thinks natives who entered the Covenanted Civil Service by competition are quite competent to try European British subjects, but he goes on to say—

"It is my humble opinion that it is extremely probable that the Civilians appointed under the nomination system will in no way prove competent to be appointed District Magistrates or Sessions Judges, and they will therefore not only prove incompetent to try European British subjects, but for various reasons I venture to think they will probably not prove competent to do the multifarious responsible duties attached to the offices of District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, *i.e.*, it is my humble opinion that only those Native Civilians who have got into the Covenanted Service by competition are competent to be appointed District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, or, in other words, to try European British subjects. Those of the native members of the Civil Service are competent who have obtained a liberal education in England, who have largely associated with Englishmen, and have become acquainted with their manners and customs, and have some knowledge of the inner life of English society, and who, on return from England, live more like Englishmen than natives of the country. As regards the Native Civilians who have been appointed under the nomination system, my honest opinion is that they are in no way superior to the members of the Sub-Executive Service, and have no recommendations whatever, except that they are related to some of the Rajahs. Some of these men are, I think, very inferior to some of the Deputy Magistrates. To make these inferior men, who, I beg to be permitted to say, are not fit for the Civil Service, District Magistrates or Sessions Judges, would be lowering that Service in the estimation of the public, and would, so far as I have been able to understand, give satisfaction to neither the Europeans nor the people of this country.

"My humble opinion on the first point, therefore, is that I agree with the 'principle' of the Bill in so far as its scope is to give jurisdiction over European British subjects to the Native Civilians who have entered the Covenanted Civil Service after passing the competitive "examination held in England."

Mr. Glazier says—

"The trial of a case affecting a European is generally difficult and complicated, and I think very few Bengalee Magistrates would be found competent to deal with such cases satisfactorily, and a single mistake would be serious. Even if the Magistrate were capable and experienced, he would be in the cruel position of knowing that if, resisting the weight of local pressure, he acquitted the accused, he would be subjected to the taunts of the native press; while, if he convicted, European opinion would similarly doubt the justice of the sentence. His position would be more difficult than that of a European Magistrate in similar circumstances, who would not be afraid of being misjudged if he convicted, and would hold cheap the murmurs, both deep and loud, of the native press, if he acquitted.

"The position of the European in this country is an isolated one. If he is so unfortunate as to become implicated in a criminal case, he will have a host of enemies to fight against single-handed, and it is of the utmost moment to him that he should have on the Bench some one who can understand his feelings and his pleas. How different is the position of a native *bhadro lok* in a similar position; he has no lack of friends. When the license-tax was introduced a few years ago, a Sub-Deputy Collector plundered the people wholesale for his own profit, and though the case was so clear against him that he fled to avoid trial, yet, on his 'mokhtarnama' being filed in the case, every mookhtar in the place signed his name."

Mr. Newbery writes—

"At one period of my service I have had very considerable experience in cases arising amongst a low social stratum of Europeans, and I feel perfectly certain that no native, however well-educated, or whatever good use he had made of his two or three years' residence in England, would have understood the language in which those cases were conducted, or the ideas meant to be conveyed by that language.

"I do not think, also, that our Bengalee civilians would care in the mofussil to exercise the power, even if it were given them, especially in the case of the burly British loafer, who is the European British subject most frequently up for trial in the mofussil. It is very different in Calcutta, where there are European inspectors of police and European constables always within hail of the court. But the sight of a half-inebriated European ruffian, guarded only by a few puny Bengalee policemen, would, I think, be quite enough to ensure that our Bengalee Magistrate of the district would at once make the case over to his European Joint Magistrate.

"The argument that Native Magistrates trying Europeans in Calcutta have been a success, and that therefore they are likely to be a success in the mofussil, appears to my mind fallacious in the extreme, for the following reasons:—

1*st*—From the list and dates published in the *Englishman*, it would appear that Native Magistrates have been the exception rather than the rule;

2*nd*—That their decisions have by no means given general satisfaction;

3*rd*—That having an unlimited bar and public opinion to guide them, and an ever present High Court to correct their wrong-doings, there are in Calcutta checks upon them which would be entirely wanting in the mofussil."

9. As already observed, Mr. Ilbert, in introducing and supporting the Bill, observed that criminal cases against Europeans are exceptionally difficult; and he went on to say that they put a severe strain on the judicial qualities of tact, judgment, patience and impartiality. Of the correctness of this remark there can be no doubt, and my experience leads me to the conclusion that, great as is the improvement effected in a native by a residence in England for three years, the above-mentioned qualities are not thereby developed to a degree sufficient to render him fit to try such cases, while another equally important quality, *viz.*, courage, is very rarely developed at all. How often we see natural good judgment and a desire to be impartial rendered of little effect in a superior native by the hasty conception of prejudice; and what an every-day matter it is to see such a man quite unable to be impartial, because he never forgets a trifling misunderstanding or difference with another, or a fancied want of respect towards himself in conduct or action, and as a consequence cherishes hatred against that other for evermore, and never loses an opportunity of doing him an injury. Though these faults are diminished by the advantages of a short residence in England, it is to be feared that a much longer residence, if not a change of nature, will be necessary before they can be entirely eradicated. As regards courage, how few of the best natives possess that quality to the degree sufficient, on the one hand, to enable a Magistrate to acquit a European with the knowledge that the order would be followed by a storm of unpopularity with the Native Magistrate's fellow-countrymen, and a series of attacks by the native press, taking the shape of accusations of incompetency or wilful injustice done out of a desire to please the ruling race; or, on the other hand, to enable him to convict when he knows that a series of letters with editorial comments will appear in the English newspapers, dwelling on his unfitness for the post he occupies. Again, in the course of three years' residence in England, a native learns nothing of the lower class of Europeans, such as guards, engine-drivers, plate-layers, overlookers in mills, subordinate engineers, who are the very class most likely to come before a Magistrate. Not only is a Native Civilian unable to understand and follow the thoughts, eelings, and motives of such men, but there would almost always be a serious risk of his inability to understand the language they use, so entirely different to that spoken by those with whom he came in contact in England, resulting in great injustice. The native has not the advantage we have of constant daily practice for years in conversing with the lower classes of another race, who speak another language; and how long it takes some of us to understand them thoroughly.

10. As I consider a Native Civilian who has entered the Service by competition unfit to exercise the powers with which it is proposed to invest him, it may be imagined that I hold this view much more strongly in the case of natives appointed to the Civil Service in this country on mere nomination, and without the great advantages gained by a residence in England. Judging from what I have seen and heard of these young men, they possess no qualities that specially promise to make them one whit better than any other young men who, having a good education, are appointed as Deputy Magistrates. Some are of good family and some are not, and there is little more to be said about them. Until these appointments were made, it was held that the standard of qualifications necessary for the proper discharge of the duties of officers held by Covenanted Civilians were much higher than in the cases of offices held and duties discharged by Deputy Magistrates; and I cannot imagine how it can be expected that the young men nominated as Covenanted officers will ever be more competent to be Magistrates, Collectors, and Judges, than any Deputy Magistrates, and Deputy Collectors who give satisfaction in the discharge of their duties. So far as I have seen or heard of the nominees, they are unlikely to be ever fit for posts held by Civilians of, say, twelve years' standing and upwards as regards the discharge of the ordinary duties of Covenanted officers. Much less are they likely to be fit to try cases of exceptional difficulty, and calling for the exercise of all the highest qualities of a good judicial officer.

11. Assuming (as it seems to me incorrectly) that Native Civilians are fit to try Europeans, the supporters of the Bill say it will do away with the anomaly of two men of the same standing and qualifications, in the same service, not exercising the same powers, which is a slur on the native who is not allowed to exercise them. Nothing put forward in support of the Bill has been more fully treated than this plea. The English Press in India and at Home have shewn in letters and leading articles that India is a country full of anomalies, Hindus and Muhammadans having each separate laws of inheritance and marriage; that Native women above the lowest classes are exempted from appearance in the witness-box; and that a similar privilege is granted to men of a certain rank; all these anomalies being inconvenient, and making the administration of civil and criminal justice difficult. The following passage from Mr. Wace's letter indicates that, if the Bill passes, there will be a greater anomaly than that which the Bill proposes to remove:—

"The Government of India is, I presume, not prepared to put a Bengali Civilian in charge of a Punjab district. Is it unnatural that the European, who has conquered the Punjabi, should resent being put into a position in which the Government would not think of putting the Punjabi?"

It will indeed be an anomaly if an European British subject is made liable to be tried by men who are not considered fit to try Natives of the Punjab.

The replies that have appeared to what may be called the anomaly plea go on to say this anomaly is only a privilege like those referred to above as enjoyed by the Natives, *viz.*, by Hindus and Muhammadans, in the shape of special laws, and by Native women and by Native men of rank in regard to exemption from appearance in law courts; that as special privileges as to choosing the nationality or race of some of the members of the Courts that try them are granted to Englishmen accused of criminal offences in Turkey, Egypt, China, and Japan, which are foreign countries, how much more should a similar privilege be granted to Englishmen and Englishwomen in India, a part of the British Empire? To these I would add the question "Are not English men and women and other Europeans entitled to the privilege granted to the Native sepoys, of choosing whether they will be tried by Europeans or Natives?"

As Mr. Glazier remarks, the anomaly and privilege which the Bill proposes to remove are the least objectionable and least obtrusive of all that we encounter in the Courts; and, as remarked by Mr. Newbery, it is after all nothing less than a great constitutional privilege of an Englishman to be tried by his peers, and one of which he should not be deprived except on the strongest grounds.

12. Having expressed my opinion, and those of the officers consulted, on the two points specially mentioned in the Government letter under reply, I request permission to say something about some other objections to the Bill.

13. The Government of India deny that there is any intention of proceeding further in the same direction, and say the Bill is a final measure. On this point Mr. Wace says:—

"It has been pledged for this Bill by its author that it has the elements of finality in it. The utterances of the Native press since that assertion was made must surely have disabused the Government mind of this fallacy. Over and over again it has been declared that this concession is accepted merely as one step towards absolute equality between Native and European. * * * * Let not its (the Bill's) authors shut their eyes to the fact that logic must lead them eventually to abrogate the other privileges of which at present they appear to be as stout champions as the opponents of the Bill. So far, then, from there being the elements of finality in this Bill, it seems to me but the first step to a policy the dangers of which have been fully pointed out by Sir Fitzjames Stephen."

I agree with Mr. Wace in thinking that if the Bill is passed it would be difficult for Government to resist outcries for the extension of its principle, and that a refusal to extend it will make the Government as unpopular with the natives, whose aspirations to equality with the ruling race have been created by the Bill, as the passing of the Bill will make Government unpopular with Europeans.

14. It should, I think, be remembered that there is no general wish for the measure on the part of the natives. There is only a single class—the educated Bengali—who desires it in the least, the people generally being entirely unconcerned; if consulted, they would, I am sure, be most ready to acquiesce in Europeans enjoying a special privilege just as the Natives do.

15. Lastly, if there were no other grounds for letting things remain as they are, the strong feeling on the subject among Europeans is alone a sufficient reason for abandoning the Bill. During my long service in this country, I have never known an expression of feeling nearly so strong and so universal (or so very nearly universal), and such a remarkable concurrence of opinion among non-official and official Europeans alike, as has been elicited by this Bill. If it becomes law, then all non-official Europeans in the country, or, in other words, the one non-official class from whom Government can confidently expect aid and support in a time of need, will be alienated, and I believe Mr. Wace is correct in thinking that this class will henceforward, under a sense of undeserved injury, only take part in public business to the extent absolutely necessary for their own personal interests, and will cease to do so in order to aid the administration. All great commercial undertakings in this country are due to the capital, enterprise, and energy of Europeans, the natives only taking a small part when success is assured, or only availing themselves of what is provided by Europeans; and any measure that will make this class less inclined to reside in India will give a serious check to the operations through which the natives have been so greatly benefited and prospered. This check will, moreover

be the act of the Government, applied at a time when Government desire to encourage and promote private enterprise more than ever.

16. I have now endeavoured to show—

That no inconvenience has been experienced in the past in this division for want of the provisions of the Bill, and that from all the circumstances connected with the introduction of the Bill, it is extremely unlikely that any inconvenience worthy of notice can have been experienced anywhere.

That the expectation of inconvenience in the future rests on an uncertain basis; that if that basis proves more sure than seems likely, the inconvenience, whatever it may be, will only be experienced at a future time so distant that it is not advisable to legislate for it now; and that if the inconvenience is ever experienced at all, it will be trifling, consisting of the occasional transfer of a case to another district, and of no importance whatever when weighed against the objections to the Bill.

That the principle of the Bill is extremely limited, not bringing about uniformity of system or equality, but only depriving Europeans of one privilege out of several though they value it dearly, and thus effecting very little at a great and serious cost.

That the principle is based on the assumption that Native Civilians are fit to exercise the powers of trying Europeans, while the best of the two classes of Native Civilians, *viz.*, those who have entered the Service by competition, are deficient in the exceptional qualities which the supporters of the Bill admit to be required for the exercise of such powers; are also wanting in experience and knowledge of the motives, feelings, and language of the majority of the Europeans likely to be tried; and that this class of Native Civilians are therefore not fit to try Europeans, while there are no grounds for thinking that the nominated Native Civilians can ever be nearly as good as the others, much less that they will ever be fit to try Europeans.

That the plea that the Bill will remove a privilege which is an anomaly has no force in the face of the many other anomalies connected with our Courts, and the privileges enjoyed by the Natives and by European British subjects in this and other countries.

That if the Bill is passed, Government will have a great difficulty in making it a final measure.

That neither the country generally, nor any large section of the people, care about the measure, but only one small class, *viz.*, the educated Bengalis.

That if there were no other grounds for abandoning the Bill, the unparalleled feeling it has created is alone sufficient for withdrawing it as it, would be in the highest degree impolitic to alienate such an important class as the non-official Europeans, to whom Government and the natives owe so much assistance, progress, and prosperity, especially at a time when Government look to those Europeans for further important steps in the same direction.

17. For these reasons I sincerely hope that Government will withdraw the Bill. Probably the only reason why there is any hesitation about it is because the non-official European community have allowed their strong feelings in regard to it to carry them away, and have used unseemly language, some even assuming an attitude of hostility towards the Government. But in this, as in all matters, Europeans may claim to be treated as well as Natives are treated. For many years the Native Press, and especially the Vernacular Press, have systematically used most unbecoming language towards the Government, accusing it and its officers of wilful injustice to Natives, of undue favour to Europeans, and of generally bad motives. This, too, has been continuously written and published by those who knew all the time how falsely they were writing. And yet all this has never affected the measures or policy of Government in the least, and has never prevented the passing or altering of laws, or the issue of executive orders calculated to benefit the Natives. I think that in this instance the language and bearing of non-official Europeans may be overlooked also.

No. 104 J., dated 2nd May, 1883.

From—J. F. K. HEWITT, Esq., Commissioner of the Chota Nagpur Division,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial, Political, and Appointment Departments.

With reference to your letter No. 1518J., dated 27th March 1883, I have the honour to submit the following report on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

2. I called on all the district officers and Baboo Rakhal Das Haldar, Manager, Chota Nagpore Estate, to state their views on the points mooted.

3. Major Lillingston, Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh, states that the grounds for the proposed change are, *first*, that Native Magistrates in presidency towns are Justices of the Peace, and exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects with the general approval and sanction of the European and Native communities, and therefore Native Magistrates in the mofussil should also exercise similar jurisdiction; *secondly*, that native members of the Covenanted Civil Service having been to Europe, having become acquainted with European feelings, ideas and customs, and having qualified themselves to take their places with European members of the Civil Service, should be allowed to exercise all the functions which the European members

exercise; and *thirdly*, that by the exclusion of Native Covenanted Civilians from the power of trying European British subjects on criminal charges, administrative inconvenience might arise.

4. With regard to the first, the Deputy Commissioner thinks that it is doubtful whether Native Magistrates in presidency towns exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects with the general concurrence and sanction of European and native communities, and that the circumstances of the presidency towns are quite different from those of the mofussil, inasmuch as in the former a strong public opinion and the presence of European advocates constitute safeguards against miscarriage of justice, which are as a rule wanting in the latter. As to the second ground, he thinks that a few years' residence in Europe is not enough to enable Native Civilians to thoroughly understand the ideas and feelings of Europeans. With regard to the third ground, he cannot conceive any circumstance under which the proposed change will result in any administrative inconvenience which cannot be obviated by the Government in the Appointment Department. It is further urged that the Bill does not go far enough to remove legislative anomalies, and that the Native Civilians who have visited England to qualify themselves for the Civil Service, knowing as they did that they were debarred from exercising jurisdiction over European British subjects, have now no good reason to complain. The Deputy Commissioner says his views on the whole subject exactly coincide with those expressed in the Delhi memorial against the Bill published in the *Englishman* of the 17th instant.

5. Mr. Power, Deputy Commissioner of Lohardugga, states that the principle of the Bill, abstractedly considered, is an excellent one, and that it would doubtless work admirably if the people of India were all, or for the most part, philosophers. As such, however, is not the case, he thinks it would be very unwise to engraft the institutions of a free on a conquered people. India, like Ireland, is held by the sword, and by the sword alone, and anything done to weaken the prestige of the ruling nation is injudicious. There are but two entirely logical conditions—either complete freedom or absolute subjection. If a middle course be pursued, its mainspring should be maintenance of the ruling race in its position as such.

Mr. Power adds that with non-official Europeans the most objectionable feature of the Bill is that it will expose them to greater risk of injury by the institution of false charges. This objection he considers is not unfounded, as the Native Civilian Magistrates cannot fully realise the responsibility of bringing an accused person into court. He is easily taken in by the story of the complainant who is present before him, and his countrymen will doubtless take advantage of his weakness in this respect, knowing how difficult it is to prove a false case as such.

6. Major Garbett, Deputy Commissioner, Singbhoom, while holding that, with the safeguards provided, no harm is likely to result from investing Native Civilians with jurisdiction over European British subjects, considers that there is no immediate necessity for the change, and that circumstances tend to show strongly that the policy of the measure is doubtful.

7. Baboo Rakhal Das Haldar, manager of the Chota Nagpore Estate, says that no general inconvenience is likely to result from the present state of things. He maintains that the British Government, like all other Governments, is founded on force, and deprecates any measure tending to impair that force.

8. Mr. Risley, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Manbhoom, has submitted an excellent report on the whole question, and I cannot do better than quote below his remarks *in extenso*.

Mr. Risley writes—

"It would be out of place for me to reproduce here the arguments which have been brought forward against the Bill by Sir James Stephen and Sir Louis Jackson in the *Times*, and by Mr. Seton-Karr in the *National Review*. What has been said by those high authorities will, I assume, be considered at the proper time and place, and the objections taken by them having been clearly and forcibly stated need not be repeated here.

"I would submit that one point bearing upon the principle of the Bill has not yet been prominently brought out. It is a question of fact rather than of speculation, and I propose to say a few words upon it here. It is admitted in the Honourable Mr. Ilbert's speech upon the Bill, that the criminal cases in which Europeans are charged are few in number and of exceptional difficulty. It will also be admitted that, in considering whether a class of officers should be admitted to exercise a special jurisdiction, regard should be had to the question whether, under ordinary circumstances, they are in a favourable position to become familiar with the facts and combinations of facts with which that jurisdiction is concerned, and whether, as a rule, they are so conversant. Now the European British subjects who are likely to be affected by the Bill belong for the most part to one of the following classes:—

(i).—Planters, including indigo, tea, coffee, silk and cinchona planters, and Europeans engaged in zemindari business.

(ii).—British soldiers and sailors.

(iii).—Europeans of the lower classes, including railway officials, mechanics, and vagrants.

(iv).—The wives and female relatives of the persons included in classes (i), (ii), and (iii).

"Can it be said that Covenanted Native Civilians who have visited England know enough, or can know enough, about these classes, in particular about the last three, to be in a position to deal satisfactorily with criminal cases in which they are concerned? Speaking from what I know and have heard on good authority of the manner of life of Native Civilians in England,

I have no hesitation in saying that, as a general rule, they are disqualified to try these persons criminally, by unavoidable ignorance of their habits, passions, prejudices, and peculiar moral standards. It would be difficult to find two men more hopelessly incapable of understanding one another than a highly-educated native and a British soldier or sailor; and yet, for the purpose of trying a man criminally, the power of entering into and appreciating his point of view is the one thing which is most required.

"By referring to the manner of life of Native Civilians in England, I do not mean to imply that it is otherwise than creditable. If anything, I should say it is too quiet and too decorous to give them the knowledge of European life which is one of the objects of bringing them to England. I have seen something of native gentlemen, civilians and others, in Oxford, and I have heard a great deal from tutors and persons qualified to speak with authority. As a rule, I think native gentlemen in England see very little of society as it really is. They fall into the hands of philanthropic cliques, and see everything from their standpoint. They do not hunt, shoot, play games, or enter into any of the pursuits which bring young Englishmen in contact with their social inferiors, and teach them in a gradual, indefinite way how the large number of people who are not ladies and gentlemen look at things, and by what motives they are likely to be influenced. Native gentlemen in England live their life apart in an atmosphere of books and theories. At Oxford they are chiefly to be seen at the Union, where they show remarkable fluency in speaking on all subjects, and their speeches are quite up to the general level of Union oratory. But for all that they are outside the real life of the place, and outside of the practical influences which an English University is supposed to exercise. Least of all do they learn anything regarding the lower classes of Englishmen, the raw material of the Army and Navy, and the men from among whom mechanics and artisans are recruited for work in India. So far as regards the lower classes of Europeans. It may be said, however, that planters, at any rate, come from the rank of society with which native gentlemen found themselves thrown in contact in England, and that here, at any rate, their knowledge is likely to be fairly complete. Here again, however, I think that the causes indicated above, as cutting off native gentlemen in England from any adequate knowledge of the lower classes, do operate to a certain extent. Nothing is more striking in many of the criminal cases in which planters are defendants than the thoughtless school-boy spirit in which the injury complained of has been done, and the sheer ignorance which has often indicated it. As often as not, the planter is nothing more than an English school-boy, who has not made a success of his school career, and who is turned loose in India to make his living. If he commits an assault, as he frequently does, no doubt he must be punished; but if a wise discretion is to be exercised in awarding the punishment, and the culprit is to recognise the justice, the Judge ought to be a person capable of understanding all the bearings of the case. I do not think that the average Native Civilian, even though he may have spent two or three years in England, is in a position to take quite a sound view of the class of case I describe. I do not say he will necessarily deal too harshly with the European; he may let him off too cheaply. But his experience cannot have given him the knowledge and the tact which are required to treat the case properly, and in any event his order will have little or no moral effect on the offender.

"I have written at some length upon these points without having said all that might have been said. The facts are so obvious that a mere reference to them is sufficient to suggest the conclusion. I need hardly say that nothing is further from my intention than to imply any criticism upon the native gentlemen who visit England in order to study for the Civil Service. It is not their industry or ability that is called in question. It is merely alleged that from sheer force of circumstances they are so placed as to be unable to acquire certain experience which is essential to qualify them to exercise criminal jurisdiction over certain classes of Europeans. I would admit that they might possibly be competent to deal with criminal charges against Europeans of the classes which they know, though even this is doubtful. But the distinction between these classes and the lower classes, between the educated and refined classes, and the uneducated and unrefined class, is a very wide one, and I think the Indian Law Reports can furnish instances in which even European Magistrates have been unduly severe for lack of that very knowledge of their inferiors which the Bill assumes Native Civilians will acquire by two or three years' residence in England.

"Then there is the question, in some aspects a delicate one, of trying cases in which European females are concerned. It has been pointed out in one of the daily papers that criminal charges of adultery are not unknown among Europeans of the lower classes in India, and that such cases are frequently very difficult for a European Magistrate to deal with. I do not see how a Native Civilian can possibly be competent to treat such cases satisfactorily. If his training in England has given him no insight into the manners of the lower classes of Englishmen, still less can it have taught him anything about their domestic relations. Every one knows that there is much apparent coarseness and brutality in those relations, combined sometimes with real affection and good will. It is hard to expect a foreigner to go behind the mere evidence of facts on the record to draw inferences of one kind and another, and to decide on the strength of those inferences. But this is in many cases the only means of doing substantial justice. On matters like this it is difficult to write very precisely. One can only state general impressions, and appeal to general experience to bear them out.

"Regarding the question of administrative inconvenience, I have really very little to say. While there are so few Native Civilians as there are at present, it is difficult to see how the

the point can become one of pressing importance. The utmost that can happen will apparently be a slight increase in the number of transfers of criminal cases from one district to another which can hardly be deemed a serious evil."

9. As for my own views of the matter, I must say that, viewed as a legislative enactment and as a matter of theory, the only objection I see to the Bill in itself is that it takes away from Government the power to give European Deputy Magistrates powers to try charges against European British subjects; but this anomaly could easily be removed by adding these officers to the list of persons declared capable of being Justices of the Peace in section 1. But the case assumes a different aspect when the political expediency of the enactment comes to be considered.

10. If the cases to be tried by native Magistrates were all ordinary cases, in which there is some truth in the statements of the prosecution, and where the accused will, at least if tried impartially, be found to have committed something resembling a crime, I do not see why a native Magistrate should not be trusted to decide these cases, even when the accused are Europeans, with quite as much confidence as European Magistrates. The average native Magistrate belonging to the class contemplated in the Bill is certainly not inferior to his European fellow Magistrates in judicial acumen, or in fairness or honesty of purpose, or in anxiety to arrive at the truth. The prevailing fault among these officers is a love of over-refining; but when this fault, as will be almost invariably the case, in the class of officers dealt with in the Act, is tempered by a calm judgment, it is not likely to lead them into error more often than even European officers of experience and sound judgment are sometimes led.

11. If, however, the case for the prosecution is, as is, too often, a tissue of skilfully concocted lies, I must say that I think that native officers, even though they are intellectually equal to their European compeers, a. not so well fitted to deal with it. The case is sure to be got up from a native point of view, and is, therefore, if well got up, likely to appear true to an officer accustomed to the same lines of thought; but native officers can never be so likely to detect the points which a European Magistrate, from a knowledge of the habit and modes of thought of his countrymen, would at once fix on as showing the charge to be entirely false; and therefore a European falsely accused before a native Magistrate would be deprived of one of the most valuable sources of evidence in his favour. I entirely agree with Mr. Risley in his remark showing how impossible it is that even native gentlemen who have lived a long time in Europe should have acquired that intimate acquaintance with the thoughts and habits of all classes which is necessary for any one who is to be trusted to judge cases which are entirely false. Again I think that it is impossible that cases involving questions as to the relations between the sexes can ever be dealt with by a native Magistrate as by one who knows the habits and modes of thought of people belonging to the classes to which those connected with the case belong, and it will be impossible even to satisfy the accused persons, or even the prosecutors, in such cases, that their case has been satisfactorily enquired into, unless the officer who tries the case is a European.

12. The feeling of want of confidence in the Judge is another very strong argument against the Bill; and though I by no means say that accused persons should be consulted as to the Judge by whom they are to be tried, I must say that, before a class of the community already numbering many thousands, and likely to increase largely in number, are deprived of a privilege which they value, and are made liable to have their cases decided by Judges whom they distrust as being unacquainted with their habits and modes of thought, it should be shown that the change is one which is rendered absolutely necessary by an administrative necessity which it is impossible to evade. Nothing is more certain to create discontent than a feeling of want of confidence in the Judges who administer criminal justice; and though this feeling may be to some extent founded on sentimental considerations, and not on solid argument, it is for that reason more likely to be tenaciously clung to by the great mass of those whose valued privilege the Bill will infringe.

13. There is certainly at present no administrative reason for trampling on these prejudices; and therefore, while I myself see no reason for doubting that Native Magistrates are not as fully competent to try cases in which Europeans are accused, as European Magistrates, except in cases of false charges and those involving questions as to the relation between the sexes, yet I must say that, looking at the great dissatisfaction it would cause to the great body of European British subjects, nothing but the most imperious necessity could justify the passing of the Bill, and this necessity certainly does not exist at present.

No, 591J. D., dated 12th May, 1883.

From—F. B. PEACOCK, Esq., Officiating Secretary to Government, Bengal,
To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 567J. D., dated the 10th instant, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, copies of a letter* from the Commissioner of Bhagulpore reporting on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

* No. 708J., dated the 1st May 1883, and enclosures.

No. 708J., dated 1st May, 1883.

From—G. N. BARLOW, Esq., C.S.I., Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division and Sonthal Pergunnahs.
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

I have the honour to submit the report called for in your No. 1518J., dated 27th March last, regarding the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1882.

2. I have consulted selected officers. I submit the replies of the officers noted in the margin in original, abstract of those of others below, and give my own opinion last.

Mr. W. Verner, Judge of Bhagulpore.
" Cowly, Judge of Purneah.
" Worsely, Magistrate of Monghyr.

MR. F. SKRINE, *Magistrate of Bhagulpore*—Considers the principles of the Bill to be as unjust as they are impolitic, because—(A) To be tried by his peers is an Englishman's birthright, as old, nay older, than Magna Charta itself. (B) That right has been invariably respected in all enactments affecting the status of European British subjects since the very commencement of our rule. (C) The right to be tried by his own countrymen has thus come to be regarded by every Englishman in India as his dearest, indeed his only, privilege.

The principle that an Englishman should be tried by his countrymen has been invariably upheld in our intercourse with all oriental nations. Witness the capitulations which prevail throughout the Ottoman Empire, and the treaties with China, which generally remove the jurisdiction over British subjects from the native tribunal to the Consular Courts.

MR. A. WEEKES, *Magistrate of Purneah*—Considers the principle of the Bill unwise, unsound, impolitic and unnecessary. No inconvenience has of course yet been felt, as there is no officer of the kind contemplated by the Bill in the Purneah district.

MR. R. PORCH, *Magistrate of Maldah*—Is opposed to the principle of the Bill, because, upon the basis of an experience of 22 years, he considers that no European under trial, unless he be ignorant of the common ways of the country as to forgery, perjury, and fabrication of false evidence, could have any confidence in the impartiality and competence of a court presided over by a native officer, covenanted or otherwise. Native officers, by their own ways and standards of living, thinking and acting, show and admit themselves to be incompetent to deal with the ordinary issues involved in cases against Europeans, whose ways and motives they do not understand. The occurrence of any administrative difficulty is not foreseen.

MR. W. OLDHAM, *Deputy Commissioner of Sonthal Pergunnahs*—Points out that the first act following the rebellion of 1855 in the Sonthal Pergunnahs was to put the people entirely under European officers, because it was felt and found that native officials were incapable of treating with justice the wild tribes whom they regarded as both savage and alien, to whom they could not listen with patience and without contempt; whose positions, feelings, motives and actions they could not realize nor judge of. This want of sympathy was comprehended by the wild people, who regarded the native officials with intense mistrust and thorough aversion, as under their *régime* the Sonthals were at the mercy of every intriguer who knew how to employ the machinery of the native courts. Since 1873 a few Sub-Deputy Magistrates and Collectors have been employed in the district, with petty powers under the supervision of European officers; and since 1882, one picked native Deputy Magistrate has been in charge of a minor sub-division. As regards the sub-deputies, there has not been one whose conduct in cases Mr. Oldham, during his term of office, has not had occasion to animadvert upon as approaching that which has been assigned as a chief cause of the Sonthal rebellion. As regards the picked Deputy Magistrate in charge of a sub-division, he has worthily fulfilled the trust reposed in him. Nevertheless several petitions have been received during his short incumbency, complaining that it is contrary to Government orders to employ a native officer, and asking that an Eurcpean may be sent.

This review has two aspects. If the competency of an ordinary Native Magistrate to administer a Sonthal sub-division can be challenged for the specific reasons set forth, as it certainly is challenged, the competency of a still higher class of native officers to try Europeans is to be challenged on precisely analogous grounds—foreignness of feeling, want of sympathy, and the ease with which the machinery of the courts can be manipulated against the Europeans. The other view is that with the distinction so prominently drawn by the people of his district between a European and Native officer, it cannot but have an ill effect for it to be seen that Europeans are amenable to a jurisdiction from which the Natives shrink, and against the exercise of which they are so ready to appeal.

Mr. Oldham has made successful efforts to gain intimacy with some of the Native officers with whom he has been brought into contact during his service. He has been struck invariably not only by the want of sympathy with which his native intimates regarded such a race as the Sonthals for instance, but by the mingled aversion, disgust, and contempt with which they looked upon them. Precisely the same feeling was evidenced as regards Europeans of the lower orders, especially when they were uncouth, rough, and noisy. It is not likely that the residence of a Native Civilian in England would impart to him much sympathy with or knowledge of the lower orders.

Instances are given of the great severity with which Native Officers punish crimes of violence, and of the manner in which they regard violence, no matter how extenuating the circumstances under which it was used; and it is noticed that the most frequent class of cases in which Europeans are concerned are those in which violence has been used by them, with or without extenuating circumstances.

As regards persons accused of offences, it is a common fault of the Magistracy to be guided by knowledge gained otherwise than in court. Few officers are free from this, and the evil exists in proportion to the extent to which the officer is accessible to, or subject to, extraneous influences.

Native officers, in Mr. Oldham's experience, have shown this tendency in a far greater degree than their European colleagues, and he has never known a native officer who regarded this tendency as an evil.

Generally it is a fact that mofussil justice is very far from perfect. At present, cases in which Europeans are concerned are those which are tried with the greatest care and the most consideration. The new Bill would take away this distinction in a measure. They would receive, in exchange for the good law and the justice of the presidency, the more careful law of the mofussil in all its inferiority. They would fare worse than this, as they would be tried by men incompetent to try them. They would be not only misunderstood, but be tried by courts exposed to extraneous influences.

Another difficulty, not insurmountable, but likely to be practically embarrassing, is the fact that Europeans in this country do not pay to mofussil courts, with their rough and undignified appurtenances, the respect which they would pay to similar tribunals and officers at Home. Grave scandals would occur, and the accused might become involved suddenly in most serious consequences, and liable for acts which, with a European officer dealing with him, he would have no opportunity or temptation to commit.

The Deputy Commissioner is therefore opposed to the principle of the Bill. On political grounds it would be impossible to put it into force in his district, and the same reasons must have some application elsewhere. It would operate to the serious disadvantage of the European community. It would involve complications of which, without it, there is no risk, and it would embarrass the Native Civilians whom it invested with powers.

The Deputy Commissioner can imagine no administrative difficulty as likely to arise if the Bill be not passed, as certainly none exists now.

Baboo Soshi Bhusan Dutt, *Deputy Magistrate of Muddhepoorah*—Although there is no administrative difficulty now, thinks it may be felt hereafter, when the number of Native Covenanted Civilians increase, and as crime increases with the increased influx of Europeans into the country. Is of opinion that, "however good in principle the Bill might be, considering the present state of feeling, its passing into law will unnecessarily create a breach between the Europeans and Natives."

Baboo Wooma Churn Bose, *Deputy Magistrate of Banka*—Europeans have waived the valued privilege of being tried by their countrymen, so far as regards their amenability to native Judges in civil matters, and also in criminal cases in presidency towns. Native Judges and Magistrates have hitherto discharged their duties in these cases with integrity and impartiality; therefore there can be no wrong in extending the system prevailing in the presidency town to the mofussil. It is true, there is between the European and native Magistrate an essential race difference, which is a judicial disqualification in the latter, and renders him unfitted for exercising the powers proposed to be vested in him, owing to his ignorance of European ways. But the jurisdiction over Europeans is only to be granted to carefully selected native civilians, who have made their way into the service by competition and sojourn in England, and who thus have had opportunities of acquiring a knowledge of, and insight into, European ways. There still remains the question of difference of race. If native civilians are open to the charge that on this account they are rendered less possessed of tact, judgment and impartiality, or if it renders Europeans less disposed to submit and confide in their jurisdiction, then the powers contemplated in the Bill should not be conferred.

Mr. S. S. Jones, C.S., *Sub-divisional Officer of Deoghur*—Cannot say that members of the three first classes named in the Bill are not competent to try European British subjects, or maintain that all British subjects are entitled everywhere in India to be tried only by European British subjects. In towns they are not so tried. The question is one of administrative ways and means, the end being good government and the contentment or acquiescence of those affected by any lagislative change removing a felt difficulty. Knows of no administrative difficulty as yet to have arisen, nor likely to arise within the next ten years.

Mr. W. Smith, *Sub-divisional Officer of Doomka*—Disapproves of the Bill. Had experience in European cases at Rajmehal for four years (probably at the time of making the railway). Some of the parties were newly arrived Scotch women, and cases between husband and wife; cannot conceive it possible for any native Magistrate to have dealt with such cases successfully. He could not have understood the language used, or appreciated the domestic differences involved. He would have found it difficult to have his authority or office respected, specially while the parties were angry; and the attempt to deal with a simple offence might have led the European concerned to become involved in a serious one.

Baboo Sharoda Proshad Chatterjee, *Personal Assistant to Commissioner*—Thinks the present system under which the most highly-educated native of India cannot try a European British subject, while he can try any other cultivated European or American, indefensible. The pleas which have been urged against the Bill, *viz.*, the ignorance of the native Judge as regards the habits of, or want of sympathy with, the European British subject, apply in the same force to the other cases referred to. The only intelligible ground that can be adduced against the Bill is that the change in the law would lessen the prestige of the conquering race in this country, but the persons (Europeans) likely to appear as criminals belong to the lowest

social strata, and the trial of these cannot lessen the awe and respect which the name of an Englishman inspires in India.

Criminal statistics (in this part of the country at least) do not bear out the assertion that Europeans are likely to be harassed with false complaints. The number of these is small.

Baboo Gosain Das Dutt, *Deputy Magistrate of Kissengunge.*—It is impossible for any man holding liberal views to deny the expediency of removing distinction founded merely on differences of race or class, provided that the evil consequences of such removal do not more than counterbalance the benefit that must naturally result from action based on sound political principles, and provided that the proposed change is one of sufficient magnitude to justify the rousing of an opposition which, even though it be unreasoning, is in itself an actual evil. Thinks that there is very little or no probability of administrative inconvenience arising if the Bill be not passed. The powers, if granted, should only be given to those covenanted civilians (native) who have come back from England, and are acquainted with the manners and customs of the people whom they will have to try. Otherwise, to extend the jurisdiction to covenanted civilians who have been selected in this country, would be to put up a tribunal quite ignorant of the manners and habits of the people whom they have to try, and consequently the results of such trials are never expected to give any satisfaction.

3. My own opinion is as follows:—I concur in all the reasons which have been adduced by the various officers who have objected to the Bill. I sum up my objections thus—

(*a.*)—Native Magistrates, &c., are incompetent to try Europeans on account of their ignorance of the habits, actions, and modes of thought of the Europeans. The disqualification extends to the covenanted native civilians who have visited England, as it is impossible to suppose that a three or four years' residence in that country, on the part of a youth, for the purposes of study, can have given him a really practical and sympathetic knowledge of the European character. It extends in the fullest degree to those who have never been to England (and who are likely apparently to form the bulk of the officers employed in the future), and upon this head it seems sufficient to ask the question whence, with the existing state of inter-communication between Europeans and natives in this country, can these last be supposed to have acquired their knowledge of European character and ways?

(*b.*)—The proposed change, if carried out, will place the Europeans under greater disadvantages than at present. Whatever may be the case in the large presidency and other towns, it is an undoubted fact that in the mofussil a certain respect is felt for a European, as such, whether it be in the case of an official or settler. In the latter, the protection thus afforded is one of the few compensations enjoyed for the life of isolation which he lives. If the right of being tried by his countrymen is taken away from the European, increased recourse to false cases and such like will certainly be had by those who resort to such practices.

(*c.*)—Native officials in the mofussil would not be able to command respect for themselves and their offices. This would specially be the case with Europeans of the lower orders, and very grave scandals would be the result. This is a real practical danger which will be testified to by many officers. The argument that this difficulty has not been felt in the exercise of jurisdiction by civil courts over Europeans is not a safe one, for the temper of an accused in a criminal court is quite distinct from the attitude of the parties to a suit in the civil courts.

(*d.*)—The passing of the Bill will widen and perpetuate the breach between Europeans and natives that has already been opened by its proposal. There is no doubting the depth of the feelings that have been already aroused. Europeans and natives of enlightened character, who have worked together heretofore with common feelings and single aim, are almost to a man divided upon the present subject, where, that is to say, the latter support the Bill; for as a fact only a few of the advanced section of the native community are interested in the matter. The bulk of the people are ignorant even of the proposals, and, if I am not mistaken, the old-fashioned native of good degree, when he came to understand the measure, would be astonished at and reject it.

(*e.*)—The whole European community will be bitterly alienated from the Government. Is this politically safe? Or if there be no danger from such a state of things, is it justifiable or desirable to drive them into such an attitude? For their services in the Mutiny, and in advancing the country, are the European British subjects entitled to no consideration?

4. I believe that at the present or in the future, at all events for years to come, there is absolutely no administrative inconvenience likely to occur from matters remaining as they are and have been.

5. Although not instructed to do so, I consulted four non-official European gentlemen upon the question—selected persons, who have spent long lives in the interior of the country, living in close and most cordial relation with natives of all classes, who have, some of them, made large fortunes as the fruit of their labours. These men might be expected to give just and reasonable opinions, unaffected by the excitement that the Bill has aroused. As one man, they give their voice against the proposed measure.

No. 464, dated 2nd May, 1883.

From—W. H. VERNER, Esq., Sessions Judge of Bhagulpore,
To—The Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division.

You have asked me for an expression of my opinion on the principle of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, and also whether I think that the present system results in inconvenience.

I am not sure that the Bill rests on any principle. There appears, however, to be underlying it some such idea as this :—*If a European is allowed to try a native of this country on a criminal charge, a native of the country should be allowed to try a European on a similar charge.* Judging by much of what appears in print, the arguments of those who entertain this idea are that one man is as good as another, that one race is as good as another, that a conquering race is no better than a conquered race, and so on. On the other hand, the arguments of those opposed to the idea are often that one man is better than another, that a conquering race is superior to a conquered race, and so on. Arguments of this kind lead to no conclusion, are dangerous, and, it seems to me, on a question of practical government, irrelevant.

The probable results of the Bill appear to me the best guide in determining whether its principle is sound, if that above noted can be called a principle. I divide the results into advantages and disadvantages.

I.—ADVANTAGES.

First advantage.—Proclamation or advertisement to the world that, after a competitive examination, selection by Government, or some other test, natives of this country are entitled to sit in judgment on British-born subjects.

Second advantage.—Gratification experienced by natives of India by this proclamation or advertisement.

Third advantage.—Gratitude thereupon.

Fourth advantage.—Administrative convenience.

It is possible to underrate the importance of the first of these advantages. But it should be remembered that the true liberal is a man of ideas, and in the interests of the nations at large these ideas should be proclaimed. I do not attribute much weight to the second and third advantages. The gratification will be confined to a small section of the community, and the gratitude to one still smaller. The fourth advantage, namely, administrative convenience, requires consideration. Were it apparent that by the Bill the administration and government of the country would proceed much more conveniently, there would be at least one practical, as opposed to a sentimental, argument for the Bill. But as a matter of fact the existing system presents, and seems likely to present, no material inconveniences. The additional administrative convenience secured by the Bill would be infinitesimal.

II.—DISADVANTAGES.

First disadvantage.—Dismay of European British subjects at the loss of a highly valued privilege.

Second disadvantage.—Race exacerbation.

Third disadvantage.—Check to the material prosperity of the country.

Fourth disadvantage.—Comparative unfitness of natives of this country for the trial of Europeans.

The first of these disadvantages, like some of the advantages previously noted, is to some extent a matter of sentiment. In the one case, however, the sentiment is of mushroom growth, while in the other it is like a tree which has become deeply rooted in the lapse of centuries. The second disadvantage is momentous. A measure which must in a country like India increase race antagonism is, so far, condemned. The most ardent liberal, the man of the most advanced views, would probably admit this. To those who hope for a time when the peoples of India will freely join in the government of their country, there could be no greater blow than the present Bill. What might come last has been put first; what might have been the crown of the edifice is now a stumbling block in the path of the builders. The third disadvantage arises from the fact that anything which promotes alarm, race antagonism, or a feeling of distrust, whether against the people or the Government, must tend to check the influx of European capital; and most men who have thought over the matter agree that the great material want of India is capital. About the fourth disadvantage there can, I think, be little doubt. Owing to many causes to which I need not refer at length; a native gentleman would, when trying a European British subject, stand at a disadvantage beside his European compeer. No doubt by a residence in England this comparative unfitness would be lessened, more especially in those rare cases where, owing to emancipation from caste feelings and other fortunate circumstances, the Indian gentleman was able to become intimate with English people, English habits, thoughts and feelings, and English family life. But it may be stated without fear of contradiction that *ceteris paribus*, the European officer will be more fit than the native to try Europeans. It may be said that by a parity of reasoning native officers are more fitted than Europeans to try natives; but without entering upon the discussion of this question, and of certain political questions connected with it, it is sufficient to say that this, even if admitted, forms no argument. It can hardly be maintained that because Europeans, though more unfitted for the purpose than natives, try natives, therefore natives, though more unfitted for the purpose than Europeans, should try Europeans. Two blacks do not make a white.

The disadvantages of the Bill appear to greatly outweigh its advantages, and it must be remembered that it is for the advocates of change to prove their case.

No. 132, dated 9th April, 1883.

From—F. COWLEY, Esq., Judge of Purneah,
To—The Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division.

In reply to your memorandum No. 455J., dated the 2nd, and received on the 5th of April, I have the honour to state my opinion on the Bill No. VIII of 1883, to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

2. Section 2 of the Bill is permissive, and empowers the Local Government to appoint persons, whether Europeans or not, holding certain offices, to be Justices of the Peace; but section 3 introduces a complete change, and directs that all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates shall, in virtue of their respective offices, be Justices of the Peace. The Bill then empowers any native Sessions Judge or District Magistrate to try European British subjects.

3. The reasons assigned for the Bill are that "it was thought anomalous that while natives of India were admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service, and held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties, they should be deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace and to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the presidency towns."

4. If this be an anomaly, it arises out of the position of Europeans in this country. Englishmen conquered India by force of arms; they hold it in a great measure by the prestige which still attaches to them as the conquerors, and any change which will be interpreted by the great mass of the people in diminution of that prestige ought to be avoided, if British dominion in India be worth retaining. In the eyes of the natives at large, and more especially of the turbulent and uneducated among them, the effect of the Bill, should it become law, must amount to a degradation of the personal status of Englishmen. To those races in India among whom our native army is recruited the propositions of the Bill must be a greater anomaly than the disqualifications which it is sought to remove.

5. If the Bill become law, a few natives will have received, or will be in a position to receive, authority to try European British subjects; but the benefit, if there be any to the administration, can only be gained, so far as my experience goes, at the expense of the feelings of by far the greater portion of the present European community in Bengal.

6. It is in the interests of justice that any person placed on his trial charged with an offence should have confidence in the court which is to try him, and should feel that the court is capable of fully understanding his actions or omissions; and the privilege or right of trial by one's own countrymen can be justified on this ground.

7. Natives of India, who have not been educated in England, cannot enter into the feelings and motives which prompt Englishmen, and more particularly Englishwomen, to action, and a native Judge or Magistrate in that position is, on that ground, not so qualified to deal with Europeans as is a countryman of the latter. Some of the native gentlemen who have been to England might have the necessary qualifications; but a general rule should not be based on a few exceptions.

8. On litigation generally, the views of natives and of Europeans differ materially. Some years ago, when I was in Chittagong, the Magistrate-Collector visited a village in that district, and was told that the family of a young man who had then recently died at a comparatively early age, had sustained a great loss because the young man, though not a lawyer, only a litigant, had already successfully fought out a number of cases in our courts. The narrator admiringly added—"What would he not have done had he lived longer." This love of litigation is general, and is always borne in mind by Judges and Magistrates. It is characteristic of the people in Bengal. I believe few Englishmen who are not professional lawyers would ever think of either profit or pleasure in litigation, or would not rather avoid it.

9. I have on many occasions found courts, presided over by native gentlemen, rejecting evidence, almost as a matter of course, because it consisted of statements made by relatives or dependents of one or other of the parties. Would a general assertion of that description be frequently or ever used in courts of justice in England? Such reasoning implies that perjury and subornation of perjury are believed to be ordinary weapons of attack and defence; and it shows that judgments are based largely on the probabilities arising out of the circumstances of the cases under inquiry.

10. It is not, however, only in modes of thought and characteristics, but also in habits of living, in social and domestic institutions, that Europeans and natives differ. A native, however well educated, must find it difficult to understand a European; and I therefore think that the objection of Europeans to being judged by natives rests on more than a sentimental foundation.

11. Englishwomen are more disadvantageously situated in this matter than Englishmen. Is it not even an indignity that European ladies should be liable to be tried by men who allow polygamy, and who regard females as inferior beings, not fit to be trusted to appear in public.

12. It may be urged that natives are tried by Europeans; but this is an anomaly

which probably cannot be removed till Europeans cease to govern India, and which exists within comparatively narrow limits. Most trials of natives are presided over by native officers, and in all sessions courts in Bengal trials are held either with assessors or with jurors, some, generally all, of whom are natives. Even if one admit, which I do not, that natives object to being tried by Europeans, that is no reason why Europeans should be unnecessarily subjected to a tribunal which they deem to be objectionable.

13. It is said that race-feeling should be allowed no weight. That is true if the term be used in an invidious sense; but if it mean superior trust in men believed to have inherited those qualities which have given actual pre-eminence to any particular race, its existence cannot be ignored in practical legislation.

14. In a country like India, where many different races exist side by side, and where personal privileges are extensively recognised, legislation should studiously avoid raising questions of race unnecessarily. Judged by this standard, and by the result of its introduction, the Bill must be condemned.

15. I think the Bill is erroneous in principle, because it tends to place certain persons who may be charged with offences under disadvantages to which they are not now subject. It can only be justified on the ground of some existing and definite administrative difficulty; it is entirely unjustifiable if it be based in any degree on the wish of individuals to exercise jurisdiction. Where no legal or moral principle is involved, that person has the right to the greater consideration who has the greater interest at stake. Whether, then, is the question now in issue of more importance to the accused or to the Judge? Clearly a Judge, acting simply as such, has nothing to gain or to lose by trying any particular person. It is not alleged that the present system enables criminals to escape justice, and till there be administrative necessity for a change, there is no good reason why a change should be made.

16. It has been suggested that opposition to the Bill indicates a wish to hinder educated natives of India from advancing socially and politically; but this is wrong. Ample field for their energies is being opened out to them in the system of Local Self-Government now under consideration.

17. The question of administrative inconvenience raised in connection with the Bill hardly falls within my province; but I fail to see that any such inconvenience as would justify the Bill has arisen, or is likely soon to arise. If it should ever hereafter arise, it might be met by giving the Local Government authority to invest selected Magistrates of Districts or Sessions Judges with the necessary authority. I myself, however, see no present likelihood of that necessity arising.

No 508 J., dated 21st April 1883.

From—C. F. WORSLEY, Esq., Magistrate of Monghyr,

To—The Commissioner of the Bhagulpore Division.

With reference to your No. 456J., dated 2nd instant, forwarding copy of letter from the Judicial Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 1518J., dated 27th ultimo, on the subject of "A Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects," I have the honour to report as follows:—

2. In one of two reports which, as Magistrate of Mozufferpore, I submitted to the Government in 1880 and 1881, on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1872, I suggested myself, (1) that Native Civilians holding the appointments of Sessions Judge and District Magistrate should be Justices of the Peace by virtue of their appointments; (2) that the Government should be authorized to appoint such Native Deputy Magistrates as it might think fit to be Justices of the Peace; and (3) that the privilege of selecting their own court of appeal should be withdrawn from European British subjects in cases tried by Magistrates. I based my first proposal on the grounds that it was anomalous that an officer in the high position of a District Judge or District Magistrate should be debarred from exercising powers possessed by his own subordinates, and that if such an officer was competent to discharge properly the important and multifarious duties which devolved on him generally, it was unreasonable to suppose that he was unfit to try a European British subject. My second proposal was founded on the experience which I had gained as a District Magistrate, and in the course of which I had known Native Deputy Magistrates and Native Subordinate Judges to act with impartiality and due consideration towards European complainants and witnesses in criminal cases, or towards European parties and witnesses in civil suits. Some of these native officers enjoyed the fullest confidence of the non-official European residents of the Mozufferpore district. My third proposal was dictated by a sense of the injustice which might, at any time, be caused by a wealthy appellant compelling a poor complainant to defend a case before a distant appellate court, and of the unfairness of allowing a convicted person of a particular race to take his choice of two appellate courts which the law presumed to be equally competent to hear his appeal.

3. I still retain the opinion which I formerly expressed on the third point; but on the first and second points I have seen reason to modify my views.

4. I admit that I was wholly unprepared for the exhibition of angry and stormy feelings which the present Bill has aroused among Europeans in India. Some of this animosity may be the result of ignorance, some the effect of example; but I feel sure that in the main it is far too real and serious to be treated as a passing storm. One effect of the agitation and counter-agitation that have been set on foot has been to place before the public all that can be possibly urged for or against the Bill; and, for my own part, I am bound to say that I can no longer regard the changes proposed in the Bill merely in an administrative point of view. To estimate "the principle of the Bill" aright, it seems absolutely necessary to take into account the state of social relations between Europeans and Natives, which, though apparently friendly, and in some instances cordial in recent years, seem, when put to the test, to have rested generally on little solid foundation. In such a state of society, I cannot consider the principle of the Bill to be sound. If the Bill becomes law, it is only too probable that the European community will separate itself more than ever from the people of the country; that the position of the Native Civilians who may be appointed Justices of the Peace will be made extremely unpleasant for themselves in civil stations; that on the occasion of every trial (for some years at least) of a European British subject by a Native Magistrate in the Mofussil, bad feelinge will be excited, and that an attitude of sullen hostility to the Government of India will be maintained by non-official Europeans throughout the country.

5. While I wish to state emphatically my own belief that Native Civilian Judges and Magistrates would be very unlikely to misuse their powers as Justices of the Peace, and that their sympathies would be more with the Europeans than with the Natives of their districts, I can well understand the natural preference which Europeans charged with criminal offences must feel for courts over which their own countrymen preside, and, considering the peculiar privileges enjoyed by certain classes of natives—privileges which, in some respects, are calculated to defeat the ends of justice (*e.g.*, it is impossible for a Judge to observe the demeanour of a *purda-nashin* witness, or to feel satisfied always of the identity of such witness),—I submit that nothing short of administrative necessity should be made ground for withdrawing from European British subjects a privilege which they have shown in the most unmistakeable manner that they very highly cherish, and which is not productive of any injustice whatsoever. I beg, therefore, to submit my opinion that at the present time, and under present conditions, the principle of the Bill is not sound, and that infinitely more harm than good will be done by proceeding further with the Bill.

6. With regard to the latter part of the Government letter, I have no hesitation in stating that neither in this district, nor in any other district in which I have served, has any administrative inconvenience arisen from the exclusion of Native Covenanted Civilians from the power of trying European British subjects on criminal charges. In every Behar district there are always one or more Justices of the Peace besides the Magistrate of the district; and until the number of Native Civilians becomes very much larger than it is at present, I do not see how any administrative inconvenience can possibly arise.

7. I have not thought it necessary to enter into any lengthy arguments for or against the Bill, as everything that can be said on one side or the other has already appeared in the newspapers or in petitions, and I presume that it is my opinion, more than lengthy reasons, that is required.

No. 614J.D., dated 15th May, 1883.

From—F. B. PEACOCK, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 591J.D., dated the 12th instant, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copies of letters* from the Commissioners of the Dhaka and Patna Divisions reporting on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

* From the Commissioner of Dhaka, No. 258M., dated the 7th May 1883.
From the Commissioner of Patna, No. 349G., dated the 6th May 1883.

No. 258M., dated 7th May, 1883.

From—N. S. ALEXANDER, Esq., Officiating Commissioner of the Dacca Division,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

With reference to your letter No. 1518J., dated 27th March last, regarding the amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, I have the honour to submit the following report for the information of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and to submit annexed extracts from the reports of certain officers whom I have consulted, and my notes thereon.

2. In my opinion the Bill as it stands steers an unfortunate *middle* course. It goes far enough to rouse the indignation of one powerful section of the community, while it does not go far enough to satisfy the cravings of another; and as such it must be condemned as impracticable and ineffective. To give half a dozen Civilians powers to try Europeans will not remove any anomaly, or cause to cease any administrative inconvenience, for the reason that inconvenience is only likely to arise in cases which occur in sub-divisions (in sudder stations there must be generally one European officer with the powers of a Justice of the Peace).

This being the case, a Bill which does not invest all Sub-Divisional Officers with powers to try Europeans is simply a nullity. The Bill as it stands will certainly not remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions. If such is to be carried out, very many officers not mentioned in the present Bill would have to have these powers conferred on them.

3. I see no objection on principle to Government being empowered to invest Native Civilians—those entered in clause (*a*) with the powers provided in the Bill, if it be granted that such officers have really attained the status of European gentlemen by their education, habits of life, and through general intercourse with Europeans; but it may not be good policy for Government to give such powers.

4. As regards the officers specified in clauses (*b*), (*c*), (*d*), in my opinion to confer on them such powers, and not to confer them on any of the many able and educated Deputy Magistrates and Sub-Divisional Officers of Lower Bengal—such men as Nawab Abdool Latif, Baboo Ram Sankar Sen, and others—would not only be invidious, but doubtless unintentionally, yet distinctly, casting a slur on the latter officers, and be as great an anomaly as any that the Bill is supposed to do away with.

5. There are out of the sudder stations only two places in this Division where many Europeans reside, *viz.*, Naraingunge and Goalundo, to which places only also steamers with European commanders ply. There are no indigo planters, and only one or two traders in country produce, who reside away from these two places and the sudder station. At Naraingunge there has been hitherto posted an European Magistrate, and till Mr. Badshah was posted, the same was the case at Goalundo also. There have not hitherto been any cases in which any administrative inconvenience has occurred in this division, nor does it appear to me that any are likely to occur, except perhaps at Goalundo. Hitherto the Europeans in this place charged with any offences have been content to waive their privileges and submit to be tried by Mr. Badshah (such cases have of course been petty ones). A case might perchance any day arise, in which the defendant might refuse to waive his privilege, and this might cause some inconvenience to parties, but not, in my opinion, to any very appreciable extent. Furreedpore is only 20 miles off, and the Magistrate might easily go out that distance, dispose of the case, and return within a day or two to his head-quarters.

6. Mr. R. C. Dutt, district officer of Backergunge, writes:—"As the extensive scheme of railway communication now in the course of rapid execution is fully developed, there would hardly be a district in Lower Bengal where criminal cases implicating railway officials or European settlers would not sometimes occur. The number of Indian members of the service, of the rank of District Magistrate or District Judge, will be greater, and the districts available for them under the present law will be fewer. The difficulty which it is now proposed to pass over will have to be faced a few years hence, and perhaps the same remedy will have to be proposed, the same agitation would be excited, and the same bitter and painful feelings evoked." It seems to him to "be far better, now that the question has arisen, that it should be finally set to rest, and it can only be finally solved in the way in which the Government of India has proposed to do it."

7. Mr. Dutt goes on to say:—"It will not strengthen a district officer in keeping peace in his district, for which he is responsible, when he is told, and the people of his district are told, that he has no power over one privileged class of people; that he cannot punish and cannot deal with a disturbance if committed by that class, perhaps even in the bazar of the station in which he resides; and that for dealing with such cases he must have recourse to the authorities of a neighbouring district. It is not desirable that the people should be told that in districts administered by native officers there is no redress against petty acts of violence by European offenders unless the complainants choose to seek such redress by submitting themselves and their witnesses to the hardship and inconvenience of travelling to a different district. Unfavourable opinions will be formed by the people of an officer in whom Government seems not to repose full confidence, and who is not empowered by Government to keep all classes of people in his district equally in order. It is to be judged whether it is desirable to weaken the hands of a district officer who is held responsible by Government for the peace and criminal administration of his district. The real question was decided when it was decided that the Indian members of the Covenanted Service should be allowed to hold executive and judicial charge of districts. This was a generous and a bold concession, for with that concession the vast powers and responsibilities of ruling the people, which had hitherto been exclusively held by Englishmen, were generously shared by them with qualified native gentlemen. Having admitted them to a share of those great powers and responsibilities, having called upon them to administer districts, collect revenue, extend education, and keep down crime, having required from them the same degree of efficiency and administrative vigour and wisdom as has hitherto been manifested by trained English administrators, it is no longer possible for Government to meddle with the powers which naturally belong to that position, and which are necessary for the responsible work which has to be done. Little distinctions, small curtailment of powers, petty disqualifications based on race or caste, are out of place, are virtually impossible, when it has been decided to entrust the administration of districts to the natives of India. Legislation cannot halt where it is; it must proceed or move backwards. Shut out the natives of India from the great work of district administration, and the Amendment Bill now published may be abandoned. Make them District Magistrates and District Judges, and the powers which have hitherto been reposed in such officers, and which are necessary for efficient and successful

administration, cannot be withheld. The question arose in 1872, *i.e.*, the year after the first native of India entered the Bengal Civil Service, and it was postponed because a practical necessity for the change had not yet arisen, although men like Lord Mayo and his Commander-in-Chief, as Sir George Campbell and Sir Richard Temple, accepted and advocated the change, and saw that it was inevitable. The question has now arisen again in a practical form, as the same native officers are now getting charge of districts; and the proposal can neither be abandoned nor be postponed with due regard to the interests of efficient administration.

8. "Previous to the enactment of the Criminal Procedure Code of 1872, a native member of the Civil Service was not legally debarred, as such, from exercising jurisdiction over European British subjects. Under section 3, Act II of 1869, any Covenanted Civil Servant could be appointed Justice of the Peace, and under sections 39-42, Act XXV of 1861 (the old Criminal Procedure Code), any Justice of the Peace, being a first class Magistrate, had powers to try Europeans for certain petty offences, and to commit them for trial. It was by the so-called 'compromise' between Sir James Stephen and certain non-official Europeans that by the Code of 1872, the Indian members of the Civil Service were legally disqualified to try or commit Europeans, and it was for the first time then enacted that no Magistrate or Sessions Judge should try a British-born subject, unless he was himself a British-born subject. It is well, therefore, to understand that, legally speaking, the right of which it is said the present Bill would deprive Europeans was created in 1872.

"This right of Europeans in India, as it has been called, is one which the large majority of Europeans in India, residing in Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, do not enjoy, and do not feel the want of. The reason which has been assigned for still keeping intact this privilege in favour of a minority of Europeans residing in the mofussil is that public opinion is not as strong in the mofussil as in the presidency towns, and an act of injustice may therefore be committed in some remote district without its exciting public attention. This argument, which was perhaps valid twenty years ago, is entirely fallacious in the present day. The present agitation against the Bill would in itself show how strong English public opinion is in the interior of the country. The agitation which took place when Mr. Meares was punished by the Magistrate of Jessore is another instance in point. He records his simple conviction when he states that the punishment of a European in the interior would be far more keenly criticised by the English public of India than a similar punishment in Calcutta, and would excite far greater indignation. He says he records his simple conviction when he states that the liberties of Europeans are in this respect safer in the interior than they are in the presidency towns. There is absolutely no reason, therefore, for perpetuating a personal privilege which has in the present day ceased to be necessary, which is not enjoyed by the large majority of Europeans in India, and which involves a serious administrative inconvenience.

9. "The principle on which the Bill is framed is that the power to try European offenders will be bestowed according to personal fitness, and not according to the nationality of the Magistrate and the Judge. It does not remove any of the existing distinctions between native offenders and European offenders. It only removes all distinctions between European and Native Judges. The object of the Bill is not to remove or alter any of the numerous and special provisions which now exist to guard the liberties of Englishmen in the mofussil. Under these special provisions, Englishmen have the benefit of the Habeas Corpus Act (embodied in the Civil Procedure Code), which the natives of India do not enjoy. They have the right of appeal in every case, which natives do not have. The District Magistrate and Sessions Judge have a far more limited power of punishment with regard to them than with regard to natives, while the humbler and less able class of Deputy Magistrates, who mainly administer justice among natives, have (unless they are Europeans and Justices of the Peace) no jurisdiction over Europeans. The proposed Bill respects all those provisions, but enacts that, with those special provisions in his favour, the European will be triable by native and European Judges alike. Indeed in one respect it adds to the privileges of Englishmen. English Deputy Magistrates who are Justices of the Peace try English offenders under the present law as stated above, but they will not be allowed to try them after the present Bill is passed. A higher class of officers, *i.e.*, the covenanted officers alone, will be empowered to try Europeans; but among such officers there will be no distinction made on the ground of nationality. Thus the Bill involves three principles:—In the *first* place, it respects all the existing special provisions to guard the liberties of European subjects; *secondly*, it requires a high degree of fitness in the officers (higher than under the present law) competent to try such subjects; *thirdly*, it does not require that such highly-qualified officers must necessarily be Englishmen.

10. "The only question on which, as it appears to me, there is room for difference of opinion, relates to the extent to which legislation should be carried in the direction indicated. Should district officers and Judges only be empowered to try Europeans, or should covenanted assistants be empowered to do so under special circumstances? Should the power be confined to the officers selected by competition in England, or should it also be extended to those in this country under the Statute? As in heavy districts the district officer scarcely does any judicial work, it would be better perhaps to have a provision for empowering specially selected covenanted assistants to try Europeans. With regard to the officers selected under the Statute, it is not apparent how the power to try Europeans can be very well withheld from them if they prove themselves fit by their work to have judicial or executive charge of districts."

11. As to the administrative inconvenience which has arisen, Mr. Dutt remarks that great inconvenience might have occurred when he was in charge of the Balasore district, to.

which no European officer was at the time posted. If any European had then been charged with an offence, he would have had to have been sent either to Cuttack, a distance of 100 miles, or to Midnapore, still further off, but I do not understand Mr. Dutt to say that any such case did actually occur.

12. Mr. Waller, the Magistrate of Mymensingh, writes as follows:—

"The principle of the Bill seems based on the assumption that the only logical criterion of the propriety of conferring the proposed jurisdiction on certain Native Magistrates to try Europeans is that of their competency to discharge high judicial duties, and that this being admitted, the propriety of conferring the proposed jurisdiction follows of course. It is also apparently taken for granted that all judicial disqualifications based merely upon race distinctions in this country at the present time are indefensible

"Besides this mere question of moral and intellectual competency, there are other elements to be taken into account in considering the policy of the measure proposed in the Bill.

"In the administration of criminal justice it is an admitted axiom that it should be so conducted as to secure the sympathy and support of all good and orderly citizens. Now the exercise of a criminal jurisdiction over Europeans at present in this country, even by the select Native Magistrates whom it is proposed to empower by this Bill, would not only not meet with the sympathy or support of the orderly and law-abiding European population of this country, but would inevitably range on the side of the European accused person the sympathy of the otherwise law-abiding Europeans in the country, and that no matter how defensible, from the point of view of the judicial and intellectual competency of the Native Magistrate, his exercise of the proposed jurisdiction in any given case might be."

"This, however, it may be replied, is merely the outcome of an unreasoning and unjustifiable race antipathy which no Government can be called upon to recognize or to allow to influence it in considering the adoption of measures of reform demanded both by abstract justice and good policy.

13. "An Englishman's desire to be tried, where life or liberty are concerned, by his fellow-countryman, is, owing in a great measure to the fact that the Englishman knows that, though there may be exceptions in the great majority of cases, the English Judge who will have to try him will be a man who he knows has been brought up in certain well-defined principles, regulating in the most powerful and effective way his ideas of his duty to God and his neighbour, and that it is this code of the most exalted morality by which, in the discharge of any serious and trying duty, he (the Judge) will be more or less strongly influenced. But what do the majority of Englishmen know of the principles which guide, or the code of moral obligations that is binding on the Native Magistrate? And having no knowledge of this how can they be expected to place the same confidence in him as in an Englishman as their Judge?

14. "Again, in criminal trials especially, it is the clear right of every subject to have the best and fairest trial, both as regards the agency and procedure available, that the Government can afford to provide. Now in coming to a decision on evidence in trials, a very considerable amount of the premises on which inferences are based are axioms laid down by the Judge out of his own experience of the conduct, feelings, motives, habits, &c., in every-day life of those whom he has seen or known.

15. "This being so, it cannot be held that a native of India, by living three or four years in Europe, from the age of, say, 16 or 17 to 20 or 21, alone in a foreign country, and his entire time engaged in study for examinations, and without facilities for mixing in society, can in that short time get a sufficient knowledge of the inner, or even of the outer life of Englishmen, to enable him, on his return to India, to form, in a criminal trial of an Englishman, those inferences, above-mentioned as based on experience, equally correctly with an Englishman born and bred among his own countrymen, and therefore intimately acquainted with their social habits, religious and other feelings and ideas. He ventures to say that not even a Frenchman or a German, though of races much more nearly allied to the English in customs and feelings than any native of India, could be found who, even after years of intimacy with English life in England, would be regarded by Englishmen at home as, from this point of view, equally fitted with themselves to sit in judgment on Englishmen; and this would, he is convinced, hold good *vice versâ* of any other civilised nation: for instance, a German or an Italian would be dissatisfied to have for his Judge in a criminal trial one of another European nationality, and that even though the foreigner might understand his language well and be quite competent in that respect; and in this connection one cannot fail to remember that the other nationalities of Europe have not allowed the Turkish Government to exercise jurisdiction over their subjects on Turkish soil;" while, as an illustrative phenomenon, he mentions the not unfrequent outcries in the English Press, caused by the exercise over Englishmen of the criminal jurisdiction of other European nations of those countries.

16. Mr. Waller assumes that he has shown that, for the reasons stated, an Englishman could not be said to have been given the best trial as regards agency which the Government could give him, if he were made over for trial in a criminal case to a native of India who had resided in England for some four or five years as above described, and who, for the reasons stated, was not equally qualified with an Englishman, by every-day experience of English men and women of the middle and lower classes, to decide in the trial whether he might (in the words of section 164 of the Evidence Act) presume the existence of any fact as likely to have happened, regard being had to the common course of human conduct in its relation to the facts of the particular case.

The deduction therefore resulting is that the Government is bound in criminal trials to give Englishmen, where it is possible, an Englishman to try them, as being undeniably more qualified by knowledge of 'the common course of human conduct' among Englishmen, than those Native Civilians on whom it is proposed to confer jurisdiction to try European British subjects in the mofussil.

17. As regards the class of officers coming under clauses (*b*), (*c*), and (*d*), Mr. Waller remarks:—

"As to those Native Magistrates who have never been to England, and whose acquaintance with Englishmen and their ideas and habits are derived from the slight amount of intercourse they may have had with them in this country, of course the argument just formulated applies very much more strongly to show that Government would not be doing its duty towards Englishmen in providing the best agency, if it were to make them over to these Magistrates for trial in criminal cases.

"This incapacity of inexperience throws no slur on the moral or intellectual capacity of the Native Magistrate; and to make the former necessarily connected with the latter quality is entirely illogical and untrue.

"These gentlemen may be qualified to hold posts of high position and trust as executive or judicial officers, their moral and intellectual capacity may equal that of the most upright and able Englishmen, and yet the disqualification above indicated must exist. Unless, therefore, it be shewn that Government cannot provide English Judges for Englishmen in the mofussil, or cannot do so without causing serious administrative inconvenience, it is not a good policy to make law the measure proposed in the Bill.

18. Mr. Badshah, Assistant Magistrate of Goalundo, writes as follows:—

"Under the present law, administrative inconvenience is felt. I have been in charge of the Goalundo sub-division for nearly two years, but I have not the powers of a Justice of the Peace. Being stationed at an important railway terminus, European British-born subjects are often brought up before me. Unless they choose to waive their privilege they must be sent on to Furreedpore. This would cause serious inconvenience to them on account of the want of proper accommodation. The European vagrant is found everywhere; and unless the law on this subject is amended such people may terrorise to their heart's content over the people of the district where the Magistrate and Collector is a native. Besides this practical inconvenience, there is the complaint made by some of the Native Civilians that, on account of the anomalous character of the law, Government will doom them to serve in unhealthy places."

19. Mr. Badshah, however, goes on to say: "The case against Europeans in the mofussil are generally difficult to try. They require, on the part of the judicial officer, force of character, sound judgment, tact and discrimination. It is difficult for natives to enter into the ways and ideas of an European, to understand his feelings, his prejudices, and, if he is a non-official, his sublime ignorance of the native character and habits. Consequently it will be generally a difficult task for a Native Magistrate to distinguish between the different shades of an offence committed by an European."

20. On the whole Mr. Badshah thinks "that, in the interests of justice, the Bill should be withdrawn for some years at least. Nothing can be more pernicious—nothing more detrimental to the welfare of society—than to compel men to be tried by Judges whom the former will not trust. It will not only be rash, but disastrous to public policy to invest the latter with new powers. It will be rash because an experiment will be tried against the wishes of those who are most interested in the Bill, whose co-operation will be required to make it useful, and who will throw difficulties in the way of its success. It will be disastrous, because there will be a constant cavilling at the justice of the Native Judge. Every decision of his will be scrutinized, every judgment that he will pass will be ridiculed, every sentence that he will pronounce will be considered too harsh. Every newspaper correspondent will rush into print with his exaggerated tale of the horrors inflicted on the European British subject, and in passionate language will call upon the whole European community to rise in indignation against the Native Magistrate.' The native papers will retaliate in the same violent manner. The sore will be kept open, justice will be degraded. What possible respect can men have for their Judges and their judgments, if the former are lampooned and the latter despised?

21. "The tendency of the lower class of natives is to think that *sahibs* are unjustly favoured when they are acquitted on good grounds. The impartiality of the Native Magistrate will be impeached by the Europeans, if in any case an European British subject is punished; it will be impeached by the Natives if he is let off. To equalize rights, to remove the irritation and friction which attend their inequality, is certainly high and noble policy. But if the privileges of a class are infinitesimal, if they injure no person and irritate a very small body of men, if their removal is associated with the degradation of justice, and tends to bring Judges into contempt, it is still higher policy to let alone the privileges, so that the sacred name of justice may not be sullied, nor Judges become the targets for universal ridicule and abuse. It has been the aim and object of every civilized nation to secure their Judges from attacks on their impartiality. I cannot suppose that the present Government of India, if they were informed of all the facts, would depart from the declared policy of the civilized world."

22. Baboo Okhoy Coomar Sen, my Personal Assistant, thinks that "there can be no doubt as to the soundness of the principle of the Bill. As Government is now administered in this country, the people, rightly or wrongly, look upon the District Magistrate as the representative of the executive power of Government in the district. He is the chief Magistrate, and is

responsible for the preservation of peace and order in his district. To this end he is vested with powers to try on criminal charges all classes of the people in his district, of whatever creed or nationality, and it seems to me that in the interests of good government, he should continue to exercise such powers. A District Magistrate without such powers would be an anomaly. Not only would the classes lying beyond the pale of his jurisdiction, but even those within it, would naturally look down upon him; the former would consider themselves above his authority, and the latter would distrust him as one not in the confidence of Government, and not able to protect them from certain privileged classes." His position would be lowered in the eyes of both, and Baboo Okhoy Coomar Sen is afraid that, with half powers, a Native Magistrate would find it difficult to keep the peace in any district in which there might happen to be a number of Europeans of the lower orders. For these reasons, he ventures to think that the District Magistrate must, as now, have criminal jurisdiction over his European fellow-subjects, and that if an Indian Civilian be not fit to be entrusted with such jurisdiction, he should not be appointed to that high and responsible post at all.

23. By parity of reasoning, the Sessions Judge, of whatever creed or nationality, should have the same jurisdiction; one not fit to be entrusted with such powers should not be placed in that high position at all.

24. As to whether Local Governments should be empowered to appoint any covenanted civilian or any member of the Native Civil Service, constituted under the Statute 33 Victoria, Cap. 3, he believes it is only fair to the wise and experienced heads of Local Governments that they should have such powers, which they are sure to exercise with great caution and judgment. They are responsible for the good government of the country entrusted to them, and should have all the necessary powers to that end. A member of the Native Civil Service would probably be made a Justice of the Peace only when a covenanted European civilian was not available, or when he had, by especially meritorious services, gained the confidence of the Local Government.

25. With regard to the question whether any administrative inconvenience arises, or is likely to arise, in the future from the exclusion of the native covenanted civilians from the power of trying European British subjects on criminal charges, he states that, to his knowledge, no case of inconvenience has yet arisen in this division, or indeed in any district in which he has served; but he apprehends that, as more and more native gentlemen are appointed to high posts in the mofussil, such are not unlikely to occur in the future.

26. Mr. Paul, the Magistrate of Dacca, writes, as follows:—

"I object to the Bill as being unnecessary and uncalled for on the grounds of administrative inconvenience, as calculated to widen the breach between Natives and Europeans (non-officials), and as wanting in finality.

"I further object to it as depriving Englishmen of their most cherished right of being tried by their peers, by men who can feel for them and can understand them, and as exposing them, in isolated and distant spots particularly, to the danger of ruin through conspiracy and false charges.

27. "The Magistrate of a district, as a general matter of fact, seldom if ever tries a criminal case; consequently any possible difficulty that can be anticipated could be easily met by the appointment in such cases of an European Joint-Magistrate, who might well be chosen from the judicial branch, so as to leave no possibility of insinuation of rivalry between Magistrate and Joint.

"Besides this, owing to the increased and increasing facilities for communication, more particularly in those districts into which European enterprise has chiefly penetrated, there would, in case of necessity, be no difficulty in sending a special officer, such as is often done for natives themselves—*vide*, for example, the great Tikkari case.

"The present Bill would be more likely to cause inconvenience through disqualifying European Deputy Magistrates, as so forcibly pointed out by the Honourable Mr. Thomas; while, if this error has to be corrected, we again open the door to further agitation to invest all classes, covenanted and uncovenanted alike, with jurisdiction over Europeans.

"That the proposed change is likely to widen the breach between Europeans and Natives is obvious from the agitation that is setting in on both sides, and the violent accusations, brought by each. From my own long experience in dealing with tea-planters, and also indigo-planters, I greatly fear the consequences that may ensue from setting a native in judgment over such persons. Whether rightly or wrongly it matters not, but the fact remains that Europeans in this country do not trust in the impartial administration of justice by natives (that even natives have no implicit faith in their native courts is curiously illustrated at this present moment in this very district, where I have received quite recently affidavits accusing no less than three of my senior native deputies of partiality, and begging for transfer of cases from their file); and unless there is trust, administration cannot proceed smoothly. A slight error or excess in exercising these powers by a native magistrate (and such mistakes are inevitable even with the best) might lead to open violence and resistance, the consequences of which would be most deplorable, and the final effect of which cannot easily be foreseen."

28. "If in the Bill it had been proposed to confer these powers on native civilians alone [class (*a*)], I could have understood the arguments adduced in favour thereof, and would not so vehemently have opposed the measure, but have contented myself with merely pointing out that, for the sake of the sentiments of so very few, it were impolitic and unnecessary to raise such a dangerous and burning question. I would at once have acknowledged that these

few Anglicised civilians, isolated from the bulk of their countrymen, would be more than ordinarily careful not to let race prejudice or race connections carry them away, while, added to this, their long sojourn in England must have given them some insight into European ways, and opened their eyes to the motives and principles that underlie English social life and customs. I would have admitted that there was some logic in arguing that men who, though of different race, creed and clime, have gone through the same educational course, have passed the same educational tests, and have to a certain extent foregathered with their European comrades are capable of exercising the same powers and bearing the same responsibilities as their European colleagues. But such reasoning cannot be applied to the other classes this Bill proposes to include. If these latter are judged fit to try Europeans, under what disqualification does an old, experienced, and tried Deputy Magistrate labour as regards any distinction between them? Both are Government nominees; in neither class is there any provision that they shall have had an European education; and as a fact there is nothing to prevent an uncovenanted deputy, with interest, from being promoted into the ranks of the covenanted, on whom this Bill proposes to confer exceptional powers. It follows that if this Bill is passed, Government will not be able to stop at the covenanted services, but will be carried on to sweep away what little privileges and safeguards the European retains."

29. Mr. Sharp, Magistrate of Furreedpore, was also asked for his opinion, but he has not up to date sent it to me; and as an urgent telegram asking for the submission of the report has to-day been received from Government, I cannot delay the report to admit of his opinion being considered.

No. 349G., dated 6th May, 1883.

From—F. M. Halliday, Esq., Commissioner of the Patna Division,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

With reference to your letter No. 1518J, dated 27th March last, on the subject of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Precedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I have the honour to submit the following, after consultation with the district officers of my division, and the subordinate officers, European and Native. I have also had the advantage of receiving the opinions of several European and native non-official gentlemen who have been consulted by the district officers.

2. With some few exceptions on the side of the native officers opinions vary with their nationality, the native being in favour of the Bill, and the Englishman against it. As might be anticipated from the public discussion that has ensued on the introduction of the proposed measure, this as a fair representation of the general division of sentiment on the subject, all Europeans being violently opposed to the change, and almost all natives here giving to it what is in fact a languid support. From the Magistrate of Patna I learn that the gentlemen consulted, official and non-official, Europeans and natives, are, to a man, unanimous in considering the Bill unnecessary, and (with one exception) in condemning it. My own personal enquiries show me that Patna native opinion is quite indifferent on the matter.

3. An expression of opinion has been asked for on the three points—

I.—The principle of the Bill.

II.—The administrative inconvenience at present arising from the exclusion of native Covenanted Civilians from the power of trying European British subjects.

III.—Such administrative inconvenience being likely to arise in the future.

4. Taking the principle of the Bill, I would urge with all earnestness that neither in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, nor in the draft of the Bill, nor in the arguments adduced in the discussion of the Bill on its introduction by its advocates, has any consistency of principle been successfully demonstrated.

It has been aptly pointed out to me by the Magistrate of Durbhanga that both advocates and opponents of the Bill call its principle abolition of distinction between natives and Englishmen. Opponents, in fear, call it the thin end of the wedge: advocates, in hope, call it an instalment of justice. In the discussions in Council, the Bill was said to have no principle; it was not the thin end of the wedge, nor an instalment of justice. It had no tendencies nor object beyond itself; it was merely a Bill to equalize native Civilians' powers inside and out of Calcutta. The introducer of the Bill stated it had a principle—to remove from the Code judicial disqualification arising from race. In the words of the Statement of Objects and Reasons, "to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code, *at once* and *completely*, *every* judicial disqualification which is based merely upon race." Now, in legislation, it is simply impossible, with the smallest degree of honesty, to promise finality, and in this Bill such a promise as that insinuated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons is not supported by its conditions, for any one who approves of the provisions cannot fail to see much more of the same kind at hand to be done.

The Magistrate of Shahabad rightly draws attention to the fact that the Bill itself cannot be said to accomplish the object set forth, and indeed it merely makes a pretence of attempting to deal with a part of the subject. It leaves untouched the right of the Englishman to be tried in all serious cases by a jury the majority of whom must consist of his countrymen. Thus race is still to be a judicial disqualification for deciding on the innocence or guilt of an European British subject. The other judicial privileges of Englishmen are left intact by the Bill,—as

the right to be tried by a court of higher grade than that which deals with the offences of natives, and the right of appeal in every case. As Mr. Nolan has remarked, "the law, as it will stand when modified by the Bill, will still bristle with race distinctions," so that the whole position of a native with regard to criminal courts will remain, as it now is, inferior to that of Englishmen. The Bill declares natives to be capable of exercising jurisdiction over Europeans, but it provides that they must be natives of certain services, selected merely because they contain very few natives.

The bulk of the native magistracy is in the Uncovenanted Service, but this is carefully excluded from the field out of which the Executive Government may select the future Justices of the Peace; and why? Because it is native, and for no other reason. Cantonment Magistrates, Statutory Civilians and Members of the Non-Regulation Commission, have not, as a body, a better education than the Deputy Magistrates, and their legal training is very inferior to that of the senior members of the service to which the latter belong. Clearly, then, it is not on account of superior intelligence or judicial ability, that they are selected, while the men bearing high university degrees—some of the members, or former members, of the Bengal Legislative Council, who form the first rank of the Uncovenanted Service,—are excluded.

The only reason which can be assigned for the distinction is that of race. At present Cantonment Magistrates and members of the Non-Regulation Commission are Europeans, while Statutory Civilians have been affiliated to an European service. Thus even in the selection of Judges and Justices of the Peace, the one point with which the Bill professes to deal—the object of abolishing race distinction—race distinctions regulate the Bill. Concurring with the Magistrate of Shahabad, I am of opinion that it is an egregious mistake to raise this most invidious question, if it is not to be settled. The Bill, far from effecting such a settlement, would only shift the superstructure of European privilege to a new and hollow basis. Whether there is a justifiable need for such a settlement of the question, I shall remark upon further on.

5. Again, it has been explained by the introducer of the Bill that European cases are difficult, and therefore should be reserved for the higher courts. My own experience, and that of all my officers, confirms the well-known acceptation that the majority of European cases are exceptionally easy; but if they were difficult, this would not of itself induce the legislature to reserve them for the higher courts, and the courts for which they are to be reserved, as those of Cantonment Magistrates are not higher. The most difficult classes of cases are perjury, libel, concealment of birth, adultery, wounding religious feelings; and these offences are triable by Deputy Magistrates who, under the Bill, would be excluded from being allowed to decide, on his own confession, that a European soldier was drunk and disorderly. The anomaly is striking on the face of it, and the position assumed by the Bill cannot be defended. If it cannot be defended, the position cannot be long maintained; and I fully agree with my district officers in thinking that if such indefensible ground is to be occupied, we may look forward to a long period of agitation, such as that through which we are now passing. It is manifestly impossible that the Bill, if passed, can be maintained without giving rise to propositions for various further amendments, embodying the real principle sought, *viz.*, abolition of distinction between Englishmen and natives. Indeed, I observe now from the public prints that from the native partisans of the proposed measure, a further pressure of the thin end of the wedge has been already applied, by the suggestion of an amendment to the present Bill, with reference to the disqualification therein of all Uncovenanted Europeans, other than such as may be Assistant Commissioners or Cantonment Magistrates; that jurisdiction over European British subjects should be given to all Deputy Magistrates, whether European or native, with first class powers.

6. I heartily agree with my most experienced district officers, and I would press the opinions upon the Government for the most serious consideration, that the proposals embodied in the Bill are politically disastrous, and calculated, both from an economical and social point of view, to work irremediable mischief. The ultimate object which must be of a certainty pressed upon us in all consistency, should the present Bill be passed, is the principle, as I have said above, of total abolition of distinction between Englishmen and natives, and this principle cannot be followed without destruction to the Empire.

7. In dealing with this part of the subject, I beg to submit the views of Mr. Boxwell, the Magistrate of Durbhunga, with which I concur entirely. He points out that at the outset we must discriminate between this principle of the abolition of the distinction between Englishmen and natives, and another principle with which a Bombay advocate for the Bill has confounded it. He supports the Bill because he approves of the association of natives in the administration. These two principles seem to be exactly the right and the wrong lines of direction. The Indian Empire is a military despotism, tempered by liberal ideas from England. Popular government of the Empire is impossible, and the idea is absurd; stated nakedly, no one entertains it, but some men, in their treatment of certain questions, seem to postulate it. The Continent of Europe will have a popular government ages before the Continent of India. The government of the Empire is not Bengali nor Hindustani, nor composite, but British. The Empire is held together solely by British supremacy, and a declaration of equality between the British and the natives would be nonsense. The Army furnishes the clearest and simplest illustrations. The Army in India is the backbone of the Government, and what would be the fate of any proposal to equalize Englishmen and natives in military matters? To equalize commands or arms, as by distribution of forts or artillery? The fact is that as long as, and because, we

have the British Army at our back, almost any experiment in mixed administration may be tried.

The mischief is that in peace this foundation of the British rule is dropped out of sight, and wild things are said by native lawyers and orators about equality. What is the meaning of abolishing little distinctions, and doing away with little anomalies, while we keep 70,000 British soldiers holding the Empire, and paid by it for doing so? The fundamental principle of the British Empire in India is race distinction between the British who hold it and the nations who constitute it.

8. But the whole question in this phase has been so thoroughly advocated and discussed in the public prints, that I hesitate to add to the discussion. It has been most truly represented in a recent paper I have seen, containing arguments against the measure, that if the principle embodied therein is supported by arguments based on the so-called anomalous character of the present law, all such anomalies, if such they be, must remain as inseparable constituents of the paramount anomaly of all, namely, the existence, in fact, of the supremacy of British rule in India. In the face of this anomaly, there is no special or unreasonable anomaly in the existence of the right which the proposed measure seeks to take away.

It is not difficult to understand that the other principle mentioned above, *viz.*, association of natives in the administration, is of almost equal rank, and practically as important. We must make all possible use of the natives, both for the sake of the work they can do, and for the sake of giving them work. The more numerous, lucrative, and honourable careers are open to them, the better for every one, and for the Empire. But acts done on this right principle are by thoughtless people supposed to be done on the other wrong and impossible principle. Mr. Boxwell forcibly puts it in this way: a Bengali might liken Baboo Kristo Dass Pal to Mr. Bright; but Mr. Bright sat in Parliament because *the people* sent him there, and in the Ministry, because Parliament sent him and his party to govern; whereas the Baboo sits in the Viceregal Council because the Viceroy chooses to listen to his advice and take it or not, as he pleases. I would note that the introducer of the Bill speaks of a *disqualification*; but the word is unmeaning in this place. It pre-supposes something of a *claim* or *right* to office and equality, but nothing of the kind exists, or can exist. There is no right, inherent or conferred, in the appointment of a native to the Civil Service, which has been wrongfully invaded. The so-called disqualification is not a disqualification of the Judge, but a privilege of the European, which he claims as a long inherent right; and as it has been very aptly stated in the general public discussion of the measure, it would be as reasonable to speak of the privilege of Europeans to demand a jury composed of one-half or more of Europeans, as a *disqualification* of native jurors.

10. One of the arguments put forward in earnest in support of the Bill is that it involves loss of dignity to a native Civilian to be barred from trying any class of subjects of the Empire. The argument really deserves no consideration. The desire of a native Civilian to be able to try an Englishman is no more commendable than would be in an English Magistrate to see a privileged Rajah in his witness-box in court. It would be much more reasonable to withdraw from a Rajah the privilege conferred, and always held so dear by him, of exemption from appearance in court, than to withdraw the privilege from Europeans, which the present Bill would do.

11. I am reminded by the Magistrate of Chumparun, Mr. Henry, that it is not contended in favour of the proposed amendment of the law that there has been any practical failure of justice since the passing of Act X of 1872, owing to the non-concession to certain native officers of criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects. As there has been no practical failure of justice, it becomes necessary to consider who are the persons that will gain relief by the proposed alteration of the law, and what title they have to claim this relief.

From all that has passed, and has been written, regarding this measure for the last two months, it may be assumed that application for relief is not the outcome of national sentiment, nor does the demand for it emanate from the people, or from any considerable number of the people. It comes from a very small section of the community in Bengal, and a still smaller in Behar, who are totally unable to show on what grounds they claim relief, except upon the general and not intelligible ground that there is an anomaly to be removed, and that the proposed measure, if passed into law, would make the Criminal Code more symmetrical from a lawyer's point of view. While the Bill, then, confers no benefit on any class of people (unless the attempt to meet the wishes of a few native officials be considered a benefit), it causes the greatest pain, consternation and exasperation to the whole European community, and will end by alienating them altogether, without conciliating the natives.

Notwithstanding the remarks which have been made in Council as to the position which the Government should assume in this question, to meet the so-called attempt of the European community *to force* the resignation of their Bill, it seems to me that the attitude, feelings, and representations of such community pressed with such honesty of purpose, is not a matter to be lightly treated, but is one requiring the gravest consideration. It would, I think, be folly to blind one's self to the obvious fact that those opposed to the Bill—that is, the Europeans—have the power to embarrass the Government in India, though the wish to do so may be, and no doubt is, very remote; but while the agitation continues, it will do harm, even more than has already admittedly arisen.

12. I think it right to submit to Government the following opinion received from an English gentleman, a Barrister of Patna, having a large experience of the natives, as showing

what native opinion among the *people* has arrived at, with those who have given the matter any consideration. It may be urged that this sort of opinion is only the outcome of native ignorance, and is worthless; but under the peculiar conditions of our rule in India, I am not at all prepared to admit that such expressions of opinion on the action of the Government can, with any wisdom, be totally disregarded. The following is an extract of the remarks above-mentioned:—"Again, the Bill is nothing more or less than a concession to the clamour of natives. But a concession is never regarded as a grant by a semi-civilized man, but a *surrender* or a *retreat*, and so the present Bill is regarded in that light already. The idea prevailing in the bazars is that the Raj of the *Angriz* is gone, that is, the Sirkar, an undefined and unseen power, has taken from the *Angriz* a privilege which gave them power over the Hindus, and consequently now they are all equal. The bad effects of such an idea prevailing amongst the general populace can be conceived, and I apprehend that the passing of the Bill will but strengthen and confirm the erroneous impressions of the people, and will tend to render administration more difficult, and will jeopardise the safety of isolated Europeans."

13. Taking the case from the side of the accused Englishman, there is something more to be said than the argument about his right to be tried by his peers, in which, I am bound to say, I am inclined to think a good deal of nonsense has been talked. On the question of the general qualifications or the individual merit of selected native officers for exercising the jurisdiction proposed by the Bill, I do not wish to touch. Though several of my officers have dwelt on this point, it seems to me a secondary consideration, for it matters little whether the native civilian be, from his birth, education, and habits of thought, qualified or not qualified for the purpose intended, if it be once conceded that the real principle of the Bill is to be adopted—in that the total abolition of distinction between Englishmen and natives is accepted, and the long inherent privilege of the Englishman is swept away.

14. There is, I think, much to be considered in the argument put before me, that, on the whole, it is difficult to conceive any but an Englishman could properly restrain and keep in order a violent and lawless Englishman. Our estimate and the native estimate of crimes of violence and chicanery are different. Mr. Boxwell, the Magistrate of Durbhunga, has rightly put it in saying that we are determined that our views shall prevail. We are strong enough to keep our countrymen in check, and determined not to let the natives reply by false accusations, and we assert that the natives are not strong enough to do this. Therefore we say, for the good and for the safety of both natives and Englishmen, leave accused Englishmen to be dealt with by Englishmen. The motive of the Bill, as set forth by the introducer, looks like an inversion of reason. As Mr. Boxwell expresses it, "there is a big thing of wide-reaching importance—justice between Englishmen and natives; and there is a little thing of no importance—the fancy of a Judge for an increase of dignity. The Bill proposes to let the little frivolity determine the great matter of justice."

15. In concluding upon this portion of the subject, I cannot do better than submit the following remarks in quotation from the views submitted by the Magistrate of Durbhunga. He says—"The coincidence of the Bill for Local Self-Government throws light on the question. The title of that Bill is a misnomer, and for this reason the scheme has a chance of success. The Government hands over for administration by local bodies certain departments of work, with responsibilities and funds. These departments are no more Government, than a railway company or a school or a ship is Government. But the title of the Bill—Local Self-Government—and the reasons for the present Bill—removal of disabilities or disqualifications, together with the license permitted to both English and native newspapers, and the mildness of the despotism generally—all unite to create a false idea that the Government of the Indian Empire is something other than a British despotism. I think the only very bad thing about the Bill is its principle. If it had been introduced as an administrative necessity, and anything like a necessity had been shown for it, then it would have been taken like other disagreeable necessities. But as it is plain that the British Empire, containing many natives of almost every degree of civilization, from savages upwards, counting its languages by scores and its subjects by hundreds of millions, must be governed as a despotism, it seems absurd to base administrative reform on any principle of equality or abolition of disqualification, or other outcome of the growth of popular Government.

"It is certain that the issues here raised are real and not imaginary. The men who want the Bill are a few English-trained natives of Bengal and Behar; and they want it, not for any improvement in justice, but as an admission of a claim to equality. I say the claim to equality cannot be listened to, even to reject. It is irrelevant to every question. Englishmen do not claim individual superiority. We are the subjects of the despotism as much as our native comrades. The Government takes all the advice it thinks needful, and appoints each man to his appropriate work. This notion of equality has been picked up from English books. Bengalis grant no equality to Southals, Hindustanis grant none to Bengalis, Brahmins grant none to other castes. Nor does any one think about such a thing, except a few English-dressed natives who grasp a small part of an idea."

16. Taking the second and third heads of the question, as to the administrative inconvenience at present and in the future, I concur in the unanimous opinion of all the officers of the Division, that no inconvenience exists or is likely to exist. I am of opinion that the administrative difficulties anticipated are altogether visionary, and I assert this with the full experience of the administration of a Division having a particularly large community of European residents, the number of which has been recently computed at some 2,300. I would call

attention to the fact—a significant one—that the Bill itself, and I refer particularly to the Statement of Objects and Reasons, makes no mention of "administrative inconveniences."

It seems *now* to be put forward by the supporters of the measure. I have before me the opinion of another English Barrister of Patna, who emphatically adds his testimony to those who are against the change contemplated, after more than eight years' residence in the mofussil, where he has, during the whole period, practised uninterruptedly in his profession in the province of Behar. This gentleman has stated that in his experience, since the promotion of the Indigo Planters' Association, the number of criminal charges brought against planters are few, that the most serious ones are found false, that no case has been found so serious as to necessitate a trial before the local sessions court.

Other classes affected by the contemplated change would be zemindars, European managers of native estates, railway employés, including contractors on railway works, merchants, and shop-keepers. At present no inconvenience in the administration of justice is felt in dealing with any of the classes mentioned. Taking the district of Chumparun as a typical district, where there is a large European population, and where some idea of the value of the capital sunk in one industry alone, over which the Europeans have control, may be formed from the fact that the Chumparun indigo sold during the season of 1881-82 realised over 55 lakhs of rupees, the figures of European crime for the last five years show 19 cases. The Magistrate has reported to me that in seven of these cases the complaint was either rejected or the defendant discharged. Six of the remaining 12 cases were cases of assault or causing hurt; three more cases came under section 506, Indian Penal Code (criminal intimidation), and were compromised out of court. There was one case of criminal trespass (compromised), one case of wrongful confinement, and one case of wrongful restraint. Thus, during a period of five years, 19 complaints were preferred against Europeans.

Seven of these cases, on inquiry, were found to be groundless, and of the remaining 12, 11 were petty offences against the person, with one case of criminal trespass. Had there been no European judicial officers in the district, no appreciable inconvenience could have been experienced, even if, during the course of five years, it had been necessary to bring in officers from neighbouring districts to deal with, on the average, something less than four cases during a year. It appears, moreover, that during the years 1878, 1879, and 1880, there were in all only five cases, one of which was dismissed, and three of which were simultaneously instituted against one accused, and compromised out of court. It may be asserted, therefore, that so far as the experience of the last five years can guide us, the state of European crime in the district has been such that no possible inconvenience could have been experienced in dealing with it, if the whole district judiciary had laboured under the disability of not being able to try European British subjects.

17. Turning to the list of the Covenanted Civil Service, I find that since 1870, namely, during the last 13 years, there have been appointed to the Covenanted Civil Service in Lower Bengal, by open competition in England and by appointment without competition in India, 13 gentlemen who are not European British subjects. Thus, the entrances into the Service have been at the rate of one a year. This, moreover, is the average that will probably be maintained for some time to come, as the average number of appointments has not exceeded eight a year, and the proportion of natives of India is not to exceed one-sixth of the total number. Experience has shown that covenanted civilians in these provinces rarely begin to act for short periods as Magistrate-Collector or Judges before 10 to 12 years, while it takes much longer to attain the substantive rank of either Magistrate-Collector or Judge. Thus, during the next 10 years not more than 13 native covenanted civilians will have to be provided for. Of these about five or six will probably select the Judicial line, while seven or eight will probably select the executive line. With regard to those who select the Executive line, it has long been held that it is not the function of the District Magistrate to try criminal cases, and as a fact he very rarely does try such cases. Important criminal cases are almost invariably tried exclusively by the Joint-Magistrate or senior covenanted or uncovenanted assistant at head-quarters. Districts in which an experienced Subordinate European Magistrate is not ordinarily stationed are at the same time districts in which Europeans are rarely met with, and these may therefore be left out of the question. There are 46 districts in Lower Bengal. When, therefore, these seven or eight Native Civilians, in the course of the next ten years, rise to the rank of Magistrate-Collector, there will be practically no difficulty whatever in posting them to districts containing an experienced European Assistant, or in providing them with one from the large number that are constantly returning from leave or seeking a transfer. During the next ten years, therefore, the administrative inconvenience will be infinitesimal.

After 20 years the case will be much the same. Let us suppose that the full proportion of one-sixth has then been attained, and that out of 46 districts, one-sixth *i.e.*, seven or eight districts, are administered by natives; we thus obtain the very same situation that has just been considered. It must therefore be admitted that as long as the proportion of Native to European Covenanted Civilians does not exceed one-sixth, so long will any administrative difficulty, as regards the executive branch of the Service, be practically unfelt.

To take now the Judicial branch of the service: there are fewer judicial than executive appointments, and in consequence fewer Civilians select the Judicial branch of the Service. At the end of the years not more than five or six Native Civilians are likely to be occupying the post of District Judge. There are 30 Judgeships in Lower Bengal, including Chota Nag-

pore: one-sixth of 30 is five; so that at no time may we expect to find more than five or six Native District Judges in Lower Bengal. Now the number of cases in which Europeans appear as accused persons in the mofussil is, as I have endeavoured to show above, admittedly small; but instances of Europeans being committed to the Sessions Courts for trial are extremely rare.

Perhaps these five Native Judges might have between them one such case in a year. If, in the exceedingly rare case of an European being committed to the Sessions Court for trial, the Sessions Judge should happen to be a native of India, the inconvenience of transferring such a case to a neighbouring district for trial will be practically unfelt. In the matter of appeals it is much the same. In the rare cases in which Europeans appeal from decisions given by European Magistrates, there would be practically no inconvenience in having such appeals decided in a neighbouring district. Appeals are usually decided on the record; and it may be assumed, from present public opinion, that an European would infinitely prefer incurring the expense of prosecuting his appeal in a neighbouring district, rather than have his appeal decided by a native tribunal. I think, therefore, we need not hesitate to dismiss as practically non-existent the alleged administrative inconvenience in the Judicial branch of the Service also. In Behar especially, so far as my division of Patna is concerned, the extensive railways all over the Division, the almost perfect means of communication opened out everywhere, both by road and river, have made every place in each district easily accessible, so that I cannot conceive a single instance where "administrative inconvenience" would ensue, when it was found necessary to transfer a case on account of defect in jurisdiction.

18. Considering this question in another phase, I am reminded that the direct effect of the proposed legislation would be to diminish considerably the total number of officers competent to try Europeans; for while there is to be no increase in the numerical strength of the Covenanted Civil Service, from which body alone Justices of the Peace are hereafter to be selected, the proposed Bill does not empower local Governments to appoint to this office members of the Military or Uncovenanted Services, or of the non-official community, even to fill up the vacancies caused by the retirement of the uncovenanted officers and others who are now Justices of the Peace.

The result brought about will be that the number of Justices of the Peace cannot exceed the numerical strength of the Covenanted Civil Service. How great this reduction in numbers will be may be inferred from the fact that, exclusive of military officers and non-officials, there are at present 40 Deputy Magistrates who are Justices of the Peace. It is obviously convenient that European Deputy Magistrates should be Justices of the Peace when in charge of sub-divisions, or at head-quarters of districts filled with Europeans; and the only reason to the contrary can only be the fear of making a distinction between them and Native Deputy Magistrates. The Magistrate of Shahabad points out particularly to me the inconvenience in the adoption of the Bill, from an administrative point of view, in the case of Sessions Judges. A native would preside over the court, while the majority of the jury, in a case where an European was the accused, would be Europeans. Speaking as responsible for the due prosecution of such, I should regard such a mixed tribunal as the most unfavourable for the ends of justice, as long as the Europeans retain present opinions. The jury would distrust the Judge—a state of feeling pregnant with administrative inconvenience. Justices of the Peace act without juries in trying Europeans for offences which in England would be cognizable by juries; they have a difficult and invidious task to perform, even when the presiding officer commands the respect of the community. If natives summarily condemn Europeans without the verdict of juries, we may apprehend considerable administrative difficulties, particularly when the accused are soldiers, and the offences charged are not of a kind to alienate the sympathy of their comrades.

Mr. Nolan in Shahabad, speaking from the experience of something of the relations between a regiment on the line of march and a Native Civilian in charge of the Sasseram subdivision, says, with much force I think, that he has no doubt that, if an affray had occurred between ryots and soldiers as to the collection of supplies, and the Native Civilian had attempted to try the European soldiers, the result would not have been all that could be wished.

19. In conclusion, I beg to say that the opinions I have submitted above embody a verdict against the proposed Bill, as being eminently impolitic and absolutely uncalled for, given by every one of the seven district officers of my division without exception.

No. 651J.D., dated 18th May, 1883.

From—F. B. PEACOCK, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 614J.D., dated the 15th instant, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, copies of letters* from the Commissioners of the Burdwan and Presidency Divisions, reporting on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

* Letter from the Commissioner of Bardwan, No. 204, dated the 7th May 1883, and enclosures.
Letter from the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, No. 38 J. J., dated the 7th May 1883, and enclosures.

No. 204, dated 7th May, 1883.

From—JOHN BEAMES, Esq., Commissioner of the Burdwan Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

I have the honor to reply to your No. 1518J., dated 27th March last, calling for my opinion on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure.

2. All the European officers whom I have consulted are unanimously of opinion that the principle of the Bill is absolutely indefensible, and that no inconvenience has ever arisen from the present state of the law. I am also of this opinion.

3. As regards any inconvenience that might theoretically be assumed to result from the inability of certain native officers to try European British subjects on criminal charges, the experience of myself and the district officers of this division must, I think, be held to have peculiar weight. Here, if anywhere, such inconvenience, if it ever existed, would have shown itself unmistakeably.

4. The Burdwan Division, comprising the whole of Western Bengal, contains the populous and important town of Howrah, with a larger population of British inhabitants than any place in Bengal outside of Calcutta. It also contains the large railway depôts of Raneegunge, Assensole, and Rampore Hât, the population of which is principally European, as well as 225 miles of railway along which trains worked by Europeans are constantly passing. In and around Serampore, there is also a considerable European population, and there are numerous Europeans engaged in the silk and indigo industries in Midnapore and Bankoora, and employed on steamers and in engineering works on the rivers and canals.

5. Several of the Native Civilians who were appointed in England, and several of those appointed under the Statute in India, have also served, or are still serving in this division.

6. In spite, however, of all these conditions having existed for several years past, there has never been the slightest difficulty in bringing Europeans to trial. On the rare occasions when there has been no European Magistrate at Raneegunge, it has been found perfectly practicable either to bring the accused by rail to Burdwan, a journey of only two hours, or the Magistrate of Burdwan has been able, without any inconvenience, to go to Raneegunge to try him. Similarly, it has always been found easy to provide for the trial of railway servants in the case of accidents occurring on the line in the Howrah and Hooghly districts. In petty cases, such as drunkenness, Europeans have invariably shown themselves very reasonable, and have waived their right to be tried by an European Magistrate, rather than delay the disposal of their case.

7. There is no undue obstructiveness on the part of Europeans in such petty matters, and there is consequently not the shadow of a reason for supposing that, under the present constitution of the Judicial Services, the changes contemplated by the Bill are in any way necessary.

8. Even if, however, any such reason did exist when the Bill was first introduced, the events that have occurred since then are so serious, and the state of feeling excited by it is so grave and so suggestive of grounds for anxiety in the future, as to outweigh any considerations that may have seemed forcible to those who introduced it. Only a few months have elapsed since the Bill first made its appearance; but already we, who live among the people and have the best possible opportunities of gauging public opinion, tremble for the results that must ensue if it becomes law.

9. In common with all right-thinking men, I deeply regret and disapprove of the intemperate language used by Englishmen at public meetings, and it is with equal disapproval that I have read the scurrilous and offensive articles that have appeared in native newspapers. Serious men on both sides, I am well aware, deplore these ebullitions of bad taste and bad feeling; but unfortunately political contests cannot be fought out by serious men alone; there must always be exciteable and irrepressible followers on either side, who embitter the discussion by personalities, and sometimes render reconciliation impossible.

10. I see only too much reason to fear that the animosity and ill-feeling that has been roused by this Bill will not soon die out. Bengalees will not soon forget the scathing contempt shewn towards them by Englishmen, nor will the latter forget or forgive the insulting taunts of the native papers. So much of evil has this Bill already worked, and it seems probable that these sentiments will deepen into a permanent antagonism of race against race, which will seriously injure the Government and retard the development of the country.

11. Before this agitation began, the relations between the Englishman and the Bengalee, as far as my extensive experience goes, were on the whole very friendly. The Englishman believed, as he always has, and always will, in his own personal superiority and in the superiority of his race, but he readily admitted the intellectual ability and other good qualities of the Bengalee. We indulged, perhaps, among ourselves in a little good-natured satire on certain features in the habits and manners of the Baboo, which seemed to us ludicrous; and he, on his side, I doubt not, laughed behind our backs at some of our eccentricities. But the two races lived together on very friendly terms, and there were frequent instances of acts of kindness done by one to the other. A very overwhelming majority of the native population were quite contented to take an attitude of inferiority to Europeans generally. The acuteness which is one of their strongest characteristics led them to see that more was to be got by approaching the proud Englishman humbly and by flattering his vanity than by opposing him and striving to wring concessions from him by force.

12. But there has been growing up of late years a class of natives who, though numerically few, have become, by their extravagant pretensions and excessive self-conceit, by their unreasonable and unsatisfied longing for power, and by their morbid discontent and disloyalty, a serious danger to the stability of our rule in India. It is we who have created these men, and we have now to fear lest, as the poet writes, "we perish by this people we have made." If we perished, the Bengalee would not hold his own country long; he would be conquered and enslaved by manlier races, and the country would relapse into the chaos from which we rescued it little more than a century ago.

13. It may be thought that I am letting my forebodings carry me too far. I can only say that I am expressing, as faithfully as I can, the impressions formed by long years of residence among and intimacy with the people. It is true this present Bill may be but a small thing, and some people may wonder at its giving rise to so much agitation. But it is generally some very small thing that sets kingdoms in a blaze, especially if it has been led up to by a course of action which has caused much smouldering discontent.

14. The Stamp Act of 1776 was in itself a small thing, but it led to the revolt of all the American colonies, and their permanent severance from the British Crown. If, as is hinted, this present Bill is only put forward to pave the way for wider measures by which the majority of posts in the administration of this country are to be held by natives, then this Bill may have consequences as far reaching as the Stamp Act, and far more disastrous.

15. Of the three classes to be considered in relation to this Bill, I will take first the Englishman (by which I mean the European British subject). The Englishman would not have been so much excited about this present Bill had it not been the last of a series of measures which he has for some time watched with unconcealed annoyance. The admission of natives to the Covenanted Civil Service and to the Bench of the High Court were both very unpopular measures with Europeans of all classes. Then came the so-called statutory Civilians, whose creation was felt to be a direct and bitter insult to the English Covenanted Civil Service. While a young Englishman of good birth, who has lived from his childhood in an atmosphere of the highest civilization that the world has yet attained, has been educated at an English public school and university, and has gone through a period of special training besides, is first subjected to a severe competitive examination, then to two years' further training in England, followed by a second examination, before he is allowed even to enter the Civil Service, a young Native gentleman, who has had none of this training, who is often very imperfectly educated, and whose childhood has been subjected to the far from elevating influences of native society, is considered fit to be admitted to the Service at once, and without any preliminary test of his qualifications. It is impossible to imagine what justification there can be for such an amazing anomaly as this.

16. All these things have been felt very bitterly by Englishmen, and there has been added of late years the very great difficulty which Europeans settled in India have found in providing for their children. One department of Government after another has been closed to all but Asiatics; and even when not absolutely closed, the preference shewn for these latter has been so marked, that a man of European birth has had no chance of employment. The Roorkee Resolution was the last of this series of measures by which men of the ruling race have been excluded from rule, or even from subordinate employment.

17. In its laudable anxiety to do as much as possible for its Asiatic subjects, Government seems to have forgotten that it had a large number of European and Eurasian subjects also whose claim upon it was at least as great as that of Asiatics.

18. Consequently the outcry against this Bill must be regarded as the explosion at least of long pent-up discontent. I am sure that the wiser and more thoughtful among us do not for an instance begrudge the native his share in the posts at the disposal of Government: we only claim for our countrymen our share also. Many of us, among whom I may be reckoned, though sincere well-wishers to the natives of this country, which we have spent the best years of our lives in serving, think that the native as a rule has not yet reached that pitch of development at which he is fitted for high appointments. I think they are fitter for judicial than executive work; but certainly, in the latter line, I have never seen any native who was, in my estimation, fit to be anything higher than a Deputy Collector. As second in command, a native is admirable, but as first he is utterly deficient.

19. All the feelings which I alluded to above will be much intensified if natives are allowed to try Europeans on criminal charges. It is galling enough to my countrymen to have natives placed on a level with themselves. It is worse still when a native is admitted without test to posts which the European can only obtain by repeated trials and severe examinations. It is worse still to have one's children excluded from posts under Government, while natives are admitted, even if acknowledged to be inferior. But it is indeed the last straw when the Englishman, already placed at so great a disadvantage in the struggle for existence, is liable to be tried as a criminal by native Magistrates.

20. For it can hardly seriously be contended that a man brought up in a Bengalee village or town, receiving all the education he can boast of at a zillah school and a Calcutta college, can become perfectly acquainted with English ideas and tones of thought, and with the motives that actuate English men and women, by a residence of two or three years in London.

21. I remember hearing about one of these gentlemen who had spent three years in England, and was asked what he thought of our country. His answer was: "I really know nothing whatever about it. I spent all my time in a room at Nottinghill studying, and

I know no more of England than I could learn in my daily walk from my lodgings to the lecture-room."

22. This is one of the men whom the Honourable Mr. Hunter wishes to persuade us are "more English than the English." It is an unfortunate phrase to use. The Honourable gentleman probably had in his mind the description of the disorderly English of the tale, who were *Hibernis ipsis Hiberniores*—more unruly, more bloodthirsty, more treacherous, and more opposed to their lawful sovereign, than even the wild Irishry of the interior. Are we to understand that the Bengalee, who is more English than we ourselves are, is so in the same sense as the English in Ireland in the 17th century, namely, in that he imitates us and surpasses us in all our vices? If so, the phrase is hardly a recommendation.

23. I have been led insensibly from describing what I believe to be the feelings of my own countrymen to discussing the attitude of the second of the three classes affected by this Bill—the educated native. I have said that this class is a creation of our own. Natives educated to such an extent that in the opinion of some persons they have become thoroughly English in their ideas, and fitted to hold the highest posts under Government, are to be found chiefly in Bengal, and it is therefore the educated Bengalee whom we must consider in this connexion.

24. It is well known to every student of history that, down to the establishment of English rule in Bengal in 1765, that province was the most distant and neglected portion of the Mogul Empire, and Bengalees themselves freely admit that their rise in wealth and civilization has been effected entirely under British rule. We may be proud of the improvement that has taken place during the last century and a quarter, and we may fairly ascribe much of it to the education which has been imparted to the people.

25. But in one respect at least it seems to me that this education has led to awkward consequences. What is called the higher education has been pushed on because it yielded more brilliant results, while we have neglected the less showy but more solidly useful task of educating the masses. In Bengal, where wealth is concentrated in the hands of a very limited number, while the great majority of the people have very small incomes, the youths who pursue their studies up to the highest level are for the most part poor, and have to earn their bread in after life.

26. Now, if the country at large had been educated *pari passu* with this small class of youths—if it had attained to a civilization in any way resembling that of European countries—these educated young men would readily find a livelihood in liberal professions, in commerce, or artistic and scientific employments. But the civilization of the country has lagged so far behind the higher education, that there is little or no occupation for members of the liberal professions.

27. A certain number of the graduates of the University find employment as pleaders and law agents, and a few earn a livelihood by the practice of medicine. But these are only a small fraction of the multitudes of educated youths who are yearly turned out of our schools and colleges. In default of any other means of earning their bread, most of them press into the Government service, and as the lower ranks get more and more overstocked, they push forward into the higher ones. They are not hindered by any modest doubts as to their own fitness for high employ. Those who are not successful become naturally discontented and outwardly at least disloyal. It is men of this already numerous class who take to writing in the native newspapers in a tone of disaffection to Government, which is partly adopted to make their papers sell, and is partly nothing more than the jaundiced views of life held by all disappointed and unsuccessful men.

28. Unfortunately the natives of this class have succeeded in persuading influential persons in India and England that their views and their utterances represent the real feelings and aspirations of the native population in general. Nothing could be more entirely mistaken than this idea. There is in reality no disloyalty or discontent in the minds of the people at large, nor is there, in point of fact, in the minds of the class who write most disloyally. If the editor of the most seditious paper in Bengal were to get a well-paid appointment to-morrow, he would assert that the British rule in India was a pattern of excellence, justice, and enlightenment. It is a pity that so much weight is attached to the opinions of these people. They are doubtless very clever, and write and speak very eloquently. But all their opinions are in truth nothing but place-hunting and power-hunting, more or less artfully disguised. By the mass of their countrymen these people are regarded as aliens, as more than half English, and are looked on by the orthodox classes with positive dislike, as men who have forsaken the faith of their fathers. If we wish to gratify the natives of this country by giving effect to their wishes and consulting their opinions, we must not go to this class, whose eagerness for power and discontent with their present condition render them the very worst possible exponents of the real feelings of their countrymen.

29. I now come to the real native of the country. I mean by this term those native gentlemen of respectability and experience who have not severed themselves from the mass of their countrymen, but who still remain leaders of such public opinions as exists, and true representatives of national feeling. Many of them know English, but their knowledge has not led them into discontent with their lot or disloyalty to their rulers. In an informal way I have taken pains to get at the opinion regarding the Bill held by the principal members of this class.

30. I find that their prevailing feeling is one of indifference to the whole question. They

however, admit that they would always much rather have an Englishman to try their cases than a native, and they think it highly reasonable that Englishmen should have this feeling also. They think that the passing of this Bill will be very disastrous to their interests, as it will tend to produce in the minds of the Englishmen, whom they still persist in regarding as the ruling power in India, feelings of hostility to natives, and a cessation of that kindliness and interest in their welfare which they have always experienced at their hands. I am afraid that this apprehension is already being justified. I am not the only one who has noticed a growing dislike to natives on the part of Europeans, and a growing impertinence and insubordination on the part of natives of the educated classes, and, what is still more lamentable, on the part of school-boys and youths at college, who are too young to understand the real questions at issues, and do but give expression noisily and offensively to the opinions of others. The natives as a class do not think that they will be in any degree compensated for a loss of the favour and protection of English officials by the elevation to positions for which they are not (in their opinion) fitted, of a small number of ambitious young men who, while ceasing to be genuine Hindus, have not succeeded in becoming genuine Englishmen.

31. I have endeavoured, in the preceding paragraphs, to give the results of my own observations as to the real opinions of all classes concerning this Bill. I have not thought it necessary to go into all the legal arguments for and against the measure. This task has been ably and exhaustively performed by better men than me, and it would be superfluous for me to attempt to improve on their speeches or writings. I will merely sum up by expressing my firm opinion that the measure is not called for by any administrative inconvenience, that it is not desired by the natives as a body, that it is intensely distasteful and humiliating to all Europeans, and that it will tend seriously to impair the prestige of British rule in India. In fact, under a very simple and insignificant form, it conceals the elements of a revolution which may ere long prove the ruin of this Empire.

32. Is it worth while to risk all this to gratify the vanity of a small class in one only out of the many nationalities into which India is divided? These nationalities have no bond of union, and there are very few of them that would consent to be governed by Bengalees. These young men who now clamour for this privilege knew when they entered the Civil Service that they would not be allowed to try Europeans; yet they strive to make out that conditions which they accepted with their eyes open are now felt by them as a slur and a hardship.

33. I do not of course lose sight of the assertion of Government that this small measure is complete in itself, and that no further concessions are intended. I have no doubt whatever that Government is perfectly sincere in making this assertion. But this, or any succeeding Government, may be driven by force of circumstances to make further concessions. When you have once set your foot on an inclined plane, it is difficult to avoid sliding to the bottom.

34. And although Government thinks it can stop at this point, the educated natives do not think so, and they have told us, through their public organs, that they will not be satisfied with this measure, but will continue to agitate for still greater concessions, and to press their claims until not a single appointment is left to Europeans. They are at the present moment full of exultation and the hope of a coming triumph: for as a triumph over their former masters they regard it, and make no secret of their opinion.

35. On the other hand, the minds of Europeans are full of apprehension, of coming defeat and humiliation, and even the uneducated natives are getting dimly to perceive that a great change is at hand, which in some mysterious way, and for reasons which they can no more comprehend than we ourselves can, will lead to the putting down of the "Sahib" and the raising up of the "Baboo."

36. Now, if already, within the short space of time that has elapsed since the Bill was first heard of, these feelings have arisen, is it possible for Government to say that they will go only so far, and no farther? And it matters little—it will affect the peace of the country very little—for Government to say that they never intended that people's minds should get into this state of excitement and exasperation. Whether intended or not, the feeling is here before us, and it seems to my humble judgment that a wise statesman, when he sees that a Bill which he thought innocuous, has for some reason roused up a bitter spirit of mutual antagonism between different classes of the community, and has been an apple of discord suddenly thrown among them, would at once withdraw the cause of offence. He would study the views and tempers of those for whom he had to legislate, and feel carefully the public pulse before he again proposed so delicate a measure.

37. Of course we are all aware that there has hitherto been so little public opinion in India, especially among Europeans, that an Indian legislator has been able, without risk of causing dissatisfaction, to frame his measures to a great extent in disregard of what the people may think. But on the present occasion we have a distinct and unmistakeable expression of opinion, which, though disfigured at first by some intemperance of expression, is undoubtedly deep and lasting, and of such a character as no statesman, no ruler who is not a mere autocrat supported by armed force, can afford safely to disregard.

38. All who wish well to this great Empire, and take an earnest interest in the prosperity and progress of all classes, whether native or European, cannot but earnestly hope and pray that this most mischievous Bill may be withdrawn, and that means may be found for gratifying the legitimate aspirations of the educated natives, without placing them in the perilous position of being hated by their European fellow-subjects.

39. It has been pointed out by several writers in the public journals, and by several of

the officers whom I have consulted, that the Bill as it now stands will render it impossible for any European Deputy Magistrate who may hereafter be appointed, as well as for the numerous European Honorary Magistrates in the interior, to try their own countrymen. Surely this is creating a far greater anomaly than that which it is desired to remove; and this step has not even the recommendation, if recommendation it be, that the rest of the Bill has, for it cannot in any way tend to remove whatever slur there may lie on native civilians, to cast a slur on European Magistrates.

40. I have selected three of the letters I have received for submission to Government. The letters of the Magistrates of Burdwan and Midnapore are, I think, very forcibly and ably written. The third letter is by Mr. Brojendronath Dé, Joint-Magistrate of Hooghly, and may be taken to express the views of the small section of native society to which he belongs. Mr. Dé entirely fails, in my opinion, to see the real point at issue, and there is a tone of dislike to Europeans, and almost disrespect towards Government, that augurs badly for the future conduct of this class, if they got the power they desire into their hands. I look upon this letter as one of the strongest arguments against Mr. Dé's view of the case that could be imagined.

No. 43G., dated 13th April, 1883.

From—W. R. LARMINIE, Esq., Magistrate of Burdwan,

To—The Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

With reference to your circular memorandum No. 50, dated 4th instant, forwarding copy of letter No. 1518J, dated 27th ultimo, from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, and asking for an expression of my opinion on the subject of the proposed amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, I have the honour to state as follows:—

2. The question in its general aspect has been so thoroughly discussed in the public prints and elsewhere, that it seems unnecessary for me to undertake a detailed examination of the various arguments for or against the proposed Bill. It will, I think, suffice for me to set forth briefly what appear to be the salient points on each side of the controversy, and to state what my own views are, giving my reasons therefor, whether derived from general considerations or from personal experience.

3. The arguments in favour of the Bill are two-fold—*first*, it is alleged that it will get rid of an unnecessary anomaly, and remove a judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions; *secondly*, it is urged that the passing of the Bill is necessary to prevent serious administrative inconvenience within a measurable distance of time. The first argument is based upon a general principle, involving a question of national policy: the second depends upon an actual state of facts.

4. It is impossible for any man holding liberal views to deny the expediency of removing distinctions founded merely on differences of race or class, provided that the evil consequences of such removal do not more than counterbalance the benefits that must naturally result from action founded on sound general political principles, and provided that the proposed change is one of sufficient magnitude to justify the rousing of an opposition which, even if unreasoning, is in itself an actual evil.

5. The opponents of the Bill traverse both these provisoes. They allege that the race antagonism which has been excited by the mere proposal of the Bill, and which would be perpetuated if it were passed, will be productive of infinitely greater mischief to the country than any amount of theoretical relief to sentimental disabilities can possibly counterbalance, and they further argue that the anomaly which it is proposed to remove is of such an isolated and superficial character that the mere fact of the existence of a bitter opposition on the part of those to be affected by the change is sufficient to condemn the whole proceedings.

6. To the allegation that administrative inconvenience would necessarily result unless the Bill be passed, a point blank denial is given.

7. In addition to these demurrers, there has been made the further positive assertion that the men whom it is proposed to vest with the powers of a Justice of the Peace are actually unfitted for the exercise of those powers.

8. In my opinion the opponents of the Bill are victorious all along the line. The most intense animosity has been excited amongst those who would be affected by the change. I can testify that in this district the feelings of Europeans of all classes are unmistakeably roused, and I have no doubt that, if the Bill were passed, the hostility which is now felt to the measure, and possibly to its more prominent supporters, would, in the case of many, extend to the whole machinery of Government. It would be well to hesitate before allowing the possibility of such a disaster to occur.

9. Further, on general principles, it is of the highest importance that those subject to the jurisdiction of certain courts should have confidence in the fairness and justice of those courts; but if the Bill were to become law, a whole community would be subject to tribunals which they not only distrusted, but viewed as alien and almost hostile. Indeed, in some parts of Bengal, I have not the slightest doubt that an attempt on the part of a Native Magistrate to carry out the law by imprisoning a British European subject, more especially if of the female sex, would lead to a serious disturbance, possibly resulting in loss of life. From all these practical considerations it seems to me that it would be impolitic, nay almost dangerous, to the interest of the country to run in the face of a wide-spreading and almost fierce opposi-

tion, merely for the purpose of removing a disability which can possibly affect but few, and in the removal of which I believe that some even of those few are but slightly interested.

10. Next as to the alleged administrative inconvenience. As far as I can see, there is little or no probability that any such would accrue. Magistrates of districts seldom try cases and there are very few, if any, districts frequented by Europeans in which there are not several Justices of the Peace. As regards Sessions Judges, the extension of railroads will prevent any serious inconvenience being experienced. It may be well to observe, however, that even if Native Magistrates were vested with the powers of a Justice of the Peace, it is very improbable that they would be appointed to districts in which there were a large number of Europeans, for there are many considerations, of almost greater importance than that now under discussion, which would render it impolitic that such appointments should be made.

11. It might illustrate the above argument if I were to instance the case of the Raneegunge sub-division. Although there are a large number of Europeans resident therein, but little inconvenience would result if the Sub-divisional Officer were not vested with the powers of a Justice of the Peace, for any case of European British subject could easily be tried in Burdwan, or a competent officer could be sent to Raneegunge. At the same time I think it would be very injudicious to place a native Magistrate in charge of the sub-division, for this reason, amongst others, that he could not secure the co-operation of the European residents in the administration of affairs, or in carrying out any works of public utility.

12. It now remains for me to discuss the question of personal fitness. I would gladly avoid doing so, for I number several of the native members of our service amongst my friends, but it is absolutely necessary to give the result of experience in regard to this element of the discussion as opposed to the general allegations made by some who evidently spoke without knowledge. I have had the advantage of having official relations with six native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, three of whom were appointed after competition, and three by selection. My personal acquaintance with one of the former was slight, and I shall therefore say nothing with regard to him; but with reference to the others, I have no hesitation in saying that I would remove from their file any case in which the personal liberty of a European was concerned. I do not say this with any intention of attributing to them any want of zeal or honesty of purpose, nor do I think they would always err on the side of harshness; but they are undoubtedly deficient in that strength of character which would be absolutely necessary for the trial of such cases.

13. Influences of various sorts would be brought to bear upon them, and I candidly confess that I do not think they would be able to withstand them.

14. To sum up, then:—The theoretical advantages which the Bill proposes to secure are of the slightest: the immediate practical advantages are non-existent.

The passing of the Bill would excite a violent storm of hostility to Government, and perpetuate a race animosity most injurious to the interest of the community.

The individuals whom it is proposed to invest with powers hitherto withheld are not fitted for their exercise.

No. 1435, dated 28th April, 1883.

From—R. H. WILSON, Esq., Magistrate of Midnapore,

To—The Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

As requested in your endorsement No. 50, dated 4th April, I have the honour to submit an expression of my opinion regarding the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. It appears to me that the Bill involves no question of principle. It may be theoretically desirable that all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in India should be placed by the law in a position of equality. But this end would not be attained by the proposed legislation, which would merely slightly shift the line distinguishing European British subjects from persons of other nationalities. Moreover, as the English Empire in India exists, and is justified in maintaining itself only because Englishmen have proved themselves to be stronger and more capable of ruling justly than the natives of the soil, it is solely on the ground of expediency that our position can be reasonably defended, and principles applicable to institutions developed elsewhere from indigenous elements might lead to conclusions incompatible with the maintenance of our rule. In the remarks which follow, I shall therefore confine myself to the practical aspect of the question under consideration.

3. I do not think that any administrative inconvenience is likely to result from allowing the law to remain as it is. In most Bengal districts there is a Joint-Magistrate who has charge of the criminal judicial work, whether the accused persons are of European or Asiatic blood. I have been for some years Magistrate and Collector of large districts without trying a single original criminal case, and a Bengali gentleman occupying my position would naturally, and as a matter of course, act in the same way. There are some small districts which are often left without a Joint-Magistrate, but there can hardly be any administrative necessity for posting to such of these small districts as contain non-official Europeans a Magistrate and Collector of Asiatic blood. In districts containing a large body of non-official Europeans, it will always be necessary to have a European Collector, and this necessity would

be in no way affected by the proposed legislation, arising, as it does, not from any artificial provision of law, but from natural causes over which Government can exercise no control. A Lieutenant-Governor who placed a Bengali gentleman, however upright and enlightened, in a position in which an important part of his duty would be to exercise personal influence over a large body of English planters would, in my judgment, show a lamentable want of discretion. No one can regret more than I do the recent outburst in the public press of hostility between Englishmen and Bengalis; but I cannot shut my eyes to the fact that the two races are in many respects different, and I am of opinion that it is, and will continue to be, sometimes the duty of Government to distinguish between them in selecting for particular duties those of its servants who are most capable of discharging them efficiently.

4. Apart from the question of administrative inconvenience, discussed in the preceding paragraph, the chief argument used in favour of the Bill is founded on the propriety of removing the slight put by the present law upon officials of Asiatic blood, and through them on Her Majesty's Asiatic subjects generally. This ground of objection to the law as it stands is sometimes stigmatized as sentimental; but what may be called mere sentiment is often a very important political force, and it appears to me that the argument, so far as it goes, is a good one, which should have its due weight. But the class which feels, or at all events which till recently felt, itself slighted is comparatively speaking a very small one. The native gentlemen whom the heads of Government meet in Calcutta are not fully representative of any large class throughout the country. Till the present proposal was brought forward, I do not believe that it had ever occurred to a single person among the two-and-a half millions of Midnapore to feel himself slighted because civilians of Asiatic blood cannot, out of a Presidency town, try a European British subject. Now of course the case is somewhat different. An angry strife of words having arisen between Europeans and Bengalis, it is but natural that members of the latter class should take part with their fellow countrymen.

5. The opposition to the Bill has its first justification in the peculiar position of non-official Europeans in the interior of the country. An Englishman so placed must often have interests clashing with those of some of his neighbours and dependents, and must therefore expect to be made the subject of false criminal charges, which he has to meet at a considerable disadvantage, because he is no match for a Bengali in intrigue, and does not consider it justifiable to meet perjury with perjury. On referring to the General Administration Report for the year 1881-82, I find that of the criminal charges enquired into by the Bengal Police 9·6 per cent. were found to be entirely false. There are no similar statistics about non-cognizable offences, but the percentage of false charges under this head must be considerably larger. This is sufficient to show what an important element false complaints are in rural life in Bengal; and indeed to those who have any knowledge of the country, no such proof is necessary. Living, then, as he must in an atmosphere of intrigue, in which systematic perjury is among the ordinary incidents of every-day life, I think that the position of the most inoffensive English planter would be considerably less secure if he were liable to be tried by an Asiatic Judge or Magistrate. This opinion implies no distrust of the probity of native officials, many of whom, in positions much below that of a civilian, I know to be thoroughly upright and just; but it is always difficult for a judicial officer in this country to set at the real facts. Much more weight has to be given here than in England to circumstantial evidence and probabilities as compared with the direct statements of witnesses, and I cannot but think that a Bengali Judge's necessarily imperfect knowledge of English life and character would often place him at a great disadvantage in weighing the circumstances and probabilities of a case in which the accused person was an Englishman. Nor can I conceal from myself the fact that, partly through their own faults, partly from the force of circumstances, non-official Englishmen are very often objects of dislike to the native community, and that a Bengali Judge is likely to be sometimes unconsciously influenced by any strong wave of feeling moving the society in which he lives. It may be said that this argument applies to the trial of Bengalis by European Magistrates, and I think that there are certain classes of cases which a Native Deputy Magistrate can try more satisfactorily than a European Joint-Magistrate; but there is a considerable difference between the two cases, because the English Civilian has, and the Native Civilian has not, devoted his life to work involving a study of the character and habits of the foreigners to be brought before him for trial.

6. The above considerations have special force in the case of Englishwomen. You are aware that one of the commonest Bengali devices for annoying an enemy is to bring a false charge of such a character as to involve the appearance in court of some female relative of the person accused, and it is not probable that this weapon will be forgotten or laid aside if Englishwomen should be made liable to the indignity of appearing before a Judge whose ideas regarding their sex and its character, and regarding the lines which separate respect from insult, are altogether different from those which prevail in Europe. The Civilians of Asiatic blood appointed by competition have, I believe, all adopted the European mode of life; but the Bill draws no distinction between them and the nominated members of the Service.

7. It may be said that the evils which I apprehend from the proposed measure have not arisen in the presidency towns; but a very little consideration is sufficient to show that the two cases differ widely. In a presidency town a non-official European has generally nothing to do, except in the way of commercial business, with any natives of India except his own servants. He lives very much as he would in England, and has no hostile intrigues to contend

against. Circumstances of publicity unfavourable to successful perjury make the institution of false charges comparatively rare, the percentage in Calcutta for 1881-82 being 2·8 instead of 9·6, as in the mofussil. There is so little to bring him into collusion with his neighbours that an Englishman in Calcutta does not look upon the Magistrate's court as an institution personally concerning himself at all. He reads, or more probably does not read, the reports as he would in England, and that is all. But the management of land in almost any part of the province involves more or less of strife, as the history of our Government estates sufficiently shows. A planter cannot hope to be without enemies, who may at any time bring him into court, and the present question is therefore to him one of great practical importance. I am far from thinking that an English planter is always or generally in the right in his disputes; but the fact that he has to be controlled as well as protected from false charges only makes it the more necessary that as strong a hand as possible should be placed over him.

8. There can be no doubt that if there is no reasonale ground for the existing feeling against the Bill on the part of the European community, this feeling will in time subside and disappear; but it will be apparent from what has been said above that in my judgment their hostility is justifiable, nor do I think it likely that the time will ever come when Englishmen in India or elsewhere will acquiesce in a measure subjecting their wives and daughters to the criminal jurisdiction of Judges whose ideas on the subject of women and marriage are not European, but Oriental.

Note on the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill by BABU BROJENDRO NATH DE, *Joint-Magistrate, Hooghly.*

The present report has been called for on two points—

I.—The principle of the Bill.

II.—Whether any administrative inconvenience at present arises, or is likely to arise in the future, from the exclusion of Native Covenanted Civilians from the power of trying European British subjects on criminal charges.

I.—On the first point it is needless to say much. All that could be said for or against the principle of the Bill has been already said in the course of the preliminary discussion of the Bill in the Supreme Council; and it is not possible to add to the clearness and force with which the arguments *pro* and *con* were there stated. It may not, however, be entirely useless to mention one or two considerations in favour of the principle of the Bill. A great deal has been said by the opponents of the Bill about the Briton's birthright. It is hardly necessary seriously to refer to these arguments. The only ground on which the principle of the Bill can be impugned is on an assumption that European British subjects cannot expect, and will not receive, justice at the hands of the officers who will be invested with jurisdiction over them if the Bill becomes law. Such an assumption can only be justified by a reference either to the proved incapacity or ignorance of the officers in question, or to their proved corruptibility. If it it can be shewn that these officers are either so ignorant of what will be required of them in the trial of European British subjects, or are so likely to be swayed by unworthy race feelings that European British subjects will not receive a fair trial in their courts, then, but then only, should the Bill be thrown out.

I will take the two points separately:—

(*a*). The alleged incapacity or ignorance.—It may be said that a few years' residence in England cannot enable the officers in question to distinguish the nicer shades of a European British subject's feelings and springs of actions or the nicer social distinctions or considerations which may become the subject of consideration in the course of a trial in which European British subjects are the parties. It has also been said that these officers will be unable to unravel the skeins of falsehood and fraud, in the meshes of which a European British subject may be thrown by the class of natives of the country who consider the institution of false charges their only weapon of offence. This last argument is so manifestly absurd that it may be dismissed with a very few words. There can be no doubt that a Native Magistrate will be better able to detect the falsehood of a charge got up by his compatriots than a European, and if in these cases Europeans desire to be tried by their compatriots, such a wish can only be explained by an assumption on their part that European Magistrates are so thoroughly imbued with the idea that a European can do no wrong, that nothing but the strongest evidence would induce them to hear a complaint against a European while they would receive a complaint by a European with implicit confidence not only in his good faith, but in his ability to understand thoroughly the motives of his opponents and their modes of thought and action. I need not say that I do not believe that European Magistrates act on the principle just mentioned, and I mention it only as an assumption on the part of such Europeans as may have to stand before a Magistrate as offenders against the laws.

I will now turn to the other and more reasonable arguments founded on the alleged ignorance of the officers in question. I do not think that these arguments are valid, for the following reasons:—In the first place, the existence of this ignorance is simply a matter of assumption, and no proof has yet been adduced to show that it exists. These officers have resided in England, have studied English literature more or less thoroughly, and have attempted to learn and understand English modes of thought and action; and it is only reasonable to ask that they should not be adjudged ignorant of such modes of thought and action till the contrary is proved. In the second place, cases are tried on the broad principles laid down in the Penal Code and the Evidence Act, and not on individual or even national idiosyncracies or modes of thought. In the third place, it is almost the everyday experience of a Magistrate that in the trial of cases which come before him, he is confronted with modes of thought, combinations of motives, and conjunctures of events and circumstances of which he was entirely ignorant up to the moment. There cannot be a case more to the point than that of the newly-arrived European Civilian. He has, generally speaking, only a very superficial book knowledge of the language, and is entirely ignorant of the way in which the men to whom he has to administer justice think and act; yet if he hears what the parties have to say with patience, and tries to master the facts of the case and to understand how and under what circumstances they acted, he is generally able to hold the balance of justice evenly. And even in the case of European officers of lengthened experience and I may even add Native Magistrates trying natives, and English Magistrates trying Englishmen on English soil, is it not a fact almost of daily occurrence that the Magistrate has to decide on combinations of circumstances and motives, which are new to him, and which he would have considerable difficulty in imagining for himself? If the Magistrate possesses the amount of intelligence expected of a man in his position, and attempts to master the facts of the case and to enter into the motives and thoughts of the parties with patience and judicial impartiality, he can generally arrive at a correct conclusion; and I am aware of no circumstances which should induce any one to hold that the officers in question will be found wanting in these essential qualities in the trial of these particular cases.

(*b*.) I now come to the more serious matter of corruption. But as this charge has not been seriously made by any responsible person, but has only been insinuated in newspapers and by irresponsible public speakers, I will say nothing about it. In concluding this part of the note, I may say that although Native Covenanted Civilians have not tried many Europeans, except Mr. B. L. Gupta, who, as Presidency Magistrate, has done so, they have tried many cases in which Europeans were the complainants, or were more or less directly interested; but not one case has been yet pointed out in which they either displayed gross ignorance or laid themselves open to the faintest breath or insinuation of being actuated by unworthy race feelings. I may say that if such cases have not been pointed out, it has not been from any want of will on the part of the opponents of the Bill. The *Englishman*, which has "so ably focussed the opposition against the Bill," has not been slow to publish what it could get hold of against Native Magistrates and Judges, but up to the present moment it has only succeeded in reproducing the judgment of a Munsiff in a case which is yet *sub judice* and that of a Deputy Magistrate which was passed as long ago as 1877, and when the particular officer had been a Deputy Magistrate for only about a month.

II.—I now come to the second point on which an opinion has been called for. On this point, and generally in the course of the whole note, I have to refer somewhat frequently to my personal experiences and circumstances; but this is inevitable, as I am a party somewhat interested in the Bill. During nearly the whole of my service I have been in districts in which there was a fair sprinkling of non-official Europeans, but till lately no administrative difficulty has arisen, unless I may call the fact that I could not be placed in charge of one of the Tirhoot sub-divisions, although I served, I may at least say, without discredit at Durbhunga, an administrative difficulty. Administrative difficulties, however, began to arise when I was transferred to Raneegunge. I am not in a position to say what induced Government to transfer me to a sub-division like Raneegunge, and to transfer me again from the place after such a short period as two and a half months. I may, however, say that when I was transferred to Raneegunge, it was on condition that I should withdraw my application for privilege leave, which I had then made, and should not make such an application for six months. I do not say that this last condition made it compulsory on Government that I should be kept in Raneegunge for a similar period. In the exigencies of the public service I could no doubt be transferred from Raneegunge on the very day after I had received charge there; but in the absence of such an exigency, I could reasonably count on being kept at Raneegunge for at least six months. I am not aware whether any such exigency arose or not, but none came within my cognizance, except that I was supposed to have come into collision with the non-official Europeans. If my early transfer was necessitated by an administrative difficulty, it is undoubtedly to be laid at the door of the disability under which I laboured.

While at Raneegunge I had to try several cases in which European coal-proprietors were very much interested. In one case, Messrs. Apcar and Company charged some of their tenants in Santa village with the culpable homicide of one of their peons, and in another I had to convict and punish some of the servants of the Walipur Concern on a charge of rioting and assaulting police officers while in the execution of their duty. In both these cases I came to conclusions adverse to the Coal Companies. While I had jurisdiction to try those important cases in which, and specially in the latter, the concerns were vitally interested, I could not try a paltry case in which the *khansama* of Mr. Whyte, the manager of Messrs. Burn and Company's works, charged the latter with committing an assault on his person. For the trial of this case, in which Mr. Whyte did not plead guilty, but which resulted in a conviction and a fine of Rs. 5, the District Magistrate had to come up all the way from Burdwan to Raneegunge, to the manifest detriment, I should think, of his other duties. If Mr. Whyte had in a straightforward manner pleaded guilty, it might have been a question whether I, as a native of India, could have entered into his feelings and adjudged

him the proper punishment, but when he shielded himself behind a denial which must, now after his conviction, be considered to be false, I do not see why I could not have tried and punished him like any native offender against the law. I ought to mention that, as this case was tried after my transfer, what I have stated is from my recollections of what I heard from Mr. Inglis, my successor, in the course of private correspondence.

Another administrative difficulty has arisen within the last few days. I need only refer to it very briefly, as it must be within the recollection of the District Magistrate and the Divisional Commissioner. I refer to Mr. Warde-Jones' appointment at Serampore. I say nothing about Mr. Jones' fitness for the post, but it is certainly somewhat incongruous that he should have been placed in charge of the sub-division, over the head of a senior Deputy Magistrate like Babu Gobindo Chunder Bose. I think that if the Joint-Magistrate had not been a native of the country, he would have been deputed to Serampore, and this incongruous arrangement would not have been made.

I am clearly of opinion that where these administrative difficulties have arisen in the case of a single officer while he is yet a junior, greater difficulties must arise in the case of those who have attained to higher ranks, and that these difficulties will increase year after year.

No. 38 JJ., dated 7th May, 1883.

From—J. MONRO, Esq., Offg. Commissioner of the Presidency Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

With reference to your No. 1518J of 27th March, I have the honour to submit the report therein called for regarding the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code.

2. I forward herewith the reports of district and sub-divisonal officers, and I may mention that I have had frequent conversations on the Bill with other gentlemen, both European and Native.

3. My opinion is asked on two points—(*a*) the principle of the Bill; (*b*) whether any administrative inconvenience at present arises, or is likely to arise in future, from the exclusion of Native Covenanted Civilians from the power of trying European British subjects on criminal charges.

4. So much has already been written on the subject, and the arguments on both sides have been so fully laid before Government, that any very lengthened report from me on the points at issue is not necessary. In reporting on the Bill, I have only in reality to repeat arguments already much more ably laid before Government.

5. It will be observed that every District Magistrate in the division condemns the principle of the Bill, and every European officer is of opinion that no administrative inconvenience is likely to arise if the law is allowed to remain as it stands. The Native officials, on the other hand, approve of the principle of the Bill, and, with one or two exceptions, are of opinion that administrative inconvenience is likely in the future to arise. In short, official opinion on the Bill is identical with non-official views, all Europeans condemning, and all Natives approving, the principle of the Bill.

6. The object with which the Bill has been prepared is set forth in the Statement of Objects and Reasons: it is "to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinction."

7. It seems to me that, while the principle of the Bill is, when viewed as an abstract proposition, apparently good and logical, it is practically unsound and illogical with reference to the tenure on which we hold, and the circumstances under which we carry on, our administration in India.

8. It is impossible to ignore the fact that we hold the country by right of conquest; and although it is our bounden duty to do all we can for the benefit of the various races in India, any attempt to govern them on principles of universal equality must involve political suicide. This may appear a harsh doctrine: but with reference to the facts of history and present administration, it must, it seems to me, be admitted that, so long as the numerical proportion of Europeans and Natives is what it is, government of the country on principles of universal equality is impracticable.

9. It is further impossible not to recognize the fact that there are race distinctions between ourselves and the people of India. We do recognize the existence of such race distinctions morally, socially politically, and until now, judicially. It is now, however, proposed to wipe away race distinctions as regards judicial qualifications and disqualifications of Natives, while allowing such distinctions to remain as before, when regarded from a moral, social, or political point of view. We continue to admit that, as regards morals, social customs, political status, the Natives of India stand, owing to race distinctions upon a different platform from that of Europeans, but we propose to consider the races as amalgamated and homogeneous as regards judicial qualifications. We continue to send missionaries to convert the followers of Mahomet and the idolatrous Hindoos. We lament the low standard of morality which prevails amongst both these races: We are constantly exhorting them to develop female education, and make woman a companion instead of a prisoner. We decry early marriage, polygamy, and prohibition of re-marriage of widows. We find it necessary to exclude Natives from the European

army, and to prevent them having arms except under license; in all these, and many other respects, we acknowledge, in our moral, social, and political code, that there are wide race distinctions between Europeans and Natives of India, which must tend to keep the races widely apart. It has hitherto been customary to make a similar distinction between the races as regards judicial qualifications. Such distinction it is now proposed to abolish.

10. I confess that I hardly see why it should be considered sound policy to make this innovation judicially, while the causes and effects of race distinctions between Europeans and Natives in other respects are untouched. It seems to me inconsistent to create, or attempt to create, homogeneity as regards judicial qualifications or disqualifications, when the two peoples remain separated by distinctions of race, morally, socially and politically. I venture to think that, so long as there is such a wide divergence between the races as regards moral standards, social customs, and political status, any abolition of race distinction, with reference to judicial qualifications or disqualifications, must be considered premature. When the two races approach more nearly to one another morally and socially, the necessary divergence which now exists, as regards judicial qualifications or disqualifications, will disappear naturally; but it will not disappear by virtue of a legislative enactment, which in principle attempts to anticipate the effects of probably centuries of association between different races.

11. I make these remarks, because it seems to me impossible to ignore the fact that the proposed change in the law is looked upon by both Europeans and Natives as involving a race question. It may to the Native seem improper that the European should hesitate to give up any privilege which he has hitherto enjoyed, simply on the ground of pride or prejudice of race. But none the less is it a fact that Europeans do hold this view, and in discussing the question, we have to deal with facts and not with theories. That Natives regard the question as one involving race distinction is everyday proved by the articles in the native press; and although every Hindoo would regard with horror any proposal to diminish the race distinctions of a Brahman, or remove the perpetual race disqualifications of a Sudra, it is considered by all an unbecoming anomaly that Europeans should refuse to part with a privilege which they enjoy as members of the dominant race, in favour of those who amongst themselves retain race distinctions with merciless severity.

12. I proceed now to discuss the principle of the Bill.

I am opposed to the principle proposed for the following reasons:—

First of all, it is, in my opinion, unjust to Europeans.

India has now been at peace internally for a quarter of a century, and the increase of commercial prosperity during that period has been marvellous. There seems to me to be a decided tendency to undervalue the fact that such prosperity has been achieved by European exertion and European capital. Whether we look at railways, shipping, trade, commercial enterprise of every kind, the mark of the European is everywhere visible; and apart from the question of dominant race altogether, it seems to me that the interests of the large non-official community, whose exertions have made India commercially what it is, merit the highest consideration in dealing with any question which vitally concerns them. I do not by any means ignore our duties to the vast Native population. In that respect none of the officers of Government have ever been wanting; but the performance of such duties is, and ought to be, perfectly compatible with the due recognition of the high claim to consideration of their interests, which the efforts of Europeans towards the development of the country have created.

13. I consider that the principle of the Bill is unjust towards Europeans, *firstly*, because it withdraws from them a privilege which as a matter of fact, and of right, they have always enjoyed—the privilege of being tried by Europeans. There is no doubt that the possession of such a privilege has been, and is, highly valued by all Europeans in the country. There is absolutely no evidence that Europeans by their acts have done anything on account of which such privilege should be withdrawn; it is incontrovertible that Europeans are entitled to retain their privilege unless they choose to waive it, and the retention of that right was guaranteed to Europeans at the time of the passing of Act X of 1872. I need adduce no arguments on these points. Upon none of them is there any doubt, and the compromise which was entered into in 1872 is on record in the Debates which took place on the Act of that year. There can be no doubt that the non-officials then agreed to accept the proposals of Government for extending the powers of Magistrates over Europeans, on the distinct understanding that such Magistrates or Justices of the Peace were to be European British subjects.

14. *Secondly*, the principle of the Bill is unjust towards Europeans, because it subjects them to a system of judicial administration which for good and sufficient reasons they distrust.

15. Europeans make no special complaint against the present system of judicial administration, or, at all events, they accept it, with all its defects, as the best system which, under the circumstances of the country, we can devise. But they are not prepared to accept a change which will place them judicially under officers whom they certainly do not trust as they do their own countrymen, and to whose exercise of jurisdiction over them they strongly object.

16. The objections which they entertain are of two kinds—*first*, with reference to the native officers themselves on whom it is proposed to confer jurisdiction over Europeans; *secondly*, with regard to the consequences likely to result, so far as Europeans are concerned, from the presence in districts of native officers armed with powers to try European British subjects. It cannot be denied that natives generally are not so trustworthy as Europeans. This is most fully admitted by natives themselves, who, I have no hesitation in saying, prefer

to have their cases, when possible, tried by European officers. On the impartiality of European officers, the great body of the people most thoroughly rely; they have not the same confidence in the unswerving fairness of their own countrymen. The reason for the existence of this state of feeling is not far to seek. The training of natives from their childhood, the enervating influence of the zenana on their up-bringing, early marriage, a low moral standard resulting from caste distinctions, and the influence of centuries of subjugation, all tend to hinder the development in Bengalis of those manly and straightforward qualities which, under other conditions, are found in Englishmen. A Bengali's first idea of duty, as I have been told by one of themselves, is to please his superiors, not to satisfy his own conscience; and in any difficulty his moral weakness, not his moral strength, is conspicuous.

17. What reasons, then, are there for supposing that in intricate questions in which Europeans are concerned (and we are assured that such cases generally are complicated and difficult)—what reason is there for supposing that native officers will show any higher qualities than those which they exhibit under other difficult circumstances? There is no reason, and on this account Europeans strongly object to be placed under them. They see their weakness and they distrust their impartiality, especially when any question of race or class prejudice is concerned.

18. I do not wonder at Europeans entertaining objections to any such change as is proposed. I am quite sensible of the progress which has been made in the education of the natives of India. I have had under me for years a staff of native magisterial officers who have performed their duties most creditably, and whose exertions I have had pleasure in acknowledging; but I am not on that account prepared to say that these officers were fitted to perform satisfactorily the duty of trying Europeans accused of criminal offences in the mofussil. And when I see of late years such active manifestations of race dislike as are chronicled in the native papers, I am all the more inclined to attach weight to the views held by Europeans, that justice might not be impartially administered to them by native officers.

19. It is further alleged that the particular danger to which Europeans in the mofussil are exposed is the institution of false charges, and that this danger would be very materially increased, were the power to try Europeans made over to native officers. On this point I entertain no doubt whatever, and it may safely be predicted that, whatever might be the merits of a Native Magistrate entrusted with the powers proposed to be conferred, the litigious enemies of any European in a district would feel encouraged to accuse him, in the hope that their efforts might be attended with more success than would probably result when such charges were tried by Europeans.

20. This danger from false cases is a very real one. About ten in every 100 police charges now preferred are declared by Magistrates to be deliberately and maliciously false. This is of itself alarming; and when it is borne in mind that in only 18 per cent. of such cases is any effort made to bring the malicious complainants to justice, it will easily be understood with what impunity such charges may be preferred.

21. It is difficult for official Europeans, protected by their position from many annoyances and attacks, to fully realise the dangers to which their non-official countrymen in the mofussil are often exposed. But such dangers are none the less real because they are not easily and to the full extent appreciated by those who are not exposed to them. I have no hesitation in expressing my belief that, in districts with Native Magistrates vested with the powers of trying Europeans, these dangers would be very largely increased. With a Native Magistrate acting as head of the District Police, with powers to direct enquiry into, as well as to try charges against Europeans, and believed, rightly or wrongly, to be not emancipated from race prejudices unfavourable to the aliens in his district, it would be strange if false cases did not increase, and if methods of judicial harassment of Europeans were not much more frequently resorted to than at present. To subject European men and women to the probability of such harassment by the adoption of the principle of the Bill would inflict on them, in my opinion, a grave injury, and give rise to more serious political dangers and anomalies than arise under the present system of judicial administration.

22. *Thirdly*, the principle of the Bill involves injustice to Europeans, inasmuch as, while it contemplates the bestowal on certain selected classes of natives of jurisdiction which they never as a body possessed, it deprives a large number of European officers and non-officials of powers which they have hitherto exercised. In future no European, who is not of the selected classes mentioned in the Bill, will be eligible to act as Justice of the Peace, and those Europeans who have hitherto been exercising the powers of a Justice will be disqualified from acting in that capacity. I see no justification for such a procedure. The number of Europeans who have hitherto been exercising those powers is by no means inconsiderable; and to deprive experienced and capable European officers of the jurisdiction in the case of European British subjects seems to me unjust, and tends to create administrative difficulties, the removal of which is one of the chief objects of the Bill.

23. Not only, however, does the adoption of the principle of the Bill involve injustice to Europeans, but its detailed provisions are at variance with the principle itself, and create distinctions amongst classes of natives, which they may well style unfair.

24. As stated above, the Bill proposes to remove at once and completely from the Code every judicial disqualification which is based on race distinction. If this is the principle of the Bill, why are other privileges of Europeans—privileges which they enjoy undoubtedly by virtue of race distinction—left untouched? It seems to me, for example, much more anomalous that

a European should be allowed to choose his court of appeal, than that he should be compelled to waive his right to be tried by his fellow-countrymen.

25. As regards the natives who are to be empowered to try Europeans, I cannot see that the provisions of the Bill are logically defensible. The Bill divides the native officers practically into three classes—*first*, covenanted civilians who have obtained their appointments by competition in England; *secondly*, nominated members of the Civil Service; *thirdly*, Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces. I exclude Cantonment Magistrates, as we are told that natives will not ordinarily be appointed to such posts.

26. This classification practically announces the fact that the vast majority of the native officers, *viz.*, all who are in the regular Uncovenanted Service, are not at present fitted for the exercise of the powers of trying European subjects; that is to say, that race disqualification in the case of all members of the Uncovenanted Service in Regulation Provinces is to continue, and that only in the case of a few selected members of the Covenanted and Uncovenanted Service is such race disqualification to be withdrawn.

27. I can understand a proposal which maintains the existence of race disqualification on the part of all natives to try Europeans, or which confers on all native judicial officers jurisdiction in such cases; but I fail to see any consistency in the principle of a Bill which, while professing to have for its object the immediate and complete removal from the Code of all race disqualifications, denies to the great majority of Native officials the abolition of such disqualifications, and practically confers new and extended jurisdiction on a comparatively small number of their countrymen.

28. This appears to me to be a most important admission of the existence of judicial disqualifications, based on race distinction on the part of the majority of native officers; and it may be well to enquire in what respects this race disqualification has been removed or modified in the case of the classes selected for the exercise of the jurisdiction contemplated by the Bill. I begin at the bottom of the list—

(*a.*)—Cantonment Magistrates.

I have remarked above that these offices are not intended to be held by Natives. If Natives are fit to try European officials and non-officials of every class, I hardly see why logically they can be pronounced unfitted to try European soldiers. Politically, there are very strong objections to Native Cantonment Magistrates trying offenders of this class, and these objections all resolve themselves into one—the existence of race distinctions. If a Native officer is not to be appointed a Cantonment Magistrate, and try European soldiers, on account of political (which are really race) objections, on what principle of consistency can it be affirmed that Native officers are, in spite of the existence of race distinctions, competent to try European Civilians? On what principle of fairness can it be proposed that a Native Covenanted Civilian should be appointed Magistrate of, and vested with powers to try Europeans in, the district of Patna, but that, on account of political (which are really race) objections, he should not be appointed Cantonment Magistrate or Sub-divisional Officer of Dinapore, six miles from the head-quarters of the Patna district.

This practical exclusion of Natives from the post of Cantonment Magistrates is, to my mind, a most convincing admission on the part of the framers of the Bill as to the necessity of retention of judicial race disqualifications.

(*b.*)—Assistant Commissioners.

(*c.*)—Members of the Native Civil Service.

In what respects have the race disqualifications attaching to members of the Uncovenanted Service been modified or removed in the case of these two classes?

In the case of Assistant Commissioners, these officers are actually members of the Uncovenanted Service, and there is nothing to prevent a Deputy Magistrate in Bengal from being employed as an Assistant Commissioner in Assam. In regulation districts, it is supposed that judicial procedure is more elaborate and supervision more close than in non-regulation provinces, where the system is more rough-and-ready, and officers more left to themselves. But according to the principle of the Bill, the regulation Deputy Magistrate is to have no jurisdiction, while the same officers, as non-regulation Assistant Commissioner, is to be invested with powers to try Europeans, under circumstances and in districts where there are fewer safeguards against abuse of his authority.

The officers of the Native Civil Service come from the same classes as those from which the Uncovenanted Service is recruited. They have the same race feelings as those of their brethren of the latter service, and save that they are not so experienced or so hard-working, there is no difference in respect of race qualification or disqualification between a Deputy Magistrate and a member of the Native Civil Service under the Statute 33 Vic., cap. 3.

(*d.*)—Covenanted Civilians.

Between these gentlemen and those in the Uncovenanted Service, there is this difference—that the former are more highly educated, and have been for three or four years at most resident in England. Are these circumstances sufficient to do away with, or radically modify, the race distinctions which exist between members of eastern and western nations? I hope not; for if the contrary were the case, essential characteristics of western civilization must be very superficial and unreal when they can be communicated to orientals within the short period of a three or four years' residence in a foreign country. That the gentlemen who are members of the

Covenanted Civil Service have acquired some of the habits and modes of thought of Europeans, I freely admit: but my experience compels me to deny that, by their short residence in Europe, they have acquired the essential characteristics which remove or radically modify the race feelings common to them with all their educated countrymen, so as to enable them to understand the customs and modes of thought of European men and European women.

29. If, therefore, there is practically no difference as regards race qualifications or disqualifications between Native members of the Uncovenanted Service and Statutory Civilians and Assistant Commissioners, and if the only distinction between them and Covenanted Civilians is more superficial than real, on what principle of fairness to Natives are judicial disqualifications based on race distinction to be removed from some, and retained with reference to other classes of native officials? What practical benefit to Native officials, or to the judicial administration, will result from the appointment of these few selected officers, without reference to the existence of race disqualification? And on what principle of justice to Europeans is jurisdiction to be conferred on these small classes of Native officials who are, in all essentials, as disqualified by virtue of race distinction to exercise such jurisdiction as the whole body of Native Uncovenanted Deputy Magistrates to whom, under the Bill, the power to try Europeans is denied?

30. It will, I think, be admitted by all that a change in our judicial administration which is so repugnant to the feelings of Europeans in India, should not be carried out without some overwhelming necessity being shown for its introduction. Does any such necessity, exist?

31. It has been abundantly shown that Europeans unanimously condemn the principle of the Bill; and in spite of the violent and virulent manner in which the introduction of the measure has been demanded by the native press, I do not believe that the great majority of the inhabitants of the country wish for the measure at all. It is difficult to ascertain the views of the people on this point; for when any appearance of want of so-called patriotism is visited by relentless social persecution, as in the case of Rajah Shiva Persad, there are very few Native gentlemen who will hesitate to conceal their real opinion, and outwardly to commend, while inwardly they condemn, the introduction of the Bill.

32. The body who do wish for the introduction of the Bill are the political agitators of the press and their followers, and there can be no doubt that they look to the Bill as merely the thin end of the wedge, and the partial fulfilment of their hopes of obtaining increased power for natives, their ultimate object being to get rid of Europeans from important administrative posts. Of these agitators it may be said that if the language in which they have demanded, nay insisted, on the introduction of the Bill, is any real indication of their feelings, or those of Natives generally whom they profess to represent, then no more convincing argument could be found in support of the danger of entrusting any jurisdiction over Europeans to those in whom race feeling is so strongly, not to say virulently, developed.

33. Much stress is laid upon the Proclamation of Her Most Gracious Majesty as conferring rights upon Natives of India to have the jurisdiction contemplated by the Bill. But it appears to be forgotten that such Proclamation could give, and actually gave, no rights beyond those recognized by the law of the land; and it cannot be maintained that under any law had Natives of India the right to interfere with the privilege of the European to be tried by his own countrymen. I hold that the time for their interference with such privilege has not yet arrived, and that the law of the land in this respect should not be altered to remove a fancied grievance, and to gratify the political virulence of pretentious patriots.

34. That there is at present no administrative necessity for the introduction of the measure in these provinces at least, we have the assurance of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal; and it is superfluous for me to add my testimony to his, as to no inconvenience having, as a matter of practice, been experienced from the existing constitution of the judicial administration. Nor do I see any reason to anticipate in the future that such executive difficulty will arise for many years, as cannot be met without a change in the law of the land and in the fundamental principles of our administration. Such a remote difficulty, I think, may be dealt with in the spirit of those remarks made on another occasion by the Mover of the Bill himself: "Sufficient for the statesman if he can grapple with the problem of the day; for the distant future he must leave posterity to provide."

35. The proposal to introduce the Bill has led to a display of acrimonious feeling on both sides, which is to be lamented. There is no appearance of such feeling subsiding or diminishing in bitterness, and there cannot be the least doubt that the change in the system of judicial administration, if carried out, will lead to consequences which must be disastrous to the best interests of the country. The mischief which has already been done cannot be undone; but it may, and certainly by passing the Bill into law will, be increased, and the feelings of exasperation which now prevail will be intensified. The breach in the harmonious relations between Europeans and natives, which was being gradually filled up, will be widened, and friendly co-operation between the two peoples in advancing the highest interests of the country will become difficult, if not impossible. The state of matters has even now led to a feeling of insecurity, which has already led capitalists to be chary of investing money in schemes for the development of the country; and if this feeling spreads, the consequences to the country will be financially disastrous.

36. On the whole, therefore, I am opposed to the principle of the Bill and its being passed into law—

(*a*) Because it contemplates the abolition of race distinctions judicially, while such race distinctions are allowed to remain untouched socially, morally, and politically;

(*b*) Because such abolition of judicial race disqualifications, under such circumstances, is premature, and therefore not advisable;

(*c*) Because the withdrawal of the privilege of being tried by their own countrymen is unjust towards Europeans, and opposed to the conditions of our occupation of the country—

1*st*—in ignoring their claim to retain a privilege which they have always enjoyed, and which was guaranteed to them in 1872;

2*nd*—in subjecting them to the jurisdiction of officers whom, for good reasons, they do not trust as they do their own countrymen, and in whose impartiality and freedom from race-feeling in the administration of justice they do not believe;

3*rd*—in depriving a large number of European officers of the powers which they have all along exercised;

(*d*) Because the detailed provisions of the Bill are at variance with its principle of immediate and complete abolition of race distinctions;

(*e*) Because the partial bestowal of jurisdiction on some classes of natives, who are equally fit (or unfit) with the selected officials to exercise such jurisdiction, is logically and practically indefensible;

(*f*) Because the selected classes of officials are not in reality more free from the influence of race feelings than those who, by the provisions of the Bill, are declared unfitted to try Europeans;

(*g*) Because there is not at present any administrative necessity for the change, and because there is no probability of any such necessity arising for years;

(*h*) Because the introduction of the measure is not desired by the great body of the natives but only by a few political agitators amongst them, and will confer no real benefit on natives at large;

(*i*) Because the adoption of the principle of the Bill, and its being passed into law, will widen the breach already existing between Europeans and natives, and will result in consequences disastrous to the best interests of the country.

No. 868G, dated 19th April 1883.

From—E. J. BARTON, Esq., C.S., Magistrate of Jessore,

To—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

In reply to your No. 32JJ of 17th instant, I have the honour to inform you that I do *not* consider it to be expedient to give to native civilians criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. Hitherto no administrative inconvenience of any kind has arisen in this district from native Magistrates not having criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects. Jessore has for nearly a century been an indigo district, and at one time there were many European planters in it, and there are still several. As long as a European Magistrate is kept in this district, no European British subject could possibly escape trial for an offence. I may say that, in an experience of Jessore extending at intervals over a period of 14 years, I never heard, either from European or native, a whisper of discontent or complaint or any administrative inconvenience of the kind. The same remark applies to other districts of Bengal, of which I have been Magistrate and Collector, and where there are non-official European residents.

No. 756, dated 21st April 1883.

From—H. MOSLEY, Esq., Magistrate of Moorshedabad,

To—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

With reference to your No. 11JJ, dated 2nd April 1883, I have the honour to enclose copies of reports by the District Superintendent of Police and my Sub-divisional Officers on the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure.

2. The District Superintendent and Mr. Beames are both opposed to the measure, and their principal arguments amount to this, that the natives are not fitted for the power proposed to be given to them, and I quite agree with them in this, that if Europeans could be tried by native Magistrates, it would be impossible to feel sure that race prejudices and an inclination to flaunt a temporary superiority would not interfere with the due administration of justice.

3. The Sub-divisional Officer of Jungipore thinks the Bill should be passed, but his only reason seems to be that it would "affect merely an infinitesimal portion of the public, and the jurisdiction would be limited to a very selected few"—an argument which would be full of weight if he had used it to show that no change was necessary.

4. The Sub-divisional Officer of Kandi would pass the Bill, because if a native is fit to be in the Covenanted Civil Service, he is fit to exercise these powers.

5. For my own part I object to the Bill as unnecessary and dangerous.

6. I have had many years' experience of districts in which European British subjects have been comparatively numerous, and have never known any in which any inconvenience would have arisen if the Magistrate of the district had been a native. In point of fact, the Magistrate of the district hardly ever tries cases himself. He has no time to do anything of the sort, and as regards actual necessity, it would be almost more reasonable to enact that a District Magistrate should *not*, than that he *should be*, a Justice of the Peace.

7. During the whole of my service (and I have been much in European districts), I only remember one district in which I have tried European British subjects, and then it was as Joint-Magistrate. That district was Chittagong, and the defendants referred to were mostly English sailors of the lowest kind, to keep whom in check it was considered necessary to have English police, though only two were employed. I should be very sorry to try the experiment of having only native Magistrates to try these men, without very largely increasing the English police force. The danger would be extreme.

8. There *is* such a thing as moral power; an English Magistrate, as such, has a power over a low class Englishman which no native Magistrate could ever have; and no Native Civilian could ever, in my opinion, be safely sent as Magistrate of Chittagong, unless he had an English Joint, Assistant, or Deputy; that is to say, there would be as much administrative inconvenience in this regard, if the Bill were passed, as there may be now.

9. It is true that the present Bill only contemplates giving the power absolutely to native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, who become District Magistrates (Sessions Judges may be taken for the purposes of this letter as being included in the term), but it also gives Government power to include others. And my experience of the Native Civil Service (under Statute 33 Vic., cap. 3), tells me that, as regards this branch, the power would be most dangerous. As regards Cantonment Magistrates, I can scarcely conceive a more dangerous enactment. It may be said that the powers would not be lightly given; but I am afraid that the matter would drift into one of form, and that powers *would* be given in time almost as a matter of course.

10. It is also said that it is not contemplated going any further; but though that may be the intention now, it is quite possible, nay probable, that future Governments may refuse to be bound by present declarations, and that native clamour may induce the further extension of the present Bill to all Magistrates, which would have a most calamitous effect.

11. As matters stand at present, the parties most immediately affected are the European British subjects, and they have expressed in the most decisive manner their objection to the measure. Their opinions are deserving of most earnest attention. They, if they work well with the authorities, are of the greatest assistance to district officers in many ways; if they are alienated (and I can conceive of no more effectual way of alienating them than this Bill), they would be the cause of the greatest difficulties; and I can see no object in depriving district officers of their often invaluable assistance for the purpose of getting over a difficulty that has never been felt.

12. The arguments that district officers, when natives, would lose prestige because they could not try cases that a subordinate could, is, I think, untenable. They, as a rule, never do try cases, and certainly no District Magistrate ever adds to his prestige by trying cases, or loses it by not trying them.

13. If in future years it should be found that the present state of the law causes grave inconvenience, then will be the time to amend it; but it is a pity to alienate a powerful body of subjects, to whose enterprise and capital a large part of the prosperity of the country is due, for the sake of an idea.

14. The Bill has already done an incalculable amount of mischief by rousing race prejudices (on both sides) that were gradually dying down. It will be long before this is remedied, even though the Bill were withdrawn; if the Bill were passed, it would simply be perpetuated.

15. I may add that the distrust of Native Magistrates is not confined to Europeans. Very often (and I think all other Magistrates could say the same) I have had petitions from natives to transfer their cases to a European Magistrate, because they felt more sure of obtaining justice. If, then, this is the feeling where there are no race prejudices, what would it be in the contrary case?

16. I repeat, then, that I think the Bill unnecessary and dangerous. As to its getting rid of an anomaly, it should first be considered whether that anomaly is inconvenient. I do not think it is, and I certainly think that there are many other anomalies which might with great advantage be first attacked. There are numerous anomalies (*e.g.*, exemption from attendance in civil courts granted to natives, but not to Europeans; indulgences to native women, which are never granted to their European sisters), which might better be attacked than the one now spoken of, which, as far as my experience goes, has never caused the slightest difficulty, nor seems to me likely to do so.

No. 106, dated 11th April 1883.

From—H. B. Beames, Esq., Deputy Magistrate, City Moorshedabad,

To—The Magistrate of Moorshedabad.

In reply to your circular No. 635 of the 7th April, I have the honour to submit the following.

The first objection which forces itself on one is that the jurisdiction over Europeans is to be taken away from Uncovenanted Magistrates, who have hitherto exercised their powers in this respect to the entire satisfaction of the public, and given to members of the Native Civil Service, who are not better qualified by education and training than the European members of the Uncovenanted Service, and who, in consequence of their nationality, are infinitely less capable of forming a correct judgment in matters in which Europeans are concerned.

2. I speak from experience when I say that cases in which Europeans are defendants and natives complainants require the most delicate handling on the part of the Judge.

3. Take a case of assault, for instance. In cases where gentlemen of position and high principle are defendants, the matter is simple enough. The defendant is asked whether he committed the offence or not. If he admits it, or part of it, it remains only to give judgment accordingly, or after such examination of the prosecutor and his witnesses as may be thought necessary.

4. If, on the other hand, the defendant is a low-born European, who fights the native with his own weapons and denies the charge point-blank, it remains to be seen whose story is true; and in so doing, to allow for the habitual exaggeration and disregard for truth displayed by natives in the criminal courts, and so with difficulty to sift the true from the false.

5. I myself would gladly forego trying such cases, for with the best intentions one may err, and the consciousness of the delicacy of the situation is productive of great anxiety.

6. Now, if I a European feel this, how much more awkward must a native under the same circumstances feel, supposing him to be bent on performing his duty conscientiously and to the best of his ability.

7. He would know that if he made a false step public opinion would be eager to charge him with injustice or malice, as the case might be, or he might think that, in convicting the European, his motives would be certainly attributed to race feeling, and this might make him err on the side of leniency to the European.

8. On the other hand, a European is secure against all this, and this natural independence of character would, in any case, render him more indifferent to the voice of public opinion than the native.

9. Lastly, there is another objection which is paramount, and which, in the absence of all others, is, in my opinion, fatal to the amendment.

10. I allude to the case of a Native Judge with strong race prejudices, or open to corrupt influences.

11. That there have been such is well known; that there will always be such is highly probable.

12. I have had very painful personal experience of Judges of this sort, so that I am well qualified to speak on the subject.

13. In Rajshahye, in 1871, a civil suit was brought against me, for the alleged use of abusive language, by a mookhtear.

14. The feeling in the place against Europeans ran very high at that time, and every one, from the Judge and Magistrate downwards, was abused in the weekly papers in the most infamous and abominable language.

15. The plaint in the case just mentioned was filed in the court of the Moonsif of the place, and on going into the court to ask what date was fixed for the trial of the case, the Moonsif's behaviour was so insulting that I felt certain I should never get justice there, and so I got the case removed to the court of the Subordinate Judge.

16. Here, though the Judge himself was most courteous and polite, the pleaders were so insolent, and made so many open and offensive remarks, that to avoid insult I was obliged to get the District Judge to take the case up and try it himself.

17. Twenty-eight witnesses were cited to perjure themselves on this occasion by the prosecutor, and men I had hitherto looked on as highly respectable, and treated with habitual courtesy and kindness, came into court and lied to as the manner born.

18. The Judge's experienced eye saw through them from the first, and in dismissing the case gave me permission to prosecute the complainant for bringing a false charge.

19. The next case was in Gya, where I was prosecuted civilly for a legal act done by my predecessor.

20. The suit was dismissed by the Subordinate Judge, on the grounds that the act was legal, in the first place, and that, secondly, my predecessor, not myself, had done it.

21. No Judge could well have given a different decision; but a Judge hostile to Europeans might have made matters very unpleasant for me.

22. The last and most serious case was before another Subordinate Judge of Gya, in which I was prosecuted conjointly with one zemindar, by another rival zemindar, for giving the former possession, under section 530, Civil Procedure Code, of certain land and crops in dispute between them.

23. I was most ably defended by the Government Pleader, and the last day before the Doorga-pooja holidays, the Judge informed the pleader that he was quite satisfied with the defence, and that he need say no more, and that he would give judgment after the holidays.

24. What was our astonishment when the Judge came into court after the holidays, and gave judgment against us.

25. We appealed the case to the High Court, and for three years I was in the greatest anxiety as to the result; but the present Chief Justice, Sir Richard Garth, reversed the decision of the Subordinate Jndge, complimented me on my action in the matter, giving me heavy damages, and seriously censured the Subordinate Judge for his conduct in the case. This judgment was printed and circulated by the Government of Bengal.

26. I am of opinion that the time has not come for natives in the Civil Service, even much less for natives in the Native Civil Service and the Commission, to be charged with such tremendous responsibilities as are contemplated by this amendment.

27. In my Administration Report, I have also pointed out what a deterrent effect this amendment, if passed into law, would exercise on the in-flowing of European capital, and consequently what a disastrous effect it would have on the country itself.

No. 404, dated 11th April 1883.

From—A. ANLEY, Esq., District Superintendent of Police, Moorshedabad,

To—The Magistrate of Moorshedabad.

Having been asked in your circular No. 635, dated the 7th instant, to give an expression of my opinion regarding the proposed amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code of 1882, so far as relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects by Native Magistrates, I have the honour to state—

1. That I am directly opposed to such a course being adopted.

2. Such a procedure would, I firmly believe from my 20 years' experience as a police officer, be used by the natives as a means of annoyance and insult to European ladies and others.

3. I could quote innumerable instances which have directly come under my personal notice, in which utterly false cases have been brought against Europeans by the natives, and in which, had they been tried by Native Magistrates, they would not, owing to ignorance of European character, have received that justice which has been meted out to them.

4. As a police officer of some experience, I can candidly say that times innumerable have I been called up as a witness in different courts, and in some Native Magistrates' courts have been subjected to cross-examinations, not only utterly irrelevant, but to questions simply put with a view to insult, which would never have been allowed in the court of a European.

5. If native character is so opposite to the European—the natives do not mix with the Europeans; the European officials are compelled to study the native character; the natives, on the other hand, have neither opportunity nor inclination to study the character of Europeans—that, in my opinion, to put such a power in the hands of a native as to allow him to try a European would be dangerous in the extreme; would lead to many complications; would, in a district where there are many non-official Europeans, paralyse trade, inasmuch as, with the prospect of being hauled up in a totally false case before a Native utterly ignorant of European manners, customs, character and habits, would induce many Europeans to give up their business rather than submit to such an indignity.

6. Furthermore I see no necessity for the measure. The ordinary native criminal would far rather be tried by a European Magistrate. The Europeans so far have been tried only by Europeans, and the European has so far been allowed the right to demand being tried by his countrymen; why then alter this? I do not believe, on the one hand, that a Native would wish to try a European any more than the European would wish not to be tried by the Native.

No. 238—12M., dated 18th April 1883.

From—BABOO SARADAPROSAD SERKER, Sub-divisional Officer of Kandi,

To—The Magistrate of Moorshedabad.

With reference to your circular No. 635, dated the 7th instant, I have the honour to report that the vesting of the power to a certain selected class of Natives has not created, among the Native community, the same feeling of rejoicing as that of agitation among certain European quarters. The rule of the admission of Natives into the Indian Civil Service has secured, for some selected few, with powers to hold higher offices for purposes of administration. The gradual increase of social connection between European and Natives in this country necessitates the vesting, in the same officers occupying highest posts in a district, with jurisdiction over both classes. When the privilege of admission was given to hold such posts to Natives, I do not consider that any feeling of race distinction ought to be allowed to stand. If the officers be considered efficient for every other work, why they could be considered inefficient for some special work? The men who are now proposed to be vested with the power have got special training, and their number is very few, and so they are the fit object for a trial; and if they prove inefficient, it lies in the power of the Legislature to withdraw it. "A breathe can make them as a breathe has made" (*sic* in original).

No. 142, dated 13th April 1883.

From—BABOO JUGGO BONDHU BHATTA, Deputy Magistrate of Jungipore,

To—The Magistrate of Moorshedabad.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 635, dated 7th instant, calling for an early expression of my opinion on the Bill drafted to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1882, and in reply to submit as follows.

2. So much has of late been said and written on the subject that any opinion I might offer will simply be of no value. The Bill has been discussed in and out of the Imperial Council; it has been made the subject of debate at meetings held throughout the length and breadth of India; it has been commented upon by newspaper editors and political critics both here and at Home, and was at last brought on the tapis in the noble House of the Peers of Great Britain. The sum and substance of the discussion, it appears to me, is that the Natives of India look upon the provision of the Bill as just, and such as Government ought equitably to concede to them. The oppositions, on the other hand, think it unsafe and imprudent to jeopardise the safety of the person and property of British-born subjects, by entrusting it to the hands of Natives. But, considering the facts that the measure proposed by the Government of India will affect merely an infinitesimal portion of the public at large, inasmuch as the exercise of the jurisdiction is to be limited to a very selected few, it appears to me the Bill ought not to be objected to, but passed into law.

No. 888, dated 23rd April 1883.

From—W. CLAY, Esq., Magistrate of Khoolna,

To—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

I have the honour to reply to your memorandum No. 11JJ of the 2nd instant, desiring me to express my opinion upon the subject mentioned in the letter No. 1518 of the 27th March last, from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal to your address (Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, &c.).

2. I beg to state that, for the following reasons, I am distinctly opposed to the Bill, both as to its principle and on account of the absence of any administrative ground, either in the present or the near future, for a change which is so serious and so obnoxious to those most concerned.

3. The "Objects and Reasons" of the Bill are stated to be solely the removal from the Code of Criminal Procedure of anomalous distinction and all judicial qualifications arising from merely race distinctions. It appears to me that an uniformity of the kind aimed at is not desirable, but that rather, as far as possible, special provisions should secure to distinct races the opportunity of being tried by those of their own race. The principle of the Bill is, in my view, the opposite of what it should be.

4. I consider that the principle followed in the existing procedure, of allowing European British subjects to be tried only by those of their own race, should not be departed from, unless it is shown to produce public inconvenience or injustice.

5. As regards the question of administrative inconvenience arising in the present or future from the exclusion of Native Covenanted Civilians from the power of trying European British subjects on criminal charges, I can reply, as regards the district now in my charge, that there is at present no Native Covenanted Civilian in it; but if hereafter one should be placed in charge of the district, not having the power to try Europeans, I feel confident that no substantial inconvenience will arise, since the district is connected directly by railway with other districts, in one or other of which there will always be a Justice of the Peace to whom any European may be sent for trial, or who may come to this place for the purpose.

6. I think that some slight alteration might be made, authorising the intermediate detention of an European British subject in the jail of the district of the Magistrate who issues the warrant; but, excepting any such alteration, I would deprecate any change in the existing procedure.

Dated 26th April 1883.

From—BABU RAM SUNKER SEN, Deputy Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs,

To—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

With reference to your memorandum No. 11JJ., dated the 2nd April last, I have the honour to submit in brief my views on the Native Jurisdiction Bill.

First as to the principle of the Bill.

I think that, in introducing the present Bill, the Legislature proposes partially to carry out the broad principles laid down in the various Acts of Parliament as noted in the margin, enunciating the fact that "fitness was henceforth to be the criterion of eligibility" to the public service, and that distinctions of race and creed were to be ignored. As a result of this policy, several Natives of India, trained under the system of high education introduced in the country in the reign of Lord William Bentinck, which was improved upon under the

(*a*) 3 and 4 William IV, clause 85, section 87.
(*b*) Parliamentary Discussions in 1853, for throwing appointments in the Civil Service to open competition.
(*c*) 21 and 22 Victoria, clause 106, section 32.
(*d*) Her Majesty's Proclamation issued in 1858.

Great Education Despatch of 1854, secured for themselves appointments in the Covenanted Civil Service, in open competition in England; and it is with a view to invest these gentlemen with the powers which, under the Criminal Procedure Code of 1872, re-enacted in 1882, they cannot at present exercise over European British subjects in the mofussil, that the present Bill has been mainly brought. The legal disqualification under which they at present labour has been regarded by the educated portion of my countrymen as opposed to the declared policy of the Imperial Legislature, and the removal of the ban will tend to prove that the Indian Government is no longer willing that it should continue in the statute-book. The fitness of the Native Covenanted Civil Servants being admitted, there is no reason why, as District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, they should not be allowed to try European British subjects, while in the subordinate posts they will share that privilege in common with their European compeers, when they have attained the requisite experience.

I cannot, however, speak with the same confidence regarding the Native Civil Servants appointed under the Statutory Rules, as, from the system of nomination at present in vogue, I do not feel convinced that most of them possess the necessary qualifications to exercise the powers which the Bill proposes to invest them with.

2. Then, as to whether or not any administrative inconvenience at present exists from the exclusion of Native Covenanted Civil Servants from the power of trying European British subjects in criminal charges, I think that Government is in a better position to judge on this question than any outsider; but if, when the District Magistracy of Jessore fell vacant, Government had to move the European Magistrate of Bogra to make room for Mr. Dutt or Mr. Badshah, whose turn for a district magistracy had arrived; or if, when in consequence of Mr. Gupta's being Sessions Judge of Beerbhoom, a European criminal has to be tried at Moorshedabad, I would reckon such cases as causing not only administrative, but public inconvenience.

Dated 20th April 1883.

From—NAWAB ABDUL LUTEEF, C.I.E., Deputy Magistrate of Sealdah,

To—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your memorandum No. 11JJ., dated the 2nd instant, forwarding copy of a letter No. 1518J., dated the 27th ultimo, from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Judicial Department, to your address, as well as a copy of the Bill No. 8 of 1883, being "A Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects," and asking me to report, for the information of the local Government, my views in connection therewith. The matter is one of great importance and difficulty, and cannot require too much of thought and deliberation. I have made most of the time allotted for the reply, and I trust that any deficiencies in this report may be excused.

2. The principle of the Bill, I take it, is this: that the fitness of a Judge to exercise jurisdiction in criminal cases should be tried, not by his race, but by his personal qualifications. The Sovereign and the Parliament of the United Kingdom have oft declared their intention to remove all distinctions of race or creed in the matter of all offices under the British administration in India; and every rule or regulation which forbids a Native of India to exercise any portion of the duties of his office merely on account of his nationality is, in my humble view, an infringement of the spirit, if not the letter, of the said declarations of the highest authorities in this Empire.

3. It has been said that such anomalies are common enough in India, where various classes of the Native communities have peculiar and personal laws and privileges; but when all these Native privileges are summed up and analysed, it will, I submit, be plain that none of them entitles a Native to select the tribunal in which a case in which he is concerned should be tried. The personality of the Judge or Magistrate is a thing wholly out of the pale of Native privileges, and the so-called privileges are mostly the result of the declared policy of Government not to interfere with the religion or social customs of the people of this country which latter are again often intimately connected with their religion. Further, it will be found that few, if any, of these privileges are recognized in the criminal procedure, however much they might be in the civil procedure.

4. The change which the Bill proposes to introduce will affect only a small fraction of the privileges already possessed by European British subjects in criminal matters,—for instance, it would leave unaffected their right of appeal against every sentence, and their right to apply to the High Court for a writ of *Habeas Corpus*, which are very substantial advantages, from which the Natives of India are debarred, and of which the former is not enjoyed by European British subjects in any other country, inclusive of their own.

5. I believe there is no country whose laws and regulations would be deemed worthy of imitation, where the jurisdiction of Judges in civil or criminal cases is circumscribed by reason of their place of birth or their nationality. Such distinctions, I believe, are not recognised in the other colonies of the British Empire.

6. I may here be permitted to remark that, to a certain extent, the Bill under consideration only seeks to remove invidious distinctions of recent growth. Before 1869, Government had the power of appointing any person, whom they considered fit, as Justice of the Peace

in the Mofussil. And every Justice of the Peace, of whatever nationality, had, by virtue of his office, jurisdiction to try European British subjects for petty offences, and to commit them to the High Court sessions for serious crimes. I myself have held the appointment of a Justice of the Peace for Alipore Police Court European British subjects for many years. In 1869,* it was enacted that only Europeans or Covenanted Civil Servants should hold the appointment of Justice of the Peace in the Mofussil. The Native Members of the Covenanted Civil Service would still, however, have continued to be eligible for the appointment of Justice of the Peace, and the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such capacity, but for Act X of 1872, by which it was further enacted that only Europeans who were Justices of the Peace could try or commit European British subjects.

* Act II of 1869.

7. That Act, whilst it took away from the native members of the Covenanted Civil Service the eligibility for trying European British subjects in the official capacity of Justices of the Peace, increased the jurisdiction of certain European officers in the mofussil for the trial of European British subjects. It was admitted on all hands, at that time, that it was a great administrative inconvenience that European offenders in the mofussil could not be speedily and conveniently tried within a reasonable distance of time and space. "There is, no doubt," said Mr. Fitz-James Stephen,† "one way in which the present system is a great and real grievance to the natives. It extends practical impunity to English wrongdoers." "The difficulty," said Mr. Barrow Ellis, "attending the conviction, in the mofussil, of offenders, being European British subjects, was admitted to be a great evil, and the question was how to remove the evil without risk of injustice being done to those concerned." "The exigencies of the time," said Mr. W. Robinson, "clearly call for an extension of the jurisdiction of up-country Justices of the Peace in respect to the trial and punishment of European British offenders; and the Committee adopted this view." His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal (Sir George Campbell) remarked, during the course of the said Debate, that "he entirely acquiesced in the general view of the case which was put forward by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. As he truly stated, the real and practical evil was that, at present, Europeans in the mofussil committed petty offences with impunity. That had been found to be a practical evil, and these provisions were designed to meet that evil as far as it was possible to meet it."

† *Vide* Proceedings of the Legislative Council of India, dated 16th April 1872.

8. The number of Europeans in the country has increased since 1872, and I venture to think that administrative inconvenience of the same description is sure to be felt in districts or divisions of districts which might be under the charge of Native Sessions Judges or Magistrates, whether as members of the Covenanted Civil Service or as members of the Statutory Native Civil Service.

9. To transfer the particular class of cases to subordinate officers of European nationality would produce administrative inconvenience of another character. To declare a superior officer disqualified from performing a part of his official functions, and relegate the same to a subordinate officer on the ground of a mere distinction of race or nationality, would substantially lower the prestige of the superior officer in his own eyes and in the eyes of the people at large, and would be well calculated to disturb the discipline of the administration, and diminish his usefulness as a public servant.

10. The native members of the Covenanted Civil Service have so completely adopted the English habits of life and thought, that they may, for all practical purposes, be treated as European British subjects. Indeed the definition of the term "European British subject" in the Criminal Procedure Code is so artificial that the native members of the Covenanted Civil Service can, without any great stretch of ideas, be brought in within the spirit of that definition. To the mass of the native public, these gentlemen are not distinguishable from the class of European British subjects as defined in the Act; and the Executive and the Legislature should also, in my humble opinion, on the question of jurisdiction, treat them as such.

11. There remains the question of the Native Civil Service constituted under the Statute 33 Victoria, cap. 3. The members of that Service already suffer much in prestige and public estimation on account of the diminished salaries that they draw; and to exclude them as a class from exercising any jurisdiction over European British subjects would still more seriously diminish their prestige and usefulness. The Native Civil Service would in such case be hardly distinguishable, for many years to come, from the ordinary Subordinate Executive Service.

12. To retain the present race disqualifications would always hamper the Government in placing a Native of India in charge of a District as Magistrate, where there is no European Joint-Magistrate, or as Sessions Judge where there is no European Assistant Session Judge. The Native Members of the Covenanted Civil Service have, some of them, already attained rank as District Magistrate and Sessions Judge, and in time the members of the Native Civil Service are also expected to attain similar rank in the Service. The inconvenience, therefore, to the public administration will go on increasing, unless the race distinctions are removed.

13. I may be permitted to add, in conclusion, that, so far as my own official experience is concerned, I have exercised criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects, as a matter of right, in my capacity of Justice of the Peace for Bengal, Behar, and Orissa from

1852 to 1869, and in 1877, during my incumbency as Officiating Presidency Magistrate for the Northern Division of Calcutta. I have also, since 1872, as Police Magistrate in the Suburban Courts of Alipore and Sealdah, exercised criminal jurisdiction in numerous cases over European British subjects, where they have waived their privilege of being tried by a European Magistrate. I venture humbly to trust that, during the entire period of my long official career, no complaint has ever been made, much less substantiated, that there has been any failure of justice, in the case of any European sentenced by me, on account of his being tried by a Native Magistrate.

No. 710JG, dated 30th April 1883.

From—W. V. G. TAYLER, Esq., Magistrate of Nuddea,

To—The Commissioner of the Presidency Division.

With reference to your memorandum No. 11J.J., dated 2nd April 1883, forwarding a circular of the Bengal Government regarding the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, I have the honor to forward the opinions of my Sub-divisional Officers, the Joint-Magistrate and senior Deputy Magistrate at the Sudder, which speak for themselves. The principle of the Bill is to remove an alleged anomaly and certain supposed administrative inconveniences that exist or hereafter are likely to exist. As regards the first, however, it seems to me that the proposed Bill, while removing such anomaly, retains various others which are of equal, if not of more importance. It vests native civilians with powers that Native Magistrates have hitherto never enjoyed, and which, in my opinion, they are not fitted for, while it debars, in future, Uncovenanted European Magistrates, a class of officers who are fitted for, and who I believe have proved themselves fit to be Justices of the Peace, from holding such powers. It, moreover, takes away a long-existing and deeply-cherished privilege of the European community, but in no way interferes with privileges and personal laws enjoyed by the Hindus and Mussulmen; and finally, the effect of such measures is certain to create a feeling of insecurity in the minds of the European communities, and thereby in all probability considerably affect the investment of European capital, and arouse feelings of race antagonism which cannot but be disastrous.

2. As regards the second point, I beg to state that, during the course of my long service no administrative inconvenience has ever been experienced, nor do I think such is likely to occur. District Magistrates, as a rule, never try original cases, except in small outlying stations, and even in such there could, I take it, be no difficulty in appointing at least an Uncovenanted European Deputy Magistrate with full powers, and with those of a Justice of the Peace. So far, then, from Native Civilians being kept out of the larger and more important stations, the effect would be, if any, quite the reverse. Committals of Europeans to the Sessions Court are of such very rare occurrence (I cannot call to mind one such during my service of 27 years) that I scarcely think that such need be taken into consideration.

3. I fully concur with Mr. Ritchie that the right of Europeans should be at least respected as far as to ensure them a fair trial by the best Judges procurable, but I differ from that officer in considering that Native Civilians who have passed in England should be vested with powers to try *only* ordinary European cases. If they are not competent to try all European cases, I think it would be a great political mistake to bring about the results above named merely for the sake of partially removing the anomaly.

4. The experience of Mr. Holmwood confirms that which I have from the first considered to be more than probable, *viz.*, that Native Civilians in England are not likely to be introduced into good society, and even if now and then so introduced, that they could not spare time from their studies to become thoroughly acquainted with the social habits and customs of the people.

5. As regard other Native Civilians, I agree with Mr. Ritchie that there exists no reasonable grounds for supposing that they are competent for these powers, and I concur with Baboo Rakhal Das Mookerjea that there are many Deputy Magistrates of experience and tried ability, who ought with better reason to be so vested, and that, so long as the latter are considered unfit, as they apparently are, I fail to see on what grounds the former are considered to be qualified.

No. X, dated 23rd April 1883.

From—J. G. RITCHIE, Esq., Offg. Joint-Magistrate, Kishnaghur,

To—The Magistrate and Collector of Nuddea.

With reference to your memorandum No. 586JG, dated the 6th instant, forwarding a circular of the Bengal Government regarding the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, I have the honour to submit the following statement of my views on the points noted in the circular.

2. In the first place as to the principle of the Bill. Ought the privilege claimed by the European British subject, to be tried by his own fellow-countrymen, to be respected or not? I think it ought to be respected just so far as this, that he ought to be assured of as fair a trial—a trial as much in accordance with the spirit of English law out in India—as he would get if he were tried at home.

Can we assure him of such a trial at the hands of the Native Magistrates included in the classes specified in section 1 of the Bill?

3. First come the members of the Covenanted Civil Service. These gentlemen have proved their superiority to the prejudices of their fellow-countrymen by breaking caste and going home; in England they have familiarised themselves with the practice and the spirit of English courts of law, and have become conversant with English manners and customs. On their return to this country they hold responsible positions in various districts, and in time are considered fit for promotion to the all-important posts of Magistrate-Collector and Sessions Judge. No stronger proof can be given of their character for probity and loyalty to English rule, and of the fact that they are thoroughly imbued with western as opposed to oriental ideas, than that the Executive Government should be ready to entrust them with the functions of the posts which I have mentioned. I think an Englishman would be as fairly tried by one of this class as he would be by his own countryman, and that, as a class, they are fit to be vested with the proposed jurisdiction at the discretion of the local Government.

4. In giving this opinion, I am thinking of the ordinary class of cases in which an European is likely to stand as accused. There are other cases of rare occurrence, where boh parties are Europeans, in which it is imperative that the Judge should himself be an European British subject: such cases as indecent assault, assaults prompted by suspicion of a wife's fidelity, and matrimonial cases generally. There would be no difficulty in having these cases transferred to the file of the nearest European Magistrate, or a proviso might be inserted in the Bill, to the effect that cases in which both parties are European British subjects should not be tried by a Magistrate other than an European British subject himself, except with the consent of the parties.

5. It may be said that by making this exception I am proving too much, and that, if it is admitted that a Native Civilian is not sufficiently English in habit of thought to try all cases, he is not qualified to try any cases in which Europeans are accused. The experience of every European Magistrate in trying men of another race teaches him that with an ordinary knowledge of native habits and customs he can hope to do justice and give satisfaction to the parties in the great bulk of cases which arise out of the ordinary business of life, but that he is more or less in the dark in the exceptional cases which come before him, involving nice family and social questions. He is only too glad if he has the opportunity of handing over such cases to be tried by a co-religionist of the accused.

6. Coming next to the members of the newly-constituted Native Civil Service, I find none of the guarantees of fitness for trying European British subjects which exist in the case of Covenanted Civilians. They are nominated chiefly on the ground of birth, most of them have never left the country, nor have risen above caste prejudices; they have had no opportunity yet of proving their worth; their only experience of the administration of criminal justice is in the mofussil courts. I think it hardly possible for a Magistrate, bred up in the atmosphere of these courts—the constant scene of wholesale lying, reckless imputation of motives, subornation of perjury, chicanery, and vindictiveness,—to understand the true spirit of English criminal law. I think that as a class, therefore, members of the new Native Civil Service should not be rendered eligible for investment with powers to try European British subjects.

7. Turning from the principle of the Bill to the policy and expediency of making it law, I fear that the race feeling, so deplorable in some aspects, which animates the classes who are most likely to figure in the courts as accused, would prevent them from respecting the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates. As is well known, there is no European criminal class in the mofussil. The classes mentioned consist of (*a*) those of an inferior social position, such as railway *employés*, seamen, store-keepers; (*b*) planters and large employers of native labour. Every severe sentence passed by a Native Magistrate on a member of these classes would, I believe, raise a storm of that race feeling which it is so undesirable to stir up, and of obloquy against the unfortunate sentencing Magistrate, while the same sentence passed by an European would, if grumbled at a little, be acquiesced in. In other words, I think the occasional lawlessness of independent Europeans can be far better controlled by the authority of members of their own race, than by giving jurisdiction to natives of this country, and that the jurisdiction of the latter is open to the fatal objection that it would not command the respect of the accused.

8. Those who have been educated at our public schools, where the prefectorial system is in force, will understand the analogy when I say that, if the present Bill is passed, there is likely to prevail in places the same state of things which sometimes occurs when, by right of cleverness, a youthful and puny set of boys hold the position of præposters or præfects. Their authority is defined by the big stupid fellows in the lower forms, who bully the little boys, disregard the punishments by which their youthful superiors attempt to re-assert their authority, and which have a tendency to be inordinately light or inordinately severe, and finally by open resistance cause the authority of the headmaster to be invoked.

9. Coming lastly to the question of administrative convenience. Looking back to the occasions on which I have had to try a European British subject, and considering what would have taken place if I had not been empowered as a Justice of the Peace, I can only recall two cases in which any administrative inconvenience would have resulted from the parties having to travel to a more distant court. In each case they would have had to travel about 20 more miles each way.

Dated 28th April 1883.

From—Baboo Tarini Kumar Ghose, Deputy Magistrate of Nuddea,

To—The Magistrate of Nuddea.

With reference to your memorandum No. 586JG, dated the 6th instant, and subsequent reminder, I have the honor to submit the following opinion on the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill.

2. The principle of the Bill, *viz.*, the removal of judicial disqualification based merely on race distinction, is one in consonance with the declared liberal policy of Government.

3. Natives who are thought fit to be appointed to the high office of a Sessions Judge or a District Magistrate may be presumed to be fit to try European British subjects. Section 2 of the Bill, therefore, appears to be appropriate.

4. As regards the other native officers mentioned in section 1 of the Bill, the investment of them with the power to try European British subjects is left to the discretion of the Executive Government, and thus there is little risk of that power being conferred on incompetent officers.

5. As to the question whether any administrative inconvenience at present arises, or is likely to arise in future, from the exclusion of Native Covenanted Civilians from the power of trying European British subjects, I do not venture to express any opinion.

No. 242G, dated 12th April 1883.

From—P. G. Melitus, Esq., Assistant Magistrate of Kushtea,

To—The Magistrate of Nuddea.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your momorandum No. 586JG, asking for an expression of my opinion on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The object of the Bill is to remove the alleged administrative inconvenience felt, or likely to be felt, from the exclusion of Native District Magistrates and Sessions Judges from the power of trying European British subjects on criminal charges.

There are two questions on which my opinion is asked—

1. Is any administrative difficulty felt, or likely to be felt, under the present system ?
2. Is the principle of the Bill good ?

The second question, in my opinion, depends on the first: the negative of the first carries with it the negative of the second.

The Bill is prospective. There are at present only two or three native officers in Bengal who are in a position to be District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, but it is said that in a few years the number will increase, and then the inconvenience will be felt.

There is a certain amount of inconvenience arising from the fact that all Magistrates of sub-divisions are not empowered to try European British subjects; but as European officers may be, and as a matter of fact always are, appointed to districts and sub-divisions where charges against Europeans are likely to be at all numerous, the inconvenience is slight. The Bill, moreover, does not propose to remove this. The argument that Native Civilians are, under the present law, shut out from the advanced districts into which European capital has been introduced, does not support the principle of the Bill. These districts are sought after by European officers on account of the society; but a native finds society wherever he goes, and it seems to me that no supposed benefit to the few native officers concerned would be sufficient grounds for a material alteration like this in the law.

I do not see what difficulty can arise from the fact of a Native District Magistrate being unable to try European British subjects. A District Magistrate is not, as a rule, a judicial officer: in fact it is my experience that he tries as few cases as he possibly can. The Joint or other European officer under him would be fully able to deal with all the charges against Europeans. It is said that there are many districts in which there is no Joint-Magistrate; but these are chiefly the backward districts in which there are no non-official Europeans or very few, and where there is small likelihood of European British subjects being charged with criminal offences.

With respect to Sessions Judges, the case is different, and I admit that some little inconvenience might be felt by seekers after justice if a large proportion of Sessions Judges were natives. As the law at present stands, some inconvenience is felt from the fact that a Sessions Judge's powers over European British subjects are limited to one year's imprisonment, and in serious cases the parties are put to the trouble and expense of going to the High Court. But charges of this kind against Europeans in the mofussil are, I believe, very rare, and hence the inconvenience is slight. I do not think that any serious additional inconvenience would be experienced if Native Sessions Judges remain excluded from jurisdiction over European British subjects, because—

First.—A Sessions Judge, who is himself an European British subject, could easily be appointed to districts where there are many Europeans.

Secondly.—The number of cases triable by a Court of Sessions, that is, which cannot adequately be punished with three months' imprisonment, and which do not require a heavier

penalty than one year's imprisonment, must necessarily be few. The vast majority of charges against Europeans are of trifling offences, which can be disposed of by a Justice of the Peace.

Thirdly.—Except in the Sudder Sub-division and the parts adjacent to it, it does not follow that the parties would be put to any greater trouble or expense in going to the next district than to the sudder station of their own district. The people of Kushtea think far less of going to Pubna than to Kishnaghur; the people of the Ranaghat would find it no hardship to go to Alipore; the people of Culna can more easily get to Kishnaghur than to Burdwan; and endless other instances might be given. Means of communication are easy now-a-days, at least in Bengal, and railways are being rapidly introduced into the backward parts, into Eastern Bengal and Assam. Facilities for locomotion will be considerably increased by the time that any large number of natives get to be Sessions Judges. Thus—

(1). There is very little administrative inconvenience in the law as it at present stands.

(2). The inconvenience is not likely to increase to any serious extent in the future so as to warrant a change in the law in the face of the strong feeling against it.

No doubt public feeling has been misled by the prevailing excitement. The general idea, so far as we can judge from its expression, seems to be that the new powers are to be conferred on all Native Magistrates, and not only on Native Civilians. But there is this much justification for the present agitation, that the Bill proposes to give these powers to the members of the Native Civil Service who are men of the same class, qualifications, and disqualifications as the native members of the Subordinate Services.

There seems to me an essential difference between the native members of the Covenanted and Statutory Civil Services. The former class have been to England, gone through a course of European training, and mixed more or less in European society in England and at the stations to which they have been posted out here; so that they may fairly be supposed to have thrown off native prejudices, and to have acquired some knowledge of the habits and customs of Europeans. But there is no guarantee that members of the Native Civil Service will be free from the influence of native feelings and prejudices, or will have anything in common with European thoughts and feelings, so that they would not be in a position to form a correct opinion of the conduct and actions of Europeans.

The principal classes of Europeans outside cantonments likely to be affected by the Bill, are (1) planters, (2) steamer captains, railway servants, &c., (3) loafers. Leaving out of consideration the last class, with whom a Native Magistrate would probably be far more lenient than an European, we find that planters and railway servants have unanimously expressed their disapproval of the Bill. And I agree with them in thinking that a Native Magistrate would be an unsafe judge of their actions. Native feeling is strong against planters, who have generally some sort of dispute with neighbouring zemindars and ryots, and I think there is danger of a Native Magistrate with the very best intentions, but ignorant of the ways and habits of Europeans, being misled by the prevailing prejudice against them. As to railway servants, &c., they are a class with whom the educated native can have no possible community of feeling. A Native Magistrate with native habits and ideas would, I think, be hard put to fathom the thoughts and ways of the British guard or driver or skipper.

The other portions of the Bill need no comment. The above remarks apply to Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces. A Cantonment Magistrate would naturally always be an European British subject.

I am thus of opinion (1) that the Bill is unnecessary; (2) that if it is to become law its operation, so far as regards natives, should be limited to members of the Covenanted Civil Service only.

No. 105, dated 27th April 1883.

From—H. Holmwood, Esq., c. s., Assistant Magistrate of Meherpore,

To—The Magistrate of Nuddea.

With reference to your No. 586J.G., dated 6th instant, I have the honour to report as follows.

2. I regard the proposed amendment in the Code of Criminal Procedure with alarm and distrust.

The various arguments against it have been so clearly enunciated by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Sir James Fitz-James Stephen, Sir Louis Jackson, Mr. Evans, Mr. Miller, and others, that it would be presumption in me to reiterate them in my own language. It is sufficient for me to state here that every European and many Natives in my sub-division fully agree with me that those arguments are unanswerable; and as I have seen no attempt to answer them anywhere, I conclude that is the general opinion.

3. With regard to the proposed change as it affects my own sub-division and personal experience, I have the honour to add as follows.

I have spoken with many of the European inhabitants of this district, who consist of clergymen of the Church Missionary Society and zemindars, and their opinion is unanimously

against the Bill. The younger men among them are already seriously thinking of leaving this country and trying a new career in Canada or Australia. The older face the proposed change with steady and calm opposition, as likely to imperil the Empire and their own livelihood. The missionaries, after full consultation with the people, report that the general body of the public prefer a European to a Native Magistrate even in the trial of Natives, and that they regard this Bill, not as an act of justice to the Native members of the Civil Service, but as a personal blow at the status and privileges of an Englishman. My own experience bears this out. Not only have I received constant applications to try cases myself when they have been referred to Native Magistrates, but objections have, on several occasions, been made to the trial of cases by the Bench in which I personally preside.

These applications have been based on a fear of the miscarriage of justice, and I have uniformly rejected them as derogatory to the authority by which such benches were set up; but the existence of the feeling of mistrust among the people cannot be doubted.

With regard to administrative inconvenience none exists. There are numbers of available European officers, and Deputy Magistrates are excluded in the proposed change. This sub-division, too, has always been under the authority of a European Magistrate for political reasons, and it could never be safe to put it into the hands of a Native Magistrate, however honourable and upright. There is such an utter disregard for truth, and such power of combination to bring false cases in this sub-division, that the few Europeans in the place would be utterly unable to stand against a succession of such cases, unless the Magistrate was one who understood European motives and feelings intimately. I have been trained with some of the gentlemen who represent the Native Civil Service in India, as also with some of the unsuccessful candidates, and I can confidently state that they do not, and cannot, understand the moral standpoint of Europeans with regard to questions of insult, provocation, and the like, but above all with regard to women. I have seen a native gentleman of the Service bring a European female of inferior rank—in fact a shop-girl—into the English law courts when he came to report cases, and show surprise that his English companions objected to associate with her on terms of equality. A Bayswater lodging-house and an occasional visit to an English theatre or music hall is not the best school for studying the morality and social characteristics of Englishmen; and as to Englishwomen, it must be laid down once for all that with the exception of a certain class, they are as a sealed book to the young candidate visiting England from this country. I admit that Indian noblemen and orators visiting England are admitted superficially to good English society; but in my experience, the candidates for the Civil Service of India are invariably relegated to Bayswater lodging-houses, and see nothing but the worst side of London life. I have seen many native gentlemen, who have never been in England in their lives, much more capable of appreciating English character and entering into English views than the gentlemen who have gone to England merely to read for the Indian Civil Services.

It may without exaggeration be stated that where an English candidate works eight hours a day, a native will work 16, and those who have seen the indefatigable perseverance of the native candidates at their books—a perseverance which is absolutely necessary to their success, owing to the examination being carried on in a foreign tongue—will readily admit that they can have had little or no time to study English character and morality.

I have enlarged on this topic, because it has fallen within my own observation and experience.

The argument of the injustice done to the native members of the Service, as also that of administrative inconvenience, has been so thoroughly canvassed elsewhere that I do not further enlarge upon it, except to state that, in my opinion, the trial of a fellow-creature is a heavy responsibility and not a privilege, and that all those who seek it as a privilege show themselves, by that very act, incapable of judicial impartiality. Every prisoner has a right to the best Judge procurable, and it cannot be pretended that Native Civilians are as good judges of the motives of European actions as Europeans, and even were they as good judges, the fact that the European public object to their jurisdiction is enough to weaken their hands, bias their minds, and render them inferior to a court in which the prisoner has perfect confidence.

No. 313, dated 12th April 1883.

From—Baboo Rakhal Das Mukherji, Deputy Magistrate of Chooadanga,

To—The Magistrate of Nuddea.

With reference to your memorandum No. 586 J.G., dated the 6th instant, endorsed on the Government letter No. 1518 J. of the 27th ultimo, on the subject of the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects on the part of the Native Magistrates who are members of the Covenanted Civil Service, and of other officers, I have the honour to state that the principle of the Bill published by the Government of India appears to aim at the removal of the invidious distinction between the European and Native Magistrates, who are equally with the highest judicial powers and functions, and admitted into the Covenanted Civil Service, they should still be held disqualified from being Justices of the Peace, or of exercising jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the presidency towns, where they at present exercise that jurisdiction. This principle is, no doubt, a laudable one; but I humbly submit whether all members of the Covenanted Civil Service, excepting, perhaps, one or two only, or the members of the Native Civil Service, constituted under the rules passed by the Government of India lately, would be competent enough to exercise jurisdiction over the Europeans in the interior, where too many cases would be instituted if once a door is opened for such institutions. The Indian Native Civil Servants are, as a body, all junior to many Deputy Magistrates in the line, and are less experienced also. If the latter are considered incompetent to try European British subjects, how much more force can be added to the argument that the former are necessarily incompetent to take up the trial. The subject, however, is a very large and important one, and it would be presumptuous on my part to offer any opinion or advance any argument or discussion on the principle of the Bill. This I must leave to far abler and superior hands.

With regard to the second question asked by the Government, I beg leave to state that no practical difficulty or administrative inconvenience whatever has arisen or been felt, or likely to be felt in the future, by not investing the native Magistrates with the powers in question. In the face of such large agitation against the Bill, which touches upon the long-existing privilege of European gentlemen of being tried by their own countrymen only, I see no reason whatever to pass the Bill into law, especially as, under its provisions, a very few persons only would be invested with the powers. This number of Magistrates would be so small, taking the whole interior outside the presidency town, that they would not be at all missed in the reckoning of magisterial officers for the trial of offenders. During my long service in the present line for nearly twenty-three years, I did not find a single case in any district, wherever I went, in which inconvenience or difficulty was experienced from paucity of competent Magistrates to try a European British subject. The matter may therefore be left alone for the present. There is no need whatever, in order to invest five or six officers only, throughout the Province of Bengal, with the necessary powers, to pass a law against the opposition of as many thousands, or even more.

No. 339, dated 19th April 1883.

From—Babu Ram Churn Bose, Sub-Divisional Officer, Ranaghat,

To—The Magistrate of Nuddea.

With reference to your memorandum No. 586 J.G., dated 6th instant, I beg to state for your information that, so far as regards the removal of an anomaly in the Code, the amendment proposed is desirable.

Gradually, as native covenanted officers rise in grades, and obtain charge of districts as Magistrates, administrative inconvenience is likely to arise.

I am unable to state as to whether or not the alteration proposed is presently expedient.

Note on the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill by C. C. Stevens, Esq., *Offg. Magistrate, 24-Purganas, dated 30th April 1883.*

The Government of India "has decided to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code at once, and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions."

At this somewhat advanced stage, the public are taken into the confidence of Government, and Government servants are consulted and invited to express their opinions. The subject to be dealt with would be difficult and delicate under any circumstances; it is especially so when the writer feels that he is not assisting in the formation of a judgment, but confirming or contending against a judgment already formed. Unfortunately I feel it my duty to take the latter part. I will give my reasons briefly, and I trust that, in nothing which I may say I shall be deemed to show any want of respect towards those above me, who are already committed to opinions differing from mine.

The Bill, prepared in accordance with the policy disclosed in the Statement of Objects and Reasons (from which I began by making a quotation), would level race distinctions in three ways—

First, it would confer a jurisdiction (not at this time possessed) over European British subjects upon selected natives who are—(*a*) members of the Covenanted Civil Service; (*b*) members of the Native Civil Service, constituted under the Statute 33 Vic., cap. 3; (*c*)* Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces.

Secondly, it would confer that jurisdiction, as a matter of course, on all native Sessions Judges and District Magistrates.

Thirdly, it would deprive Government of the power which it now has of appointing as a Justice of the Peace any European British subject who either is not an official or is unofficial, but is not (*a*) a Covenanted Civil Servant, (*b*) an Assistant Commissioner in a Non-Regulation Province, or (*c*) a Cantonment Magistrate.

* I take no account of the fact that natives might, if the Bill were to pass into law, be eligible as Cantonment Magistrates to try British subjects; for it is obvious that only British officers should be made Cantonment Magistrates: nevertheless, it must be remembered that a Cantonment Magistrate is subordinate to the Magistrate of the district, who could always (whether he be a Native or a European) withdraw a case from his file, and place it on his own.

On the first and second of these points, I think the alterations suggested are at least premature; and on the third point I regard the proposed changes as entirely wrong and unjustifiable.

It will, I trust, be needless for me to repudiate any sympathy with the harsh, not to say cruel, expressions of race feeling which have been uttered in the course of the public discussions. I consider them to be as impolitic as they are ungenerous. No one could serve for 20 years among the people engaged in attempting to administer justice or to improve their material condition, without feeling the strongest desire for the advancement of their race; but I maintain that these sentiments are perfectly compatible with due caution, and with respect to the interests and opinions of our own countrymen. It is idle to say that only those are true friends of the natives who will assert their fitness for complete political equality with Englishmen. It is neither right nor wise to endow them with qualities and capabilities which they do not possess, or to be blind to their defects—defects which arise in the main from causes which they cannot control.

It is worthy of note that the framers of the Bill have admitted in the clearest terms their opinion of the unfitness of native officers generally to try European British subjects; for they do not propose to confer jurisdiction on any uncovenanted native officer, however able, judicious, experienced and competent he may be. That there may be no race distinctions, the Government refuses to allow jurisdiction to European officers of a class which has hitherto had it; and private English gentlemen may not be made Justices of the Peace, because the Government cannot utilize native gentlemen in that manner! When I say that no native uncovenanted officer is to have jurisdiction, I refer to the Regulation Provinces; for according to the Bill, a man, unfit as a Deputy Magistrate to try Europeans in a Regulation District, is fit to try them as an Assistant Commissioner in a Non-Regulation District, where he is more likely to be thrown on his own resources, and less liable to be controlled by public opinion!

The Government, then, by excluding the great body of uncovenanted officers, has admitted the general unfitness of the natives for the powers to be conferred by the Bill; and it is, it seems to me, incumbent on the advocates of the measure to show that there are strong reasons for making the distinction in favour of particular classes: for this distinction will be the cause of severe jealousies and heart-burnings among the classes shut out, and the existence of such feelings as these will be an evil of no small magnitude, sufficient to outweigh, it may be, even considerable advantages.

It is now necessary to see why it is inexpedient to confer jurisdiction of the kind contemplated on the native officers generally. It is inexpedient, partly because they have not the necessary qualifications, and partly because they will not command the confidence of the class to be brought into their power. To do justice, something more than a wish to do justice is necessary; and it is cruelty to send an accused person, especially if he be innocent, to be tried by a court in which he has no faith. For a man to sit equitably in judgment over another, it is requisite that he shall be capable of understanding his motives and the springs of his action; he must be able to test the truth of evidence by his own knowledge of the customs and modes of thought of the class to which the accused belongs. Such knowledge is to be gained, not to any great extent from books, but by the habit of daily life. Now the natives of this country differ from us widely in religion, manners, tastes and sentiments, and especially in domestic life; as yet they have mixed with us so little that they are not able to comprehend and allow for those differences. I wish strongly to urge as a disqualification the ignorance of English domestic life, for it appears to me impossible that a person, not well informed in this respect, could do justice in a difficult case to an Englishman. It would be astonishing indeed if, notwithstanding these disadvantages, a native Magistrate should desire to undertake the trial of European cases! And, as a fact, I know very well that the Native Deputy Magistrates have at present no such desire.

The retort is obvious that, if this be true of natives trying Europeans, it is equally true of Europeans trying natives; and this retort is not without reason. I myself (and I am sure every other European Magistrate has had similar experience) has very frequently felt the enormous disadvantage of the want of a thorough knowledge of the manners and customs of the people, and I cannot confidently say that ignorance has never led me into injustice. Every European Magistrate must feel this; and I know that in practice an attempt is made to select native Magistrates for the trial of cases involving minute knowledge of native habits. But our case as regards natives is different from that of native Magistrates as regards Europeans. Say what we will, and disguise it as we may, the English are dominant in India; and though individual natives may rise to high positions by their talents and virtues, English officers must, for a long time to come, form the backbone of our administration; and however much we may now and then be at fault, through ignorance or even prejudice, the frequency with which English Magistrates are asked to take up cases themselves, or to refer them to their English subordinates, shows that the people on the whole have confidence in them.

That Europeans have not the same confidence in native officers as a class is due, partly to the defects in the latter, which I have pointed out, and partly to defects in the former themselves. If we, who spend our lives among the people and come into contact with them in so many ways, know but little of their manners and feelings, what can be expected of the

unofficial Europeans generally, especially of those of the lower classes, such as are most likely to be affected by this Bill? Race feeling and race prejudices are much stronger among them than with us, and misunderstandings are far more likely to occur in their case than in ours. It is impossible to ignore these feelings and to legislate as if they had no existence.

There is another point which I think is not to be lost sight of, and that is that race feeling is by no means confined to the Europeans. Comparatively little, certainly not unreasonably much, of it exists among the old school of natives in Bengal; but it is impossible not to see that it is very openly, and sometimes offensively, displayed by the younger men. Whenever a case occurs in which a native is on one side and a European is on the other, this feeling appears to be aroused. I could without difficulty name many instances, but I will take one of the latest—the Patna case—in which a European officer was fiercely and unanimously assailed by writers of a certain class for doing his duty in the cause of law and order, which were defied by a contumacious native. The strongest language was used while the case was pending, and no means were left untried of inducing the Government to abandon the officer to the agitators. Had a native Magistrate been in charge of the district, and supported his subordinates, as it was his duty in this instance to do, no words would have been too strong to express the anger of his countrymen. I know, from my own experience, how painful an agitation of this kind can be to a European officer whose study it has been to be a friend of his people; but a European officer can resist such pressure. Is it likely to be so with a native? The pressure will be ten times harder for him, for he will be aware that, if his decision be in favour of the Englishman, he will be regarded as a traitor to his country, and will be told so in no measured language. I do not mean to say that I consider these agitators to be necessarily dishonest, but I do say that an impulsive spirit of partisanship is one extremely common in Bengal, and that until the leaders of native thought show themselves less imbued with it, and more sober and just, they are not the people to have jurisdiction over the lives and liberties of their alien conquerors.

Whether these are the reasons which have led the Government to abstain from giving the jurisdiction to the great body of the native Magistrates, I do not know; they seem to me to be cogent enough to justify the policy.

And now I come to the exceptional classes provided for by the Bill. I have already pointed out that there is even less reason for giving the powers to Assistant Commissioners than to Deputy Magistrates. There remain the ordinary covenanted civilians and the statutory civilians. I cannot imagine what real distinction in their favour there is between these latter gentlemen and the Deputy Magistrates, except in name and in the opportunities which even the worst of them will have of rising to higher rank. Unlike the covenanted officers, these men have made no sacrifices, have displayed no energy, have had no opportunity of studying English life and manners, and there is not the slightest guarantee even of their intellectual ability. I have had some means of forming an estimate, for I have had as my assistants two of the covenanted officers and an equal number of the statutory civilians. I do not wish to go out of my way to write harshly of the latter; I will only say that they are not, and never will, or can be comparable to the former. I look upon the appointment of these statutory civilians as a deliberate sacrifice of efficiency to the policy of ensuring that a certain number of natives shall hold appointments in the Civil Service. While I gladly welcome to the Service those natives who have struggled for their appointments, and have gained them by merit, I do not think that the responsibility of governing large tracts of country in accordance with English ideas should ever be made over to men whose only notions of those ideas are to be gathered from a superficial acquaintance with books, and from the very slight social intercourse with Englishmen which is available to them here.

I do not wish to disparage these men needlessly; but I do not hesitate to say that they will not, with rare exceptions, command the respect of their subordinates, whether covenanted or uncovenanted, native or European. If this be so, what confidence can we expect the unofficial European community to have in them? So far as fitness to have jurisdiction over Europeans is concerned, I regard them as less fit, rather than as more fit, than the Deputy Magistrates. In no respect better, they are likely to be worse in one important particular. Educated under unfavourable influences, without knowledge or experience of the world, not subjected to that wholesome discipline which an English school-boy receives from his fellows as well as from his masters, the young man of good family finds himself suddenly raised to the rank of an Indian civilian. If arrogance be sometimes laid to the charge of those who have enjoyed the advantage of a better training, what is to be expected of the statutory civilian? It would be scarcely in human nature that he should not be inflated with a sense of his own importance and dignity; and this, I think, will be admitted to be a very unsuitable frame of mind for a native officer engaged in the peculiarly delicate task of investigating a difficult case against a European, perhaps ignorant and prejudiced, and possessed in a high degree of the pride of race! A grave scandal would be certain in such a case.

It may be said that I am now arguing against the statutory service rather than against the Bill; I am arguing against both, and I have no hesitation in saying that, if it is thought necessary that all native civilians shall be eligible to try Europeans, the system under which native civilians are appointed and trained in this country ought to be abolished, or greatly modified.

I now come to the case of the covenanted officers appointed in the ordinary way. They stand on a very different footing from the class just dealt with. They have shown energy

and enterprise; they have proved their ability and attainments; they are men who would, if they had never left this country, in all probability have attained positions of power and influence; they have spent some three or four years in England; they have mixed in English society, and have measured their strength against that of young Englishmen of their own age. It must be their own fault if they have not acquired some insight into the motives and character of Englishmen, and if their experiences have not increased the breadth of their views of life. So far as these men are personally concerned, I should not object to give them some jurisdiction over Europeans, at any rate by the time they became Judges or District Magistrates; but there are considerations which, in my judgment, ought to make the Legislature hesitate in conferring it.

In the first place, I consider that the present state of feeling among that class of educated natives which controls the press is such that it is not desirable now to extend the jurisdiction of any native over Europeans. I have already alluded to the wild and passionate spirit of partisanship—a marked characteristic of the ordinary Bengali. It leads to "*dola doli*" in almost every village in Bengal, and is now being applied to politics. The very notion of fair play is unknown; the party man is perhaps not consciously unjust, but it seems not to occur to him that his opponent is entitled to justice. A native gentleman, who is inclined to be fair and moderate, does not like to expose himself to the torrents of abuse which would be poured on him in the event of his taking the unpopular side. I will give a single example:—It will be remembered that, immediately after the European meeting at the Town Hall to discuss this Bill, a brief memorial was submitted, urging the Viceroy to proceed with it. This memorial was signed by a few representative men, and, among other statements made in it, was one to the effect that it was quite a mistake to suppose that the natives do not care about the Bill. I had some little conversation on the subject with one of these representative gentlemen, and he assured me that this was not a mistake, and that few natives really do care about the Bill. I have not the least doubt that this gentleman was imparting his real opinions to me, for the Bill could not but be distasteful to him personally; and I believe that, holding these opinions, he attached his signature to the memorial simply because he could not face the invectives which would be hurled at his head by the indiscriminating patriots of the press. I do not think it would be right to expose our native covenanted civilians to risks of this sort. In any case of interest between a native and a European, the native Magistrate or Judge would be in a position of great difficulty. If he decided for the native, unless the case were very clear, his impartiality would be suspected by the European; if he decided for the European, he would be execrated and burned in effigy by his more patriotic countrymen.

Probably some modification of this state of things may be looked for in course of time, and I think I may say that, in one newspaper at least, I have observed a growing disposition to be moderate and fair; but until the educated classes generally can learn self-restraint, I would not give any native in the mofussil criminal jurisdiction over Europeans.

The next point is, that I doubt whether even the covenanted civilians would generally command the confidence of Europeans. They would probably deserve it to a greater extent than they would have it, but this would not alter the fact. The prejudices of natives are regarded, and allowance is made for them whenever it is possible to do so; why should nothing be yielded to the prejudices of Europeans? I need go no further into this consideration, but I think it entitled to great weight.

A third difficulty is, that to make a distinction between the covenanted civilian and the statutory civilian, or the Uncovenanted Deputy Magistrate, would probably lead to much heart-burning and jealousy. So long as the present broad distinction, founded on obvious and, as I think, sound reasons, is maintained between officers who are European British subjects and those who are not, there is no ground for this unpleasant feeling. The native covenanted officer may feel it an anomaly that he has not the powers, in this one respect, which are wielded by his European comrade; but the Deputy Magistrate (perhaps a grey-headed officer who, by distinguished service, has raised himself to be a Member of the Legislative Council) has not the mortification of seeing powers denied to him, but given to the young Magistrate in the covenanted service, or to the statutory civilian, his inferior, perhaps, in every useful quality.

For these reasons, I think it better not to change the law even in favour of the covenanted officers. But I cannot see that there is any reason why those officers should consider themselves aggrieved. It is not a privilege of the Judge that he has power to try prisoners, but it is a right of the prisoner to be tried by a court in which he has confidence. In the case of jurymen, this principle is acknowledged in the right of challenge. But besides, as Mr. Carstairs points out in the note which I am submitting with this, the position of a native District Magistrate or Judge implies great power and influence over his fellow-countrymen. A District Magistrate and his large executive powers are necessary, because they enable a large tract of country to be governed by a comparatively small number of officers. No Englishman in England, or in any of the colonies, has equal power over an equal number of Englishmen.

It now remains to consider one of the main arguments which have been brought forward in support of the Bill, namely, that it will have the effect of preventing administrative inconvenience. It must be remembered at the outset that the classes of officers to whom it is proposed to give jurisdiction over European British subjects have it now in all cases in which the European British subjects do not claim their privilege, and the cases in which

it is waived are not a few. It is better sometimes to be set at liberty at once than to appeal to Cæsar. In cases of minor importance, obviously it is to the interest of the accused rather to run the risk of a small, or even moderate fine, than to incur the court expense and annoyance of being tried in some distant place; and if the courts of native Magistrates gain in the estimation of European British subjects, the more frequently will European British subjects be content to be tried by them. The more fit the courts are to exercise this jurisdiction, the less practical inconvenience will result from not formally bestowing it on them. If the native courts show themselves just and fair and competent, the privilege of a British subject will be simply a check on them, to be exercised only on extraordinary occasions. Up to this time no case has ever arisen within my experience, in which inconvenience has arisen from the working of the present law. Probably some cases of slight inconvenience have actually occurred—possibly in number one-fivehundreth part of the cases in which inconvenience has arisen from second class Magistrates being in charge of sub-divisions.

And now let us take another view of the Bill as it affects the convenience of the administration.

In the early part of this note I showed that the equality of race, which is the aim of the Bill, is to be affected, not only by giving jurisdiction to natives, which they have not now, but also by taking away from Government the power of conferring jurisdiction on Europeans of classes which now possess it. On an examination of the Bengal Civil List for April, I find* 23 European Deputy Magistrates, and 14 other European gentlemen, neither Deputy Magistrates nor covenanted civilians, exercising the powers of a Justice of the Peace in the mofussil. Perfect equality will not be attained till these 37 gentlemen die out or retire, for their powers are reserved by the Bill. But still it is worthy of note that, under the present law, the Government commands the services of 37 Justices of the Peace of European race, who, under the proposed law, could never have been invested with the necessary powers. Can it be said, then, that the gain in administrative convenience, on which stress is laid by so many advocates of the Bill, is so marked as they appear to believe it?

* *Note.*—I am taking into account only the Justices of the Peace of Bengal, Behar, and, Orissa who are resident in the mofussil. If we also have regard to the list of Justices of the Peace stationed in Calcutta or on furlough, or employed under other Governments, we shall find 67 more gentlemen now Justices of the Peace, who could not be made so if this Bill becomes law. In the case of those, however, who are under other Governments, obviously no present inconvenience would result in Bengal, and officers stationed in Calcutta could be made Magistrates for Calcutta only; but those who are on furlough are of course available to Government.

Upon the whole, I think that the Bill should not pass; the want of it has not been felt by the Government or by the people at large; far from adding to the resources of Government, it in truth seriously diminishes them; it is an assertion of an equality and a similarity which have no existence as yet; it does good to no one, while it has done infinite harm by forcing the two races into an injurious contest.

But it is said that, even granting that the introduction of the Bill was an error, it would be wrong now to abandon it, as this would be a concession to clamour. I can see no force in this argument. It seems to come to this—that, had the measure been less open to objection, less decidedly obnoxious to the community affected, than it is, the Legislature might have abstained from passing it; but since it has roused that community to a high state of excitement and indignation, it must now be mantained with obstinate perseverance. A strong Government is not to be just and wise, because it is afraid of being thought weak! I do not sympathize with the violent and resentful phrases which have been used in the course of the discussion; but I do think that they afford no reason for ignoring the powerful feelings which have given rise to their use.

It has been said by the head of the Government that this measure is to be final. No one presumes to question the absolute sincerity of this assertion; but I cannot avoid the belief that the Europeans, as well as the natives, are right in thinking that the Legislature can never stop here. If the Bill pass, the next step must be to extend to Deputy Magistrates the jurisdiction now proposed to be given to statutory civilians, and there are other distinctions in the Procedure Code which will certainly be attacked. The more advanced native politicians openly accept this as a "small instalment of their rights"—"a step in the right direction." It is because of the universal disbelief in the finality of the measure that the European community is so deeply moved.

Friends as well as opponents of the Bill point to the small immediate practical effect which it will have if it become law.

The former are astonished at the vehemence with which the harmless proposal to soothe the feelings of a few officers is met; the latter say: "If this be all your purpose, why should you disturb the whole country to attain an advantage so trifling?" But they see and know that the principle which the Bill is designed to illustrate is of far wider application, and they believe that the Government, in accepting it as their supreme guide, are entering on a policy which is dangerous because it is premature.

I have not thought it necessary to call for expressions of opinion. I have, however, had some conversation with not a few gentlemen, both European and native, my subordinates and others. The Europeans, official and unofficial, are unanimously opposed to the Bill; I have not heard a single voice in its favour. Some of the natives would wish to see it passed, but several gentlemen of experience and authority have informed me that they have no such desire. Naturally they are not disposed to attach much weight to the argument

that native officers are unfit to try Europeans; but they think that the measure has been introduced somewhat too soon, and that the good which it is likely to accomplish is small in comparison with the great mischief occasioned by the fierce and angry discussions to which it has given rise.

Though I have not called for opinions, Mr. Carstairs, the late Joint-Magistrate, in anticipation of such a call, recorded a note, which he left with me on his departure on furlough, and at his request I now submit it. There are points in it deserving consideration.

Note on the proposed amendment of the Criminal Procedure Act by R. CARSTAIRS, Esq., *Officiating Joint-Magistrate, Alipur, dated the 31st March 1883.*

Being about to proceed on furlough, and understanding that the opinions of officials are to be called for on this subject, I leave the following notes.

2. Before entering into the merits of the Bill, I will shortly discuss the question—"To what is it likely to lead?"

3. When this Government goes away, as it will within a year or two, its successors will not be bound by its pledges. A question re-opened once may be re-opened again. The scope of the Bill is, for administrative convenience, to give certain courts, not now possessing it, power to try European British subjects. The only qualification for this power is to be personal fitness, the additional qualification now existing, that the person trying should himself be a European British subject, being removed. To confer the power is to declare personal fitness; to withhold it will therefore be a sentence of unfitness, or a slur.

4. It is a slur upon Mr. Behari Lal Gupta that he has not this power (out of Calcutta), while I have it. When he gets it, the slur will be passed on to Nawab Abdul Latif. If he gets it, some one almost as good will feel the slur. Wherever the line reaches, there will be a pressure to pass it on the part of those next below it, and no good reason for stopping short of any particular person. Men begin to covet honours within their reach; much more wish to escape a slur if it is possible. Administrative convenience will demand extension of the power. Personal feelings of the disqualified will also demand it. I see no stopping place short of all courts.

5. To proceed to the merits, the first question is "Should Europeans be put in the power of any but Europeans?"

Our position in this country; the claims of each of us, even the meanest, as a member of a free nation; and the importance of keeping up our prestige, surely in themselves ought to settle the question. But apart from that, there are the following considerations:—Inside the few square miles that constitute our presidency towns, the young European, on arrival, finds advisers, society, public opinion, courts, counsel, witnesses, and friends at his door. The natives he sees have abundant evidence of our power in soldiers, cannon, ships, wealth, intellect, daily before their eyes. Public opinion is master.

6. But take the mofussil. The young Europeans who come out as mechanics, drivers and guards, assistants in tea-gardens and indigo factories, traders and agents, year by year, are scattered over the country, not knowing the country, and not understanding; intolerant of native customs and thoughts, for there is much to get accustomed to; home-sick, inexperienced, unused to the climate, consequential as fresh arrivals generally are. Is it fair to leave such a man in lonely places, without money, friends, or advisers, to be brought up in custody of a native policeman before a Native Magistrate, in presence of a native crowd, to be deposed against by native witnesses? A man can stand up against anything so positive as hatred or treachery, and a sensation can be got up about these, but there are the half-smiles, possibly real pity, imperceptible sneers, shoulder-shrugging. He half understanding, and not half understood, seeing insults even where none are meant, as can well be seen, very easily be exasperated beyond bearing. His opponents would draw him on to insult the court. He would be only too ready to fall into the trap. It would be a very refined, subtle and intense form of the noble game of Bull-baiting. The presence of a European presiding in the court has no doubt prevented much of this—both the baiting and the irritation under it. How long would it take to get over the consequences of one desperate act, attributed rightly or wrongly, to the absence of a European on the Bench? Europeans will no more become accustomed to being tried by natives than eels to getting skinned, for it will always be a new experience to one who has not gone through the process. Even a certificate of fitness given by Government will not extort awe towards the court from the European, and no one will deny the very serious risk of ugly scenes. No one can calculate the effect of even one such scene.

7. The next question is—"Are our courts fit?"

In England, as in all countries, there was at first a struggle for power. It ended in that great combination of all the powers, the British public, which made our laws. They are, in fact, the public will expressed, and are enforced by the British public itself, not only through its officers, but directly by its own influence.

In India there was also the struggle for power, but here the local will was suppressed by the imposition of a greater power, *viz.*, the British Government. The use to which power is put in all barbarous countries is to spoil. In this country open loot was suppressed, and the appetite for plunder had to be satisfied by intrigue. Intrigue guides forces, and so intrigue was brought to bear on that greatest of all forces in this country, the British

Government. The Government has made over most of its power to be wielded by the law courts. So on the law courts a strong current of intrigue has been turned. Its weapons are perjury and forgery; and with these every one among the natives arms himself as naturally as men of old in our country did with sword and buckler. Men too good to lie themselves will often freely employ others to lie for them. Perjury is so common that it can seldom be punished. That is, there is no material with which to prove it perjury. It appears then, to say the least of it, that our courts, unaided by public opinion, which is the strongest bulwark of justice in England, and being made in a barbarous country the arena of struggles which naturally would be fought out on the field, are in a very different position from the courts in England.

8. It is not necessary to preach the harsh doctrine that natives of this country are so very wicked, and will never be any better. They are still in the barbarous stage when plunder is considered more honourable than worth, and it is to be hoped they will get past it. Intrigue, and not violence, marks that stage. Of the artificial nature of our advanced laws and procedure in this country, no stronger proof can be found than the jealousy with which Government reserves all real power for its own paid servants, desiring at least to preserve some guarantee for the purity of those who administer justice. It is as much as to say that no native can be trusted to administer justice even to natives, unless it is made worth his while, and unless he is removed from all the temptations which beset a man not severed from all local interests. Europeans might well say that they distrust the classes from whom native officers are drawn, and do not believe in the purging effects of office. Dangers from perjury, forgery and intrigue are serious enough already. Natives did not make our laws; our courts are not a device of natives. Our rules of evidence do not commend themselves to natives. Natives generally, of however great wealth and high position, are not allowed to administer our laws to natives. Our courts are not scattered over the country, within easy reach of every one, but are rather like garrisons of justice in a hostile country, and they have been set up, maintained and strengthened by Europeans. This it is that has gained them the confidence of European British subjects.

9. The court presided over by a native, foreign to the laws and those who made them, will not be the same thing to the Europeans; and the sensitiveness of the presiding officer will not get rid of their distrust. They will, right or wrong, feel it necessary to resort to corruption, (not necessarily of the officer himself), to perjury and forgery. Some will leave the country, some will be ruined, and some will be like an energetic native of whom I heard it said: "He is crooked, because they will not allow him to be straight." It is in the interest of no one more than of the natives themselves and the Government that Europeans should be kept out of the intrigues around them; for when a European turns blackguard, he is a big blackguard. It would be a bad thing to drive out men of high character, and to substitute for them adventurers with none. When, on behalf of myself, my family and friends, I protest against the proposed change as being likely to promote this undesirable end, I do not think that I shall lose the confidence of my native friends. They at least understand.

10. I come now to a very delicate question, that of the fitness of natives for the powers. It has been pretty well shown that Europeans have not the same confidence in natives as they have in their own countrymen; and before this is put down to petulance, it would be well to see whether there are no solid reasons for the distrust. In my opinion solid reasons exist. In the following remarks I intend to speak of Bengalis only whom I know. I will also speak of them as a whole and not as individuals. If the bulk can be judged by the sample, much more surely can the sample be judged by the bulk.

12. The first objection is the difference of religion. Our law undoubtedly owes to the Christian religion the following fundamental principles:—

(1) Brotherhood of man.
(2) Absolute standard of right and wrong.
(3) Humility and openness to reason.
(4) Protection for the weak.

The law was made by our ancestors. Rightly or wrongly, Europeans in this country believe that there is more chance of the spirit of our law existing in the descendants, brothers and sons of those who made and maintain it, than in the descendants, brothers and sons of those who have never been able to imagine such laws, and do not even to the present time show that their minds have been taken hold of by these laws. Legality without righteousness is the body without the soul, and that is what Europeans fear they will get.

13. The next objection is the constitutional timidity of the race which is to furnish these new rulers. The Bengalis, as a race, cannot stand up without being protected even against one another. We Europeans are their chief guardians, and they supplement us by means of up-country durwans. They are strong upon the stronger side; but we have no faith in their steadfastness in a time of utter need. We cannot trust them to help us when, in a time of utter need, we have no one else to depend on. Now that time may come to any European man or woman at any time. Not so much treachery as just weakness is to be feared. I do not say all Europeans are strong and all Bengalis weak; but here are we their masters, and we are so because we are stronger. Do Bengalis try to make a reputation for courage by daring deeds? It is a jest against them that they shun "dangerous

departments." *Sola* is not *teak*. It is no slur on *sola* to say it has not all the qualities of *teak*.

14. The third objection is that they are not trusted by one another. Some of them have blamed severely a few reckless epithets applied to them in the heat of oratory. With those epithets I have no sympathy, but the worst of them is not nearly so bad as natives of respectable position are frequently found to use against other respectable natives. All that they say may not be true, but where there is smoke there is fire. It is not to be wondered at if Europeans take natives at their own estimate. If their statements are all false, what is to be thought of the respectable natives that make them ?

15. The fourth objection is that the European Magistrate can perform extra-judicial functions, which a native cannot. He keeps up a healthy tone in European opinion, which, and not the terror of the law, is the chief check at present on European crime. He can also bring direct influence to bear on his young, lonely and inexperienced countrymen, by giving them timely cautions, and making them feel they are watched by a friendly eye. It would be a poor exchange to substitute fear for free obedience in dealing with Europeans, and I am not at all sure that it would be found to work. I have had practical experience of the two methods.

16. It is obviously advisable to go as little as possible into this delicate question of race qualification. I think I have said enough.

17. I have carefully avoided, in all I have said, any allusion to the subject of official qualifications for posts under Government. That question is not directly involved. But in case it be attempted, as it has been, to stop my mouth and cut away the ground from under me, by saying that if natives are fit to be District Magistrates they are fit to try Europeans—if I am forced to admit them fit for both or unfit for both,—then I deny that they are fit for either. Giving a native power to try Europeans is not to make him fit, and, if he is not fit, would be to increase, and not diminish, the number of anomalies.

18. The position that no native is fit to be a District Magistrate can be maintained without casting any slur on individuals. The very essence of the system under which the District Magistrate exists is that it is worked by foreigners. No Englishman in England would be allowed over his countrymen such power as the District Magistrate possesses over natives in this country. It is not an invidious thing to say that no native should thus be put on the neck of millions of his countrymen. It would be invidious to his countrymen to say that he should. Considering the race from which they spring, to put natives in this position would be what the poet call as "delivering the tasks of might to weakness."

19. What, then, it may be asked, becomes of the Queen's Proclamation ? How are natives to be advanced ? I would very humbly submit that the true way of complying with the spirit of this Proclamation is not to pick out a native here and there, thrust him into a position which is only possible so long as he is cut off from all local ties and interests, and turn in the wrong direction—an impossible direction for all but a very few—the ambition and strivings of his neighbours. The true way of answering the Proclamation is by developing schemes of Local Self-Government, by which all the people may be drawn onwards together, and organized under their own leaders for their own work. Surely, if in free England public ambition is satisfied with a seat in a Town Council, a seat on a School Board or District Road Board, or, at the very most (leaving out legislative honours), on a country Board, it is putting mad dreams into the heads of natives to suffer them to look on as their rights such posts as would be equivalent to that of Governor of half of Scotland, or over a third of Ireland. But in speaking of Local Self-Government schemes, I must be permitted to say that there is equal danger, in these, of a few being detached from impatience of slow progress, and advanced prematurely.

20. In my anxiety to avoid all personal criticism, I have passed over one point which has been raised, *viz.*, that natives who have been to England, at least, must understand the English thoroughly. As to that, I would only submit the following considerations :—

(*a*).—The native goes to England after his boyhood is over.
(*b*).—Stays for two or three years only.
(*c*).—Leaves it while still a youth.
(*d*).—Spends his time there in hard study.
(*e*).—Probably meets with reserve in society, as an Englishman does here.
(*f*).—Europeans come out here in early manhood and settle for life.
(*g*).—There work and their duty is to learn the people and their ways.
(*h*).—Yet native writers and orators say they do not understand the natives.

I am not inclined to admit in our native fellow-subjects greater insight into character, anxiety to learn, or candour, than are in ourselves. If natives are to be suffered with applause to deny our knowledge of natives, then we are quite justified in saying that they know nothing about Europeans, or at most have that "little knowledge" which is a "dangerous thing."

21. A word about the practical difficulties and I have done. Europeans have every interest in waiving their rights whenever there is no strong reason for claiming them. As a matter of fact, they often do waive their right. If there is any doubt about the legality of this it should be removed.

In many other cases it would be little more inconvenience to send the parties to the nearest European officer, than, as must now be done in every case, European or native, to some centre which may be distant from their homes. Where the British Government has ventured to leave so enormous a tract, as is implied in such inconvenience being very great, without a British officer, then in case of need, such an officer might be specially deputed to try the case. The cost and inconvenience would not be nearly so great as the Abyssinian Expedition, which is understood to have been undertaken in much the same interests. The individual European does not care for general principles, but looks at how they touch himself, and we have a prejudice that no one can look after a Briton so well as a Briton—certainly not a Bengali, who, we cannot but feel, is resting on our shoulders. There are plenty of Bengalis for them to look after.

No. 674 J. D., dated 21st May 1883.

From—F. B. PEACOCK, Esq., Secretary to Government of Bengal,
To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 651J.D., dated the 18th instant, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter* from the Commissioner of the Chittagong Divison, reporting on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

* No. 11A, dated the 10th May 1883, and enclosure.

No. 11Ct., dated 10th May 1883.

From—E. E. LOWIS, Esq., Commissioner of the Chittagong Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

With reference to your letter No. 1518J., dated 27th March last, I have the honour to submit the following report on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure. I have obtained the written opinions of some officials; those of others addressed have not reached me. I have also been at some pains to ascertain the sentiments of the non-official natives in Chittagong; and I may add that, with but slight exception, I cannot discover the existence of any sympathy with the principles of the Bill, or any favourable feelings regarding it. The feeling of the Mahomedans is certainly adverse to the Bill, and the sentiments of those with whom I have conversed on the subject coincide very much with those expressed by Moulvie Delawar Hossein, B.A., Deputy Magistrate, in charge of the Brahmanbaria sub-division, a copy of whose letter I enclose.

2. The principle of the amendment is that it is expedient to do away with the old privilege enjoyed by Europeans of being tried by men of their own nation, and in place of that to substitute trial by natives. This is not indeed avowed as either an object or reason for the introduction of this measure; but this is in fact what it tends to, for it would be in the highest degree anomalous to entrust the duty of trying Europeans to a certain class of natives, to the exclusion of others; for I hold that the residence for a year or two in England cannot, and does not, undo the teaching of early years, or alter in any way the character which has been formed during the first 18 or 20 years of a man's existence. As a Mahomedan of the old school once remarked to me, knowledge of English does not make any one a *hakim;* and I feel, and the feeling is shared, I know, by others, that there is many a Deputy Magistrate of the old school, unacquainted with English, by whom I would rather be tried, if need were, than by one brought up in sympathy with the class, who support by their writings, and find an exponent of their views in the columns of the vernacular press of Bengal, with whom it is a point of honour to traduce and vilify any European, simply because he is a European.

3. Trial by their own countrymen has always by Europeans been considered in this country not only a privilege, but as a positive safeguard against false charges; and as an accused has within certain limits a right to elect by whom he is to be tried, this privilege, which has been enjoyed in some shape by every Englishman from the time of King John, is not one to be lightly set aside, and is a matter in which the persons most concerned have a right to be heard.

4. I am far from saying that trial by their own countrymen is a privilege which must be secured to Europeans at all risks; but I do hold that the right is one not to be set aside except for good and substantial reasons; it is not to be interfered with on mere theoretical grounds; and practically I fail to see any reason for the proposed change. The people at large do not in any way consider it a grievance that *hakims* should be tried by *hakims;* in their view this is only right and proper. Even amongst the more advanced of the educated natives such a proposal was never broached until this unhappy discussion raised it into a party-cry; and certainly among Europeans, though the right was not often very rigidly insisted on, there was certainly no cry for a change.

5. Even on grounds of administrative inconvenience change could not be urged as necessary, looking to the small number of covenanted civilians who can, in the course of the next ten or twelve years, become Magistrates or Judges.

It is very rarely that a case occurs which necessitates the trial of a European by the District Judge. Almost all cases are triable by Magistrates or the High Court. In such

cases no difficulty could arise, for in all districts where Europeans are to be found, there is, besides the Magistrate of the district, a Joint-Magistrate, or first class covenanted assistant, and both could not be natives; while, as to cases triable by the Sessions Judge, they are extremely rare, and the contingency of such a case arising in a district where there is only a native Judge is so remote that it is hardly worth considering.

6. The above are some of the reasons why the Bill need not have been introduced; but there are also positive objections to it, first and foremost of which is the strong feeling against it which has been manifested by the Europeans themselves. Those who are most interested in the matter, who from actual experience, and not on mere theoretical grounds, are convinced of the necessity for the retention of the privilege, must surely be entitled to some voice in the matter; and the universal and remarkable unanimity of European opinion on this subject cannot be lightly set aside as mere moonshine. Another objection is that a native is often not so competent to try a case as a European, simply because he has not made himself acquainted with the ways of thought or manner of life of the accused, and therefore cannot be a fair judge of his motives or springs of action.

7. In this connection I quote what the Magistrate of Chittagong says in his report—

"The changes proposed in the Bill would in practice chiefly affect cases in which sailors and soldiers are concerned. These and the railway servants and the other members of the lower classes of British race who are occasionally found in this country, furnish nearly the whole of the cases which arise or are likely to arise. European residents generally are very rarely under trial. In Chittagong there are a good many cases amongst the sailors. If the time should come when there will be no European Magistrate in the district to try these cases, then an administrative difficulty would arise; but I do not think the native covenanted officers would in any way be fitted to try such cases properly. This is not in the least for want of competence, but because it is difficult even for an educated Englishman, very often, to make himself understood or to understand these rough and humorous persons. I have had an English-speaking Bengali pleader conducting such a case, and I am very certain that he did not understand, from beginning to end, what it was about, what the witnesses meant, nor what connection the defence had with the question asked. It is no slur on a native officer that an English University education has still not opened to him all the depths of English thought. The cases against Europeans which arise in practice always require a little experience of a practical kind—high education and mental qualifications are of no use in comparison. A Deputy Magistrate, European or Native, who had served for a year or two as a sailor or as a soldier himself, would always be infinitely more capable of doing justice on British subjects in practice than the highest and best European Covenanted Civilian who had no such experience.

"An administrative difficulty arose once. Mr. H. W. Barber, a Eurasian officer of long experience as a Magistrate and nominally qualified as a Justice of the Peace, had to decide a case. He lengthened the proceedings by simple inability to understand them, until the crew of the ship were in a state of little else than mutiny. The Master, who could get nothing done, committed suicide, and the owners had very considerable difficulty in getting the ship away.

"Sir Ashley Eden passed an order in this case that the District Magistrate must always try these cases in future in absence of a competent Joint-Magistrate. It would be no sign of incompetence for a Bengali officer to get into the same difficulties as Mr. Barber got into. This I mention as an illustration. My argument is that the trial of European British subjects is quite special work, and difficulties must arise in performing it if the Magistrate has not personal knowledge of special kind."

8. To my mind another objection to passing the Bill is the cry that has been raised in the native press in favour of it. The privilege of trying Europeans, so eagerly sought and emphatically demanded, does not carry with it any emolument or gain in any shape, and no good reason why this privilege should be prized has been given. The clamour raised, therefore, seems to me significant; it may be the result of mere vanity, but to foster that feeling seems at the present day hardly necessary.

9. I have given thus briefly the most prominent objection to a Bill in favour of which there seems to be nothing practical or tangible; but I cannot conclude without expressing my regret that an occasion for the discussion of this subject should ever have arisen at all, for it has roused a very bitter race spirit, and re-opened a sore which, ever since the Mutiny, has been gradually healing over. This spirit is plainly enough visible in the newspapers, native and European, and is not confined to public writing, for I have lately in private heard more ill-feeling expressed by Europeans against natives than I remember to have heard since 1857-58. That an opportunity should have been afforded to raise this discussion was unfortunate; but still more so, that the wordy strife should rage for the next four or five months, embittering feelings in some cases already bitter enough; every succeeding week only widening the breach and rendering future amicable relations between the two races less possible.

10. That the European section have been sincere in their objection from the first is evident, while the contrary view has been adopted by the Vernacular Press, I would hope rather through a spirit of opposition, than from any real desire to gain for natives the privilege and pleasure of trying Europeans. Be that as it may, the question has now become a party one, and whether the Bill be passed or not, dissatisfaction must be created.

No. 104, dated April 1883.

From—Moulvi Delawar Hosain Ahamed, Deputy Magistrate of Brahmanberia,

To—The Magistrate of Tipperah.

With reference to your memorandum No. 806, dated the 19th instant, I have the honour to report.

1. I have been asked to give my opinion on two points—as regards the principle of the Bill and as regards any administrative inconvenience which might occur if it were not passed.

2. I suppose Europeans will continue to form the majority of the Covenanted and to form a part of the Uncovenanted Service, and therefore, in reference to the second point, I do not think any administrative inconvenience will occur, such as to make it necessary that the Jurisdiction Bill should be passed at the present time.

3. In reference to the principle of the Bill, the Statement of Objects and Reasons says that the Bill has been brought forward to remove an anomaly. In the first place, it seeks to remove the anomaly by depriving those Europeans who belong to the Uncovenanted Service of a power which they have had, thus creating an invidious distinction, and putting a stigma which they do not deserve. A direct lowering of the ruling race is certain to be followed by a lower estimation of their strength by the ruled races, and therefore the Bill would in the future be injurious both to the ruled and the ruling races in India.

4. The second question is whether the removal of the anomaly complained of will not give rise to a greater anomaly. The distinction between an Indian and a European is a broad and well-marked one; it is a distinction based on colour, dress, language, religion, political position, domestic customs, and social manners. But in removing the distinction between European and native civilians an invidious distinction will be created between two Indians. I do not think so much of a three years' residence in England as to believe it enables a man to become morally or even intellectually superior to him whose education and training are otherwise the same. I think the attempt to remove one anomaly will create another which, being less defensible, would be more pointed.

5. I do not wish to give any opinion in regard to the confidence possessed by the native professional classes; but I know that the Muhammadans of Calcutta (if no other classes) prefer to engage the services of European attorneys and solicitors to conduct their law business.

6. The next question is whether the time has arrived. Though the tendency of civilization is to remove anomalies, everything must have its proper time. I do not think the time has arrived to remove the anomaly complained of. It is no sense of right or morality, but the strength of the British Government, which keeps the various nations of India from flying at each other's throats. Now, what is it that gives this strength? It is certainly not the few soldiers, whose united numbers are no more than a drop in the ocean. It is the national prestige of the English race which is the strength of the Government of India, and which prevents internecine bloodshed among the various races.

7. This prestige must be maintained not only to preserve order and security, but also to enable the various peoples of India to approach each other in character and habits, and thus to become fused into a united whole. I have no doubt that the prestige of the English Government will be weakened if Europeans should be tried by native Magistrates and Judges.

8. It has become the fashion in these days to parade the cry of India for the Indians; but at present there are no people called Indians, and it would be the highest achievement of the English genius for Government, if the vague and shadowy idea now called up by the word Indian should hereafter become tangible and definite; if the Bengalis, the Hindustanese and the Panjabese, the Mahrattas, the Telegus, and the Tamels, should become consolidated into one or two distinct nationalities. To enable it to accomplish this grand task, the Government must continue to own the prestige due to the remembrance of Clive and Hastings, the fearlessness with which Englishmen faced the mutiny of 1857, and the judgment which keeps semi-barbarous chiefs in check. If the Bill should be passed, this prestige will be assuredly weakened long before the proper time, and the grand idea of radical statesmen—the idea of educating a race of Indians—must be indefinitely postponed.

9. My countrymen will think me a traitor to my country's cause, but true patriotism looks to the future remote rather than to the immediate present. The true patriot should not be carried away by a false claim of equality—a claim which has no foundation in fact. Power and liberty are two very different things. Instead of claiming to try a European on a criminal charge, my countrymen should claim the right of *habeas corpus* to be extended to them. Instead of claiming the possession of a questionable power, they ought to claim the redress of a great and real hardship.

10. I do not think that the right asked for should be conceded at present in express terms. Time, which smooths down so many inequalities, will do in this, as in other cases, what is wanted. Europeans have hitherto been in the habit of waiving their right of being tried by their own countrymen, and if the Bill had not been brought forward, the practice would have gone on gradually increasing. For some time to come the excitement that has been raised, and the passions that have been roused, will lead Englishmen to claim the right of trial by their own countrymen. But I am certain that, when their feelings have soothed down into a calmer mood, the practice of waiving their claim will be revived, and growing more and more prevalent, a silent change will gradually be effected, without kindling any angry feelings.

The Bill is herewith returned.

No. 851J. D., dated 30th May, 1883.

From—F. B. PEACOCK, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bengal,

To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 674J.-D., dated the 21st instant, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, copies of a letter* from the Commissioner of the Orissa Division, reporting on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

* No. 264, dated the 22nd May 1883, and enclosures.

No. 264, dated 22nd May 1883.

From—A. SMITH, Esq., Commissioner of the Orissa Division,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

With reference to your No. 1518J, of the 27th March last, Mr. Grant, Magistrate of Balasore, Mr. Jones, Magistrate of Cuttack, and Mr. Godfrey, who was temporarily Magistrate of Pooree, have given opinions adverse to the Bill. Mr. Gupta, who succeeded Mr. Godfrey as Magistrate of Pooree, writes in its favour. Mr. Grant has submitted opinions from Mr. Apjohn, Executive Engineer, Mr. Coldren, an American Missionary, and Koomar Baikuntha Nath Dé, a Native gentleman of Balasore.

2. Mr. Apjohn is strongly opposed to the Bill. Koomar Baikuntha Nath Dé is strongly in favour of it. Mr. Coldren mentions that he found a large proportion of the leading members of the Christian community not in favour of having Native gentlemen to try Europeans. He gives his own opinion to the effect that if Native Magistrates have passed all the requirements of Government to entitle them to administer the functions of their office, there is no reason why they should not be granted the privilege of trying Europeans, especially as there is an appeal to a higher court in the case of any seeming injustice.

3. In this country, where false complaints are a common method of wreaking malice, and Europeans, from their position, are not unfrequently the objects of such malice, European British subjects have always attached much value to the privilege of trial by their countrymen, and have, I believe, rightly regarded the privilege as one that secured them safety from no fancied dangers.

4. I arrived in this country in December 1856, and was then thrown somewhat largely into the society of a non-official portion of the European community. The proposal to subject Europeans to the ordinary criminal court on a much larger scale than is now contemplated had well nigh filled the minds of the community with dismay. The Mutiny followed. Jurisdiction not conferred by the Government was exercised over European British subjects at Bareilly and elsewhere. While these events were in progress, I was posted, as Assistant Magistrate, to a district that was then, as now, conspicuous as an indigo-planting district, and I have still a vivid recollection of the feeling of thankfulness with which, amid the horrors and dangers of that terrible time, it was felt that the obnoxious proposal was at an end.

5. When the Mutiny was over, and the ordinary business of the country could be again attended to, the first Criminal Procedure Bill was passed. Whether it was that the incidents of the terrible period that had just been passed satisfied Government that the proposals were fraught with real danger to its European subjects, or whether it felt that it would be an ungrateful return to the men who, in the crisis, had rallied round it, albeit they did so in self-preservation, it is impossible to say; but the obnoxious clauses formed no part of the law.

6. Nearly a quarter of a century has passed since the Mutiny, and under a strong and peaceful administration the country has advanced and prospered. The Government, I presume, hoped that the old feelings had died away, and that the small measure now proposed would be accepted without opposition. It is impossible not to sympathize with the motives that have led to the introduction of the Bill, but at the same time it is impossible not to regret that it has been introduced. I have felt the same regret with regard to other measures of the present administration. The discussion regarding the Arms Act, the Vernacular Press Act, and the State Prisoners' clauses in the original draft of the existing Code of Criminal Procedure are all cases in point; they are all matters it was undesirable to agitate. From the extracts copied in the Calcutta papers, it is evident that the action with regard to the vernacular press is already producing very undesirable results, and a future Government may, at a season of difficulty and trial, have to undo what has been done. The Government of India by England is an alien Government. However anxiously we may direct our efforts to the welfare of our subjects, this fact should never be forgotten. However sincerely and however successfully we may work for their advancement, there are so many interests opposed to us that we may be very certain we should not be long here if we let our swords get rusty or our powder damp.

7. I have said that I regret much that this Bill was introduced. It has exasperated, to an extent unknown since the Mutiny, the race feeling between the European and the Native that was largely dying away. The measure is required by no administrative necessity. The only reason for it is one of sentiment. It hurts the feelings of the Native members of the Civil Service that they cannot try European British subjects. I should sympathize with anything that may be felt by these gentlemen as in any measure a disparagement; but I will explain presently why I do not think that on this point they need be sensitive. Even, however, if they had reason to be sensitive, I should still consider that the reasons against the measure are sufficiently strong to render it inexpedient to proceed with it.

8. The objections which the European community take to the Bill may be briefly summarised—

1st.—That Native Magistrates, by reason of ignorance of European social habits, customs and usages, are not well fitted to judge of the probability of European motives and actions; and that, if they are to be tried by them, there is danger that they will be unjustly dealt with even if the Magistrate is anxious to judge and act rightly.

2nd.—That a Native Magistrate, by reason of race prejudice, may be even unconsciously biassed in dealing with a European's case; and that, by reason of his mixing with Native society—hostile, it may be, to their European neighbours—and hearing hostile accounts, they are also likely to be unduly influenced; and

3rd.—That if the Government passes the present Bill, it will not be possible for it to avoid further and more extensive legislation.

9. To the first of these arguments it appears to me that there is no answer. In the third it appears to me that there is much force. Even in the second I am not prepared to say that there is not some weight. It is but a few years ago that a mixed Commission of high European officers and Native gentlemen of very high rank sat to try the Chief of a Native State on the charge of attempting to poison his European resident. The European officers were all in favour of a conviction, and the Natives were all in favour of acquittal. It is but a few days ago that a Bench of the High Court of European Judges, and one Native Judge, sat to try a Native gentleman, formerly a member of the Civil Service, who had maliciously compared one of the European Judges of the Court to Scroggs and Jeffreys. The Native Judge dissented from the sentence passed by his European colleagues. It may be that the difference of race had nothing to do with the difference in these judgments; but the European community, when considering whether it will consent to be judged in criminal matters by Native Judges, may not unreasonably think that such cases show that, in matters affecting them, European and Native Judges do at times take different views. I have been brought into intimate personal relations with only two of the Native Civil Service—Baboo Romesh Chunder Dutt and Baboo Krishno Gobind Gupta—and I can confidently affirm of either of these gentlemen that, should it ever fall to them to have to try a European, they would bring to the task the same anxious desire to do their duty strictly and rightly, which marks all their other work. I think, however, the European community may fairly reply to an argument of this sort, that Surendronath Banerji was once a member of the Civil Service, and might in the ordinary course have come to exercise jurisdiction.

10. As to the plea of administrative inconvenience arising from the want of the Bill, I can only say that there is not now any such inconvenience, and that I cannot see that there will be any within any reasonably near period. When it arises, if it ever does arise, it can be dealt with. So far from the Bill removing any inconvenience, it will, it appears to me, create inconvenience. The Bill deliberately withdraws from the Government the power given by section 22, Act X of 1882, and section 3, Act II of 1869, of appointing European British subjects to be Justices of the Peace. In this way four* European Deputy Magistrates, who can now try European British subjects, would cease to be able to try them, and in lieu of these four, one† Native would be empowered. It would also disable Government from appointing Europeans other than those in section 1 of the draft Bill, to be Justices of the Peace. I think that at places like Chandbally and False Point, it may at times be advisable to give such powers to non-official Europeans. In this way, also, the Bill, if passed, would produce inconvenience. It would of course be possible to alter the Bill in this respect, without altering the distinguishing feature of the Bill, namely, the giving power to Native Magistrates to try European British subjects.

* W. R. Ricketts, Bhudruck.
J. S. Davidson, Cuttack.
W. C. Taylor, Khorda.
J. C. Williamson, Pooree.
† K. G. Gupta, Pooree.

11. There is one local point to which I should advert. In his speech on the Bill, the Commander-in-Chief, speaking of the bearing of the Bill with reference to military people, said it was not intended to appoint natives to be Cantonment Magistrates. In the cantonment of Cuttack the Joint-Magistrate, and in his absence the Magistrate of the district, exercises the judicial powers of the Cantonment Magistrate. If, therefore, either of these officers should be a native, he would, as Cantonment Magistrate, under the Bill, exercise the jurisdiction which His Excellency appeared unwilling to concede.

12. I enclose copies of the letters of Messrs. Grant and Apjohn, Mr. Gupta's letter, which also gives Mr. Godfrey's opinion, and Koomar Baikuntha Nath De's letter.

13. Mr. Gupta says it seems to him that the principle involved is not that of subjecting Europeans to the jurisdiction of the natives, but that of removing such disqualifications of the judiciary as are based on the accident of birth and race. It is, I presume, with a view to obviate complaint of the continuance of disqualifications of this nature that European Subordinate Magistrates are no longer to be Justices of the Peace, because it would be unsymmetrical were they to have the powers, and native Magistrates were not. I have already said that on the ground of administrative convenience, it appears to me that it is not advisable to take the powers away from European Deputy Magistrates. Mr. Gupta further says that if the Government were professedly despotic, no one could have questioned its consistency if it

thought fit to perpetuate distinctions of race, creed and color; but having practically declared more than once that fitness should be the only test, it is perhaps too late to question the principle of the Bill. I have, in paragraph 9 above, said that the objection taken on the score of fitness is, in my opinion, not to be rebutted; but apart from this, the promise that fitness should be the only test was never unreservedly made. It was only said that the test was to be applied as far as may be, and this is a very important qualification. We have not as yet had a native Commander-in-Chief, nor are our regiments of European troops officered by natives. There are difficulties in the way that cannot yet be overcome.

14. That Mr. Gupta is right in thinking that the European opposition to the Bill is partly dictated by race feeling, there is of course no room to doubt. It is equally certain that race feeling has a good deal to do with the natives' urgency for the Bill, now that it has been put before them. It is desired not because of the effect it will have on the one or two officers it will affect, but because it will be in some sort a humiliation of the European community. This is an aspect of the case that is not altogether pleasant either to contemplate or discuss.

15. The Bill having been introduced, and the evil caused by its introduction having been done, it becomes a question whether it is well to proceed with the Bill or to withdraw it. The advice which, after careful consideration, I give to the Government is to withdraw the Bill. I do not believe that the passing of the Bill would in any way tend to allay the irritated and exasperated feeling to which it has given rise. On the contrary, I regard it as certain that the passing of the Bill would be followed by native demands for further concessions, and further irritation. Mr. Evans called attention to the possible effect on the public mind, had the unfortunate case of Mr. Meares, which it fell to me to try, been tried by a native officer. In that case my judgment was confirmed by the High Court. I will suggest for consideration what the feeling would have been had the case of Mary Donnelly, tried by the Magistrate of Howrah for the re-use of a used postage stamp, in which the sentence of imprisonment was reversed by the High Court, been tried by a native Magistrate.

No. A, dated 14th May, 1883.

From—T. J. C. GRANT, Esq., Magistrate of Balasore,

To—The Commissioner of the Orissa Division, Cuttack.

In reply to your No. 193, dated 7th April 1883, I have the honour to write as follows:—

2. Mr. Beadon has consulted the Executive Engineer (Mr. J. Apjohn) in order to ascertain the feeling of the English residents of the district, and the Kumar Bykanth De for the feelings of the native residents, and the Reverend Mr. Coldren (an American missionary) for those of the Native Christian community. I send you copies of their replies. It is very striking and noteworthy that though Mr. Coldren, their pastor, is in favour of the Bill, the Native Christians are opposed to it.

3. As to the question whether any administrative inconvenience at present arises from the exclusion of native Covenanted Civilians from the power of trying European British subjects, I have no hesitation in replying in the negative. The native view of the case boldly asserts that such inconvenience has arisen; but totally failing to show a single instance of it, is obliged to content itself with remarking that there have been two cases brought against Europeans in Balasore, and that the then Magistrate of the district might possibly have been a native. That this is all they can say is, I think, quite decisive on this particular point. Nor am I of opinion that there is any prospect of such inconvenience arising in the future from the given cause. I think so not only because of the great rarity of cases against Europeans, but because I do not see that their occurrence would cause the slightest inconvenience to anybody. The native argument here is that wherever the Magistrate of the district is a native, the present law leaves the English practically free of all law, because their prosecution would be troublesome and costly to a prohibitive degree. I need not say that this is certainly not the fact. It would neither be difficult nor costly to try an European committing an offence in Balasore, and most assuredly no European who lays himself open to the law need have the slightest hope that he will escape prosecution at the hands of a native because of the difficulty or expense. Moreover it is taken for granted, not only in the native opinion I enclose, but in all the arguments for the Bill that I have ever seen, that if the District Magistrate is not empowered to try Europeans, no one in the district can try them. But this is transparently fallacious and erroneous. Whether the law passes or not, it would be, in my opinion, at once impolitic and dangerous to the State, as well as manifestly unfair to any European who might chance to be in trouble, to leave any district without so much as one European Justice of the Peace, who need not of course be the Magistrate of the district. That any district in which there is a sufficient number of Europeans to render charges against them a matter of fairly frequent occurrence should be left without any Justice of the Peace, would be so gross an instance of maladministration, that I cannot believe it possible. Such a disregard of the dangers to which Europeans are known to be subject, in a country where they are not liked, and in which conspiracy and perjury are rampant, and where a false charge is the ordinary weapon of offence, would be a grave public scandal, which, if it ever occurred, could be remedied by a stroke of the pen.

4. As for sessions cases, I would point out that there certainly is no difficulty whatever in having them tried. I cannot understand how anybody can have been found to urge,

as fatal to the existing law, the astonishing objection that on some few occasions it may be necessary to require the parties in a sessions case to take a railway journey of a few hours; for any inconvenience that can be so incurred must be absolutely insignificant in itself, and must become completely obscured and imperceptible when placed against the other alternative of subjecting the accused to trial in a court that he sincerely mistrusts, and in which the whole of the ruling class in India, who are his fellow-countrymen, will never believe that he has been justly condemned.

5. I am the more astonished at the immense stress laid upon this singularly inefficient argument, because it is applied in so very one-sided a way. I have just left a district* in which no sessions trial at all has ever been held for very many years—a district in which everybody concerned in a sessions case is required and compelled to proceed to the next district, without any help from a railway, over a route that is always long, and very often difficult. This is an arrangement that has affected natives only, but has passed wholly unchallenged by natives or by anybody else, and it is an arrangement made, on the grounds of the public interest, by the Government which now argues, when an Englishman only is concerned, that he must in his own interests pocket his prejudices and his national pride, and submit himself to the jurisdiction of a court in which he has much less than no confidence, because he will thereby be saved from a railway journey (perhaps in the hot season) to the next district.

* Pooree.

6. In fact the argument that the amended law confers benefits on the European is mere futility. The Europeans alone can be, or can have the right to be, the judges of that; and if they think, as they most certainly do think, that it is not a benefit to them, why, then, to them it is none. "There is nothing good or bad, but thinking makes it so." If an Englishman lying under a criminal charge prefers to have a fair trial, plus a journey, rather than a trial that he believes (rightly or wrongly) will be before a court prejudiced against him, minus a journey, then it is futile to argue that it is a benefit to compel him to the latter alternative; and moreover the thing is as wrong as the argument is futile, and is also as unwise and impolitic as it is wrong. You will see that the letter of the native advocates of the Bill uses the argument in another form copied from the Debate on the Bill. The case is put that the master of a ship might want to bring some of his English crew before a court, and find no court in the place. The captain would have most just cause of complaint against the Government, which either neglected or refused to appoint a Justice of the Peace in any port frequented by British seamen. But that simple and easy remedy (which avoids the very serious administrative inconveniences that would most assuredly result from the trial of a rough English crew before a native court) is not sought to be applied. The course proposed, instead, is to deprive the captain and his crew, against their wills, of their existing legal privileges, and to tell the captain that he may (if he dares) try his case in a court in which neither he as accuser, nor his crew as accused, have any confidence; and must himself submit to be tried there whenever his serang or tindal may bring a true or false charge against him, and then while the captain is protesting in loud anger and unmistakeable dismay that this last state is infinitely worse than the first, the advocates of the Bill are not ashamed to declare that the benefit done to the captain is an important argument in favour of the Bill.

7. Then there is the "stigma" argument. It is claimed that it is a "stigma" upon the native Magistrate that he is not allowed to try an Englishman. The natives now inform us that, to them, stigmas consequent merely on the accident of birth are abhorrent and intolerable; but what an amazing statement is this from the great body of the natives of this country? Surely their sense of honour must be greatly tickled while they urge this hitherto unsuspected national characteristic of theirs as rendering the amended Code imperative, and surely their laughter amongst themselves must be heightened by some feeling of contempt at the success of their plea. The fact is that the great body of the natives have the very highest reverence for, and social belief in, the advantages of stigmas attaching to the accident of birth. They would fight and die in their defence while themselves labouring under them, and we could not more surely alienate them from our rule than by endeavouring (for we should never succeed) to remove them by legislation. They not only place all Europeans under the most contemptuous stigmas merely on account of their race, but they subject themselves to similar stigmas and to social or civil disqualifications, of the severest kind, all dependent on the mere accident of birth. The fact is that it is the exact reverse of the truth that the natives cannot tolerate such disqualifications, while it is the exact truth that they *never* mean to forego them when they themselves are concerned. It is the natives, and not we, who have raised our race as an absolute and impenetrable barrier between us and them; it is the natives who, in spite of precept and example, continue to weigh down their fellow-countrymen and co-religionists with heavier and still heavier chains of caste contempt, restrictions, and disqualifications, the lower we go down in the social scale. And the natives fully intend to maintain this terrible and evil system of birth disabilities both against us and against their own countrymen. What they really want is that they shall share equally in every privilege of the European, while admitting the European to no single one of the privileges peculiar to the natives. They wish to see the meanest native put on the same footing as the European, while that native is left in the bondage he was born to as regards his fellow-countrymen. They want to see power accreting in native hands, while it is diminishing in those of Englishmen. They want to take all they can get, and mean to give nothing in return. In their land the Eastern and Western worlds have met, and co-existence is possible only if there be much of forbear-

ance, much patient putting up with "stigmas," much compromise and give and take. The foolish, and in its nature impossible, wish of the natives is that the Western world should give up being the Western world, and conform wholly to the unchanged East; and they will adopt just so much of the passwords of Western civilization as will suit their purpose, and no more. Disqualification by reason of birth is intolerable just so far as it may leave a fanciful and insignificant "stigma" on the native; but nevertheless his birth must for ever disqualify the European from even social association with the native, and must continue, to the end of time, to hamper, degrade, and make life hard and difficult to the great masses of the natives themselves. It is conspicuously certain that this is all that the natives want or will endure to have. They know better than to put the proposition in all its naked grossness; but under a false assumption of a liberality hateful to their religious feelings and social habits, they are adroitly using the cry of the "equality of races" to effect their purpose. Nor will they allow Government to effect anything more. Their own caste restrictions and disqualifications must be left untouched at our peril.

8. Nor can I say that this lopsided view of the doctrine of equality of races is confined to the natives. The one plea for this change of law which is serious, respectable, and strong, is that it wipes out a race disqualification. It is urged here and in England, by the advocates of the Bill, that it is nothing but a part of a fixed and settled policy to abolish race distinctions; but I see no signs save of a fixed and settled policy to make them. The Government has long been resolved to act as regard the natives, on the principle that one man is as good as another; but in more recent days it has gone further, and has put into action the Irish addition to that sentiment—"and a good deal better too." I am most firmly convinced of the truth that it is wrong of the State to make unnecessary race distinctions. I have no doubt whatever that they are politically dangerous as well as unjust. I hold that *the only* constitutional and statesmanlike course for the Government of this country to adopt is to throw all offices of Government open to all Her Majesty's subjects, on equal terms, without distinction of race, color or creed, simply letting the best and fittest man win. It is for this reason that I view with serious alarm the manifest intention of Government to show favour and preference to the natives, as natives, not merely by the admitting them through doors specially opened for their races only, but also by actually disqualifying men of English birth. The Englishman can enter the Civil Service only by open competition; but this sole entrance is narrowed by the throwing open of another door for natives only, from which every Englishman is barred by reason of his race. There are many appointments much coveted by Englishmen (especially those whose permanent home is in India), which are in the gift of the various Governments in India; but an order is issued from England which leaves those Governments unhampered in the bestowal of those appointments on natives, but prohibits their being given (with a very few exceptions, just "for the present") to any Englishman because of his birth, without the express sanction of the Secretary of State. At the very same time that this Bill is put forth on the avowed plea that it wipes out a race disqualification (at that very same moment of all others!) the Government issues an order establishing a race disqualification for Englishmen (even for Eurasians) in the matter of admissions to Roorkee College. And the cry from England becomes daily more imperative for the greater employment of the native (which is the further disqualification of the European by reason of his birth), while the acquiescent response from India becomes more and more willing. All this may possibly be very right. I know well how very difficult the subject is. I know that Her Majesty's subjects in India are *all* (whether of pure or mixed race) over-weighted (by the fact of their residence here) in the race with competitors trained in England, and I think it simply just that, for them *all* (and not merely for some of them) the weights should be adjusted so as to make the race fair. I think that where it is proper to make appointments in India by selection, it is right that selection should be made in accordance with the fitness of the candidates in the first place, and also with some reference to the numerical proportion of the various races in the second; but certainly never by the actual exclusion of any. I am not in the least afraid that in a race in India, under the simple condition of a fair field and no favour, the native candidate will not hold his own against the world. I see no reason whatever for protecting him by making a contemptuous race distinction in his favour, as if it was hopeless to expect him to win on his merits; and if that were hopeless, I should not go out of my way to employ a cheap and bad servant, and at the same time alienate the only class that maintains us in the country. But at the same time it is not for me to judge, and I most readily acquiesce in the decision of the responsible Government whose duty it is to decide, and who decide to handicap and disqualify the Englishman. They have strong arguments on their side, and I neither deny that they may be right, nor will I do otherwise than loyally accept their decision. But it will not do for a Government thus working to urge that they have no choice but to act on an eternally true principle that there must be no such thing as race disqualification. I have admitted that race distinctions may be necessary. No man who is more than a library student of the art of government would ever be misled by any sounding phrase about the equality of races. The difference between races is a fact, and will not vanish, like a ghost, at the utterance of a formula. Only the French *philosophe* statesman of the Revolution (or the equally inexperienced and unpractised patriot of India) would ever hope that where Western civilization is grafted upon that of the East, everything can be smooth and homogeneous at the line of union. The practical statesman knows that there must be rough scars and nodosities, and the Government acts upon its knowledge that certain race distinctions, even certain race disqualifications,

there must be from the nature of the case. I want no further concession than that. Once admit that circumstances may justify race disqualifications, and the extinction of such a disqualification is no longer a sufficient justification in itself for the proposed Bill. It becomes absolutely necessary to show, also, that the extinction is justifiable and necessary, and it becomes allowable to argue that it is neither.

9. But I have looked in vain for any justification whatever beyond the bare assertion of that *ad captandum* formula on which Government does not, and indeed cannot consistently act. The smallness of the bone of contention is admitted. That no necessity for any action in the matter has as yet arisen cannot be denied. Any possible necessity in the future can be best and most completely met by the simple plan of having that proper supply of European Justices (who need not be District Magistrates) which justice and the due protection of our fellow-countrymen in the mofussil imperatively demands, and which our position in a country whose people do not like us, and who would willingly get rid of us, necessitates as an essential precaution. It confers absolutely no benefit whatever upon the natives, and in fact the whole justification comes absolutely to nothing more than the removal of a purely sentimental grievance from the native members of the Civil Service. On the other hand, its immediate effect is to plant a grievance (purely sentimental if you will) in the minds of all classes of the English in India. The bare proposal has given rise to a fierce and excessively dangerous contest of races. For 25 years there has been a steady *rapprochement* between the English and the natives, a degree of cordiality, of closer intercourse, of mutual respect and of toleration for one another's feelings and prejudices, that no one who was in India during the mutinies ever dared to hope for. All the way made has been lost; it will be a generation before the ground we had made up will be recovered. The natives love us no more than before, and have real hopes that we are in the humour to be agitated and argued out of the country; and the Government has completely isolated itself by now alienating the whole of the English race in India. It really seems to me insensate conduct to persist in such a course as this for no better reason than that it will enable the native members of the Civil Service to boast that they, too, have what they unfortunately call the "privilege" of trying Europeans.

10. The true way, and the only real way, of impartially avoiding invidious and unjust race distinctions, is for the Government to show, whenever it is not positively wrong to do otherwise, an equal respect for the strong sentiments and prejudices of all alike—to show that tender respect for the national ideas of the English that has always been shown towards those of the natives. Where we have the nations of the East and of the West living together, it is not possible, any more than it is desirable, to have a symmetrical legislation—a sort of legal bed of *Procrustes* in which divers nations can be brought to fit only after they have been painfully hacked about into the same lengths. It is impractical and pedantic to attempt to bring about anything of the kind, as well as unrighteous and fatally impolitic. The truly impartial Government, that really sees the evil of making race distinctions, will not compel one race to give up its most cherished national sentiments in order to remove a purely sentimental grievance from a few members of the other race. It would have been a proper answer to make to Mr. Gupta that he and his fellows must respect the strong English sentiment upon the matter, just as the English, in their turn, have always been required to yield their ideas of right and propriety in favour of strong native sentiment, when (in either case) nothing more than a sentimental wrong at most is done to others—that the natives, with their invincibly strong prejudices and exclusiveness on the subject of the privileges of birth, cannot possibly claim any *right* to the abolition of a single English prejudice on the same subject (if it must be called a prejudice) as to which the English are as tenacious as the natives themselves—that it was at once the moral and the political duty of the Government to consider the natural sentiments and will of the English as they do those of the native subjects of the Government, for that it would be as wrong morally and as dangerous politically to force the English to give up a privilege (neither wrong in itself nor injurious to others) merely at the will of the natives, as it would be to abolish polygamy in India, because the English think it religiously sinful and socially mischievous—that it is the duty of English and native alike to waive many points (even important points, sometimes even matters of right and wrong) in favour of the sincere national and religious and social prejudices of each other—and that it was the duty of Government, as a wholly impartial Government not favouring one race more than another, to see that each race left all the others in the full enjoyment of their national rights and privileges, to tolerate them all alike, and above all things to refrain from itself taking any part whatever with one race, possessing special privileges, to deprive any other race of theirs. When the natives really have assimilated the truth of the equality of all peoples, no one will object to their present demand. But Government is not acting rightly or impartially in according to it when it is asked for without any conviction or sincerity, merely in order to secure an invidious triumph over the alien race who rule them.

11. Indeed it seems to me that the principle on which this Bill is based pledges Government to a line of action that it cannot take, does not desire to take, and ought not to take. In the case of the English, the Government proposes to deprive them, against their will, of a legal privilege which is very especially the pride of Englishmen. This forcible deprivation of their privileges invariably excites Englishmen to the most dangerous degree, and is a method of government abandoned at home by the most backward of Tories, and denounced as simply criminal by all liberal politicians. But in India the Government is ready to accept all the consequences of the act, and to run counter to all the teachings of liberal Government (in the case

of those who alone are convinced of the truth of those teachings), because they think they must treat a kind of copy-book apothegm as if it was a revelation of the Deity, that must be worked out to its disastrous but logical conclusion. The truth is that it is not possible to boil down all righteous conduct of affairs into apothegms, and that the too numerous attempts to do so (from the days of the "greatest happiness principle" down to those of the "force no remedy" principle) have invariably landed practical politics in confusion. These apothegms, like proverbs, as false in some cases as they are true in others, and are generally balanced off by some other and contrary maxim. The English are told that, in spite of their refusal to consent, and braving the consequences of their great anger, they are to be deprived of their privilege of being tried before an Englishman, because the natives would like to try them, and there must be no more race distinctions in our laws and courts. Will the Government go straight on to the end of this line? All native ladies and a great many native noblemen are by law exempted from attendance in our courts—a privilege peculiarly one of birth and race, from which every Englishman whatever, even the Prince of Wales or the Viceroy himself, is debarred! It causes at least as much trouble and expense as the trial of an Englishman before an Englishman, and jeopardizes justice by preventing important witnesses from being subjected to examination in open court. Will the Government abolish this national privilege of the natives on account of administrative convenience and the eternal truth that all race distinctions must be banished from our laws and courts? Most certainly, and most rightly, not. If it be argued that the matter is but a trifling matter in itself, doing wrong to no one, and causing no material inconvenience to any one, I acquiesce, but ask for the same consideration towards the English, and for the same reasons in their case. If the argument be couched (as in fact it is) in the terms in which I have said Mr. Gupta ought to have been answered, then I say that an impartial Government that recognizes the duty of making no race distinctions must deal with the English in the same way. But it is not only in insignificant matters, involving sentiment only, and working no ill to any one, that the Government will, and must refrain from all meddling with the national and social habits of the natives. The Government which is willing forcibly to wrest a cherished harmless privilege from the English, at any risk whatever, even though the bare proposal has swept away the work of 25 years of peace and reconciliation, even at the cost of raising a deadly, perhaps fatal, race animosity, of alienating all its English subjects, and of raising hopes in all its native subjects that at last they may get rid of our Government, will be in a bad position indeed if it allows (merely because of its tenderness for the native susceptibilities) the continuance of some native laws that are a great deal worse than merely morally wrong. At the present moment the law allows a Kulin Brahmin, in even his old age, to marry as many hundred infant females as he and their parents choose. Will the Government interfere to protect these helpless infants? They will all become infant widows and be condemned, against nature, to a life of celibacy. Will the Government protect these children from this cruel and unnatural wrong? In time some of them will become mothers, and under pressure of that abominable law which we permit, and of the cruel society whose law it is, they will extend the effects from themselves, and murder their infants. Will the Government, to prevent this form of infanticide, hesitate to punish, under a stern law, the women whom they have done nothing to protect in their helpless infancy from the cruel law of which their crime is but a natural consequence? The Government will simply do nothing of the kind. It will decline in any way to interfere in this or other cases of evil, and it will give plenty of reasons, why it is not right for Government to interfere with the native law of marriage (even when it works cruelty and crime like this), and not proper to incur the violent exaspiration of its native subjects. I by no means say that the Government are not quite right in their abstinence, and in waiting for native advance in social and political knowledge in order that they may have native co-operation in redressing even such evils as this. But if such questions of right as this can be righteously laid on one side, for the present, where natives are concerned—if the Government, in fact, can, in spite of what is plainly right, swallow this enormous native camel, what is the meaning of their straining at the very tiny English gnat which does no wrong and hurts nobody? If they do not mind setting Europeans and natives at deadly feud, and running the hazard of rebellion and bloodshed to secure mere symmetry where the English prejudice is concerned, how shall the Government be excused for refusing to encounter the same risks where it is a highly important question of protecting children from a virtual deprivation of their civil rights, of saving native women from an unnatural and cruel existence, of putting down that form of infanticide which is rendered most prevalent by the Government's acquiescence in the native law of abolishing that class of criminal which is most discreditable to every Government, *viz.*, the criminal with whom all good people sympathise. The fact of the matter is that practical statesmen cannot work out dogmatic maxims to their logical conclusion, and that even the plainest right must be left out of action when people are not yet fit to perceive it to be right, and when its enforcement would bring about chaos instead of advance. When the advocates of the Bill have proved that the English privilege is an anomaly, and that their Bill is clearly right in principle, they have proved very little indeed in its favour. The privilege does no perceptible harm, its abolition does no perceptible good to any one; but the Bill to abolish it has already, in the mere form of a proposal, been the greatest misfortune that has occurred in India since the mutinies. Less reason has induced, and does still induce, the Government to acquiesce in immeasurably greater anomalies, and even in gigantic wrong.

12. And truly it is an extraordinary thing to think of the enormous force of argument

that is supposed to lie in that word "anomaly." "Why" (it is triumphantly urged) "the thing is an anomaly," and then the unfortunate other party to the controversy is supposed to have before him only two courses—either to prove that it is *not* an anomaly, or to yield absolutely. What sort of mind is it, I wonder, that is so instantly enfeebled by the sound of the word "anomaly?" Are we all of the intellectual calibre of the fish-wife who was routed by the word parallel opipedon? As I said before, here in India the swift current of Western civilization has come tumbling into the stagnant basin of Eastern civilization, and who in his senses supposes that there can be freedom from anomalies? Who is there, that is capable of forming intelligent hopes for India, that does not *hope* for many and many anomalies? Before I am asked to be afraid or ashamed of an anomaly, I must be convinced that it is not one of which I ought to be proud; for (strange as it may seem) there are plenty of anomalies in this country which are essentially right, and which ought to be proudly maintained, as well as a few which wise people are sorry to see. I know of nothing in all history that is a finer and prouder anomaly than the position of the Englishman in India. He is a member of a liberty-loving race, who has come here with the full determination to drag an effete people out of the depths into which slavish institutions and habits have sunk them. And because free institutions cannot be as yet extended to those whom he delights to call his fellow-subjects, he himself cheerfully and contentedly has divested himself, one after another, of the special and peculiar privileges of freedom which he and his fathers have slowly won; which he believes in as he believes in nothing else; which he prizes, and is justly proud of, as he prizes and is proud of nothing else; and for which he would fight and die rather than yield them up to force. He has resigned all his rights to take a part in the Government; he does not even look for any representative among his rulers; he submits to laws that he has had no voice in the making of, and of which he disapproves; he submits to taxation that he has not been asked to consent to, and which he thinks excessive and wrong in principle; he even allows himself to be sent to prison as a criminal for what, in his own country, is not even a misdemeanour; and whilst he has given up things in all directions till he has left himself, though a free-born Englishman, even much less a member of the State, much less an influence in the Government, than a French citizen under the second Empire, he has never asked in return that the natives shall give up so much as a single one of the many privileges which are peculiar to themselves. Such a people, capable of such noble self-restraint and self-abnegation, deserve more consideration than they meet with in return from the natives, and less contumely than they receive from their fellow countrymen at home—from that section of the English community which most loudly proclaim their love of freedom. It is such a people as this that an English newspaper (radical) publicly proposes to "crush." It is of such a people as this that a distinguished politician and minister (republican and radical) said, in a speech that has an unpleasantly servile and courtier-like twang, that he greatly approved of the Prince's visit to India, because the English there would have an opportunity of learning how to behave themselves properly. It is such a people, too, that the Government now insists on depriving of the plain and just privilege of every man accused of a crime—of being tried by his peers, in a court in which he has confidence; who are told by their Government that their sincere (I do not at all say their well-grounded) mistrust of those courts shall receive not the slightest consideration; that their wishes on the subject shall be put aside; and that they shall have their legal privileges wrested from them in spite of themselves, not because it does any harm to any human being, but because the natives, who have never given up anything, are anxious to see the English, who have voluntarily resigned so much, compelled to give up more. I must say that I think the treatment of the English in India in this matter by their Government is such an anomaly as should never have occurred, and as may lead to a most dangerous state of exasperation and desperation if persisted in. At all events, I am sure that in the present exasperated state of all men's minds, English and native alike, it would be simply inviting an outbreak to press the matter. If the Bill is passed in the present temper of people, I do not believe that fair trials will be possible, and I do fully believe that there will be unseemly and violent collisions between the races. There is no saying into how large a conflagration a very little flame may now be at any moment fanned, and to pass the Bill for some long time to come would be to incur a degree of danger that the Bill cannot possibly justify.

Dated 23rd April, 1883.

From—KUMAR BAIKUNTHA NATH DE,

To—The Magistrate of Balasore.

With reference to your memorandum No. 522, dated the 11th instant, asking for an expression of opinion of the native gentlemen of the district on the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, I have the honour to state that I called a meeting which was attended by a large number (over 300) of native gentlemen who, one and all, voted in favour of the amendment. I submit below the purport of the resolutions arrived at. Actual inconvenience has, in the opinion of the meeting, arisen from the exclusion of Native Covenanted Civilians from the power of trying European British subjects on criminal charges. The meeting wishes to show, by one or two instances, the way in which the existing Criminal Procedure Code affects this district. Some days ago, a charge was brought against a British-born subject attached to the Coast Canal. That gentleman was found guilty and fined. Had the offence been com-

mitted during the incumbency of Mr. Dutta, the complainants would have suffered much. They might have been prevented from bringing any charge at all against the gentleman in question on account of the additional trouble and expense they would have been put to for the trial of the case by some British-born subject. It would thus appear that the European offenders of the district would enjoy to some extent immunity from the operation of the criminal law, should the District Magistrate happen to be a native. That the same remark applies to other districts of Bengal similarly circumstanced is a fact which hardly needs pointing out. In the ordinary course of things, the Native Civilians would become Magistrates of some districts, and the people of those districts would suffer simply through this anomaly in the law. Besides the inconvenience to the Native community, there are other disadvantages arising from the existing law, which it will not be out of place to dwell on here. In the month of January last the Magistrate of this district had to try some sailors who had acted against the orders of their captain. To what trouble the captain would have been put had Mr. Dutta been here? We might multiply instances; but those mentioned above will be sufficient.

2. The principle of equality in the eye of the law has been already recognized in the bestowal of the power by which Native Moonsifs and Subordinate Judges try cases in which British-born subjects are interested, and not a single case has been found, or can be found, in which failure of justice was ever alleged to have taken place. If Native Judges can be trusted to administer the civil laws, the meeting sees no reason why those Natives who have won their way into the Civil Service by exceptional energies and abilities, should not be entrusted with the administration of criminal justice as regards Europeans.

3. The Presidency Magistrates, be they Europeans or Natives, have the power to try British-born subjects on criminal charges; why should not then Magistrates, if they happen to be Natives, have the same power while in the mofussil?

The law as it now stands makes it necessary for the Government to confine Native Civilians to backward districts, such as the swamps of Backergunge, &c. This the meeting thinks is against the declaration in 1858 of Her Majesty.

In conclusion, the meeting urges once more the necessity of the amendment.

No. 1052, dated 16th April, 1883.

From—J. W. APJOHN, Esq., Executive Engineer of the Balasore Division,

To—The Magistrate of Balasore.

In reply to your No. 527 of the 12th instant, requesting an expression of opinion from me on the proposed amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, I have the honour to give it as follows:—

As an officer of the Public Works Department, I think that the amendment, if passed, would cause much inconvenience in the event of a Native Civilian being sent to a district in which European subordinates were employed, as these men now find it hard to hold their own against the petty persecutions of persons who they have made their enemies often through the faithful discharge of their duty, and, however fair a Native Magistrate might be, the common people would not believe in his impartiality, and the Englishman having lost prestige, would be regarded as fair game by all *budmashes*.

As a loyal European British subject, I most respectfully but earnestly protest against the subjection of the hitherto ruling race to the criminal jurisdiction of one which, however intellectually able, is, through hereditary want of physical and moral courage, unfit to have it.

As a husband and father, I protest against my wife and daughter being made subject to polygamists and men who from training are utterly incapable of understanding Western ideas of the status of women; and I regret the personal inconvenience I shall be put to in being obliged for the future to keep my family in England whenever serving in a district where a Native would have jurisdiction over them.

Dated 18th April, 1883.

From—REV. M. J. COLDREN, American Mission, Balasore,

To—The Magistrate of Balasore.

In reply to your memorandum No. 523, dated 11th April, 1883, I have the honour to state that I have made enquiry as to the opinion of the Christian community, and find a large majority of the leading members not in favour of having Native gentlemen try Europeans.

As to myself, I beg to state that if the Native Magistrate has passed all the requirements of Government to entitle him to administer the functions of that office, I see no reason why he should not be granted the privilege of trying Europeans, especially as in case of any seeming injustice there is an appeal to the higher Court.

No. 319, dated 26th April, 1883.

From—K. G. GUPTA, Esq., Officiating Magistrate of Pooree,

To—The Commissioner of Orissa, Cuttack.

With reference to your endorsement No. 192, dated the 7th instant, asking for an expression of my opinion on the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, I beg to say that,

considering the position of us Native Civilians in respect to this Bill, and having regard to the language that has been publicly held towards us, I should have preferred to keep silent; but Mr. Godfrey, the Sub-divisional Officer of Khorda, has, while in charge of this office, left a note on the Bill, and, as I happen to disagree with him, I cannot send it up without a few remarks of my own.

2. Mr. Godfrey says:—"The principle involved—that of subjecting Europeans to the criminal jurisdiction of natives of this country—is to a certain extent a novel one, and before it is generally introduced, the community whom it affects have a right to be consulted. A great deal has been written on the subject, and there is very little to be urged that is new. The voice of the European community has declared loudly against it, and in my opinion with good reason. I further believe that the introduction of the Bill is, under present circumstances, most impolitic.

"Neither can I see the necessity that exists for the measure; the number of Native Civilian officers who would come within its scope for many years is small. There are many districts in Bengal where the contingency of having to try a European for an offence very rarely occurs, and to such districts Native Civilians may without objection be deputed. I very earnestly hope that the proposed measure will be withdrawn at once."

3. It seems to me that the principle involved is not that of subjecting Europeans to the jurisdiction of natives of this country, but that of removing such disqualifications of the judiciary as are based on the accident of birth and race. Now this latter principle is by no means a new one, having been affirmed by Parliament many years since, and carried out to a considerable extent by the Government of India. The Bill is only the outcome of an extended application of that principle.

4. The indignation shown by the non-official European community against the Bill does not in any way affect its merits. No one likes to give up a privilege without a struggle; but race prejudice, I am afraid, has to account for a geat deal of the present agitation

5. Were the Government of India professedly despotic, no one could have questioned its consistency if it thought fit to prepetuate distinctions of race, creed and colour. But having practically declared, as it has done more than once, that fitness should be the only test of qualification, it is perhaps too late to question the principle of the Bill.

As for administrative inconvenience, this is very much a matter of opinion, and it would be difficult to say what amount of inconvenience would justify legislation. By careful selection and special arrangements, much of the inconvenience may be obviated; but still it scarcely adds to the prestige of a district officer to have withheld from him powers which his subordinates may, under certain circumstances, possess. The number of Native Civilians is at present small; but it is scarcely fair to them that they should be excluded from nearly all the best districts simply by reason of their birth.

No. 879 J. D., dated 31st May, 1883.

From—W. D. BLYTH, Esq., Under-Secretary to Government, Bengal,

To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 851 J.D., dated the 30th instant, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copies of a demi-official letter* from the Commissioner of Patna, submitting the opinions of certain Native officers and gentlemen of that division on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

* Dated the 24th May, 1883, and enclosure.

Dated 24th May, 1883.

Demi-official from—F. M. HALLIDAY, Esq., Commissioner of the Patna Division,

To—The Private Secretary to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

Mr. Thompson asked me to send copies of the opinions of the Native gentlemen here who have been consulted with regard to the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, and I enclose them for the Lieutenant-Governor's perusal.

I send also Grierson's letter to me, forwarding the written opinion of the leading non-official gentlemen of Patna City.

Dated 23rd May, 1883.

Demi-official from—G. A. GRIERSON, Esq., Collector of Patna,

To—The Commissioner of the Patna Division.

In addition to the written opinions of Natives concerning the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, which I forwarded to you with my report, I had also the opportunity of consulting the leaders of the Native non-official community on the subject. As already reported, they were to a man against the Bill.

You expressed to me, the other day, a desire to get the written opinions of these gentlemen, and I enclose them herewith.

Kuar Sukh Raj Bahadoor and Ray Jay Kishen are the leaders of the Hindu community here, and Nawab Sayyad Wilayat Ali Khan, C.I.E., is well known as the leader of the Maho-

medans of this part of the world. The opinions of these gentlemen may therefore be taken as that of the mass of the Behar community.

Dated 22nd May 1883.

From—KUAR SUKH RAJ, BAHADOOR,
To—The Collector of Patna.

We are, as we have said before, of opinion that, for certain reasons, we do not like the Ilbert Bill to be passed into law.

Dated 22nd May 1883.

From—RAY JAY KISHEN,
To—The Magistrate of Patna.

Having been asked to give my independent opinion on the "Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill," I have the honour to state that as the said Bill is not calculated to secure any substantial advantages or emoluments to the natives in general, with the exception of gratifying the vanity of a few native civilians, by empowering them to try Europeans; and, moreover, as it would create race feeling, jealousy, animosity and hatred between the races that have hitherto lived in peace and amity with each other, it is unnecessary and should not be passed.

Dated 23rd May 1883.

From—NAWAB SAYYAD WILAYAT ALI KHAN, C.I.E.,
To—The Collector of Patna.

Adverting to your demi-official letter of the 21st instant, requesting me to give my opinion on the Ilbert Bill, I beg to say that, as far as I have gone through the histories, I have always found the conquerors thinking themselves superior than the conquered. In my opinion the British will be heart-broken and will always remain fully against the natives if the *Bill* will be turned into Act; and as the mutual affection between the conquerors and the conquered, which is being increased, has not come to limits of perfection, and as the unsatisfactory remarks are being brought forward by the conquerors, I am quite sure the passing of the Bill into Act will place a great dissatisfaction between the conquerors and the conquered.

BABOO JADUB CHUNDRA GHOSE, *Deputy Magistrate and Collector, Sarun*—highly approves of the principle of the Bill, and also considers the amendment necessary to prevent future administrative inconvenience, and the anomaly of a superior officer being excluded from a jurisdiction which may be possessed by one of his subordinates.

BABOO RAM ANUGRA NARAIN SINGH, *Deputy Magistrate and Collector, Sarun*—approves of the principle of the Bill, and considers that, though every native civilian may not be qualified to try Europeans, they should, as a class, be eligible for selection by the local Government, and that there are sufficient safeguards to prevent any miscarriage of justice. He thinks that no administrative inconvenience has yet arisen, but such might arise in the future if the law were not amended.

MOULVIE AZHURAL HUQ, *Deputy Magistrate, Sarun*—is in favour of the proposed amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code.

We, the undersigned native Magistrates of Durbhunga, have the honour to submit the following report on the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill now pending in the India Council, in compliance with your order of the 13th instant, and with reference to Government of Bengal letter No. 1518, dated 27th ultimo.

2. Opinion has been invited on three points, namely—(1) the principle of the Bill; (2) any administrative inconvenience already felt for want of jurisdiction in native civilians over British European subjects; and (3) any such inconvenience likely to arise in future. We shall briefly dwell on these points in the same order in which they have been mentioned.

3. We beg to express our fullest sympathy with, and appreciation of, the object of the Bill, and its abstract principle is not likely to be questioned by any section of the Indian community. Apprehensions may be entertained regarding the practical result of the change in the present state of the Indian society. In our opinion such apprehensions are only imaginary, as they are not based on experience and sound reasoning. As covenanted native officers alone are to be vested with additional powers, the only matter for consideration is whether they are fully qualified to exercise them. To this subject we beg to devote the following two paragraphs.

4. No question has been raised that we are aware of regarding the general acquirements and legal knowledge of the native covenanted officers. Most of them have entered the service by open competition, and Government is responsible for the qualifications of those appointed under the nomination system. Exception can only be taken on the ground of unfamiliarity of the natives with the English mode of life and thinking, which is an important condition for

the proper understanding of a case in which a European is concerned. We submit that such a familiarity is tolerably acquired by native covenanted officers by study of English literature from infancy, by contact with the Anglo-Indians, and by visits to England; while they have an advantage over European Judges, in that they can better understand the surroundings of a case occurring in India.

5. Anticipated partiality of native officials towards their own countrymen may be another ground of objection to their being vested with powers over Europeans. The past experience of the character of native officials removes all doubts on this point. Natives have hitherto tried civil suits instituted by or against Europeans. They have also tried criminal cases in which Europeans are prosecutors, or their servants in a representative character stand accused. No display of partiality has ever been reported in respect to the trial of such cases. If any party in a criminal case enlists the sympathy of the court, it is the accused; and when a native in the prisoner's dock, standing in fear of punishment, cannot draw the sympathy of a native Judge, there is not the least chance of his doing so when he comes forward as a prosecutor. The fact is that party-feeling and race-antagonism is foreign to the spirit of the Indians.

6. According to our information, the Britons do not enjoy the privilege of being tried by their own countrymen in the civilized countries of Europe and America, nor in the presidency towns of India. They do so in other parts of the world where the laws of the land are materially different from those of the United Kingdom, and the law officers beyond the control of the British Government. In India the case is not similar. Here the criminal law has been framed in imitation of the English law, and the law officers are appointed by the British Government, and they hold their appointments subject to the approbation of the said Government. We know that the idea of appearing as an accused before native Judges is rather revolting to the present state of feeling in the Anglo-Indian society; but we trust this feeling will wear out in course of time, if the Bill is actually passed.

7. No inconvenience has been felt in this district for want of jurisdiction of native civilians over Europeans, for the simple reason that there are no such officers in Durbhunga. Mr. Brojendro Nath Dé and Kumar Rameshur Singh were posted for a time to the sudder station, where there were also European covenanted officers who tried all cases of this kind. Moreover, there have hitherto been so few criminal cases against Europeans in the Durbhunga district that they could be decided by European Magistrates without the assistance of native officers.

8. The state of things described in the last paragraph cannot continue for long if events are allowed to take their course. Under the existing rules, 20 per cent. of the appointments in the Covenanted Service will be gradually filled up by natives under the nomination system, and many besides will enter the Service by open competition. These officers will in ordinary course of promotion be placed in independent charge of sub-divisions, districts and sessions divisions. Inconvenience will then be felt if any restriction be imposed on their jurisdiction. On the other hand, European population in India is steadily increasing. Proportionately with the increase of population, cases against Europeans must also increase. In time such cases will be so numerous that the staff of European officials in many districts will not be able to decide them with due regard to their other duties. This increase of European population in India is beneficial both to India and England, and should by all means be encouraged. India wants capital to develop its resources, and its people force of character so necessary for progress. Englishmen in India can import capital and set an example of steady business habits. England has more money and more men than she can advantageously utilize within her maritime boundaries, and India opens to her a new field of enterprize.

NASSIRUDDIN.
GOWHUR ALI.

No. 4 B, dated 24th April 1883.

From—SYED MOHAMED, Deputy Magistrate, Mozufferpore,
To—The Magistrate of Mozufferpore.

With reference to your memorandum No. 714, dated 4th instant, forwarding a copy of the Government circular No. 1518 J., dated 27th ultimo, and asking my opinion on the proposed Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, as far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction by native Magistrates over European British subjects, I have the honour to submit as follows.

This subject has been so fully and carefully discussed from different points of view, and is still being so warmly discussed by eminent administrators and high authorities, both here and in England, and so many arguments have been advanced by its supporters and opponents, that I consider it perfectly needless to advance a single argument in support of my own humble views on the subject, which is that the Bill is a perfectly just and equitable measure, and I believe there is a consensus of opinion among all educated natives on this point throughout India. I look upon this legislation as a natural outcome of the fundamental policy of the British Government in India, and that it shall be perfectly harmless in its effects when passed into law. It is quite clear, from the facts stated by Dr. Hunter in his speech, to

which I am obliged to make a reference, that administrative inconvenience has arisen, and that much inconvenience will surely arise in future, as the number of native covenanted civilians would increase in the service, and in course of time they would come to be placed in large numbers in charge of districts and sub-divisions. The mass of population looks upon it, as upon all other legislative measures, with indifference, as they are incapable of understanding such measures.

MOULVI ABDUL JUBBAR.—The principle of the proposed amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code is generous. It aims at equalizing the powers of all Civil Servants employed in the administration of law and justice in India, and who have all been admitted into the Civil Service on proof of merit and ability. It will be a standing slur on the position of the native civilians if they are, on the ground of nationality, excluded from the exercise of functions which may be discharged by their subordinates. Native officers, inferior in position to the Civil Servants, have for many years tried Europeans in the presidency-towns, and no complaint has ever been seriously made that they have abused their power. It cannot be gainsaid that if native civilians, when they attain the grades of District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, are excluded from trying European British subjects for offences committed within their territorial jurisdictions much inconvenience to parties and witnesses will arise, and in many cases failure of justice will occur. The trouble and inconvenience of a journey to a long distance from home will induce many to avoid the necessity of being called as witnesses in cases in which Europeans may be on their trial. As to the impartiality and immaculateness of native officers invested with powers to do justice between man and man, there can be no difference of honest opinion. There may be one or two men whose good faith may be questioned in particular instances; but, generally speaking, native officers are as spotless as their superiors in office. This is not only my individual opinion, but in expressing it I simply echo the verdict of all intelligent natives. As regards the ability of native officers, I beg to say that the English of their judgment may not be equal to that of a European; but as a judge of facts a native endowed with the ordinary share of human intelligence will admittedly be equal, if not superior, to a well-informed European officer. A native officer may want a knowledge of the habits, customs and ideas of the Europeans; but undoubtedly he is better qualified to sift native evidence adduced in favour of or against a European offender. It is not true that native officers will be prone to receive or unable to detect false accusations against Europeans. Nevertheless, I would not advise the passing of the Bill. There is a general and strong opposition against it. The ground of this outcry is that the Bill contemplates to deprive the European British subjects of their special privilege to be tried by their own countrymen. It is a fact that in the mofussil Europeans have been long tried by Europeans, and I think some administrative inconvenience should be allowed to exist rather than that the special privilege of a nation should be interfered with. Moreover, an ill-feeling between the natives and Europeans, which the Bill, if passed into law, is likely to create, will be prejudicial to the interests of the country, which at present depends upon the nations of the West, and for material and intellectual advancement.

BABOO DINOBUNDHOO GANGOOLY, *Junior Government Pleader*.—I, and those natives whom I have been able to consult, agree in thinking that the Bill is sound in principle.

With regard to the administrative difficulty, I beg to submit that, as no covenanted native civilian had been placed in this district as Sessions Judge, no administrative difficulty has hitherto been felt.

MOULVI KHODA BUX KHAN, *Senior Government Pleader*.—The change proposed in the Civil Procedure Code does not in any way affect the native public one way or the other. It is certainly not intended, and it cannot practically attribute any moral or social advancement to the different communities living all over the country. The change is simply intended for a very few native gentlemen who are members of the Covenanted Service, and whether they are empowered to try the European British-born subjects or not is a question which would not go to touch any other than those who are to be thus tried by the native civilian. The general public, as far as I think and know of their circumstances, are quite indifferent to this change.

2. The number of the native civilians is so small that there can hardly be any administrative inconvenience at present. A native civilian can conveniently commit a European British-born subject to another court held by an Englishman in the very district where the offence is committed, or commit him to the Calcutta High Court for trial without causing much inconvenience to the persons concerned with the case, as, by the construction of the railway lines, travelling is so very easy.

3. The particular community concerned with the change claim their right of being tried by their own countrymen, and perhaps this is the only privilege granted to the English people; and unless there be some great administrative inconvenience, the change at present is quite uncalled for. Natives have privileges as well, and, under the custom of the country, they are respected by law and by the courts of justice; and I would therefore submit that such privileges should not be done away with without grave and cogent reasons for doing so, which are wanting at present.

BABOO NOBIN CHUNDER SEN, *Deputy Magistrate of Behar*.—I have never been placed in charge of any sub-division where cases requiring the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subject were likely to occur; the native Deputy Magistrates, on account of their legal

disqualification to try such cases, and its consequent administrative inconvenience, being excluded from the charge of such sub-division. Nor have I otherwise come across any such case in places where I have served. I am therefore not in a position to express any opinion, based on my personal knowledge or experience, on the principle of the Bill in question, involving such a grave question of Imperial policy. As for general arguments for or against it, they have been publicly expressed in so many quarters, and with so much greater force and ability than I could command, that it would be useless for me to recapitulate them, as they cannot be unknown to you.

No. 896 J.D., dated 2nd June 1883.

From—F. B. PEACOCK, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 879 J.D., dated the 31st ultimo, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copies of a further letter* from the Commissioner of Burdwan, communicating the opinion of Mr. E. V. Westmacott, the Officiating Magistrate of Howrah, on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

* No. 254, dated the 29th May 1883, and enclosure.

No. 254, dated 29th May 1883.

From—J. BEAMES, Esq., Commissioner of the Burdwan Division,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

In continuation of this office No. 204 of the 7th instant, I have the honour to submit copy of a letter No. 851 of the 15th idem, from Mr. E. V. Westmacott, Officiating Magistrate of Howrah, containing his opinion on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure. Mr. Westmacott joined this division only on the 4th instant, and could not therefore submit his report earlier.

No. 851, dated 15th May 1883.

From—E. V. WESTMACOTT, Esq., Magistrate of Howrah,

To—The Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

With reference to the order conveyed in your No. 50 of the 4th April 1883, I observe that my predecessor, Mr. Collier, has already submitted a report, with the terms of which I have no reason to disagree; but in reading much of the matter published with respect to the Criminal Jurisdiction Bill, I have observed in certain quarters a tendency to represent the opposition to the Bill as being on the part of those Europeans only who are not in the service of Government, and to deduce from the fact that officials have not joined in any public movement against the Bill, the conclusion, which I believe to be quite erroneous, that Government officials are in favour of the measure for giving certain native officials jurisdiction over Europeans, and for taking away such jurisdiction from a number of European Deputy Magistrates.

Although I have felt that it might not befit my position under Government to take part in recent proceedings, I must protest very strongly against any assumption that I am in favour of the Bill. In common with almost every official with whose opinion I am acquainted, I object to the proposed measure as much as any European not in the public service can object.

Even if I thought the measure unobjectionable in principle, I should hold that nothing but the very strongest necessity would justify it, arousing as it does, on the part of those whom it is proposed to deprive of the right of being tried by men of their own nation, bitterness of feeling both against the Government and against the natives on whom it is proposed to confer jurisdiction over them. There is a general feeling among Europeans that they are betrayed by the Government to which they have been thoroughly loyal, and to which they feel that they have a right to look for the maintenance of their valued privileges, of which the one which it is now proposed to take away is not one of the least. As regards the natives, Europeans who have hitherto been content to do business with them without taking notice of points of moral or social conduct in which they differ, have been suddenly and sharply roused to analyse the feeling which leads them to dislike being subjected to the jurisdiction of native courts, and have been led to bring prominently forward the faults they perceive, or think that they perceive, in native character; and this hostile criticism has irritated those natives who understand it into recrimination, and the utterance of sentiments hostile to Europeans. During more than twenty years' service in India, I have never known such bitterness of feeling between Europeans and the educated Baboos of Bengal, and such disaffection among Europeans towards the Government, as has been aroused within the last few weeks by the proposed measure; and even if there were reasons for passing such a measure, very much stronger than I believe there are, I should think they could hardly be strong enough to justify the risk of causing such widespread irritation.

It is stated that very few native Magistrates or Judges would be vested with jurisdiction over Europeans by the proposed measure, and further that it is not intended to proceed further

in the same direction. Natives, however, have declared in their public utterances that they look on the measure only as an instalment of wider concessions to be made to them, and Europeans also suspect that such is the case. Although the present Government may honestly intend to go no further, they cannot bind their successors. If it be once conceded that a few young men who have spent a short time in England are qualified to try Europeans on criminal charges, it will be difficult to deny the qualifications of grey-headed Deputy Magistrates, who have for many years exercised judicial powers under the guidance and supervision of British officers. Neither natives nor Europeans believe that the proposed measure can be passed without further measures of a similar character following in logical sequence.

I am unable to see that the administration of the country would be rendered in any degree easier by the passing of the measure; on the contrary, I foresee the possibility of very serious administrative difficulties arising from the irritation which would be caused by the condemnation of a European, especially of a European female, by a native tribunal. I do not say that I believe a native would not try a European justly, but I do say that native tribunals would not enjoy that confidence on the part of Europeans which is enjoyed by British Magistrates. It is notorious that people of the country do not trust the native courts as they do those presided over by British Magistrates, and if this is so, it is not strange that Europeans should share the feeling. The only advantage which I think can possibly arise from the proposed measure is the gratification of the self-love of certain native officials who consider themselves placed in a position inferior to British officers of equal rank, because they are not allowed to try European British subjects on criminal charges. I do not think this advantage sufficient to outweigh the evil which the proposed measure is already causing.

I have heard of several cases in which Europeans have been obliged to appear before native courts of justice as witnesses or otherwise, and in which the presiding officer has caused them unnecessary humiliation and inconvenience, evidently with the purpose of exalting himself in the eyes of his own countrymen. The appellate courts, and the general supervision of superior authority, may prevent any miscarriage of justice in the actual decision of suits, but are quite unable to prevent the petty annoyance, unconnected with the actual decision, which may be inflicted by a judicial officer, and which experience has shown that native judicial officers, especially the younger among them, are prone to inflict on Europeans. In the case of European women, such annoyance might be almost unbearable, and it appears that Europeans have more reason to object to native tribunals on these grounds than with a view to actual decisions.

I am unable to draw any distinction between natives who have been to England and those who have not, as I have not observed any special variation from the ordinary native character on the part of the former. It is not, however, my wish to discuss the fitness or unfitness of native officials for the exercise of the powers which it is proposed to confer upon them. I think it quite enough to urge the impolicy of pressing a measure which has caused such widespread irritation among European British subjects in India against both the Government and their native fellow-subjects, as I regret to observe to have been aroused within the last few weeks.

No. 1232 J—D., dated the 22nd June 1883.

From—F. B. PEACOCK, Esq., Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, Judicial, Political, and Appt. Depts.,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to submit his opinion upon the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, to which his attention was called in your letter No. 25 C, dated the 17th March last. On receipt of that letter a circular was issued to Commissioners of Divisions, inviting an expression of their views upon the subject, after consulting selected officers interested in the measure, and qualified to express an opinion upon it. Copies of the replies received have already been forwarded from time to time for the information of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council. This is the first time that an opportunity has been offered to the Bengal Government and its officers to report upon the Bill; and though the Lieutenant-Governor has little doubt that the impassioned controversy which has arisen since the intention to legislate was declared has strongly influenced opinions on both sides of the question, the fact remains that the general result, as gathered from the replies received, is, both in the number and weight of judgment, decidedly against the principle and policy of the proposal. It appears that, excluding the Judges of the High Court in Calcutta, whose reply has been submitted direct to the Government of India, there were 79 officers in Lower Bengal whose reports appear in the published replies, and form as fair an analysis of these reports as can be made; the result is that, while 20 gentlemen approve of the principle of the Bill, and would recommend its enactment, there are 59 who are either entirely against it, or who, accepting the soundness of the theory upon which the Bill is based, object for one reason or another to its being passed into law. Of the 20 writers in favour of the measure, 19 are natives and one (Mr. Coldren) is a gentleman connected with the American Mission in the district of Balasore. All but one of the 19 natives are in the public service, and include the two Covenanted Civilians, now officiating as Magistrates and Collectors in charge of districts. The others, with two exceptions, one of whom is a Government Pleader

are Deputy Magistrates and Deputy Collectors in Government employ. Mr. Coldren, to whom reference has been made, is an American; and though in his brief remarks he recorded his personal support of the Bill, he adds that from enquiries made he finds that a large majority of the leading members of the Christian community under him are not in favour of having native gentlemen to try Europeans. Out of the 59 gentlemen opposed to the proposed legislation, it will be sufficient to notice that the list comprises the Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, all the Commissioners of Divisions, all the district officers and Judges who were consulted, and includes Mr. Badshah, the Covenanted Native Civilian in charge of the sub-division of Goalundo, nine native officers of Government, eight of whom are in the Uncovenanted Service (most of them being Deputy Magistrates), and one a Government Pleader, besides three native gentlemen in independent positions unconnected with Government employment. Besides these, it is evident that several other gentlemen, whose replies have not been forwarded, had expressed opinions unfavourable to the Bill, and that the non-official European community is unanimously opposed to it. If the Lieutenant-Governor had had any doubts regarding the necessity or the policy of the contemplated legislation before, he must say that they would have been entirely removed by the great weight and numerical superiority of the earnest arguments now adduced in condemnation of the Bill; and he has only, therefore, to say that the opposition which he has consistently maintained to the introduction of the measure from its first submission to the Executive Council of the Government of India in 1881 has only been confirmed and strengthened by the later developments of the discussion.

2. Before referring to the grounds upon which this opposition, in which Mr. Rivers Thompson regrets to find himself at variance with His Excellency the Governor General in Council, is based, I am directed to notice some points in the Bill which demand consideration. If the Bill, as it has been circulated for opinion, is passed—(1) all Native Sessions Judges and Magistrates of Districts will, by virtue of their office, be empowered to exercise the same jurisdiction over European British subjects as now belongs to European officials in the same positions; and (2) any Native Magistrate of the first class who is a Covenanted or Statutory Civilian, or who is an Assistant Commissioner in a Non-Regulation Province, or a Cantonment Magistrate, may be invested, at the discretion of Government, with similar powers. Hitherto the Government has widely exercised the power of appointing as Justices of the Peace many Europeans, who, not being in the Government service, do not come within any of the classes above mentioned, and a great administrative convenience has been thereby secured. The withdrawal of this power, even if vested interests are saved, will, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, operate to the detriment of the administration of justice, because it may very well happen that in many places, such as the minor sea-ports, out-of-the-way sub-divisions, and, occasionally, at railway stations, the services of an Honorary (European) Magistrate would secure all that was requisite, when neither Covenanted nor Statutory Civilians were available for the duty. This omission of course might be easily remedied; but if it is remedied by the reservation of such powers in the hands of Government as now obtain, it is obvious that one principle upon which the Bill is based will be compromised, and the limitation of the grant of such judicial powers to European British subjects alone could not be defended. As the Lieutenant-Governor understands, however, the Government of India is not prepared to go to the extent of conferring such powers upon natives generally.

3. Again, in the matter of cantonments, the observations of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, speaking with the authority of Government in the Debate of the 9th March last, seem to show that there was no intention of conferring the office of a Cantonment Magistrate upon natives. It is not readily intelligible why, if race distinctions in judicial offices are untenable, such distinctions should be entertained in favour of the military, and not of the civil population of the country; but assuming that the decision is final (and the Lieutenant-Governor is clearly of opinion that the decision is a right one), clause (*d*), section 1 of the Bill will have to be amended. But in this connection it is necessary to direct attention to paragraph 11 of the report received from the Commissioner of Orissa, where he points out that in Cuttack the Joint-Magistrate, or, in his absence, the Magistrate of the district, exercises the judicial powers of the Cantonment Magistrate, and "if either of these officers should be a native, he would, as Cantonment Magistrate, under the Bill exercise the jurisdiction which His Excellency appeared unwilling to concede." However, supposing the Bill to be modified as suggested, the difficulty, though involving an anomaly, might be met by the executive arrangement of never appointing a Native Covenanted Civilian to the magistracy or joint-magistracy of Cuttack.

4. The Bill, as it proposes to enlarge the powers of Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces, does not affect any of the districts under the Bengal Administration, and the Lieutenant-Governor may leave it to others to deal with this clause. He would only remark that it very often happens that an Assistant Commissioner is a native, in no respects different from the Deputy Magistrates of the Regulation Province, and with but a tithe of the experience which the older Deputy Magistrates possess in the administration of the criminal law. If the Deputy Magistrate is not to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects, there is a much more forcible reason why the Native Assistant Commissioner should not have such a power. The case as regards the Statutory Civilians seems stronger still; and the Lieutenant-Governor is constrained to refer more at length to the question as it concerns the officers appointed under 33 Vic., Cap. 3, because his own judgment is here entirely in accord with that of the great majority of those who have commented upon and condemned

the proposal. The system under which natives of India are thus admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service of the country has been in force for three or four years. Altogether, up to the present moment, six gentlemen have obtained appointments to the Covenanted Civil Service under the Statute, and all of them are still Assistants to Magistrates and Collectors, and four only out of the six have passed the preliminary departmental examinations which qualify them for promotion. It may be accepted, then, as certain that it will take at least seven or eight more years before any of these officers will be in a position to enjoy the dignity of an Officiating Magistrate and Collector of a district. The chances of advancement to a Sessions Judgeship are even more remote. On the ground, then, of any immediate necessity for legislation on their behalf, even if the principle of the Bill be affirmed, no cause whatever can be shown. But this is only a very small part of the question. The system itself is in an early and experimental stage of its operation; and if it is to be continued, which the Lieutenant-Governor considers is likely to evoke discussion very soon (because any system of nomination is objectionable, and, as against Europeans and Eurasians in India, one of the worst of anomalies based on purely birth and race distinctions), it has not yet justified, and probably never will justify, the conclusion that the men so selected and admitted to a great service will be competent for other than subordinate positions in it. This is the common testimony, with a few exceptions, of all the reports upon the Bill. It is quite truly represented that these nominated officers, chosen very often more for their social connections than for any other qualifications, have given no guarantees of ability and character which should place them in the same category as the officers who have faced the difficulties and disabilities of a voyage across the seas, and have, by open competition in England, won their place in the Civil Service. What the Commissioner of the Presidency Division says upon this part of the subject is quite true: "The officers of the Native Civil Service come from the same classes as those from which the Uncovenanted Service is recruited. They have the same race feelings as those of their brethren of the latter service; and, save that they are not so experienced or so hard-working, there is no difference, as regards race qualification or disqualification, between a Deputy Magistrate and a member of the Native Civil Service under the Statute 33 Vic., Cap. 3." There is no magic in the words "Covenanted Service," which should be able to transform young men, taken from the same ranks as the general run of the Subordinate Executive Service, into superior beings fitted for posts of high responsibility. If anything is gained by a temporary sojourn of some three years in England, which is claimed for the Covenanted Native Civilian who enters the service by competition, the advantage is wholly wanting in the case of the statutory officers. There can be no kind of assurance that in their case they will be free from native thoughts and native prejudices; and ignorance of the ways and habits of Europeans is a distinct disqualification for dealing with criminal prosecutions against Europeans. The Lieutenant-Governor would ask attention to the forcible remarks made by the Magistrate and Collector of the 24-Pergunnahs upon this point. Mr. C. C. Stevens, the officer in question, has had twenty years' experience in many districts in Bengal. His whole career has been marked with an intelligent desire for the promotion of native interests. He has had under him in his district work Native Civilians of both classes, and his report throughout expresses that sense of regret which every one must share with him at having to deal with a question of such invidious delicacy for such a cause as this Bill represents. Yet, the fact is apparent, not from his report only, but from the reports of many other competent officers (and in this native opinion seems to be almost as decided as European), that there is an essential difference between these two classes of Native Civilians; and that, if the large body of uncovenanted officers are to be excluded from having jurisdiction in cases against Europeans, on the ground of unfitness, the disability extends with greater force to those of the Covenanted Service who enter it by nomination in India.

5. The Lieutenant-Governor is quite willing to recognise that the case of competition Native Civilians stands on a different footing. They have made sacrifices to secure the honourable positions which they hold, and they are sacrifices of a kind which Englishmen, of all people in the world, are best able to appreciate. They have abandoned caste, they have surrendered religious feelings, they have broken family ties, and set themselves against the devout sentiments and doctrines of their ancient creeds. The sentiments may not be so strong now as it was 15 or 20 years ago; but apart from the religious aspect of the case, the expense incurred in such an undertaking, and the risks of a long sea voyage (exaggerated in its perils to every native mind) to a foreign country, where they must live as strangers, and encounter, in the competition for the prize they are seeking, a large body of English youth who have enjoyed the advantage of the highest training and education—all these circumstances justify a claim to consideration on the part of the Government. There is weight, too, in the argument, which finds a place in many of the papers, that with the attainment of the status of a district officer, whether he be European or Native, there should be no distinction on the ground of nationality in the powers and privileges to be exercised. As an abstract proposition the Lieutenant-Governor assents to this; and, indeed, with much which Mr. Justice Romesh Chunder Mitter advances in his minute of the 25th May 1883, the Lieutenant-Governor would be willing to agree, if the premise could be accepted that to administrators and statesmen the policy of the measure was irrelevant and a matter of indifference. The learned Judge carefully excludes himself, as a judicial officer, from all such considerations in the opening paragraph of his memorandum; but it can scarcely be conceded that we are in India simply to make our laws symmetrical and to redress the sentimental grievances of an infinitesimal minority. They are high-sounding phrases which have appeared very frequently in the discussions upon this controverted measure, which talk of the abolition of "race distinctions" judicially, and the suppression of what one officer has called the enormous force of argument that is supposed to lie in the word "anomally." But it appears to the Lieutenant-Governor that time at least has shown, if not the arguments of the opponents of the Bill, that the attempt to remove a single petty anomaly, which injures no one, reveals only the innumerable anomalies with which our whole position as the dominant power in India is surrounded; and that the Bill itself exposes that, so far from race disqualifications in judicial administration being abolished, this very evil becomes very greatly intensified and accentuated by the exclusion from the power, which it is proposed to assign to a few, of a large body of equally competent and meritorious public servants. The fact is that, with whatever sincerity finality may be pleaded, finality in such legislation is impossible, if once the principle is yielded; and the Lieutenant-Governor is inclined to suspect that very much of the vehemence of the agitation on both sides of the dispute arises from the knowledge that such is the case. The single question, then, is whether the time has come for the concession of the principle in any form and subject to any modifications of the Bill; and for the reasons to be immediately given, the Lieutenant-Governor is certainly of opinion that it has not.

6. It has been put forward, not so much from any concession to popular sentiment in the matter as from the necessities of the case, that, with the abandonment of much which now appears in the Bill as regards Cantonment Magistrates, Assistant Commissioners and Statutory Civilians, the power to try European British subjects should be extended only to the Covenanted Native Civilians who have entered the service by competition, and that the power should be restricted to such officers as District Magistrates and District Judges by virtue of their office. In presence of the extreme animosities which the question has excited, this seems rather a small object to be attained, and the descent from the original proposal suggests something of the trivial results of great efforts. In the first place, it may be noticed that such an issue would prospectively affect just nine individuals in India, and most of these at a distant period. Immediately, it would confer a privilege (if so it may be called) upon three native gentlemen—two in Lower Bengal and one in Bombay—and if legislation is justifiable only where a clear case is made out for recourse to it, the condition seems hardly to be fulfilled in this instance. But the objection seems to be valid still further, because of the two native gentlemen whom the Lieutenant-Governor has had recently the pleasure of appointing to districts, one at least will, in all probability, be relieved of his charge, in the course of next cold season, by the return from furlough of senior officers; and the Bill, by the time it became law, would affect only the one native Civilian in the Bombay Presidency, and possibly one in Bengal. It cannot be pretended, then, that there is any urgency for the legislation; nor in the constitution of the office of the Magistrate and Collector of a district in Bengal is there any necessity for it. It may be asserted beyond contradiction that from the beginning of the year to the end a Magistrate of a district rarely, if ever, thinks of dealing with criminal cases. He has the full power to do so; but his avocations are so numerous and his responsibilities so various in the general supervision of district administration, and in the particular charge which he retains in his own hands in connection with revenue and fiscal matters, that he would never have the leisure to attend to work on the magisterial side, and, as a consequence, the whole of this falls, by a necessary division of labour, and in the regular course of procedure, to the Joint-Magistrate of the district and his native subordinates in that line. Mr. Romesh Chunder Dutt is now officiating as Magistrate and Collector of the Backergunge district. The Lieutenant-Governor ventures to say that, with the extremely heavy revenue work of that district, he has no time, and probably has no inclination, to touch any work in the criminal courts; and if any case arose there in which a European was involved, the parties would not be put, as Mr. Romesh Chunder Dutt asserts, to "the hardship and inconvenience of travelling to a different district," but would find, in the European Joint-Magistrate on the spot, an officer not only competent to deal with the case, but one who, in the ordinary course of business, would have to deal with it without the necessity of any interference from his superior. This is not always the case: there are some districts in Bengal where Joint-Magistrates are not permanently stationed, but in such places not unfrequently there are European officers of the Uncovenanted Service, who, as the law now stands, can exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects. The arguments based on "administrative inconvenience" is utterly untenable in the present constitution of the Civil Service; and if it is untenable in Bengal, where six out of the nine Native Covenanted Civilians are employed, it can scarcely affect any other administration in the country. The consensus of opinion received from different provinces is very much invalidated by the fact that there is not a single member of the Native Covenanted Service, who has entered it by competition, in Madras, the Punjab, the Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Sindh, or Coorg. There are two such officers in the Bombay Presidency; one, a very junior officer, under the Government of the North-Western Provinces; and six in Lower Bengal. There is scarcely an exception in the support given to the irrelevancy of the "administrative inconvenience" theory among all the reports from local officers. At the present moment there are 45 districts under the Bengal Government. At the same time there are two Native Civilians for whom, as Magistrates in charge of districts, immediate provision has to be made; and the contingency may arise of a third being appointed in the course of next year to a Civil and Sessions Judgeship. Executive arrangements will, it is obvious, quite easily provide, without detriment to the public interests

or to the personal claims of these native officers, either that they should be in charge of districts where there are no Europeans, or, as regards the Magistrates, that they should be in charge of districts where the presence of a European Joint-Magistrate, or of a European Deputy Magistrate with full powers, would prevent any kind of inconvenience. Even if the time ever arrives when one-sixth of the magistracy of this Province is in the hands of Natives —though that is quite a different thing from one-sixth of the covenanted appointments being filled by natives, and is in itself very improbable—there could be no difficulty in carrying on the administration of criminal justice without any change in the law; but as a question of very remote concern, it is scarcely necessary to dwell upon the requirements of very distant circumstances.

7. The Lieutenant-Governor would have been glad if he could have stopped here. He is ready to admit that if everything which he has already urged against the Bill was conceded, but the competency of a Native Magistrate to exercise jurisdiction in European cases was admitted, the proposal for the present modification of the Criminal Procedure Code would render the position of the advocates of the Bill not unassailable, because many political considerations would still affect the issue, but much stronger than it is now. But the question has to be met whether the legislation contemplated is justified by the fitness of the native judiciary for the powers which it is proposed to confer upon them, and in the Lieutenant-Governor's judgment the answer must be in the negative. He comes here to that part in the discussion which, as contained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill, represents the aim of it to be to secure the fair and impartial administration of justice, and to the observations of the Hon'ble Member who introduced the Bill that these particular cases against Europeans were in India admittedly few and exceptionally troublesome. Now the Lieutenant-Governor has little sympathy with that section of the opponents of the measure which represents the possibility of unrighteous judgments leading to severe and unjustifiable sentences at the hands of Native Magistrates, who are supposed to be a corrupt body, biassed against the European. If bias there might be in critical cases, there is little justification for any apprehensions from excessive punishments. If we have taught the natives anything, we have taught them to respect the purity of judicial administration, and, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, in these days of railways and telegraphs no wilful injustice could occur in the emotest corners of the country without being at once brought to light and remedied. Apart, owever, from the main objection, which the Lieutenant-Governor will presently advert to, here are other drawbacks which must be noticed. The surroundings of a mofussil Magistrate's court are not exactly the surroundings of a court at Westminster, or of the High Court in Calcutta. An Englishman, much more an Englishwoman, summoned to such a court (frequently, as evidence shows, on a false charge) has to undergo many indignities which a European officer can at once control and check, but which, in a court presided over by a native, find free course amidst a sympathetic audience. There is no exaggeration in this, as most persons who have had to deal with such cases can testify; and the absolute distrust which the European in the interior has of such courts arises not so much from any positive want of confidence in the Magistrate, if left to himself, as from the atmosphere of perjury, forgery and intrigue which is about him and around him. Beyond this, however, the Lieutenant-Governor is bound to say that there is a much greater risk of the failure of justice from a want of nerve in the native to deal in the presence of public excitement with the kind of "troublesome cases" to which these papers refer. The experience of every officer in the country will supply illustrations in which this independent force of character has been found wanting in the natives, and the reports before Government show innumerable cases in which a constitutional timidity has led natives to shirk duty because it is difficult. In judicial trials it is a much easier thing to acquit, when the acquittal terminates all enquiry and disposes of a serious embarrassment, than to convict and punish in complicated cases against the resolute determination of a violent Englishman, backed by a strong local opinion in his favour. The Lieutenant-Governor would ask if any head of an administration in India would place a native officer in independent charge of a frontier district. A Bengali in such a position at any rate might know all our criminal codes by heart, and be animated by the strictest desire to apply the law of evidence, and yet would certainly fail if a crisis impended from any sudden irruption of frontier tribes. In the recent discussions about Appellate Benches, one of the earliest, and, as it appears to the Lieutenant-Governor, the simplest methods suggested for limiting petty appeals was to constitute at capital stations a bench composed of the European and First Subordinate Judge to finally dispose of all such cases, and yet the objection came from the most competent judges of native character—the natives themselves—that on such a tribunal the Native Judge could exercise no independence. A good deal has recently been heard of Local self-Government schemes, in which the presence or absence of the Magistrate of the district as President of the Committee is considered a very material point; but the argument on which the natives' objection is based is that the presence of even a single official on a Committee would stop discussion, would paralyse the action of the native members, and would imperil the object for which the scheme has been introduced. There is probably much more than this dislike of control which repudiates the co-operation of English officers in the prosecution of a great reform; but, taking their own admissions, there can, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, be scarcely a stronger argument for the unfitness of natives to carry on such a measure alone than the incapacity which they allege in the presence of the European. These may not all be exactly apposite illustrations to the position of a Magistrate discharging

judicial functions; but they indicate what many passages in the reports before Government describe, and what any practical experience of the country confirms, that the quality of courage, whether moral or physical, is not among the virtues of the people with whom we have to deal in Bengal. The disqualification referred to is further evidenced by the notorious fact, common to every district, that even native litigants in emergent and difficult cases will ask for the trial of their suits by an English tribunal. It can scarcely be a matter of surprise that what is an object of distrust to the natives themselves should be an object of distrust to Europeans.

8. The Government of India will scarcely need a more convincing proof of the unqualified repugnance which the European community throughout India entertain towards this Bill than the general reprobation of it which public opinion in various forms has expressed. The strong feelings which the measure has evoked have, it is to be regretted, found not unfrequent expression in unnecessary bitterness and hostility towards Government. The Lieutenant-Governor would fain hope that this excess of feeling in this matter will not influence the judgment which is to decide the fate of the Bill. If he urges himself its withdrawal, it is in the conviction that it is not necessary for the judicial work of the country, and that it takes away a privilege, which Englishmen in India very highly value. In asking for the retention of that privilege, they ask only for what has been theirs since British courts of criminal judicature were established in the country, and they ask it in no derogation of the claims of the natives who, on their own side, enjoy privileges which, if the question of an impartial administration of justice is concerned, affect it much more seriously than the concession in favour of some half dozen Native Magistrates. The political issues are of course of much wider consequence. "The very bad thing about the Bill is its principle"—the principle, that is, that by a stroke of the pen we are to establish equality, ignoring race distinctions, among a people who themselves repudiate the idea in their intercourse with each other with the utmost scorn and aversion. Our thoughts are not their thoughts, nor are their ways our ways; and it has been quite justly pointed out that as long as there is such a wide divergence between Englishmen and Natives, as regards moral standards, social customs and political status, any attempt to remove judicial disqualifications must be as dangerous as it is premature. They will not be removed, at least, by legislative enactment. *"Naturam expellas furcâ, tamen usque recurret."* It will recur in hostility and scandals and contentions, whenever a serious case arises in which Englishmen are involved before native courts; and the result must be continuous agitation. Be it privilege or prejudice which the Englishman asserts here, there can be no question that amongst them the bare proposal to withdraw it has excited a fiercer and more perilous conflict of races than was witnessed after the mutiny of 1857; and so the work of 26 years, in which every true Englishman and Native has welcomed the growth of a stronger mutual regard and toleration for each other, and in which a spirit of charity and forbearance was winning its way to a better understanding of each other's wants, has to be begun over again. It is the Lieutenant-Governor's hope that the work may be accelerated by the abandonment of a measure which should never have been introduced, for its very abandonment will contribute, more than anything else, to the right union between all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in India, in advancing, through the social reforms which are before us, our common interests in this great Empire.

No. 4402, dated 28th June 1883.

From—C. GONNE, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Dept.

In continuation of my letter No. 4005, dated the 14th instant, I am directed to transmit, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a supplementary opinion forwarded by the Honourable the Advocate General, Bombay, on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

Opinion by the HON'BLE J. MARRIOTT, *Advocate General, Bombay, on the Ilbert Bill,—No. 43, dated 10th June 1883.*

In continuation of my No. 31 of 1883 I beg to say that I think it inexpedient that the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, should in its original or in any modified form become law.

The objects and reasons for the Bill state the Government of India has decided to remove from the Code any judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinction.

I think this very race distinction (which cannot be removed by any legislative enactment) is the very reason why the Bill should not be passed.

The position of Englishmen in India differs *in toto* from their position in any Christian country in which they may settle—in a Christian country they would intermingle with and form a part of the society in which they dwell. But in India the Englishman holds apart from the Natives by whom he is surrounded, and this is attributable not to the character of Englishmen but to the immiscible character of the Native. His religion, customs, thoughts,

ideas, character, and above all his caste prejudices prevent his mixing with Europeans. The following passage from the celebrated Judgment of Lord Stowell in the case of the Indian Chief is as applicable now as when it was delivered in 1801 :—"In the East from the oldest times an immiscible character has been kept up—foreigners are not admitted into the general body, and among the society of the nation they continue strangers and sojourners as all their fathers were. Doris amara suam non intermiscuit undam."

In no sense do Natives in this country form the friends, associates or equals of Englishmen, and it is I believe in fact to that feeling that the universal condemnation of, and antipathy to the Bill by the whole English non-official community is and justly to be ascribed. Every Englishman carries about with him the feeling that it is his birthright to be tried by his peers, a right given to him by Magna Charta. "Nullus liber homo capiatur vel imprisonetur.....aut aliquo modo destruatur nec super eum ibimus nec super eum mittemus nisi per legale judicium parium suorum vel per legem terræ." The Englishman feels that if tried by a Native he will not be tried for "legale judicium parium suorum."

By Act IX of 1874, Section 30, the Viceregal Legislature deprived vagrants who were European British subjects of their privileges as such as a badge of disgrace. At the instance of one man the Viceregal Legislature is now asked to deprive the thousands of Englishmen now in India of these same privileges.

There is also the belief that an Englishman if tried by a Native Judge up-country away from his friends without European legal assistance and without a vigilant European Press might not have justice done him. After 20 years' professional experience in this country and in a presidency-town, I regret to say I consider that belief well-founded.

My No. 31 was written in answer to a request that I would state my opinion on the proposed modification of the Bill, consequently I did not then give my opinion on the merits.

No. 2822—161, dated 30th June 1883.

From—A. H. L. FRASER, Esq., Officiating Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In reference to your letter No. 163, dated 26th January 1882, calling for opinions on the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill, I am directed to forward copy of a note recorded by Sir John Morris, and to say that Mr. Jones will submit his opinion within two days from this date.

Note by J. H. MORRIS, Esq., *Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces,—dated 23rd April 1883.*

In April 1882, my opinion was asked on a proposal to relieve Native members of the covenanted civil service of such restrictions on their powers as are imposed by Chapter XXXIII of the new Code of Criminal Procedure. I stated in reply (*vide* my Secretary's letter No. 1694—86, dated 15th May last) that the proposal had my approval. The grounds on which this view was based were two—

1. That these Native members of the covenanted service had been admitted after an examination conducted in London and designed to prove their European education and enlightenment; and (2) that the Government of Bengal, which is most interested in this question, had advocated the proposal.

2. I am still of opinion that there is nothing to urge theoretically against the proposal then under discussion; and I can hardly believe that, had that proposal alone been introduced into the Code, there would have been any serious objection or opposition. But the circumstances of the case have now entirely altered, and I cannot see my way to approve of the Bill now circulated for criticism.

3. In the first place, the scope of the measure is materially enlarged. To the Native members of the covenanted service are added (1) the members of the statutory Native service, who are appointed without a European training, and (2) Assistant Commissioners in non-regulation Provinces. To these two classes I should be averse to entrust the powers proposed until I had more clear proof of their ability to exercise them.

4. In the second place, His Honour the present Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has, if I am not mistaken, expressed his inability to see any administrative necessity for the introduction of this measure, and his grave doubt as to the propriety of entrusting such powers as it contemplates to Native officers. This statement from the head of the Government most affected very materially modifies the position of the question.

5. The very strong, and sometimes deplorably violent, agitation against the Bill on the part of Europeans would seem now to make it impossible to introduce any change in the law at present. It would be better, therefore, in my opinion, to withdraw the Bill for the present, than to legislate on the basis even of the original proposal.

6. I record these views because I am about to leave the province, and I think it right to leave my views on record for the information of my successor, the more especially as I had recorded them a year ago, and have had to take up what may appear at first sight a different attitude now.

No. 1577, Confidential, dated 13th June 1883.

From—C. G. MASTER, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am now directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, copy of the opinions of the Honourable the Advocate General, certain selected district officers and Native gentlemen, on the provisions of the Bill,* which accompanied your letter of the 17th March last, No. 23-C.

* To amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, with Statement of Objects and Reasons.

The High Court has not yet furnished its opinion.

2. The present Bill, His Excellency in Council remarks, goes beyond the change that was proposed by the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, about which the Government of Madras was consulted, and which that Government approved (the two Civil Members of Council dissenting), as expressed in my letter and its enclosures under date 8th June last year. To withdraw the Bill altogether, in deference to the opposition it has evoked in certain quarters, would, in the judgment of His Excellency in Council, be a grave political error; but he is of opinion that jurisdiction over European British subjects should be entrusted only to Covenanted Native Civilians, *i. e.*, those who enter the service after a competitive examination conducted in England.

3. I am to enclose a Minute recorded by the Right Honourable the Governor and one by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

Dated 9th April 1883.

From—RAJA SIR T. MADAVA ROW, K.C.S.I.,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Adverting to G. O. dated 2nd instant, No. 937, Judicial, I have the honour to annex a memorandum briefly expressing my opinion on the Bill, therein alluded to, to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure in respect of jurisdiction over European British subjects, and to request you will be good enough to submit the same to His Excellency the Governor in Council.

MEMORANDUM.

As I have been asked to submit to Government my opinion on the provisions of the "Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects," I beg to offer a few brief observations.

2. The principle of the Bill appears to be perfectly sound. It is the duty of every liberal-minded and far-seeing Statesman to do in his generation what may be in his power towards the removal or reduction of invidious inequalities based merely on race distinctions.

3. Moreover, I have no hesitation in avowing my belief that the Natives of India, whom the Bill proposes to invest with jurisdiction over European British subjects, will be found fairly qualified to exercise the same. The administration of justice will not suffer at their hands.

4. It is therefore much to be regretted that the Bill has met with so much opposition from the European community in general.

5. Howmuchsoever that opposition is to be regretted, it cannot be disregarded or made light of in the deliberations of *practical* Statesmanship.

6. I do not think it would be the wisest course to pass the Bill, while that opposition continues to its present extent and in its present intensity. I would not incur the risk of such widespread irritation and recurring embarrassments in the Empire, as would outweigh the good which the proposed law has in view.

7. I would rather wait until the prevailing misconceptions and exaggerated views pass away, and until, at least, the more intellectual and influential portion of the European community come to feel that the Bill only gives effect to a right principle, or that it is at least harmless.

8. In the exercise of prudence in administering a vast and complex Empire, and maintaining harmony between heterogeneous interests, a Government has sometimes to pause, even in the pursuit of just or benevolent objects. It is only real firmness to be able to pause when it is desirable to do so.

9. It is to be earnestly hoped that the Native community will brook any necessary delay with loyal patience, and that the European community will gradually relax their opposition and reconsider the whole question in a more dispassionate spirit.

Dated 10th April 1883.

From—The HON'BLE P. O'SULLIVAN, Advocate General, Madras,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Order of Government, Judicial Department, dated the 2nd April 1883, and a copy of the Bill referred to therein to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European subjects with Statement of Objects and Reasons.

2. My opinion upon the Bill is that it would, if passed, remove an anomaly which ought not to be permitted to exist longer than the circumstances of the country demand; that the tendency of legislation must be to limit, and ultimately to remove, distinctions founded upon race in relation to the administration of justice; but that the time has not yet come to give the jurisdiction provided for in the Bill to the extent contemplated. I think it would have been as well not to have raised the question at all at present, seeing that the new Code of Criminal Procedure only came into force in the beginning of this year, though, whenever the Code comes to be recast, the question is one which will require to be dealt with in some way and in the direction taken by the Bill. Since, however, the question has been raised, and a Bill introduced, I think the prudent course to take would be to restrict the powers conferred by the Bill to Class (*a*) in Section 1, *viz.*, Members of the Covenanted Civil Service. This class would consist of men whose training, experience, and character would, in all probability, enable them to exercise the jurisdiction in a manner likely to be generally acceptable to the public. In time the class may be enlarged with the same results. But it seems to me to be inexpedient to invest classes of officers with criminal jurisdiction in whose knowledge and impartiality persons charged before them would not have confidence. It is to be borne in mind that Magistrates in the Mofussil, at least in this part of India, are at liberty to try criminal cases whenever they are (within their districts) engaged in the performance of their revenue or other duties, and that cases are sometimes tried in remote and comparatively inaccessible places. There is no public, and the person charged would frequently find it difficult to get a competent person to defend or advise him. If some of the officers and attendants of the Court, not always scrupulous persons, wished to throw impediments in the way of the accused person, or to favour one of the parties, they would have many opportunities of doing so without much risk of detection. These difficulties would be aggravated in the case of a European having an imperfect knowledge, or no knowledge, of the language of the district. In cases before Magistrates in the Presidency Towns and Sessions Judges, the proceedings are conducted in open Court, and are subject to the influence of such public opinion as there is available.

3. In this country criminal charges are frequently brought and supported by false evidence. The evidence is sometimes wholly false, but more frequently exaggerated, and few cases are free from falsehood. It happens, too, that a case, true in itself, is supported by the testimony of witnesses who have no actual knowledge of the facts to which they depose, and some of whom would not give evidence if they did not believe that the case was substantially a true one. A true case may be discredited by reason of the falsehoods which are almost certain to be detected in it. In civil cases there is nearly always some documentary evidence, but, as a general rule, such evidence cannot be expected in criminal cases. The result is that false charges may be treated as proved, and true charges dismissed. I know of no more difficult task than to administer criminal justice in this country, and it is therefore not surprising if (as I believe to be the fact) this is the function of Government which has hitherto been least perfectly discharged.

4. I do not think the objection to giving Native Magistrates jurisdiction over European British subjects is founded so much upon a belief in their want of impartiality as with their want of sympathy with the European and want of knowledge of his ways and habits. It would be apprehended that false charges would increase, inasmuch as false charges and false evidence would not, speaking generally, produce so much disapprobation in the mind of a Native as of a European Magistrate, and that the Native Magistrate would not take action as effectively as the European Magistrate would with a view to prevent a repetition of such charges. Then, the ministerial (especially the inferior) officers of a Court have various powers of injury and annoyance in the case of suitors in the Courts in which they are employed. Native suitors frequently think the prudent course, with regard to such persons, is to "purchase peace." I believe many of them are only too anxious to make the purchase from any one who is supposed to have any portion of the commodity for sale. Europeans, however, especially those who have not had much experience of the country, would not be likely to do this, and would be thereby at some disadvantage.

5. The expediency of the present Bill depends upon the question of time. I suppose few would assert that it would have been advisable to have given this jurisdiction forty years ago, whilst on the other hand, few will maintain that the time for giving it can never come. I think the time will come for giving to Natives of India almost every power which is given to Englishmen; that education and the power and right to manage their own affairs will tend to put down false speaking and false swearing, and corruption in its various forms, and that people will perceive the injury and insecurity caused by such vices. There are very many natives who are as free from these vices as any other persons of any race, and I believe the number will rapidly increase. Without at all adopting views founded upon distinctions of race, I think the practical objections to the Bill rest upon a substantial foundation.

No. 2152, dated 10th April 1883.

From—H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Tanjore,
To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Madras.

I have the honour, with reference to G. O., 2nd April 1883, No. 937, Judicial Department, to state that, in my opinion, Mr. Ilbert's Bill will probably prove innocuous, but is altogether unnecessary.

Dated 14th April 1883.

From—P. P. HUTCHINS, Esq., On Special Duty, Ootacamund,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the Honourable Mr. Ilbert's Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, forwarded for my opinion with G.O., 2nd April 1883, No. 937.

2. In all probability, worked with the discretion which Government might be expected to exercise, the practical result of the proposed changes would have been very slight. Very few native officials would have been made Justices of the Peace, and still fewer sent to districts where it is likely that Europeans would have been brought before them. But if so, the very necessity for this case becomes an argument against the Bill, while, if it is denied that such caution is necessary or would be exercised, then I should certainly be opposed to the Bill altogether. In my opinion the time has not come, if it ever will come, at which English settlers in the mofussil can, with safety to themselves or to the country, be deprived of their right to be tried by their own countrymen.

3. The reasons against the Bill have been stated so frequently and so forcibly by Mr. Justice Stephen and others, that I will not inflict their repetition on the Government. My opinion in brief is that the practical outcome of the Bill will be either *nil* or mischievous, and that therefore it should not be proceeded with.

No. 58, dated 16th April 1883.

From—F. BRANDT, Esq., District Magistrate, Nilgiris,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I have the honour to submit the following remarks on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, copy of which Bill was sent to me with G.O., dated 2nd April 1883, No. 937, Judicial.

1. I do not think that it has been shown that, as a matter of administrative necessity, the proposed alteration in the law is urgently called for at the present time.

2. It may become so in time, if and when a considerable proportion of the Members of the Covenanted Civil Service and Civil Service constituted under 33 Victoria, Chapter 3, being Natives of India, occupy the position of Sessions Judges and District Magistrates: this is not so at present, and sufficient for the day are the necessities thereof.

3. As to the anomaly, there are many anomalies inherent in the position which the ruling power occupies in this country, and I do not think that that which is now selected for removal as such is of such importance as to justify the measure now proposed. Nor do I think that the removal of this will satisfy those who consider other race distinctions to be anomalies, but will rather incite them to ask for further and even more sweeping changes.

4. Those who are now asked for their opinion on the subject have a great advantage over others who were called upon to pronounce on the measure before it had been encountered by the fierce opposition which it has elicited.

5. Whatever opinion I might have formed in the first instance—and I can honestly say that I never saw the necessity for the change, and was surprised that so important a measure should have been brought forward so very soon after the new Criminal Procedure Code had come into force—I am decidedly of opinion that, viewed in the light thrown upon the subject by discussions at public meetings and in newspapers of the first class, both English and Indian, the proposal should be withdrawn for some years to come at all events.

6. No one can regret more than I do the acerbity which has been displayed in some quarters in discussing the question; and there have been not unfrequently unjust aspersions thrown out and unfairness displayed in argument, but I am satisfied that the apprehensions entertained by independent Europeans settled and interested in this country are in general sincere, and being so are not lightly to be disregarded for the sake of introducing greater uniformity into a Criminal Code framed with reference to a very exceptional state of society and Government.

No. 102, dated 18th April 1883.

From—LIEUT.-COLONEL T. WELDON, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Madras,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I have the honour, in reply to the Orders of Government, dated 2nd April 1883, No. 937 (Judicial), calling for an expression of opinion in regard to the proposed amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, to state that, in my humble opinion, no practical inconvenience is at all likely to result from a continuance of the privilege now enjoyed by European British subjects of trial only by persons of their own race and nationality.

2. The fact that in the presidency-towns this privilege has ceased to exist has apparently been regarded as an all-sufficient reason for abolishing the special jurisdiction generally. So far as Madras is concerned, the appointment of Natives to be Justices of the Peace, authorised to try European British subjects, is of comparatively recent date. My experience in the presidency-town and in the mofussil has not been favourable to an extension of the experiment.

3. As a matter of legislative symmetry there seems to be no logical reason why any First Class Magistrate, or even Second or Third Class Magistrate, should be excluded from the exercise, in all cases, of all the judicial powers appertaining to his grade. It may be assumed that District Magistrates and Sessions Judges will not be selected solely or mainly on account of their anticipated fitness to deal with the occasional cases in which European British subjects may be accused of offences.

4. I think there must surely be some stronger foundation than mere sentiment for the unanimous cry of alarm on the part of those whom the proposed measure principally affects, and, unless this consensus of opinion is to be ignored, some concession should be made to allay the bitter feeling that has been aroused. It is, I submit, most noteworthy that the non-official portion of the community should be roused as it is, for it is that portion which is in the best position to give an independent opinion as to the probable effect of the desired amendment of the law.

No. 1223, dated 25th April 1883.

From—J. G. HORSFALL, Esq., District Magistrate, Ganjam.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I have the honour to submit my opinion upon the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. I am bound to confess that the Bill has met with very general opposition from the European residents in India, but this appears to me to have arisen mainly from a misapprehension of the scope of its provisions and the change that will be thereby effected in the existing law.

3. Now that natives are admitted into the Civil Service, and will, in course of time, form a fair proportion of the officers by whom the administration of the country is to be carried on, I am of opinion that the powers sought to be conferred by the Bill must necessarily be granted, at least, in a modified form.

4. I would accordingly strike out Section 1, retaining Section 2, and limiting the extension to District Magistrates and Session Judges only.

5. This will ensure an officer having had considerable experience before he is invested with the special powers, and will remove most of the objections that have been urged against the Bill.

Dated 2nd May 1883.

From—F. W. EMERY, Esq., Chairman, Madras Trades Association,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of G.O. No. 937 of 2nd ultimo.

2. I am desired by this Association to state that so much has been urged in opposition to the new Criminal Procedure Bill that it seems scarcely possible to advance any argument in opposition to the same that has not already been considered; but, at the same time, we are glad of an opportunity of stating that we cordially endorse most of the objections raised against the Bill. Our position as Tradesmen necessarily brings us in contact with all classes of the community. We, therefore, possess peculiar facilities for gauging public opinion, and we unhesitatingly assert that, certainly, in this Presidency the alleged "consensus of opinion" in favour of the Bill does not exist. The Europeans, almost to a man, strenuously oppose the measure, whilst the natives—the intelligent natives—treat the question with the most absolute and almost unprecedented indifference, in fact, many of the latter—Barristers and other professional men—have particularly requested permission to attach their signatures to the Madras petition against the Bill. It appears to this Association—and the objections are urged with all deference—that the measure has been prompted by sentiment, introduced without due and proper consideration, with an entire disregard to the interests or feelings of the people most affected, and that it exhibits a want of information on the subject with which it deals, altogether too serious to contemplate.

3. Mr. Ilbert's apology for the Bill "to remove an anomaly" appears to us insufficient justification for the measure; but, even granting the supposed anomaly, we contend that the rights claimed by Europeans are less than the privileges accorded to natives in this country. It is impossible to enter even the High Court in the presidency-towns, to sit with Native Jurors, and not feel astonishment at the ease with which their minds are swayed, either by the summing up of the Judge, the arguments of counsel or the remarks of brother jurymen, whilst it is palpable to the most casual observer that a large proportion of evidence tendered by native witnesses is of a most thoroughly unreliable and unsatisfactory character. This is essentially the case where Europeans are concerned; the two races have scarcely an opinion in common, and we respectfully submit that natives are not competent to sift evidence, more particularly as regards Europeans, and that it will be prejudicial to the best interests of the country to invest Native Magistrates with the same judicial authority as Europeans. Happily our experience of Mofussil Courts, presided over by Native Magistrates, is not great, but limited as such experience is, we are justified in supporting the popular verdict that, in a majority

these Courts, bribery and the manufacture of false evidence appear to be essential elements to the administration of "justice."

No. 1631, dated 7th May 1883.

From—C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting District Magistrate of Malabar,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

With reference to G.O., dated 2nd April 1883, No. 937, Judicial, referring for the opinion of certain selected officers a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I have the honour to forward copy of a memorandum on the subject recorded by Mr. Logan before leaving the district, and the replies of the representative bodies* consulted by him (in original).

* Chamber of Commerce, Tellicherry.
Ditto ditto, Cochin.
Wynaad Planters' Association.
European community of Calicut.

Memorandum on the Ilbert Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure by W. LOGAN, Esq., *Collector of Calicut,—dated 27th April 1883.*

If the opinion of the European community is, as I anticipate, unanimously opposed to the Bill, then I think that the Bill should not be pressed. To pass it would, in the first place, be to alienate the good-will of, and to convey a rebuff to, the European community, thereby giving rise to deep-rooted dissatisfaction, the evil consequences of which would be out of all proportion to the administrative advantages to be secured.

2. On the merits of the Bill itself I can add but little to the views which are so ably expressed by the two representative bodies* whose opinions have been received up to date. Those opinions ought to carry great weight as being the opinions of men who see a good deal more than officials do behind the scenes (so to speak).

* Malabar Chamber of Commerce.
Cochin ditto.

3. So far as I have been able to judge, there is no extensive prejudice among Europeans against the admission of Natives into the ranks of the Covenanted Civil Service. On the contrary all enlightened men are unanimous in thinking that the policy of Government on this point is the only practicable policy. Any other would be suicidal, for it would be inconsistent with the great progress made lately in native education and with the growth of a native public opinion. In so far therefore as the Europeans in Malabar are concerned, I am, I believe, justified in stating that an opinion which is prevalent and which has received the high sancti of His Excellency the Viceroy himself—*viz.*, that this agitation against the Bill is really an agitation against the native community having any but a subordinate interest in the administration of their own country—is, *as a matter of fact*, erroneous and requires, *as such*, to be distinctly repudiated.

4. A non-official European—and there are hundreds of them in Malabar engaged in commerce, in planting, and in mining—submits almost with complacency to loss of property brought about by hard swearing in the Civil Courts, knowing that he can either recover it on appeal, or at the worst have to write it off to profit and loss in business; but to be deprived (even for a short time) of liberty by hard swearing trenches upon one of the most sacred birthrights of Englishmen. The remarks of the Chairman of the Cochin Chamber of Commerce on this point deserve, I think, very grave consideration.

5. The fact is that the native community is only now, after a century of British rule, beginning to realise to any extent that they are, through the happy chance of British intervention in their affairs, the inheritors of that freedom which was won with the blood of Englishmen long before England was known in Eastern seas. This freedom has so far filtered but slowly downwards, and has hardly yet had any effect on the ignorant masses. Until the idea of it is engrained in the character of coolies and of those who are still practically slaves, no Englishman's liberty will be safe, unless he can rely on having, as his Judges in criminal matters, men of his own nationality. For it is undoubtedly a fact that all classes of natives, but practically the lower orders, ***dare not*** even yet, after a century of British rule and British freedom, do what they would, or say what they think or know. Their actions and their words are adapted to the views of those who have power over them, and they swear black is white with supreme complacency when their own or their superior's interests require it of them. To put the matter in few words, they are still, as a body, unfitted to be the guardians either of their own or of other people's liberty.

6. The progress made already gives sure promise of a still more rapid advance hereafter, but to propose to legislate as if, at the present day, Native ideas and English ideas, in regard to this fundamental privilege were one and the same, betrays ignorance of the relative position of the two communities, and can only lead to race jealousy and strife. It will be time enough to propose to put Englishmen and Natives on a footing of equality in this respect when the Native prefers being tried by his own countrymen to being tried by foreigners. And any one who has had practical experience of district work will say at once, notwithstanding all the steady progress made of recent years, that that time has, *as matter of fact*, not yet arrived.

7. I think the Bill should be withdrawn.

Dated 20th April, 1883.

From—F. FLETCHER, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Chamber of Commerce Malabar,

To—The Collector of Malabar.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1240-E., dated 9th instant, requesting the views of the Chamber of Commerce here on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. In reply, I have to state that the Chamber view the so-called "amendment" with alarm, and consider it a dangerous innovation.

3. The general arguments against the Bill have been so fully entered into in the newspapers that the Members of this Chamber do not propose to occupy your time with a needless repetition of them, but at the same time would like to express the following views:—

(1) In their opinion natives of this country cannot become fit Judges of Europeans, since their early training, their customs, and their habits of thought, &c., are utterly different from those of Europeans. Coupled to this are their strong race prejudices and their known weakness in the matter of bribes, &c.

(2) There is not sufficient community of feeling and of ideas to admit of the European and the Native being placed on the same level, and while it may be advisable not to obtrude this fact of European superiority over the Natives, yet it *is* an undoubted fact and one which, in such matters as that now under consideration, must be recognised.

(3) That though the Native Members of the Covenanted Civil Service would probably be less disqualified than many others to exercise such powers, still they would retain their *nature*, and the fact of their being Civilians could not alter this.

(4) A Native Member of the Covenanted Civil Service, from his education and qualifications, may expect, and, *certainly does hope*, to be treated socially on an equality with Europeans, while practically this will *never* be the case.

Feeling that he is shut o it from the society of Europeans, he would be very apt to act in a prejudiced manner if any member of that community were brought before him.

(5) Few in number as the Europeans are, scattered over the country and, in very many cases, isolated in wild districts, where large gangs of labour are kept in order merely by the recognised superiar moral influence of the Europeans, the Chamber consider it most essential that they should be guarded by special rights and privileges, and their position, as members of the dominant race, be made such that they shall be treated with proper respect and consideration.

It is, undoubtedly, the fact of the Englishman's hitherto occupying such a position amongst the native population of this country that has preserved him from robbery and insult, and caused his little home to be universally respected.

(6) Should the Bill ever be passed (which the Members of this Chamber fervently trust may never be the case), they think that it will rapidly destroy the planting and smilar industries in India.

That prestige which enables the Englishman to hold his own in this country would at once be lost, and his position become untenable. This would deter them from settling in India and bringing their capital here and developing the country's latent resources.

(7) In conclusion, the Chamber feel that were the Bill passed, it would be admitting the thin edge of the wedge, which would ere long, in spite of European opposition, without much difficulty be driven home.

Dated 19th April 1883.

From—W. N. BLACK, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Cochin,

To—The District Magistrate of Malabar.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 1240-E. of 9th instant, asking for an expression of opinion of this Chamber as regards the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, as far as relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. In reply, I am instructed to inform you that a meeting was held on the 6th ultimo under the auspices of the Chamber to consider this subject, and as the resolutions then passed embody the unanimous views of this Chamber, I enclose a copy of proceedings for your information.

Proceedings of a Meeting held at the Club on the 8th March 1883, under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce to consider the Hon'ble Mr. Ilbert's Bill.

There were present—Messrs. Brunton, Scaly, Oughterson, Grieve, Wright, Cavendish, Spencer, Highton, and Black.

Mr. Brunton, who was elected to take the chair, opened the proceedings with the following remarks:—

Gentlemen,—I do not think that I need say much respecting the object of our meeting. So much has been said and so well by others and published in the newspapers, which, I take it for granted, all of you have read, that there is little or nothing to be added.

In conversation with those who uphold Mr. Ilbert's Bill, I have been told that to be consistent I ought to object to the power now held by Native Judges of trying civil cases, in which the property of Europeans, to any amount, is subject to the decision of those Judges, and at the first blush there appears to be some reason in this, but on looking deeper it will be seen that there is no comparison between civil and criminal jurisdiction. An unfortunate European up-country has a civil case, through the perjury of witnesses, decided against him, he can appeal at once and get a hearing before his own countrymen *and can be reinstated* in his original position, or even, if unsuccessful in obtaining justice, loses at most so much property or so many rupees; but if he be brought up on a criminal charge, falsely brought against him, and supported by perjury, and he be imprisoned even for a day, no power on earth can wipe out the stain which will rest on his name to his dying day, although his sentence be afterwards annulled and his character cleared. The stigma of being an ex-convict or jail-bird can never be effaced.

If all anomalies are to be swept away and the prejudices of different races or castes are to be ignored, what a task is before Mr. Ilbert! What greater anomaly could there be, for instance, than a Mussulman Judge sentencing an Englishman for bigamy, when he, the Judge, has four lawful wives at home? The Englishman's rule is successful, *because* he shuts his eyes to anomalies and allows for the prejudices of his neighbours, whether they be sentimental or otherwise, so that they do not inflict injuries on others. Call our objection to this Bill a prejudice, sentimental or otherwise, the fact remains that we object in the strongest manner to any legislation which may even lead to unprotected countrymen of ours in Mofussil stations being left in criminal charges to the tender mercies of any but our own countrymen.

I think that the present agitation and indignation raised throughout the country in the breasts of Englishmen against this most uncalled-for attempt to cancel our most prized privileges will convince the Government that it has made a mistake.

Let the natives of this country show us, by, say, half a century of honorable, upright, impartial conduct in the high positions to which they have been already raised, that we have no good reason for fearing to entrust our liberty in their hands, and then it will be time to ask us to abandon our prejudices.

Other gentlemen spoke in a similar strain, all condemning most heartily this purposed violation of our national rights.

The following propositions were then put and unanimously carried:—

First.—That the following resolution, passed at a meeting held at the Madras Chamber of Commerce on 23rd February, be adopted:—

That, in the opinion of this meeting, the alteration in the law proposed by Government in the Bill entitled, "A Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects" demands the concerted opposition of the European community throughout British India, as being an unnecessary sacrifice to ideal legislation of our highly-prized right, and as likely to seriously check the introduction of European capital into India.

Second.—That this meeting agrees to give its best support to the efforts of the Committee formed in Madras for the purpose of opposing the passing of the Hon. Mr. Ilbert's most objectionable and unnecessary Bill.

Third.—That to defray any necessary expenses for the above purpose, it undertakes to subscribe to the fund opened in Madras.

Dated 6th May 1883.

From—G. L. YONGE, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Wynaad Planters' Association,

To—The District Magistrate, Malabar.

I have the honour to own receipt of your letter of the 9th ultimo, calling for an expression of opinion on the part of the Association on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. I am directed by the Association to say that they view with the greatest alarm the proposed alteration in the law, an alteration, they think, at once most dangerous and unwarranted for, and, on behalf of the great body of European settlers in this district, they most emphatically enter their protest against it.

3. The Association deplores the harm that has already been done by the bare proposal of such a change in the law, and they most earnestly hope that the Government will listen to the almost unanimous expression of alarm and disapproval that has shown itself throughout the non-official European element in India, and will withdraw the obnoxious measure.

4. That the country is not ripe for such a radical measure is, the Association ventures to assert, proved by the language used throughout India by the Vernacular Press. Already the opinions of those who are hostile to the Bill have been stigmatised as "the senseless clamour

of an ignorant rabble," and already the Native Press ventures to talk of an India "united from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin with a national flag and a national ruler."

5. The Association has no hesitation in saying that, since the mutiny, nothing has occurred heretofore so calculated to disturb the social relations between the Europeans and Natives as this proposed change in the Criminal Procedure Code, a disturbance which, were the proposal withdrawn tomorrow, will take some years to settle down again.

6. The Association is unable to understand the reasons for the proposed change which, it appears to them, will only tend to gratify the self-conceit of a few hitherto unknown Native Magistrates, and the Association deprecate a concession which will please such a limited few, and which, at the same time, most justly alarms and aggrieves the great body of European residents in India who are developing the resources of the country to an extent which, directly and indirectly, promotes the welfare and prosperity now and in the future of every subject in Her Majesty's Indian Empire.

Dated 24th April 1883.

From—The European Community of Calicut,

To—The Collector of Malabar.

In compliance with the request contained in your communication, No. 1240, dated the 9th instant, addressed to Mr. T. J. Ferguson, we have the honour to lay before you, in a very brief and general form, our views with reference to that portion of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure (now commonly known as Mr. Ilbert's Bill), by which it is proposed to extend jurisdiction over European British subjects to Native Magistrates.

2. We are most strongly opposed to any such alteration of the law; we consider such a change not only uncalled for, but calculated to lead to the very worst results politically and socially.

3. The extension of jurisdiction to Native Magistrates over European subjects is, so far as we know, uncalled for except by a few Native Magistrates, to gratify whose vanity it is proposed to sacrifice a privilege most highly prized by Europeans in the East. We respect the religious and social privileges and customs of our native fellow-subjects, and it has heretofore been the policy of the ruling power to see that such privileges and social observances were preserved to the men of different races and creeds who inhabit this continent.

4. We most emphatically object to the prospect which the passing of this ill-advised Bill affords as and our children of having to appear to answer criminal charges before a Magistrate who, however well educated he might be, would still be ignorant of our customs, and quite unable to form a true and unprejudiced opinion of many cases in which Europeans might have to appear.

5. The reservations and safeguards pointed out in your communication in no way alter our views, or reconcile us to the proposed change. We hold that native gentlemen are unsuited to occupy, in a district such as Malabar, the appointments now filled by Covenanted European Civilians, and to invest Native Magistrates of any class with criminal jurisdiction over European subjects will, in our opinion, lead to most disastrous results.

6. Many of us have been residents in this district for a long period; we have lived on good and friendly terms with our native neighbours; we have joined them in their endeavours to promote the advancement and welfare of the district; we have appeared before them and bowed to their decisions in the various Civil Courts in which they sit; but we protest on our own behalf and more especially on behalf of our numerous fellow-countrymen and country-women who are settled in remote parts of the Mofussil, away from the controlling influence of the Press or of public opinion; we protest on their behalf against the proposed alteration in the law; and we do not believe that the intelligent, educated, and well-meaning portion of the native community will respect us less for defending ourselves against this attempt to deprive us of our time-honored privilege.

No. 9, dated 7th May 1883.

From—H. WIGRAM, Esq., District and Sessions Judge, Coimbatore,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Madras.

I have the honour to reply to G. O. dated 2nd April 1883, No. 937, Judicial.

I am clearly of opinion that the proposed legislation was unnecessary, and that the natives, as a body, would have been quite content to let matters be as they were if the question had not been raised.

As, however, the Bill has been introduced, the only practical question is whether it ought to be proceeded with or abandoned.

2. I cannot but regard the objections raised by the European non-official community as mostly, if not wholly, sentimental. I do not apprehend that any injustice would occur from entrusting selected natives with criminal jurisdiction over Europeans.

The late Mr. Ratnavelu Chetty of the Madras Civil Service was, without exception, one of the best Magistrates with whom I have come in contact, and was perfectly qualified to deal with any criminal charge that might be preferred by European against European, or by Native against European.

3. At the same time sentimental objections cannot be wholly disregarded. It may be a bad policy to give way to groundless agitation, but it is a worse policy to alienate the sympathies of the non-official European population for the sake of an idea which will certainly benefit no one, and may possibly, in rare instances, prejudice individuals. I think, therefore, that the proposed legislation should be abandoned.

4. If, however, administrative, inconvenience is really likely to result from a Sessions Judge or District Magistrate not having jurisdiction over Europeans, I think that legislation should be confined to making Sessions Judges and District Magistrates *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace.

This might be done by simply adding to Section 25 of the Criminal Procedure Code a clause that, notwithstanding anything contained in Section 22, all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates are *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace within and for the whole of the territories administered by the Local Government under which they are serving.

From—H. ST.A. GOODRICH, Esq., District Magistrate, Vizagapatam,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Madras.

I have the honour to reply to the reference contained in G. O. No. 937, dated 2nd instant.

2. The question appears to be whether it be expedient that the rulers of this Empire should resolve that men of the race who founded and maintain the Empire shall no longer be exempt from trial before Magistrates chosen from among the subject races.

3. The theoretical aspect of the question has been fully discussed elsewhere: I confine myself to the practical.

4. The Native Civilian, selected by competition, had enjoyed a glimpse at European life, and was a man of industry and of acute and disciplined intellect, though his social standing in his own nation was not guaranteed. It is perhaps expected that the present system of selection will give us a man of higher position amongst his countrymen.

5. Take the district I have lately administered. Mr. Ch. Venkata Jaga Rau may, at any moment, be sent there as Senior Assistant Magistrate. A criminal charge against Mr. F. Minchin would fall to be disposed in Mr. Jaga Rau's Court. (I prefer a particular to a general illustration, and do not in the slightest degree reflect on the character of either of the gentlemen named.) The Government will readily understand that circumstances might easily arise disposing persons to bring false charges against the one, and to bring very powerful pressure to bear upon the other. It is not expedient that these risks be run without cause.

6. The European British subject has, I believe, confidence in the class of Magistrates who now exercise jurisdiction over him: it is certain that he has not confidence in the class (Covenanted Civilians, natives of India) before whom he may be tried if the proposed alteration in the law be effected.

7. It seems to me certain that no administrative difficulty and no inconvenience to individuals worthy of consideration can arise from the maintenance of the privilege which the European British subject enjoys.

8. I believe that the natives of India speak the truth when they deplore the existence of the gulf which total diversity of manners and morals causes; that they would, with the best intentions, be found incompetent to estimate the probable truth of charges made against European British subjects, and to appreciate the motives which may have determined their course of action under known or conjectured circumstances.

9. The small but noisy class of Hindus which hailed the proposed measure as a boon to the native is in no sense representative.

10. It is a noble endeavour to unite the natives of India to the race which governs them by granting the fullest liberty to every subject of the Empire, but the conferring upon a few of the official class power to try Englishmen will not greatly gratify the Hindus at large.

11. The natives of India regard the official class taken from their midst with reserved respect, and, speaking generally, that class has not gained the most intimate confidence of Englishmen, whilst losing much of its countrymen's sympathy.

12. I have read most of the speeches and writings in advocacy of the change proposed, and remain convinced that it is profoundly mischievous.

Dated 12th May 1883.

From—The HONOURABLE HUMAYUN JAH, BAHADUR, C.I.E.,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Madras.

With reference to G. O. dated 2nd April 1883, No. 937, Judicial, I have the honour to submit that, subject to certain reservations already indicated by His Excellency the Viceroy in his observations made in the Legislative Council, I do not see any objection to extend the jurisdiction of certain Native Magistrates of tried ability and experience posted in the districts, and of a grade similar to that of the Presidency Magistrates and upwards, the number of whom in each Presidency will not be large. I therefore generally agree with the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure. The changes contemplated thereby are the necessary consequence of the

enlightened policy of administration pursued in India by the successive Viceroys, supported by Secretaries of State, and such eminent statesmen who cause some improvement for the good to evolve out of every step they take in swaying the destiny of the people and consolidating this mighty and glorious Empire. The principle of the measure thus commends itself to maintain emphatically, and its subject-matter, in my humble opinion, has reached such a stage that passing of the Bill, under consideration, into law cannot be delayed any longer.

Dated 12th May 1883.

From—The Honourable Raja G. N. Gajapatee Row,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Madras.

In obedience to the orders of Government dated 2nd April last, No. 917, I have the honour to forward herewith my opinion on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

Memorandum.

I have considered over the Jurisdiction Bill in all its bearings.

As the subject has been so fully discussed, both in and out of the Governor General's Legislative Council, I think it is redundant on my part to enter into any discussion about it. In point of justice, fairness and impartiality, I am of opinion that the native members of the Covenanted Civil Service are quite competent to judge European British subjects as in the definition given by the Honourable Mr. Ilbert.

The training which they have received in England, the influence of the press and bar they have experienced there, and superior decisions they have come in contact with, and also private English opinion of the cases out of Court they have studied, give them not only a high proficiency, but sufficient self-respect to themselves to arrive at a correct judgment in trying European British subjects, whether cases arise from among themselves or between them and the natives. At present, practically, Native Presidency Magistrates, whose training must be acknowledged as inferior in calibre to that of Covenanted Native Civil Servants, are deciding cases, in which European British subjects are involved, with credit and efficiency. Although the press and public opinion are much stronger in the Presidency towns than in the Mofussil, the very deficiency of the same in country towns will ensure, in my opinion, a greater care and caution in a Mofussil Native Covenanted Civil Servant in deciding such cases with better judgment and impartiality, for his reputation will have to be protected from the ken of a superior authority, High Court and Government, also from the press of the Presidency, to which mofussil representations are sure to be made on the subject.

When it is thought natives are competent to judge impartially and efficiently in civil cases between Europeans and Natives and Europeans themselves, it is an anomaly to suppose that Native Covenanted Civil Servants are not competent to try and decide criminal cases between European British subjects and Natives or European British subjects themselves as in the definition above-named.

I am not in favour of giving the jurisdiction to Native Civil Servants created under statutory laws, at least for the present.

Dated 13th May 1883.

From—The Honourable T. Rama Row,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Madras.

I have the honour to submit the following in connection with the Code of Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill, in compliance with the proceedings of Government, dated 2nd April 1883, No. 937, Judicial.

2. If it had been proposed in the aforesaid Bill to empower all Magistrates, of whatever grade, with jurisdiction to try European British subjects, I would have no hesitation to emphatically assert that it is most inadvisable and even dangerous. It is too well-known that the lower magistracy exercise their powers—powers which affect the personal liberty of the subject—in a most arbitrary and very lax manner. But inasmuch as the Bill introduces no such sweeping reform, I think I am bound to give my opinion in favour of a legislative measure which removes an anomaly, and which has been rightly called the logical outcome of the admission of natives into the ranks of the Civil Service.

3. The one very great objection which has been raised against this Bill, and the only one which I mean to refute as groundless, is that natives—be they Covenanted Civilians or Civilians under statutory laws—are incapable of understanding the European, his modes of thought, his feelings under circumstances far different to, and greatly varied than those to which natives are familiar, that in consequence of such incapacity he becomes unfit to give the European proper justice, as the Native Judge cannot ascertain his motives. If those that put forth this argument had given instances of this incapacity in Native Judges in recent times, I should have accepted meekly the strictures which are thus gratuitously offered to natives, but I am afraid it is not easy to do so. When Native Presidency Magistrates, who are men

who have risen from the lower grades of the judicial service, and who do not possess (always allowing exceptions) the special qualifications with which Native Civil Servants are credited, are thought competent to try European British subjects, and even to sentence them to the punishment of whipping, why not Native Civil Servants—Covenanted and Statutory—exercise the simpler and inferior powers with which the Bill provides them.

4. I do not for a moment believe that the opponents of this Bill entertain any but the most honourable opinion of the respectability, the impartiality, and the fairness of the Native Civil Service or of those native gentlemen who have passed in England. So that the whole question resolves into one single factor: are the Native Civilians competent to try European British subjects? All that I wish to say is: "give them the chance and watch carefully how they use it." Even the slightest misapplication of these powers cannot fail to be detected by Government and by the zealous eyes of the European community. Our Native High Court Judges and our Presidency Magistrates have given no room for you to entertain any but the highest opinion of their competence and of their fairness and impartiality.

5. There is only one more point which I wish to notice. A Munsif of the lowest grade is competent to decide civil cases between European and Native as between themselves. Are not civil matters infinitely more complicated and more difficult to unravel than criminal cases? It has not been hitherto anywhere said that Munsifs do not exercise their powers properly, and that in disputes between Europeans, or in which a European is a party, the presiding Judge acts in a reprehensible manner. Has there been anything to justify a similar agitation of the European community at the time when natives were empowed with civil jurisdiction over European British subjects.

6. If this Bill becomes law, there is one anomaly the less in the law of India, and it gives Government a claim to ask the natives to give up some of their privileges too which stand in the way of a completely uniform and even system of laws.

Dated 14th May 1883.

From—E. F. Webster, Esq., C.S.,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Madras.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of G. O., 2nd April 1883, No. 937, Judicial, in which I am requested to submit my opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. There are in this Presidency no Assistant Commissioners, and I do not suppose there is any present intention to provide natives of India with employment as Judges of Small Cause Courts; the question, therefore, which has been referred to me may be stated thus:—

Is there good reason to believe that the present exigencies of the public service require that the same jurisdiction which is now exercised by certain Justices of the Peace over European British subjects should be exercised by the native members of the Covenanted Civil Service falling under classes (*a*) and (*b*)?

3. With respect to Madras requirements, I am not aware that any administrative difficulty has as yet been felt or is likely to arise from the want of Native Magistrates or Judges endowed with powers to try European British subjects. Nor is there at the present moment a single member of the Covenanted Civil Service who is a native of India, falling under class (*a*), while of those native gentlemen who, under the Statute 33 Vic., Cap. 3, have recently been admitted into the service as probationers, only two have yet succeeded in qualifying themselves for permanent employment. Several years must, therefore, elapse before these officers can possibly exercise the jurisdiction contemplated by the Bill. The truth appears to be that the question, at all events so far as it affects Madras administration, is entirely a speculative one, without the smallest claim to be discussed as lying within the region of practical politics.

4. In some other parts of India, however, this is very far from being the case, since there are in Bengal, as I understand, and perhaps elsewhere, native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, who, if only they had happened to be European British subjects, would, by reason of the high official positions to which they have been advanced by Government, be empowered to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects, but who are precluded from this solely because of their place of birth or descent; and the question is, whether the disqualification under which these gentlemen are placed ought not to be removed by the Legislature with as little delay as possible.

5. In discussing this point it will be convenient to begin by describing the position of a European British subject in this country as regards his subjection to the Civil and Criminal Courts exercising jurisdiction outside the Presidency towns, the extent of punishment to which he is liable in such Courts, and the special privilege and protection to which the law entitles him.

6. It will then be easy to understand the precise nature and extent of the proposed changes, and to come to some understanding as to whether they are reasonable in themselves, and such as are urgently required in the interests of the public service.

7. First, then, as to the position of a European British subject with respect to the Civil Courts in the Mofussil.

8. Before the year 1837 Europeans were entitled to bring their civil causes before the Supreme Courts in the Presidency towns, but by an Act passed in that year (commonly known as the Black Act) all such causes were transferred from the Supreme Courts to the Courts of the East India Company, and ever since that time these Courts have continued to exercise such jurisdiction. In paragraph 10 of the last edition of the Civil Procedure Code, the principles of the Act of 1837 are reaffirmed in the following words:—"No person shall, by reason of his descent or place of birth, be in any civil proceeding exempted from the jurisdiction of the Courts." Now, just as no person is exempted from the jurisdiction of these Courts, so is no person disqualified from exercising civil jurisdiction, by reason of his place of birth of descent, and the consequence is that, as the law stands, a Native Judge might in a civil suit issue a warrant for the arrest of a European British subject in case of his non-attendance as a witness, might send him to jail for debt, might punish him for contempt of Court, or give judgment against him in a suit for fraud or libel.

9. Next as to the position of a European British subject with respect to Criminal Courts in the interior. A Magistrate, who is a European British subject, a Justice of the Peace, and a Magistrate of the first class, may sentence a European British subject to three months' imprisonment or to 1,000 rupees fine, or to both, while a Sessions Judge, being a European British subject, can sentence such an offender to a year's imprisonment, or to fine, or to both; but if the trial be before an Assistant Sessions Judge, he must have held that office for at least three years, and must have been specially empowered by Government to try European British subjects.

10. Every European British subject brought to trial has, moreover, certain privileges especially reserved to him and others of his nationality, but which do not apply to the natives of the country. Thus, for example, he may claim to be tried by jury or assessors, as the case may be; he may appeal to the High Court or Court of Session against every sentence of fine or imprisonment, however small, and from which there is no right of appeal in ordinary cases; and, if detained in custody, he can apply to the High Court for an order directing the person detaining him to bring him before the High Court.

11. Such then, briefly put, is the judicial position of the European British subject in India. He is, and has been for very nearly half a century, as completely subject to the control of Native Civil Judges as any native of the land, while, as regards his liability to the Criminal Courts, he has the special privilege of carrying an appeal to the High Court in every case, no matter how trifling, and the right of applying to the same Court for his immediate release, if confined.

12. Now, all that the present Bill proposes to do is this: to alter the rule which relates to the race qualification of the Judge who is empowered to try European British subjects, but to leave untouched the privileges mentioned above, and the limitation on the sentences which may be inflicted by the Judge.

13. To my humble judgment it appears that the proposed change is but the necessary outcome of the declared policy of the Crown and Parliament, that natives of India shall be more and more largely admitted into the Covenanted Civil Service, and judging from the history of the past, I am unable to regard the provisions of the Bill as likely to prove serious to the European community, all of whom (many of them, no doubt, quite unconsciously) have for many years continued to live and to thrive too under a system of civil law such as that described above.

14. Whether the proposed change be urgently required in parts of India lying outside the borders of this Presidency, and whether, in such regions, there are native officers qualified by position and proved ability to exercise this special and limited criminal jurisdiction over Europeans, I have no means of knowing, and upon these questions, therefore, I do not propose to hazard an opinion; but if the Government be satisfied that the interests of the Empire require that such powers should be conferred on certain selected Native members of the Civil Service in Bengal and elsewhere, then I venture to express a hope that they will not suffer themselves to be deterred from carrying into law a Bill which they believe to be just and necessary, simply because it has called forth (greatly as this is to be deplored) wide-spread and strenuous opposition on the part of the European community.

15. The history of the year 1837 shows that the European public of that day were at least as bitterly opposed to the transfer of civil jurisdiction from the Supreme to the Mofussil Courts, as a large and influential body of them now are to the present Bill, and that in those days ruin to the country and the utter destruction of European enterprise in India was confidently predicted as the inevitable result of the Bill becoming law.

16. There was again much the same kind of opposition in the year 1849 to a proposal to empower European Magistrates in the Mofussil to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects, and a Bill introduced with that object was in consequence withdrawn, but only to be again introduced and to pass into law in the year 1872. In 1874 an Englishman was sentenced in Jessore to a term of imprisonment for committing a serious assault on a native of India. Upon this there arose a perfect storm of indignation on the part of the Europeans; an appeal was carried to the High Court; the Chief Justice (Sir R. Couch) was admonished to do his duty *by his countrymen*; all the evils which had been predicted of the Black Act were again predicted; capital, it was said, would be driven out of the country; the English would be ruined, and so on; but as men's passions cooled more reasonable opinions prevailed, and now the Act has been worked for upwards of twelve years to the entire satisfaction of everybody.

17. Seeing then how unreasonable were the apprehensions on very similar occasions in the past, may we not reasonably believe that much of the present outcry is no better founded?

No. 224, dated 14th May 1883.

From—J. F. PRICE, Esq., Magistrate of the Chingleput District,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government, Madras.

I have the honour to reply to the Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department, No. 937, dated 2nd ultimo.

2. Theoretically, there is nothing that can be alleged against the Bill. I must say though that I do not think that the members of the Civil Service admitted in India—a class to which I suppose that Extra Assistant Commissioners also belong—are equal, or are ever likely to be equal, to those who have entered it by competition in England. I am the only officer in this Presidency who has had the privilege of having natives of both denominations under him. I carefully watched them, and I have no doubt that my view is correct. The former of the classes mentioned see the European in India alone, and have, practically, little, if any, knowledge of him, or definite ideas of his ways, thoughts, feelings, or manners. I am afraid that if power to deal with Europeans be given to these officials, they would, even supposing that they were not swayed by considerations of any sort, err either on the score of leniency or of severity.

3. I admit that if the experiment is ever to be made now is the most fitting time, and I admit also that the number of European British subjects likely to be affected by the proposed change of the law cannot at present be very large, but I consider the introduction of the Act, even if altered so as to include Covenanted Civil Servants who have come out from England alone, very undesirable and impolitic.

4. Had the Europeans and natives of India, to use the stock word, "fused" or shown any real inclination to fuse, the case might be different, but I believe that I am not in any way outside the truth in saying that there is not the slighest genuine tendency in that direction; that, on the contrary, the two races have been for years steadily floating apart, and that there is not the good feeling between them which existed even when I first entered the service. We are different from them in everything—in creed, manners, customs, and thought, and whatever may be the theories on the subject, our position in the country, of the nature of which there cannot be much doubt, is such that it can never make our relations other than they are, though they may be for a time glossed over with a coating of varnish. The natives can never adopt our lines in their integrity, and we can never take to theirs. It is not for me to pretend to account for the state of feeling to which I have alluded: that it exists is, I believe, an acknowledged fact, and, as far as I have seen, it is stronger as regards the non-official than the official class; the reason which I have heard assigned for this being that the latter is a man in power, and that it is dangerous and undesirable to cross him. That the passing of the Act will cause great exasperation amongst Europeans throughout the country is, I think, pretty clearly proved by what has appeared in the public prints. I have not taken sufficient interest in the matter to read everything, and in what I have read there has been what I should call a good deal of rubbish, but it appears to me that there are two causes which have brought about the uproar which has occurred, *viz.*, (1) a state of feeling between the European and Native very far different from what was supposed by those in authority to exist, which has been smouldering for a considerable period, and which has now, on the application of the match, burst out into a flame which will not be readily extinguished; (2) a strong distrust of the integrity of native officials. By the latter expression I do not mean to convey that there is distrust as to actual honesty in the ordinary sense of the term. What I allude to is the feeling that with the European Magistrate no consideration is likely to be successfully brought to bear, whilst with the native there are causes which must, to an almost absolute certainty, affect him. Caste prejudices, fear of the occult influence which is often brought to bear upon an official who will not act in accordance with the opinions, wishes, or views of natives in power, and dread of native opinion, are amongst these. The natives themselves show their appreciation of a difference between their own countrymen and the Englishmen by the way in which they so constantly beg to have their cases decided by the latter.

5. I must say that my faith in the fairness and integrity of natives of the higher classes, and from which recruits for the Civil Service must be drawn, has been very grievously shaken by my experiences of the last two years. What these experiences have been it is needless for me to mention, as they are before Government. Knowing what I do, and official though I am, I would, in honest truth, far rather be tried by a European than by a Native. I can realize pretty clearly what the feelings of a non-official on the subject must be.

6. It may be said that I am prejudiced by what I have gone through. I do not think that I am. I have my own views as regards the admission of natives into the Civil Service, but whatever these may be I have not ventilated them, and I have certainly done my duty by the young native officers who have been under me. It is exceedingly improbable that I shall ever get into a scrape likely to bring me before a Magistrate; my time of service in India is rapidly approaching its close, and I hope to be able to go as soon it terminates. I have no relations in the country, and none of them are ever likely to come to it, and I shall never,

even at the utmost, myself see anything more than the beginning of the effects of the Act if it is passed. I have, therefore, no ground for personal feeling in the matter. Government have asked my opinion, and though I would have preferred not being consulted on the subject, I deem it my duty, however it may be received, to say honestly what I think.

7. I consider it highly impolitic to introduce a measure the effect of which upon the relations between the Englishman and the Native of India will, whatever may be hoped, inevitably be to induce a state of feeling which can only end in trouble, and that of a serious character.

No. 1516, dated 15th May 1883.

From—H. P. GORDON, Esq, District Magistrate of Bellary,

To—The Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.

I have the honour to reply to G. O. of 2nd April 1883, No. 937, Judicial.

2. I am of opinion that it is undesirable to extend to Native Magistrates or Judges in the Mofussil jurisdiction over European British subjects, as defined in the Criminal Procedure Code (Section 4, u), but I think that that definition is unnecessarily wide, and includes many persons, for whose exemption from the ordinary tribunals there is no sufficient reason.

3. My main ground of objection to the proposed measure is that Native Magistrates are not competent to estimate the motives of the conduct of a class, which, as I would limit it, is actuated by habits, by a code of morals, and by social sanctions widely differing from those prevalent among natives.

4. This objection, in my opinion, applies with equal force to the cases of all classes of Europeans, to that of the rough, illiterate, and possibly brutal loafer, as to that of the woman of refinement and culture, a product of civilization of which even educated natives must at present have an inadequate apprehension. But the cruelty of subjection to an incompetent Court would, of course, be much greater in the latter case.

5. It may be urged that the same ground of natural incompetence may be advanced as a reason for not giving Europeans jurisdiction over natives. I admit the validity of that objection to a large extent, and should do so without reserve were it not that the natural incompetence in this respect of Europeans is counterpoised by the great advantages they as Judges enjoy, in the absence of ties to the native population, which would be likely to warp their judgment, and in their incorruptibility, the result mainly of their subjection to a different public opinion. That these qualifications are considered of great value by those who come before our Courts is, I think, proved by the avidity with which the tribunal of a European Magistrate is sought. I have never known a case in which an application for transfer of a case to a European Magistrate was opposed, save on grounds quite disconnected from the character of the tribunal, while applications for transfer of cases to the files of European Magistrates on the ground that justice cannot be elsewhere expected are very common, and would be still more so if they were not almost always rejected.

6. It may be presumed that the class of natives who would now be selected as Justices of the Peace would not be liable to the imputation of corruption. I do not object to their employment on that ground, and the mention of the matter is merely incidental to my argument in justification of a European tribunal for charges against natives.

7. Nor do I mean to imply that Native Magistrates would necessarily be biassed against Europeans. I think in many cases they would be influenced unduly in their favour, for strength of moral fibre is less frequent among them than among picked Europeans.

8. No doubt native gentlemen who may pass into the Covenanted Civil Service by competition in England would have some opportunities of acquiring a knowledge of the habits of thought and manners of Europeans, but there is no single officer of this character in the service at present, and it may be presumed, regard being had to the facilities for entering the service without examination offered by the rules made under the Statute 33 Vic., Cap. 3, that the number of native candidates at the examination in London will be in future less than before.

9. Theoretically, the most desirable arrangement would be that natives should be tried by natives, and Europeans by Europeans, but I think I have shown that the trial of natives in this manner would not be entirely satisfactory to them. On the other hand, I have never heard it imputed that, in the Mofussil, Europeans met with partial treatment at the hands of European Magistrates. On the contrary, the notion that European Magistrates are sometimes unduly severe on their compatriots is not of infrequent occurrence, and in their anxiety to avoid the imputation of partiality, it is possible that they are at times biassed in this direction.

10. While, then, it may be inexpedient to confine the trial of natives to the best natural tribunal, no reason appears to exist for the transfer of cases against Europeans from a natural tribunal, which is satisfactory to them and which has not hitherto been objected to by others, to another less naturally competent, in which they have no confidence.

11. It appears to me that the confidence of a class which, though small in numbers, possesses an intelligence and importance out of all proportion to its numbers, in the Courts to which it is made subject, cannot wisely be treated with indifference by the Executive, and that very strong grounds of expediency [illegible] alleged in support of the substitution of less satisfactory [illegible]

12. It is, I think, matter of notoriety that, until this Bill was proposed, no objection was ever heard in this Presidency to the exemption in criminal matters of Europeans from the Native Courts. If this be so, the change can hardly have been desired by any considerable class of the population. I would ask if, in the numerous petitions which have been presented to successive Governors of this Presidency, in all parts of the country, this matter was ever brought forward as a grievance?

13. It is said that the exemption is a case of anomalous privilege. This ground has been so well worn that it may well be left untouched by me. It is no doubt a privilege to be tried "by one's peers," but it is strange that in a country where class privileges recognised by law abound, it should be sought to withdraw a privilege, which harms no one, from a class, on which the Government must for a long time to come rely for the administration of the country, and for the development of its resources.

14. The administrative convenience of the proposed measure as it affects this Presidency is less than at first sight would appear.

15. At present there is no native officer in the Civil Service who entered by competition, and it is unlikely that the number of such will ever be considerable. It cannot be so for a long time to come. As to the Native Civil Service the class from which it was intended by the Government of India that this service should be filled can hardly be said to exist in this Presidency.

It is presumed that Government would not invest with powers of a Justice of Peace officers who were not conversant with the manners of Europeans, and had not lived upon terms approaching to social equality with them. If this be granted, it would seem that it will be long before the Native Civil Service will be able to supply any number of gentlemen qualified to try Europeans.

There are at present but three members of the Native Civil Service.

16. Much of the apprehended inconvenience could be avoided by care in the posting of officers. I may instance the present state of this district in illustration of my meaning. The town of Bellary contains a very considerable population of European British subjects, including a large garrison. It is the terminus of one Railway line and the starting point of another now under construction. It is therefore a place where the services of a European Assistant are necessary so long as the law stands as it does. At present I have no European Assistant, the District Munsif, who is a European British subject, having been, as a special case, invested with the powers of a Justice of Peace and First-class Magistrate. But there are many districts supplied with a European Assistant in which charges against European British subjects are likely to be less frequent than here.

17. In a question of this sort opportuneness is a matter of importance. Such a change in the law as is proposed should, in my opinion, work satisfactorily only where there is considerable social fusion between the races. Such fusion does not now exist here, and the carrying of this Bill is not likely, I think, to further its expansion. For a considerable time to come it would I am sure retard it.

18. The Bill confines Government in its selection to certain classes. I would note that its provisions would preclude an arrangement which has been here found convenient, and under which the District Munsif (a European British subject) has been invested with powers as a Magistrate and Justice of Peace.

It would seem unadvisable to limit the extent to which Government may appoint European British subjects to try members of their own class.

19. I have referred at the commencement of this letter to the definition of a European British subject in the Criminal Procedure Code. That definition includes as grandchildren of Europeans many persons who have little claim to such distinctive habits and modes of thought as require in this country a special tribunal for the trial of their possessor. Such persons have been born in the country and have lived from their earliest years among natives, from whom they are often distinguishable by little else than dress. It seems to me that such persons may fairly be made amenable to the Courts of the Native Magistracy which is competent to deal with them, and that, if this were done, the number of cases against European British subjects would be so small as to reduce the administrative inconvenience in the provision of a special tribunal to a minimum.

20. I would exclude from the definition all grandchildren of Europeans, who might have been from their birth domiciled and educated in India.

Dated 1st June 1883.

From—The HONOURABLE A. SASHIAH SASTRI, C.S.I.,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

In obedience to G. O. dated 2nd April 1883, No. 937, Judicial Department, I have the honour to submit the following observations on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects. In doing so I beg that the delay which has unavoidably occurred may be overlooked.

2. The vicissitudes of the English power in this country have been many, and have from time to time necessitated abnormal arrangements for the administration of justice, civil and criminal, where European British subjects were concerned. These arrangements from their very nature could not and have not lasted immutably for ever.

3. In less than two centuries and three quarters, which is but a short space in the history of empires, commercial factories became Presidency towns, Presidency towns grew into Presidency kingdoms, and Presidency kingdoms became in their turn component parts of a vast united empire under one Empress. The judicial machinery for the trial of European British subjects underwent corresponding changes. By the Charters of 1661 and 1669 the Governors with their Councils of Madras, Bengal, and Bombay were constituted Courts of "Oyer and Terminer," and their jurisdictions were fixed by the Charters of 1726 and 1753. These Governors' Courts gave way to the Supreme Court at Fort William in 1774 and Recorders' Courts in Madras and Bombay in 1797, extending the jurisdiction over all British subjects in all the Provinces. These two last gave place to the Supreme Court in 1801 at Madras and in 1823 in Bombay. As new territories were acquired by the Company, the jurisdiction of these Courts was enlarged. To provide for offences committed by British subjects at a distance, Justices of Peace were appointed at first by the Governor General and afterwards by the several Governors and Lieutenant-Governors from among the covenanted servants of the East India Company or other British inhabitants. The jurisdiction of the Supreme Courts passed to the present High Courts in 1862, 1865 and 1866, under Statutes of Parliament, and natives were declared eligible to the Benches of those Courts. Under these statutory changes, procedure also has changed from time to time. Thus in 1812, Zillah Magistrates were empowered to fine up to Rs. 500, and imprison up to two months. In 1857, four Bills were brought into the Legislative Council with a sweeping clause rendering European British subjects liable to be tried by any Magisterial tribunal of the country without distinction. This clause, however, was rejected by a majority in the Council. The mutiny came in 1859, and the subject was dropped. Act XXV of 1861 left the jurisdiction untouched. Mr. Stephen's Bill of 1870-71, which passed as Act X of 1872, extended the jurisdiction of British Magistrates and British Sessions Judges while leaving the disqualification of natives to try European British subjects untouched. This was followed by an amending Act in 1874. The question again came under discussion once more, and the law of Criminal Procedure was finally remodelled as Act X of 1882, still leaving native disqualification to try European British subjects untouched.

4. During all these momentous changes, it cannot be denied that some privileges were lost at each step. But the most substantial privileges of the European British subjects have remained and still remain unchanged and constitute a most invidious distinction between the European British and native subjects—(*a*) a right of appeal from the lightest possible sentence of a Magistrate to the Session Judge or to the High Court, and from the latter to the High Court, is still reserved; (*b*) right of being tried by the High Court for all offences, for which one year's imprisonment is not considered adequate is still reserved; *c*) right to be tried by a jury composed of his own countrymen to the extent of one-half is still reserved; (*d*) that palladium of the Englishman's liberty—to wit the Habeas Corpus Act—is still reserved to him.

5. All the change that is contemplated by the Bill of February 1883, now under consideration, is that, where the posts of District Magistrate and of Sessions Judge are held by covenanted natives, such natives shall not by the mere reason of their race be debarred from exercising the jurisdiction over European British subjects, which their European brethren of the covenanted service exercise over them by virtue of their office.

6. It has been argued with some spaciousness that throughout all the changes in the matter of jurisdiction, the right of being tried by their own countrymen was left untouched, and so long as that was so they did not care to complain. But is it altogether so? Was not the appointment of natives as Justices of the Peace in the Presidency towns so long ago as 40 years and then again that of natives to the Bench of the High Courts constituted under Royal Charter, direct invasions of this right? If they were, have they been attended with any disastrous consequence, such as are foreboded on the present occasion? What disasters have befallen in the adjoining colony of Ceylon where the natives of the island are not debarred from exercising criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects.

7. Special privileges originating under special circumstances and calculated to meet a given state of things must give way to the ordinary privileges of a citizen when the special circumstances which justified them have passed away. Common laws, common Courts, common jurisdiction, common procedure, common liberties, and common rights are but the legitimate outcome of common allegiance to one sovereign. The proposal involved in the present Bill is but one more step towards the consolidation of the Empire, and that consolidation will not be complete till the perfect equality of all in the eye of the law is asserted and enforced, or, in other words, till Article 8, Chapter I of the proposed Bill of 1857 finds its appropriate place in the Procedure Law of the land. That article was "no person whatever shall, by reason of place of birth or by reason of descent, be in any criminal proceeding whatever excepted from the jurisdiction of any of the Criminal Courts;" and Mr. Peacock (afterwards Sir Barnes Peacock) thus spoke on the subject: "This article would invest the Courts of the country with jurisdiction over European British subjects. To him it appeared to be correct in principle, for he could not understand upon what ground it could be contended that any one class of persons should be exempt from the jurisdiction of those Courts. No Frenchman or German or Armenian or East Indian was exempt from their jurisdiction. European British subjects alone enjoyed that privilege; and the Council was aware that there were many cases in which, on account of the extreme inconvenience, expense and delay which must necessarily be caused by committing defendants for trial to the Supreme Courts for offences committed in distant parts of the country, offenders were frequently allowed to go unpunished. The inconvenience was not confined to prosecutors. It extended also to the witnesses, who were frequently interested in the proceedings. The article to which he referred would bring an offender, whatever his place of birth or whatever his descent, under the jurisdiction of the Courts within the local limits of which his offence might be committed." This *summum bonum* of impartial legislation may not be attainable quite yet, but it must be attained one day, and that cannot be very far; and when that time arrives I would not deprive the European British subject of his special privileges, but would legislate that his privilege in the matter of appeals and in the matter of the Habeas Corpus Act be extended to all Her Majesty's subjects; for liberty of person is as dear to the native as it is to the Englishman, and there is no reason whatever why it should be held more sacred or be more jealously guarded in the one case than in the other.

8. The knell of all exclusive race privileges has been unmistakeably sounded from time to time. It was sounded in 1833 when the British nation in Parliament assembled, most solemnly declared that every subject of Her Majesty may rise to the highest offices in the State without distinction of colour, caste or creed. It was tolled again about 1834, when all European British subjects were declared liable to the ordinary *Civil* jurisdiction of the Company's Courts of every grade. It was again sounded when natives were appointed Justices of the Peace in all the Presidency towns, and later on when the Benches of the highest Courts in the land were thrown open to the natives, and again unmistakeably when the Civil Service was practically thrown open, both by competition and by nomination, to the natives of the country. The policy of the British Parliament has ever been onward, founded as it has ever been on that keen sense of equal laws, equal justice, and equal rights which is the real corner-stone of the British constitution—a constitution which stands so pre-eminently high in the estimate of the world. The voice of that august body never faltered when questions of such momentous interest came before it. Not all the "*fulmen brutum*" has made that body swerve to the right or to the left, and the whole of the civilized world has not failed to read written over the portal of that assembly "*Fiet justitia, ruat cœlum.*"

9. In matters criminal, the present position of the Englishmen in the mofussil, if truth must be told, is almost one of immunity from prosecution, for the prosecution of a European British subject is at present very heavily handicapped by the immense sacrifice of time and convenience to the prosecuting natives as well as to the witnesses. It is a notorious fact that in remote and unpeopled parts of the country, whither British enterprise and capital take them, they, not unoften, take the law into their own hands and frustrate all attempts to bring them to punishment. While the Englishman has no objection to take the law of a native in criminal matters at the hands of a Native Magistrate, why should he shrink from the manly test of submitting to it himself when it comes to the native's turn to take the law of him? In *civil* matters the law makes no distinction between the European British subject and the native, and both have been freely taking the law of each other before the lowest Courts as well as the highest Courts without any disaster befalling either. Why, then, should there be in criminal matters any distinction? The substantive criminal law being the same for both, why should there be any distinction of race in the *dispensers* of justice to one of them?

10. I have carefully studied the petition of protest and have searched in vain for a solid argument against the proposed alteration of jurisdiction. In place of argument, I find that that worst of prejudices—*viz.*, race-prejudice—is substituted. The logic of prejudice will listen to no reason, and it was most painful to me to observe that the civilizing influence of a century have done so little to bring nearer together in sympathy the two races (originally of the same stock) whom Providence has placed side by side on the same soil as common subjects of one and the same sovereign. Is not even this feeble ground of race-feeling cut away from under their feet when it is remembered that the definition of a British subject is a very comprehensive one, and which virtually excludes none born in Her Majesty's colonies—a Hottentot, a Negro, a Singalese, a Mayori, a Canadian; anybody in Her Majesty's colonies might attain to the status of a British subject and be legally qualified to try a European British subject in India. Is a Hindu gentleman—nay, an Aryan brother—less worthy than any of the above?

11. Again, has not the character of the *personnel* of the Civil Service itself changed very much since the competition system? That service is no longer the close preserve of gentlemen, members of certain families almost hereditarily succeeding one another. It is now open to the son of the common hangman as it is to the scion of a noble family, and, in the ordinary course of things, the former might possibly preside at the latter's trial. Why should it then hurt the feelings of an Englishman to be tried by a scion of the Zamorin or the Maharaja of Benares? It would indeed be a very strange commentary on the advance of civilization in India and of English education in particular, if it be declared that the best of natives—the very cream of the intellectual aristocracy of India—who had received the best education available in the country and had gone to finish it in the English Universities—who had successfully competed with the children of England on her own soil and in her own schools—and competed again at the examinations for the service, obtained their covenants and come back to their country—saturated with English feelings and English thoughts and English loyalty—and, after returning, have served from the bottom-rung of the ladder and risen, after 18 or 20 years of spotless service, to the bench of a Magistrate or Sessions Judge;—if men such as these are declared unfit to have the very limited criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects which their brethren of the service (it may be of inferior natural attainments or aptitude) are considered by virtue of their birth eligible to exercise. If it be said that the Euro-

pean civil servant qualifies himself by learning the languages, customs and manners of the natives to try the natives, why cannot the Native Civilian, who has mastered the language, customs, and manners of the Europeans to a much greater degree, be assumed to be equally fit to try the Europeans—safeguarded as the latter will still be by so many privileges already alluded to?

12. If all the arguments of the protest amount to no more than a prejudice arising from race-feeling—a mere antipathy of colour—a mere dislike engendered by habit and false notions—what were the results when such blind prejudices were brought face to face with reason and stern justice? Let history tell. How much money and blood did England spend in the emancipation of the Negroes who were not the less hated on account of their colour? Was not the great American war of the Confederated States against the federals waged, so regardless of life or money, to declare the coloured man an equal in the eye of the law to the white man? Is not the United States of America, perhaps the greatest and the most powerful empire on earth, an example where all nationalities are absorbed and moulded into one great nation for purposes of Government, and all men, be he Scotch, Irish, Swiss, French, German or Spanish or Negro or Chinaman, live in peace under equal laws administered without reference to race or colour?

13. Far from apprehending any disaster to non-official Englishmen or British enterprise in India from the passing of the Bill, I am in hopes that it will have the effect of placing the administration of justice on a higher pedestal than at present; that it will be a mark of that confidence on Her Majesty's native subject which it is impossible to deny to him after the solemn declaration of 1883, and of the Queen's Proclamation of 1858, and that it will be of a piece with that general policy of the British administration which has been the characteristic of it from the very beginning. I am also in hopes that in a few years, when the agitation caused by unthinking men driven into phrenzy for the moment shall have subsided, that the benefits of the proposed measure will be realized and acknowledged by the very class who now so vehemently oppose it—who, I trust, will find that they are saved a world of trouble, inconvenience and expense, when they find a Native Magistrate at their very door as competent to dispose of criminal charges laid against them as one of their own countrymen at a distance;—and in some cases, one much more absolutely unbiassed than one of their countrymen when, as often happens, European society is split up in factions from the influence of which neither the European Magistrate nor the European Sessions Judge could possibly keep aloof. I set much store on this feature of the question, and have no hesitation in saying that whatever occasional failure of justice might arise from the ignorance of the Native Magistrate of the customs and manners of Englishmen and Englishwomen, such failure will be more than compensated by his perfectly neutral attitude.

14. For these reasons I am deliberately of opinion that the Bill should pass into law.

Minute by the Right Hon'ble M. E. GRANT DUFF, *President, dated 31st May 1883.*

I do not believe that the passing into law of Mr. Ilbert's much-abused Bill would cause one anna of British capital to be removed from India,—nay I feel persuaded that five years hence the whole opposition to it would be forgotten, and that everything would go on as it has done for years.

2. What is meant by such phrases as those used by Mr. Logan about alienating the good-will of the European community? How could the European community remain permanently alienated from that Government whose existence and overwhelming strength alone make the presence of the European community in this country possible?

3. I agree with Mr. Stokes in considering that the much-discussed measure is perfectly "innocuous." Half the clamour raised against it has proceeded from persons who do not know the law under which they are living, and who will read with surprise Mr. Webster's clear and telling exposition of that law.

4. It does not follow, however, that because a Bill is innocuous it ought to be passed.

5. To withdraw it altogether would be, as it seems to me, a grave political error,—one of the gravest that has been made in the *domestic* politics of India for *many years*. To do so would be to give up to irresponsible people the government of a country, which should remain where the law has placed it, in the hands of the Viceroy and his Council under the general superintendence of the Secretary of State and his Council.

6. When, however, this and other Governments were consulted a year ago, they were not consulted about what has since been known as "Mr. Ilbert's Bill," but about a very different proposition.

7. Why should not the change be confined, as was proposed at that time, to Covenanted Native Civilians only?

8. I dare say the Government of India had very good reasons for enlarging the scope of the suggested change; but these reasons cannot have been such as to demand *urgency*.

9. Would it not be wise to be satisfied with extending the proposed privileges to Covenanted Native Civilians? It is idle to maintain that they have not had far greater advantages than the nominated Native Civilians. In process of time we shall see whether the former are, as many think they will be, far superior in efficiency to the latter, or whether, on the other hand, these show themselves the equals of their more highly educated brethren.

10. *Alors comme alors!* This is not a country in which it is well to take very long views. Let us make those changes based upon our experience here and elsewhere, which, we feel persuaded, will produce *pretty soon* good effects, and let us give all reasonable satisfaction to the reasonable wishes of the people as brought before us by their authoritative spokesmen, up and down the land; but let us not be led to move at all quicker than we otherwise should, with a view to *anticipate* demands which may some day be made, and which it will be for our successors to grant or refuse.

11. I have no sympathy nor, indeed, any toleration for the distinction which I see drawn in one of the papers read above between what is theoretically right and practically right. If a thing is practically wrong, it must be theoretically wrong,—the theory being based usually on imperfectly apprehended facts.

12. I hold, however, that we have sufficient facts at our command to be certain that the Covenanted Native Civilians will not abuse the powers to be entrusted to them, if the view which was taken by the majority of the Madras Government, in May 1882, finds favour with the Viceroy and his advisers. My personal impression is that the further changes suggested would do no sort of harm, but I should prefer to see one step made at a time.

13. I shall especially rejoice if this view is generally supported by my honourable colleagues, as I hope it may be, and if it enables the Madras Government to give, as it happily usually does give, after full discussion, an unanimous opinion.

Minute by His Excellency SIR FRED. ROBERTS, *Commander-in-Chief, dated 4th June 1883.*

When the opinion of local Governments was asked a year ago, as to the advisability of amending the Criminal Procedure Code, I concurred in the views expressed by His Excellency the Governor, that "it is perhaps a pity that a question was raised just now which affects so few people, but I see no answer to the claim of Mr. Gupta, which is logically defensible."

* * * *

"Very soon, if not immediately, the Covenanted Civilian of native birth must be put on precisely the same footing as his European colleague."

2. It seemed to me to be a logical sequence to the acts of former Governments; and that it would be as unreasonable to deny to Native gentlemen of the *Covenanted* Civil Service the full privileges enjoyed by their British colleagues, as it would be to bestow on a Native of India a Lieutenant's or Captain's Commission in Her Majesty's Indian Forces, and then to refuse him the right of commanding a mixed detachment of British and Native troops.

3. I had no intention of extending the concession to any but the few gentlemen (six or seven) who had qualified themselves by competition in England for the Civil Service of India; but I ought to have added at the time how opposed I had always been to the admission of Natives either to the *Covenanted* Civil Service, or to an equality with the Commissioned Officers of Her Majesty's Army.

4. By opening the *Covenanted* Civil Service to Natives, I felt that we were placing them in positions for which they are not yet fitted, morally or socially, however well they may be so by education; and that we were giving them power which some of their own countrymen and the European population of India, almost to a man, doubt their being able to exercise wisely and impartially.

5. As, however, no restrictions as to the offices which they could, or could not fill, were imposed when Native gentlemen were invited to enter the *Covenanted* Civil Service, those who have competed successfully for that service ought not now, in my opinion, to be denied appointments or authority, which they might reasonably have hoped for, when they determined upon adopting that service as a career. But with the exception of the six or seven Native gentlemen above alluded to, I would confine the *Covenanted* Civil Service to Europeans, at any rate, for the present.

6. The salaries of the several grades of the Covenanted Civil Service were purposely fixed at high rates, in order to attract a superior class of well educated English gentlemen to India. It is quite unnecessary to offer the same inducements to Native gentlemen. To them service in India has no disadvantages, while those conversant with the relative expenses of a European and Native official's life in this country will at once see how disproportionately large the pay of the Native Covenanted Civilian is. Taking into consideration the different conditions of life, we may safely estimate the income of the Indian Member of the Covenanted Civil Service as at least double that of his European *confrère*.

7. By an Act of Parliament, passed in 1870, to give "additional facilities for the employment of Natives in the Civil Service of India," a certain number of Native gentlemen can be annually nominated to this service by local Governments, subject to the approval of the Government of India.

8. This, I submit, meets all that is now required.

9. These nominees belong to what might appropriately be termed the "Local Civil Service," and the scope of their employment might justly be limited to such offices as may be determined by the Government of India and the Secretary of State.

10. From this Local Civil Service any man who had proved himself exceptionally qualified might, with advantage, be chosen for positions of high trust and responsibility, without in any way admitting the rights of other members to similar preferment.

But so long as the Covenanted Civil Service is open to Natives, we must expect that those who enter it will not be satisfied if treated differently from their European colleagues, and that as they become eligible, by length of service, for the higher appointments, diffi-

culties will arise, of a nature even more embarrassing, perhaps, than the one we have now to deal with.

Indeed, the time is probably not so far distant when we shall have some clever and ambitious Native Member of the Civil Service being pushed forward as a candidate for the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, the Punjab or the North-Western Provinces.

11. I am aware that many leading Statesmen at Home hold very different opinions, and consider that the Natives of this country should be placed on an equality with Europeans as regards their eligibility for employment, and be given their fair share of the higher appointments. There is, no doubt, much to be said in support of these views. Education has spread so rapidly during the last quarter of a century, and a certain class of Natives have proved themselves such apt scholars, that it would be difficult to convince any one, ignorant of the habits and customs of Native life in India, why they should not take their places in any service or department for which they may have been able to compete successfully. I quite feel this, and I fully agree that Natives should be gradually educated to take some active part in public affairs.

12. But there is a dangerous side to the question.

13. It is not to be expected that any class would be content with managing local Boards and small Municipalities. As they are encouraged to take their share in such minor responsibilities, they will, in time, claim a place and a voice in the government of the country. In theory it seems impossible to object to this; but to those who have Indian experience, the time seems far distant when Natives can be safely trusted with such power. Englishmen unacquainted with India and the Indians, and who are in favour of political and popular education, do not seem to give such matters a thought. Their anxiety apparently is to divest themselves of power, and to hand it over to a people who are not yet fit to be entrusted with it. This cannot but be detrimental to the interests of both England and India, and will certainly cause us to be despised by the very people we have conquered for not understanding how to govern them; with the result, perhaps, that we may have some day to fight for what we now possess.

14. It is a mistake to suppose that race-antagonism, which reached such a pitch during the mutiny, has been gradually disappearing, as is often asserted. In the Army this may be the case, but there, the constant intercourse of the European officers with their men, and the sharing of dangers and hardships in common, have brought about a mutual feeling of goodwill, which goes far to lessen the natural distrust of the two races towards each other. This combination of camaraderie and respect will, no doubt, last so long as nothing occurs to excite the religious, or, in some future time, the *political* feelings of the soldiery.

In out-of-the-way districts, where civilisation is still in its infancy, there is, to a certain extent, this same kindly feeling between Europeans and Natives, and the latter are much more inclined to accept the authority of the governing race than they are in the large centres of educational enlightenment.

15. This effect of education is unfortunate, but inevitable, and with results so momentous, it surely behoves Government not to adopt a too progressive policy, without first feeling its way carefully and cautiously.

16. It must not be thought from this that I am against the education of Natives. Far from it. This must necessarily come to pass, and no one is more alive than I am to the great benefits which education will eventually bestow upon the people of this country. My great desire is that we should accurately appreciate the results of this education, and be careful not to attribute to Natives imaginary qualities, because they are capable of passing a difficult examination at an English University.

Minute by the HONOURABLE H. E. SULLIVAN, *dated 12th June 1883.*

Every word of the Minute recorded by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has my entire concurrence.

No. 1169, dated 3rd July 1883.

From—J. R. REID, Esq., Secretary to the Government, N.-W. Provinces and Oudh,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 26 C., dated 17th March 1883, forwarding copies of the papers noted on the margin, and to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner on the provisions of the Bill, together with the opinions of the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court, Allahabad, and of some other persons consulted on the subject.

Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, with statement of objects and reasons.

2. The Bill is intended to amend sections 22, 25, 443, 444, 450, and part of 459 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Act X of 1882), and its effect upon the existing law would appear to be as follows:—

(1) As section 22 of the Code of Criminal Procedure now stands, the Government can appoint any European British subject, official or non-official, and if official, of any branch of the Government service, to be a Justice of the Peace for its territories. Under the law as amended by the Bill, the primary qualification for investment with powers of a Justice of the Peace would no longer be one of nationality and race descent, but would become purely official within certain branches of the public service: that is, no one could be appointed a Justice of the Peace who was not a Magistrate of the first class, and was not—

(*a*) a member of the Covenanted Civil Service, or
(*b*) a member of the Native Civil Service constituted under 33 Vic., cap. 3, or
(*c*) an Assistant Commissioner in a non-regulation province, or
(*d*) a Cantonment Magistrate;

and no non-official person, or member of any service under the Government other than those specified above, could be appointed a Justice of the Peace.

(2) Under section 25, as amended, all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates would become Justices of the Peace for the territories administered by the Local Government under which they are serving.

(3) It is proposed to alter section 443, so that any Magistrate of the first class, who is also a Justice of the Peace, would be competent to try European British subjects; and the effect of this alteration, taken with the addition proposed to section 25 and with section 446, would be that a District Magistrate, whether an European or a Native, would be empowered to try European British subjects, and on conviction to sentence them to not more than three months' imprisonment, or to fine of not more than Rs. 1,000, or to both.

(4) While Sessions Judges, whether European or Native, would become, under section 25 as amended, competent to try and sentence European British subjects, Assistant Sessions Judges, whether European or Native, would, under section 444 as amended, not be competent to do so until they had held office for three years and had been specially empowered by the Local Government.

(5) Section 450 and part of section 459 are proposed for repeal, because by the preceding amendments all Sessions Judges, whether European or Native, would, in virtue of office, be Justices of the Peace, and the disability of Native Magistrates and Sessions Judges to exercise the powers of a Justice of the Peace would be removed.

3. The object of these amendments, as stated by the Government of India, is to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the presidency towns of British India in such a way as to remove, at once and completely, from the Code of Criminal Procedure (Act X of 1882) every judicial disqualification based merely upon race distinctions. The Lieutenant-Governor, in submitting his views upon this proposition, desires that he may be understood to be treating the various points involved only as they relate to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. The determination of them by the Government of India may depend materially upon considerations of a general character, and upon the circumstances, political and administrative, of the different provinces of British India; and Sir Alfred Lyall would wish only to offer an opinion upon the expediency or necessity of introducing the Bill's provision into the provinces under his administration.

4. I am to say, then, that the Lieutenant-Governor does not think it expedient, in these provinces, to throw open to Native Magistrates the jurisdiction over European British subjects to the extent that would be permissible under the Bill. The four classes of persons specified in section 1 of the Bill include, taken together, very nearly the total number of the civil officers (excluding the subordinate executive services) in these provinces. According to the constitution of the judicial service, there is in each district only a limited staff of officers at any time available for disposing of the important criminal work of the provinces. It follows that very junior officers must occasionally be invested with the powers of a first class Magistrate, their integrity and energy and the supervision of the superior courts being accepted as security for the proper exercise of these powers. The proposed magisterial qualification of eligibility for appointment to be a Justice of the Peace, namely, that the officer to be appointed must be a Magistrate of the first class, is therefore a very variable test of special fitness to exercise that jurisdiction. It is true that the qualification is a preliminary one only, and that the Local Government may select, from among the Magistrates possessing it, those only whom it thinks fit for appointment under section 1 of the Bill. But the Lieutenant-Governor now doubts whether there is sufficient stability or security in this discretionary power; since the correspondence and discussions that have taken place regarding the Bill have elicited great diversity of opinion, and it is not impossible that the Local Government might, at different times, have widely different views as to the proper standard of personal fitness, and as to the various considerations unavoidably and indisputably connected in all countries with marked distinctions of race. Seeing, then, that the broader and more attractive any principle is in its abstract form, the greater is the need for prudence in its application, the Lieutenant-Governor would now advise, in this instance, that the Legislature lay down a less flexible rule than that provided in the Bill, and limit more definitely the application of a principle which, reaching very far, may easily touch feelings and prepossessions that cannot be ignored.

5. In regard, moreover, to the last of the four classes named in section 1, it is understood that any person, without restriction as to service or class, military or civil, who is invested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class within a cantonment, becomes the Cantonment Magistrate. If this be so, then not only for the reasons stated above, but also because Cantonment Magistrates are particularly intended to exercise authority over soldiers and others subject more or less to the rules and customs of military discipline, and are in constant relation with military commandants, the Lieutenant-Governor would not advise any change of law that might permit full jurisdiction in cantonments to be given to others beside European British subjects. And as both Cantonment Magistrates and Assistant Commissioners in non-regulation provinces can be appointed by the simple order of the Executive Government, their status differs in this respect from that of persons appointed to the Civil Service, which is created and defined by statutes.

6. For the reasons, then, set out in the preceding paragraphs, Sir Alfred Lyall would recommend the entire omission of section 1 from the Bill.

7. Section 2 of the Bill proposes to make all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates, in virtue of office, Justices of the Peace. With regard to this provision, I am now to explain the reasons why, after careful deliberation, the Lieutenant-Governor adheres to the opinion stated in the last paragraph of my letter No. 692, dated 27th May 1882, to the effect that the powers of Justice of the Peace might be conferred upon every Native officer, whether a member of the Covenanted Civil Service, or a commissioned civil officer in a non-regulation province, who may be appointed to be a Magistrate of a district. In the first place, the appointment of a Native officer, except on temporary occasions, to be Magistrate of a district, would, at least in these provinces, be a substantial recognition of his trustworthiness, capacity, and strength of character. For the District Magistrate, who in these provinces is also the Collector, is the chief executive officer holding large powers and acting under serious responsibilities within a very considerable tract of country. He commands all the executive, police, and revenue officers in the district; and he is the controller of, and to a certain extent the appellate authority over, the magisterial courts of the district. Being thus one of the main springs of the whole public administration, the District Magistrate is a member of the most important grade in the whole executive service of the Government in these provinces. It was probably with advertence to this fact that one of the non-official European gentlemen consulted regarding the Bill answered that if a Native Civilian was appointed Magistrate and Collector, it would make no appreciable difference to him whether or not that officer was a Justice of the Peace. Whenever, therefore, a Native Civilian shall have been promoted to a position of such trust and influence, it will be both reasonable and expedient to confer upon him the full attributes of his office. For since he is responsible for keeping order within his territorial jurisdiction, and for maintaining the authority of the Government and the law, not only should he be able to deal with persons of every class and condition, but it would be inconsistent and unwise so to limit his power that he should not be able to use it against an European, even in cases of sudden emergency in which he might have to exert his authority personally in preserving the peace by punishing disorder. These reasons for giving full jurisdiction to District Magistrates are at any rate clear, and of public concern. Moreover, District Magistrates are necessarily so limited in number, that the full extent to which, by including them among Justices of the Peace, the jurisdiction could be extended, would be plainly understood and clearly circumscribed, and would not fluctuate with changes of opinion as to the fitness of particular Native officers or classes of officers. Further, the principle of arming District Magistrates with exceptional powers has been the mainstay of our executive system from a very early date. At a time when ordinary jurisdiction over European British subjects was jealously reserved to the Supreme Courts at the presidency towns, the Statute of 53, George III, cap. 155, empowered the District Magistrate as such (whether or not a Justice of the Peace) to try charges against an European British subject of certain offences committed against Natives of India, and to pass sentence upon him. In fact, it is believed that investment with the powers of a Justice of the Peace was not essential to the exercise of the powers conferred under the statute until, for the first time, a proviso to that effect was introduced without discussion into Act XXV of 1861. It is, perhaps, true that up to 1832, when the Statute 3 and 4, William IV, cap. 85, was passed, no Native could have held the office of District Magistrate; but the point is now mentioned to support the argument that the investment of the District Magistrate as such with authority of a special kind has, if not always, still from a very early period of our administration, been admitted as essential to local administration.

8. The Lieutenant-Governor therefore supports the proposal to amend the law so as to make all District Magistrates, in virtue of office, Justices of the Peace. In the correspondence with which this discussion began, it was proposed by the Bengal Government to give full jurisdiction at least to Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service who shall have attained the position of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge. And in a Minute by a majority of the High Court of these provinces it is said that to this extent an amendment of the law is not opposed by the Judges, although the Minute objects altogether to clauses (*b*), (*c*), and (*d*) of section 1. The Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, as has been already explained, is that the appointment to a District Magistracy should be taken as the necessary verification of personal fitness to exercise the special jurisdiction. And from this point of view he would not draw a distinction between members of the Covenanted Civil Service and members of the Native Civil

Service constituted under Statute 33, Vic., cap. 3. It may be true, although it has yet to be proved, that the former are likely, by reason of their training in England, to be better fitted than the latter to exercise the powers of Justice of the Peace. But this would be one of the points to be taken into account in appointing Native Civilians to be District Magistrates; since, whether they were members of the Covenanted Civil Service or of the Statutory Native Civil Service, their personal fitness to exercise all the functions of the appointment would have to be considered. It may also be observed that the Statute 33, Vic., cap. 10, pledges the Government to confer appointments ordinarily reserved for the Covenanted Civil Service only upon Natives of India of proved merit and ability, under rules that may from time to time be varied; so that in the case of persons employed under this Statute the selection for higher office must always be based strictly upon fitness and efficiency.

9. The foregoing arguments in favour of the proposal to invest District Magistrates, in virtue of office, with jurisdiction as Justices of the Peace, do not, however, in the Lieutenant-Governor's opinion, apply to the proposed investment of Sessions Judges, in virtue of office, with similar powers. Every offence is ordinarily triable only within the district where it occurred; and as the charge must go in the first instance before some Magistrate, there are executive reasons why the District Magistrate should not be debarred from receiving, and according to law disposing of, any charge of an offence cognisable within his jurisdiction. But a committal for trial before a Sessions Judge involves few, if any, considerations of urgency or executive expediency; while it is usually as easy to arrange for the trial being held before the Judge of one district as before that of another. The object of interposing in 1872 the jurisdiction of the Sessions Court between the Magistrate and the High Court was to save the expense, delay, and general disadvantages of sending Europeans from remote districts for trial to the High Court. This is a consideration which is certainly rather losing than gaining force as communications improve; and at any rate there will always be a sufficient number of European Judges in different districts of these provinces to prevent serious inconvenience of this kind. Moreover, under the existing law in regard to the trial and punishment of European British subjects by the Court of Session, the Judge not only possesses jurisdiction stretching over a very wide range of offences, and has power to pass a sentence that may be very severe to an European, but he can also decide whether the accused shall or shall not be sent to be tried by the High Court with a jury. In these provinces trials before Sessions Judges could rarely (except in the few larger stations) be held with a jury; while if procedure by jury were, as a rule, introduced for the trial of Englishmen, Native Judges might be embarrassed. On the whole, therefore, the Lieutenant-Governor does not think that the anomaly of making a distinction in this respect, between European and Native Judges, furnishes a sufficient reason for changing the law, in order to give Native Judges the special jurisdiction over European British subjects.

10. In the final sentence of my letter No. 692, dated 27th May 1882, the specific recommendation of the Lieutenant-Governor was made in the following words:—

"In short, although the Lieutenant-Governor would not, for the present, advise that a Native Covenanted Civilian should be invested (save in very special cases) with the powers of a Justice of the Peace until he has been appointed, temporarily or permanently, to be a Magistrate of a district, he would confer the powers of a Justice of the Peace on every Native officer, whether a member of the Covenanted Civil Service or a commissioned civil officer in a non-regulation province, who may be appointed to be a Magistrate of a district."

Sir Alfred Lyall would now amend this recommendation by striking out the clause enclosed in the parenthesis;* and he does not now advise, as was suggested in an earlier part of the confidential letter of the 27th May 1882, that a Native Civilian, temporarily appointed to be a District Magistrate, should retain his powers as a Justice of the Peace on reversion to a subordinate post. He would attach the exercise of jurisdiction as Justice of the Peace to the office of District Magistrate, as a necessary or intrinsic function of the office itself, not of the individual who might hold it; and he would make no other substantive alteration in the law. He would retain the power, now held by the Local Government, of appointing, when reasons for it are shown, any European British subject, official or non-official, to be a Justice of the Peace. For, there can be little doubt that in certain localities and circumstances it may be advisable, if not necessary, in the interests of the natives of the country themselves, that the Government should have the power of conferring upon European British Magistrates, official or non-official, powers to deal promptly with their own countrymen. If, however, the Government of India are of opinion, upon a more general survey of the bearings of the question throughout India, that Sessions Judges ought to have jurisdiction as Justices of the Peace, the Lieutenant-Governor would advise that, upon the analogy of the proviso in section 4 of the Bill, the Local Government should be vested with discretion to confer, for special reasons, the jurisdiction upon Native Sessions Judges who shall have held office for a period stated. To this arrangement, indeed, for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, there would be no objection whatever; but in these provinces the Sessions Judges are often officers whose standing in the service is not higher than that of the District Magistrates, and it becomes sometimes necessary to appoint, for short intervals, a junior officer.

* (Save in very special cases.)

11. In the correspondence submitted with this letter, it is more than once observed that the question of altering the present law regarding jurisdiction over European British subjects is in no way urgent. With this observation, so far as it relates to these provinces, the Lieute-

nant-Governor feels bound to say that he concurs. From one of the Minutes recorded by the Judges of the High Court it appears that during the past ten years the average annual number of charges against European British subjects has been 81. Of these cases by far the greatest number have occurred in the more important districts, in or near large stations, where European Magistrates and Sessions Judges are always to be found, and where, for general administrative reasons, the offices of Magistrate and Sessions Judge are not at all likely to pass out of the hands of European British officers. There are at present few European British subjects residing in the outlying districts, at a distance from the principal towns and lines of communication; nor is there any near prospect of their number increasing in parts of the country beyond easy reach and supervision from the principal centres. On the other hand, the Native Civilians now in these provinces are very few. In Oudh, there is one Native Assistant Commissioner not belonging to the Civil Service, and two Native Civilians appointed in 1880 and 1881 under the Statute 33 Vic. In the North-Western Provinces, there are two officers appointed in 1880 and 1881, under that Statute, and one Civilian who entered the service by competition in 1876. It may be assumed that, even if the Bill were to pass unaltered, the Government of India would expect that before the powers of a justice of Peace were conferred upon any officer of the classes made eligible, his general capacity and judgment as a Magistrate of the first class would be tested by some years' probation in that class. It follows that under any circumstances not more than one or two of the gentlemen just referred to would be soon eligible as Justices of the Peace. And even if the proportion of Native Civilians annually attached to this administration be in future augmented, the number of those who could be appointed Justices of the Peace must nevertheless for a long period to come be exceedingly small.

12. On the other hand, the English community in the North-Western Provinces has shown, since the Bill was published, a natural desire that criminal charges against them should, as heretofore, be enquired into and tried by English judicial officers. To this arrangement no demur, so far as the Lieutenant-Governor can ascertain, is made by the Natives of these provinces at large. It is true that some leading Native gentlemen, whose views and feelings carry much weight and merit much consideration, distinctly support the principle of removing class differences and race disqualifications, and would wish to see Native officers relieved from any such disability. But Sir Alfred Lyall nevertheless believes that all Native gentlemen possessing judgment, ripe experience, and real knowledge of these provinces would advise great care in selecting Native officers for the exercise of what must inevitably be, in many cases, a difficult and peculiar jurisdiction.

13. In these circumstances, the question of extending to Native Magistrates the power of Justice of the Peace cannot be said to press upon this administration. But whenever the Government of India determine that it must be settled (and now that the question has been formally taken up it ought to be settled), the Lieutenant-Governor would certainly give the jurisdiction to all District Magistrates, and he believes that this amendment of the present law would fulfil all reasonable expectations and answer all practical purposes.

No. 2309, dated 8th June 1883.

From—S. HARVEY JAMES, Esq., Registrar, High Court of Judicature, N.-W. Provinces,

To—The Secretary to the Government, N.-W. Provinces and Oudh.

Referring to your No. 628, dated the 6th April last, in the Judicial (Criminal) Department, on the subject of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I am directed to submit Minutes recorded by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Oldfield, and a joint Minute recorded by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Straight, Mr. Justice Brodhurst, and Mr. Justice Tyrrell.

Minute recorded by the HON'BLE SIR R. STUART, *Chief Justice,—dated 7th June 1883.*

There are many considerations germane to the question raised by this Bill, and to the legal policy relating to it, which I could have gone into with satisfaction to my own mind; but the pressure and urgency of other work has been such as to leave me without sufficient time or leisure for a full explanation of my views. I shall therefore confine myself to a few remarks on the more material points of the Bill.

I share in the regret so generally felt, and I believe with thorough and entire honesty on the part of those who have given expression to the feeling, that the Bill was introduced so hastily, unexpectedly on the part of the European community, and without any general demand on the part of the Natives of the country. Nor have I been able to discover in the discussion of the Bill in the Legislative Council, as published in the *Gazette of India*, the explanation of any adequate reason for it. It was said that the proposal was to substitute for the disqualification arising from race, a qualification depending on tried personal fitness, and section 10 of the Civil Procedure Code, which provides that "no person shall, by reason of his descent or place of birth, be in any civil proceeding exempted from the jurisdiction of any of the Courts," has been referred to as justifying the contention that the Criminal Procedure shall be brought into harmony with the Civil. But this is a view of the matter which appears to me to ignore

the real and serious considerations that have to be faced. Civil law and its procedure operate, of necessity, in a manner which is indifferent to personal extraction or race, and there is nothing to colour facts and motives, and the facts being ascertained, the law takes effect civilly, without necessity touching character, feeling or sentiment: the property or right claimed is determined, and there is an end to the dispute, and the disappointment of the unsuccessful party is the only moral consequence that can ensue. But the administration of the criminal law in India ought to be regarded in a different light, appealing as it does to considerations relating to idiosyncracy, temper, and temperament, moral appreciation of crime, consciousness of guilt or innocence, social degradation as the consequences of proved guilt, and the strange difference in this respect between the moral sense of the European and that of the Natives. All these are very delicate considerations, and it is not easy to appreciate the opinion that they could be safely handled even by the most highly-educated Native Magistrate in trying a European for an imputed offence against the criminal law.

As to Native officers of "tried personal fitness," I have some difficulty in understanding how this fitness is to be ascertained. No doubt if the Native gentlemen whom it is proposed to substitute for European have successfully gone through the training necessary for the Indian Civil Service, and have had some experience of European society, the experiment proposed might, perhaps, be made without any serious disturbance to existing social relations in this country; and I have no doubt that there are many Native gentlemen who could be safely entrusted with the performance of any duty, criminal as well as civil. I am acquainted with one Native officer in these provinces whose service and conduct during the few years he has been among us has been marked not only by fair ability, but by discretion and good sense; and after a time at least I should not fear to confide to him the trial of Europeans for offences against the Penal Code. This gentleman, however, although officially serving in, is not a Native of, these provinces, but is a member of the highly respectable and intelligent Parsee community, and I observe he has been lately called to the English Bar.

There is, however, one peculiarity of the Native mind which ought not to be kept out of view, and that is, so far as my experience in these provinces goes, their incapacity for the investigation of facts irrespective of any consideration whatever but their truth, purely and simply. Nor can they weigh evidence; in fact, they seem to me utterly incapable of understanding what evidence is; and as I remarked lately in a civil suit (first appeal No. 143 of 1880, dated 4th July 1881), where the depositions had been shamefully taken in the subordinate Native Court, the logical development of a witness's knowledge of facts is a thing utterly unknown, if it is indeed not impervious, to the Native mind. I know Native lawyers, who are not only highly respectable gentlemen, but who, in the exercise of their profession, are not only very acute in the apprehension and application of a legal principle, and indeed extremely able in legal argument generally, but yet who cannot apparently bring their minds to the consideration of disputed facts simply as such, and this of course may have a very serious bearing on the question whether Native officers could generally be relied on to faithfully administer the criminal law where a European is the accused person. As a singular instance of the bent of the Native mind to disregard, or at least to fail to apprehend, plain facts clearly standing out before them on distinct evidence, I may be allowed to refer to the celebrated *Baroda* case, where the Commissioners appointed to try the Gaekwar were equally divided, the Native Commissioners being for acquitting and the Europeans for convicting. The Native Commissioners, including so very intelligent a person as Sir Dinkar Rao, were all men of the highest rank, and were content to offer a general opinion in favour of the Gaekwar, without the least attempt to support their view of the case by any examination of the evidence; while the European Commissioners, all men of high distinction and experience in public affairs, with Sir Richard Couch, the late Chief Justice of Bengal, at their head, went fully into the merits of the case as spoken to by the witnesses, and showed the guilt of the accused by an irresistible demonstration of facts. The Government of India, however, under these circumstances refrained from recording any opinion of its own on the evidence and proceedings before the Commission, but by proclamation announced a conclusion which was only intelligible on a belief of the Gaekwar's guilt and a knowledge of his gross misconduct for a series of years, and declared his deposition from the sovereignty of the Baroda State, and that he and his issue were precluded from all rights, honours, and privileges thereto pertaining. Indeed it is impossible to understand the view taken of the Gaekwar's conduct by the Native Commissioners, excepting on the idea that the Gaekwar's rank, status, and position were such as to be incapable of being affected by the depositions of the witnesses who were examined, many of whom being persons by whose statements Natives of rank are not accustomed to be influenced. It might have been different if, instead of such witnesses, persons in a social position nearer to that of the Native Commissioners themselves had given evidence to the same effect; and this just shows the danger of confiding to Native officers the decision of questions touching the liberty and reputation of Englishmen and other Europeans, and which depend on the appreciation of evidence of facts, irrespective of the status of the witnesses who speak to them. The one thing is to secure the exclusion of bias and feeling, and that a trial should be in all respects fair.

To revert to the Bill under consideration, I would advise that Native officers to be appointed under it should be selected from class (*a*) in section 1; and it seems that in important cases, in which the punishment might exceed twelve months, a Native Magistrate should not be allowed to proceed with any preliminary enquiry with a view to commitment, or to the trial of a European without notice to the High Court, in the form of an application

by the prosecutor, to show cause why the enquiry should not go on before the Native Magistrate, whose warrant, however, should in the first instance be sufficient for the safe custody or bail of the accused European. Such a proceeding as this, along with the remedy afforded by section 456, Act X of 1882, might meet every possible miscarriage of the law, and afford every reasonable protection to Europeans who stand accused before Native Magistrates.

If the Bill is allowed to pass, I hope the change it makes in criminal procedure will be carried out with the greatest possible caution, and every care taken in the appointment of Native officers under it to select the men who may be presumed to be the best fitted for the performance of such new duties.

Minute recorded by the HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE OLDFIELD,—*dated 5th June 1883.*

The remarks I have to offer must be considered to be confined to the Bill so far as it affects the North-Western Provinces, and I am bound to say that I can find no immediate necessity for its introduction into these provinces, either on the ground that there has been a demand on the part of the native community for a measure to empower natives of this country as Justices of the Peace and Magistrates to deal with offences committed by European British subjects, or because the staff of Magistrates who may be empowered under the law as it stands to deal with such offences is inadequate for the purpose.

I fully appreciate the desirability of removing, so far as possible, invidious race distinctions; but I think the introduction of the Bill at the present time is to be regretted, seeing that there was no urgent need for it, and in view of the strong opposition to which it has given rise—an opposition which is undoubtedly based, however erroneously, on an honest conviction of its injurious tendency.

At the same time I am decidedly of opinion that the opponents of the Bill have greatly exaggerated the mischievous consequences likely to arise from the Bill, and I am persuaded that the Bill may safely be passed in a modified form without any evil result. I would recommend that jurisdiction over European British subjects should not be given to Native Magistrates of the classes (*b*) and (*c*) in section 1 of the Bill, and that Native Magistrates should not be employed as Cantonment Magistrates, and I would confine the jurisdiction over the European British subjects to native members of the Covenanted Civil Service only.

I think a measure of this sort, particularly under existing circumstances, cannot be introduced with too great caution, and it will be best to confine the exercise of powers under it, in the first instance, to natives who are members of the Covenanted Civil Service, and who, by their education, residence in England, and intercourse with Europeans, may confidently be expected to exercise their powers fairly and satisfactorily.

Minute recorded by the HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE STRAIGHT, MR. JUSTICE BRODHURST, *and* MR. JUSTICE TYRRELL,—*dated 2nd May 1883.*

We are invited by Government to give expression to our opinions upon the provisions of the "Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects." As a preliminary observation, and speaking with reference to these provinces alone, it seems to us matter for regret that we were not asked at an earlier stage, and before the measure was introduced into the Council, as to whether any pressing necessity existed in this part of India for any such change in the law as that which is now proposed. Had any enquiries been addressed to us, we could have shown, what we now have to point out, that there are no circumstances, either of administrative or judicial inconvenience, existing within the jurisdiction of this Court necessitating legislation. At the present moment there is only one Native Covenanted Civilian in the North-West to whom clause (*a*) of section 1 of the Bill applies, and he is a Joint-Magistrate of the 2nd grade; and with regard to clause (*b*) of section 1, we have only two young native gentlemen, nominated under 33 Victoria, cap. III, acting as Assistant Magistrates. As to clause (*d*) there is not a single Native Cantonment Magistrate in the provinces, nor do we think it would be at all desirable that any native should be appointed to such a post. Then as to the number of European British subjects coming before the Criminal Courts, we find that during the last ten years, 817 in all have been tried by the Sessions Judges, District Magistrates and Magistrates of the first class; and that in twelve districts out of thirty-seven, namely Azamgarh, Hamirpur, Lalitpur, Jalaun, Etah, Manipuri, Pilibhit, Budaun, Bijnor, Tarai, Garhwal, and Bulandshahr, there has not been a single case. Towards the total we have mentioned, the Allahabad district contributes 235, Agra 100, Cawnpur 75, Meerut 40, including the military stations of these several towns; and many of the offences comprehended relating to breaches of Cantonment rules and regulations; while Dehra Dun gives 121, Saharanpur 43, and Mirzapur 43. We are unaware that any unusual difficulty or inconvenience ever arose in connection with the disposal of this annual average of 81 cases against European British subjects; no complaint of anything of the kind is on record; and, as far as we can see, there is no probability of its occurring.

It will thus be seen that in these provinces no reasons of public convenience called for the introduction of this Bill, nor was there any personal grievance crying for redress, and the anomaly upon which so much stress has been laid in justification of the measure had never obtruded itself in any way. The existence of English Courts in India is in itself an anomaly;

but we doubt if any one could be found bold enough to propose their extinction merely upon that ground; and if absolute uniformity is to be the guiding principle of legislation in this country, we should at once abolish the distinction that protects a native gentleman of rank, or a *pardah-nashin* woman, from appearing in Court, when a European male or female can claim no such exemption.

We have said this much, because in a matter that has provoked such a display of strong feeling—a great deal of which, by the way, appear to us exceedingly exaggerated and undignified—we think we are bound to adopt the somewhat unusual course of expressing in no uncertain terms our views as to the inexpediency of, and absence of necessity for, the introduction of this Bill, at any rate so far as these provinces are concerned. We have not been able to ascertain that there was any demand or any agitation for such a change in the law, except of course on the part of the one gentleman who seems to have made the first move in the matter, until it was suggested by the appearance of the Bill itself; and we most emphatically say that there was not, and is not, any pressing need or necessity for it. Whatever another twenty years may effect, by an increase in the numbers of native gentlemen qualifying for the Covenanted or nominated to the Indian Civil Service, the alteration now proposed might well have been left to the future for settlement, when a substantial grievance clamoured for removal. We cannot, of course, venture to speak with reference to the circumstances of Lower Bengal and the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay, which will no doubt be fully dealt with by the Minutes of the several High Courts interested, for there are many matters relating to Lower Bengal, for example, of which in these provinces we can have no direct knowledge or experience. In passing, however, we think it right to say that we have no sympathy whatever with much of the language that has been used in the course of the bitter controversy that this Bill has aroused with regard to native magisterial officers; and we think it is scarcely calculated to serve the cause of its opponents, with those who wish to give the question a calm and impartial consideration. Seeing that under the law the Native Magistrates are entrusted with the power of trying their fellow-countrymen for many offences, it is neither complimentary nor creditable to our system of criminal justice to speak of them in a manner that implies they are intellectually and morally unfit to exercise any such jurisdiction at all. At the same time from our experience we feel bound to remark that, while the Native Subordinate Judges and Munsifs of these provinces, with few exceptions, exhibit a peculiar taste for and facility in, dealing with the questions of law which are raised in civil suits, we cannot say save in some rare instances, that we have found such of the work of our Native Magistrates as has passed under our notice to be equally happily done. There is no disguising the fact that many of the latter especially do not appreciate or understand the rules of evidence, and that they do not value the importance of recording depositions with strict care and accuracy. In justice to our Native Magistrates, however, it should be observed that their duties are of a mixed kind, and that much of their time has to be devoted to Revenue work as Deputy Collectors—a class of business in no way calculated to improve their knowledge of criminal law or practice. Without unreasonably depreciating them, we cannot say that we think these gentlemen, either by training, experience or knowledge of the manners and habits of Europeans, fitted to hold enquiry into or trial of cases in which European British subjects are in the position of accused persons. In this way, and to this extent only, can we coincide in the remarks that have been made upon the subject to which we have been more immediately referring.

So much has been said and written about the Bill now before us, that were we to discuss the various arguments for and against it, we should only be recapitulating what has already been urged on one side or the other. In the angry and impassioned war of words that the introduction of this measure has precipitated, it is not altogether easy to preserve that calmness and impartiality which is so essential in dealing with a question of this kind upon its true merits. We have already indicated in plain terms our opinion that the Bill is not wanted; but on the assumption that it may be persevered with, we have given its provisions our best attention, and think it right at once clearly and in distinct terms to state that we object altogether to the proposals contained in clauses (*b*), (*c*), and (*d*) of section 1 of the Bill. We think, however, without going the length of asserting that Native gentlemen who have passed into the Covenanted Civil Service, and who have reached the position of Sessions Judge or Magistrate of a district, to be "more English in thought and feeling than Englishmen themselves," as described by an exuberant supporter of the measure during the debate in Council, that they may fairly be said, from the incidents of their training, experience and necessary length of service, to have given pledges of their capacity and competency to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects. To this extent, and this extent only, we do not oppose an amendment of the law. But, while going so far, we wish most emphatically to declare that if this concession is granted, it should only be made with the plain and positive intimation that it is in no way to be regarded as a precedent or basis for future agitation in the direction of the other proposals contained in the Bill.

No. 990, dated 8th May 1883.

From—H. J. SPARKS, Esq., C.S., Judicial Commissioner, Oudh,

To—The Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 629, dated the 6th ultimo, forwarding, for my opinion, a copy of a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure as far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. Should the Bill become law, it is not likely to affect this province for some time to come. There is at present no Native gentleman holding the post of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, and it is improbable that His Honour would immediately appoint to be Justices of the Peace officers so junior as the Native gentlemen who are now serving in Oudh as Assistant Commissioners. It may be owing to this that the Bill has caused little excitement here.

3. I have spoken on the subject to various persons, and find that European British subjects of all classes are opposed to the Bill. Natives generally appear to take little interest in the matter in which they are not personally concerned. One gentleman has told me that he thought there was no necessity for any change in the law: another that as Natives are now for the first time being placed in charge of districts, it would be as well to wait and see how they acquit themselves as such before altering the law: a third considered the Bill premature; but as the principle of doing away with race distinctions is good, he would be glad to see it passed. Some few of the more advanced and discontented school now see a sentimental grievance in the present law, and are in favour of the present measure. Some gentlemen have expressed regret that the Bill has been brought in, as it has given rise to an unfriendly feeling between the Native and the European. The views of the Native Magistracy generally were, I believe, truly expressed by a very shrewd and practical Native judicial officer, who told me that personally he should be very sorry to be appointed a Justice of the Peace.

4. In my own opinion the District Magistrate should be *ex-officio* a Justice of the Peace. He is responsible for the peace of his district, and should have full powers. In the interests of European British subjects also, it is desirable that there should be at least one officer in every district competent to dispose at once of any complaints that may be brought against them. The remaining provisions of the Bill appear to me unnecessary, and they would, I believe, have a bad effect. Although all men may be equal in the eye of the law, there is no doubt that, as a matter of fact, Englishmen do not regard Natives as their equals; and were it not for this feeling, we should probably not be here. When considering the probable results of the proposed measure, the existence of this feeling must not be lost sight of. In the case of a timid Magistrate, this assumed superiority might often lead to an improper acquittal; in the case of a vain one, it might cause undue severity. In no case would it be conducive to the dignity of our Courts, or to the temperate and impartial administration of justice. I am therefore of opinion that it would be a mistake to appoint any Native officer, except the District Magistrate, to be a Justice of the Peace.

5. It also seems to me unwise to throw away the power of appointing to be Justices of the Peace any European British subjects other than those specified in the first section of the Bill. The present policy of the Government is to appoint no Uncovenanted European Magistrate, and the race of European Deputy Collectors and Extra Assistant Commissioners is gradually dying out. But a time may come when the Government will be glad to avail itself again of the services of this useful class. Looking to the possibility of a change of policy in this respect, I would retain power to appoint to be Justices of the Peace such European British subjects as the Government may think fit.

6. I have said that in my opinion every District Magistrate should be *ex-officio* a Justice of the Peace; but though in theory I think there can be no doubt that he should be one, the present time does not appear to be favourable for a change in the existing law. As far as I am aware, no practical inconvenience has hitherto been experienced. I have not heard that any European British subjects have been detained for an exceptionally long period owing to there being no officer in the district competent to dispose of the complaint against them. Nor do I know of any case in which a Native complainant was prevented from prosecuting a European British subject for a similar reason. For some years to come there will be no difficulty in posting an English Assistant Magistrate to each of the few districts in which the District Magistrate may be a Native. There is therefore no immediate necessity for any alteration in the law, and it would be inexpedient to pass a most unpopular Act until it has been shown that the present law does really occasion inconvenience.

7. The Bill has unfortunately given rise to so much angry feeling that I trust I may be excused if I do not confine my remarks to the Bill itself, but express a hope that it may be withdrawn. My reasons for this are, that the provisions of the Bill are most obnoxious to the persons whom it will concern—the European British subjects; while they do no practical good to any other section of the community. I have heard it said that the Government is placed in this dilemma. If the Bill be withdrawn, it will look as if this were done in deference to views that have been expressed in a most unbecoming if not in a menacing manner, and that this will be a bad precedent for all seditious agitators. On the other hand, if the Bill become law, the feelings of a small, but important and influential, body of the community will be estranged. It appears to me that there is no question as to the correct course to adopt. If, as I believe, no practical difficulties have shewn an alteration in the law to be necessary, it would be a mistake to pass an Act which is regarded as an injury by the people whom it concerns simply that the Government may vindicate its dignity, or, in other words, show that it is not afraid. The Government of India is, I submit, too strong to shrink from doing what is right lest it should be thought to have given way to disrespectful clamour. The Government of India might no doubt prove its power by passing the measure in spite of all opposition; but I am convinced that the more dignified—and looking to the possible results of the measure—

the wiser policy would be to withdraw the Bill in deference to the opinion of those whose interests will be affected by it, without attaching undue weight to the intemperate manner in which that opinion has been expressed.

No. 26—XIII, dated 7th May 1883.

From—ELLIOT COLVIN, Esq., C.S., Commissioner, Meerut Division,

To—The Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

In answer to your No. 630, dated 6th ultimo, Judicial (Criminal) Department, I have the honour to state that there appears to be no object in delaying my answer to the 1st of June, the latest date allowed. Opinions held by different classes are so strong and fixed, that there is no probability of any early change taking place.

2. The mass of the Native population are ignorant of the Bill: this element is one which has to be considered only so far as it can be worked on by agitators; and the religious leaders who have most influence with them have little or no sympathy with the Natives who are advocates of the measure.

3. These consist almost entirely of men who have been educated in our English colleges—clerks, pleaders, schoolmasters, junior officials: in short the men who have been semi-Europeanised by an English education are all strongly in favour of the Bill.

4. This advocacy is based partly on the ideas of liberty and equality derived from their education, and partly on the idea that the Bill places a seal on a policy of which they are strong partisans.

5. The weapon of this section of the community is the Press. Its chief opponent is that part of the Native community educated according to Oriental ideas, and which infinitely prefers being governed by Europeans, to being associated in Government with their fellow-countrymen, whose opinions and views they utterly distrust, and whom they consider to be perverts.

6. As yet the European, especially the European official, has held the scales between the two sections; but the semi-Europeanised section knows that with the Native Press to aid him, he will have gained a vast step by anything which lowers the influence of the European.

7. Unfortunately an impression is prevalent that the Government and Executive officers are not in agreement. The origin of this is, that while Government stated the consensus of opinion is in favour of the Bill, it is very rare indeed to hear any English official approve of it.

8. The Native community educated in the Oriental method do not want the Bill; they look with the greatest jealousy and distrust on the men of the new school, and are afraid of any measure which may increase their influence. The Deputy Magistrates point out the fact that they always try to get a case in which an Englishman is in any way concerned tried by an English officer; and officers of experience foresee that though to be able to try Europeans may be an honour, still the evil results and inconveniences arising would far counterbalance and practically prevent the exercise of the power.

9. The unanimity among all the non-official (English) classes is wonderful in the condemnation of the Bill. Most people who have an opportunity of feeling the pulse of their countrymen must have foreseen the outcry which was certain to be raised; but probably few anticipated the stubborn, unyielding character of the opposition which would be raised. In the present state of feeling it is useless to suggest a compromise.

10. Among the officials the Bill finds no favour. So far as this part of India is concerned it is looked on as premature. The bitterness of feeling which has been roused is deplored, while the absence of any immediate necessity for such a measure is admitted. No officer whom I have consulted suggests any modification or compromise. The feeling among the officials may, I think, be characterised as one of sincere regret and an earnest desire that the matter may be shelved as it most decently can.

No 106—XIII-167, dated 12th May 1883.

From—J. C. ROBERTSON, Esq., Commissioner, Rohilkhand Division,

To—The Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

In reply to G. O. No. 631, dated 6th April 1883, Judicial (Criminal) Department, I have the honour to remark that, although I was originally of opinion that members of the Covenanted Civil Service (irrespective of the fact as to whether they were European British subjects) and members of the Native Civil Service constituted by the rules made under 33 Victoria, cap. III, might be appointed Justices of the Peace, subsequent events have caused me to modify that opinion, for it is impossible to ignore the agitation which has been caused amongst the non-official English section of the community.

2. As is natural in cases when men's minds are excited, a great deal has been said on both sides which had better have been left unsaid; but the fact remains that the opposition of non-official Europeans to the proposed Bill is unanimous and intense. On the

other hand, I (speaking from the opinions of Native gentlemen of standing and respectability) am convinced that there is no general wish for its introduction; and that, so far as this part of the country is concerned, they would willingly leave matters in *statu quo*, and are not in the least desirous of any such change as is contemplated by the Bill.

3. Looking at the agitation which has been caused, and at the fact that every English member of the Covenanted Civil Service is not necessarily a Justice of the Peace, I consider that the present Bill is uncalled for, and will, if passed, produce results which are much to be deprecated, without causing any real benefit to any one.

4. In one point only it might be advisable to make a change, *viz.*, although it is not likely to happen in these provinces for some years, the time will come when members of the Native Civil Service will be eligible for the appointment of Magistrate of the district; and should such an appointment take place, administrative difficulties might arise unless the Magistrate was invested with powers of a Justice of the Peace, for it might easily happen that there would be no other officer in the district qualified to exercise such powers. I therefore think that it might be advisable to alter the law so as to make every Magistrate of the district *ex-officio* a Justice of the Peace; but I would go no further. I imagine that there would not be much opposition to this compromise, for as an English gentleman, a planter residing in this division, remarked to me, granted the fact that the Magistrate and Collector of the district was a Native Civilian, it would make no appreciable difference to him whether that officer was or was not a Justice of the Peace.

5. In conclusion, I have given this matter my best attention, as I cannot forget that, when consulted demi-officially by you on the subject, I expressed an opinion decidedly more favourable to the proposals contained in the Bill than that which I have now given, and can only say that the strong opposition on one side, combined with entire indifference on the other, which has since come to my notice has shown me that I was mistaken.

No. 3150—276, dated 29th May 1883.

From—A. J. LAWRENCE, Esq., Officiating Commissioner, Allahabad Division,
To—The Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

As desired in your No. 632 of 6th April, I have consulted directly with many Europeans and Natives, and indirectly, *i.e.*, through Messrs. Barstow, Mellor, and Benson, on the subject of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, 1882. Briefly, I may say that while all Europeans and Eurasians are against the Bill in any form or shape, few native gentlemen other than Bengali Babus and Cashmeri Pandits desire it or think it advisable. Some, no doubt, who had never previously known of the disqualification, nor had not in any way felt the necessity of a change, would now be averse to its being abandoned, as they look upon it as a race question, and make no secret of a desire for a victory over Europeans.

2. The latter now say but little, as they consider that all has been said that can be, and that the question will really be settled by Parliament, or at any rate in England. But that they think the less of it, or the better of themselves for having made a surrender in 1872, without which the present move would have been impossible, I do not believe. But the Europeans then recognised that grave administrative difficulties existed, that miscarriages of justice were frequent, and they gave way. They do not now believe, and speaking as Magistrate for twelve years of such districts as Benares, Etawah, and Agra, I agree with them that administrative difficulties or miscarriages of justice require any further surrender of keenly-valued privileges.

3. Government is not required to, and should not, anticipate the wants of the country. And as the Magistrate of Fatehpur says "all the injury (if any) which the Bill may do will fall upon the Europeans. It appears to me that it is the views of Europeans alone which required to be carefully considered and weighed, especially the views of that class, *viz.*, the non-official, whose interests are most likely to be affected. Now no one can deny that the whole body of non-official Europeans look on the Bill with consternation. Is the Government prepared to say that it is certain that the fears which the European community in general has so freely expressed are utterly groundless, and that the classes of natives to whom the Bill proposes to give the powers of a Justice of the Peace are in every way fitted to exercise those powers? This is, I think, the test by which the Bill must be judged, and by it I think the Bill stands condemned. I believe every word of what the Hon'ble Mr. Thomas said (*Gazette of India*, 21st April 1883) to be true; and that if natives are given the power of summoning Europeans (and especially European women) before a Native Magistrate, then they will use that power for the purpose of extortion and annoyance, and a very real terror will be added to the life of a European in the mufassil, which may at any moment lead to disastrous consequences"

4. In England no Magistrate can sentence an offender to an imprisonment of longer than six months, and in doubtful cases the option of a trial by jury at Sessions is nearly always given; but here the new Bill will, without affording the protection which trial by jury affords, authorise Native Judges to imprison European British subjects up to twelve months. A safeguard, which the English nation has always enjoyed, is thrown aside, and Europeans can hardly be expected to acquiesce in this loss without vehement protests.

5. It may be that when local self-government has accustomed the latter to see their native brethren taking a more prominent part in municipal and other small jurisdictions, and exercising impartially an authority to which all classes have to submit, they may accept such a Bill as is now proposed. But it is one thing to be subject to an alien in matters of taxation and municipal rights, and it is another to know that your personal liberty, and more especially that of your wives and daughters, is at their mercy. And Europeans do not believe that any Natives, with their widely different ideas in regard to almost every social and religious matter, their caste prejudices, their ignorance of the manners and customs of the Europeans, and of the motives which guide them, are competent to give them a fair trial.

6. Supporters of the Bill say:—It is to so few we propose to give this power. But is it so? Once a local Governor, who approves of the Bill, is empowered to invest Assistant Commissioners under the proposed Act, will he not consider himself bound to do so? Will not Native Magistrates of all classes sooner or later be invested with similar powers? In common, I believe with many experienced officers, I fear that such Magistrates will not prove independent, and that they will not always use their powers without fear or favour. It is, I believe, well known that native suitors often wish to have their cases tried by an European Magistrate rather than by a countryman.

7. The social and intellectual distance between Europeans and Natives in all things is so great—a distance which their religion extends rather than lessens—that few natives acquire an intimate knowledge of the private life and habits of thought of an European.

Perhaps those who have been for some years in England, the few regular Native Civilians, may be sufficiently versed in the ways of the lower, as well as of the better class of Europeans, as to be qualified to sit as their Judges; but ordinary natives, or young men of family nominated to the Civil Service, should not in my judgment be empowered as the Bill proposes.

8. I have said nothing of the sentiment which the Bill under discussion ignores, or of the proposed amendment of section 22 of the Criminal Procedure Code, whereby the powers of the local Government to invest non-official European British subjects with powers over British subjects is withdrawn. I can only conclude this is an oversight.

9. So much has elsewhere been said that I have been purposely brief; but having consulted many persons, I should counsel that the proposed powers be extended only to those Native competition Civilians who, as District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, should be *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace.

10. The Bill can hardly be abandoned entirely, but the smaller change the better prospect there is of good government, and of the continuance of cordial relations between the Anglo-Indian and Native-born subjects of the Queen.

Dated 23rd April 1883.

From—KUNWAR HARNAM SINGH AHLUWALIA, Lucknow,
To—The Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, I beg to say that I am very thankful to Sir Alfred Lyall for inviting my opinion on the Native Jurisdiction Bill. I cannot but feel deeply interested in all that concerns the welfare of Indians; and therefore, availing myself of this opportunity, I would premise, *firstly*, that by assuming the title of Empress of India, Her Majesty has extended to us the privilege of considering ourselves as fellow-subjects with Englishmen; and, *secondly*, by giving us a liberal education, Government has befitted us for high responsibilities, which we expect to be entrusted with to a greater extent every day, according as we are found to deserve them more and more. The policy of Government has therefore been to avail itself of the services of Natives more largely than was the case some years back, not only as a generous concession to the claims of the children of the soil, but also as rendered necessary (1) on economical and (2) on political grounds. The Covenanted Civil Service has accordingly been thrown open to Native gentlemen, many of whom have already found admission into it; and since Government has gone thus far, every sensible man will admit that it should not long withhold from them the powers and privileges granted to their fellow-officers. A change must be made sooner or later, on the ground of administrative convenience, as also for the reasons given above. The anomalous case of a Native Presidency Magistrate is well known. A Native Civilian is tolerated as a Presidency Magistrate, but has not hitherto been permitted to go to the mufassil with those powers, in the exercise of which he has afforded satisfaction to the Local Government as well as the public. Outside the presidency-town a Native Magistrate cannot so much as commit for trial a European. It being, however, necessary for Government, in pursuance of its declared policy, to employ Natives extensively in the judicial service, in course of time a very large number of outstations will have Native judicial officers; so the question is, how can justice be administered to all Her Majesty's subjects without Native officers possessing criminal jurisdiction over European criminals? I presume Europeans have hitherto enjoyed immunity for many a crime, owing merely to the inconvenience attending an attempt to bring them to justice. The rural and illiterate classes of Natives (who form the majority of the population of India) have therefore been accustomed to think that English law is solely intended to punish them, and

not a law-breaking Englishman. They are surely mistaken, and yet Government might pay more regard to the quiet resignation of these its ignorant subjects, labouring under a mistaken sense of injustice, for which they fancy there is no remedy, than to the angry and senseless ebullitions of a privileged class who ought to know better. To me, therefore, it does not appear inexpedient to modify the existing law, and remove the disqualification which Native Civilians are subject to, because of the invidious race distinction that has hitherto been allowed to exist, as also owing perhaps to the supposed unfitness of Natives to try Englishmen even in the most trivial cases of infringement of law by the latter, whom no Native is believed to be capable of thoroughly understanding and doing justice to. The distinction in law between European and Native officers, so far at least as the administration of justice is concerned, should be done away with; and this amendment should, as His Excellency is of opinion, be passed at once, rather than some years hence. As very few Natives would obtain power under it, it would be easier to watch the working of it now than when (under the system introduced by Lord Lytton in 1879, and to which the measure proposed by Lord Ripon is but a corollary) Covenanted Civilians become more numerous.

Of course it is urged by those who are not in sympathy with the contemplated action of Government, that there being no sufficient safeguards against the miscarriage of justice, Natives cannot be trusted with powers over European British subjects out of the presidency-towns. Admitting this to be a fact, and granting that education, inter-communication, the supervision of High Courts, and other circumstances will not exercise any salutary restraint whatever, I would crave for consideration whether the objection does not apply with almost equal force to English Civilians in out-stations, and whether it has ever been allowed to be a bar to their investment with powers over *Native* British subjects? Taking also for granted that Natives do not understand Europeans sufficiently well to do justice to them, I ask again, do Europeans understand us so thoroughly as always to be able to do justice to us? These and other such objections that the majority of the non-official Englishmen in India are blindly raising against the wise and liberal policy of the present Government are simply suicidal.

Englishmen claim, and that justly, that their personal law should be respected; and so they are in all civil matters. We cannot grudge them their law of marriage, of inheritance, or their trial by jury. The question merely is, *by whom shall the ordinary criminal law be administered*, as a correspondent of the *Pioneer* very well puts it? If by Natives as well as Europeans, are the former nearly as competent as the latter? I believe sufficient care is taken in the selection of officers, whether they be Englishmen or Natives. for the Covenanted Service, and the subsequent training that they receive satisfies Government as to their fitness for judicial responsibilities. The personal qualifications that ought to entitle properly educated Natives to exercise the same powers as their fellow-officials generally, and to deal satisfactorily with cases in which Europeans are involved particularly, can be no other than *tact, judgment, uniform uprightness, honesty*, and *moral courage;* and whether Native Civilians possess them in a measure sufficient for the proper discharge of judicial duties, I believe Local Governments are in a better position to judge than irresponsible non-official Englishmen and Eurasians, who do not seem disposed to believe that Natives possess these virtues. As for legal and other training, I suppose Native Civilians receive enough of it during the period in which they qualify for the Service in England, and say the first five years that they exercise their judicial functions in their own country.

The proposed amendment is meeting with violent opposition from all quarters of India. Even Eurasians, and those whose European names alone seem to justify their preposterous demonstrations, have made common cause with Englishmen. But Government need not be apprehensive of anything serious resulting from this storm in a teapot. However, so far as Englishmen are concerned, the opposition presented is certainly very natural, as the proposed amendment apparently assails a privilege hitherto enjoyed by them. Yet I wish they had fought so hard on the side of reason, instead of mere sentiment. We are the more sorry for it as the amendment in question will keep up for some time the unfriendliness that it has unfortunately created between Englishmen and Natives. We shall bitterly feel it in our daily intercourse with them, but we also strongly hope that all excitement and ill-feeling, not originating in anything to perpetuate them long, will subside of themselves sooner or later, and give place to cordiality to the extent permitted by the relations in which the two races stand to each other.

It will therefore be a pity, as also a great mistake, if the Bill be eventually withdrawn. It deserves to be successful over all opposition; and we fervently trust that India may yet heartily congratulate the noble Ruler, and those associated with him, through whose instrumentality this great change in the administration of the country will be effected.

In conclusion, I beg you will understand that all I have said is in reference to those Natives only who return from England after successfully competing there for the Civil Service. If the Bill is passed, it will, of course, be for all Native Civilians; but since Government will proceed with the greatest caution in putting it to the test of experiment, I trust that Native gentlemen of the "Indian Civil Service," if entrusted with the proposed powers at all, will be exceptionally few for some years to come.

No. 2940-165, dated 6th July 1883.

From—A. H. L. FRASER, Esq., C.S., Offg. Secy. to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am directed, in continuation of my letter No. 2822-161, dated 30th ultimo, to submit the correspondence noted in the margin, and also a Memorandum in which the Chief Commissioner has recorded his views on the Criminal Jurisdiction Bill. Mr. Jones has not thought it necessary to submit the opinions of Deputy Commissioners, but I am to mention that non-official European opinion is almost entirely adverse to the Bill.

From the Registrar, Judicial Commissioner's Court, Central Provinces, to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 1134, dated 14th June 1883.

From the Officiating Commissioner, Jubbulpore Division, to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 1682, dated 4th April 1883.

From the Officiating Commissioner, Chhattisgarh Division, to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 2293, dated 9th April 1883.

From the Commissioner, Nerbudda Division, to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 1563, dated 25th April 1883.

From the Officiating Commissioner, Nagpur Division, to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 3184, dated 4th June 1883.

This was, Mr. Jones thinks, only to be expected. The non-official European is but little acquainted with the considerations by which the Government of India is influenced in connection with this matter, and unless public opinion among Europeans is somewhat systematically educated, there is but little chance that the present opposition to the Bill will disappear. He would therefore venture to urge that the leaders of the European community should be taken as much as possible into the confidence of Government. With their help a compromise, which may not be altogether unsatisfactory, may, he thinks, still be arrived at.

No. 1134, dated 14th June 1883.

From—The Registrar, Judicial Commissioner's Court, Central Provinces,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.

In reply to your endorsement No. 1246-68, dated 29th of March 1883, forwarding a copy of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, I am directed to communicate the following remarks.

2. No administrative necessity for the measure has arisen in these Provinces, inasmuch as there is in the Commission only one probationary member of the Native Civil Service, and no native member of the Covenanted Civil Service. For the same reason there can be no objection, so far as regards these Provinces, to the Bill on the ground that it will be prejudicial to the administration of justice.

3. I am, however, to say that if there were in the Commission native gentlemen qualified under the Bill for appointment to the office of Justice of the Peace, the Officiating Judicial Commissioner does not think that the Bill, if passed, would injuriously affect the administration of justice, or the safety of European British subjects. The Local Government would not appoint any native gentleman to be a Justice of the Peace unless he were fully competent to perform the duties of the office. There can be no question that Magistrates possessing the qualifications required by the Bill are, so far as legal knowledge is concerned, fully competent to try European British subjects. Those officers on whose discretion, judgment and impartiality the Local Government could not rely, would not, it is to be presumed, be appointed Justices of the Peace. So also with regard to the section of the Bill which confers the power of a Justice of the Peace on persons holding the office of District Magistrate and Sessions Judge, the Legislature may fairly assume that incompetent persons will not be appointed to such important offices. Moreover, it cannot be denied that an officer who is competent to exercise the powers of a District Magistrate or of a Sessions Judge is competent to exercise the limited jurisdiction conferred on those officers with respect to European British subjects.

4. There are, however, two objections to the measure, namely, first, that a native gentleman is not so good a judge as a European in a case in which a European is accused; and secondly, that European British subjects entertain a very strong opinion that a native gentleman is not competent to try them. From a judicial point of view, it is desirable that an accused person should be tried by the best tribunal possible, and by one in which both he and the class to which he belongs place confidence. It is, Sir James Stephen says, (Criminal Law of England, page 206), hardly less important that the decision in a criminal case should be believed to be just than that it should actually be just. Acting on this principle, the Legislature has reserved to the chartered High Courts, the Chief Court of the Punjab, and the Recorder of Rangoon, all the powers of a High Court with reference to European British subjects. Unless, therefore, there is an administrative necessity for the change, the Officiating Judicial Commissioner would not recommend that jurisdiction over European British subjects be given to a class of courts which European British subjects believe, rightly or wrongly, to be incompetent to give them justice. This opinion is given on a consideration only of the judicial administrative requirements of the Central Provinces. Mr. Crosthwaite does not think that he is called on to give any opinion as to the political questions raised in connection with the Bill, or as to the claims of native members of the Civil Service to the exercise of the powers conferred on English members of that service.

5. If, however, it is considered necessary, in view of the requirements of other Provinces, or for other reasons, to pass the Bill, the Officiating Judicial Commissioner does not anticipate that, so far as the judicial administration is concerned, any difficulty will be caused in these Provinces by its provisions if hereafter there are Native Magistrates who are Justices of the Peace. For some years the District Magistrate will always be a European British subject, and it will be easy for him to try all cases which in his opinion are such as, either owing to the nature of the charges or the fact of the parties and witnesses being Europeans, should be tried by a European British subject. By the time that native gentlemen rise in these Provinces to be Sessions Judges and District Magistrates, the question of their competency or incompetency to try European British subjects will have been decided and will be beyond controversy.

No. 1682, dated 4th April 1883.

From—MAJOR-GENL. E. M. PLAYFAIR, Officiating Commissioner, Jubbulpur Division,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.

In reply to your No. 1246-68, dated 29th ultimo, I have the honour to state that although I consider a good deal of the feeling excited by the proposed introduction of the measure to be now legislated for is sentimental, still there is a certain amount of reason and justice against the Bill in question.

2. The Bill proposes to give certain classes of Native Magistrates up-country the powers, in respect of jurisdiction over Europeans, which the Presidency Magistrates now exercise. But in my opinion there is a wide difference between the surrounding circumstances of the two. In the Presidency towns there is strong public opinion brought to bear on all the acts of the Magistracy, which undoubtedly serves as a protection to Europeans who are subject to the jurisdiction of these Magistrates, and thus ensures fair play. On the contrary, in a very large proportion of up-country areas, there is no such "public opinion" and therefore no similar protection.

3. Again, the Presidency Magistrates, from their training and education and from constant association with Europeans, are able to understand the feelings, habits and customs of this latter class, and are therefore fitted to gauge the probabilities of any case in which Europeans are concerned almost, if not altogether, as well as Europeans themselves. There is also in the presidency-towns less chance of false accusations and false swearing, which is notorious in up-country.

4. It seems advisable to let well alone. The proposed change, so far as we have been able to learn, has been initiated at the instance of a small section of the native official community, and has not been forced on the attention of Government by any strong consensus of opinion. The opposition to the proposed legislation on the part of the non-official Europeans of India has been so marked that any attempt to persist in carrying out the measure can only tend to keep up, or rather to revive, the feelings of class animosity which had to a great extent died out since the days of the mutiny, and this of itself is a strong reason why the measure, not being actually necessary *now*, should be allowed to drop.

No. 2293, dated 9th April 1883.

From—LIEUT.-COL. H. C. E. WARD, Officiating Commissioner, Chhatti sgarh Division,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.

I have the honour to acknowledge copy of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, received under your endorsement No. 1246-68 of date 29th ultimo, calling for an expression of my opinion.

2. I would beg to submit that, in my humble opinion, the amendments proposed are not necessary, and it is not expedient that they should become law at the present time. My reasons I will give in detail immediately, but I would first ask to be allowed to point out that I am in no way averse to the principles on which the Native Civil Service has been founded, or to the theory of conferring high powers on selected natives; rather the contrary; I have always advocated both, and I see no reason whatever why well-educated natives should not be able administrators.

3. My objection to the proposed amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code are these—

I. I note that in the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is urged that "it was thought "anomalous that while natives of India were admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service and "held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties, they should be deemed incompe-"tent to be Justices of the Peace and to exercise jurisdiction over European British sub-"jects outside the presidency-towns."

This appears to be the real argument in favour of the Bill; and I would urge that it is insufficient. It is not worthwhile to excite the feelings of the whole European non-official community for the sole purpose of getting rid of an anomaly in a country like this where our whole rule is an anomaly, and where we meet with many equal, if not greater, anomalies at every turn.

If we begin by removing a much-cherished privilege of the Europeans simply because it is an anomaly, we must be prepared to meet counter-agitations on the part of the Europeans to bring about the withdrawal of the many privileges the natives have under our rule, notably the immunity from personal attendance in Court of ladies of rank and *purdah-nashin* women.

Is it not an anomaly that this privilege is extended to natives only, while English ladies of the highest rank have no such immunity from appearance?

II. The agitation that this proposal to change the law has given rise to throughout India has shown that, were this Bill to become law, there would be danger of collision between the Europeans and Natives. We can hardly expect to see the lower class European accept with equanimity the sentence of a Native Judge, and I should never be surprised to hear of the Native Judge being assaulted by the European whom he had sentenced.

I can speak from my own experience of my having had to protect my own Native subordinates from the violence of low class Europeans in petty civil cases. Their feelings would be harder to restrain in a criminal trial.

To my mind I would far sooner see the anomaly retained than occasion given for a grave scandal, which would only serve to increase the present race antipathy and the unfortunate feeling of antagonism between European and Native which recent events have now proved to exist.

III. Where the European feels so strongly, it seems to me a matter deserving the gravest consideration whether the end to be gained is proportionate to the means, *i.e.*, is the benefit anticipated from these amendments proportionate to the injury they will cause by increasing the feelings of animosity that are now known to exist between the European and Native?

The mere prospect of this change in the law has shown how deep-rooted a feeling of race antipathy and mutual distrust there unfortunately is.

I fear that if these amendments become law, this feeling will not be diminished, but will be increased, and every case tried under the new law will give rise to a stronger outburst of feeling and increase the strain on the relationship between the two classes.

It is true the English are naturally law-abiding, but here the feeling is so strong that I question whether they will accept patiently the proposed change in the law.

IV. I believe that the case of a European lady having to be arraigned before a Native Judge for trial in a criminal case would be looked upon as an outrage to the feelings of the European community, and it seems to me that it is quite possible that this feeling of outrage may easily give rise to serious complications and scandals, which, in my opinion, it would be surely well to avoid if the object of the Bill has not some much more emergent object than that stated in the Preamble.

It is now well known how strong this feeling of distrust and antagonism between the majority of the European community and the natives is, and if considered in the view of the possibility of the ladies of their families having to appear for trial in the Courts of Native Judges, it can hardly, I think, be looked upon as unnatural: rather the contrary, it seems to me to deserve careful consideration.

V. I think there is room for doubt whether this proposed change will be altogether acceptable to the Native Judges. As a matter of prestige they will doubtless hail with satisfaction a concession which may raise a few of their number to a position of superiority over the non-official European, but when the Act comes to be applied personally to themselves, I think it will be seen that the Native Judge will be in no haste to avail himself of his powers, as he cannot but feel that they will have to be exercised at a certain risk to himself.

4. I have endeavoured to show that, in my opinion, the advantage to be gained by the proposed amendment in the law does not counterbalance its disadvantages. If, however, the change is considered absolutely necessary, I would suggest that it should be tentative: let the European criminal have the option of being tried by the Native Justice of the Peace or a European Judge. This would meet the necessities of petty cases in districts where there were only native officials: to save himself the trouble of a long journey the European might elect to be tried by a Native.

5. I am aware that the number of Native Judges on whom it is proposed to confer criminal jurisdiction over Europeans is small, but this number will increase yearly, and it is intended that the men selected for this service shall be of high intelligence and superior ability, but it is not, I think, in the lack of intelligence or ability that the Native will be found wanting, but in the absence of a knowledge of European character, and the manners and customs of the lower classes of Europeans. At present the Native has no feeling in common or sympathy with the European, and without this it will hardly be possible for him to judge the European fairly.

There are few questions on which the thoughts of the two would not move in diametrically opposite grooves.

While, therefore, I am quite ready to admit that it is an undoubted anomaly to entrust the native member of the Civil Service with the powers of a District Judge, and to withhold from him jurisdiction over European offenders, I would submit that, in my opinion, the disadvantages of removing the anomaly are infinitely greater than the advantages which this removal is proposed to bring.

6. In conclusion, I would ask to be excused for speaking so plainly on this subject. The task is a difficult one, seeing that a different opinion has been given by so many in high

authority, but it seems to me that this is an occasion where Government has a right to expect that each individual should speak plainly the views he holds on a matter of such vital importance both to the State and the people.

The Chief Commissioner knows that I have now been associated for more than 20 years with members of the Native Magistracy, and that I have constantly placed on record my high opinion of the value of their services. He will not therefore, I trust, think that I am in any way prejudiced against the Native Civilian as a class, for this is not the case.

It has seemed to me that the proposal to amend the law is one that will be far from improving the relationship between the Europeans and Natives, and I have therefore considered it my duty to say so.

No. 1563, dated 25th April 1883.

From—J. W. CHISHOLM, Esq., Commissioner, Nerbudda Division,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.

In reply to your endorsement No. 1246-68, dated 29th ultimo, I only offer an opinion on the Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure in the matter of jurisdiction over European British subjects in so far as it seems necessary, or otherwise, in the present circumstances of these provinces. There are those whose experience makes them more qualified to speak for other parts of India, and I do not think that on a question of this kind the whole country can be treated, except in theory, on exactly the same platform.

2. In my opinion the feeling of European British subjects in this country, in favour of being tried by European British subjects, is neither unnatural nor unreasonable. I should hope that in time this feeling will disappear, when the races know each other better, and are thrown more closely together. As yet, after more than a century of our rule, the admission must be regretfully made, that the races, as a whole, do not understand or sympathise with each other. The great body of the Natives look upon Europeans as a rough, harsh, and overbearing race, while the mass of Europeans look upon Natives as cunning, unscrupulous and false. Extreme types of character are thus ignorantly taken as representative of each race, and hence arises at times much bitterness and misunderstanding.

3. Among Englishmen the official is the only class much thrown among natives, and I think that most officials of any standing are in full sympathy with them. I question, however, if natives generally reciprocate this sympathy, even toward the official class, and this is owing to the barrier of caste, which, however disguised, forces them to regard the European as impure. It is quite exceptional natives who understand and appreciate Europeans as such, and this being the case I do not think that they should be given at present jurisdiction over Europeans. The fact is, they credit them with being strong-handed and oppressive, and their prejudices, which are still strong, scarcely qualify them to be impartial. There is thus ground for the European objection to being tried by a Native Judge who often from not understanding him would be liable to give ready credence to charges against him.

4. I would, therefore, only advocate jurisdiction over Europeans being given to natives where an administrative necessity existed for conferring such powers. In these provinces there is absolutely no such necessity, and the provisions of the proposed Bill would only make it possible to confer such powers at present in the Central Provinces on two Native Assistant Commissioners, neither of whom, with many good qualities, possess any real knowledge of Europeans, not having been thrown among them. In the future, doubtless, the necessity may arise when natives more largely fill the higher appointments, but if the future has to be provided for now, the best provision, in my opinion, for the law to make would be to give jurisdiction over Europeans to every Magistrate or Deputy Commissioner in charge of a district, and to every Sessions Judge in virtue of the office held and regardless of race.

No. 3184, dated 4th June 1883.

From—LIEUT.-COL. M. P. RICKETTS, Officiating Commissioner, Nagpur Division,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.

In reply to your endorsement No. 1246—68, dated 29th March, asking for an expression of my opinion on a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I have the honour to state that, before submitting my reply, I thought it advisable to consult all the District Officers of the division with the view of ascertaining, as far as possible, the feelings of those European British subjects who might be affected by the Bill.

2. I have not yet received any reply from the Deputy Commissioner, Balaghat, but all the other District Officers report that, with very few exceptions, European British subjects are strongly opposed to the Bill.

The Deputy Commissioner, Nagpur, condemns the Bill as wanting in the three elements of

(1) Administrative necessity;
(2) Finality;
(3) Efficient and impartial administration of justice.

The Deputy Commissioner, Chanda, opposes the Bill on the ground that, if passed, it would seriously impair the supremacy of English rule.

The Deputy Commissioner, Wardha, professing himself to be an advanced radical, considers the Bill to be in advance of the wants of the time.

The Deputy Commissioner, Bhandara, is personally in favour of the Bill, but even he considers "the bar of European Extra Assistant Commissioners and European Honorary Magistrates of sufficient magisterial experience from investment with the powers of a Justice of the Peace to be quite indefensible." He also proposes certain modifications, and thinks that a knowledge of English should be an indispensable qualification for every Justice of the Peace.

3. I forward the reports of all District Officers in original, so that the opinion of those officers may be read in their own words.

4. I proceed now to give my own views.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons sets forth that "it was thought anomalous that while natives of India were admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service and held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties, they should be deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace and to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the presidency-towns;" and "the Government of India has accordingly decided to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code at once and completely every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinction."

The Honourable Mr. Ilbert also in moving the Bill is reported to have said—

"We propose to substitute for the disqualification arising from race a qualification depending on tried fitness."

"We propose to say that a very small number of specially selected Native Magistrates may exercise that limited and qualified jurisdiction which can at present be exercised only by persons who fall within the extremely arbitrary and technical definition of European British subjects."

5. Now to carry out this object, the first amendment proposed is to repeal the last clause of section 22, Act X of 1882, whereby European British subjects can, if considered fit, be appointed to be Justices of the Peace, and to substitute the appointment of—

(*a*) Members of the Covenanted Civil Service;
(*b*) Members of the Native Civil Service constituted under the Statute 33 Vic., Cap. 3;
(*c*) Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces; or
(*d*) Cantonment Magistrates.

I fail to see on what ground, either of justice or administrative convenience, an amendment of this kind can be defended. It is also distinctly opposed to the statement of the mover of the Bill, that the future qualification of a Justice of the Peace is to be one of "tried fitness."

European British subjects are to be disqualified in future, not because of unfitness, but because they do not happen to be in one of the four favoured classes above mentioned which are supposed to be specially fit. And yet none of these classes have yet been tried, while there are many European British subjects not falling within those classes who have been tried and found competent.

Why should the results of past experience be set aside and Government be limited in its selection of Justices of the Peace to four particular classes, when experience has proved that outside those classes there are many European British subjects fit to be be made Justices.

6. I agree also with the Deputy Commissioner, Bhandara, that if a native is to be made a Justice of the Peace, it is indispensably necessary that he should have a knowledge of English. I think too that a distinction must be made between—

(*a*) Members of the Covenanted Civil Service; and
(*b*) Members of the Native Civil Service constituted under the Statute 33 Vic., Cap. 3.

Whatever claim the former may have to the same rights of jurisdiction as their European confreres in the same service, no such claim can be asserted for the latter on account of the totally different character both of their appointment and examination. In both cases the guarantee of fitness is not the same, and both classes ought not to be placed on the same footing as regards jurisdiction over European British subjects.

There is no reason, as far as I can judge, for supposing that justice would be furthered, or parties convenienced, by jurisdiction over European British subjects being given to the four classes specified in the proposed amendment of section 22. I think, therefore, that the amendment is quite unnecessary and should not be passed.

8. The next proposal is to amend section 25 so as to make all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates "*ex-officio*" Justices of the Peace, and to repeal so much of section 443 as limits jurisdiction over European British subjects outside the presidency-towns to Magistrates who are themselves European British subjects, and to repeal a similar provision of section 444 and of section 450 with regard to Sessions Judge, and also a portion of section 459.

These provisions of the law at present bar all natives outside presidency-towns from trying European British subjects. I think, however, that in the case of natives who are considered fit to be Magistrates of Districts and Sessions Judges, the bar might be withdrawn

on certain conditions, but I would not have all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates (European or Native) to be "*ex-officio*" Justices of the Peace.

9. I agree in the following opinion expressed by Sir A Lyall:—

> "The interests of the European British subjects and of the administration would be sufficiently provided for if the present restriction, under which no one who is not himself an European British subject, has jurisdiction over an European British subject, being removed, power be left with the Local Government to appoint Justices of the Peace those Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service who have proved their fitness to exercise the jurisdiction. The Local Government would then apply the test of personal fitness to each particular case for Native as well as for European members of the Covenanted Civil Service."

10. The appointment then of a Native to be a Justice of the Peace would not depend upon his holding a particular appointment, but upon the question of personal fitness, to be determined by the Local Government; and I would limit such cases to those natives only who are Sessions Judges or Assistant Sessions Judges of three years, or Magistrates of Districts.

The time has not come, I think, when it is necessary for the better administration of the country that all natives who happen to be in any of the four classes specified in the amendment to section 22, or who are Sessions Judges and Magistrates of Districts, should be vested with jurisdiction over European British subjects independently of proved fitness.

11. The changes contemplated by Government have greatly exasperated the European population, and it seems to me that Government should show some respect and sympathy to such opposition, and refrain from change, unless the change can be shown to be demanded by the common weal. But no such proof is forthcoming. No change seems necessary on the ground of administrative inconvenience, for to my mind the present jurisdiction over European British subjects might continue many years without any detriment to Government.

12. If, however, it be considered necessary to allow Natives to be made Justices of the Peace, then the safest way of doing so is not to withdraw the privilege hitherto enjoyed by British subjects of being made Justices of the Peace, but to extend the same privilege to natives on proof of personal fitness determined by the Local Government, but to limit it, in the first instance, to those who hold the office of Magistrate of the District or Sessions Judge, or Assistant Sessions Judge of three years' standing, and who are acquainted with English.

Opinion on the Criminal Jurisdiction Bill by W. B. JONES, Esq., *Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.*

The question which this Bill raises is troublesome, both on account of the passions which it excites, and on account of the absolute difficulty of arriving at a satisfactory conclusion regarding it. The latter difficulty has, I believe, received too little attention. My belief is that, if we could refer it to some absolutely impartial tribunal, that tribunal would find it most difficult to draw the line between the conflicting claims of the European and Native. Justice herself would scarcely know how to hold the scales. Yet a clear perception of the difficulty of the problem would do much to mitigate passion. The question is disputed between Europeans on one hand, and *educated* natives (the mass of educated natives know and care nothing about the matter) on the other; and the latter are as able, and very many of them as willing, as Europeans to see both sides of the argument, and doing this to acquit their opponents of that which chiefly embitters controversy, *viz.*, the suspicion of conscious unfairness, or at least of a more or less wilful shutting of the eyes to unwelcome arguments. Of course there are amongst us those who would obstinately and blindly resist any concession to natives as a thing objectionable *per se*, but of such persons Government will not, and cannot take account, nor indeed will their feelings greatly influence the tide of general European opinion.

2. Assuming then that the effectual and impartial administration of justice is the object at which we aim, we must admit at once that *á priori* it is desirable that cases in which Europeans are the accused should be triable by either European or Native Magistrates, just as cases in which Europeans are complainants already are. To make them triable by Judges of one class only not only seems unfair, but has a tendency to produce actual and positive injustice. A law which should provide that in every case in which a Brahmin might be the accused and a man of another caste the accuser, the Judge should be a Brahmin, would be condemned by every one. And we must remember too that, as all history shows, a legal disability has a tendency to create or intensify the race difference which it marks. The principle that no class should as such be excluded from the judicial office in cases between it and any other class is one that all must accept.

3. But this great principle is subject to the proviso that persons fit for the judicial office are to be found and that the fittest persons should be appointed. In the case supposed in the preceding paragraph, Brahmins might be the only people able to read and write, and might on this account, and with manifest propriety, monopolise the judicial office. The exercise of judicial power is not one of the natural rights of man. All that can be claimed is that the preference of one person over another should be based on considerations of fitness, and not on race disability. It is here that the English case, though at first sight weak, is in reality strong. That the law should exclude natives altogether looks at first sight utterly indefensible, but in truth, and with some exceptions, the general effect of the law is to secure the appointment of the fittest Judge.

4. That the European is generally fitter than the Native to try cases in which Europeans are accused appears to me to be abundantly clear. Of the total number of such cases, a large proportion consists of cases in which a European is the accuser as well as accused, and here clearly the European is the fitter person. As I have said, no one has a natural right to try other people, and no native has the smallest right to feel aggrieved because such cases are not entrusted to him.

Turning to those cases in which the accuser is a native, I think that the Judge should usually and preferentially be a European, for the plain reason that we know so much more about natives than they do about us. The English Magistrate is a man who has come to spend his whole working life in India; the Native Magistrate is at the best one who has spent two or three years at College in England. Owing to caste restrictions and to the native custom of secluding women, the two races are debarred from that intimate association with one another which would make either thoroughly competent to try the other. But the separation is not the work of the European, and at all events the mere fact that he lives from 25 to 35 years among natives and, though not in the eye of the law domiciled here, makes India his home for the best part of his life, gives him an advantage over even the Native Civilian who has obtained his place by competition in England.

5. The Honourable members who argued against the Bill in Council appear to me to have been led somewhat astray owing to their having thought too exclusively of the accused person. Picturing to themselves the position of a solitary European wrongly accused, they rather overlooked the fact that the effectual and impartial administration of justice is attained by a system which secures justice as between complainant and accused or between society and accused, and not by the system which affords a maximum of security to the accused. The conviction of an innocent man is the worst of all judicial crimes, but the acquittal of a guilty man comes next to it, and believing that the gentlemen to whom I have referred have thought almost exclusively of the first danger I am not able to press their argument as far as they do. I think we are to think merely of the interests of the accused, then the argument in favour of his being tried by a European is overwhelmingly strong, but if while providing all reasonable security against the conviction of innocent persons we make it our chief aim that justice be done in the case, and this is what the effectual and impartial administration of justice means, then the argument becomes much weaker. But granting this, I am still compelled to admit what they greatly insisted on, that the European in this country is exposed to the danger of false accusation to a great extent and is very helpless against it, and that this fact affords some additional reason for the privilege which the law now confers upon him.

6. The logical issue of the struggle between the principle that race distinctions are to be condemned, and the principle that the fittest Judge—in the present case ordinarily the European—is to be preferred, is, that the disability now imposed by law on natives should be removed, and that it should be left to the Government to select fit persons who would usually be Europeans. Government would usually select Europeans just as (to take an illustration), although Civilians are eligible, it almost invariably selects Military officers for the post of Cantonment Magistrate.

But while feeling is so excited, it cannot be hoped that Europeans will trust Government in this matter. They may consent to surrender some of their existing privileges, but they will certainly demand that those which they are permitted to retain be secured to them (as at present) by law. They will not leave the selection of fit persons to the judgment of the Government of the day. Some other solution of the difficulty must, therefore, be looked for.

7. It appears from the Bill that, in the opinion of the Government of India—

(1) all District Magistrates and Sessions Judges may be regarded as fit persons;
(2) that fit persons may be selected from among officers exercising the full powers of a Magistrate belonging to—

The Covenanted Civil Service,
The Statutory Native Civil Service,
Assistant Commissioners in Non-Regulation Provinces,
Cantonment Magistrates.

In the first of the above proposals I entirely concur. I would claim this concession as a mere matter of justice to Native Civilians. As the Honourable Sir S. Baylev said, it is a necessary corollary to their admission to the service. But apart from this the proposal would have my entire support. In the case of those whom it will include we shall have the assurance that most of them have been educated in England, that all know English thoroughly and are men of experience, judicial and other. Government does not entrust every one with the charge of a district or the duties of Sessions Judge, and it would be a monstrous thing to allow a European to say that a man occupying such a position should not be trusted to try him.

8. And in the case of District Magistrate and Sessions Judge, the argument based upon considerations of administrative convenience is, as Sir Ashley Eden showed, immensely strong. I am far from being inclined to make too much of this argument. I would not abrogate a privilege so highly valued by Englishmen in order to make administration convenient. In the opinion which I formerly submitted, I was careful to say that the question of the privileges of the European British subject was one with a long history behind

it, and not one to be decided by reference to considerations of convenience. But certainly, when we have such strong reason to believe that District Magistrates and Sessions Judges would be fit persons to try Europeans, the fact that if they are not allowed to try them the greatest inconvenience will result ought to be taken into consideration.

9. To the second of the proposals made in the Bill I am strongly opposed. I of course would trust Government to select only fit persons, and I would be the last to say that numbers of fit persons are not to be found among the classes indicated. I have the pleasure of knowing numbers of Native officers in whose capacity and rectitude of purpose I could place implicit confidence. But I am not sure that Government is well advised in making just at this time that demand on the confidence of the non-official classes which this proposal makes ; I am unwilling to see Government limit itself in its selection of Native Justices of the Peace to an infinitesimally small number of persons, and I altogether deprecate the idea that Government, to secure uniformity in its treatment of the two classes, should deprive itself of the services of all the non-official class. This proposal has had great effect in weighing down the Bill, and anxious as I am that justice should be done to Native Civilians, I would almost rather see the Bill abandoned than that, being passed, it should place such a grave slight on all classes of the European community outside the ranks of the Service to which I belong.

10. The question then is, shall Government limit itself to the first of the two proposals mentioned above, or shall it, going further, seek to secure the ends at which the second proposal aimed in some other way. In favour of the former alternative there is the consideration that it confines the remedy to the immediate evil, and, professing simply to do justice to Native Civilians, raises no general question of principle, and does not, as the second clearly does, open the way to further agitation. It will be for the Government of India to decide this point ; but in case decision should be in favour of the second alternative, I would suggest, as a possible means of attaining the end in view, that we might supplement the provision regarding Magistrates and Sessions Judges by enacting—

(1) That cities with a European population exceeding a certain number should, for the purpose now in hand, be regarded as presidency-towns ;

(2) That Government should take power to appoint any one, European or Native, Justice of the Peace, but that cases in which a European British subject being the accused, a native might be the complainant, should be heard by a Bench consisting of one European and one Native Justice of the Peace, difference of opinion, whether as to finding or sentence, being referable to the Magistrate of the District.

I do not altogether like the second proposal. A mixed tribunal almost suggests antagonism ; but guarded as it will be by the proviso that in cases of difference of opinion the Magistrate of the district may be called in, it would not, I think, work badly.

If these proposals should meet with acceptance, the "solitary" European will have all reasonable security, for he can be tried only by the Magistrate of the district, who will usually be a European and always a fit person to try him (*vide* paras. 7 and 8), or by a Bench on which an Englishman will sit, and in which the Magistrate of the district, usually an Englishman, will be in fact President. And the European inhabitant of great cities, who (to use the words of the Honourable Mr. Evans) sees about him "the power and influence of the European community, the blaze of publicity, the press, the bar, and (sometimes) the presence and power of the High Court," can scarcely object to be treated like his countrymen in Calcutta, Bombay or Madras. And the native cannot object to proposals which sweep away all race disabilities.

11. My predecessor, Sir J. Morris, has advised that the Bill should altogether be abandoned. I cannot concur in this : whatever happens, Government is bound to proceed with the Bill to the extent of allowing Native Civilians, who have attained the rank of Magistrate of the district or Sessions Judge, to exercise the same power as European Civilians.

12. I cannot conclude this Note without saying that I feel most strongly the importance of taking notice of cases in which natives being complainants, European tribunals fail to do their duty. I referred to this point in my former opinion. The native press make much of it ; and although they exaggerate greatly, I am unable to say that their feelings on the point are unnatural or altogether without foundation. We are as much interested as natives—I might even say much more interested—in seeing that violent attacks by Europeans on natives are adequately punished.

13. On reading over what I have written, I am sensible that I have said much that at first sight might have gone without saying. My reason for this has been that it is possible that this with other opinions will be made public, and that I have been anxious that it should be evident to all who may read it that I have endeavoured to take a fair and impartial view of the question in issue.

No. 4652, dated 9th July 1883.

From—C. GONNE, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government, of Bombay,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of the papers forwarded with my letter No. 4026, dated the 15th ultimo, I am directed to transmit herewith, for submission to the Government of India, copies of the opinions marginally noted received from the Agents, Great Indian Peninsula, Bombay, Baroda and Central India, and Southern Mahratta Railway Companies, and from the Manager, Bhavnagar-Gondal Railway, on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

Agent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company, No. 5364, dated 30th May 1883.
Agent, Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company, No. 3105, dated 11th May, and No. 3964, dated 18th June 1883.
Agent, Southern Mahratta Railway Company, No. 1971, dated 19th June 1883.
Manager, Bhavnagar-Gondal Railway Company, No. 1254, dated 26th May 1883.

No. 5364, dated 30th May 1883.

From— G. A. BARNET, Esq., Agent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company,

To—The Consulting Engineer for Railways, Bombay.

In reply to Government Resolution No. 609 of the 11th April, calling for a report on the proposed Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, I feel very doubtful if the time has yet arrived for the introduction of such a sweeping change in the administration of criminal law, and I greatly fear it will be productive of far more injustice than can possibly be compensated for by the removal of the supposed anomaly which has given rise to the Bill ; and I earnestly hope that the objections to the proposed amendment of the law as set forth in the memorial of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce (of which I am a member) to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General may add a little strength to the appeals that have been made by other representative bodies in India, and induce the Government to postpone for the present further consideration of the measure.

No. 3105, dated 11th May 1883.

From—T. W. WOOD, Esq., Agent, Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company,

To—The Consulting Engineer for Railways, Bombay.

With reference to Bombay Government Resolution No. 609, dated 11th April, I have the honour to state that, in my personal opinion, the amendments proposed by the Government of India to be introduced in the Code of Criminal Procedure, with a view to "remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race-distinctions," are consistent with the general course of Indian legislation for the past 25 years, and, though brought forward now at an unfortunate moment, embody a just principle, the operation of which could not be much longer consistently withheld in its application to those Native Magistrates who have qualified for the positions of Sessions Judge or District Magistrate under the rules laid down by Government itself and shown their fitness to exercise the powers attached to those positions.

2. I would suggest, however, the substitution of "five years" for "three years," in the amended draft of section 444 of the Code embodied in section 4 of the Amendment Bill, as the period within which no Assistant Sessions Judge shall exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects ; the longer period affording greater security for the display of trustworthy qualities in the individual officer, and furnishing Government with fuller opportunities of judging of his character and ability, before entrusting him specially with that jurisdiction. The powers reserved to Local Governments in this latter respect will, I do not doubt, be exercised with discretion, but, in extending the jurisdiction of selected Native Magistrates over Europeans in this country, it seems to me desirable that strong guarantees of their personal fitness for the wise exercise of the power to be entrusted to them should be insisted upon.

No. 3964, dated 18th June 1883.

From—T. W. WOOD, Esq., Agent, Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company,

To—The Consulting Engineer for Railways, Bombay.

In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, No. 2269, I have the honour to state that, so far as I can judge, the effect of the alteration in the law contemplated by the Criminal Jurisdiction Amendment Bill now under consideration will, in the districts traversed by this Company's Railway, be hardly perceptible for at any rate many years to come, even if the Bill should be passed in its present form.

2. It may, however, be fairly presumed that the crucial examination and public criticism on all sides that the Bill has undergone will ensure such safeguards being introduced in its final form as will provide every reasonable security and protection for the just rights of such Europeans as may come under its operation.

3. The opinions I have submitted to Government on the subject are those that my personal judgment leads me to form. As regards the views on the measure held by the European employés of this Company, I have no data on which to reply to your enquiry, except the fact, which I think indicates the absence of any strong feeling amongst them on the matter, that no representation from them on the subject has been made to me. In the early days of the public discussion of the measure, the Traffic Manager brought to me a letter he had received from the Traffic Manager of the East Indian Railway, enquiring what the members of this Company's service intended to do in the matter; but, on my declining to sanction the fostering of any similar agitation on this Railway to that carried through on the East Indian line, the matter went no further. If a spontaneous movement had taken place amongst the European employés on this Railway in opposition to the Bill, I should have felt it my duty to represent the facts to Government.

No. 1971, dated 19th June 1883.

From—G. M. STEWART, Esq., Agent, Southern Mahratta Railway Company, Limited,

To—The Consulting Engineer for Railways, Bombay.

In response to Government Resolution No. 609 of 1883, I have the honour to record my opinion on the subject of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure as affecting the interests which I represent.

I am not aware that the proposal to extend the judicial powers of Native Magistrates over British-born subjects has excited any great alarm amongst the employés of this Company, but this I attribute very much to the fact that, under existing circumstances, the amendment would, for the present, be inoperative in the districts traversed by this Railway, and also to the fact that as yet there are comparatively few individuals in the permanent service of the Company who would be personally affected by the proposed change in the law.

I believe, however, that the general feeling of the European section of the Company's staff is decidedly adverse to the measure.

For my own part, I should deplore the amendment as a step in a dangerous direction, which would certainly excite agitation for, and probably be followed by, further concessions, and I should dread the effect of any measure which would give mámlatdárs or subordinate Native officials increased authority over Railway employés.

I think it is much to be regretted that the Bill was ever introduced at all. By giving rise to an unfortunate feeling between sections of Her Majesty's subjects, it has already done harm which cannot now be remedied; and, in my humble opinion, the object in view is not of sufficient importance to make it desirable that the Bill should be passed, in spite of the widespread and deep-rooted opposition that has become manifest.

I cannot see any real necessity for such a change in the law. So long as special rights and privileges are reserved for Natives and due consideration is shown for their religious and social prejudices, I do not think it is unreasonable that Europeans should have the privilege of being tried by their own countrymen.

So far as mental attainments are concerned, I have no doubt that there are many Natives of India who are fully competent to exercise jurisdiction over Europeans; but I do not think that any argument in favour of judicial equality is complete without taking into consideration questions of feeling and the prejudices due to race-distinctions.

While Natives refuse to associate with Europeans on terms of social equality, and while their domestic habits and ideas are such as to stand in the way of personal sympathy, I can see nothing anomalous in the judicial disqualification imposed by the existing Code of Criminal Procedure.

As I have been invited to express my opinion, I have no hesitation in saying that I think the Bill is ill-timed and premature, if not altogether uncalled for, and I hope that further discussion on the subject may be averted by the withdrawal of the measure.

No. 1254, dated 26th May 1883.

From—H. DANGERFIELD, Esq., Manager and Engineer-in-Chief, Bhavnagar-Gondal Railway,

To—The Consulting Engineer for Railways, Bombay.

With reference to Bombay Government Resolution No. 609, dated 11th April 1883, and this office letter No. 910, dated 14th April, and your reply No. 792, dated 21st April 1883, I have the honour to state that I think, as so much has been written about Mr. Ilbert's Bill "to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects," I had better simply report that, as far as I have been able to gauge the feeling of the European British employés of the Bhavnagar-Gondal Railway, the objects of the proposed Bill are utterly distasteful to them.

2. I feel certain, if individual opinion was asked for, not a single man would dissent from the opinion reported in the foregoing paragraph.

Dated 14th May, 1883.

From—G. M. BARTON, Esq., Secretary, Indian Tea Association,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

By desire of the General Committee of the Indian Tea Association, I have this day forwarded to you, by parcel post, 12 copies of the Report of a public meeting held at Silchar on the 21st ultimo, and I am to request that you will be good enough to place the proceedings before His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council.

Report of a Public Meeting held at Silchar to protest against Mr. Ilbert's Bill.

(Reprinted from the *Englishman* of May 2nd.)

In response to a special invitation addressed to the whole of the non-official European community of the Cachar District, a large number of their body met on the 21st April, 1883, in order to discuss the provisions of Mr. Ilbert's Criminal Code Amendment Bill.

There were present at the meeting—Messrs. D. S. Mackintosh, C. W. Griffith, A. S. Anderson, F. W. Plows, E. C. Showers, M. J. Balfour, E. T. Pearce, A. J. Preston, H. E. Sanderson, G. Gray, H. C. Sproull, A. Quillet, H. R. Blakeney, R. B. Doake, F. H. Malet, M. Bigge, T. Dykes, J. Paton, H. W. Morris, Dr. MacLaughlin, R. H. Halford, W. H. Chambers, M. Muller, M. Aitchison, E. J. Jones, R. H. Macdonald, F. R. Jones, S. Dible, J. Dowie, J. R. Ross, H. Weir, C. McLean, D. Fraser, P. J. Macdonald, J. Stirtan, R. Spicer, J. Grierson, E. Livermore, A. J. Reid, R. H. Farquhar, C. A. Eglinton, J. Green, G. E. Noad, W. C. Noad, C. J. Bell, R. Thomson, S. M. Fasson, J. Sidey, J. O. Bowhile, A. K. Trotter, R. F. Balkwill, A. R. MacKellar, C. T. Macrae, H. Grant, E. L. Edgar, J. W. Feltwell, J. J. Morison, M. G. Jukes, A. Stewart, C. Menzies, D. M. McLeod, J. H. M. Borrett, A. A. Bull, R. S. Elliot, G. Penny, Hon'ble R. R. Tyrwhitt, Dr. Dundee, J. Murray, R. J. R. Mackenzie, W. T. Smith, G. M. Loch, G. S. Rice, C. Lawrence, A. Spicer, K. H. Mullens, J. Inglis, A. S. Penny, J. F. Piffard, R. G. Craigie, L. Rodwell, S. D. Jackson, C. T. Pargiter, E. Beatson, J. Horne, H. Mackenzie, W. T. Cathcart, E. F. Skinner, J. Schalch, C. Williams, T. Keswick, A. R. Tawney, J. Grieg, A. Odling, G. S. W. Peter, G. A. Smith, C. S. Walliker, F. G. Stewart, C. H. Wright, A. Cooper, W. J. Temple, F. F. Clerihew, J. Peter, R. Wylie, J. McAnley, R. White, J. B. Doake, J. F. Playfair, D. Ferguson, H. A. Thornton, W. Black, and J. Hutcheson; and there were present by their proxy, Wm. Aitchison, Messrs. A. M. Bulteel, Dr. Fraser, J. Peddie, A. D. Brown, Dr. Jones, T. Smeal, H. B. Beglar, G. R. Nicholls, W. Henderson, J. G. Blair, E. G. Greenhill, A. Milne, J. Speid, T. Blair, G. C. Balfour, E. Rawlins, Hector Mackenzie, J. B. Atkins, A. M. Chalmers, W. Stiefelhagen, A. J. Judge, D. A. Laing, J. B. Lawrie, J. E. E. Corstorphine, H. B. Tater; by their proxy, D. S. Mackintosh, Messrs. Gordon Fraser, and D. J. Lewin; by his proxy, J. Hutcheson, Mr. W. T. Shave; by his proxy, Dr. MacLaughlin, Mr. Fred. Forbes; by his proxy, A. J. Preston, Mr. D. P. Thomson; by his proxy, M. Bigge, Mr. W. L. Clark; by their proxy, R. B. Doake, Messrs. P. E. Thriepland and T. G. Stroke; by their proxy, P. J. Macdonald, Messrs. C. H. Moore, G. R. Geale, C. E. Pickford, and Dr. Cowen; by his proxy, J. Stirtan, Mr. J. A. Thompson; by his proxy, E. Livermore, Mr. C. McArthur; by his proxy, C. J. Bell, Mr. H. D. A. Allies; by their proxy, M. Muller, Messrs. E. S. Cornish, and A. Raddiffe; by his proxy, A. Stewart, Mr. J. Wilson; by his proxy, C. Menzies, Messrs. W. Macnab, R. H. Talbot, and J. S. Guise; by their proxy, D. M. McLeod, Messrs. D. P. H. Douglas, and W. M. Munro; by their proxy, R. S. Elliot, Messrs. J. McIlwraith, and H. Chamney; by his proxy, G. M. Louch, Mr. R. A. Clarke; by his proxy, C. Lawrence, Mr. A. Harper; by his proxy, A. S. Penny, Mr. A. S. Muspratt; by his proxy, L. Rodwell, Mr. A. L. Bradford, by their proxy, S. D. Jackson, Messrs. G. B. Mackellar, C. G. Cockburn, and J. W. S. D. Clark; by his proxy, E. L. Edgar, Mr. T. Towers; by their proxy, E. F. Skinner, Messrs. A. E. Butler, Dr. Reid, A. Osborn, D. McWha, and A. B. Woodroffe; by his proxy, J. Grieg, Mr. J. C. Allen; by their proxy, C. S. Walliker, Messrs. P. A. Campbell, and F. T. Mackenzie; by his proxy, R. Wylie, Mr. H. A. Blockman; by their proxy, J. Peter, Messrs. F. Barter, J. R. H. Lawrie, E. A. Sissmore, T. R. Lawson, and J. Innes; by their proxy, R. White, Messrs. H. E. Crawford, Dr. Smyth, W. J. Butler, C. E. Jackson, and C. Hurst; by their proxy, G. F. Playfair, Messrs. R. Mackintosh, J. M. Barry, and H. Playfair; and by his proxy, D. Ferguson, Mr. J. Downer. The total number of the non-official adult male European population of Cachar is 194, and it will be seen from the above list of names that out of this number 111 were present personally at the meeting, and 81 by proxy, leaving only 2 unrepresented. The officials who attend the meeting were:—Mr. J. Knox Wight, the Deputy Commissioner of Cachar, Mr. W. W. Daly, Superintendent of Police, Dr. Monteath, Mr. Barker, Mr. J. A. Brown, and Captain Angelo.

It was proposed by Mr. A. Stewart, seconded by Mr. C. Menzies, and carried unanimously, that Mr. Aitchison take the chair.

The Chairman then, in opening the proceedings, said:—Gentlemen, I thank you for the honour you have conferred on me in electing me to the chair on such an important occasion.

It gives me much pleasure to see such a large number of our community met here in response to the invitation which I issued on the 9th instant. And perhaps it might be well to explain how it comes about that this meeting has not taken place very much earlier and at the time when meetings were being hurriedly called together in every corner, I may say, of this vast empire, to protest against the passing of Mr. Ilbert's Bill, which he introduced into the Viceregal Council for the purpose of the so-called amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code. You are aware that there is an elected body to represent Planters in this district in the General Committee and Sub-Committee of the Cachar branch of the Indian Tea Association. That body generally deals with all questions relating both to the direct and indirect interests of the industry, and it is found sufficient to cope with the ordinary questions which arise from time to time; and therefore, generally speaking, and happily, there is no necessity for calling together such a meeting as this. But this question being so extremely exceptional and striking so vitally at the liberty of every individual of our community, whether members of the Tea Associatien or not, this meeting became an urgent and unavoidable necessity. I had been pressed from various directions, and for weeks past, to call a meeting, and I will now go on to show how it has been postponed.

At a meeting of the General Committee of the Tea Association, held on 14th February last, a proposal was made by Mr. A. Spicer, and unanimously and warmly supported, that we forward to Government our strongest protest against the passing of Mr. Ilbert's Criminal Procedure Bill. Now it may surprise some of you to tell you that this was the first movement made against the Bill by any body of men in any of the planting districts; at least, it was the first, so far I can learn from the newspaper reports of meetings and other sources of information. When Mr. Spicer's proposal was made, it was thought best to get a memorial also drawn up, petitioning Government to withdraw the Bill, and to get that memorial drawn up in Calcutta by a qualified man. We were then aware that time was of consequence, and in order to expedite matters it was agreed to canvas the district, through our Sub-Committees, and get all the signatures procurable, to be in readiness for appending to the memorial as soon as it arrived. But to do even this there was not time, and a telegram came to Mr. Bell, our Association Secretary, saying that we must get up a meeting at once if we did not wish to have the Bill passed. Two or three days after receipt of that telegram there happened to be rather an usually large meeting of Planters in Silchar, but Mr. Bell, being ill at the time, sent the telegram and other papers in to me and requested me to hold a meeting, if possible, of those present in the station that day. So the meeting was held, and shortly after another small meeting was hurriedly called and held in Hailakandi Sub-division. But it was never intended that nothing further should be done; for from that day it was clearly seen that the whole European community must be called together, as the more the question was looked at and considered, the more vital did we see would be the effects of such a serious curtailment of our inherited liberty. The sole reason, therefore, for this meeting being put back until now is that we could get no certainty as to the time the memorial would be forthcoming. News was constantly being received that the memorial was coming, but it never came and has not to this day. But I dare say if the members of the General Committee who were present at that meeting of the 14th February had had the least suspicion that the memorial would have been so long delayed, they would have arranged amongst themselves to have had it drawn up. This then brings us to the present. However, I do not think there is much to regret in our meeting having been postponed until now, for we certainly are in a better position to show our strength to Government than we were six weeks ago, before we had much discussed the question, and got it explained and help up to the light of reason, in all possible phases, by the ablest men in India, as well as by such men as Sir Fitz James Stephen, Sir Louis Jackson, Mr. Seton-Karr, and other old and experienced Indians now living at home. And although we may be able to contribute hardly an item of additional argument to the brilliant and overwhelming reasoning that has been brought to bear on the question at issue, yet it is our duty to meet as we have done now, and do all we can to show Government that time only adds to our strength in vigorously opposing the Bill, which we all look on as a dangerous infringement of our cherished and unalienable rights, and which we solemnly believe, if passed, will result in disaster and the worst of consequence to all Europeans in India, but especially to those living in the mofussil, to their industries, and to that of tea-planting in particular. Time must not blunt us in our opposition to such a dangerous measure, but it must give us only renewed strength and power to combat the threatened evil, and we must not think of rest until the Bill is withdrawn; and until that much-desired object is attained every legitimate means must be lifted up and hurled against it. I would now merely add that I call upon you all to do your utmost to support me in this onerous position, and let us have this meeting as quietly and orderly conducted as possible. And although I would not desire to restrain any one from freely discussing the question before us, still I would fain hope that no one will be carried away into using intemperate language, which might make it appear to Government that we are taking up a menacing position which no good Government could possibly tolerate. For I know well that our loyalty cannot be challenged and is second to none in India, and I also know that it is far from any one's intention here to show anything like a spirit of menace. But we want calmly and firmly to show forth to Government and the public that our rights are now seriously in danger. We solemnly believe, if the present policy is pursued to the end, the ties that were being slowly woven between Native and European, and which have already become weakened, must snap asunder, and nothing but an explosion and bloodshed can bring back the position for their possible re-union. With these few remarks I now beg leave to call upon Mr. Skinner to move the first Resolution.

During the delivery of the above address the chairman was frequently cheered, and he sat down amidst loud and prolonged applause.

On rising, Mr. Skinner, who was met with enthusiastic cheers, said:—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—I beg to put for your acceptance the following proposal—"This meeting strongly objects to the proposed change in the Criminal Procedure Code."

There has been no substantial failure of justice to call for a change in the existing law, which has worked smoothly hitherto, and given confidence to call without entailing any practical inconvenience upon the administration. This we know on the authority of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, in which Province the Europeans mainly reside. The Chairman has explained to you the reason of the delay in calling the present meeting. If those who have accused us of coolness to the proposed change were present at this meeting, they would soon alter their opinion. (Loud cheers.) Considering the great distance many of us have had to come, and the difficulties that have stood in the way, the mere fact of our presence here to-day should be sufficient to show Government, how strongly we feel on this, to us, most important subject. (Great applause.) We know on the very highest authority, as you have just heard from the Chairman, that this proposed change is unnecessary. This statement is applied to the whole of India, but, knowing as we do this district, we go further, and assert that, for Cachar, the proposed change cannot but prove most injurious, for it will greatly tend to place every European at the mercy of the Native. With the exception of a few natives in the district, it cannot be denied, we are hated by them. Indeed, are we not often insulted by them on the public road, and do we not know of instances of base charges having been made against Europeans without there being the slightest foundation for them? Government now proposes to enable the Natives to lay criminal charges against Europeans before a Native Judge. What reason does it give for this sudden change? Does the Government prove any strong necessity for this change, or does it attempt to show that it is on account of the universally expressed wishes of the Natives? I think not; indeed, I feel sure the Native thinks it but natural that we should insist on being tried by a European. The proposed change may not affect Cachar just now, but, as soon as a Native Judge is appointed to this district, unjust criminal charges against Europeans are bound to be common, for the Native will soon change his present mode of revenge for the more hurtful one. If we consider what the encouragement of a Native Judge would be in a district like this, surrounded by only Natives, it is easy to foresee what the result would be. For is bribery unknown in this district and have Natives ceased to employ it? No, it is still rampant and made use of at the first opportunity. Gentlemen, I call upon you to make a stand against this iniquitous change, and to join as one man in our protest. (Great cheering.)

Mr. E. L. Edgar, in seconding the above Resolution, said:—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—Having been called upon to second this resolution, I take the opportunity of making a few remarks on our present situation. As a proprietor in this district and being moreover about to leave India for a time, I feel acutely the position managers will shortly be placed in. In a very short time the chief of a tea district will be the only European official in it; it will be officered by Baboo Civil Surgeons, Baboo Magistrates, and last, but to us of none the less importance, by Baboo Superintendents of Police. (Cheers.)

Now, although Cachar is comparatively thickly populated with planters, we have to consider the lot of those less fortunate in Assam Proper, and other parts. (Cheers.) Take as an example a well laid plot against a manager at even one of what we might call remote gardens in this district. How very awkward it would be for the manager if, after being drawn into hurting a Native, said Native were withdrawn to be further operated upon by his (the Native's) friends. The chief of the nearest police station (more than likely in the swim himself) investigates, the man or body, as the case may be, is sent, after suitable delay, to a Baboo Civil Surgeon, and after sufficient further delay has occurred, partly with the object of harassing accused, partly from the Native nature, but three-fourths with the object of baffling accused in any evidence in his favour, the case is called up before a Baboo Magistrate. The planter there stands arraigned on a charge many degrees beyond the true facts of the case, if not on a wrong charge altogether, and the whole onus, Baboo like, is put upon him alone, to clear himself the best way he can, his greatest difficulty being in his prolonged absence from the site of the occurrence, facts consequently being distorted, and for a specimen of the extraordinary reports Native Surgeons are capable of sending in, *vide* the *Englishman* of the 14th instant. Furthermore, what counsel have we at command in remote Tea districts? (I may say that all Tea districts are remote to counsel.) Why men who are only half educated, totally unpractical, and wholly without training, men who do not from one year's end to another travel two miles into the districts, and who consequently have no knowledge of the nature of things in them, and what is worse, will not exert themselves as counsel for the defence in any case brought by the powers that be, with the chief mooktear in the district opposed to them, prosecuting on behalf of Government, and who so continually exhibit the shallowness of their reasoning powers by putting the most idiotic questions alike to either side: also it will for ever be unknown to us what order of men the three aforesaid powers that will be, when at home and in dhooties, do not associate with. In fact our tenth-rate advocate of doubtful social degree, in whom we have had to confide, may, for the nonce, be patronized as a boon companion, with the object in view—a conviction.

The horizon has another aspect that readily presents itself to me; it is this. It being an accepted fact that there is a growing tendency to reduce the number of European officials of all

degrees in the Tea districts, it will be simply impossible for those left to attend efficiently to garden and coolie inspection work as prescribed under Act I of 1882, more especially Section CXI (Local Labour Contracts);—who then are we to be favoured by? A Baboo on a neighing mare with foal at side, or a shop-keeping member of the Local Self-Government, both equally unpractical, to visit and report on our gardens, in fact on ourselves.

The remarks I have made, gentlemen, do not bear so directly on the burning question of granting increased powers to a class of men wholly ignorant of our estimate of the gulf between truth and falsehood, equity and justice. That I leave to others. As to the critical position into which we, as planters, are undoubtedly drifting, it is becoming daily more and more evident that our old coolies are getting out of hand, and what concerns us just as much in the present is, I submit, whether we shall remain *masters*, as well as managers, of estates, if to increased power to the few are added further appointments of the many. One or other, may be, we could survive, but not both. (Great cheering).

The Chairman then put the first Resolution to the meeting, and it was carried unanimously and with enthusiastic cheering.

The second Resolution, proposed by Mr. R. B. Doake, and seconded by Mr. James Peter, reads as follows:—"Considering how every individual class in this country has its own peculiar customs and privileges, which are religiously guarded and preserved to it, this meeting thinks that a native of India should have been the very last person to propose that the Europeans should be deprived of the right to be tried by their countrymen, without which there can be no security to them for either life or property, in this land, where the fabrication of false evidence is of every day occurrence for the gratification of extortion or revenge. And it is an undisputed fact that natives themselves, when convinced of the justice of their case, frequently make petition to have their cases transferred from a native to a European Judge." In proposing this Resolution Mr. Doake addressed the meeting as follows:—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—I feel that it needs no words of mine to recommend this Resolution to this meeting. But there are one or two points in connection with it to which for a short time I would direct your attention.

And if you will allow me I do not think I can begin better than by explaining to you how it is that I who was for a time partially in favour of Mr. Ilbert's Bill, (Oh! Oh!) find myself standing here to-day to oppose it.

When I first saw the subject mooted, without paying much attention to it or knowing anything of what had gone before, I thought it seemed only fair that those men, who to some extent, at least, had thrown aside the prejudices of their race, had gone to England, had studied there for years and finally entered the Civil Service of India by successfully competing against Englishmen in a series of the most trying examinations, should not be debarred by reason of the colour of their skin from any privileges given to their fellow Civilians.

At the same time I felt strongly opposed to giving any privileges not hitherto held by them to those persons who, possessing perhaps neither the brains nor the inclination necessary to enable them to enter the service by the gateway of open competition, found themselves let into it through the back-door of favouritism without their ever leaving the country at all, and with all their prejudices and vices and superstitions thick upon them. (Cheers.)

But when I looked more deeply into the matter and studied all that could be said on both sides both for and against the Bill, I came to see that this was not a question of the rights or privileges of our native friends at all. That if the constitutional, and I trust inalienable, right of an Englishman prevented Mr. Gupta, or any other gentleman not a British-born subject *commissioned by Her Majesty for the purpose*, from the privilege or pleasure of trying him for criminal offences, they had no cause of complaint whatever, for they were robbed of nothing that they hitherto possessed, nor was anything being kept back from them to which they were entitled. (Applause.)

For no man, no matter what his race or colour may be, has any inherent right to sit in judgment on his fellow-men. This is a duty imposed by the Crown upon some of its servants for the benefit of its subjects and the convenience of the administration. And if the Government for any reason should deem it fit to confer this duty upon any one of its servants and not to confer it on another who may be in all respects equally worthy, no one has any reason to complain, unless it can be shown that some failure of justice or inconvenience to the State is the result. (Hear, hear, and loud applause.)

In this matter there is therefore involved no question of the rights or privileges of Mr. Gupta or any other native of India, whether in the service or out of the service, but there is at stake the right of a Briton in British territory to be judged by his own countrymen, and Government has no claim to deprive us of this ancient and dearly preserved privilege unless it can be proved to us, not that the feelings of a few, no doubt very worthy persons, may be hurt, but that grave inconvenience has arisen to the State through the present law, or that the cause of justice has suffered, and this 'they cannot show.' (Great cheering.)

No defender of the proposed change has advocated it because otherwise culprits may escape justice, and as for the expense 'or inconvenience arising to the State' I make bold to say, Sir, that Mr. Hope's special private carriage has cost the State more than Mr. Ilbert's Bill, if passed, would save it in the next seven years (Tremendous and prolonged cheering); while as for the inconvenience that may arise some fifty, or thirty, or even ten years hence, there are many things in the present law which may cause the Government inconvenience some twenty or thirty years hence; but it is good advice not to cross a bridge till you come

to it (cheers and laughter), and wise statesmanship consists neither in the expunging of harmless anomalies from the statute book nor yet in legislating for he anticipated inconveniences of a future generation, but in giving justice to the present population, for this purpose seeking out and carefully removing those grievances which now oppress the people, due regard being had for the rights of all. (Cheers.)

But, Sir, it is with some surprise that I find native gentlemen of education and position, such as Baboo Kristodas Pal and the Syed Ahmed Khan, who may be said to represent the privileged class of India, advocating the taking away of this privilege from Englishmen because they consider it an anomaly. It is a trite saying that people who live in glass-houses should not throw stones, and have these gentlemen not considered that a Government which holds so slightly the privileges of its own countrymen, may, if encouraged, be even less careful of their privileges which have hitherto been guarded even at the cost of grave wrongs being done to the people? (Applause.)

There is, for instance, the privilege of their women not appearing in open Court, but giving their evidence even in the gravest cases from a closed in palki or from behind a purdah.

Now, no one will deny that this concession to prejudice may result, nay often has resulted, in grave failure of justice, for by it the Magistrate is deprived of the advantage of observing the demeanour of the witness, and you all know how important this is. Many of us even among our own coolies have, I am sure, dozens of times known that a witness was speaking falsely when we could not have told it by merely hearing his voice without watching his face. (Cheers.) But this is a special privilege of the women of the upper classes, which no one has yet proposed to sweep away. Then there is the anomaly of a Government, the nominee of a people whose boast it is that all are equal before the law, telling some of these men that their rank is too high to admit of their appearing in our Courts at all. If we are to ride a tilt against anomalies why should this ridiculous one not be knocked over? (Loud applause.) Again we have polygamy, which is peculiarly obnoxious to the feelings of the British nation. Why should this remain, or why should our Government permit to the Bengali what it denies to the Englishman? Slavery for a time existed in India, but it was against the conscience of the British people, so the Government put that down. Why therefore should it allow this grossest form of domestic slavery to continue? (Applause.)

But more repugnant, perhaps to our feelings than even polygamy is infant marriage, with its sequel, child widowhood. Why should this remain, or why should the Government be a party to a perpetual bondage of these poor women, whose sole sin it is that the boys to whom they were betrothed died when they were yet children? (Hear, hear.)

Our conscience in these matters is strained, but hitherto we have refrained from action, making allowance for the vices and superstitions which the people have inherited from an ignorant ancestry. Shall we continue to do so any longer? I say rather let these gentlemen themselves cast out from their own eyes the beams which now degrade an ancient civilization, and then they may see clearly if any motes need removing from ours. (Loud cheers.)

In the administration of justice it is essential both that the magistracy be upright and that the people have confidence not only in their purity but also in their ability to deal out impartial justice between man and man, and no judge should have his powers extended to men of other nationalities, unless it can be clearly seen that he has gained the confidence of his own. But in this country the contrary is notoriously the case. It is an undisputed fact that the natives do not believe in either the purity or the judgment of their own magistrates, that, rightly or wrongly, they believe them to be open to bribery and other personal influences, and that they are not to be trusted at all times to administer justice without favour, and it is an every day occurrence for them to petition to have their cases removed from the hearing of their own countrymen into the courts presided over by Europeans. For whatever else they may think of us, they believe this, that we try to act rightly and that our magistrates are not only incorrupt but above allowing any outside matter to influence their decisions. (Great applause and cheers.)

For this unbelief in the integrity of their countrymen they may have no grounds. Their magistrates may be most honest and impartial, and may always dispense strict justice. Corruption may be unknown in their courts. Their very police may be above bribery. But Sir, the people don't believe it, and seeing that this is the case, seeing that their own people don't trust them, why should we be asked to put our necks in their noose? (Vociferous cheers.) No Sir, I say let them first gain the confidence of their own people and let them show by deeds as well as words that they are worthy of ours. Let them emancipate and educate their women, who are now so downtrodden. Let them raise up those inferior castes whom they now so oppress. Let them abolish from their midst those vices which now so sully the land. In a word, Sir, let them love liberty and do the right, and then we shall forego this privilege of being judged by our countrymen, for we shall need it no longer. (Applause.)

In conclusion I wish to say that I have faith in the strong conscientious desire of Lord Ripon to act rightly between all races and classes of men in India. And he has promised us that he will give the fullest weight and his most careful consideration to any arguments we may bring before him, I therefore appeal to him to put aside from his mind all the false and irrelevant issues that have been raised, and to try this matter upon the one issue by which, as I have shown, it ought to stand or to fall. (Applause.)

Is the present administrative inconvenience so great and the chance of future wrong so little that Government ought now to deprive their British subjects in India of this privilege which they value so highly, the constitutional right to be judged by their own countrymen? (Cheers.)

If he will answer this question and this only according to his belief, we will acquiesce in the reply, but if our cause be decided on this issue alone I have no fear of the result. (Mr. Doake sat down amidst the most vociferous cheering.)

Mr. Peter, in seconding this Resolution, said:

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—In seconding the Resolution proposed by Mr. Doake, I have a few remarks to offer which I trust will not be out of place. Since ever India became a part of the British Empire, we are all well aware with what a jealous eye the Government has watched over everything affecting native caste, and with what severity any infringement of caste prejudice has been visited, and this more specially since the mutiny in 1857, the origin of which it is needless for me to remind you of, but which was to a great extent inflamed by a so-called infringement of caste. To what a powerful extent the native mind can be influenced, for good, or for evil, in anything appertaining to this, the memorable time I have above mentioned is a standing monument; and the ringleaders of the mutiny well knew the powerful engine they had set in motion when they insinuated injury to caste, and it is needless for me to recapitulate the result; but when we consider that, with such an example before them, Government persists in forcing upon us a Bill which is calculated to offend not only European, but also native prejudices, is it any wonder that we are indignant and protest against it? (Hear, hear and cheers.) That a native of India should be the person to propose it, still further surprises us. Were the higher class of natives found to any number brought up and educated so as to be able to pass the Civil Service examinations, then we should not be so much surprised, but if the records of the Government Colleges and Universities are of any value, we find the larger proportion of natives belong to by no means the highest caste, but are very often Kayats, Kahars and sometimes Chamars, and we ask how would the high caste Brahmin feel at sentence being passed on him by a Bhunya or a Chamar? The only test at present required for the Civil Service is an educational one; and our contention is that under these circumstances the Amendment Bill is likely to infringe native caste prejudices, and it may be that Government, in pandering to a few, may alienate the feelings of millions of its subjects and raise a storm which it will find difficult to allay (applause), for we must not forget that the high caste native does not lose his contempt for his low caste brother because he has been educated to Government service. In addition to this the records of the Mofussil Courts teem with cases showing the utter incapacity of the natives, as they at any rate are now, for dealing with European cases, and the cases of Stephen, and still more lately of Briscoe, are fresh in our memories as witnesses of it. (Loud cheers.) The mischief that has been done by Government in thus endeavouring to force upon the community at large a measure they detest, is incalculable, and has opened up old sores that were getting healed over, and has caused in many instances hasty language to be used which will rankle for many a day, and has given rise to a general feeling of distrust which did not exist before. (Applause.) The Commander-in-Chief, in 1872, said that he was jealous of the liberty of the European British subject in India because he laboured under great disadvantages. In places where Europeans are numerous, there is a chance that there may be European witnesses; but in remote places there is every probability that he may be at the mercy of native witnesses. Gentlemen, I ask what has been done to change matters since then, and could there be a greater authority, or one under whose eye there was more varied experience to quote from, than the leader of thousands of European troops scattered over every portion of the Empire? (Cheers.) And I cannot conclude better than by quoting what Sir James Colville said in 1857 to the Indian Council: "The Council should consider that the feeling of British subjects who expressed so much alarm at being made liable to the jurisdiction of the mofussil tribunals in criminal matters, was not so much that of men who felt that persons of any races who committed such crimes as theft or the like would not be fairly tried; but it was a well-grounded apprehension of being subjected to those false charges of violence and attempts at violence with which, in regard to natives, the past history of the mofussil courts was so rife, and which constantly arose out of disputes respecting possession of land." (Applause.)

Further on he says: "It did seem to him, therefore, that it would be rash to submit charges of affray for trial to a Magistrate who was interested in preserving the peace of the district, and who in exercising his police duties must necessarily be in danger of acquiring some degree of bias against or in favour of particular persons within his jurisdiction." Gentlemen, again I ask you if Sir James Colville dreaded this of one native against another in 1857, how can we expect race prejudices to have died out, and what justice can we look for after the violent expressions some of the so-called educated Bengalees have lately used when expressing their sentiments about us, and whom the Government wish to elevate to a status of equality with us and deprive us of a right inherited since the days of the Magna Charta? (Great and repeated cheers met the speaker at the conclusion of this address.)

This second Resolution having been put to the meeting by the Chairman, it was carried unanimously.

Mr. A. Spicer then stood up and said:—

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—The Resolution that I have the honour to propose for your acceptance is as follows:—

"The avowed policy of the Government being to encourage the influx of European capital, so necessary for developing the great natural resources of this country, which, owing to poverty, the inhabitants, who rely mainly upon agriculture, are quite unable to achieve by themselves, the Bill introduced by Mr. Ilbert must do infinite harm, by not only deterring the introduction of fresh capital, but having also the tendency to drive existing industries out of the country, as in all cases foreign capital insists upon having European supervision whose liberty is now for the first time being jeopardised."

In other words, it is the commercial or business aspect of this Bill on which I am about to make a few remarks, not only as it refers to *our* industry, but to that of every other industry carried on and managed by Europeans in this country. The only safe way of examining this Bill in these aspects seems to me to be to argue from the known and assured experience of the past to the future. In all the enterprises carried on by European capital in this country, whether silk, tea, or indigo manufactures, or railways, we find that capitalists have only subscribed their capital when it has been entrusted to and managed by men of their own or a European race. I do not think that any one will question this point; and that being the case, what are we to think of a Government which, whilst avowing its wish to attract European capital, yet seeks to pass this Bill, which will render insecure the lives and liberty of the men to whom the capitalist entrusts the management of these industries. Security, a certain interest, perfect confidence in the stability of the Government, are the first considerations to a capitalist. Tea, silk, and indigo seem to be almost on a par in these respects, the shorter the crop season the greater the danger from this Bill. Consider for a minute how the whole results of a year's working might be jeopardised by arrest at a critical time of the manager and assistant of a tea garden on a false charge, by order of an unscrupulous Native Magistrate, entrusted with the powers proposed to be conferred on such by this Bill. Such considerations cannot but deter any one from investing in these enterprises; yet, although Government wish to attract European capital, they are mad enough to attempt to pass this Bill. (Loud cheers.) The European merchants in Calcutta have a great chance in their hands at this time. Let them refuse to tender for the Public Works loan now announced, and thus show to the Government that, having lost faith in its fair and upright dealing as regards Europeans in this country, they will entrust no more of their capital to it. But can *we* do nothing to support our *birth-rights*, not privileges—that is the wrong word? The North Lakhimpore Planters have, I see from the papers, announced to the Chief Commissioner their intention to have nothing to do with the Local Government Board, if their rights are to be interfered with by Mr. Ilbert's Bill. I am sorry that they have not given the Government a little more time for repentence (Great cheering.) I would have preferred to have seen them waiting and watchful, but quite as determined, till next August or September, to allow the Government to withdraw the Bill of its own accord, but the Chief Commissioner seems to be anxious to precipitate matters, and has announced, I understand, that the customary allowance made for the improvement of the district will be withdrawn unless these recalcitrant planters consent to sit on the Local Government Board, thus punishing the whole district for what may be the fault of the few. (Applause.) Verily this is mofussil justice. (Cheers.) I call upon you all, planters of Cachar, to support your comrades in Assam, and if the Chief Commissioner attempts to carry out his threat, that you will do the same thing and let it be known at once that you are equally determined and will allow no consideration to deter you and leave the Government and the Natives to stew together in their own juices. (Vociferous and excited cheering, and voices shouting, "We will, We will.") Hitherto the non-official Europeans have been looked upon and have to a certain extent considered themselves as an unacknowledged but not the least valuable part and parcel of the Government, but if this Bill is passed, all that is at an end, and the Europeans must look for nothing but what they can extort from the fears of the Government. (Hear, hear.)

Another reason for not passing this Bill, but I am afraid I am departing from the Resolution committed to me, is that it is against the practice and principles of this same British Government. In every eastern country in which Europeans are engaged in commerce with the natives of the soil, Government has invariably protected and fostered British commerce by insisting upon fair and equitable Courts, ruled or presided over by their Consuls or Judges specially appointed by them, or in other words, Europeans are tried by European Judges. I need only refer to the action of our Government in Egypt, China, and Japan to prove this. In Japan only a few months ago, in reply to a request that the interior of Japan should be opened to the foreigners, the Mikado's Government is reported to have said that they were willing to open the country to foreign commerce, if the Europeans would give up their rights to have their disputes with Natives of the soil referred to the Consular Courts. This, I need hardly say, the Europeans declined to agree to on the plea that native Courts are notoriously corrupt, and that in cases between Natives and Europeans, a Native Judge would side with his countrymen. In what, I ask, are the natives of this country superior to the Japanese. Is it in truthfulness? Are perjury and buying witnesses never to be seen here? Are false cases unknown in the Courts of India? No, to the disgrace of this country (and to a certain extent to the Government), I cannot find one

single equality in which the Natives here are superior to the Japanese. (Applause and cheers.) Such being the case, to what are we to attribute the action of the Government in seeking to place Europeans, Eurasians, and their wives and families, under Native Magistrates? Is it to be attributed to a false philanthropy, or to ignorance of the Natives of this country that is absolutely criminal. The Viceroy, and his mouthpiece, Mr. Ilbert, may be in ignorance, having only been a short time in this country; but what are we to think of the highly placed and still more highly paid official members of Council, who are reckless of consequences to others, knowing, as they must, that if this Bill passes, it will place the lives, liberties, and property of their countrymen at the mercy of a cringing and deceitful race? (Applause and cheers). From these considerations I draw the conclusion that if this Bill passes, there will be no security for the capitalist, and he had better look elsewhere for the employment of his capital. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

Mr. C. J. Bell, in a few appropriate remarks, begged leave to second Mr. A. Spicer in proposing the above Resolution.

The Chairman then put the Resolution to the meeting and found it unanimously and heartily carried.

Mr. C. Menzies, after an able and eloquent speech, proposed the next Resolution, which reads:—

"It should never be forgotten that one of the mainstays of British supremacy is the belief, almost universal, that impartial justice is dealt out to all alike; but this condition will no longer be continued, for the Europeans declare, with one voice, they can have no confidence in the proposed new tribunals, and their decisions will never be accepted. The danger involved in this state of affairs can readily be perceived, and surely the accused ought to have a voice as to the tribunals by which he is to be tried."

Mr. E. Livermore seconded this Resolution in the following speech, during which he was frequently cheered and applauded.

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—The Resolution before the meeting draws attention to the jeopardy in which British supremacy in India will be placed, should the Government persist in its ill-advised policy by passing Mr. Ilbert's Bill, in the teeth of an opposition such as no Indian Government has hitherto experienced. That one of the mainstays of British supremacy in this land is the impartiality with which justice is administered to all alike, irrespective of class or creed, is an undoubted fact, and the consequence of this is seen in the high respect which Natives have for our courts of law, and the ready way in which they appeal to those courts for redress in cases of injury or wrong suffered. But though we can readily admit that Natives have learnt to appreciate that impartial justice which is ever meted out to them at the hands of the representatives of law and order, we cannot allow that they are yet morally capable of understanding what true justice is. They have no inborn sense of fairness, they fail to see why right should prevail and bribery and corruption have no influence with their Judges. Until this dark moral defect is eradicated, they can never be fitted to sit in judgment on Britons, whose sense of justice has in the course of ages almost grown into an instinct. It is in no vaunting spirit that, at a crisis such as this one, Briton may well claim that his countrymen are endowed with an innate sense which is not the mushroom growth of one generation, but during a gradual descent for many generations past has from primitive ideas of justice developed into that high moral sense of which I speak. On the other hand, a native of India, though belonging to a land which was old in history a thousand years before Great Britain had emerged from barbarism, has descended from a race whose mistaken ideas of morality have made no advance towards improvement for successive centuries, and even now, when years of European rule might have been expected to have elevated the moral tone of the nation to some slight extent, very little improvement is noticeable, and lies and deceit are the daily experience of all Europeans who have much intercourse with natives. It is not in the nature of things that this moral defect can be counteracted by simply cramming an individual native with more or less useful knowledge. Though he may combine in himself all the learning of the wisest men of the age, he cannot change his nature, nor can we, whom our paternal government is seeking to subject to his authority, forget what blood flows in his veins.

It is thus, Sir, that we have to declare to-day, and that with no uncertain voice, that we can have no confidence in the proposed new tribunals, because we can have none in those natives who are to preside over them; in fact we doubt the integrity and have no confidence in the impartiality of our would-be native Judges, and in so far as this is the case, we feel with bitter sorrow, that the hitherto impartial administration of justice in this land is at stake, and with it the supremacy of British rule in India. Further, we can never accept the decisions of the natives, as they have little or no knowledge of our habits and our motives of action. They are not our equals, and the fact of this agitation shows that they neither have, nor desire to have, any sympathy with us.

If, in the course of years, the gradual education of the people of India shall have raised the masses to a higher moral status than they now occupy, it may be then time to examine whether their devotion and loyalty to the British rule will fit them for rights more nearly approaching to those of Englishmen, but until that time comes, the Government are doing no good to natives, and do much harm to Europeans, by even proposing to concede to the former powers which they are in no way prepared to wield for the benefit of the realm. That there are other mightier reasons why Europeans should not be subject to the jurisdiction of native Judges we must all feel, but it is quite in accordance with the fitness of things, that a Government which has so little acquaintance with the wishes and feelings of the various races it governs, as to mistake the clamour of a few educated Baboos and native editors, for the demands of 250 millions of people, and contemptuously ignore the passionate and heart-felt protest of ninety-nine per cent. of its European subjects, should be so blind to the teachings of the past, as to deliberately place in the hands of a subject race so dangerous a weapon as judicial authority, which at any time may be turned against their rulers.

It is deeply to be regretted, now that the insatiable ambition of a certain class of the native community is making itself apparent, that at the time when native Magistrates in Presidency towns were granted the power now demanded for their brethren in the mofussil, the concession of these powers was not more strenuously opposed. Even if the European opposition had not succeeded, it would have shown the Government of the day what English opinion on the subject was, and it would have had the effect of teaching the native population what the line of demarcation was, over which they might not step, in their search for their imaginary rights. That little or no harm has come of granting those powers to native Presidency Magistrates, is more due to the fact that in each Presidency town there is a powerful and watchful English press, and a large European community, than any inherent qualities in the Judges themselves. The absence of these opportunities for criticism from most mofussil courts is one of the strongest reasons against this measure, and would inevitably heighten that suspicion with which we cannot but help looking upon all native doings, especially where legal proceedings are concerned.

With the one exception of the powers granted to native Presidency Magistrates over Europeans some years ago, this proposed Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill is the first time, since the establishment of the British constitution on its present firm basis, that the absolute right of a Briton to be tried by his own countrymen alone has been called into question, and hitherto this right has been held as inviolable in every colony of Her Majesty's vast dominions as in England.

Englishmen cannot but feel that the Government of India are acting in an unconstitutional manner in endeavouring to take this sacred privilege from us. It is a matter of the deepest import to all Europeans, but especially to those who have yet a long career before them in the Indian mofussil, that the absolute purity of the justice administered in the mofussil courts shall be guaranteed in the future as it has been in the past, but no such guarantee can be accepted by us, who will come under the power of these courts, that does not re-affirm the inalienable right of Britons to be tried by their own countrymen.

What conclusion can we come to, taking the strange action of the Government with regard to this Bill into consideration, but that it is wilfully callous to the true interests of England in the East, or worse fault still for a Government, absolutely ignorant of what those interests are. Our remedy must be to oppose with all our strength this deliberate attack on British supremacy in India, and if the Bill pass, to anticipate the inevitable result of the retrograde policy of a Radical Government by joining *en masse* those volunteer corps which the Government itself acknowledges are necessary, that, when the broad and statesmanlike policy under which we are suffering shall have worked out its natural result, we shall be able to assist the powers that be with our services, when in the hour of danger the material increase of the standing army in India will have become an absolute necessity.

The above Resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously, and with cheers.

Mr. S. D. Jackson in a short but telling speech proposed the next Resolution, which reads:—

This meeting cannot accept as either satisfactory or convincing the reason given by Government for introducing the change, or do they believe in the finality of the present policy. The present Government is not able to bind its successors, and if the abolition of anomalies be the end in view, it is quite impossible that things can stand where they are. India was won by conquest, and the fact that after the lapse of over a century the country is still held, and its 250 millions of inhabitants are governed by a mere handful of Europeans, incontestibly shows both the justice of their rule and the great prestige in which the English name is held. That such a Government should preach the perfect equality of the races, or should do anything to lower the prestige of the Europeans, out of a hankering after theoretical symmetry (in the administration of the law) must appear to all nothing less than a political blunder of the most serious kind which may involve consequences that all will deeply rue.

This Resolution being duly and well seconded by Mr. P. S. Mackintosh, it was put to the Meeting by the Chairman and carried unanimously.

In a few appropriate words Mr. R. White then proposed the following Resolution:—

That our warmest thanks be tendered to the European community of Calcutta for the able and unselfish help they are giving to their countrymen in the mofussil in opposing the proposed alteration in the Criminal Procedure Code, and especially to all those who supported and sympathized with the meeting held there on 28th February, 1883.

This Resolution was duly seconded by Mr. C. S. Walliker, and, on being put to the Meeting by the Chairman, it was carried unanimously with repeated and enthusiastic cheers.

Mr. A. Stewart then said:—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—In rising to propose the Resolution which has been assigned me, I do so with pleasure, as I feel sure you will be only too glad to concur with me. At this time, when we have had this obnoxious Bill thrust upon us where would we have been had it not been for our free and independent English Press,

which has well vindicated its character as an honest and upright organ of public opinion? Foremost amongst the newspapers of India I beg leave to mention the *Englishman* as the one first to draw attention to the dangerous features of the proposed amendment (cheers); and, with one exception (groans for the *Statesman*), the remainder of the journals followed the course taken by it. I would now propose the following Resolution :—

"That our best thanks be tendered to the *Englishman* and other newspapers, for their able and manly opposition to the proposal to deprive us of our cherished and inalienable right of being tried by our countrymen."

Dr. A. J. M. MacLaughlin seconded this Resolution and said :—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in seconding that Resolution. Every European, who has any interests in India, should be for ever grateful to the *Englishman* (a voice, "and the *Statesman*," derisive cheers,) for the very able way that paper has been endeavouring to defend us in regard to this Bill. If only some of the home papers would take the matter up as warmly, and let our countrymen know clearly the exact nature of this Black Act, and the extent to which it will tend, if it become law, to jeopardize our liberty, I am sure there would be as strong a feeling evinced against it there, as is now shown by Englishmen in this country. (Cheers.)

Englishmen must, indeed, have changed very lately, if they will remain silent when they know that an attempt to crush us, their fellow-countrymen, is being made by those they have appointed to look after our interests and to be our rulers. Is it likely that they will allow us to be deprived of our liberty and our rights, merely to gratify the aspirations of a few natives, or allow us to be the subject of a mere experiment, which a few eccentric political theorists wish to make, when it is evident to the, I might say, whole European population of India, and to a large number of natives, that such an experiment must be attended with complete failure and end in insecurity of life and property? I should say certainly not, and for these reasons, it seems to me that what is now necessary to secure success in our cause is to ventilate this matter fully throughout the United Kingdom, through the assistance of the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association, and let our friends and fellow-countrymen at home know the extent of injury to us, without any benefit to the natives, which the passing of this most unjust, unnecessary, unfortunate, and injurious Act would entail (Cheers).

The above resolution being put to the meeting it was carried unanimously, with cheers for the *Englishman* and groans for the *Statesman*.

Mr. A. Odling then rose and in effect said that he had much pleasure in proposing the next Resolution for he was sure it would command itself to the meeting. And he would beg to draw their attention to what had been said in Calcutta and elsewhere that, besides subscribing funds, how much they could help our cause, if those who had relations or friends at home in influential positions, or members of Parliament, would keep on writing and stirring them up to agitate, and deeply interest themselves in our favour. And with these few remarks he would beg leave to propose the next Resolution—

"That we now open subscription lists in aid of the Europeans and Anglo-Indian Defence Association, and pledge ourselves to support this Association both with funds, and by every legitimate means in our power."

Mr. H. G. A. Thornton seconded this Resolution, and on its being put to the meeting by the Chairman, it was carried unanimously, and with loud cheers.

The Chairman, in proposing the next Resolution, said :—

Gentlemen,—Before proposing the next Resolution I have a few remarks to make. I have listened with great pleasure to the able way in which the previous speakers have proposed, seconded, and supported the foregoing Resolutions. And there can be no doubt, I think, that such a large assemblage of the European community, so ably, unitedly, and determinedly setting forth their strongest protest against Mr. Ilbert's Bill, must have considerable weight when their proceedings are laid before the Government. It will be seen how keenly we feel that our good Government, to which we could not be more loyal (cheers), has so illiberally been trying, and trying in the dark, to deprive us of a cherished right, the possession and exercise of which are doing no one in India the slightest harm; but rather, in fact, doing India good. No further back than last September Government took a step in the right direction, and very liberally published that it thought the public should have greater opportunities and time given to discuss and study any Bills which were under the consideration of the Legislative Council. And this was with the avowed object to enable that Council to mould such Bills as much as possible in accordance with public reasonings and request. I have no doubt whatever that Government was sincere when it published that it thought the time had come when it should, to a much larger extent than hitherto, be guided by and take counsel from the community at large when making laws and regulations for them. And therefore I have the greater hope that this very objectionable and dangerous Bill will be withdrawn now, when it is clearly seen that there is the completest possible unanimity of voice against its being passed into law, amongst those it would so vitally and injuriously affect. The ablest men of our community in India are strongly opposed to it, and the more time there is given to discuss the Bill the more obnoxious and harmful it appears, and the stronger and more combined is the opposition to it. So that it cannot be hoped that the great outcry made against it is of a merely effervescent nature that time will calm down and make inert. No, I rejoice to say that this generation of Europeans in India has not yet been, either in mind or body, so enervated as to languidly and unconcernedly submit to a trampling down of

its inherited and inalienable (whatever Mr. Ilbert may say to the contrary). rights as British subjects of their dearly loved Queen. (Cheers). I now beg to propose the following Resolution :—

That the proceedings of this meeting be submitted to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council through the Indian Tea Association of Calcutta, for his due and careful consideration, with the earnest hope that the proposed Bill for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code may be withdrawn.

Mr. G. M. Lock stood up and after making a few appropriate remarks begged to second this Resolution. The Chairman then put it to the meeting, and it was carried unanimously and with great cheering.

Mr. H. Weir then in very eulogistic terms proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair, and this being warmly seconded by Mr. E. S. Elliot, it was carried amidst ringing cheers.

After the Chairman had returned his thanks to the meeting for this motion, he warmly thanked them for having supported him so well, and said the meeting could not have passed off more orderly or more successfully.

The National Anthem was then sung with the greatest enthusiasm. Before separating the Deputy Commissioner expressed a wish to address the meeting on the question of volunteers, as he was now the Commandant of the lately formed Cachar Corps, and that question had been brought up in Mr. Livermore's speech. But before taking up the question he said in effect that he had had the greatest pleasure in hearing the speeches that had been made, that he was extremely pleased with the tone that pervaded all the speeches, as well as all the members of the meeting; that he was sure if Lord Ripon himself had been present, he could not have objected to one single word that had been said, and that if all the meetings held throughout India had shown as much good temper and spoken as effectively, he believed the result would already have been different with regard to the Bill. The Meeting, after a few further remarks about the volunteers, then dispersed.

No. 709, dated 21st May 1883.

Endorsed by the Home Department.

Transferred to the Legislative Department for disposal.

No. 579—60, dated 7th July 1883.

From—MAJOR H. WYLIE, Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Coorg,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In compliance with your letter No. 31C., dated 17th March, 1883, I am directed by the Officiating Chief Commissioner to submit a note by Mr. Lyall containing an expression of his opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, together with copies of communications on the same subject from the gentlemen noted in the margin.

Mr. C. G. Plumer, Judicial Commissioner of Coorg.
Lieut.-Col. W. Hill, Commissioner of Coorg.
Major H. M. S. Magrath, District Magistrate.
Mr. K. Ganapati, Subahdár of the Mercára Taluq.
Mr. C. Soobiah, Assistant Commissioner.
Mr. N. Monappa, Subahdár of the Yedenalknad Taluq.
The Coorg Planters' Association.
Revd. H. A. Kaundinya.

Note by Officiating Chief Commissioner, Coorg, dated 7th July 1883.

1. On receipt of the letter of the Government of India, Legislative Department, No. 31C., dated 17th March, 1883, calling for opinions on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, the Judicial Commissioner and the Commissioner of Coorg were asked to give opinions on the Bill. Their replies have been received, and the Commissioner of Coorg has forwarded with his letter the opinions of the Coorg Planters' Association, of the District Magistrate, of three Native officials, and one Native clergyman.

2. The Judicial Commissioner supports the principle of the Bill, but would limit its operation. The Native clergyman and two of three Native officials support the Bill more or less entirely. The other four opinions are against the Bill.

3. Before expressing my own opinion, I must mention that, when I met Sir James Gordon at Madras, the day before he sailed for England, he said to me that he much regretted that he had not been able, owing to ill-health, to dispose of this reference. He added that he intended to write an opinion on his voyage home, and send it direct to Government; but that in case he was not able to carry out this intention, he begged me to mention, in disposing of the reference, that his opinion was strongly in favour of the withdrawal of the Bill.

4. A year ago, when I was serving as Financial Commissioner in the Panjáb, the Panjáb Government asked me to give an opinion on the question as then stated in the confidential letter (No. 7-592 of 28th April, 1882, and enclosures) of the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department. I replied briefly that it seemed necessary, on grounds of administrative convenience, to confer on Native Covenanted Civilians who may be appointed to hold the offices of District Magistrate and Sessions Judge the same jurisdiction over European British subjects as is exercised by European British subjects holding those offices, but that I did not recommend any further alteration of the existing law.

In giving "administrative convenience" as the reason I accepted for the change of law, I did not accurately describe the argument which most influenced me at the time.

I was aware that any change in the law which has hitherto excluded European British subjects from the jurisdiction of Native Criminal Judges would be objected to by the Euro-

pean community, and I did not consider that such objection would of itself be in any way unreasonable; but I thought that, as the policy of admitting a large number of Natives to the Covenanted Civil Service had been adopted by the Government, the particular risk to the European community involved in this change of the criminal law ought to be incurred along with other difficulties and risks to the British Government of India with which the policy is admittedly weighted. It seemed to me at the time that, if Native Deputy Commissioners and Sessions Judges could not be invested with such jurisdiction, the fact might be used to their injury as a reason for not appointing them to such posts; also that, in the case of Natives appointed District Magistrates, the want of such jurisdiction might injure their prestige and affect their power to control their districts successfully.

I regret to have to confess that, in the press of business, I wrote the opinion in question on a mere perusal of the papers then circulated to me. Those papers contained Mr. Gupta's extracts from the debate in the Legislative Council which occurred when a similar amendment of the law was proposed in 1872. His extracts were from speeches by the "ayes" only; since then I have read the speeches by the "noes." I have also read the petition to the House of Commons by the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association, and many able letters which have appeared in India and English newspapers. I have also had opportunities of discussing the question with some officers of experience, Native and European, not only in the Panjáb, but also in several other provinces. Official opinion is not unanimous, but I am now still less inclined than at first to support an amendment of the law. I am, in fact, in favour of the entire withdrawal of the Bill.

5. The Statement of Objects and Reasons which accompanies the Bill gives no reason for legislation by the desirability of abolishing anomalies and disqualifications based upon race-distinctions. Many absurdities as well as anomalies have to be tolerated in India, and, as the race-disqualification does not prevent a man becoming a Judge, but only from trying a very small class of accused persons, it is not a disqualification of which the race can seriously complain. In respect to the grounds of my former opinion, I think, on reconsideration, that for a long time to come no serious administrative inconvenience is likely to result from the maintenance of the present law, and that the proposed alteration of it is, on the whole, more likely to hinder than to promote the present success of the policy of admitting Natives into the Covenanted Civil Service, and of appointing them to such posts as that of District Magistrates and Sessions Judges. I mean that the success of that policy (and I desire its success) might be seriously endangered by the occurrence, which is by no means improbable, of cases in which the Native Civilian Judge or Magistrate failed to do justice in the trial of Europeans under the influence either of timidity or race-feeling; and, secondly, I think that the Government would be oftener likely to hesitate to appoint a Native Civilian to be District Magistrate, because having jurisdiction over Europeans, he would probably have to exercise it, than because not having such jurisdiction, any case occurring would have to be transferred elsewhere for trial.

6. In the excited state of feeling caused by hard language used at public meetings and in newspaper articles, it is not very easy for Native gentlemen concerned to publicly express an opinion against the Bill; most of them feel that to deprecate the proposal made by the Government of India is to incur the imputation of ingratitude to the Government and of a want of self-confidence and patriotic feeling. But I believe that the great majority of the Native gentlemen now serving as members of the Covenanted Civil Service, or as Assistant Commissioners in non-regulation provinces, would on the whole prefer to see the Bill withdrawn.

In the case of Native gentlemen not immediately concerned who are in no present fear of having the responsibility of trying such cases put upon them, there is, I think, great divergence of opinion. The great majority of the younger English educated Native gentlemen, official or non-official, are, I think, at the present moment in favour of the Bill, and it is also supported (as any measure supposed to be unpalatable to Europeans will be) by those Native gentlemen, educated or uneducated, who are disaffected to the British Government or who feel a race-antipathy to the English. But in the Panjáb, where I had opportunities of conversing with Native gentry of various kinds, I came to the conclusion that a large number of sensible and well affected Native gentlemen were of opinion that the proposed change of the law was an unwise one. The great mass of the people are, I think, everywhere entirely uninterested in the question.

7. I hope I shall not be thought to have a low opinion of the Native Covenanted Civilians as Judges or Magistrates because I have written above of the probability of the occurrence of failures of justice if the criminal trial of Europeans in the mofussil is entrusted to them. I have, on the contrary, a high opinion of their judicial abilities, but it seems to me to be clear that the English Covenanted Civilian is in a position which makes it easier for him than for a Native to be an efficient and impartial Judge in criminal trials of Europeans.

When both parties are Europeans, it will be admitted that the Native Judge is at a great disadvantage in judging of the facts; when the accused is an Englishman and the prosecutor a Native, much race-feeling is frequently aroused. The English Civilian Judge before whom such cases come up is, no doubt, not insensible to race-feeling for his accused countryman, but, on the other hand, as a member of the ruling race, a generous determination to be just to the other races is easier than it would be if the position was reversed; and, moreover, there is a strong traditional feeling in the Indian Civil Service of its being the special duty of its members to be impartial in such cases,

and to protect Natives from being oppressed. Again, in most of such cases the European defendant is a non-official, and the Indian Civilian Judge is sometimes apt to be prejudiced against such defendants by their bluntness of speech and comparative want of deference for the Court. The European population among which the Judge is living is scanty in number and changes rapidly; the Judge may leave the district any day, and will soon leave the country for good; he is, therefore, in a position to be but little afraid of unpopularity with the Europeans around him. My experience leads me to believe that these conflicting forces keep the English Civilian on the whole very impartial in the trial of such cases. It is well known that, in European non-official or military circles in India, the Civilian Judge is very commonly believed to be prejudiced in favour of the Natives in disposing of such cases. I myself believe that this is so far true that bias is as often shown in favour of the Native as of the non-official European. On the other hand, a Native Judge trying a criminal charge against a European about which race-feeling has been aroused is in a much more difficult position. He is generally by birth a man of the Native middle class, between which class and the non-official European a jealous sentiment is apt to exist. The country is his home, and he lives among the people, and is exposed by their customs and habits to outside pressure and solicitations of the strongest kind. The rough and independent bearing of the accused will often prejudice him, and the great distrust which the non-official European almost always displays of a Native Judge will be apt to annoy him. In fact, all the surrounding circumstances and all his natural sympathies are likely to bias him in favour of the prosecution, particularly if the prosecutor is a man of his own class or of good position in Native society. On the other hand, there is nothing to keep him straight except the fear of the disapproval of his English official superiors and his own conscience and firmness of character. Though I have a great respect for Native Judges, I am of opinion that the average conscientiousness and firmness of character of the educated English gentleman is, at present, much higher than that of the educated Native gentleman. The same comparison in favour of the Englishman may, I think, be made with many European races. This difference may very possibly be due to no inherent superiority of race; it may be simply the result of free political life, a pure form of religion, high education and high civilization maintained through a great number of generations. But, whatever the cause may be, I do not think the fact of the difference will be questioned by any impartial person of Indian experience.

8. For the above reasons, I hold that the English Judge or Magistrate in India is naturally better qualified to try cases in which Europeans are accused than the Native Judge or Magistrate. If this is admitted, and if no great administrative inconvenience is to be anticipated at present from leaving the law as it stands, then it seems to me that to make a change in defiance of the decided opinion and strong sentiment of the European community on the subject would be unjustifiable. I myself put little weight upon the argument that, if the Government gives way to the Europeans now, it will not be able to legislate against their wishes in other matters, or in this matter when another occasion arises. I believe that they have been from the first on the whole in the right in this case, and that it has only been the occasional manner of their opposition, not the opposition itself, which has deserved to be called blatant or unreasonable. I think that the non-official Europeans (those who live in the mofussil among the people in particular) are as alive to the progress of the times, and the necessity of gradual change in their relations with the Natives as any other class. I think that the indigo-planters of Bengal showed this not long ago in their dealings with the Bengal Government. When the Government has a good case for legislation, I believe the majority of non-official Europeans will be sensible enough to recognize the fact, even though the legislation be against their class-interests. The opposition then will be weak, and the Government will find itself amply strong enough to disregard it.

I do not think that any real political importance should be attached to the display of Native feeling on the question recently made in the newspapers and in speeches at public meetings. The feeling is shallow, and has been mainly aroused by the abusive language addressed on some occasions by the Europeans to the class of educated Natives and to a Government which those Natives know to be most benevolently disposed towards them. The real question is one of sentiment only as far as the Natives are concerned, and it is only a very small class which is interested in it. I do not intend to maintain that national or race sentiment should be disregarded in legislating for India—I hold the contrary opinion very decidedly; but the strong sentiment in this case is on the side which resists the proposed change, and which may be materially affected by it.

9. I believe the Bill to be based simply upon liberal and benevolent ideas; but, in studying its provisions (including those which merely to avoid the least appearance of preferring English to Native Magistrates, disqualify a number of competent European Magistrates who are not Covenanted Civilians), one might be forgiven for suspecting it to be the outcome of a very exaggerated idea of the sensitiveness of the Natives in respect to race-distinctions, and of an over-regard for such sensitiveness amounting to timidity. There is always some danger in India in any appearance of timidity. On the other hand, there will be no danger in disregarding the clamour which will be raised if the Bill is withdrawn by the particular classes of Natives who are now showing interest in it. It is impossible to conciliate by concessions those who are at heart radically hostile to the British Government; those who are content with progress under it will be indifferent to the fate of the Bill if they see the Government persevere in its general policy of admitting the Natives to high offices and of gradually entrusting to them larger municipal powers of self-government.

Memorandum by C. G. PLUMBER, Esq., Officiating Judicial Commissioner, Coorg, dated 8th May 1883.

One of the objections to the Bill is apparently founded on a misconception of its scope; it appears as if the great body of opponents think that, if the Bill be passed, any Magistrate of the first class will have jurisdiction to try European British subjects. But that is not so. Section 443 as amended would run thus—"No Magistrate, unless he is a Justice of the Peace *and* (except in the case of a Presidency Magistrate) unless he is a Magistrate of the first class, shall inquire into or try any charge against an European British subject." To have jurisdiction the Magistrate must be both a Justice of the Peace and Magistrate, first class, and the only persons who can be appointed Justices of the Peace under the provisions of section 22 as proposed to be amended are such Covenanted Civilian members of the Native Civil Service, Assistant Commissioners in non-regulation provinces or Cantonment Magistrates as are invested with powers of a Magistrate of the first class. Those persons, and those only, would be able, if the Bill were to pass, to enquire into or try a charge against an European British subject.

2. It does not follow necessarily that every one of the class of persons referred to in the proposed amendment of section 22 would be appointed a Justice of the Peace. The discretionary power of such appointment is left to the Governor General and to the several Governors; they might be trusted to use their discretion so that no one not in every way fit to discharge the duties of a Justice of the Peace should be appointed.

3. I quite agree that a person who is considered qualified to be a District Judge or District Magistrate is, or should be, *ipso facto*, qualified to discharge all the duties pertaining to those officers, and to try European British subjects. The Local Governments should not appoint any one to those appointments who is not so qualified.

4. The Bill is the logical outcome of what has gone before; it is part and parcel of the policy which has been for many years in vogue in British India; it is the logical sequence of the admission of Natives to the ranks of the Covenanted Civil Service. No objection was taken at that time by those who now object to this Bill: they knew, or might have known, perfectly well that the Covenanted Civilians were the real administrators of the country; they knew, or might have known, exactly what were the powers, executive and judicial, wielded by Covenanted Civilians; they must, one would have thought, have foreseen that, when Natives were once admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service, the time would not be far distant when it would be necessary to remove all restrictions from the enjoyment by them of all the privileges, and from the exercise by them of all the powers, vested in Civilians; but the class to which the great mass of the opponents of the present Bill belong—the non-official Europeans—were silent.

5. Silent, too, were they when Natives were made Presidency Magistrates, High Court Judges and even when a Native was made Acting Chief Justice in Bengal. Small blame, in the face of such apparently absolute acquiescence, is it to the official class that it was for the most part ignorant of the storm which this Bill would raise.

6. I cannot help thinking that some of the fears which this present Bill has raised are much exaggerated.

7. It seems to be assumed that, as soon as Native gentlemen are invested with the power to try Europeans in the mofussil, false charges of all sorts will pour in against Europeans, male and female, and that their lives and liberties will be endangered. Such fears appear to me to be groundless; they can have no force unless it be taken for granted that the Native Magistrate will conspire with the complainant in such cases.

8. And is it likely he would do so? What would the class of Natives who alone would be empowered to try such cases have in common with the persons who it is supposed will be the complainants; and, unless the Magistrate is in a conspiracy with the complainant, the accused, it seems to me, would be just as likely (to say the least) to get justice from a Native Magistrate as from a Magistrate who is a European British subject. The Native Magistrate, indeed, in my opinion, would be more likely to detect the falsity of the complaint if it were false than many of the young European Justices of the Peace who now have jurisdiction to try European British subjects. It may be that a Native Magistrate would be ignorant of the manners and customs, ways of thought and feeling of the accused; but, what is of much greater importance, he would be very well acquainted with the manners and customs, ways of thought and feeling of the complainant and his witnesses. My experience tells me that a Native Judge, as a rule, is excellently well able to appreciate the evidence of Native witnesses; and is it likely that a Native Magistrate trying a European would wilfully convict him of a false charge? To put it on no higher ground, he dare not do so; he knows that all his hopes of promotion depend on Europeans; he knows that the whisper of any injustice on his part against a European would lead to instant enquiry, and on detection to stern punishment. My own honest belief is that the very limited class of Natives whom by this Bill it is proposed to give discretion to the Local Government and Governor General to invest with jurisdiction over European British subjects may be trusted to exercise that jurisdiction impartially and without the slightest fear of any injustice being done to Europeans. That is my own honest, deliberate opinion, but, at the same time, I am not likely to be affected one way or other by the Bill, and the great mass of the non-official Europeans who are most interested in the Bill would appear to have a violent antipathy to its provisions. Such strong and practically unanimous feeling against the Bill as has been shown by the non-official Europeans cannot of course be lightly disregarded.

9. It is said that the non-official Europeans, the planters, &c., came out to India under a sort of guarantee from Government that they were to be amenable in criminal matters to the jurisdiction of European British Judges only. I have no doubt that those who put forward this plea fully believe in it; but I would like to know, as a matter of fact, how many planters, &c., before they came out to India ever made any enquiry on the point; and I would like to know further, supposing the enquiry to have been made and the reply to have been that they would be amenable to the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates, how many would have been deterred from going out to India. They came out to India, as we officials came out, because they were obliged to work for their livelihood, and India offered them a likely field for their labour; and, in my opinion, the passing of this Bill would have a very inappreciable effect in thinning the ranks of the non-official Europeans.

10. But, at the same time, as I have said, the strong feeling shown against the Bill should not be lightly put aside. I would not counsel the total abandonment of the Bill, because I honestly believe it to be a Bill embodying principles which must sooner or later be given effect to, and because I would not have the Government yield now to an agitation which it is clear it must face at some time.

11. It is possible that there is no immediate necessity for the Bill; it is possible that it would have been better not to have introduced it just now; feelings have been stirred up which all would have preferred to have allowed to lie dormant; but the Bill has been introduced; it is strictly, as I have said, part and parcel of the policy of the Government in India for several years past.

12. Unless that policy is to be reversed, sooner or later a similar Bill must be introduced. As the number of European officials decreases and the number of Native Magistrates and non-official Europeans increases, jurisdiction to try European British subjects must be given to Native Magistrates; and if this Bill is abandoned, another of similar import will have to be introduced, which will again give rise to agitation such as is now rampant. The first furious blast of the storm has now been encountered by the Government. There would be, in my opinion, a want of courage in quailing before the storm and abandoning the Bill, leaving a future Government to encounter over again the same opposition, with the disheartening precedent of the success attendant on the present agitation. While, however, I would not abandon the Bill altogether and expose the Government to the dangerous charge of having yielded to agitation, I would endeavour to meet, as far as possible, the objections raised. The principle of the Bill should, in my opinion, be insisted on, but in detail its operation might be limited. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, in the course of the debate in Council on the Bill, suggested a very fair compromise, namely to limit the jurisdiction to try Europeans to such Natives as are, or may become, Sessions Judges and District Magistrates. To carry this proposal out—

Section 1 of the Bill should be omitted.

Section 2 should stand as at present (it should be section 1).

For section 3 I would substitute the following:—

"In section 443, after the words 'and a European British subject', insert 'or a District Magistrate and Sessions Judge.'"

For Section 4 I would substitute—"Any Judge presiding in a Court of Session may exercise jurisdiction over a European British subject, but an Assistant Sessions Judge shall not exercise such jurisdiction unless he is a European British subject and unless he has held the office of Assistant Sessions Judge for at least three years."

For section 5 *substitute* "section 450 is hereby repealed."

Add fresh section—"After the words 'European British subject' in the last line of the second paragraph of section 459, add 'or a District Magistrate or Sessions Judge.'"

A fresh section might also be added something to the following effect:—

"Any sentence of imprisonment passed on a European British subject by a Sessions Judge or District Magistrate who is not himself a European British subject shall, on the application of the person sentenced, be suspended pending an appeal."

No. 81-40, dated 28th April 1883.

From—LIEUT.-COL. W. HILL, Commissioner, Coorg,

To—The Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Coorg.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your docket No. 2255-917 of the 30th March 1883, forwarding to me, for an expression of opinion, draft Bill for the amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, and directing me to obtain and submit that also of the Coorg Planters Association and of others competent to give an opinion on the proposed measure.

2. In reply I beg to observe that the desire with which the Government is animated in removing such anomalies is honourable and just; but I regard the measure itself as being premature and impolitic: premature because, however much the whole moral tone of the natives of India who have had the benefit of an English education may have been elevated so as to justify their appointment to posts of responsibility and trust, the characteristics of the great body of the populace, especially those in up-country districts, with whom European planters are placed in immediate contact, has not altered so far as to warrant the abolition

of distinctions of the nature proposed between European and Native; also the number of natives who have entered the Civil Service is so very few that their feelings may for the present be sufficiently consulted by their non-appointment to districts containing a large number of European proprietors of land. The exercise of jurisdiction over Europeans by the Assistant Commissioner, as provided in the Bill, is not needed, as there are two Justices of the Peace in Coorg, and his duties are confined chiefly to the disposal of civil cases and the charge of the district treasury.

3. The amendment of the Code appears to be impolitic, inasmuch as it deprives Europeans of the time-honoured privilege, which they prize, of being tried by their own countrymen, and the deprivation of which would unquestionably tend to lower them in the estimation of their native neighbours.

4. In Coorg, which has an European population of nearly 200, most of whom are engaged in the cultivation of coffee estates, the number of cases which come before the Justices of the Peace is very few. They consist mostly of petty complaints of ill-treatment made by servants against their European masters, and of mischief made by raiyats who have allowed their cattle to stray into coffee estates. In nearly every case the complaint is much over-stated. Consequently there exists in the minds of Europeans a strong feeling, as expressed in paragraph 4 of the letter from the Coorg Planters' Association, that the present restriction of powers acts as a protective measure against the institution of false cases which, if trumped up against them, could not easily be rebutted owing to their isolated position. Not only would the disgrace of being dragged before the Courts be much felt by gentlemen of standing and position, but they apprehend that their authority over their workmen would by such means be so much weakened as to affect their chances of success in the enterprise in which their capital is embarked. Mingling, as they do, freely with the native population, and having ample opportunity of judging of their character, such apprehensions must be well founded, and are, in my opinion, deserving of the fullest consideration on the part of the Legislature. Their allegation as to the untrustworthiness of a great portion of the evidence tendered by natives is fully borne out by the daily experience of the Courts; and, as urged, Native Magistrates might occasionally feel difficulty in disposing of cases between Europeans owing to their want of knowledge of their habits and modes of thought. The following cases, which have actually occurred under existing arrangements, may be quoted as illustrative of the evils which they apprehend as likely to be augmented:—Lately the coolies of an estate in South Coorg, led by their maistries (gangmen), made an attack upon the European superintendent, and, in order to mislead the authorities, had recourse to the ordinary native stratagem of being the first to lodge a complaint. The European Magistrate dismissed it as false and punished the ringleaders severely, which had an excellent effect in checking a recurrence of similar attacks. In a case of forgery tried at the last Sessions, a determined effort was made by the production of false witnesses to show that an East Indian, who had served 14 years as a superintendent, and who enjoyed the confidence of his employer, had betrayed his trust by authorizing the accused to make use of his name. In a case in which an English lady was the complainant and Europeans were parties, a desirable compromise was effected; whereas, had the Magistrate been a native, the lady would in all probability have refrained from seeking the aid of the Court.

5. I would further urge the desirability of the early withdrawal of the Bill, on the ground that the agitation which it has caused has already been productive of ill-effects in promoting race antagonism, which is especially to be deprecated in a Province like Coorg, where it is essential, for good government and the development of the resources of the country, that friendly relations should subsist between the large number of European planters and their native neighbours, and between the former as employers and the large bodies of coolies who are employed.

6. Copies of letters received from Major Magrath, the District Magistrate, and Mr. Ganapati, Subhadar of the Mercara Taluq, opposing the Bill, and from Mr. C. Soobiah, Assistant Commissioner, Mr. Monappa, Subhadar of the Yedenalknad Taluq, and the Revd. H. A. Kaundinya, in favor of it, are attached, as well as copy of the letter from the Coorg Planters' Association already referred to.

No. 44—12, dated 11th April 1883.

From—Major H. M. S. Magrath, District Magistrate, Coorg,
To—The Commissioner of Coorg.

With reference to your docket No. 18—4, dated 4th April 1883, forwarding for opinion a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I have the honour to state that I consider the change proposed in the law undesirable on political grounds: it is a privilege of Englishmen to be tried by their peers from ancient times. The Bill has been, and if passed into law will be, mischievous in its results, and tend to increase race antagonism, which it is most desirable to avoid in our Indian Empire; and further, no desire or wish on the part of the Native populations of India has ever been apparently put forward for the change proposed by the Bill. They naturally consider it to be a rightful privilege of Englishmen to be tried by their countrymen, quite as much as many privileges which they (the Natives of India) enjoy under our rule in respect to their caste and customs, to which due deference is paid by Government.

For the foregoing reasons I consider it unadvisable to pass the Bill, which is a piece of sentimental legislation, into law.

From—Mr. K. Ganapati, Subahdar, Mercara Taluq,
To—The Commissioner of Coorg.

In acknowledging the receipt of your docket No. 22—16 of the 4th April 1883, I have the honour to submit the following.

I am of opinion that the Bill, however desirable it may be to remove an existing anomaly, will prove in the end very mischievous and create a serious ill-feeling between Natives and Europeans.

As far as my experience goes, I think the amendment is really unnecessary, the time not having come for an Act so liberal in its provisions. Matters now go on well, and no demand has been made for the change by the community at large. As it is, I feel that Native officials have no reason to complain, as we are empowered to dispose of civil cases in which Europeans appear before us; and it will do us no real good if we are called upon to perform the invidious task of punishing Europeans, while it will endanger the kindly feeling which should subsist between the European and the Natives of the country, and which I have endeavoured throughout my long official career to promote.

I must not be misunderstood in my opposition to the Bill. I am proud to say that pure Natives of India have proved themselves, both morally and socially, capable of filling with credit some of the highest and most responsible posts in India, and there is no doubt that there are many others who would do justice to their appointments as Magistrates. What I mean is that the Bill is uncalled for, and has been thrust upon the Europeans contrary to their wishes, and is therefore certainly to be deprecated.

Dated 22nd April, 1883.

From—G. R. Evans, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Coorg Planters' Association,
To—The Commissioner of Coorg.

I have the honour, on behalf of this Association, to acknowledge the receipt of your docket No. 19—5, dated 4th instant, enclosing a copy of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction of Natives over European subjects, and asking for an expression of our opinion on the same for transmission to the Chief Commissioner of Coorg.

2. The large and influential meetings held at Ammatti in the south, and here at Mercara in the north, were unanimous in their protest against the injustice of this Bill, and there is hardly a European, I believe, in the Province who has not signed the Madras memorial protesting against it.

3. Our reasons for the same were given at length in the speeches made at the meeting and printed in the *Madras Mail* of 2nd instant:—

(1) We are of opinion that this Bill, which we consider is unnecessary and uncalled for by either Natives or Europeans, and which the Government have unwisely proposed for the sake of two or three Bengal Native gentlemen, will deprive us of the only right and privilege which we Europeans in India enjoy, and would place our lives and liberties at the mercy of Native Magistrates, who are almost totally ignorant of our ways and habits of life.

(2) There is hardly a single class amongst the Natives of India that has not some particular custom or right preserved to it by law; and why are we to be deprived of the only one that we as Europeans possess, and which we maintain has far more reason for its continuation, at least for many years, than any the Natives have?

(3) There is not another colony or foreign station where Europeans are domiciled that does not maintain its right to have all European subjects tried by their own countrymen, and will not permit their being handed over to Native Courts; and we protest against this just and reasonable law being abolished in our case.

(4) Here in this Province, where there are so many Europeans, this Act, if passed, would bear particularly hard. So long as there is an European Judge who knows our ways and habits, and can sift carefully the false evidence brought forward, the Natives are careful about bringing forward false accusations; but with a Native Judge a fellow countryman to appear before, all this would be changed, and false charges would be multiplied a hundredfold.

For every little petty spite or trivial blow, supported by any number of false witnesses, we should be had up, and, with only a Native Magistrate to Judge between us, we maintain that our liberties, and perhaps our lives, would often be falsely sworn away.

(5) This Act, if passed, will, we feel assured, be most prejudicial to the good feeling which at present exists between the two classes, and will be the death-blow to the welfare and prosperity of the Province.

Hitherto, although living in a foreign land, we have felt that we were sure of a fair and impartial trial, but with this taken from us, there will be few who care to choose this country for their home when there are so many other lands where an Englishman, though

an alien, may yet feel that he has this much-prized privilege of being tried by his countrymen still preserved to him.

4. We beg, in conclusion, to thank the late Acting Chief Commissioner of Coorg for his earnest and manly protest on behalf of this Province against this proposed Bill, and we trust that Sir James Gordon will also continue to urge on our behalf the inexpediency of this Bill, which is unanimously condemned by the whole Province.

No. 10, dated 17th April, 1883.

From—Mr. C. Soobiah, Assistant Commissioner, and Mr. N. Monappa, Subahdar, Yedenalknad Taluq,

To—The Commissioner of Coorg.

We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your docket No. 20—6 of the 4th April, 1883, and its enclosure.

We have very carefully considered the provisions of the Bill with Statement of Objects and Reasons, and we beg to submit that the Bill does by its provisions no doubt remove an existing anomaly, and that, all things considered, it is such a measure as should be passed into law.

We cannot see any objection to the Bill, and we cannot conceive what legal and valid reasons can be possibly adduced against the amendment proposed to be effected thereby.

Europeans and Natives of every class and creed are, without distinction of class or race, all equally subjects of Her Majesty the Empress of India.

Under a liberal Government, Natives have qualified themselves to be considered eligible to fill most responsible positions. Indeed, Natives have long been appointed to seats on the Bench of the High Courts in the several Presidencies, and of late they have also been considered eligible for appointments in the much-coveted and jealously-guarded Covenanted Civil Service in India. And further, there are numerous Natives who are called to the Bar, and others who fill most responsible offices under the Government in all parts of India.

In the Presidency towns, Natives as Magistrates have jurisdiction over European British subjects, and hitherto no objection has been urged or exception taken to such powers being exercised by such Native Magistrates.

We are, therefore, of opinion that the Bill should be passed into law, for the Government of India and the several Local Governments in the Judicial Departments would have the remedy, if any, in their own hands in the conferment of the powers on Native Magistrates. We assume that only such Magistrates who are duly qualified as Magistrates empowered as is contemplated by the provisions of the Bill now before the Legislative Council of India. (*Sic.*)

Dated 17th April, 1883.

From—Revd. H. A. Kaundinya,

To—Commissioner of Coorg.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 4th of April, together with a copy of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, &c., forwarded to me for my opinion.

At a time when almost all British-born subjects of Her Majesty the Empress of India consider it their duty to protest against the amendment, it is not a pleasant thing to be found among those that are constrained to approve of the measure. Having been educated in Europe and having married a German, all my children also receiving instruction and education in Europe, I can, though a pure native of India, fully enter into the feelings and understand the fears and apprehensions of my European fellow-subjects. On the other hand, I must not forget that mere sentimentality ought not to be allowed to override calm thought and the demands of justice and equity.

There are, according to the amendment, four classes on whom the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects is to be conferred. It is my humble opinion that no exception can be taken to the first, second, and fourth of them; but I doubt whether all the Assistant Commissioners are up to the mark. If, on the other hand, those Assistant Commissioners only are considered eligible for the exercise of the proposed jurisdiction that have been recommended thereto by the Commissioners of such districts, no inconvenience or injustice need be feared.

One thing strikes me as peculiarly anomalous. The Kaffirs and Zulus at the Cape Colony, the Maoris of New Zealand, the Negroes of other Colonies, are to be looked upon as British-born subjects, while the people of British India are not to be considered as such. Any British-born Maori, Kaffir or Negro, may any day become a Judge or Magistrate in India, and exercise such jurisdiction not only over the people of India, but also over all European-born subjects, while such a British-born subject himself must not be under the jurisdiction of a Judge or Magistrate of the first class, if a native of India, though the latter may be a first class nobleman. I here allude to the law as it stands, though in practice this may not happen for a long time yet.

Under the wise laws introduced into India by the British Government, under the vigilant and prudent control exercised by the higher over the lower Courts, and with the great strides

made in education and in the development of administrative capacities, it may now be truly said of the higher grades of educated Natives of India that they can honourably stand comparison with men of European nationalities of similar grades and standing.

But one thing must not be overlooked. The state of morality certainly stands lower in India than in England. I would, therefore, raise my voice and say to our rulers—*festina lente*; let only those have this authority bestowed on them who are really fit for the work.

No. 749, dated 9th July 1883.

From—W. M. Young, Esq., Secretary to Government, Punjab and its Dependencies,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

With reference to your letter No. 27C., dated 17th March, I am desired to submit the opinions on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, which have been received from the officers, gentlemen, and societies noted below, together with a minute on the same by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. I am at the same time to forward copies of the opinions which were received by the Lieutenant-Governor with reference to the proposals contained in the letter of the Government of India in the Home Department, No. 7, dated 28th April 1882, which by an inadvertence were not submitted with my confidential letter No. 703, dated 5th August 1882, to that Department.

2. The Bill and Statement received with your letter under reply were published in the *Punjab Government Gazette* in English in the issues of the 22nd and 29th March and 5th April respectively, and in Urdu in the issue of the vernacular Gazette of the 2nd April.

3. Should any further opinions on the Bill be received before the 15th of July, they will be duly communicated.

List of Opinions submitted.

Mr. Justice G. R. Elsmie.
Mr. Justice D. G. Barkley.
Colonel W. G. Davies, C.S.I., Officiating Financial Commissioner, Punjab.
J. D. Tremlett, Esquire, Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division.
Lieut.-Col. L. J. H. Grey, C.S.I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Hissar Division.
J. W. Macnabb, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Umballa Division.
Colonel Gordon Young, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.
Colonel C. A. McMahon, Commissioner and Superintendent, Amritsar Division.
Colonel C. C. Minchin, Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.
H. E. Perkins, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.
Colonel E. P. Gurdon, Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Mooltan Division.
E. O'Brien, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Mooltan.
Major R. Bartholomew, Deputy Commissioner, Jhang.
Major C. McNeil, Deputy Commissioner, Montgomery.
C. E. Gladstone, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Muzaffargarh.
Lieut.-Col. E. L. Ommanney, Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Derajat Division.
F. W. R. Fryer, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner, Dera Gházi Khán.
S. S. Thorburn, Esquire, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Dera Ismail Khán.
H. C. T. Robinson, Esquire, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Bannu.
The Honorary Secretary to the Planters' Association, Kángra Valley.
Sardár Atar Singh, C.I.E., Chief of Bhadaur.
Sardár Bikrama Singh, Ahlúwalia.
Agha Kalbi Abid, Khán Báhádur, Honorary Assistant Commissioner, Amritsar.
Háji Khán Muhammad Shah, Khán Báhádur, Honorary Magistrate, Amritsar.
Pandit Ram Narain, Secretary to the Indian Association, Lahore.
Anjuman-i-Islámya, Amritsar.
Sri Gobind Singh Sabha Association, Lahore.
Anjuman-i-Mufid-i-Ám, Kasúr.

Minute by Sir Charles Aitchison, K.C.S.I., *Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and its Dependencies, on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, dated 9th June, 1882.*

In replying to the Government of India about the European Jurisdiction Bill, the opinions originally received, which should have formed enclosures of the Punjab Government letter No. 703, dated the 5th August 1882, should be forwarded, as well as those received in answer to the later reference.

2. As was to be expected, opinions have been much influenced by the violent agitation which followed the introduction of the Bill and the strong opposition it has evoked from the European community. These circumstances have necessarily become important factors in the question, and have removed it to a platform altogether different from that on which it was originally discussed. The race antipathies which have unfortunately been aroused have transformed a measure of administrative convenience into a burning political question, of which the withdrawal of the Bill affords no solution, and which must now be settled on its merits, on a

view of the whole situation as it is, and as in its present and future bearings it affects the European and Native community alike.

3. There appear to me to be at least three conditions essential to such a settlement :—

(1) That the Legislature shall recognise no disqualification for office on grounds only of race, religion or colour;

(2) That the Legislature shall impose reasonable checks on the action of the Executive Government, and provide sufficient guarantees that judicial powers over European British subjects shall not be conferred on persons whose qualifications have not been thoroughly tested;

(3) That the question be settled once for all on a basis which shall, as far as can be foreseen, prevent the recurrence of lamentable controversies and dangerous agitations.

4. In the course of the last few months it has, I fear, become only too evident that the first of these conditions will be unacceptable to many of our countrymen in India. But however high race feeling may run, this question, as seems to me, has been settled for us by the Parliament of England. In the statute passed in 1833 for the better government of India (3 and 4 William IV, Chapter 85, Section 87), it is enacted that "no native of the said territories, nor any natural born subject of His Majesty therein, shall, by reason only of his religion, place of birth, descent, colour, or any of them, be disabled from holding any place, office or employment under the said Company." This statute is maintained in force by Section 64 of the Statute 21 and 22 Victoria, Chapter 106, which transferred the Government of India to the Crown; and I presume the Parliament of England would as soon think of repealing the Catholic Emancipation Act as of reimposing on the natives of India disabilities which were abolished fifty years ago.

5. It has been urged, indeed, by high authority that, in a country where all kinds of personal laws prevail and are prized by those to whom they apply, there is no reason to single out for discontinuance a privilege to which Englishmen attach the highest importance. This is true enough as the statement of a general proposition ; but, in its application to the particular question under consideration, the objection seems to me to ignore cardinal distinctions between various kinds of personal laws and privileges. So long as society exists there must of course be personal laws and privileges. These cannot be abolished, without the destruction of family life, of social order, and of government itself. But there are personal laws and privileges which can be enjoyed without imposing general disabilities and incapacities upon the political status of others; and there are personal laws and privileges the fundamental idea of which necessarily involves the imposition of such incapacities and disabilities. To the one class belong, among other laws and privileges, those which have their foundation in social peculiarities; such as, for example, the exemption of native women of rank from appearance in the Civil Courts, of which we have lately heard so much in connection with the Bill; special laws of marriage; inheritance; and so forth. To the same class belong the special provisions of the law relating to the punishments that may be inflicted on Europeans in this country and their right of appeal. The abolition of privileges of this kind may become unavoidable, from change of circumstances and in the course of social and political progress. But there is a general disposition to leave them alone. Occasionally, indeed, they are even now deliberately created. To the other class belong monopolies, sectarian tests, political privileges which depend on religious or political opinion, or on race or place of birth, and the like. To laws and privileges of this kind, which cannot be enjoyed without imposing political disabilities on other sections of the community, the spirit of our laws, both in England and in India, is opposed; and the history of legislation in both countries is a history of their gradual abolition.

6. Again, an argument has been drawn against the principles of the Bill from the status of Christians in some Muhammadan and heathen countries, where they enjoy the privilege of being tried by consular tribunals. But this argument overlooks the essential reason of the thing. In the countries referred to, the laws and procedure are ordinarily interwoven with the established religion and social habits of the people; and it is the vital and ineradicable difference between those laws and ours, and not any difference of race, that necessitates a departure from the ordinary jurisdiction.* British Consular Courts, however, are not always presided over by European British subjects, and there is nothing to prevent a native of India from being Consul. For similar reasons we claim for Englishmen certain ex-territorial rights in the Native States of India; but this claim is occasionally relaxed when sufficient guarantees are given for the good administration of justice.

The reason for the privilege in both cases lies, not in race, but in the nature of the laws administered, the procedure followed and the punishments, sometimes barbarous, inflicted by the courts of the Native governments. The disqualification of Native Judges in British India also belongs, in its origin, to a time when Natives and Europeans were under radically different laws; but now the laws and procedure are substantially the same for all, so that the essential reason of the disqualification ceases to be applicable.

7. But whatever force, greater or less, may be in these and similar objections on the score of race, the principle involved in the question has passed beyond the stage of discussion. For,

* See Phillimore's International Law, I. 362.

as already observed, Parliament has in its wisdom decided that neither religion, nor race, nor colour nor place of birth,* shall of itself be a disqualification for office.

No doubt, in the course of legislation in India, the Imperial law has occasionally been forgotten, and provisions inconsistent with it have been allowed a place in Indian enactments. Such inadvertences may or may not escape unchallenged; but, when once a distinct issue has been raised in respect to them, it may be questioned whether it is competent to the Indian Legislature either to import into its laws or to retain on its Statute Book a disqualification which the Parliament of England has forbidden.

The Bill under consideration fulfils this condition and recognises no such disqualification.

8. The second condition I have noted raises the whole question of personal fitness and the means by which it is to be tested. The Royal Proclamation of 1858 declares it to be Her Majesty's will that, "so far as may be, Our Subjects, of whatever Race or Creed, be freely and impartially admitted to Offices in Our Service, the Duties of which they may be qualified by their Education, Ability and Integrity duly to discharge." While the outcry for privilege in respect of race, colour and creed deserves, and will I hope receive, no consideration whatsoever, it is impossible not to feel the deepest sympathy with the fears and anxieties of the European community lest powers should be given to persons who are not qualified to exercise them properly. Whether those fears and anxieties are well founded or not, they are thoroughly genuine and sincere, and should command the deepest respect. European British subjects are entitled to demand from the Legislature reasonable guarantees against the evils they anticipate.

9. The objections brought against the Bill in this respect seem to me to err chiefly in confusing the question of individual fitness with the question of race. Probably even the most thorough-going supporter of the Bill would admit that Englishmen as a class are better qualified to be judges of their countrymen than Natives are; and that in their case individual fitness may often be assumed when in the case of the Native it would have to be thoroughly tested. Conversely, in some departments of the administration, Europeans are rightly subjected to tests from which Natives are exempt. But the objections which have been taken to the Bill go far beyond a statement of that kind. Incapacities—moral, intellectual and social—are broadly attributed to Natives, on general grounds sometimes true, sometimes more or less plausible, occasionally entirely false; and it is inferred that all Natives fall under these disqualifications. For my own part, I take it to be not seriously disputable, and I sincerely believe, that most people who consider the matter dispassionately would admit that the gradations of individual capacity and incapacity for the exercise of the powers in question are not less complete and distinguishable among Natives than among Europeans; that there are Natives as competent to exercise judicial powers over European British subjects as any Englishman: and that the question is not to be summarily settled on the assumption of fitness or unfitness inherent in race.

10. The true, practical problem (and it is under present circumstances one of grave and anxious concern), is how to find sufficient and satisfactory tests of individual fitness in respect of education, ability and integrity. In the letter of the Punjab Government, No. 703, dated 5th August 1882, it was assumed that the Executive Government, which has really no interests distinct from those of its European subjects when properly understood, might be trusted, in this as in many other matters of not less importance, to discharge its functions with discretion; and that no one—whether European or Native—would ever be appointed a Justice of the Peace or a Magistrate of the 1st Class, or a Sessions Judge, who did not possess the requisite qualifications. Now, however, in view of the anxiety which recent discussions have evoked, it is plain that, before public confidence can be hoped for, legal checks must be imposed and statutory guarantees must be given that the persons to be invested with powers over European British subjects are duly qualified.

11. What those checks and guarantees should be is a question on which there is room for infinite variety of opinion. As already observed, however, it is not necessary they should be the same in the case of Europeans and of Natives; and, in the case of Natives, I do not suppose that any reasonable objections can be taken to those checks and guarantees at least which are provided in Section 2 of the Bill. It would require exceptionally strong arguments and evidence to produce a rational conviction that educated Natives who have risen to the position of Magistrate and Sessions Judge, who must therefore have exercised high judicial and administrative functions for many years, and who, by virtue of their office, have European officers and gentlemen under their orders, are unfit to be entrusted with judicial powers over European British subjects in such cases as Magistrates and Sessions Judges are ordinarily competent to try. It seems to me that no higher or more effective guarantees for intelligence and integrity can rationally be demanded or could possibly be supplied.

12. Probably, however, it is chiefly in respect to officers of lower standing than District Magistrates that real difficulty is felt; and here I do not think that the provisions of Section 1 of the Bill are satisfactory. That section introduces a purely service qualification which,

* How largely the status of European British subjects depends on mere place of birth may be seen from the following illustration. A Parsee merchant has three sons, one born in Bombay, one at the Cape of Good Hope, the third in London. The family return to Bombay, where all three are educated. The third son, and his children and children's children, born in Bombay, are European British subjects, and may be made Justices of the Peace. So with the second son, though he has never been in Europe. The eldest is a native, and he and his descendants are d squalified.

whatever may be its value as a criterion of intellectual and moral fitness, operates as an exclusive test to disqualify, by a merely accidental distinction, whole classes who may be duly qualified in all essential respects. Such an arbitrary distinction is, in my opinion, open to all the objections of race disqualification, without any of its justifications.

13. It would, I am inclined to think, be more satisfactory to adopt, with respect to persons who are not European British subjects, some practical test of fitness, such as that which is afforded by the conscientious and efficient discharge of high judicial functions for a given time. Such a principle has already been accepted in determining the qualifications necessary for sundry high judicial offices; and it might, I think, be applied with advantage in the present case. I would therefore venture to suggest that, in place of Section I of the Bill, a section should be substituted to provide that the Governor-General in Council and Local Governments may appoint to be Justices of the Peace such persons as they think fit, who—

(1) being European British subjects are invested with the powers of a Magistrate of the 1st class;

(2) being British subjects other than European British subjects:

(*a*) have exercised the powers of a Magistrate of the 1st class for not less than five (or seven) years;

(*b*) are reported by the High Court of the Province to have exercised those powers satisfactorily; and

(*c*) satisfy such other conditions (including a thorough knowledge of English) as the Governor General in Council may, from time to time, prescribe by rules made in that behalf.

14. The proposal to require the High Court to certify the judicial fitness of certain officers, before conferring on them the powers of a Justice of the Peace, might perhaps be considered as throwing on the High Court duties of an invidious kind. But it is in reality nothing more than the actual practice at present followed, at least in the Punjab, in conferring powers under the Criminal Procedure Code. Appointments to purely judicial offices under the Criminal Procedure Code are generally regulated by the recommendation of the Chief Court; and special powers under Section 30 of the Code, the powers detailed in Schedule IV., the powers of a Justice of the Peace, and the like, are never conferred upon any officer except on a report of the Chief Court that he is fit to exercise them.

15. As an additional guarantee and satisfaction to the European community, the jury system might, perhaps, be extended to the trial of all important cases affecting European British subjects. But there are several obvious objections to such a proposal. The question, indeed, belongs to quite a different category from the principle of the Bill, and no special remarks seem called for either in respect to it or to the other sections of the Bill, which appear to depend more or less on Sections 1 and 2.

16. Whatever be the form the Bill may finally assume, and whatever the view taken of this proposed modification or of that, I sincerely trust that the settlement arrived at will be a lasting one. If the question be decided on narrow grounds of prejudice or race disqualification, it is certain again and again to recur, each time probably with race animosities intensified. It is too much, perhaps, to hope that any settlement whatsoever can be effected without further ebullition of race antipathies. But the course which may be adopted will be satisfactory in the degree in which it may be calculated to prevent the re-awakening of such feelings in future; that is, in my opinion, in proportion as it excludes arbitrary disabilities of race, or class, or section of service, and imposes tests of individual fitness and qualification.

Opinion of Mr. Justice G. R. ELSMIE, *on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.*

I have little to add to the opinion given by me on the 31st May 1882, when this subject was first raised. I beg to refer to that opinion.

2. So far as the Punjab is concerned, I think I may safely say that no necessity whatever has as yet arisen for making the proposed changes in the law. We have no Native Civilian appointed by competition. We have one Native Assistant Commissioner, Muhammad Hayat Khan, C.S.I., who is not a member of the Civil Service. We have also four young officers appointed within the last two or three years, under the provisions of Chapter 3, Statute 33, Victoria. It will be a long time, presumably, before any of these officers is appointed to be a Magistrate of the District or a Sessions Judge.

3. From a Punjab standpoint, therefore, I should much prefer to wait till we see what style of work these officers turn out, and how they conduct themselves generally, before we make such an important change in the law.

4. As far as other provinces are concerned, their local officers are in a better position than I am to say whether the necessity for a change has arisen or not. I confess I still adhere to the view that all Magistrates of Districts should have equal powers. I think the prestige and authority of Magistrates of Districts should not be lowered, and if Natives are to be appointed to be Magistrates of Districts, I would not deny them the powers proposed to be granted. But this view is based on administrative grounds only, and I have no sympathy at present with the proposal so far as it is founded on a desire to remove so-called anomalies, or to remove disabilities from individual officers, or from a class of officers.

5. I still think that no practical inconvenience whatever is likely to be felt from withholding these powers from Native Sessions Judges.

6. On the general question of the agitation which has been caused throughout India, it is difficult to remain altogether silent, though perhaps opinions are hardly required on this point. Much of the excitement is probably due to an exaggerated idea of the practical effect of the proposed alterations. Nevertheless, the antipathy of non-official, and even of official Europeans, to such a measure, is not unnatural.

7. All persons acquainted with the administration of criminal justice in India are painfully aware how prone the more ignorant portion of the Native community is to bring false charges against persons to whom they bear a grudge, and to add to true charges against guilty persons false charges against the friends and relatives of those persons. False evidence is easily procured, as we all know, and as counsel daily tell us when arguing criminal appeals. In a country where these things prevail, is it to be wondered at if the European community fears the consequences of the removal of a single safeguard? Rightly or wrongly, European Judges are more trusted by their countrymen and even by Indians, than Native Judges.

8. Allegations, true or false, are very commonly made against the trustworthiness of Native Judges, and, in the Punjab, applications are by no means uncommon, by which the Superior Courts are moved to transfer criminal cases from Native to European Courts. I do not know that I have ever heard of an application for a converse transfer, *viz.*, from a European to a Native Court.

9. Under these circumstances, it seems natural enough that, until the European community has had fuller opportunity of judging of the qualifications of the new Native Civilians, the proposed change should be met with strong and perhaps unreasoning opposition. Such changes must probably be eventually accepted. This is the view held by an ex-Punjab official of very high standing, and of great experience, now in England; but that gentleman, in writing to me some months ago, said he regarded the measure as at present premature, as a "child born out of due time."

Opinion of Mr. Justice D. G. BARKLEY, *on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882,—dated 25th April 1883.*

I doubt the advisability of repealing the last clause of Section 22 of the Code and substituting a new clause. Under the law as it stands, non-officials, if they are European British subjects, may be appointed Justices of the Peace, and Extra Assistant Commissioners, when European British subjects, have frequently been so appointed. The clause proposed to be substituted would render this impossible for the future, and it is not desirable, for the purpose of rendering a small number of persons who cannot now be appointed Justices of the Peace, eligible for that office to narrow the field from which selections can at present be made. One result of this method being adopted is to extend the apparent scope of the legislation now proposed, as was shewn by the discussion which took place in the Legislative Council about Cantonment Magistrates; and much of the excitement to which the Bill has given rise was probably due to an exaggerated notion having been formed of the extent of the changes proposed. It would probably meet all present requirements to add to the power now given by Section 22, power to appoint members of the Covenanted Civil Service, not being European British subjects, who are invested with the powers of a Magistrate of the 1st class, and who are of not less than seven years' standing in the service.

It can scarcely be necessary to deal with the case of members of the Native Civil Service constituted by the rules under Statute 33 Vict., C. 3, until the Criminal Procedure Code next comes under revision, as few of this class are as yet more than probationers, and there has been little opportunity of judging of their fitness for such powers.

What I would propose is, to go back to Section 2 of Act II of 1869, with such additional precautions as are rendered necessary by the extended jurisdiction given to Justices of the Peace who are also first class magistrates by the Criminal Procedure Code of 1872, and by the jealousy which, regret it as we may, is certain to be felt for many years to come of the exercise of criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects by natives of India, unless their qualifications and impartiality are above suspicion.

The proposed addition to Section 25 I do not think open to any reasonable objection, and had it stood alone, it would probably not have provoked any serious opposition. As the time has come when natives of India, who are Covenanted Civilians, have attained, or are about to attain, the position of Sessions Judges and District Magistrates, I would not advocate any compromise as to this part of the Bill. The Sessions Judge would try with a jury or assessors, and a European British subject could claim a mixed jury, or set of assessors under Section 451, as a European, not being a European British subject, or an American could do under Section 460, while the sentence which the Sessions Judge could pass would be much less in the one case than in the other.

Nothing in the remainder of the Bill calls for any comment.

It is perhaps scarcely within my province to refer to the agitation to which the Bill has given rise, but it is not at present possible to put it altogether out of sight in discussing the provisions of the Bill, and I may therefore be excused for suggesting that, as the changes proposed will chiefly affect the European community in Bengal and Assam, many of whom reside far from the head-quarters of districts, and as the speeches of the Hon'ble Mr. Evans

and Sir Steuart Bayley in the Legislative Council shew that much of the opposition to the Bill is due to a not altogether unfounded fear that, in Bengal at least, it would expose Europeans in such positions to the danger of being brought before Native Magistrates on false charges, prompted by unscrupulous and wealthy enemies, the Bill should be carefully revised with a view to remove all reasonable apprehensions of this nature, and to make it clear that what is proposed is not to remove anomalies, in connection with the criminal jurisdiction now exercised over European British subjects, many of which the Bill, as framed, will not touch, but to make such changes in the law as are either now required, or are certain to be required at no distant date, by considerations of administrative convenience, and as can be made without impairing the confidence now entertained in the administration of justice. If this were made clear, much of the present opposition to the Bill would, I believe, be disarmed. Any changes that are resolved upon should, of course, be widely circulated in order to give those interested in the subject an opportunity of expressing their views, before legislation is attempted.

No. 609, dated 14th May, 1883.

From—F. C. CHANNING, Esq., Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab,
To—The Under-Secretary to Government of Punjab.

I am directed to reply to your letter No. 346, dated 27th March, in which you ask for the opinion of the Financial Commissioner on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure.

2. On the general question whether Natives belonging to the Covenanted Civil Service should be empowered to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects, as raised by Sir Ashley Eden last year, Colonel Davies has already expressed a favourable opinion in reply to the inquiry addressed to him as Commissioner of the Jullundur Division (*see* his letter No. 1088 of 22nd May 1882). His grounds for holding this opinion were pretty much the same as those put forward by the supporters of this Bill in the recent discussion in the Legislative Council. It is unnecessary for Colonel Davies to re-state these at any length. They will be found very fully and forcibly set forth in the speeches of the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton and the Hon'ble Mr. Hunter. The main ground on which the proposed change in the law is based is the *administrative inconvenience* that will result from the continuance of the present restriction on the powers of Native Covenanted Civilians, many of whom are now arriving at the positions of Magistrates of Districts and Sessions Judges.

The question is one of practical politics; there are, so far as Colonel Davies can see, *no rights* involved in its decision, and it should be therefore decided on grounds of expediency alone.

3. As to the Bill itself, the question Colonel Davies thinks is whether it does not go beyond the necessities of the case, and, for the sake of asserting a broad principle, is not likely to cause some practical inconvenience.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to the Bill, it is explained that the Government of India has decided to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code *at once and completely* every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions. With reference to this, Colonel Davies would point out that this object is partly secured by taking away from Local Governments the power they have hitherto had, and have largely availed themselves of, of appointing the European members of the Uncovenanted Civil Service to the office of Justice of the Peace. He refers to the Extra Assistant Commissioners of the Punjab, and the Deputy Magistrates of the North-Western Provinces and Bengal. This was a very useful power, and it is very doubtful if, for the sake of symmetry alone, it should have been taken away. In this Province, and probably in the other Provinces named above, this change in the law will cause practical inconvenience in the future.

4. The next question is whether the Bill does not go too far in the opposite direction, and whether the object in view would not be sufficiently obtained by so amending Section 25 of the Code of Criminal Procedure as to make all Sessions Judges and District Magistrates *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace. There is no doubt, Colonel Davies thinks, that so far as the administrative difficulty is concerned, a change in the law to this extent would remove it completely for many years to come; and in the face of the strong opposition made by the European community in this country to the proposed changes in the law, it seems unwise to go any further than is *immediately necessary*.

5. The claim that the proposed changes will lead to the non-efficient administration of justice, is one that cannot, Colonel Davies thinks, be sustained. In the Punjab certainly, and probably throughout India, the general level of judicial ability is, and will for many years be, much higher among the European than among the Native Magistrates, and the number of the latter whom the Bill would invest with powers over European British subjects is, and must for many years to come be, very small. There are no Native members of the *Covenanted Civil Service* in this province, and only four appointments have, as yet, been made to the Native Civil Service under the statutory rules. In regard to these latter the objection might fairly be urged that their knowledge of the habits and mode of thinking and acting of Europeans is not so intimate as to enable them "to put themselves in the place of the accused," and

thus be fully competent to judge of the probability or improbability of his having committed the offence with which he is charged.

6. For these reasons Colonel Davies is of opinion that the Bill, in aiming at symmetry, unnecessarily deprives the Government of the services of a class of men who are peculiarly fitted to try Europeans; and, on the other hand, proposes to give this power to a class who are not so well fitted for this work. On the whole, he thinks that the only change that need now be made in the law is the one he has suggested above—that which is made by Section 2 of this Bill. An alteration of the law to this extent he considers to be absolutely necessary; apart from administrative inconvenience it would, for obvious reasons, be quite intolerable if the Native Magistrate of the District or Sessions Judge were not to have powers which were possessed by men serving under his orders.

No. 1014, dated 20th April, 1883.

From—J. D. TREMLETT, Esq., Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

In reply to your No. 346, dated 27th March 1883, calling for a report on the Bill for amending the Criminal Procedure Code, I have the honour to submit the following remarks.

2. The public press has lately been so saturated with writing on the matter, that I can say nothing which will not have come under your notice already, and my observations will, therefore, only have so much value as showing the impression all this agitation of the question has made on my own mind, and I think, I may assume, I belong to a very large class of Anglo-Indian officials, whose great desire is that the Government may be conducted on such lines as will best promote the dignity and security of the Queen's rule in India. Believing, as I do, in the maxim that "righteousness exalteth a nation," if I considered the Bill called for in the interests of fairness and justice towards Her Majesty's Native subjects, I should, I presume, regard it desirable in the true interests of the Crown to persevere, trusting that, in the long run, all sides would come round to see the desirability and honesty of the measure.

3. To the best of my judgment, however, the Bill, if it have any effect at all, will injure the European community by changing the *personnel* of the Courts having jurisdiction for the worse, instead of for the better, while conferring on the Native community at large absolutely no advantage at all. I consider it will injure the European community, because the most that can be said for the Native officials on whom it is proposed to confer this jurisdiction is, that it may be hoped or anticipated, that they will display the patient fairness and love of justice with which the long growth of Christianity and British national life has animated nearly every English Judge and Magistrate. But, surely, it is not wise to risk depraving the character of a tribunal by adding to its number members who can only be hoped not to be inferior to those already comprised in it, especially when what is known of the class from which these new members are to come scarcely favours the probability of their possessing these particular excellencies. If it could be said that, owing to the scarcity of European Magistrates, unless Native ones were qualified, there would be a difficulty in repressing crime by Europeans, it would be different; but if this time ever comes at all, it is not likely to be in our lifetime, and the next generation can, and will, I suppose, legislate for themselves. It is, I believe, the experience of all controlling Courts that Natives themselves constantly wish their cases withdrawn from Native Judges and sent to European ones, and never, so far as I know, the other way: thus showing clearly their opinion of the relative worth of the two classes of officers: especially is this the case in race matters. How seldom does a Hindu think he will get fair unbiased justice from a Muhammadan officer in any point in which Hindus and Muhammadans are opposed to each other as such, and *vice versâ*? While the Anglo-Bengali press has shown the animosity against Europeans which animates the class from which, unfortunately, most Native Civilians come, is not less than that which divides Hindus and Musulmáns. For my own part, did the Bill restrict the powers proposed to be given to Sikh or Frontier Muhammadan gentlemen, I do not think the evil would be nearly so great; but it seems to me that it is to be over-sanguine to anticipate that Natives of India at large, just because they have spent a few years in England, or belong to distinguished families, may be trusted to judge Europeans fairly and dispassionately as English Magistrates at least strive to do.

4. As to the claims of the Bill as removing anomalies, were it true that the passing of this Act left absolutely no difference between one class and another, it would certainly have the not inconsiderable merit of finality. But the very Act leaves the European triable still only by a limited number of Courts, and those mostly with more limited powers than they possess over Natives; so that the privilege of the prisoner to be tried only by special Courts would remain just as before, and it would only be the privilege of the official to sit in that Court which would be modified. But it seems to me public servants are employed, not out of regard to their own feelings, but for the discharge of such duties as the Government thinks they are most fitted for; and Native officials, I think, may be employed more usefully by their employers than in being set to try foreigners. I do not think, too, we ought to lose sight of the risk of scenes occurring in Court very discreditable to us as rulers, should European roughs be brought before Native officers from the Lower Provinces.

5. Holding, therefore, as I do, that the Bill is not called for in the interests of justice, it

seems to me highly unwise to persevere with it in face of the bitter opposition it has met with from the European community in all parts of India. Even assuming they are prejudiced and mistaken, their feelings are entitled to attention. Races cannot *suddenly* be made equal by legislation, and mistaken attempts to do so are certain to stir up that very race animosity and ill-will which it is most desirable, in the interests of Europeans and Natives alike, should abate and gradually die out.

No. 76, *dated 16th April*, 1883.

From—LIEUT.-COLONEL L. J. H. GREY, C.S.I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Hissar Division,
To—The Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

Your No. 346, dated 27th March 1883, calls for my opinion on the question of the exercise of jurisdiction by Native Magistrates over European British subjects.

2. I am averse to the proposal, on the grounds stated in a recent letter to the *Times* by Sir FitzJames Stephen, which are doubtless sufficiently notorious not to require recapitulation.

3. The course I should recommend is that suggested by the *Anjuman-i-Punjab* in its issues of the 7th, 14th and 21st March, *viz.*, that an accused person, whether a Native of the United Kingdom or of India, should have the right to claim trial by a Judge of his own country.

No. 200, dated 14th April, 1883.

From—J. W. MACNABB, Esq., Commissioner and Superintendent, Umballa Division,
To—The Secretary to *Government, Punjab.*

I have the honour to reply to your No. 346, dated 27th ultimo.

2. There can be, I think, no doubt that the great majority of the Muhammadans in Hindustan would be glad if the English left the country.

3. So also would the Sikhs as a body. Kuka-ism is a standing witness of this feeling. The hope of a Khalsa Raj is what attracts to Kuka-ism and binds the converts together.

4. A similar feeling doubtless exists wherever in Hindustan there are strong nationalities.

5. The restless classes are distinctly disloyal all over the country. It is not that they want a larger share in managing their own affairs;—they want to get rid of us altogether.

6. To judge from the native newspapers, a large class of those who read them must be disloyal also.

7. The money-lenders and shop-keepers I believe to be loyal from self-interest.

8. So are the more intelligent of minor chiefs, who fear their stronger neighbours.

9. The facts being, to the best of my belief, as above stated, it seems to me quite wrong to ignore the further fact that we are conquerors in a conquered country—placed here by Providence for the good of that country; but none the less bound to maintain ourselves in the country till it is made clear to us that we are doing evil to the country, and not only so, but that that evil is greater than the good to the British nation at large.

10. And we can only maintain ourselves in the country, for the next 50 years at least, by acting as conquerors always have to do,—by acting as a ruling race, maintaining the prestige of the same, and keeping the executive strictly in our own hands.

11. I always deplored greatly the opening of the Covenanted Civil Service to Natives, and I maintain that having made this one great mistake is not the least ground for making the second mistake of making Natives Justices of the Peace, merely because it is the logical sequence of the first mistake.

12. I think there is great benefit to be derived from nominating Natives to the Civil Service, or giving them commissions in the army, provided it be formally laid down and thoroughly understood that they are never to hold charge of Districts or Divisions, or to command regiments.

13. When it comes to their turn for such office, let them retire if they dislike staying, or look for promotion in the judicial line only.

14. Some few may be fitted for High Court Judges; sitting on the same Bench with English Judges, who should be in a large majority, will keep them honest; but I very much doubt for many a year to come, if any but a few exceptional Natives are fit to sit alone as Sessions Judges. I am sure their fellow-countrymen will not think so.

15. If the Natives prefer, as we know they do, to have their cases sent to the court of the youngest "sahib" six months out from England, to having them tried by grey-bearded Native Judicial Assistants, can we suppose that the people of the country will have the same confidence in a Native Sessions Judge as in an English one?

16. But to return to the more immediate question, and to look at it from a different point of view, I do not believe that there has been the slightest desire on the part of the Magistrates of the Punjab to have the powers of a Justice of the Peace. Such an idea would never enter into their heads: many of them would distinctly shrink from the responsibility of using such powers.

17. The dignity of the title, however, would have great attractions, and pressure and importunity would always be at work to extend the numbers of those selected for the honour.

18. Further, I think, that men would eventually get the power to whom it would be distinctly dangerous to entrust it in out-lying parts of the country.

19. Even with men of the best intentions, the feeling of caste is very strong (one sees it frequently in cases where Brahmins are concerned). It is not easy even for the educated European gentleman to hold the balance in an utterly dispassionate manner. A desire to be impartial often leads to injustice to men of one's own race.

20. If this is so, how much more difficult for the unaccustomed Native, surrounded by Native opinion, which is his life, or, if of a weak disposition, fearful of his European superiors, to be absolutely impartial in trying an accused who is, and whom he feels to be, however our legislation may deny it, of a ruling as well as an alien race.

21. Holding the above views, I have no hesitation in recording my opinion against giving Natives criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects.

No. 867, dated 19th April, 1883.

From—COLONEL G. GORDON YOUNG, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division,

To—The Secretary to Government, Punjab.

In reply to your No. 346, dated 27th March, enclosing, for opinion, a copy of a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, I have the honour to remark that, had this question been put three months ago before the excitement arose on this subject, I might have been disposed to concur in the reasons given for amending the Code as logical and sufficient; and it is possible, I think, that I should not have foreseen that the grant of the powers proposed to be conferred on a very small and select number of civil servants at the present moment would be likely to call forth the strong feeling and animosities which have been displayed since the introduction of the Bill into Council.

2. But, in regarding the legislation proposed now, I think it is impossible to overlook what has passed, or to ignore the spirit it has evoked; nor am I prepared to say that the spirit of antagonism to the Bill has not in my opinion a certain measure of reason in it.

3. I will not attempt to repeat or to epitomise what has been said over and over again by the Press, or at meetings of indignant Englishmen, and which has often, in the heat of the moment, exceeded all legitimate bounds; but content myself with saying that I think no sufficient reason has been adduced for introducing the measure. I do not think our Native fellow-subjects desired the concessions proposed, or felt they had any grievance on the score of absence of jurisdiction over European British subjects; though now that they have had the question and the powers offered them, and the vernacular press have taken up the question, one way or the other, on the one hand indicating it as a wrong that the jurisdiction has not hitherto been conferred, while on the other it has been declared at indignation meetings that Natives are not to exercise such powers,—they are no doubt beginning to desire what the non-official English community have shown themselves as greatly opposed to. This may be human nature, but it is not an argument for granting the powers proposed.

4. A very intelligent Native Judge to whom I spoke on the subject assured me that he and his confrères were very averse from having anything to do with even civil cases in which Europeans are mixed up; as, whatever decision was come to, one class or the other would always impute unworthy motives: the European, if worsted, thinking he had been dealt with unfairly because the Judge was a Native; while, if the contrary were the result, the Natives would certainly consider the Judge had given way to fear of European displeasure and its possible influence on his own prospects.

5. In criminal cases there will always be a double risk of this feeling affecting the mind of the Native Judge, and in most cases there will be danger of his passing inadequate sentences.

6. Nor can I think there is any immediate probability of the efficiency of the administration being impaired, for want of a sufficient number of Justices of the Peace who are European British subjects to deal with cases in which their countrymen may be involved in the Criminal Court.

7. In my opinion, then, though the objections which have been put forward have been overstated, and the argument that it is an anomaly that while natives of India are held competent to discharge the highest judicial functions, they should not be permitted to exercise jurisdiction on the criminal side over Europeans, is difficult to meet or to deny, except by arguments founded on sentiments and race prejudices, I consider the proposed legislation to have been a mistake, and deplore that it was ever projected.

8. I do not understand that my opinion is invited on the delicate and difficult question of whether, on grounds of general policy, any modifications are desirable tending to allay the feeling of irritation which the Bill has produced; but I may perhaps be allowed to state that, in my humble judgment, the proposal I have somewhere seen, that the right might be conceded to Europeans to claim to be tried by one of their own countrymen, if they desired, is worth consideration, and would go far towards reconciling both parties in what has now become a really formidably acrimonious dispute.

No. 1063, dated 16th April, 1883.

From—COLONEL C. A. MCMAHON, Commissioner and Superintendent, Amritsar Division,
To—The Secretary to Government, Punjab.

I have the honour to reply to your No. 346, dated the 27th March.

2. When the Draft Bill was originally sent to me for an opinion, under cover of your No. 441, dated the 12th May 1882, my reply was to the effect that, looking at the matter from a *purely theoretical point of view*, I saw "no reason why a native of India who, by his education and personal qualifications, had been considered a suitable person for appointment to the Covenanted Civil Service, should not be invested with all the magisterial powers with which an English member of the Covenanted Civil Service, holding a similar official position, would be invested."

3. I went on to point out that I did not think the members of the Punjab Uncovenanted Service were prepared for any alteration of the existing rule. "There are some," I added, "who, were they invested with jurisdiction over Europeans, would, with the idea of courting popularity, be unduly lenient in cases of Europeans; and there are others who might be glad of the opportunity of being harsh and severe where Europeans were concerned."

4. The latter element, which undoubtedly exists, and in some quarters where Government might perhaps least expect to find it, is the side of the question which has taken so powerful a hold on the non-official English residents in the country, in connection with the known proneness of Natives to institute, or to instigate the institution of, false suits and prosecutions against persons for whom they bear ill-will or spite.

5. It may be said that the proposed change in the law would not lead to any greater facilities for the institution of false and malicious complaints against Europeans than at present. Undoubtedly it would not do so at first; but if, hereafter, the investment of Native Magistrates with jurisdiction over Europeans became at all general, Natives would probably have as little hesitation in bringing, or in instigating the institution of false charges against Europeans as they at present have in bringing them against the natives of India, and the matter thus has a serious practical aspect from the non-official Englishman's point of view, and for Government, if we regard the ulterior political consequences.

6. I think it is desirable that Natives, when raised to the position of District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, should have the same power as Englishmen filling those offices; and I would therefore retain section 2 of the Bill; but, considering the agitation which is going on and the extreme undesirableness of aggravating the race prejudices which have increased so much since the subject has been under public discussion, I seriously advocate the omission of the provisions contained in section 1 from the Bill.

7. Probably this compromise would be accepted by all, and the heated feelings now prevailing would quiet down.

8. Were section 2 to become law, the principle contended for would be asserted, and its extension hereafter, if thought desirable, would be comparatively easy; whilst the provisions of section 2 are in themselves so reasonable that no great cry would be raised over them.

9. If the propriety of appointing natives of the country to the position of District Officers be admitted, it would be difficult to raise an objection to their being invested with the full powers of a Magistrate over all classes.

10. On the other hand, the provisions of section 1 are of doubtful expediency, and, at any rate, the benefits to be gained by their becoming law are not sufficiently great to make it worth while to incur the political inconveniences arising from the present agitation and the growth of race animosity.

11. Section 1, it must be remembered, embraces a number of men who have not been out of India, and who have little real knowledge of English character, and who, consequently, would be in a very bad position for estimating aright the probabilities of a case in which an Englishman is concerned. Having regard to the general character of Native evidence, a Magistrate has to qualify the evidence a good deal by the probabilities of the case, if he wishes to avoid doing great injustice in some cases.

12. It is this principle that lies at the root of our jury system. If we go back to the origin of that system, we find that men were summoned from the neighbourhood of the parties, not so much to come to a judgment on the evidence formally put before them as to bring their local knowledge to bear on the probabilities of the case.

13. This element will be wanting in Native Magistrates, especially in those who have not received an education in England. The state of morality in India is much lower than in England, and, as men judge of others by themselves, Natives believe readily imputations against Europeans that we ourselves would only credit on extremely strong evidence.

14. Another point seems to me deserving of consideration. In times of political excitement, it might be inconvenient to Government to find Englishmen here and there over the country "run in" before Native Magistrates on false charges of rape, abduction, and the like. Whatever the result of the trials might be, the general Native public would believe the charges to be true, and a prejudice against the ruling class would be created.

15. Our prestige and the knowledge that false charges against Europeans would be tried by English gentlemen, and might lead to unpleasant results to those who brought them, keep all such cases out of Court at present; but, were the number of Natives invested with jurisdiction over Europeans to become great, I am not sure that this immunity would continue.

No. 1175, dated 20th April, 1883.

From—COLONEL C. C. MINCHIN, Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division,
To—The Secretary to Government, Punjab.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 346, dated 27th ultimo, forwarding, for opinion, copy of a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1882, I have the honour to state that in my opinion it is not so much the Bill as the Statement of Objects and Reasons which has given rise to the opposition to this measure, as there is but little in the Bill itself to object to.

2. In the abstract no one would object to the very reasonable proposal that Sessions Judges and District Magistrates should be *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace, or even that members of the Native Civil Service should be so appointed, any more than they object to a Parsee Magistrate trying members of the Salvation Army in Bombay.

3. But the use of the term "anomalous," and the statement "that the Government of India has decided to settle the question of jurisdiction over European British subjects in such a way as to remove from the Code at once and completely every judicial disqualification which is based on race distinction," was so framed as needlessly to provoke the fears of the entire European population throughout India.

4. If Mr. Ilbert had known how to gild his pill, the Bill would have been passed almost unnoticed; but in the face of the strong opposition that has been roused I think it would be wise to alter the Bill by striking out of the first section clause *b*—members of the Native Civil Service constituted by the rules under the Statute 33, Vic. Cap. 3—and amending the Statement of Objects and Reasons so as to represent the views of the Government without wounding the susceptibilities of so influential a section of the public, if it is not now too late.

No. 1554, dated 14th April, 1883.

From—H. E. PERKINS, Esq., Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division,
To—The Secretary to Government, Punjab.

I have the honour to reply to your No. 346, dated 27th ultimo, requesting an expression of my opinion on the proposed Bill for amending the Code of Criminal Procedure.

2. It is difficult to add any new argument to the many which have been brought forward on one or the other side regarding this measure; but I fear I must express my agreement with the opponents of it. I think that the large majority of Natives do not desire it, and that, if passed, it will bring about unseemly scenes in Courts, and discreditable outbursts of wrath from the English loafer, who is the person chiefly likely in the Punjab to come before the Native Magistrates. I have seen such persons barely able to restrain their tempers even when fined, or otherwise dealt with, by an English Deputy Commissioner; and in the presence of a Native Magistrate they would certainly make no attempts to keep within bounds. I see not why we should run the risk of collision, when there is really no need to incur that risk.

3. It is unfortunately impossible to say that this is not a question of race against race. We should not have heard of it, unless a Native Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council had stirred up the subject, and obtained a promise that it should be reconsidered. This reconsideration would not have taken place so soon as it has occurred, but for the memorandum written by a Native Civil Servant and forwarded by the late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. It is, and must essentially remain, a race question.

4. Another fallacy which I think needs exposure is, that only picked men will be entrusted with powers over English men and English women. I regret to demur to this proposition. The men who will be the first to receive the powers, if the Bill be passed, will be certainly those who have passed examinations, but I deny that they are truly picked men: many of them come from the lower orders of society, and are ignorant of true gentlemanly feeling, having all the disqualifications of European sycophants, and *nouveau riches*, without the counter-balancing knowledge of English life and feeling possessed by the humblest Englishman. I should not myself object to be tried by many a Native—*e.g.*, Agha Kalbiabid, lately of Amritsar, Rai Bahadar Hukm Chand, or others who could be named. Their long official experience, coupled with a high natural tone of thought, would command always respect: but to take a smart youngster from a college, and in a couple of years to make him rule over Englishmen, will simply flatter that uninstructed pride which he already suffers from, and must, I think, end in political disaster.

5. I would wish to warn Government against the exasperation which must animate our Native friends if a number of them receive these powers only to have them withdrawn, and that they will have to be so withdrawn is, to my mind, quite certain, in no small number of instances, unless Magistrates of Districts contrive to outwit the law by keeping such "exceptionally difficult cases" as the Law Member admits them to be, in their own hands for many a year yet, till we have really succeeded in training our Native fellow-subjects into a less offensive style of thinking and writing than they now affect.

No. 537, dated 7th May, 1883.

From—COLONEL E. P. GURDON, Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Mooltan Division,
To—The Secretary to Government, Punjab.

I have the honour to reply to your No. 346 of the 27th March 1883, calling for opinion on the proposed amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code, Act X of 1882, as set forth in the Bill introduced into the Legislative Council by the Hon'ble Mr. Ilbert.

2. Under the Bill in question, all Native Covenanted Civilians appointed by the competitive system in England, members of the new Native Civil Service appointed under 33 Victoria, cap. 3, Uncovenanted District Judges who may happen to be Natives, Native Uncovenanted Assistant Commissioners in the Non-Regulation Provinces, and Native Cantonment Magistrates, if any are hereafter appointed, will become eligible for appointment as Justices of the Peace.

3. The Bill, if passed into law, will also disqualify, on the other hand, all Europeans not of the Covenanted Civil Service of India, or who are not Assistant Commissioners or Cantonment Magistrates, from being eligible for the office of Justice of the Peace and from trying or committing for trial European British subjects.

4. The proposed Bill will no doubt remove some manifest anomalies and apparently unsymmetrical features in the present existing legislative enactment. *The question*, however, arises whether the removal of the apparent anomaly is actually necessary, required by the people themselves, and desirable both in a judicial and a political point of view; and in judging of this question the rights and interests of Her Majesty's European, equally with her Native, subjects must be borne in mind.

5. Hitherto the European British subjects' privileges or quasi-privileges have been most jealously protected.

Indeed, prior to the enactment of 53 George III, criminal acts on the part of European British subjects were cognizable alone by Her Majesty's Supreme Courts established by Royal Charter at the three presidency towns of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.

As, however, our territories increased, such circumscribed powers were found obviously most inconvenient, if not fraught with actual injustice to the people of the country, who could not be expected for petty offences to undertake long and expensive journeys to the Presidency capitals.

Enactment 53 of George III enabled the appointment of Justices of the Peace from among the Covenanted Civil Service of India "*or other British*" inhabitants, and from that time to the present, in practice, all members of the Covenanted Civil Service, European Military Officers in Civil employ in the newly acquired, or so termed "Non-Regulation Provinces," and Uncovenanted Civil Officers, being themselves Europeans, have been generally appointed Justices of the Peace, wherever such officials have been considered necessary.

6. In addition to the above exclusion of the Native element "*pure et simple*," from the classes from which Justices of the Peace (save and except in the presidency towns) could be selected, the European British subject has enjoyed other and important distinctive race privileges, *e. g.*, in the Mofussil a Magistrate of the 1st class, himself a European British subject, can only sentence a European to three months' imprisonment or to a fine of 1,000 rupees, while the Sessions Judge's Court can only sentence a European to a year's imprisonment and fine.

The same officials, Magistrate of the 1st class and Sessions Judge, respectively, can, on the other hand, sentence a native of India to two years' imprisonment and fine and to transportation for life, including imprisonment for any term and fine, and may even, subject to confirmation by the High Court, sentence to the extreme penalty that the law permits.

7. The new Bill, while therefore removing an important anomaly in the shape of an unsymmetrical and "theoretically" unjust race distinction (proceeding on the generally approved and received axiom that "all men are equal before the law"), will not remove still greater anomalies, savouring far more largely of race privileges and distinctions, such as the inequality of punishments which can be meted out to the European and Native respectively, and which *primâ facie* would seem to be far greater grievances to the Native community, naturally jealous of all favours or exceptions towards an alien and governing race.

8. We English are not here in India by the will or pleasure of the people of the country,—unpleasant though it may be to say so,—we virtually have acquired our territory by the sword, and hold it partly by that and partly by that prestige which the conquering race more or less must possess and retain, until the foundations of our power are sapped and destroyed either by internal treason and revolt, or by the action of a foreign power. This power and prestige necessarily carry with them certain privileges which cannot be abdicated without weakening the political, which is largely maintained by prestige and tradition rather than by actual force of arms.

9. The representatives of all conquering races have ever enjoyed some distinctive race or class privileges, as the governing power, especially where rule has been exercised over nations differing so essentially (taking them in an ethnical point of view) as regards moral character.

10. It is not strange or inconsistent, therefore, I think, that the European should retain certain privileges as belonging to the governing race.

11. As a Christian people we are distasteful to both Hindu and Muhammadan, and certainly cannot in any way be said to rule by the will and affections of the people. India has ever been held by conquerors more or less, and our rule is acquiesced in as yet because internal dissensions and want of power to combine prevents the people from turning us out; but to believe that our rule and presence among them is loved is a most absurd fallacy. We officials do not see the Natives in their true guise, nor can we gauge their real feelings, as they generally appear before us with more or less interested motives, and the large amount of flattery and sycophancy that one meets with requires to have a great deal of chaff separated from it before the real amount of loyalty can be gauged.

12. Then, again, there is the great and all powerful factor in the matter, difference of religion, which can never be set aside in judging of a Native's feeling towards us. There is the proud and unsympathetic nature of our race again which keeps us apart.

13. The fact of our belonging to the conquering race, or national peculiarities of character so diametrically opposite in every possible sense to the oriental temperament, added to differences of religion, all combine to prevent any real love for us or genuine heart loyalty, however much lip homage we may receive.

14. Holding the above opinions strongly, and having seen and mixed a great deal with Natives during some 31 years and more of varied experience throughout India, I cannot bring myself to look with unconcern on the proposed change in the Procedure Code.

15. The very great anxiety shown by the Native community for this favour about to be bestowed upon them makes one all the more suspicious that the privilege is valued more to be able to gratify race jealousy and to enable the Native to wipe off a long score of natural grievances, and vent their spite in lording it over the white man, rather than for the sake of an anomaly or deprivation of a "privilege," which *ought not really* to "benefit" the Native, unless to gratify spite.

16. Then, again, it has to be considered whether the Native, be he however well educated, can ever delicately and impartially administer justice towards the white man and the Christian, where his own fellow-countryman is the complaining party? Can he estimate fairly and appreciate all his motives and make allowances for peculiar idiosyncrasies?

17. True, there is the Appellate Sessions or High Court, as the case may be, not far distant, but an immense amount of injustice in the mean while might be done.

An Englishman's liberty is his birthright, and it may almost be held that it is the birthright of the European to be tried by his "peers" or his fellow-countrymen and co-religionists rather than by the Hindu and Muhammadan, from whom few Englishmen out of the narrow official pale would ever confidently look for strict and impartial justice, especially in a country where perjury and false evidence reigns so uncontrolled as it does in India.

18. To enable justice to be done to an European arraigned before a Criminal Court, his character and feelings, foibles, temptations, want of acquaintance with the language or with the manners of the people, require to be understood. A mere pass examination test, secured perhaps by a system of cramming, and two or three years' residence in Europe by natives of India, who must always remain foreigners to us, actuated as they are by religious and race prejudice, can hardly qualify them to judge delicate questions as to criminal intentions on the part of the white man and the Christian, especially where the Native Judge's fellow-countryman is the accusing party and the *same* Native Judge's fellow-countrymen, who so seldom even on oath speak the truth, the witnesses against the European.

19. There can be no doubt further that much European capital has been embarked in the country (such as tea planting, indigo factories, coffee planting, jute works, and numerous other industries) useful to both India and to England on the faith, and, almost it may be said implied, promise of protection by the laws and Government of the country.

20. An Englishman has always regarded it as his birthright to be tried by his own countrymen, and this feeling has been fostered by the Legislature throughout a long series of years, stretching back almost 90 years (I go back to 33 George III, Chapter 52). During this long series of years English capital and enterprise has slowly, but surely, been poured into the country. Railways traverse the length and breadth of the land, industries tending to develop largely the resources of the country have been set a-going and brought to success. All these works have brought about or produced a large non-official European community resident in the interior of the country and often far removed from English legal assistance, or from the eyes of the Press, which an Englishman also justly regards as one of the most able guardians of his liberty and right; to make over therefore large bodies of English settlers to the possible jurisdiction of non-Christian Judges and Magistrates being *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace, as proposed by the new Bill, would be, I think, a measure almost amounting to a breach of faith, or of that guarantee for protection virtually given by our very laws themselves in consideration for which an enormous amount of European capital and industrial enterprise has been sunk in the country.

22. Anomaly although it be, I maintain politically it is expedient, nay, I may almost say, imperatively necessary, for our political interests in India, that the privilege of being tried by his fellow-countrymen and co-religionists should be retained by European British subjects, and I feel confident that if a contrary course be pursued the consequences will be disastrous, set aside alone the amount of bad feeling that this measure has provoked almost to a degree that existed in 1857.

23. I beg to submit copies of opinion of all the Deputy Commissioners in this Division, who, it will be perceived, are all strongly against the Bill, and I would commend to attention especially Mr. Gladstone's letter which puts the whole case very forcibly and temperately.

24. Having been asked for my opinion, I trust I shall be pardoned for expressing myself according to my honest heart-left conviction.

No. 280, dated 17th April, 1883.

From—E. O'BRIEN, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Mooltan,

To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Mooltan Division.

In reply to your Circular 87, dated 13th April, I have the honour to say that I am entirely opposed to the principle of the Bill for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure. The arguments for and against the Bill have been so thoroughly discussed, that it is not necessary for me to give any general reason for my opinion.

2. As regards the parts of the Punjab which I know, I am convinced that there is no wish even among Natives for the proposed amendment, and that the powers if conferred would be irksome to the recipients. It is in the experience of every Punjab European officer, who distributes the daily judicial work, that numerous petitioners ask him to hear their cases himself rather than send them to a Native Magistrate, and if he does not hear them himself to send them to another sáhib.

Some of these applications doubtless arise from flattery, and some from a wish to remove the case from a local officer, such as a Tahsíldár, who knows the facts of the case too well to suit the applicant. Still by far the greater number come from the greater confidence in the European; and I do not think that a Punjabi would have more confidence in the Native Magistrate, because he came within any of the four classes to whom under the Bill powers can be given. I admit that European Judicial Officers often make mistakes from their ignorance of the people, still they have the confidence of the people in a manner which the Native officers have not.

No. 109, dated 19th April, 1883.

From—MAJOR R. BARTHOLOMEW, Deputy Commissioner, Jhang,

To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Mooltan Division.

In reply to your No. 87 of 13th instant, I would beg to state that in my opinion the benefit to be derived from a change in the law would be infinitesimal, while the evil would be very great.

The European unofficial community have shewn clearly enough what they think of the change, and my sympathies have been from the first mention of the proposed change with them.

Europeans out here are a privileged race, the race which has conquered India, and to subject them in up-country stations, where Europeans are few, to Native Magistrates, would, in my opinion, lower the estimation in which our race is at present held by the Native population. I do not think that Native Judges have the sympathy with Europeans or the knowledge of their character and motives, which would make it safe, away from the great cities, to entrust them with the power of judging them, while that Native Judges should judge our ladies and women would be nothing less than a scandal.

The sole motive for the change seems to be the injured *amour propre* of Mr. Gupta, and others like him, and is certainly not sufficient to warrant a change in the law which is bitterly hated by the whole European community.

No. 253, dated 16th April, 1883.

From—MAJOR C. MCNEILE, Deputy Commissioner, Montgomery,

To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Mooltan Division.

In reply to his Circular No. 87, dated 13th instant, has the honour to give the opinion that the amendment referred to is one of the greatest mistakes the Government of India ever contemplated, indeed about the greatest it could contemplate. Even were it absolutely certain that the power would never be entrusted to any one not entirely fitted to exercise it, and were it also equally certain that it would never be abused by any one so entrusted with it, still it is a great political mistake to do anything which tends to increase the want of cordiality which exists between the two races on the one hand and to decrease the moral ascendancy of the European on the other. That there is no real good feeling between the races is certain, however little it may appear to the casual observer, and no one, who sees below the surface, can be ignorant of it, and the new amendment will not only intensify this ill-will enormously, but will greatly encourage the Natives to give it expression, while it will render the European quicker to retaliate.

If Government wishes to have to reconquer the country again, it could not well find a better way to begin going about it. Government and its advisers never see the Natives as

they really are. They see nothing but obsequious sycophants: civil officers seldom see them in their real colours. Let Government enquire from non-official Europeans what the Native spirit really is towards Europeans, and it will soon cease to believe in the cant that is talked about Native loyalty. We hold the country by force and prestige, but chiefly by the latter, and unless we are ready to substitute force for prestige, it is simply suicidal to decrease that prestige, yet the proposed amendment is better calculated to decrease it than anything else which could be devised. But if the outcry which the proposal has raised among the non-official European population in India does not open the eyes of the Government to the madness of the contemplated measure, no advice will be of any avail. The proverb is a true one *quem Deus*.

No. 145, dated 26th April, 1883.

From—C. E. GLADSTONE, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Muzaffargarh,

To—The Commissioner and Superintendent, Mooltan Division.

With reference to your Circular No. 87, dated 13th April 1883, I have the honour to reply that the only knowledge I have on the subject is that obtained by my stay in the Kangra District, from September 1881 till the end of May 1882. During that time I saw a great deal of the planters of the valley, in fact, contemplating a longer stay in the district, I made a point of learning all I could of them. My opinion is that the non-official Englishman must be accepted with all his faults, if English capital is to be induced to stay in the country, and that if Kangra is a specimen of the Punjab, it would be impracticable to act on Mr. Ilbert's Bill. Of course if English capital is not required, there would be no great objection to the planters being given to understand that they must submit or leave the country. But my opinion is that as long as the non-official Englishman is a fact that we must accept in the mofussil, the Bill is not practicable. My opinion about the non-official Englishmen in Kangra was that most of them were men who never came into a court at all, civil or criminal. There was a very small minority who were often in the civil courts, the reasons being various. In the cases of two of them I consider the reason probably was unjust treatment of the Natives by Europeans, in one or two more simple ignorance of Native habits which made a few planters victims to Native fraud, or made them listen to the fraudulent representations of an intriguing jamadar. These plantation jamadars were a great evil. I found that in the Kangra District, when at annexation it was declared that the people always spoke the truth, it was most common for the Natives to use fraud in their dealings with Englishmen, and if they could get a hot-tempered Englishman to deal with they seemed the better pleased. Some of the cases were disgraceful and showed that some of the Natives stuck at nothing in their disputes with Europeans. My experience as to the Native Courts, which often had to deal with cases where the civil interests of the planters were concerned, was that the conduct of the European planters towards the Native Courts was most improper. Their conduct was bullying and over-bearing, and being ignorant of law, they often offered as evidence what was not evidence at all. If it was not taken they were angry. The Native Magistrates hated European cases, and very often I am afraid gave such cases in favor of the planters to appease them. My opinion was that a European would have a much better chance of getting his suit in a Native Court than in an English one.

If criminal powers were given to Native Courts, the consequence would be disastrous. There are no European constables in Kangra District certainly to carry out orders of confinement, and though a planter would be mad to resist such an order emanating from a Native, I am not sure that he might not. Of course a planter might dispute with violence the order of an English Magistrate, but I do not think it likely. Their demeanour in European Courts was always, as far as I saw, correct, and as respectful as it was disrespectful in Native Courts. I should say that as far as such a small body of men could create a mutiny, there would be a mutiny in Kangra if a Native Magistrate sent a European planter to jail. This may be improper; but I think we must at present take the planters as what they are, not what we would wish them to be. There are two kinds of men whom we might expect to be endowed with powers under the Bill:—1*st*, the educated Bengali who has passed the open competition; 2nd, the Punjab Rais. For the educated Bengali the planter has a hearty contempt as one of a nation of cowards. Moreover, the Bengali Babu, though he has a certain amount of educational knowledge, has no knowledge of English manners and customs. It is not likely that he should have, for a passed candidate for the Indian Civil Service has no opportunity of getting into society by reason of his being a passed candidate. He must have friends of his own if he wants to see society. The Bengali Babu comes out knowing something about English literature, but nothing about the manners of Englishmen. I have noticed in Kangra that a hot-headed blundering Englishman gives so very injudicious an account of his case and appears so vindictive that at first sight one is inclined to be prejudiced against him. Sir Walter Scott's Scotch Advocate declared that he often felt inclined to kick his clients downstairs, their own account of themselves made them appear so mean. But he said he found out that they were only angry and therefore unreasonable. A Magistrate not knowing English ways, and seeing before him on the one hand an Englishman intensely excited and making the worst of his case in consequence, and on the other hand a meek individual (who has probably been intensely insolent outside) with the air of a suffering martyr, would naturally become indignant at the idea of the brutal Saxon trampling on a poor inoffensive

ryot; and yet it often turns out that the swaggering Englishman has simply been made a victim of by the meek villager, and I know as a fact that the villager who salaams to an official down to the ground cannot only cheat a non-official European, but be insolent to him to a degree outside the court. Of this a Bengali Babu would know nothing. He meets the Anglo-Indian's contempt with hatred, and however honestly he might wish to decide the case, he would certainly be biassed against the Englishman and give full weight to his indiscreet manner and utterances. As for the Punjab Raís, my experience is that they would thoroughly dislike to have European cases made over to them. The experiment has as yet to be tried, I believe, of introducing Bengali Magistrates among the manly Punjabi people. The Magistrates who would be invested would probably be Raíses. The Punjab Raís, as far as I have seen, has a great respect for Englishmen, and I should greatly doubt whether an Englishman who richly deserved fining or imprisonment would ever get it. There are black sheep among English planters as I have seen, who are capable of every kind of meanness, and on whose statement I would not rely for a moment. The other planters would probably delight to see a European Magistrate punish such a one, but his punishment by a Bengali Babu would probably be resented by them as a body. This perhaps should not influence us, but then it does not appear what use there would be in trying a Bengali in the Punjab and raising the question. Further, there would be the real fear on the planters that a foreigner who did not understand them would convict them on what was really false evidence. The worst fear they would have would be that their wives might be dragged into court on a false charge before a foreigner who would not understand their ways. A proper-minded Englishwoman dislikes going into court as much as any *pardah nashin* can do, and should not be exposed to it, if possible. As present she is not much exposed to it; under the contemplated arrangement she would be. I think the Punjab Raís would be as much annoyed at having an Englishwoman of respectability in court before him as an English Magistrate would be, and that he would consider it no privilege at all. Moreover, the Raís would not be able, as an English Magistrate could do, to distinguish between a modest English lady and a masculine and over-bearing woman. They would to him be all *Mem-Sahibs* entitled to respect, whose word was beyond suspicion. Though he might be able to distinguish between an English gentleman of honourable feeling and an unworthy Englishman with good clothes, he would not be able to distinguish in the case of ladies. He has met gentlemen and *pseudo*-gentlemen: of ladies he knows nothing. It may be answered that if natives, and educated ones to boot, should not try English men and women, because of their ignorance of their ways and manners, a native should not be liable to be tried by an Englishman. I would reply that, in cases triable by a 1st class Magistrate, I would always allow a native to be tried by a Native Magistrate, if he wished it.

In conclusion, I would say that I doubt if legally an Englishman can be tried by a Native. It is his birthright to be tried by his peers. By coming to India he does not cease to be a subject of Her Majesty. It may be said that Englishmen should not have invested their capital in the country till they were assured that they would not be tried by natives. But their capital was often locked up in the country long before there was any idea of taking any such steps as is now contemplated, and that had the present Bill been foreseen, much capital would have been kept out of the country. It is the birthright of certain native ladies to be *pardah nashins*, of certain Rájas and others to be exempt from attendance in court; of Mussalmans to marry four wives. The Englishman does not ask that his wife should be considered *pardah nashin*; he does not object to go to court; and he does not want four wives. His birthright is to be tried by his peers. We do not interfere with birthright of the natives, and there is no reason to interfere with the birthright of the Englishmen. The natives have so many privileges of their own that to try to make everybody equal by taking away the Englishman's sole birthright, appears like giving to him that hath, by taking away from him that hath not even that he hath.

No. 231, dated 10th May 1883.

From—Lieut.-Col. E. L Ommanney, Offg. Commissioner and Supdt., Derajat Division,

To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

With reference to your letter No. 346, dated 27th March last, asking for my opinion on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I have the honour to submit copies of letters on the subject from the Deputy Commissioners of this Division.

Deputy Commissioner, Dera Ghazi Khan, No. 338, dated 24th April 1883.
Deputy Commissioner, Dera Ismail Khan, No. 296, dated 2nd May 1883.
Deputy Commissioner, Bannu, No. 0, dated 4th May 1883.

2. Considering the position occupied by us in this country, the barrier of caste and prejudice that prevents any real social intercourse between us and the various races in this land, and the low estimation in which the women of this country are held, I am of opinion that the proposed amendment is inexpedient, and there has been nothing advanced to show that any such change is necessary or was desired by the native community.

No. 338, dated 24th April 1883.

From—F. W. R. FRYER, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Dera Ghazi Khan,

To—The Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Derajat Division.

With reference to your Circular No. 77, dated the 20th instant, asking my opinion on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, as far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I have the honour to state that I have conversed with the higher Native officials and other educated Natives of this district on the subject, and that whilst they approve the object with which the Bill was introduced, still they state that they see no advantage which will accrue to their countrymen, if allowed to try European British subjects for criminal offences, and they would sooner see the Bill abandoned than risk a break in the good relations which have always existed between Europeans and Natives in the Province to which they belong. The chiefs and people of this district view the introduction of the Bill with indifference. My own view coincides generally with that of the Native gentlemen as given above. I consider that the class for whose benefit the Bill is introduced will practically gain nothing by it, whilst the opposition that the Bill has aroused is so considerable that it is not worth while to excite so much discontent to gain so little.

No. 296, dated 2nd May 1883.

From—S. S. THORBURN, Esq, Offg. Deputy Commissioner, Dera Ismail Khan,

To—The Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Derajat Division.

I beg to return enclosures to your Circular No. 77, dated 20th ultimo, marginally noted, and to say that in my opinion Mr. Ilbert's Bill for amending the Criminal Procedure Code, 1882, is both unnecessary and politically dangerous.

Under-Secretary to Government, Punjab's No. 346, dated 27th March 1883, with a Bill to amend Criminal Procedure Code.

I do not think that the time has come, or is yet even within measureable distance, when European British subjects in up-country stations will believe that a Native Magistrate is capable of giving them a fair trial. This feeling alone ought, I think, to condemn the Bill.

That there is no necessity for it was, I think, demonstrated in the debate on the Bill published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India* of April 21st, 1883, and that such a Bill is politically dangerous, is proved by the agitation which it has created throughout India.

I do not wish to say a word against the ability and impartially of the Native Magistrates on whom it would confer jurisdiction over Englishmen, but I will say that it is probable that the strongest supporter of the measure, of a man of practical Indian experience, would, were he himself or one near and dear to him to be tried in an up-country station by a Native on a criminal charge of which he was innocent, feel a profound distrust in his judge and endeavour to have his case tried by a fellow-countryman.

No. O., dated 4th May 1883.

From—H. C. THORPE ROBINSON, Esq., Offg. Deputy Commissioner, Bannu,

To—The Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Derajat Division.

With reference to your Circular No. 77, dated 20th ultimo, and its enclosures, I have the honor to report as follows.

2. I consider the proposed amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, most unnecessary and likely to be injurious in more ways than one.

3. The object of the Procedure Code is to secure the efficient administration of justice. The class of Englishmen who come before the Criminal Courts in the mofussil consist in most cases of men like engine-drivers, soldiers, &c., who cannot talk good English, and most of whom use such provincialisms and slang and elliptical expressions that even European British subjects reared in Britain have some difficulty in understanding their whole meaning. I have felt this difficulty myself in my short experience, and am sure that even a few years' education in London, or any other large city in Britain, would not enable a Native of India to master our various provincial dialects sufficiently to do justice in many cases; and it is not desirable that justice should miscarry in any one case. The grievance would be particularly felt in the Punjab, where our Native Assistant Commissioners are men who have had no training whatever in England.

4. Again, we have to consider the violent animosity that there is against Englishmen as unbelievers in the heart of every true Musalman. I have little personal knowledge of Hindus and Parsis. It is perhaps possible that they could without danger be entrusted with power to arrest and try Englishmen, but I am quite certain that no such power ought to be confided to Musalmans, and yet, in working the proposed law, how could Musalmans be excluded? No such invidious distinction would be tolerated by them, and the fact of their exclusion would at once intensify the venom of class hatred and religious antipathy, which it should be our object to let slumber on until it expires through *inertia* and *comi*.

5. But I hold that the exclusion of Musalmans is none the less necessary: many of them are as loyal as Musalmans can be, yet at a time of trial and mutiny such men could not resist the pressure of their surroundings. When their relations and friends were hounding them on, our Native Assistant Commissioners could not stand forward and disregard public opinion. Their properties, their families, "their all," would be at stake, and it would be impossible for them, however well educaated and sensible, to stem the tide even if they wished to do so. Such a rising will take place only when our English garrisons are dangerously weak or when we have experienced heavy reverses; that such misfortunes may befal nations is, as history proves, not impossible, and we ought not to put into the hands of our subjects the formal power to cripple by sudden arrests at a critical time our scattered English representatives in the mofussil.

6. It may be said that I am imagining an impossible danger, but it is not so; I have resided for over six years in the Hazara and Peshawar Districts and have mixed with the people on terms of friendship and intimacy. I have thus learnt how the Musalmans as a body hate us, and how unceasing is the stream of seditious sympathy with the disaffected in Hindustan and in the independent States and tribes on our North-West Frontier.

A loyal Musalman in the Peshawar District is regarded by all his fanatical surroundings with antipathy; when he dies in our service, or as our pensioner, many a mullah will refuse to bury him; and a dying jagirdar will at times resign his allowances so as not to imperil his soul by dying as our dependant.

7. An Extra Assistant Commissioner, a Musalman, with whom I have had constant intercourse, is, I suppose, one of our most loyal subjects, but he has admitted to me that if a "jehad" were proclaimed, and if, owing to British weakness, he thought it would be successful, then he could not be on our side any longer, and that we should see him in the van of the attack. He likes and respects our power, and he hoped we shall never let ourselves get sufficiently weak to invite a successful Musalman rising; for he had large estates and family interests which, apart from his religion, would oblige him to declare for the winning side. Here were admissions made in private friendly intercourse, and an English critic might say that the judgment of a man of experience would secure him from being led to join a rising which could end only with disaster for the mutineers; but here I join issue with the critic. That Extra Assistant Commissioner's judgment is human and liable to error; he is a sound Musalman, and is as likely as others of his belief to be carried away by ardour for the glory of Islam at a season of religious revivalism. He would perhaps give us some underhand information or help, but that would of course depend on the temporary strength or weakness of his bigotry. Similar admissions have been made to me in private conversation by other loyal Musalmans who were not in service, and I urge that the existence of such a persuasion is a fact that cannot be safely ignored.

8. Of other reasons that occur to me I will mention one only, and that is the disastrous effect, not only on our national prestige, but also on our self-respect, that would result for allowing the enforced appearance of Englishwomen, our wives and sisters, before the Court of a Native Magistrate, either Hindu or Musalman. The subject is one from which my experience of native morality and modes of working spite makes my mind recoil.

9. To recapitulate, my arguments are (1), that the administration of justice to low-class European British subjects would be not bettered but weakened by giving the proposed powers to Indians, however well educated, who had only acquired scholastic English; (2), that the powers, if given to Hindus and Parsis, must also be given to Musalmans, and that in the hands of the latter they would form a means of administrative weakness and constitutional danger; (3), that to oblige our womenkind to appear before Criminal Courts presided over by natives would be a grave scandal.

10. The Bill could not be withdrawn now without causing a great outcry among certain classes who make themselves heard, but who form in fact an insignificant minority among the millions of this land. Still the majority of educated and reflecting natives would, I believe, be glad if the measure could be abandoned. The few whose opinions I have been able to enquire welcomed the Bill at first, but when they saw what violent animosities the discussion was raising, and how it threatened to break off the *rapprochement* that had been lately progressing so favourably between the races, they wished, and still wish, that the agitation and excitement could be smoothened without delay.

The best plan would, in my opinion, be to admit that mutual sympathy and knowledge are not yet sufficiently strong and ripe to warrant passing the Bill into law,—the newspapers, English and Native, both prove this every day.

The time has not come yet, and precipitation would be fatal.

Dated 3rd May 1883.

From—The Honorary Secretary to the Planters' Association, Kangra Valley,

To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

With reference to your No. 346, asking for our opinion on Mr. Ilbert's Bill, as sent by you to me, receipt of which I acknowledged on 24th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that I read your letter at a general meeting of the Association yesterday, Wednesday, May 2nd, and am requested to inform you that the feeling of the meeting was a strong one against such proposed change, and that I should forward through you to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor the text of the protest as passed by a special meeting to consider the subject on Wednesday, March 21st, which has attached to it upwards of 70 signatures.

Text of Resolution passed at a Meeting specially called to discuss the matter on Wednesday, March 21st:—

"That this meeting records its strongest protest against any admendment to the Criminal Procedure Code which will invest natives with jurisdiction in criminal matters over British and European subjects."

Dated 8th May 1883.

From—SARDAR ATAR SINGH, C.I.E., Chief of Bhadaur,

To—The Under-Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

In reply to your letter No. 346, dated 27th March 1883, forwarding for opinion a copy of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code of 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction of native officers over European British subjects, I beg to state that I have very carefully read it, and also the opinions of the native and European gentlemen as they appear in newspapers.

2. The provisions of the Bill appear to be very proper, as the power is not to be conferred on native officers generally, but only on those select few whose fitness has been proved. But it is with great regret I notice that the matter has been placed in a very delicate position. Taking that into consideration, I would advise that the Bill may be allowed to stand over for a time, to enable the Government to judge how far the apprehensions now entertained are based on facts.

Even after that, when the Bill is passed, it should be provisionally for some time, to show how it suits practically.

Dated 10th May, 1882.

From—SARDAR BIKRAMA SINGH, Ahluwalia,

To—The Under-Secretary to Government, Punjab.

In reply to your letter No. 346, dated the 27th March last, with which you sent me a copy of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, for my opinion, I have the honour to state that I have perused the Bill carefully, and do not find a single clause or sentence in it which needs amendment or alteration.

The proposed amendment of law does not introduce any abrupt change into the present system of legal administration. Since it is not the object to raise all Native Magistrates to the rank of Justices of the Peace, but such of them only who have stood the test of strict examination, and have thus proved themselves to be possessed of merit, and who have satisfied the Government they serve under as to their fitness for the rank by serving long and faithfully, I cannot help regretting that the opponents of the Bill have produced so much agitation in the country, which is calculated to induce a breach of the good understanding which exists between the English and Native communities whom Providence has thrown together in social and political union, which union will increase in strength by the continuance of good feeling between them.

In my humble opinion, the apprehensions of the opponents are not well founded. Experience shows that the Native Judges of the High Courts and the Native Magistrates of the presidency towns have acquitted themselves honourably and ably of their responsibilities, and that the removal of the existing restrictions on the judicial powers of Native Magistrates, as regards trial of European British subjects, based as those restrictions are mainly on race distinctions, will in no way be inexpedient and injurious to the rights of the European British subjects. On the other hand, in a political point of view, the results will be most satisfactory: the Natives will be impressed with a sense of the broad policy and liberal intentions of the British Government towards them, when they find that it is willing to remove the invidious race distinction, and amicable feelings, respect for each other's thoughts and actions, and mutual sympathy will spread extensively between the ruling community and the subject classes.

Opinion of AGHA KALBI ABID, *Khan Bahadur, Honorary Assistant Commissioner, Amritsar, on the Bill to Amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.*

On the question whether the natives of India who are admitted to the Civil Service and exercise highest powers be held incompetent outside the Presidency towns to try European British subjects, a disability based on race distinction, my opinion is against it.

To give natives such powers is to realize in practice that which is yet in words. Her Majesty's Proclamation of 1858 lays down that all subjects will be eligible to be appointed to offices to which their education and ability entitle them, without any distinction of race or creed.

It is strange that natives should pass through all ordeals and tests of education and hold high offices such as those of Civil and Sessions Judges, and yet be incompetent to try a European British subject.

When natives of India are competent by reason of their education and abilities to hold such offices, and there being no natural distinction between the two races, I do not see where the disability lies.

The distinction of conquerors and conquered is sufficiently maintained (to the advantage of the former) in other important matters. All high offices, Civil and Military, are reserved for them. They become Volunteers, and can keep arms under the Arms Act.

The proposed law is simply intended, by removing the disability existing under the Criminal Procedure Code, to cure the following defects:—(1), that a native may hold such a high office as that of a Civil and Sessions Judge and yet be incompetent to try a European; (2), a native should be incompetent to try a European while his subordinate may; (3), that a native in the Presidency towns may try a European, but not in the mofussil; (4), a native, by the existing state of the law, may pass a decree against a European affecting his property and person (he being as liable to arrest and imprisonment as any other), and yet the soundness of a Native Judge's judgment and honesty be doubted while passing a sentence on the criminal side similarly affecting his property and person.

The Government is bound to remove the above-mentioned defects which exist in the administration, a state of things against equity and equality, and thus remove one of the causes which keep the two races separated.

When Providence has decreed that two natives of different countries should meet, and in course of time form a mixed society, it is natural that one of them should concede some privileges to the other as a compensation for intruding upon the rights of the other. The British Government, a political name for the British nation, have, in making common and just laws, according to their own views (views which are in some cases based on their own national convictions), snatched from the natives the privileges of satti, baldan, human sacrifice, &c., and in some cases, as in that of exclusion from inheritance by reason of loss of caste, have also encroached upon our religious feelings.

Why then the so-called privilege of Europeans, "to be tried by their own peers," which strictly speaking applies only to England?

(The circumstances under which the privilege was obtained, *viz.*, when the Saxons had lost their confidence in the Norman King and his hired judges, should not suffer in India.)

Europeans have the option to come to, and reside in, India for gain, and thereby subject themselves to the proposed jurisdiction of strangers just as *ex necessitate* they have to submit to the jurisdiction of Turks, Egyptians, Chinese, Japanese and natives of other countries of the world, where they happen to go for their gain. The jurisdiction of strangers is not forced upon them in their home (Great Britain), which may perhaps be against their privilege. In the present state of India the right of a free nation (natives of India also being a free people) to be tried by its own members cannot be conveniently observed. The right must undergo some modification, which it has already wholly undergone in the case of natives, and is intended very partially to be effected in the case of Europeans. This seems to have been the construction put upon the words which secure the privilege to Europeans when making them subject to the jurisdiction of strangers in Ceylon and other countries. If it is a necessity with Europeans that they should be tried by their own countrymen, the same necessity exists with stronger reasons in the case of natives that they should be tried by natives. A Judge should have a knowledge of the manners and customs of the people he tries.

The natives that are to be invested under the proposed law have received a high English education, and their sojourn in England has given them a knowledge of the manners and customs of Europeans and an insight into their character. Therefore the natives can also justly demand that they should be tried only by natives, a demand which, if conceded, will deprive Europeans of many lucrative posts, while the powers proposed to be conferred upon natives will put nothing substantial into their pockets.

I agree not only to the amendments proposed by the Bill, but also agree to the proposal of Sir Charles Aitchison, the Lieutenant-Governor, that all 1st class Magistrates should have the power of trying Europeans.

The introduction of different Departments—such as Revenue, Canal, Saltpetre and Customs—in the country necessitates the residence of Europeans in the mofussil. It will thus be necessary to keep Judges ready at hand competant to try a European on the spot, and not compel the complainant and witnesses, mostly natives, to go to a station where a Justice of the Peace resides. Such general investiture with power will tend not only to make the trial of those offences easy which a Justice of the Peace alone can try, but will indirectly lead to the suppression of crime.

Opinion of HAJI KHAN MUHAMMAD SHAH, *Khan Bahadur, Honorary Magistrate, Amritsar, on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882,—dated 6th May 1883.*

I am in receipt of your letter dated 27th March 1883, giving cover to a copy of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, and inviting my opinion thereon.

As far as possible, I have carefully gone through every section of the Bill, and have considered the grounds which have been advanced in support of, or against it, in the Legislative Council, and those advanced by newspapers and at public meetings held in the different towns in India. I have patiently deliberated upon the results which would ensue on the Bill being passed into law. For the reasons detailed below, I think that the amendment of that portion of the Criminal Procedure Code of 1882 which relates to jurisdiction over European British subjects is necessary and expedient according to the feelings of the people of the country, and on account of administrative necessity.

It is altogether opposed to the policy of the British Government that any law based on race distinction should be allowed to remain in force.

On looking over the legislative history of India, as connected with the judicial business, it appears that, previous to the year 1833, not only cases relating to inheritance and adoption, but all kinds of cases also, in which Hindus and Muhammadans were concerned, were decided according to the Hindu and Muhammadan laws, and that Maulvis and Pandits were invited to the Courts to expound the laws. Before that year no native held a judicial post. The civil and criminal cases in which Europeans were concerned were heard by Europeans only (who were Company's servants). In 1836, the Company desired to improve the form of their government in the mofussil, when they increased the powers of native Judges and conferred judicial posts on natives.

A law was then passed providing that no person whatever could on account of race, sect or religion be exempted from the jurisdiction of the Civil Courts of the Company in civil suits. At that time Europeans raised a great clamour, and showed great opposition to the native Judges being vested with the powers for deciding civil suits in which Europeans were concerned, and they styled this Act by the name of "Black Act," *i.e.*, the act of black men (natives).

The ground put forward against the Act was that it endangered European property and capital. But during the 50 years that have passed since this law came into force, no loss has ever occurred to European property and capital. On the contrary, they have received full justice from native Judges, as is clearly proved from the fact that in no civil suit in which Europeans were concerned has any complaint been ever made about the native Judges having done injustice to them.

The party opposed to the present Bill allege that there was no objection to the native Judges being invested with civil powers, as this involved only a property question, while in the case of criminal powers honour and reputation are at stake. As far as I can think, I am against this view. In civil cases too a person can at once be reduced to sheer poverty; can be punished with fine, &c., for disobedience of orders or contempt of Court; and in case of default of payment of the amount of a decree, the Judge can issue a warrant for his arrest, and can send him to jail as a civil prisoner.

When the native Judge has been considered, without consideration of race or creed, as qualified to decide civil suits impartially, it is not understood why he should be unable to decide petty criminal cases in which Europeans may be concerned.

Great changes have occurred in the procedure followed in deciding criminal suits since the last 50 years. At first no Magistrates (European or native), except those of the Judges of the Supreme Court, could punish Europeans. When the number of European residents of India increased, great inconvenience was felt in bringing European offenders charged with petty offences from the mofussil to the Supreme Court. In 1849, during the time of Lord Dalhousie, a Bill was drafted providing that Magistrates holding courts in the mofussil districts, or outside the Presidency towns, should be vested with the powers of Justices of the

Peace; but as the Indian Penal Code had not yet been framed, the measure was, at the instance of Lord Dalhousie himself, postponed.

From this it is clearly evident that only a few years after the investment of Native Judges with powers for trying civil suits in which Europeans were concerned, the Government of India had proposed to invest them with criminal powers also. In 1872, when the question of amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code came on, the Legislative Council, with the majority of one vote only, decided that the Covenanted Civil Servants (provided they be Europeans) should be appointed Justices of the Peace outside the Presidency towns. But it is remarkable that the minority consisted of His Excellency the Governor General, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, Sir Richard Temple, and other honourable and experienced gentlemen well acquainted with the state of the country and responsible Counsellors of the Empress of India, whose positive opinion was that Native Covenanted Civil Servants should also be made Justices of the Peace.

This amendment, which was looked upon by the high officers of Her Majesty's Government as opposed to the policy of Government, did, at the time, injustice to a few Native Covenanted Servants only. But during the succeeding ten years many other natives have been, and are being admitted to the Covenanted Service, and some of them have been raised to the posts of District Magistrate and Sessions Judge. It is therefore desirable for reasons of administrative necessity that such a distinction (which has had its origin in race feelings) should be done away with.

If a native be appointed a District Magistrate in a district, and a European commits an offence in that district, and though the offence be punishable by the District Magistrate, but the officer, being a native, be not able to try the case, the result would be that either the District Magistrate would have to transfer the case to the court of a subordinate European Magistrate possessing the powers of a Justice of the Peace, or that he would have to forward the case to the court of some other European Magistrate. In the first case, the procedure is disgraceful to the native District Magistrate, and he would experience a great loss in his influence and respect (which it is a duty of Government to preserve) in the eyes of the people of the district. In the second case, the European offender would be compelled to travel from one place to another under custody, to answer a petty charge, perhaps punishable with fine only.

The opponents of the Bill lay a great stress on the fact that, among other privileges, they are entitled to their being tried by officers of their own nationality. As far as I have been able to consider this matter, I do not think this view can be accepted. Had it been really a recognized birthright of Europeans, how could the Native Magistrates in the Presidency towns of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras have been invested with powers of sentencing Europeans to imprisonment, the term of which might extend to two years, including solitary confinement, to fine up to Rs. 1,000 in amount, and to whipping; and how could Native Judges in the High Court have unlimited powers of punishment over Europeans? In my opinion, such laws, which are based on race distinction, are relics of olden times, when the natives were generally devoid of high education and good training. At that time, indeed, it was as inexpedient to bestow powers on Native Judges, as it is now inexpedient, impolitic and unjust to withhold these powers from them.

In criminal cases, in which the complainant may be a European and the accused a native, the Native Magistrates have had jurisdiction for a long time past. During this period, evidently, no complaint has been made of any Native Magistrate having exercised any partiality on account of race feelings in such cases. Hence it can be hardly believed that they would exercise improper severity towards European offenders. Especially the classes of Magistrates, whom it is proposed to give jurisdiction (over European British subjects), subject to certain rules, are very trustworthy, they having received high education and good training and being men of experience. It is not expected that they would knowingly commit an illegal act. I, who have seen a good deal of the Sikh days, can make a just estimate of the many advantages that have accrued to this country from the British rule; and, in my opinion, the prosperity and well-being of the country depends on the existence and daily increase of friendly relations between the conquering and the conquered races. Had I the assurance that the legislative change likely to be brought about by the Bill would prove destructive to the progress of friendship between the two nations, I would surely have been altogether against the amendment; but my impressions are not such. I strongly believe that the more the race distinctions are (not?) made to interfere with the general legislation of the country, the more strongly would friendly feelings and sympathy be preserved intact between the conquerors and the conquered. On this ground I endorse every section of the Bill; nay, I cordially agree with the just opinion of the Hon'ble Sir C. Aitchison, Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab (who has observed) that every 1st Class Magistrate, be he a Covenanted or Uncovenanted Servant, whether a Native or European, should be appointed a Justice of the Peace, provided his qualifications, experience and impartiality are recognized by the Local Government.

Dated 19th May 1883.

From—PANDIT RAM NARAIN, Secretary to the Indian Association, Lahore,

To—The Secretary to Government, Punjab.

In reply to your letter No. 346, dated the 27th March 1883, I have the honour to forward the following opinion of the Indian Association on the Bill for the amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

2. The Association purposely abstains from much comment on the principle of the Bill. It is scarcely necessary to say that they warmly approve of it, and consider that the heartfelt gratitude of the people of India is due to the government of His Excellency the Viceroy for the high-minded and statesman like proposal to remove the existing invidious distinction between native and European Criminal Judges. The Association only deem it proper to observe here that if the change is ever to be made, and the disqualification of native Judges removed, it is better to make a beginning now, so that the course of reform may be gradual and its action carefully watched, than to introduce a sweeping measure under the pressure of extreme necessity. The Association have no reason to think that the opposition to the Bill on the part of the Anglo-Indian community will be less bitter at any subsequent time than it is now. Indeed, the objections now put forward are directed against the very principle of the Bill, *viz.*, the obliteration of all distinction between them and the natives of the country, and there can be no reasonable doubt that this measure, if it were to be dropped now, would meet with still more violent opposition when re-introduced on some future occasion under more pressing administrative necessity.

3. The Association are of opinion that the provisions of Section 1 of the Draft Bill are sufficient to meet the purpose of the amendment, *viz.*, to remove from the Code at once, and completely, every judicial disqualification based merely on race distinctions (paragraph 2 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons). The effect of it will necessarily be to disqualify members of the Uncovenanted Service, European and native, from being made Justices of the Peace. Some European British subjects in that service are already Justices of the Peace; but it is apprehended that, under the saving provisions of Section 7, their existing power will not be affected. The disqualification will only be for the future. The Association regret this effect of the Bill on European Uncovenanted Magistrates, and they notice that this is made one of the grounds of objection to the Bill. But they are unable to see how an effective remedy can be provided under the existing circumstances. Bearing in mind the object of the Bill, the only remedy can be the insertion of an additional 5th clause in the first section making members of the Uncovenanted Service eligible as well. But, as this amendment would necessarily qualify natives as well as Europeans, therefore it is apprehended that this suggestion will not meet with the approval of the opponents of the Bill, but rather intensify their opposition.

4. With reference to this section, the Association would recommend the insertion of a *proviso*, to the effect that the Magistrates invested with jurisdiction to try European British subjects should possess a competent knowledge of English. It would be a rational grievance to an English, or Anglo-Indian, accused, if the Magistrate were quite unable to understand him or his English-speaking witnesses. This is now used as an argument against the Bill, and, being founded on reason, should, in the opinion of the Association, be effectually provided for. They consider that European prisoners are entitled to be placed on a footing of equality in this respect with native prisoners whose European Judges are expected to be conversant to some extent with their vernacular.

5. The Association would here, briefly, advert to the principal objections made against the Bill, notably in the memorial of the Anglo-Indian community. They are mainly these:—

(1) That the natives of India are a heterogenous race with numerous personal rights and privileges founded on conquest, tradition and prescription, and that therefore the privileges claimed by European British subjects are neither anomalous nor unreasonable.

(2) That natives know nothing of the inner life of Europeans, and their modes of thought and springs of actions, and are, hence disqualified to sit in judgment over Europeans accused.

(3) That the natives of India hold the female sex in utter contempt and keep them in a state of degradation, and hence it would be extremely humiliating for an Englishwoman to appear as a criminal at the bar of a native Court of Justice.

(4) That the members of the Native Civil Service do not command the confidence of the European community.

6. The first argument simply ignores the tendency of all civilized communities to minimize the points of difference between their component sections, and to blend them into one harmonious whole. The past history of all European countries abounds in examples of the abolition of individual or class privileges for the benefit of the commonwealth; so do the records of British rule in India. Natives have had to surrender many of their cherished customs and rights because they were deemed incompatible with the existence of enlightened government in the country. The existence of class rights and privileges is generally an index of a low state of civilization, and by itself is not a thing desirable. What examples are quoted by the objectors are not in the least apposite. The Indian law recognises no exemption of natives of rank,

and purda-nashin ladies, from appearance in *Criminal* Courts, and makes no distinction between them and the natives of the lowest class.

7. The second argument is a vague, general proposition, incapable, in the opinion of the Association, of being illustrated by concrete examples. It is really a bold assumption of the facts in issue. The memorialists, however, seem to forget that, in bringing it forward as a Ground of objection to the Bill, they pronounce a sentence of unfitness on the whole body of European Judicial officers. Europeans in India live in comparative publicity, and the Association think they would be justified in saying that in India natives come to know more of the ways of life and the manners and customs of Europeans than Europeans do of the natives. If the native is disqualified to judge the European on this ground, the Europeans would be doubly unfitted to judge the natives. As a matter of fact, however, most European Judges are found well able to decide cases affecting natives. *A fortiori*, there is every reason to believe that natives would be found at least equally efficient in European cases—an inference which is strengthened by Native Judges having been found competent to dispose of civil cases in which Europeans are concerned.

8. The third argument is absolutely unfounded on fact. The Association repudiate the imputation cast on the natives of India that they despise their females and ill-treat them. The Association are pained and surprised to see such an argument used at all. So far from the imputation being true, it is a matter of every-day experience that native purda-nashin ladies, if they ever have the misfortune to be dragged into a Criminal Court, are very considerately treated by native Magistrates; and there is really no reason whatever to suppose that their conduct would be different when an Englishwoman is brought up before them as an accused person. No complaints have yet been made against their behaviour in civil cases wherein European women have appeared before them either as witnesses or as parties to actions.

9. The last objection as to the *personnel* of the Native Civil Service does not require detailed comment; on this head the Association would content themselves with observing that Government may be trusted to secure the most competent officers for the service; and it is scarcely necessary to say that the local Governments will exercise their powers under Section 1 of the Bill with discretion, taking care to confer jurisdiction to try European British subjects on the most competent officers.

10. The opponents of the Bill have suggested that native civilians who are so qualified should be placed in charge of districts where no Europeans are to be found. The memorialists seem to be unconscious of the injustice this proposal entails on the native civilians, by banishing them perpetually, as a reward for their services, to such undesirable localities as are avoided by Europeans. The measure, moreover, is impracticable, as there is hardly a district in India where some Europeans do not reside; and even if there be any such now, it is against reason to reckon upon its so continuing in future, unless prohibition be imposed on Europeans against settling in districts placed under Native Civilians. The absurdity and unfairness of such a proposal need no further comment.

Opinion of the Anjuman-i-Islamya, Amritsar, on a Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, 18·2,—dated 15th May 1883.

This Association has most carefully considered the reasons advanced both for and against this Bill, and the members are unanimously of opinion that the provisions contained in the Code should be modified, as they are merely based on an invidious class distinction.

From the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill as stated, it would appear that it is intended to remove the judicial disqualification of some Native Magistrates in criminal proceedings over European British subjects.

It is indeed unjust and anomalous that while natives of India are admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service, and held competent to discharge the highest judicial duties, they should be deemed incompetent to be Justices of the Peace.

Though there are some upright, learned, just and experienced European gentlemen who are in favour of this Bill, yet a large majority of the European and Eurasian non-official community is opposed to it, and they allege that as some personal rights and privileges of natives are still protected by law, such as the exemption of ladies of distinction, and of some native gentlemen, specially allowed by Local Government, from personal appearance in Civil Courts, there is no reason why their privileges and rights should not likewise be protected. The Association most respectfully submit that this privilege, which is set forth as an example, is the only one recognized in the administration of some proceedings of the Civil law, and it involves no injury to, or entails no disability upon, any other class of Her Majesty's subjects.

Moreover, in the opinion of the Association, the argument upon which the opponents of the Bill seem to lay so much stress is altogether *irrelevant*, because the Bill does not propose to curtail any of the rights and privileges enjoyed by different classes of Her Majesty's subjects in this country; it only aims at removing the disqualification of a Judge or Magistrate, which is based merely on race distinction. For this one single privilege which is enjoyed by the natives of this country, there are many privileges enjoyed by the European British subjects in the administration of criminal law in India. The jurisdiction of Criminal Courts over a European British subject in awarding punishment is very limited. He can appeal against small sentences of fine or imprisonment, from which there is no right of appeal in ordinary cases. He may claim to be tried by a mixed jury, or a mixed set of assessors,

being either Europeans or Americans, or both Europeans and Americans, whose decision is final.

The Association most respectfully submit that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, native officers have no special jurisdiction over their native fellow-subjects such as is conceded to their European brother officers over their countrymen; and therefore on an occasion like the present, when the object simply is to remove certain judicial disqualifications based on class distinctions from native officers of tried ability and integrity, it is unjust and out of place to draw arguments from the privileges respectively enjoyed by the Europeans and natives of this country.

It is unnecessary to give here the long list of those cherished rights of the natives which have been curtailed. The Association would rather beg to invite the attention of Government to the speech of the Hon'ble Dr. Hunter, who has very ably and minutely discussed the subject. There is, however, one important point which that Hon'ble gentleman seems to have overlooked. Formerly the Mahomedan law of evidence prevailed in all the Courts of Justice. But it has slowly and gradually been done away with, and a law founded on the principles of English jurisprudence has been introduced, which has totally infringed some of our best rights and privileges.

In 1836, when the Hon'ble East India Company ruled that no person should, by reason of place, birth, or descent, be in any civil proceedings exempted from any jurisdiction of any of the Company's Courts, and admitted natives to a large share of posts in the Civil administration, the Europeans resented the measure very much and protested against their being placed under the jurisdiction of the country tribunals, on the ground that their capital would not be safe. But their allegations have all proved unfounded.

The opponents of the Bill urge that civil jurisdiction is a different thing from a criminal one. The former affects property, and the latter both personal character and liberty. But, in the opinion of the Association, such is not the case. A Civil Court can give judgment against any person in a suit for fraud or libel; can send him to prison for debt; can punish him for contempt of court; and can issue a warrant for his arrest in case of his non-attendance as a witness. When the exercise of civil jurisdiction with all these powers by Native Judges over Europeans has not given rise to any injustice, it is unreasonable to suppose that they, especially those to whom the Bill proposes to invest with powers, and whose ability and integrity are admitted on all hands, will be swayed by race prejudices, when trying Europeans in criminal cases.

In all those cases in which Europeans have complaints against natives, they freely resort to Native Magistrates' Courts for redress, and, as far as the Association is aware, the Native Officers presiding at these Courts have not been swayed by any race prejudices. What ground then is there for apprehension that when trying charges brought by natives against Europeans they will be actuated by any such feelings?

The scope of this Bill is narrower than that of the one brought forward under Lord Dalhousie's Government in 1849, which provided that, outside the Presidency towns, all Magistrates of whatever class should be competent to pass all sentences, but that of death, on every British subject, and the measure was postponed only till the amending of the criminal law was effected by the Penal Code. From this it would appear to be evident that when Europeans were subjected to the civil jurisdiction of Native Courts, it was really in contemplation that this measure should at no distant date be followed by that of giving criminal jurisdiction to Native Magistrates over Europeans. In 1872, when the Criminal Procedure Code was under revision, this question came up for discussion before the Council, but was lost by a majority of only a single vote. It is, however, to be remembered that the minority consisted of the Governor General, the Commander-in-Chief, and all other high and responsible advisers of the Government of India, who were strongly of opinion that Native Magistrates, at least those of them who had been admitted to the Civil Service, should also be invested with the powers conferred upon their European brother officers. There have been great changes within the last 10 years; some of these native Civilians, who were then young and untried officers, have by their ability and integrity risen to the position of District Magistrates and Sessions Judges.

If, therefore, they are not invested with powers to try European British subjects, they will not, to all intents and purposes, be District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, and will of necessity have to be relegated to backward and out-of-the-way districts, where their abilities will not have full scope, and where, therefore, there will be no avenue to official distinction for them. They will thus be shut out from many of the large, important, healthy and cultivated districts. It is asserted that the work of trying European subjects the Native Civilians can delegate to their European Assistants; but the Association beg leave to point out that the delegation of a work to his European subordinate, by a Native Magistrate, which by law he himself cannot take up, is certainly calculated to destroy his prestige and to lower his office, and this cannot but have an injurious effect upon his position as the chief executive functionary of a district.

Her Imperial Majesty, on her assumption of the Government of India in 1858, issued a proclamation in which it is distinctly laid down that all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, whatever race or creed, shall be freely admitted to all offices in her service, the duties of which they may be qualified by their education, ability and integrity to duly discharge. Such being the declared policy of Her Majesty's Government, and the fitness of the Native Civilians being proved to

the satisfaction of all, their not being invested with jurisdiction over European subjects cannot be attributed to any other motives than those of race distinctions, which, as Sir Charles Aitchison has pointed out, are invidious and unnecessary.

Under these circumstances we not only give our adhesion to the provisions of the Bill, but would also recommend, as Sir Charles Aitchison has already done, that every first class Magistrate, whether European or Native, Covenanted or Uncovenanted, be appointed a Justice of the Peace at the discretion of the Local Government.

Opinion of the Sri Gobind Singh Sabha Association, Lahore, on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882.

The Bill proposed to amend the Criminal Procedure Code in connection with the exercise of jurisdiction over the European British subjects, has marked a new era in the annals of Indian Legislature.

It has pulled down the thin curtain of race distinction long hung before between the two races (Europeans and Indians) and has, as if, brought the continent of India to lie side by side with the Islands of. Great Britain.

Besides being so wonderful, it is also unprecedented in itself, for, in the histories of those nations that have subjugated this country, no such instance can be found whereby both the races (the conquerors and the conquered) might have been placed upon the same level with regard to their criminal jurisdiction.

The people of India are therefore greatly indebted to the British Government for this blessing and are fully alive to understand that the heaviest debt under which they are placed shall never be repaid by them or their posterity. The two illustrious names Lord Ripon and Sir Charles Aitchison, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., during whose time and by whose efforts such blessings were conferred, and such honour bestowed upon the people of this country, shall never be forgotten from off their minds, but shall always be remembered like sacred names of antiquity.

Although there may be some temporary agitation on the one side, and joy on the other, the ultimate result of this amendment would be to unite them both into one people living in harmony with each other, and looking upon themselves as real brethren descended from the same Anglo-Aryan forefathers, but differing only on account of long separation.

Need of such an amendment is acknowledged on all hands, although one party overlooking the great principle that "equality of both the races is always a good level for the basis of an empire" may, for their own private advantages, produce any argument they can to prove the untimely introduction or unnecessity of the measure.

As the Civil Service is thrown open to the natives, and as they already exercise criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects in the presidency towns, there seems no reason to make objection as to extend their powers beyond the limits of those towns.

But supposing the amendment be delayed for some years more, and then all at once may be introduced in its full vigour and power; it would not be so much beneficial then as now, when its introduction would, through its gradual progress, secure all advantages and produce desired-for results.

The Seikh National Association therefore beg to represent, on the part of the Seikhs in general, that they concur with the object of the Bill and agree with its several sections proposed.

The copy of the Nabha paper, in the original, is herewith appended for the information of Your Honour.

Opinion of the Anjuman-i-Mufid-i-Am, Kasur, on the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill of 1882,—dated 28th May 1883.

This *Anjuman* has bestowed full consideration on the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill of 1882, and has carefully looked into the question of amendment, and has considered the grounds advanced for or against the Bill.

The *Anjuman* humbly supports the amendment by which higher classes of Native Magistrates are to be vested with the powers of trying European offenders even outside the Presidency towns, and believes that this amendment is based on sound principles and good grounds.

2. The *Anjuman* would not repeat the common reasons and grounds which have hitherto been advanced, or are likely to be brought forward in support of the Bill, as it believes that the civilized Government, specially the present Government of the Punjab, has sufficient means to know such grounds and reasons. It is evident and clear that the administrative policy of the members of the British Government has always been founded on the principles of equity, justice, liberty, and humanity, which are the general principles of every civilized Government.

3. This Society does not repeat the common reasons in support of the Bill on several grounds—

(I).—These grounds have been duly stated by the originators of the Bill, and the enlightened Government has them in view.

(II).—Europeans, Eurasians and Natives are treated with full regard to the age they live in, and to their Native locality.

(III).—Limited privileges, which it was necessary to reserve for Europeans, owing to the existence of certain circumstances, were so reserved for them for a certain time, but when the time came for their abolition, they were cancelled.

It has been admitted by all Legislators that only that law can be true and just which is compatible with the laws of Nature. Hence it follows, that in the whole world, the law relating to the well-being and prosperity of mankind should be one and the same; and that such a law is the only one which can be depended upon for the true welfare and amelioration of the condition of the people. It should therefore be the first duty of every just law-giver that he should try to make laws compatible with the rules of Nature. Of course, it cannot be denied that while adopting and enforcing this good principle, he should not overlook the circumstances of time and place in framing laws. Local or special laws would certainly somewhat differ from the natural law; yet it is true that till the proper time arrives for adoption of the natural laws, the local or special laws should be obeyed. The enforcement of local or special laws, which may, at the first view, appear to be somewhat conflicting with the natural law, is but a right means of arriving at the period of adopting the natural law. Of course, it would be a mistake to consider temporary laws as permanent ones, or to confuse those of one kind with those of the other. Hence it follows, that as the natural laws are useful and worth obedience at all times, local or special laws should be thrown away when the time comes for their abolition. Sometimes people have been misled to consider temporary laws as permanent ones. The *Anjuman* is of opinion that no other error has given rise to so many political and moral evils than this mistaken idea. Evils which encroach on the morals of the people on their ever rejecting natural and permanent laws, are equally demoralizing when temporary laws are considered ever worthy of obedience. The true and natural law, which can be but one and the same for the whole of mankind, is like nourishing food, the use of which is indispensable for healthy people for the development and expansion of their bodily powers; while the temporary laws, which are framed in accordance with the circumstances of time and place, are like sparing diet and medicine (for the indisposed). As the use of substantial food and tonics is injurious to the sick, so the healthy person loses his strength and is rendered infirm by the use of medicines and sparing diet. As it is necessary for the sick to abstain from the use of substantial food, so is it necessary for the healthy person not to live upon sparing diet. Temporary laws are like sparing diet, the use of which should be given up as soon as people become able-bodied. It is true that sparing diet is meant to restore the weak to health, but the use of sparing diet is harmful to the healthy. It has been stated above that temporary laws are the means of arriving at the point when the permanent and natural laws should be adopted, and it is a great political mistake to consider these *means* as the object itself, *i. e.* the permanent and natural laws.

It is, therefore, the first duty of those versed in law to keep in view the minute difference which exists between the laws of the two kinds; and, while trying to confirm and establish the permanent and natural laws, they should be equally anxious for the repeal of the temporary laws at the proper time.

4. In the opinion of this *Anjuman*, the views advanced in the preceding paragraph entirely apply to the case of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, the portion of the Code which it is proposed to amend being of the nature of temporary law.

Hence, when the policy of every civilized Government, and especially of the British Government in India, has been such as is described in the preceding paragraphs, it would be but superfluous to explain and detail the consequences resulting from those principles.

5. It would be useless to explain to Government itself the wise policy of Government, to which allusion has been made above. But it would not be devoid of some advantage to mention that ever since the establishment of the British rule in India, the laws of a temporary nature have always been amended. For example, under the Statute of 1853, all actions arising in India were removed from the jurisdiction of British Courts, then called Mayors' Courts. In 1782, the Governor General allowed special laws of the Natives to continue to govern cases in which Natives were concerned, and ordered that *Maulvis* and *Pandits* should be called to help Courts in expounding the laws in such cases. By the Regulation of 1782, the British Parliament did not only preserve in force the Hindu and Muhammadan laws relating to Wills and Inheritance, but also those relating to Contracts and other such transactions between the Natives. By this Regulation their private laws, by which the elders of the families were even authorized to punish offenders charged with murder, were allowed to remain in force, though such punishment might be considered illegal according to the principles of British laws. Many other privileges of this nature were allowed to Natives, but most of them were latterly amended with due discretion, while some still exist. Likewise privileges of a similar nature were conferred by law upon Europeans, which are not unknown to the Historians of Legislation; but these were also reduced in number by degrees. For instance, Native Judges could not at first hear civil suits in which Europeans were concerned, but they were eventually invested with powers hear such cases by an Act of the Legislature, which Act was styled by the nick-name of "*Black Act*" in England. Subsequently, Native Magistrates were invested with powers to try Europeans in criminal cases within the Presidency towns. The question of granting them similar powers outside the Presidency towns is now under discussion. Personal privileges, which have been classed by the *Anjuman* under the head of "temporary laws," were granted to Europeans as well as to Natives; but they were reduced in number, or amended, when the time came for their reduction or amendment.

6. The history of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill displays several grounds which have been adduced by the members of the British Government, and which very strongly support the views expressed in the preceding paragraphs. In the letter sent by Sir Ashley Eden, late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, to the address of His Excellency the Viceroy, in support of the present Bill, he clearly stated that the time had now arrived when all the Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service should be freed of all restrictions imposed upon their powers by Chapter XXXIII of the new Criminal Procedure Code. Many other high officers of the same class have given their opinions in favour of the Bill, from which it appears that the law requiring amendment is of the temporary nature, explained above. Especially the expression, "*the time has now arrived,*" contained in Sir Ashley's letter, indicates that the law, which it is proposed to amend, is unquestionably of such a nature that its speedy amendment is necessary.

7. What has been said above amounts only to this, that it is unnecessary to give unimportant and summary reasons in support of the Bill, as it is a question which it is a duty of Government to attend to at once without any outside pressure. To make any hesitation in the amendment of this law is to disregard the true and natural law.

8. It is admitted on all hands that every enlightened Government has, for political reasons, to frame special and general, and temporary and permanent laws; and the grounds on which they are based, *viz.*, those explained in the above paragraphs, are just and proper. But it would not be expedient for any enlightened and civilized Power to frame two kinds of laws for the people living under the same Government, merely for reasons of race distinctions, or for reasons other than those mentioned above.

It is admitted that a distinction should be maintained in laws for reasons of time and place; but the existence of such distinctions, merely for the sake of differences in race and creed, is not only productive of many terrible social dangers, but also gives rise to many political blunders.

The object of the establishment of a government is to secure peace and tranquillity to the public, and this object is only realized when the rulers and the ruled are satisfied with each other. The absence of uniformity and impartiality in laws framed by Government causes extreme discontent and engenders differences, which prove disadvantageous to the country, to the people, and to the Governmemt.

It is proved by history, that there is nothing more destructive of the welfare and prosperity of a country than the existence of improper differences between the rulers and the ruled. Progress in all things appertaining to the human kind depends on political tranquillity. The pleasures of life cannot be enjoyed without it.

Men, whether they are rulers or the ruled when living at one place and not observing the duties and obligations of sociality, cannot inherit political tranquillity and social pleasures.

Nature has united the two nations (Europeans and Natives) in a social relation in India. As union, unity and true love between the two nations increases, social and even political ties will be rendered stronger. Hence to frame any law from consideration of race distinctions only, is to break the social tie; and the absence of uniformity in Imperial laws is a terrible current for the stronghold of social union (between the two nations). There is nothing which so speedily and certainly creates social differences as distinctions in legislative enactments; and when the social ties existing between nations are once broken by such distinctions their pernicious effect does not disappear for centuries, even if all possible efforts be made to remove that effect. Had not the defunct Hindu and Muhammadan Governments in India committed this terrible mistake, they would not have been reduced to the miserable plight of non-existence; nor would improper prejudices of caste and religion have so much interfered with the social life of the people. The social pleasures of life are secured by being subject to one and the same laws and by living under the same Government. Hence, when the Criminal Law in its own nature requires to be amended, when strong reasons of justice, humanity and liberty are in favour of the amendment, and when its amendment is at the disposal of a benign and elightened Government, which prizes the above-mentioned principles more than all other nations, and which was foremost in suppressing slavery in Europe and in introducing constitutional laws in its realms, under such conditions our only duty is to leave the question on its own merits in the hands of the Government and to respectfully wait for the result.

9. The *Anjuman* believes with great certainty that as the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill requires no arguments to support and to defend it, it is equally safe from the attacks of its opponents. The *Anjuman*, however, cannot but express its regret at the attitude taken by its opponents. The reason of this regret is not only that the opponents of the Bill have differed in opinion on such an important question, but also as such opposition engenders feelings which are destructive to the pleasures of social life in India.

What is taught by example produces a far greater effect than verbal instructions. It is universally admitted by the distinguished statesmen throughout the world that there is no human *act* or *word* which does not produce unlimited effect. The good and evil acts of mankind are always alive, and produce their result. Of course it is possible that we may not see those results. Even the most insignificant and undistinguished persons cannot say that their words and acts do not produce any effect whatever on any person. In this world no person is independent of social ties, all being fastened in one social chain, and being in need of help from one another. Every person considers that every one else commits more evils, and [illegible]

virtues than himself. The words and acts of our ancestors have had an effect upon us; and so our words and acts would have effect on the coming generations. Man is the fruit of the manipulations of many centuries. For thousands of years past the successive generations have depended for knowledge upon their predecessors, and the present generation would likewise magnetically impart the effect of its words and acts to their successors. The work of no person perishes; indeed it may happen that his body may become dust and fly in the air, and no trace of it may be found; but the evil or good acts would always take their effect. If man may ponder over this deep subject, he would know what a great responsibility devolves upon him. Upon such deliberations he is pleased at his virtuous acts and is terrified at the terrible consequences of evil actions. Mr. Babbage writes to the following effect:—"Every atom in this world retains the effect of man's virtues and evils; and would always continue to retain this effect. Air is a library in which every man's words are preserved in a written form."

All promises which have not been fulfilled, all harsh words which have been uttered, and all the insults which have been pronounced, exist in it. Not only the air, but the earth, sea, and all other things are histories of the actions and feelings of man. The modern sciences clearly shew that no movement ever perishes. The science of mechanics proves that there are thousands of witnesses to each act of murder. Whatever movement issues from the body of the murderer at the time when he commits the murder, *i. e.*, the movement of his hand, would ever exist. In short, whatever we do, whatever we speak, whatever we see, and whatever we hear, all these have their effects, which go on spreading for ever. These effects do not only affect ourselves, but affect the whole nation. It is possible, however, that we may not perceive the way in which they affect us. Hence it is greatly necessary to set good examples; to entertain only such ideas as may be useful; to speak only such words as may produce good; and to do only such acts as may afford good examples to others.

10. It has been clearly proved in paragraph 9, and by the words of Mr. Babbage included in it, that the human acts have an imperishable effect which exist for ever, and that practical instruction is a better preceptor than verbal instruction, the former being far superior to the latter. We learn more by the eye than by the ear. What we see by the eyes has a far greater effect than what we merely hear by the ears, or read in books; for example takes a spontaneous effect on man without his desiring that effect. Sir Peter Lessley, who was a distinguished painter, says: "I do not possibly cast my eyes on bad paints, as by seeing them my pen imperceptibly learns to imitate to draw such paints." In short, man is affected by every sort of company imperceptibly.

The faculty of imitation naturally exists in every person; but the weak, the uneducated, and the children have greater susceptibility for it. A gentleman observes that children are like certain insects, which assume the colour of the tree they climb. Hence, what is learnt in childhood is mostly learnt by observation.

From these remarks it is evident that practical conduct is a great preceptor for human instruction. Although every human being possesses a faculty to imitate, yet the weak and infirm naturally are more apt to imitate the actions of the robust and the strong, as all the principles of sociality are based on this very law. Little children learn the habits, customs and morals of their parents, but not the parents of their children. In short, the conquered generally imitate the actions of the conquerors. "*People follow the creed of their sovereigns*" supports this natural principle.

11. The *Anjuman* expresses its regret at the attitude taken by the opponents (Europeans, who belong to the same nationality as the Government) of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, for the reason that through their sincere fidelity the native subjects of the Government consider the authorities as occupying a superior position than their own parents, and that in consequence, like little children they take pride in imitating their actions.

The people belonging to the conquering nation, irrespective of the fact whether they are or are not connected with any departments of Government service, are considered as the ruling race, and their words and actions are not considered distinct from those of Government.

The Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, independently of the fact that it is founded on sound principles, is a Bill introduced by Government into the Legislative Council for consideration. Government itself is considering the expediency of bringing about a uniformity in the laws by removing defects in them. Government itself desires to free the courts of its loyal and able servants from certain disabilities. Under these circumstances, the opposition shown by Europeans against the Bill is in reality an opposition against Government itself, not against the Native subjects of the State.

12. The lesson which the Natives would take from such practical conduct of Europeans is evident; and the terrible social, nay political, dangers, which may be expected to arise from such lessons, are also evident. This Society has, for these considerations, been obliged to express its regret at the attitude taken by certain silly members of the civilised and enlightened European nation.

13. In conclusion, the *Anjuman* sincerely believes that the far-seeing Government of the Punjab, and the enlightened Government of India, and especially His Excellency Lord Ripon, would bestow due consideration upon the views herein expressed; and, while trying with due foresight to evade any possibility of the establishment of such a dangerous example, would assert that the opposition alluded to was not capable of producing any effect whatever, so that the Natives may not even entertain a thought of being affected by it in any way.

No 1778, dated 6th June 1882.

From—G. W. RIVAZ, Esq. Registrar, Chief Court, Punjab,
To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

I am directed to submit the opinions asked for in your No. 441, dated 12th ultimo.

Memoranda by the Judges of the Chief Court of the Punjab on the proposal to invest Native Covenanted Civilians with powers to try European British subjects.

I concur in the views of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal as expressed in paragraph 3 of his Secretary's letter. A Native Covenanted Civilian who has attained the position of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge should, in my opinion, not be disqualified from exercising the same powers over European British subjects as are exercised by English Covenanted Civilians in the same position. And I would go further and declare that any Native Covenanted Civilian is eligible to be made a Justice of the Peace beyond the limits of the Presidency towns as if he were a European British subject, and when so made is competent to try European British subjects as if he were himself a European British subject.

J. W. SMYTH,
Judge.

29th May 1882.

It appears to me rather premature to alter a law which has just been passed on such an important point. I am willing to admit, however, that it would be very anomalous to appoint a Native Covenanted Civilian to the charge of a district, and to deny him jurisdiction over European British subjects. I think that serious practical difficulties might arise if such jurisdiction were not given. I would therefore amend the law to this extent, if it is in contemplation to appoint Natives to the charge of districts.

But I would not go further in the meanwhile. I do not think any practical difficulty is likely to arise for some time to come from not giving Native Sessions Judges powers to pass the high sentences on European British subjects contemplated by Section 449 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Cases of the kind are not very common, and I think no practical difficulty will arise from sending them to the nearest Sessions Judge who is qualified under the Act as it now stands. The course recommended by Mr. Justice Smyth is perhaps the logical sequence of the policy now in force regarding the employment of Natives in the Civil Service; but as I have had no practical experience of the result of the working of that policy, I am not yet prepared to say that every logical sequence of that policy must be accepted and acted upon. In a matter of this kind, I think it is well not to forget the saying '*festina lente*.'

G. R. ELSMIE,
Judge.

31st May 1882.

I concur with Mr. Justice Smyth. The question would be one of the fitness of each individual proposed for appointment as Justice of the Peace to be invested with that office, and not one of the fitness of the members of a class, some of whom might be holding charge of a district or acting as a Sessions Judge. I can see no reason why an officer selected for appointment as Sessions Judge, who, in the case of Europeans not being European British subjects or Americans, could, on conviction of an offence, pass any sentence authorized by law, should not be given the same jurisdiction over European British subjects as other Sessions Judges.

D. G. BARKLEY,
Judge.

31st May 1882.

I would certainly alter the law so far as to permit Native Civilians who had risen to the post of District Magistrates or Sessions Judges to exercise all the powers over European British subjects as the European members of the same service holding the like appointments now exercise. But I would hesitate to recommend that all Native Civilians should be appointed Justices of the Peace. Selected members might be so appointed, but in the first instance I would confine the appointment to those Native Civilians who had not had less than ten years' service.

W. H. RATTIGAN,
Judge.

6th June 1882.

No. 561, dated 9th June 1882.

From—J. M. DOUIE, Esq., Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab,
To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement No. 441, dated 12th May, forwarding, for opinion by Mr. Lyall, a copy of Government of India's No. 7—589, dated

28th April, on the question whether jurisdiction over European British subjects should be granted to Native Covenanted Civilians, or at least to such of them as have reached the position of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge.

2. In reply, I am to say that Mr. Lyall considers that it is decidedly necessary and advisable that Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, who have attained the rank of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, should be given jurisdiction over European British subjects. It may confidently be expected that they are fit to be entrusted with this power; and there are also strong administrative reasons for giving them such authority.

3. But he does not, on the whole, think it at present advisable to give other Native Covenanted Civilians the power. No administrative necessity for the measure is apparent, and though it is true that their jurisdiction would be contingent on their being appointed Justices of the Peace by some Local Government, yet, looking to the class of men who are likely for some time to come to be appointed in India as Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, Mr. Lyall thinks that even with this safeguard the change is not desirable.

No. 1487, dated 22nd May 1882.

From—COLONEL C. A. MCMAHON, Commissioner and Superintendent, Amritsar Division,
To—The Secretary the to Government of the Punjab.

Jurisdiction over European British subjects.

In reply to your No. 441 of the 12th instant, I have the honour to offer the following remarks.

2. I have never yet met a Native member of the Covenanted Civil Service, but, looking at the question raised in the correspondence forwarded with your letter under reply from a theoretical point of view, I see no reason why a native of India who, by his education and personal qualifications, has been considered a suitable person for appointment to the Covenanted Civil Service, should not be invested with all those magisterial powers with which an English member of the Covenanted Civil Service, holding a similar official position, would be invested. I think it would be creating an invidious distinction between the Native and English members of the Civil Service to proceed on the assumption that whereas the English Covenanted Civilians may be expected, as Magistrates and Judges, to impartially try all cases in which the Natives of India are concerned, the Native Covenanted Civilian cannot be expected to impartially try criminal cases in which Englishmen are concerned.

3. The above remarks must, however, be understood to apply to the members of the Covenanted Civil Service only, and not to the Native members of the Uncovenanted Civil Service generally. As far as the Uncovenanted Service of the Punjab is concerned, I do not think the members of it, as a body, are prepared for any alteration of the existing rule. There are some, I think, who, were they invested with jurisdiction over Europeans, would, with the idea of courting popularity, be unduly lenient in the case of Europeans; and there are others who might, I fear, be glad of the opportunity of being harsh and severe where an Englishman was concerned.

No. 1083, dated 22nd May 1882.

From—COLONEL W. G. DAVIES, C.S.I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

have the honour to furnish herewith the opinion called for in your endorsement No. 441 of 12th instant, forwarding copy of a letter and its enclosures from the Secretary to Government of India, Home Department, No. 7-589 of 28th April 1882.

2. The question referred for opinion is, whether the restriction placed by the Criminal Procedure Code on the powers of Native members of the Civil Service, whereby they are debarred from exercising the limited jurisdiction over Europeans given to members of their service, who are also European British subjects, should be removed or not.

3. I have carefully considered this question, and I am most distinctly of opinion that the restriction should be removed. I am unable to perceive any sound argument in favour of its retention, while there are many such in favour of its removal. The latter are to be found fully set forth in the letter from the Bengal Government, and its enclosures, which form part of the documents received with your endorsement under reply, and I have little to add to them.

4. The maintenance of the distinction in this respect between European and Native members of the Civil Service is invidious, and in time would lead to administrative inconvenience. It is invidious, because it undoubtedly casts a slur on a body of Native gentlemen which has been carefully selected and trained for judicial and administrative duties of a high order, and in effect imputes to its members the want of sufficient moral courage and impartiality to deal with Europeans charged with the pettiest offences for which the maximum punishment is three months' imprisonment or a fine. So stated, the imputation appears to me to have absurdity on the face of it, and, so far as experience of many years in the Presidency towns enables us to judge, it has been shown to be groundless. If educated Native gentlemen there can be safely trusted to try Europeans for petty offences, why should not the same class of men be relied on to exercise similar authority in the mofussil? Then as to administrative inconvenience, it is not difficult to foresee how this might arise, as the employment of Natives in the ranks of the Covenanted Civil Service increases, and they

gradually rise to the higher judicial and administrative posts, if the restriction on their powers, which we have been considering, be continued. Instances of such inconvenience, and of the anomalous positions in which Native Covenanted Civilians might be placed by the maintenance of the restriction under discussion, are given in paragraph 3 of the letter from the Bengal Government referred to above.

5. Objections against giving to Native Civilian Judges and Magistrates the same jurisdiction over Europeans as that possessed by their European brethren had their origin in, and are still to some extent kept alive by, *prejudice and pride of race*. But these feelings, which were naturally very strong when we first established ourselves as a conquering race in this country, have been gradually losing much of their force as education has advanced and has diffused among the Natives of this country a knowledge of our language, and, through it, of Western arts and civilization, and is slowly promoting a closer intercourse between us Europeans and the better educated classes of the Native community; and the time seems to me to have arrived when we ought to remove from the Statute Book a provision like this, which rests only on the weak remains of an old class prejudice, which is likely to be administratively inconvenient, and which places an undeserved stigma on a class of men in our service who have a special claim to fair and generous treatment at our hands.

No. 86 C., dated 24th May 1882.

From—J. G. CORDERY, Esq., Commissioner and Superintendent, Peshawar Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

In reply to No. 441, dated 12th instant, I have the honour to state that I should be in favour of investing any native of the country, who was a Covenanted Civil Servant, and who had also risen to the post of a Magistrate of the district, or Sessions Judge, with the same jurisdiction over European British subjects as are conferred upon European Justices of the Peace.

2. In the face of a Civil officer who is a native of the country being raised to positions of such responsibility and trust in the administration as those involved in the charge of a district and of a Sessions Court, I conceive that no distinction between them and the European members of the same service, with regard to jurisdiction over Europeans, is any longer maintainable.

No. 301, dated 13th July 1883.

From—J. G. CORDERY, Esq., Resident, Haidarábád,
To—The Secy. to Govt. of India, Legislative Department.

In reply to your letter No. 33C. of the 17th March 1883, I have the honour to submit the opinions called for from the Commissioner and other officers of the Haidarábád Assigned Districts, concerning the proposed Bill for the amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. The Bill as it now stands would allow to the Governor General in Council and Local Governments the power of conferring upon Native members of the covenanted civil service or upon Natives selected for the civil service under 33 Vic., cap. 3, or upon Native Assistant Commissioners in non-regulation provinces or upon Native Cantonment Magistrates the powers hitherto reserved to European British subjects as Justice of the Peace. These consist in hearing criminal charges brought against European British subjects and Americans, and in disposing of them according to the powers defined in sections 446-449 of the Code. The European would thus become liable to a sentence of three months' imprisonment and 1,000 rupees fine, or to be committed to the Court of Sessions or the High Court, by a Native Judge. By a further provision, section 450 is abrogated, and he would therefore be also liable to a sentence of one year and unlimited fine at the hands of a Native Sessions Judge; but in this last case, the aid of assessors, not less than half of whom must on his requisition be Europeans, would be required.

3. The Bill also limits the appointment of Justice of the Peace to certain classes, and thus has the effect of disenfranchising all European Extra Assistant Commissioners and others who have been hitherto not unfrequently gazetted to these functions. This has probably been done in order to place the Native Extra Assistant Commissioner or Deputy Collector in the same position as the European officer of the same grade in the service, both being equally disqualified.

4. The object of the Bill is stated to be the settlement of this particular "question of jurisdiction in such a way as to remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race-distinctions." I would express my full sympathy with this object so far as the distinctions alluded to are based on ignorant prejudice against blood, creed or colour. But, if differences that are the result of national characteristics, special training and varying opportunities for obtaining knowledge of particular subjects are included in the term, it is obvious that such disqualifications as may be held naturally to follow from these differences are recognized in the daily life of men all over the world, and that it is impossible to abolish them except on paper. It would be most unjust to

ascribe the opposition which this proposal has encountered solely or even generally to any blind or unreasoning assertion of a race-superiority. It is due to a profound sense that, large as the acquirements of many Native gentlemen have become, our experience has not yet proved them to be endowed with the qualities most essential for the administration of criminal justice between European and European, or between Europeans on one side and Natives on the other.

5. The knowledge of law and subtlety in its application, and a colloquial command of the English tongue, are accomplishments in which many Indian Magistrates are acknowledged masters. But it is felt, and truly felt, that these are not the main requisites needed for the disposal of cases likely to be brought before them under the provisions of the new Bill. The qualities most necessary for this purpose are (1) a sufficient knowledge of the temper, habits and character of both the parties in the case; and (2) the possession of that *nerve* which comes from a feeling that the Judge possesses the confidence of both parties, and from holding a position which precludes any tendency either to arrogant self-assertion in one class of character or timidity in another.

6. It is hardly maintainable in argument that the Native gentlemen who are affected by this Bill can be gifted with the first of these attributes. It is no disparagement upon their ability to say this, because they cannot possibly have had any opportunity of gaining the only experience that could confer it. Cases are happily too few in the interior for the proposed jurisdiction ever to furnish them with the means for its acquirements. The only manner in which this objection can be met is that which I have seen adopted in a very temperate speech by Sir Jamsetji Jeejeebhoy at a Bombay meeting in favour of the Bill. He urged—and I have seen it elsewhere urged—that in this respect the Englishman before a Native Judge is not worse off than the Native before a European. But this comparison leaves wholly out of sight one most important distinction. The Englishman, both before and after these powers are granted to him, is devoting the best part of his life-time, and the whole of his working hours, towards the attainment of some degree of the requisite knowledge of the Native classes under his rule; whereas the Native officer will probably not have more than a dozen cases before him in his whole career by which he can be helped towards the attainment of the same knowledge of the European. In the Presidency-towns, where such offences are common, the Native Magistrate may perhaps gain the necessary knowledge with comparative ease, just as the Englishman gains it by his work in the interior. But there is no such practice to enable the Native Magistrate to acquire experience of the European in the Mufassal; and his previous training is not such as to supply the want.

7. As the degree of criminality attaching to an act is generally dependent on the intention or malice from which it has originated, I cannot wonder at the sensation which the proposal to place the power of drawing this inference in the hands of men who are ignorant of European character has caused in the European community.

8. Hardly less necessary than special knowledge is the possession of *nerve* in dealing with members of what is in fact, and must long appear, the dominant race in India to the Native mind. There is probably no officer of old standing in the civil service who has not at some short period in his career been compelled to incur severe odium from his own countrymen in dealing justice between influential Englishmen and Native complainants. Knowing little of Bengal proper, the arguments against the Bill, which are derived apparently from the chance of connivance on the part of the Judge, with false charges, speak to me with no force, nor do I believe that Native Justices of the Peace would err, except through ignorance, in the entertainment of such charges. But, in those parts of India which I have known, the risks and responsibility of dealing with criminal charges against Englishmen in India would have the strongest tendency to impair the soundness of their judgment.

9. The present agitation alone suffices to show how entirely destitute such officers would be of that power of inspiring confidence which is an essential condition of success in a Court of Justice. And, until it can be shown that this feeling is grounded on a false estimate of Native character in these two important points, or that this estimate is contradicted by our daily experience and by the probabilities of the case, I cannot think that the time has come for investing our Native officers with jurisdiction of this exceptional description.

10. How bitterly the withdrawal of what is deemed a British privilege will be resented is known to Government. If that privilege were based on nothing but the desire to uphold the prestige of the Englishman in the country, I should still hesitate to withdraw it, unless its revocation were demanded by administrative necessities, or by justice towards our Native subjects. But since, in the first place, I believe it to be founded on distinctions, not of race, but of aptitudes and qualifications resulting from the training and characteristics of different races; since, secondly, no practical inconvenience of any magnitude arises from its maintenance; and since, in the third place, no injustice to others (who were perfectly aware of the existing restriction when they entered their appointments) is involved, I can see no reason whatever for the introduction of the change.

11. It must be allowed, however, that the question of abandoning the Bill altogether, in the face of a public agitation against it, and as a piece of policy at the present moment, is beset with some difficulties. It is certain that to impose the Bill in its present shape on the English portion of the population would be a violation of the most ordinary principles of liberal government. They have pronounced their opinion unmistakeably against it, and the mass of the people is unconcerned and uninterested in the matter, which only affects a small

class desirous of a theoretical equalization. On the other hand, it may be said that the Government of India should not take any course that gives them the aspect of yielding to demonstrations against their measures; and it may also be urged that the principle of ultimate and potential advancement of Natives to these powers is one of too much importance to be sacrificed even in appearance and for a time.

12. On the whole, the most straightforward course appears to me to be the best. If the Government of India is now convinced that they were misled into the belief that "the time had come" for the measure, a frank admission of this error, if coupled with a strong assertion that the truth of the principle was still amply recognized, and that the time would come for its embodiment in a legislative Act, would be more likely to conciliate both sides to the quarrel and to allay irritation than the enactment of any piece of *prospective* legislation, which would in itself be one of the worst of precedents and which would satisfy neither party.

No. 2934, dated 11th June 1883.

From—S. O. B. RIDSDALE, Esq., Commissioner, Haidarábád Assigned Districts,

To—The Secretary for Bírár to Resident, Haidarábád.

I have the honour to submit my opinion on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, which was invited in your endorsement No. 165 of 4th April, and to enclose therewith the opinions of the Deputy Commissioners of Amraoti and Buldáná, whom I consulted on the matter.

2. I purposely delayed submitting my observations on an earlier date (as the Government of India do not require a reply till the 13th July), in order to give myself the fullest opportunity of careful deliberation on the measure which has given rise to so much acrimonious discussion, and to profit by such expressions of calmer public opinion as might be elicited after the violence which characterized the early stages of the discussion had somewhat subsided.

3. The arguments put forward in support of the Bill appear to me to be briefly the following :—

(1) that it is expedient to remove the anomaly in the law which, while professing to treat all races and creeds impartially, excludes Europeans to a large extent from the jurisdiction of the ordinary Courts of the country;
(2) that it is unfair to, and implies a slur on, the Native members of the covenanted civil service to prohibit them from exercising a jurisdiction which all the European members of the service, even when their juniors, are qualified to exercise;
(3) that administrative inconvenience may be, and has been, experienced in consequence of this prohibition when Native Civilians are or may be appointed as Magistrates or Judges to districts where there are many Europeans.

4. Of these three arguments, the two first appear to me to be principally, if not wholly, of a theoretic or sentimental nature; the latter only has a practical bearing.

The first or "anomaly" argument is, to my mind, sufficiently disposed of by the circumstance that a large number of other anomalies or special privileges in regard to practical exemption from certain general provisions of the law are still maintained in and recognized by, the Code, which, if we regard only uniformity, would be as little defensible as the one now under discussion, and further that, even if the Code is amended as proposed, Europeans will still enjoy certain remaining privileges in regard to their treatment by Criminal Courts which are as anomalous as the particular privilege now proposed to be curtailed.

It appears to me to be obviously illogical to raise an objection to any specific exemption on the general ground of its being an anomaly, unless it be proposed simultaneously to abolish all distinctions and exemptions of all kinds and degrees.

5. The second or "want of confidence" argument does not appear to me to carry much weight or to bear very close investigation.

I am totally unable to see how the exemption of certain persons or classes from any particular tribunal can be held to be a grievance to that tribunal; neither can I see how a member of any service can say that a slur is cast upon him by the operation of rules which were in existence, and thoroughly well known, when he entered its ranks. Every Native who competed for an appointment in the Indian civil service was thoroughly aware that if he joined it he would not be competent to try Europeans except as a Presidency Magistrate or a High Court Judge.

Having accepted this condition, he cannot now complain of it as a grievance or as lowering him in the esteem of his fellow-countrymen. If he thought such a limitation a slur and an indignity, he need not have subjected himself to the reproach.

6. I am, moreover, quite unable to sympathize with the sentiment that, if under the present provisions of the law a Native Magistrate of a district shall be obliged to refer a charge against a European to the Joint Magistrate for trial, as being himself incompetent by his nationality to entertain it, he should consider himself placed thereby in a derogatory position. It appears to me that, as a matter of procedure prescribed by law, the selection of the tribunal before which any particular class of offender should be tried must be as much a matter of absolute indifference to the person administering that law as any other item of procedure prescribed therein.

7. The third argument based on "convenience of administration" is alone, in my opinion, worthy of consideration; and although I do not think a sufficiently strong case has been made out to show that on this ground a change in the law is urgently and immediately required, still I think that it is manifest to any one taking a dispassionate view of the position that, by the admission of Natives into the covenanted civil service and their consequent rise therein to become Magistrates of districts and Sessions Judges, a change has clearly been brought about which must necessarily affect in an increasing degree the number of officials qualified to try offences by Europeans under the present law.

8. The question, therefore, which to my mind demanded a clear solution before any action towards amending the law could safely be recommended, was whether such an amount of administrative inconvenience had actually been felt hitherto, or was immediately to be apprehended, in regard to dealing with offences by Europeans, owing to such offences not being triable by Native officials, as to require some amendment of the law on this point.

9. I cannot find that the actual present existence of such a difficulty has been complained of, or represented by, any of the Local Governments, neither have any instances been adduced, as far as I can gather, in any of the speeches in support of this Bill establishing that such difficulty has been felt.

The two instances quoted, those of Messrs. Dutt and Tagore, do not seem to me to establish an administrative difficulty of much magnitude.

In the case of Mr. Dutt, it is urged that he could not be sent to Dacca as Magistrate, on account of the probable influx of Europeans consequent on the construction of the new railway in the neighbourhood.

And the case of Mr. Tagore is very similar, it being urged that, owing to the possible construction of a railway to the station where he is at present posted as Judge, cases may arise which he cannot deal with.

The administrative difficulty in each case is easily solved, as it was in the case of Mr. Dutt, by sending the officer in question to some other station. It has not been asserted, as far as I am aware, that any Local Government has not, at present at least, an abundant supply of qualified officers available for employment in places where offences by Europeans are likely to occur; and I totally deny that Mr. Dutt has any inherent right to be sent to Dacca as Magistrate, or Mr. Tagore to remain as Judge at Kárwár, if it appears to the Local Government that their services can be more usefully employed elsewhere.

10. Still I admit that as more of the Natives now in the covenanted service attain these higher posts, the difficulty may occasionally, though rarely, arise. It seems, indeed, almost absolutely impossible for the difficulty to be felt anywhere except in Bengal, where six out of the total number of nine covenanted civilians now in the service are posted. There is only one such officer (a very junior one) in the North-West, and there are two in the Bombay Presidency. There are none anywhere else.

It seems, therefore, very questionable whether any measures of this kind are now required at all. I think, however, the circumstances fully justify a discussion of the alteration in the law, which it might be possible and advisable to introduce should the difficulty appear to warrant such alteration.

11. Some such alteration may indeed be advisable in the interests of Europeans themselves, as it would in some cases be conceivably a considerable hardship to a European charged with some petty offence to be sent off to a distant station with his witnesses when he might be quite willing that the charge should be disposed of by the resident Native Magistrate.

12. But in discussing such proposals I should attach the fullest weight to the fact that the present exemptions accorded by the law to Europeans in regard to their subjection to the Criminal Courts are esteemed by them, whether reasonably or not, as the most highly valued privileges and safeguards, and should hold that, unless some special reasons of the gravest political or administrative importance can be established for such a course, it would be altogether unfair, as well as impolitic, to curtail or interfere with them.

Moreover, I think it distinctly advisable on political grounds to retain, at any rate for the present, these exemptions and limitations as the special privilege of the ruling race.

13. In devising, therefore, any means of meeting the difficulty of dealing with offences by Europeans at places where there may be no resident official qualified for the purpose, I should be most careful to preserve the spirit of these privileges as far as practicable.

In this view I do not see that there could be much objection in allowing a Sessions Judge, when a Native, to preside over the trial of a European, provided that the jury or assessors consisted exclusively of Europeans, or if a mixed body of jurors or assessors were retained, then one or more European officers should be associated with the Native Judge on the bench.

Similarly, in cases of trial before a Magistrate, I would allow a bench to be formed, over which the Native Magistrate might preside, provided the majority of the bench consisted of Europeans.

And I would further, if circumstances did not admit of the formation of a jury, body of assessors or bench constituted as above, allow the European accused to have the option of waiving his privilege and accepting the unaided jurisdiction of the Native officer.

14. I do not at all proffer these suggestions as the best possible solution of the difficulty, but merely as indicating the direction in which, in my opinion, the law might with advantage be amended should circumstances be found to require it.

15. There is also, in my opinion, another serious defect in the present Bill, namely, that, while circumstances seem to indicate the necessity of providing more officials qualified to deal with European offenders, it rejects the services of that valuable class of experienced uncovenanted officers who have been hitherto entrusted with the commission of the peace, and who have discharged their duties in that capacity, as far as I am aware, most satisfactorily.

16. Altogether, I think the Bill as at present drawn is open to many most serious objections, and should be withdrawn, a measure being substituted framed on the lines indicated above, if it be sufficiently shown that the "time has come" for such alteration of the law on the grounds of administrative convenience.

The storm of opposition which the Bill has excited is due, in my opinion, principally to its being based on theoretic and sentimental grounds, rather than on the necessities of practical administration. A reasonable measure framed only to provide for these necessities would, I have little doubt, meet with ready acceptance and approbation.

No. 1070, dated 2nd May 1883.

From—COLONEL R. C. MENZIES, Deputy Commissioner, Buldáná District,

To—The Commissioner, Haidarábád Assigned Districts.

I have the honour to return the papers, alluded to in your letter No. 1833, dated 12th April 1883, on the subject of the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects by Natives.

2. When I first had before me the proposal which this Bill embodies, it was in a very different shape. A Native gentleman of the civil service had brought to notice that there was an anomaly in his non-possession of the jurisdiction over European British subjects which pertained to the European members of his service. I expressed the opinion that there was an anomaly and that it should be remedied, or that an understanding should be arrived at under which Native members of the civil service should not hold office as Sessions Judges or District Magistrates. I was further of opinion that any experimental alteration of the law should apply alone to Native members of the civil service who had received a training in England.

3. I was scarcely prepared for the determination of the Government of India to remove from the Code, at once and completely, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race-distinctions, and thereby withdraw from Europeans in India one of their most cherished privileges.

4. I was not prepared to be told that to withdraw this privilege would be an amendment of the Code in so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over Europeans. I cannot admit that the Bill will improve the existing law in any particular. I am convinced that, if it becomes law, it will work serious mischief.

5. In the course of a service in India which has now extended over a third of a century, and which has for by far the greater part been spent in the performance of civil duties, I have never heard a Native Magistrate complain that the law did not give him jurisdiction over Europeans. I will go further and assert that I have never heard of a Native Magistrate so complaining until Mr. Gupta brought himself to notice in that way.

6. I am nauseated with the arguments *pro* and *con.* the Bill contained in speeches and newspaper articles. I wish to add none to those which were so ably laid before the Council of the Governor General of India by official and non-official gentlemen who take the same view of the Bill as I do.

7. I consider the Bill unnecessary, and a great mistake. It has already worked incalculable mischief; it has set race against race; it will take years to undo what has been done. We shall have Europeans running atilt against every exclusive privilege held by Natives; the peace of the country will be disturbed.

8. Is it not rather an anomaly to ask the European to submit to the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates when we all know that the Hindu hates to be tried by the Muhammadan (or *vice versâ*) if his accuser is of the same race as the Magistrate; and when we all know that this hatred is begotten of a distrust that the Magistrate will be strong enough to do justice, although a just decision may give offence to the local community of his own race. It is not enough in India to be just; one must be believed to be just at all risks. Is it not well known that District Magistrates are constantly asked to transfer cases to their own files from those of Native Magistrates for reasons which are not flattering to those Magistrates? Do District Magistrates never receive from Native gentlemen, who are special or honorary Magistrates, requests to be spared the trial of particular cases lest they should incur the enmity of the accused or accuser, or a caste? Do Natives ever place implicit confidence in one another? Is there not that wretched word "adawut" perpetually being rung in our ears? Is it not freely used to account for a decision which a Native judicial officer may rightly have made, and which some of his caste may not approve of? Is the Native Magistrate strong enough to face all this in a quiet place in the Mufassal, where he has no backers in the shape of counsel, or newspaper editors or an educated Native public to take his part? The pettiest magisterial case in which a European may be involved will become a question taken up by a whole caste, and, if the Magistrate belongs to that caste, no one will believe in the honesty of the decision he may give. There are disqualifications for certain judicial duties which

legislation cannot remove, though it may be good policy to ignore their existence when arguing on this Bill. It has been said that this Bill is a final measure; does any European forget that Governments are not bound by the declared policy of preceding Governments? Is not this Bill now looked on generally as the introduction of the thin end of the wedge?

9. I humbly hope that the Viceroy, who has committed himself to no decided opinion as yet, will, when he receives the opinions of those who have been consulted, see his way to the withdrawal of the Bill, and thus restore quiet to India, though I fear that to do this will be a work of time.

No. 266, dated 27th April, 1883.

From—Major R. Bullock, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Amraoti District,

To—The Commissioner, Haidarábád Assigned Districts.

With reference to your No. 1833, dated 12th April, I have the honour to state that I believe that I have already expressed my opinion on the subject referred to.

2. My opinion was, I think, that I could see no objection to Native members of the covenanted civil service being appointed Justices of the Peace, nor in the abstract do I see any such objection now; but the recent agitation which has taken place has, I think, raised the question whether it is worth while to make the alteration proposed in the law in the face of such a very strong opposition as has been developed.

3. It has been admitted, I think, by very high authorities that there is a real danger for Europeans living alone in remote districts and parts of districts of having their cases tried by persons not conversant with their modes of life, and cases might often occur where a Native Magistrate would have to try a European for an offence against a European, in which case the danger of the Judge's misunderstanding the case would be greater than in cases between Europeans and Natives.

4. Altogether, I am inclined to doubt the policy of making the alteration.

No. 1871, dated 20th June 1883.

From—Colonel J. G. Bell, Judicial Commissioner, Haidarábád Assigned Districts,

To—The Secretary for Birar to Resident, Haidarábád.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your No. 166 J., dated the 4th April last, and to report as follows.

2. I have been absent from India while the discussion in regard to this Bill has been going on, and since my return I have not been able to ascertain the feelings of the non-official European British subjects in Berar on the contemplated legislation. There are, however, compared with other parts in India, very few Europeans in Birar, and a portion of these only are British subjects. I am therefore only able to give my own personal thoughts on the subject for what they may be thought worth.

3. The object of the proposed Bill is (1) to remedy an admitted anomaly, and (2) to remove an invidious distinction which might cause practical inconvenience in the administration of justice.

4. In regard to the first point, it is true that there is an anomaly; but is this the only anomaly in our rule in India? Is not our presence here at all, a mere handful of foreigners ruling millions of the Natives of India, an anomaly which we cannot account for and cannot remedy? And as we are here, is it to be wondered at that our countrymen, whose lot is cast in the East not as rulers but dwellers under our Government, should wish to be tried by their own countrymen and not by Natives?

5. I have in the course of my long service had opportunities of hearing the opinions of Europeans (British and others), as well as of Natives, on the administration of justice by both European and Native Judges. I am bound to say that I have heard remarks not altogether complimentary to the European, but I have never heard but one desire on the part of European merchants; and that is, that any criminal cases in which they might be concerned might be tried by the British Magistrates. Similarly, I have been requested, not once nor twice, but frequently, by Natives to transfer cases, civil and criminal, from Courts presided over by Natives to Courts in which justice was administered by European officers. Asked the reason for their application, the usual reply has been that they can trust the European officer to do his best, and what he honestly believes to be right and proper; though, with all the difficulties with which he is surrounded as a foreigner, differing in creed and colour from the Natives, it must, I think, be admitted that many errors are committed; still, the Natives have confidence in the European, which they have not in the Native officials.

6. I hope it will not be considered that these are my sentiments. I am merely stating sentiments expressed to me by Natives. I am not considering whether the Natives have good grounds for their sentiments, or whether they have made their statements to me merely with a view to flattering me as an official set in authority over them. I do not forget either that the Native officials, the subject of the above remarks, were not of the enlightened class which it is proposed to invest with jurisdiction over European British-born subjects.

If, however, the Natives have this preference for trial by Europeans, can we be astonished at the excitement which has been aroused among the European British-born population which may be located in various outlying stations of British India at the bare prospect of being tried by Natives, however distinguished a position these may hold in the civil service of India?

7. I do not mean to say that this agitation on the part of Europeans is altogether reasonable, but it is evidently very real, and, as such, is worthy of very careful consideration before it is determined to subject British European-born subjects to the jurisdicti on of Native Magistrates. I have seen it stated that the number of Natives who would be qualified to exercise the jurisdiction which it is proposed to confer on them would for many years to come be extremely limited; and this is no doubt true. But if, as I believe it to be, the excitement is very real, it must be the principle involved in the proposed measure which has aroused it, and nothing else.

8. As to any practical inconvenience which may be felt from leaving matters as they are, I would ask whether in past years since Act X of 1872 became law, any practical inconvenience has ever been experienced from the existing state of things. I have never heard that it has, and, if so, why legislate to remedy what may be, and is, an undoubted anomaly, but which in every-day life does not interfere with the comfort and well-being of the Native population generally. Section 445 of Act X of 1882 provides, I think, for the disposal of any complaints made by Natives against Europeans in which immediate action is necessary.

My *locum tenens* called for the opinions of certain officers which I forward in original.

My opinion is that, if Government can find any way of receding from the position it has taken up in regard to the Bill, it would be advisable, at all events for a time, to abstain from proceeding with the Bill.

No. 581C.D., dated 21st April 1883.

From—Lieut.-Colonel J. Fitzgerald, Deputy Commissioner, Akola District,
To—The Judicial Commissioner, Haidarabad Assigned Districts.

I have been requested to record my opinion on the Bill for the amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1882, &c., and, in reply, have the honour to state as follows.

2. The general opinion among the Europeans of this district is very strongly against the Bill.

3. Few of those with whom I have talked over the subject have thought over the matter carefully; nevertheless, their opinions against the Bill are very strong, and all the more difficult to convince or argue with, because their objections to it are unreasonable.

4. Analysing, however, their feelings for them, it seems to them that the English Government are giving up, point after point, without a proportionate improvement on the part of the people of India as a whole to understand or appreciate, much less benefit by, what has been already conceded to them.

5. Such hurried concessions they consider dangerous to our rule, and I am not prepared to say that they are wrong.

6. This feeling of fear as to the result of such concessions naturally cannot be understood either by the English people or Parliament; therefore, the idea prevails that referring such a question to Parliament was but a farce, as the Government of India could almost as a certainty count on the result.

7. Unless the British Government is prepared to eat its words and gainsay its promises, such a Bill as the present must sooner or later be introduced, and it was most unfortunate that the advisers of Government did not subject the Bill to public criticism before bringing it before the Council.

8. The Bill can still be introduced and passed, provided a clause be appended that it is not to become law in any particular province or district unless made specially applicable by a notification in the *Gazette of India*.

9. I think, further, that Native Magistrates, before being invested with powers of Justice of the Peace, should have experience given them by acting for one or more years as Police Magistrates of the Presidency-towns.

10. Such experience would show them the style of offence which the British subject is most likely to commit.

11. The present Bill proves but too clearly that the Government of India have in this instance wholly misapprehended public feeling, and lost touch, as it were, not only of the peoples of India but also of their own countrymen.

12. I recommend that the Bill be persevered in and passed, but that it be left to Local Governments to make it applicable to portions of their territory as they may consider it advisable.

13. In conclusion, I would urge the necessity which exists for going slower than at present.

If our system of government were adopted by several European nations, as Spain, &c., revolutions would be the result. What, then, can we expect from the Natives of Hindustan, the bulk of whom know nothing and careless for our liberal laws and institutions.

No. 1465, dated 23rd April, 1883.

From—Colonel D. W. Laughton, Deputy Commissioner, Basim District,
To—The Judicial Commissioner, Haidarabad Assigned Districts.

In reply to your endorsement No. 1197, dated 17th April 1883, I beg to observe that the object of the Bill appears to be to introduce certain changes in order to reduce certain anomalies in the law. The Natives enjoy many privileges which would not be accorded to Europeans. A Native lady of a certain class would be exempted from appearance in Court as a witness, whereas her European sister, of whatever rank, would not enjoy a similar privilege. Some time ago a Magistrate considered that it was absolutely necessary for the ends of justice that a Native lady should appear and be examined as a witness, but the High Court overruled the Magistrate's order, and directed that the Native lady should be examined by commission (*vide* case in matter of petition of Hurro Soondery Chowdrain, Indian Law Reports, Calcutta series, Volume IV, page 20).

2. It is necessary that a Native soldier be tried by a first-class Magistrate, however petty his offence may be.

3. These and such like anomalies do exist, and it is not considered desirable to remove them.

4. Taking the Natives generally, the great majority do not consider it a matter of pride to be considered British subjects, and there can be no doubt that there is still a great gulf between the races. It should, in my opinion, be the object of Government to reduce this gulf and minimise all tendencies to antagonism. The proposed Bill appears to be rather widening this gulf and exciting this antagonism; and, under the circumstances, it would appear advisable to postpone the passing of the proposed amendment, and after due consideration, I am inclined to agree with Mr. Howell's views on this subject as published in the papers. As quoted by him—"The privilege as to jurisdiction is the privilege of the prisoner, not the privilege of the Judge. The European had an objection to be tried by the Native. Considering the position in which he stood, the question was, whether you would put him in a position in which he did not at present stand. You placed no slight upon the Native by saying that he could only try a man of his own race. What was there against the feelings of the Native in saying that? Why should any one feel a slight because he was told that this particular man was to be tried in a particular way? On the other hand, it was a feeling, and not an unnatural one, that a man should wish to be tried by his own countrymen."

5. I do not ever remember an application having been made by a Native to transfer a case from a Court presided over by a European to one presided over by a Native; but I have known of applications by Natives to get cases transferred from Courts presided over by Natives to Courts presided over by Europeans.

6. Under the present Code, section 445, provision is made for emergencies, and any Native Magistrate can take cognizance of an offence committed by any European British subject in any case in which he could take cognizance of a like offence committed by another person, the process to be returnable before a Magistrate having jurisdiction to enquire into or try the case. Consequently, no inconvenience is likely to occur even after an increase in the number of members of the Civil Service who may be Natives of India. Some of these may have been educated in England and might be cultivated gentlemen and quite worthy of the powers in question; still, as it is likely to increase race antagonism if these powers are so granted, it appears hardly advisable at present to remove this particular race distinction.

7. At present, as stated above, there is no reason why a Native should look upon this distinction as a slight; but, if the Bill is passed, there would sure to be urgent appeals on the part of European accused to get cases transferred from Courts presided over by Native Magistrates, and this would then raise a slight.

8. It appears to me that it would be much wiser to allow a little time for the European public to become accustomed to the Native Magistrates who will enter the service after a thorough European education, and who will probably have become accustomed to European modes of thought, and show themselves to be cultivated gentlemen with undoubted principles of honour. It is probable that after a time the intense prejudice which clearly exists will wear away, and later on it will be easier to clear away not only this but other race distinctions.

9. If, however, it should be considered absolutely necessary to pass the Bill, I certainly agree with Colonel Menzies, Deputy Commissioner, Buldana, that "the experiment should be made under restricted conditions, and the exercise of jurisdiction over Europeans confined to Native civilians who have been trained in England."

No. 819-108, dated 25th April 1883.

From—A. Elliot, Esq., Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Wun District,
To—The Judicial Commissioner, Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

I have the honour, in accordance with your endorsement No. 1199 of 17th April 1883, to forward my opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. It has been said in favour of the Bill that its object is to do away with an anomaly. Yet, of all the privileges which European British subjects possess, the limitations on the sen-

tences which may be inflicted by the Judge, the right to trial by a mixed jury or by mixed assessors, all the special rights of appeal, have been left untouched, whilst the privilege of being tried by a European British subject is alone attacked. And why? Has it ever been found that this privilege has caused any failure of justice? Has there been any outcry against the injustice or inexpediency of this privilege? Has any necessity been shewn for altering the law on this point? Not at all; but because one Native has risen to the rank of Judge in the Bengal Civil Service, and he does not like to feel that he has no criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects whilst his equals in the service have the power. For one man who has, and on the chance of four or five other Natives in the Civil Service reaching, the same position; from a mistaken sentiment of justice and equality; to please the platform cry of India for the Indians; to acquire a cheap popularity with the Natives, the most ancient and most highly-prized privilege of the ruling race is to be taken away.

3. Again, it is urged in favour of the Bill that Presidency Magistrates, whether Natives of India or not, can try and commit for trial any European British subject, and, if Native Magistrates are fit to exercise such powers in the Presidency towns, then they are equally fit to exercise them in the Mofussil. But the circumstances of the two cases are not similar. In the Presidency-towns, public opinion and the reports of cases in the daily papers are safeguards. An accused can always find European professional assistance, and an appeal or interim application to the High Court can be made at once, and, above all, there are proper and suitable buildings for European prisoners; whereas in the Mofussil, an English lady or gentleman might suffer imprisonment in a common Native jail for many days, perhaps weeks, before an appeal could be carried to the High Court, heard and the orders of the High Court brought back. Meantime, the prisoner may have died, and, if only injured in health and reputation, what compensation can he get?

4. Again, it has been said in favour of the Bill that no person is exempt from the jurisdiction of a Civil Court presided over by a Native Judge by reason of his being a European British subject. Why therefore should a European British subject be exempt from the jurisdiction of Native Judges' Criminal Courts? But here again the comparison is not fair; because, whatever the judgment of the Civil Court may be, execution can be stayed pending appeal, and, even during the continuance of the suit, the personal liberty of the subject is not affected. It is a very different matter for the European British subject whether his personal liberty is in question, or whether it is only his pocket and purse which are likely to suffer.

5. I do not say that there are not many Native Judges from whom a European British subject would receive justice; but no Native criminal tribunal does command the confidence of the non-official Europeans in this country.

False evidence is so easily obtained, and false complaints are so common, that the safeguard provided by the privilege which it is proposed to take away is not so much a privilege as a necessity.

6. I consider that if the proposed amendment be passed, the greatest injury to English interests in India will be caused, and most lamentable results will arise. There is no necessity whatever for the alteration, and, if the only object of the introduction of this Bill is to provide for the impartial and effectual administration of justice, the sooner it is withdrawn the better.

Dated 15th May, 1883.

From—R. D. HABE, Esq., Assistant Commissioner, Buldana,
To—The Judicial Commissioner, Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

With reference to your memorandum No. 1201 of the 17th ultimo, forwarding a copy of the Bill for the amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, and asking for an opinion on its provisions, I have the honour to state that I am of opinion that the Bill should not be proceeded with. It is not necessary for me to repeat again all the arguments that have so often been repeated by the opponents of the Bill; but, in a few words, I think that a measure so exceedingly unpopular with a large section of the community, as this one is, should not be passed except under pressure of necessity; and there seems to be no urgent necessity for the proposed alteration of the law at present, even on the score of administrative inconvenience.

Our Native fellow-subjects generally have not called out for the change; they are contented, I believe, with the present state of things as being the natural outcome of our position in the country; they see no anomalies in race-distinctions, and they prefer being tried by Europeans themselves, and I do not believe that they will feel any real gratitude for the extension of the jurisdiction over Europeans to Magistrates of Native race.

On the other hand, there is no question of the reality of the feelings of dislike and dismay with which the Bill has inspired the European community, and I believe there is reason for some of the fears they so freely express; for instance, that false accusations will be much more largely employed than before as weapons of offence against the lonely planter in the far Mofussil and will be harder to combat; and that, where liberty is supposed to be less secure, European capital and enterprise may possibly be to some extent diverted from the country, to its great loss.

There is, unfortunately, no doubt that the introduction of the Bill has done great harm in giving rise to bitter feelings of race-hostility, and there is every reason to fear that, if passed, it will do infinitely more in the same direction. And, this being the case, and the

benefits expected for the Native community being so very small, and the disadvantages to the European community so great, I think, with deference, that it would be advisable and politic to abandon the Bill.

No. 1125, dated 17th July, 1883.

From—W. C. MACPHERSON, Esq., Assistant Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Assam,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

I am directed to submit the accompanying memorial from the European residents of the Lakhimpur District against the passing of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code.

Dated 4th July, 1883.

From—J. A. H. JACKSON, Esq., Joint Honourary Secretary, Indian Tea Association, Dibrugarh,
To—The Deputy Commissioner, Dibrugarh.

I have the honour to request that you will kindly forward to the Chief Commissioner of Assam the enclosed petition (with original signatures attached) regarding the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill.

Memorial of European British subjects of Dibrugarh, to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,—(dated 16th April, 1883).

The humble petition of Her Majesty's European subjects, residents of the Dibrugarh and neighbouring districts.

SHEWETH,—That at a public meeting held at Dibrugarh on the 21st February, 1883, to consider the amendment proposed by the Government of India to the Criminal Procedure Code as far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—

That this meeting indignantly protests against the most ancient privilege of a Briton being sacrificed merely for a political sentiment, and are strongly convinced that, especially in Assam, which differs greatly from other parts of India, both in being so isolated from the influence of public opinion, and owing everything to European enterprise and capital, such legislation as proposed will not only vitally injure European interests, but, by debarring future capitalists and alienating existing ones, will stop the progress of the province, and is even now aggravating, and will certainly revive, that antagonism and friction of races which has of late years remained dormant.

That at a subsequent meeting held at Dibrugarh on the 26th March, 1883, both of which meetings were attended by a large majority of your memorialists, either personally or by proxies, it was unanimously decided that a statement of the opinions and feelings thereat expressed be submitted to the Chief Commissioner, and that he be memorialized to embody them in his final report to the Supreme Legislative Council on the said amendment, for the information of the Government of India, as being the mature and deliberate opinions of a community vitally interested in the welfare of the province of Assam.

It would be an act of supererogation to recapitulate here the numerous able and conclusive arguments advanced by many of the most eminent statesmen and lawyers of the day, both in England and in India, against this proposed Bill, or to do more than cordially acknowledge the strong and daily increasing expressions of sympathy now being generally given vent to from one end of England to the other with the opponents in India of this dangerous measure—the sympathy of those who will be the final judges of the policy of the Government.

Your memorialists at present desire only to submit a few of the more special claims which the province of Assam possesses over and above the rest of India, and which should entitle it to be excluded from the action of the proposed Bill:—

I.—The topography of Assam, with its vast extent of frontier, vividly displays the natural insecurity of the province. On the north, the south, the east, and even parts of the west, it is surrounded by hostile and warlike savage tribes.

The existing military force would be numerically inadequate to protect the province from either external feuds or internal disaffections, were it not for the assistance of an organized and efficient civil magistracy acting in concert with them, and supplying them with all possible information.

It is a matter for grave consideration whether, in a critical position, on which the lives of thousands might depend, a Native Magistrate, however efficient, would possess the confidence of his European coadjutors, and it is certain that he could not be endowed with a sense of that *esprit de corps* so strong amongst all Englishmen when placed in positions of danger in a foreign country.

II.—The isolated positions occupied by the planters of Assam render them quite helpless and defenceless, as compared even with the European inhabitants of sadr stations, against the insidious attacks of irresponsible and unscrupulous Natives, who would have countless opportunities offered them in the Court of a Native Magistrate for fabricating false charges; and

thus be enabled to harass the existence, derogate from character, waste the time, and thus cause great pecuniary loss to the planters. The fabrication of false charges is a far from uncommon mode of revenge with Natives even under the present *régime*.

To an ordinary person, unaccustomed to life on a plantation, it is inconceivable what a very serious pecuniary loss can be entailed on a tea-plantation at certain periods of the year by the withdrawal of the manager even for a few days. This would be placed in the power of every coolie able to pay a few rupees, and thus gratify his spite by instituting a false case against his employer. There is no check to a recurrence of such cases, which might remain buried in oblivion, for there is no outlet to public opinion in Assam; the planting interests have no representatives with the Government; and a recent case has shown that, where a most serious injustice was committed by an incompetent Government official on a European, no redress was obtainable. It is a fallacy to argue that a Native gentleman would have acquired sufficient knowledge of European character and discernment to be capable of judging fairly in cases of this kind through having resided and studied for a few years in England, for "*cælum, non animum mutant, qui trans mare currunt.*"

III.—In the minutes of the various Local Governments, issued in May, 1882, and in all the speeches and letters since published in favour of this Bill, it has been invariably admitted that it would be most regretable and greatly to be deprecated should anything be done likely to lead to a revival of the race-prejudices and antagonistic feelings which have of late years been moribund. You, Sir, have forcibly expressed yourself on this point, and stated your belief that these feelings have abated since 1872. Such also was the opinion held by Sir Steuart Bayley; but he has since admitted that he had reckoned as dead feelings which were in reality only dormant.

Your memorialists are in duty compelled to bear witness to existing facts; and they reluctantly state that these feelings of race-antagonism have not only been revived, but are at present most bitter and intense, and daily increasing in a most deplorable manner. The cause is not difficult to discover. A feeling of insecurity has been created by the action of the Government, and these are but the natural consequences.

This province is held merely by the prestige enjoyed by the European inhabitants; the planters are virtually at the mercy of their coolies, leaving out of the question the aborigines; the few police in the districts, such as they are, are quite incapable of quelling even the smallest and most insignificant riots. It is by his prestige alone the planter keeps his labour-force docile, obedient and contented. Deprived of this, as he undoubtedly would be in the eyes of an ignorant and bigoted race were he to be tried by one of their own countrymen and on a footing with themselves, not only his safety, but that of his wife and family and property, is done away with. Your memorialists do not speak from sentimental theories, nor from even a casual or imperfect insight into Native character, but many of them from a lifelong intimacy with the daily habits, customs and feelings, both in times of contentment and in times of excitement, of their labour-population. It can be no cause for wonder that, under these circumstances, arousing, as they do, the strongest, deepest and most sacred feelings of humanity—for what is more sacred to a man than the safety of his own family?—that a firm and unalterable desire has been evinced to endeavour to uphold the existing law, and to enlist the sympathy and assistance of the Chief Commissioner on our behalf in so doing.

Your memorialists may state that they deprecate the action of those gentlemen who have refused to act in concert with the local self-government boards, and also the action of those volunteers who have stated their wish to lay down their arms, as only tending to increase existing dangers and embarrass the action of the Government.

IV.—Your memorialists, who are private investors of capital, shareholders and managers of tea-companies around Dibrugarh, alone represent a capital of 125 lákhs of rupees invested in this comparatively small extent of country, and which entail an annual influx and efflux of 30 lákhs of rupees.

And they are, on mature deliberation, most thoroughly convinced that, should the Amendment Bill be passed into law, the sense of insecurity to property thereby created will be of itself sufficient to prohibit any further investment of capital in the province.

Existing interests must be upheld and continued; but as no industry can remain stationary, and what does not progress must by nature's own laws retrocede, the inevitable conclusion is that the tea-industry of Assam will, with the lapse of years, gradually disappear. This opinion has not been formed rashly, nor without serious and anxious deliberations, by those who have themselves invested capital. It is not difficult to foresee what the result will be to the province and to the many thousands of labourers exported from lives of poverty and starvation in their own country to comparative wealth and ease here. Swamps, poverty and death will take the place of opulence, health and increasing population.

Such are a few of the more salient points which your memorialists wish to bring under your notice, and which show the special claims of Assam to be excluded from the action of the proposed Bill.

And your memorialists pray that you will represent these views to the Supreme Legislative Council of India.

And, as in duty bound, your memorialists will ever pray.

No. 1267, dated 19th July, 1883.

From—J. R. REID, Esq, Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of the letter from this office, No. 1169, dated 3rd July, 1883, I am directed to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter, No. $\frac{5415}{XIII}$, dated 7th July, 1883, from Mr. J. J. F. Lumsden, Officiating Commissioner of the Banáras Division, and of a letter No. 5124, dated 6th July, 1883, from Mr. W. Lane, Officiating Commissioner of Agra, submitting their opinions on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. I am to remark that, as paragraph 5 of Mr. Lumsden's letter, and paragraph 11 of Mr. Smith's letter, which forms an enclosure of the letter of the Agra Commissioner, take up a point not within the scope of the Bill, namely, the fitness of Natives to become District Magistrates, the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner doubt whether these letters merit publication.

No. $\frac{5415}{XIII}$, dated 7th July, 1883.

From—The Commissioner, Banáras Division,
To—The Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

I have the honour to reply to your No. 1090, dated 20th June, 1883, requesting an expression of my opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. I understand that what is wanted from me is simply a brief expression of my opinion, and not a detailed argument in support of that opinion. The subject has been so fully discussed that nothing can now be adduced in the shape of arguments, and I therefore propose to record my opinion without entering into any argumentative discussion of the grounds on which my opinion is based.

3. I am of opinion that the Bill was quite unnecessary. Its object, as set forth in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, is to remove from "the Code, *at once and completely*, every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race-distinctions." The scope of the Bill, however, is very limited, and it goes a very short way towards effacing race-distinctions. It goes far enough, however, to have excited the passionate opposition of the non-official European community, who see in it a source of present and future danger to their security and privilege in this country There is, in my opinion, no object to be gained by subjecting Europeans to a jurisdiction which they detest in the absence of a valid political or administrative necessity for such a measure. I am distinctly of opinion that, until the present Bill was brought in, the inhabitants of these provinces took no interest in this matter, and had but the vaguest ideas of the rules under which European British subjects could be tried. Even now the mass of the population are utterly indifferent, and it is only a few noisy Bengalís and Native pleaders who profess any real anxiety to see the proposed alteration in the law carried out.

4. The points in the Bill to which I take serious exception are—

(1). It withdraws the power to appoint any non-official European gentleman to the office of a Justice of the Peace.

(2). It contemplates the appointment of Natives as District Magistrates and Justices of the Peace.

(3). It draws no distinction between Natives who have resided for years in England and obtained admission to the Civil Service by open competition, and those Natives who have been appointed to the Civil Service by nomination in this country or who hold the appointment of Assistant Commissioners in non-regulation provinces.

5. If the district officer were a Native of this country, it would, no doubt, be incongruous that he should not be able to exercise powers which the law conferred on his European Joint or Assistant Magistrates, but it appears to me that there are the strongest administrative and political reasons for not appointing a Native of the country to the post of district officer. I say this, not merely with reference to the judicial powers of the district officer as Magistrate of the district, but with reference to his position as the local representative of Government in executive and administrative matters. Correspondence of a demi-official and confidential nature is frequently carried on between the Local Government and district officer, which could hardly be carried on with the same confidence were the latter officer a Native of this country. Apart even from times of political disquietude, occasions not unfrequently arise in which a Native District Magistrate would be a direct source of weakness to our administration; for instance, the cow-killing riots of a year or two ago, and the threatened collisions which have frequently occurred between the Mussalman and Hindu population in connection with the celebration of some of their religious festivals. Unless it is deliberately intended to surrender the country within a time which can be definitely fixed, it appears to me that the interests of the British rule in India are bound up with the maintenance of European officers as the local representatives of Government in executive and administrative matters.

6. I have nothing to say against the employment of Natives in judicial appointments, and, provided the law were altered so as to allow European British subjects to claim to be tried with a jury instead of assessors, I see no reasonable objection to conferring the powers which the Bill proposes to confer on *all Sessions Judges*. Beyond this, however, I would not go.

7. I claim, from my uniform conduct towards them since I entered the service, to be a true friend of the Natives of this country, and to be entirely free of all blind prejudice against them; at the same time, I must say I sympathize with the prejudice, if prejudice it be, which makes a European clamour to be tried by one of his own race. No Government official is in a position to fully enter into the feelings of the non-official European in connection with this subject, because the bulk of the Natives assume entirely different manners towards the latter class.

8. As far as I can gather, the non-official Europeans, here as elsewhere, are all strongly opposed to the Bill. Among the advanced Natives, no doubt many would like to see it passed, but this is by no means the unanimous opinion of even this class, while the mass of the Native community are utterly indifferent in the matter.

No. $\frac{5124}{XV-44}$, dated 6th July 1883.

From—The Commissioner, Agra Division;

To—The Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

I have the honour to reply to your No. 1089 of 20th June, in the Judicial (Criminal) Department, inviting opinion on the Criminal Jurisdiction Bill, the subject of so much discussion.

2. There seems an almost universal consensus of opinion in the Agra Division adverse to the proposed changes in the law. This view is shared by official and non-official Europeans alike, and to a great extent by Natives also.

The latter acknowledge that their race has not that moral courage and independence of character needed to preside efficiently in a Court where Europeans would be tried. As to the views held by Europeans, these have been so often expressed, and the inherent antipathy existing among them to be tried by a Native is so marked and thoroughly acknowledged, that the fact need not be more than alluded to.

3. Then there remains the expediency of the measure. On this point there is, again, but one opinion. Practically, there is at present no need for the change in the law.

4. Politically, the proposal has already led to the most deplorable results. The old race-animosities that had slumbered for so long, and the wounds that had almost healed, have again been revived and opened out. More harm has been done by the recent agitation than any amendment in the law could possibly compensate.

5. It would be better for all parties to abandon the measure. If it must be passed, then the only course I can suggest is, as proposed by some of the officers in this division, to add a clause reserving to European British subjects the option of being tried by their own countrymen. This would be no unreasonable provision, and would tend greatly to heal the existing soreness, should it be decided to go on with the proposed legislation. I forward the replies received from the Magistrates of Agra, Etah, Etawah and Farakhábád.

No. 818, dated 27th June, 1883.

From—The Magistrate of Agra,

To—The Commissioner, Agra Division.

I have the honour to reply to your reference No. $\frac{4754}{XV-44}$ of the 23rd instant, on the subject of Mr. Ilbert's Bill. My opinion of this measure is that it is one which sooner or later must be passed. It will be absolutely necessary when one-sixth of the Civil Service are Natives of this country, a proportion which cannot be reached in these provinces for many years to come, and which will not probably be reached in Bengal for a good many years hence. It would, however, have been well to delay the measure till administrative necessities required that it should be passed. I cannot agree with much of the reasoning which has been advanced against the Bill, more especially with such an argument as that a Native of this country is disqualified to decide criminal charges brought against a European because he is, and must be, ignorant of the motives, habits and training of Europeans, all of which should (it is alleged) be taken into account. This, it seems to me, is a two-edged argument, which, if rigorously applied, would prevent Europeans trying Natives of Hindustan; for our ignorance of the motives, habits and training of 99 out of 100 Natives is a fact which cannot be denied. But, I apprehend, it is a matter of common experience that the cases in which a Magistrate or Judge is at a disadvantage because of ignorance of the motives, &c., of a criminal are rare. He has to judge on evidence as to facts in nine cases out of ten. Nor, in my opinion, has sufficient weight been attached to the extraordinary power of appeal given to Europeans, with which it is not intended to interfere. This is a very valuable privilege, and one which, theoretically at least, should take away much of what force there is in the contention above referred to.

2. I must admit, however, that public opinion, both Native and European, in Agra is entirely opposed to the passing of the Bill. The Native gentlemen whom I have conversed with on the subject, including Sir Dinkar Rao, Rai Muthradás, Pundit Kedarnath, and others very eminently qualified to give an opinion, oppose it on various grounds. They believe that the instances are very rare in which a Native Magistrate, however honest and anxious to do right, will have the courage to do so, and they admit of their countrymen generally that, when a European is charged with any offence, a number of considerations will undoubtedly be given heed to which should find no place in a Magistrate's estimate of evidence. They lay great stress on the very unfortunate outbreak of race-animosity which has followed the publication of the Bill, and which they very sincerely deprecate. They consider that the abolition of an administrative anomaly to soothe the *amour propre* of a few members of the civil service is most dearly bought at the expense of raising a storm of ill-will and animosity such as has not been heard of for a quarter of a century; it being a matter of indifference whether that ill-will and animosity is justly or unjustly aroused. I cordially agree with this latter contention.

3. The European opinion in Agra is, so far as I know, unanimous against the Bill, as it is believed, rightly or wrongly, that Europeans have no chance of getting justice at the hands of a Native Magistrate, greatly because the Magistrate cannot free himself from race-prejudices, and partly because (as I stated in the beginning of this letter) he is ignorant of European motives, habits and training. Stress is also laid on the alleged frequency of false accusations, and that the removal of the anomaly will discourage Europeans from coming to India and thereby prevent the increase of European capital here. It is still also considered right by some that a distinction should be made between the conquered and the conquering race, and that the removal is a political blunder. I am informed that nearly every non-official European in the district has signed the petition against the Bill.

4. I apprehend, however, that the Imperial Government is committed to the passing of the Bill; and the real question now is, how to reconcile the European community to its provisions without receding from the position taken up by Government. On this point the suggestion that an option should be given to a European charged with an offence to be tried either by a Native or a European Justice of the Peace seems to me worthy of grave consideration. If such a clause were added to the Bill, it would maintain the principle on which Government has taken its stand, and would remove the administrative anomaly, while it would retain the privilege theretofore enjoyed by Europeans on which they lay so great stress. The agitation and restlessness so prevalent now would subside, and we might hope that the discord which undoubtedly now exists will soon be forgotten.

No. 244, dated 27th June, 1883.

From—The Magistrate, Etah,

To—The Commissioner, Agra Division.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your No. $\frac{4758}{XV-44}$, dated 23rd instant, asking, for an expression of opinion on the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Amendment Bill No. 8 of 1883, and in reply beg to submit the following remarks.

2. In my opinion, the Bill in its present form is open to very grave objections. The advantages to be gained from the proposed change in the law are trifling in comparison with the manifold evils and disadvantages that would result from it. If in this country the law were a "terror to evil-doers" only, the increased jurisdiction proposed to be given to Natives would practically be of little moment; but, as is well known, false complaints in a Court of justice are in this country the ordinary weapons used against an enemy. There is in Hindustani a word (*pushtára*) which denotes "stolen or contraband property put in the house of an enemy to get him into trouble." The fact that such a word exists in the language tells its own story. In a country like this, then, it is of vital importance to Europeans in the mufassal that, if brought before a Criminal Court, they should have one of their countrymen to try them, and not a Judge of another creed and race, who, however anxious to do justice, might, from his utter want of sympathy with our thoughts and feelings and his ignorance of English domestic life, be unable properly to appreciate the circumstances of the case.

Sections 451 and 460 of the existing Criminal Procedure Code give to the accused a certain discretion as to the tribunal which is to try him. Following these precedents, I would abolish that portion of the present law which provides that no Magistrate not himself a European British subject shall enquire into or try a case against a European British subject; but I would at the same time give the accused, if a European British subject, a right to claim that his case should be heard before a Judge of his own race.

In conclusion, I may add that all the Europeans in this district, official and non-official, with whom I have had an opportunity of discussing the matter, are strongly opposed to the Bill.

No. $\frac{493}{XV-50}$, dated 29th June, 1883.

From—The Magistrate, Etawah,
To—The Commissioner, Agra Division.

In compliance with the request contained in your endorsement No. $\frac{4757}{XV-44}$, dated 23rd instant, I have the honour to submit the following opinion on the provisions of the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure.

2. The preamble starts with the words "it is expedient to amend the Code," &c. Had it been possible to foresee the intense opposition the proposed amendment would call forth and the great excitement it would cause throughout the length and breadth of India, I feel sure the gentleman whose name is subscribed to the Bill would be among the very first to assert that it is *not expedient* to propose the amendment of the law as it stood.

3. The only reason that I can see in the Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to the Bill is that the present state of the law was "anomalous." Now, independently of all the trouble and ill-will and excitement caused by the proposed amendment of the law, it seems to me that this was no sufficient reason for proposing the change so soon after the law as it stands had been passed. There can be no doubt that this part of the Code of 1882 which it is now proposed to amend was passed after grave consideration and full discussion, and it seems to me to be the very worst possible policy to disturb the law passed under such circumstances so soon, and so soon to revive a question so "burning" which had been settled after such full and grave deliberation. One would naturally expect that such a troublesome matter would have remained at rest for a decade at least, or that something more than the feeling that the law so settled was anomalous, something more than the fancied sentimental grievance of one man, would be required before the work of amendment would be taken in hand.

4. So far as these provinces are concerned, I believe I am safe in asserting that the amendment is not in the least required. No case has arisen, so far as I know, or indeed is likely to arise for many years to come, in which the slightest inconvenience has been, or will be, felt from the present law. There are sufficient Justices of the Peace appointed under the present law in every district to try all the cases in which European British subjects are concerned, and no case has ever come to my knowledge in which inconvenience has been felt by any of the parties to such a case from the absence of a properly constituted Justice of the Peace which would have been obviated if a Native Magistrate had been invested with the powers of a Justice of the Peace.

5. The privilege is the privilege of the accused, and not of the Judge, but in this instance the amendment of the law is proposed in the interest of the Judge or would-be Judge.

6. That the privilege, anomalous though it may be, is one that is very strongly prized, this widespread agitation on the part of the European population of India generally proves clearly; and I think that some very much more cogent reason than any I can find in the Statement of Objects and Reasons should be advanced before such a highly prized-privilege is taken away. To people accustomed to the full glare of publicity which attends the proceedings of the Courts of the Calcutta Magistrates, where barristers are always in attendance, where members of the Press are on the spot, and where the High Court can be moved at an hour's notice to redress any real grievance, the outcry that has been raised against the proposed taking away of this privilege may appear ridiculous to some extent; but the surroundings of some, indeed most, of the Mufassal Magistrates' Courts are far different. Much injustice, which might have the most serious results in the case of Europeans, might be done, inadvertently or otherwise, which could not be remedied by appeal to higher authority till after the lapse of a considerable time, during which much mischief might be done. It is this feeling, or something similar to this, which has caused most of the intensely excited opposition to the Bill. I cannot help feeling that there is some foundation for this opposition.

7. But, besides considering the proposed change in the law as inexpedient because it is not required and altogether inopportune, I am opposed to the Bill because I do not believe those Natives whom it is proposed to invest with these powers are generally fit to exercise them. The differences in the modes of thought and daily action between Europeans and Natives are so great, and on no point greater than in connection with their respective treatment of women, that I do not think a Native could enter into the feelings of Europeans on this and many other points, or could understand the motives which prompt Europeans, to act sufficiently well as to be able to judge them correctly. Mistakes might be made in consequence of which the results would be disastrous in the extreme.

8. I have not been brought into contact with any of the Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, and therefore do not feel so confident in speaking of this. I have had some experience of the members of the Native Civil Service. I do not hesitate to apply what I have said in the last paragraph in this instance. And I quite confidently assert it in connection with educated Native gentlemen generally with whom I have conversed frequently.

9. And I am equally certain that educated Native gentlemen, so far as I have had the opportunity of talking with them on the subject, are not only in my opinion unfit to be invested with powers to try Europeans, but also do not themselves wish to be invested with such powers. I asked one only yesterday. He did not acknowledge himself incompetent to try such cases, but he said there would be so much "trouble and bother" connected with it that he would much rather not have powers to try such cases. I do not think the majority of Native Magistrates would have much authority, or would much overawe the usual class of Europeans who would be likely to be brought up before the Courts. The result would often be unseemly wrangling and possible insult, which would have been avoided if the Magistrate had been an European.

10. Indeed, so strongly do I feel on this part of the subject that, even if the proposed Bill becomes law, and I had a subordinate Native Magistrate invested with the powers of a Justice of the Peace, I should not hesitate to exercise the power of transfer given to me as Magistrate of the district unless this part of the present law also is to be changed at the same time.

11. The time may come, and however much I think it is to be regretted and deprecated, I suppose when the Magistrate of the district will be a Native. In such case, when the man must have proved his fitness unmistakeably, I think he should be invested with the powers of a Justice of the Peace after all precautions had been taken to ensure his fitness. And so far I would allow the change in the law contained in section 2 of the Bill to be effected. I would not say that Sessions Judges and District Magistrates are Justices of the Peace, but I would say that Sessions Judges and District Magistrates when Natives shall ordinarily be invested by the Local Government with the powers of a Justice of the Peace, leaving it to the Local Government to decide whether this shall be the case or not.

12. In conclusion, I give in brief my reasons for objecting to the proposed change in the law. First, because no sufficient cause has been shown for it; secondly, because it is not required, and is inopportune; thirdly, because the privilege to be taken away is very highly prized, and its being taken may possibly cause injustice; fourthly, because Natives generally and those whom it is proposed to invest with the new powers, are not competent to exercise them; and fifthly, because, so far as I know, Natives generally do not wish to be invested with jurisdiction over Europeans.

No. $\frac{741}{XV}$, dated 3rd July 1883.

From—the Magistrate, Farakhábád,
To—The Commissioner, Agra Division.

In reply to your No. $\frac{4755}{XV-44}$, dated 23rd instant, I have the honour to give my views on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects.

2. I think that the present is a most unfavourable time for introducing such a measure. Only eleven Natives of India had, up to the end of 1880, been admitted into the Covenanted Civil Service of the three presidencies after successfully passing the competitive examinations in London. One of them, after a brief career of three years, was found wanting in integrity and was dismissed from the service, and is now in jail for contempt of the Calcutta High Court. The remaining ten are serving, six in the Lower Provinces of Bengal, two in Bombay, one in Madras and one in these Provinces. Natives being now admitted to the Civil Service without passing an examination in England, it is a fair presumption that the number of those who enter after passing the examination will be even smaller than before: and the Native civilians of the future will consequently not have such qualifications as a few years residence in England may confer, and for the purpose of the question under discussion may be assumed to be less efficient. I have no list to show whether any successful Native competitors came out to this country in 1881 and 1882, but the absence of it is immaterial, as, if any have come out, they must have been studying in England before the promulgation of the new rules. Until, therefore, it is seen what effect the new rules have upon the appearance of Native candidates at the competitive examination, it will be, in my opinion, premature to make any change in the law. It is obviously useless to do so for the small number of men who have yet passed into the service; and if for the future the easier and less expensive mode of entry by nomination be preferred, it will not be worth while legislating for some years to come, until it be satisfactorily shown that the nominees are capable of exercising such powers. At present, the system has not been working long enough for a sound opinion to be formed as to their qualifications and abilities. They are few in number,—therefore, few Magistrates can speak of them from experience,—and they have not exercised full powers long enough for a fair opinion to be given about them. I have seen some of the cases disposed of by one who was attached to this district for a few months, but who left in less than a week after my arrival, and there was certainly much room for improvement. Until we have full assurance that the nominees are, as a class, decidedly superior in ability and integrity to the Deputy Magistrates, they should, in my opinion, be put upon the same footing; and, as it is not proposed to give Deputy Magistrates powers to try European British subjects, I consider that the nominated Native civilians should also not be empowered, at least for the present. It must be borne in mind that magisterial business is a Native officer's weak point. There are numbers of good Deputy Collectors in these provinces, but few good Magistrates among them, and no amount of experience gives them a facility of dealing with criminal business. The quality of the work is

indifferent, and it takes long to dispose of, far longer than in English Magistrates' Courts; and delays are dangerous in criminal cases. If the nominated Native civilians prove that they really comprehend criminal law, that they are in fact far above the ordinary run of Deputy Magistrates and can approach somewhat closely to an average Joint Magistrate, then it will be quite time to take their case into consideration; and if the supply of Native passed candidates does not fall off, the question can be discussed upon better data than at present exist, and of a possible administrative inconvenience from the decrease in the number of European civilians. Apart from the small number of Natives who have passed the Civil Service examination, there is, in my opinion, no sufficient reason shown for granting them power to try European British subjects. For years to come a Native Magistrate of a district will always have a Joint Magistrate, and, unless the Magistrate be a particularly conceited man, proud of his newly attained power and anxious to exercise it (in which case there will be fear not only of an undue desire to convict, but also of an unduly heavy sentence being passed on conviction), he will also make over the trial of such cases to the Joint Magistrate, who as a rule tries most of them now; and so the grant of the power to him will really be only for the sake of soothing any possible feeling of injured vanity because the Joint Magistrate has more extensive jurisdiction than himself, and not for any administrative gain. And there will be probably found many Native Magistrates who will be not at all anxious to try Europeans, and will be only too thankful to make over the cases to a Joint Magistrate. A European will, moreover, always ask for his case to be tried by an English Magistrate; and, unless there is some very good ground for refusing the application (which can easily exist), the Native Magistrate could hardly do less than grant it. I think, therefore, the number of cases actually tried by a Native Magistrate will be infinitesimally small, and consequently that the extension of the jurisdiction over Europeans to them is not called for.

4. And it is still less necessary in the case of Sessions Judges.

More than three-fourths of the cases will be disposed of by Magistrates, and nearly the whole of the remainder, those relating to offences punishable with death or transportation for life, will be committed direct to the High Court; and of the few cases left, it must be assumed that there will be some which the Sessions Judge would pass on to the High Court without trial, on the ground that the offence appeared to demand a more severe sentence than he could inflict. So that the Sessions Judge's share of the trial of Europeans will be nominal. A return could easily be prepared showing the number of Europeans under trial since 1872, whose cases were (a) disposed of by the Justices of the Peace, (b) by the Sessions Judge, and (c) by the High Court, which would show at a glance how nominal the Sessions Judge's work is in this class of cases.

5. On administrative grounds I am of opinion that no change is called for; no inconvenience has arisen, and none is likely to arise for a long time to come; and I do not see any necessity to alter the law to soothe the injured feelings of one man, for, so far as I am aware, the other nine have not raised the question at all.

6. I have made no mention of appeals to the Court of Session from sentences passed by Justices of the Peace. The appeal lies, at the option of the appellant, either to the High Court or the Court of Session, and it may be assumed that the appeal would not be preferred to the latter Court when presided over by a Native.

7. The whole question of the amendment of the law appears to have arisen from Behari Lall Gupta's feeling aggrieved when he reverted from the post of Officiating Presidency Magistrate and could no longer try Europeans. If the Bill is passed in the modified form which has apparently found favour with many who could not support the Bill as it stands, will not this grievance be intensified, and at every reversion of a Native Civilian from the post of District Magistrate to that of Joint Magistrate will not the same cry be raised? The modified proposal appears to be objectionable on this ground alone.

8. Stress has been laid upon the fact that every Judge of the High Court is *ex-officio* a Justice of the Peace, whether he be a European British subject or not. True, but what deduction favourable to the Bill can be drawn from this? Has the Native Judge ever presided at the trial of a European? So far as I am aware, Barrister Judges invariably preside at the sessions. Has the Native Judge, sitting alone, ever heard an appeal preferred by a European?

9. No argument can be based on the fact that Native Magistrates try Europeans in the Presidency towns. There every case is reported for the papers; counsel can be readily engaged; the High Court is at hand, and prompt redress can be obtained for any injustice or error; the Magistrates are in the habit of associating freely with Europeans. In the districts there are no reporters, rarely any barristers, the High Court is at a distance, and we have yet to learn what the Magistrate's character will be.

10. In my opinion, there is no room for a compromise. The appointment of Sessions Judges and Magistrates of districts to be *ex-officio* Justices of the Peace appears quite unnecessary from an administrative point of view, and the appointment of Native Civilians under the new rules is premature; and if the concession is once made and proves to be a mistake, it will be extremely difficult to rectify it.

The law does not require amendment, and nothing but the entire withdrawal of the Bill will, in my opinion, be satisfactory.

11. I have not entered into the advisability of subjecting Europeans to the liability to be tried criminally by Native Magistrates and Judges. I think it will be a grave mistake to

remove their present privilege of being tried by their own countrymen; but, as, for the reasons I have already given, I think the Bill both unnecessary and inopportune, I will not discuss the subject further.

No. 282-12L, dated 16th July, 1883.

From—E. S. SYMES, Esq., C. S., Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, British Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In submitting the opinions cited in the margin on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, the Chief Commissioner desires me to say that he would have preferred to leave the law unaltered. He does not think that any practical reason has been shown for changing the present law. No immediate administrative necessity exists. A desire for perfect equality and the abolition of all race distinctions is no doubt felt, and naturally felt, by the educated classes of India. But as the inequality or distinction in this case does not prejudice in any way those who have not the privilege, and as it was known that the privileged class, who are not only numerous but entitled to consideration out of all proportion to their numbers, objected very strongly to a change in the law, Mr. Crosthwaite regrets that the proposals embodied in the Bill have been made.

(1) Letter No. 71-7—3, dated 14th May 1883, from Commissioner of Arakan.
(2) Letter No. 82-7—3, dated 21st May 1883, from Commissioner of Arakan.
(3) Letter No. 974-458, dated 5th June 1883, from Commissioner of Tenasserim.
(4) Letter No. 110-28, dated 20th June 1883, from Recorder of Rangoon.
(5) Letter No. 158C., dated 20th June 1883, from Commissioner of Irrawaddy.
(6) Letter No. 35-8, dated 20th June 1883, from Commissioner of Pegu.
(7) Letter, dated 10th July 1883, from Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, Rangoon.

2. If the question concerned the province of British Burma only, the Chief Commissioner's advice now would be that the Bill should be dropped. There is no necessity for any change in the law here; opinion, both official and non-official, is hostile to the proposed amendments; and there is not any likelihood of practical effect being given to the law for a good many years to come.

3. But the case with regard to India is different. After giving the question long and careful consideration, the Chief Commissioner feels it his duty to advise the Government of India to proceed with the Bill. Having regard to the position taken up by the Government in proposing the Bill and to the character of the opposition, it appears to Mr. Crosthwaite that the best course is to proceed with the Bill, making such alterations as may be necessary to meet real and reasonable objections. This is the only course which will leave the Government in a position to put its foot firmly down and to refuse the demands which are sure to be made for further changes in the law.

4. While he regrets the introduction of the Bill, the Chief Commissioner is at the same time of opinion that few of the objections raised to the Bill have any substantial ground. He would certainly recommend its abandonment if he thought that his countrymen would be subjected to annoyance or injustice, or if he believed that European capital and enterprise would with r without reason be deterred from seeking investment in India. There is no reason for believing that a properly qualified Native gentleman sitting as a Magistrate will be more likely to be deceived by false complaints or more disposed to give a case against a European than an English Magistrate. So far as race prejudice is concerned, it could find a field quite as readily in the decision of civil as of criminal cases. It is impossible to bring against our Civil Judges a charge of allowing their sympathy with their own countrymen to warp their judgments. There is no reason for supposing that the result will be different in the administration of criminal justice.

5. At present and for a long time past every Magistrate has the same power to take cognizance of offences committed by European subjects as he has in the case of offences committed by persons of another class. He has power to issue process to compel attendance. It has not been found that this power, which might have been abused without incurring much responsibility, has in any way been misapplied. The whole agitation seems to proceed on the suppositions that the Government will appoint unfit persons to be Justices of the Peace, and that the persons appointed will be ready to abuse their authority. Experience justifies neither of these suppositions. Hitherto the Government has had power to appoint any European British subject, a field of selection quite wide enough to allow the appointment of unfit persons, but no complaints have, as far as is known, been made regarding the use of this power. So far as Native gentlemen have been entrusted with jurisdiction in cases in which Europeans are concerned, they have not been led away by race prejudices. Many Europeans who are not British subjects live scattered over the country, but they have not complained of ill-treatment at the hands of the Native magistracy.

6. There is no reason whatever for apprehending that the Government will abuse the power which it is now intended to give them. The executive Government will doubtless recognize the inexpediency of appointing a Native Magistrate to be Justice of the Peace in a district much frequented by European settlers.

7. One of the most valid objections brought against the Bill is that which refers to the disabilities which it imposes on the Government. The Government will no longer be able to appoint to be Justices of the Peace non-official Europeans or European members of the Un-

covenanted Service. No doubt this may cause some inconvenience in the future. The inconvenience will however be much less than is represented, as all present Justices of the Peace are unaffected and the number of Europeans now appointed to the judicial branch of the Uncovenanted Civil Service is very limited. There is no way of meeting this objection and at the same time retaining the main principle of the Bill except by widening the terms of section 1. Power might be given to the Government to appoint any 1st class Magistrate to be Justice of the Peace; but in the present state of feeling any attempt to get over the difficulty in this way would be misconstrued. There is therefore no help for it. The inconvenience of excluding in future non-official Europeans and European members of the Uncovenanted Service who do not come under clause (*c*) of section 1 of the Bill must be accepted.

8. None of the alterations which have been publicly proposed as compromises that might render the Bill more acceptable to the class affected commend themselves to the Chief Commissioner's judgment. But he thinks that all reasonable objections on the score of danger to European British subjects might be met by adding to Section 1 a provision that no one should be appointed a Justice of the Peace who had not a thorough knowledge of English and did not habitually record his notes of evidence and his judgments in that language. We do not give large powers to any English Magistrate until we are satisfied that he has sufficient knowledge of the vernacular of his province, and it is only fair to exact a similar qualification from Magistrates who are to deal with European British subjects. Before a Magistrate is appointed to be a Justice of the Peace, the High Court might be required to certify that he possessed this necessary qualification. This is the only suggestion for the improvement of the Bill which Mr. Crosthwaite is able to make.

9. He believes and trusts that once the Bill is passed the agitation will subside, and that English good sense will perceive the unsubstantial basis on which much of the opposition has been raised.

No. 71-7—3, dated 14th May, 1883.

From—The Commissioner of the Arakan Division,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, British Burma.

In reply to your letter No. 158-2L., dated the 7th April 1883, in which I am asked to give my opinion on a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, I have the honour to say that I am opposed to the Bill for the following reasons:—

(1) because I think it unnecessary and uncalled for at the present time as a matter of administrative convenience or public necessity;

(2) because it contemplates the surrender of a privilege or protective right which has long been cherished as the birthright of every European in the country, and confers at the same time no compensatory gain or advantage on the masses of the people of India;

(3) because, although the object of the Bill is to remove from the Code every judicial disqualification which is based merely on "race distinctions," the means adopted to that end simply aim at levelling up the Native races to the status of Europeans, but do not in any way remove race distinctions notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in the said Code: these race distinctions will continue to prevail and enter largely into every transaction of Native life, social, religious, and political;

(4) because, on the other hand, to attempt to force on the people of India an equality of race which they do not seek as between themselves and their European conquerors is a levelling-down process which sinks the prestige of the European and involves a surrender of race superiority so essential to the continued maintenance of our rule and supremacy in British India;

(5) because no assurance can possibly be given by the present Government that the proposed measure bears the stamp of finality: on the contrary, it seems like the furtherance of a policy which, if continued, must end in subverting the present order of things by destroying the foundation on which our rule in India has hitherto been based;

(6) because this same proposed measure, whilst satisfying the aspirations only of a few English-speaking Bengali agitators, who in no way represent the masses of the millions of India, vitally and injuriously affects the rights, and dangerously offends the susceptibilities, of 99 per cent. of the European and Eurasian population of our Indian dominions;

(7) because the passing of the proposed Bill is calculated to provoke feelings of antagonism which must destroy all sympathy between the two classes of our European and Native subjects and become a clog on the Administration by frightening away British capital, arresting commerce, and threatening the true interests of the State at large.

No. 82-7—3, dated 21st May, 1883.

From—The Commissioner of the Arakan Division,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, British Burma.

In continuation of my letter No. 71-7—3 of the 14th instant, I have the honour to say that I failed in that letter to make any mention of the views taken by European British subjects in this division on the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, because a public meeting of the European population had already been held at Akyab on the 15th March during my absence to discuss the provisions of that Bill, and because the proceedings of that meeting were published in the local press under date 19th March and a copy duly submitted to the local Government.

2. The meeting condemned the Bill and unanimously protested against its becoming law.

No. 974-458, dated 5th June, 1883.

From—The Commissioner of the Tenasserim Division,

To—The Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, British Burma.

With reference to your letter, Judicial, No. 158-2, dated the 7th April last, and its enclosure, I have the honour to report that almost the whole of the European British subjects of this division who are not Government officials are resident in the town of Moulmein; that on the 24th March 1883 a public meeting was held here (reported in the local paper of the 28th March, which is, I believe, filed in your office) to protest against the Bill; and that this meeting, while very numerous, was attended by persons of all sorts belonging to the class in question. Under these circumstances, I have not considered it either expedient or necessary to formally call for the opinion of any of the class but have thought it better to content myself with casually gathering such opinions in conversation from time to time as occasion arose, and I will therefore in the following remarks endeavour to embody these opinions with my own on the subject.

2. At the public meeting above referred to there was, as will be seen by the report, the same denunciation as elsewhere of the Bill though less violent; there was the same curious ignorance amongst the principal speakers of the provisions of the Bill which they denounced; and there was the same general distrust of the objects of the Bill and of its effects on the country. As regards this element of distrust or uneasiness, I gather that something is due to the mode in which the Bill was introduced. As has been remarked to me, the proposal came on the class affected as a complete surprise, showing a want of stability in our legislation and engendering a belief that without the slightest warning and quite unexpectedly the gravest changes might at any moment be introduced and passed in the Legislative Council, for it was known that an amended Criminal Procedure Code had been discussed fully for several years before, and this amended Code without a word of legislation on the subject treated by the present Bill had been in force but little over a month when this Bill was introduced. I may add that as neither in the draft Bill of 1879 nor in that which subsequently became law, both of which were fully discussed, was there any reference to the subject now at issue, I myself shared in the surprise referred to.

3. When divested of the mist of exaggeration by which it is enveloped, the real objection to the principle of the Bill is doubtless that it deprives the class in question of a privilege which they consider their birthright and hands them over in criminal cases to be dealt with by judicial authorities whose capacities for fairly judging them they profoundly mistrust. Rightly or wrongly they believe that they have inherited a right to be tried by their equals, by persons whose antecedents and education are at least not inferior to their own, and they consider that a very large proportion, if not the majority, of those who under the Bill might be invested with criminal powers over them will not and cannot possess this qualification. To the argument that for a good many years past such jurisdiction has been exercised irreproachably by the very class referred to in Calcutta and possibly elsewhere, the objectors reply that while the individual officers in these cases are quite exceptional instances, the jurisdiction they have exercised has been hedged in by safeguards which rendered it little liable to abuse but which do not exist at small stations; and further that any error committed in these cases could always be promptly remedied, whereas if a similar system were extended all over the country any such remedy could only be applied after perhaps grievous injustice had been done.

4. Having given the subject the most impartial consideration I can, and apart from the question of right which I do not feel competent to discuss, I am of opinion that there is some foundation for these objections. Perhaps the best test of their validity is to put the question to one's self, and for my own part I have no hesitation in saying that I would rather not be tried by a Native Magistrate or Judge on a criminal charge. I do not think this arises from any narrow prejudice about race but simply from a consideration of what I believe to be facts. The Native Magistrate or Judge may be far my superior in intellectual power and legal knowledge, but he will almost certainly be wanting in what I should consider of far greater importance and what would be possessed by a fellow-countryman of my own, *i.e.*, the power so to speak of putting himself in my place and judging whether acts attributed to me were probable or not under the circumstances. I should feel that I was being tried by a man all whose ideas of

conduct, morality, even of right and wrong, were fundamentally different from my own, and that, unless all recent observations as to evolution and heredity are hopelessly wrong, the gloss of a University or European education could not have at once eradicated a distinction fostered in countless past generations and connected with every early association in this. It is true that a similar objection may be raised to the trial of Natives by Europeans, but apart from numerous obvious considerations which weaken the force of such an argument, the existance of an unavoidable evil as regards one class can hardly be accepted as a sufficient reason for deliberately inflicting the same evil on another.

5. With regard to the success said to have attended the exercise by Natives of the jurisdiction in question in presidencey towns, it appears to me that the objectors are right, and that however great that success, however eminent the services of the gentlemen referred to, they afford no sufficient guarantee that any similar success is to be expected by extending such jurisdiction all over the country as proposed by the Bill. In the one case a very limited number of gentlemen have been selected from the most advanced and civilized society in the country, and it is to be presumed that these selections have been made because, in the struggle for pre-eminence which always takes place in such society, they have shown themselves the fittest. After selection they have exercised the jurisdiction conferred on them in the face of public opinion, of detractors, rivals, or enemies, only too happy to pounce on and denounce any real or supposed error; while lastly, throughout their career they have had and have the advantage, of which it would be derogatory to them to suppose they have not occasionally availed themselves, of being able in difficult cases to avail themselves of the very best advice to be had in the country. In the other case, that under the Bill, the whole of the conditions as regards selection and the exercise of powers are totally different, and there seems nothing to prevent an officer being vested with the jurisdiction in question solely by reason of his seniority and because he has managed to fill without discredit at some possibly remote place any one of the appointments named in the Bill.

Finally, as regards the principle of the Bill, there can be no doubt that here as elsewhere it is most strongly and almost universally objected to by the class affected, and it has apparently evoked some feelings of race animosity from which hitherto we had been happily free.

6. If the principle of the Bill be adopted, I think the only objection to the provisions it contains is that it ties the hands of Government as to the appointment of Justices of the Peace in a manner which may prove inconvenient, as it takes away the power hitherto existing of appointing as such educated English gentlemen not in the service of Government; the services of such persons must have been occasionally extremely useful in dealing with petty crime committed by European British subjects, and is likely to become more so as the European element in the population increases. Finally, I would venture to remark that as a jury has always been believed to perform judicial functions, it would appear necessary, in order to attain the desired end, namely, "to remove from the Code at once and completely every judicial disqualification based merely on race distinctions," to include in the Bill a section repealing section 451 of the Code, which gives an accused person the option of excluding from the jury which is to try him a certain number of persons on purely "race distinctions."

No. 110-28, dated 20th June, 1883.

From—The Officiating Recorder of Rangoon,

To—The Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, British Burma.

In reply to your letter, Judicial Department, No. 159-2L., dated the 7th April 1883, I have the honour to say that I have read with great attention the speeches made in the Council of the Governor-General on the occasion of Mr. Ilbert's motion that the Bill on the provisions of which I am asked for my opinion be published in the *Gazette*, and after doing so I have the honour to say that my opinion entirely coincides with that expressed by the Honourable and learned Mr. Evans in his speech on that occasion.

No. 158C., dated 20th June, 1883.

From—The Commissioner of the Irrawaddy Division,

To—The Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, British Burma.

With reference to your letter No. 466-2L., dated the 19th May, I have the honour to state that, in my opinion, the introduction of the Bill to amend the Criminal Procedure Code relating to the exercise over European British subjects was ill-advised—*firstly*, because there was no real occasion for any change; *secondly*, because any measure affecting race distinctions and privileges tends to raise excitement and animosities which should be carefully avoided; and, *thirdly*, because the Bill in question fails to touch more than the merest fringe of the anomaly at which it is aimed.

2. While admitting that the outcry against the trifling and unimportant change introduced by the Bill has been senseless in the extreme in respect of the general principles and policy of the measure, I am disposed very much to share the views of Mr. Fitzjames Stephen as expressed in his well-known letter to the *Times*.

3. As matters stand at present it will perhaps be expedient to pass the Bill as it stands

pelled. In some case the supposed indignity to which he has been subjected by appearing in Court will satisfy the malice of his accuser; in others he may find a mass of evidence produced against him sufficiently based on undeniable circumstances to make his defence difficult and involve a lengthy detention from his business.

It is not unreasonable that he should desire that the criminal jurisdiction to which he is subjected should be exercised by officers in whose ability and impartiality he has confidence, and that a multiplication of tribunals should not offer temptations to the malicious to use a criminal process as a weapon of offence against him.

I should be much moved by these considerations if I were not satisfied that the extent of the danger has been magnified; for few, if any, new tribunals will be established in the planting districts, and, with the modifications and safe guards, I shall presently mention, any substantial danger apprehended from the Legislative proposals may, I think, be avoided.

12. *As to the fourth objection*—

Although the policy to which I have referred should be pursued in all sincerity, it must be admitted that the European British subject is in this country a member of a dominant race, and that, for some time to come, he must, in the interest of all races, enjoy some of the distinction attaching to a dominant race. The privilege of the European British subject which the Bill assails is regarded as conferring prestige on the race and indirectly on all persons of European descent, and it has to be considered whether on the same ground on which other distinctions must be maintained, it is not expedient that this distinction also should be preserved.

The President of the Committee on Local Self-Government (Madras) states, in his dissent to the report, that since his first acquaintance with the country "there has been a gradual but certain decadence in the esteem of Natives for the European official," and he appears to regard this circumstance, as indeed it would be regarded by all who have at heart the interests of the Empire, with some apprehension. Others have asserted a like change of feeling towards unofficial Europeans.

There are well-known difficulties in gauging Native opinion, and it would be unsafe to form a conclusion as to the general attitude of the Natives from the language of the small number that profess to express Native opinion or come into frequent contact with Europeans. Changed circumstances have no doubt worked, and will work, changes in the grounds on which Native esteem is accorded to Europeans, official or unofficial. An intelligent fear may give place to intelligent appreciation; and the former feeling is more demonstrative in its expression of respect than the latter. When a nation is being educated to independence of thought, there will be found some who persuade themselves that an assumption of contempt for authority is the becoming utterance of a free citizen; when such men express their ideas in a foreign tongue, they select exaggerated and high-flown terms of which, in many cases, they are ignorant of the real import. Imperfect education encourages self-conceit without in all cases improving manners. I allow that the expression of race-antipathy is more outspoken, but I should hesitate to admit that less respect is now felt for Europeans by Natives than it was formerly on the grounds on which we desire to conciliate their esteem, *viz.*, the conviction that we regard truth and desire to do justice.

13. However that may be, I recognise to the full the expediency of securing to Europeans whatever prestige can be fairly accorded to them. India has not yet made sufficient progress towards self-government that internal tranquillity and the safety of life and property can be secured without maintaining the prestige of the dominant race. In the desire to devote the revenues of the country to the development of its resources and to the education of the people, we have reduced to a minimum the force organised for the repression of disorder. When religious or sectarian animosity has disturbed the peace of a large town when an imperfectly civilised race has ravaged a country side, it has not unfrequently happened that troops or a sufficient body of police has not at once been available. Europeans, official and unofficial, sometimes ill-seconded by Native assistance, even of the official classes, have disregarded consideration of personal danger and checked or repressed tumult. It is the prestige of the race that has rescued these acts of bravery from the reproach of foolhardiness, and has restrained the excited mob from overwhelming the representatives of public order. In one sense every European in India is a member of the garrison, or, as I prefer to say, of a body which has assumed the duty of rescuing and preserving India from anarchy, and it would be impolitic, in the interest of all races, that the prestige of the European should be impaired.

14. I confess that this consideration would have induced me to hesitate to recommend the introduction of the Bill. It has, however, been introduced, and in order to avoid a recurrence of the excitement which, if it were now withdrawn, its re-introduction within a few years would occasion, it has to be considered, whether a modification of the proposal might not allay the apprehensions of those whose opposition to the measure proceeds on reasonable grounds.

My honourable colleague, Mr. Justice Kindersley, does not stand alone in objecting to the Bill on the ground that it is premature. There are many who do not question the principles of the Bill, who admit that a time may come when the Legislature need not hesitate to accept it. To my mind, there is much force in the argument that it is desirable to introduce the change proposed gradually; its gradual introduction will at first have little effect on the prestige of the European British subject, and that effect will be counterbalanced by other political advantages.

15. In so far as the Bill proposes to enlarge the class eligible for the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, I believe there is no ground for apprehension that the

jurisdiction would be improperly exercised by the Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service selected by competition.

I have had no sufficient experience of the members of the Statutory Civil Service to form an opinion of their fitness for the exercise of the jurisdiction, and the rules under which they are selected do not, I think, afford a sufficient guarantee of such fitness.

When these gentlemen show themselves qualified to undertake the responsible office of Sessions Judge or Magistrate of the district, a judgment may be formed of their fitness to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects.

16. As to Assistant Commissioners in the Non-Regulation Provinces and Cantonment Magistrates, I presume that the reason for specifying these classes was the repeal which the Bill proposes of so much of the existing law as confers on the Government a general power to appoint Europeans to be Justices of the Peace. I do not understand that it is proposed to appoint Natives to be Cantonment Magistrates. There are obvious reasons why it would be unadvisable to do so; and I consider that until a province of the Empire has made such progress that it can be brought under the general Regulations and Acts, the time has not arrived when jurisdiction over Europeans should be conferred on any Natives other than those who have entered the Civil Service by competition.

No one should be appointed a Justice of the Peace to exercise jurisdiction over Europeans in a Native State who is not a European British subject or Covenanted Civilian selected by competition. But it may be gathered from the opinions I have already expressed that I think there are Subordinate Judges and Deputy Collectors on whom the jurisdiction might safely be conferred to be exercised in the Regulation Provinces.

I am not aware on what ground, except that of uniformity, Europeans who do not belong to the classes mentioned in the Bill are to be rendered ineligible for the exercise of the jurisdiction. If fitness is, as I have throughout assumed it must be, regarded as the ground of qualification, the disqualification of this class is a contradiction of the principle of the Bill. Uniformity can be secured so far as is desirable by conceding the jurisdiction to such persons, European or Native, as are members of the Covenanted Civil Service selected by competition, or hold specified offices and subject to the restrictions I have mentioned to such persons, European or Native, as may be selected by the Government on the recommendation of the High Court. I propose this limitation on selection by the Executive, because I know it cannot always resist the urgency of local authorities to confer powers, and because it can, in many instances, have little direct knowledge of the gentlemen recommended for powers. On the other hand, the greater number of the persons whom it would be desirable to select would be officers of whose judicial capacity the Judges of the High Court would have had experience.

My proposals amount to this: that in cantonments jurisdiction over European British subjects should be conferable only on European British subjects: that in Non-Regulation Provinces it should be conferable only on European British subjects and Covenanted Civilians selected by competition; and that in Regulation Provinces, it should also be conferable on such Europeans and Natives as may be selected by the Government on the recommendation of the High Court.

17. In order to allay whatever apprehension is seriously entertained to the fitness of the officers on whom jurisdiction would be conferred, I have considered whether it might not be desirable to give to every European British subject the same option in respect of the presiding Judge or Magistrate as he at present enjoys to a qualified extent in respect of jurors and assessors. I have come to the conclusion that it would be unbecoming to the dignity of the judicial office that this option should rest with those who are subject to the jurisdiction; and that a safeguard reasonably sufficient might be provided by rendering more effectual a provision of the existing Code. The 526th section, Code of Criminal Procedure, enacts that whenever it is made to appear that a fair and impartial inquiry cannot be had in any Criminal Court, or that some question of law of unusual difficulty is likely to arise, the High Court may transfer a case to another Court or to itself. I would authorize the High Court to make the transfer if it is made to appear "that it is expedient for the ends of justice." And I would supply a defect in the Code by directing that in any case in which prior to the commencement of the hearing the Government, the complainant, or the accused shall notify to the Court its or his intention to make an application under section 526, the Court shall adjourn the hearing for such reasonable time as may be required to enable an application to be made and an order obtained thereon.

18. Lastly, in the districts in which planting is principally carried out, there are now settled retired officers of the Army or Civil Service and other men of education and means who would in England be selected as Justices of the Peace. So far as it is possible, magisterial powers should be conferred on these gentlemen to be exercised by them as members of benches and ordinarily under the presidency of a European executive officer of the district or a member of the Covenanted Civil Service selected by competition.

With the modifications and limitations indicated, I believe little valid objection could be taken to the proposed alteration of the law.

CHARLES A. TURNER.

It is stated in "Objects and Reasons" that the Government have "*decided* to remove every disqualification which is based merely on race distinction." I presume, therefore, that the draft Bill is sent to the Judges to ask their opinion only on the question whether the proposed Bill will accomplish the object decided on.

In this view, I think the proposed Bill is legally suitable to the purpose of Government.

J. KERNAN.

21st April 1883.

My opinion about this Bill is that it has been introduced too soon. I hope that in a few years the Natives will have made so much progress that they may safely be entrusted with jurisdiction over European British subjects. At present, I do not think that the time has come for the change.

J. R. KINDERSLEY.

21st April 1883.

No. 286-12L., dated 16th July, 1883.

From—E. S. SYMES, Esq., Officiating Secretary to Chief Commissioner, British Burma,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 282-12L., dated 16th instant, I am directed to submit, in original, a memorial addressed by a considerable number of the European and Eurasian residents in this Province to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, praying that the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure may not be proceeded with.

To His Excellency the Most Hon'ble the Marquis of Ripon, K.G., P.C., G.M.S.I., Viceroy and Governor General of India.

Memorial of European British subjects of British Burma.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—We, the undersigned inhabitants of Rangoon and other places in British Burma, beg most respectfully to present to Your Excellency the following petition:—

Your petitioners, as European British subjects, are by birth entitled to the privileges contained in the great charters of English liberty, the most cherished of which is the right to be tried by their peers.

Your petitioners, or their fathers before them, have left the comforts of their own country, and carrying their lives in their hands, through battle, mutiny and disease, for the honour of their country's name, have assisted to establish and maintain the Empire of Her Majesty in India, which is the greatest of her possessions.

Your petitioners are pained beyond expression to find that the Government of India now seeks to enact a law empowering men of an alien race—men whose feeling towards your petitioners are necessarily embittered by the very acts by which Her Majesty became the ruler of this land—to sit in judgment and pass sentence upon them.

Your Excellency is well aware that all Eastern nations attach the greatest importance to the outward display of respect which they demand for their women, whatever their condition or caste; and the Government of India has acquiesced in exempting Native women of certain classes from appearing in Civil Courts of Justice before European or other Judges. Yet now it is proposed to expose English women, who have been brought up in honour and held in deserved respect, to the risk of legal processes before Native Judges in cases which may be instigated by Natives actuated by most unworthy motives.

Your petitioners feel that the proposed alteration would be particularly inexpedient in British Burma. This Province has but very recently been subjected to British rule; and, although that rule has been attended with the happiest consequences to the mass of the population, there still remains amongst them a strong tendency to sympathize with the lawlessness at Mandalay; and your petitioners are fain to believe that any hasty transfer of power to the Natives of this Province might lead to disastrous consequences in times of political trouble in any other part of the Empire.

Your petitioners submit that the Imperial requirements of the time call for no alteration in the present law of Criminal Procedure such as the Bill before Your Excellency in Council aims at, and which your petitioners pray may not be proceeded with.

And shall ever pray, &c.

Dated 28th July, 1883.

Office Memo.—By the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy.

Transferred for disposal to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Legislative Department.

Dated 25th July, 1883.

From—KHUSHEE RAM, Secretary, Native Association, Kalka,

To—The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India.

I most humbly and respectfully beg to submit herewith the enclosed memorial on behalf of the inhabitants of Kalka and its vicinities, praying for a consideration in the famous Mr. Ilbert's Bill introduced into His Excellency's Legislative Council on the 19th February last, for the purpose of amending certain grave defects existing in the Code of Criminal Procedure at present in force in this country, and beg your Honour will, with an eye of mercy, present the said memorial to His Excellency the Viceroy for His Excellency's favourable consideration and support.

And, in duty bound, I, your Lordship's obedient and humble servant, will ever pray.

Dated 25th July, 1883.

To His Excellency the Most Noble GEORGE FREDERICK SAMUEL ROBINSON, MARQUIS OF RIPON, *K.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., Viceroy and Governor General of India.*

Memorial of the inhabitants of Kalka.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—The humble memorial of the inhabitants of Kalka and its vicinities most respectfully showeth—

That your memorialists observe with much satisfaction the Bill introduced into Your Excellency's Legislative Council, on the 19th February last, for the purpose of amending certain grave defects existing in the Code of Criminal Procedure at present in force in this country. These defects had been for many years past the subject of very considerable complaints, which found formal and pointed expression in Your Excellency's Legislative Council in March 1882, when the present Code was passed, and when an amendment having the same object as the present Bill was brought before the Council, and withdrawn only upon a promise given that the subject would receive early and more careful consideration than could be bestowed on it at that time.

2. Your memorialists beg at the very outset to disclaim any desire for the removal of any privileges enjoyed and really valued by any particular class of Her Majesty's subjects, when those privileges are such as involve no injury to any other class. But your memorialists hold that the privilege continued to British-born subjects of Her Majesty under the present Code of Criminal Procedure is one which, besides being singular as the only class-privilege recognised in the administration of the criminal law, does involve injury, and very serious injury, to other classes of Her Majesty's subjects in this country; and they further hold that the curtailment of that privilege as attempted in the Bill now under discussion is in its extent the slightest that could be looked upon as at all meeting the circumstances of the case.

3. The administrative inconveniences which have been occasioned by the maintenance of the privilege in question; the inconvenience, not to say injustice, which parties to and witnesses in criminal proceedings in which European British subjects are the accused persons are put to in consequence of that privilege; the mark of inferiority which it implies on one gradually increasing class of officers in Her Majesty's service, and the occasional injustice which must be expected to occur in the distribution of the various administrative districts to those officers if the said privilege is maintained untouched; all these are considerations which, taken together, ought, your memorialists submit, to strongly weigh with the British Government in India, having regard to the policy of that Government as often authoritatively declared, and nowhere in better or more forcible language than in the great Proclamation of 1858, in which Her Most Gracious Majesty used the following memorable words:—

"We hold ourselves bound to the Natives of our Indian territories by the same obligations of duty which bind us to all our other subjects, and those obligations, by the blessing of Almighty God, we shall faithfully and conscientiously fulfil." And again, "it is our earnest desire.....to administer its Government for the benefit of all our subjects resident therein. In their prosperity will be our strength, in their contentment our security, and in their gratitude our best reward. And may the God of all Power grant unto us and to those in authority under us strength to carry out these our wishes for the good of our people."

4. Your memorialists gladly admit that the principles above referred to have in a general way, and to some extent, practically guided the Government of our country, and the history of British Indian administration in the past exhibits a constant, if somewhat slow, progress of equalising the status before the law of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects. Your memorialists accordingly consider the Bill in question as the only one short step in the direction in which British policy in this country has uniformly progressed. And they can therefore only deplore the spirit of partisanship which the Bill has roused in a section of Her Majesty's subjects. But they cannot help feeling that that spirit has not been roused by this Bill alone, and that behind that spirit lies a strong antagonism to the whole policy of the present Government of India—a policy which, your memorialists submit, is not only just and beneficent in itself, but is also in consonance with, and is the proper outcome of, principles which have been laid down for upwards of half a century by successive Parliaments, Secretaries of State for India, and the Government of India, and, above all, calculated to promote the best interests of both England and India.

5. Your memorialists maintain that, when the principle is once admitted that the Natives of this country ought to be appointed in gradually increasing number to posts in the service of Her Majesty, which in their ordinary functions include the trial of offences committed by European subjects, a very strong case is made out for such legislation as is attempted in this Bill. It is the duty of the statesman to provide in due season for an adaptation of the whole administrative machinery to that principle before an overwhelming number of cases actually arise in which such adaptation may be specifically required.

6. Your memorialists would crave leave to say a few words upon certain specified points made in connection with this subject.

7. The existence of this anomalous and invidious distinction which the Bill seeks to remove is sought to be justified by the assumed incapacity of Native Magistrates to deal with cases in which British-born subjects are concerned. The grounds alleged for this assumption are—(1) that Native Magistrates are likely to be swayed by race-prejudices; (2) that they are not sufficiently acquainted with European manners and customs; (3) that much perjury prevails in India; (4) that false and trumped-up charges are often brought against innocent parties; (5) that the aid of experienced counsel cannot be had in the mufassal.

8. *First*, as to race-prejudices, it must be remembered that the Magistrates who are to be entrusted with jurisdiction over Europeans will of necessity be tried and trusted servants of Government, who have gone through years of training, and who have by their qualification attained high positions, such as those of District Magistrates or Sessions Judges. The other persons who are eligible for these extended powers are those Covenanted Civil Servants, Assistant Commissioners, or Cantonment Magistrates only who have been especially selected by Government to be Justices of the Peace.

9. Your memorialists would respectfully submit that it is impossible to suppose that any one of these Magistrates, most of whom must necessarily have been educated in England, and have thus come into social contact with Europeans, could entertain any hostile prejudices against the English people. Surely the blessings of English rule—which no one appreciates better than the educated Natives of India—are calculated to produce not a feeling of hostility, not a feeling of prejudice against the English people, but rather a feeling of respect, gratitude, and admiration. The idea, therefore, of wilful injustice must, your memorialists submit, be dismissed as a gross and unjustifiable libel, unfair alike to the English Government in India and to the Native Magistrates.

10. Wilful injustice being thus out of the question, is there any reasonable ground for supposing that Native Magistrates are more likely to be unconsciously swayed by race-prejudices than their European colleagues? In considering this question one must not forget the high training the Magistrates in question must have received before they are entrusted with the powers proposed to be given under the Bill, nor the fact that Hindu Magistrates try every day questions in which Hindus, Parsis, and Mussalmans may be opposed to each other, and *vice versâ*. Now, it has never been alleged that Hindu, Mussalman, or Parsi Magistrates unjustly convict persons belonging to a different race or creed from their own. Then, why should it be supposed that these Magistrates would be unjustly influenced by race-prejudices in the case of Europeans only?

11. As to want of acquaintance with European manners and customs, your memorialists submit that this is not true in the case of Natives who have been educated in England or even those who have received a high English education in this country, and who have for years mixed with Europeans in their own country and in India on a footing of equality and friendship. On the contrary, your memorialists would submit that Convenanted Native Civil Servants are likely to be better acquainted with European manners and customs than many European Magistrates are, and can generally be, with the habits and customs of the Natives of this country.

12. In regard to perjury and false and trumped-up charges, and the absence of counsel, surely experienced Native Magistrates are as well able to deal with these difficulties as their European colleagues, or rather more from their intimate knowledge of Natives. These difficulties are not alleged to be confined to European cases only, but to occur in all cases. But, if the Magistrates are able to detect perjury and to discover trumped-up charges, even in the absence of counsel, when levelled against the Natives of this country, surely they would be equally able to detect them when they have to try cases in which Europeans are concerned.

13. And your memorialists submit that the multiplication of railways and the telegraph has made it easy for parties to engage counsel, or to communicate readily with the Government or the High Courts, which could not have been done in former times; while the High Courts in India have now been invested with the ample powers to transfer cases on all occasions where such a step may seem desirable. If, then, these Magistrates are admittedly competent to administer justice to the millions of India, it can hardly be seriously argued that they are unfit to deal with the few cases in which Europeans are concerned. Your memorialists cannot believe that Natives are more governed by race-prejudices than Europeans. They think that quite the contrary is the fact.

14. Under these circumstances, your memorialists would respectfully ask whether it is just, dignified, or politic to have one set of scales for administering justice to the Natives of this country and quite another for Europeans; whether our Courts are good enough for trying questions of life and death for the 200 millions of Her Majesty's Indian subjects, but not fit to try even the most trivial questions in regard to Englishmen; and whether the pre-

sent exceptional and anomalous provisions of the law are not calculated to lead the Natives of this country to believe that they are intended more to screen European offenders than to secure impartial justice?

15. Lastly, your memorialists emphatically deny the gross misrepresentation that the Natives of this country care nothing for this Bill. They, on the contrary, assert that they are keenly and deeply interested in it. They have watched, and will continue to watch, its fate with the most intense anxiety. In the opinion of your memorialists, the principle involved in this Bill is of the most vital importance to their interest and welfare. The question really is, whether the Natives of this country—no matter what their qualifications, their learning, their experience and their services in the cause of their country may be—are always to be treated as an inferior race of men; whether that inferiority is constantly to be marked by invidious and galling distinction? And this question, as already indicated, has now to be considered as part of the still larger question—whether India is to be governed upon the righteous principles which were announced by Her Most Gracious Majesty, and have guided Your Excellency's enlightened policy, or upon those of the opponents of this Bill?

And, in duty bound, we, Your Lordship's obedient and humble subjects, will ever pray.

No. 6, dated 10th August, 1883.

From—GANESH PANDURANG AGTERY, Vice-President, and RAGHUNATH PANDURANG KARANDIKAR and NARAYAN PANDURANG AGTERY, Honorary Secretaries, Satara Sarvajanik Sabha.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

We have been directed by the Managing Committee of the Satara Sarvajanik Sabha to submit the following representation on Bill No. 8 of 1883, a Bill to amend the criminal jurisdiction of Native Magistrates, for the consideration of the Legislative Council, and to request you to lay the same before it.

1. The Sabha has been watching with deep interest the progress of the Bill mentioned above since the time the Hon'ble Mr. Ilbert begged leave of the Council to introduce the same.

2. The principle of this Bill is of the greatest importance and significance, and is in thorough accord with the traditional policy of the Indian Government, with the declared views and acts of the great Anglo-Indian statesmen who have founded and consolidated this great empire, with the repeated instructions of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, with the Acts of British Parliament on the subject of Indian policy, and, lastly, with the generous promises and pledges of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, as solemnly given in the Royal Proclamation of 1858.

3. The equality in the eye of the law of all Her Majesty's Indian subjects—whether British-born or otherwise—has been one of the main principles underlying the policy and government of this country by the late East India Company, and it has been accentuated above all in the Royal Proclamation on the assumption of the direct rule of this great country by Her Most Gracious Majesty.

4. The greater and more extended employment of the Natives in the government of their own country, which has been promised, which is being carried out partially, and which policy and economy alike will force the Government to carry out more fully, demands that the Natives shall be under no disqualification, by reason of their caste, colour or creed, in the exercise of powers appertaining to the posts held by them. If invidious distinctions and disqualifications are allowed, not only great public inconvenience and injustice will accrue, but much needless expense will be thrown on the public Exchequer.

5. The British Indian Government cannot recognise Europeans as a dominant caste in this country, and invest them with exclusive rights and privileges. Such a proceeding will stamp the Natives as an inferior race, and engender in the mind of the nation at large a sense of injustice and wrong, and will create a permanent feeling of discontent most prejudicial to the interests both of India and England. The triumph or defeat of this Bill will be associated in the minds of the people with the triumph or defeat of a great cause—the cause of justice and equality, the cause of India being governed in its own interests and not in the interests of a small dominant class; its "symbolical significance" is great, and its fate is watched with keen interest.

6. The power to try European British subjects, which the present Bill proposes to invest Native Magistrates with, has been freely enjoyed by Her Majesty's Native subjects in Ceylon, and the Sabha has the authority of Her Majesty's Colonial Under-Secretary declaring in Parliament that none of the numerous and fancied dangers which such an investment is alleged to be fraught with has ever occurred there, and that no complaints are made by the Europeans there against Native Magistrates exercising criminal jurisdiction over them.

7. The same is found to be the case in the matter of Native Magistrates and Judges exercising criminal jurisdiction over Europeans in Presidency towns and civil jurisdiction all over the country. The Natives have shown themselves perfectly competent and fit to hold such powers, and it is not likely they will ever prove unworthy of trust if invested with criminal jurisdiction as well over Europeans.

8. Notwithstanding this, many objections are raised against the passing of this Bill, some of which are noticed below:—

(1) The necessity for the proposed change has not been made out.
(2) The time for the change has not yet come.
(3) A Native is not fit to try European British subjects because of his caste-prejudices and his ignorance of European manners, habits, and language.
(4) There has been no popular demand for the change.

9. As regards the first objection. Since the Native Civilians are rising to the rank of District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, it is necessary, for obvious reasons, that they must be put on a footing of equality with European members of the same service, as regards the criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects, by removing the existing anomalous distinction and disqualification. According to the provisions of existing law, a European British subject, committing an offence not adequately punishable by a Magistrate, in a district presided over by a Sessions Judge, who himself is not a European British subject, has to be sent up to the Presidency town for his trial before the High Court. This is a great public inconvenience, entailing, the Sabha submits, a great hardship on the aggrieved parties and on the witnesses concerned, and a good deal of needless expense on the public treasury, which it is quite desirable should be avoided by removing the judicial incapacity of the Native Civilians by introducing the proposed change into the law.

10. As regards the second objection. British statesmen of great Indian experience have often declared that Native judicial officers are efficient and impartial in administering justice, and, as a matter of fact, their decisions on important questions are generally upheld by the superior tribunals. This circumstance alone encourages the Sabha to say that this objection is groundless. Any such objection would hold good if European settlers in this country were to a great extent under English law. But all Her Majesty's Indian subjects, whether European or Native, are now tried by one and the same criminal law without any distinction, and this law is entirely based upon the principles and precedents of English law and jurisprudence. The case of English residents in foreign countries being tried by their own Courts is not in point, because in this country they are not tried by foreign Courts, administering foreign and strange law, but by Judges appointed by their own Government and by laws made by themselves.

11. With regard to the third ground of objection, the Sabha is really at a loss to conceive what bearing caste has on one's notion of justice. Had there been any force in this objection, European British subjects would never have submitted to the jurisdiction of Native Magistrates in Presidency towns. Native Magistrates, moreover, daily try men of all castes and creeds, Hindus, Mussalmans, Parsis, Christians, Jains, Buddhists, &c., and no complaint has been heard that, in trying men and women of so many races, they are swayed by caste-prejudices. As regards ignorance of European habits and language, if Natives are ignorant of European habits and language, much more are the Europeans ignorant of Native habits and languages, and would be unfit to try Natives. The fact, however, is that educated Natives possess a better knowledge of English than many English Civilians possess of the Vernacular languages.

12. Lastly, it has been put forth that the Natives have never asked for the change. It is well known that, when the Criminal Procedure Code was under discussion in the Supreme Legislative Council, two eminent Native Members of the Council proposed an amendment for the removal of this very anomaly. The movers clearly made out the importance of the amendment: what they said was that there should be perfect equality in respect of all races without any distinction of colour or creed. The Sabha does not wish to enter into the details of this question, but it is humbly of opinion that the change is really and earnestly asked for by the leading members of the Native community.

13. We cannot conclude without expressing the Sabha's great regret at the hostile attitude of a certain section of the European community in India on this subject. A broad question has been raised—"What ideal shall we set before our eyes" in the government of the various nations of this great Empire? The Sabha has not the slightest doubt that His Excellency the present Viceroy's government will settle this question rightly and wisely, and in the interests of the millions of Her Majesty's Indian subjects entrusted to His Excellency's care.

No. 2108, dated 11th August, 1883.

From—M. HAMMICK, Esq., for Chief Secretary to Government, Madras,

To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter, dated 27th June 1883, No. 1710, and with reference to your telegram of the 27th ultimo, I am directed to forward a copy of the minute recorded by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. Muttasami Aiyar on the Criminal Procedure Bill.

Minute by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. MUTTASAMI AIYAR, *Madras.*

As a Native who has had criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects as a Presidency Magistrate from 1868 to 1872, and as a High Court Judge since 1878, I have felt

some delicacy in expressing an opinion on the Jurisdiction Bill, which is opposed mainly on the ground that the several races other than European British subjects who are settled in India are, as a body, incompetent to exercise such jurisdiction. But, as a member of a Court to which Her Imperial Majesty has, under statutory enactment, been pleased to commit the highest judicial functions, I feel it at once due to the Crown and to my country to place on record my views on a legislative proposal which has evoked such widely different sentiments both in this country and in Europe. Divesting myself, so far as it is possible to do, of any conscious partiality, I believe that the measure is one which the Legislature may enact as law with the fullest assurance of its justice and without any reasonable doubt of its expediency. There is scarcely room to doubt that the principle on which the Bill is founded is sound and unimpeachable. Assuming for a moment that there are certain classes of Natives who are, by education, special knowledge, and character, qualified to exercise the new jurisdiction, I am unable to conceive on what principle of justice it is to be withheld from them. Where are we to stop, if we once admit that, in a time of peace and progress, when the policy adopted in every branch of the administration is in the direction of the regeneration of India, the claims of equal justice to all classes of Her Imperial Majesty's subjects are to be subordinated to the sentimental objections of any one class? Nearly 50 years ago, and in 1833, it was decided by the British Parliament that no Native shall be excluded from any office in the State which he is competent to hold solely by reason of his colour, caste or creed; and the Jurisdiction Bill only purports to give effect to this Parliamentary guarantee, by substantially ruling that no power appertaining to the office which the Native is qualified to hold shall be taken away from him because he is Native and not an European British subject. The time that has been allowed to elapse from the date of the Parliamentary guarantee, during which English education, English administration, and liberal-minded Englishmen and Englishwomen have steadily been doing their good work in aid of progress, indicates that the legislation now proposed is far from premature. On the other hand, it is the necessary result of that liberal policy and statesmanship which does not shrink from recognising the altered conditions of progress, which has made Great Britain what she is and which, it is earnestly hoped, will one day raise India to what she ought to be. I further think that, in this country, where there are divers races and nationalities, the only considerations that ought to influence our decision is that of competency to exercise the new jurisdiction. I do not for a moment pretend to claim this jurisdiction for all Natives, for no one is more aware than I am of their many imperfections; but I desire to point out that there is a considerable number of Natives who are competent to exercise the criminal jurisdiction as efficiently as the average European British subject, and that it is as incorrect to say that no Native is competent to exercise it as it is that every European British subject is competent to exercise it.

2. Confining myself, then, to the question of competency, I do not see sufficient ground for the apprehension that the Bill, if it becomes law, will at all impair the protection which European British subjects claim against injustice. Our Subordinate Judges, who are Natives, exercise unlimited jurisdiction over the property of European British subjects, and it is generally admitted that they exercise it as satisfactorily as most of our District Judges. Again, our District Munsifs have civil jurisdiction to no inconsiderable extent over European British subjects, and there has been no complaint against them. The coercive and punitive powers which are conferred upon the Native Judicatories by the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure include powers to arrest, to imprison, to fine, and to demand security from European British subjects; larger in extent, in some cases, than the power to fine or imprison, which it is now intended to confer upon Justices of the Peace; and, so far as I am aware, there has not been a single instance in this Presidency in which these powers have been abused to the prejudice of the European British subject. Notwithstanding the fact that civil justice is so largely administered by Native agency, no sense of insecurity of property has resulted from it. On the other hand there has been a steady and copious flow of British capital into India during the last 20 years. This being so, I do not understand why should the very limited criminal jurisdiction which it is now proposed to confer upon a few superior Native Magistrates, who, as a class, are at least as intelligent and respectable as our Subordinate Judges, produce a different result. Is it not just and reasonable to conclude that the new criminal jurisdiction will be exercised by them as carefully and as impartially as the civil jurisdiction and its ancillary powers are exercised by their own countrymen in the uncovenanted judicial service? Turning, next, to the Native civil servants, are not there additional guarantees of efficiency in the university education which those Natives and Eurasians who are selected for the civil service under the competitive system generally secure, in the common platform on which they compete in England with their English compeers, in the insight which they acquire into the influences that enter into the domestic and social life of Englishmen and Englishwomen, and in their modes of thought and feeling? Furthermore, the circumstances in which this jurisdiction will be exercised by Natives afford a very satisfactory guarantee against its abuse. The supervision which the District Magistrate, the Sessions Judge and the High Court exercise over the inferior Magistrates, the care with which their action is watched where an European British subject is concerned, the feeling among educated Natives that even a *bonâ fide* mistake in a case where an European British subject is concerned, or in which party-feeling runs high, is liable to misconstruction, the desire to maintain a high character for judicial impartiality in the estimation of the higher European district officials and of the High Court and Government, the power of transferring cases which vests in the High Court, the facilities which the European officials in the provinces possess of discovering any abuse of power in cases in which an European British subject is concerned, the right of appeal, and the right to apply for the writ of *habeas corpus* which Englishmen possess—all these favour the conclusion that the superior Native officials named in the Bill will feel and recognize that it is as much their interest as it is their duty to exercise the new jurisdiction so as to merit the approbation of enlightened Europeans. As to Native Sessions Judges and District Magistrates, who will be men of considerable experience and of approved service, high official status and character, it seems to me to be absurd to say that, although they may well sustain the heavy responsibility devolving on them in all other respects, they are not fit to try a few Europeans who may offend against criminal law. As to the members of the statutory or Native civil service, it is, no doubt, true that though they are always men of high social status, and though many have secured the benefit of liberal English education, some of them may be young, inexperienced, and not as highly educated as the others; and all that can, perhaps, be reasonably demanded is that in their case the new jurisdiction should be specially conferred by Government subject to certain length of service and on special proof of fitness for its exercise. I may here refer to the success with which criminal jurisdiction is exercised in the provinces by Native Magistrates over Europeans who are not European British subjects. In what respects do English British subjects differ from other Europeans so as to render the extension of jurisdiction inexpedient? If it is the right of conquest, I would observe that British love of equal justice to all is as important an element of British greatness as British valour or British pride. These considerations induce me to think that the opposition offered to the Bill is not founded on reason.

3. In the discussion which the legislative proposal has evoked, many secondary issues have unfortunately been raised, and the main issue has often been thrown quite into the back ground. It is said by the opponents of the Bill that what we ask for is, not that any privilege enjoyed by the Native should be withheld from him, but that the privilege hitherto enjoyed by the European British subject should not be taken away from him. I would here observe that the real question is one of equal justice to all Her Majesty's subjects, and of removing legal disabilities when the altered conditions of progress render their removal an act of bare justice and fairness. The principles and traditions of enlightened statesmanship and legislation seem to me to require in this country that no special privileges that derogate from the equal rights of citizenship should be recognized, except either on the ground that the particular privilege claimed must be tolerated for a time on considerations of policy as an unavoidable administrative imperfection, or for the reason that its preservation is necessary as a special protection against injustice.

4. It is next urged that the Native community does not demand a repeal of the privilege which is dealt with by the Bill. I would ask whether, as a community, Natives ever demanded that slavery should be abolished, or that no arbitrary distinction of colour, caste, or rank should be recognized regarding the exercise of public rights, or that the Indian prince and peasant should be equal in the eye of law and in the British courts of justice. I would further ask whether it is reasonable to believe that the Natives do not see and feel the humiliation implied by a legislative declaration of national and almost universal incompetency to exercise jurisdiction even in small criminal cases over European British subjects.

5. It is further alleged that some of the Natives say that it would be troublesome to exercise this jurisdiction, and that they would be better off without it. Does not this really imply a diffidence in the impartial judgment of their official superior when he has to decide between an Englishman and a Native subordinate? In many cases, this diffidence will, on enquiry, be found to rest on no solid foundation. Assuming that there are some cases in which it is well founded, is it not an administrative defect that ought to be remedied? Is this feeling to be encouraged or to be noted as an argument against the Bill? Does it not, on the contrary, indicate that scrupulous care would be taken in exercising this jurisdiction, and that European British subjects are likely to receive more consideration from Natives than they might reasonably expect from their own countrymen?

6. It is not for me to enter on the question of feeling or of sentiment, and I would therefore pass over it with the remark that it does not harmonize with the exigencies of progress and with the British sense of fairness and justice. I may, however, state that, if the Bill becomes law, it will tend, though after a time and after the present excitement passes away, rather to bridge over the gulf between the European and the Native which invidious distinctions maintain, than to widen or deepen the breach.

7. It is next urged that exemption from Native jurisdiction is of political importance, and that it is necessary to maintain the prestige of British power. Her Majesty's Secretary of State is often a party in a civil suit tried by a District Munsif, and at times is a judgment passed against him not only by the Court of first instance but also by the Court of Subordinate Judge on appeal. The whole Native community is aware of the existence of this right to sue the Crown. I would now ask whether this knowledge, and whether the gracious submission of the Crown to Native jurisdiction, have lowered or raised the prestige of British power. I may say, without fear of contradiction, that it has deepened the loyalty and affection felt for our Most Gracious Sovereign, and materially added to the prestige and splendour of British power. It is, therefore, not easy for me to understand why British prestige should suffer if Her Majesty's Native servant, acting in subordination to Her Majesty's Government, and subject to the authority of Her Majesty's High Court, should punish an European who breaks the law.

The submission of the Crown to Native jurisdiction in civil cases most emphatically illustrates the position that love of equal justice to all materially adds to, and does not at all detract from, the prestige of the British race, and that it has always characterised the British rule in this country.

8. As to the argument that immunity from the jurisdiction of Native Criminal Courts constituted by the British Government and supervised by higher European tribunals is the personal and indefeasible privilege of the European British subject, I must say that it is inconsistent with the traditions of the British rule and the history of British legislation in this country for nearly 50 years. For instance, prior to 1836, European British subjects had enjoyed a total immunity from the civil jurisdiction of all the Courts established by the late East India Company. Then there was a sentiment that even English gentlemen, including the Judges of the late Sadr Court, were unfit to exercise jurisdiction over Europeans. But when it was found that there was no necessity for the retention of this privilege, and that an amendment of the law was feasible, Act XI of 1836 was passed to repeal the privilege. When this was done, no distinction was made between the Native Judge and the District Judge. Although District Munsifs were not then included among the judicatories competent to exercise civil jurisdiction, still the ground was one of incompetency and not of nationality. However, when the improvement of the uncovenanted judicial service rendered a further amendment of the law practicable, Act III of 1850 subjected European British subjects to the civil jurisdiction of District Munsifs. Again, when it was found expedient to confer criminal jurisdiction on Native Magistrates in Presidency towns over European British subjects, the law was amended without any opposition. As to this, it is stated that the presence of a large European community and of the English Press in Presidency towns are special safeguards which do not exist in the provinces. Assuming that it is from fear, and not from principle or sense of duty, that Presidency Magistrates do not abuse their power, or the supervision of the High Courts, the facilities which district officials possess of acquiring information as to how an European British subject is treated, and the criticisms and letters that appear in the Presidency papers as to what takes place in remote plantations—are all these to go for nothing as checks against abuse of power?

9. As to the argument founded on international law, according to which Christian nations in Europe claim immunity from the criminal jurisdiction of Muhammadan States in Turkey and Northern Africa, it rests, as pointed out by Sir A. Hobhouse, on grounds which are not applicable to the Jurisdiction Bill. It has, then, been suggested that an immunity from the Criminal Courts in the Native States of Travancore and Mysore is enjoyed by European British subjects. Neither does this seem to me to be a parallel case. The British Government is not entitled to insist that the Indian Penal Code shall always be the criminal law to be administered by those States. Nor is it in a position to guide and control the nomination and dismissal of Native Magistrates or to subject them to the supervision of higher European tribunals, or to institute administrative guarantees to ensure the protection which the special immunity is designed to secure.

10. The real question, therefore, on which our decision should depend is, I say again, whether, regard being had to the education and status of superior Native Magistrates and of Native civil servants, and to the circumstances in which they are to exercise a very limited criminal jurisdiction, the retention of the special privilege is necessary as a safeguard to the administration of criminal justice. I shall next proceed to consider *seriatim* the arguments founded upon what are said to be defects in Native character or peculiarities of temper in certain uneducated classes of Europeans, and upon the consideration which is due to English ladies that appear before judicial tribunals.

11. Want of sufficient firmness and of independence of character, and a proneness to be swayed by race sentiment or feeling, especially when waves of social and political excitement pass over Native society, are the defects to which reference has been made in connection with the Bill. As to firmness and independence, they are seldom missed in the judgments of our Subordinate Judges and District Munsifs, and it was a marked improvement in this respect that induced the Legislature to give them jurisdiction over suits to which Government and superior public servants were parties. I have heard public and social questions discussed at social gatherings as well by educated as by orthodox Hindus, and I have seldom missed either a frank expression of opinion or firm adherence to one's views. If servility and obsequiousness are in some cases found in ministerial officials, it is because they feel that these are conducive to their success in official life. If they are at times found to feign a concurrence in the view of their European superiors, it will be seen on close examination that it is due to the fear that independence in a Native is mistaken for self-assertion and that manner is similarly mistaken for character owing to the limited social intercourse between the European and the Native. However this may be, the defect does not exist where there is a conviction that independence and frankness are invited and encouraged, or where a high sense of duty is generated and sustained by the influences due to liberal English education. Considering, then, the status, the education and the enlightenment generally of Natives who are superior Magistrates and members of the civil service, and considering also in what esteem such men as the late lamented Ratnavelu Chetti and others of his stamp were held, I do not think that this objection against the Bill has any force.

12. Next, as to proneness to be swayed by race feeling and social prejudice. There are three classes of Native Magistrates on whom it is proposed to confer criminal jurisdiction. The

argument is obviously not pertinent in the case of Eurasians who enter the civil service under the competitive examination. Nor is it pertinent in the case of superior Native Magistrates, who are men of education and tried character, and possessed of considerable experience. Neither has it weight in the case of Natives who have risen above social prejudice, gone to England, studied and competed with Englishmen on their own soil, moved in their own society, at times dined at the same table, and in some instances even married Englishwomen. This class of civil servants, as well as those Natives who have had the benefit of university culture and education and have habitually cultivated a high sense of public duty, have no real reverence either for sacred monkeys or idols. It does seem to me to be a great hardship that these men should be told that, although they owe their position in the civil service to freedom from prejudice and narrow-minded views, and to the fact that, in most matters, they are influenced by English thought and feeling, they must be taken to be no better than some of their uneducated countrymen for the purposes of this Bill. As to the members of Native Civil Service, they are generally gentlemen by birth and status and education, and the conditions in which they will have to exercise the new jurisdiction are adequate checks against the misuse of their power. I must also point out that, defective as social education in this country is in many matters, reverence for law and judicial office is a trait in national character, and a dereliction of duty on the part of a Judge is, according to Hindu notion, one of the five great sins for which there is no atonement. I have also stated that there is no objection to instituting additional tests of competency in the case of this class of civil servants. In dealing with this argument, it is unfortunately overlooked by those who oppose the Bill that District Magistrates and the High Court will not hesitate to exercise their power to transfer cases from one Court to another whenever there is any apprehension on the ground of abnormal social or religious upheaval.

13. The next argument, that Native gentlemen will be wanting in consideration to English ladies who may appear before them, impliedly casts a very ungenerous and totally unfounded imputation on Native character. I hardly know a country in which there are fewer instances of insults offered to family women, both in public and private life. Conscious as I am of the profound respect with which English ladies are regarded by all classes of Hindus, and of the respectful affection and gratitude with which liberal-minded English ladies who labour to raise and elevate women in India are remembered both by men and women in educated Hindu families, I must emphatically characterise this attack as a cruel and unjust imputation on Native gentlemen. Have not Natives common sense to see that there are special social usages in every nation? Are they not aware that there are several peculiar customs among themselves? Does the educated European insult Native women because their customs are peculiar? "Regard every lady who is not your wife as your mother" is the rule of etiquette current among gentlemen in Native society. It is also a matter for regret that strange and startling misconceptions exist among European gentlemen as to the real position which the Hindu wife and mother enjoy in respectable families. The deference that is shown to the mother in all families, the consideration and respect accorded to Native ladies in Hindu society at ceremonial and festive gatherings, and the influence the wife commands in the families of many educated Natives and in respectable orthodox families, are scarcely inferior to what would be found in English homes. I may, therefore, confidently submit that English ladies that may appear before superior Native Magistrates and Native civil servants will be treated at least with as much deference and consideration as they might expect from their own countrymen, and that, if any mistake is made in this respect, it will be on the side of too much, than of too little, consideration.

14. As to the peculiarities of temper in sailors, soldiers, and the lower classes of Europeans, the answer is that these classes are most numerous in Presidency-towns, and there has been no complaint against Presidency Magistrates.

15. Another argument against the Bill is that national and social peculiarities are elements of probability that require to be taken into account in criminal cases, and that Natives are deficient in this branch of special knowledge. The fact is that it is hardly needed in dealing with ordinary police cases, such as drunken outbreaks, assaults or the like. In more serious cases, the overt acts from which a criminal intent is inferred would generally be such as create no difficulty in arriving at a finding as to intention. As to cases in which special knowledge is necessary, why should it be assumed without adequate reason that an educated Native is not competent to acquire it, while an educated European, fresh from England, is supposed to be capable of acquiring the same knowledge as to Natives? Are not English education, acquaintance with English society, social intercourse with Englishmen, and opportunities of consulting European superiors and colleagues in cases of exceptional difficulty facilities which a Native Magistrate and civil servant may turn to account? Are not cases which arise under the mercantile law, or which require a knowledge of the intricate law of trusts and testamentary alienations, and are not actions even for breach of promise of marriage, dealt with by Natives in the exercise of civil jurisdiction? It should also be borne in mind that those cases, if any, in which peculiarly subtle influences relating to sexual relations enter are not likely to come before inferior Magistrates, and that, if they ever do come, they may be transferred to some higher tribunal for disposal.

In conclusion, I have to apologize for the length of this paper. I have also to apologize if I have unconsciously under-estimated the force of any objection taken to the Bill. I am far from any intention that any special privilege which is necessary as a protection against injustice should be taken away from the British residents in India; for no one feels more than

that, among the various races who have ruled over this country, British race is the nation to whom this country owes an everlasting debt of gratitude. The prestige of that race is of importance as well to the Hindu as to the European; for it is necessary to the cause of order, progress, and national regeneration in India. My only desire is that the Native and the European should not, in their relations as fellow-citizens, overlook the exigencies of progress, but act with mutual consideration, so that their descent from the same stock in the far antiquity may become the watchword for mutual esteem, cordiality, love, and brotherhood.

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