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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Judicial

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<i>904</i>	Press	<i>Original</i>
B.P. No.		Misc	
Dated	<i>18th May</i>	<i>1874.</i>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
18th May 1874.*

No. 121. Read the following letter from W. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department, to the Honourable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Fort William, 31st March 1874, No. 210 :—

In continuation of my letter, No. 117, dated the 13th February last, I am directed to forward, herewith, six copies of the Scheduled Districts Bill as recently amended by the Select Committee, and to request that His Excellency the Governor in Council will favour the Government of India in this department with an expression of his opinion on the provisions of the Bill in its present form.

2. I am also to invite particular attention to Schedule I. of the Bill. The Government of India desires that all districts should be excluded from the Bill concerning which there exists any reasonable doubt as to whether they form part of British India.

No. 122. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department, dated Ootacamund, 18th May 1874, No. 904.

In reply to your letter of 31st March last, No. 210, I am directed to state that His Excellency in Council considers that very desirable changes have been effected in the form of the Scheduled Districts Bill, and that the present Draft contains all the provisions necessary in the matter. It does not occur to him to offer any further suggestions.

2. In the Schedule, PART I., Section I. *In Ganjam*, the following alterations should be made :—

(2.) *For* The Chinna Surada Maliahs, *read* The Surada Maliahs.

(7.) The words *in the district of Ganjam* after "The Parla Kimedi Maliahs" are superfluous.

PART II. (4.) *For* The Kasipur Maliahs, *read* The Kasipur Zemindari.

PART III.—The Laccadive Islands, including Minicoy, should stand as Part IV. Under PART III. should be placed the following words—*In Godavari District*,

(a.) The Bhadrachalam Taluq,

(b.) The Rakapilli Taluq,

(c.) The Rampa Country,

agreeably to the request conveyed in my telegram despatched on the 1st April, the day after the date of the letter under acknowledgment.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

A BILL

TO

Ascertain what Acts and Regulations are operative in various parts of British India, and for other purposes.

[AS FINALLY SETTLED BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE.]

WHEREAS various parts of British India have never been brought within, or have from time to time been removed from, the operation of the general Acts and Regulations and the jurisdiction of the ordinary Courts of Judicature;

And whereas doubts have arisen in some cases as to which Acts or Regulations are in force in such parts, and in other cases as to what are the boundaries of such parts: And whereas among such parts of British India are the districts and tracts of country specified in the schedule hereto annexed and hereinafter called the Scheduled Districts, and it is expedient to provide readier means than now exist for ascertaining the boundaries of such Scheduled Districts, and the Acts and Regulations in force therein, and for administering the law therein:

And whereas doubts have arisen as to whether certain Acts are in force in British Burma and in a tract of land lying between the Railway Station at Satna and the eastern boundary of the Jabalpur Division;

It is hereby enacted as follows:

1. This Act may be called "The Scheduled Districts Act, 1874."

Short title.

Commencement.

And it shall come into force on the passing thereof.

2. Nothing contained in this Act or in any notification issued under the powers hereby conferred shall be deemed

Saving of criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects.

(a) to affect the criminal jurisdiction of any Court over European British subjects, or

(b) to affect any law other than laws contained in Acts or Regulations or in rules made in exercise of powers conferred by such Acts or Regulations.

3. The provisions of this Act shall apply to every territory to which the Secretary of State for India, by resolution in Council, may declare the provisions of the thirty-third of Victoria, Chapter three, section one, to be applicable, from the date fixed in such resolution, as fully as they apply to the Scheduled Districts.

Application of Act to territory brought under 33 Vic., cap. 3, sec. 1.

4. The Local Government, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, may from time to time, by notification in the *Gazette of India* and also in the local *Gazette*,

COPI. OF 1874 JUDICIAL.

JUDICIAL.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
Legislative Department.

Date: May 1874.

Recd.

Recd.

G. O. 1874 May 1874, No. 904.

MAX.

Nos. 121-122.

Scheduled Districts Bill.—The Government of India informed that very desirable changes have been effected in the form of this Bill, and that the present Draft contains all the provisions necessary in the matter, and that it does not occur to the Indian Government to offer any further suggestions.

(a) declare what Acts and Regulations, or portions thereof, are to be deemed in force in any of the Scheduled Districts, or in any part of any such District,

(b) declare of any Act or Regulation or portion thereof that it is not in force in any of the said Districts or in any part of any such District,

(c) extend to any of the said Districts or to any part of any such District any other Act or Regulation, or portion thereof, which is in force in any part of British India at the date of such extension,

(d) correct any notification issued under this section.

5. On the issue, under section four, of a notification declaring what Acts and Regulations are in force, or not in force, in any Scheduled District, the Acts and Regulations so notified, shall be deemed to be in force or not in force, according to the tenor of the notification in such District, and every such notification shall be binding on all Courts of law.

The Acts and Regulations now in force in each of the Scheduled Districts shall continue to be in force therein except so far as they may be declared not in force by a notification relating to such District issued under section four, clause (a) or clause (b).

6. The Local Government may from time to time,

(a) appoint officers to administer civil and criminal justice and to superintend the settlement and collection of the public revenue, and all matters relating to rent, and otherwise to conduct the administration, within the Scheduled Districts,

(b) regulate the procedure of the officers so appointed; but not so as to restrict the operation of any enactment for the time being in force in any of the said Districts,

(c) direct by what authority any jurisdiction, powers or duties incident to the operation of any enactment for the time being in force in such District shall be exercised or performed.

7. All rules heretofore prescribed by the Governor General in Council or the Local Government for the guidance of officers appointed within any of the Scheduled Districts for all or any of the purposes mentioned in section six and in force at the time of the passing of this Act, shall continue to be in force unless and until the Governor General in Council or the Local Government, as the case may be, otherwise directs.

All officers so appointed previous to the passing of this Act shall be deemed to have been appointed hereunder.

8. Whenever any question arises as to the line of boundary between any of the Scheduled Districts and other British territory, such officer as the Local Government from time

to time appoints, may consider and determine such line of boundary, and the order made thereon by such officer shall be conclusive in all Courts of Justice.

9. Any person liable to be imprisoned or to be transported beyond sea under any order or sentence passed by any officer appointed under section six, may (subject to such rules as the Governor General in Council may from time to time prescribe in this behalf) be imprisoned in such jail or transported to such place as the Local Government directs.

10. Notwithstanding any repeal effected by the Burma Courts Act, 1872, the following Acts, namely, Act No. XIX of 1841 (for the protection of moveable and immoveable property against wrongful possession in case of successions), Act No. XL of 1858 (for making better provision for the case of the persons and property of minors in the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal) and Act No. IX of 1861 (to amend the law relating to minors) are hereby declared to be, and from the fifteenth day of January, 1863, to have been, in force in British Burma: And Act No. XIV of 1859 (to provide for the limitation of suits), as amended by Act XIV of 1862, shall be deemed to have been in force in the Province of Pegu from the same day down to and including thirty-first day of March 1873.

11. Acts No. III of 1867, No. XIV of 1867, and XXV of 1869 are hereby declared to be in force in the tract of land ceded to the British Government in the year 1863 and lying between the Railway Station at Satná and the eastern boundary of the Jabalpur District.

SCHEDULE.

PART I.

SCHEDULED DISTRICTS, MADRAS.

I. In Ganjam.

- (1.) The Gumsur Maliahs including Chokapad.
- (2.) The Chinna Surada Maliahs.
- (3.) The Chinna Kimedi Maliahs.
- (4.) The Pedda Kimedi Maliahs.
- (5.) The Bodaguda Maliahs.
- (6.) The Surangi Maliahs.
- (7.) The Parla Kimedi Maliahs, in the District of Ganjam.
- (8.) The Muttás of Koradá and Ronaba (otherwise called Srikarma).
- (9.) The Chighatti Maliah.
- (10.) The Juradá Maliah.
- (11.) The Jаланtra Maliah.

- (12.) The Mandasa Maliah.
- (13.) The Budarasinghi Maliah.
- (14.) The Kuttingia Maliah.

II. In Vizagapatam.

- (1.) The Jeypur Zamindari.
- (2.) Golconda Hills, west of the River Boderu.
- (3.) The Madugol Maliahs.
- (4.) The Kasipur Maliahs.
- (5.) The Panchipenta Maliahs.
- (6.) Mondemkolla, in the Merangi Zamindari.
- (7.) The Konda Muttá of Belgám.
- (8.) The Gumma and Konda Muttás of Kurpam.
- (9.) The Kottam, Rám and Konda Muttás of Pálconda.

- III. The Laccadive Islands including Minicoy.

PART II.

SCHEDULED DISTRICTS, BOMBAY.

- I.—The Province of Sindh.
- II.—The Panch Maháls.
- III.—Aden.
- IV.—The villages belonging to the following Mehwasí Chiefs :—

- (1.) The Párví of Káthí.
- (2.) The Párví of Nál.
- (3.) The Párví of Singpúr.
- (4.) Walvi of Gaohálí.
- (5.) The Wassáwa of Chikhli.
- (6.) The Párví of Nawalpúr.

PART III.

SCHEDULED DISTRICTS, BENGAL.

- I.—The Jalpágorí and Darjeeling Divisions.
- II.—Sylhet.
- III.—The Hill tracts of Chittagong.
- IV.—The Santhál Parganas.

PART IV.

SCHEDULED DISTRICTS, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

- I. The Jhánsí Division comprising the Districts of Jhánsí, Jalaun and Lalatpur.
- II. The Province of Kumáon and Garhwál.
- III. The Terai Parganas, comprising—Bázipúr, Káshipúr, Jaspúr, Rudarpúr, Gadarpúr, Kilpúri, Nának-Matthá and Bilherí.
- IV. In the Mirzapur District :—
 - (1.) The tappás of Agori Khás and South Kon in the Pargana of Agori.

- (2.) The tappá of British Singrauli in the Pargana of Singrauli.
- (3.) The tappás of Phulwá, Dudhi and Barhá in the Pargana of Bichipár.
- (4.) The portion lying to the South of the Kaimor Range.

- V. The Family Domains of the Maharájá of Benares comprising the following parganas :—

Bhadoli and Kheyrá Mángror in the Mirzapur District,

Kaswá Rájá in the Benares District.

- VI. The tract of country known as Jaunsar Báwar in the Dehra Dun District.

PART V.

SCHEDULED DISTRICTS, PANJÁB.

The Districts of Hazára, Pesháwar, Kohát, Bannu, Dera Ismail Khán, Dera Gházi Khán, Lahaul and Spiti.

PART VI.

The Chief Commissionership of Coorg.

PART VII.

The Hill Tracts of Arakan.

PART VIII.

The Chief Commissionership of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

PART IX.

The Chief Commissionership of Ajmer and Mairwára.

PART X.

The Chief Commissionership of Assam.

PART XI.

The Pargana of Mánpur.

PART XII.

The Cantonment of Morar.

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Government of India.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

A
BILL

TO

Ascertain what Acts and Regulations are operative
in various parts of British India, and for other
purposes.

(As finally settled by the Select Committee.)

in March 1851

(Price annas.)

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PRECIS ON POODOOCOTTAH.

Tondiman Country.

The Poodoocottah. State, or Rajah Tondiman's Country, is bounded on the north by the district of Trichinopoly, on the east by Tanjore, and on the south and west by Madura. It extends from latitude 10° 6' to 10° 46' and from longitude 78° 33' to 79° 16'. The Tondiman's Country, or the Tondamundalum, was originally connected with the Chola dominions. It subsequently became a distinct zemindari under the rule of a Hindu chief. Although at present nominally a dependent of the British Government, the Tondiman is allowed the full possession of his State free from tax or tribute of any kind as a reward for the remarkable fidelity exhibited by his ancestors in their connexion with the British, especially during the early wars of the Carnatic.

Area and Description of Country.

2. The State contains an area of about 1,050 square miles, of which about one-third is entirely jungle and rocky ground with several detached hills, and the remainder plains, partly cultivated and partly barren. There is no river in the State.

Cultivation.

The cultivation is entirely dependent on rain and on the water which is collected in tanks and lakes during the rains. The principal cultivation is dry grain, the proportion of which to paddy is as four to one. The whole of the dry grain is consumed in the country. Nearly the whole of the paddy is exported to the surrounding provinces and to Ceylon. The cultivation of both the paddy and dry grain is capable of being much extended.

Villages and Taughs.

3. The State is comprised of 1,054 villages, 804 of which are Iyen or Sirkar, and 250 Jaghire or Devas-

tanum, and is at present divided into five taluqs, viz., 1st, the Northern or Colatoor; 2nd, the Eastern or Allangoody; 3rd, the Southern or Cauveenaud; 4th, the Western or Hunnawansel; and 5th, the Keelanully. These are again sub-divided into 75 Vattams or Village Circles.

4. The rivulets which run through the State are the Vellaur, the Paumbaur, the Caurayaur, the Shoorayaur, the Mullayaur, the Tykannyvem-schenanuddoo, and the Maharajah-sasamoodrum.

5. There are innumerable tanks in the State. The principal tanks are in length from one to three miles, and their beds extend from half to three-quarters of a mile in breadth. The tanks are supplied by the Vellaur and the other rivulets.

6. Numerous hills and several lofty rocks occur in the State, the chief of which are the Naurtamallay, a small range of hills lying west of the high road from Trichinopoly to Poodoocottah, the Auloortimally, the Hunnawansel, the Kodemeahmallai, the Verallimallai, the Shamputtmedi, the Connatooramallai, the Prawmallai, and the Shevaloor and the Poorunur hills.

7. The chief edifices are the Hindu pagodas, mosques, and a few choultries. There are also a Roman Catholic Church at Anoor and the palace of the Rajah at the capital.

8. There are numerous roads and passes. Some of the former are spacious and are maintained in good order.

9. The inhabitants are Cullers. They were long celebrated as most expert thieves, from which circumstance they derived their name of Colleries (Kullurees from Kullur, thief); but so much had their character improved that theft was seldom known amongst them in 1807, as the annexed extract from a Report of the Resident, Colonel

William Blackburne, dated the 21st August 1807, will show:—

August 1801, with Zoroaster.

"The late Tondiman was proud of the police branch of the Government. At the Dussrah feast, when there is a large concourse of strangers at Poodoo-cottah, he was accustomed to issue a proclamation desiring the strangers and others to be on their guard against the wild beasts and the reptiles which infested his jungles, but to fear nothing else, as he would be responsible for the security of their person and property against all other annoyance. Amongst the numerous representations of acts of violence or oppression which I have received since the commencement of my intercourse with the Tondiman's country in the year 1801, I cannot recollect more than one complaint of private theft or robbery."

10. The population is computed at 262,644.

11: The gross revenue is about five lakhs of rupees, of which three lakhs are inam and jaghire, and two lakhs are payable to the Rajah. The Sirkar or Government share of the produce, which was very irregular, arbitrary, and oppressive to the cultivators, was fixed in 1806 by Rajah Vijeya Raghunath Rie Tondiman Bahadoor at 50 per cent. of paddy and $33\frac{1}{3}$ * per cent. of dry grain.

12. Poodoocottah, the capital of Tondiman, is situated on the left bank of the Vellaur, 241 miles from Madras, on a low site, and surrounded with thick jungle. It has three entrances through the jungle; one on the north about three miles from the town, and one on the south about two miles, and the other on the west half a mile. These entrances are well guarded and commanded by an officer and detachment in the Tondiman's service. The town is almost an exact square, divided into four regular and principal streets; in the centre is the palace, which is a terraced edifice of two storeys, within

Population.

Revenue.

* Mr. Parker in his letter, dated 1st Septem-
ber 1854, No. 199, writes as follows:—

ber 1854, No. 109, writes as follows:—
 “I have ascertained that one-third is the share now generally taken. In some villages, however, especially in the Keelanelly Taluq, the Government warum is two-fifths, and curnams have deposed before me that it has been so all along. The case is perplexing, for Colonel Blackburne certainly mentions that the Rajah had altered it to one-third. The old Sumprethec explains that, except as regards Keelanelly Taluq, the different practice is owing to the villages, where two-fifths are now taken, having been formerly under rent, when they paid half to the renter, which the Rajah, on the leases falling in, reduced to two-fifths. In Keelanelly it has always been as at present.”

Force.

First connexion with British Government.

a spacious area surrounded by a wall. The houses in the principal streets are large and commodious, and the streets are well formed.

13. The Tondiman maintains a force of 126 infantry, 21 troopers, 3,260 militia, besides armed servants and watchmen.

14. The first connexion of the British Government with Tondiman appears, according to Orme, the historian, to have been formed in 1752. At page 208 of Vol. I., Book III., of his History of the War of Coromandel, he writes:—

“The junction of the Mysoreans determined the King of Tanjore to declare for the Nabob, and soon after their arrival he sent to Trichinopoly 3,000 horse and 2,000 foot under the command of his General, Monackjee. The Polygar Tondiman, whose country lies between Tanjore and Madura, likewise sent 400 horse and 3,000 Colliers; these are a people who, under several petty chiefs, inhabit the woods between Trichinopoly and Cape Comorin; their name in their own language signifies thieves, and justly describes their general character, which, however, has differences in different parts of the country. Those to the north of Madura are almost savage: their weapon is a pike 18 feet long, with which they creep along the ground, and use it with great address in ambuscades; but the principal service they render to any army is by stealing or killing the horses of the enemy's camp.”

15. The British army greatly depended on Tondiman's fidelity and exertions for supplying Trichinopoly with provisions. Orme, at pp. 272 and 343 of the first volume of his History, states that the country of the Polygar Tondiman was the only source from whence provisions were obtained, and that what came from Tondiman's country was brought at appointed times to the skirts of his

Services rendered by Tondiman.

woods within six or seven miles of the camp. This service is acknowledged in the following translation of a letter addressed to Tondiman by Thomas Saunders, Esq., Governor of Fort Saint George, on the 20th Shaban 1166 Higiry (A.D. 23rd June 1753):—

“Having been fully acquainted of the important services which you have recently performed, I have rejoiced exceedingly. The enemies' intentions are to take possession of Trichinopoly and to ruin the whole country. This I need not expatiate upon to you. The Rajah of Mysore is a very weak man, and has the folly to suppose that if Trichinopoly was taken it would be left in his possession. This the Almighty will never permit. Even if the place should fall, others would reap the advantage, and leave nothing to the foolish Mysorean, but his labor for his pains. In order to wheedle him out of his money, several chiefs have joined him. By the favor of God the Nabob will soon defeat all his enemies. Their expectations will be totally defeated. Continue according to your custom to supply the Fort of Trichinopoly with provisions. Be particularly attentive to this, and careful and vigilant in your assistance. Write to me frequently of your happiness, and may our friendship be immortal.”

16. Subsequently Tondiman was very serviceable in the wars with Hyder Ali and in the operations against the rebellious usurpers of the large zemindari of Shevagungah in the Madura District. The assistance given by him during the rebellion is described in detail in the annexed extract from a letter from the Resident, Colonel William Blackburne, dated the 20th May 1803:—

“During the rebellion to the southward Tondiman had everything to dread from the hatred and revenge of the surrounding Chiefs of Pangalamcoorchy, whom he had formerly arrested and delivered in fetters into the hands of his

enemies, and whose brother he had conducted to the scaffold. This chief, who stood high in the confidence and favor of the rebellious Sherogars of Shevagungah, sent frequent messages to Tondiman threatening him with speedy and exemplary punishment unless he joined the cause of the Sherogars with all his heart and strength. The Sherogars on their part exhausted all the insidious arts and plausible arguments which they had employed so successfully with many other chiefs of less note to seduce Tondiman from his allegiance; despairing at length of inducing him to become a party in their rebellion, they sent him word that he must be sensible that his country was entirely at their mercy; that, if he would not join them, they required from him at the least a strict neutrality, and they insisted that he should neither send succour or provisions to the Company's troops, nor allow them a passage through his country. If Tondiman failed in any one of these points, the Sherogars declared that they had bound themselves by a solemn oath to send the Pangalamcoorchy Chief and his followers, and five thousand of their own troops, to overrun his country and to plunder and burn every house in it.

"On the 16th June 1801 I had an interview with Tondiman, and wanted the immediate and active assistance of all his force against the rebels. I found him under the influence of Murdoo's threats, and under a conviction of the facility with which they might be executed, for Lieutenant-Colonel Agnew had just made an ineffectual attempt to penetrate into the Shevagungah country, and had retired to Ramnad, where his distance from Tondiman and the rebellious province between them precluded the possibility of relief if the threatened invasion should be made.

"Tondiman's preparations for his marriage with the only daughter of his

predecessor commenced before my arrival, and were to be completed in ten days. Tondiman earnestly requested a delay for this period. I objected, and he submitted. He ordered an immediate stop to be put to the preparations for his marriage and his troops to be assembled. The day following, at my request, the marriage ceremonies recommenced, but the assembly of the troops continued, and in four days three thousand men marched to join Lieutenant-Colonel Innes at Nuttam.

"At the first suggestion Tondiman gave up Trimium, the only stronghold in his dominions, for a depôt for the use of Lieutenant-Colonel Agnew's army.

"Tondiman received the Zemindar of Shevagungah with distinction, and afforded him protection, although he was well aware that this step would excite the most rancorous hatred in the rebels.

"Tondiman was requested to send five hundred men to escort the Zemindar to Colonel Agnew's camp. He sent nine hundred, who escorted the Zemindar and remained with him as a body-guard, and behaved so well as to gain the approbation of Lieutenant-Colonel Agnew.

"A great number of the families of Murdoo's principal adherents had concealed themselves in the jungles upon or near the frontiers of Tondiman. A list of these families was sent to Tondiman, and he apprehended the whole in one night, and secured them, some in the fort of Trimium, others in the interior. They were treated with the utmost respect, and within ten days every male attached to them deserted from the service of the rebels. They then remained with their families under an easy restraint until the end of the war, when they were all permitted to depart and go where they pleased.

"In order to enable me to execute a plan of operations proposed by Lieute-

nant-Colonel Agnew, I requested Tondiman to send a body of troops through a part of Shevagungah by a route which I described, with orders to join me at a particular time and place. My request was immediately complied with, and the movement executed with the most pointed exactness and precision.

"During the whole of the campaign Tondiman's troops alone escorted all the supplies of grain, &c., which were sent by the Collector of Tanjore, to the depôt at Trimum. And the stores and ammunition which were sent from Trichinopoly were met by Tondiman's guards at the frontier, and conducted with speed and safety to the depôt.

"Frequent and important intelligence was sent to me by Tondiman, with many sensible opinions on the peculiar nature of the war, which received the approbation of Lieutenant-Colonel Agnew.

"Under the impression of these facts, I take the liberty of stating my opinion, in obedience to the commands of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that Tondiman's conduct during the late rebellion was highly meritorious, and that he is, therefore, deserving of any marks of favor or distinction which His Lordship may think proper to confer upon him."

17. *Rewards.*—As a reward for his services Tondiman solicited in 1803 a favorable consideration to a claim preferred by him to the fort and district of Keelanelly, situated in the southern part of Tanjore, founded on a grant by Pretap Sing, Rajah of Tanjore, and engagements which were afterwards entered into by Colonel Braithwaite, General Coote, and Lord Macartney, on the faith of which he had retaken the fort from Hyder Ali. After a very complimentary review* of Tondiman's services, the Madras Government ceded to him the fort and district of

* *Despatch dated 24th July 1805.*

1 Head Sirdar.
1 Peshcar.
2 Head Sherogars.
1 Vakeel.
5 Second Sherogars.
11 Dubbedars.
1 Conicopoly.
342 Peons.

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History of the Rajahs.

Keelanelly, a cession afterwards confirmed by the Honorable Court of Directors* "upon the express condition that the district shall not be alienated, and that it shall revert to the Company upon satisfactory proof being given that the inhabitants labor under any oppressive system." Keelanelly yields a revenue of about Rupees 30,000 a year. The grant was also made subject to the yearly tribute of an elephant. The tribute, however, was not insisted upon, and in 1836 was formally excused.

18. For services rendered by Tondiman's troops during the Mysore War with the division of the army commanded by Colonel A. Brown, a reward of a sum of four thousand four hundred and fifty-two Star Pagodas was distributed by the Resident in November 1808 amongst the sirdars and men described in the margin.

19. There is no authentic record of the early Chieftains of Poodocottah. The Tondiman family trusted their rights to tradition, and it is difficult now to obtain an accurate account of the Rajahs. From the papers searched, it appears that Chandrappen, entitled Servei, was the first Chief of Poodocottah. He was succeeded by Pullavarayen, who, having attempted to detach the State from the Madura to the Tanjore country, was removed by Prince Raghunatha, of Madura, better known in history by the sobriquet of Killavan, or the Old Man. Killavan appointed his brother-in-law Raghunatha to be the chief of the district with the title of Raghunatha Tondiman. Trimal Roy Tondiman, the only son of Raghunatha Tondiman, was the common ancestor of the branches of the family now at Poodocottah. He died in 1729, one year before his father, leaving three sons, viz., Vijaya Raghunath Rie Tondiman, Trimal Rie Tondiman, and Rajahgepaul Tondiman, the two first by the putsree, and the last by

* His Excellency Lord Clive's letter—
(see No. LIX. of the Treaties, page 331.)

a sword-marriage. Ragahgopaul was older than Trimal Rie.

20. On the death in 1730 of Raghunath Rie Tondiman, he was succeeded by his grandson Vijeya Raghunath Rie Tondiman, who died in 1769. He was succeeded by his only son Rie Raghunath Tondiman, who died in 1789, leaving one daughter.

21. Trimal Rie Tondiman by the putsree marriage had two sons—Rajah Vijeya Raghunath Rie Tondiman Bahadoor and Trimal Tondiman.

22. Rajahgopaul Tondiman, the son by the sword-marriage, died in 1773, leaving one son.

23. Rajah Vijeya Raghunath Rie Tondiman, the son of Trimal Rie Tondiman, succeeded Rie Raghunath Tondiman in 1789. He died on the 1st February 1807, leaving two sons—Rajah Vijeya Raghunath Rie Tondiman Bahadoor and Rajah Raghunath Tondiman Bahadoor. When he appeared to be on the point of death, his cousin Vijeya Raghunath Tondiman took from his finger his seal ring and from his ears his earrings and gave them into the hands of the eldest son. Tondiman showed signs of approbation, the delivery of the seal ring and earrings to the eldest son being considered as conveying, or at least confirming, the right of succession. It seems deserving of notice here, as being the first and last Suttee on record in the Tondiman's family, that, the young Rajah's mother having determined on sacrificing herself with her husband, a pit was dug near the pile and filled with combustibles, it being thought that this mode of sacrifice demanded less fortitude and was attended with less suffering than on the funeral pile. The widow conducted herself to the last with unshaken fortitude, and at the appointed moment plunged with alacrity into the flaming pit.

24. During the minority of Rajah Vijeya Raghunath Rie Tondiman Bahadoor,

his uncle Trimal Tondiman and Maupillay Pullanasier were entrusted with the management of the country. They were impressed with the necessity of observing, and directing with scrupulous care, the education of the two boys and the importance of regulating their conduct on those principles of attachment to the British Government which had hitherto proved so eminently conducive to the advantage of that family.

25. Rajah Vijeya Raghunath Rie Tondiman died on the 4th June 1825 without issue, and his brother Raghunath Tondiman Bahadoor succeeded him. He died on the 13th July 1839, leaving two sons—Rajah Ramachendra Tondiman Bahadoor and Rajah Trimal Tondiman—of the ages of nine and eight years. The eldest, Ramachendra Tondiman Bahadoor (the present Rajah), succeeded him. During his minority, the affairs of the Poodocottah State were conducted, in communication with the Rane, the Sirkele and Foujdar, aided by the Secretary and the officers in whom the Rajah had confided, the Resident affording his advice when required to the Rane and the other officers, and suggesting such arrangements as appeared necessary for the suitable education of Rajah Ramachendra Tondiman Bahadoor and his brother Rajah Trimal Tondiman. This continued until 1841, when, in consequence of representations of injustice by the relatives of the Rajah, the Resident at Tanjore was directed to reside at Poodocottah as much as possible during the minority of the Tondiman, and to take the immediate superintendence and control of the business of the country, which was to continue to be conducted by the Ministers of the Rajah. The Resident, on the receipt of these orders, laid down rules for the guidance of the ministers, which prohibited expenditure beyond certain limits, grants of land, assignment of produce,

creation of offices, and increase or decrease of emoluments without his sanction, and prescribed the mode in which public business should be carried on. In the same year the Residency of Tanjore was abolished, and the charge of Poodoocottah was entrusted to the Collector of Madura. The administration of the State was prosperously conducted under his superintendence during the remainder of the minority, all debts were paid off, and a surplus invested in the funds of the British Government.

26 The marriages of Rajah Ramachandra Tondiman Bahadoor and Rajah Ramul Tondiman were celebrated on the 13th June 1845, and the Political Agent presented the young Chiefs with shawls and Khillats in the name of the Most Noble the Governor, and received in return dresses of honor for the Governor and himself.

27. In the early part of 1847 Rajah Ramachandra Tondiman Bahadoor attained his majority and assumed the management of the affairs of the State with the aid of his ministers, and the general supervision and advice of the Political Agent of Poodoocottah.

28. *Disaffection in 1854.*—The causes which led to the disaffection in the Poodoocottah State in 1854 were, as stated in the petitions presented to Government at the time and in the reports made by the Political Agent, as follows:—

1st.—The Rajah Ramachandra Tondiman Bahadoor's extravagance and entertainment of people of bad character.

2nd.—The shortening of the land-measuring rods from 16 feet to 12 feet.

3rd.—The taking away of waste lands given on cowle to one ryot after he had gone to the expense of reclaiming them, and transferring the same to another.

4th.—The Sirkar Warum or Share in Punjah Crops being altered from one-third to two-fifths.

5th.—The neglect of the roads and tanks.

6th.—Delays and irregularities in the administration of justice.

29. The real cause of the formation of a confederacy appears, from Mr. R. D. Parker's report of the 1st September 1854, No. 199, to have arisen from the Rajah having, in consequence of information received of large encroachments made on the Ayn lands, intended to measure the Enam lands of one of the Sirdars of Ameragars by name Cannanoor Ramasawmy Sheroogarum. To prevent this, he entered into a conspiracy with other Sheroogars and their followers, all interested to oppose a step so likely to be attended with general loss, since there was little doubt that such encroachments were very frequent. They were joined by Vengana Sheroogarum, a man of popular manners and great address, Kistnun Punecardar, and Sunneasee Sholay Alagum, a leader among the Kullers.

30. The disaffection was promptly put down upon the arrival, at Poodoocottah, of a detachment of H. M.'s 74th Highlanders and a detachment of the 13th Regiment N. I. Not a shot was fired, nor any weapon beyond a stick used, and it was believed at the time that not even a wound was inflicted. After a very careful inquiry into the complaints preferred to the Government, the Political Agent proposed the following measures for the better management of the Poodoocottah State.

Measures for the better management of the Poodoocottah State.

1st.—That the Sirkele be made responsible alone to the Political Agent, who shall be entitled to object, if he sees cause, to all appointments and dismissals.

2ndly.—That, subject to the directions of the Political Agent, the

Sirkele shall have sole control of the finances of the State, the Rajah being restricted to the stated sums allotted to his different items of expenditure.

3rdly.—That the Political Agent be required to make to Government a full yearly report of the mode, satisfactory or otherwise, in which the affairs of the State have been carried on in the preceding year, on the conduct of the Rajah, the administration of justice, and the progress made in the liquidation of debts, the outturn of revenue, and the total charges incurred.

4thly.—That the Munnoovarty allowance and jaghire be placed under the control of the Sirkele.

5thly.—That the Political Agent may be empowered to cause the expulsion from the territory of such persons as he may know to endeavour to corrupt the mind of the Rajah and lead him to expense.

6thly.—That the Political Agent be authorized to forbid all sowcars and shop-keepers to lend money, or deliver goods on trust, to the Rajah and his brother, and that the Courts of Justice may be debarred from receiving suits for debts due by these individuals and from issuing any process for the recovery of debt against service lands of every description.

31. Under this scheme Mr. Parker believed that the Rajah would find employment in presiding in the Court of Appeal, and would not be debarred from making himself thoroughly acquainted with all the details of administration through the Sirkele, and he added: "Eventually, if a reformation should be perceived in his (the Rajah's) character, the Government might be pleased to

free him from the restraints I have proposed."

32. The Government in their Order, dated the 17th October 1854, No. 395, remarked that it was evident from the Agent's report that the late disturbances in the Poodoocottah State did not arise from any special oppression on the part of the Tondiman, and that there was no ground for the supposition that any heavy or intolerable burdens were imposed upon the people. It seemed, however, clear to them that it was the personal conduct of the Tondiman, his reckless extravagance and his profligacy, with the countenance and support he gave to low and disreputable parasites and favorites, and the influence they exercised over him, which alienated the affection and respect of the people and of the respectable retainers of the family, and led to the disturbances.

33. The Government approved of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th of the measures proposed by the Political Agent. In respect to the 1st and 6th propositions, they remarked that they would not deprive the Tondiman altogether of his authority which would render him still more useless and tend to confirm his bad habits, but wished that he should exercise, by his Sirkele, the power of appointment and dismissal of servants subject to the revision of the Political Agent. That the law, if there was any in the Poodoocottah State for the recovery of debts, must be allowed to take its course, and that it would not be expedient to interfere in suspending its operation in the manner, and to the extent, suggested by the Agent. But directed that the sowcars and shop-keepers may be cautioned against lending money, or delivering goods on trust, to the Tondiman and his brother, and that they should be distinctly apprized that the Govern-

Civil and Criminal Courts.

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ment will on no account interfere their authority in procuring payment of any debts that might hereafter be incurred.

34. This seems a fitting place to notice that there are three Courts of Civil Jurisdiction in the Poodocottah State.

35. The lowest, designated the Court of Small Causes, decides suits for debts not exceeding 12½ rupees, and its decrees are not subject to ordinary appeal; but the Nyaya Subhay interferes in special cases, and decides summarily.

The second, called Moodritah Subhay, disposes of claims, not involving the proprietary right to land, to the limit of 125 rupees.

The highest court, Nyaya Subhay, decides all original suits for debts and property of an amount or value exceeding 125 rupees without limits, and receives appeals from the Moodritah Subhay.

From the decrees of the Nyaya Subhay a regular appeal lies to the Rajah, who also receives special appeals from the Moodritah Subhay.

Of criminal jurisdiction there is but one court designated the Dundha Subhay, which was also vested with the functions of the magistracy. But in 1854 these latter functions were transferred to the Curbars or Managers.

The Court of Small Causes has two Judges. The other three Courts consist of four Judges.

36. With a view of securing publicity, regularity, and despatch, as well as the confidence of the people in the Rajah's Court, the Agent suggested in 1854 the adoption of the following procedure which received the approval of Government:—

“That the Court of Appeal shall consist of the Rajah, his Sirkele, and one of the most experienced Judges not concerned in the decision appealed

NOTE.—The punishment of death is not awarded in the Poodocottah State. Murder is punished with imprisonment for life. See letter from Political Agent, dated 22nd July 1858, No. 98.

Rajah's Court.

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against. That there shall be no writing except the appeal petition, copy of which shall be furnished to the respondent. That an early day be appointed for the hearing. That the appellant and respondent and the Judge who passed the decree shall be present. That appellant or his vakeel shall be allowed to address the Court in support of the objections raised in his appeal petition, and the respondent, or his vakeel, and the Judge who passed the decree, in reply; and that the Appeal Court shall thereupon pass a decree confirming or, reversing, or, if necessary, remanding the case for further inquiry.”

*Ex. Mins. Cons., dated 11th March 1856, No. 77.
Fusli 1264.*

37. After the introduction of the measures above adverted to, the settlement of the Poodocottah State for fusli 1264, ending on the 11th July 1855, gave an increase over the previous year of nearly 6,000 rupees, owing chiefly to the cultivation of a larger extent both of dry and of irrigated land. This result, notwithstanding the then recent abolition of some burdensome taxes, involving a concession of revenues to the amount of Rupees 5,863, appeared to the Government to be satisfactory. The actual money receipts in 1264 amounted to Rupees 5,34,899, of which one lakh and a half were arrears, and a nearly equal sum belonged to the “Amanut,” or Deposit Fund for pagodas and choultries. The disposal of the receipts was as follows:—

	RS.
Current expenses	2,09,624
Advances	5,673
Devastanum	1,24,946
Rajah's private debts	11,932
Debts borne on the public books	61,077
Debts of Rungum Pullava Row..	11,676
Pay of Sibbendies in arrear... ..	44,978
Balance { Iyen ... 49,263 Amanut ... 14,727	63,989
	5,34,989

The Rajah's public and private debts brought up to the end of 1855 amounted to Rupees 4,29,832, but at the close of that year the sum of Rupees 1,21,130 had been liquidated, leaving a balance of Rupees 3,08,702.

38. The Rajah had exceeded the limit of the annual expenditure by Rupees 38,000, and in two instances on frivolous and extravagant objects without the sanction of the Agent and in opposition to the wishes of the Minister. The Government noticed with dissatisfaction that there had been little improvement in the general conduct of the Rajah, and the Agent was directed to intimate to him that the title of Excellency given as a mark of distinction could not be continued if no amendment was perceptible and if he persisted in disregarding the advice and wishes of the Agent.

39. The report for fusli 1265, ending on the 11th July 1856, showed that the actual money-collection amounted to Rupees 5,07,330, of which Rs. 4,38,488 were appropriated for the payment of current expenses, devastanums, and debts, leaving a balance of Rupees 68,842. The Rajah's debts were reduced from Rupees 3,08,702 to Rs. 2,06,863 on the 31st March 1857. While such efforts were made by the Resident and those placed by him in the management of the Raj in view to relieve the Rajah from his difficulties and to restore him to the confidence of his people, it was lamentable, the Government remarked, to learn that he was still persevering in his past follies and was frustrating the endeavours made for his benefit by incurring *secretly* debts of large amounts to parties out of the kingdom. The working of the courts was considered unsatisfactory, and it was intimated that, unless the report for the ensuing year was more favorable and exhibited reform, the Government would deem it necessary for the fur-

Ex. Mins. Cons., dated 29th May 1857, No. 413.
Fusli 1265.

therance of justice to arrange measures for placing the Poodocottah Courts under proper supervision and for disposing of appeals.

Proceedings, dated 18th March 1858,
No. 321.

Fusli 1266.

40. The settlement of fusli 1266 was Rupees 2,69,083-4-11 against Rupees 2,50,179 of the year preceding, owing to a considerable breadth of waste land having been brought under cultivation. The total income from all sources amounted to Rupees 4,94,198-14-11, and the disbursements to Rupees 4,12,618-8-0, leaving a balance of Rupees 81,580-6-11. The debts of the Rajah were, including discount liquidated, to the extent of Rs. 1,11,663. The results of the working of the courts, with the exception of the Lower Courts was considered less unsatisfactory than those of last year.

Proceedings of Government, dated 25th May 1859, No. 326.
Fusli 1267.

41. The total collections of the fusli year 1267, ending on the 11th July 1857, amounted to Rupees 5,53,219. After providing for the current expenses, &c., for the year, and paying a considerable sum on account of the Rajah's public and private debts, which were reduced to Rs. 1,13,500, there remained a balance to credit of Rupees 1,38,743. The Minister had done all in his power to prevent needless and extravagant expenditure of the revenue of the State, while on the other hand the Rajah, to gratify some foolish caprice, had during the year under review, involved himself in additional debt to the enormous amount of 5½ lakhs. "The Rajah appears," the Government remarked, "resolutely bent on that reckless course of extravagance which has been so frequent. He is reprobated by Government, and which they have told him cannot be continued without derogating from his dignity, and alienating from him the respect and affection of his people." "The present report," they added, "affords no indication of any improvement having taken place during the period to which it relates. Mr. Clarke, however, states

that, on visiting Poodocottah in January 1859, he expostulated earnestly with the Rajah and his brother on the folly of their conduct, and the results to which it must lead, and that both of them most solemnly assured him that they would, with the advice and assistance of the Minister, take every means in their power to liquidate their presents debts, and would avoid incurring fresh ones in future. In the hope that these promises may be redeemed, the Agent solicits the further indulgence of Government towards the Rajah. But the Honorable the Governor in Council can place little reliance on promises of amendment which have hitherto been wholly disregarded, and he resolves, as a mark of his serious displeasure at the Rajah's selfish, reckless extravagance, to withhold the title of 'Excellency' from him, on the ground that eminent persons who act unworthily of their high station are not entitled to be so called. This resolution will be intimated to the Rajah in a letter from the Honorable the President, which will be forwarded through the Political Agent.

"The Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, it is observed, has directed that the country shall not be restored to the Rajah's uncontrolled management so long as he is in embarrassed circumstances."

42. The actual receipts for the fusli 1268 amounted to Rupees 5,50,880. Deducting the expenditure (Rupees 3,69,523) the result was a net surplus to credit of the State of Rupees 1,81,356. Considerable progress having been made in the liquidation of the registered debts of the Rajah, they were reduced from 4½ lakhs, at which they stood when registered by Mr. Parker in 1854, to Rupees 62,419. The fresh liabilities of the Rajah and his brother, so far as they could be ascertained, amount-

*Proceedings, dated 20th April 1860,
No. 246.
Fusli 1268.*

Para. 26.—Parties are or can now be brought face to face with their opponents. The plaintiff is compelled to testify to the truth of his plaint, which is to be described in clear and brief terms and to be supported by all the documentary evidence in his possession, and the Judge is empowered at once to check and throw out groundless suits. The only part of this code that appears to me to be wholly unsuited to Poodocottah are the rules concerning special appeals. On general grounds it seems desirable to restrict within narrow limits the appeals of right: litigation and frivolous prosecution of the suits being prevalent faults in the country. The capacity of the Judges of the Supreme Tribunal of Poodocottah as jurists or lawyers to correct errors in point of law or procedure is more than questionable. This, however, is a difficulty which may practically, and by the constitution of the Courts, be easily overcome. The Judges of the Mudrita Subhay, whose powers are equal to those of our District Munsif, might in future be confined to the adjudication of small causes. The Judges of the Nyaya Subhay would be the only original jurisdiction for all suits above 500 rupees, and for all claims for real property. There would then be only one appeal to the Rajah's Court and no room for a special appeal.

*Proceedings, dated 23rd January
1861, No. 55.
Fusli 1269.*

* Rupees 5,50,580.

ed, in round numbers, to 5 and 3½ lakhs respectively. The working of the courts was unsatisfactory; the Government had frequently had occasion to advert to this point, and they had hoped that the displeasure with which they had viewed this unsatisfactory state of affairs would have induced the Rajah and the Judges of his Courts to bestow some attention upon judicial reform. They were disappointed to learn that no improvement had taken place, and they were satisfied that until they took the initiative and adopted measures for giving effect to their views, no real reformation was to be expected.

43. The Government approved the introduction into the Poodocottah Courts of the judicial system laid down in the new Code of Procedure, and, agreeing with Mr. Clarke in considering it very desirable that the right of special appeal should, more particularly in a State like Poodocottah, be restricted within narrow limits, they directed that the suggestions in paragraph 26 of his report for obviating this and for practically overcoming the difficulty be adopted.

44. The Political Agent's annual report for fusli 1269 (1859-60) showed that the receipts from all sources amounted to Rupees 7,44,595, being nearly two lakhs in excess of the receipts* and balance* in fusli 1268. The disbursements for the year amounted to Rupees 4,77,593, leaving a surplus of Rupees 2,67,002. The Government received with great pleasure the announcement that the whole of the registered debts of the Rajah and of his brother Tirumal Tondiman had been liquidated, with the exception of a small item which would be settled on the appearance of the creditors.

45. The Minister stated that the effect of raising the jurisdiction of

the Mudrita Subhay to Rupees 500 would be to overwhelm that court with work, and to necessitate the appointment of additional judges, and he intimated that the Rajah was opposed to the change. Under this representation, and the additional fact that the Higher Court would be left with comparatively little business, the Government did not object to the limit of jurisdiction for the Lower Court being fixed at Rupees 250 instead of Rupees 125.

46. In Fusli 1270 the money collected, inclusive of balance brought forward, was Rupees 7,47,868; the expenditure Rupees 5,34,195, leaving a balance of Rupees 2,13,673. Of the debt of Runga Pallava Row, amounting to Rupees 5,456, Rupees 1,255 were paid off in this fusli, and the non-payment of the balance (Rupees 4,201) was ascribed to the creditors failing to appear, and to some of their claims being doubtful and contested.

47. The report on the administration of the State for fusli 1271 was not considered by the Government to be satisfactory. The season was favorable, and there was a considerable increase of revenue, but the schedule of expenditure prescribed in 1854 was exceeded by Rupees 1,49,244, and the amount of business done in the courts, especially in the Rajah's Court, was very small. The average number of suits decided by the Rajah was not quite four per mensem, while eighty cases remained undisposed of at the end of the year. The Political Agent, Mr. Lvinge, expressed his conviction that the system of managing the Poodocottah State would never be attended with satisfactory results. The Rajah, he observed, was completely independent, and there was no treaty or terms of agreement entered into between him and the Government

*Proceedings, dated 24th February 1862,
No. 74.*

Fusli 1270.

*Proceedings, dated 26th September
1863, No. 291.*

Fusli 1271.

	RS.	A	P.
Income ...	7,18,438	3	1
Expenditure ...	6,08,809	14	11
Balance ...	1,09,628	4	2

defining the degree of interference to be exercised by the Government, or the Political Agent, in the management of his affairs, and he recommended that either the Rajah's authority should be curtailed, and the country put under direct management through the Sirkele and Political Agent, or that the Rajah should be left entirely independent to govern the country, spend his revenues, and to appoint and to change his Sirkele as he likes.

48. Adverting to this the Government remarked as follows:—

"Mr. Lvinge is mistaken in describing the Tondiman as an independent Prince. He, like his ancestors, is no more than a Poligar Chief. Before the sovereignty of the Carnatic was assumed by the British Government, the Tondiman acknowledged the Nawab of the Carnatic as his suzeran, paid large nuzzurs* to him, and received from him the title of Rajah and other distinctions. No new Rajah was recognized without the assent of the Nawab. Since that period, although no tribute is paid, the sovereignty of the British Government has been repeatedly acknowledged; and it is clearly within the power, as it is the duty, of the Madras Government to take any precautions that may be necessary to prevent mis-government and anarchy such as compelled it in 1853 to place the control of the finances under a Minister appointed with its concurrence, and in the following year to restore the Rajah's authority by the presence of British Troops."

49. The Order of Government concluded by directing that the Rajah should be left to pay his debts out of his own allowance, or from any money the Sirkele can save for him out of his revenue after duly defraying all the expenses of the administration, and that the Agent should sanction only

** Extract from a letter from the Resident,
dated the 28th May 1803.*

"Until the late (1799) treaty of the Carnatic, the Nawabs contrived, under various pretences, to extort considerable sums from Tondiman, although he was nominally exempted from the payment of tribute. At his accession to the government, he was obliged to pay fifty thousand pagodas to the Nawab, Mahomed Ally Cawn, who not only refused to confirm his succession until the money was sent, but threatened to find a competitor with a better title. Since that period Tondiman has paid at different times fifty thousand rupees to the two late Nawabs. This information I received from Tondiman himself."

*Proceedings, dated 19th November 1864, No. 330.
Fusli 1272.*

such payments as are recommended by the Sirkele.

50. The receipts in 1272 amounted to Rupees 7,17,704-14-3, the expenditure to Rupees 4,69,945-1-4, leaving a balance of Rupees 2,47,759-12-11.

The Agent's report was considered to be less satisfactory than the last report for 1271.

*Proceedings of Government, dated 3rd May 1865, No. 124.
Fusli 1273.*

51. In fusli 1273 (1863-64) the receipts were Rupees 8,07,275-14-1, the expenditure to Rupees 6,40,429-12-11, and the balance Rupees 1,66,846-1-2.

Judging from these figures the Governor in Council remarked that he would have been disposed to hope that some improvement was beginning to take place in the administration of the Poodoocottah State, had he not, since the receipt of the annual report, received a special report from the Political Agent, which showed that the irregularities which had so frequently elicited the grave disapproval of Government, especially in connexion with the administration of justice in the Rajah's Courts, had in no way abated.

52. Upon the special report the Government passed the following order:—

"The Government are unwilling to have recourse to the extreme measures which have been recommended and contemplated for remedying the Rajah's admitted mal-administration of the affairs of Poodoocottah, and repressing the abuses which he allows to grow up and exist there, so long as room remains for hoping that a conviction of the determination of Government to put an end once for all to this state of things may rouse the Rajah to a sense of the risk he is incurring, and induce him to endeavour honestly to fulfil the promises of amendment he has so often made and so repeatedly broken.

Proceedings of Government, dated 27th September 1865, No. 241.

"The Government, therefore, resolve to give the Rajah one more trial before they proceed to carry out the measures for securing good government to the inhabitants of Poodoocottah, which neglect of his duties and abuse of his position, if persisted in, will inevitably entail; but at the same time they resolve to warn him seriously that this is the last chance that will be allowed him of maintaining his present position, and that in the event of continued negligence and misconduct on his part, the Government will be compelled to reduce him to the position of an ordinary Zemindar.

"The Government further resolve to transfer the Agency of Poodoocottah from the Collector of Madura to the Collector of Tanjore, in order to facilitate the supervision of affairs in Poodoocottah; and Mr. Morris will accordingly assume charge from Mr. Levinge, and communicate this resolution of Government to the Rajah."

*Proceedings, dated 23rd April 1866,
No. 100.
Fusli 1274.*

54. The revenue of the fusli year 1274 (1864-65) amounted to Rupees 7,95,158-4-0, and the expenditure to Rupees 5,80,030-10-0, leaving a balance of Rupees 2,15,127-10-0.

The Political Agent recommended that the Judicial Establishments should be remodelled as follows:—

To be established at—

Poodoocottah.

- 1st.—A Small Cause Court with summary jurisdiction in suits for money alone up to Rupees 12½ without appeal.
- 2nd.—A Munsif's Court, with jurisdiction in all civil cases, up to Rupees 250.
- 3rd.—A Civil Court, with unlimited original jurisdiction in all civil cases, above Rupees 250.
- 4th.—The Rajah's Appeal Court to remain as at present.

In the Interior.

1st.—A Munsif's Court in each of the four taluqs with summary jurisdiction, without appeal, in suits for money alone up to Rupees 12½, and ordinary original jurisdiction in all other cases up to Rupees 250.

55. The proposed location of Munsifs' Courts in the taluqs was, the Government remarked, calculated to prove a great convenience to the public, and to facilitate the administration of justice. A Small Cause Court, a Munsif's Court, a Civil and Session Court, and the Rajah's Appeal Court at the capital, each presided over by a single judge, seemed also sufficient; but, as regards the jurisdiction proposed to be assigned, the Government saw no reason why the summary small cause jurisdiction of the Court of Poodocottah, and of the Munsifs' Courts in the interior, should not be raised so as to embrace all suits for sums up to 20 rupees at least.

56. There was a falling off in the land revenue of Poodocottah in fusli 1275 of Rupees 26,602-4-2, consequent on the season being very unfavorable. The result of the year's transactions was as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Receipts	7,48,623	4	1
Disbursements... ..	5,40,498	5	2
Balance	2,08,124	14	11

The Agent in his report stated that the original amount of the registered debts of the Rajah, together with interest, was Rupees 8,06,920-12-3; deducting from this a discount of Rupees 1,43,271 allowed by the creditors for prompt payment, the debts were reduced to Rupees 6,63,648-12-9; up to the end of fusli 1274 (1863-64) the amount liquidated was Rupees 4,25,957-4-7, whilst the sum paid last

fusli was Rupees 95,850-10-10.* The amount still remaining unpaid ought, therefore, to have been Rupees 1,41,840-13-4; but unfortunately this was not the case, as the interest still due came to one lakh and a half, whilst, in order to pay off the above-mentioned sum of Rupees 4,25,957-4-7, one lakh and a quarter had to be borrowed from the Devastanum, &c., Funds, and would have to be repaid. The total amount of registered debts then outstanding was, therefore, set down at four lakhs and a half of rupees, and this sum, it was thought, could certainly not be discharged before the lapse of four years at least.

57. Upon this annual report the Secretary of State for India, in his despatch, dated the 16th March 1867, No. 3, made the following remarks:—

"The account furnished by the Political Agent of the proceedings of the Rajah respecting the registered debts is most unsatisfactory. It appears that the creditors, whose total claims aggregate eight lakhs, have agreed, in consideration of 'prompt payment,' to a discount of nearly one and a half lakh; but that notwithstanding this agreement, to which (as it relates to the registered debts) I presume the Political Agent was a party, these creditors will not be paid off for 'four years at least,' a delay wholly inconsistent with the promise which has apparently been given them.

"With respect to the unregistered debts, it has been, and continues to be, the declared policy of Her Majesty's Government in no way to interfere with, or to make inquiry concerning, them.

"The conduct of the Rajah in continuing to thwart the Sirkele's endeavours to administer the country satisfactorily is deserving of the severest reprehension, and Mr. Morris'

*Proceedings, dated 22nd January 1867,
No. 18.
Fusli 1275.*

hopes of amendment on the Rajah's part appear to be of the slenderest character. Her Majesty's Government cannot but express their surprise that the emphatic warning conveyed has had so little effect on him. Nevertheless, as Mr. Morris expresses his trust that 'time will work an improvement in this matter,' I will, for the present, abstain from interference with the period for amendment which your Lordship's Government appears still disposed to allow him. But, in the event of a visible change not taking place in the Rajah's conduct, both in this and in other respects, you are requested to submit your final proposals for placing the administration of Poodoocottah on a satisfactory footing."

58. The total revenue from all sources in fusli 1276 amounted to Rupees 7,23,741. The expenditure to Rupees 4,58,205, leaving a balance of Rupees 2,65,536. In liquidation of the registered debts of the Rajah, the sum of Rupees 25,135-3-7 was paid during the fusli. The Government trusted that the revision of the revenue and judicial establishment, which was about to be introduced, would secure a permanent improvement in the administration of the State, and added that it was a matter of regret that the Rajah was still subject to evil influences.

59. In fusli 1277 the receipts realized from all sources amounted to Rupees 7,19,854-4-4, the expenditure to Rupees 5,54,565-1-3, and the balance to Rupees 1,65,289-3-1.

The progress made in the liquidation of the registered debts of the Rajah was satisfactory. Out of Rupees 1,55,659-9-8 remaining unpaid at the close of fusli 1276, a sum of Rupees 1,26,821-2-9 had been liquidated during the year 1277, and there remained only the sum of Rupees 28,838-5-11 still to be

Proceedings, dated the 7th January 1870, No. 8.
Fusli 1278.

met. The working of the courts was, on the whole, satisfactory. The Indian Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure had been introduced during the year; and these codes were well administered by the Session Court. His Excellency the Governor in Council was much gratified to receive a favorable account of the Rajah's conduct during the year 1277, and to learn that he evinced anxiety or the efficient conduct of the public business by trustworthy and competent persons.

60. The last administration of Poodoocottah for fusli 1278 shows that, although the season was unfavorable, there was a net increase of revenue derived from land of Rupees 51,479 as compared with that of the preceding year. The revenue demand for the year, including rents and the commutation value of Melvaram grain reaped in the Amani villages, amounted to Rupees 3,39,884-10-3, of which Rupees 2,27,725-8-2 were collected within the year, leaving a balance of Rupees 1,12,159-12-1; of this balance Rupees 6,819-6-0 had been collected since the close of the fusli. Rupees 22,955-1-5, to be realized under the head "Ready Money," would be soon collected without difficulty, as well as a total of Rupees 82,384-10-8 under the head "Value of Grain," which would be realized as usual according to stipulated instalments. Of the large sum of old outstanding arrears, amounting to Rupees 1,83,156-2-11, Rupees 37,810-4-11 were written off as irrecoverable. Rupees 56,021-5-6 were collected, leaving Rupees 89,324-8-6, which, although of old date, are retained in the accounts, as it was considered that they might be recovered within a few years.

61. The actual money collections were—

	RS.	A.	P.
Land Revenue ...	2,06,449	6	6
Extra sources ...	21,276	1	8
	8		

Proceedings, dated 31st December 1867, No. 350.
Fusli 1276.

Proceedings, dated 18th December 1868, No. 283.
Fusli 1277.

Sundries, including Interest on Bengal Loan ...	18,315	8	4
Recovery of Advances ...	1,593	5	11
Deposit Fund ...	23,850	3	10
Davastanums ...	1,13,994	8	0
Collection of the Arrears of former fuslies ...	56,021	5	6
Refunds of the amount disbursed for Maramut works	2,123	0	10
Total ...	4,43,623	8	7

Balance in the Treasury at the last Fusli.

On account of Iyen ...	93,664	15	6
Do of Davastanums	71,624	3	7
Amount borrowed from Iyen Amanut Fund ...	10,000	0	0
Grand Total ...	6,18,912	11	8

The expenditure incurred was under the following heads, viz. :—

	RS.	A.	P.
Current ...	2,35,161	8	3
Advances ...	3,126	8	0
Paid in liquidation of the debts of the Rajah ...	28,641	10	2
Batta to Public Servants ...	172	0	0
Remissions ...	279	2	11
Paid in liquidation of the Devastanum debts ...	30,000	0	0
Charges for the Deposit Fund ...	32,941	8	7
Total ...	3,30,322	5	11

Devastanum ... 1,41,371 9 8

Balance.

Iyen ...	92,971	10	2
Devastanam	54,247	1	11
	1,47,218	12	1
Grand Total ...	6,18,912	11	8

60. The allotment for Public Works for the year was Rupees 24,912-14-11 out of which Rupees 12,135-9-6 had been disbursed on account of works executed, leaving Rupees 12,777-5-5 unexpended at the close of the fusli. The balance of the Rajah's debts, which were shown last year to be Rupees 28,838-5-11, was found to be incorrect, the amount actually due being Rupees

91,552-5-3. Mr. Morris explained that he had only now discovered that interest at twelve per cent. was charged on the Rajah's debts, and that in 1864 the late Political Agent expressly directed the Sirkele not to sell any of the four per cent. promissory notes standing in the name of the Rajah to meet this heavy yearly charge, although the State held promissory notes to the amount of 2,25,000 rupees. The Government sanctioned the proposal made by the Agent to sell such an amount of the promissory notes as would suffice to liquidate the remainder of the registered debts. The working of the courts was considered satisfactory.

63. The cost of the revised establishment of Poodocottah, embracing all branches of administration, but exclusive of the Rajah's private establishment, was as follows:—

Office of General Control presided over by the Sirkele ...	RS.	A.	P.
...	1,355	0	0
Taluq Revenue Establishment ...	819	0	0
Village Revenue Establishment ...	598	0	0
Town Police ...	362	0	0
Jail ...	130	0	0
Post Office ...	50	0	0
Bungalow Establishments ...	63	0	0
Public Works Department.	100	0	0
Jungle Conservancy Department ...	68	0	0
	3,545	0	0
Judicial Establishment ...	1,261	0	0
Per mensem ...	4,806	0	0
Per annum ...	57,672	0	0

Proceedings, dated 16th February 1870, No. 54.

65. On the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to this Presidency in March 1870, His Excellency the Governor in Council availed himself of the opportunity to restore to the Rajah a portion of the

honors enjoyed previously by his family, of which he had been personally deprived in 1859. The Rajah was to receive a salute of 13 guns at Trichinopoly and Madras and the title of "His Excellency." The Governor in Council trusted that the Rajah would not be unmindful of the grace extended to him in consideration of the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to this Presidency, and that his future conduct would be such as to give the Governor in Council no cause to regret the favor now accorded.

GEO. HAMNETT,
First Assistant.
April 1870.

ACT No. XXXIV. OF 1850.

*Passed by the Hon'ble the President of the Council of India
in Council on the 23rd of August 1850, with the assent
of the Most Noble the Governor General of India.*

An Act for the better Custody of State Prisoners.

WHEREAS doubts have been entertained whether State Prisoners confined under Regulation III. 1818, of the Bengal Code, can be lawfully detained in any fortress, gaol, or other place, within the limits of jurisdiction of any of the Supreme Courts of Judicature, established by Royal Charter, and it is expedient that such doubts be removed, and the powers of the said Regulation extended to all the territories under the Government of the East India Company, It is enacted as follows:

I. The warrant of commitment of any State Prisoner, under Regulation III. 1818, of the Bengal Code, may be directed to the Sheriff of the gaol of any of the Supreme Courts of Judicature established by Royal Charter in the said territories, or to the Commandant of any fortress, or to the Officer in charge of any gaol or other place, in which it is deemed expedient that such State Prisoner be confined, in any part of the said territories; and such warrant shall be sufficient authority for

*Warrant of
Commitment
under Bengal
Reg. 3 of 1818
may be
addressed
to any Jailor
the Officer in
charge of any
Jail, &c.*

ACT No. XXXIV. OF 1850.

for the detention of such State Prisoner in the fortress, gaol or other place mentioned in the warrant.

Bengal Reg. 3 of 1818 - extended to such officers
II. Regulation III. 1818, of the Bengal Code, shall be extended and applied to every Sheriff, Commandant or Officer, having any State Prisoner in custody, under the said Regulation, as explained and extended by this Act.

State Prisoners confined under such warrant to be deemed as lawfully
III. Any State Prisoner, now confined under any such warrant within the jurisdiction of any of the said Supreme Courts, under the warrant of the Governor General in Council, shall be deemed to have been lawfully committed thereunto.

MADRAS.

ACT No. I of 1865.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. GEORGE IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor on the 12th December 1864, and of the Governor General on the 5th January 1865.)

An Act to provide for the alteration of the Stations of Zillah Courts and limits of Districts or Zillahs in the Madras Presidency.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the alteration of the stations of Zillah Courts and of the limits of Districts or Zillahs in the Madras Presidency; it is enacted as follows:—

Preamble.

The Governor in Council of Fort Saint George may alter the limits of existing Districts or Zillahs.

I. It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council of Fort Saint George, from time to time, to change the stations of Zillah Courts, and to alter the limits of existing Districts or Zillahs in any part of the Provinces subject to his control.

II. So much of Act XXIV of 1839, Section 8, and of Act VII of 1843, Section 53, as makes the assent of the Governor General necessary to any alteration of the stations of Zillah Courts or of the limits of the tracts or Zillahs under the Government of Fort Saint George, is hereby repealed.

Section 8 of Act XXIV of 1839, and Section 53 of Act VII of 1843, partially repealed.

ACT No. III OF 1858.

PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF INDIA.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 23d January 1858.)

An Act to amend the law relating to the arrest and detention of State Prisoners.

WHEREAS doubts have been entertained whether State Prisoners confined under Regulation II. 1819 of the Madras Code, or Regulation XXV. 1827 of the Bombay Code, can be lawfully detained in any fortress, jail, or other place within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Courts of Judicature at Madras and Bombay respectively; and it is expedient that such doubts be removed and that the powers of the said Regulations and of Regulation III. 1818 of the Bengal Code be extended; It is enacted as follows:—

I. So much of Clause 1 Section I of Regulation XXV. 1827 of the Bombay Code as provides—that, with reference to the individual the apprehension and confinement therein referred to shall not be in breach of British Law—is repealed; except so far as the said provision applies to European British Subjects.

Regulations relating to the arrest and confinement of State Prisoners in the three Presidencies, to be in force within Supreme Court jurisdiction.

II. The provisions of Regulation III. 1818 of the Bengal Code, Regulation II. 1819 of the Madras Code, and Regulation XXV. 1827 of the Bombay Code as altered by Section I of this Act, relating to the arrest and confinement of persons as State Prisoners, shall be in force within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Courts of Judicature at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay respectively.

Powers for the better custody of State Prisoners, vested by Act XXXIV of 1850 in the Governor General in Council, may be exercised by the Governors in Council of Fort St. George and Bombay respectively.

III. All powers for the better custody of State Prisoners which by virtue of Act XXXIV of 1850 are vested in the Governor General in Council, shall be possessed and may be exercised by the Governor in Council of Fort St. George and the Governor in Council of Bombay respectively for the better custody of State Prisoners arrested within their respective Presidencies.

IV. Any person arrested as a State Prisoner before the passing of this Act or now confined as a State Prisoner by the order or under the warrant of the Governor General in Council, or of the Governor in Council of Fort St. George, or of the Governor in Council of Bombay respectively, shall be deemed to have been lawfully arrested and to be lawfully confined.

V. The Governor General in Council may order the removal of any State Prisoner, confined under the provisions of any of the said Regulations as amended and extended by this Act, from any fortress, jail, or place in which he may be confined within either of the said Presidencies, to any other fortress, jail or place of confinement within the territories in the possession and under the Government of the East India Company.

W. MORGAN,
Clerk of the Council.

N. 210
From
Whitley Stokes Esq.,
Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Legislative Department.

To
D. F. Carmichael Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of
Madras.

Dated Fort William the 31st March 1874

Sir,
In continuation of my letter N. 117
dated the 18th February last, I am directed to
forward herewith six copies of the Scheduled
Districts Bill as recently amended by the
Select Committee, and to request that His
Excellency the Governor in Council will favour
the Government of India in this Department
with an expression of his opinion on the
provisions of the Bill in its present form.

2
I am also to invite particular
attention to Schedule I of the Bill. The Govt.
of India desires that all districts should be
excluded from the Bill concerning which
there exists any reasonable doubt as to
whether they form part of British India.

I have the honour to be

Yours faithfully,
W. M. Morgan

Copied and dep. 5/5/74.

1904. Just Departed

The Leeg. East India
Depot above Dept

Sir,

In reply to the letter of 31st March last No 210, I am directed to state that H. E. in C. considers that a very desirable change has been effected in the form of the Scheduled Districts Bill, and that the present draft contains all the provisions necessary in the matter. It does not occur to him to offer any further suggestions.

2. In the Schedule, Part I, Section I.

In Ganjam - the following alterations
shall be made -

(2) for The Ghenna Surada Malishks,
read The Surada Malishks.

(7) the words in the district of Ganjam after "The Parla Kinnedi Malabho" are superfluous.

Part II (4) For The Kasipur Malikhs,
read The Kasipur Zamindari -

Part III - The Laccadive Islands, including
Ministry, shd stand as Part IV -

Under Part III - it^d be placed the following words. In Godarai district.

(a) The ⁶ Bhadrāchalam tā'als.

24/6/32

28/12/82

[illegible]

13/5

157.5

(1) The Ra'kupalli taluk

(2) The Rampan country -

agreeably to the request conveyed

in my telegram despatched on

the 1st April, the day after the date

of the letter under acknowledged.

Botacamund
18th May 1874

S.S. - 12/5/4

5-58R
 11-11-10 ✓
 20-8-12
 3.4-15
 18-8-10
 16.7.49 AS ✓

Model Districts Bill.—The Government of
 India have informed that very desirable changes have
 been effected in the form of the Bill, and that the
 present Draft contains all the provisions necessary
 for the Bill, and that it does not appear to the
 Government to offer any further suggestions.

1903. 1 Dec. 1903.

1871, No. 301.

Encl.

SECRETARY TO THE
 GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
 Legislative Department.

Original
 of 1874 SYNDICATE
 JUDICIAL.

C. 12/5 R. 15/5.