

Educational (1900) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 502

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INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording progs. Rev depts. passing order
on B.P. Submy Mr Moscardi's report
on the inspection of the American infants
in South Canada.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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ED CURRENT No. 1306

Government {1900} of Madras. REVENUE.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1900.

Enclosures

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G.O., No. 972, 17th September 1900.

SEPTEMBER.

Inspection of the Amindivi Islands.

Passing orders on Board's Proceedings submitting Mr. Moscardi's report on the — in South Canara.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), No. 122, dated 10th July 1900:—

The Hon'ble Mr. W. J. H. LEFANU.

Mr. A. W. B. HIGGENS.

Read—the following letter from A. F. G. MOSCARDI, Esq., Assistant Collector of South Canara, to the Collector of South Canara, dated Mangalore, 10th December 1899, Dis. No. 39-R.:—

I have the honour to report on my recent inspection of the Laccadive islands attached to this district.

2. I visited the four inhabited islands, Chetlat, Kadamat, Amini and Kiltan, in the order named. I left Kiltan on the 1st November. On arriving at Kadamat I heard that the monegar was not in Amini, but that the kundra in which he had attempted to cross from the coast in May last had been dismantled by a storm, and had probably drifted to Androth in the Malabar group. I requested Captain Ford to take the steamer to Androth and bring the monegar with him to Kadamat, and accordingly the monegar arrived at Kadamat, while I was there, on the 6th October.

3. *General Remarks.*—I agree with all previous inspecting officers who have considered that the islanders live in better surroundings than people of the same class on the mainland. Overcrowding, and the unhealthy conditions arising from many houses standing close together are unknown. But at this point the comparison ceases to be in favour of the islanders. They are miserably poor, and their food is generally insufficient. Their sea-going boats are so badly rigged that they have to wait on the wind sometimes for weeks together.

When I arrived at Kiltan, most of the kundras of the island were at Mangalore for a supply of rice. Contrary winds detained them on the coast, and the island was suffering from famine. On such occasions the unvaried diet of fish and cocoanuts causes bowel-complaints which are often fatal.

The average islander is a well-grown and powerful man of remarkable endurance. When rowing from one island to another, they never take an easy, but will row strongly for six hours or more continuously.

One sees very little of the women, although gosha is not observed on the islands. They are occupied all day long in making coir and cooking.

Succession as regards family property or any honour hereditary in the family, is by Alyasantana law; but a man may will his self-acquired property to his children. The two sorts of property are called by the islanders Beliasa and Belasha respectively.

Both boys and girls are married when adult by the orthodox Mussalman ceremony. Both husband and wife may divorce each other without restraint; if the wife wishes to be divorced she intimates the fact to her husband, who is bound by custom to obey. Both parties continue, after marriage, to live in their family houses; but a married man is not allowed inside his family house between sunset and sunrise. He takes his evening and morning meals at his wife's expense, for which he pays her a certain amount of rice which varies in different cases from 4 to 7 muras per annum.

4. *Configuration.*—I checked the survey maps sent me from your office and have to record very few alterations. The maps are generally misleading as to the entrances through the reefs. The details are as follows:—

(1) *Amini.*—The only change is that new land has formed on the south, about a chain outward from the old boundary. This land has been planted out with cocoanuts.

(2) *Kadamat.*—This island is unchanged in shape. A small tongue of sand has formed on the north-west corner. It will probably be washed away again before long. The survey stone on the extreme south is missing; the tongue of sand on which it was planted has been washed away and re-formed since the survey. On the east side I found two survey stones lying loose; I re-placed them in their old positions.

(3) *Kiltan.*—The configuration of the island is entirely unaltered.

(4) *Chetlat.*—The only change is that a tongue of sand has formed to the north. The reef at the south of the island is much nearer inshore than the map shows. This is not due to any extension of the island, for the survey stones are in the positions indicated.

I have marked the necessary corrections in pencil in the maps which are returned herewith.

5. *Population.*—I took every possible precaution to assure the accuracy of the following figures. They compare with those of the last two enumerations (made respectively just before and just after the cholera of 1893) as follows:—

	1892.	1895.	1899.
Amini	2,052	1,817	1,829
Kadamat	333	294	290
Kiltan	776	631	733
Chetlat	674	548	614
Total	3,835	3,290	3,466

The comparison shows that the numbers are recovering but slowly from the effects of that very severe epidemic.

Kiltan and Chetlat are now, I think, supporting as many inhabitants as possible, even at the present miserable standard of living on the islands. Amini could not support so many but for the fact that about half the trees on Kadamat are owned by people from Amini. For the same reason I think that the population of Kadamat cannot, with comfort, become much larger. Further remarks will be made on this matter in paragraph 23.

6. *Registration of Births and Deaths.*—

		Births.				Deaths.			
		Male.	Female.	Total.	Rate per mille on census of 1895	Male.	Female.	Total.	Rate per mille on census of 1895
Amini	1895	19	5	24	13	22	20	42	23
	1896	13	15	28	15	22	15	37	20
	1897	23	24	47	25	34	35	69	37
	1898	10	18	28	15	18	27	45	24
Kadamat	1895	4	3	7	23	5	1	6	20
	1896	1	6	7	23	6	3	9	30
	1897	4	8	12	40	8	8	16	54
	1898	6	9	15	51	3	3	6	20
Kiltan	1895	12	5	17	26	13	6	19	30
	1896	18	27	45	71	8	9	17	26
	1897	8	11	19	30	8	8	16	25
	1898	8	4	12	19	2	3	5	7
Chetlat	1895	9	10	19	34	8	7	15	27
	1896	14	13	27	49	3	5	8	14
	1897	14	8	22	40	5	2	7	12
	1898	18	20	38	69	2	10	12	21
Total	1895	44	23	67	20	48	34	82	24
	1896	46	61	107	32	39	32	71	21
	1897	49	51	100	30	55	53	108	32
	1898	42	51	93	28	25	43	68	20
Total		181	186	367		167	162	329	

The registration shows an increase of population since 1894 amounting to only 38. The census figures for this year and 1895 show an increase of 176. It is impossible to say whether the discrepancy is due mainly to incorrect registration or to incorrect enumeration. Immigration from the coast is another disturbing influence, which is difficult to appreciate exactly. The karanis (accountants) of the islands are not sufficiently educated or energetic to turn out perfectly reliable figures; and on the other hand, the difficulty of making a correct census when many persons are absent from their islands is very great.

7. Buildings.—

Islands.	Houses.		Mosques.	
	1895.	1899.	1895.	1899.
Amini	393	410	40	40
Kadamat	44	43	9	10
Kiltan	170	188	22	22
Chetlat	141	131	18	18

The above table shows that the number of houses and mosques has undergone very little change since 1895. The Government cutcherries on each of the islands are in a good state of repair. On the three smaller islands they have no doors; and the monegar told me that in his opinion doors are necessary. Having camped in these buildings I am able to say that doors are not required.

The islanders have built a small light-house tower on the north of Kiltan, but it is never used.

8. Boats and Navigation.—

Year.	Amini.				Kadamat.				Kiltan.	
	Kundras.		Building.		Kundras.		Building.		Kundras.	Boats.
			Kundras.	Boats.			Kundras.	Boats.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1895	34	137	1	7	32	..	27	73		
1899	32	200	3	8	7	26	..	1	23	72

Year.	Kiltan—cont.		Chetlat.				Total.			
	Building.		Kundras.		Building.		Kundras.		Building.	
					Kundras.	Boats.			Kundras.	Boats.
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1895	1	33	68	..	101	310	2			
1899	5	8	30	81	5	5	92	379	13	22

It will be seen that the number of small boats is increasing, while the number of kundras remains about the same.

Island navigation is in a very poor state. The kundras are hardly able to sail into the wind at all; and they run before the wind at no more than six miles an hour

at most. The islanders who are instructed in navigation, are able to find their latitude to ten miles or so, but of course this does not help them much as they do not know how to find their longitude. There is a man in Androth, in the Malabar group, who has been taught by Arab seamen how to use the log, but none of the islanders seem anxious to learn from him. Thus the voyage of less than 150 miles to Mangalore is a lengthy and dangerous journey. A Mal from Minicoy settled in Amini a few years ago and began to teach navigation to several people, but at the beginning of this year he went to live on the coast. His name is Ali Malikan, and he was formerly amin of Minicoy.

The monegar, while at Androth, learned how to find the longitude in the Arab fashion, and I urged him to teach the islanders. Anything that would make them less helplessly dependent on the wind would help them to prevent the famines which are frequently caused by their delays in Mangalore. At present they dare not make a big tack against the wind, for they would lose their way.

9. Occupations.—

Islands.	Goldsmiths.		Silversmiths.		Blacksmiths.		Carpenters.		Malims or navigators.		Barbers.		Teachers.	
	1895.	1899.	1895.	1899.	1895.	1899.	1895.	1899.	1895.	1899.	1895.	1899.	1895.	1899.
Amini	6	10	4	4	2	3	15	20	38	25	18	10	7	3
Kadamat	..	..	1	..	1	..	7	1	10	8	6	2	2	1
	from Malabar.													
Kiltan	1	2	4	5	3	6	14	10	24	32	1	4	2	5
Chetlat	1	1	2	1	3	4	17	23	23	32	4	8	5	5

The wages of artisans are generally paid in cocoanuts. Wages of coolies are simply a daily supply of food for a day's work. The best work done on the islands is the boat-building. Both kundras and boats are light and strong. They are built of mainland wood and tied together with coir. The caulking is done with chunam and oil. In Amini and Kadamat there are a few goldsmiths from Malabar: those on Amini appear to have settled there, but those in Kadamat will probably return to the mainland. Amini is the only island where the people are wealthy enough to give much employment to goldsmiths.

10. Education.—

Islands.	1895.				1899.			
	Teachers.	Pupils.			Teachers.	Pupils.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.
Amini	7	102	44	146	8	92	81	173
Kadamat	2	38	34	72	1	10	4	14
Kiltan	2	24	9	33	5	58	40	98
Chetlat	5	38	24	62	5	59	29	88
Total	16	202	111	313	19	219	154	373

Following your instructions I paid special attention to this subject. With regard to the training of island boys as teachers, I find that it would not be difficult to find such as regards Malayalam; but Canarese is utterly unknown in the islands, and it is impossible to find any one fit to be trained as a teacher in that language.

The normal state of education in the islands is this: all the boys and most of the girls are sent to various Mukris to learn to read the Koran. This is completed by the time they are 11 or 12, and they are then able to begin what we should call their education. At this stage a large majority learn nothing more; a few learn to read and write their own dialect in Arabic characters, and a few learn navigation. (This involves two alphabets, for the traditional books on navigation are written partly in Arabic letters and partly in an alphabet called Batte, which resembles Tamil or Malayalam, but is not the same as either.)

This state of affairs was not interfered with until Mr. Mir Shujaet Ali, the inspecting officer in 1886, interested himself in the education of the islanders; and found a man named Kadri Haji (then Karani of Chetlat), who was willing to go to Calicut to be trained as a teacher in Malayalam. With the approval of Government this man was sent to Calicut, and shortly afterwards was started as a salaried teacher in Amini on 18 muras of rice per annum. To make his teaching more popular, he was attached to the most popular Mukri in Amini. This man died soon afterwards, and Kadri Haji continued alone, with the result that in 1891 the inspecting officer, Mr. Cowie, found him teaching only fifteen boys. Mr. Slight, at the end of 1892, found him with 44 pupils and remarked: "this is probably due to the fact that he now teaches them Arabic and the Koran himself." In 1895 Mr. Couchman found Kadri Haji teaching the Koran to 22 children, and Malayalam to eight only; in fact "Government was then paying him mainly for giving gratuitous religious instruction" (Mr. Couchman's report, paragraph 20). In 1895 he was supplied with elementary Malayalam readers, in which each lesson is written both in Arabic and Malayalam characters.

Two years ago he lost his health, and gave up teaching altogether. He had, at that time, about twenty pupils. I do not hold Kadri Haji responsible for the poorness of these results. He has taught Malayalam in its own characters to more than thirty persons altogether, although his pupils were so few, and their attendance was so desultory. He is now suffering from diabetes, and will probably never be fit for work again.

Island education having thus reverted to its original state, I made inquiries with a view to finding out what the people thought of it. The chief men in Amini wish to have a Canarese school, while those of the smaller islands variously prefer Canarese, Hindustani, or Malayalam. On one point all the islanders were in emphatic agreement, that they could not pay any school-fees. Of course they could quite well afford to pay small fees, except perhaps on Chetlat; but they mean that if it comes to paying for any new sort of education, they would rather do without it. They assert that they would send their children to a schoolmaster paid by Government; but I request your attention to the figures in the margin. From the figures in column 2 we must discount

a large number (in 1895, 22 out of 30) who were sent to Kadri Haji for gratuitous religious instruction.

I regret that I cannot forecast more satisfactory results for a fresh attempt to interest the islanders in education. Their feelings in the matter are not so much a desire to learn as an acquiescence in the idea of being taught. They have this feeling towards any court language and the best court language for them is undoubtedly Canarese. If, on the other hand, it be the intention of Government to impart to the islanders some elementary general knowledge, then Canarese may well be made to serve both purposes. But there is no islander who knows Canarese; so that the best teacher would be an educated Mappilla from the mainland. If such a man were sent over, it might reasonably be expected that after three years some of his pupils would know enough Canarese to be trained as elementary teachers. These suggestions apply only to Amini; for I think that you will agree with me in considering that education on the islands is at present in an experimental stage; and

	Number of children attending school.	Number attending the Government school.
1891	269	15
1892	346	44
1895	146	30

Amini, being the most populous and advanced of the four, is the most promising island on which to make a beginning. Nor do I overlook the fact that the experiment, which has apparently been unsuccessful in Malayalam, may likely enough succeed in Canarese.

11. Cattle.—

Islands.	February 1895.		September 1899.	
	Cattle.	Goats.	Cattle.	Goats.
Amini	163	387	210	3
Kadamat	37	43	45	..
Kiltan	30	110	24	..
Chetlat	22	31	26	..
Total	252	571	305	3 *

* These were lately imported from Androth for immediate use.

The few goats at present existing on Amini are the property of the monegar, or have been imported for immediate slaughter. The goats on all the islands were killed last year on agreements to keep no more for five years, an arrangement which has been made from time to time in the past, for the protection of the young plants. The islands cannot support enough goats to enable the islanders to feed regularly on their flesh, and the only practical value of goats is connected with various Mussalman ceremonies. On such occasions the place of the goat is now taken by a fowl or a cow.

Cattle-breeding is successful on the islands, but is not much practised. A certain amount of planting must always be going on; and in view of this a large number of cattle will never be tolerated on the islands. All cows are kept tethered at all times; and the range of each cow's tether is just so much ground on which planting is impossible.

12. Planting.—The islands of Amini, Kiltan and Chetlat are fully planted. Even the small pieces of new land on the south of Amini are planted out with as many plants as they can bear. Where any waste land exists, it is given on darkhast for planting, no payment of any sort being required by Government. In deciding on rival darkhasts, poor people's claims are preferred; and the condition is made that if the land is not planted in three years' time, it is liable to be resumed.

Kadamat is not yet fully planted, a fact which is apparently due to the numerical weakness of the population. The marginal figures will show that the present population of Kadamat cannot possibly require the whole extent of the island. Even now about half the private trees in the island are owned by Amini landlords; and the people of Kadamat do not show that they are dissatisfied with this state of affairs, which they might easily do by planting some of the waste land.

13. Immigration into Kadamat.—However it is possible from time to time to do something towards increasing the number of inhabitants of Kadamat, while relieving the other islands of some of their poorest inhabitants. I made such arrangements during my visit; and the settlement of a number of poor and industrious people may be expected to do much towards utilising the resources of Kadamat. Destitute people from other islands are generally willing to migrate to Kadamat for the grant of a few Government trees. On the whole, I caused thirteen families to immigrate, and gave them a total number of 440 trees.

	Area in acres.	Population.
Amini	621	1,829
Kadamat	750	290
Kiltan	398	733
Chetlat	255	614

14. Government trees.—

Name of island.	Government trees.			Rented.	Held by officials.	Given to paupers.		
	Bearing.	Young.	Total.			Bearing.	Young.	Total.
1	2			3	4	5		
Amini	402	225	627	26	67	309	181	490
Kadamat	1,167	135	1,302	1,007	30	126	..	126
Kiltan	204	61	265	83	45	76	13	89
Chetlat	107	213	320	78	29	..	..	..
Total ..	1,880	634	2,514	1,194	171	511	194	705

The difference between column 1 and the total of columns 2, 3 and 4 is due to the fact that barren trees and plants are included in column 1 and are in practice sometimes rented out or otherwise disposed of, and sometimes not. As an appendix to this report, I am submitting complete descriptions of all the Government plantations. My head clerk, who did most of the work in this connection, suggested that Government trees should be marked with tar. Owing to the impossibility of thus marking a plant, I recommend that the Government plots should be demarcated. The appendix now in question will be a most useful record for future visiting officers; and the greatest care was taken to ensure its accuracy, all outside claims, even to individual trees, being inquired into personally by myself.

All such Government trees as are not occupied by deserving poor persons are rented out at very various rates. Rupees 10 per 100 trees is a very frequent rate; but I know of one case in which eighteen very good trees were darkhasted for at Rs. 2 per tree. These differences represent certain differences in the practical values of sorts of trees, which I am not acquainted with. A fair proportion of trees in all the islands crop very heavily, although the idea of watering or manuring a full grown plant is unknown to the islanders.

15. *Records.*—The monegar's records appear to be complete, and to be arranged so as to be easily found. An islander who, in his own opinion, suffers any injustice, will generally think over it for 10 or 15 years before addressing the authorities on the subject; and as my petition register was unusually heavy, I was in a position to test the state of the monegar's records for many years back. The ordinary Shaha-book is illegible before the year 1874, owing to the poor quality of the paper and ink; but other records were all forthcoming. The monegar told me he was anxious to introduce the Disposal Number system into his office; but I advised him to wait until it should be decided whether he could have a second clerk or not. For a small office with but little correspondence I think the simpler system more suitable.

16. *Cattle-pounds.*—There is no such thing as a pound on the islands. Stray cattle are occasionally brought to the cutcherry, and a small fine is promptly imposed. This is very rare, and though I was constantly walking about the islands, I never saw a stray cow. Goats can bite through their tethers, but there are at present no goats on the islands; and the custom with regard to stray cattle is at present a dead-letter.

17. *Rats, &c.*—The rats continue to be a great nuisance in all the islands. Of all the means ever adopted against them, the island custom of hunting them in Koots or assemblies is the most effective. Over 100 rats were thus killed in Amini, in one morning, during my visit; and proportionate results were obtained on the other islands.

I could hear of only one owl, which is said to be alive in Chetlat. In Amini, a small rat-snake was killed and brought to me; the people seemed to be very glad to have killed it; the importation of snakes was most unpopular. The mungooses were all killed long ago. The people generally told me that they could kill as many rats in a Koot as with poison; but that poison was useful for killing the rats in the thick scrub which abounds in Kadamat, and is also to be found in other islands.

18. *Dry grain.*—In the three other islands there is a very little backyard cultivation of jola. In Amini, about an acre of land in the Kat is still cultivated with jola, but the cultivation of ragi has disappeared. The Kat (or maidan in the centre of the island from which the limestone rock has been removed) was, in Sir William Robinson's time, entirely free for dry grain cultivation. It is now almost all planted with cocoanuts, which pay far better than the dry grains.

19. Miscellaneous trees.—

Islands.	Bread fruit.	Lime.	Honne.	Arecanut.	Plaintain.	Betel-vine.	Others.
Amini	600	200	50	40	3,000	100	1,700
Kadamat	18	2	14	..	7	12	114
Kiltan	62	4	19	3	1	51	937
Chetlat	12	5	3	1	12	28	229

N.B.—The higher figures are approximate.

20. The above table shows the varieties of trees other than cocoanut trees on the islands. None of these trees are of any value to the islanders, except the lime-trees and betel-vines; because timber does not grow well on any of the islands. The casuarina trees which were sown by Mr. Hall are miserable stunted trees, and useless for any purpose; these exist on Amini only. Many lime-trees in Amini were cut down a few years ago by order of the late monegar, because he thought they harboured rats. This damage has now been repaired, and the export of limes from Amini is as large as ever. The screw-pine grows luxuriantly, especially in Kadamat, where the people do not use it for mat-making, as is done elsewhere.

21. *Rainfall.*—There is a rain gauge of the ordinary pattern, with all accessories for working it, in Amini. This is in charge of the hospital assistant; but he was absent from the islands during the monsoon, and consequently no figures could be taken for this year. The figures of previous years show that island rainfall is not half that of this coast.

22. *Meteorology.*—The instruments are an anemometer, which is not in good order, and a barometer, with maximum, minimum, and ordinary thermometers. The anemometer is never used and the work done with the other instruments is desultory. I should recommend that this work may be allowed to slide; it is impossible to communicate meteorological observations to the coast in time for them to be of any practical use.

23. *General remarks—Amini and Kadamat.*—These two islands are only about five miles apart, and have always been like one island. Up till Sir William Robinson's visit in 1845, and still later, the inhabitants of Kadamat were all tenants of the people of Amini, and acquiesced in the position. When Sir William Robinson visited the islands, he perceived that the Kadamatis needed only a slight impetus to start them on the way to independence. Accordingly, in the words of one of the Mupamars, "he ordered us to build a kundra for our own trade. Seeing that we were very poor, he sent us Rs. 500 from Government; we did not accept the money, but we built a kundra and began to trade separately". (It is one of the modes of paying rent on the islands that the kudian must convey his produce to the coast on his janmi's kundra). The Kadamatis continued to plant trees for themselves, and to free themselves from tenancy. As one of the janmis of Amini said, "some became free, and have remained so; some found that they could not get on without our trees, and became tenants again; some have continued to be our tenants till now". The tenants now number seventeen households, or about one-third of the population of Kadamat. But they are so possessed by the idea of independence that they refuse to accept the religious supremacy of the Amini Khazi (see paragraph 48 below).

About half the trees on Kadamat are owned by the Amini janmis; and some 25 darkhast petitions from Amini for more land on Kadamat are now pending. It would be well if such darkhasts were freely granted, for in the first place I gathered that nearly all the planting in Kadamat is done by Amini, the Kadamatis being very apathetic about it; preferring to take up the whole available number of Government

trees on rent rather than plant out the waste land at their very doors, which they could do free of all payment. In the second place, Government has more than 1,000 trees in Kadamat, which are sufficient to encourage desirable immigration without reserving any of the waste land. While a large part of a fertile island like Kadamat remains waste, it is in the interest of Government to encourage people who wish to plant it.

24. The people of Amini are well off, and do less work than the people of other islands, for Amini has more resources. The people of the highest castes, called Tarwad and Tanakampurna, are obviously better off than the other islanders, and are well-dressed and clean. In Amini, tender cocoanuts are not used for food so much as elsewhere, and coir is often made with nuts which are sufficiently ripe for export. Such fibre is both coarser and darker coloured than that of the unripe nut, when nine or ten months old. This is one of the causes of the poor quality of Amini coir; the other cause being that much of the fibre is soaked in fresh-water pits, which can never be so clean as the water in the lagoons. It is not possible to do away with the fresh-water pits entirely, for the shore is so near the reef that in a few places only can the fibre be safely deposited without the danger of its being washed away. Such places are already fully utilised for soaking. I told the monegar to see to the condition of the fresh-water pits from time to time; he can get them cleaned by a Koot (customary assembly of men).

The fibre in Kadamat is all soaked in the sea. There are a few pits on the island, but the fibre is only put there temporarily, being soaked in the sea afterwards. The colour of the fibre is good and the quality fine; a remark which applies to all the islands except Amini.

25. *General remarks—Kiltan.*—The soil of this island is more fertile than that of the others; seed-nuts are generally planted at once in the place where the trees are to grow, without being transplanted. I saw some trees in this island bearing the maximum crop, *i.e.*, four clusters of about thirty nuts each; and at the same time blossoming strongly.

When I arrived at this island, there were eleven kundras absent in Mangalore, to bring in a fresh supply of rice. These boats were delayed by bad weather, and the monsoon supplies had been exhausted, in most houses. Many of the people were in a very weak state, partly from hunger and partly from eating only nuts and fish. We landed rice from the steamer, and were able to check the consequences before much damage was done. Three deaths took place in the first three days of my visit, one case being a young woman who was prematurely delivered of still-born twins. I gathered from the remarks of the Civil Hospital Assistant that this case was due to insufficient nourishment. All was well when I left the island, and when I arrived at Mangalore the kundras had all started for the islands.

The people of Kiltan together with those of Chetlat are remarkable for their muscular development.

26. *General remarks—Chetlat.*—This island is by far the poorest of the four. The people work hard at fishing, and the island is fully planted. Everything that the island produces is utilised by the inhabitants, even the eadjans are exported for sale on the coast (paragraph 40). In the other islands the eadjans are allowed to lie where they fall, to the great benefit of the soil; the people of Chetlat are too poor to allow even this benefit to the soil, which is consequently pure sand, not sandy earth, as in the other islands. For this reason, perhaps, the trees are small and bear poorly. Limestone is also exported to the coast from Chetlat only.

In spite of their poverty the people of Chetlat are strong and healthy. They make the best sort of coir, as regards both colour and twist. In Chetlat no man ever husks an unripe nut wastefully; the husk is always removed in a manner which makes it available for coir-making. This full utilisation of all material is the most striking feature of this island.

In Chetlat alone the men climb trees without ropes, walking on all fours up the tree with the action of a bear walking. This has a most remarkable appearance, and develops the muscles of the shoulder to a considerable size. The people believe that

this accomplishment is the gift of a saint whose tomb is on the island. However one man told me that he thought any boy could learn it, but he doubted if he could teach it to a full-grown man.

27. I did not visit any of the reefs, but from what I heard it appears that there is nothing fresh to be recorded, except that large numbers of sea-birds have established themselves for nesting on the reef called Piti. It will be remembered that Sir William Robinson recorded that large colonies of sea-birds had, previous to his visit, been nesting on Bitra, which they had then deserted. These sea-birds are all of one kind, the large kind of tern which is the only gull to be seen about the islands.

28. *Fishing.*—I saw the usual methods of fishing. That described by Mr. Stokes, in his report, of surrounding a tree of coral with a net, is much practised in the Kadamat lagoon, and always gives a good haul of fish. Spearing by torch-light with a spear with several heads is excellent sport. Inside the lagoon, gar-fish are caught in this manner, and outside large catches of flying fish can be made in a very short time. Amini has hardly any lagoon, and the people there use lines more than the other islanders. People from all islands go to Bitra for fishing. When many people join in a fishing, as is usual, the customary distribution of the catch is one-third to the boats, one-third to the nets and the remainder to the people who supply nothing but labour. Five or six good fish are always appropriated for offering to some saint, in whose name the net was cast.

29. *Birds.*—As mentioned before, the only kind of gull to be seen about the islands is the large sort of tern. Three kinds of snippets and several birds of the heron kind live about the shores of all the islands. Crows are very common on Amini, but do not exist on the other three islands. After the monsoon a grey hawk visits the islands in considerable numbers, and causes much damage to poultry. The cuckoo is common in all the islands. Curlew and whimbrel are to be seen but are not common.

30. *Moktessors and Mupans.*—These are the official names of the head men in Amini and the three islands, respectively. This position is hereditary, and the numbers on each island are fixed by custom. I found that the late monegar had disregarded the customary numbers altogether, and had appointed men of unauthorised families at his pleasure. I filled up the due numbers in all the islands with men out of the families in which the office is hereditary; and in order to avoid ejecting the unauthorised men summarily, I gave orders that on the death of such a man, his post should not be filled up, but should cease to exist. In this way the Boards of Moktessors and Mupans will eventually be reduced to the customary numbers, and filled with men of the right families without creating any dissatisfaction. The properly qualified elders were most anxious that some measures should be taken to that end.

The Moktessors of Amini are all of the two highest castes and are men of wealth and importance. One of the Tarwad families is about to cease. The only member of the family house is the present Khazi and he has no sisters, and is not permitted by custom to adopt sisters or nieces from among his distant relations. One of the very few Tarwad houses will therefore be extinct when he dies.

The Mupans of the other islands are of course all of the lowest or Melacheri caste, the only caste which exists except in Amini. They must, originally, have been quite subordinate to the Moktessors, who even now retain the right of sitting in the cutcherry while the Mupans stand up; and that not only in Amini, but in any island which a Moktessor may have to visit.

It is only natural that some of the Moktessors and Mupans are men whose opinions in cutcherry are not of any great value. Some, on the other hand, are ready speakers, and men of common sense; while all seem to have the customs of the islands at their fingers' ends. This fact makes them of great assistance to the monegar on panchayats, and in supervising the proceedings when the parties in a dispute agree to a compromise. On the whole, it seems very desirable to keep the personnel and functions of these bodies as unchanged as possible.

31. *The Laccadive poor fund.*—The finances of the fund may be seen in the appendix. I had the pensioners of the fund mustered, and found that all were very

deserving cases, being blind or otherwise incapacitated for work, and having no one to support them. I had several applications from persons who represented themselves as destitute, and after inquiry I decided to recommend the following persons as really deserving cases :—

Amini	...	Koikod (Calicut) Nagarattil Kunhi Birian.
		Malayalati Fatma (till her death).
		Malayalati Fatma's daughter (till her marriage).
		Kavratigar Ibrahim.
Kiltan	...	Sanur Patu.
		Androthgar Musa.
Chetlat	...	Kadishomapipe Mariamma.
		Fatmapire Fatma.
		Kuttiachode Koyali.

Many other applicants for relief presented themselves, but I have recommended only those who, besides being destitute, are unable to work. For those who are strong enough to work, a grant of Government trees is more appropriate and just as acceptable, for the islanders are, so far as I was able to see, by no means lazy or averse from working for their living.

Two of the main causes of absolute destitution on the islands are as follows. The islanders often persuade Mappilla boys, who have no relations on the mainland, to come to the islands with them as servants. Such boys very often fall out of employment in the course of time, for reasons which I was not able to ascertain. They then live by doing small jobs and occasionally by begging. Again, islanders often marry coast Mappilla girls; and such a woman, if divorced, is absolutely helpless, being among strangers, and alienated from her own people by impassable differences of custom (*e.g.*, the neglect of gosha). Such women appear to make their living by domestic service in wealthy houses. When they are past the age for making coir, they are destitute.

The born islanders are so bound together by relationship and race feeling that it is most unusual for an island man or woman to be in helpless poverty. However, the women are frequently very badly nourished; a wife cannot demand maintenance from her husband; (beyond the small supply of rice which is supposed to, but does not, suffice for his evening and morning meals) nor does social opinion or custom call upon the man to support his wife.

32. *Wreckage*.—I was not able to find that any shipwrecks had occurred since 1895 on the islands or reefs of this district. During the past monsoon some men of Kadamat who were out fishing found a very big log of wood in the sea and towed it ashore. They asked me if they might use it for repairing their chief mosque; I have the honour to recommend that permission may be granted. The log is too big to convey to Mangalore, and if it were sold in the islands it would not realise a quarter of its value.

This incident shows that the islanders have come to understand and respect the laws about wreckage; for if they had wished, they could have disposed of this log at once, without anyone coming to know of the matter.

33. Registration of documents.—

Year.	Amini.						Kiltan.						Chetlat.
	Sales.	Gifts.	Promissory Notes.	Marriages and divorces.	Mortgages.	Total.	Sales.	Gifts.	Promissory Notes.	Marriages and divorces.	Mortgages.	Total.	
1895	7	2	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1896	3	1	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1897	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	1	1
1898	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

The above figures show that the islanders are not alive to the value of registration. The Karani (accountant) of each island has a large and well-bound book into which he transcribes the documents presented for registration. I find that the Karanis know their work in this respect. The number of important documents made on the islands is not large, and as all the islanders know each other's affairs, they do not consider it necessary to register all documents.

34. Health.—

Diseases.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Small-pox	..	..	..	..
Cholera	..	..	..	..
Dysentery	14	4	22	44
Malarial fevers	35	..	..	191
Primary syphilis	..	..	..	..
Secondary syphilis	..	..	..	4
Gonorrhoea	..	..	1	2
Scurvy	..	..	..	..
Worms	242	96	129	94
Debility	..	..	..	..
Rheumatic affections	117	32	19	121
Tubercular	..	..	..	..
Leprosy	..	1	..	..
Venereal diseases other than in group A	..	..	..	..
All other general diseases	60	17	32	79
Diseases of the nervous system	90	38	15	143
Do. of the eye	908	92	442	317
Do. of the ear	20	5	8	44
Do. of the nose	2	3	1	4
Do. of the circulatory system	2	..	1	3
Do. of the lungs	3	1	1	5
Other diseases of the respiratory system	57	21	9	187
Diarrhoea	..	..	..	..
Dyspepsia	..	..	..	..
Disease of the liver	..	..	3	..
Other diseases of digestive systems	260	81	75	498
Goitre	..	..	..	..
Spleen, diseases of	..	..	1	12
Diseases of the lymphatic system	7	..	4	22
Do. of the urinary	9	1	4	27
Do. of the generative	30	13	3	19
Do. of the organs of locomotion	12	2	..	..
Do. of the connective tissue	5	4	8	12
Do. of the skin	222	35	82	182
Ulcers	53	5	101	115
Poisons	..	..	..	..
General injuries	..	..	..	..
Local injuries	38	8	11	31
No appreciable disease	1	..	..	..
Total ..	2,187	459	972	2,156

In 1895 the hospital was open for ten months.

In 1896 the hospital was open for four months.

N.B.—The medical subordinate could not get to the island on account of the monsoon setting in before he reached the island.

In 1897 the hospital was open for eight months.

In 1898 the hospital was open for twelve months.

The above figures show that the Amini dispensary is well attended; and are also evidence of the kinds of illness which are most frequent on the islands. Diseases of the eye and of the digestive organs are the most usual. The latter disorders are caused by poor diet, varied occasionally (and whenever possible) by excessive indulgence in rice or fish. Many people of the poorer classes have very little rice to eat during the greater part of the year, and consequently eat too much when the coir fleet returns from Mangalore, and at other times when sufficient rice is available. The eye-disease is keratitis; it seemed to me to begin with an irritation of the mucous part of the eyelids and to go on to inflammation partly owing to the patient rubbing his eye constantly, and partly to the glare of the sun on the white sand. I understand that poor and insufficient food renders people liable to this illness. The islanders say that the women get it from making coir, and it seems highly probable that particles of fibre set up the irritation which seems always to precede the inflammation of the cornea. The Civil Hospital Assistant told me that he had found it impossible, while serving in Amini, to persuade the people to keep their eyes darkened during the illness. The native remedy is a kind of ointment to allay the irritation, which is sensible enough as far as it goes.

35. *Vaccination.*—A remarkable number of grown men have marks of vaccination; and during my visit the vaccinator who accompanied me did excellent work on children of both sexes. The following figures show that the people cannot be much averse from vaccination:—

Islands.	Number of persons vaccinated.			Result.			Number of cases verified by the Hospital Assistant.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	
Amini	61	29	90	68	13	9	53
Kadamat	22	13	35	28	5	2	22
Kiltan	33	35	68	46	12	10	45
Chetlat	59	57	116	105	..	11	59
Total	175	134	309	247	30	32	179

The only difficulty encountered was in Kadamat, where the women appeared to hide their children, to such an extent as to make the compilation of the census figures very difficult. Of course it is impossible to vaccinate a girl of above 10 years or so, and I believe that most women are not protected; but this can be set right by proper attention to the girl children.

36. *Sanitation.*—There are no sanitary arrangements at all on the islands, but the people are clean in their habits, and are very fond of fresh air. A large number always sleep at night on the beach, putting up a low fence to protect them from the wind. The houses are not clean, but they are large and well-ventilated. Each mosque has a tank belonging to it, and people seem to be washing themselves in these tanks all day, though the water is generally quite opaque with dirt. The women have separate tanks for washing in.

37. *Midwives.*—Following your instructions I made particular inquiries on this subject. The islanders do not appear to take any interest in the subject; I think it will be extremely difficult to persuade an island woman to undergo training in Mangalore. This is partly due to the shyness of the women themselves, and partly to the fact that the headmen are not convinced of the usefulness of the scheme, and do not bestir themselves to find a suitable woman. I did not hear anything of the uterine complaints that are said to be common in island women; and the Civil Hospital Assistant, who has served on the islands, informed me that he had not had any experience of the matter. He also told me that he knows of no such complaints which could be averted by the attentions of a midwife. The headmen assured me that mothers and children always did well at the births, and that there were experienced women on the islands who were always ready to assist. Although I could not find a suitable woman myself, I left instructions with the monegar and mottessors in this matter.

38. *The coir monopoly.*—The figures in the appendix, taken from the records of your office, show the manner in which the island revenue has met the expenses of administration in the four years from 1895 to 1898.

I will proceed to offer some remarks on two points to which you directed my attention—

(1) Whether any arrangements can be made to ensure each maker of coir getting the price proportionate to its quality as well as to its quantity. I regret to be obliged to report that such arrangements cannot be made, and could not, even if the present establishment were largely increased. The sorting is done when the coir arrives in Mangalore, and before the coir is bundled up for storing. The coir is shipped on the islands, and subsequently sorted, in dolls of 120 fathoms each, this being the uniform length into which the women twist it. Now, so long as the sorting establishment continues to work in Mangalore, the only means to the required end would be to label each doll with the maker's name. Suppose this done, and Government agency would be necessary to distribute the prizes awarded, for it would be impossible to persuade the boat-owners to carry the figures in their heads, or the

janmis to act with impartial justice towards the manufacturers, their tenants. But the establishment required to label the dolls would be no small matter; this year, for instance, an unusually small quantity of coir came over, but it amounted to 65,100 dolls. The work of labelling the coir with the maker's name might be lessened by bundling up before shipping; but this is impossible, first because the ship-owners will not run the consequent risk of the cargo shifting; and second, because each doll or length of coir is liable to be of a different quality.

The only alternative would be to send the sorting establishment over to work on the islands. Unfortunately, the only competent sorters at present in Government service are two clerks in the Sea Customs office.

The relations of the island janmis and kudians are peculiar in this respect, that kudians are a form of wealth equally with trees and boats. The condition of a kudian is far from pitiable, however, and the janmis recognise their responsibilities to the full. While a man is kudian to a big house, he and his family can never be poor or lack the necessities of life (setting aside accidents like that described in paragraph 25). Therefore the coir made by the kudian belongs to the janmi, who pays the kudian for it at the average of the different rates, gaining by the transaction if the coir is good, and losing if the coir is bad. Although the islanders are anything but backward in making complaints, I had no complaints on this subject while at the islands. I feel obliged to state my opinion that if Government were to deal direct with the kudian, both parties would consider that an excellent old custom was being destroyed; and if the janmis regarded such action on the part of Government as relieving them of their responsibilities as janmis (and they certainly would take this view) then many families would become destitute which are now happy in the protection of the great houses.

(2) Why the quantity of coir has decreased of late, and whether anything can be done to prevent such decrease.

Formerly, when coir was paid for without regard to quality, it used to be the islanders' sole object to bring in as much coir as they could, and to twist it without the least care. They used then to bring in eight or nine hundred candies (once even over 1,000) of very inferior yarn. The sorting system was intended by Government to come into force in 1896, but the islanders were so much against it that it was not carried out till 1898. In that year the coir was sorted with reference to samples, which had been communicated to the islanders; it was found to be of such good quality that the islanders received much higher prices than formerly. But in the meantime, the quantity has decreased from 1,087 candies in 1893 to 651 in 1899. The

Year.	Candies.
1893	* 1,087
1894	* 557
1895	873
1896	578
1897	687
1898	662
1899	651

The cholera year.

* The correct figures are—

Year.	Candies.
1893	1,180
1894	522

coir, for not all are able to do it; young girls and old women have not the requisite strength of arm. Thus it is not possible to statistically fix the proper amount of yearly manufacture; but having regard to previous figures, the islanders may well be required to bring in 750 candies. The personal influence and occasional supervision of the monegar will easily ensure the quantity being sufficient; as the late monegar never took any interest in the coir himself, the influence of that officer in this matter has never yet been tested.

39. *Other aspects of the coir monopoly.*—From the statement in the appendix it will be seen that during the four years since Mr. Couchman's visit, the islands have paid all expenses of their administration with a surplus. That they are now able to

do this, in spite of the heavy increase in cost of establishment, and in the cost of rice and in spite also of the loss of population occasioned by the cholera in 1893-94 is due to the fact that coir has become more valuable than it used to be. Twenty-five years ago Government sold the coir for about Rs. 25 per candy; now it sells for Rs. 45 or Rs. 50, or even more. So long as the islands continue to pay their way with a surplus, it seems unnecessary to consider the question of continuing the monopoly or not. Both Sir William Robinson and Mr. Stokes, while in theory favouring the abolition of the monopoly, do not appear to have hit upon anything to take its place. The monopoly was formerly, I think, necessary to the islanders themselves, and is so still in the case of Chetlat. But the other islands could stand alone now, with prices as they are: coir at Rs. 50 and copra at Rs. 60 per candy, and nuts at Rs. 16 per thousand.

If the price of rice should increase in future, and the market value of coir should remain stationary (both which events are probable) it would be impossible for Government to supply the islanders with rice at the present artificial rate of Rs. 2 per mura. It appears from Sir William Robinson's report that when this rate was first fixed, at the beginning of this century, it was slightly in favour of the islanders; but that a fall in the market price of rice soon caused the rate to favour Government. This continued till some time after 1850, when the cost of rice gradually rose; and at present Government is at a loss of Rs. 1-8-0 or more on every mura supplied to the islanders. I had intended to suggest that the mamool rate might be raised to Rs. 2-8-0 per mura. But just at present the islanders have to meet a Government demand of about Rs. 900 on account of public moneys not forthcoming from the late monegar; while those of Chetlat and Kiltan have not yet paid the last instalment of their debt for relief given them in 1896. I therefore refrain from suggesting anything against their interests just now. By the time the islands are next visited, the people will have cleared the above debts; and that will be a more appropriate time for consideration of this matter which cannot, I believe, be avoided much longer.

There is no fear of the island revenue ever becoming inadequate to island expenditure. Should need arise, Government might take over the monopoly of island copra as well as coir. Agents in Mangalore give the islanders Rs. 60 per candy of copra, and the islanders complain of being generally swindled by the agents about the weights. If Government were to give the islanders Rs. 45 per candy, they would be very well satisfied, and Government could make Rs. 10 at least per candy, or about Rs. 7,000 in an ordinary year, without much extra expense. This would be very popular with the islanders, for it would save them the trouble of finding buyers for the copra themselves. If monopolies should ever become impracticable or unsatisfactory, a tax of two annas per bearing tree would cover the island expenses several times over. I cannot find that a tree-tax would be *per se* unpopular with the islanders; but as an accompaniment of abolition of the monopoly, it would be intolerable. The islanders are not traders, and they know it; they dislike trading, and it would be a very bad day for them should they ever be obliged to sell their own coir.

40. *Imports and exports.*—The appendices to this paragraph show that the trade between the islands and the coast continues to flourish. The island figures cannot be absolutely trusted, but they indicate the state of affairs more or less correctly. The same remark applies to the third appendix which gives the figures of the inter-island trade. These figures appear to call for no remarks beyond that the production of beche-de-mer at the islands appears to have ceased entirely, while a small export of sharks' fins still continues.

41. *Criminal returns.*—Serious crime never occurs on the islands. Petty thefts are uncommon; and such crimes, which are almost the only ones committed, are usually the work of foreigners. The monegar appears to have discovered several such persons in Kiltan, and he expressed his intention of simply sending them back to their native places (*i.e.*, the coast or the Malabar islands). I encouraged him in this and have no doubt that it will have an excellent effect.

The late monegar's magisterial work was the most remarkable part of his peculiar administration. He very rarely took down any evidence, and it never occurred to him to charge an accused in a warrant case or to record his reasons for his findings. He

had certain written formulæ to express the various possible findings, *e.g.*, "I find the accused guilty and under section—I sentence him, &c." These formulæ are still among the island records, and the late monegar does not appear to have ever departed from them in writing magisterial judgments.

The present monegar does a different class of magisterial work. I read through many of his calendars and found them to be very much the same as those of any other Sub-Magistrate. He records all the evidence in Canarese. He asked me what work ought to be given to prisoners undergoing rigorous imprisonment. I instructed him to make them pound coir fibre, until further orders. The fibre may be taken from any neighbouring household and returned when pounded; there are so few prisoners at any time that their work cannot possibly be turned to the advantage of Government.

42. *Magisterial contingencies; Magisterial fines; Fines for offences against custom.*—The figures before the last quarter of 1898 are at present in your office having been required for reference in the inquiry into the late monegar's defalcations. These matters are now fully known to yourself and also to the Board and Government; it seems therefore unnecessary for me to make any remarks on the subject. I have no additions or alterations to suggest to the rules lately issued to the monegar regarding the disposal of public money and the keeping of registers and submission of returns. The monegar's contingent registers were well kept and the due amount was forthcoming.

Two circumstances may be mentioned which make one hopeful about the work of the present monegar. First, he has all his registers kept by his clerk, whereas the late monegar never allowed the clerk to touch one of them. Second, the present monegar asked to be supplied with a counterfoil receipt book, which he has now got. This is a protection against defamation which an honest man in his position would naturally require.

43. *The Civil and Revenue files* will be found in the appendix. Revenue papers are all such as are neither magisterial nor civil. Civil disputes are settled either by the monegar in full court or by a panchayet deputed by the monegar. Such panchayats are chosen with the assistance of both parties to the dispute, in order that an impartial inquiry may be ensured. They report the result of their work in open court. This is a most satisfactory manner of settling disputes and the parties are generally satisfied with it.

44. The present establishment is as follows:—

	RS.
On the islands—	
One monegar on	85
One clerk on	15
One head peon on	9
Seven peons at Rs. 8 each	56
One karani in Amini	Rice muras 36 per annum.
One " Kadamat	14 "
One " Kiltan	17 "
One " Chetlat	17 "
Five kavalgars in Amini	20 "
One nadpal for each of the other islands at 20 trees each.	
	RS.
On the mainland—	
One clerk	15
One toladar	7
Three peons at Rs. 6 each	18

The monegar is desirous of having another clerk, but I question the necessity of this. His office work, as done at present, can be efficiently done by the present establishment; and I think that the introduction of the Disposal Number system, and the use of English in correspondence would not result in any benefit proportionate to the expense.

45. *Tours of monegar.*—The figures are as follows:—

Years.	Kadamat.			Kiltan.			Chetlat.		
	Visits.	Months.	Days.	Visits.	Months.	Days.	Visits.	Months.	Days.
1895	2	..	13	2	..	10	2	..	17
1896	2	..	11	2	..	27	2	1	2
1897	2	..	16	2	1	29	2	1	1
1898	3	..	19	1	..	8	1	..	4

The monegar ought to visit each of the outlying islands twice a year at least and spend at least a fortnight in each island at a visit. He complains that these tours are a very expensive matter, for it is a custom that the rowers of his boat receive a goat besides their ordinary payment, and his bill for this charge has been rejected at the treasury. The late monegar used to pay for the goat himself; but, as the present monegar justly says his predecessor could afford to do it being a rich man at the expense of Government. I think it would be as well to pass this charge in future, for if the monegar were to break this custom his office would lose some of its importance in the eyes of the people.

46. *Tenure of land.*—The custom at present is that the owner of a tree owns also three yards of land all round it. A tenant is such only in respect of trees, and not of land. Rent is paid in two ways: first, by serving the landlord, which is done either by manning his boats or by plucking fruit from his trees or performing other services for him; and, second, by conveying all produce to the coast on the landlord's boat at certain rates of carriage which are fixed by custom and invariable. These two modes of paying rent are not alternative, but have effect at the same time and appear to be the same in all cases throughout the Canara islands.

47. *Other possible industries.*—It may seem strange that the islanders do not work at producing other saleable things than coir and copra, such as salt-fish, cocconut-oil, biche-de-mer, and so on. The islanders do not, by nature, desire anything beyond enough food to support existence comfortably. It is true that a few of the wealthy people of the highest castes in Amini do appear to take an interest in accumulating landed property; but they aim at this by the most direct and at the same time the most exciting means, namely, litigation and intrigue. A few years ago one of the wealthiest men in Amini went to jail in Mangalore for smuggling salt; so far as I was able to discover, the islanders have profited by this example. But it is not remarkable that the islanders do not attempt to increase their wealth by industry; on the whole they have a hard life in maintaining their existence in most unpromising surroundings, and having done enough for that result, they lack inclination to do more. I should be astonished if this disposition were, at any future time, materially altered.

48. *Special requests of the islanders—Amini.*—(1) The Moktessors of Amini made representations to me about certain mosque property which had been put in their charge by the late monegar and subsequently returned by them to him. The late monegar did not enter the property as received by him in any of his registers, and as the Moktessors have no receipt for it, it has been treated as still outstanding against them. They gave me a statement and were very anxious that I should report the matter. They say that as the property belongs to a mosque they make no objection to paying it again. I have nothing to add to their statement, which is in the appendix, except that I think it most unlikely that they should have practised any fraud in respect of mosque property. The fact that the late monegar gave them no receipt proves nothing, for he made a habit of giving no receipts against any moneys paid to him.

(2) The people of Amini are very anxious to have an entrance to their lagoon blasted. I went over the ground and came to the conclusion that this would be a quite useless expense. The lagoon is nowhere deep enough to float a loaded kundra, and a deep entrance to a shallow lagoon would not be of much use to them.

Amini and Kiltan.—That a lighthouse should be built on Kiltan and kept lighted every dark night between October and May. There is already a tower which would be capable of carrying a large lantern; and if the proposal were useful to all the island sailors they could combine to make their own arrangements about it.

Kadamat.—The people of Kadamat want to have a separate khazi and to be independent in religious matters. The present custom is that the khazi of Amini is the only one on the islands, the chief priests of other islands being his vicars and subordinates. The other islanders are satisfied with this custom; but no doubt the fact of Kadamat being only five miles from Amini subjects the Kadamatis to more frequent visits and more show of authority on the part of the khazi. I ordered the custom to be continued and my order has been appealed against. I have already reported in full on this matter.

All islands.—(1) They say that the sorting of coir is simply the caprice of the person sorting it, and they wish it to be done by a European officer. The Port officer has this matter in his charge, and any other arrangement appears quite unnecessary.

(2) They say that the rice supplied to them is not of sufficiently good quality to keep when stored. I do not find that they get a better quality when they buy it for themselves. As this matter is controlled by the Port officer, there is no fear that they will fail to get a sound quality. It would be more popular with them to raise the mamool rate (as mentioned before) than to supply them with a cheaper sort of rice.

49. My petition register for the whole tour is enclosed. Besides the Kulapin family dispute, about which I have already reported separately, I had before me some pending appeals against the distribution of the Lavancheri estate, and also a dispute about the Kunhipure family property. This latter case was settled by razi in 1874, when it was agreed that one Moidin should be manager on condition that if he neglected his duties the other members of the family should demand a division. He so disgracefully failed in his duties as manager that in the 25 years the other members of the family have not derived one pie of income from the property. The division clause of the razi was at length put into force this year, and the said Moidin appeals against this requesting that the terms of the razi may be enforced. In the Lavancheri case one of the parties produced a paper which he said was an order of Government that the whole Lavancheri property should be given to him. It turned out to be an endorsement by the Board of Revenue referring one of his petitions to the Collector without any additional remarks. Some petitions to me contained false assertions, the petitioners appealing for corroboration to the very records which, when found, proved their assertions to be false.

Island litigation is, in fact, not much more than persistent and unintelligent effort to obtain some vague advantage over somebody. It is naturally most common among the wealthy inhabitants of Amini, those of other islands having neither time nor money for it. The Kulapin case is a fair example to illustrate the conditions of many of the big estates on Amini. It is fortunate that the women are generally intelligent and capable, for besides their other work they often have to manage the family properties, while the men loaf all day about the cutcherry.

I fear that the islanders are often exploited by vakils in Mangalore. I had opportunities, in the Lavancheri and Kunhipure cases, of seeing that the vakils engaged had got up those cases very superficially, and did not really understand them.

50. *Petitions of an official nature.*—(1) The monegar applied to me for an increase of pay. His chief difficulty is about touring; and in fact this is an expensive matter. He has not got a boat of his own. It is true that he has the same work as the late monegar; and on the other hand he does a class of work that the late monegar could not, with the best intention, have done, for he was originally a Dalayat. Comparing his work and pay with that of a Deputy Tahsildar, I conclude that his salary is sufficient.

(2) The present monegar's younger brother wishes to be compounder at the Amini dispensary. He has been a copyist in the Mangalore taluk office, and he is not qualified to be a compounder. I presume the vacancy will be filled before he has time to qualify himself.

51. My establishment worked very well on the islands, but the work was not heavy for three clerks. In conclusion I have the honour to request your sanction to the orders passed and arrangements made by me on the islands.

Endorsement by D. D. MURDOCH, Esq., Acting Collector of South Canara, dated Mangalore, 7th May 1900, Dis. No. 10-R-Eng.

Submitted to the Board of Revenue. Mr. Moscardi's report is an exhaustive one and bears evidence of the interest that he took in his visit to the islands and of the thorough nature of his inspection of them.

2. Mr. Couchman visited the islands in 1895. The next inspection should have been in 1897, but owing to the difficulty of getting a steamer no one could be sent in that year nor in 1898.

3. Paragraphs 5 and 6 of Mr. Moscardi's report.—The advance in population since 1895 is, on the whole, satisfactory. The registration of births and deaths seems to be specially defective in Amini and Kiltan. Attention will be drawn to this.

4. Paragraph 8.—The allowance to Ali Mali Khan for teaching navigation to the island youths has been stopped as he has left the islands.

5. Paragraph 10.—The figures given by Mr. Moscardi show that the number of pupils receiving such education as is got at the Mukris, which consists chiefly of learning to read the Koran, has increased from 313 in 1895 to 373 in 1899. In Kadmat, however, there was a large decrease (from 72 to 14) which has not been explained.

The attempt to introduce education in Malayalam (of which the islanders' own language is a dialect) has, so far, failed. Khadri Haji's school having proved unsuccessful and none of the teachers on the islands being willing to come over to the mainland to receive training, it was proposed that capable island youths might be attached to the training school at Mangalore (instead of Calicut, to which none were willing to go), arrangements being made for one of the assistant masters in the school to be a man who knew Malayalam as well as Canarese. This was sanctioned in Government Order No. 18, Educational, dated the 11th January 1898. The order did not reach the islands in time for any youths to be brought over to Mangalore before the monsoon of that year, but in the beginning of 1899 the monegar sent over four youths. These were, however, unfit to be trained as teachers, two of them being quite illiterate and the other two hardly fit for the first standard. They were therefore sent back, and the monegar was instructed to send over some of Khadri Haji's pupils who were sufficiently advanced to receive training as teachers, if any such were available. He reported that the youths sent by him were Khadri Haji's pupils, and that Khadri Haji had closed his school from July 1898.

This plan also having failed, a suggestion was made by the Head-quarters Deputy Collector to send teachers from the mainland, and some applications from teachers were received, two of the applicants being Mappilas of Kasaragod taluk who have been trained as teachers and who can teach Malayalam. My predecessor desired to have Mr. Moscardi's opinion before proposing the adoption of this course.

Mr. Moscardi's enquiries have led him to agree with Mr. Slight and Mr. Couchman in recommending the teaching of Canarese instead of Malayalam, and he remarks that "the best teacher would be a Mappila from the mainland."

If one of the applicants from Kasaragod be sent over to Amini, he will be able to teach both Malayalam and Canarese. I would therefore request sanction to send over a teacher from the mainland on a salary of Rs. 15 a month to open a school in Amini, in which either Malayalam or Canarese (or both) would be taught as the islanders may choose. There seems to be now no alternative to this course.

6. Paragraph 11.—The number of cattle has increased from 252 in 1895 to 305 in 1899.

7. Paragraph 13.—Mr. Moscardi's endeavour to induce some of the poorest families in the other islands to settle in Kadmat, which is thinly populated as compared with the other three islands, met with success. The grant of trees to them free

of rent is in accord with the Board's instructions in paragraph 5 of its Proceedings, No. 51, dated the 25th January 1889, and paragraph 8 of its Proceedings, No. 711, dated the 10th December 1891, and may be approved.

8. Paragraph 14.—Since 1895 there has been a decrease of 66 in the number of Government trees, and of 477 in the number of young plants, as shown below:—

								Trees.	Plants.
In 1895	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,946	1,111
In 1899	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,880	634
								Difference	...
								66	477

The decrease has not been explained. The monegar has been questioned and says that some of the trees may have fallen down and that the decrease in young plants is attributable to the ravages of goats.

The appendix giving complete descriptions of all the Government plantations, which Mr. Moscardi has added to his report, is a very useful record. He recommends that the Government plots may be demarcated. If this is considered necessary, a surveyor may be sent with the officer who next visits the islands to demarcate them.

The trees shown by Mr. Moscardi as being held by Government officials in the islands of Kadmat, Kiltan and Chetlat include trees held by additional Ugranis appointed by the late Monegar without sanction. The services of these additional Ugranis have been dispensed with, and the trees in excess of the sanctioned number of 20 in each of the three islands have been resumed since Mr. Moscardi's visit. The trees shown as being held by Government officials in Amini are enjoyed, the monegar tells me, by a Nadpal. He is, I presume, the Ugrani who had 80 trees given to him at the time of the Bibi's Government, mentioned by Mr. Cowie in 1891 and subsequently by Mr. Slight. In addition to him these officers mention four Ugranis for Amini, but there are now—and were at the time of Mr. Couchman's visit in 1895—five Ugranis (in addition to the Nadpal) drawing an allowance of 4 muras of rice each per annum which was sanctioned in lieu of 20 trees each in paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 711, dated the 10th December 1891. It would seem that this allowance should have been sanctioned to four Ugranis only who then held 20 trees each. This will be enquired into. Mr. Moscardi does not mention the Nadpal for Amini in paragraph 44 of this report.

9. Paragraph 17.—Mr. Moscardi has not suggested that any further quantity of rat poison be sent. The monegar has been instructed to report next year if any further supply is necessary.

10. Paragraph 19.—The number of miscellaneous trees compares as follows with the number in 1892:—

		Bread fruit trees	Lime.	Houne.	Arecanut.	Plantain.	Betel vine.
1892	.. .. .	1,051	287	112	75	7,155	5,575
1899	.. .. .	692	211	86	44	3,020	191
	Decrease ..	359	76	26	31	4,135	5,384

The large decrease has not been explained, but the figures are only approximate.

11. Paragraphs 21 and 22.—The opinion of the Meteorological Reporter, Madras, will be got as to whether the observations should be continued or not.

12. Paragraph 23.—Mr. Cowie reported in 1891 that "roughly speaking the Amini people plant the southern and the Kadmat people the northern half of the island."

The monegar will be instructed to dispose of the pending darkhast petitions from Amini for more land in Kadmat.

13. *Paragraph 25.*—Mr. Moscardi has since reported that he distributed the rice to the islanders of Kiltan on his own account. He has paid the price of it (Rs. 75) himself.

14. *Paragraph 30.*—Mr. Moscardi's action, reported in this paragraph, was judicious and may be approved.

15. *Paragraph 31.*—The Laccadive poor fund endowment amounts at present to Rs. 8,003-14-6, of which Rs. 7,500 are invested in Government paper at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. and Rs. 503-14-6 in the Post Office Savings Bank. The annual interest is approximately Rs. 280.

In April 1899 eight persons were receiving relief from the fund, and in May thirteen more were admitted on the recommendation of the present monegar. The cost of rice, &c., supplied last year for the maintenance of these paupers was Rupees 242-5-9, and this year, on account of the high price of rice, it will amount to Rs. 331, which is a good deal more than the interest derived from the endowment. Mr. Moscardi's proposal to add nine more persons to the number receiving relief can hardly, therefore, be adopted at present.

16. *Paragraph 32.*—The recommendation made in this paragraph may be approved.

17. *Paragraph 34.*—There appears to have been no epidemic of either cholera or small-pox on the islands since the last visit.

A new hospital assistant, who is a Mussalman, joined recently.

18. *Paragraph 35.*—The vaccinator, who accompanied Mr. Moscardi, was much more successful than those who went with previous inspecting officers in inducing people to be vaccinated. His work is creditable.

19. *Paragraph 37.*—In submitting the last inspection report in 1895, the then Collector remarked that Paracoty, a diplomaed nurse deputed by the Surgeon-General, had gone to Amini. About a year afterwards she resigned. Attempts were then made to find a coast woman who would be willing to be trained for service as a midwife on the islands, but no one could be got who could give proper security. The Superintendent of the Government Maternity Hospital, Madras, was also asked if a midwife trained at that hospital was willing to go to the islands, but he replied that no one was available. Mr. Moscardi was therefore asked to enquire whether a woman of the islands could be induced to come over to the mainland to be trained in midwifery. His endeavour in this direction has been unsuccessful.

Mr. Bradley reported, in 1880, that "the hospital assistant is not infrequently called to midwifery cases." As the hospital assistant is at present a Mussalman, it may be expected that the island women will not object to availing themselves of his services in difficult cases of delivery.

The original intention was to employ a midwife for a time (only) to teach the people the proper treatment as it was reported (in 1874) that "the women in all the islands frequently died from want of nourishment, but still more so from the ignorant treatment to which they were subjected after child-birth." There having been a trained midwife on the islands from 1876 to 1878 and two others for about a year each who were sent in 1893 and 1895, the object in view may have been in part attained.

The District Medical and Sanitary officer, in a letter of the 28th March last, says that he does not consider a trained midwife necessary for the islands. He remarks: "In the first place the islanders are not likely to take advantage of the services of a trained midwife, and in the second place no midwife, unless she be a woman born on the islands, will stay there for more than a year."

It is very unlikely that an island-born woman will come over to be trained as a midwife. It may, however, be possible at some time to get a coast woman who has settled on the islands to do so, and the monegar will be instructed to make further endeavours to find one.

20. *Paragraph 38.*—To the figures given by Mr. Moscardi in the appendix, showing the manner in which the island revenue has met the expenses of administration in the four years, from fasli 1304 to fasli 1307, I have added the figures for fasli 1308 which are now available. In the five years dealt with there has been a net loss to Government of Rs. 1,734-15-0, but in one of the years (fasli 1306) there was a special charge of Rs. 6,000 on account of freight on provisions supplied to the islands in accordance with Government Order, No. 270, Revenue, dated 18th June 1896. Had it not been for that special charge, there would have been a surplus of Rs. 4,265 for the five years, or an average revenue of Rs. 53 per annum. The revenue in the quinquennium was prejudicially affected by (1) the comparatively low price got for the coir in fasli 1304, (2) the high price of rice in faslis 1306 and 1307, and (3) the decrease in the quantity of coir imported since fasli 1305.

Previous to 1898 (fasli 1307) the prices for first second and third class coir, respectively, were being paid on the following fixed percentages:—

For *Amini* coir, 70 per cent. first class, 20 per cent. second class, and 10 per cent. third class; for *the other three islands*, 80 per cent. first class, 15 per cent. second class, and 5 per cent. third class. A bonus was also being granted if certain conditions were satisfied.

Since 1898 the coir has been sorted every year and no bonus is granted. The change of system was sanctioned in paragraph 6 of the Government Order, No. 576, Revenue, dated 7th August 1894. In communicating the order, the then Collector intimated that it would be given effect to from October 1896. The change was eventually postponed, however, till the following year (Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 783, dated 2nd March 1897, recorded in Government Order, Mis. No. 1479, Revenue, dated 16th March 1897).

The effect of the change, so far as the islanders are concerned, is shown in the following statement:—

	1898.				1899.	
	Quantity of coir received.	Price actually paid.	Price payable under the former system.	Difference between columns 3 and 4.	Quantity of coir received.	Price actually paid.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.
Kiltan	114 17 12	2,422 15 3	2,387 2 3	35 13 0	127 0 3	2,639 7 10
Chetlat	106 5 6	2,266 2 6	2,208 0 11	58 1 7	94 13 5	2,018 12 10
Amini	399 10 26	8,119 7 2	8,040 13 11	78 9 3	387 14 4	8,129 3 2
Kadmat	42 5 11	897 12 10	878 6 7	19 6 3	41 13 13	883 15 1
Total	662 18 27	13,706 5 9	13,514 7 8	191 14 1	651 0 25	13,671 6 11

	1899—cont.		1900.			
	Price payable under the former system.	Difference between columns 7 and 8.	Quantity of coir received.	Price actually paid.	Price payable under the former system.	Difference between columns 11 and 12.
	8	9	10	11	12	13
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	C. M. LB.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Kiltan	2,639 5 4	0 2 6	102 18 11	2,139 2 3	2,138 12 9	— 6
Chetlat	1,967 2 1	51 10 9	111 15 4	2,350 10 6	2,322 7 3	+ 28 3 3
Amini	7,802 9 8	3 6 9 6	451 1 20	9,390 9 1	9,078 1 10	+ 312 7 3
Kadmat	866 0 4	17 14 9	41 8 27	853 13 0	861 5 7	— 7 8 7
Total	13,275 1 5	396 5 6	707 4 6	14,734 2 10	14,400 11 5	+ 333 7 5

It will be seen that the Amini islanders have benefited largely by the change of system. The Chetlat islanders also have benefited to a considerable extent and the Kiltan and Kadmat islanders to a small extent. I have had no complaints regarding the classification of the coir.

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Government Order, No. 44, Revenue, dated 16th January 1899, and the subsequent correspondence recorded in Government Order, Mis No. 2458, Revenue, dated 4th July 1899, Mr. Moscardi was specially instructed to enquire whether arrangements can be made to ensure that the actual maker of the coir gets the benefit of an improvement in its quality. He has considered the matter carefully but has arrived at a negative conclusion. I have arranged to get more exact information regarding the rates at which the boat-owners pay the other jenmis and their own tenants for the coir, and the matter will be further considered.

The change of system was intended to effect an improvement in the coir. The following statement shows the classification of the coir in each of the three years since 1898 :—

	Percentage of each class of coir.								
	1898.			1899.			1900.		
	First class.	Second class.	Third class.	First class.	Second class.	Third class.	First class.	Second class.	Third class.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Kiltan	84.09	13.95	1.96	75.03	24.97	..	75.08	24.92	..
Chetlat	88.61	10.24	1.15	87.48	12.52	..	80.94	18.89	1.17
Amini	70.36	23.77	5.87	75.26	20.74	..	75.98	23.86	1.16
Kadmat	88.65	8.19	3.16	84.83	15.17	..	70.85	29.15	..

Note.—No coir was classed as “exceptionally good,” for which 25 per cent. of the sale-proceeds is payable in addition to the first class rate.

My predecessor remarked in paragraph 6 of his letter printed in the Board's Proceedings, No. 21 (Land Revenue), dated 26th January 1899, that “it is admitted on all hands that the coir brought this year” (i.e., 1898) “is the best consignment that has ever reached the coast.” Although the high standard of the Kiltan, Chetlat and Kadmat coir of that year has not been kept up in the succeeding years, the quality of the coir from Amini, which supplies about two-thirds of the total quantity, has improved so greatly that the general standard of the coir in 1899 was higher than in 1898, and it has been nearly, though not quite, kept up in the current year.

As regards the effect of the change of system on the Government revenue, that is, on the quantity of coir imported and the prices got for it, the following statement is instructive :—

Period.	Average quantity of coir imported.	Average price per candy.
	CANDIES.	RS. A. P.
Fasli 1236 to fasli 1245	520	22 2 11
“ 1246 to “ 1257 (exclusive of faslis 1254 and 1255 for which figures are not available) ..	667	24 4 10
Fasli 1258 to fasli 1267	673	32 8 6
“ 1268 to “ 1277	699	40 6 6
“ 1278 to “ 1287	747	53 13 11
“ 1288 to “ 1297	825	41 4 10
“ 1298 to “ 1302	831	38 15 0
“ 1303 (cholera year)	522	34 0 0
“ 1304	873	39 11 0
“ 1305	578	55 11 0
“ 1306	687	47 10 0
“ 1307	662	48 14 0
“ 1308	651	47 15 0
“ 1309	707	Not sold.

The fixed percentage system was introduced in fasli 1246 and replaced a system of annual sorting similar to what is now in force. It will be seen that the quantity of coir increased considerably on the introduction of the fixed percentage system and continued to increase steadily. The average for the quinquennium prior to the cholera year of fasli 1303 was 831 candies. In fasli 1304 the quantity was 873. In the five years since fasli 1305 the average has been only 657 candies. Mr. Moscardi attributes the decrease since fasli 1305 to the improvement in the quality. (The change in system was not to come into force until fasli 1306; but, in explaining to the islanders the nature of the change at the time of his visit to the islands in February 1895, Mr. Couchman had impressed upon them the necessity for improving the coir, and the improvement may be regarded as having commenced from the season of 1895-96, i.e., fasli 1305). Mr. Moscardi considers that the islanders should be able to produce at any rate not less than 750 candies. I have instructed the monegar that he should regard it as part of his duty to see that an adequate quantity is brought.

The figures in the statement given above show that the average price got for the coir increased gradually until the high average of Rs. 53-13-11 was reached and then fell again. In the seven years prior to fasli 1305 the average was Rs. 38-5-5. In fasli 1305 the price was particularly high, partly perhaps owing to an improvement in the quality of the coir but also to the competition of a Bombay merchant who specially required the Amindivi coir. In the next three years also the prices have been distinctly good, being Rs. 47-10-0, Rs. 48-14-0 and Rs. 47-15-0, respectively. How far the improvement in the coir has contributed towards these good prices it is impossible to say, but it may be presumed to have had some effect.

I am not able to show that the change of system has so far resulted in an increase of revenue to Government, the increase in price not having made up for the decrease in quantity; but it may, I think, be anticipated that the quantity of coir will yet increase, and the system of yearly sorting may be given a further trial. It is important to keep up the standard of the “Mangalore-Divi yarn” which is regarded in the Calcutta market as being of first quality and fetches a higher price than “Calicut-Divi” yarn which is regarded as being of second quality.

21. *Paragraph 39.*—Mr. Moscardi's remarks on “other aspects of the coir monopoly” do not call for any special remark except that in stating that “a tax of two annas per bearing tree would cover the island expenses several times over”; he has evidently omitted to take into calculation the peishcush and salt-duty remitted. It would, however, cover the charges and leave a surplus of about Rs. 4,000.

I concur with him in considering that the coir monopoly must continue for the present.

22. *Paragraph 44.*—The number of peons attached to the coir depot has been erroneously given as three instead of four.

23. *Paragraph 45.*—The suggestion made in this paragraph has my support.

24. *Paragraph 47.*—The oil mills supplied to the islands do not appear to be used. The monegar says they are out of repair.

25. *Paragraph 48 (1).*—It is unnecessary to re-open this question which has already been decided—*vide* paragraph 21 of this office letter, dated 20th June 1899, Ref. on C. No. 827, disposed of in the Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 2350, dated 22nd July 1899.

Regarding the quality of the rice supplied, I satisfied myself that no objection could be taken to the sample produced by the contractor whose tender was accepted this year, and care is being taken to see that the rice supplied is up to the sample.

26. Mr. Moscardi's report was received on the 21st December. I have delayed submitting it until I could deal in paragraph 20 *supra* with the results of the current season also. The sorting was finished yesterday and the complete figures were available to-day.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

APPENDIX TO PARAGRAPH 14.

SITUATION OF GOVERNMENT TREES HELD ON RENT OR OTHERWISE IN KILTAN.

ON THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE ISLAND.

Plot No. 1.

Name.—Kowrorapalli Melapagam.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Uutilode Yusuf Haji; east, trees belonging to Puttiapurampullam; south and west, trees belonging to Birianthithiode Isakutti.

Contains 50 trees yielding; 3 chouk and 9 plants. Of these 27 trees, 3 chouk and 6 plants held by Beliapire Ammad on a rent of Rs. 2 per annum; and 23 trees and 3 plants held by Kundathalam Suleman under Mr. Robinson's order.

Plot No. 2.

Name.—Mariathapirenakade.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Pallithithiode and Mupathiode houses; east, trees belonging to Pakar Kadiyode house; south, trees belonging to Padalipire house; west, trees belonging to Pallithithiode house.

Contains 12 trees yielding; 8 trees held by Kandalatu Ibrahim under Mr. Robinson's order. Two by Kandalatu Ibrahim under Mr. Robinson's order on one rupee rent per annum. One by Bendeyillam Ahamad Kunhi without rent under Mr. Robinson's order. One by Katampalli Karim without rent under Mr. Robinson's order.

Plot No. 3.

Name.—Katakam Badakepagam.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Pallithithiode house; east, trees belonging to Moidinapire and Pallithithiode houses; south, trees held by Nadpals Ashe, Hassan and Katakam Aishomma; west, trees belonging to Pakarkadiode and Padilepire houses.

Contains 16 trees yielding; 16 chouk and 8 plants. Fourteen trees rented out to Pallipire Ibrahim for Rs. 3-8-0 per annum. Two trees rented out to Pallithithiode Kadri along with others. Sixteen chouk and 8 plants not rented out.

Plot No. 4.

Name.—Katakam Telkapagam.

Boundaries.—North, plot No. 3; east, trees belonging to Chulothiode house; south, trees belonging to Uthuliod house; west, trees belonging to Padilepire house.

Contains 32 trees yielding; 5 chouk and 1 plant. Eleven trees and 2 chouk and 1 plant held by Nadpal Hasane. Thirteen trees and 2 chouk held by Nadpal Ashe. Eight trees and 1 chouk held by Katachatte Aishomma under Mr. Robinson's order.

Plot No. 5.

Name.—Pakar Malim Baipichadam.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Pallithithiode house; east, trees belonging to Pathmathode and Padilepire houses; south and west, trees belonging to Kilapire and Padilepire houses.

Contains 46 trees yielding and 6 chouk. Thirty-seven trees and 6 chouk held by Pallithithiode Kadri Koya on a rent of Rs. 15 per annum along with others.

Eight trees held by Kunnashada Ummatta under Mr. Robinson's order. One tree held by Baliyelam Ibrahim as planted by him on this land.

Plot No. 6.

Name.—Avvathenganakade.

Contains one yielding tree held by Kannipire Katu on a rent of As. 8 per annum.

Plot No. 7.

Name.—Biriampalliar.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Katampalli house; east, the lagoon; south, trees belonging to Birianthithiode house; west, trees belonging to Kannipire house.

Contains 21 trees and 1 plant formerly enjoyed by dismissed Nadpal Tenekal Tavakal.

Plot No. 8.

Name.—Ashara Kulatmakade.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Ummashipire house; east, trees belonging to Moileakade house; south, trees belonging to Saliode house; west, trees belonging to Melapire house.

Contains 17 trees yielding, and 9 chouk. Sixteen trees and 6 chouk held by Maimbakada Rajah under Mr. Robinson's order. One tree and 3 chouk not rented out. But this tree is claimed by Saliode Kunhi Ahamad and given to him. Order on P.R.No. 125 of 1899.

Plot No. 9.

Name.—Jamatpalli Badakepagam.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Mariathipire Abdulla; east, trees belonging to Kuriothiode Abdul Rahiman Mukri; south, trees belonging to Saliothiode Kunhi Ahamad; west, trees belonging to Kunnali Ibrahim.

Contains 11 trees yielding, 2 chouk and 1 plant. All held by Bappathiode Ismal Haji under Mr. Robinson's order.

Plot No. 10.

Name.—Mariathapirenakade.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Kilapire and Kannipire houses; east and west, trees belonging to Kannipire house; south, trees belonging to Kalpeniottiode and taitotem houses.

Contains 18 trees yielding, and 1 chouk held by Pallithithiode Kadri Koya along with others on a rent of Rs. 15 per annum.

Government trees in Kadamat.

Names of renters.	Trees.	Rent.		
		RS.	A.	P.
1. Biriathimade Moidin Mupamar ...	100	12	0	0
2. Avvathiode Hassan Kutti Mupamar ...				
3. Melachatte Ashe Hammade do. ...				
4. Terekal Abdul Rahiman do. ...				
5. Divana Ashe ...				
6. Kunhi Kadiyachatte Uduman or Usman ...				
7. Thotathakere Kassim Karani. (Thotathakere Khadir, his nephew, agent) ...	93	12	12	0
8. Thotathakere Kassim Karani ...	315	45	0	0
Sub-renters.				
(1) Melachatte Hammad ...	63			
(2) Ummathachatte Ukkas ...	63			
(3) Kunnaneipalli Ibrahim ...	63			
(4) Kunhi Kadiyachatte Usman ...	63			
(5) Avvathiode Hasan Kutty ...	63			
	315			
9. Pathadi Suleman ...	93	12	12	0
Sub-renters.				
(1) Pudiyapire Ahamad Kunhi ...	93			
(2) Patmachatte Ambrashe ...				
10. Mukriama Kade Abdulla ...	50	7	0	0
11. Raviyachatte Ismael ...	30	6	0	0
12. Alachimade Abdul Khadir Moilar ...	175	15	0	0

Sub-renters.

(1) Kadiachatte Hasan Kutti	...	...	116			
(2) Phudiyaru Shaban Haji Kavilgar of Amini	...	...	59			
			175			
13. Phrakatchatte Koya Kutty	...	...	36	15	0	0
	Plants	...	2	5	0	0
14. Sheik Kassim, late peon of Monegar	...	...	47			
15. Mannabi, daughter of Sheik Moidin, late peon of Monegar	...	...	100	12	0	0
Total	...	...	1,089	142	8	0

Deduct trees given up ... 30
Fallen down ... 2

32

1,007

Add trees held free of rent by—

(1) Nadpal Rajab	...	...	15
(2) Nadpal Maine	...	...	15
(3) Ali Malikan of Minicoy	...	...	100
(4) Pauper Ismael of Minicoy in Alattal	...	...	3
(5) Hussein of Panambur in Pule	...	...	12
(6) Katampalli Hammad in Pule	...	...	10

Held in excess by—

(7) Ali Malikan	...	...	1
(8) Kunhi Kadiyachatte Usman	...	...	3
(9) Ukkaichatte Usman	...	...	1

160

Total ... 1,167

SITUATION of Government trees held on rent or otherwise in Chetlat

ON THE NORTHERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND.

Plot No. 1.

Name.—Kulikare Tekke Kilachapagam.

This plot adjoins the land belonging to Moidin Khadri and others, and contains 3 trees yielding, and 34 plants enjoyed by the Nadpal.

Plot No. 2.

Name.—Kulikare Kilachapagam.

This plot is a few yards to the north of Plot No. 1. The trees adjoining it belong to Birianthithiode and Pallithithiode, &c., houses. The plot contains 20 trees yielding, 4 chouk and 21 plants, all enjoyed by the Nadpal.

ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND.

Plot No. 3.

Name.—Kilabai Biranpalliar.

This plot contains 1 tree yielding and 1 chouk both held by the Nadpal. The land here is full of private trees.

ON THE MIDDLE OF THE ISLAND.

Plot No. 4.

Name.—Birithikadiode Badakepagam.

This plot is at a short distance to the east of the Monegar's Kacheri and is on all sides surrounded by trees belonging to the Biriathikadiode house. It contains 1 tree yielding, 1 chouk and 2 plants, all under the possession of the Assistant Nadpal.

Plot No. 5.

Name.—Biriathikadiode Kilachapagam.

This plot is at a short distance to the east of the Monegar's Kacheri, viz., in the south-east of Plot No. 4. Contains 4 trees yielding, and 2 chouk and 38 plants. The 2 chouk trees were planted by the Biriathikadiode house whose trees adjoin this plot in the west. The 4 trees and 38 plants are in the possession of the Assistant Nadpal.

Plot No. 6.

Name.—Porathpalli kilapagam.

This plot is in the south of the Porathpalli Mosque which is a short distance to the south-east of the Monegar's Kacheri. It contains 12 young plants which stand amidst the trees granted by Government to the mosque as inam.

Plot No. 7.

Name.—Puvodatha Pandyalakade.

This plot is a few yards to the south of the Monegar's Kacheri near the sea shore. The trees in the north of it belong to Biriathikadiode house and those to the south to the Ashikathiodi house. It contains 1 tree yielding, 5 chouk and 1 plant, all enjoyed by the Nadpal.

ON THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND.

Plot No. 8.

Name.—Tekkala Pule.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Kannipire and Mackichiodi, &c., houses; south, trees belonging to Kalladi, Chekakal, Biyathiodi and Birianthithiodi houses; west, trees belonging to Pallithithiodi, Kuriyothiodi, Vodipire, Kurniel, Kalladi, &c., houses; east, the lagoon.

The boundaries have been fixed by planting 3 stones in the south, 8 in the west and 2 in the north.

The plot contains 78 trees yielding and 65 plants held on a rent of Rs. 10 per annum by Mupamar Ali Mahomed.

SITUATION of Government trees held on rent or otherwise in Kadamat.

ON THE NORTHERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND.

Plot No. 1.

Name.—Belia Avanandi Melapagam.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to the Khazi; south, trees belonging to Kalpinathiodi house; east, trees belonging to Melachatte house; west, trees belonging to Biram Kutti.

Contains 17 trees yielding rented out; 2 chouk.

Plot No. 2.

Name.—Alattal.

Boundaries.—East, the lagoon; west, a row of small plants belonging to Patmapire Aidros.

Contains a row of 8 trees yielding; 2 enjoyed by Nadpal Maine, 3 by Nadpal Rajab and 3 by pauper Ismael of Minicoy.

Plot No. 3.

Name.—Belia Avanandi.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Melachatte Ashe Hammad; east, trees belonging to Birammade Ibrahim; south, trees belonging to Patmapire Aidros; west, trees belonging to Kalpinathiodi Hammad Mukri.

Contains 18 trees yielding, 1 chouk.

Plot No. 4.

Name.—Belia Avanandi Kilapagam.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Bimachatte Khadar; west, trees belonging to Biamade Ibrahim; south, trees belonging to Kalpinathiodi Hammad Mukri; east, plants belonging to Moidin Kutti Haji of Chetlat.

Contains 187 trees yielding rented out, 27 chouk.

Plot No. 5.

Name.—Pudiottam.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Kunbi Kudia Abdulla of Amini; south, trees belonging to Biriathimade Moidin; east, trees belonging to Therekalchatte Ukkas; west, trees belonging to Kadiamakade Ibrahim.

Contains 64 trees yielding rented out, 7 plants.

Plot No. 6.

Name.—Phainathang.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Pathmadade Kutti Hammad of Amini; south, trees belonging to Phathade Shaban; east, trees belonging to Pudiapire Khadri; west, trees belonging to Biamade Koya Kidavu.

Contains 22 trees yielding rented out.

Plot No. 7.

Name.—Chammalate Melapagam.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Pathade Shaban; south, trees belonging to Patmathiodechatte Moidin; east, Government waste; west, trees, belonging to Bimiachatte Ravalan.

Contains 30 trees yielding rented out.

Plot No. 8.

Name.—Chammalar.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Biyamade Husain Koya of Amini; east, trees belonging to Phradatha Hammad Koya; south, trees belonging to Phatade Shaban; west, trees belonging to Kadiachatte Hassan.

Contains 9 trees yielding rented out.

Plot No. 9.

Name.—Chammalaram Kareba.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Phatade Shaban; south, trees belonging to Biriammade Ibrahim; east, trees belonging to Kunhali Ashe; west, Government waste.

Contains 23 trees yielding rented out.

ON THE MIDDLE OF THE ISLAND.

Plot No. 10.

Name.—Paleyaraskalkade.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Alichomade Abdul Khadir Moilar of Amini; south, trees belonging to Biriammade Ibrahim; east, trees belonging to Biyathachatte Musa or public roadway; west, trees belonging to Bimachatte Ravalan.

Contains 21 trees yielding and 4 plants. Of these, 3 trees have been rented out to Kunhi Kudiachatte Usman and the rest are held by Ali Malikhan of Minicoy free of rent.

Plot No. 11.

Name.—Kunhianathiar.

Boundaries.—South, Aidros Palli masjid; north, trees belonging to Bamoth Andar; east, the lagoon; west, trees belonging to Biyathichatte Musa.

Contains 122 trees yielding rented out except 40 held by Ali Malikhan of Minicoy free of rent; 8 chouk, 10 young plants.

On the southern side of the island.

Plot No. 12.

Name.—Shekana Palli Badakepagam.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Biyammade Husein Koya; south, trees belonging to Kulopina Kasim Koya; east, trees belonging to Avvechatte Ashe Mukri; west, trees belonging to Ashamipire Adian Mukri.

Contains 243 trees yielding rented out except 33 enjoyed by Ali Malikhan of Minicoy free of rent; 25 chouk, 19 young plants.

Plot No. 13.

Name.—Pule.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Kalpenathide Hammad Mukri; south, trees belonging to Kalikothode Hammad; east, trees belonging to Pathmathiode Kutti Hammad Koya of Amini and the lagoon; west, trees belonging to Therekalode Abdul Rahiman.

Contains 243 trees yielding rented out except 32 trees enjoyed free of rent by (1) Huseina of Panambur 12, (2) Katampalli Hammad 10, and (3) Ali Malikhan of Minicoy 10. Contains 4 chouk, 28 young plants.

Plot No. 14.

Landing place at Kadamat in the west. One tree, yielding held by Alachimade Abdul Khader Moilar on rent.

	Trees yielding.	Chouk.	Young plants.
Total ..	1,008	67	68
Deduct held by Ukkaichatte Usman in Pule out of account.	1	..	..
Net ..	1,007	67	68

SITUATION OF GOVERNMENT TREES IN AMINI HELD ON RENT OR OTHERWISE BY PRIVATE PERSONS.

TREES ON THE NORTHERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND.

Plot No. 1.

Name.—Badakanchatte Bal, East.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Pondabelli Abdul Khader Moilar; east, Government trees held by Baniam, Prokatachatte Koya Kutti and Kapiyal Kasim free of rent; south, Government trees held by Prokalachatte Koya Kutti; west, trees belonging to Prokalachatte Kunhi Ashe, Kapiyal Kasim and Barali Biran Kutti.

Contains 21 trees yielding including 5 trees held by Papade Rajab Kutti free of rent under Mr. Robinson's order; 3 chouk, 27 young plants.

Sixteen trees yielding and 3 chouk are held by Chetlat Ashe along with others situated on different places on a rent of Rs. 6 per annum.

Portions of this plot have been granted as house sites to Androth Adian and Androth Abdulla who have also reared 13 and 4 plants, respectively, near their houses. Of the remaining plants 8 were raised by Chetlat Ashe and the rest 2 are old plants.

Plot No. 2.

Name.—Badakanchatte Bal, West.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Burali Biran Kutti and Porkal Aisha; east, trees belonging to Malachatte Ashe and Pathiotachatte Musa; south, trees belonging to Badakanchatte Fakir; west, plot No. 1.

Contains 29 trees yielding, 12 chouk, 5 plants.

This plot consists of two parts; the northern given to ancestors of Koya Kutti and the southern to Abdul Khadir Moilar, by Mr. Robinson free of rent. The northern part contains 21 trees yielding, 12 chouk and 2 plants held by Phrakatachatte Koya Kutti free of rent; and the southern part contains 8 trees yielding and 3 plants held by Abdul Khadir Moilar.

Plot No. 3.

Name.—Badakanchatte Bal, South.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Barali Biran Kutti; south, trees belonging to Bandalkakade Kasali; east, trees belonging to Badakanchatte Fakir; west, trees belonging to Melachatte Ashe.

Contains 10 trees yielding, 8 plants all enjoyed by Porkatchatte Koya Kutti free of rent under Mr. Robinson's order.

Plot No. 4.

Name.—Cheriya Tota.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Birian Kutti, Talekal Nurodin and Furadang Ahamed; east, trees belonging to Barali Biran Kutti; south, trees belonging to Kolpi Abdul Khader and Tacheri Kadri; west, trees belonging to Melachery Pakki, Pathiothel Ibrahim and Pathmathiode Kutti Hammad.

Contains 67 trees yielding, 9 chouk, 17 plants.

This plot was given by Mr. Robinson to the ancestors of Phrakatachette Koya Kutti, Biyammachatte Hammad and Baniam, free of rent.

Six of the trees are held by Chetlat Ashe on rent along with others in plot No. 1.

Five held by Baniam Andar free of rent.

Two trees and 10 plants held by Bimachatte Hammad free of rent.

Fifty-four trees yielding, 9 chouk and 7 plants by Phrokatachatte Koya Kutti free of rent.

Plot No. 5.

Name.—Kunninamel Totam.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Phradalathil Hammad Koya; east, trees belonging to Idakal Kunhi Pariya and Kunnangalathal Kadri; south, trees belonging to Kunninamel Biyashra; west, trees belonging to Alichomade Abdul Khadir Moilar, Bandakakade Kasali and Kilachery Abdulla.

Contains 59 trees yielding, 10 chouk, 10 plants.

Two trees yielding and 1 chouk held by Chetlat Ashe on rent along with those in plot 1.

The others are held free of rent by the following persons under Mr. Robinson's order:—

Karyanchatte Adian Haji, 4 yielding and 4 chouk.

Kunnabechatte Pakir Haji, 1 yielding.

Sarechatte Parde, 10 yielding and 10 plants.

Bhimechatte Hammad, 1 yielding.

Phrokatechatte Koya Kutti, 13 yielding and 5 chouk.

Idayakal Kunhi Pariya, 28 yielding.

Plot No. 6.

Name.—Kuttiambaka Kunna.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Barali Biran Kutti; east, trees belonging to Lavan-chery house and Phrokai Aisha; south, trees belonging to Talekal Nurodin; west, trees belonging to Talekal and Toopiachade Hasan Kutti.

Contains 8 trees yielding, 8 chouk, 9 plants.

Two of the trees are held by Chetlat Ashe on rent along with others on plot No. 1, and all the rest by Kavilgar Shaban Haji by whom they were planted on the plot given to him by Monegar Zainudin.

Trees on the middle part of the island.

Plot No. 7.

Boundaries.—North, waste land belonging to Kadiya Raulon; east, waste land belonging to Baleyl Kunhi Hasan and Prokade Kutti Pakki Haji; south, waste land belonging to Prokatchatte Pokka Haji; west, plants raised by Illam Tavakal and Ammipire Tavakal.

Contains 15 trees yielding, 5 chouk, 14 plants.

Held by the monegar for Government. Only 5 of the yielding trees bear fruits, the others have none.

Plot No. 8.

Name.—Arkalkade, North.

Boundaries.—North, Roadway; east, trees belonging to Pudiyaipirechatte Kadir; south, plot No 9; west monegar's kacheri.

Contains 13 trees yielding and 3 plants, all held by the monegar for Government.

Plot No. 9.

Name.—Arkalkade, South.

Boundaries.—North, plot No. 8; east, trees belonging to Monakal and Pudiyaipirechatte houses; south, trees belonging to Tepalli Halima; west, Government waste and monegar's house.

Contains 30 trees yielding held by Sarechatte Parde free of rent under Mr. Robinson's order.

Plot No. 10.

Name.—Cheriya Palliyar.

Boundaries.—North, trees raised by Baimadath Bammad Haji; east, land belonging to Tepalli Halima masjid and Abdul Khadir Moilar; south, plants raised by Ameode Bammade Haji; west, plants raised by Avvechatte Tavakal Haji and Ammepire Tavakal.

Contains 80 trees and 51 plants, all held by Ali Malikan of Minicoy free of rent. Yielding trees only 6, the others chouk.

Plot No. 11.

Name.—Mudodia Puragal or Kirad, West.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Pire Kutti Pakki Haji; east, plot No. 12; south, trees belonging to Kunnipire Moidine.

West, trees belonging to Karchipire Kalandar and Prokat Kutti Pakki Haji.

Contains 23 trees yielding and 16 plants, all held by Papade Rajab Kutti free of rent under Mr. Robinson's order.

Plot No. 12.

Name.—Mudodia Puragal or Kirad, East.

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Mudodi Fakir; east, trees belonging to Tiruvan Rajab; south, trees belonging to Kunnipire Moidin; west, plot No. 11.

Contains 8 trees yielding and 10 plants held by Prokatachatte Koya Kutti free of rent under Mr. Robinson's order.

Plot No. 13.

Name.—Phannethakule.

Boundaries.—North, Shuthathiada Khadir's trees; east Photakal Hajara's trees; south Photakal Hajara's trees; west, Madalachatte Aishomma's trees.

Contains 8 trees yielding held by Nadpal Ibrahim.

Plot No. 14.

Name.—Pudiollia Melaka.

Boundaries.—North, Pireyil Kutti Pakki Haji's trees; east, south and west, Ammiode Bommad Haji's trees.

Contains 6 trees yielding, held by Nadpal Ibrahim.

Plot No. 15.

Name.—Pannikatte Kil.

Boundaries.—North, Palliyekal Farki's trees; east, Palliyekal Farki's trees; south, Manpuram Beekunhi's trees; west Phullata Ravalan's trees.

Contains ten trees held by Nadpal Ibrahim.

Plot No. 16.

Name.—Shekapulli Kade

Boundaries.—North, trees belonging to Periya Kutti Pakki Haji; east, trees belonging to Manpuram Bee Kunhi; south trees belonging to Baimadathachatte Ravalan; west, trees belonging to Periya Kutti Pakki Haji.

Contains 43 trees yielding and 32 plants held by Nadpal Rajab.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

APPENDIX TO PARAGRAPH 31.

AMINDIVI POOR FUND.

Account for fasli 1308 (1898-99).

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Balance at the beginning of fasli 1308	...	...	...	7,968	8	6
Add interest on Government promissory notes (3½ per cent. of 1865) for Rs. 7,500 deposited with the Accountant-General	(a)	261	13	6		
Interest on deposit in Post Office Savings Bank	(b)	15	14	2	277	11
Total				8,246	4	3
Deduct value of rice, &c., distributed in fasli 1308				(c)	242	5
Balance at the end of fasli 1308				8,003	14	6
Amount of Government promissory notes deposited with the Accountant-General				7,500	0	0
In Post Office Savings Bank	(d)	503	14	6		
Total				8,003	14	6

	RS.	A.	P.
(a) Interest for the half-year ending 31st October 1898, on Government promissory notes for Rs. 7,500 received in November 1898	130	14	9
Interest for the half-year ending 30th April 1899, on Government promissory notes for Rs. 7,500 received in May 1899	130	14	9
Total	261	13	6
(b) Interest for 1898-99 received in June 1899	15	14	3
(c) Value of rice, &c., for 1899-1900 drawn in May 1899.			
Rice	219	12	0
Salt	9	7	3
Cloth	8	3	6
Tobacco	2	1	0
Spices	2	14	0
Total	242	5	9
(d) Amount in Post Office Savings Bank	503	13	9
Amount in Revenue deposit, item No. 2863 of 1898-99	0	0	9
Total	503	14	6

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

APPENDIX TO PARAGRAPHS 38 AND 39.
STATEMENT showing transactions of Coir Department in fasli 1304 (1894-95), 1305 (1895-96), 1306 (1896-97) and 1307 (1897-98).

Fasli.	Coir from Islanders.	In cash.	In rice at Rs. 2 per mura.	Actual cost of rice to Government.	Total of columns 3, 4 and 5.	Establishment, land revenue.	Contingencies, land revenue.	Total expenditure, columns 6 to 8.	Salt duty remitted.	Peishush remitted to Bibi of Cannanore.	Total cost to Government.	Sale-proceeds of coir.	Result.	
													Profit.	Loss.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1304 ..	C. M. L. R. 873 8 10	RS. A. P. 4,462 14 7	RS. A. P. 13,340 8 0	RS. A. P. 21,817 4 0	RS. A. P. 26,280 2 7	RS. A. P. 2,636 5 4	RS. A. P. 872 11 0	RS. A. P. 29,789 2 11	RS. A. P. 3,200 0 0	RS. A. P. 5,250 0 0	RS. A. P. 38,239 2 11	RS. A. P. 16,385 15 7	RS. A. P. 16,385 15 7	RS. A. P. 16,385 15 7
									Deduct sale-proceeds of coir received in fasli 1303 but sold in fasli 1304 ..	Net for fasli 1304 ..	Total ..	..	..	..
									Add value of coir received in fasli 1304 but sold in fasli 1305 ..	Total ..	Total ..	35,384 8 0	35,384 8 0	2,854 10 11
1305 ..	578 18 17	2,959 15 9	8,843 8 0	14,160 2 1	17,120 1 10	2,542 8 0	853 12 3	20,516 6 1	12,132 8 0	5,250 0 0	27,898 14 1	35,384 8 0	35,384 8 0	..
									Deduct sale-proceeds of coir received in fasli 1304 but sold in fasli 1305 ..	Net for fasli 1305 ..	Total ..	..	..	..
									Add value of coir received in fasli 1305 but sold in fasli 1306 ..	Total ..	Total ..	31,619 10 3	31,619 10 3	..
1306 ..	687 9 19	3,565 4 11	10,479 0 0	19,320 10 6	22,825 15 5	2,530 2 11	7,029 5 5	32,385 7 9	2,530 0 0	5,250 0 0	40,165 7 9	43,919 10 3	43,919 10 3	..
									Deduct sale-proceeds of coir received in fasli 1305 but sold in fasli 1306 ..	Net for fasli 1306 ..	Total ..	..	..	..
									Add value of coir received in fasli 1306 but sold in fasli 1307 ..	Total ..	Total ..	12,300 0 0	12,300 0 0	..
										Total ..	Total ..	24,036 7 6	24,036 7 6	..
1307 ..	662 18 27	3,436 5 9	10,270 0 0	19,256 4 0	22,692 9 9	2,960 4 11	\$ 894 2 10	26,547 1 6	2,470 0 0	5,250 0 0	34,267 1 6	31,676 7 6	31,676 7 6	3,829 0 3
									Deduct sale-proceeds of coir received in fasli 1306 but sold in fasli 1307 ..	Net for fasli 1307 ..	Total ..	..	..	..
									Add value of coir received in fasli 1307 but sold in fasli 1308 ..	Total ..	Total ..	7,640 0 0	7,640 0 0	..
										Total ..	Total ..	25,722 6 0	25,722 6 0	..
										Total ..	Total ..	33,362 6 0	33,362 6 0	904 11 6

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
* Travelling allowance of Port officer	293	8	9	318	8	9
Do. of establishment	24	4	0	112	16	0
Contingencies, advertisement fees, &c.	128	6	8	57	2	6
Boat-hire for shipping rice	22	5	4	22	12	6
Boat-hire for monegar's tour	4	6	0	45	12	5
Salary of kavallars	65	8	7	6,000	0	0
Do. of karanis	275	4	0	73	12	0
Do. of schoolmaster	58	15	8	309	12	0
Conveyance of records				66	6	0
Total	872	11	0	7,029	5	5

N.B.—The sum of Rs. 6,000 debited against fasli 1306 under contingencies is an exceptional charge and may be disregarded in considering the state of island revenue.

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
* Travelling allowance of Port officer	293	8	9	318	8	9
Do. of establishment	24	4	0	112	16	0
Contingencies, advertisement fees, &c.	128	6	8	57	2	6
Boat-hire for shipping rice	22	5	4	22	12	6
Boat-hire for monegar's tour	4	6	0	45	12	5
Salary of kavallars	65	8	7	6,000	0	0
Do. of karanis	275	4	0	73	12	0
Do. of schoolmaster	58	15	8	309	12	0
Conveyance of records				66	6	0
Total	872	11	0	7,029	5	5

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

STATEMENT showing transactions of Coir department for fasil 1308.

Fasli.	Coir from Islanders.	In cash.	In rice at Rs. 2 per murrab.	Actual cost of rice to Government.	Total of columns 3 and 5.	Establishment land revenue.	Contingencies; land revenue.	Total expenditure, columns 6 to 8.	Salt-duty remitted.	Peshkush remitted to Bibi of Camnanore.	Total cost to Government.	Sale-proceeds of coir.	Result. Profit.	Loss.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1308	651 0 25	3,427 14 11	10,243 8 0	16,005 7 6	19,433 6 5	2,172 10 2	RS. A. P. { 1. 312 8 0 2. 13 8 0 3. 60 0 0 4. 252 0 0 5. 23 5 11 6. 33 6 0 7. 7 4 0 8. 27 4 0 9. 15 0 0 10. 4 10 8 ————— 753 14 7 }	22,359 15 2	2,425 10 0*	5,250 0 0	30,035 9 2	25,722 6 0	..	..
								Deduct sale-proceeds of coir received in fasli 1307 but sold in this fasli ..				25,722 6 0	..	..
								Net for fasli 1308 ..				..	..	..
								Add value of coir received in this fasli but sold in fasli 1309 ..				32,168 4 8	..	..
								Total ..				32,168 4 8	2,132 11 6	..

* Represents the figures adopted from statements prepared in previous years.

N.B.—Details of contingencies—

1. Travelling allowance of Port officer.
2. Travelling allowance of establishment.
3. Salary of kavalgars.

7. Value of rat poison.
8. Purchase and repair of furniture.
9. Registration fees of rice and salt contract.

10 Contingencies, &c.

ENCLOSURE No. 5.
APPENDIX TO PARAGRAPH 40.
STATEMENT of Imports 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898.

Name of Island and year.	Rice in muns.	Areca-nuts.	Salt in muns.	Kerosine oil in tins.	Tobacco in muns.	Dates in muns.	Spices in muns.	Cows.	Timber pieces and cost.	B. gade grain (peas) muns.	E. gi muns.	Cutlery.	Goats.	Earthen pots.	Sugar.	Cloth yards.	
Amini.	1895	9,441½	3,60,000	786½	102	65½	50-23 lb.	134-24 lb.	80	74 RS. 100 0 0	126	7	47 bundles.	1	300	....	..
	1896	12,467½	19,65,800	433	105	87	8	155½	43	98 RS. 106 0 0	17	5	2 boxes ..	..	200	....	680
	1897	9,039½	3,91,200	156½	155	97-17 lb.	25	159	46	78 RS. 110 0 0	23	..	....	10	..	....	90
	1898	8,545½	1,61,000	235	167	121	54	300-17 lb.	41	142 RS. 71 0 0	27	1	....	..	60	4 mounds ..	2,397
Kadamat.	1895	509½	25,200	34½	10	6	44	16	3	6 RS. 15 0 0	..	..	4 mounds.	3	..	....	..
	1896	1,280½	39,500	59	50	11½	8	36½	6	2 RS. 10 0 0	2	3	....	..	200	....	..
	1897	840	60,500	29½	54	16-4 lb.	9	27	1	..	..	..	....	..	400	1 maund ..	240
	1898	1,064	36,500	32½	61	17-15 lb.	3	27-3 lb.	5	60 RS. 53 0 0	2	3	....	..	..	3 mounds of Pal-ghat jaggery.	..
Kiltan.	1895	2,270½	1,35,500	194	20	33-	74	50-16 lb.	19	..	6	3	....	1	..	....	..
	1896	2,676	80,072	90	12	23-22 lb.	17½	47½	3	12 RS. 31 0 0	3	..	6 packets.	..	..	....	..
	1897	2,040	1,10,600	144	28	34	9	49	8	35 0 0 RS. 27 pieces and 200 yards	4	1	....	..	..	1 box ..	..
	1898	2,472½	1,50,600	49	53	52	25-9 lb.	57-10 lb.	3	37 0 0 RS. 87 0 0	5	..	....	..	..	12 mounds of Pal-ghat jaggery.	..
Chetlat.	1895	1,464½	68,000	163	2	19-26 lb.	4-2 lb.	50-22 lb.	24	36 RS. 38 0 0	15	1	....	..	..	2 mounds and 16 lb. of palmyra jaggery.	..
	1896	2,123½	56,500	220½	4	26-	21-15 lb.	44-	21	29 RS. 57 0 0	11	4	....	..	100	19 mounds of palmyra jaggery.	..
	1897	571	41,500	131	21	29-6 lb.	..	36-	4	14 RS. 25 0 0	3	1	....	1	..	2 boxes ..	..
	1898	1,393½	41,000	51	15	34-25 lb.	4	54-14 lb.	4	65 RS. 45 0 0	..	..	....	..	..	4 mounds of Pal-ghat jaggery.	..

ENCLOSURE No. 6.

APPENDICES TO PARAGRAPH 40.

STATEMENT of exports 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898.

Name of Island and year.	Cair.	Copra.	Cocconuts.	Cadian leaves.	Limes.	Lime stones.	Vinegar bottles.	Fire-wood.	Hides.	Beams of cocconut trees.	Beet.	Empty Lotties.	Turtle shells, etc.	Jaggery.	Goats.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1895 ..	CANDS. MDS. LB	CANDIES.	NO.	NO.	NO.	CANDS.	NO.	NO.	4	NO.	NO.	NO.	8 maunds, kauries 10 maunds.	..	NO.
1896 ..	538 8 0	571	788,700	..	4,000	..	360	500	..	213	1	1,400	2 maunds and 14 lb. and 2 maunds of sharks' fins.	..	..
1897 ..	373 5 0	481	732,500	..	..	..	40	1,700	..	30	..	..	5 maunds and 14 lb. and 5 maunds of sharks' fins and fowls 20.	14 lb.	..
1898 ..	496 5 0	439	760,700	..	200	..	70	4,300	4 bundles and 5 loose ones.	..	..	..	13 maunds of sharks' fins.	..	..
1895 ..	427 6 0	378 7/16	231,700	1,890	4,200	21 mds.	50	13,100	73	183	..	..	7 lb. of tortoise shells and 4 maunds of sharks' fins.	5 mds. and 3 lb.	15
1896 ..	71 10 0	78	118,000	..	..	..	..	40,300	..	..	..	..	1 maund of sharks' fins.	..	..
1897 ..	38 0 0	51	16,000	..	..	..	..	262,500	..	..	..	..	1 maund and 14 lb. of sharks' fins.	..	..
1898 ..	43 10 0	75	114,800	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16 maunds and 14 lb of sharks' fins.	..	..
1895 ..	81 13 4	24 1/2	94,400	15,325	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	7 1/2 maunds of sharks' fins.	..	..
1896 ..	117 10 0	108 1/2	124,800	16,825	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 maunds and 21 lb. and 5 maunds of sharks' fins.	..	..
1897 ..	105 10 0	15 1/2	65,080	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14 lb. of sharks' fins.	..	..
1898 ..	98 15 0	140 1/2	237,500	7,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Do.	..	..
1895 ..	119 5 0	271 1/2	177,700	20,560	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1896 ..	103 10 0	56	86,500	38,850	196	..	..	9,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1897 ..	78 16 21	80 2/5	15,400	23,200	112 1/2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1898 ..	96 0 0	24 1/2	75,650	28,575	67	..	..	98,500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1895 ..	118 5 0	17 1/2	65,300	30,050	73	..	21	9,600	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

ENCLOSURE No. 7.

STATEMENT of trade going on from one island to another.

Year.	Rice.	Cocconuts.	Areca-nuts.	Plan-tains.	Fish.	Fish oil.	Salt.	Tobacco.	Grain.	Timber.	Fowls.	Value.
	MURAS.	NO.	NO.	NO.	MDS.	MDS.	MDS.	MDS.	MURAS	RS. A. P.	NO.	RS. A. P.
1895 ..	109	21,300	..	4,900	42 1/2	99	2	3	35	127 4 0	331	1,053 8 0
1896 ..	149 1/2	28,850	..	2,960	105 1/2	85 1/2	2	3	6 1/2	132 4 0	476	1,300 0 10
1897 ..	177	74,830	8,300	1,900	111 1/2	112 1/2	8	2	11	87 11 0	389	2,087 15 0
1898 ..	164	87,465	95,500	2,500	123 1/2	65	10	1	39	57 12 0	475	2,456 7 0

ENCLOSURE No. 8.
APPENDIX TO PARAGRAPH 41.
STATEMENT of Criminal cases instituted and disposed of during the years 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898.

Nature of offences.	Amini.				Kadamat.				Kiltan.			
	Number of complaints preferred.	Number of persons concerned.	Number of complaints dismissed.	Number of persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of persons convicted.	Number of complaints preferred.	Number of persons concerned.	Number of persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of persons convicted.	Number of complaints preferred.	Number of persons concerned.	Number of persons convicted.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895.					(a)							
Assault or use of criminal force otherwise than on grave and sudden provocation.	5	23	..	20	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Theft	15	60	..	3	57	2	2	..	..	2	6	10
Mischief	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Criminal trespass	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	23	86	..	25	61	2	2	..	..	2	7	12
1896.												
Assault or use of criminal force otherwise than on grave and sudden provocation.	3	6	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Theft	1	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	2	..
Mischief	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Criminal trespass	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	4	7	..	6	1	1	1	..	..	1	2	2
1897.												
Assault or use of criminal force otherwise than on grave and sudden provocation.	4	7	..	6	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Theft	9	13	..	4	9	1	1	..	..	1	..	..
Mischief	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Criminal trespass	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	13	20	..	10	10	1	1	..	..	1	1	2
1898.												
Assault or use of criminal force otherwise than on grave and sudden provocation.	2	4	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Theft	9	27	..	23	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mischief	6	7	..	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Criminal trespass	1	5	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	18	43	2	36	5	..	..	..	..	..	1	2

(a) Number of witnesses examined.

APPENDIX TO PARAGRAPH 41.—cont.
Statement of Criminal cases instituted and disposed of during the years 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898—cont.

Nature of offences.	Kiltan—cont.				Chetlat.				Total.			
	Number of complaints dismissed.	Number of persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of persons convicted.	Number of complaints preferred.	Number of persons concerned.	Number of persons convicted.	Number of persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of persons concerned.	Number of complaints preferred.	Number of persons convicted.	Number of persons discharged or acquitted.	Number of persons concerned.
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1895.			(a)									(a)
Assault or use of criminal force otherwise than on grave and sudden provocation.	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	1	7	26	..	6
Theft	..	..	10	4	4	..	..	4	27	76	..	3
Mischief	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Criminal trespass	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	12	5	5	..	..	5	37	106	..	25
1896.												
Assault or use of criminal force otherwise than on grave and sudden provocation.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	6	..	..
Theft	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	2
Mischief	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Criminal trespass	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	8	..	6
1897.												
Assault or use of criminal force otherwise than on grave and sudden provocation.	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	9	..	2
Theft	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	14	..	4
Mischief	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Criminal trespass	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	15	23	..	11
1898.												
Assault or use of criminal force otherwise than on grave and sudden provocation.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	..	..
Theft	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	27	..	23
Mischief	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	9	..	10
Criminal trespass	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	..	5
Total ..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	45	2	38

(a) Number of witnesses examined.

ENCLOSURE No. 9.

APPENDIX TO PARAGRAPH 43.

STATEMENT of Civil Suits instituted and disposed of during the years 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898.

Years.	Amini.						Kadmat.						Kiltan.		
	Number of suits instituted.	Suits tried by monegar alone.	Suits tried by monegar assisted by the panchayat.	Suits settled amicably.	Suits settled on oath.	Suits otherwise disposed of.	Number of suits instituted.	Suits tried by monegar alone.	Suits tried by monegar assisted by the panchayat.	Suits settled amicably.	Suits settled on oath.	Suits otherwise disposed of.	Number of suits instituted.	Suits tried by monegar alone.	Suits tried by monegar assisted by the panchayat.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1895	50	17	..	10	12	11	3	2	..	..	..	1	2	..	..
1896	24	8	..	4	5	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1897	71	26	..	23	6	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	8	..
1898	46	11	..	19	..	16	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Total	191	62	..	56	23	50	6	3	..	2	..	1	26	12	..

Years.	Kiltan—cont.			Chetlat.			Total.					
	Suits settled amicably.	Suits settled on oath.	Suits otherwise disposed of.	Number of suits instituted.	Suits tried by monegar alone.	Suits tried by monegar assisted by the panchayat.	Suits settled amicably.	Suits settled on oath.	Suits otherwise disposed of.	Number of suits instituted.	Suits tried by monegar alone.	Suits tried by monegar assisted by the panchayat.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1895	..	2	..	12	4	..	4	..	67	23	..	14
1896	..	1	2	14	6	..	5	1	47	19	..	10
1897	..	1	7	17	8	..	2	5	105	42	..	26
1898	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	49	12	..	20
Total	1	4	9	45	19	..	11	7	268	96	..	70

* Exclusive of three suits pending disposal.

ENCLOSURE No. 10.
APPENDIX TO PARAGRAPH 43.
STATEMENT of revenue cases filed and disposed of during the years 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898.

Years.	Amini.						Kadmat.						Kiltan.			
	Number of cases decided.	By monegar.	By panchayat.	Number of cases dismissed or withdrawn.	Number of cases referring to land.	Number of cases referring to trees only.	Number of cases referring to divorce, maintenance, &c.	Number of cases referring to moveable properties, &c.	Number of cases pending.	Number of cases.	By monegar.	By panchayat.	Number of cases.	By monegar.	By panchayat.	Number of cases decided.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1895	68	60	..	8	40	12	7	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1896	41	35	1	5	16	15	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1897	34	23	..	11	13	10	9	2	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
1898	39	21	..	5	8	18	7	3	3	11	11	..	..	8	3	..
Total	182	149	1	29	77	55	28	19	3	16	16	..	..	9	52	1

ENCLOSURE No. 10—cont.
APPENDIX TO PARAGRAPH 43—cont.

Statement of revenue cases filed and disposed of during the years 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898—cont.

Years.	Kiltan—cont.						Chetlat.						Total.													
	23	24	25	26	27	28	Number of cases.	By monegar.	By punchayat.	Number of cases dismissed or withdrawn.	32	33	34	35	36	37	Number of cases.	By monegar.	By punchayat.	Number of cases dismissed or withdrawn.	41	42	43	44	45	46
	Number of cases dismissed or withdrawn.	Number of cases referring to land.	Number of cases referring to trees only.	Number of cases referring to divorce, maintenance, &c.	Number of cases referring to moveable properties, &c.	Number of cases pending.																				
1895	..	6	1	1	3	..	19	14	..	5	12	2	3	2	2	..	98	85	..	13	58	15	11	14	..	..
1896	..	3	1	2	7	..	16	16	..	..	4	3	5	4	..	..	70	63	2	5	23	19	12	16	..	..
1897	1	6	16	2	3	..	11	8	..	3	6	2	3	..	..	..	77	62	..	15	26	31	14	6	..	..
1898	..	1	2	..	..	2	10	9	..	1	..	5	3	2	2	..	65	54	..	6	17	28	10	5	5	5
Total	1	16	20	5	13	2	56	47	..	9	22	12	14	8	..	..	310	264	2	39	124	93	47	41	5	5

ENCLOSURE No. 11.

APPENDIX TO PARAGRAPH 48.

STATEMENT of the Moktessors of Amini.

When there was a quarrel between the Mukri of the Moidin mosque and his brother, about 15 years ago, the monegar ordered the property and money belonging to the mosque to be taken charge of by the moktessors. He distributed the money, which was something more than Rs. 300, among us, so as to make each moktessor responsible for a certain part of it. A year before his death he told us that the Collector had ordered the money to be deposited in Huzur, in connection with the dispute. We then gave him all the money, and now the present monegar says that that money never got to Huzur, and that the Collector's order is that we must pay it again. The late monegar did not give us receipts for that money. He was not in the habit of giving receipts for money paid. He only gave us receipts on one occasion, about a year before his death, for repayment of the advance made to us when supplies were sent by steamer. That was the only occasion on which he gave us a receipt. Usually we did not ask for receipts, and he did not give them.

The monegar made all the moktessors responsible for the property of the mosque, but the moktessors selected five among themselves to manage the property. It was those five who gave the money to the monegar. Their names were, (1) Biamade Hussain Kutti, (2) Pakkimade Kasim, (3) Kunangalta Kadri, (4) Pakkimade Ahamad, uncle of No. 2, who is now dead, (5) Kunhipakki Moilar. All the remaining moktessors witnessed the payment of the money to the monegar. All the moktessors were together in the Court when the money was paid.

(Signed)	PAKKIMADE KASIM.
(")	BIAMADE HUSSAIN KUTTI.
(")	KUNANGALTA KADRI.
(")	KHATIB KUNHIPAKKI MOILAR.
(")	ALECHUMADE ABDUL KHADAR.
(")	KATIKAM AMUTTI.
(")	PHURADAT AHAMAD.
(")	ETIAPALLI ABUL KHADER.
(")	BALEALI KUTTI AHAMAD.

(One of the five is dead.)

Taken down by me. Interpreted to the moktessors in their own language, and understood by them, and signed in my presence by them.

(Signed) A. F. G. MOSCARDI,
Assistant Collector.

9th October 1899.

Resolution—No. 122, dated 10th July 1900.

The Collector of South Canara submits a report by the Assistant Collector, Mr. Moscardi, on his inspection of the Amindivi islands between 21st September and 2nd November last. As observed by the Collector, the report is exhaustive and bears evidence of the interest which Mr. Moscardi took in the inspection.

2. The islands were last inspected by Mr. Couchman in February 1895. The next inspection should have been made in 1897 or 1898, but there was difficulty in securing a steamer for the purpose.

3. At the date of Mr. Couchman's visit, cholera of a virulent type had swept the islands. In the succeeding years, there was no epidemic either of cholera or small-pox; with the result that the population increased from 3,290 to 3,466 during the interval between 1895 and 1899. This result must be considered satisfactory, having regard to the fact that the population of the islands has never been progressive (*vide* paragraph 2 of Board's Proceedings, No. 276, dated 7th August 1895).

4. On two occasions within the last few years the islanders have been exposed to the risks of a deficient food supply. Once in 1896 and again in 1899 the island vessels carrying provisions were driven back to the Malabar coast by stress of weather. In 1896 relief was afforded by the shipment of rice, salt, &c., from Bombay (*vide*

Government Order, No. 270, Revenue, dated 18th June 1896). In 1899 the distress which was confined to Kiltan was generously relieved by Mr. Moscardi at his own cost. A better knowledge of navigation on the part of the islanders will, in the opinion of Mr. Moscardi, go far to mitigate this evil; but the islanders are not anxious to learn. The monegar who has learnt how to find the longitude in the Arab fashion has, however, been urged to teach the islanders.

5. The sanitary and medical conditions of the islands are fairly satisfactory. A Mussalman hospital assistant has joined recently. The vaccinator who accompanied Mr. Moscardi did good work. The diplomaed midwife who was deputed to the islands in 1895 resigned her appointment a year afterwards and it has not been possible either to secure a suitable candidate from the coast to take her place or to induce any of the island women to go over to the mainland for training. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer does not consider a trained midwife to be necessary for the islands. The monegar has, however, been instructed to endeavour to find a coast woman, who has settled on the islands, for training as a midwife on the mainland. The Amini dispensary is said to have been open for only ten months in 1895 and for eight months in 1897. It is presumed that in the remaining months the hospital assistant was making a tour of the other islands as required by paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings, No. 276, dated 7th August 1895.

6. The islanders were never noted for a desire to give a general education to their children. It was hoped that by associating secular teaching with religious instruction, an interest in secular education of at least an elementary character would be created. From the present report it is evident that this result has not been attained and Mr. Moscardi is unable to forecast more satisfactory results for a fresh attempt to enlist the interest of the islanders in the subject. In common with Messrs. Slight and Couchman, he recommends the trial of Canarese instead of Malayalam as the medium of instruction and the Collector proposes to send over a Mappila teacher from the mainland on a salary of Rs. 15 per mensem to open a school in Amini for teaching Malayalam or Canarese (or both) as the islanders may choose. The Board considers that this further experiment should be tried.

7. As the result of the new system of classifying coir according to quality on receipt at Mangalore, the quantity of imports has fallen, but the quality of the imported article and its market price have improved. The increase in market price has not yet made up for the decrease in quantity; but the Collector anticipates an increase in the imports of future years. The system may have a further trial. So far as the islanders are concerned they have been getting better prices for the quantities imported by them than they would have got under the old system. The question of the arrangements to be made so as to ensure that the actual maker of the coir gets the benefit of an improvement in its quality was considered by Mr. Moscardi with the result that he was not able to propound any practicable scheme. But the Collector has arranged to get further information and proposes to take the matter again into consideration. The result will be awaited.

8. Notwithstanding the decrease in the quantity of imports and the high price of rice in faslis 1306 and 1307, the financial administration of the islands for the quinquennium ending fasli 1308 has been satisfactory. The net actual result for the quinquennium was a loss of Rs. 1,734-15-0; but if the charge of Rs. 6,000 on account of freight on provisions supplied from Bombay in fasli 1306, which was borne by Government as a special case and under exceptional circumstances, were excluded, the result would be a surplus of Rs. 4,265 or an average revenue of Rs. 853 per annum.

9. Mr. Moscardi has added an appendix to his report giving complete descriptions of all Government plantations and recommends the demarcation of the several plots. The Collector will be requested to report what the probable cost of the demarcation will be and whether the demarcation is in his opinion necessary.

10. The Board regrets that the condition of the Laccadive Poor Fund does not permit the immediate admission to relief of the nine paupers recommended by Mr. Moscardi.

11. In paragraph 48 of Mr. Moscardi's report and paragraph 25 of the Collector's endorsement, reference is made to an alleged fraud in respect of mosque property. On a representation since made by the individuals affected, the Board has held that the amount involved should either be recovered from the late monegar's heirs or made good from general revenues. If the former course is found impracticable, an application will be made to Government for sanction to make the necessary payment.

12. The following proposals and arrangements are approved:—

- (1) Paragraph 7 of Collector's endorsement—Grant of trees to the immigrants into Kadamat.
- (2) Paragraph 14 of Collector's endorsement—Appointment of Moktessors and Mupans.
- (3) Paragraph 16 of Collector's endorsement—Disposal of wreckage.
- (4) Paragraph 21 of Collector's endorsement—Continuance of the coir monopoly.
- (5) Paragraph 23 of Collector's endorsement—Payment for goats as part of the monegar's tour expenses.

13. The Board notes with satisfaction that the present monegar of the islands is reported to be an honest and capable officer.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) N. S. BRODIE,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ Collector of South Arcot.

READ—also the following Reference from the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), No. 246A, dated 14th July 1900:—

Reference—No. 246A, dated 14th July 1900.

In continuation of paragraph 11 of Board's Proceedings, No. 122, dated 10th July 1900, the Board submits the following report in regard to the claim of the Moidin Musjid at Amini to the payment of Rs. 202-4-0 from general revenues.

2. Owing to a dispute between the Murki and his brother some years ago, the property of the mosque was taken possession of by the monegar and placed in charge of some of the moktessors. The dispute having been settled recently, steps were taken to restore the property to the Murki. A sum of Rs. 202-4-0 is still due to the mosque. The moktessors concerned state that they paid the amount to the late monegar, but they hold no receipts. Nor does the collection find place in the monegar's books. This matter was reported to the Board in the Collector's letter disposed of in Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 2350, dated 22nd July 1899, and the Board then agreed with him in considering that the amount should be collected from the moktessors concerned and that the late monegar's heirs should not be held liable for it. Having regard, however, to the facts (1) that the late monegar never gave any receipts for payments made to him, (2) that these primitive islanders cannot be expected to attach the same value to receipts which the ryots of the mainland would attach to them, (3) that Mussalmans as a class are unlikely to practise fraud in respect of mosque property and (4) that several moktessors have deposed to having witnessed the payment to the late monegar, the Board as at present constituted is of opinion that the islanders concerned should be discharged from liability to make good the sum still due to the mosque. As to the alternative of recovering the amount from the late monegar's heirs, the Collector considers it inexpedient, because the testimony of the moktessors, which is the only evidence of payment, may not stand cross-examination in a Court of Law and because a fresh suit will have to be filed against the monegar's heirs and their

estate may not be sufficient to satisfy the several claims against it including the decree already passed in favour of Government. A fresh suit would also seem to be barred by section 43 of the Civil Procedure Code.

3. In the above circumstances, the Board recommends that the sum due to the mosque may be paid from general revenues. The charge can be met from the provision of Rs. 25,890 for coir charges under 3. Land Revenue—Charges of District Administration—in the budget estimates of the current year.

4. The Board has issued instructions to the effect that the officer next visiting these islands should make it his special business to impress on the islanders the importance of obtaining receipts for payments made by them. The Collector has also been asked to report on the question of requiring the monegar to furnish security for duly accounting for public money.

(Signed) N. S. BRODIE,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

ORDER—No. 972, Revenue, dated 17th September 1900.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded. The Government has read Mr. Moscardi's report with interest.

2. The suggestion to teach Canarese to the islanders, which is supported by the Collector and the Board of Revenue, does not commend itself to the Government. Malayalam is the native language of the people and its alphabet and grammar are much easier than Canarese. The Government is accordingly of opinion that the attempt to impart instruction in Malayalam should be persevered in. It will be suggested to the Collector whether, for a small scholarship of say Rs. 7 a month, one or two promising intelligent youths might not be persuaded to attend school at Kasaragod or Cannanore with the object of qualifying for the post of schoolmaster on the islands.

3. In the second of the Proceedings read above, the Board recommends that a sum of Rs. 202-4-0 due to the Moidin Musjid at Amini may be paid from general revenues. This recommendation is approved and will be transferred to the Financial Department for sanction.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
for Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
,, the Financial Department, with notes (to be returned).
,, the Educational Department.
,, the Judicial Department.
,, the Accountant-General.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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