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Communicated to the Supt Engineer Circle.

(Sd) W Lewis.

Govt. of {1886} Madras.

JUDICIAL.

Issued

Read. Encl.

G.O., 23rd December 1886, No. 3387.

No: 148 Tr a/18th January 87.

DECEMBER.

Vizagapatam Agency.

Reviewing the annual report of the — for 1885-86.

To.

S. E. Circle

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From H. G. TURNER, Esq., Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vizianagrum, 23rd August 1886, No. 602.

I have the honor to submit my report on the administration of the Agency tracts of this district for the year 1885-86.

The first tour undertaken by the Agent during the year under review was an excursion with Mr. Elwin, the newly appointed Senior Assistant, through his division. I left Párvatipur on the 16th November and marched to Rayaguda, Singapore, Bissemkatak, thence throughout the Khond Maliahs to Godairy, and following the valley of the Vamsadhára river to Gunupur, came out through the Sitampeta pass to Pálkonda.

2. The second tour took me through the Special Assistant's division, which I entered by the Galikonda pass, journeying by Aruku and Nundapur, I reached Koraput on the 2nd March. Thence I went to Jeypore where I saw the Maharajah. From Jeypore I marched to Ramagiri, and turning towards home at that point I proceeded viâ Balliguda and Sogaru, and avoiding the Galikonda mountain came out at Anantagiri through Bondam and Borra—this being the line which will probably be taken by the new road now under construction between the plains of Vizagapatam and the southern part of the Jeypore plateau and Malkangiri.

3. I had visited Borra already this season in company with Dr. King of the Geological Department. That gentleman, being on a visit to Vizianagrum to inspect a proposed artesian well, expressed a wish to look at the formation of the ghâts, and we went up to Anantagiri for a few days on this errand. This was in October. Some two or three months before this I was at Anantagiri exploring a line for the new road when I first heard of Borra. Borra, meaning a " cave " in Telugu, belonged, I casually heard, to the Jeypore country. Asking the meaning of this—for Borra lies on the borders of Pusupati and Téda (the local names of Vizianagrum and Pachipenta)—I was told that, at the time of the cession of these lands by Jeypore, Borra was retained because of the holy cave there. " It is a thirtham " said my informant, and " the water drips through the roof, and this water is taken at Siva-Ratri to wash the Lingam at Nundapur, the ancient capital of the Jeypore House." Caves being objects of desire to every one, whether English or Hindu, Aryan or Dravidian or Kolairean, I took the opportunity of Dr. King's visit to explore it, delighted to be guided by the illumination of his professional knowledge. We went and we discovered a chain of most interesting limestone caves, full of excellent specimens of stalactites and stalagmites. The caves are apparently eaten out of a limestone rock by a stream which now works its way through this series of caverns and emerges far below in a deep gloomy gorge. The caverns are full of Lingams consisting of stalagmites. The stream is heard rushing along the underground passages far out of sight. The water is used for the worship of the tutelary deity of Jeypore, and we were reminded of the place where—

> " Alph the sacred river ran
> Through caverns measureless to man
> Down to a sunless sea."

The river into which the sacred river falls is known as the Pedagunda river. It eventually emerges from the hills at Kasipatnam and then flows out through the Srungavarapukota taluk, where much water is diverted into irrigation channels, and it eventually joins the sea at Bimlipatam.

4. So much we discovered on our first visit. On my second visit to the cave in November, I think, I made a further discovery, viz., that the Pedagunda river itself encounters the same band of limestone just above its plunge into the gorge, where it receives the little stream above-mentioned as the author of the stalactite cave, and it also "through the shaggy hill passes underneath engulfed." This passage is a low arch affording just sufficient room to the water. High above the present tunnel is another great open hole in the rock, which evidently served as a vent for the water before the river denuded its way down to the present orifice—altogether a most interesting place—and I fancy that the limestone bed is of larger extent than we at first thought, for on my last visit I struck it again much higher up the river.

I know of two other caves or more of this sort. One at Gopteswaram, which is also a thirtham on the banks of the Sebheri, 8 miles west of Ramagiri — a place of much sanctity and of extensive legendary associations.

5. The line of road which I am now engaged on will be, when finished, of equal importance with the Sálúr ghât and the road from Pottingy to Koraput.

From Vizianagrum it will be 25 miles to the foot of the new ghât. Five miles of road will be cut out of the side of the hill, and we shall then find ourselves at Dhamuku, 2,000 feet above the level of the sea. The road must then run, I think, to the Borra saddle, some 3 miles through the Raevalsa valley. From the Borra saddle, if we go that way, it must descend a few hundred feet to cross the Borra valley, and then it will ascend again and emerge into the open plateau near Bondam.

6. This route was explored by Colonel Shaw-Stewart some 25 years ago. Exception has been taken by various officers to the other route selected eventually for the bridle-path, to wit, over a spur of Galikonda, 4,500 feet above sea level, instead of adopting what these critics considered the better route for a bridle-path round by Borra and Bondam. But I am happy to be able to state that the engineers were right and the critics wrong, for the country round by Borra is a very difficult country indeed, and for a bridle-path a uselessly circuitous route. I am afraid that I must go that way with my cart road, but for a bridle-path there is no doubt that the shortest and best way is the one now in existence. The party engaged in the work certainly took the greatest pains to find out the best way, and it is most interesting to me to come across their old traces now overgrown with jungle as I go poking about to find my way over and round the various obstacles which vex the schemes of the road-maker.

7. I have completed three miles of the section that has to be cut out of the hill-side, and have done a good deal of the fourth and fifth miles. The whole of this section will be finished in six months, and carts will then have access to a considerable extent of country hitherto trodden only by the pack beast. I will dismiss this part of my subject by saying that the road will probably run from Bondam to Aruku, thence to Padawa, Sogaru and Guniapodu, thence to Baliguda and so by Janitigiri, where it will bifurcate—one branch running down to the north Malkangiri country and so opening out to trade a vast extent of fertile land, and the other branch will run down to Dasumutpur and open up all the Ramagiri country, which contains excellent land of unquestionable value.

8. Interesting again are the associations of this road as it gets into the Sogaru country, for here in this corner is an extensive Kolairean colony of Gadabas and their cousins the Bonda Porjas and the Kerang kapus. Here also at Baliguda are the falls of the Sibru, a most weird gaunt abyss of cliffs into which the river here known as the Matsyagunda, but further down as the Sibru, makes a perpendicular plunge 480 feet deep. I discovered these falls nearly twenty years ago, and I revisited them recently and took their height with an aneroid barometer.

9. These Kolaireans are excellent husbandmen, and a road through their country will give a decided stimulus to the agriculture of the part. A cross road will leave the main artery at Tobah and run through Nundapur and Paleba to Koraput. Speaking roughly, it will be about 100 miles from the foot of the new ghât to the Malkangiri taluk, and the cross road to Koraput will be about 25 miles in addition. But as soon as the pass over the mountains is completed, carts will be able to penetrate almost along the whole length of this line. It is all on the 3,000-feet plateau, a hard dry soil, perfectly open and free from any serious obstacles. It will be an enormous boon to

the country, and I expect that colonists from the Vizianagrum zemindari will be induced by the facilities of communication to settle on the lands of Ramagiri and Malkangiri if proper arrangements are made for their reception. It is to be hoped that the Government will ere long pay special attention to the migration of people, organize and encourage it. It is a matter of great public moment. It embraces considerations of the very highest policy, and, in my opinion, it ought to take an ascertained place in the sphere of our administration.

10. The roads in the Special Assistant's division are much cut up by the cart traffic. The District Engineer counted as many as 500 carts loaded with grain passing down the Sálúr ghât in one day.

During the year under report definite arrangements have been made by Government for the construction of the Pottingy and Koraput road, and the Public Works Department commenced work on that section in April 1886. The Tandevalsa ghât road has been repaired, and the causeway across the river at the bottom has been reconstructed with vents. Revetments and easing of gradient are among the works that have been carried on on that communication, which is now used by carts on their way to the Thonam market. Brinjaries continue to use it, preferring it over the new road owing to the grass and water found along the route. On the Vizagapatam and Central Provinces trunk line bridges have been built at Pauperhandi and Dabugaon; also causeways across some swamps and other embankments, and the road has been carried to a point 26 miles north of Nowrangapore. Mr. Wedderburn points out that the allotment of Rs. 25 a mile for the repair of this road was miserably inadequate. I have increased it to more than Rs. 50 a mile for the current season, but even that amount is far too small. I cannot spare more funds without starving other works, and I hope that the Public Works Department will press on their road and open sections of it as quickly as possible.

The question of running the Public Works Department road parallel to the existing line of communication is under discussion. Mr. Wedderburn draws attention to the question of a ferry raft over the Indrávati, which I shall take up this year, as also the new trace for the Jeypore-Koraput road. He reports that the other roads are in fair order, drawing attention to the improvement of the Kolab crossing and of the Malkangiri ghât. I have already touched on the Central Provinces road beyond Nowrangapore, and I agree with him in thinking that a road might be opened from Pauperhandi over the Ampani ghât into Kalahandy. The curtailment of the budget was caused by financial retrenchments decreed by Government.

11. Turning now to the education question, the scheme for educating the Maharajah's son is progressing favorably. There was some difficulty in arranging the terms upon which Mr. Marsh would come. But I have been able to effect an arrangement which will form the subject of a special letter* to Government, and Mr. Marsh will probably enter on his duties in November next.

* Letter No. 586, dated 12th August 1886.

On examining the proposals for general education, it was at once seen that nothing can be done until measures are taken for paying the masters from Government funds. This involves the transfer of the complete control from the Maharajah to the agency and the appointment of a special superintendent for each division, the plan of employing one superintendent for both the Senior and Special Assistant's division being unworkable. A scheme has been drawn up in consultation with the Inspector of Schools, and it is now on its way to Government through the Director of Public Instruction—*vide* G.O., No. 354, dated 10th June 1886, Educational.

Under law and justice, I have to notice the decrease of the crime of cattle theft. The Acting Sub-Magistrate of Nowrangapore has been relegated to his substantive appointment of Head Clerk in the plains. The question of the Koraput Hill Jail is before Government in my letter No. 243, dated 6th March 1886, and has been put into a settled form by G.O., No. 1277, dated 15th May 1886, Judicial.

12. Mr. Wedderburn enters at some length into the difficulties he experiences in getting through his civil file.

It has all along been our policy to discourage resort to civil tribunals in the agency from the fear that the people would be victimized by vakils, and I believe

that no such courts as district munsifs' courts are at all necessary in the Hill tracts, except in such places as Koraput, Jeypore and other large villages to which low country traders resort. What may be necessary hereafter when the country is opened out to cart traffic I know not, but when we come to think of the vast quantities of transactions that are carried on throughout the country without any sanction of a resort to law, why, I ask, should we dig a pit in their midst for them to fall into? Beyond any part of the country I know, Jeypore is distinguished for the marvellous numbers of weekly markets. On the road between the summit of the ghât and the interior of the country—say, 50 miles—there are five large markets held on five days in the week, viz, at Sipaiput, Dumriput, Cheptaamb, Boregumma, and at another place. These markets are frequented by large concourses of people bent on bargaining, the inter-marketal trade being in the hands of the Dombs, an out-caste tribe. Yet the whole of these transactions take place without any resort to law, and more than this all the native produce merchants, who live round the foot of the hills from the Godávari to Gunapur, advance on crops, on jungle produce, on beasts, on hides, and so forth, quite content to run whatever risks there may be in giving over money to the hill man without any security at all. They are, I believe, content with the state of the law as it now stands, and though it might be argued that the want of security disables the hill man from driving a better bargain, I have no doubt at all that on the whole the hill man would be at a disadvantage if he tried to sue his sowcar for breach of contract.

Mr. Wedderburn's remarks on the Rent Recovery Act are equally to the point. The power of distraint cannot be granted to the landlords in a country where several days journey must be traversed before redress for illegal seizure can be obtained. It is far better to let all public business of this kind vest summarily in the divisional officer.

13. Mr. Wedderburn draws attention to the meritorious efforts of the Sub-Magistrate of Malkangiri in pushing vaccination, and care will be taken that a vaccinator accompanies the divisional officer on his tours. His suggestions regarding medicines will receive attention. The business of slaying wild beasts is steadily improving, and the tappal arrangements claim a passing notice. I am in communication with the Postmaster-General regarding the postal connection with the Central Provinces.

14. I have informed the Commissioner of Chhetisghur that I concur in the decision of the boundary dispute on the Tel which has been settled by Mr. Wedderburn and Mr. Fox Strangeways, and I am awaiting his reply.

Since drafting the above, the reply of the Chief Commissioner has been received, and I am forwarding the case to Government for their formal approval.

15. In the course of my tour through the Senior Assistant's division, the Dewan of the Maharajah of Jeypore brought to my notice the very unsatisfactory behaviour of the ameens of Rayaguda and Gunupur. These managers had contrived to get possession of the rents of these two large taluks and played with him and the Maharajah in a way that called to mind the story told by Burke of the noteworthy transactions of Paul Benfey and his co-adjutors in connection with the Nabob of Arcot's debts.

These ameens were in the habit of receiving from the Maharajah orders called Barátams directing them to pay certain monies to the person named therein. To these orders these worthy men were in the habit of replying that they had no rents belonging to the Maharajah in hand, but that they would advance money to meet the Barátams from their own resources, on what they called moderate interest, *i.e.*, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *per month*. The money was advanced, not at once, but from time to time, that is, as the rents came in, and so it came about that a large debt was formed, built up by lending the Maharajah his own money and charging 18 per cent. per annum for it. This *debt* again was liquidated by the ameens by an assignment to themselves of the revenues they collected. Bonds passed between the parties confirming these transactions, or to quote Burke—it is quite interesting to apply his words to these events, for they are so delightfully applicable—"Bond is paid by bond; arrear is turned into new arrear; usury engenders new usury, until all the revenues and all the establishments are entangled into one inextricable knot of confusion from which they

are only disengaged by being entirely destroyed." This is exactly what we had to do. The ameens could or would produce no accounts. They came before us clothed in the commonest of cloths as evidence of their poverty, and they sat before us hour after hour prevaricating, withdrawing statements, qualifying admissions, and all done with a mien the most plausible and a submission humiliating to witness. There could be no adjustment made. All we did therefore was to make the ameen of Rayaguda sign a bond for Rs. 27,000 and him of Gunupur one for Rs. 60,000 and to turn them out of their employments subject to the confirmation of the Maharajah, to whom I sent the obligations they executed. But I know what will happen. They will go up to the capital and by back-stair influence they will probably recover their bonds and perhaps get reinstated in their appointments, though I shall stop the latter catastrophe by a stern exercise of authority.

16. Mr. Elwin sends an interesting account of his doings during the five-and-half months he was in charge. His touring shows a good record. I am glad to be able to bear testimony to the very zealous and intelligent way in which this young officer conducts his duties. I have treated so fully of the incidents of the Singapore case in the papers marginally noted that I need hardly swell this report by recapitulating them here.

G.O., Judicial, 9th January 1885, No. 52, Mis.
Do. 25th August „ „ 2220, „
Do. 19th May 1886, „ 1326, „

All I need mention is that the Maharajah of Jeypore has filed a suit in my court to resume possession of the estate, or for an increase of rents, and it will be for the law courts to decide on the strength of his claim. The ryots of the estate are not settled down yet. I had a deputation from them quite recently, but they were amenable to argument and they returned to their country in a peaceful state of mind. The country will require careful attention for some time to come. I have not relaxed my endeavours to effect a compromise between the Maharajah and the Ranee, and only a few days since I hoped that an opening was preparing itself. Perhaps when the cause comes into court some arrangement may be effected.

17. I was unable to visit the Sowra hills. Mr. Elwin states that the Gomangoes, who are independent of the authority of the Urya Patro of Bhimpuram or of the Dhora of Kuttmi, were ill-mannered enough to complain of the cloths given them from the Government bounty. The best thing to do will be to intermit these presents until the recipients seem disposed to appreciate them.

It is very encouraging to note the interest the Sowras take in vaccination. In paragraph 30 Mr. Elwin complains of a want of zeal and energy among the vaccinators. This paragraph will be communicated to the District Surgeon.

There was still some question regarding the ownership of Ongara village which was decided by Messrs. Sewell, Welsh and Joseph to belong to Jeypore.

18. The Government have already been requested in the letter marginally noted to allot money for the erection of hospitals at Rayaguda and Bissemkatak and Nowrangapore, and their order sanctioning the outlay has been recently received—G.O., No. 544, dated 19th June 1886, Financial. Mr. Elwin then touches on the sanitation of these places, mentions that Bhimpuram was visited by a bad attack of cholera between May and July last year, and tells us that fever has carried off his mahout. When on tour with Mr. Elwin in November, a tiger-skin was brought to me with the story that the beast had been killed through being impaled on two bamboo stakes. Observing foot-prints of a tiger that used to walk along a path and spring over a fence, the hunter placed four sharpened stakes on the landing side of the fence so disposed that the tiger would alight on them when it jumped over the obstacle. The tiger actually did jump over the hedge and did impale himself on the stakes and then the poor brute lay howling on his back for two days, the villagers being afraid to go up and put him out of his misery. Eventually he died, and the skin had a long bare patch all down its back from the head to the tail where the hair was scraped off as it lay writhing on the ground. The story is hard to believe, but I know that deer are killed in this way and it is possibly true.

Letter, dated 17th May 1886, No. 442.

19. In the agency taluks of the Senior Assistant's division there are 260,000 inhabitants. The villages they occupy are 2,500 in number. The country consists

of two large valleys and the hills between and around them. One of these valleys is drained by the Nagavalli river, the other by the Vamsadhára. The valleys are exceedingly fertile and yield a revenue to the Maharajah of Jeypore of upwards of a lakh and a half of rupees. One of these valleys, *i.e.*, the Rayaguda valley, is the channel of communication between the Vizagapatam plains and the Central Provinces. Through the other, the Gunupur valley, lies the route from Chicacole and Kimedy to Central Provinces.

The roads necessary to open out these valleys to cart traffic are the following:—

	Miles.
(1) Chollapadam to Rayaguda	18
(2) Rayaguda to Ombadola	62
(3) Komatipet to Singapore	22
(4) Butili to Gunupur	10
(5) Gunupur to Ombadola	60
(6) Gunupur to Párvatipur	32
Total ...	204

If this system of roads were taken up by the Public Works Department, there would undoubtedly accrue to Government a very large increase in revenue from salt and abkári. The increase in agricultural and jungle produce would be very great, and lands would be brought under the plough by people migrating from the congested taluks of the coast which are known to be as thickly populated as any taluks in the Madras Presidency. It is therefore a scheme that I can confidently recommend to the notice of Government.

I will permit myself to anticipate an objection that may be probably raised regarding this great extension of roads. This may be that Government have already committed themselves to considerable expenditure under this head in respect of the undertaking they have in hand on the Pottingy-Koraput line and thence to the borders of this district towards Raepore, and that this district can have no further claims on the public purse at present. But this view of the question becomes considerably modified if we consider that it is not the Vizagapatam district that we are roading, but the district called the Vizagapatam agency. So far as population is concerned, the agency can rightly lay claim to be considered a district. The people living in it number 694,673, that is, it is a more populous district than Anantapur or Kurnool or the Nílgiris, nearly as populous as Bellary, and within the same category of districts containing fewer people than a million as Chingleput and South Canara. I am persuaded that if the outlay on public works in Jeypore be compared with that of any one of these districts, there will be found a very large balance still due to the country, the claims of which I am now advocating.

20. I have endeavoured to make a sort of estimate of the value of the trade which is carried on with the agency. The principal items of export trade from the coast ports of the Vizagapatam district which amounted last year to 46 lakhs are indigo, myrabolams, seeds, jaggery, hides and skins, turmeric, lac, long-pepper, gunnies, jute and punjam cloth.

Of these items, all the myrabolams, lac, turmeric and long-pepper come from the agency, and probably 50 per cent. of the seeds, hides and skins. All the jaggery, gunnies, cloth, indigo and the remaining portion of the seeds and hides are produced in the plains. The Board's annual volume and my district returns give the proportions which each product bears to the grand total, and from this I calculate that at least 25 per cent. of the total value consists of those articles that come from above the ghâts. Therefore I fix the total value of the trade derived from the agency and exported by the coast at 11 lakhs.

There is great difficulty in arriving at any satisfactory estimate of the produce that comes across the ghâts and is arrested in the plains. It consists of food stuffs. We never have great distress in the congested taluks of Vizagapatam, partly because of our food imports from the agency. There are four principal passes into the hills through which food-grains come into the plains, viz., viâ Gunupur, Párvatipur, Sálúr and Kasipatnam. I think I am well within the mark when I put down a figure of 100,000 loads of grain, consisting principally of paddy, rice and ragi, as an approximate estimate of this trade, and I value this grain at 10 lakhs of rupees. Therefore

I adopt a figure of 21 lakhs as representing the value of the entire export trade across these roads that we are now constructing. The trade into Jeypore from the coast taluks consists of salt, cotton goods, tobacco and sundries.

Of these, cotton goods only come from beyond sea, valued at 13 lakhs for the whole district. If the hill tracts took their share of these goods in proportion to their population, they should take about one-third of the imports. But they certainly do not take as much as this, because the hill people are not so well off as the people of the plains, and because they use a great deal of twist which they spin themselves. I should think that 3 lakhs would represent the money they spend in imported cotton goods. Then as to salt they ought to consume 13·22 lbs. per head according to the accepted figures, but I am very certain they do not, because pack-borne salt is a costly article. On the other hand, they pay more than Rs. 3-8-0 a maund for it.

Suppose then we say they consume 70,000 maunds of salt and pay 3 lakhs for it. This would make about 6 lakhs of imports. Besides this, we send about a lakh of treasure into the country to pay for the balance of the cost of our administration and on roads, &c. Total import trade 7 lakhs. Grand total import and export trade 27 lakhs. But how much trade comes and goes through the agency to and from the countries beyond it, is impossible to say. Certainly all the plateau of Bustar (not the Godávari bordering parts), nearly all Kalahandy and a considerable part of Patna, Nowaghar and Khariar come within the influence of these trade routes. These countries lying around Jeypore occupy an area of more than 20,000 square miles in extent with an additional population of 500,000 souls.

21. What vast quantities of unoccupied land there are in these unfrequented areas lying between our ghâts and the plains of Nagpore! What have we ever done for this country and for these people, which, with our agency population, number over a million? Suppose an island were suddenly discovered in the Bay of Bengal thirty thousand square miles in extent inhabited by a million of people, another Ceylon, what schemes, what reports, what a vista of administration does the idea open out? Upper Burma has furnished an enterprise during the past year which will remain graven "monumentum ære perenius" in the history of India. Its incorporation in the civilization of the empire will be the subject of anxious thought and of great expense, and it will be guided on its path by the most able of our officers. Justice, education, public works will be inaugurated with a lavish hand; trade routes will be opened out and enterprises proposed for reclaiming lands and spreading abroad the searching aims of commerce. Are the countries I am writing about not equally entitled to participate in the benefits of our English ideas and in our schemes for ameliorating the condition of the people we have taken upon ourselves to govern? If these lands lay within a few miles of Madras, or of Calcutta, they would be in as prosperous a state as the best district in India. But because they are situated at the remote end of Madras and at the remote end of the Central Provinces, they are voted to be a bore and a burthen. If the country were a hilly country with but small extent of cultivable land, it might accept the fate of all mountainous regions, and be left to enjoy such crumbs of progress as it might pick up.

"Given," says Major Holdich, "a wise and strong Government and an industrious class of settlers, there is nothing in the soil and climate of Bustar to forbid a happy future of broad cultivated lands, and it may be yet that this country may be populated and cultivated by a people whom pressure of numbers has driven out from the overstocked districts of Upper India." Major Holdich was of opinion that the population of Bustar was decreasing. He says, "There are many evidences of a better state of things in the past, and the decrease is due to the wretched misgovernment that prevails, combined with facilities of late years in obtaining employment under British control in the neighbourhood of the Godávari." When Major Holdich wrote this, he was surveying the country as an officer of the Government of India, and had therefore no possible bias for or against the Local Governments.

Proceedings of Geographical Society, June 1879.

As I have already said in another communication, I am convinced that there is no country in Madras, and I believe none in the Central Provinces or perhaps in the rest of India, that would better repay Government to open out than this great area of land. The truth is that the British Empire in India is so repleted with land that we

again with fresh officers in the agency part of this district. I cannot hope or expect that any officer can make any head way until he has been in charge for about two years. No officer ever stays longer than this, if so long. If it were possible to introduce for the three divisions a system of graduated pay, I believe it would be of immense benefit to the Administration. I hope that this remark may attract the attention of Government, for it is nearly of serious evil that so many changes should take place in the agency where personal rule is everything and routine administration not yet reached.

Since penning the above, the pillage and burning of the Gudem police station has taken place, and the whole subject of our administration of these parts will be placed before Government in my report on this affair.

27. A sum of Rs. 566-15-1 was spent, as detailed in the statement appended, on account of hill tour charges, and I solicit sanction for the same.

Hill Tour Charges for 1885-86.

	RS.	A.	P.
Value of cloths purchased for presents to Khond chiefs and ready-money presents in excess of the budget allotment of Rs. 230	234	0	9
Warm clothing of Agent's establishment	83	13	3
Carriage hire of doolies, &c.	108	0	10
Value of gunpowder supplied to taxidermist	15	4	0
Tappal expenses	71	12	9
Total ..	512	15	7

CRIMINAL Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for the year 1885-86.

Name of Court.	Trials or Inquiries. Cases. Pending.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of.	Pending.	Persons. Disposed of. Convicted and committed or referred.	Otherwise.	Total.	Received.	Total.	Appeals. Persons. Disposed of. Modified or reversed.	Otherwise.	Total.	Pending.	Cases. Pending.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of.	Pending.
1. Agent to the Governor	1	27	28	27	1	1	48	49	48	49	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Additional Session Judge	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Principal Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Senior do.	..	8	8	8	..	..	19	19	19	19	..	5	5	..	..	8	8	8	..
5. Special do.	3	51	54	52	2	6	89	95	89	95	1	10	15	1	1	14	15	14	1
6. Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Second-class Magistrate, Golgonda	3	23	26	25	1	3	50	53	50	53	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Third do.	..	4	4	4	..	..	24	24	24	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Second ,, do. Vizianagram ..	..	3	3	3	..	..	11	11	11	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Do. ,, do. Srungavarapukóta ..	..	7	7	7	..	..	23	23	23	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Do. ,, do. Sálúr ..	..	3	3	3	..	..	5	5	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Do. ,, do. Pálkonda ..	2	55	57	57	..	12	261	273	261	273	..	5	5	..	..	6	6	6	..
13. Do. ,, do. Párvatipur ..	1	31	32	32	..	1	82	83	82	83	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Do. ,, do. Gunupur ..	1	175	176	176	..	1	490	491	490	491	..	10	10	..	..	14	14	14	..
15. Do. ,, do. Rayagada ..	3	103	106	105	1	5	252	257	252	257	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. Do. ,, do. Jeypore ..	8	281	289	280	9	16	533	549	533	549	..	4	4	..	..	6	6	6	..
17. Do. ,, do. Koraput ..	13	105	118	113	5	37	206	243	206	243	..	6	6	..	..	6	6	6	..
18. Do. ,, do. Nowrangapur ..	4	146	150	150	..	9	317	326	317	326	..	10	10	..	..	14	14	14	..
19. Do. ,, do. Malkangiri ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20. Do. ,, do. Pottangi ..	3	61	64	64	..	17	128	145	128	145	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21. Do. ,, do. Bissemkatak ..	..	129	129	129	..	..	262	262	262	262	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	42	1,212	1,254	1,235	19	108	2,800	2,908	2,800	2,908	1	25	28	1	3	27	28	25	3

Name of offence.	Number of cases.	Number of prisoners.	Number sentenced to death.	Number sentenced to transportation.	Imprisonment. Simple.	Imprisonment. Rigorous.	Fine.	Whipping.	Total convicted.	Number discharged.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
1. Murder under section 302, I.P.C. ..	7	15	1	(a) 5	..	..	..	..	6	8	1
2. Do. and attempt to commit murder, sections 302 and 307, I.P.C. ..	1	1	..	(b) 1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
3. Murder and attempt to commit suicide under sections 302 and 309, I.P.C.	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
4. Culpable homicide not amounting to murder, section 304, I.P.C. ..	10	17	..	..	..	(c) 11	..	..	11	6	..
5. Grievous hurt by dangerous weapon and culpable homicide not amounting to murder, sections 326 and 304, I.P.C.	1	1	..	..	..	(d) 1	..	..	1	..	..
6. Attempt to commit murder under section 307, I.P.C.	2	2	..	..	..	(e) 1	..	..	1	1	..
7. Grievous hurt and culpable homicide not amounting to murder, sections 325 and 304, I.P.C.	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
8. Mischief by fire with intent to cause damage, section 435, I.P.C. ..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
9. Mischief by fire, section 436 ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
10. Criminal breach of trust by public servant and intentionally suffering an offender to escape from confinement, sections 409 and 221, I.P.C.	1	2	..	..	..	(f) 1	(g) 1	..	2	..	..
11. Criminal breach of trust by public servant under section 409, I.P.C., ..	1	1	..	..	..	(i) 1	..	..	1	1	..
Total ..	28	49	1	6	..	16	1	..	24	24	1

(a) For life. (b) For life.
(c) Two for 5 years each ; one for 7 years ; three for 3 years ; two for 2 years, two for 4 years ; one for 6 years.
(d) For 5 years. (e) For 2 years. (f) Two months. (g) Rs. 3. (h) Two years. (i) Five years.

Civil Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for 1885-86.

Original Suits.

Name of Court.	Original Suits. Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer or reference	Total.	Disposed of	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
1. Agent to the Governor	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	2
2. Principal Assistant Agent	..	2	..	2	..	1	1	1
3. Senior Assistant do.	2	23	..	25	22	1	23	2
4. Special do. do.	36	65	..	101	53	18	71	30
5. Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. District Munsif, Golgonda	13	26	..	39	22	..	22	17
7. Do. Narayanapatnam ..	21	31	4	56	52	..	52	4
8. Do. Rayagada	22	42	37	101	26	38	64	37
9. Do. Bissemkatak	..	13	39	52	7	37	44	8
10. Do. Gunupur	16	69	..	85	61	..	61	24
11. Do. Koraput	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1
12. Do. Jeypore	..	43	12	55	28	1	29	26
Total ..	110	316	93	519	271	96	367	152

Civil Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for 1885-86.

Appeal Suits.

Name of Court.	Appeal Suits. Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
Agent to the Governor	2	2	..	4	4	..	4	..
Principal Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Senior do. do.	..	8	..	8	5	..	5	3
Special do. do.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2	10	..	12	9	..	9	3

From G. F. T. POWER, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam, to the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, dated Narsapatam, 13th May 1886, No. 161.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the administration of that portion of the agency which is in my division for the official year 1885-86.

Public Works.—The amount allotted by you for expenditure during the year was Rs. 3,430 of which Rs. 2,709-9-9 was actually spent. In the progress report of agency works for the month of March 1886, details of the different works on which expenditure was incurred will be found, and I need not therefore recapitulate them here.

The Rawpol ghât, between Kistnadevi Peta and Peddavalasa, was completed during the year, and is now a good bridle-path. The Budaralla ghât, between Koyyur and Peddavalasa, which I had intended to improve during the year, could not be taken in hand for want of supervision, owing to my detention at the head-quarters of the district during a great part of the working season. I have, however, since the close of the year, been over this ghât, and settled the new trace, and during the current year a good riding road will, I hope, be substituted for the present very steep and rough foot-path. The current year's allotment for repairs (300 rupees) will hardly suffice for the work, but additional funds can easily be provided from the allotment for repairs to tracks above ghâts.

The Lammasinghi and Minamalur ghâts, the two most important in the division, are both in excellent order, and the latter needs but little improvement to be a good cart-road. New buildings constructed during the year were a bungalow at Lammasinghi and sheds for native officers at Lammasinghi, Chintapalli, Gudem, Lotugedda, Darakonda, Peddavalasa and Koyyur. The old bungalows were repaired and whitewashed and all are now in good order.

Civil Justice.—At the beginning of the year 13 suits were pending on the file of the Golgonda Agency District Munsif. During the year two suits were instituted in the Principal Assistant Agent's Court, and 26 in the Agency District Munsif's Court, making a total of 41 cases for disposal. Of these, 23 cases were actually disposed of, and when the year closed 18 suits were pending, viz., one on the Principal Assistant Agent's file, and 17 on the District Munsif's file.

The great majority of the suits instituted were for the recovery of money or movable property, and the property in question was generally of trifling value.

The highest valued suit was one for the recovery of movable property worth 800 rupees which was instituted in the Principal Assistant Agent's Court.

There was no suit instituted to which a mittadar or other hill dignitary was a party.

Crime.—This was as usual light in the Golgonda and Viravilli Agency tracts, which alone come within my jurisdiction as Magistrate, Hill Madgole still forming part of the Special Assistant's division for magisterial purposes. There were in all 32 cases in which 86 persons were accused and these were disposed of as follows :—

	Cases.	Persons.
(a) Committed to Sessions Court	1	1
(b) Convicted	9	15
(c) Acquitted or discharged	22	70

For the most part the offences of which these persons were accused were not of a grave character. The case committed to the Sessions was one of culpable homicide.

In another case I convicted a man of uttering counterfeit coin.

The other cases were of an unimportant nature.

Abkári.—The rented system was in force as in the previous year. The number of shops and stills licensed was as follows :—

	Shops.	Stills.
Golgonda	18	18
Viravilli	5	5

Hill Madgole is for abkári purposes under the Special Assistant and therefore figures for that portion of the agency are omitted here.

No complaints were made against the renters or their shopkeepers by the inhabitants of the agency, but vendors of excised liquor in the "ordinary" or non-agency portion of Golgonda taluk complained that unexcised liquor was smuggled to a considerable extent from the agency into the ordinary portion of the taluk and sold there. There is undoubtedly much truth in this complaint, but after all we can hardly expect smuggling to cease as long as the price of liquor in the excise taluks is so much higher than it is elsewhere. Meanwhile all that can be done is to impose exemplary punishment whenever a case of smuggling is detected, and this is being done.

Opium.—The number of shops licensed for the sale of opium was—

Golgonda	8
Viravilli	2
Hill Madgole	20
Total ...	30

A few complaints were made that the drug was not sold as cheap as the vendors are bound by their licenses to sell it, *i.e.*, at 3 tolas per rupee, but this was not proved In Golgonda the vendors were mostly malas, the principal trading class of that portion of the hills, while elsewhere the headmen of villages are licensed to sell.

It appears to me that the fixed Government rate of 3 tolas per rupee is more likely to be observed if the vendors are like mittadars and paddals men whose principal occupation is not trade and whom we have some hold over, rather than unresponsible malas whose sole business is trade and all whose instincts are commercial. I am therefore now (1886-87) trying the experiment in Golgonda of licensing mittadars, &c., instead of malas.

Wild Beasts.—Rs. 1,617 were paid as rewards for the destruction of 47 wild beasts in Golgonda and Viravilli. I do not give the figures for Hill Madgole as it is in the magisterial jurisdiction of the Special Assistant.

Of these 47 wild beasts, ten were tigers, for each of which a reward of Rs. 100 was paid.

Twenty-five cheetas, six bears and five hyænas were also killed.

One man was killed by a tiger near Kudapasinghi; a few miles from Lammasingi a tiger was shot in that neighbourhood shortly afterwards and there have been no deaths since, so that we may fairly conclude that the man-eater has been accounted for. No other lives were lost during the year, and the "tiger terror," which was so prevalent two years ago, seems to have nearly died out. One can, however, still see all over the hills the ruins of deserted villages, and it will, I fear, be some time yet before the country has fully recovered from the effects of what, the other day, I heard a hillman picturesquely describe as the "puli fituri".

Education.—This is still backward. The two agency schools at Kristnadevipeta and Chinna Golgondapeta are doing fairly well, but they are attended entirely by the children of inhabitants of that portion of the agency which lies below ghâts. The more important portion which lies above ghâts is still wholly uneducated. None of the Golgonda mittadars have as yet, in spite of the offer of scholarships, sent their sons to Narsapatam for education, and as far as I can see none of them are likely to do so. The truth is, I think, that if we wish the hill country children to be educated, we must establish schools in the hills. Now that Paderu is a Sub-Magistrate's head-quarters, we might have good school there for Hill Madgole, and the Sub-Magistrate could keep the master up to his work. In the Golgonda hills a school might be started at either Lammasinghi or Peddavalasa, and as both these places are now connected with the plains by good riding roads, the Principal Assistant Agent and the tahsildar of Golgonda could arrange for frequent inspection. The great difficulty of course is to get a schoolmaster who can stand the climate of the hills, but this difficulty will not I hope prove insurmountable.

(1) *General.*—The year was one of profound tranquility, there being no disturbance and no signs of public discontent in any part of the division. The season was favorable, and so far as I can ascertain, in the absence of trustworthy vital statistics, the public health was good. There were no epidemic diseases.

(2) In the Golgonda hills the mittadars are beginning to take advantage of the offer made by you last year of advances of money for the purpose of constructing irrigation works, and Gudem Patavidhi, Darakonda, and Lammasinghi Patavidhi have applied to me for advances, which I think may be given and regarding which I will report fully in another letter. It is eminently desirable that the construction of irrigation works in these hills should be encouraged as much as possible.

(3) Another thing which should be encouraged is the cultivation of wheat. At present some is grown in the neighbourhood of Lammasinghi Antarla, &c., but there is a great deal of land which appears to me to be well suited for wheat which is now waste. The seed used at present is of inferior quality and I therefore propose to get some really good seed and distribute it for experiment. I have spoken to the mittahdars on this subject and several of them have promised to give the new seed a fair trial and if it produces a good crop, to do what they can to extend the area under wheat. Without being too sanguine one may I think look forward to a not far distant day when wheat will be largely exported from these hills.

(4) The mittadar of Lotugedda, whom Mr. MacCartie reported year before last for omitting to live in his mitta, still continues an absentee. He is in other respects a bad mittadar, and I think he ought to be removed and another man appointed. I will send a separate report on this point. The other mittadars are doing very well.

(5) In conclusion I have to say that the time (28 days) which I spent in the agency during the year was I am aware less than it should have been, but that this was so is not my fault. If I consulted my own personal inclinations I should, as you know, spend the greater part of my time in the agency, and it was only because other work kept me in the plains that my stay there last year was so short. I joined the district at the end of April 1885 and had first to do the jamabandi of Sarvasiddhi and Golgonda taluks. As soon as this was over I made a short tour in June (11 days) through Hill Madgole, and came down the Lammasinghi ghât to Narsapatam. Again in July I made a short tour (9 days) in the Golgonda hills visiting Lammasinghi, Antarla and Chintapalli. Again at the end of October I again went for 8 days to Hill Madgole (Minamalur and Paderu). In November I was just about to start on a long tour when you ordered me into Vizagapatam to attend to the head-quarter office during your own absence in the agency. I was kept at Vizagapatam till the Christmas holidays. After this I had to do jamabandi of Sarvasiddhi (which was unusually tedious owing to extensive failure of crop and consequent claims for remission) and when this was all over I was again about to start on an agency tour in February when I was again directed to go to Vizagapatam and remain there during your absence in the agency. I was in Vizagapatam accordingly till the end of the official year.

I have, however, just made a three weeks' tour (22nd April to 12th instant) through the Golgonda hills, in the course of which I have visited all the hill mittahs, and this I hope will to some extent make up for short touring last year.

From E. A. ELWIN, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam district, to the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam, dated Párvatipur, 24th May 1886, No. 265.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the hill tracts of my division.

2. I succeeded Mr. Broadfoot as Senior Assistant Agent about the middle of October last and have therefore been in charge some five and-a-half months out of twelve.

3. *Duration of tours.*—My predecessor spent 31 days in travelling. I was on tour for 104 days, viz., from November 16th up to December 31st, 1885, and again from February 1st, 1886, until the close of the official year. The period of four months lately settled by Government for the Senior Assistant Agent's residence in agency tracts has thus been exceeded by 15 days.

4. *Details of tours.*—All the places of any importance in this division have been visited, with the exception of Ombadola which lies to the extreme north of the Bissemkatak taluk.

5. Mr. Broadfoot travelled in the Rayagada and Bissemkatak taluks and also saw something of Narayanapatnam (Párvatipur hill tracts) and of the Sálúr Agency.

6. In November and December I accompanied the Agent through Rayagada and Singupur to Bissemkatak; thence on to the Kottiya Khond hills in the north of Gunupur by way of Gudari. The Agent then left me and proceeded to Pálkonda while I after a short stay at Gunupur visited the Saura hills halting at Kuttini, Putosingi and Bhimpuram. Returning to Gunupur I spent a few days there and then set out for Párvatipur where I had business relating to the hill jail and other matters to attend to.

7. In February I went to Alamanda and Narayanapatnam; thence by way of Párvatipur to Rayagada where I stayed some time. Starting out again at the beginning of March I visited Paikapad and Bissemkatak and went on to Gunupur through Durgi and Gulliti. While at Gunupur I got orders from the Agent to proceed to Singupur and at once set out for that place *viâ* Kailasakota ghât and Komatlapeta, &c. I stopped at Singupur and in the neighbourhood for ten days, returning to head-quarters by way of Rayagada at the end of March.

8. From the above details it is clear that the touring in this division has been of a very complete nature during the year under report.

9. *The public peace and state of the people.*—I am able to report that there have been no serious disturbances since I took charge. Government have received a full report of what occurred in the Singupur estate in my predecessor's time and there is no need for me to touch on the subject again. Some circumstances that have taken place since my joining the division will be treated of further on.

10. Owing to the system of holding bhets at important places in the hills to which all the neighbouring headmen come and pay their respects to the Government officers, we are pretty well able to find out the real state of the people. The hill people appeared to me to be for the most part flourishing and contented.

11. *Singupur.*—While I was on tour with the Agent bhets were held at Sikarapai and Singupur in the Singupur territory. There were several trivial complaints against the Rani and her manager, but on investigation these proved to be mostly frivolous. Some of the Khonds asked that Gopinath Devu should be sent to rule over them, but when we told them that he was doing well at school at Vizianagrum and was far too young to hold any important position yet, they acknowledged that what we said was quite reasonable.

12. *Khond hills.*—In the Khond hills north of Gunupur bhets were held at Kutraguda, Dangusurada, Chendrapur (for the mittahs of Chendrapur and Rayabijji) and at Gudari for the mittahs of Gudari, Bijjapur and Karlaghati. Three Majjis or village heads of Rayabijji mittah complained that as their Patro had been unduly levying a tithe of their early crops, they had lost all confidence in him and would be in future compelled to pay their sist at Gunupur instead of remitting it through the Patro in the usual manner. A careful inquiry was subsequently made into this complaint which proved to be utterly false.

13. *Saura hills.*—There is an Uriya Patro for the mittah of Bhimpuram and a Soura Dhora over that of Kuttini. The Gomangos or heads of the other villages are entirely independent. It is to be regretted that they are so, for their behaviour during the bhet at Putosingi formed a striking contrast to that of the Gomangos of Bhimpuram who, marshalled in order by their Patro for whom they entertain the greatest respect, appeared to be as well conducted a body of men as one could come across anywhere. These independent Gomangos were clamorous, eager to complain and in many cases indisposed to accept the really very nice cloths I brought for them which were of the same kind as are usually distributed whenever an European officer visits their country. There were many complaints of a revenue character, most of which I disposed of then and there with the help of the Gunupur Amin who had accompanied me.

14. At Kuttini the Dhora of that place complained that the Revenue officials had been raising his rent; he said that he had for many years been paying Rs. 800 and that 2 or 3 years ago he was compelled to pay Rs. 1,600, but that his rent had again been reduced to Rs. 800. He now claimed to have it further reduced to Rs. 600. I pointed out to him that he could not expect this and promised to ask the Gunupur Amin to consider the rent as fixed, Rs 800. With this the Dhora was perfectly satisfied and when he came with his seven village heads to do that at Putosingi he asked my leave to withdraw his complaint.

15. There is no doubt that the Souras are daily advancing in intelligence and civilization. The willingness with which they allow themselves and their children to be vaccinated will be treated of further on. On market day they crowd the streets of Gunupur and make a great noise as they bargain with the Sundi people (liquor sellers) for the vippa spirit to obtain which they frequently mortgage their standing paddy crops.

16. *Rayagada, Bissemkatak and Narayanapatnam.*—I do not remember having received a single complaint of a serious nature from the people in this portion of my charge. The system of renting out the villages followed in Bissemkatak seems to work satisfactorily.

17. *The Singupur Rani.*—It has been our object for some months past to affect a compromise between the Singupur Rani and her suzerain and relative, the Maharajah of Jeypore. In November last the Agent wrote to this lady strongly advising her to come to a settlement with the Maharajah and sent the deputy tahsildar of Rayagada to explain the contents of his letter to her. She was also cautioned not to adopt a son without first consulting the Agent and the Jeypore Maharajah. The Rani who has displayed a very contumacious spirit throughout these negotiations said she could not give an answer for two months as she wanted time to consult with her relations in Ganjam on the subject.

18. In the month of February the Rani, who had taken no steps to follow the Agent's advice, to crown her folly suddenly went to Bhavanipatnam in the Kalahandi territory and there adopted one Debysingho Bakkela, second son of Sri Niladri Singho Bakkela of Chokkali, in the Sumbalpore taluk, and performed his coronation giving him the name of her late husband's father, Mukunda Deo Maharajah. The Rani returned to Singupur on the 3rd March and entered the fort with the adopted boy. Of these circumstances I was informed by the Singupur Manager. Some days after this I heard from the Agent who informed me he had likewise heard of the adoption from the manager and had at the same time received an alarming mahasarnama from the Khonds of Singupur in which they declared themselves unwilling to tolerate the Rani's rule any longer. I was ordered to proceed forthwith to Singupur to find out the grievances of the Khonds and to report whether there was any likelihood of a disturbance. I accordingly set off and held an inquiry in course of which I ascertained that the Khonds although no doubt vexed with the Rani for having adopted a boy without first consulting their wishes were not the originators of the mahazar. From what I heard I have no doubt that it was the work of some intriguing shristi-karanams with whom Singupur is literally infested.

19. I assembled all those Khond village heads by whom the mahazar purported to be written On my telling them that although the last action of the Rani might not be quite to their taste yet they were bound to respect her rule as long as it was countenanced by the Agent, the representative of Government; they all without exception promised me to keep their villages quiet and to pay sist regularly to the estate manager I left the Singupur country after a stay of 10 days fully satisfied that the Khonds were thoroughly loyal to our rule and that unless they should be unduly excited by some foolish action on the Rani's part there was no reason to anticipate their causing us any trouble.

20. *Boundary disputes—Ongara.*—At the bhet held at Putosingi the Sarada Gomong complained that Sirang Bissoyi of Ganjam had issued demand notices to him and others for the rents of certain lands of Ongara which they had cultivated. The question as to which district the village belonged to had come up before Mr. Welsh and Messrs. Joseph and Sewell in January 1885 and they found it belonged to Vizagapatam.

21. As this was by no means the first time there had been complaints against Sirang Bissoyi I suggested that it would be as well if he were to be formally warned by the Ganjam authorities not to give any more trouble to our people. The Agent thereupon requested the Ganjam Agent to point out to the Bissoyi that persons who in spite of warning persist in trying to rake up settled boundary disputes render themselves liable to deportation under the Agency rules. The Gunupur Amin has been told that he should in future treat Ongara as belonging to Jeypore.

22. *Disputes between the Gunupur Amin and Karadango Patro.*—While at Bhimpuram I sent for the Patros of that place and of Karadango and the Gomangos of Sinduba, Udalingi and other boundary villages. I explained to them the boundary line determined by Messrs. Welsh and Joseph and they all expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the settlement arrived at by those officers.

23. On my reporting this to the Agent and informing him that the settlement had not been formally communicated in writing to the parties concerned, I was ordered to inform them officially of the decision arrived at. This I subsequently did and I believe there is not the slightest reason to fear any future breach of the peace with regard to this dispute.

24. *Hospitals.*—Gunupur is the only place in the division that can at present boast a hospital. There the accommodation is quite inadequate, though the building is in a fair state of repair. The Police are treated as in-patients; no others are received. The number of civil out-patients treated during the year 1885-86 was 1,602 as compared with 1,498 in 1884-85. The principal complaints were ague, rheumatism, fever, dysentery, diarrhœa, ulcers and itch.

25. Government in their order passed on the Vizagapatam Agency report for 1883-84 sanctioned the erection of a new hospital at Gunupur. A large piece of unoccupied land at the back of the Sub-Magistrate's house was selected as a site in the time of Mr. Welsh. I have recently had plans and estimates prepared and sent up for a new hospital at Gunupur as well as for hospitals at Rayagada and Bissemkatak which were sanctioned by Government in their order on the last Agency report. Hospitals at the latter two places will be a great boon to the people who at present have no opportunity of resorting to European treatment.

26. *Sanitation.*—The establishment of sweepers at Gunupur has done good work in and around the town. Last December I induced the Jeypore Maharajah's officials and the Komatees each to contribute Rs. 3 a month for the entertainment of two additional sweepers, so that there are now five in all. A conservancy establishment has been sanctioned both for Rayagada and Bissemkatak from April 1st; these places are I fear at present in a very unsanitary condition.

27 *Public Health.*—There was an outbreak of cholera in the Gunupur taluk at Bhimpuram in February 1885 soon after Mr. Welsh left that place. It appears to have been of a severe type, for the Patro told me that he alone lost 18 of his relations by the disease. Many villages were deserted. The same disease broke out in the Sirdarpur mittah of the Khond country. There were about 40 deaths between 24th May and 19th July and again some 10 deaths afterwards. The services of a hospital assistant were engaged with a view to putting a stop to this outbreak which subsided at the end of August. The other taluks seem to have escaped.

28. I have not heard that fever was more than usually prevalent during the year. My Mahout died of hill fever in January a few days after coming into head-quarters from the hills. A clerk and the dresser who accompanied me on my first tour were laid up with fever for a long time.

29. *Vaccination.*—Below is a comparative statement for 1884-85 and 1885-86:—

Taluks.	Number Vaccinated.							
	During 1884-85.				During 1885-86.			
	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Uknown.	Total.	Successful	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.
Gunupur	590	580	2	8	997	972	8	17
Rayagada	569	569	..	..	674	672	..	2
Bissemkatak	450	438	7	5	367	356	8	3
	1,609	1,587	9	13	2,038	2,000	16	3

There was a great increase of successful operations in Gunupur, a fair increase in Rayagada and a light decrease in Bissemkatak. The figures are on the whole very satisfactory.

30. The Soura people willingly submit to the operation of vaccination. I took a vaccinator with me to Putosingi and in few hours had some 50 unprotected persons vaccinated. By that time the vaccinator's stock of lymph was unfortunately exhausted and many women who had brought their children from a distance had to go away disappointed. If these vaccinators would only show a little more zeal and energy in the discharge of their duties, I believe our returns would soon be doubled or even trebled.

31. *Wild Beasts.*—Seven persons are reported to have been killed by tigers during the calendar year 1885 as against 19 during 1884. There were 3 deaths from panthers in 1884 but none in 1885. In each year three tigers were destroyed. The jungles of Rayabijji and Chendrapur which were infested with tigers about a year ago were said to be free from these pests when I visited the Khond hills in November.

32. *Crime.*—Housebreaking, theft in a building and simple theft continue to be the principal offences in the division.

33. The reopening in January 1885 of the Police station at Gulliti, which was closed as useless in 1881, has resulted in a great decrease in the number of cattle thefts in that mittah.

34. *Opium.*—The present system worked smoothly during the year under report. Twelve shops were opened for the sale of opium in these hill tracts. The renter kept a sufficient stock of the drug at each of the three depôts established in this division.

35. *Abkári.*—No remarks.

36. *Roads.—Chollapadam-Rayagada road.*—The traffic over this road from December to the end of March is very large indeed. I was quite astonished at the number of carts I saw going out of Rayagada towards Párvatipur day after day in the month of February. The road seems to be one that should be properly made by the Public Works Department. Meanwhile

we have to do the best we can with the small allotments placed at our disposal. Great improvements have been made this year at a cost of about 2,000 rupees. A good part of the road has been marked out by the digging of side channels. Masonry works in the shape of culverts and road dams have been built and wooden bridges put up where necessary. An entirely new track has been made near the river Nagavali at Chollapadam. The old road ran over very low-lying ground and used to be several feet under water in the rainy season. For a couple of miles outside Rayagada rocks have been buned away and the track properly levelled.

37. *Narayanapatnam road.*—Some Rs. 800 have been spent with fairly good results. The section called Battivalsa ghât has been metalled.

38. *Kurapam-Gunupur road.*—A small sum of Rs. 100 was spent. The Kurapam Zemindar promised Mr. Welsh that he would annually make one mile of road from Kurapam towards Gunupur (see Agency report for 1884-85, page 26). On my reminding the zemindar of his promise he declared that he had no intention of making any agency road and had never told Mr. Welsh he would do so.

39. *Rayagada-Bissemkatak road.*—Rs. 400 were spent in patching up some of the worst parts of the road. The Local Fund roads are made up to the agency boundary in the Sálúr taluk only. Pucka roads should now be made from Kotapam to Chollapadam on the Rayagada side and from Dugge to Kurapam on the Gunupur side. The road from Párvatipur to the Narayanapatnam agency boundary is a mere path running across paddy fields and scarcely passable in wet weather. I hope it will not be long before these three pieces of road are taken in hand by the Local Fund Engineer.

40. *Rest-houses.*—These have been nicely kept up and repaired. New rest-houses have been built at Singupur and at Limmabhadra (the halting place between Gunupur and Gudari) where they were much needed.

41. *Bissemkatak taluk office.*—The work has been satisfactorily performed on contract by Kruttivasa Patnaik, Dewan to the Tat Raja. The total cost was Rs. 2,800. Besides the usual rooms for the Sub-Magistrate and his clerks, the building consists of a treasury, a sub-jail and a capital police station with lockup. The structure is altogether most comfortable and suitable. It was quite finished by the beginning of October, but owing to damp I did not allow the Sub-Magistrate and his establishment to move into it until the new year.

42. *Education.*—I have examined several of the schools in the division.

43. *Gunupur.*—There was a Government middle school here with a normal school attached until November last. As, however, very few boys were forthcoming who cared or could afford to continue their studies up to the third class, it was determined to reduce the standard of the school. It is now known as a Primary school, pupils being taught up to the second class. When I examined the school in December I found the boys, 40 in number, intelligent and well informed. The head master and his assistants evidently take interest in their work.

44. I also examined seven result schools in which besides boys some 30 little girls were reading. I was very pleased with the progress the latter had made in arithmetic. There are altogether 40 result schools in this taluk.

45. *Rayaghada.*—There are but two schools at present in the taluk, both at Rayaghada itself. The master of the Government Primary school receives Rs. 8 a month from Government, his salary being made up to Rs. 20 by the Jeypore Maharaja's annual contribution of Rs. 144. With regard to the pupils and their master, I have the same remarks to pass as on the Primary school at Gunupur. There were 24 names on the books in February 1885 and 36 in the same month of this year. The increase is satisfactory. The pupils are taught up to the second class.

46. The second school is on the result system and consists of 12 boys who are taught up to the second standard. Their knowledge at examination was fair.

47. The school that was established at Singupur by the late Raja of that place has been closed ever since his death in February 1884. I am endeavouring to get a new school started.

48. *Bissemkatak.*—There was a primary school here up to March 1885 which was supported by the Tat Raja. The masters' salary was Rs. 30 a month. The school is said to have collapsed owing to the apathy of the inhabitants who did not care to get their children educated. I impressed on the Raja the necessity of establishing a new school in the place. He promised to do his best, but added that he had not much hope of success.

49. At Durgi there is a small Uriya school on the result system. There were 16 boys on the books when I visited the school in March. The master, a respectable old man, told me he had got Rs. 87½ as result grant at the recent examination of his school.

This is the only school in the Bissemkatak taluk, the schools at Jagdalpore and Ombadola having come to grief within a few months of their opening.

50. *Narayanapatnam.*—The result schools where boys are taught up to the third standard is supported by the Jeypore Maharaja who pays the master Rs. 15 a month. When examined by Mr. Welsh at the beginning of 1884 it consisted of 50 boys, but I regret to say that when I examined it in February last, there were but 25 names on the books. The ignorance displayed by the pupils was quite surprising. I cannot but attribute this unsatisfactory state of things to the carelessness of the master who appeared to be scarcely more intelligent than his pupils. As

the school has been steadily decreasing in numbers ever since this master was appointed, I have recommended his dismissal and the appointment of a man I believe to be more suitable for the post. The Superintendent of Hill schools has never visited this school.

51. There is, I think, no doubt that there should be two Hill School Superintendents, one for the Special Assistant's division and one for this. At present it is extremely difficult to ascertain the Superintendent's whereabouts and to get any information whatever out of him. This is not altogether his fault, for his range extending as it does from the north of Bissemkatak to Malcangiri is far too large for any one man to attend to properly.

52. *Officials.*—Kesanapalli Narasimha Rao seems to take much interest in road making and has done useful work in this respect since he came to Párvatipur.

53. The Agency Sub-Magistrates have on the whole performed their duties satisfactorily throughout the year.

54. We are about to lose Datla Tirupati Raj from Gunupur as he will be obliged to retire in May on attaining the age of 55.

55. *Season and Crops.*—The rainfall registered at Rayaghada during 1885-86 was 46·5 inches as compared with 36·725 inches in 1884-85

The rain gauge at Gunupur was under repairs for some months and none has yet been supplied for Bissemkatak, so I am unable to give figures for all the taluks.

56. During my November and December tour I noticed that the mustard and tobacco crops were very fine. Paddy is said to have been fair, but gingelly, horse-gram, green-gram and ragy were poor.

CRIMINAL Statistics for 1885-86.

Name of court.	Number of cases.					Number of persons.						Remarks.
	Pending from last year.	Received during the year.	Total.	Disposed of.	Still pending.	Pending from last year.	Received during the year.	Total.	Convicted.	Otherwise.	Total.	Still pending.	
Original.	..	6	6	6	..	..	17	17	17	..	17	..	
Appeal.													
Senior Assistant Agent's.	..	5	5	5	..	..	5	5	3	2	5	..	Reversed on appeal.

Court.	Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer or reference.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
Original, 1885-86.								
Senior Assistant Agent's ..	2	6	..	8	5	1	6	2
Appeals, 1885-86.								
Senior Assistant Agent's ..	..	8	..	8	5	..	5	3

From F. E. K. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Special Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam, to the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, dated Pottingi, 26th April 1886, No. 391.

I have the honor to submit my tour report for year 1885-86.

Tour.—A few days before the end of last official year I joined my appointment at Koraput and have now been in charge of Jeypore for over a year. In April I made a fortnight tour through Jeypore taluk and in May a tour on the higher plateau in Koraput and Pottingi taluks. In June I spent three weeks in the south part of Jeypore taluk and early in July I left Koraput for Vizagapatam. July and August were spent at Waltair and at the beginning of September I returned to Jeypore in consequence of the inquiry into Bustar affairs and September and October were spent on partly in Bustar and partly in the border.

In November and December I made a six weeks' tour through Malcangiri returning to Koraput at Christmas.

In January I spent a month in Nowrangapur and Ommerkote taluks and when returning met the Commissioner of Chattishghur and Mr. Priest, Political Agent, Kalahandi, on their way through Jeypore.

Learning from them that an Assistant Commissioner was on his way from Raipur to meet me to settle a boundary dispute on the north of Ommerkote taluk, I turned back and accompanied Mr. Chisholm as far as Bhavanipatnam.

Thence I returned west back into Jeypore district and reached the place of dispute on the Tél river, nearly a fortnight before the Assistant Commissioner joined me.

After settling the boundary dispute, I returned to Jeypore, where I met the Agent and accompanied him on a fortnight's tour through Jeypore and Koraput taluks.

55 days in Vizagapatam.
62 Koraput.
248 Camp.
365

I have thus spent 248 days or eight months out of the year in camp.

2. The most important event of the year was the investigation into the charges brought by the Jeypore police against the Bustar Raj of performing human sacrifices at Dantawar and elsewhere and of kidnapping victims for this purpose from Jeypore.

The facts have been fully reported to Government and it would be out of place for me to discuss the evidence here. I shall confine myself to recording a brief statement of the course of events.

During the months of May and June a belief was prevalent in the Ommerkote taluk that gangs of kidnappers from Bustar were abroad endeavouring to procure victims for sacrifices to be held the following Dussara at Dantawar and three cases were reported to the police of alleged attempt to capture persons in Ommerkote taluk presumably for this object.

In July suspicions were further aroused by the sudden and mysterious disappearance within a mile or so of Nowrangapur village of a boy employed as abkári peon in the Sub-Magistrate's office.

Application was then made to the Central Province Government for assistance in the inquiry and Surdar Ratna Sing, Police Superintendent, was despatched from Raipur to co-operate with the Jeypore police in the investigation.

Meanwhile, in August additional reports were received professing to give details as to capture and sacrifice of victims in Bustar, and upon further and more urgent representations the Central Province Government directed Mr. Priest, Political Agent, Kalahandi, to proceed to Bustar and in communication with Jeypore fully investigate the several charges. Under the orders of the Agent I left Vizagapatam for Jeypore in the beginning of September and reached the Bustar borders with Mr. Young just in time to meet Mr. Priest on his way from Kalahandi.

Mr. Young at once proceeded to put the evidence he had collected before Mr. Priest and we then undertook together a tour through Bustar territory with a body of Jeypore and Kalahandi police with a view to test the evidence and, if possible, recover any victims that might be concealed.

The result of this tour though not confirming altogether the truth of the previous reports induced the Political Agent, Kalahandi, to believe that there were sufficient grounds for continuing the inquiry, and he left us to make further investigation at Dantawar, the headquarters of the alleged sacrifices. Mr. Priest rejoined us at the end of October at Kotapad having during his absence collected a large quantity of evidence which he considered strong enough to justify the arrest of the jiah or head priest of Dantawar and the recommendation that the Bustar Rajah should be temporarily removed.

After receiving at Kotapad such prisoners as were in the custody of the Jeypore police, Mr. Priest returned to Bustar, and with the subsequent course of events the Jeypore officials had no direct connection. Mr. Priest continued his inquiries during the following two months under orders of the Central Province Government. The Bustar Raja was removed from Jagdalpore to Raipur and out of the mass of evidence collected, Mr. Priest considered the evidence in one case in which an inhabitant of Bustar by name Jondie was alleged to have been sacrificed under orders of the jiah in 1883, sufficiently conclusive to warrant the prosecution of the jiah on a charge of murder. The case was placed by Mr. Priest before a Native Magistrate and the jiah was committed to the Court of the Commissioner of Chattishghur. In January the Commissioner proceeded on tour to Bustar and tried the case. When the case came on all the prisoners and witnesses (I understand) retracted their previous statements and the case was thrown out by the Commissioner and all the prisoners under arrest were released. After the termination of the sessions case, Mr. Priest reviewed all the evidence collected in the four months' inquiry in a most minute and careful report and though naturally his view of the case was weakened by the failure of the sessions case against the jiah, he concluded by holding that "there were and are ample grounds for the suspicions entertained by the Jeypore officials that kidnapping for the sacrificial purposes went on in Bustar.

The Commissioner did not however follow Mr. Priest in his conclusions further than to allow that while entertaining no theory as to the origin of the case, he thought there might be grounds for the suspicions entertained. The case is now before the Government of India and I shall leave it to next year's report to record the conclusion of this inquiry.

3. To turn to the more prosaic details of administration I take roads first.

Appendix A shows the expenditure on roads during this year compared with last year.

1. *Pottingi to Koraput.*—The traffic over this road, the feeder of the district, continued to increase largely this year and during the harvest the string of bandies passing was continuous. Our allotment of Rs. 750 or Rs. 25 a mile was miserably inadequate and complaints of the state of

the roads were loud. With this pittance it was almost impossible to keep even the bridges in order. This year we have a more liberal allowance of Rs. 1,700 and the Department of Public Works are now beginning their work in this section, but as I understand the new road will be parrellel to the present one, we shall have to keep up old road for some time to come.

2. *Koraput to Nowrangapur.*—The allotment, and we somewhat exceeded it, was not sufficient with the increased traffic to keep this road in order. After the rains the ghât was put into fair order, but towards Nowrangapur work was not completed. A ferry raft for the Indravati which was proposed last year is much required as this river at present acts as a break in the current of traffic into Ommerkote taluk.

3. *Koraput to Jeypore.*—The road is good till the bottom of the ghât. If the road is to be permanently improved a new trace must be taken on the ghât.

4. *Jeypore to Borigummah.*—The road is in fair order.

5. *Borigummah to Kotapad.*—This very important road is fairly good, but requires a good deal of attention. When Bustar affairs are settled, Mr. Priest proposes to assist us in extending the road Kotapad with Jagdalpore.

6. *Jeypore to Mote.*—A large sum was spent in clearing the old road between Malcangiri and Mote. The road is a good fair weather road, but few trading bandies have penetrated into Malcangiri. What is wanted is to open the entrance to Malcangiri by improving the Kollab crossing and the ghât down into Malcangiri. At present I understand the trade of Malcangiri almost exclusively goes now to the river at Mote instead of coming north in Jeypore.

7. *Nowrangapur to Raighur.*—This road has been carried on to some six miles beyond Dabugam and as far as it goes is good and well bridged. With this year's allotment I propose to carry on the road as far as I can beyond Ommerkote. The road will run into the Central Province eventually and I can understand from Mr. Chisholm that a road is being carried down in the Central Provinces towards Raighur. The two will eventually join.

8. There is a road from Pappadahandi over the Ampani ghât into Kalahandi which I should like to see brought into the budget The road has been made from time to time for the Central Provinces Commissioner on tour. The greater part of the ghât at Ampani and thence to Bhavanipatnam is kept up by Kalahandi estate and is in good order. I saw a large number of bandies in Kalahandi as I passed that had come round through Jeypore into Kalahandi by this road from the plains. The road was repaired this year by village labor, but it should, I think, be made permanent on our side.

Before leaving roads I must note that the Jeypore budget last year suffered heavily from curtailment. The allotment was cut down far from 18,650 to 14,070, out of which only some Rs. 8,000 were available for over 300 miles of road.

4. *Education.*—During the year the Jeypore schools were transferred from the Educational Department to the agency. At the request of the Agent, I submitted a scheme on the lines of the Ganjam agency of which the chief points were—

(1) To transfer the payment and appointment of masters from the Maharaja to Government so that complete control may be in the hands of the Agent.

(2) To increase the salaries and number of masters, abolish purely result schools and build school-houses.

(3) Separate the Special Assistant and Senior Assistant divisions giving each officer a separate Superintendent. The scheme will undoubtedly cost a good deal, but it must be remembered that hitherto Government have spent nothing but a small result grant upon education in the agency which providing in a large yearly grant in Ganjam. The schools in my division have been kept up either by the Maharaja or by private persons. I have examined most of the schools and found the Jeypore school better than I expected. I have no doubt that there will be a speedy improvement as soon as the scheme gets into working order.

5. *Law and Justice—(Criminal, Appendix B).*—I am glad to be able to say that complaints of cattle theft have decreased probably owing to the heavier sentences that have been inflicted for the last two years. The only charge of Sub-Magistrates was at Koraput, where a new Sub-Magistrate was appointed in place of the previous man removed for unsatisfactory conduct. The present Koraput Sub-Magistrate is an active and intelligent man and has given me satisfaction. I cannot say the same for the Nowrangapur Deputy Tahsildar whom I have had to report during the year.

Jails.—The Jeypore sub-jail has been almost completed this year. The amount required to finish it had to be found out of the other allotment as it was not included in the budget for last year.

The Pottingi sub-jail will have to be finished out of this year's grant and I have given orders to try and put the roof on before the next rains.

For the Koraput Hill jail some measures are urgently required. The state of the jail was noticed by the Agent last year and has formed the subject of another report this year.

Last year an estimate was submitted for about Rs. 4,460 for alterations and repairs to the jail, but being referred to the Public Works Department it came back increased to Rs. 12,920.

I do not think it any use to spend so large a sum in tinkering so wretched a building. A new jail will have to be built eventually.

For the greater part of the year I had to accommodate twice the number of the prisoners the jail ought to hold. The Párvatipur jail appears to be almost always full and only three or four times in the year relieved us of part of our excess. The guard will have to be permanently increased as well as the accommodation.

A new cutcherry and sub-jail ought at once to be built at Koraput for the Sub-Magistrate. The present buildings form part of the hill jail block and are in as miserable a condition as the rest. In the monsoon the cutcherry is unfit to sit in.

Civil.—The number of cases disposed of are shown in appendix C.

I cannot say the civil work is satisfactory. The Jeypore and Koraput Sub-Magistrates have been made munsifs this year to relieve me of the petty bazaar suits which used to form a large portion of the cases in this court and which from the constant absence on tour of my office used to remain pending till return to headquarters. But the settlement of civil suits with a court so continually on tour over so great a distance is very difficult without causing great hardship to the parties and witnesses by summoning them far from their houses and making them follow the court.

Time after time I have fixed dates with a view to the convenience of the parties and found that circumstances have caused an alteration in my tour and that the parties have returned home.

The difficulty in getting a punchayet to assemble in the cutcherry limits was noticed last year.

It is not easy to get the parties to court together, but when they come the headmen do not come with them, and I should prefer deciding the case myself to referring it to a punchayet consisting of the on-hangers of the court, while to send for the headmen would entail a further adjournment.

I have tried to settle the suits by getting the parties to name a punchayet in their village and referring the decisions to them in writing and deciding according to their answer, but have not found it answer well. The parties return to court full of complaints that justice was not done them and the punchayetdars are rarely unanimous. After all 99 out of 100 civil disputes are settled by headmen and punchayets in the villages without recourse to any court and I would not encourage parties to come to civil courts at all. Any increased facility for coming to court will most certainly undermine the settlement of disputes by punchayet.

Disputes as to boundaries of villages, payment of kist and cultivation of land are much more satisfactorily settled by an agency order after a full inquiry than by a general suit.

A word as to the Rent Recovery Act: we have not yet received the final decision of Government promised in last year orders.

During the year I have refused to enforce the Act whatever may be the legal aspect of the case. I do not see what protection the villagers will have against forceable seizure of the cattle improperly for alleged arrears. The first notice that would reach the court of the attachment would probably be a police report of a serious disturbance, while the power to bring a summary suit for damages against the padal or renter would on the hills at least be no check whatever. Any speedy inquiry in my court owing to distance would be ordinarily impossible.

The only times when the Act has been used in Jeypore it has been worked improperly by a rival renter to enforce his claim and what chance has a ryot between two renters, both attaching his property on their own responsibility.

6. *Opium and Abkári.*—The statements in the appendix show the demand and collection. I have nothing to remark thereon.

7. *Medical.*—Two dispensaries have been sanctioned this year for Jeypore and Nowrangapur and plans are being prepared for the buildings. At Jeypore a temporary building is being put up to accommodate the apothecary till the proper quarters are erected, and the apothecary might be sent at once. I hope eventually to get dispensaries at Malcangiri and Ommerkote.

The vaccination returns (appendix E) show a decrease. Malcangiri as usual heads the list. Thanks to the old Sub-Magistrate whose efforts in the encouragements of vaccination have been several times brought to the notice of Government.

From what I have seen in the villages, I think Jeypore is fairly well on in vaccination, but more might be done if the vaccinators made a point of accompanying the Government officer on tour. I have written several times about this and the District Surgeon has given strict orders on the point.

The supply of medicines for the use of the Sub-Magistrates has during the year been very irregular. The Pottingi Sub-Magistrate was for some months without the most necessary of medicines, quinine. All my Sub-Magistrates should, I think, be provided with a supply of the common medicine at fixed times, say twice a year, to avoid the delay in getting a special indent passed.

Public Health.—Cholera which was prevailing on through plains last year found its way on to the hills and lingered on in some of the villages for some months. It disappeared in October.

8. *Destruction of Wild Beasts.*—There is a most satisfactory decrease in the number of persons killed by tigers and a corresponding increase in tigers killed and rewards paid.

Six man eaters (for which additional rewards were paid) were killed. A large proportion were killed by the police who deserve credit. Several tigers were killed by what the reports term "a machine of carbines" set over the kill. The increase in cattle killed merely indicates that the reports are more accurate.

9. *Tappal.*—The new post office at Koraput has been almost completed. The Koraput Post Master was convicted by the Agent of embezzling a large sum of money received for money orders. It is to be hoped that in future the post will be better paid and more under supervision. A post office was opend in Jeypore at the beginning of the year and has proved very useful.

The Agent has applied for extension of the service to Kotapad and Nowrangapur. Mr. Priest with whom I spoke on the subject promises to connect Nowrangapur and Kotapad with his dawk from Bhavanipatnam to Jagdalpore which now runs near Nowrangapur. This will give us a very much needed line of communication with the adjacent districts in the Central Provinces.

10. *Boundary Disputes.*—The dispute on the Tél river between some Jeypore and Nowrangapur ryots (Central Provinces) mentioned before cropped up a year ago. Mr. Fox Strangways, Assistant Commissioner, came down from Raighur and met me at the place of dispute and we went over the land and examined the witness together. The dispute was a very trivial one; we agreed as to our decisions and reports were sent by each of us to our respective chiefs.

Another dispute between Jeypore and Kasipore was brought to my notice and Mr. Priest has promised to meet the Jeypore officer in May on the spot to settle it.

11. *Establishment.*—During the year my head clerk was appointed Sub-Magistrate at Paderu and my second clerk was promoted to head clerk. The post of second clerk is not yet filled up.

I have already addressed you separately on a proposal to increase the pay of my office by granting a hill allowance. Last year you remarked that my office was inefficient, but considering the difficulty in getting any good man to serve in these hills from the un healthiness of the district, I cannot hope to improve it, while the pay is less than in the office of the Senior Assistant in the plains and less even than in the office of the police at Koraput.

12. *Miscellaneous Complaints.*—The year has been very free from any important complaints. During the year when in Malcangiri the constables complained of the difficulty in following the Government order on the subject of purchasing rice stating that though they had paid their money to the Nigaman, no rice was supplied to them. A special report was sent by me on this point. No complaints were made against the Malcangiri Nigaman who was newly put in last year.

13. Money prices have been steadily rising and there can be no doubt that the Jeypore ryots are benefiting greatly by the opening up of the country and as far as I have seen they appear to be fairly prosperous and contended.

14. In conclusion, I must apologise for the length of my report. Having only joined last March, I had no opportunity of having my say last year upon the many matters of importance in the district.

A.

COMPARATIVE Statement showing the Expenditure during the year 1885-86.

No.	Name of work.	Expenditure, 1884-85.	Expenditure, 1885-86.
	Roads.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1	Nowrangapur to Raighur	3,000 0 0	2,501 11 6
2	Koraput to Pottingi	1,231 11 4	690 0 0
3	Koraput to Nowrangapur	2,053 1 6	1,956 3 6
4	Koraput to Jeypore	1,013 5 0	587 0 2
5	Jeypore to Mote	2,391 0 0	2,222 14 11
6	Malcangiri to Kondakamberu	1,057 1 6	..
7	Borigummah to Kotapad	1,000 0 0	693 9 0
8	Turner's Ghât	1,200 0 0	1,195 1 3
9	Jeypore to Borigummah	400 0 0	600 3 6
	Buildings.		
10	Travellers' bungalow and chattram at Koraput ..	813 10 10	185 7 2
11	Rest-houses	1,496 0 0	306 8 0
12	Government buildings at Koraput	1,307 4 3	483 15 8
13	Sub-jail, Jeypore	1,769 12 4	2,000 0 0
14	Sanitary works at Koraput	475 1 3	549 9 5
15	Road from Ommerkote to Kalahandi frontier ..	700 0 0	..
	Total ..	19,908 0 0	13,972 3 6

B.

STATEMENT showing the Cases filed and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Magistrate and Agent ..	3	71	..	74	73	..	73	1

C.

STATEMENT showing the Civil Suits instituted and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Suits.							
	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Agent	35	65	..	100	51	18	69	31

D.

STATEMENT showing the Appeals filed and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Appeals.							
	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Magistrate and Agent ..	1	13	..	14	13	..	13	1

E.

STATEMENT showing the Vaccination carried out in my Division during the year 1885-86.

Taluk.	Number vaccinated during the year 1884-85.					Number vaccinated during the year 1885-86.						
	Total number of vaccinators employed.	Number vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total number of vaccinators employed.	Number vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Increase.	Decrease.
Koraput	5	1,214	1,190	..	24	5	1,104	1,023	37	44	..	110
Jeypore	2	759	742	..	17	2	717	711	1	5	..	42
Pottingi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nowrangapur	3	883	846	..	37	3	820	811	6	3	..	63
Malcangiri	2	1,895	1,832	..	63	2	1,207	1,183	8	16	..	688
Total ..	12	4,751	4,610	..	141	12	3,848	3,728	52	68	..	903

F.

STATEMENT showing the Animals killed by Wild Beasts and the Amount of Reward paid for them.

Division.	Animals killed by				Amount of reward paid for			
	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Hyænas.	Bears.	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Hyænas.	Bears.
					RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Special Assistant Agent's Division ..	254	71	..	..	4,000	2,800	15	70

G.

ABSTRACT Statement of Wild Animals killed, Rewards distributed and Loss of Life during the year 1885-86.

Years.	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Bears.	Hyænas.	Reward paid.	Loss of life.	
						Men.	Cattle.
					RS.		
1885-86	35	112	10	3	6,885	96	325

Appendix to Agent's Report.

EXTRACT from the Geological Sketch of the Vizagapatam District by W. KING, Esq., B.A., D. Sc., Superintendent, Geological Survey of India.

Gneisses of the Galikonda Hill Tract.—An opportunity, under the guidance of Mr. H. G. Turner, C.S., the Collector and Agent of the district, was afforded me of visiting this region and of thus making a traverse as far as the verge of the Jeypore territory, over a considerable thickness of gneisses which by their lie appear to be subjacent to, or older than, any of the bands or subdivisions already described. They are, at any rate, all dipping to the east-south-eastward: at first on the skirts of the hills about Bodara and thence westwards to the first ascent (1,000 feet) below Raivalsa, at high angles, and then at lower and lower inclinations until, in Devadimanda (over 5,000 feet), the highest station of the Galikonda ridge, they are lying so low as 30°. The rocks are still garnetiferous, but not nearly to such an extent as is the case with those already described; while they are more decidedly quartzo-felspathic in their constitution and not so schistose though still well-bedded and laminated, and their colors are of correspondingly lighter shades. They must, for the present, be considered as belonging to the Vizagapatam series, being still, on the whole, markedly different from the more massive and less foliated and older-looking gneisses of Southern India. The main ridge beds, however, run up at the low angle of dip given above, and give a steep and high craggy face looking out over the lower upland of Jeypore to the west, thus exhibiting a break in the surface contour which may arise from a change in the character, and even the relative age, of the crystallines to the westward. Galikonda is the proposed hill resort of Vizianagrum, but as yet it has only received very slight attention in that way, partly from its distance, some 45 miles westward, and from want of convenient accessibility. The old Raivalsa track in the direction of Jeypore passes over a lofty (over 4,200 feet) saddle, a short distance north of the highest point of the Galikonda ridge, after which it descends again rather rapidly to a lower upland: this is now being made by slow degrees fit for cart traffic. Long ago, some enterprising official built a bungalow and planted a garden of various fruit-trees high up on the eastern slopes, but the garden only now remains the living and luxuriant result of that experiment. At a much lower elevation, about 3,000 feet and about half-way up the ghât, an experimental plantation for coffee, tea, cinchona, and other products has been started under the local Government, with, I think, fair prospects of success.

Crystalline Limestone Bands.—A very interesting occurrence in the gneisses of the hill tract is a series of apparently isolated outcrops of crystalline limestone, which, irrespective of the industrial value they may come to possess, are pierced by swallow-holes or caverns, one of which is of considerable extent and magnificence. The southernmost outcrop within the range of our traverse is on the low saddle above the village of Nilgalgunta, six miles south-east of Devadimanda hill. There is a small cave here, lined with travertine but without any stalactites or stalagmites: other recesses are said to exist which are now blocked up. The limestone is of grey and dark-green or nearly black colours, the latter arising from a strong admixture of hornblendic minerals, generally coarsely saccharine, in thick beds having a high dip to east-south-east, with an exposed aggregate thickness of about thirty yards. Some six miles to the north-northeast, a short distance beyond the village of Borra, a much more important outcrop forms a low hill, through which the village stream passes by a series of swallow-holes to the Peddagunda river. Formerly the subterranean channel was free, but within the last few years it became choked up, and, as a consequence, a small lake or tarn has been formed behind the southern end or headland of the limestone hill, the flooded waters of which have in time cut a temporary off-flow on its western side. Half-way over the hill, going northwards, there is an opening to a cavernous shaft, down which one can look into dim depths, and from which issues the murmur of running water. A short distance further on, the path reaches the edge of the northern face of the hill, where it overhangs a deep ravine, in which the village stream again comes to light about 300 feet below. The hill thus traversed by a series of swallow-holes is made up, as far as outcrop shows, of about 500 feet in thickness of generally massive and pale-coloured granular crystalline limestone, some beds of which, in their fineness of texture and pure colour, compare favorably with Carara marble; though, as a rule, the rock is more coarsely crystallized and of grey or dirty-white colours, weathering dark or nearly black. The dip is high, 50° or 60° or even more, to the eastward with a N.N.E.—S.S.W. strike. As far as I could see, the band is lenticular, thinning out rather suddenly to the southward.

Borra Cave.—About 50 feet below the northern brow, a large but low entrance leads into a deep and lofty cavern having a rude, dome-like roof opening to the sky above by the orifice already mentioned Here, in fact, is a huge natural cave temple, bearing a rugged resemblance to the Pantheon at Rome, though, as yet, it contains only one god, Priapus,* represented by a fragment of stalactite. The roof is crossed or irregularly ribbed with thick-short, curtain-like masses of stalactitic deposit, only one or two of which towards the sides of the cavern, are connected with the thickly-grouped and large mammilated mounds of stalagmite forming the floor. The latter slopes rapidly down on the eastern

* Presumably so, at least, for the pillar of travertine is to all appearance a sort of lingum, and there was no authoritative priest or devotee at hand to settle the question.

side to a narrow cleft or rift, along which the waters from the stream above pursue their still hidden course, this rift being generally in a plane of bedding. Further cavernous recesses are seen to occur upwards towards the dammed-up tarn, while on the other side, the existence of yet lower caverns is evidenced by gleams of light pouring in from the deep ravine in front to the depths of the side rift. We were only able to note the features of this great cave in a very rapid way. The single stalactite (6 feet long and 4 to 8 inches in diameter) has been appropriated for the devotional service noted above, the cave being the resort at certain seasons of many pilgrims. There is one other pillar in the shape of a small stalagmite, 3 feet high and 8 inches in diameter, which is slowly rising from the floor by deposition from the drops falling at long intervals from the roof. The interior of the cavern is coated over with travertine—a dull, cream-white, compact, semi-crystalline rock, the surface sparkling a little owing to minute sparry facets. The stalactitic festoons are beautifully fluted and wrinkled, while the huge fungoid and coralloid mounds of stalagmite are wrinkled in little waves of terracing, the mounds themselves being made up of successive shells with irregular cavities between.

A good deal of rubbish, the sweepings from the numerous pilgrim gatherings, lies collected among the stalagmitic mounds, forming an uneven earth floor, but with no thickness; and this appears to be the only material in which any remains could occur otherwise than in the substance of the mounds themselves.

On a subsequent visit, as I am informed by him, Mr. Turner ascertained, notwithstanding that we were told to the contrary by the villagers, that this band of limestones is continued to the northward, and that it even bars the passage of the Peddagunda river itself by a wall some 20 or 30 yards wide, which is pierced by a cavernous channel having two apertures on the upside, each 40 feet high, one above the other, but not in a straight line. Further in, the hollow is only about 3 or 4 feet above the level of the water, and through it, Mr. Turner could, by creeping in as far as possible and bending down, just see the light coming in at the orifice on the down side. There is no particular show of travertine in this swallow-hole.

From all Mr. Turner could gather by inquiry—and curiously enough the villagers appear very reserved on the subject—there appear to be other caves or outcrops of limestone both in this neighbourhood of Borra and yet further eastward at the foot of the hills. This Borra band and that reported to the eastward would be, if continued northwards in the line of strike held by the gneisses, somewhat in the direction of other reported outcrops of calcareous rocks in the Salúr zemindari, and it is not improbable that the ultimate tracing out of them, as well as of a yet further outcrop (to be noticed immediately) to the north of Vizianagrum, may bring the Galikonda gneisses into a closer relation with the Kailassa band than my traverse of them has led me to suppose is the case.

From the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam, dated 19th November 1886, No. 742.

Order—dated 23rd December 1886, No. 3387, Judicial.

The first of the foregoing papers is the annual report on the administration of the Agency tracts of the Vizagapatam district, which His Excellency the Governor in Council will now proceed to review.

2. *Touring.*—The amount of touring done by the Agency officers is very satisfactory; Mr. Wedderburn was especially active, having spent no less than 248 days in camp. His Excellency in Council notices with much pleasure the high terms in which Mr. Turner speaks of Messrs. Power and Elwin.

3. *Communications.*—The Agent devotes much of his report to the question of roads, and urges the adoption of a more liberal policy towards the Agency in the matter of funds for this purpose. The Government have always recognised the importance of the development of communications in these backward tracts, and they have made considerable yearly grants from Provincial funds for the construction and maintenance of roads and buildings. The cost of the Pottingi Ghât road was Rs. 4,56,581,* and sanction has already been accorded to the construction by the Public Works Department of a first-class road from Pottingi to Koraput, to be eventually extended to the Central Provinces' frontier.† The Government do not think, therefore, that there has been any want of liberality in the treatment of the Agency tracts. It must be remembered that in other districts the cost of the construction and maintenance of communications is met from special funds raised locally, assistance being given from Provincial funds only in exceptional circumstances; and that the Agency yields to Government in direct revenue a comparatively trifling sum. Upon a consideration of these facts, the Government are of opinion that, while the present policy of steady progress in the matter of opening new roads should be maintained, it would be unfair to other portions of the presidency to sanction the large expenditure contemplated by Mr. Turner. In the present financial position, the utmost that can be hoped for is that Government may be able to maintain expenditure on the present scale.

* *Vide* G.O., dated 10th October 1885, No. 2365 W., Public Works Department, recorded in Judicial Department G.O., dated 26th October 1885, No. 1429.

† *Vide* Government Order quoted above, and G.O., dated 4th January 1886, No. 8 W., Public Works Department, recorded in Judicial Department G.O., dated 19th January 1886, Mis. No. 151.

4. The Government do not possess such full information as is desirable regarding the roads in the Vizagapatam Agency. Mr. Turner will therefore be requested to submit a special report on the subject. The report should show the number and mileage of existing roads and the amount spent upon them during the last five years. It should also contain a full description of the roads which Mr. Turner proposes to open, their mileage, and a rough estimate of their cost. A map should be furnished, and in this all ghâts and rivers should be clearly marked. Full particulars regarding the length of ghât roads and the necessity for bridging rivers should be given in the body of the report. Mr. Turner should also consider whether the yearly allotment could not be more effectively utilised if work were more concentrated. In this way each road in turn could be put into thoroughly good order; the subsequent cost of maintenance would probably be less than the sum now expended on this account, while in place of many indifferent roads there would be a few good ones, and the number of these would be gradually increasing.

5. *Buildings.*—Turning now to the question of buildings, the Government observe that the Jeypore sub-jail and cutcherry was not completed at the close of the year, although so far back as 1884 nothing remained to be done but to put on the roof.* The Government trust that the work is now finished. The Bissemkatak taluk office was completed, and appears to be a satisfactory building.

* Paragraph 22 of G.O., dated 13th October 1884, No. 2619, Judicial.

6. *Education.*—The education of the only son of the Maharaja of Jeypore by an English tutor has at length been arranged for, and the tutor, Mr. Marsh, was to have entered on his duties in November. The general question of education in the Agency tracts was dealt with in G.O., dated 10th June 1886, No. 354, Educational. The scheme then sanctioned contained no provision for schools in the Golgonda or Paderu taluks, the backward educational condition of which is now brought to notice by the Principal Assistant Agent. This matter should receive the further attention of the Agent.

7. *Law and Crime.*—The number of civil suits instituted in the Agency Courts during the year was 316, the number pending from the previous year being 110. Of this number only 271 were disposed of, the number pending at the end of the year being 152. The above figures are not satisfactory, and special efforts should be made to ensure the more speedy disposal of cases. The arrears before the munsifs of Rayaghada and Jeypore are specially heavy. Now that the Koraput and Jeypore sub-magistrates have been given civil powers, the delays caused by the Special Assistant Agent being so constantly on tour should no longer occur.

Two appeals were pending and ten were instituted during the year. Of these, nine were disposed of.

8. The outturn of criminal work is more satisfactory. One thousand two hundred and twelve cases were instituted during the year, and 42 were pending from the previous year. These were all disposed of except 19. The institutions in the

previous year numbered 1,313. Among the committals to the Agent's Court were 9 cases of murder and 10 of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The number of prisoners involved in these cases was 34, of whom 18 were convicted and 15 discharged, the remaining one being still under trial. It is satisfactory to observe that the crime of cattle-theft has begun to decrease, "owing," it is said, "to the heavier sentences that have been inflicted during the last two years." The cases of alleged kidnapping of Jeypore people by men from Bastar have been dealt with in separate papers.

There were no serious disturbances of the public peace during the year.

9. *Wild Animals.*—In the Special Assistant Agent's division, 96 persons were killed by wild animals. Figures for the previous year are not available, but the number of deaths in the calendar year 1883 was 234. The number of persons killed in the other divisions was 8. The number of tigers destroyed in the whole of the Agency tracts was 54, as against 58 in the previous year. Of this number, 7 were man-cating tigers. The figures are satisfactory. In his next report the Agent should give a comparative statement showing the number of tigers, panthers, &c., destroyed in each of the previous five years, as also the number of persons killed by wild animals and the amount of rewards paid.

10. *Miscellaneous.*—The administration of the Opium and Abkári revenue calls for no remarks. The vaccination figures of the Senior Assistant Agent's division show an improvement, but there was a decrease in the number of vaccinations in that of the Special Assistant. No figures are given by the Principal Assistant. It is not stated whether any attempt is made to check the returns submitted by the vaccinators. This should be done, and the vaccinators should certainly accompany the Agent and his Assistants when on tour. The cost per case should in future be given, and the number of vaccinations per man employed.

11. The attention of the Accountant-General will be drawn to the alleged deficiency of copper coinage in Jeypore. Mr. Turner's general remarks on coinage are out of place in a report on the Agency tracts. He should, however, explain what he means by saying that the copper coin is debased.

12. The action taken by the Agent in connection with the amins of Rayaghada and Gunupur is approved. The Government trust that they have been replaced by men whose probity can be relied upon. The Agent should recommend the Maharaja to introduce a system of accounts that would ensure the speedy detection of frauds upon his revenues.

13. The payment of the tour expenses, amounting to Rs. 512-15-7, is sanctioned.

14. The Superintendent of Survey will be directed to state whether he can furnish a map of the Agency tracts. His attention will be drawn to paragraph 9 of G.O., dated 13th October 1884, No. 2619, Judicial, and paragraph 16 of G.O., dated 20th October 1885, No. 2822, Judicial.

15. Dr. William King's note is interesting, and will be printed as an appendix to the report.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam.
" " Ganjam.
" Government Agent, Godávari.
" Revenue Department.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Inspector-General of Police.
" Public Works Department.
" Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
" Accountant-General.
" Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1886} Madras.

JUDICIAL.

Communicated to the S.E. I circle.

(Sd) J.O.H.

W.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 23rd December 1886, No. 3387.

DECEMBER.

Vizagapatam Agency.

Reviewing the annual report of the — for 1885-86.

S.E. I circle.

With order

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From H. G. TURNER, Esq., Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vizianagrum, 23rd August 1886, No. 602.

I have the honor to submit my report on the administration of the Agency tracts of this district for the year 1885-86.

The first tour undertaken by the Agent during the year under review was an excursion with Mr. Elwin, the newly appointed Senior Assistant, through his division. I left Párvatipur on the 16th November and marched to Rayaguda, Singapore, Bissemkatak, thence throughout the Khond Maliahs to Godairy, and following the valley of the Vamsadhára river to Gunupur, came out through the Sitampeta pass to Pálkonda.

2. The second tour took me through the Special Assistant's division, which I entered by the Galikonda pass, journeying by Aruku and Nundapur, I reached Koraput on the 2nd March. Thence I went to Jeypore where I saw the Maharajah. From Jeypore I marched to Ramagiri, and turning towards home at that point I proceeded viâ Balliguda and Sogaru, and avoiding the Galikonda mountain came out at Anantagiri through Bondam and Borra—this being the line which will probably be taken by the new road now under construction between the plains of Vizagapatam and the southern part of the Jeypore plateau and Malkangiri.

3. I had visited Borra already this season in company with Dr. King of the Geological Department. That gentleman, being on a visit to Vizianagrum to inspect a proposed artesian well, expressed a wish to look at the formation of the ghâts, and we went up to Anantagiri for a few days on this errand. This was in October. Some two or three months before this I was at Anantagiri exploring a line for the new road when I first heard of Borra. Borra, meaning a "cave" in Telugu, belonged, I casually heard, to the Jeypore country. Asking the meaning of this—for Borra lies on the borders of Pusupati and Téda (the local names of Vizianagrum and Pachipenta)—I was told that, at the time of the cession of these lands by Jeypore, Borra was retained because of the holy cave there. "It is a thirtham" said my informant, and "the water drips through the roof, and this water is taken at Siva-Ratri to wash the Lingam at Nundapur, the ancient capital of the Jeypore House." Caves being objects of desire to every one, whether English or Hindu, Aryan or Dravidian or Kolairean, I took the opportunity of Dr. King's visit to explore it, delighted to be guided by the illumination of his professional knowledge. We went and we discovered a chain of most interesting limestone caves, full of excellent specimens of stalactites and stalagmites. The caves are apparently eaten out of a limestone rock by a stream which now works its way through this series of caverns and emerges far below in a deep gloomy gorge. The caverns are full of Lingams consisting of stalagmites. The stream is heard rushing along the underground passages far out of sight. The water is used for the worship of the tutelary deity of Jeypore, and we were reminded of the place where—

> "Alph the sacred river ran
> Through caverns measureless to man
> Down to a sunless sea."

The river into which the sacred river falls is known as the Pedagunda river. It eventually emerges from the hills at Kasipatnam and then flows out through the Srungavarapukota taluk, where much water is diverted into irrigation channels, and it eventually joins the sea at Bimlipatam.

4. So much we discovered on our first visit. On my second visit to the cave in November, I think, I made a further discovery, viz., that the Pedagunda river itself encounters the same band of limestone just above its plunge into the gorge, where it receives the little stream above-mentioned as the author of the stalactite cave, and it also "through the shaggy hill passes underneath engulfed." This passage is a low arch affording just sufficient room to the water. High above the present tunnel is another great open hole in the rock, which evidently served as a vent for the water before the river denuded its way down to the present orifice—altogether a most interesting place—and I fancy that the limestone bed is of larger extent than we at first thought, for on my last visit I struck it again much higher up the river.

I know of two other caves or more of this sort. One at Gopteswaram, which is also a thirtham on the banks of the Sebheri, 8 miles west of Ramagiri — a place of much sanctity and of extensive legendary associations.

5. The line of road which I am now engaged on will be, when finished, of equal importance with the Sálúr ghât and the road from Pottingy to Koraput.

From Vizianagrum it will be 25 miles to the foot of the new ghât. Five miles of road will be cut out of the side of the hill, and we shall then find ourselves at Dhamuku, 2,000 feet above the level of the sea. The road must then run, I think, to the Borra saddle, some 3 miles through the Raevalsa valley. From the Borra saddle, if we go that way, it must descend a few hundred feet to cross the Borra valley, and then it will ascend again and emerge into the open plateau near Bondam.

6. This route was explored by Colonel Shaw-Stewart some 25 years ago. Exception has been taken by various officers to the other route selected eventually for the bridle-path, to wit, over a spur of Galikonda, 4,500 feet above sea level, instead of adopting what these critics considered the better route for a bridle-path round by Borra and Bondam. But I am happy to be able to state that the engineers were right and the critics wrong, for the country round by Borra is a very difficult country indeed, and for a bridle-path a uselessly circuitous route. I am afraid that I must go that way with my cart road, but for a bridle-path there is no doubt that the shortest and best way is the one now in existence. The party engaged in the work certainly took the greatest pains to find out the best way, and it is most interesting to me to come across their old traces now overgrown with jungle as I go poking about to find my way over and round the various obstacles which vex the schemes of the road-maker.

7. I have completed three miles of the section that has to be cut out of the hill-side, and have done a good deal of the fourth and fifth miles. The whole of this section will be finished in six months, and carts will then have access to a considerable extent of country hitherto trodden only by the pack beast. I will dismiss this part of my subject by saying that the road will probably run from Bondam to Aruku, thence to Padawa, Sogaru and Guniapodu, thence to Baliguda and so by Janitigiri, where it will bifurcate—one branch running down to the north Malkangiri country and so opening out to trade a vast extent of fertile land, and the other branch will run down to Dasumutpur and open up all the Ramagiri country, which contains excellent land of unquestionable value.

8. Interesting again are the associations of this road as it gets into the Sogaru country, for here in this corner is an extensive Kolairean colony of Gadabas and their cousins the Bonda Porjas and the Kerang kapus. Here also at Baliguda are the falls of the Sibru, a most weird gaunt abyss of cliffs into which the river here known as the Matsyagunda, but further down as the Sibru, makes a perpendicular plunge 480 feet deep. I discovered these falls nearly twenty years ago, and I revisited them recently and took their height with an aneroid barometer.

9. These Kolaireans are excellent husbandmen, and a road through their country will give a decided stimulus to the agriculture of the part. A cross road will leave the main artery at Tobah and run through Nundapur and Paleba to Koraput. Speaking roughly, it will be about 100 miles from the foot of the new ghât to the Malkangiri taluk, and the cross road to Koraput will be about 25 miles in addition. But as soon as the pass over the mountains is completed, carts will be able to penetrate almost along the whole length of this line. It is all on the 3,000-feet plateau, a hard dry soil, perfectly open and free from any serious obstacles. It will be an enormous boon to

the country, and I expect that colonists from the Vizianagrum zemindari will be induced by the facilities of communication to settle on the lands of Ramagiri and Malkangiri if proper arrangements are made for their reception. It is to be hoped that the Government will ere long pay special attention to the migration of people, organize and encourage it. It is a matter of great public moment. It embraces considerations of the very highest policy, and, in my opinion, it ought to take an ascertained place in the sphere of our administration.

10. The roads in the Special Assistant's division are much cut up by the cart traffic. The District Engineer counted as many as 500 carts loaded with grain passing down the Sálúr ghât in one day.

During the year under report definite arrangements have been made by Government for the construction of the Pottingy and Koraput road, and the Public Works Department commenced work on that section in April 1886. The Tandevalsa ghât road has been repaired, and the causeway across the river at the bottom has been reconstructed with vents. Revetments and easing of gradient are among the works that have been carried on on that communication, which is now used by carts on their way to the Thonam market. Brinjaries continue to use it, preferring it over the new road owing to the grass and water found along the route. On the Vizagapatam and Central Provinces trunk line bridges have been built at Pauperhandi and Dabugaon; also causeways across some swamps and other embankments, and the road has been carried to a point 26 miles north of Nowrangapore. Mr. Wedderburn points out that the allotment of Rs. 25 a mile for the repair of this road was miserably inadequate. I have increased it to more than Rs. 50 a mile for the current season, but even that amount is far too small. I cannot spare more funds without starving other works, and I hope that the Public Works Department will press on their road and open sections of it as quickly as possible.

The question of running the Public Works Department road parallel to the existing line of communication is under discussion. Mr. Wedderburn draws attention to the question of a ferry raft over the Indrávati, which I shall take up this year, as also the new trace for the Jeypore-Koraput road. He reports that the other roads are in fair order, drawing attention to the improvement of the Kolab crossing and of the Malkangiri ghât. I have already touched on the Central Provinces road beyond Nowrangapore, and I agree with him in thinking that a road might be opened from Pauperhandi over the Ampani ghât into Kalahandy. The curtailment of the budget was caused by financial retrenchments decreed by Government.

11. Turning now to the education question, the scheme for educating the Maharajah's son is progressing favorably. There was some difficulty in arranging the terms upon which Mr. Marsh would come. But I have been able to effect an arrangement which will form the subject of a special letter* to Government, and Mr. Marsh will probably enter on his duties in November next.

* Letter No. 586, dated 12th August 1886.

On examining the proposals for general education, it was at once seen that nothing can be done until measures are taken for paying the masters from Government funds. This involves the transfer of the complete control from the Maharajah to the agency and the appointment of a special superintendent for each division, the plan of employing one superintendent for both the Senior and Special Assistant's division being unworkable. A scheme has been drawn up in consultation with the Inspector of Schools, and it is now on its way to Government through the Director of Public Instruction—*vide* G.O., No. 354, dated 10th June 1886, Educational.

Under law and justice, I have to notice the decrease of the crime of cattle theft. The Acting Sub-Magistrate of Nowrangapore has been relegated to his substantive appointment of Head Clerk in the plains. The question of the Koraput Hill Jail is before Government in my letter No. 243, dated 6th March 1886, and has been put into a settled form by G.O., No. 1277, dated 15th May 1886, Judicial.

12. Mr. Wedderburn enters at some length into the difficulties he experiences in getting through his civil file.

It has all along been our policy to discourage resort to civil tribunals in the agency from the fear that the people would be victimized by vakils, and I believe

that no such courts as district munsifs' courts are at all necessary in the Hill tracts, except in such places as Koraput, Jeypore and other large villages to which low country traders resort. What may be necessary hereafter when the country is opened out to cart traffic I know not, but when we come to think of the vast quantities of transactions that are carried on throughout the country without any sanction of a resort to law, why, I ask, should we dig a pit in their midst for them to fall into? Beyond any part of the country I know, Jeypore is distinguished for the marvellous numbers of weekly markets. On the road between the summit of the ghât and the interior of the country—say, 50 miles—there are five large markets held on five days in the week, viz, at Sipaiput, Dumriput, Cheptaamb, Boregumma, and at another place. These markets are frequented by large concourses of people bent on bargaining, the inter-marketal trade being in the hands of the Dombs, an out-caste tribe. Yet the whole of these transactions take place without any resort to law, and more than this all the native produce merchants, who live round the foot of the hills from the Godávari to Gunapur, advance on crops, on jungle produce, on beasts, on hides, and so forth, quite content to run whatever risks there may be in giving over money to the hill man without any security at all. They are, I believe, content with the state of the law as it now stands, and though it might be argued that the want of security disables the hill man from driving a better bargain, I have no doubt at all that on the whole the hill man would be at a disadvantage if he tried to sue his sowcar for breach of contract.

Mr. Wedderburn's remarks on the Rent Recovery Act are equally to the point. The power of distraint cannot be granted to the landlords in a country where several days journey must be traversed before redress for illegal seizure can be obtained. It is far better to let all public business of this kind vest summarily in the divisional officer.

13. Mr. Wedderburn draws attention to the meritorious efforts of the Sub-Magistrate of Malkangiri in pushing vaccination, and care will be taken that a vaccinator accompanies the divisional officer on his tours. His suggestions regarding medicines will receive attention. The business of slaying wild beasts is steadily improving, and the tappal arrangements claim a passing notice. I am in communication with the Postmaster-General regarding the postal connection with the Central Provinces.

14. I have informed the Commissioner of Chhetisghur that I concur in the decision of the boundary dispute on the Tel which has been settled by Mr. Wedderburn and Mr. Fox Strangeways, and I am awaiting his reply.

Since drafting the above, the reply of the Chief Commissioner has been received, and I am forwarding the case to Government for their formal approval.

15. In the course of my tour through the Senior Assistant's division, the Dewan of the Maharajah of Jeypore brought to my notice the very unsatisfactory behaviour of the ameens of Rayaguda and Gunupur. These managers had contrived to get possession of the rents of these two large taluks and played with him and the Maharajah in a way that called to mind the story told by Burke of the noteworthy transactions of Paul Benfey and his co-adjutors in connection with the Nabob of Arcot's debts.

These ameens were in the habit of receiving from the Maharajah orders called Barátams directing them to pay certain monies to the person named therein. To these orders these worthy men were in the habit of replying that they had no rents belonging to the Maharajah in hand, but that they would advance money to meet the Barátams from their own resources, on what they called moderate interest, *i.e.*, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *per month*. The money was advanced, not at once, but from time to time, that is, as the rents came in, and so it came about that a large debt was formed, built up by lending the Maharajah his own money and charging 18 per cent. per annum for it. This *debt* again was liquidated by the ameens by an assignment to themselves of the revenues they collected. Bonds passed between the parties confirming these transactions, or to quote Burke—it is quite interesting to apply his words to these events, for they are so delightfully applicable—"Bond is paid by bond; arrear is turned into new arrear; usury engenders new usury, until all the revenues and all the establishments are entangled into one inextricable knot of confusion from which they

are only disengaged by being entirely destroyed." This is exactly what we had to do. The ameens could or would produce no accounts. They came before us clothed in the commonest of cloths as evidence of their poverty, and they sat before us hour after hour prevaricating, withdrawing statements, qualifying admissions, and all done with a mien the most plausible and a submission humiliating to witness. There could be no adjustment made. All we did therefore was to make the ameen of Rayaguda sign a bond for Rs. 27,000 and him of Gunupur one for Rs. 60,000 and to turn them out of their employments subject to the confirmation of the Maharajah, to whom I sent the obligations they executed. But I know what will happen. They will go up to the capital and by back-stair influence they will probably recover their bonds and perhaps get reinstated in their appointments, though I shall stop the latter catastrophe by a stern exercise of authority.

16. Mr. Elwin sends an interesting account of his doings during the five-and-half months he was in charge. His touring shows a good record. I am glad to be able to bear testimony to the very zealous and intelligent way in which this young officer conducts his duties. I have treated so fully of the incidents of the Singapore case in the papers marginally noted that I need hardly swell this report by recapitulating them here.

G.O., Judicial,	9th January	1885,	No.	52,	Mis.
Do.	25th August	„	„	2220,	„
Do.	19th May	1886,	„	1326,	„

All I need mention is that the Maharajah of Jeypore has filed a suit in my court to resume possession of the estate, or for an increase of rents, and it will be for the law courts to decide on the strength of his claim. The ryots of the estate are not settled down yet. I had a deputation from them quite recently, but they were amenable to argument and they returned to their country in a peaceful state of mind. The country will require careful attention for some time to come. I have not relaxed my endeavours to effect a compromise between the Maharajah and the Ranee, and only a few days since I hoped that an opening was preparing itself. Perhaps when the cause comes into court some arrangement may be effected.

17. I was unable to visit the Sowra hills. Mr. Elwin states that the Gomangoes, who are independent of the authority of the Urya Patro of Bhimpuram or of the Dhora of Kuttmi, were ill-mannered enough to complain of the cloths given them from the Government bounty. The best thing to do will be to intermit these presents until the recipients seem disposed to appreciate them.

It is very encouraging to note the interest the Sowras take in vaccination. In paragraph 30 Mr. Elwin complains of a want of zeal and energy among the vaccinators. This paragraph will be communicated to the District Surgeon.

There was still some question regarding the ownership of Ongara village which was decided by Messrs. Sewell, Welsh and Joseph to belong to Jeypore.

18. The Government have already been requested in the letter marginally noted to allot money for the erection of hospitals at Rayaguda and Bissemkatak and Nowrangapore, and their order sanctioning the outlay has been recently received—G.O., No. 544, dated 19th June 1886, Financial. Mr. Elwin then touches on the sanitation of these places, mentions that Bhimpuram was visited by a bad attack of cholera between May and July last year, and tells us that fever has carried off his mahout. When on tour with Mr. Elwin in November, a tiger-skin was brought to me with the story that the beast had been killed through being impaled on two bamboo stakes. Observing foot-prints of a tiger that used to walk along a path and spring over a fence, the hunter placed four sharpened stakes on the landing side of the fence so disposed that the tiger would alight on them when it jumped over the obstacle. The tiger actually did jump over the hedge and did impale himself on the stakes and then the poor brute lay howling on his back for two days, the villagers being afraid to go up and put him out of his misery. Eventually he died, and the skin had a long bare patch all down its back from the head to the tail where the hair was scraped off as it lay writhing on the ground. The story is hard to believe, but I know that deer are killed in this way and it is possibly true.

Letter, dated 17th May 1886, No. 442.

19. In the agency taluks of the Senior Assistant's division there are 260,000 inhabitants. The villages they occupy are 2,500 in number. The country consists

of two large valleys and the hills between and around them. One of these valleys is drained by the Nagavalli river, the other by the Vamsadhára. The valleys are exceedingly fertile and yield a revenue to the Maharajah of Jeypore of upwards of a lakh and a half of rupees. One of these valleys, *i.e.*, the Rayaguda valley, is the channel of communication between the Vizagapatam plains and the Central Provinces. Through the other, the Gunupur valley, lies the route from Chicacole and Kimedy to Central Provinces.

The roads necessary to open out these valleys to cart traffic are the following:—

	Miles.
(1) Chollapadam to Rayaguda	18
(2) Rayaguda to Ombadola	62
(3) Komatipet to Singapore	22
(4) Butili to Gunupur	10
(5) Gunupur to Ombadola	60
(6) Gunupur to Párvatipur	32
Total ...	204

If this system of roads were taken up by the Public Works Department, there would undoubtedly accrue to Government a very large increase in revenue from salt and abkári. The increase in agricultural and jungle produce would be very great, and lands would be brought under the plough by people migrating from the congested taluks of the coast which are known to be as thickly populated as any taluks in the Madras Presidency. It is therefore a scheme that I can confidently recommend to the notice of Government.

I will permit myself to anticipate an objection that may be probably raised regarding this great extension of roads. This may be that Government have already committed themselves to considerable expenditure under this head in respect of the undertaking they have in hand on the Pottingy-Koraput line and thence to the borders of this district towards Raepore, and that this district can have no further claims on the public purse at present. But this view of the question becomes considerably modified if we consider that it is not the Vizagapatam district that we are roading, but the district called the Vizagapatam agency. So far as population is concerned, the agency can rightly lay claim to be considered a district. The people living in it number 694,673, that is, it is a more populous district than Anantapur or Kurnool or the Nílgiris, nearly as populous as Bellary, and within the same category of districts containing fewer people than a million as Chingleput and South Canara. I am persuaded that if the outlay on public works in Jeypore be compared with that of any one of these districts, there will be found a very large balance still due to the country, the claims of which I am now advocating.

20. I have endeavoured to make a sort of estimate of the value of the trade which is carried on with the agency. The principal items of export trade from the coast ports of the Vizagapatam district which amounted last year to 46 lakhs are indigo, myrabolams, seeds, jaggery, hides and skins, turmeric, lac, long-pepper, gunnies, jute and punjam cloth.

Of these items, all the myrabolams, lac, turmeric and long-pepper come from the agency, and probably 50 per cent. of the seeds, hides and skins. All the jaggery, gunnies, cloth, indigo and the remaining portion of the seeds and hides are produced in the plains. The Board's annual volume and my district returns give the proportions which each product bears to the grand total, and from this I calculate that at least 25 per cent. of the total value consists of those articles that come from above the ghâts. Therefore I fix the total value of the trade derived from the agency and exported by the coast at 11 lakhs.

There is great difficulty in arriving at any satisfactory estimate of the produce that comes across the ghâts and is arrested in the plains. It consists of food stuffs. We never have great distress in the congested taluks of Vizagapatam, partly because of our food imports from the agency. There are four principal passes into the hills through which food-grains come into the plains, viz., viâ Gunupur, Párvatipur, Sálúr and Kasipatnam. I think I am well within the mark when I put down a figure of 100,000 loads of grain, consisting principally of paddy, rice and ragi, as an approximate estimate of this trade, and I value this grain at 10 lakhs of rupees. Therefore

I adopt a figure of 21 lakhs as representing the value of the entire export trade across these roads that we are now constructing. The trade into Jeypore from the coast taluks consists of salt, cotton goods, tobacco and sundries.

Of these, cotton goods only come from beyond sea, valued at 13 lakhs for the whole district. If the hill tracts took their share of these goods in proportion to their population, they should take about one-third of the imports. But they certainly do not take as much as this, because the hill people are not so well off as the people of the plains, and because they use a great deal of twist which they spin themselves. I should think that 3 lakhs would represent the money they spend in imported cotton goods. Then as to salt they ought to consume 13·22 lbs. per head according to the accepted figures, but I am very certain they do not, because pack-borne salt is a costly article. On the other hand, they pay more than Rs. 3-8-0 a maund for it.

Suppose then we say they consume 70,000 maunds of salt and pay 3 lakhs for it. This would make about 6 lakhs of imports. Besides this, we send about a lakh of treasure into the country to pay for the balance of the cost of our administration and on roads, &c. Total import trade 7 lakhs. Grand total import and export trade 27 lakhs. But how much trade comes and goes through the agency to and from the countries beyond it, is impossible to say. Certainly all the plateau of Bustar (not the Godávari bordering parts), nearly all Kalahandy and a considerable part of Patna, Nowaghar and Khariar come within the influence of these trade routes. These countries lying around Jeypore occupy an area of more than 20,000 square miles in extent with an additional population of 500,000 souls.

21. What vast quantities of unoccupied land there are in these unfrequented areas lying between our ghâts and the plains of Nagpore! What have we ever done for this country and for these people, which, with our agency population, number over a million? Suppose an island were suddenly discovered in the Bay of Bengal thirty thousand square miles in extent inhabited by a million of people, another Ceylon, what schemes, what reports, what a vista of administration does the idea open out? Upper Burma has furnished an enterprise during the past year which will remain graven "monumentum ære perenius" in the history of India. Its incorporation in the civilization of the empire will be the subject of anxious thought and of great expense, and it will be guided on its path by the most able of our officers. Justice, education, public works will be inaugurated with a lavish hand; trade routes will be opened out and enterprises proposed for reclaiming lands and spreading abroad the searching aims of commerce. Are the countries I am writing about not equally entitled to participate in the benefits of our English ideas and in our schemes for ameliorating the condition of the people we have taken upon ourselves to govern? If these lands lay within a few miles of Madras, or of Calcutta, they would be in as prosperous a state as the best district in India. But because they are situated at the remote end of Madras and at the remote end of the Central Provinces, they are voted to be a bore and a burthen. If the country were a hilly country with but small extent of cultivable land, it might accept the fate of all mountainous regions, and be left to enjoy such crumbs of progress as it might pick up.

"Given," says Major Holdich, "a wise and strong Government and an industrious class of settlers, there is nothing in the soil and climate of Bustar to forbid a happy future of broad cultivated lands, and it may be yet that this country may be populated and cultivated by a people whom pressure of numbers has driven out from the overstocked districts of Upper India." Major Holdich was of opinion that the population of Bustar was decreasing. He says, "There are many evidences of a better state of things in the past, and the decrease is due to the wretched misgovernment that prevails, combined with facilities of late years in obtaining employment under British control in the neighbourhood of the Godávari." When Major Holdich wrote this, he was surveying the country as an officer of the Government of India, and had therefore no possible bias for or against the Local Governments.

Proceedings of Geographical Society, June 1879.

As I have already said in another communication, I am convinced that there is no country in Madras, and I believe none in the Central Provinces or perhaps in the rest of India, that would better repay Government to open out than this great area of land. The truth is that the British Empire in India is so repleted with land that we

despise an enterprise which any continental nation would take up with enthusiasm. Probably there is no plateau in India better watered, containing more fertile land and more admirably adapted for a scheme of migration to be presided over by Englishmen than the elevated tract of country known as "the Great Jeypore plateau which breaks upon the line 81°·30 E. long." *

* Major Holdich.

22. Another matter of interest that was brought to my notice during my tour was that there is a great want of copper coin in Jeypore for the purposes of currency. As I have already said, the Jeyporeans are intensely given to petty huckstering transactions at the weekly markets. A large class of people—principally Dombs or outcastes—are engaged in this petty trade. They buy commodities at one market and carry them on to the next, hoping to benefit by a small difference in rates; but nearly all their dealings are by barter, and in some instances they still use cowries. I find on inquiry that there is a dearth of copper coin not only in Jeypore but also throughout the plains. From inquiries I have made, I learn that the money-changers require a discount of from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for changing silver for copper. The rates vary according to the seasons, for at harvest time, when labourers can be paid in kind, there is less demand for copper, and consequently discount is less than at transplanting time. What amount of copper money there is in this district I do not know, but the complaint of a deficiency of small currency is pretty general. I see by the last report on the operations of the mints in Calcutta and Bombay that extraordinary little copper is minted per annum, only $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees worth of copper, and I hazard a calculation that in the whole of India there cannot be more than 100 lakhs of rupees of copper coin in circulation, nominal value. The copper coin probably circulates throughout the whole of India and supplies the wants of 2,500 lakhs of people, that is, there is about 4 rupees worth of copper coin to 100 people, or about 1 penny per head (taking the anna at $1\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*). "Now in the British Isles the people seem to be sufficiently supplied with $8\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per head. In France they want $21\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, and in Italy $29\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*" If countries require more fractional currency as we descend the scale of comparative wealth, it is certain that the population of India requires a vast increase of bronze coinage. Argument might be advanced for giving India a bronze coinage of standard value. Perhaps the necessity for expanding the currency lies at the bottom of the arguments in support of bimetalism. If the expansion of the currency is regarded as an important factor in increasing the wealth of the European nations, surely the same factor should not be disregarded in our administration of the nations of India. If the peoples of the West require a gold and a silver currency of standard value, might not the peoples of the East require a silver and a bronze currency of standard value?

I think there is nothing like sufficient currency in India. The silver currency does not supply the wants of the masses. Even if it be true that India absorbs immense quantities of silver, it is certain that the silver never reaches the millions in the form of currency. So far as my observation goes, I doubt whether it reaches the rural population in any form.

The rupee is far too valuable for a standard silver coin, and the fractional silver coinage is certainly unacceptable to the masses as currency possibly from being also too valuable, or from its being too small in size, or from its not being obtainable except at a discount, or from its being driven out by the bronze token coinage.

A country like India which depends for its prosperity in the petty operations of husbandry would seem to require a very large amount of fractional currency, and I believe it would lend an enormous stimulous to industry if that fractional currency were of standard value. It seems to me that the copper coinage of India is not really used like the bronze coinage of England as a token coinage. It is really the money of India, certainly of rural India, and if this be true, it follows that rural India is suffering from all the evils of an over-valued currency.

Not only therefore is the currency of rural India inadequate, but it is also debased. I do not see how we can expect any material advance in the prosperity of the country under such a state of things. I introduce these remarks with great diffidence. I have only looked into the subject since my attention was attracted to the deficiency of copper coins in Jeypore, and I am well aware that the topic is one that requires very deep consideration. I think that hardly sufficient attention has been paid to the subject of supplying the people of India with a proper currency, and I

hope that my mention of the matter may attract the attention of those who are better able to give an opinion thereon than I am.

I will in conclusion draw attention to the fact that in the second empire 1,200 millions of pieces of bronze coinage were distributed throughout France, and it might well be argued that the great impetus to the rural wealth of that land, which took place in the period of a not wholly immaculate Government, was in a great measure due to the great attention that was bestowed on the currency of the country by its rulers.

23. I was unable to visit the hill tracts of the Principal Assistant's division in the year under report.

Mr. Power reports that he has completed the Rampol ghât and has settled the trace of the Budaralla ghât. He says that the Lammasinghi and Minamalur ghâts are in excellent order, and that new buildings for itinerating officers have been constructed at Lammasinghi and other places.

Civil justice calls for no remark, except that we have not yet been able to inaugurate the punchayets alluded to in my last year's report, dated 21st July 1885, No. 537, paragraph 70.

Crime has also been light during the past year.

Abkári and opium affairs work smoothly, though notice is made of smuggling liquor, and I have little doubt that the opium is sometimes adulterated. In other parts of the hills, viz., in the Srungavarapukóta agency which I have under my immediate charge, I frequently give licenses to the heads of muttas, and I find that the plan is a good one.

24. There is a very gratifying decrease in the number of lives lost by wild beasts though the "Tiger fitouri," *i.e.*, the tiger war, which lasted three years, is not yet forgotten.

We might be able to get schoolmasters for Paderu and Lammasinghi, though I am not very sure that the game is worth the candle. Perhaps we might next hear of an education "Fitouri."

25. I shall await Mr. Power's letter relating to the advances for constructing irrigation works with interest. It is really a most noteworthy thing to see the difference between the agricultural energies of one class of hill people and another in this district. To the north the Sowras inhabit a hilly country not so fertile by some measure as the Gudem hills, yet while the latter is nothing but a jungle, the former is cultivated to a marvellous extent. Every hill is terraced, every rill of water turned to account; the mhowa tree stands among the rice-fields like the olive tree in Italy, to which it is very comparable in its aspect and as to its value. Wheat is grown throughout the agency of this district to a very considerable extent. It is grown largely in many parts of Jeypore. But a great impetus to the cultivation of a staple of this sort cannot be effected by any detached or desultory plan of sending up a two-penny packet of seed. So far as my experience of introducing new staples goes, for instance indigo, jute and sugarcane, nothing is effected without a patient and persistent expenditure of capital. Let us first satisfy ourselves that the measure is a prudent one and then doggedly invest capital in it to an ample extent until the enterprise succeeds or fails. The attempt to introduce sugarcane from the Mauritius failed here, after the expenditure of much capital. On the other hand, jute is doing well and so is indigo, but both products swallowed up many lakhs of rupees before they reached the condition they now occupy, and I believe that much the same policy must be pursued before we see corn-fields waving in the tiger-haunted uplands of the Gudem hills.

26. Mr. Power then brings to notice the continued absenteeism of the Lammasinghi muttadar, on which subject he promises a separate letter, and concludes by lamenting that other duties prevented him from spending more time in hills. In this I most heartily concur, the more so that I am afraid that the time has now come when Mr. Power will leave us on promotion. I have never had an officer in the Principal Assistant's division since Mr. Winterbotham was here more singularly fitted for hill work or who has entered more completely into the spirit of the thing than Mr. Power has done during the too short period of his service in this district. It is, without affectation, positively heart-breaking to me to have to begin over and over

again with fresh officers in the agency part of this district. I cannot hope or expect that any officer can make any head way until he has been in charge for about two years. No officer ever stays longer than this, if so long. If it were possible to introduce for the three divisions a system of graduated pay, I believe it would be of immense benefit to the Administration. I hope that this remark may attract the attention of Government, for it is nearly of serious evil that so many changes should take place in the agency where personal rule is everything and routine administration not yet reached.

Since penning the above, the pillage and burning of the Gudem police station has taken place, and the whole subject of our administration of these parts will be placed before Government in my report on this affair.

27. A sum of Rs. 566-15-1 was spent, as detailed in the statement appended, on account of hill tour charges, and I solicit sanction for the same.

Hill Tour Charges for 1885-86.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Value of cloths purchased for presents to Khond chiefs and ready-money presents in excess of the budget allotment of Rs. 230	234	0	9
Warm clothing of Agent's establishment	83	13	3
Carriage hire of doolies, &c.	108	0	10
Value of gunpowder supplied to taxidermist	15	4	6
Tappal expenses	71	12	9
Total ..	512	15	7

Criminal Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for the year 1885-86.

Name of Court.	Trials or Inquiries.	Cases.				Persons.				Appeals.				Persons.			
		Pending.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of.	Pending.	Total.	Convicted and committed or referred.	Otherwise.	Pending.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of.	Pending.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of.
																	Modified or reversed. / Otherwise / Total. / Pending.
1. Agent to the Governor	48	1	27	28	27	1	49	24	24	1	8	8	6	2	8	8	1 / 5 / 6 / 2
2. Additional Session Judge	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
3. Principal Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	17	2	..	5	5	5	..	5	5	.. / 5 / 5 / ..
4. Senior do.	19	..	8	8	8	12	95	79	14	1	14	15	14	1	14	15	5 / 10 / 15 / 1
5. Special do.	89	3	51	54	62	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
6. Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
7. Second-class Magistrate, Golgonda	50	..	23	26	25	3	53	47	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
8. Third ,, do.	24	..	4	4	4	..	24	22	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
9. Second ,, do.	11	..	3	3	3	..	11	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
10. Do. ,, do.	23	..	7	7	7	..	23	22	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
11. Do. ,, do.	5	..	3	3	3	..	5	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
12. Do. ,, do.	273	2	55	57	57	12	273	30	243	..	1	1	1	..	1	1	.. / 1 / 1 / ..
13. Do. ,, do.	83	1	31	32	32	1	83	43	40	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
14. Do. ,, do.	257	1	175	176	176	5	491	300	191	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
15. Do. ,, do.	549	3	103	106	105	1	256	130	126	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
16. Do. ,, do.	243	8	281	289	280	9	538	266	272	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
17. Do. ,, do.	326	13	105	118	113	5	233	159	74	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
18. Do. ,, do.	57	4	146	150	150	..	326	269	57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
19. Do. ,, do.	317	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	145	145	86	..	145	145	59 / 86 / 145 / ..
20. Do. ,, do.	262	..	61	64	64	17	262	93	169	..	262	262	93	..	262	262	93 / 169 / 262 / ..
21. Do. ,, do.	..	..	129	129	129	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. / .. / .. / ..
Total ..	2,800	42	1,212	1,254	1,235	19	2,900	1,598	1,284	26	482	508	325	3	483	486	183 / 302 / 485 / 1

Name of offence.	Number of cases.	Number of prisoners.	Number sentenced to death.	Number sentenced to transportation.	Imprisonment. Simple.	Imprisonment. Rigorous.	Fine.	Whipping.	Total convicted.	Number discharged.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
1. Murder under section 302, I.P.C. ..	7	15	1	(a) 5	..	..	..	..	6	8	1
2. Do. and attempt to commit murder, sections 302 and 307, I.P.C. ..	1	1	..	(b) 1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
3. Murder and attempt to commit suicide under sections 302 and 309, I.P.C.	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
4. Culpable homicide not amounting to murder, section 304, I.P.C. ..	10	17	..	..	..	(c) 11	..	..	11	6	..
5. Grievous hurt by dangerous weapon and culpable homicide not amounting to murder, sections 326 and 304, I.P.C.	1	1	..	..	..	(d) 1	..	..	1	..	..
6. Attempt to commit murder under section 307, I.P.C.	2	2	..	..	..	(e) 1	..	..	1	1	..
7. Grievous hurt and culpable homicide not amounting to murder, sections 325 and 304, I.P.C.	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
8. Mischief by fire with intent to cause damage, section 435, I.P.C. ..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
9. Mischief by fire, section 436 ..	2	2	..	..	..	(f) 1	(g) 1	..	2	..	..
10. Criminal breach of trust by public servant and intentionally suffering an offender to escape from confinement, sections 409 and 221, I.P.C.	1	2	..	..	..	(h) 1	..	..	1	1	..
11. Criminal breach of trust by public servant under section 409, I.P.C. ..	1	1	..	..	..	(i) 1	..	..	1	..	..
Total ..	28	49	1	6	..	16	1	..	24	24	1

(a) For life. (b) For life.
(c) Two for 5 years each; one for 7 years; three for 3 years; two for 2 years, two for 4 years; one for 6 years.
(d) For 5 years. (e) For 2 years. (f) Two months. (g) Rs. 3. (h) Two years. (i) Five years.

CIVIL STATISTICS of the Vizagapatam Agency for 1885-86.

Original Suits.

Name of Court.	Original Suits. Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer or reference	Total.	Disposed of	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
1. Agent to the Governor	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	2
2. Principal Assistant Agent	..	2	..	2	..	1	1	1
3. Senior Assistant do.	2	23	..	25	22	1	23	2
4. Special do. do.	36	65	..	101	53	18	71	30
5. Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. District Munsif, Golgonda	13	26	..	39	22	..	22	17
7. Do. Narayanapatnam ..	21	31	4	56	52	..	52	4
8. Do. Rayagada	22	42	37	101	26	38	64	37
9. Do. Bissemkatak	..	13	39	52	7	37	44	8
10. Do. Gunupur	16	69	..	85	61	..	61	24
11. Do. Koraput	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1
12. Do. Jeypore	..	43	12	55	28	1	29	26
Total ..	110	316	93	519	271	96	367	152

Civil Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for 1885-86.

Appeal Suits.

Name of Court.	Appeal Suits. Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
Agent to the Governor	2	2	..	4	4	..	4	..
Principal Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Senior do. do.	..	8	..	8	5	..	5	3
Special do. do.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2	10	..	12	9	..	9	3

From G. F. T. POWER, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam, to the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, dated Narsapatam, 13th May 1886, No. 161.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the administration of that portion of the agency which is in my division for the official year 1885-86.

Public Works.—The amount allotted by you for expenditure during the year was Rs. 3,430 of which Rs. 2,709-9-9 was actually spent. In the progress report of agency works for the month of March 1886, details of the different works on which expenditure was incurred will be found, and I need not therefore recapitulate them here.

The Rawpol ghât, between Kistnadevi Peta and Peddavalasa, was completed during the year, and is now a good bridle-path. The Budaralla ghât, between Koyyur and Peddavalasa, which I had intended to improve during the year, could not be taken in hand for want of supervision, owing to my detention at the head-quarters of the district during a great part of the working season. I have, however, since the close of the year, been over this ghât, and settled the new trace, and during the current year a good riding road will, I hope, be substituted for the present very steep and rough foot-path. The current year's allotment for repairs (300 rupees) will hardly suffice for the work, but additional funds can easily be provided from the allotment for repairs to tracks above ghâts.

The Lammasinghi and Minamalur ghâts, the two most important in the division, are both in excellent order, and the latter needs but little improvement to be a good cart-road. New buildings constructed during the year were a bungalow at Lammasinghi and sheds for native officers at Lammasinghi, Chintapalli, Gudem, Lotugedda, Darakonda, Peddavalasa and Koyyur. The old bungalows were repaired and whitewashed and all are now in good order.

Civil Justice.—At the beginning of the year 13 suits were pending on the file of the Golgonda Agency District Munsif. During the year two suits were instituted in the Principal Assistant Agent's Court, and 26 in the Agency District Munsif's Court, making a total of 41 cases for disposal. Of these, 23 cases were actually disposed of, and when the year closed 18 suits were pending, viz., one on the Principal Assistant Agent's file, and 17 on the District Munsif's file.

The great majority of the suits instituted were for the recovery of money or movable property, and the property in question was generally of trifling value.

The highest valued suit was one for the recovery of movable property worth 800 rupees which was instituted in the Principal Assistant Agent's Court.

There was no suit instituted to which a mittadar or other hill dignitary was a party.

Crime.—This was as usual light in the Golgonda and Viravilli Agency tracts, which alone come within my jurisdiction as Magistrate, Hill Madgole still forming part of the Special Assistant's division for magisterial purposes. There were in all 32 cases in which 86 persons were accused and these were disposed of as follows:—

	Cases.	Persons.
(a) Committed to Sessions Court	1	1
(b) Convicted	9	15
(c) Acquitted or discharged	22	70

For the most part the offences of which these persons were accused were not of a grave character. The case committed to the Sessions was one of culpable homicide.

In another case I convicted a man of uttering counterfeit coin.

The other cases were of an unimportant nature.

Abkári.—The rented system was in force as in the previous year. The number of shops and stills licensed was as follows:—

	Shops.	Stills.
Golgonda	18	18
Viravilli	5	5

Hill Madgole is for abkári purposes under the Special Assistant and therefore figures for that portion of the agency are omitted here.

No complaints were made against the renters or their shopkeepers by the inhabitants of the agency, but vendors of excised liquor in the "ordinary" or non-agency portion of Golgonda taluk complained that unexcised liquor was smuggled to a considerable extent from the agency into the ordinary portion of the taluk and sold there. There is undoubtedly much truth in this complaint, but after all we can hardly expect smuggling to cease as long as the price of liquor in the excise taluks is so much higher than it is elsewhere. Meanwhile all that can be done is to impose exemplary punishment whenever a case of smuggling is detected, and this is being done.

Opium.—The number of shops licensed for the sale of opium was—

Golgonda	8
Viravilli	2
Hill Madgole	20
Total ...	30

A few complaints were made that the drug was not sold as cheap as the vendors are bound by their licenses to sell it, *i.e.*, at 3 tolas per rupee, but this was not proved In Golgonda the vendors were mostly malas, the principal trading class of that portion of the hills, while elsewhere the headmen of villages are licensed to sell.

It appears to me that the fixed Government rate of 3 tolas per rupee is more likely to be observed if the vendors are like mittadars and paddals men whose principal occupation is not trade and whom we have some hold over, rather than unresponsible malas whose sole business is trade and all whose instincts are commercial. I am therefore now (1886-87) trying the experiment in Golgonda of licensing mittadars, &c., instead of malas.

Wild Beasts.—Rs. 1,617 were paid as rewards for the destruction of 47 wild beasts in Golgonda and Viravilli. I do not give the figures for Hill Madgole as it is in the magisterial jurisdiction of the Special Assistant.

Of these 47 wild beasts, ten were tigers, for each of which a reward of Rs. 100 was paid.

Twenty-five cheetas, six bears and five hyænas were also killed.

One man was killed by a tiger near Kudapasinghi; a few miles from Lammasingi a tiger was shot in that neighbourhood shortly afterwards and there have been no deaths since, so that we may fairly conclude that the man-eater has been accounted for. No other lives were lost during the year, and the "tiger terror," which was so prevalent two years ago, seems to have nearly died out. One can, however, still see all over the hills the ruins of deserted villages, and it will, I fear, be some time yet before the country has fully recovered from the effects of what, the other day, I heard a hillman picturesquely describe as the "puli fituri".

Education.—This is still backward. The two agency schools at Kristnadevipeta and Chinna Golgondapeta are doing fairly well, but they are attended entirely by the children of inhabitants of that portion of the agency which lies below ghâts. The more important portion which lies above ghâts is still wholly uneducated. None of the Golgonda mittadars have as yet, in spite of the offer of scholarships, sent their sons to Narsapatam for education, and as far as I can see none of them are likely to do so. The truth is, I think, that if we wish the hill country children to be educated, we must establish schools in the hills. Now that Paderu is a Sub-Magistrate's head-quarters, we might have good school there for Hill Madgole, and the Sub-Magistrate could keep the master up to his work. In the Golgonda hills a school might be started at either Lammasinghi or Peddavalasa, and as both these places are now connected with the plains by good riding roads, the Principal Assistant Agent and the tahsildar of Golgonda could arrange for frequent inspection. The great difficulty of course is to get a schoolmaster who can stand the climate of the hills, but this difficulty will not I hope prove insurmountable.

(1) *General.*—The year was one of profound tranquility, there being no disturbance and no signs of public discontent in any part of the division. The season was favorable, and so far as I can ascertain, in the absence of trustworthy vital statistics, the public health was good. There were no epidemic diseases.

(2) In the Golgonda hills the mittadars are beginning to take advantage of the offer made by you last year of advances of money for the purpose of constructing irrigation works, and Gudem Patavidhi, Darakonda, and Lammasinghi Patavidhi have applied to me for advances, which I think may be given and regarding which I will report fully in another letter. It is eminently desirable that the construction of irrigation works in these hills should be encouraged as much as possible.

(3) Another thing which should be encouraged is the cultivation of wheat. At present some is grown in the neighbourhood of Lammasinghi Antarla, &c., but there is a great deal of land which appears to me to be well suited for wheat which is now waste. The seed used at present is of inferior quality and I therefore propose to get some really good seed and distribute it for experiment. I have spoken to the mittahdars on this subject and several of them have promised to give the new seed a fair trial and if it produces a good crop, to do what they can to extend the area under wheat. Without being too sanguine one may I think look forward to a not far distant day when wheat will be largely exported from these hills.

(4) The mittadar of Lotugedda, whom Mr. MacCartie reported year before last for omitting to live in his mitta, still continues an absentee. He is in other respects a bad mittadar, and I think he ought to be removed and another man appointed. I will send a separate report on this point. The other mittadars are doing very well.

(5) In conclusion I have to say that the time (28 days) which I spent in the agency during the year was I am aware less than it should have been, but that this was so is not my fault. If I consulted my own personal inclinations I should, as you know, spend the greater part of my time in the agency, and it was only because other work kept me in the plains that my stay there last year was so short. I joined the district at the end of April 1885 and had first to do the jamabandi of Sarvasiddhi and Golgonda taluks. As soon as this was over I made a short tour in June (11 days) through Hill Madgole, and came down the Lammasinghi ghât to Narsapatam. Again in July I made a short tour (9 days) in the Golgonda hills visiting Lammasinghi, Antarla and Chintapalli. Again at the end of October I again went for 8 days to Hill Madgole (Minamalur and Paderu). In November I was just about to start on a long tour when you ordered me into Vizagapatam to attend to the head-quarter office during your own absence in the agency. I was kept at Vizagapatam till the Christmas holidays. After this I had to do jamabandi of Sarvasiddhi (which was unusually tedious owing to extensive failure of crop and consequent claims for remission) and when this was all over I was again about to start on an agency tour in February when I was again directed to go to Vizagapatam and remain there during your absence in the agency. I was in Vizagapatam accordingly till the end of the official year.

I have, however, just made a three weeks' tour (22nd April to 12th instant) through the Golgonda hills, in the course of which I have visited all the hill mittahs, and this I hope will to some extent make up for short touring last year.

From E. A. ELWIN, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam district, to the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam, dated Párvatipur, 24th May 1886, No. 265.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the hill tracts of my division.

2. I succeeded Mr. Broadfoot as Senior Assistant Agent about the middle of October last and have therefore been in charge some five and-a-half months out of twelve.

3. *Duration of tours.*—My predecessor spent 31 days in travelling. I was on tour for 104 days, viz., from November 16th up to December 31st, 1885, and again from February 1st, 1886, until the close of the official year. The period of four months lately settled by Government for the Senior Assistant Agent's residence in agency tracts has thus been exceeded by 15 days.

4. *Details of tours.*—All the places of any importance in this division have been visited, with the exception of Ombadola which lies to the extreme north of the Bissemkatak taluk.

5. Mr. Broadfoot travelled in the Rayagada and Bissemkatak taluks and also saw something of Narayanapatnam (Párvatipur hill tracts) and of the Sálúr Agency.

6. In November and December I accompanied the Agent through Rayagada and Singupur to Bissemkatak; thence on to the Kottiya Khond hills in the north of Gunupur by way of Gudari. The Agent then left me and proceeded to Pálkonda while I after a short stay at Gunupur visited the Saura hills halting at Kuttini, Putosingi and Bhimpuram. Returning to Gunupur I spent a few days there and then set out for Párvatipur where I had business relating to the hill jail and other matters to attend to.

7. In February I went to Alamanda and Narayanapatnam; thence by way of Párvatipur to Rayagada where I stayed some time. Starting out again at the beginning of March I visited Paikapad and Bissemkatak and went on to Gunupur through Durgi and Gulliti. While at Gunupur I got orders from the Agent to proceed to Singupur and at once set out for that place *viâ* Kailasakota ghât and Komatlapeta, &c. I stopped at Singupur and in the neighbourhood for ten days, returning to head-quarters by way of Rayagada at the end of March.

8. From the above details it is clear that the touring in this division has been of a very complete nature during the year under report.

9. *The public peace and state of the people.*—I am able to report that there have been no serious disturbances since I took charge. Government have received a full report of what occurred in the Singupur estate in my predecessor's time and there is no need for me to touch on the subject again. Some circumstances that have taken place since my joining the division will be treated of further on.

10. Owing to the system of holding bhets at important places in the hills to which all the neighbouring headmen come and pay their respects to the Government officers, we are pretty well able to find out the real state of the people. The hill people appeared to me to be for the most part flourishing and contented.

11. *Singupur.*—While I was on tour with the Agent bhets were held at Sikarapai and Singupur in the Singupur territory. There were several trivial complaints against the Rani and her manager, but on investigation these proved to be mostly frivolous. Some of the Khonds asked that Gopinath Devu should be sent to rule over them, but when we told them that he was doing well at school at Vizianagrum and was far too young to hold any important position yet, they acknowledged that what we said was quite reasonable.

12. *Khond hills.*—In the Khond hills north of Gunupur bhets were held at Kutraguda, Dangusurada, Chendrapur (for the mittahs of Chendrapur and Rayabijji) and at Gudari for the mittahs of Gudari, Bijjapur and Karlaghati. Three Majjis or village heads of Rayabijji mittah complained that as their Patro had been unduly levying a tithe of their early crops, they had lost all confidence in him and would be in future compelled to pay their sist at Gunupur instead of remitting it through the Patro in the usual manner. A careful inquiry was subsequently made into this complaint which proved to be utterly false.

13. *Saura hills.*—There is an Uriya Patro for the mittah of Bhimpuram and a Soura Dhora over that of Kuttini. The Gomangos or heads of the other villages are entirely independent. It is to be regretted that they are so, for their behaviour during the bhet at Putosingi formed a striking contrast to that of the Gomangos of Bhimpuram who, marshalled in order by their Patro for whom they entertain the greatest respect, appeared to be as well conducted a body of men as one could come across anywhere. These independent Gomangos were clamorous, eager to complain and in many cases indisposed to accept the really very nice cloths I brought for them which were of the same kind as are usually distributed whenever an European officer visits their country. There were many complaints of a revenue character, most of which I disposed of then and there with the help of the Gunupur Amin who had accompanied me.

14. At Kuttini the Dhora of that place complained that the Revenue officials had been raising his rent; he said that he had for many years been paying Rs. 800 and that 2 or 3 years ago he was compelled to pay Rs. 1,000, but that his rent had again been reduced to Rs. 800. He now claimed to have it further reduced to Rs. 600. I pointed out to him that he could not expect this and promised to ask the Gunupur Amin to consider the rent as fixed, Rs 800. With this the Dhora was perfectly satisfied and when he came with his seven village heads to do that at Putosingi he asked my leave to withdraw his complaint.

15. There is no doubt that the Souras are daily advancing in intelligence and civilization. The willingness with which they allow themselves and their children to be vaccinated will be treated of further on. On market day they crowd the streets of Gunupur and make a great noise as they bargain with the Sundi people (liquor sellers) for the vippa spirit to obtain which they frequently mortgage their standing paddy crops.

16. *Rayagada, Bissemkatak and Narayanapatnam.*—I do not remember having received a single complaint of a serious nature from the people in this portion of my charge. The system of renting out the villages followed in Bissemkatak seems to work satisfactorily.

17. *The Singupur Rani.*—It has been our object for some months past to affect a compromise between the Singupur Rani and her suzerain and relative, the Maharajah of Jeypore. In November last the Agent wrote to this lady strongly advising her to come to a settlement with the Maharajah and sent the deputy tahsildar of Rayagada to explain the contents of his letter to her. She was also cautioned not to adopt a son without first consulting the Agent and the Jeypore Maharajah. The Rani who has displayed a very contumacious spirit throughout these negotiations said she could not give an answer for two months as she wanted time to consult with her relations in Ganjam on the subject.

18. In the month of February the Rani, who had taken no steps to follow the Agent's advice, to crown her folly suddenly went to Bhavanipatnam in the Kalahandi territory and there adopted one Debysingho Bakkela, second son of Sri Niladri Singho Bakkela of Chokkali, in the Sumbalpore taluk, and performed his coronation giving him the name of her late husband's father, Mukunda Deo Maharajah. The Rani returned to Singupur on the 3rd March and entered the fort with the adopted boy. Of these circumstances I was informed by the Singupur Manager. Some days after this I heard from the Agent who informed me he had likewise heard of the adoption from the manager and had at the same time received an alarming mahasarnama from the Khonds of Singupur in which they declared themselves unwilling to tolerate the Rani's rule any longer. I was ordered to proceed forthwith to Singupur to find out the grievances of the Khonds and to report whether there was any likelihood of a disturbance. I accordingly set off and held an inquiry in course of which I ascertained that the Khonds although no doubt vexed with the Rani for having adopted a boy without first consulting their wishes were not the originators of the mahazar. From what I heard I have no doubt that it was the work of some intriguing shristi-karanams with whom Singupur is literally infested.

19. I assembled all those Khond village heads by whom the mahazar purported to be written On my telling them that although the last action of the Rani might not be quite to their taste yet they were bound to respect her rule as long as it was countenanced by the Agent, the representative of Government; they all without exception promised me to keep their villages quiet and to pay sist regularly to the estate manager. I left the Singupur country after a stay of 10 days fully satisfied that the Khonds were thoroughly loyal to our rule and that unless they should be unduly excited by some foolish action on the Rani's part there was no reason to anticipate their causing us any trouble.

20. *Boundary disputes—Ongara.*—At the bhet held at Putosingi the Sarada Gomong complained that Sirang Bissoyi of Ganjam had issued demand notices to him and others for the rents of certain lands of Ongara which they had cultivated. The question as to which district the village belonged to had come up before Mr. Welsh and Messrs. Joseph and Sewell in January 1885 and they found it belonged to Vizagapatam.

21. As this was by no means the first time there had been complaints against Sirang Bissoyi I suggested that it would be as well if he were to be formally warned by the Ganjam authorities not to give any more trouble to our people. The Agent thereupon requested the Ganjam Agent to point out to the Bissoyi that persons who in spite of warning persist in trying to rake up settled boundary disputes render themselves liable to deportation under the Agency rules. The Gunupur Amin has been told that he should in future treat Ongara as belonging to Jeypore.

22. *Disputes between the Gunupur Amin and Karadango Patro.*—While at Bhimpuram I sent for the Patros of that place and of Karadango and the Gomangos of Sinduba, Udalingi and other boundary villages. I explained to them the boundary line determined by Messrs. Welsh and Joseph and they all expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the settlement arrived at by those officers.

23. On my reporting this to the Agent and informing him that the settlement had not been formally communicated in writing to the parties concerned, I was ordered to inform them officially of the decision arrived at. This I subsequently did and I believe there is not the slightest reason to fear any future breach of the peace with regard to this dispute.

24. *Hospitals.*—Gunupur is the only place in the division that can at present boast a hospital. There the accommodation is quite inadequate, though the building is in a fair state of repair. The Police are treated as in-patients; no others are received. The number of civil outpatients treated during the year 1885-86 was 1,602 as compared with 1,498 in 1884-85. The principal complaints were ague, rheumatism, fever, dysentery, diarrhœa, ulcers and itch.

25. Government in their order passed on the Vizagapatam Agency report for 1883-84 sanctioned the erection of a new hospital at Gunupur. A large piece of unoccupied land at the back of the Sub-Magistrate's house was selected as a site in the time of Mr. Welsh. I have recently had plans and estimates prepared and sent up for a new hospital at Gunupur as well as for hospitals at Rayagada and Bissemkatak which were sanctioned by Government in their order on the last Agency report. Hospitals at the latter two places will be a great boon to the people who at present have no opportunity of resorting to European treatment.

26. *Sanitation.*—The establishment of sweepers at Gunupur has done good work in and around the town. Last December I induced the Jeypore Maharajah's officials and the Komatees each to contribute Rs. 3 a month for the entertainment of two additional sweepers, so that there are now five in all. A conservancy establishment has been sanctioned both for Rayagada and Bissemkatak from April 1st; these places are I fear at present in a very unsanitary condition.

27 *Public Health.*—There was an outbreak of cholera in the Gunupur taluk at Bhimpuram in February 1885 soon after Mr. Welsh left that place. It appears to have been of a severe type, for the Patro told me that he alone lost 18 of his relations by the disease. Many villages were deserted. The same disease broke out in the Sirdarpur mittah of the Khond country. There were about 40 deaths between 24th May and 19th July and again some 10 deaths afterwards. The services of a hospital assistant were engaged with a view to putting a stop to this outbreak which subsided at the end of August. The other taluks seem to have escaped.

28. I have not heard that fever was more than usually prevalent during the year. My Mahont died of hill fever in January a few days after coming into head-quarters from the hills. A clerk and the dresser who accompanied me on my first tour were laid up with fever for a long time.

29. *Vaccination.*—Below is a comparative statement for 1884-85 and 1885-86:—

Taluks.	Number Vaccinated.							
	During 1884-85.				During 1885-86.			
	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Uknown.	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.
Gunupur	590	580	2	8	997	972	8	17
Rayagada	569	569	..	..	674	672	..	2
Bissemkatak	450	438	7	5	367	356	8	3
	1,609	1,587	9	13	2,038	2,000	16	3

There was a great increase of successful operations in Gunupur, a fair increase in Rayagada and a light decrease in Bissemkatak. The figures are on the whole very satisfactory.

30. The Soura people willingly submit to the operation of vaccination. I took a vaccinator with me to Putosingi and in few hours had some 50 unprotected persons vaccinated. By that time the vaccinator's stock of lymph was unfortunately exhausted and many women who had brought their children from a distance had to go away disappointed. If these vaccinators would only show a little more zeal and energy in the discharge of their duties, I believe our returns would soon be doubled or even trebled.

31. *Wild Beasts.*—Seven persons are reported to have been killed by tigers during the calendar year 1885 as against 19 during 1884. There were 3 deaths from panthers in 1884 but none in 1885. In each year three tigers were destroyed. The jungles of Rayabijji and Chendrapur which were infested with tigers about a year ago were said to be free from these pests when I visited the Khond hills in November.

32. *Crime.*—Housebreaking, theft in a building and simple theft continue to be the principal offences in the division.

33. The reopening in January 1885 of the Police station at Gulliti, which was closed as useless in 1881, has resulted in a great decrease in the number of cattle thefts in that mittah.

34. *Opium.*—The present system worked smoothly during the year under report. Twelve shops were opened for the sale of opium in these hill tracts. The renter kept a sufficient stock of the drug at each of the three depôts established in this division.

35. *Abkári.*—No remarks.

36. *Roads.—Chollapadam-Rayagada road.*—The traffic over this road from December to the end of March is very large indeed. I was quite astonished at the number of carts I saw going out of Rayagada towards Párvatipur day after day in the month of February. The road seems to be one that should be properly made by the Public Works Department. Meanwhile

we have to do the best we can with the small allotments placed at our disposal. Great improvements have been made this year at a cost of about 2,000 rupees. A good part of the road has been marked out by the digging of side channels. Masonry works in the shape of culverts and road dams have been built and wooden bridges put up where necessary. An entirely new track has been made near the river Nagavali at Chollapadam. The old road ran over very low-lying ground and used to be several feet under water in the rainy season. For a couple of miles outside Rayagada rocks have been buned away and the track properly levelled.

37. *Narayanapatnam road.*—Some Rs. 800 have been spent with fairly good results. The section called Battivalsa ghât has been metalled.

38. *Kurapam-Gunupur road.*—A small sum of Rs. 100 was spent. The Kurapam Zemindar promised Mr. Welsh that he would annually make one mile of road from Kurapam towards Gunupur (see Agency report for 1884-85, page 26). On my reminding the zemindar of his promise he declared that he had no intention of making any agency road and had never told Mr. Welsh he would do so.

39. *Rayagada-Bissemkatak road.*—Rs. 400 were spent in patching up some of the worst parts of the road. The Local Fund roads are made up to the agency boundary in the Sálúr taluk only. Pucka roads should now be made from Kotapam to Chollapadam on the Rayagada side and from Dugge to Kurapam on the Gunupur side. The road from Párvatipur to the Narayanapatnam agency boundary is a mere path running across paddy fields and scarcely passable in wet weather. I hope it will not be long before these three pieces of road are taken in hand by the Local Fund Engineer.

40. *Rest-houses.*—These have been nicely kept up and repaired. New rest-houses have been built at Singupur and at Limmabhadra (the halting place between Gunupur and Gudari) where they were much needed.

41. *Bissemkatak taluk office.*—The work has been satisfactorily performed on contract by Kruttivasa Patnaik, Dewan to the Tat Raja. The total cost was Rs. 2,800. Besides the usual rooms for the Sub-Magistrate and his clerks, the building consists of a treasury, a sub-jail and a capital police station with lockup. The structure is altogether most comfortable and suitable. It was quite finished by the beginning of October, but owing to damp I did not allow the Sub-Magistrate and his establishment to move into it until the new year.

42. *Education.*—I have examined several of the schools in the division.

43. *Gunupur.*—There was a Government middle school here with a normal school attached until November last. As, however, very few boys were forthcoming who cared or could afford to continue their studies up to the third class, it was determined to reduce the standard of the school. It is now known as a Primary school, pupils being taught up to the second class. When I examined the school in December I found the boys, 40 in number, intelligent and well informed. The head master and his assistants evidently take interest in their work.

44. I also examined seven result schools in which besides boys some 30 little girls were reading. I was very pleased with the progress the latter had made in arithmetic. There are altogether 40 result schools in this taluk.

45. *Rayaghada.*—There are but two schools at present in the taluk, both at Rayaghada itself. The master of the Government Primary school receives Rs. 8 a month from Government, his salary being made up to Rs. 20 by the Jeypore Maharaja's annual contribution of Rs. 144. With regard to the pupils and their master, I have the same remarks to pass as on the Primary school at Gunupur. There were 24 names on the books in February 1885 and 36 in the same month of this year. The increase is satisfactory. The pupils are taught up to the second class.

46. The second school is on the result system and consists of 12 boys who are taught up to the second standard. Their knowledge at examination was fair.

47. The school that was established at Singupur by the late Raja of that place has been closed ever since his death in February 1884. I am endeavouring to get a new school started.

48. *Bissemkatak.*—There was a primary school here up to March 1885 which was supported by the Tat Raja. The masters' salary was Rs. 30 a month. The school is said to have collapsed owing to the apathy of the inhabitants who did not care to get their children educated. I impressed on the Raja the necessity of establishing a new school in the place. He promised to do his best, but added that he had not much hope of success.

49. At Durgi there is a small Uriya school on the result system. There were 16 boys on the books when I visited the school in March. The master, a respectable old man, told me he had got Rs. 87½ as result grant at the recent examination of his school.

This is the only school in the Bissemkatak taluk, the schools at Jagdalpore and Ombadola having come to grief within a few months of their opening.

50. *Narayanapatnam.*—The result schools where boys are taught up to the third standard is supported by the Jeypore Maharaja who pays the master Rs. 15 a month. When examined by Mr. Welsh at the beginning of 1884 it consisted of 50 boys, but I regret to say that when I examined it in February last, there were but 25 names on the books. The ignorance displayed by the pupils was quite surprising. I cannot but attribute this unsatisfactory state of things to the carelessness of the master who appeared to be scarcely more intelligent than his pupils. As

the school has been steadily decreasing in numbers ever since this master was appointed, I have recommended his dismissal and the appointment of a man I believe to be more suitable for the post. The Superintendent of Hill schools has never visited this school.

51. There is, I think, no doubt that there should be two Hill School Superintendents, one for the Special Assistant's division and one for this. At present it is extremely difficult to ascertain the Superintendent's whereabouts and to get any information whatever out of him. This is not altogether his fault, for his range extending as it does from the north of Bissemkatak to Malcangiri is far too large for any one man to attend to properly.

52. *Officials.*—Kesanapalli Narasimha Rao seems to take much interest in road making and has done useful work in this respect since he came to Párvatipur.

53. The Agency Sub-Magistrates have on the whole performed their duties satisfactorily throughout the year.

54. We are about to lose Datla Tirupati Raj from Gunupur as he will be obliged to retire in May on attaining the age of 55.

55. *Season and Crops.*—The rainfall registered at Rayaghada during 1885-86 was 46·5 inches as compared with 36·725 inches in 1884-85

The rain gauge at Gunupur was under repairs for some months and none has yet been supplied for Bissemkatak, so I am unable to give figures for all the taluks.

56. During my November and December tour I noticed that the mustard and tobacco crops were very fine. Paddy is said to have been fair, but gingelly, horse-gram, green-gram and ragy were poor.

CRIMINAL Statistics for 1885-86.

Name of court.	Number of cases.					Number of persons.							Remarks.
	Pending from last year.	Received during the year.	Total.	Disposed of.	Still pending.	Pending from last year.	Received during the year.	Total.	Convicted.	Otherwise.	Total.	Still pending.	
Original.	..	6	6	6	..	..	17	17	17	..	17	..	
Appeal. Senior Assistant Agent's.	..	5	5	5	..	..	5	5	3	2	5	..	Reversed on appeal.

Court.	Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer or reference.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
Original, 1885-86. Senior Assistant Agent's ..	2	6	..	8	5	1	6	2
Appeals, 1885-86. Senior Assistant Agent's ..	..	8	..	8	5	..	5	3

From F. E. K. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Special Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam, to the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, dated Pottingi, 26th April 1886, No. 391.

I have the honor to submit my tour report for year 1885-86.

Tour.—A few days before the end of last official year I joined my appointment at Koraput and have now been in charge of Jeypore for over a year. In April I made a fortnight tour through Jeypore taluk and in May a tour on the higher plateau in Koraput and Pottingi taluks. In June I spent three weeks in the south part of Jeypore taluk and early in July I left Koraput for Vizagapatam. July and August were spent at Waltair and at the beginning of September I returned to Jeypore in consequence of the inquiry into Bustar affairs and September and October were spent on partly in Bustar and partly in the border.

In November and December I made a six weeks' tour through Malcangiri returning to Koraput at Christmas.

In January I spent a month in Nowrangapur and Ommerkote taluks and when returning met the Commissioner of Chattishghur and Mr. Priest, Political Agent, Kalahandi, on their way through Jeypore.

Learning from them that an Assistant Commissioner was on his way from Raipur to meet me to settle a boundary dispute on the north of Ommerkote taluk, I turned back and accompanied Mr. Chisholm as far as Bhavanipatnam.

Thence I returned west back into Jeypore district and reached the place of dispute on the Tél river, nearly a fortnight before the Assistant Commissioner joined me.

After settling the boundary dispute, I returned to Jeypore, where I met the Agent and accompanied him on a fortnight's tour through Jeypore and Koraput taluks.

55 days in Vizagapatam.
62 Koraput.
248 Camp.
365

I have thus spent 248 days or eight months out of the year in camp.

2. The most important event of the year was the investigation into the charges brought by the Jeypore police against the Bustar Raj of performing human sacrifices at Dantawar and elsewhere and of kidnapping victims for this purpose from Jeypore.

The facts have been fully reported to Government and it would be out of place for me to discuss the evidence here. I shall confine myself to recording a brief statement of the course of events.

During the months of May and June a belief was prevalent in the Ommerkote taluk that gangs of kidnappers from Bustar were abroad endeavouring to procure victims for sacrifices to be held the following Dussara at Dantawar and three cases were reported to the police of alleged attempt to capture persons in Ommerkote taluk presumably for this object.

In July suspicions were further aroused by the sudden and mysterious disappearance within a mile or so of Nowrangapur village of a boy employed as abkári peon in the Sub-Magistrate's office.

Application was then made to the Central Province Government for assistance in the inquiry and Surdar Ratna Sing, Police Superintendent, was despatched from Raipur to co-operate with the Jeypore police in the investigation.

Meanwhile, in August additional reports were received professing to give details as to capture and sacrifice of victims in Bustar, and upon further and more urgent representations the Central Province Government directed Mr. Priest, Political Agent, Kalahandi, to proceed to Bustar and in communication with Jeypore fully investigate the several charges. Under the orders of the Agent I left Vizagapatam for Jeypore in the beginning of September and reached the Bustar borders with Mr. Young just in time to meet Mr. Priest on his way from Kalahandi.

Mr. Young at once proceeded to put the evidence he had collected before Mr. Priest and we then undertook together a tour through Bustar territory with a body of Jeypore and Kalahandi police with a view to test the evidence and, if possible, recover any victims that might be concealed.

The result of this tour though not confirming altogether the truth of the previous reports induced the Political Agent, Kalahandi, to believe that there were sufficient grounds for continuing the inquiry, and he left us to make further investigation at Dantawar, the headquarters of the alleged sacrifices. Mr. Priest rejoined us at the end of October at Kotapad having during his absence collected a large quantity of evidence which he considered strong enough to justify the arrest of the jiah or head priest of Dantawar and the recommendation that the Bustar Rajah should be temporarily removed.

After receiving at Kotapad such prisoners as were in the custody of the Jeypore police, Mr. Priest returned to Bustar, and with the subsequent course of events the Jeypore officials had no direct connection. Mr. Priest continued his inquiries during the following two months under orders of the Central Province Government. The Bustar Raja was removed from Jagdalpore to Raipur and out of the mass of evidence collected, Mr. Priest considered the evidence in one case in which an inhabitant of Bustar by name Jondie was alleged to have been sacrificed under orders of the jiah in 1883, sufficiently conclusive to warrant the prosecution of the jiah on a charge of murder. The case was placed by Mr. Priest before a Native Magistrate and the jiah was committed to the Court of the Commissioner of Chattishghur. In January the Commissioner proceeded on tour to Bustar and tried the case. When the case came on all the prisoners and witnesses (I understand) retracted their previous statements and the case was thrown out by the Commissioner and all the prisoners under arrest were released. After the termination of the sessions case, Mr. Priest reviewed all the evidence collected in the four months' inquiry in a most minute and careful report and though naturally his view of the case was weakened by the failure of the sessions case against the jiah, he concluded by holding that "there were and are ample grounds for the suspicions entertained by the Jeypore officials that kidnapping for the sacrificial purposes went on in Bustar.

The Commissioner did not however follow Mr. Priest in his conclusions further than to allow that while entertaining no theory as to the origin of the case, he thought there might be grounds for the suspicions entertained. The case is now before the Government of India and I shall leave it to next year's report to record the conclusion of this inquiry.

3. To turn to the more prosaic details of administration I take roads first.

Appendix A shows the expenditure on roads during this year compared with last year.

1. *Pottingi to Koraput.*—The traffic over this road, the feeder of the district, continued to increase largely this year and during the harvest the string of bandies passing was continuous. Our allotment of Rs. 750 or Rs. 25 a mile was miserably inadequate and complaints of the state of the roads were loud. With this pittance it was almost impossible to keep even the bridges in order. This year we have a more liberal allowance of Rs. 1,700 and the Department of Public Works are now beginning their work in this section, but as I understand the new road will be parrellel to the present one, we shall have to keep up old road for some time to come.

2. *Koraput to Nowrangapur.*—The allotment, and we somewhat exceeded it, was not sufficient with the increased traffic to keep this road in order. After the rains the ghât was put into fair order, but towards Nowrangapur work was not completed. A ferry raft for the Indravati which was proposed last year is much required as this river at present acts as a break in the current of traffic into Ommerkote taluk.

3. *Koraput to Jeypore.*—The road is good till the bottom of the ghât. If the road is to be permanently improved a new trace must be taken on the ghât.

4. *Jeypore to Borigummah.*—The road is in fair order.

5. *Borigummah to Kotapad.*—This very important road is fairly good, but requires a good deal of attention. When Bustar affairs are settled, Mr. Priest proposes to assist us in extending the road Kotapad with Jagdalpore.

6. *Jeypore to Mote.*—A large sum was spent in clearing the old road between Malcangiri and Mote. The road is a good fair weather road, but few trading bandies have penetrated into Malcangiri. What is wanted is to open the entrance to Malcangiri by improving the Kollab crossing and the ghât down into Malcangiri. At present I understand the trade of Malcangiri almost exclusively goes now to the river at Mote instead of coming north in Jeypore.

7. *Nowrangapur to Raighur.*—This road has been carried on to some six miles beyond Dabugam and as far as it goes is good and well bridged. With this year's allotment I propose to carry on the road as far as I can beyond Ommerkote. The road will run into the Central Province eventually and I can understand from Mr. Chisholm that a road is being carried down in the Central Provinces towards Raighur. The two will eventually join.

8. There is a road from Pappadahandi over the Ampani ghât into Kalahandi which I should like to see brought into the budget The road has been made from time to time for the Central Provinces Commissioner on tour. The greater part of the ghât at Ampani and thence to Bhavanipatnam is kept up by Kalahandi estate and is in good order. I saw a large number of bandies in Kalahandi as I passed that had come round through Jeypore into Kalahandi by this road from the plains. The road was repaired this year by village labor, but it should, I think, be made permanent on our side.

Before leaving roads I must note that the Jeypore budget last year suffered heavily from curtailment. The allotment was cut down far from 18,650 to 14,070, out of which only some Rs. 8,000 were available for over 300 miles of road.

4. *Education.*—During the year the Jeypore schools were transferred from the Educational Department to the agency. At the request of the Agent, I submitted a scheme on the lines of the Ganjam agency of which the chief points were—

(1) To transfer the payment and appointment of masters from the Maharaja to Government so that complete control may be in the hands of the Agent.

(2) To increase the salaries and number of masters, abolish purely result schools and build school-houses.

(3) Separate the Special Assistant and Senior Assistant divisions giving each officer a separate Superintendent. The scheme will undoubtedly cost a good deal, but it must be remembered that hitherto Government have spent nothing but a small result grant upon education in the agency which providing in a large yearly grant in Ganjam. The schools in my division have been kept up either by the Maharaja or by private persons. I have examined most of the schools and found the Jeypore school better than I expected. I have no doubt that there will be a speedy improvement as soon as the scheme gets into working order.

5. *Law and Justice—(Criminal, Appendix B).*—I am glad to be able to say that complaints of cattle theft have decreased probably owing to the heavier sentences that have been inflicted for the last two years. The only charge of Sub-Magistrates was at Koraput, where a new Sub-Magistrate was appointed in place of the previous man removed for unsatisfactory conduct. The present Koraput Sub-Magistrate is an active and intelligent man and has given me satisfaction. I cannot say the same for the Nowrangapur Deputy Tahsildar whom I have had to report during the year.

Jails.—The Jeypore sub-jail has been almost completed this year. The amount required to finish it had to be found out of the other allotment as it was not included in the budget for last year.

The Pottingi sub-jail will have to be finished out of this year's grant and I have given orders to try and put the roof on before the next rains.

For the Koraput Hill jail some measures are urgently required. The state of the jail was noticed by the Agent last year and has formed the subject of another report this year.

Last year an estimate was submitted for about Rs. 4,460 for alterations and repairs to the jail, but being referred to the Public Works Department it came back increased to Rs. 12,920.

I do not think it any use to spend so large a sum in tinkering so wretched a building. A new jail will have to be built eventually.

For the greater part of the year I had to accommodate twice the number of the prisoners the jail ought to hold. The Párvatipur jail appears to be almost always full and only three or four times in the year relieved us of part of our excess. The guard will have to be permanently increased as well as the accommodation.

A new cutcherry and sub-jail ought at once to be built at Koraput for the Sub-Magistrate. The present buildings form part of the hill jail block and are in as miserable a condition as the rest. In the monsoon the cutcherry is unfit to sit in.

Civil.—The number of cases disposed of are shown in appendix C.

I cannot say the civil work is satisfactory. The Jeypore and Koraput Sub-Magistrates have been made munsifs this year to relieve me of the petty bazaar suits which used to form a large portion of the cases in this court and which from the constant absence on tour of my office used to remain pending till return to headquarters. But the settlement of civil suits with a court so continually on tour over so great a distance is very difficult without causing great hardship to the parties and witnesses by summoning them far from their houses and making them follow the court.

Time after time I have fixed dates with a view to the convenience of the parties and found that circumstances have caused an alteration in my tour and that the parties have returned home.

The difficulty in getting a punchayet to assemble in the cutcherry limits was noticed last year.

It is not easy to get the parties to court together, but when they come the headmen do not come with them, and I should prefer deciding the case myself to referring it to a punchayet consisting of the on-hangers of the court, while to send for the headmen would entail a further adjournment.

I have tried to settle the suits by getting the parties to name a punchayet in their village and referring the decisions to them in writing and deciding according to their answer, but have not found it answer well. The parties return to court full of complaints that justice was not done them and the punchayetdars are rarely unanimous. After all 99 out of 100 civil disputes are settled by headmen and punchayets in the villages without recourse to any court and I would not encourage parties to come to civil courts at all. Any increased facility for coming to court will most certainly undermine the settlement of disputes by punchayet.

Disputes as to boundaries of villages, payment of kist and cultivation of land are much more satisfactorily settled by an agency order after a full inquiry than by a general suit.

A word as to the Rent Recovery Act: we have not yet received the final decision of Government promised in last year orders.

During the year I have refused to enforce the Act whatever may be the legal aspect of the case. I do not see what protection the villagers will have against forceable seizure of the cattle improperly for alleged arrears. The first notice that would reach the court of the attachment would probably be a police report of a serious disturbance, while the power to bring a summary suit for damages against the padal or renter would on the hills at least be no check whatever. Any speedy inquiry in my court owing to distance would be ordinarily impossible.

The only times when the Act has been used in Jeypore it has been worked improperly by a rival renter to enforce his claim and what chance has a ryot between two renters, both attaching his property on their own responsibility.

6. *Opium and Abkári.*—The statements in the appendix show the demand and collection. I have nothing to remark thereon.

7. *Medical.*—Two dispensaries have been sanctioned this year for Jeypore and Nowrangapur and plans are being prepared for the buildings. At Jeypore a temporary building is being put up to accommodate the apothecary till the proper quarters are erected, and the apothecary might be sent at once. I hope eventually to get dispensaries at Malcangiri and Ommerkote.

The vaccination returns (appendix E) show a decrease. Malcangiri as usual heads the list. Thanks to the old Sub-Magistrate whose efforts in the encouragements of vaccination have been several times brought to the notice of Government.

From what I have seen in the villages, I think Jeypore is fairly well on in vaccination, but more might be done if the vaccinators made a point of accompanying the Government officer on tour. I have written several times about this and the District Surgeon has given strict orders on the point.

The supply of medicines for the use of the Sub-Magistrates has during the year been very irregular. The Pottingi Sub-Magistrate was for some months without the most necessary of medicines, quinine. All my Sub-Magistrates should, I think, be provided with a supply of the common medicine at fixed times, say twice a year, to avoid the delay in getting a special indent passed.

Public Health.—Cholera which was prevailing on through plains last year found its way on to the hills and lingered on in some of the villages for some months. It disappeared in October.

8. *Destruction of Wild Beasts.*—There is a most satisfactory decrease in the number of persons killed by tigers and a corresponding increase in tigers killed and rewards paid.

Six man eaters (for which additional rewards were paid) were killed. A large proportion were killed by the police who deserve credit. Several tigers were killed by what the reports term "a machine of carbines" set over the kill. The increase in cattle killed merely indicates that the reports are more accurate.

9. *Tappal.*—The new post office at Koraput has been almost completed. The Koraput Post Master was convicted by the Agent of embezzling a large sum of money received for money orders. It is to be hoped that in future the post will be better paid and more under supervision. A post office was opend in Jeypore at the beginning of the year and has proved very useful.

The Agent has applied for extension of the service to Kotapad and Nowrangapur. Mr. Priest with whom I spoke on the subject promises to connect Nowrangapur and Kotapad with his dawk from Bhavanipatnam to Jagdalpore which now runs near Nowrangapur. This will give us a very much needed line of communication with the adjacent districts in the Central Provinces.

10. *Boundary Disputes.*—The dispute on the Tél river between some Jeypore and Nowrangapur ryots (Central Provinces) mentioned before cropped up a year ago. Mr. Fox Strangways, Assistant Commissioner, came down from Raighur and met me at the place of dispute and we went over the land and examined the witness together. The dispute was a very trivial one; we agreed as to our decisions and reports were sent by each of us to our respective chiefs.

Another dispute between Jeypore and Kasipore was brought to my notice and Mr. Priest has promised to meet the Jeypore officer in May on the spot to settle it.

11. *Establishment.*—During the year my head clerk was appointed Sub-Magistrate at Paderu and my second clerk was promoted to head clerk. The post of second clerk is not yet filled up.

I have already addressed you separately on a proposal to increase the pay of my office by granting a hill allowance. Last year you remarked that my office was inefficient, but considering the difficulty in getting any good man to serve in these hills from the un healthiness of the district, I cannot hope to improve it, while the pay is less than in the office of the Senior Assistant in the plains and less even than in the office of the police at Koraput.

12. *Miscellaneous Complaints.*—The year has been very free from any important complaints. During the year when in Malcangiri the constables complained of the difficulty in following the Government order on the subject of purchasing rice stating that though they had paid their money to the Nigaman, no rice was supplied to them. A special report was sent by me on this point. No complaints were made against the Malcangiri Nigaman who was newly put in last year.

13. Money prices have been steadily rising and there can be no doubt that the Jeypore ryots are benefiting greatly by the opening up of the country and as far as I have seen they appear to be fairly prosperous and contended.

14. In conclusion, I must apologise for the length of my report. Having only joined last March, I had no opportunity of having my say last year upon the many matters of importance in the district.

A.

COMPARATIVE Statement showing the Expenditure during the year 1885-86.

No.	Name of work.	Expenditure, 1884-85.	Expenditure, 1885-86.
	Roads.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1	Nowrangapur to Raighur	3,000 0 0	2,501 11 6
2	Koraput to Pottingi	1,231 11 4	690 0 0
3	Koraput to Nowrangapur	2,053 1 6	1,956 3 6
4	Koraput to Jeypore	1,013 5 0	587 0 2
5	Jeypore to Mote	2,391 0 0	2,222 14 11
6	Malcangiri to Kondakamberu	1,057 1 6	..
7	Borigummah to Kotapad	1,000 0 0	693 9 0
8	Turner's Ghát	1,200 0 0	1,195 1 3
9	Jeypore to Borigummah	400 0 0	600 3 6
	Buildings.		
10	Travellers' bungalow and chattram at Koraput ..	813 10 10	185 7 2
11	Rest-houses	1,496 0 0	306 8 0
12	Government buildings at Koraput	1,307 4 3	483 15 8
13	Sub-jail, Jeypore	1,769 12 4	2,000 0 0
14	Sanitary works at Koraput	475 1 3	549 9 5
15	Road from Ommerkote to Kalahandi frontier ..	700 0 0	..
	Total ..	19,908 0 0	13,972 3 6

B.

STATEMENT showing the Cases filed and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Magistrate and Agent ..	3	71	..	74	73	..	73	1

C.

STATEMENT showing the Civil Suits instituted and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Suits.							
	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Agent	35	65	..	100	51	18	69	31

D.

STATEMENT showing the Appeals filed and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Appeals.							
	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Magistrate and Agent ..	1	13	..	14	13	..	13	1

E.

STATEMENT showing the Vaccination carried out in my Division during the year 1885-86.

Taluk.	Number vaccinated during the year 1884-85.					Number vaccinated during the year 1885-86.						
	Total number of vaccinators employed.	Number vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total number of vaccinators employed.	Number vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Increase.	Decrease.
Koraput	5	1,214	1,190	..	24	5	1,104	1,023	37	44	..	110
Jeypore	2	759	742	..	17	2	717	711	1	5	..	42
Pottingi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nowrangapur	3	883	846	..	37	3	820	811	6	3	..	63
Malcangiri	2	1,895	1,832	..	63	2	1,207	1,183	8	16	..	688
Total ..	12	4,751	4,610	..	141	12	3,848	3,728	52	68	..	903

F.

STATEMENT showing the Animals killed by Wild Beasts and the Amount of Reward paid for them.

Division.	Animals killed by				Amount of reward paid for			
	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Hyænas.	Bears.	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Hyænas.	Bears.
Special Assistant Agent's Division ..	254	71	..	..	RS. 4,000	RS. 2,800	RS. 15	RS. 70

G.

ABSTRACT Statement of Wild Animals killed, Rewards distributed and Loss of Life during the year 1885-86.

Years.	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Bears.	Hyænas.	Reward paid.	Loss of life.	
						Men.	Cattle.
1885-86	35	112	10	3	RS. 6,885	96	325

Appendix to Agent's Report.

EXTRACT from the Geological Sketch of the Vizagapatam District by W. KING, Esq., B.A., D. Sc., Superintendent, Geological Survey of India.

Gneisses of the Galikonda Hill Tract.—An opportunity, under the guidance of Mr. H. G. Turner, C.S., the Collector and Agent of the district, was afforded me of visiting this region and of thus making a traverse as far as the verge of the Jeypore territory, over a considerable thickness of gneisses which by their lie appear to be subjacent to, or older than, any of the bands or subdivisions already described. They are, at any rate, all dipping to the east-south-eastward: at first on the skirts of the hills about Bodara and thence westwards to the first ascent (1,000 feet) below Raivalsa, at high angles, and then at lower and lower inclinations until, in Devadimanda (over 5,000 feet), the highest station of the Galikonda ridge, they are lying so low as 30°. The rocks are still garnetiferous, but not nearly to such an extent as is the case with those already described; while they are more decidedly quartzo-felspathic in their constitution and not so schistose though still well-bedded and laminated, and their colors are of correspondingly lighter shades. They must, for the present, be considered as belonging to the Vizagapatam series, being still, on the whole, markedly different from the more massive and less foliated and older-looking gneisses of Southern India. The main ridge beds, however, run up at the low angle of dip given above, and give a steep and high craggy face looking out over the lower upland of Jeypore to the west, thus exhibiting a break in the surface contour which may arise from a change in the character, and even the relative age, of the crystallines to the westward. Galikonda is the proposed hill resort of Vizianagrum, but as yet it has only received very slight attention in that way, partly from its distance, some 45 miles westward, and from want of convenient accessibility. The old Raivalsa track in the direction of Jeypore passes over a lofty (over 4,200 feet) saddle, a short distance north of the highest point of the Galikonda ridge, after which it descends again rather rapidly to a lower upland: this is now being made by slow degrees fit for cart traffic. Long ago, some enterprising official built a bungalow and planted a garden of various fruit-trees high up on the eastern slopes, but the garden only now remains the living and luxuriant result of that experiment. At a much lower elevation, about 3,000 feet and about half-way up the ghât, an experimental plantation for coffee, tea, cinchona, and other products has been started under the local Government, with, I think, fair prospects of success.

Crystalline Limestone Bands.—A very interesting occurrence in the gneisses of the hill tract is a series of apparently isolated outcrops of crystalline limestone, which, irrespective of the industrial value they may come to possess, are pierced by swallow-holes or caverns, one of which is of considerable extent and magnificence. The southernmost outcrop within the range of our traverse is on the low saddle above the village of Nilgalgunta, six miles south-east of Devadimanda hill. There is a small cave here, lined with travertine but without any stalactites or stalagmites: other recesses are said to exist which are now blocked up. The limestone is of grey and dark-green or nearly black colours, the latter arising from a strong admixture of hornblendic minerals, generally coarsely saccharine, in thick beds having a high dip to east-south-east, with an exposed aggregate thickness of about thirty yards. Some six miles to the north-north-east, a short distance beyond the village of Borra, a much more important outcrop forms a low hill, through which the village stream passes by a series of swallow-holes to the Peddagunda river. Formerly the subterranean channel was free, but within the last few years it became choked up, and, as a consequence, a small lake or tarn has been formed behind the southern end or headland of the limestone hill, the flooded waters of which have in time cut a temporary off-flow on its western side. Half-way over the hill, going northwards, there is an opening to a cavernous shaft, down which one can look into dim depths, and from which issues the murmur of running water. A short distance further on, the path reaches the edge of the northern face of the hill, where it overhangs a deep ravine, in which the village stream again comes to light about 300 feet below. The hill thus traversed by a series of swallow-holes is made up, as far as outcrop shows, of about 500 feet in thickness of generally massive and pale-coloured granular crystalline limestone, some beds of which, in their fineness of texture and pure colour, compare favorably with Carara marble; though, as a rule, the rock is more coarsely crystallized and of grey or dirty-white colours, weathering dark or nearly black. The dip is high, 50° or 60° or even more, to the eastward with a N.N.E.—S.S.W. strike. As far as I could see, the band is lenticular, thinning out rather suddenly to the southward.

Borra Cave.—About 50 feet below the northern brow, a large but low entrance leads into a deep and lofty cavern having a rude, dome-like roof opening to the sky above by the orifice already mentioned Here, in fact, is a huge natural cave temple, bearing a rugged resemblance to the Pantheon at Rome, though, as yet, it contains only one god, Priapus,* represented by a fragment of stalactite. The roof is crossed or irregularly ribbed with thick-short, curtain-like masses of stalactitic deposit, only one or two of which towards the sides of the cavern, are connected with the thickly-grouped and large mammilated mounds of stalagmite forming the floor. The latter slopes rapidly down on the eastern

* Presumably so, at least, for the pillar of travertine is to all appearance a sort of lingum, and there was no authoritative priest or devotee at hand to settle the question.

side to a narrow cleft or rift, along which the waters from the stream above pursue their still hidden course, this rift being generally in a plane of bedding. Further cavernous recesses are seen to occur upwards towards the dammed-up tarn, while on the other side, the existence of yet lower caverns is evidenced by gleams of light pouring in from the deep ravine in front to the depths of the side rift. We were only able to note the features of this great cave in a very rapid way. The single stalactite (6 feet long and 4 to 8 inches in diameter) has been appropriated for the devotional service noted above, the cave being the resort at certain seasons of many pilgrims. There is one other pillar in the shape of a small stalagmite, 3 feet high and 8 inches in diameter, which is slowly rising from the floor by deposition from the drops falling at long intervals from the roof. The interior of the cavern is coated over with travertine—a dull, cream-white, compact, semi-crystalline rock, the surface sparkling a little owing to minute sparry facets. The stalactitic festoons are beautifully fluted and wrinkled, while the huge fungoid and coralloid mounds of stalagmite are wrinkled in little waves of terracing, the mounds themselves being made up of successive shells with irregular cavities between.

A good deal of rubbish, the sweepings from the numerous pilgrim gatherings, lies collected among the stalagmitic mounds, forming an uneven earth floor, but with no thickness; and this appears to be the only material in which any remains could occur otherwise than in the substance of the mounds themselves.

On a subsequent visit, as I am informed by him, Mr. Turner ascertained, notwithstanding that we were told to the contrary by the villagers, that this band of limestones is continued to the northward, and that it even bars the passage of the Peddagunda river itself by a wall some 20 or 30 yards wide, which is pierced by a cavernous channel having two apertures on the upside, each 40 feet high, one above the other, but not in a straight line. Further in, the hollow is only about 3 or 4 feet above the level of the water, and through it, Mr. Turner could, by creeping in as far as possible and bending down, just see the light coming in at the orifice on the down side. There is no particular show of travertine in this swallow-hole.

From all Mr. Turner could gather by inquiry—and curiously enough the villagers appear very reserved on the subject—there appear to be other caves or outcrops of limestone both in this neighbourhood of Borra and yet further eastward at the foot of the hills. This Borra band and that reported to the eastward would be, if continued northwards in the line of strike held by the gneisses, somewhat in the direction of other reported outcrops of calcareous rocks in the Salúr zemindari, and it is not improbable that the ultimate tracing out of them, as well as of a yet further outcrop (to be noticed immediately) to the north of Vizianagrum, may bring the Galikonda gneisses into a closer relation with the Kailassa band than my traverse of them has led me to suppose is the case.

From the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam, dated 19th November 1886, No. 742.

Order—dated 23rd December 1886, No. 3387, Judicial.

The first of the foregoing papers is the annual report on the administration of the Agency tracts of the Vizagapatam district, which His Excellency the Governor in Council will now proceed to review.

2. *Touring.*—The amount of touring done by the Agency officers is very satisfactory; Mr. Wedderburn was especially active, having spent no less than 248 days in camp. His Excellency in Council notices with much pleasure the high terms in which Mr. Turner speaks of Messrs. Power and Elwin.

3. *Communications.*—The Agent devotes much of his report to the question of roads, and urges the adoption of a more liberal policy towards the Agency in the matter of funds for this purpose. The Government have always recognised the importance of the development of communications in these backward tracts, and they have made considerable yearly grants from Provincial funds for the construction and maintenance of roads and buildings. The cost of the Pottingi Ghât road was Rs. 4,56,581,* and sanction has already been accorded to the construction by the Public Works Department of a first-class road from Pottingi to Koraput, to be eventually extended to the Central Provinces' frontier.† The Government do not think, therefore, that there has been any want of liberality in the treatment of the Agency tracts. It must be remembered that in other districts the cost of the construction and maintenance of communications is met from special funds raised locally, assistance being given from Provincial funds only in exceptional circumstances; and that the Agency yields to Government in direct revenue a comparatively trifling sum. Upon a consideration of these facts, the Government are of opinion that, while the present policy of steady progress in the matter of opening new roads should be maintained, it would be unfair to other portions of the presidency to sanction the large expenditure contemplated by Mr. Turner. In the present financial position, the utmost that can be hoped for is that Government may be able to maintain expenditure on the present scale.

* *Vide* G.O., dated 10th October 1885, No. 2365 W., Public Works Department, recorded in Judicial Department G.O., dated 26th October 1885, No. 1429.

† *Vide* Government Order quoted above, and G.O., dated 4th January 1886, No. 8 W., Public Works Department, recorded in Judicial Department G.O., dated 19th January 1886, Mis. No. 151.

4. The Government do not possess such full information as is desirable regarding the roads in the Vizagapatam Agency. Mr. Turner will therefore be requested to submit a special report on the subject. The report should show the number and mileage of existing roads and the amount spent upon them during the last five years. It should also contain a full description of the roads which Mr. Turner proposes to open, their mileage, and a rough estimate of their cost. A map should be furnished, and in this all ghâts and rivers should be clearly marked. Full particulars regarding the length of ghât roads and the necessity for bridging rivers should be given in the body of the report. Mr. Turner should also consider whether the yearly allotment could not be more effectively utilised if work were more concentrated. In this way each road in turn could be put into thoroughly good order; the subsequent cost of maintenance would probably be less than the sum now expended on this account, while in place of many indifferent roads there would be a few good ones, and the number of these would be gradually increasing.

5. *Buildings.*—Turning now to the question of buildings, the Government observe that the Jeypore sub-jail and cutcherry was not completed at the close of the year, although so far back as 1884 nothing remained to be done but to put on the roof.* The Government trust that the work is now finished. The Bissemkatak taluk office was completed, and appears to be a satisfactory building.

* Paragraph 22 of G.O., dated 13th October 1884, No. 2619, Judicial.

6. *Education.*—The education of the only son of the Maharaja of Jeypore by an English tutor has at length been arranged for, and the tutor, Mr. Marsh, was to have entered on his duties in November. The general question of education in the Agency tracts was dealt with in G.O., dated 10th June 1886, No. 354, Educational. The scheme then sanctioned contained no provision for schools in the Golgonda or Paderu taluks, the backward educational condition of which is now brought to notice by the Principal Assistant Agent. This matter should receive the further attention of the Agent.

7. *Law and Crime.*—The number of civil suits instituted in the Agency Courts during the year was 316, the number pending from the previous year being 110. Of this number only 271 were disposed of, the number pending at the end of the year being 152. The above figures are not satisfactory, and special efforts should be made to ensure the more speedy disposal of cases. The arrears before the munsifs of Rayaghada and Jeypore are specially heavy. Now that the Koraput and Jeypore sub-magistrates have been given civil powers, the delays caused by the Special Assistant Agent being so constantly on tour should no longer occur.

Two appeals were pending and ten were instituted during the year. Of these, nine were disposed of.

8. The outturn of criminal work is more satisfactory. One thousand two hundred and twelve cases were instituted during the year, and 42 were pending from the previous year. These were all disposed of except 19. The institutions in the

previous year numbered 1,313. Among the committals to the Agent's Court were 9 cases of murder and 10 of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The number of prisoners involved in these cases was 34, of whom 18 were convicted and 15 discharged, the remaining one being still under trial. It is satisfactory to observe that the crime of cattle-theft has begun to decrease, "owing," it is said, "to the heavier sentences that have been inflicted during the last two years." The cases of alleged kidnapping of Jeypore people by men from Bastar have been dealt with in separate papers.

There were no serious disturbances of the public peace during the year.

9. *Wild Animals.*—In the Special Assistant Agent's division, 96 persons were killed by wild animals. Figures for the previous year are not available, but the number of deaths in the calendar year 1883 was 234. The number of persons killed in the other divisions was 8. The number of tigers destroyed in the whole of the Agency tracts was 54, as against 58 in the previous year. Of this number, 7 were man-cating tigers. The figures are satisfactory. In his next report the Agent should give a comparative statement showing the number of tigers, panthers, &c., destroyed in each of the previous five years, as also the number of persons killed by wild animals and the amount of rewards paid.

10. *Miscellaneous.*—The administration of the Opium and Abkári revenue calls for no remarks. The vaccination figures of the Senior Assistant Agent's division show an improvement, but there was a decrease in the number of vaccinations in that of the Special Assistant. No figures are given by the Principal Assistant. It is not stated whether any attempt is made to check the returns submitted by the vaccinators. This should be done, and the vaccinators should certainly accompany the Agent and his Assistants when on tour. The cost per case should in future be given, and the number of vaccinations per man employed.

11. The attention of the Accountant-General will be drawn to the alleged deficiency of copper coinage in Jeypore. Mr. Turner's general remarks on coinage are out of place in a report on the Agency tracts. He should, however, explain what he means by saying that the copper coin is debased.

12. The action taken by the Agent in connection with the amins of Rayaghada and Gunupur is approved. The Government trust that they have been replaced by men whose probity can be relied upon. The Agent should recommend the Maharaja to introduce a system of accounts that would ensure the speedy detection of frauds upon his revenues.

13. The payment of the tour expenses, amounting to Rs. 512-15-7, is sanctioned.

14. The Superintendent of Survey will be directed to state whether he can furnish a map of the Agency tracts. His attention will be drawn to paragraph 9 of G.O., dated 13th October 1884, No. 2619, Judicial, and paragraph 16 of G.O., dated 20th October 1885, No. 2822, Judicial.

15. Dr. William King's note is interesting, and will be printed as an appendix to the report.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam.
" " Ganjam.
" Government Agent, Godávari.
" Revenue Department.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Inspector-General of Police.
" Public Works Department.
" Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
" Accountant-General.
" Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

Exd. A. Raitt.

X/

Communicated
to the S. E. I circle.
(Sd) J. O. H.
W.

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 23rd December 1886, No. 3387.

DECEMBER.

Vizagapatam Agency.

Reviewing the annual report of the — for 1885-86.

S. E. I circle.

With order.

Govt. of {1886} Madras.

JUDICIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From H. G. TURNER, Esq., Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vizianagrum, 23rd August 1886, No. 602.

I have the honor to submit my report on the administration of the Agency tracts of this district for the year 1885-86.

The first tour undertaken by the Agent during the year under review was an excursion with Mr. Elwin, the newly appointed Senior Assistant, through his division. I left Párvatipur on the 16th November and marched to Rayaguda, Singapore, Bissemkatak, thence throughout the Khond Maliahs to Godairy, and following the valley of the Vamsadhára river to Gunupur, came out through the Sitampeta pass to Pálkonda.

2. The second tour took me through the Special Assistant's division, which I entered by the Galikonda pass, journeying by Aruku and Nundapur, I reached Koraput on the 2nd March. Thence I went to Jeypore where I saw the Maharajah. From Jeypore I marched to Ramagiri, and turning towards home at that point I proceeded viâ Balliguda and Sogaru, and avoiding the Galikonda mountain came out at Anantagiri through Bondam and Borra—this being the line which will probably be taken by the new road now under construction between the plains of Vizagapatam and the southern part of the Jeypore plateau and Malkangiri.

3. I had visited Borra already this season in company with Dr. King of the Geological Department. That gentleman, being on a visit to Vizianagrum to inspect a proposed artesian well, expressed a wish to look at the formation of the ghâts, and we went up to Anantagiri for a few days on this errand. This was in October. Some two or three months before this I was at Anantagiri exploring a line for the new road when I first heard of Borra. Borra, meaning a " cave " in Telugu, belonged, I casually heard, to the Jeypore country. Asking the meaning of this—for Borra lies on the borders of Pusupati and Téda (the local names of Vizianagrum and Pachipenta)—I was told that, at the time of the cession of these lands by Jeypore, Borra was retained because of the holy cave there. " It is a thirtham " said my informant, and " the water drips through the roof, and this water is taken at Siva-Ratri to wash the Lingam at Nundapur, the ancient capital of the Jeypore House." Caves being objects of desire to every one, whether English or Hindu, Aryan or Dravidian or Kolairean, I took the opportunity of Dr. King's visit to explore it, delighted to be guided by the illumination of his professional knowledge. We went and we discovered a chain of most interesting limestone caves, full of excellent specimens of stalactites and stalagmites. The caves are apparently eaten out of a limestone rock by a stream which now works its way through this series of caverns and emerges far below in a deep gloomy gorge. The caverns are full of Lingams consisting of stalagmites. The stream is heard rushing along the underground passages far out of sight. The water is used for the worship of the tutelary deity of Jeypore, and we were reminded of the place where—

" Alph the sacred river ran
Through caverns measureless to man
Down to a sunless sea."

The river into which the sacred river falls is known as the Pedagunda river. It eventually emerges from the hills at Kasipatnam and then flows out through the Srungavarapukota taluk, where much water is diverted into irrigation channels, and it eventually joins the sea at Bimlipatam.

4. So much we discovered on our first visit. On my second visit to the cave in November, I think, I made a further discovery, viz., that the Pedagunda river itself encounters the same band of limestone just above its plunge into the gorge, where it receives the little stream above-mentioned as the author of the stalactite cave, and it also "through the shaggy hill passes underneath engulfed." This passage is a low arch affording just sufficient room to the water. High above the present tunnel is another great open hole in the rock, which evidently served as a vent for the water before the river denuded its way down to the present orifice—altogether a most interesting place—and I fancy that the limestone bed is of larger extent than we at first thought, for on my last visit I struck it again much higher up the river.

I know of two other caves or more of this sort. One at Gopteswaram, which is also a thirtham on the banks of the Sebheri, 8 miles west of Ramagiri — a place of much sanctity and of extensive legendary associations.

5. The line of road which I am now engaged on will be, when finished, of equal importance with the Sálúr ghât and the road from Pottingy to Koraput.

From Vizianagrum it will be 25 miles to the foot of the new ghât. Five miles of road will be cut out of the side of the hill, and we shall then find ourselves at Dhamuku, 2,000 feet above the level of the sea. The road must then run, I think, to the Borra saddle, some 3 miles through the Raevalsa valley. From the Borra saddle, if we go that way, it must descend a few hundred feet to cross the Borra valley, and then it will ascend again and emerge into the open plateau near Bondam.

6. This route was explored by Colonel Shaw-Stewart some 25 years ago. Exception has been taken by various officers to the other route selected eventually for the bridle-path, to wit, over a spur of Galikonda, 4,500 feet above sea level, instead of adopting what these critics considered the better route for a bridle-path round by Borra and Bondam. But I am happy to be able to state that the engineers were right and the critics wrong, for the country round by Borra is a very difficult country indeed, and for a bridle-path a uselessly circuitous route. I am afraid that I must go that way with my cart road, but for a bridle-path there is no doubt that the shortest and best way is the one now in existence. The party engaged in the work certainly took the greatest pains to find out the best way, and it is most interesting to me to come across their old traces now overgrown with jungle as I go poking about to find my way over and round the various obstacles which vex the schemes of the road-maker.

7. I have completed three miles of the section that has to be cut out of the hill-side, and have done a good deal of the fourth and fifth miles. The whole of this section will be finished in six months, and carts will then have access to a considerable extent of country hitherto trodden only by the pack beast. I will dismiss this part of my subject by saying that the road will probably run from Bondam to Aruku, thence to Padawa, Sogaru and Guniapodu, thence to Baliguda and so by Janitigiri, where it will bifurcate—one branch running down to the north Malkangiri country and so opening out to trade a vast extent of fertile land, and the other branch will run down to Dasumutpur and open up all the Ramagiri country, which contains excellent land of unquestionable value.

8. Interesting again are the associations of this road as it gets into the Sogaru country, for here in this corner is an extensive Kolairean colony of Gadabas and their cousins the Bonda Porjas and the Kerang kapus. Here also at Baliguda are the falls of the Sibru, a most weird gaunt abyss of cliffs into which the river here known as the Matsyagunda, but further down as the Sibru, makes a perpendicular plunge 480 feet deep. I discovered these falls nearly twenty years ago, and I revisited them recently and took their height with an aneroid barometer.

9. These Kolaireans are excellent husbandmen, and a road through their country will give a decided stimulus to the agriculture of the part. A cross road will leave the main artery at Tobah and run through Nundapur and Paleba to Koraput. Speaking roughly, it will be about 100 miles from the foot of the new ghât to the Malkangiri taluk, and the cross road to Koraput will be about 25 miles in addition. But as soon as the pass over the mountains is completed, carts will be able to penetrate almost along the whole length of this line. It is all on the 3,000-feet plateau, a hard dry soil, perfectly open and free from any serious obstacles. It will be an enormous boon to

the country, and I expect that colonists from the Vizianagrum zemindari will be induced by the facilities of communication to settle on the lands of Ramagiri and Malkangiri if proper arrangements are made for their reception. It is to be hoped that the Government will ere long pay special attention to the migration of people, organize and encourage it. It is a matter of great public moment. It embraces considerations of the very highest policy, and, in my opinion, it ought to take an ascertained place in the sphere of our administration.

10. The roads in the Special Assistant's division are much cut up by the cart traffic. The District Engineer counted as many as 500 carts loaded with grain passing down the Sálúr ghât in one day.

During the year under report definite arrangements have been made by Government for the construction of the Pottingy and Koraput road, and the Public Works Department commenced work on that section in April 1886. The Tandevalsa ghât road has been repaired, and the causeway across the river at the bottom has been reconstructed with vents. Revetments and easing of gradient are among the works that have been carried on on that communication, which is now used by carts on their way to the Thonam market. Brinjaries continue to use it, preferring it over the new road owing to the grass and water found along the route. On the Vizagapatam and Central Provinces trunk line bridges have been built at Pauperhandi and Dabugaon; also causeways across some swamps and other embankments, and the road has been carried to a point 26 miles north of Nowrangapore. Mr. Wedderburn points out that the allotment of Rs. 25 a mile for the repair of this road was miserably inadequate. I have increased it to more than Rs. 50 a mile for the current season, but even that amount is far too small. I cannot spare more funds without starving other works, and I hope that the Public Works Department will press on their road and open sections of it as quickly as possible.

The question of running the Public Works Department road parallel to the existing line of communication is under discussion. Mr. Wedderburn draws attention to the question of a ferry raft over the Indrávati, which I shall take up this year, as also the new trace for the Jeypore-Koraput road. He reports that the other roads are in fair order, drawing attention to the improvement of the Kolab crossing and of the Malkangiri ghât. I have already touched on the Central Provinces road beyond Nowrangapore, and I agree with him in thinking that a road might be opened from Pauperhandi over the Ampani ghât into Kalahandy. The curtailment of the budget was caused by financial retrenchments decreed by Government.

11. Turning now to the education question, the scheme for educating the Maharajah's son is progressing favorably. There was some difficulty in arranging the terms upon which Mr. Marsh would come. But I have been able to effect an arrangement which will form the subject of a special letter* to Government, and Mr. Marsh will probably enter on his duties in November next.

* Letter No. 586, dated 12th August 1886.

On examining the proposals for general education, it was at once seen that nothing can be done until measures are taken for paying the masters from Government funds. This involves the transfer of the complete control from the Maharajah to the agency and the appointment of a special superintendent for each division, the plan of employing one superintendent for both the Senior and Special Assistant's division being unworkable. A scheme has been drawn up in consultation with the Inspector of Schools, and it is now on its way to Government through the Director of Public Instruction—*vide* G.O., No. 354, dated 10th June 1886, Educational.

Under law and justice, I have to notice the decrease of the crime of cattle theft. The Acting Sub-Magistrate of Nowrangapore has been relegated to his substantive appointment of Head Clerk in the plains. The question of the Koraput Hill Jail is before Government in my letter No. 243, dated 6th March 1886, and has been put into a settled form by G.O., No. 1277, dated 15th May 1886, Judicial.

12. Mr. Wedderburn enters at some length into the difficulties he experiences in getting through his civil file.

It has all along been our policy to discourage resort to civil tribunals in the agency from the fear that the people would be victimized by vakils, and I believe

that no such courts as district munsifs' courts are at all necessary in the Hill tracts, except in such places as Koraput, Jeypore and other large villages to which low country traders resort. What may be necessary hereafter when the country is opened out to cart traffic I know not, but when we come to think of the vast quantities of transactions that are carried on throughout the country without any sanction of a resort to law, why, I ask, should we dig a pit in their midst for them to fall into? Beyond any part of the country I know, Jeypore is distinguished for the marvellous numbers of weekly markets. On the road between the summit of the ghât and the interior of the country—say, 50 miles—there are five large markets held on five days in the week, viz, at Sipaiput, Dumriput, Cheptaamb, Boregumma, and at another place. These markets are frequented by large concourses of people bent on bargaining, the inter-marketal trade being in the hands of the Dombs, an out-caste tribe. Yet the whole of these transactions take place without any resort to law, and more than this all the native produce merchants, who live round the foot of the hills from the Godávari to Gunapur, advance on crops, on jungle produce, on beasts, on hides, and so forth, quite content to run whatever risks there may be in giving over money to the hill man without any security at all. They are, I believe, content with the state of the law as it now stands, and though it might be argued that the want of security disables the hill man from driving a better bargain, I have no doubt at all that on the whole the hill man would be at a disadvantage if he tried to sue his sowcar for breach of contract.

Mr. Wedderburn's remarks on the Rent Recovery Act are equally to the point. The power of distraint cannot be granted to the landlords in a country where several days journey must be traversed before redress for illegal seizure can be obtained. It is far better to let all public business of this kind vest summarily in the divisional officer.

13. Mr. Wedderburn draws attention to the meritorious efforts of the Sub-Magistrate of Malkangiri in pushing vaccination, and care will be taken that a vaccinator accompanies the divisional officer on his tours. His suggestions regarding medicines will receive attention. The business of slaying wild beasts is steadily improving, and the tappal arrangements claim a passing notice. I am in communication with the Postmaster-General regarding the postal connection with the Central Provinces.

14. I have informed the Commissioner of Chhetisghur that I concur in the decision of the boundary dispute on the Tel which has been settled by Mr. Wedderburn and Mr. Fox Strangeways, and I am awaiting his reply.

Since drafting the above, the reply of the Chief Commissioner has been received, and I am forwarding the case to Government for their formal approval.

15. In the course of my tour through the Senior Assistant's division, the Dewan of the Maharajah of Jeypore brought to my notice the very unsatisfactory behaviour of the ameens of Rayaguda and Gunupur. These managers had contrived to get possession of the rents of these two large taluks and played with him and the Maharajah in a way that called to mind the story told by Burke of the noteworthy transactions of Paul Benfey and his co-adjutors in connection with the Nabob of Arcot's debts.

These ameens were in the habit of receiving from the Maharajah orders called Barátams directing them to pay certain monies to the person named therein. To these orders these worthy men were in the habit of replying that they had no rents belonging to the Maharajah in hand, but that they would advance money to meet the Barátams from their own resources, on what they called moderate interest, *i.e.*, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *per month*. The money was advanced, not at once, but from time to time, that is, as the rents came in, and so it came about that a large debt was formed, built up by lending the Maharajah his own money and charging 18 per cent. per annum for it. This *debt* again was liquidated by the ameens by an assignment to themselves of the revenues they collected. Bonds passed between the parties confirming these transactions, or to quote Burke—it is quite interesting to apply his words to these events, for they are so delightfully applicable—"Bond is paid by bond; arrear is turned into new arrear; usury engenders new usury, until all the revenues and all the establishments are entangled into one inextricable knot of confusion from which they

are only disengaged by being entirely destroyed." This is exactly what we had to do. The ameens could or would produce no accounts. They came before us clothed in the commonest of cloths as evidence of their poverty, and they sat before us hour after hour prevaricating, withdrawing statements, qualifying admissions, and all done with a mien the most plausible and a submission humiliating to witness. There could be no adjustment made. All we did therefore was to make the ameen of Rayaguda sign a bond for Rs. 27,000 and him of Gunupur one for Rs. 60,000 and to turn them out of their employments subject to the confirmation of the Maharajah, to whom I sent the obligations they executed. But I know what will happen. They will go up to the capital and by back-stair influence they will probably recover their bonds and perhaps get reinstated in their appointments, though I shall stop the latter catastrophe by a stern exercise of authority.

16. Mr. Elwin sends an interesting account of his doings during the five-and-half months he was in charge. His touring shows a good record. I am glad to be able to bear testimony to the very zealous and intelligent way in which this young officer conducts his duties. I have treated so fully of the incidents of the Singapore case in the papers marginally noted that I need hardly swell this report by recapitulating them here.

G.O., Judicial,	9th January	1885,	No.	52, Mis.
Do.	25th August	„	„	2220, „
Do.	19th May	1886,	„	1326, „

All I need mention is that the Maharajah of Jeypore has filed a suit in my court to resume possession of the estate, or for an increase of rents, and it will be for the law courts to decide on the strength of his claim. The ryots of the estate are not settled down yet. I had a deputation from them quite recently, but they were amenable to argument and they returned to their country in a peaceful state of mind. The country will require careful attention for some time to come. I have not relaxed my endeavours to effect a compromise between the Maharajah and the Ranee, and only a few days since I hoped that an opening was preparing itself. Perhaps when the cause comes into court some arrangement may be effected.

17. I was unable to visit the Sowra hills. Mr. Elwin states that the Gomangoes, who are independent of the authority of the Urya Patro of Bhimpuram or of the Dhora of Kuttmi, were ill-mannered enough to complain of the cloths given them from the Government bounty. The best thing to do will be to intermit these presents until the recipients seem disposed to appreciate them.

It is very encouraging to note the interest the Sowras take in vaccination. In paragraph 30 Mr. Elwin complains of a want of zeal and energy among the vaccinators. This paragraph will be communicated to the District Surgeon.

There was still some question regarding the ownership of Ongara village which was decided by Messrs. Sewell, Welsh and Joseph to belong to Jeypore.

18. The Government have already been requested in the letter marginally noted to allot money for the erection of hospitals at Rayaguda and Bissemkatak and Nowrangapore, and their order sanctioning the outlay has been recently received—G.O., No. 544, dated 19th June 1886, Financial.

Letter, dated 17th May 1886, No. 442.

Mr. Elwin then touches on the sanitation of these places, mentions that Bhimpuram was visited by a bad attack of cholera between May and July last year, and tells us that fever has carried off his mahout. When on tour with Mr. Elwin in November, a tiger-skin was brought to me with the story that the beast had been killed through being impaled on two bamboo stakes. Observing foot-prints of a tiger that used to walk along a path and spring over a fence, the hunter placed four sharpened stakes on the landing side of the fence so disposed that the tiger would alight on them when it jumped over the obstacle. The tiger actually did jump over the hedge and did impale himself on the stakes and then the poor brute lay howling on his back for two days, the villagers being afraid to go up and put him out of his misery. Eventually he died, and the skin had a long bare patch all down its back from the head to the tail where the hair was scraped off as it lay writhing on the ground. The story is hard to believe, but I know that deer are killed in this way and it is possibly true.

19. In the agency taluks of the Senior Assistant's division there are 260,000 inhabitants. The villages they occupy are 2,500 in number. The country consists

of two large valleys and the hills between and around them. One of these valleys is drained by the Nagavalli river, the other by the Vamsadhára. The valleys are exceedingly fertile and yield a revenue to the Maharajah of Jeypore of upwards of a lakh and a half of rupees. One of these valleys, *i.e.*, the Rayaguda valley, is the channel of communication between the Vizagapatam plains and the Central Provinces. Through the other, the Gunupur valley, lies the route from Chicacole and Kimedy to Central Provinces.

The roads necessary to open out these valleys to cart traffic are the following :—

	Miles.
(1) Chollapadam to Rayaguda	18
(2) Rayaguda to Ombadola	62
(3) Komatipet to Singapore	22
(4) Butili to Gunupur	10
(5) Gunupur to Ombadola	60
(6) Gunupur to Párvatipur	32
Total ...	204

If this system of roads were taken up by the Public Works Department, there would undoubtedly accrue to Government a very large increase in revenue from salt and abkári. The increase in agricultural and jungle produce would be very great, and lands would be brought under the plough by people migrating from the congested taluks of the coast which are known to be as thickly populated as any taluks in the Madras Presidency. It is therefore a scheme that I can confidently recommend to the notice of Government.

I will permit myself to anticipate an objection that may be probably raised regarding this great extension of roads. This may be that Government have already committed themselves to considerable expenditure under this head in respect of the undertaking they have in hand on the Pottingy-Koraput line and thence to the borders of this district towards Raepore, and that this district can have no further claims on the public purse at present. But this view of the question becomes considerably modified if we consider that it is not the Vizagapatam district that we are roading, but the district called the Vizagapatam agency. So far as population is concerned, the agency can rightly lay claim to be considered a district. The people living in it number 694,673, that is, it is a more populous district than Anantapur or Kurnool or the Nílgiris, nearly as populous as Bellary, and within the same category of districts containing fewer people than a million as Chingleput and South Canara. I am persuaded that if the outlay on public works in Jeypore be compared with that of any one of these districts, there will be found a very large balance still due to the country, the claims of which I am now advocating.

20. I have endeavoured to make a sort of estimate of the value of the trade which is carried on with the agency. The principal items of export trade from the coast ports of the Vizagapatam district which amounted last year to 46 lakhs are indigo, myrabolams, seeds, jaggery, hides and skins, turmeric, lac, long-pepper, gunnies, jute and punjam cloth.

Of these items, all the myrabolams, lac, turmeric and long-pepper come from the agency, and probably 50 per cent. of the seeds, hides and skins. All the jaggery, gunnies, cloth, indigo and the remaining portion of the seeds and hides are produced in the plains. The Board's annual volume and my district returns give the proportions which each product bears to the grand total, and from this I calculate that at least 25 per cent. of the total value consists of those articles that come from above the ghâts. Therefore I fix the total value of the trade derived from the agency and exported by the coast at 11 lakhs.

There is great difficulty in arriving at any satisfactory estimate of the produce that comes across the ghâts and is arrested in the plains. It consists of food stuffs. We never have great distress in the congested taluks of Vizagapatam, partly because of our food imports from the agency. There are four principal passes into the hills through which food-grains come into the plains, viz., viâ Gunupur, Párvatipur, Sálúr and Kasipatnam. I think I am well within the mark when I put down a figure of 100,000 loads of grain, consisting principally of paddy, rice and ragi, as an approximate estimate of this trade, and I value this grain at 10 lakhs of rupees. Therefore

I adopt a figure of 21 lakhs as representing the value of the entire export trade across these roads that we are now constructing. The trade into Jeypore from the coast taluks consists of salt, cotton goods, tobacco and sundries.

Of these, cotton goods only come from beyond sea, valued at 13 lakhs for the whole district. If the hill tracts took their share of these goods in proportion to their population, they should take about one-third of the imports. But they certainly do not take as much as this, because the hill people are not so well off as the people of the plains, and because they use a great deal of twist which they spin themselves. I should think that 3 lakhs would represent the money they spend in imported cotton goods. Then as to salt they ought to consume 13·22 lbs. per head according to the accepted figures, but I am very certain they do not, because pack-borne salt is a costly article On the other hand, they pay more than Rs. 3-8-0 a maund for it.

Suppose then we say they consume 70,000 maunds of salt and pay 3 lakhs for it. This would make about 6 lakhs of imports. Besides this, we send about a lakh of treasure into the country to pay for the balance of the cost of our administration and on roads, &c. Total import trade 7 lakhs. Grand total import and export trade 27 lakhs. But how much trade comes and goes through the agency to and from the countries beyond it, is impossible to say. Certainly all the plateau of Bustar (not the Godávari bordering parts), nearly all Kalahandy and a considerable part of Patna, Nowaghar and Khariar come within the influence of these trade routes. These countries lying around Jeypore occupy an area of more than 20,000 square miles in extent with an additional population of 500,000 souls.

21. What vast quantities of unoccupied land there are in these unfrequented areas lying between our ghâts and the plains of Nagpore! What have we ever done for this country and for these people, which, with our agency population, number over a million? Suppose an island were suddenly discovered in the Bay of Bengal thirty thousand square miles in extent inhabited by a million of people, another Ceylon, what schemes, what reports, what a vista of administration does the idea open out? Upper Burma has furnished an enterprise during the past year which will remain graven "monumentum ære perenius" in the history of India. Its incorporation in the civilization of the empire will be the subject of anxious thought and of great expense, and it will be guided on its path by the most able of our officers. Justice, education, public works will be inaugurated with a lavish hand; trade routes will be opened out and enterprises proposed for reclaiming lands and spreading abroad the searching aims of commerce. Are the countries I am writing about not equally entitled to participate in the benefits of our English ideas and in our schemes for ameliorating the condition of the people we have taken upon ourselves to govern? If these lands lay within a few miles of Madras, or of Calcutta, they would be in as prosperous a state as the best district in India. But because they are situated at the remote end of Madras and at the remote end of the Central Provinces, they are voted to be a bore and a burthen. If the country were a hilly country with but small extent of cultivable land, it might accept the fate of all mountainous regions, and be left to enjoy such crumbs of progress as it might pick up.

"Given," says Major Holdich, "a wise and strong Government and an industrious class of settlers, there is nothing in the soil and climate of Bustar to forbid a happy future of broad cultivated lands, and it may be yet that this country may be populated and cultivated by a people whom pressure of numbers has driven out from the overstocked districts of Upper India." Major Holdich was of opinion that the population of Bustar was decreasing. He says, "There are many evidences of a better state of things in the past, and the decrease is due to the wretched misgovernment that prevails, combined with facilities of late years in obtaining employment under British control in the neighbourhood of the Godávari." When Major Holdich wrote this, he was surveying the country as an officer of the Government of India, and had therefore no possible bias for or against the Local Governments.

Proceedings of Geographical Society, June 1879.

As I have already said in another communication, I am convinced that there is no country in Madras, and I believe none in the Central Provinces or perhaps in the rest of India, that would better repay Government to open out than this great area of land. The truth is that the British Empire in India is so repleted with land that we

despise an enterprise which any continental nation would take up with enthusiasm. Probably there is no plateau in India better watered, containing more fertile land and more admirably adapted for a scheme of migration to be presided over by Englishmen than the elevated tract of country known as "the Great Jeypore plateau which breaks upon the line 81°·30 E. long." *

* Major Holdich.

22. Another matter of interest that was brought to my notice during my tour was that there is a great want of copper coin in Jeypore for the purposes of currency. As I have already said, the Jeyporeans are intensely given to petty huckstering transactions at the weekly markets. A large class of people—principally Dombs or out-castes—are engaged in this petty trade. They buy commodities at one market and carry them on to the next, hoping to benefit by a small difference in rates; but nearly all their dealings are by barter, and in some instances they still use cowries. I find on inquiry that there is a dearth of copper coin not only in Jeypore but also throughout the plains. From inquiries I have made, I learn that the money-changers require a discount of from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for changing silver for copper. The rates vary according to the seasons, for at harvest time, when labourers can be paid in kind, there is less demand for copper, and consequently discount is less than at transplanting time. What amount of copper money there is in this district I do not know, but the complaint of a deficiency of small currency is pretty general. I see by the last report on the operations of the mints in Calcutta and Bombay that extraordinary little copper is minted per annum, only $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees worth of copper, and I hazard a calculation that in the whole of India there cannot be more than 100 lakhs of rupees of copper coin in circulation, nominal value. The copper coin probably circulates throughout the whole of India and supplies the wants of 2,500 lakhs of people, that is, there is about 4 rupees worth of copper coin to 100 people, or about 1 penny per head (taking the anna at $1\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*). "Now in the British Isles the people seem to be sufficiently supplied with $8\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per head. In France they want $21\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, and in Italy $29\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*" If countries require more fractional currency as we descend the scale of comparative wealth, it is certain that the population of India requires a vast increase of bronze coinage. Argument might be advanced for giving India a bronze coinage of standard value. Perhaps the necessity for expanding the currency lies at the bottom of the arguments in support of bimetalism. If the expansion of the currency is regarded as an important factor in increasing the wealth of the European nations, surely the same factor should not be disregarded in our administration of the nations of India. If the peoples of the West require a gold and a silver currency of standard value, might not the peoples of the East require a silver and a bronze currency of standard value?

I think there is nothing like sufficient currency in India. The silver currency does not supply the wants of the masses. Even if it be true that India absorbs immense quantities of silver, it is certain that the silver never reaches the millions in the form of currency. So far as my observation goes, I doubt whether it reaches the rural population in any form.

The rupee is far too valuable for a standard silver coin, and the fractional silver coinage is certainly unacceptable to the masses as currency possibly from being also too valuable, or from its being too small in size, or from its not being obtainable except at a discount, or from its being driven out by the bronze token coinage.

A country like India which depends for its prosperity in the petty operations of husbandry would seem to require a very large amount of fractional currency, and I believe it would lend an enormous stimulous to industry if that fractional currency were of standard value. It seems to me that the copper coinage of India is not really used like the bronze coinage of England as a token coinage. It is really the money of India, certainly of rural India, and if this be true, it follows that rural India is suffering from all the evils of an over-valued currency.

Not only therefore is the currency of rural India inadequate, but it is also debased. I do not see how we can expect any material advance in the prosperity of the country under such a state of things. I introduce these remarks with great diffidence. I have only looked into the subject since my attention was attracted to the deficiency of copper coins in Jeypore, and I am well aware that the topic is one that requires very deep consideration. I think that hardly sufficient attention has been paid to the subject of supplying the people of India with a proper currency, and I

hope that my mention of the matter may attract the attention of those who are better able to give an opinion thereon than I am.

I will in conclusion draw attention to the fact that in the second empire 1,200 millions of pieces of bronze coinage were distributed throughout France, and it might well be argued that the great impetus to the rural wealth of that land, which took place in the period of a not wholly immaculate Government, was in a great measure due to the great attention that was bestowed on the currency of the country by its rulers.

23. I was unable to visit the hill tracts of the Principal Assistant's division in the year under report.

Mr. Power reports that he has completed the Rampol ghât and has settled the trace of the Budaralla ghât. He says that the Lammasinghi and Minamalur ghâts are in excellent order, and that new buildings for itinerating officers have been constructed at Lammasinghi and other places.

Civil justice calls for no remark, except that we have not yet been able to inaugurate the punchayets alluded to in my last year's report, dated 21st July 1885, No. 537, paragraph 70.

Crime has also been light during the past year.

Abkári and opium affairs work smoothly, though notice is made of smuggling liquor, and I have little doubt that the opium is sometimes adulterated. In other parts of the hills, viz., in the Srungavarapukóta agency which I have under my immediate charge, I frequently give licenses to the heads of muttas, and I find that the plan is a good one.

24. There is a very gratifying decrease in the number of lives lost by wild beasts though the "Tiger fitouri," *i.e.*, the tiger war, which lasted three years, is not yet forgotten.

We might be able to get schoolmasters for Paderu and Lammasinghi, though I am not very sure that the game is worth the candle. Perhaps we might next hear of an education "Fitouri."

25. I shall await Mr. Power's letter relating to the advances for constructing irrigation works with interest. It is really a most noteworthy thing to see the difference between the agricultural energies of one class of hill people and another in this district. To the north the Sowras inhabit a hilly country not so fertile by some measure as the Gudem hills, yet while the latter is nothing but a jungle, the former is cultivated to a marvellous extent. Every hill is terraced, every rill of water turned to account; the mhowa tree stands among the rice-fields like the olive tree in Italy, to which it is very comparable in its aspect and as to its value. Wheat is grown throughout the agency of this district to a very considerable extent. It is grown largely in many parts of Jeypore. But a great impetus to the cultivation of a staple of this sort cannot be effected by any detached or desultory plan of sending up a two-penny packet of seed. So far as my experience of introducing new staples goes, for instance indigo, jute and sugarcane, nothing is effected without a patient and persistent expenditure of capital. Let us first satisfy ourselves that the measure is a prudent one and then doggedly invest capital in it to an ample extent until the enterprise succeeds or fails. The attempt to introduce sugarcane from the Mauritius failed here, after the expenditure of much capital. On the other hand, jute is doing well and so is indigo, but both products swallowed up many lakhs of rupees before they reached the condition they now occupy, and I believe that much the same policy must be pursued before we see corn-fields waving in the tiger-haunted uplands of the Gudem hills.

26. Mr. Power then brings to notice the continued absenteeism of the Lamma-singhi muttadar, on which subject he promises a separate letter, and concludes by lamenting that other duties prevented him from spending more time in hills. In this I most heartily concur, the more so that I am afraid that the time has now come when Mr. Power will leave us on promotion. I have never had an officer in the Principal Assistant's division since Mr. Winterbotham was here more singularly fitted for hill work or who has entered more completely into the spirit of the thing than Mr. Power has done during the too short period of his service in this district. It is, without affectation, positively heart-breaking to me to have to begin over and over

again with fresh officers in the agency part of this district. I cannot hope or expect that any officer can make any head way until he has been in charge for about two years. No officer ever stays longer than this, if so long. If it were possible to introduce for the three divisions a system of graduated pay, I believe it would be of immense benefit to the Administration. I hope that this remark may attract the attention of Government, for it is nearly of serious evil that so many changes should take place in the agency where personal rule is everything and routine administration not yet reached.

Since penning the above, the pillage and burning of the Gudem police station has taken place, and the whole subject of our administration of these parts will be placed before Government in my report on this affair.

27. A sum of Rs. 566-15-1 was spent, as detailed in the statement appended, on account of hill tour charges, and I solicit sanction for the same.

Hill Tour Charges for 1885-86.

	RS.	A.	P.
Value of cloths purchased for presents to Khond chiefs and ready-money presents in excess of the budget allotment of Rs. 230	234	0	9
Warm clothing of Agent's establishment	83	13	3
Carriage hire of doolies, &c.	108	0	10
Value of gunpowder supplied to taxidermist	15	4	0
Tappal expenses	71	12	9
Total ..	512	15	7

CRIMINAL Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for the year 1885-86.

Name of Court.	Trials or Inquiries. Cases.				Trials or Inquiries. Persons.					Appeals. Persons.						Appeals. Cases.					
	Pending.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of.	Pending.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of.		Pending.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of.			Pending.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of.		
								Convicted and committed or referred.	Otherwise.				Modified or reversed.	Otherwise.	Total.				Disposed of.	Pending.	Pending.
1. Agent to the Governor	1	27	28	27	1	48	49	24	24	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Additional Session Judge	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Principal Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	19	19	17	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Senior do.	..	8	8	8	..	89	95	79	14	6	..	6	5	1	6	..	6	6	6	..	..
5. Special do.	3	51	54	52	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	50	53	5	47	3	..	3	1	2	3	..	3	3	3	..	..
7. Second-class Magistrate, Golgonda ..	3	23	26	25	1	24	25	2	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Third ,, do.	..	4	4	4	..	11	11	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Second ,, do. Viravilli ..	..	3	3	3	..	23	23	1	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Do. ,, do. Srungavarapukóta ..	..	7	7	7	..	5	5	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Do. ,, do. Sálúr	..	3	3	3	..	261	273	243	30	12	..	12	2	10	12	..	12	12	12	..	..
12. Do. ,, do. Pálkonda	2	55	57	57	..	82	83	40	43	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..
13. Do. ,, do. Párvatipur	1	31	32	32	..	490	491	191	300	4	..	4	1	3	4	..	4	4	4	..	..
14. Do. ,, do. Gumuptr	1	175	176	176	..	252	257	126	130	5	..	5	1	4	5	..	5	5	5	..	..
15. Do. ,, do. Rayagada	3	103	106	105	1	533	549	272	266	16	..	16	1	15	16	..	16	16	16	..	..
16. Do. ,, do. Jeypore	8	281	289	289	9	206	243	74	159	37	..	37	5	32	37	..	37	37	37	..	..
17. Do. ,, do. Koraput	13	105	118	113	5	317	326	57	269	9	..	9	..	9	9	..	9	9	9	..	..
18. Do. ,, do. Nowrangapur	4	146	150	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19. Do. ,, do. Malkangiri	..	..	..	..	..	128	145	59	86	17	..	17	1	16	17	..	17	17	17	..	..
20. Do. ,, do. Pottangi	3	61	64	64	..	262	262	93	169	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21. Do. ,, do. Bissemkatak	..	129	129	129	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	42	1,212	1,254	1,235	19	2,908	2,800	1,284	1,598	108	2,800	2,908	1,284	1,598	2,882	26	1	27	25	3	1

Name of offence.	Number of cases.	Number of prisoners.	Number sentenced to death.	Number sentenced to transportation.	Imprisonment. Simple.	Imprisonment. Rigorous.	Fine.	Whipping.	Total convicted.	Number discharged.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
.. Murder under section 302, I.P.C. ..	7	15	1	(a) 5	..	..	..	..	6	8	1
2. Do. and attempt to commit murder, sections 302 and 307, I.P.C. ..	1	1	..	(b) 1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
3. Murder and attempt to commit suicide under sections 302 and 309, I.P.C.	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
4. Culpable homicide not amounting to murder, section 304, I.P.C. ..	10	17	..	..	..	(c) 11	..	..	11	6	..
5. Grievous hurt by dangerous weapon and culpable homicide not amounting to murder, sections 326 and 304, I.P.C.	1	1	..	..	..	(d) 1	..	..	1	..	..
6. Attempt to commit murder under section 307, I.P.C.	2	2	..	..	..	(e) 1	..	..	1	1	..
7. Grievous hurt and culpable homicide not amounting to murder, sections 325 and 304, I.P.C.	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
8. Mischief by fire with intent to cause damage, section 435, I.P.C. ..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
9. Mischief by fire, section 436 ..	2	2	..	..	..	(f) 1	(g) 1	..	2	..	..
10. Criminal breach of trust by public servant and intentionally suffering an offender to escape from confinement, sections 409 and 221, I.P.C.	1	2	..	..	..	(h) 1	..	..	1	1	..
11. Criminal breach of trust by public servant under section 409, I.P.C. ..	1	1	..	..	..	(i) 1	..	..	1	..	..
Total ..	28	49	1	6	..	16	1	..	24	24	1

(a) For life. (b) For life.
(c) Two for 5 years each; one for 7 years; three for 3 years; two for 2 years, two for 4 years; one for 6 years.
(d) For 5 years. (e) For 2 years. (f) Two months. (g) Rs. 3. (h) Two years. (i) Five years.

CIVIL Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for 1885-86.

Original Suits.

Name of Court.	Original Suits. Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer or reference	Total.	Disposed of	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
1. Agent to the Governor	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	2
2. Principal Assistant Agent	..	2	..	2	..	1	1	1
3. Senior Assistant do.	2	23	..	25	22	1	23	2
4. Special do. do.	36	65	..	101	53	18	71	30
5. Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. District Munsif, Golgonda	13	26	..	39	22	..	22	17
7. Do. Narayanapatnam ..	21	31	4	56	52	..	52	4
8. Do. Rayagada	22	42	37	101	26	38	64	37
9. Do. Bissemkatak	..	13	39	52	7	37	44	8
10. Do. Gunupur	16	69	..	85	61	..	61	24
11. Do. Koraput	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1
12. Do. Jeypore	..	43	12	55	28	1	29	26
Total ..	110	316	93	519	271	96	367	152

Civil Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for 1885-86.

Appeal Suits.

Name of Court.	Appeal Suits. Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
Agent to the Governor	2	2	..	4	4	..	4	..
Principal Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Senior do. do.	..	8	..	8	5	..	5	3
Special do. do.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2	10	..	12	9	..	9	3

From G. F. T. POWER, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam, to the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, dated Narsapatam, 13th May 1886, No. 161.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the administration of that portion of the agency which is in my division for the official year 1885-86.

Public Works.—The amount allotted by you for expenditure during the year was Rs. 3,430 of which Rs. 2,709-9-9 was actually spent. In the progress report of agency works for the month of March 1886, details of the different works on which expenditure was incurred will be found, and I need not therefore recapitulate them here.

The Rawpol ghât, between Kistnadevi Peta and Peddavalasa, was completed during the year, and is now a good bridle-path. The Budaralla ghât, between Koyyur and Peddavalasa, which I had intended to improve during the year, could not be taken in hand for want of supervision, owing to my detention at the head-quarters of the district during a great part of the working season. I have, however, since the close of the year, been over this ghât, and settled the new trace, and during the current year a good riding road will, I hope, be substituted for the present very steep and rough foot-path. The current year's allotment for repairs (300 rupees) will hardly suffice for the work, but additional funds can easily be provided from the allotment for repairs to tracks above ghâts.

The Lammasinghi and Minamalur ghâts, the two most important in the division, are both in excellent order, and the latter needs but little improvement to be a good cart-road. New buildings constructed during the year were a bungalow at Lammasinghi and sheds for native officers at Lammasinghi, Chintapalli, Gudem, Lotugedda, Darakonda, Peddavalasa and Koyyur. The old bungalows were repaired and whitewashed and all are now in good order.

Civil Justice.—At the beginning of the year 13 suits were pending on the file of the Golgonda Agency District Munsif. During the year two suits were instituted in the Principal Assistant Agent's Court, and 26 in the Agency District Munsif's Court, making a total of 41 cases for disposal. Of these, 23 cases were actually disposed of, and when the year closed 18 suits were pending, viz., one on the Principal Assistant Agent's file, and 17 on the District Munsif's file.

The great majority of the suits instituted were for the recovery of money or movable property, and the property in question was generally of trifling value.

The highest valued suit was one for the recovery of movable property worth 800 rupees which was instituted in the Principal Assistant Agent's Court.

There was no suit instituted to which a mittadar or other hill dignitary was a party.

Crime.—This was as usual light in the Golgonda and Viravilli Agency tracts, which alone come within my jurisdiction as Magistrate, Hill Madgole still forming part of the Special Assistant's division for magisterial purposes. There were in all 32 cases in which 86 persons were accused and these were disposed of as follows:—

	Cases.	Persons.
(a) Committed to Sessions Court	1	1
(b) Convicted	9	15
(c) Acquitted or discharged	22	70

For the most part the offences of which these persons were accused were not of a grave character. The case committed to the Sessions was one of culpable homicide.

In another case I convicted a man of uttering counterfeit coin.

The other cases were of an unimportant nature.

Abkári.—The rented system was in force as in the previous year. The number of shops and stills licensed was as follows:—

	Shops.	Stills.
Golgonda	18	18
Viravilli	5	5

Hill Madgole is for abkári purposes under the Special Assistant and therefore figures for that portion of the agency are omitted here.

No complaints were made against the renters or their shopkeepers by the inhabitants of the agency, but vendors of excised liquor in the "ordinary" or non-agency portion of Golgonda taluk complained that unexcised liquor was smuggled to a considerable extent from the agency into the ordinary portion of the taluk and sold there. There is undoubtedly much truth in this complaint, but after all we can hardly expect smuggling to cease as long as the price of liquor in the excise taluks is so much higher than it is elsewhere. Meanwhile all that can be done is to impose exemplary punishment whenever a case of smuggling is detected, and this is being done.

Opium.—The number of shops licensed for the sale of opium was—

Golgonda	8
Viravilli	2
Hill Madgole	20
Total ...	30

A few complaints were made that the drug was not sold as cheap as the vendors are bound by their licenses to sell it, *i.e.*, at 3 tolas per rupee, but this was not proved In Golgonda the vendors were mostly malas, the principal trading class of that portion of the hills, while elsewhere the headmen of villages are licensed to sell.

It appears to me that the fixed Government rate of 3 tolas per rupee is more likely to be observed if the vendors are like mittadars and paddals men whose principal occupation is not trade and whom we have some hold over, rather than unresponsible malas whose sole business is trade and all whose instincts are commercial. I am therefore now (1886-87) trying the experiment in Golgonda of licensing mittadars, &c., instead of malas.

Wild Beasts.—Rs. 1,617 were paid as rewards for the destruction of 47 wild beasts in Golgonda and Viravilli. I do not give the figures for Hill Madgole as it is in the magisterial jurisdiction of the Special Assistant.

Of these 47 wild beasts, ten were tigers, for each of which a reward of Rs. 100 was paid. Twenty-five cheetas, six bears and five hyænas were also killed.

One man was killed by a tiger near Kudapasinghi; a few miles from Lammasingi a tiger was shot in that neighbourhood shortly afterwards and there have been no deaths since, so that we may fairly conclude that the man-eater has been accounted for. No other lives were lost during the year, and the "tiger terror," which was so prevalent two years ago, seems to have nearly died out. One can, however, still see all over the hills the ruins of deserted villages, and it will, I fear, be some time yet before the country has fully recovered from the effects of what, the other day, I heard a hillman picturesquely describe as the "puli fituri".

Education.—This is still backward. The two agency schools at Kristnadevipeta and Chinna Golgondapeta are doing fairly well, but they are attended entirely by the children of inhabitants of that portion of the agency which lies below ghâts. The more important portion which lies above ghâts is still wholly uneducated. None of the Golgonda mittadars have as yet, in spite of the offer of scholarships, sent their sons to Narsapatam for education, and as far as I can see none of them are likely to do so. The truth is, I think, that if we wish the hill country children to be educated, we must establish schools in the hills. Now that Paderu is a Sub-Magistrate's head-quarters, we might have good school there for Hill Madgole, and the Sub-Magistrate could keep the master up to his work. In the Golgonda hills a school might be started at either Lammasinghi or Peddavalasa, and as both these places are now connected with the plains by good riding roads, the Principal Assistant Agent and the tahsildar of Golgonda could arrange for frequent inspection. The great difficulty of course is to get a schoolmaster who can stand the climate of the hills, but this difficulty will not I hope prove insurmountable.

(1) *General.*—The year was one of profound tranquility, there being no disturbance and no signs of public discontent in any part of the division. The season was favorable, and so far as I can ascertain, in the absence of trustworthy vital statistics, the public health was good. There were no epidemic diseases.

(2) In the Golgonda hills the mittadars are beginning to take advantage of the offer made by you last year of advances of money for the purpose of constructing irrigation works, and Gudem Patavidhi, Darakonda, and Lammasinghi Patavidhi have applied to me for advances, which I think may be given and regarding which I will report fully in another letter. It is eminently desirable that the construction of irrigation works in these hills should be encouraged as much as possible.

(3) Another thing which should be encouraged is the cultivation of wheat. At present some is grown in the neighbourhood of Lammasinghi Antarla, &c., but there is a great deal of land which appears to me to be well suited for wheat which is now waste. The seed used at present is of inferior quality and I therefore propose to get some really good seed and distribute it for experiment. I have spoken to the mittahdars on this subject and several of them have promised to give the new seed a fair trial and if it produces a good crop, to do what they can to extend the area under wheat. Without being too sanguine one may I think look forward to a not far distant day when wheat will be lafgely exported from these hills.

(4) The mittadar of Lotugedda, whom Mr. MacCartie reported year before last for omitting to live in his mitta, still continues an absentee. He is in other respects a bad mittadar, and I think he ought to be removed and another man appointed. I will send a separate report on this point. The other mittadars are doing very well.

(5) In conclusion I have to say that the time (28 days) which I spent in the agency during the year was I am aware less than it should have been, but that this was so is not my fault. If I consulted my own personal inclinations I should, as you know, spend the greater part of my time in the agency, and it was only because other work kept me in the plains that my stay there last year was so short. I joined the district at the end of April 1885 and had first to do the jamabandi of Sarvasiddhi and Golgonda taluks. As soon as this was over I made a short tour in June (11 days) through Hill Madgole, and came down the Lammasinghi ghât to Narsapatam. Again in July I made a short tour (9 days) in the Golgonda hills visiting Lammasinghi, Antarla and Chintapalli. Again at the end of October I again went for 8 days to Hill Madgole (Minamalur and Paderu). In November I was just about to start on a long tour when you ordered me into Vizagapatam to attend to the head-quarter office during your own absence in the agency. I was kept at Vizagapatam till the Christmas holidays. After this I had to do jamabandi of Sarvasiddhi (which was unusually tedious owing to extensive failure of crop and consequent claims for remission) and when this was all over I was again about to start on an agency tour in February when I was again directed to go to Vizagapatam and remain there during your absence in the agency. I was in Vizagapatam accordingly till the end of the official year.

I have, however, just made a three weeks' tour (22nd April to 12th instant) through the Golgonda hills, in the course of which I have visited all the hill mittahs, and this I hope will to some extent make up for short touring last year.

From E. A. ELWIN, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam district, to the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam, dated Párvatipur, 24th May 1886, No. 265.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the hill tracts of my division.

2. I succeeded Mr. Broadfoot as Senior Assistant Agent about the middle of October last and have therefore been in charge some five and-a-half months out of twelve.

3. *Duration of tours.*—My predecessor spent 31 days in travelling. I was on tour for 104 days, viz., from November 16th up to December 31st, 1885, and again from February 1st, 1886, until the close of the official year. The period of four months lately settled by Government for the Senior Assistant Agent's residence in agency tracts has thus been exceeded by 15 days.

4. *Details of tours.*—All the places of any importance in this division have been visited, with the exception of Ombadola which lies to the extreme north of the Bissemkatak taluk.

5. Mr. Broadfoot travelled in the Rayagada and Bissemkatak taluks and also saw something of Narayanapatnam (Párvatipur hill tracts) and of the Sálúr Agency.

6. In November and December I accompanied the Agent through Rayagada and Singupur to Bissemkatak; thence on to the Kottiya Khond hills in the north of Gunupur by way of Gudari. The Agent then left me and proceeded to Pálkonda while I after a short stay at Gunupur visited the Saura hills halting at Kuttini, Putosingi and Bhimpuram. Returning to Gunupur I spent a few days there and then set out for Párvatipur where I had business relating to the hill jail and other matters to attend to.

7. In February I went to Alamanda and Narayanapatnam; thence by way of Párvatipur to Rayagada where I stayed some time. Starting out again at the beginning of March I visited Paikapad and Bissemkatak and went on to Gunupur through Durgi and Gulliti. While at Gunupur I got orders from the Agent to proceed to Singupur and at once set out for that place *viâ* Kailasakota ghât and Komatlapeta, &c. I stopped at Singupur and in the neighbourhood for ten days, returning to head-quarters by way of Rayagada at the end of March.

8. From the above details it is clear that the touring in this division has been of a very complete nature during the year under report.

9. *The public peace and state of the people.*—I am able to report that there have been no serious disturbances since I took charge. Government have received a full report of what occurred in the Singupur estate in my predecessor's time and there is no need for me to touch on the subject again. Some circumstances that have taken place since my joining the division will be treated of further on.

10. Owing to the system of holding bhets at important places in the hills to which all the neighbouring headmen come and pay their respects to the Government officers, we are pretty well able to find out the real state of the people. The hill people appeared to me to be for the most part flourishing and contented.

11. *Singupur.*—While I was on tour with the Agent bhets were held at Sikarapai and Singupur in the Singupur territory. There were several trivial complaints against the Rani and her manager, but on investigation these proved to be mostly frivolous. Some of the Khonds asked that Gopinath Devu should be sent to rule over them, but when we told them that he was doing well at school at Vizianagrum and was far too young to hold any important position yet, they acknowledged that what we said was quite reasonable.

12. *Khond hills.*—In the Khond hills north of Gunupur bhets were held at Kutraguda, Dangusurada, Chendrapur (for the mittahs of Chendrapur and Rayabijji) and at Gudari for the mittahs of Gudari, Bijjapur and Karlaghati. Three Majjis or village heads of Rayabijji mittah complained that as their Patro had been unduly levying a tithe of their early crops, they had lost all confidence in him and would be in future compelled to pay their sist at Gunupur instead of remitting it through the Patro in the usual manner. A careful inquiry was subsequently made into this complaint which proved to be utterly false.

13. *Saura hills.*—There is an Uriya Patro for the mittah of Bhimpuram and a Soura Dhora over that of Kuttini. The Gomangos or heads of the other villages are entirely independent. It is to be regretted that they are so, for their behaviour during the bhet at Putosingi formed a striking contrast to that of the Gomangos of Bhimpuram who, marshalled in order by their Patro for whom they entertain the greatest respect, appeared to be as well conducted a body of men as one could come across anywhere. These independent Gomangos were clamorous, eager to complain and in many cases indisposed to accept the really very nice cloths I brought for them which were of the same kind as are usually distributed whenever an European officer visits their country. There were many complaints of a revenue character, most of which I disposed of then and there with the help of the Gunupur Amin who had accompanied me.

14. At Kuttini the Dhora of that place complained that the Revenue officials had been raising his rent; he said that he had for many years been paying Rs. 800 and that 2 or 3 years ago he was compelled to pay Rs. 1,000, but that his rent had again been reduced to Rs. 800. He now claimed to have it further reduced to Rs. 600. I pointed out to him that he could not expect this and promised to ask the Gunupur Amin to consider the rent as fixed, Rs 800. With this the Dhora was perfectly satisfied and when he came with his seven village heads to do that at Putosingi he asked my leave to withdraw his complaint.

15. There is no doubt that the Souras are daily advancing in intelligence and civilization. The willingness with which they allow themselves and their children to be vaccinated will be treated of further on. On market day they crowd the streets of Gunupur and make a great noise as they bargain with the Sundi people (liquor sellers) for the vippa spirit to obtain which they frequently mortgage their standing paddy crops.

16. *Rayagada, Bissemkatak and Narayanapatnam.*—I do not remember having received a single complaint of a serious nature from the people in this portion of my charge. The system of renting out the villages followed in Bissemkatak seems to work satisfactorily.

17. *The Singupur Rani.*—It has been our object for some months past to affect a compromise between the Singupur Rani and her suzerain and relative, the Maharajah of Jeypore. In November last the Agent wrote to this lady strongly advising her to come to a settlement with the Maharajah and sent the deputy tahsildar of Rayagada to explain the contents of his letter to her. She was also cautioned not to adopt a son without first consulting the Agent and the Jeypore Maharajah. The Rani who has displayed a very contumacious spirit throughout these negotiations said she could not give an answer for two months as she wanted time to consult with her relations in Ganjam on the subject.

18. In the month of February the Rani, who had taken no steps to follow the Agent's advice, to crown her folly suddenly went to Bhavanipatnam in the Kalahandi territory and there adopted one Debysingho Bakkela, second son of Sri Niladri Singho Bakkela of Chokkali, in the Sumbalpore taluk, and performed his coronation giving him the name of her late husband's father, Mukunda Deo Maharajah. The Rani returned to Singupur on the 3rd March and entered the fort with the adopted boy. Of these circumstances I was informed by the Singupur Manager. Some days after this I heard from the Agent who informed me he had likewise heard of the adoption from the manager and had at the same time received an alarming mahasarnama from the Khonds of Singupur in which they declared themselves unwilling to tolerate the Rani's rule any longer. I was ordered to proceed forthwith to Singupur to find out the grievances of the Khonds and to report whether there was any likelihood of a disturbance. I accordingly set off and held an inquiry in course of which I ascertained that the Khonds although no doubt vexed with the Rani for having adopted a boy without first consulting their wishes were not the originators of the mahazar. From what I heard I have no doubt that it was the work of some intriguing shristi-karanams with whom Singupur is literally infested.

19. I assembled all those Khond village heads by whom the mahazar purported to be written On my telling them that although the last action of the Rani might not be quite to their taste yet they were bound to respect her rule as long as it was countenanced by the Agent, the representative of Government; they all without exception promised me to keep their villages quiet and to pay sist regularly to the estate manager I left the Singupur country after a stay of 10 days fully satisfied that the Khonds were thoroughly loyal to our rule and that unless they should be unduly excited by some foolish action on the Rani's part there was no reason to anticipate their causing us any trouble.

20. *Boundary disputes—Ongara.*—At the bhet held at Putosingi the Sarada Gomong complained that Sirang Bissoyi of Ganjam had issued demand notices to him and others for the rents of certain lands of Ongara which they had cultivated. The question as to which district the village belonged to had come up before Mr. Welsh and Messrs. Joseph and Sewell in January 1885 and they found it belonged to Vizagapatam.

21. As this was by no means the first time there had been complaints against Sirang Bissoyi I suggested that it would be as well if he were to be formally warned by the Ganjam authorities not to give any more trouble to our people. The Agent thereupon requested the Ganjam Agent to point out to the Bissoyi that persons who in spite of warning persist in trying to rake up settled boundary disputes render themselves liable to deportation under the Agency rules. The Gunupur Amin has been told that he should in future treat Ongara as belonging to Jeypore.

22. *Disputes between the Gunupur Amin and Karadango Patro.*—While at Bhimpuram I sent for the Patros of that place and of Karadango and the Gomangos of Sinduba, Udalingi and other boundary villages. I explained to them the boundary line determined by Messrs. Welsh and Joseph and they all expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the settlement arrived at by those officers.

23. On my reporting this to the Agent and informing him that the settlement had not been formally communicated in writing to the parties concerned, I was ordered to inform them officially of the decision arrived at. This I subsequently did and I believe there is not the slightest reason to fear any future breach of the peace with regard to this dispute.

24. *Hospitals.*—Gunupur is the only place in the division that can at present boast a hospital. There the accommodation is quite inadequate, though the building is in a fair state of repair. The Police are treated as in-patients; no others are received. The number of civil out-patients treated during the year 1885-86 was 1,602 as compared with 1,498 in 1884-85. The principal complaints were ague, rheumatism, fever, dysentery, diarrhœa, ulcers and itch.

25. Government in their order passed on the Vizagapatam Agency report for 1883-84 sanctioned the erection of a new hospital at Gunupur. A large piece of unoccupied land at the back of the Sub-Magistrate's house was selected as a site in the time of Mr. Welsh. I have recently had plans and estimates prepared and sent up for a new hospital at Gunupur as well as for hospitals at Rayagada and Bissemkatak which were sanctioned by Government in their order on the last Agency report. Hospitals at the latter two places will be a great boon to the people who at present have no opportunity of resorting to European treatment.

26. *Sanitation.*—The establishment of sweepers at Gunupur has done good work in and around the town. Last December I induced the Jeypore Maharajah's officials and the Komatees each to contribute Rs. 3 a month for the entertainment of two additional sweepers, so that there are now five in all. A conservancy establishment has been sanctioned both for Rayagada and Bissemkatak from April 1st; these places are I fear at present in a very unsanitary condition.

27 *Public Health.*—There was an outbreak of cholera in the Gunupur taluk at Bhimpuram in February 1885 soon after Mr. Welsh left that place. It appears to have been of a severe type, for the Patro told me that he alone lost 18 of his relations by the disease. Many villages were deserted. The same disease broke out in the Sirdarpur mittah of the Khond country. There were about 40 deaths between 24th May and 19th July and again some 10 deaths afterwards. The services of a hospital assistant were engaged with a view to putting a stop to this outbreak which subsided at the end of August. The other taluks seem to have escaped.

28. I have not heard that fever was more than usually prevalent during the year. My Mahont died of hill fever in January a few days after coming into head-quarters from the hills. A clerk and the dresser who accompanied me on my first tour were laid up with fever for a long time.

29. *Vaccination.*—Below is a comparative statement for 1884-85 and 1885-86:—

Taluks.	Number Vaccinated.							
	During 1884-85.				During 1885-86.			
	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Uknown.	Total.	Successful	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.
Gunupur	590	580	2	8	997	972	8	17
Rayagada	569	569	..	..	674	672	..	2
Bissemkatak	450	438	7	5	367	356	8	3
	1,609	1,587	9	13	2,038	2,000	16	3

There was a great increase of successful operations in Gunupur, a fair increase in Rayagada and a light decrease in Bissemkatak. The figures are on the whole very satisfactory.

30. The Soura people willingly submit to the operation of vaccination. I took a vaccinator with me to Putosingi and in few hours had some 50 unprotected persons vaccinated. By that time the vaccinator's stock of lymph was unfortunately exhausted and many women who had brought their children from a distance had to go away disappointed. If these vaccinators would only show a little more zeal and energy in the discharge of their duties, I believe our returns would soon be doubled or even trebled.

31. *Wild Beasts.*—Seven persons are reported to have been killed by tigers during the calendar year 1885 as against 19 during 1884. There were 3 deaths from panthers in 1884 but none in 1885. In each year three tigers were destroyed. The jungles of Rayabijji and Chendrapur which were infested with tigers about a year ago were said to be free from these pests when I visited the Khond hills in November.

32. *Crime.*—Housebreaking, theft in a building and simple theft continue to be the principal offences in the division.

33. The reopening in January 1885 of the Police station at Gulliti, which was closed as useless in 1881, has resulted in a great decrease in the number of cattle thefts in that mittah.

34. *Opium.*—The present system worked smoothly during the year under report. Twelve shops were opened for the sale of opium in these hill tracts. The renter kept a sufficient stock of the drug at each of the three depôts established in this division.

35. *Abkári.*—No remarks.

36. *Roads.—Chollapadam-Rayagada road.*—The traffic over this road from December to the end of March is very large indeed. I was quite astonished at the number of carts I saw going out of Rayagada towards Párvatipur day after day in the month of February. The road seems to be one that should be properly made by the Public Works Department. Meanwhile

we have to do the best we can with the small allotments placed at our disposal. Great improvements have been made this year at a cost of about 2,000 rupees. A good part of the road has been marked out by the digging of side channels. Masonry works in the shape of culverts and road dams have been built and wooden bridges put up where necessary. An entirely new track has been made near the river Nagavali at Chollapadam. The old road ran over very low-lying ground and used to be several feet under water in the rainy season. For a couple of miles outside Rayagada rocks have been buned away and the track properly levelled.

37. *Narayanapatnam road.*—Some Rs. 800 have been spent with fairly good results. The section called Battivalsa ghât has been metalled.

38. *Kurapam-Gunupur road.*—A small sum of Rs. 100 was spent. The Kurapam Zemindar promised Mr. Welsh that he would annually make one mile of road from Kurapam towards Gunupur (see Agency report for 1884-85, page 26). On my reminding the zemindar of his promise he declared that he had no intention of making any agency road and had never told Mr. Welsh he would do so.

39. *Rayagada-Bissemkatak road.*—Rs. 400 were spent in patching up some of the worst parts of the road. The Local Fund roads are made up to the agency boundary in the Sálúr taluk only. Pucka roads should now be made from Kotapam to Chollapadam on the Rayagada side and from Dugge to Kurapam on the Gunupur side. The road from Párvatipur to the Narayanapatnam agency boundary is a mere path running across paddy fields and scarcely passable in wet weather. I hope it will not be long before these three pieces of road are taken in hand by the Local Fund Engineer.

40. *Rest-houses.*—These have been nicely kept up and repaired. New rest-houses have been built at Singupur and at Limmabhadra (the halting place between Gunupur and Gudari) where they were much needed.

41. *Bissemkatak taluk office.*—The work has been satisfactorily performed on contract by Kruttivasa Patnaik, Dewan to the Tat Raja. The total cost was Rs. 2,800. Besides the usual rooms for the Sub-Magistrate and his clerks, the building consists of a treasury, a sub-jail and a capital police station with lockup. The structure is altogether most comfortable and suitable. It was quite finished by the beginning of October, but owing to damp I did not allow the Sub-Magistrate and his establishment to move into it until the new year.

42. *Education.*—I have examined several of the schools in the division.

43. *Gunupur.*—There was a Government middle school here with a normal school attached until November last. As, however, very few boys were forthcoming who cared or could afford to continue their studies up to the third class, it was determined to reduce the standard of the school. It is now known as a Primary school, pupils being taught up to the second class. When I examined the school in December I found the boys, 40 in number, intelligent and well informed. The head master and his assistants evidently take interest in their work.

44. I also examined seven result schools in which besides boys some 30 little girls were reading. I was very pleased with the progress the latter had made in arithmetic. There are altogether 40 result schools in this taluk.

45. *Rayaghada.*—There are but two schools at present in the taluk, both at Rayaghada itself. The master of the Government Primary school receives Rs. 8 a month from Government, his salary being made up to Rs. 20 by the Jeypore Maharaja's annual contribution of Rs. 144. With regard to the pupils and their master, I have the same remarks to pass as on the Primary school at Gunupur. There were 24 names on the books in February 1885 and 36 in the same month of this year. The increase is satisfactory. The pupils are taught up to the second class.

46. The second school is on the result system and consists of 12 boys who are taught up to the second standard. Their knowledge at examination was fair.

47. The school that was established at Singupur by the late Raja of that place has been closed ever since his death in February 1884. I am endeavouring to get a new school started.

48. *Bissemkatak.*—There was a primary school here up to March 1885 which was supported by the Tat Raja. The masters' salary was Rs. 30 a month. The school is said to have collapsed owing to the apathy of the inhabitants who did not care to get their children educated. I impressed on the Raja the necessity of establishing a new school in the place. He promised to do his best, but added that he had not much hope of success.

49. At Durgi there is a small Uriya school on the result system. There were 16 boys on the books when I visited the school in March. The master, a respectable old man, told me he had got Rs. 87½ as result grant at the recent examination of his school.

This is the only school in the Bissemkatak taluk, the schools at Jagdalpore and Ombadola having come to grief within a few months of their opening.

50. *Narayanapatnam.*—The result schools where boys are taught up to the third standard is supported by the Jeypore Maharaja who pays the master Rs. 15 a month. When examined by Mr. Welsh at the beginning of 1884 it consisted of 50 boys, but I regret to say that when I examined it in February last, there were but 25 names on the books. The ignorance displayed by the pupils was quite surprising. I cannot but attribute this unsatisfactory state of things to the carelessness of the master who appeared to be scarcely more intelligent than his pupils. As

the school has been steadily decreasing in numbers ever since this master was appointed, I have recommended his dismissal and the appointment of a man I believe to be more suitable for the post. The Superintendent of Hill schools has never visited this school.

51. There is, I think, no doubt that there should be two Hill School Superintendents, one for the Special Assistant's division and one for this. At present it is extremely difficult to ascertain the Superintendent's whereabouts and to get any information whatever out of him. This is not altogether his fault, for his range extending as it does from the north of Bissemkatak to Malcangiri is far too large for any one man to attend to properly.

52. *Officials.*—Kesanapalli Narasimha Rao seems to take much interest in road making and has done useful work in this respect since he came to Párvatipur.

53. The Agency Sub-Magistrates have on the whole performed their duties satisfactorily throughout the year.

54. We are about to lose Datla Tirupati Raj from Gunupur as he will be obliged to retire in May on attaining the age of 55.

55. *Season and Crops.*—The rainfall registered at Rayaghada during 1885-86 was 46·5 inches as compared with 36·725 inches in 1884-85

The rain gauge at Gunupur was under repairs for some months and none has yet been supplied for Bissemkatak, so I am unable to give figures for all the taluks.

56. During my November and December tour I noticed that the mustard and tobacco crops were very fine. Paddy is said to have been fair, but gingelly, horse-gram, green-gram and ragy were poor.

CRIMINAL Statistics for 1885-86.

Name of court.	Number of cases.					Number of persons.						Remarks.
	Pending from last year.	Received during the year.	Total.	Disposed of.	Still pending.	Pending from last year.	Received during the year.	Total.	Convicted.	Otherwise.	Total.	Still pending.	
Original.	..	6	6	6	..	..	17	17	17	..	17	..	
Appeal. Senior Assistant Agent's.	..	5	5	5	..	..	5	5	3	2	5	..	Reversed on appeal.

Court.	Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer or reference.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
Original, 1885-86. Senior Assistant Agent's ..	2	6	..	8	5	1	6	2
Appeals, 1885-86. Senior Assistant Agent's ..	..	8	..	8	5	..	5	3

From F. E. K. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Special Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam, to the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, dated Pottingi, 26th April 1886, No. 391.

I have the honor to submit my tour report for year 1885-86.

Tour.—A few days before the end of last official year I joined my appointment at Koraput and have now been in charge of Jeypore for over a year. In April I made a fortnight tour through Jeypore taluk and in May a tour on the higher plateau in Koraput and Pottingi taluks. In June I spent three weeks in the south part of Jeypore taluk and early in July I left Koraput for Vizagapatam. July and August were spent at Waltair and at the beginning of September I returned to Jeypore in consequence of the inquiry into Bustar affairs and September and October were spent on partly in Bustar and partly in the border.

In November and December I made a six weeks' tour through Malcangiri returning to Koraput at Christmas.

In January I spent a month in Nowrangapur and Ommerkote taluks and when returning met the Commissioner of Chattishghur and Mr. Priest, Political Agent, Kalahandi, on their way through Jeypore.

Learning from them that an Assistant Commissioner was on his way from Raipur to meet me to settle a boundary dispute on the north of Ommerkote taluk, I turned back and accompanied Mr. Chisholm as far as Bhavanipatnam.

Thence I returned west back into Jeypore district and reached the place of dispute on the Tél river, nearly a fortnight before the Assistant Commissioner joined me.

After settling the boundary dispute, I returned to Jeypore, where I met the Agent and accompanied him on a fortnight's tour through Jeypore and Koraput taluks.

I have thus spent 248 days or eight months out of the year in camp.

55 days in Vizagapatam.
62 Koraput.
248 Camp.
365

2. The most important event of the year was the investigation into the charges brought by the Jeypore police against the Bustar Raj of performing human sacrifices at Dantawar and elsewhere and of kidnapping victims for this purpose from Jeypore.

The facts have been fully reported to Government and it would be out of place for me to discuss the evidence here. I shall confine myself to recording a brief statement of the course of events.

During the months of May and June a belief was prevalent in the Ommerkote taluk that gangs of kidnappers from Bustar were abroad endeavouring to procure victims for sacrifices to be held the following Dussara at Dantawar and three cases were reported to the police of alleged attempt to capture persons in Ommerkote taluk presumably for this object.

In July suspicions were further aroused by the sudden and mysterious disappearance within a mile or so of Nowrangapur village of a boy employed as abkári peon in the Sub-Magistrate's office.

Application was then made to the Central Province Government for assistance in the inquiry and Surdar Ratna Sing, Police Superintendent, was despatched from Raipur to co-operate with the Jeypore police in the investigation.

Meanwhile, in August additional reports were received professing to give details as to capture and sacrifice of victims in Bustar, and upon further and more urgent representations the Central Province Government directed Mr. Priest, Political Agent, Kalahandi, to proceed to Bustar and in communication with Jeypore fully investigate the several charges. Under the orders of the Agent I left Vizagapatam for Jeypore in the beginning of September and reached the Bustar borders with Mr. Young just in time to meet Mr. Priest on his way from Kalahandi.

Mr. Young at once proceeded to put the evidence he had collected before Mr. Priest and we then undertook together a tour through Bustar territory with a body of Jeypore and Kalahandi police with a view to test the evidence and, if possible, recover any victims that might be concealed.

The result of this tour though not confirming altogether the truth of the previous reports induced the Political Agent, Kalahandi, to believe that there were sufficient grounds for continuing the inquiry, and he left us to make further investigation at Dantawar, the headquarters of the alleged sacrifices. Mr. Priest rejoined us at the end of October at Kotapad having during his absence collected a large quantity of evidence which he considered strong enough to justify the arrest of the jiah or head priest of Dantawar and the recommendation that the Bustar Rajah should be temporarily removed.

After receiving at Kotapad such prisoners as were in the custody of the Jeypore police, Mr. Priest returned to Bustar, and with the subsequent course of events the Jeypore officials had no direct connection. Mr. Priest continued his inquiries during the following two months under orders of the Central Province Government. The Bustar Raja was removed from Jagdalpore to Raipur and out of the mass of evidence collected, Mr. Priest considered the evidence in one case in which an inhabitant of Bustar by name Jondie was alleged to have been sacrificed under orders of the jiah in 1883, sufficiently conclusive to warrant the prosecution of the jiah on a charge of murder. The case was placed by Mr. Priest before a Native Magistrate and the jiah was committed to the Court of the Commissioner of Chattishghur. In January the Commissioner proceeded on tour to Bustar and tried the case. When the case came on all the prisoners and witnesses (I understand) retracted their previous statements and the case was thrown out by the Commissioner and all the prisoners under arrest were released. After the termination of the sessions case, Mr. Priest reviewed all the evidence collected in the four months' inquiry in a most minute and careful report and though naturally his view of the case was weakened by the failure of the sessions case against the jiah, he concluded by holding that "there were and are ample grounds for the suspicions entertained by the Jeypore officials that kidnapping for the sacrificial purposes went on in Bustar.

The Commissioner did not however follow Mr. Priest in his conclusions further than to allow that while entertaining no theory as to the origin of the case, he thought there might be grounds for the suspicions entertained. The case is now before the Government of India and I shall leave it to next year's report to record the conclusion of this inquiry.

3. To turn to the more prosaic details of administration I take roads first.

Appendix A shows the expenditure on roads during this year compared with last year.

1. *Pottingi to Koraput.*—The traffic over this road, the feeder of the district, continued to increase largely this year and during the harvest the string of bandies passing was continuous. Our allotment of Rs. 750 or Rs. 25 a mile was miserably inadequate and complaints of the state of the roads were loud. With this pittance it was almost impossible to keep even the bridges in order. This year we have a more liberal allowance of Rs. 1,700 and the Department of Public Works are now beginning their work in this section, but as I understand the new road will be parrellel to the present one, we shall have to keep up old road for some time to come.

2. *Koraput to Nowrangapur.*—The allotment, and we somewhat exceeded it, was not sufficient with the increased traffic to keep this road in order. After the rains the ghât was put into fair order, but towards Nowrangapur work was not completed. A ferry raft for the Indravati which was proposed last year is much required as this river at present acts as a break in the current of traffic into Ommerkote taluk.

3. *Koraput to Jeypore.*—The road is good till the bottom of the ghât. If the road is to be permanently improved a new trace must be taken on the ghât.

4. *Jeypore to Borigummah.*—The road is in fair order.

5. *Borigummah to Kotapad.*—This very important road is fairly good, but requires a good deal of attention. When Bustar affairs are settled, Mr. Priest proposes to assist us in extending the road Kotapad with Jagdalpore.

6. *Jeypore to Mote.*—A large sum was spent in clearing the old road between Malcangiri and Mote. The road is a good fair weather road, but few trading bandies have penetrated into Malcangiri. What is wanted is to open the entrance to Malcangiri by improving the Kollab crossing and the ghât down into Malcangiri. At present I understand the trade of Malcangiri almost exclusively goes now to the river at Mote instead of coming north in Jeypore.

7. *Nowrangapur to Raighur.*—This road has been carried on to some six miles beyond Dabugam and as far as it goes is good and well bridged. With this year's allotment I propose to carry on the road as far as I can beyond Ommerkote. The road will run into the Central Province eventually and I can understand from Mr. Chisholm that a road is being carried down in the Central Provinces towards Raighur. The two will eventually join.

8. There is a road from Pappadahandi over the Ampani ghât into Kalahandi which I should like to see brought into the budget The road has been made from time to time for the Central Provinces Commissioner on tour. The greater part of the ghât at Ampani and thence to Bhavanipatnam is kept up by Kalahandi estate and is in good order. I saw a large number of bandies in Kalahandi as I passed that had come round through Jeypore into Kalahandi by this road from the plains. The road was repaired this year by village labor, but it should, I think, be made permanent on our side.

Before leaving roads I must note that the Jeypore budget last year suffered heavily from curtailment. The allotment was cut down far from 18,650 to 14,070, out of which only some Rs. 8,000 were available for over 300 miles of road.

4. *Education.*—During the year the Jeypore schools were transferred from the Educational Department to the agency. At the request of the Agent, I submitted a scheme on the lines of the Ganjam agency of which the chief points were—

(1) To transfer the payment and appointment of masters from the Maharaja to Government so that complete control may be in the hands of the Agent.

(2) To increase the salaries and number of masters, abolish purely result schools and build school-houses.

(3) Separate the Special Assistant and Senior Assistant divisions giving each officer a separate Superintendent. The scheme will undoubtedly cost a good deal, but it must be remembered that hitherto Government have spent nothing but a small result grant upon education in the agency which providing in a large yearly grant in Ganjam. The schools in my division have been kept up either by the Maharaja or by private persons. I have examined most of the schools and found the Jeypore school better than I expected. I have no doubt that there will be a speedy improvement as soon as the scheme gets into working order.

5. *Law and Justice*—(*Criminal, Appendix B*).—I am glad to be able to say that complaints of cattle theft have decreased probably owing to the heavier sentences that have been inflicted for the last two years. The only charge of Sub-Magistrates was at Koraput, where a new Sub-Magistrate was appointed in place of the previous man removed for unsatisfactory conduct. The present Koraput Sub-Magistrate is an active and intelligent man and has given me satisfaction. I cannot say the same for the Nowrangapur Deputy Tahsildar whom I have had to report during the year.

Jails.—The Jeypore sub-jail has been almost completed this year. The amount required to finish it had to be found out of the other allotment as it was not included in the budget for last year.

The Pottingi sub-jail will have to be finished out of this year's grant and I have given orders to try and put the roof on before the next rains.

For the Koraput Hill jail some measures are urgently required. The state of the jail was noticed by the Agent last year and has formed the subject of another report this year.

Last year an estimate was submitted for about Rs. 4,460 for alterations and repairs to the jail, but being referred to the Public Works Department it came back increased to Rs. 12,920.

I do not think it any use to spend so large a sum in tinkering so wretched a building. A new jail will have to be built eventually.

C.

STATEMENT showing the Civil Suits instituted and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Suits.							
	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Agent	35	65	..	100	51	18	69	31

D.

STATEMENT showing the Appeals filed and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Appeals.							
	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Magistrate and Agent ..	1	13	..	14	13	..	13	1

E.

STATEMENT showing the Vaccination carried out in my Division during the year 1885-86.

Taluk.	Number vaccinated during the year 1884-85.					Number vaccinated during the year 1885-86.					Increase.	Decrease.
	Total number of vaccinators employed.	Number vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total number of vaccinators employed.	Number vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.		
Koraput	5	1,214	1,190	..	24	5	1,104	1,023	37	44	..	110
Jeypore	2	759	742	..	17	2	717	711	1	5	..	42
Pottingi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nowrangapur	3	883	846	..	37	3	820	811	6	3	..	63
Malcangiri	2	1,895	1,832	..	63	2	1,207	1,183	8	16	..	688
Total ..	12	4,751	4,610	..	141	12	3,848	3,728	52	68	..	903

F.

STATEMENT showing the Animals killed by Wild Beasts and the Amount of Reward paid for them.

Division.	Animals killed by				Amount of reward paid for			
	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Hyænas.	Bears.	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Hyænas.	Bears.
Special Assistant Agent's Division ..	254	71	..	..	RS. 4,000	RS. 2,800	RS. 15	RS. 70

G.

ABSTRACT Statement of Wild Animals killed, Rewards distributed and Loss of Life during the year 1885-86.

Years.	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Bears.	Hyænas.	Reward paid.	Loss of life.	
						Men.	Cattle.
1885-86	35	112	10	3	RS. 6,885	96	325

Appendix to Agent's Report.

EXTRACT from the Geological Sketch of the Vizagapatam District by W. KING, Esq., B.A., D. Sc., Superintendent, Geological Survey of India.

Gneisses of the Galikonda Hill Tract.—An opportunity, under the guidance of Mr. H. G. Turner, C.S., the Collector and Agent of the district, was afforded me of visiting this region and of thus making a traverse as far as the verge of the Jeypore territory, over a considerable thickness of gneisses which by their lie appear to be subjacent to, or older than, any of the bands or subdivisions already described. They are, at any rate, all dipping to the east-south-eastward: at first on the skirts of the hills about Bodara and thence westwards to the first ascent (1,000 feet) below Raivalsa, at high angles, and then at lower and lower inclinations until, in Devadimanda (over 5,000 feet), the highest station of the Galikonda ridge, they are lying so low as 30°. The rocks are still garnetiferous, but not nearly to such an extent as is the case with those already described; while they are more decidedly quartzo-felspathic in their constitution and not so schistose though still well-bedded and laminated, and their colors are of correspondingly lighter shades. They must, for the present, be considered as belonging to the Vizagapatam series, being still, on the whole, markedly different from the more massive and less foliated and older-looking gneisses of Southern India. The main ridge beds, however, run up at the low angle of dip given above, and give a steep and high craggy face looking out over the lower upland of Jeypore to the west, thus exhibiting a break in the surface contour which may arise from a change in the character, and even the relative age, of the crystallines to the westward. Galikonda is the proposed hill resort of Vizianagrum, but as yet it has only received very slight attention in that way, partly from its distance, some 45 miles westward, and from want of convenient accessibility. The old Raivalsa track in the direction of Jeypore passes over a lofty (over 4,200 feet) saddle, a short distance north of the highest point of the Galikonda ridge, after which it descends again rather rapidly to a lower upland: this is now being made by slow degrees fit for cart traffic. Long ago, some enterprising official built a bungalow and planted a garden of various fruit-trees high up on the eastern slopes, but the garden only now remains the living and luxuriant result of that experiment. At a much lower elevation, about 3,000 feet and about half-way up the ghât, an experimental plantation for coffee, tea, cinchona, and other products has been started under the local Government, with, I think, fair prospects of success.

Crystalline Limestone Bands.—A very interesting occurrence in the gneisses of the hill tract is a series of apparently isolated outcrops of crystalline limestone, which, irrespective of the industrial value they may come to possess, are pierced by swallow-holes or caverns, one of which is of considerable extent and magnificence. The southernmost outcrop within the range of our traverse is on the low saddle above the village of Nilgalgunta, six miles south-east of Devadimanda hill. There is a small cave here, lined with travertine but without any stalactites or stalagmites: other recesses are said to exist which are now blocked up. The limestone is of grey and dark-green or nearly black colours, the latter arising from a strong admixture of hornblendic minerals, generally coarsely saccharine, in thick beds having a high dip to east-south-east, with an exposed aggregate thickness of about thirty yards. Some six miles to the north-north-east, a short distance beyond the village of Borra, a much more important outcrop forms a low hill, through which the village stream passes by a series of swallow-holes to the Peddagunda river. Formerly the subterranean channel was free, but within the last few years it became choked up, and, as a consequence, a small lake or tarn has been formed behind the southern end or headland of the limestone hill, the flooded waters of which have in time cut a temporary off-flow on its western side. Half-way over the hill, going northwards, there is an opening to a cavernous shaft, down which one can look into dim depths, and from which issues the murmur of running water. A short distance further on, the path reaches the edge of the northern face of the hill, where it overhangs a deep ravine, in which the village stream again comes to light about 300 feet below. The hill thus traversed by a series of swallow-holes is made up, as far as outcrop shows, of about 500 feet in thickness of generally massive and pale-coloured granular crystalline limestone, some beds of which, in their fineness of texture and pure colour, compare favorably with Carara marble; though, as a rule, the rock is more coarsely crystallized and of grey or dirty-white colours, weathering dark or nearly black. The dip is high, 50° or 60° or even more, to the eastward with a N.N.E.—S.S.W. strike. As far as I could see, the band is lenticular, thinning out rather suddenly to the southward.

Borra Cave.—About 50 feet below the northern brow, a large but low entrance leads into a deep and lofty cavern having a rude, dome-like roof opening to the sky above by the orifice already mentioned Here, in fact, is a huge natural cave temple, bearing a rugged resemblance to the Pantheon at Rome, though, as yet, it contains only one god, Priapus,* represented by a fragment of stalactite. The roof is crossed or irregularly ribbed with thick-short, curtain-like masses of stalactitic deposit, only one or two of which towards the sides of the cavern, are connected with the thickly-grouped and large mammillated mounds of stalagmite forming the floor. The latter slopes rapidly down on the eastern

* Presumably so, at least, for the pillar of travertine is to all appearance a sort of lingum, and there was no authoritative priest or devotee at hand to settle the question.

For the greater part of the year I had to accommodate twice the number of the prisoners the jail ought to hold. The Párvatipur jail appears to be almost always full and only three or four times in the year relieved us of part of our excess. The guard will have to be permanently increased as well as the accommodation.

A new cutcherry and sub-jail ought at once to be built at Koraput for the Sub-Magistrate. The present buildings form part of the hill jail block and are in as miserable a condition as the rest. In the monsoon the cutcherry is unfit to sit in.

Civil.—The number of cases disposed of are shown in appendix C.

I cannot say the civil work is satisfactory. The Jeypore and Koraput Sub-Magistrates have been made munsifs this year to relieve me of the petty bazaar suits which used to form a large portion of the cases in this court and which from the constant absence on tour of my office used to remain pending till return to headquarters. But the settlement of civil suits with a court so continually on tour over so great a distance is very difficult without causing great hardship to the parties and witnesses by summoning them far from their houses and making them follow the court.

Time after time I have fixed dates with a view to the convenience of the parties and found that circumstances have caused an alteration in my tour and that the parties have returned home.

The difficulty in getting a punchayet to assemble in the cutcherry limits was noticed last year.

It is not easy to get the parties to court together, but when they come the headmen do not come with them, and I should prefer deciding the case myself to referring it to a punchayet consisting of the on-hangers of the court, while to send for the headmen would entail a further adjournment.

I have tried to settle the suits by getting the parties to name a punchayet in their village and referring the decisions to them in writing and deciding according to their answer, but have not found it answer well. The parties return to court full of complaints that justice was not done them and the punchayetdars are rarely unanimous. After all 99 out of 100 civil disputes are settled by headmen and punchayets in the villages without recourse to any court and I would not encourage parties to come to civil courts at all. Any increased facility for coming to court will most certainly undermine the settlement of disputes by punchayet.

Disputes as to boundaries of villages, payment of kist and cultivation of land are much more satisfactorily settled by an agency order after a full inquiry than by a general suit.

A word as to the Rent Recovery Act: we have not yet received the final decision of Government promised in last year orders.

During the year I have refused to enforce the Act whatever may be the legal aspect of the case. I do not see what protection the villagers will have against forceable seizure of the cattle improperly for alleged arrears. The first notice that would reach the court of the attachment would probably be a police report of a serious disturbance, while the power to bring a summary suit for damages against the padal or renter would on the hills at least be no check whatever. Any speedy inquiry in my court owing to distance would be ordinarily impossible.

The only times when the Act has been used in Jeypore it has been worked improperly by a rival renter to enforce his claim and what chance has a ryot between two renters, both attaching his property on their own responsibility.

6. *Opium and Abkári.*—The statements in the appendix show the demand and collection. I have nothing to remark thereon.

7. *Medical.*—Two dispensaries have been sanctioned this year for Jeypore and Nowrangapur and plans are being prepared for the buildings. At Jeypore a temporary building is being put up to accommodate the apothecary till the proper quarters are erected, and the apothecary might be sent at once. I hope eventually to get dispensaries at Malcangiri and Ommerkote.

The vaccination returns (appendix E) show a decrease. Malcangiri as usual heads the list. Thanks to the old Sub-Magistrate whose efforts in the encouragements of vaccination have been several times brought to the notice of Government.

From what I have seen in the villages, I think Jeypore is fairly well on in vaccination, but more might be done if the vaccinators made a point of accompanying the Government officer on tour. I have written several times about this and the District Surgeon has given strict orders on the point.

The supply of medicines for the use of the Sub-Magistrates has during the year been very irregular. The Pottingi Sub-Magistrate was for some months without the most necessary of medicines, quinine. All my Sub-Magistrates should, I think, be provided with a supply of the common medicine at fixed times, say twice a year, to avoid the delay in getting a special indent passed.

Public Health.—Cholera which was prevailing on through plains last year found its way on to the hills and lingered on in some of the villages for some months. It disappeared in October.

8. *Destruction of Wild Beasts.*—There is a most satisfactory decrease in the number of persons killed by tigers and a corresponding increase in tigers killed and rewards paid.

Six man eaters (for which additional rewards were paid) were killed. A large proportion were killed by the police who deserve credit. Several tigers were killed by what the reports term "a machine of carbines" set over the kill. The increase in cattle killed merely indicates that the reports are more accurate.

9. *Tappal.*—The new post office at Koraput has been almost completed. The Koraput Post Master was convicted by the Agent of embezzling a large sum of money received for money orders. It is to be hoped that in future the post will be better paid and more under supervision. A post office was opend in Jeypore at the beginning of the year and has proved very useful.

The Agent has applied for extension of the service to Kotapad and Nowrangapur. Mr. Priest with whom I spoke on the subject promises to connect Nowrangapur and Kotapad with his dawk from Bhavanipatnam to Jagdalpore which now runs near Nowrangapur. This will give us a very much needed line of communication with the adjacent districts in the Central Provinces.

10. *Boundary Disputes.*—The dispute on the Tél river between some Jeypore and Nowrangapur ryots (Central Provinces) mentioned before cropped up a year ago. Mr. Fox Strangways, Assistant Commissioner, came down from Raighur and met me at the place of dispute and we went over the land and examined the witness together. The dispute was a very trivial one; we agreed as to our decisions and reports were sent by each of us to our respective chiefs.

Another dispute between Jeypore and Kasipore was brought to my notice and Mr. Priest has promised to meet the Jeypore officer in May on the spot to settle it.

11. *Establishment.*—During the year my head clerk was appointed Sub-Magistrate at Paderu and my second clerk was promoted to head clerk. The post of second clerk is not yet filled up.

I have already addressed you separately on a proposal to increase the pay of my office by granting a hill allowance. Last year you remarked that my office was inefficient, but considering the difficulty in getting any good man to serve in these hills from the un healthiness of the district, I cannot hope to improve it, while the pay is less than in the office of the Senior Assistant in the plains and less even than in the office of the police at Koraput.

12. *Miscellaneous Complaints.*—The year has been very free from any important complaints. During the year when in Malcangiri the constables complained of the difficulty in following the Government order on the subject of purchasing rice stating that though they had paid their money to the Nigaman, no rice was supplied to them. A special report was sent by me on this point. No complaints were made against the Malcangiri Nigaman who was newly put in last year.

13. Money prices have been steadily rising and there can be no doubt that the Jeypore ryots are benefiting greatly by the opening up of the country and as far as I have seen they appear to be fairly prosperous and contended.

14. In conclusion, I must apologise for the length of my report. Having only joined last March, I had no opportunity of having my say last year upon the many matters of importance in the district.

A.

COMPARATIVE Statement showing the Expenditure during the year 1885-86.

No.	Name of work.	Expenditure, 1884-85.	Expenditure, 1885-86.
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
	Roads.		
1	Nowrangapur to Raighur	3,000 0 0	2,501 11 6
2	Koraput to Pottingi	1,231 11 4	690 0 0
3	Koraput to Nowrangapur	2,053 1 6	1,956 3 6
4	Koraput to Jeypore	1,013 5 0	587 0 2
5	Jeypore to Mote	2,391 0 0	2,222 14 11
6	Malcangiri to Kondakamberu	1,057 1 6	..
7	Borigummah to Kotapad	1,000 0 0	693 9 0
8	Turner's Ghât	1,200 0 0	1,195 1 3
9	Jeypore to Borigummah	400 0 0	600 3 6
	Buildings.		
10	Travellers' bungalow and chattram at Koraput ..	813 10 10	185 7 2
11	Rest-houses	1,496 0 0	306 8 0
12	Government buildings at Koraput	1,307 4 3	483 15 8
13	Sub-jail, Jeypore	1,769 12 4	2,000 0 0
14	Sanitary works at Koraput	475 1 3	549 9 5
15	Road from Ommerkote to Kalahandi frontier ..	700 0 0	..
	Total ..	19,908 0 0	13,972 3 6

B.

STATEMENT showing the Cases filed and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Magistrate and Agent ..	3	71	..	74	73	..	73	1

side to a narrow cleft or rift, along which the waters from the stream above pursue their still hidden course, this rift being generally in a plane of bedding. Further cavernous recesses are seen to occur upwards towards the dammed-up tarn, while on the other side, the existence of yet lower caverns is evidenced by gleams of light pouring in from the deep ravine in front to the depths of the side rift. We were only able to note the features of this great cave in a very rapid way. The single stalactite (6 feet long and 4 to 8 inches in diameter) has been appropriated for the devotional service noted above, the cave being the resort at certain seasons of many pilgrims. There is one other pillar in the shape of a small stalagmite, 3 feet high and 8 inches in diameter, which is slowly rising from the floor by deposition from the drops falling at long intervals from the roof. The interior of the cavern is coated over with travertine—a dull, cream-white, compact, semi-crystalline rock, the surface sparkling a little owing to minute sparry facets. The stalactitic festoons are beautifully fluted and wrinkled, while the huge fungoid and coralloid mounds of stalagmite are wrinkled in little waves of terracing, the mounds themselves being made up of successive shells with irregular cavities between.

A good deal of rubbish, the sweepings from the numerous pilgrim gatherings, lies collected among the stalagmitic mounds, forming an uneven earth floor, but with no thickness; and this appears to be the only material in which any remains could occur otherwise than in the substance of the mounds themselves.

On a subsequent visit, as I am informed by him, Mr. Turner ascertained, notwithstanding that we were told to the contrary by the villagers, that this band of limestones is continued to the northward, and that it even bars the passage of the Peddagunda river itself by a wall some 20 or 30 yards wide, which is pierced by a cavernous channel having two apertures on the upside, each 40 feet high, one above the other, but not in a straight line. Further in, the hollow is only about 3 or 4 feet above the level of the water, and through it, Mr. Turner could, by creeping in as far as possible and bending down, just see the light coming in at the orifice on the down side. There is no particular show of travertine in this swallow-hole.

From all Mr. Turner could gather by inquiry—and curiously enough the villagers appear very reserved on the subject—there appear to be other caves or outcrops of limestone both in this neighbourhood of Borra and yet further eastward at the foot of the hills. This Borra band and that reported to the eastward would be, if continued northwards in the line of strike held by the gneisses, somewhat in the direction of other reported outcrops of calcareous rocks in the Salúr zemindari, and it is not improbable that the ultimate tracing out of them, as well as of a yet further outcrop (to be noticed immediately) to the north of Vizianagrum, may bring the Galikonda gneisses into a closer relation with the Kailassa band than my traverse of them has led me to suppose is the case.

From the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam, dated 19th November 1886, No. 742.

ORDER—dated 23rd December 1886, No. 3387, Judicial.

The first of the foregoing papers is the annual report on the administration of the Agency tracts of the Vizagapatam district, which His Excellency the Governor in Council will now proceed to review.

2. *Touring.*—The amount of touring done by the Agency officers is very satisfactory; Mr. Wedderburn was especially active, having spent no less than 248 days in camp. His Excellency in Council notices with much pleasure the high terms in which Mr. Turner speaks of Messrs. Power and Elwin.

3. *Communications.*—The Agent devotes much of his report to the question of roads, and urges the adoption of a more liberal policy towards the Agency in the matter of funds for this purpose. The Government have always recognised the importance of the development of communications in these backward tracts, and they have made considerable yearly grants from Provincial funds for the construction and maintenance of roads and buildings. The cost of the Pottingi Ghât road was Rs. 4,56,581,* and sanction has already been accorded to the construction by the Public Works Department of a first-class road from Pottingi to Koraput, to be eventually extended to the Central Provinces' frontier.† The Government do not think, therefore, that there has been any want of liberality in the treatment of the Agency tracts. It must be remembered that in other districts the cost of the construction and maintenance of communications is met from special funds raised locally, assistance being given from Provincial funds only in exceptional circumstances; and that the Agency yields to Government in direct revenue a comparatively trifling sum. Upon a consideration of these facts, the Government are of opinion that, while the present policy of steady progress in the matter of opening new roads should be maintained, it would be unfair to other portions of the presidency to sanction the large expenditure contemplated by Mr. Turner. In the present financial position, the utmost that can be hoped for is that Government may be able to maintain expenditure on the present scale.

* *Vide* G.O., dated 10th October 1885, No. 2365 W., Public Works Department, recorded in Judicial Department G.O., dated 26th October 1885, No. 1429.

† *Vide* Government Order quoted above, and G.O., dated 4th January 1886, No. 8 W., Public Works Department, recorded in Judicial Department G.O., dated 19th January 1886, Mis. No. 151.

4. The Government do not possess such full information as is desirable regarding the roads in the Vizagapatam Agency. Mr. Turner will therefore be requested to submit a special report on the subject. The report should show the number and mileage of existing roads and the amount spent upon them during the last five years. It should also contain a full description of the roads which Mr. Turner proposes to open, their mileage, and a rough estimate of their cost. A map should be furnished, and in this all ghâts and rivers should be clearly marked. Full particulars regarding the length of ghât roads and the necessity for bridging rivers should be given in the body of the report. Mr. Turner should also consider whether the yearly allotment could not be more effectively utilised if work were more concentrated. In this way each road in turn could be put into thoroughly good order; the subsequent cost of maintenance would probably be less than the sum now expended on this account, while in place of many indifferent roads there would be a few good ones, and the number of these would be gradually increasing.

5. *Buildings.*—Turning now to the question of buildings, the Government observe that the Jeypore sub-jail and cutcherry was not completed at the close of the year, although so far back as 1884 nothing remained to be done but to put on the roof.* The Government trust that the work is now finished. The Bissemkatak taluk office was completed, and appears to be a satisfactory building.

* Paragraph 22 of G.O., dated 13th October 1884, No. 2619, Judicial.

6. *Education.*—The education of the only son of the Maharaja of Jeypore by an English tutor has at length been arranged for, and the tutor, Mr. Marsh, was to have entered on his duties in November. The general question of education in the Agency tracts was dealt with in G.O., dated 10th June 1886, No. 354, Educational. The scheme then sanctioned contained no provision for schools in the Golgonda or Paderu taluks, the backward educational condition of which is now brought to notice by the Principal Assistant Agent. This matter should receive the further attention of the Agent.

7. *Law and Crime.*—The number of civil suits instituted in the Agency Courts during the year was 316, the number pending from the previous year being 110. Of this number only 271 were disposed of, the number pending at the end of the year being 152. The above figures are not satisfactory, and special efforts should be made to ensure the more speedy disposal of cases. The arrears before the munsifs of Rayaghada and Jeypore are specially heavy. Now that the Koraput and Jeypore sub-magistrates have been given civil powers, the delays caused by the Special Assistant Agent being so constantly on tour should no longer occur.

Two appeals were pending and ten were instituted during the year. Of these, nine were disposed of.

8. The outturn of criminal work is more satisfactory. One thousand two hundred and twelve cases were instituted during the year, and 42 were pending from the previous year. These were all disposed of except 19. The institutions in the

previous year numbered 1,313. Among the committals to the Agent's Court were 9 cases of murder and 10 of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The number of prisoners involved in these cases was 34, of whom 18 were convicted and 15 discharged, the remaining one being still under trial. It is satisfactory to observe that the crime of cattle-theft has begun to decrease, "owing," it is said, "to the heavier sentences that have been inflicted during the last two years." The cases of alleged kidnapping of Jeypore people by men from Bastar have been dealt with in separate papers.

There were no serious disturbances of the public peace during the year.

9. *Wild Animals.*—In the Special Assistant Agent's division, 96 persons were killed by wild animals. Figures for the previous year are not available, but the number of deaths in the calendar year 1883 was 234. The number of persons killed in the other divisions was 8. The number of tigers destroyed in the whole of the Agency tracts was 54, as against 58 in the previous year. Of this number, 7 were man-eating tigers. The figures are satisfactory. In his next report the Agent should give a comparative statement showing the number of tigers, panthers, &c., destroyed in each of the previous five years, as also the number of persons killed by wild animals and the amount of rewards paid.

10. *Miscellaneous.*—The administration of the Opium and Abkári revenue calls for no remarks. The vaccination figures of the Senior Assistant Agent's division show an improvement, but there was a decrease in the number of vaccinations in that of the Special Assistant. No figures are given by the Principal Assistant. It is not stated whether any attempt is made to check the returns submitted by the vaccinators. This should be done, and the vaccinators should certainly accompany the Agent and his Assistants when on tour. The cost per case should in future be given, and the number of vaccinations per man employed.

11. The attention of the Accountant-General will be drawn to the alleged deficiency of copper coinage in Jeypore. Mr. Turner's general remarks on coinage are out of place in a report on the Agency tracts. He should, however, explain what he means by saying that the copper coin is debased.

12. The action taken by the Agent in connection with the amins of Rayaghada and Gunupur is approved. The Government trust that they have been replaced by men whose probity can be relied upon. The Agent should recommend the Maharaja to introduce a system of accounts that would ensure the speedy detection of frauds upon his revenues.

13. The payment of the tour expenses, amounting to Rs. 512-15-7, is sanctioned.

14. The Superintendent of Survey will be directed to state whether he can furnish a map of the Agency tracts. His attention will be drawn to paragraph 9 of G.O., dated 13th October 1884, No. 2619, Judicial, and paragraph 16 of G.O., dated 20th October 1885, No. 2822, Judicial.

15. Dr. William King's note is interesting, and will be printed as an appendix to the report.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam.
" " Ganjam.
" Government Agent, Godávari.
" Revenue Department.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Inspector-General of Police.
" Public Works Department.
" Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
" Accountant-General.
" Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1886} Madras.

JUDICIAL.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 23rd December 1886, No. 3387.

DECEMBER.

Vizagapatam Agency.

Reviewing the annual report of the — for 1885-86.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From H. G. TURNER, Esq., Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vizianagrum, 23rd August 1886, No. 602.

I have the honor to submit my report on the administration of the Agency tracts of this district for the year 1885-86.

The first tour undertaken by the Agent during the year under review was an excursion with Mr. Elwin, the newly appointed Senior Assistant, through his division. I left Párvatipur on the 16th November and marched to Rayaguda, Singapore, Bissemkatak, thence throughout the Khond Maliahs to Godairy, and following the valley of the Vamsadhára river to Gunupur, came out through the Sitampeta pass to Pálkonda.

2. The second tour took me through the Special Assistant's division, which I entered by the Galikonda pass, journeying by Aruku and Nundapur, I reached Koraput on the 2nd March. Thence I went to Jeypore where I saw the Maharajah. From Jeypore I marched to Ramagiri, and turning towards home at that point I proceeded viâ Balliguda and Sogaru, and avoiding the Galikonda mountain came out at Anantagiri through Bondam and Borra—this being the line which will probably be taken by the new road now under construction between the plains of Vizagapatam and the southern part of the Jeypore plateau and Malkangiri.

3. I had visited Borra already this season in company with Dr. King of the Geological Department. That gentleman, being on a visit to Vizianagrum to inspect a proposed artesian well, expressed a wish to look at the formation of the ghâts, and we went up to Anantagiri for a few days on this errand. This was in October. Some two or three months before this I was at Anantagiri exploring a line for the new road when I first heard of Borra. Borra, meaning a " cave " in Telugu, belonged, I casually heard, to the Jeypore country. Asking the meaning of this—for Borra lies on the borders of Pusupati and Téda (the local names of Vizianagrum and Pachipenta)—I was told that, at the time of the cession of these lands by Jeypore, Borra was retained because of the holy cave there. " It is a thirtham " said my informant, and " the water drips through the roof, and this water is taken at Siva-Ratri to wash the Lingam at Nundapur, the ancient capital of the Jeypore House." Caves being objects of desire to every one, whether English or Hindu, Aryan or Dravidian or Kolairean, I took the opportunity of Dr. King's visit to explore it, delighted to be guided by the illumination of his professional knowledge. We went and we discovered a chain of most interesting limestone caves, full of excellent specimens of stalactites and stalagmites. The caves are apparently eaten out of a limestone rock by a stream which now works its way through this series of caverns and emerges far below in a deep gloomy gorge. The caverns are full of Lingams consisting of stalagmites. The stream is heard rushing along the underground passages far out of sight. The water is used for the worship of the tutelary deity of Jeypore, and we were reminded of the place where—

> " Alph the sacred river ran
> Through caverns measureless to man
> Down to a sunless sea."

The river into which the sacred river falls is known as the Pedagunda river. It eventually emerges from the hills at Kasipatnam and then flows out through the Srungavarapukota taluk, where much water is diverted into irrigation channels, and it eventually joins the sea at Bimlipatam.

4. So much we discovered on our first visit. On my second visit to the cave in November, I think, I made a further discovery, viz., that the Pedagunda river itself encounters the same band of limestone just above its plunge into the gorge, where it receives the little stream above-mentioned as the author of the stalactite cave, and it also "through the shaggy hill passes underneath engulfed." This passage is a low arch affording just sufficient room to the water. High above the present tunnel is another great open hole in the rock, which evidently served as a vent for the water before the river denuded its way down to the present orifice—altogether a most interesting place—and I fancy that the limestone bed is of larger extent than we at first thought, for on my last visit I struck it again much higher up the river.

I know of two other caves or more of this sort. One at Gopteswaram, which is also a thirtham on the banks of the Sebheri, 8 miles west of Ramagiri — a place of much sanctity and of extensive legendary associations.

5. The line of road which I am now engaged on will be, when finished, of equal importance with the Sálúr ghât and the road from Pottingy to Koraput.

From Vizianagrum it will be 25 miles to the foot of the new ghât. Five miles of road will be cut out of the side of the hill, and we shall then find ourselves at Dhamuku, 2,000 feet above the level of the sea. The road must then run, I think, to the Borra saddle, some 3 miles through the Raevalsa valley. From the Borra saddle, if we go that way, it must descend a few hundred feet to cross the Borra valley, and then it will ascend again and emerge into the open plateau near Bondam.

6. This route was explored by Colonel Shaw-Stewart some 25 years ago. Exception has been taken by various officers to the other route selected eventually for the bridle-path, to wit, over a spur of Galikonda, 4,500 feet above sea level, instead of adopting what these critics considered the better route for a bridle-path round by Borra and Bondam. But I am happy to be able to state that the engineers were right and the critics wrong, for the country round by Borra is a very difficult country indeed, and for a bridle-path a uselessly circuitous route. I am afraid that I must go that way with my cart road, but for a bridle-path there is no doubt that the shortest and best way is the one now in existence. The party engaged in the work certainly took the greatest pains to find out the best way, and it is most interesting to me to come across their old traces now overgrown with jungle as I go poking about to find my way over and round the various obstacles which vex the schemes of the road-maker.

7. I have completed three miles of the section that has to be cut out of the hill-side, and have done a good deal of the fourth and fifth miles. The whole of this section will be finished in six months, and carts will then have access to a considerable extent of country hitherto trodden only by the pack beast. I will dismiss this part of my subject by saying that the road will probably run from Bondam to Aruku, thence to Padawa, Sogaru and Guniapodu, thence to Baliguda and so by Janitigiri, where it will bifurcate—one branch running down to the north Malkangiri country and so opening out to trade a vast extent of fertile land, and the other branch will run down to Dasumutpur and open up all the Ramagiri country, which contains excellent land of unquestionable value.

8. Interesting again are the associations of this road as it gets into the Sogaru country, for here in this corner is an extensive Kolairean colony of Gadabas and their cousins the Bonda Porjas and the Kerang kapus. Here also at Baliguda are the falls of the Sibru, a most weird gaunt abyss of cliffs into which the river here known as the Matsyagunda, but further down as the Sibru, makes a perpendicular plunge 480 feet deep. I discovered these falls nearly twenty years ago, and I revisited them recently and took their height with an aneroid barometer.

9. These Kolaireans are excellent husbandmen, and a road through their country will give a decided stimulus to the agriculture of the part. A cross road will leave the main artery at Tobah and run through Nundapur and Paleba to Koraput. Speaking roughly, it will be about 100 miles from the foot of the new ghât to the Malkangiri taluk, and the cross road to Koraput will be about 25 miles in addition. But as soon as the pass over the mountains is completed, carts will be able to penetrate almost along the whole length of this line. It is all on the 3,000-feet plateau, a hard dry soil, perfectly open and free from any serious obstacles. It will be an enormous boon to

the country, and I expect that colonists from the Vizianagrum zemindari will be induced by the facilities of communication to settle on the lands of Ramagiri and Malkangiri if proper arrangements are made for their reception. It is to be hoped that the Government will ere long pay special attention to the migration of people, organize and encourage it. It is a matter of great public moment. It embraces considerations of the very highest policy, and, in my opinion, it ought to take an ascertained place in the sphere of our administration.

10. The roads in the Special Assistant's division are much cut up by the cart traffic. The District Engineer counted as many as 500 carts loaded with grain passing down the Sálúr ghât in one day.

During the year under report definite arrangements have been made by Government for the construction of the Pottingy and Koraput road, and the Public Works Department commenced work on that section in April 1886. The Tandevalsa ghât road has been repaired, and the causeway across the river at the bottom has been reconstructed with vents. Revetments and easing of gradient are among the works that have been carried on on that communication, which is now used by carts on their way to the Thonam market. Brinjaries continue to use it, preferring it over the new road owing to the grass and water found along the route. On the Vizagapatam and Central Provinces trunk line bridges have been built at Pauperhandi and Dabugaon; also causeways across some swamps and other embankments, and the road has been carried to a point 26 miles north of Nowrangapore. Mr. Wedderburn points out that the allotment of Rs. 25 a mile for the repair of this road was miserably inadequate. I have increased it to more than Rs. 50 a mile for the current season, but even that amount is far too small. I cannot spare more funds without starving other works, and I hope that the Public Works Department will press on their road and open sections of it as quickly as possible.

The question of running the Public Works Department road parallel to the existing line of communication is under discussion. Mr. Wedderburn draws attention to the question of a ferry raft over the Indrávati, which I shall take up this year, as also the new trace for the Jeypore-Koraput road. He reports that the other roads are in fair order, drawing attention to the improvement of the Kolab crossing and of the Malkangiri ghât. I have already touched on the Central Provinces road beyond Nowrangapore, and I agree with him in thinking that a road might be opened from Pauperhandi over the Ampani ghât into Kalahandy. The curtailment of the budget was caused by financial retrenchments decreed by Government.

11. Turning now to the education question, the scheme for educating the Maharajah's son is progressing favorably. There was some difficulty in arranging the terms upon which Mr. Marsh would come. But I have been able to effect an arrangement which will form the subject of a special letter* to Government, and Mr. Marsh will probably enter on his duties in November next.

* Letter No. 586, dated 12th August 1886.

On examining the proposals for general education, it was at once seen that nothing can be done until measures are taken for paying the masters from Government funds. This involves the transfer of the complete control from the Maharajah to the agency and the appointment of a special superintendent for each division, the plan of employing one superintendent for both the Senior and Special Assistant's division being unworkable. A scheme has been drawn up in consultation with the Inspector of Schools, and it is now on its way to Government through the Director of Public Instruction—*vide* G.O., No. 354, dated 10th June 1886, Educational.

Under law and justice, I have to notice the decrease of the crime of cattle theft. The Acting Sub-Magistrate of Nowrangapore has been relegated to his substantive appointment of Head Clerk in the plains. The question of the Koraput Hill Jail is before Government in my letter No. 243, dated 6th March 1886, and has been put into a settled form by G.O., No. 1277, dated 15th May 1886, Judicial.

12. Mr. Wedderburn enters at some length into the difficulties he experiences in getting through his civil file.

It has all along been our policy to discourage resort to civil tribunals in the agency from the fear that the people would be victimized by vakils, and I believe

that no such courts as district munsifs' courts are at all necessary in the Hill tracts, except in such places as Koraput, Jeypore and other large villages to which low country traders resort. What may be necessary hereafter when the country is opened out to cart traffic I know not, but when we come to think of the vast quantities of transactions that are carried on throughout the country without any sanction of a resort to law, why, I ask, should we dig a pit in their midst for them to fall into? Beyond any part of the country I know, Jeypore is distinguished for the marvellous numbers of weekly markets. On the road between the summit of the ghât and the interior of the country—say, 50 miles—there are five large markets held on five days in the week, viz, at Sipaiput, Dumriput, Cheptaamb, Boregumma, and at another place. These markets are frequented by large concourses of people bent on bargaining, the inter-marketal trade being in the hands of the Dombs, an out-caste tribe. Yet the whole of these transactions take place without any resort to law, and more than this all the native produce merchants, who live round the foot of the hills from the Godávari to Gunapur, advance on crops, on jungle produce, on beasts, on hides, and so forth, quite content to run whatever risks there may be in giving over money to the hill man without any security at all. They are, I believe, content with the state of the law as it now stands, and though it might be argued that the want of security disables the hill man from driving a better bargain, I have no doubt at all that on the whole the hill man would be at a disadvantage if he tried to sue his sowcar for breach of contract.

Mr. Wedderburn's remarks on the Rent Recovery Act are equally to the point. The power of distraint cannot be granted to the landlords in a country where several days journey must be traversed before redress for illegal seizure can be obtained. It is far better to let all public business of this kind vest summarily in the divisional officer.

13. Mr. Wedderburn draws attention to the meritorious efforts of the Sub-Magistrate of Malkangiri in pushing vaccination, and care will be taken that a vaccinator accompanies the divisional officer on his tours. His suggestions regarding medicines will receive attention. The business of slaying wild beasts is steadily improving, and the tappal arrangements claim a passing notice. I am in communication with the Postmaster-General regarding the postal connection with the Central Provinces.

14. I have informed the Commissioner of Chhetisghur that I concur in the decision of the boundary dispute on the Tel which has been settled by Mr. Wedderburn and Mr. Fox Strangeways, and I am awaiting his reply.

Since drafting the above, the reply of the Chief Commissioner has been received, and I am forwarding the case to Government for their formal approval.

15. In the course of my tour through the Senior Assistant's division, the Dewan of the Maharajah of Jeypore brought to my notice the very unsatisfactory behaviour of the ameens of Rayaguda and Gunupur. These managers had contrived to get possession of the rents of these two large taluks and played with him and the Maharajah in a way that called to mind the story told by Burke of the noteworthy transactions of Paul Benfey and his co-adjutors in connection with the Nabob of Arcot's debts.

These ameens were in the habit of receiving from the Maharajah orders called Barátams directing them to pay certain monies to the person named therein. To these orders these worthy men were in the habit of replying that they had no rents belonging to the Maharajah in hand, but that they would advance money to meet the Barátams from their own resources, on what they called moderate interest, *i.e.*, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *per month.* The money was advanced, not at once, but from time to time, that is, as the rents came in, and so it came about that a large debt was formed, built up by lending the Maharajah his own money and charging 18 per cent. per annum for it. This *debt* again was liquidated by the ameens by an assignment to themselves of the revenues they collected. Bonds passed between the parties confirming these transactions, or to quote Burke—it is quite interesting to apply his words to these events, for they are so delightfully applicable—"Bond is paid by bond; arrear is turned into new arrear; usury engenders new usury, until all the revenues and all the establishments are entangled into one inextricable knot of confusion from which they

are only disengaged by being entirely destroyed." This is exactly what we had to do. The ameens could or would produce no accounts. They came before us clothed in the commonest of cloths as evidence of their poverty, and they sat before us hour after hour prevaricating, withdrawing statements, qualifying admissions, and all done with a mien the most plausible and a submission humiliating to witness. There could be no adjustment made. All we did therefore was to make the ameen of Rayaguda sign a bond for Rs. 27,000 and him of Gunupur one for Rs. 60,000 and to turn them out of their employments subject to the confirmation of the Maharajah, to whom I sent the obligations they executed. But I know what will happen. They will go up to the capital and by back-stair influence they will probably recover their bonds and perhaps get reinstated in their appointments, though I shall stop the latter catastrophe by a stern exercise of authority.

16. Mr. Elwin sends an interesting account of his doings during the five-and-half months he was in charge. His touring shows a good record. I am glad to be able to bear testimony to the very zealous and intelligent way in which this young officer conducts his duties. I have treated so fully of the incidents of the Singapore case in the papers marginally noted that I need hardly swell this report by recapitulating them here.

G.O., Judicial,	9th January	1885,	No.	52,	Mis.
Do.	25th August	„	„	2220,	„
Do.	19th May	1886,	„	1326,	„

All I need mention is that the Maharajah of Jeypore has filed a suit in my court to resume possession of the estate, or for an increase of rents, and it will be for the law courts to decide on the strength of his claim. The ryots of the estate are not settled down yet. I had a deputation from them quite recently, but they were amenable to argument and they returned to their country in a peaceful state of mind. The country will require careful attention for some time to come. I have not relaxed my endeavours to effect a compromise between the Maharajah and the Ranee, and only a few days since I hoped that an opening was preparing itself. Perhaps when the cause comes into court some arrangement may be effected.

17. I was unable to visit the Sowra hills. Mr. Elwin states that the Gomangoes, who are independent of the authority of the Urya Patro of Bhimpuram or of the Dhora of Kuttmi, were ill-mannered enough to complain of the cloths given them from the Government bounty. The best thing to do will be to intermit these presents until the recipients seem disposed to appreciate them.

It is very encouraging to note the interest the Sowras take in vaccination. In paragraph 30 Mr. Elwin complains of a want of zeal and energy among the vaccinators. This paragraph will be communicated to the District Surgeon.

There was still some question regarding the ownership of Ongara village which was decided by Messrs. Sewell, Welsh and Joseph to belong to Jeypore.

18. The Government have already been requested in the letter marginally noted to allot money for the erection of hospitals at Rayaguda and Bissemkatak and Nowrangapore, and their order sanctioning the outlay has been recently received—G.O., No. 544, dated 19th June 1886, Financial.

Letter, dated 17th May 1886, No. 442.

Mr. Elwin then touches on the sanitation of these places, mentions that Bhimpuram was visited by a bad attack of cholera between May and July last year, and tells us that fever has carried off his mahout. When on tour with Mr. Elwin in November, a tiger-skin was brought to me with the story that the beast had been killed through being impaled on two bamboo stakes. Observing foot-prints of a tiger that used to walk along a path and spring over a fence, the hunter placed four sharpened stakes on the landing side of the fence so disposed that the tiger would alight on them when it jumped over the obstacle. The tiger actually did jump over the hedge and did impale himself on the stakes and then the poor brute lay howling on his back for two days, the villagers being afraid to go up and put him out of his misery. Eventually he died, and the skin had a long bare patch all down its back from the head to the tail where the hair was scraped off as it lay writhing on the ground. The story is hard to believe, but I know that deer are killed in this way and it is possibly true.

19. In the agency taluks of the Senior Assistant's division there are 260,000 inhabitants. The villages they occupy are 2,500 in number. The country consists

of two large valleys and the hills between and around them. One of these valleys is drained by the Nagavalli river, the other by the Vamsadhára. The valleys are exceedingly fertile and yield a revenue to the Maharajah of Jeypore of upwards of a lakh and a half of rupees. One of these valleys, *i.e.*, the Rayaguda valley, is the channel of communication between the Vizagapatam plains and the Central Provinces. Through the other, the Gunupur valley, lies the route from Chicacole and Kimedy to Central Provinces.

The roads necessary to open out these valleys to cart traffic are the following:—

	Miles.
(1) Chollapadam to Rayaguda	18
(2) Rayaguda to Ombadola	62
(3) Komatipet to Singapore	22
(4) Butili to Gunupur	10
(5) Gunupur to Ombadola	60
(6) Gunupur to Párvatipur	32
Total ...	204

If this system of roads were taken up by the Public Works Department, there would undoubtedly accrue to Government a very large increase in revenue from salt and abkári. The increase in agricultural and jungle produce would be very great, and lands would be brought under the plough by people migrating from the congested taluks of the coast which are known to be as thickly populated as any taluks in the Madras Presidency. It is therefore a scheme that I can confidently recommend to the notice of Government.

I will permit myself to anticipate an objection that may be probably raised regarding this great extension of roads. This may be that Government have already committed themselves to considerable expenditure under this head in respect of the undertaking they have in hand on the Pottingy-Koraput line and thence to the borders of this district towards Raepore, and that this district can have no further claims on the public purse at present. But this view of the question becomes considerably modified if we consider that it is not the Vizagapatam district that we are roading, but the district called the Vizagapatam agency. So far as population is concerned, the agency can rightly lay claim to be considered a district. The people living in it number 694,673, that is, it is a more populous district than Anantapur or Kurnool or the Nílgiris, nearly as populous as Bellary, and within the same category of districts containing fewer people than a million as Chingleput and South Canara. I am persuaded that if the outlay on public works in Jeypore be compared with that of any one of these districts, there will be found a very large balance still due to the country, the claims of which I am now advocating.

20. I have endeavoured to make a sort of estimate of the value of the trade which is carried on with the agency. The principal items of export trade from the coast ports of the Vizagapatam district which amounted last year to 46 lakhs are indigo, myrabolams, seeds, jaggery, hides and skins, turmeric, lac, long-pepper, gunnies, jute and punjam cloth.

Of these items, all the myrabolams, lac, turmeric and long-pepper come from the agency, and probably 50 per cent. of the seeds, hides and skins. All the jaggery, gunnies, cloth, indigo and the remaining portion of the seeds and hides are produced in the plains. The Board's annual volume and my district returns give the proportions which each product bears to the grand total, and from this I calculate that at least 25 per cent. of the total value consists of those articles that come from above the ghâts. Therefore I fix the total value of the trade derived from the agency and exported by the coast at 11 lakhs.

There is great difficulty in arriving at any satisfactory estimate of the produce that comes across the ghâts and is arrested in the plains. It consists of food stuffs. We never have great distress in the congested taluks of Vizagapatam, partly because of our food imports from the agency. There are four principal passes into the hills through which food-grains come into the plains, viz., viâ Gunupur, Párvatipur, Sálúr and Kasipatnam. I think I am well within the mark when I put down a figure of 100,000 loads of grain, consisting principally of paddy, rice and ragi, as an approximate estimate of this trade, and I value this grain at 10 lakhs of rupees. Therefore

I adopt a figure of 21 lakhs as representing the value of the entire export trade across these roads that we are now constructing. The trade into Jeypore from the coast taluks consists of salt, cotton goods, tobacco and sundries.

Of these, cotton goods only come from beyond sea, valued at 13 lakhs for the whole district. If the hill tracts took their share of these goods in proportion to their population, they should take about one-third of the imports. But they certainly do not take as much as this, because the hill people are not so well off as the people of the plains, and because they use a great deal of twist which they spin themselves. I should think that 3 lakhs would represent the money they spend in imported cotton goods. Then as to salt they ought to consume 13·22 lbs. per head according to the accepted figures, but I am very certain they do not, because pack-borne salt is a costly article. On the other hand, they pay more than Rs. 3-8-0 a maund for it.

Suppose then we say they consume 70,000 maunds of salt and pay 3 lakhs for it. This would make about 6 lakhs of imports. Besides this, we send about a lakh of treasure into the country to pay for the balance of the cost of our administration and on roads, &c. Total import trade 7 lakhs. Grand total import and export trade 27 lakhs. But how much trade comes and goes through the agency to and from the countries beyond it, is impossible to say. Certainly all the plateau of Bustar (not the Godávari bordering parts), nearly all Kalahandy and a considerable part of Patna, Nowaghar and Khariar come within the influence of these trade routes. These countries lying around Jeypore occupy an area of more than 20,000 square miles in extent with an additional population of 500,000 souls.

21. What vast quantities of unoccupied land there are in these unfrequented areas lying between our ghâts and the plains of Nagpore! What have we ever done for this country and for these people, which, with our agency population, number over a million? Suppose an island were suddenly discovered in the Bay of Bengal thirty thousand square miles in extent inhabited by a million of people, another Ceylon, what schemes, what reports, what a vista of administration does the idea open out? Upper Burma has furnished an enterprise during the past year which will remain graven "monumentum ære perenius" in the history of India. Its incorporation in the civilization of the empire will be the subject of anxious thought and of great expense, and it will be guided on its path by the most able of our officers. Justice, education, public works will be inaugurated with a lavish hand; trade routes will be opened out and enterprises proposed for reclaiming lands and spreading abroad the searching aims of commerce. Are the countries I am writing about not equally entitled to participate in the benefits of our English ideas and in our schemes for ameliorating the condition of the people we have taken upon ourselves to govern? If these lands lay within a few miles of Madras, or of Calcutta, they would be in as prosperous a state as the best district in India. But because they are situated at the remote end of Madras and at the remote end of the Central Provinces, they are voted to be a bore and a burthen. If the country were a hilly country with but small extent of cultivable land, it might accept the fate of all mountainous regions, and be left to enjoy such crumbs of progress as it might pick up.

"Given," says Major Holdich, "a wise and strong Government and an industrious class of settlers, there is nothing in the soil and climate of Bustar to forbid a happy future of broad cultivated lands, and it may be yet that this country may be populated and cultivated by a people whom pressure of numbers has driven out from the overstocked districts of Upper India."

Proceedings of Geographical Society, June 1879.

Major Holdich was of opinion that the population of Bustar was decreasing. He says, "There are many evidences of a better state of things in the past, and the decrease is due to the wretched misgovernment that prevails, combined with facilities of late years in obtaining employment under British control in the neighbourhood of the Godávari." When Major Holdich wrote this, he was surveying the country as an officer of the Government of India, and had therefore no possible bias for or against the Local Governments.

As I have already said in another communication, I am convinced that there is no country in Madras, and I believe none in the Central Provinces or perhaps in the rest of India, that would better repay Government to open out than this great area of land. The truth is that the British Empire in India is so repleted with land that we

despise an enterprise which any continental nation would take up with enthusiasm. Probably there is no plateau in India better watered, containing more fertile land and more admirably adapted for a scheme of migration to be presided over by Englishmen than the elevated tract of country known as "the Great Jeypore plateau which breaks upon the line 81°·30 E. long." *

* Major Holdich.

22. Another matter of interest that was brought to my notice during my tour was that there is a great want of copper coin in Jeypore for the purposes of currency. As I have already said, the Jeyporeans are intensely given to petty huckstering transactions at the weekly markets. A large class of people—principally Dombs or out-castes—are engaged in this petty trade. They buy commodities at one market and carry them on to the next, hoping to benefit by a small difference in rates; but nearly all their dealings are by barter, and in some instances they still use cowries. I find on inquiry that there is a dearth of copper coin not only in Jeypore but also throughout the plains. From inquiries I have made, I learn that the money-changers require a discount of from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for changing silver for copper. The rates vary according to the seasons, for at harvest time, when labourers can be paid in kind, there is less demand for copper, and consequently discount is less than at transplanting time. What amount of copper money there is in this district I do not know, but the complaint of a deficiency of small currency is pretty general. I see by the last report on the operations of the mints in Calcutta and Bombay that extraordinary little copper is minted per annum, only $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees worth of copper, and I hazard a calculation that in the whole of India there cannot be more than 100 lakhs of rupees of copper coin in circulation, nominal value. The copper coin probably circulates throughout the whole of India and supplies the wants of 2,500 lakhs of people, that is, there is about 4 rupees worth of copper coin to 100 people, or about 1 penny per head (taking the anna at $1\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*). "Now in the British Isles the people seem to be sufficiently supplied with $8\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per head. In France they want $21\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, and in Italy $29\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*" If countries require more fractional currency as we descend the scale of comparative wealth, it is certain that the population of India requires a vast increase of bronze coinage. Argument might be advanced for giving India a bronze coinage of standard value. Perhaps the necessity for expanding the currency lies at the bottom of the arguments in support of bimetalism. If the expansion of the currency is regarded as an important factor in increasing the wealth of the European nations, surely the same factor should not be disregarded in our administration of the nations of India. If the peoples of the West require a gold and a silver currency of standard value, might not the peoples of the East require a silver and a bronze currency of standard value?

I think there is nothing like sufficient currency in India. The silver currency does not supply the wants of the masses. Even if it be true that India absorbs immense quantities of silver, it is certain that the silver never reaches the millions in the form of currency. So far as my observation goes, I doubt whether it reaches the rural population in any form.

The rupee is far too valuable for a standard silver coin, and the fractional silver coinage is certainly unacceptable to the masses as currency possibly from being also too valuable, or from its being too small in size, or from its not being obtainable except at a discount, or from its being driven out by the bronze token coinage.

A country like India which depends for its prosperity in the petty operations of husbandry would seem to require a very large amount of fractional currency, and I believe it would lend an enormous stimulous to industry if that fractional currency were of standard value. It seems to me that the copper coinage of India is not really used like the bronze coinage of England as a token coinage. It is really the money of India, certainly of rural India, and if this be true, it follows that rural India is suffering from all the evils of an over-valued currency.

Not only therefore is the currency of rural India inadequate, but it is also debased. I do not see how we can expect any material advance in the prosperity of the country under such a state of things. I introduce these remarks with great diffidence. I have only looked into the subject since my attention was attracted to the deficiency of copper coins in Jeypore, and I am well aware that the topic is one that requires very deep consideration. I think that hardly sufficient attention has been paid to the subject of supplying the people of India with a proper currency, and I

hope that my mention of the matter may attract the attention of those who are better able to give an opinion thereon than I am.

I will in conclusion draw attention to the fact that in the second empire 1,200 millions of pieces of bronze coinage were distributed throughout France, and it might well be argued that the great impetus to the rural wealth of that land, which took place in the period of a not wholly immaculate Government, was in a great measure due to the great attention that was bestowed on the currency of the country by its rulers.

23. I was unable to visit the hill tracts of the Principal Assistant's division in the year under report.

Mr. Power reports that he has completed the Rampol ghât and has settled the trace of the Budaralla ghât. He says that the Lammasinghi and Minamalur ghâts are in excellent order, and that new buildings for itinerating officers have been constructed at Lammasinghi and other places.

Civil justice calls for no remark, except that we have not yet been able to inaugurate the punchayets alluded to in my last year's report, dated 21st July 1885, No. 537, paragraph 70.

Crime has also been light during the past year.

Abkári and opium affairs work smoothly, though notice is made of smuggling liquor, and I have little doubt that the opium is sometimes adulterated. In other parts of the hills, viz., in the Srungavarapukóta agency which I have under my immediate charge, I frequently give licenses to the heads of muttas, and I find that the plan is a good one.

24. There is a very gratifying decrease in the number of lives lost by wild beasts though the "Tiger fitouri," *i.e.*, the tiger war, which lasted three years, is not yet forgotten.

We might be able to get schoolmasters for Paderu and Lammasinghi, though I am not very sure that the game is worth the candle. Perhaps we might next hear of an education "Fitouri."

25. I shall await Mr. Power's letter relating to the advances for constructing irrigation works with interest. It is really a most noteworthy thing to see the difference between the agricultural energies of one class of hill people and another in this district. To the north the Sowras inhabit a hilly country not so fertile by some measure as the Gudem hills, yet while the latter is nothing but a jungle, the former is cultivated to a marvellous extent. Every hill is terraced, every rill of water turned to account; the mhowa tree stands among the rice-fields like the olive tree in Italy, to which it is very comparable in its aspect and as to its value. Wheat is grown throughout the agency of this district to a very considerable extent. It is grown largely in many parts of Jeypore. But a great impetus to the cultivation of a staple of this sort cannot be effected by any detached or desultory plan of sending up a two-penny packet of seed. So far as my experience of introducing new staples goes, for instance indigo, jute and sugarcane, nothing is effected without a patient and persistent expenditure of capital. Let us first satisfy ourselves that the measure is a prudent one and then doggedly invest capital in it to an ample extent until the enterprise succeeds or fails. The attempt to introduce sugarcane from the Mauritius failed here, after the expenditure of much capital. On the other hand, jute is doing well and so is indigo, but both products swallowed up many lakhs of rupees before they reached the condition they now occupy, and I believe that much the same policy must be pursued before we see corn-fields waving in the tiger-haunted uplands of the Gudem hills.

26. Mr. Power then brings to notice the continued absenteeism of the Lammasinghi muttadar, on which subject he promises a separate letter, and concludes by lamenting that other duties prevented him from spending more time in hills. In this I most heartily concur, the more so that I am afraid that the time has now come when Mr. Power will leave us on promotion. I have never had an officer in the Principal Assistant's division since Mr. Winterbotham was here more singularly fitted for hill work or who has entered more completely into the spirit of the thing than Mr. Power has done during the too short period of his service in this district. It is, without affectation, positively heart-breaking to me to have to begin over and over

again with fresh officers in the agency part of this district. I cannot hope or expect that any officer can make any head way until he has been in charge for about two years. No officer ever stays longer than this, if so long. If it were possible to introduce for the three divisions a system of graduated pay, I believe it would be of immense benefit to the Administration. I hope that this remark may attract the attention of Government, for it is nearly of serious evil that so many changes should take place in the agency where personal rule is everything and routine administration not yet reached.

Since penning the above, the pillage and burning of the Gudem police station has taken place, and the whole subject of our administration of these parts will be placed before Government in my report on this affair.

27. A sum of Rs. 566-15-1 was spent, as detailed in the statement appended, on account of hill tour charges, and I solicit sanction for the same.

Hill Tour Charges for 1885-86.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Value of cloths purchased for presents to Khond chiefs and ready-money presents in excess of the budget allotment of Rs. 230	234	0	9
Warm clothing of Agent's establishment	83	13	3
Carriage hire of doolies, &c.	108	0	10
Value of gunpowder supplied to taxidermist	15	4	0
Tappal expenses	71	12	9
Total ..	512	15	7

CRIMINAL Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for the year 1885-86.

Name of Court.	Trials or Inquiries.																							
	Cases.								Persons.															
	Pending.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of.	Pending.	Total.	Received.	Pending.	Appeals. Cases. Pending.	Total.	Disposed of.			Pending.	Appeals. Persons. Pending.	Total.	Disposed of.			Pending.	Received.	Total.	Disposed of.	
											Convicted and committed or referred.	Otherwise.	Total.				Modified or reversed.	Otherwise	Total.				Convicted and committed or referred.	Otherwise.	Total.
1. Agent to the Governor	1	27	28	27	1	1	..	..	49	48	24	24	1	2	1	1	..	..	2	48	1	49	24	24
2. Additional Session Judge	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Principal Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	19	17	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	..	19	17	2
4. Senior do.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	95	93	79	14	19	2	6	6	4	2	6	89	6	95	79	16
5. Special do.	..	3	3	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Assistant Agent	..	51	54	52	2	2	..	..	53	52	5	47	62	1	1	1	..	1	1	50	3	53	5	48
7. Second-class Magistrate, Golgonda ..	3	23	26	25	1	1	..	..	24	24	2	22	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	..	24	2	22
8. Third do.	..	4	4	4	..	1	..	..	11	11	..	11	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	11	..	11
9. Second ,, do. Viravilli	..	3	3	3	..	1	..	..	23	23	1	22	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	..	23	1	22
10. Do. ,, do. Srungavarápukóta	..	7	7	7	..	1	..	..	5	5	1	4	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	5	1	4
11. Do. ,, do. Sálúr	..	3	3	3	..	1	..	..	273	273	243	30	273	..	..	..	..	..	..	261	12	273	243	30
12. Do. ,, do. Pálkonda	2	55	57	57	..	1	..	..	83	83	40	43	83	..	..	..	..	..	..	82	1	83	40	43
13. Do. ,, do. Párvatipur	1	31	32	32	..	1	..	..	491	491	191	300	491	1	1	1	..	1	1	490	1	491	191	300
14. Do. ,, do. Gunupur	1	175	176	176	..	1	..	..	257	256	126	130	256	1	1	1	..	1	1	252	5	257	126	130
15. Do. ,, do. Rayagada	3	103	106	105	1	1	..	..	549	538	272	266	538	11	11	11	..	11	11	533	16	549	272	266
16. Do. ,, do. Jeypore	8	281	289	280	9	9	..	..	243	233	74	159	233	10	10	10	..	10	10	206	37	243	74	159
17. Do. ,, do. Koraput	13	105	118	113	5	5	..	..	326	326	57	269	326	..	..	..	..	..	..	317	9	326	57	269
18. Do. ,, do. Nowrungapur	4	146	150	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19. Do. ,, do. Malkangiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	145	145	59	86	145	..	..	..	..	..	..	128	17	145	59	86
20. Do. ,, do. Pottangi	3	61	64	64	..	..	..	..	262	262	93	169	262	..	..	..	..	..	..	262	..	262	93	169
21. Do. ,, do. Bissemkatak	..	129	129	129	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	42	1,212	1,254	1,235	19	19	108	2,800	2,908	2,882	1,284	1,598	2,882	26	3	25	10	15	25	2,800	108	2,908	1,284	1,598

Name of offence.	Number of cases.	Number of prisoners.	Number sentenced to death.	Number sentenced to transportation.	Imprisonment. Simple.	Imprisonment. Rigorous.	Fine.	Whipping.	Total convicted.	Number discharged.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
1. Murder under section 302, I.P.C. ..	7	15	1	(a) 5	..	..	..	..	6	8	1
2. Do. and attempt to commit murder, sections 302 and 307, I.P.C. ..	1	1	..	(b) 1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
3. Murder and attempt to commit suicide under sections 302 and 309, I.P.C.	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
4. Culpable homicide not amounting to murder, section 304, I.P.C. ..	10	17	..	..	..	(c) 11	..	..	11	6	..
5. Grievous hurt by dangerous weapon and culpable homicide not amounting to murder, sections 326 and 304, I.P.C.	1	1	..	..	..	(d) 1	..	..	1	..	..
6. Attempt to commit murder under section 307, I.P.C.	2	2	..	..	..	(e) 1	..	..	1	1	..
7. Grievous hurt and culpable homicide not amounting to murder, sections 325 and 304, I.P.C.	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
8. Mischief by fire with intent to cause damage, section 435, I.P.C. ..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
9. Mischief by fire, section 436 ..	2	2	..	..	..	(f) 1	(g) 1	..	2	..	..
10. Criminal breach of trust by public servant and intentionally suffering an offender to escape from confinement, sections 409 and 221, I.P.C.	1	2	..	..	..	(h) 1	..	..	1	1	..
11. Criminal breach of trust by public servant under section 409, I.P.C. ..	1	1	..	..	..	(i) 1	..	..	1	..	..
Total ..	28	49	1	6	..	16	1	..	24	24	1

(a) For life. (b) For life.
(c) Two for 5 years each; one for 7 years; three for 3 years; two for 2 years, two for 4 years; one for 6 years.
(d) For 5 years. (e) For 2 years. (f) Two months. (g) Rs. 3. (h) Two years. (i) Five years.

CIVIL Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for 1885-86.

Original Suits.

Name of Court.	Original Suits. Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer or reference	Total.	Disposed of	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
1. Agent to the Governor	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	2
2. Principal Assistant Agent	..	2	..	2	..	1	1	1
3. Senior Assistant do.	2	23	..	25	22	1	23	2
4. Special do. do.	36	65	..	101	53	18	71	30
5. Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. District Munsif, Golgonda	13	26	..	39	22	..	22	17
7. Do. Narayanapatnam ..	21	31	4	56	52	..	52	4
8. Do. Rayagada	22	42	37	101	26	38	64	37
9. Do. Bissemkatak	..	13	39	52	7	37	44	8
10. Do. Gunupur	16	69	..	85	61	..	61	24
11. Do. Koraput	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1
12. Do. Jeypore	..	43	12	55	28	1	29	26
Total ..	110	316	93	519	271	96	367	152

Civil Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for 1885-86.

Appeal Suits.

Name of Court.	Appeal Suits. Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
Agent to the Governor	2	2	..	4	4	..	4	..
Principal Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Senior do. do.	..	8	..	8	5	..	5	3
Special do. do.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2	10	..	12	9	..	9	3

From G. F. T. POWER, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam, to the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, dated Narsapatam, 13th May 1886, No. 161.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the administration of that portion of the agency which is in my division for the official year 1885-86.

Public Works.—The amount allotted by you for expenditure during the year was Rs. 3,430 of which Rs. 2,709-9-9 was actually spent. In the progress report of agency works for the month of March 1886, details of the different works on which expenditure was incurred will be found, and I need not therefore recapitulate them here.

The Rawpol ghât, between Kistnadevi Peta and Peddavalasa, was completed during the year, and is now a good bridle-path. The Budaralla ghât, between Koyyur and Peddavalasa, which I had intended to improve during the year, could not be taken in hand for want of supervision, owing to my detention at the head-quarters of the district during a great part of the working season. I have, however, since the close of the year, been over this ghât, and settled the new trace, and during the current year a good riding road will, I hope, be substituted for the present very steep and rough foot-path. The current year's allotment for repairs (300 rupees) will hardly suffice for the work, but additional funds can easily be provided from the allotment for repairs to tracks above ghâts.

The Lammasinghi and Minamalur ghâts, the two most important in the division, are both in excellent order, and the latter needs but little improvement to be a good cart-road. New buildings constructed during the year were a bungalow at Lammasinghi and sheds for native officers at Lammasinghi, Chintapalli, Gudem, Lotugedda, Darakonda, Peddavalasa and Koyyur. The old bungalows were repaired and whitewashed and all are now in good order.

Civil Justice.—At the beginning of the year 13 suits were pending on the file of the Golgonda Agency District Munsif. During the year two suits were instituted in the Principal Assistant Agent's Court, and 26 in the Agency District Munsif's Court, making a total of 41 cases for disposal. Of these, 23 cases were actually disposed of, and when the year closed 18 suits were pending, viz., one on the Principal Assistant Agent's file, and 17 on the District Munsif's file.

The great majority of the suits instituted were for the recovery of money or movable property, and the property in question was generally of trifling value.

The highest valued suit was one for the recovery of movable property worth 800 rupees which was instituted in the Principal Assistant Agent's Court.

There was no suit instituted to which a mittadar or other hill dignitary was a party.

Crime.—This was as usual light in the Golgonda and Viravilli Agency tracts, which alone come within my jurisdiction as Magistrate, Hill Madgole still forming part of the Special Assistant's division for magisterial purposes. There were in all 32 cases in which 86 persons were accused and these were disposed of as follows:—

	Cases.	Persons.
(a) Committed to Sessions Court	1	1
(b) Convicted	9	15
(c) Acquitted or discharged	22	70

For the most part the offences of which these persons were accused were not of a grave character. The case committed to the Sessions was one of culpable homicide.

In another case I convicted a man of uttering counterfeit coin.

The other cases were of an unimportant nature.

Abkári.—The rented system was in force as in the previous year. The number of shops and stills licensed was as follows:—

	Shops.	Stills.
Golgonda	18	18
Viravilli	5	5

Hill Madgole is for abkári purposes under the Special Assistant and therefore figures for that portion of the agency are omitted here.

No complaints were made against the renters or their shopkeepers by the inhabitants of the agency, but vendors of excised liquor in the "ordinary" or non-agency portion of Golgonda taluk complained that unexcised liquor was smuggled to a considerable extent from the agency into the ordinary portion of the taluk and sold there. There is undoubtedly much truth in this complaint, but after all we can hardly expect smuggling to cease as long as the price of liquor in the excise taluks is so much higher than it is elsewhere. Meanwhile all that can be done is to impose exemplary punishment whenever a case of smuggling is detected, and this is being done.

Opium.—The number of shops licensed for the sale of opium was—

Golgonda	8
Viravilli	2
Hill Madgole	20
Total ...	30

A few complaints were made that the drug was not sold as cheap as the vendors are bound by their licenses to sell it, *i.e.*, at 3 tolas per rupee, but this was not proved In Golgonda the vendors were mostly malas, the principal trading class of that portion of the hills, while elsewhere the headmen of villages are licensed to sell.

It appears to me that the fixed Government rate of 3 tolas per rupee is more likely to be observed if the vendors are like mittadars and paddals men whose principal occupation is not trade and whom we have some hold over, rather than unresponsible malas whose sole business is trade and all whose instincts are commercial. I am therefore now (1886-87) trying the experiment in Golgonda of licensing mittadars, &c., instead of malas.

Wild Beasts.—Rs. 1,617 were paid as rewards for the destruction of 47 wild beasts in Golgonda and Viravilli. I do not give the figures for Hill Madgole as it is in the magisterial jurisdiction of the Special Assistant.

Of these 47 wild beasts, ten were tigers, for each of which a reward of Rs. 100 was paid.

Twenty-five cheetas, six bears and five hyænas were also killed.

One man was killed by a tiger near Kudapasinghi; a few miles from Lammasingi a tiger was shot in that neighbourhood shortly afterwards and there have been no deaths since, so that we may fairly conclude that the man-eater has been accounted for. No other lives were lost during the year, and the "tiger terror," which was so prevalent two years ago, seems to have nearly died out. One can, however, still see all over the hills the ruins of deserted villages, and it will, I fear, be some time yet before the country has fully recovered from the effects of what, the other day, I heard a hillman picturesquely describe as the "puli fituri".

Education.—This is still backward. The two agency schools at Kristnadevipeta and Chinna Golgondapeta are doing fairly well, but they are attended entirely by the children of inhabitants of that portion of the agency which lies below ghâts. The more important portion which lies above ghâts is still wholly uneducated. None of the Golgonda mittadars have as yet, in spite of the offer of scholarships, sent their sons to Narsapatam for education, and as far as I can see none of them are likely to do so. The truth is, I think, that if we wish the hill country children to be educated, we must establish schools in the hills. Now that Paderu is a Sub-Magistrate's head-quarters, we might have good school there for Hill Madgole, and the Sub-Magistrate could keep the master up to his work. In the Golgonda hills a school might be started at either Lammasinghi or Peddavalasa, and as both these places are now connected with the plains by good riding roads, the Principal Assistant Agent and the tahsildar of Golgonda could arrange for frequent inspection. The great difficulty of course is to get a schoolmaster who can stand the climate of the hills, but this difficulty will not I hope prove insurmountable.

(1) *General.*—The year was one of profound tranquility, there being no disturbance and no signs of public discontent in any part of the division. The season was favorable, and so far as I can ascertain, in the absence of trustworthy vital statistics, the public health was good. There were no epidemic diseases.

(2) In the Golgonda hills the mittadars are beginning to take advantage of the offer made by you last year of advances of money for the purpose of constructing irrigation works, and Gudem Patavidhi, Darakonda, and Lammasinghi Patavidhi have applied to me for advances, which I think may be given and regarding which I will report fully in another letter. It is eminently desirable that the construction of irrigation works in these hills should be encouraged as much as possible.

(3) Another thing which should be encouraged is the cultivation of wheat. At present some is grown in the neighbourhood of Lammasinghi Antarla, &c., but there is a great deal of land which appears to me to be well suited for wheat which is now waste. The seed used at present is of inferior quality and I therefore propose to get some really good seed and distribute it for experiment. I have spoken to the mittahdars on this subject and several of them have promised to give the new seed a fair trial and if it produces a good crop, to do what they can to extend the area under wheat. Without being too sanguine one may I think look forward to a not far distant day when wheat will be largely exported from these hills.

(4) The mittadar of Lotugedda, whom Mr. MacCartie reported year before last for omitting to live in his mitta, still continues an absentee. He is in other respects a bad mittadar, and I think he ought to be removed and another man appointed. I will send a separate report on this point. The other mittadars are doing very well.

(5) In conclusion I have to say that the time (28 days) which I spent in the agency during the year was I am aware less than it should have been, but that this was so is not my fault. If I consulted my own personal inclinations I should, as you know, spend the greater part of my time in the agency, and it was only because other work kept me in the plains that my stay there last year was so short. I joined the district at the end of April 1885 and had first to do the jamabandi of Sarvasiddhi and Golgonda taluks. As soon as this was over I made a short tour in June (11 days) through Hill Madgole, and came down the Lammasinghi ghât to Narsapatam. Again in July I made a short tour (9 days) in the Golgonda hills visiting Lammasinghi, Antarla and Chintapalli. Again at the end of October I again went for 8 days to Hill Madgole (Minamalur and Paderu). In November I was just about to start on a long tour when you ordered me into Vizagapatam to attend to the head-quarter office during your own absence in the agency. I was kept at Vizagapatam till the Christmas holidays. After this I had to do jamabandi of Sarvasiddhi (which was unusually tedious owing to extensive failure of crop and consequent claims for remission) and when this was all over I was again about to start on an agency tour in February when I was again directed to go to Vizagapatam and remain there during your absence in the agency. I was in Vizagapatam accordingly till the end of the official year.

I have, however, just made a three weeks' tour (22nd April to 12th instant) through the Golgonda hills, in the course of which I have visited all the hill mittahs, and this I hope will to some extent make up for short touring last year.

From E. A. ELWIN, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam district, to the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam, dated Pârvatipur, 24th May 1886, No. 265.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the hill tracts of my division.

2. I succeeded Mr. Broadfoot as Senior Assistant Agent about the middle of October last and have therefore been in charge some five and-a-half months out of twelve.

3. *Duration of tours.*—My predecessor spent 31 days in travelling. I was on tour for 104 days, viz., from November 16th up to December 31st, 1885, and again from February 1st, 1886, until the close of the official year. The period of four months lately settled by Government for the Senior Assistant Agent's residence in agency tracts has thus been exceeded by 15 days.

4. *Details of tours.*—All the places of any importance in this division have been visited, with the exception of Ombadola which lies to the extreme north of the Bissemkatak taluk.

5. Mr. Broadfoot travelled in the Rayagada and Bissemkatak taluks and also saw something of Narayanapatnam (Pârvatipur hill tracts) and of the Sâlûr Agency.

6. In November and December I accompanied the Agent through Rayagada and Singupur to Bissemkatak; thence on to the Kottiya Khond hills in the north of Gunupur by way of Gudari. The Agent then left me and proceeded to Pâlkonda while I after a short stay at Gunupur visited the Saura hills halting at Kuttini, Putosingi and Bhimpuram. Returning to Gunupur I spent a few days there and then set out for Pârvatipur where I had business relating to the hill jail and other matters to attend to.

7. In February I went to Alamanda and Narayanapatnam; thence by way of Pârvatipur to Rayagada where I stayed some time. Starting out again at the beginning of March I visited Paikapad and Bissemkatak and went on to Gunupur through Durgi and Gulliti. While at Gunupur I got orders from the Agent to proceed to Singupur and at once set out for that place *viâ* Kailasakota ghât and Komatlapeta, &c. I stopped at Singupur and in the neighbourhood for ten days, returning to head-quarters by way of Rayagada at the end of March.

8. From the above details it is clear that the touring in this division has been of a very complete nature during the year under report.

9. *The public peace and state of the people.*—I am able to report that there have been no serious disturbances since I took charge. Government have received a full report of what occurred in the Singupur estate in my predecessor's time and there is no need for me to touch on the subject again. Some circumstances that have taken place since my joining the division will be treated of further on.

10. Owing to the system of holding bhets at important places in the hills to which all the neighbouring headmen come and pay their respects to the Government officers, we are pretty well able to find out the real state of the people. The hill people appeared to me to be for the most part flourishing and contented.

11. *Singupur.*—While I was on tour with the Agent bhets were held at Sikarapai and Singupur in the Singupur territory. There were several trivial complaints against the Rani and her manager, but on investigation these proved to be mostly frivolous. Some of the Khonds asked that Gopinath Devu should be sent to rule over them, but when we told them that he was doing well at school at Vizianagrum and was far too young to hold any important position yet, they acknowledged that what we said was quite reasonable.

12. *Khond hills.*—In the Khond hills north of Gunupur bhets were held at Kutraguda, Dangusurada, Chendrapur (for the mittahs of Chendrapur and Rayabijji) and at Gudari for the mittahs of Gudari, Bijjapur and Karlaghati. Three Majjis or village heads of Rayabijji mittah complained that as their Patro had been unduly levying a tithe of their early crops, they had lost all confidence in him and would be in future compelled to pay their sist at Gunupur instead of remitting it through the Patro in the usual manner. A careful inquiry was subsequently made into this complaint which proved to be utterly false.

13. *Saura hills.*—There is an Uriya Patro for the mittah of Bhimpuram and a Soura Dhora over that of Kuttini. The Gomangos or heads of the other villages are entirely independent. It is to be regretted that they are so, for their behaviour during the bhet at Putosingi formed a striking contrast to that of the Gomangos of Bhimpuram who, marshalled in order by their Patro for whom they entertain the greatest respect, appeared to be as well conducted a body of men as one could come across anywhere. These independent Gomangos were clamorous, eager to complain and in many cases indisposed to accept the really very nice cloths I brought for them which were of the same kind as are usually distributed whenever an European officer visits their country. There were many complaints of a revenue character, most of which I disposed of then and there with the help of the Gunupur Amin who had accompanied me.

14. At Kuttini the Dhora of that place complained that the Revenue officials had been raising his rent; he said that he had for many years been paying Rs. 800 and that 2 or 3 years ago he was compelled to pay Rs. 1,000, but that his rent had again been reduced to Rs. 800. He now claimed to have it further reduced to Rs. 600. I pointed out to him that he could not expect this and promised to ask the Gunupur Amin to consider the rent as fixed, Rs 800. With this the Dhora was perfectly satisfied and when he came with his seven village heads to do that at Putosingi he asked my leave to withdraw his complaint.

15. There is no doubt that the Souras are daily advancing in intelligence and civilization. The willingness with which they allow themselves and their children to be vaccinated will be treated of further on. On market day they crowd the streets of Gunupur and make a great noise as they bargain with the Sundi people (liquor sellers) for the vippa spirit to obtain which they frequently mortgage their standing paddy crops.

16. *Rayagada, Bissemkatak and Narayanapatnam.*—I do not remember having received a single complaint of a serious nature from the people in this portion of my charge. The system of renting out the villages followed in Bissemkatak seems to work satisfactorily.

17. *The Singupur Rani.*—It has been our object for some months past to affect a compromise between the Singupur Rani and her suzerain and relative, the Maharajah of Jeypore. In November last the Agent wrote to this lady strongly advising her to come to a settlement with the Maharajah and sent the deputy tahsildar of Rayagada to explain the contents of his letter to her. She was also cautioned not to adopt a son without first consulting the Agent and the Jeypore Maharajah. The Rani who has displayed a very contumacious spirit throughout these negotiations said she could not give an answer for two months as she wanted time to consult with her relations in Ganjam on the subject.

18. In the month of February the Rani, who had taken no steps to follow the Agent's advice, to crown her folly suddenly went to Bhavanipatnam in the Kalahandi territory and there adopted one Debysingho Bakkela, second son of Sri Niladri Singho Bakkela of Chokkali, in the Sumbalpore taluk, and performed his coronation giving him the name of her late husband's father, Mukunda Deo Maharajah. The Rani returned to Singupur on the 3rd March and entered the fort with the adopted boy. Of these circumstances I was informed by the Singupur Manager. Some days after this I heard from the Agent who informed me he had likewise heard of the adoption from the manager and had at the same time received an alarming mahasarnama from the Khonds of Singupur in which they declared themselves unwilling to tolerate the Rani's rule any longer. I was ordered to proceed forthwith to Singupur to find out the grievances of the Khonds and to report whether there was any likelihood of a disturbance. I accordingly set off and held an inquiry in course of which I ascertained that the Khonds although no doubt vexed with the Rani for having adopted a boy without first consulting their wishes were not the originators of the mahazar. From what I heard I have no doubt that it was the work of some intriguing shristi-karanams with whom Singupur is literally infested.

19. I assembled all those Khond village heads by whom the mahazar purported to be written On my telling them that although the last action of the Rani might not be quite to their taste yet they were bound to respect her rule as long as it was countenanced by the Agent, the representative of Government; they all without exception promised me to keep their villages quiet and to pay sist regularly to the estate manager. I left the Singupur country after a stay of 10 days fully satisfied that the Khonds were thoroughly loyal to our rule and that unless they should be unduly excited by some foolish action on the Rani's part there was no reason to anticipate their causing us any trouble.

20. *Boundary disputes—Ongara.*—At the bhet held at Putosingi the Sarada Gomong complained that Sirang Bissoyi of Ganjam had issued demand notices to him and others for the rents of certain lands of Ongara which they had cultivated. The question as to which district the village belonged to had come up before Mr. Welsh and Messrs. Joseph and Sewell in January 1885 and they found it belonged to Vizagapatam.

21. As this was by no means the first time there had been complaints against Sirang Bissoyi I suggested that it would be as well if he were to be formally warned by the Ganjam authorities not to give any more trouble to our people. The Agent thereupon requested the Ganjam Agent to point out to the Bissoyi that persons who in spite of warning persist in trying to rake up settled boundary disputes render themselves liable to deportation under the Agency rules. The Gunupur Amin has been told that he should in future treat Ongara as belonging to Jeypore.

22. *Disputes between the Gunupur Amin and Karadango Patro.*—While at Bhimpuram I sent for the Patros of that place and of Karadango and the Gomangos of Sinduba, Udalingi and other boundary villages. I explained to them the boundary line determined by Messrs. Welsh and Joseph and they all expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the settlement arrived at by those officers.

23. On my reporting this to the Agent and informing him that the settlement had not been formally communicated in writing to the parties concerned, I was ordered to inform them officially of the decision arrived at. This I subsequently did and I believe there is not the slightest reason to fear any future breach of the peace with regard to this dispute.

24. *Hospitals.*—Gunupur is the only place in the division that can at present boast a hospital. There the accommodation is quite inadequate, though the building is in a fair state of repair. The Police are treated as in-patients; no others are received. The number of civil out-patients treated during the year 1885-86 was 1,602 as compared with 1,498 in 1884-85. The principal complaints were ague, rheumatism, fever, dysentery, diarrhœa, ulcers and itch.

25. Government in their order passed on the Vizagapatam Agency report for 1883-84 sanctioned the erection of a new hospital at Gunupur. A large piece of unoccupied land at the back of the Sub-Magistrate's house was selected as a site in the time of Mr. Welsh. I have recently had plans and estimates prepared and sent up for a new hospital at Gunupur as well as for hospitals at Rayagada and Bissemkatak which were sanctioned by Government in their order on the last Agency report. Hospitals at the latter two places will be a great boon to the people who at present have no opportunity of resorting to European treatment.

26. *Sanitation.*—The establishment of sweepers at Gunupur has done good work in and around the town. Last December I induced the Jeypore Maharajah's officials and the Komatees each to contribute Rs. 3 a month for the entertainment of two additional sweepers, so that there are now five in all. A conservancy establishment has been sanctioned both for Rayagada and Bissemkatak from April 1st; these places are I fear at present in a very unsanitary condition.

27 *Public Health.*—There was an outbreak of cholera in the Gunupur taluk at Bhimpuram in February 1885 soon after Mr. Welsh left that place. It appears to have been of a severe type, for the Patro told me that he alone lost 18 of his relations by the disease. Many villages were deserted. The same disease broke out in the Sirdarpur mittah of the Khond country. There were about 40 deaths between 24th May and 19th July and again some 10 deaths afterwards. The services of a hospital assistant were engaged with a view to putting a stop to this outbreak which subsided at the end of August. The other taluks seem to have escaped.

28. I have not heard that fever was more than usually prevalent during the year. My Mahont died of hill fever in January a few days after coming into head-quarters from the hills. A clerk and the dresser who accompanied me on my first tour were laid up with fever for a long time.

29. *Vaccination.*—Below is a comparative statement for 1884-85 and 1885-86:—

Taluks.	Number Vaccinated.							
	During 1884-85.				During 1885-86.			
	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Uknown.	Total.	Successful	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.
Gunupur	590	580	2	8	997	972	8	17
Rayagada	569	569	..	..	674	672	..	2
Bissemkatak	450	438	7	5	367	356	8	3
	1,609	1,587	9	13	2,038	2,000	16	3

There was a great increase of successful operations in Gunupur, a fair increase in Rayagada and a light decrease in Bissemkatak. The figures are on the whole very satisfactory.

30. The Soura people willingly submit to the operation of vaccination. I took a vaccinator with me to Putosingi and in few hours had some 50 unprotected persons vaccinated. By that time the vaccinator's stock of lymph was unfortunately exhausted and many women who had brought their children from a distance had to go away disappointed. If these vaccinators would only show a little more zeal and energy in the discharge of their duties, I believe our returns would soon be doubled or even trebled.

31. *Wild Beasts.*—Seven persons are reported to have been killed by tigers during the calendar year 1885 as against 19 during 1884. There were 3 deaths from panthers in 1884 but none in 1885. In each year three tigers were destroyed. The jungles of Rayabijji and Chendrapur which were infested with tigers about a year ago were said to be free from these pests when I visited the Khond hills in November.

32. *Crime.*—Housebreaking, theft in a building and simple theft continue to be the principal offences in the division.

33. The reopening in January 1885 of the Police station at Gulliti, which was closed as useless in 1881, has resulted in a great decrease in the number of cattle thefts in that mittah.

34. *Opium.*—The present system worked smoothly during the year under report. Twelve shops were opened for the sale of opium in these hill tracts. The renter kept a sufficient stock of the drug at each of the three depôts established in this division.

35. *Abkári.*—No remarks.

36. *Roads.—Chollapadam-Rayagada road.*—The traffic over this road from December to the end of March is very large indeed. I was quite astonished at the number of carts I saw going out of Rayagada towards Párvatipur day after day in the month of February. The road seems to be one that should be properly made by the Public Works Department. Meanwhile

we have to do the best we can with the small allotments placed at our disposal. Great improvements have been made this year at a cost of about 2,000 rupees. A good part of the road has been marked out by the digging of side channels. Masonry works in the shape of culverts and road dams have been built and wooden bridges put up where necessary. An entirely new track has been made near the river Nagavali at Chollapadam. The old road ran over very low-lying ground and used to be several feet under water in the rainy season. For a couple of miles outside Rayagada rocks have been buned away and the track properly levelled.

37. *Narayanapatnam road.*—Some Rs. 800 have been spent with fairly good results. The section called Battivalsa ghât has been metalled.

38. *Kurapam-Gunupur road.*—A small sum of Rs. 100 was spent. The Kurapam Zemindar promised Mr. Welsh that he would annually make one mile of road from Kurapam towards Gunupur (see Agency report for 1884-85, page 26). On my reminding the zemindar of his promise he declared that he had no intention of making any agency road and had never told Mr. Welsh he would do so.

39. *Rayagada-Bissemkatak road.*—Rs. 400 were spent in patching up some of the worst parts of the road. The Local Fund roads are made up to the agency boundary in the Sálúr taluk only. Pucka roads should now be made from Kotapam to Chollapadam on the Rayagada side and from Dugge to Kurapam on the Gunupur side. The road from Párvatipur to the Narayanapatnam agency boundary is a mere path running across paddy fields and scarcely passable in wet weather. I hope it will not be long before these three pieces of road are taken in hand by the Local Fund Engineer.

40. *Rest-houses.*—These have been nicely kept up and repaired. New rest-houses have been built at Singupur and at Limmabhadra (the halting place between Gunupur and Gudari) where they were much needed.

41. *Bissemkatak taluk office.*—The work has been satisfactorily performed on contract by Kruttivasa Patnaik, Dewan to the Tat Raja. The total cost was Rs. 2,800. Besides the usual rooms for the Sub-Magistrate and his clerks, the building consists of a treasury, a sub-jail and a capital police station with lockup. The structure is altogether most comfortable and suitable. It was quite finished by the beginning of October, but owing to damp I did not allow the Sub-Magistrate and his establishment to move into it until the new year.

42. *Education.*—I have examined several of the schools in the division.

43. *Gunupur.*—There was a Government middle school here with a normal school attached until November last. As, however, very few boys were forthcoming who cared or could afford to continue their studies up to the third class, it was determined to reduce the standard of the school. It is now known as a Primary school, pupils being taught up to the second class. When I examined the school in December I found the boys, 40 in number, intelligent and well informed. The head master and his assistants evidently take interest in their work.

44. I also examined seven result schools in which besides boys some 30 little girls were reading. I was very pleased with the progress the latter had made in arithmetic. There are altogether 40 result schools in this taluk.

45. *Rayaghada.*—There are but two schools at present in the taluk, both at Rayaghada itself. The master of the Government Primary school receives Rs. 8 a month from Government, his salary being made up to Rs. 20 by the Jeypore Maharaja's annual contribution of Rs. 144. With regard to the pupils and their master, I have the same remarks to pass as on the Primary school at Gunupur. There were 24 names on the books in February 1885 and 36 in the same month of this year. The increase is satisfactory. The pupils are taught up to the second class.

46. The second school is on the result system and consists of 12 boys who are taught up to the second standard. Their knowledge at examination was fair.

47. The school that was established at Singupur by the late Raja of that place has been closed ever since his death in February 1884. I am endeavouring to get a new school started.

48. *Bissemkatak.*—There was a primary school here up to March 1885 which was supported by the Tat Raja. The masters' salary was Rs. 30 a month. The school is said to have collapsed owing to the apathy of the inhabitants who did not care to get their children educated. I impressed on the Raja the necessity of establishing a new school in the place. He promised to do his best, but added that he had not much hope of success.

49. At Durgi there is a small Uriya school on the result system. There were 16 boys on the books when I visited the school in March. The master, a respectable old man, told me he had got Rs. 87½ as result grant at the recent examination of his school.

This is the only school in the Bissemkatak taluk, the schools at Jagdalpore and Ombadola having come to grief within a few months of their opening.

50. *Narayanapatnam.*—The result schools where boys are taught up to the third standard is supported by the Jeypore Maharaja who pays the master Rs. 15 a month. When examined by Mr. Welsh at the beginning of 1884 it consisted of 50 boys, but I regret to say that when I examined it in February last, there were but 25 names on the books. The ignorance displayed by the pupils was quite surprising. I cannot but attribute this unsatisfactory state of things to the carelessness of the master who appeared to be scarcely more intelligent than his pupils. As

the school has been steadily decreasing in numbers ever since this master was appointed, I have recommended his dismissal and the appointment of a man I believe to be more suitable for the post. The Superintendent of Hill schools has never visited this school.

51. There is, I think, no doubt that there should be two Hill School Superintendents, one for the Special Assistant's division and one for this. At present it is extremely difficult to ascertain the Superintendent's whereabouts and to get any information whatever out of him. This is not altogether his fault, for his range extending as it does from the north of Bissemkatak to Malcangiri is far too large for any one man to attend to properly.

52. *Officials.*—Kesanapalli Narasimha Rao seems to take much interest in road making and has done useful work in this respect since he came to Párvatipur.

53. The Agency Sub-Magistrates have on the whole performed their duties satisfactorily throughout the year.

54. We are about to lose Datla Tirupati Raj from Gunupur as he will be obliged to retire in May on attaining the age of 55.

55. *Season and Crops.*—The rainfall registered at Rayaghada during 1885-86 was 46·5 inches as compared with 36·725 inches in 1884-85

The rain gauge at Gunupur was under repairs for some months and none has yet been supplied for Bissemkatak, so I am unable to give figures for all the taluks.

56. During my November and December tour I noticed that the mustard and tobacco crops were very fine. Paddy is said to have been fair, but gingelly, horse-gram, green-gram and ragy were poor.

CRIMINAL Statistics for 1885-86.

Name of court.	Number of cases.					Number of persons.							Remarks.
	Pending from last year.	Received during the year.	Total.	Disposed of.	Still pending.	Pending from last year.	Received during the year.	Total.	Convicted.	Otherwise.	Total.	Still pending.	
Original.	..	6	6	6	..	..	17	17	17	..	17	..	
Appeal. Senior Assistant Agent's.	..	5	5	5	..	..	5	5	3	2	5	..	Reversed on appeal.

Court.	Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer or reference.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
Original, 1885-86.								
Senior Assistant Agent's ..	2	6	..	8	5	1	6	2
Appeals, 1885-86.								
Senior Assistant Agent's ..	..	8	..	8	5	..	5	3

From F. E. K. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Special Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam, to the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, dated Pottingi, 26th April 1886, No. 391.

I have the honor to submit my tour report for year 1885-86.

Tour.—A few days before the end of last official year I joined my appointment at Koraput and have now been in charge of Jeypore for over a year. In April I made a fortnight tour through Jeypore taluk and in May a tour on the higher plateau in Koraput and Pottingi taluks. In June I spent three weeks in the south part of Jeypore taluk and early in July I left Koraput for Vizagapatam. July and August were spent at Waltair and at the beginning of September I returned to Jeypore in consequence of the inquiry into Bastar affairs and September and October were spent on partly in Bastar and partly in the border.

In November and December I made a six weeks' tour through Malcangiri returning to Koraput at Christmas.

In January I spent a month in Nowrangapur and Ommerkote taluks and when returning met the Commissioner of Chattisghur and Mr. Priest, Political Agent, Kalahandi, on their way through Jeypore.

Learning from them that an Assistant Commissioner was on his way from Raipur to meet me to settle a boundary dispute on the north of Ommerkote taluk, I turned back and accompanied Mr. Chisholm as far as Bhavanipatnam.

Thence I returned west back into Jeypore district and reached the place of dispute on the Tél river, nearly a fortnight before the Assistant Commissioner joined me.

After settling the boundary dispute, I returned to Jeypore, where I met the Agent and accompanied him on a fortnight's tour through Jeypore and Koraput taluks.

I have thus spent 248 days or eight months out of the year in camp.

55 days in Vizagapatam.
62 Koraput.
248 Camp.
365

2. The most important event of the year was the investigation into the charges brought by the Jeypore police against the Bustar Raj of performing human sacrifices at Dantawar and elsewhere and of kidnapping victims for this purpose from Jeypore.

The facts have been fully reported to Government and it would be out of place for me to discuss the evidence here. I shall confine myself to recording a brief statement of the course of events.

During the months of May and June a belief was prevalent in the Ommerkote taluk that gangs of kidnappers from Bustar were abroad endeavouring to procure victims for sacrifices to be held the following Dussara at Dantawar and three cases were reported to the police of alleged attempt to capture persons in Ommerkote taluk presumably for this object.

In July suspicions were further aroused by the sudden and mysterious disappearance within a mile or so of Nowrangapur village of a boy employed as abkári peon in the Sub-Magistrate's office.

Application was then made to the Central Province Government for assistance in the inquiry and Surdar Ratna Sing, Police Superintendent, was despatched from Raipur to co-operate with the Jeypore police in the investigation.

Meanwhile, in August additional reports were received professing to give details as to capture and sacrifice of victims in Bustar, and upon further and more urgent representations the Central Province Government directed Mr. Priest, Political Agent, Kalahandi, to proceed to Bustar and in communication with Jeypore fully investigate the several charges. Under the orders of the Agent I left Vizagapatam for Jeypore in the beginning of September and reached the Bustar borders with Mr. Young just in time to meet Mr. Priest on his way from Kalahandi.

Mr. Young at once proceeded to put the evidence he had collected before Mr. Priest and we then undertook together a tour through Bustar territory with a body of Jeypore and Kalahandi police with a view to test the evidence and, if possible, recover any victims that might be concealed.

The result of this tour though not confirming altogether the truth of the previous reports induced the Political Agent, Kalahandi, to believe that there were sufficient grounds for continuing the inquiry, and he left us to make further investigation at Dantawar, the headquarters of the alleged sacrifices. Mr. Priest rejoined us at the end of October at Kotapad having during his absence collected a large quantity of evidence which he considered strong enough to justify the arrest of the jiah or head priest of Dantawar and the recommendation that the Bustar Rajah should be temporarily removed.

After receiving at Kotapad such prisoners as were in the custody of the Jeypore police, Mr. Priest returned to Bustar, and with the subsequent course of events the Jeypore officials had no direct connection. Mr. Priest continued his inquiries during the following two months under orders of the Central Province Government. The Bustar Raja was removed from Jagdalpore to Raipur and out of the mass of evidence collected, Mr. Priest considered the evidence in one case in which an inhabitant of Bustar by name Jondie was alleged to have been sacrificed under orders of the jiah in 1883, sufficiently conclusive to warrant the prosecution of the jiah on a charge of murder. The case was placed by Mr. Priest before a Native Magistrate and the jiah was committed to the Court of the Commissioner of Chattishghur. In January the Commissioner proceeded on tour to Bustar and tried the case. When the case came on all the prisoners and witnesses (I understand) retracted their previous statements and the case was thrown out by the Commissioner and all the prisoners under arrest were released. After the termination of the sessions case, Mr. Priest reviewed all the evidence collected in the four months' inquiry in a most minute and careful report and though naturally his view of the case was weakened by the failure of the sessions case against the jiah, he concluded by holding that "there were and are ample grounds for the suspicions entertained by the Jeypore officials that kidnapping for the sacrificial purposes went on in Bustar.

The Commissioner did not however follow Mr. Priest in his conclusions further than to allow that while entertaining no theory as to the origin of the case, he thought there might be grounds for the suspicions entertained. The case is now before the Government of India and I shall leave it to next year's report to record the conclusion of this inquiry.

3. To turn to the more prosaic details of administration I take roads first.

Appendix A shows the expenditure on roads during this year compared with last year.

1. *Pottingi to Koraput.*—The traffic over this road, the feeder of the district, continued to increase largely this year and during the harvest the string of bandies passing was continuous. Our allotment of Rs. 750 or Rs. 25 a mile was miserably inadequate and complaints of the state of the roads were loud. With this pittance it was almost impossible to keep even the bridges in order. This year we have a more liberal allowance of Rs. 1,700 and the Department of Public Works are now beginning their work in this section, but as I understand the new road will be parrellel to the present one, we shall have to keep up old road for some time to come.

2. *Koraput to Nowrangapur.*—The allotment, and we somewhat exceeded it, was not sufficient with the increased traffic to keep this road in order. After the rains the ghât was put into fair order, but towards Nowrangapur work was not completed. A ferry raft for the Indravati which was proposed last year is much required as this river at present acts as a break in the current of traffic into Ommerkote taluk.

3. *Koraput to Jeypore.*—The road is good till the bottom of the ghât. If the road is to be permanently improved a new trace must be taken on the ghât.

4. *Jeypore to Borigummah.*—The road is in fair order.

5. *Borigummah to Kotapad.*—This very important road is fairly good, but requires a good deal of attention. When Bustar affairs are settled, Mr. Priest proposes to assist us in extending the road Kotapad with Jagdalpore.

6. *Jeypore to Mote.*—A large sum was spent in clearing the old road between Malcangiri and Mote. The road is a good fair weather road, but few trading bandies have penetrated into Malcangiri. What is wanted is to open the entrance to Malcangiri by improving the Kollab crossing and the ghât down into Malcangiri. At present I understand the trade of Malcangiri almost exclusively goes now to the river at Mote instead of coming north in Jeypore.

7. *Nowrangapur to Raighur.*—This road has been carried on to some six miles beyond Dabugam and as far as it goes is good and well bridged. With this year's allotment I propose to carry on the road as far as I can beyond Ommerkote. The road will run into the Central Province eventually and I can understand from Mr. Chisholm that a road is being carried down in the Central Provinces towards Raighur. The two will eventually join.

8. There is a road from Pappadahandi over the Ampani ghât into Kalahandi which I should like to see brought into the budget The road has been made from time to time for the Central Provinces Commissioner on tour. The greater part of the ghât at Ampani and thence to Bhavanipatnam is kept up by Kalahandi estate and is in good order. I saw a large number of bandies in Kalahandi as I passed that had come round through Jeypore into Kalahandi by this road from the plains. The road was repaired this year by village labor, but it should, I think, be made permanent on our side.

Before leaving roads I must note that the Jeypore budget last year suffered heavily from curtailment. The allotment was cut down far from 18,650 to 14,070, out of which only some Rs. 8,000 were available for over 300 miles of road.

4. *Education.*—During the year the Jeypore schools were transferred from the Educational Department to the agency. At the request of the Agent, I submitted a scheme on the lines of the Ganjam agency of which the chief points were—

(1) To transfer the payment and appointment of masters from the Maharaja to Government so that complete control may be in the hands of the Agent.
(2) To increase the salaries and number of masters, abolish purely result schools and build school-houses.
(3) Separate the Special Assistant and Senior Assistant divisions giving each officer a separate Superintendent. The scheme will undoubtedly cost a good deal, but it must be remembered that hitherto Government have spent nothing but a small result grant upon education in the agency which providing in a large yearly grant in Ganjam. The schools in my division have been kept up either by the Maharaja or by private persons. I have examined most of the schools and found the Jeypore school better than I expected. I have no doubt that there will be a speedy improvement as soon as the scheme gets into working order.

5. *Law and Justice—(Criminal, Appendix B).*—I am glad to be able to say that complaints of cattle theft have decreased probably owing to the heavier sentences that have been inflicted for the last two years. The only charge of Sub-Magistrates was at Koraput, where a new Sub-Magistrate was appointed in place of the previous man removed for unsatisfactory conduct. The present Koraput Sub-Magistrate is an active and intelligent man and has given me satisfaction. I cannot say the same for the Nowrangapur Deputy Tahsildar whom I have had to report during the year.

Jails.—The Jeypore sub-jail has been almost completed this year. The amount required to finish it had to be found out of the other allotment as it was not included in the budget for last year.

The Pottingi sub-jail will have to be finished out of this year's grant and I have given orders to try and put the roof on before the next rains.

For the Koraput Hill jail some measures are urgently required. The state of the jail was noticed by the Agent last year and has formed the subject of another report this year.

Last year an estimate was submitted for about Rs. 4,460 for alterations and repairs to the jail, but being referred to the Public Works Department it came back increased to Rs. 12,920.

I do not think it any use to spend so large a sum in tinkering so wretched a building. A new jail will have to be built eventually.

For the greater part of the year I had to accommodate twice the number of the prisoners the jail ought to hold. The Párvatipur jail appears to be almost always full and only three or four times in the year relieved us of part of our excess. The guard will have to be permanently increased as well as the accommodation.

A new cutcherry and sub-jail ought at once to be built at Koraput for the Sub-Magistrate. The present buildings form part of the hill jail block and are in as miserable a condition as the rest. In the monsoon the cutcherry is unfit to sit in.

Civil.—The number of cases disposed of are shown in appendix C.

I cannot say the civil work is satisfactory. The Jeypore and Koraput Sub-Magistrates have been made munsifs this year to relieve me of the petty bazaar suits which used to form a large portion of the cases in this court and which from the constant absence on tour of my office used to remain pending till return to headquarters. But the settlement of civil suits with a court so continually on tour over so great a distance is very difficult without causing great hardship to the parties and witnesses by summoning them far from their houses and making them follow the court.

Time after time I have fixed dates with a view to the convenience of the parties and found that circumstances have caused an alteration in my tour and that the parties have returned home.

The difficulty in getting a punchayet to assemble in the cutcherry limits was noticed last year.

It is not easy to get the parties to court together, but when they come the headmen do not come with them, and I should prefer deciding the case myself to referring it to a punchayet consisting of the on-hangers of the court, while to send for the headmen would entail a further adjournment.

I have tried to settle the suits by getting the parties to name a punchayet in their village and referring the decisions to them in writing and deciding according to their answer, but have not found it answer well. The parties return to court full of complaints that justice was not done them and the punchayetdars are rarely unanimous. After all 99 out of 100 civil disputes are settled by headmen and punchayets in the villages without recourse to any court and I would not encourage parties to come to civil courts at all. Any increased facility for coming to court will most certainly undermine the settlement of disputes by punchayet.

Disputes as to boundaries of villages, payment of kist and cultivation of land are much more satisfactorily settled by an agency order after a full inquiry than by a general suit.

A word as to the Rent Recovery Act: we have not yet received the final decision of Government promised in last year orders.

During the year I have refused to enforce the Act whatever may be the legal aspect of the case. I do not see what protection the villagers will have against forceable seizure of the cattle improperly for alleged arrears. The first notice that would reach the court of the attachment would probably be a police report of a serious disturbance, while the power to bring a summary suit for damages against the padal or renter would on the hills at least be no check whatever. Any speedy inquiry in my court owing to distance would be ordinarily impossible.

The only times when the Act has been used in Jeypore it has been worked improperly by a rival renter to enforce his claim and what chance has a ryot between two renters, both attaching his property on their own responsibility.

6. *Opium and Abkári.*—The statements in the appendix show the demand and collection. I have nothing to remark thereon.

7. *Medical.*—Two dispensaries have been sanctioned this year for Jeypore and Nowrangapur and plans are being prepared for the buildings. At Jeypore a temporary building is being put up to accommodate the apothecary till the proper quarters are erected, and the apothecary might be sent at once. I hope eventually to get dispensaries at Malcangiri and Ommerkote.

The vaccination returns (appendix E) show a decrease. Malcangiri as usual heads the list. Thanks to the old Sub-Magistrate whose efforts in the encouragements of vaccination have been several times brought to the notice of Government.

From what I have seen in the villages, I think Jeypore is fairly well on in vaccination, but more might be done if the vaccinators made a point of accompanying the Government officer on tour. I have written several times about this and the District Surgeon has given strict orders on the point.

The supply of medicines for the use of the Sub-Magistrates has during the year been very irregular. The Pottingi Sub-Magistrate was for some months without the most necessary of medicines, quinine. All my Sub-Magistrates should, I think, be provided with a supply of the common medicine at fixed times, say twice a year, to avoid the delay in getting a special indent passed.

Public Health.—Cholera which was prevailing on through plains last year found its way on to the hills and lingered on in some of the villages for some months. It disappeared in October.

8. *Destruction of Wild Beasts.*—There is a most satisfactory decrease in the number of persons killed by tigers and a corresponding increase in tigers killed and rewards paid.

Six man eaters (for which additional rewards were paid) were killed. A large proportion were killed by the police who deserve credit. Several tigers were killed by what the reports term "a machine of carbines" set over the kill. The increase in cattle killed merely indicates that the reports are more accurate.

9. *Tappal.*—The new post office at Koraput has been almost completed. The Koraput Post Master was convicted by the Agent of embezzling a large sum of money received for money orders. It is to be hoped that in future the post will be better paid and more under supervision. A post office was opend in Jeypore at the beginning of the year and has proved very useful.

The Agent has applied for extension of the service to Kotapad and Nowrangapur. Mr. Priest with whom I spoke on the subject promises to connect Nowrangapur and Kotapad with his dawk from Bhavanipatnam to Jagdalpore which now runs near Nowrangapur. This will give us a very much needed line of communication with the adjacent districts in the Central Provinces.

10. *Boundary Disputes.*—The dispute on the Tél river between some Jeypore and Nowrangapur ryots (Central Provinces) mentioned before cropped up a year ago. Mr. Fox Strangways, Assistant Commissioner, came down from Raighur and met me at the place of dispute and we went over the land and examined the witness together. The dispute was a very trivial one; we agreed as to our decisions and reports were sent by each of us to our respective chiefs.

Another dispute between Jeypore and Kasipore was brought to my notice and Mr. Priest has promised to meet the Jeypore officer in May on the spot to settle it.

11. *Establishment.*—During the year my head clerk was appointed Sub-Magistrate at Paderu and my second clerk was promoted to head clerk. The post of second clerk is not yet filled up.

I have already addressed you separately on a proposal to increase the pay of my office by granting a hill allowance. Last year you remarked that my office was inefficient, but considering the difficulty in getting any good man to serve in these hills from the un healthiness of the district, I cannot hope to improve it, while the pay is less than in the office of the Senior Assistant in the plains and less even than in the office of the police at Koraput.

12. *Miscellaneous Complaints.*—The year has been very free from any important complaints. During the year when in Malcangiri the constables complained of the difficulty in following the Government order on the subject of purchasing rice stating that though they had paid their money to the Nigaman, no rice was supplied to them. A special report was sent by me on this point. No complaints were made against the Malcangiri Nigaman who was newly put in last year.

13. Money prices have been steadily rising and there can be no doubt that the Jeypore ryots are benefiting greatly by the opening up of the country and as far as I have seen they appear to be fairly prosperous and contended.

14. In conclusion, I must apologise for the length of my report. Having only joined last March, I had no opportunity of having my say last year upon the many matters of importance in the district.

A.

Comparative Statement showing the Expenditure during the year 1885-86.

No.	Name of work.	Expenditure, 1884-85.	Expenditure, 1885-86.
	Roads.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1	Nowrangapur to Raighur	3,000 0 0	2,501 11 6
2	Koraput to Pottingi	1,231 11 4	690 0 0
3	Koraput to Nowrangapur	2,053 1 6	1,956 3 6
4	Koraput to Jeypore	1,013 5 0	587 0 2
5	Jeypore to Moto	2,391 0 0	2,222 14 11
6	Malcangiri to Kondakamberu	1,057 1 6	..
7	Borigummah to Kotapad	1,000 0 0	693 9 0
8	Turner's Ghât	1,200 0 0	1,195 1 3
9	Jeypore to Borigummah	400 0 0	600 3 6
	Buildings.		
10	Travellers' bungalow and chattram at Koraput ..	813 10 10	185 7 2
11	Rest-houses	1,496 0 0	306 8 0
12	Government buildings at Koraput	1,307 4 3	483 15 8
13	Sub-jail, Jeypore	1,769 12 4	2,000 0 0
14	Sanitary works at Koraput	475 1 3	549 9 5
15	Road from Ommerkote to Kalahandi frontier ..	700 0 0	..
	Total ..	19,908 0 0	13,972 3 6

B.

Statement showing the Cases filed and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Magistrate and Agent ..	3	71	..	74	73	..	73	1

C.

STATEMENT showing the Civil Suits instituted and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Suits.							
	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Agent	35	65	..	100	51	18	69	31

D.

STATEMENT showing the Appeals filed and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Appeals.							
	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Magistrate and Agent ..	1	13	..	14	13	..	13	1

E.

STATEMENT showing the Vaccination carried out in my Division during the year 1885-86.

Taluk.	Number vaccinated during the year 1884-85.					Number vaccinated during the year 1885-86.						
	Total number of vaccinators employed.	Number vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total number of vaccinators employed.	Number vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Increase.	Decrease.
Koraput	5	1,214	1,190	..	24	5	1,104	1,023	37	44	..	110
Jeypore	2	759	742	..	17	2	717	711	1	5	..	42
Pottingi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nowrangapur	3	883	846	..	37	3	820	811	6	3	..	63
Malcangiri	2	1,895	1,832	..	63	2	1,207	1,183	8	16	..	688
Total ..	12	4,751	4,610	..	141	12	3,848	3,728	52	68	..	903

F.

STATEMENT showing the Animals killed by Wild Beasts and the Amount of Reward paid for them.

Division.	Animals killed by				Amount of reward paid for			
	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Hyænas.	Bears.	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Hyænas.	Bears.
Special Assistant Agent's Division ..	254	71	..	..	RS. 4,000	RS. 2,800	RS. 15	RS. 70

G.

ABSTRACT Statement of Wild Animals killed, Rewards distributed and Loss of Life during the year 1885-86.

Years.	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Bears.	Hyænas.	Reward paid.	Loss of life.	
						Men.	Cattle.
1885-86	35	112	10	3	RS. 6,885	96	325

Appendix to Agent's Report.

EXTRACT from the Geological Sketch of the Vizagapatam District by W. KING, Esq., B.A., D. Sc., Superintendent, Geological Survey of India.

Gneisses of the Galikonda Hill Tract.—An opportunity, under the guidance of Mr. H. G. Turner, C.S., the Collector and Agent of the district, was afforded me of visiting this region and of thus making a traverse as far as the verge of the Jeypore territory, over a considerable thickness of gneisses which by their lie appear to be subjacent to, or older than, any of the bands or subdivisions already described. They are, at any rate, all dipping to the east-south-eastward: at first on the skirts of the hills about Bodara and thence westwards to the first ascent (1,000 feet) below Raivalsa, at high angles, and then at lower and lower inclinations until, in Devadimanda (over 5,000 feet), the highest station of the Galikonda ridge, they are lying so low as 30°. The rocks are still garnetiferous, but not nearly to such an extent as is the case with those already described; while they are more decidedly quartzo-felspathic in their constitution and not so schistose though still well-bedded and laminated, and their colors are of correspondingly lighter shades. They must, for the present, be considered as belonging to the Vizagapatam series, being still, on the whole, markedly different from the more massive and less foliated and older-looking gneisses of Southern India. The main ridge beds, however, run up at the low angle of dip given above, and give a steep and high craggy face looking out over the lower upland of Jeypore to the west, thus exhibiting a break in the surface contour which may arise from a change in the character, and even the relative age, of the crystallines to the westward. Galikonda is the proposed hill resort of Vizianagrum, but as yet it has only received very slight attention in that way, partly from its distance, some 45 miles westward, and from want of convenient accessibility. The old Raivalsa track in the direction of Jeypore passes over a lofty (over 4,200 feet) saddle, a short distance north of the highest point of the Galikonda ridge, after which it descends again rather rapidly to a lower upland: this is now being made by slow degrees fit for cart traffic. Long ago, some enterprising official built a bungalow and planted a garden of various fruit-trees high up on the eastern slopes, but the garden only now remains the living and luxuriant result of that experiment. At a much lower elevation, about 3,000 feet and about half-way up the ghât, an experimental plantation for coffee, tea, cinchona, and other products has been started under the local Government, with, I think, fair prospects of success.

Crystalline Limestone Bands.—A very interesting occurrence in the gneisses of the hill tract is a series of apparently isolated outcrops of crystalline limestone, which, irrespective of the industrial value they may come to possess, are pierced by swallow-holes or caverns, one of which is of considerable extent and magnificence. The southernmost outcrop within the range of our traverse is on the low saddle above the village of Nilgalgunta, six miles south-east of Devadimanda hill. There is a small cave here, lined with travertine but without any stalactites or stalagmites: other recesses are said to exist which are now blocked up. The limestone is of grey and dark-green or nearly black colours, the latter arising from a strong admixture of hornblendic minerals, generally coarsely saccharine, in thick beds having a high dip to east-south-east, with an exposed aggregate thickness of about thirty yards. Some six miles to the north-north-east, a short distance beyond the village of Borra, a much more important outcrop forms a low hill, through which the village stream passes by a series of swallow-holes to the Peddagunda river. Formerly the subterranean channel was free, but within the last few years it became choked up, and, as a consequence, a small lake or tarn has been formed behind the southern end or headland of the limestone hill, the flooded waters of which have in time cut a temporary off-flow on its western side. Half-way over the hill, going northwards, there is an opening to a cavernous shaft, down which one can look into dim depths, and from which issues the murmur of running water. A short distance further on, the path reaches the edge of the northern face of the hill, where it overhangs a deep ravine, in which the village stream again comes to light about 300 feet below. The hill thus traversed by a series of swallow-holes is made up, as far as outcrop shows, of about 500 feet in thickness of generally massive and pale-coloured granular crystalline limestone, some beds of which, in their fineness of texture and pure colour, compare favorably with Carara marble; though, as a rule, the rock is more coarsely crystallized and of grey or dirty-white colours, weathering dark or nearly black. The dip is high, 50° or 60° or even more, to the eastward with a N.N.E.—S.S.W. strike. As far as I could see, the band is lenticular, thinning out rather suddenly to the southward.

Borra Cave.—About 50 feet below the northern brow, a large but low entrance leads into a deep and lofty cavern having a rude, dome-like roof opening to the sky above by the orifice already mentioned Here, in fact, is a huge natural cave temple, bearing a rugged resemblance to the Pantheon at Rome, though, as yet, it contains only one god, Priapus,* represented by a fragment of stalactite. The roof is crossed or irregularly ribbed with thick-short, curtain-like masses of stalactitic deposit, only one or two of which towards the sides of the cavern, are connected with the thickly-grouped and large mammilated mounds of stalagmite forming the floor. The latter slopes rapidly down on the eastern

* Presumably so, at least, for the pillar of travertine is to all appearance a sort of lingum, and there was no authoritative priest or devotee at hand to settle the question.

side to a narrow cleft or rift, along which the waters from the stream above pursue their still hidden course, this rift being generally in a plane of bedding. Further cavernous recesses are seen to occur upwards towards the dammed-up tarn, while on the other side, the existence of yet lower caverns is evidenced by gleams of light pouring in from the deep ravine in front to the depths of the side rift. We were only able to note the features of this great cave in a very rapid way. The single stalactite (6 feet long and 4 to 8 inches in diameter) has been appropriated for the devotional service noted above, the cave being the resort at certain seasons of many pilgrims. There is one other pillar in the shape of a small stalagmite, 3 feet high and 8 inches in diameter, which is slowly rising from the floor by deposition from the drops falling at long intervals from the roof. The interior of the cavern is coated over with travertine—a dull, cream-white, compact, semi-crystalline rock, the surface sparkling a little owing to minute sparry facets. The stalactitic festoons are beautifully fluted and wrinkled, while the huge fungoid and coralloid mounds of stalagmite are wrinkled in little waves of terracing, the mounds themselves being made up of successive shells with irregular cavities between.

A good deal of rubbish, the sweepings from the numerous pilgrim gatherings, lies collected among the stalagmitic mounds, forming an uneven earth floor, but with no thickness; and this appears to be the only material in which any remains could occur otherwise than in the substance of the mounds themselves.

On a subsequent visit, as I am informed by him, Mr. Turner ascertained, notwithstanding that we were told to the contrary by the villagers, that this band of limestones is continued to the northward, and that it even bars the passage of the Peddagunda river itself by a wall some 20 or 30 yards wide, which is pierced by a cavernous channel having two apertures on the upside, each 40 feet high, one above the other, but not in a straight line. Further in, the hollow is only about 3 or 4 feet above the level of the water, and through it, Mr. Turner could, by creeping in as far as possible and bending down, just see the light coming in at the orifice on the down side. There is no particular show of travertine in this swallow-hole.

From all Mr. Turner could gather by inquiry—and curiously enough the villagers appear very reserved on the subject—there appear to be other caves or outcrops of limestone both in this neighbourhood of Borra and yet further eastward at the foot of the hills. This Borra band and that reported to the eastward would be, if continued northwards in the line of strike held by the gneisses, somewhat in the direction of other reported outcrops of calcareous rocks in the Salúr zemindari, and it is not improbable that the ultimate tracing out of them, as well as of a yet further outcrop (to be noticed immediately) to the north of Vizianagrum, may bring the Galikonda gneisses into a closer relation with the Káilassa band than my traverse of them has led me to suppose is the case.

From the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam, dated 19th November 1886, No. 742.

Order—dated 23rd December 1886, No. 3387, Judicial.

The first of the foregoing papers is the annual report on the administration of the Agency tracts of the Vizagapatam district, which His Excellency the Governor in Council will now proceed to review.

2. *Touring.*—The amount of touring done by the Agency officers is very satisfactory; Mr. Wedderburn was especially active, having spent no less than 248 days in camp. His Excellency in Council notices with much pleasure the high terms in which Mr. Turner speaks of Messrs. Power and Elwin.

3. *Communications.*—The Agent devotes much of his report to the question of roads, and urges the adoption of a more liberal policy towards the Agency in the matter of funds for this purpose. The Government have always recognised the importance of the development of communications in these backward tracts, and they have made considerable yearly grants from Provincial funds for the construction and maintenance of roads and buildings. The cost of the Pottingi Ghât road was Rs. 4,56,581,* and sanction has already been accorded to the construction by the Public Works Department of a first-class road from Pottingi to Koraput, to be eventually extended to the Central Provinces' frontier.† The Government do not think, therefore, that there has been any want of liberality in the treatment of the Agency tracts. It must be remembered that in other districts the cost of the construction and maintenance of communications is met from special funds raised locally, assistance being given from Provincial funds only in exceptional circumstances; and that the Agency yields to Government in direct revenue a comparatively trifling sum. Upon a consideration of these facts, the Government are of opinion that, while the present policy of steady progress in the matter of opening new roads should be maintained, it would be unfair to other portions of the presidency to sanction the large expenditure contemplated by Mr. Turner. In the present financial position, the utmost that can be hoped for is that Government may be able to maintain expenditure on the present scale.

* *Vide* G.O., dated 10th October 1885, No. 2365 W., Public Works Department, recorded in Judicial Department G.O., dated 26th October 1885, No. 1429.

† *Vide* Government Order quoted above, and G.O., dated 4th January 1886, No. 8 W., Public Works Department, recorded in Judicial Department G.O., dated 19th January 1886, Mis. No. 151.

4. The Government do not possess such full information as is desirable regarding the roads in the Vizagapatam Agency. Mr. Turner will therefore be requested to submit a special report on the subject. The report should show the number and mileage of existing roads and the amount spent upon them during the last five years. It should also contain a full description of the roads which Mr. Turner proposes to open, their mileage, and a rough estimate of their cost. A map should be furnished, and in this all ghâts and rivers should be clearly marked. Full particulars regarding the length of ghât roads and the necessity for bridging rivers should be given in the body of the report. Mr. Turner should also consider whether the yearly allotment could not be more effectively utilised if work were more concentrated. In this way each road in turn could be put into thoroughly good order; the subsequent cost of maintenance would probably be less than the sum now expended on this account, while in place of many indifferent roads there would be a few good ones, and the number of these would be gradually increasing.

5. *Buildings.*—Turning now to the question of buildings, the Government observe that the Jeypore sub-jail and cutcherry was not completed at the close of the year, although so far back as 1884 nothing remained to be done but to put on the roof.* The Government trust that the work is now finished. The Bissemkatak taluk office was completed, and appears to be a satisfactory building.

* Paragraph 22 of G.O., dated 13th October 1884, No. 2619, Judicial.

6. *Education.*—The education of the only son of the Maharaja of Jeypore by an English tutor has at length been arranged for, and the tutor, Mr. Marsh, was to have entered on his duties in November. The general question of education in the Agency tracts was dealt with in G.O., dated 10th June 1886, No. 354, Educational. The scheme then sanctioned contained no provision for schools in the Golgonda or Paderu taluks, the backward educational condition of which is now brought to notice by the Principal Assistant Agent. This matter should receive the further attention of the Agent.

7. *Law and Crime.*—The number of civil suits instituted in the Agency Courts during the year was 316, the number pending from the previous year being 110. Of this number only 271 were disposed of, the number pending at the end of the year being 152. The above figures are not satisfactory, and special efforts should be made to ensure the more speedy disposal of cases. The arrears before the munsifs of Rayaghada and Jeypore are specially heavy. Now that the Koraput and Jeypore sub-magistrates have been given civil powers, the delays caused by the Special Assistant Agent being so constantly on tour should no longer occur.

Two appeals were pending and ten were instituted during the year. Of these, nine were disposed of.

8. The outturn of criminal work is more satisfactory. One thousand two hundred and twelve cases were instituted during the year, and 42 were pending from the previous year. These were all disposed of except 19. The institutions in the

previous year numbered 1,313. Among the committals to the Agent's Court were 9 cases of murder and 10 of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The number of prisoners involved in these cases was 34, of whom 18 were convicted and 15 discharged, the remaining one being still under trial. It is satisfactory to observe that the crime of cattle-theft has begun to decrease, "owing," it is said, "to the heavier sentences that have been inflicted during the last two years." The cases of alleged kidnapping of Jeypore people by men from Bastar have been dealt with in separate papers.

There were no serious disturbances of the public peace during the year.

9. *Wild Animals.*—In the Special Assistant Agent's division, 96 persons were killed by wild animals. Figures for the previous year are not available, but the number of deaths in the calendar year 1883 was 234. The number of persons killed in the other divisions was 8. The number of tigers destroyed in the whole of the Agency tracts was 54, as against 58 in the previous year. Of this number, 7 were man-cating tigers. The figures are satisfactory. In his next report the Agent should give a comparative statement showing the number of tigers, panthers, &c., destroyed in each of the previous five years, as also the number of persons killed by wild animals and the amount of rewards paid.

10. *Miscellaneous.*—The administration of the Opium and Abkári revenue calls for no remarks. The vaccination figures of the Senior Assistant Agent's division show an improvement, but there was a decrease in the number of vaccinations in that of the Special Assistant. No figures are given by the Principal Assistant. It is not stated whether any attempt is made to check the returns submitted by the vaccinators. This should be done, and the vaccinators should certainly accompany the Agent and his Assistants when on tour. The cost per case should in future be given, and the number of vaccinations per man employed.

11. The attention of the Accountant-General will be drawn to the alleged deficiency of copper coinage in Jeypore. Mr. Turner's general remarks on coinage are out of place in a report on the Agency tracts. He should, however, explain what he means by saying that the copper coin is debased.

12. The action taken by the Agent in connection with the amins of Rayaghada and Gunupur is approved. The Government trust that they have been replaced by men whose probity can be relied upon. The Agent should recommend the Maharaja to introduce a system of accounts that would ensure the speedy detection of frauds upon his revenues.

13. The payment of the tour expenses, amounting to Rs. 512-15-7, is sanctioned.

14. The Superintendent of Survey will be directed to state whether he can furnish a map of the Agency tracts. His attention will be drawn to paragraph 9 of G.O., dated 13th October 1884, No. 2619, Judicial, and paragraph 16 of G.O., dated 20th October 1885, No. 2822, Judicial.

15. Dr. William King's note is interesting, and will be printed as an appendix to the report.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam.
" " Ganjam.
" Government Agent, Godávari.
" Revenue Department.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Inspector-General of Police.
" Public Works Department.
" Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
" Accountant-General.
" Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1886} Madras.

JUDICIAL.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 23rd December 1886, No. 3387.

DECEMBER.

Vizagapatam Agency.

Reviewing the annual report of the — for 1885-86.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From H. G. TURNER, Esq., Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vizianagrum, 23rd August 1886, No. 602.

I have the honor to submit my report on the administration of the Agency tracts of this district for the year 1885-86.

The first tour undertaken by the Agent during the year under review was an excursion with Mr. Elwin, the newly appointed Senior Assistant, through his division. I left Párvatipur on the 16th November and marched to Rayaguda, Singapore, Bissemkatak, thence throughout the Khond Maliahs to Godairy, and following the valley of the Vamsadhára river to Gunupur, came out through the Sitampeta pass to Pálkonda.

2. The second tour took me through the Special Assistant's division, which I entered by the Galikonda pass, journeying by Aruku and Nundapur, I reached Koraput on the 2nd March. Thence I went to Jeypore where I saw the Maharajah. From Jeypore I marched to Ramagiri, and turning towards home at that point I proceeded viâ Balliguda and Sogaru, and avoiding the Galikonda mountain came out at Anantagiri through Bondam and Borra—this being the line which will probably be taken by the new road now under construction between the plains of Vizagapatam and the southern part of the Jeypore plateau and Malkangiri.

3. I had visited Borra already this season in company with Dr. King of the Geological Department. That gentleman, being on a visit to Vizianagrum to inspect a proposed artesian well, expressed a wish to look at the formation of the ghâts, and we went up to Anantagiri for a few days on this errand. This was in October. Some two or three months before this I was at Anantagiri exploring a line for the new road when I first heard of Borra. Borra, meaning a " cave " in Telugu, belonged, I casually heard, to the Jeypore country. Asking the meaning of this—for Borra lies on the borders of Pusupati and Téda (the local names of Vizianagrum and Pachipenta)—I was told that, at the time of the cession of these lands by Jeypore, Borra was retained because of the holy cave there. " It is a thirtham " said my informant, and " the water drips through the roof, and this water is taken at Siva-Ratri to wash the Lingam at Nundapur, the ancient capital of the Jeypore House." Caves being objects of desire to every one, whether English or Hindu, Aryan or Dravidian or Kolairean, I took the opportunity of Dr. King's visit to explore it, delighted to be guided by the illumination of his professional knowledge. We went and we discovered a chain of most interesting limestone caves, full of excellent specimens of stalactites and stalagmites. The caves are apparently eaten out of a limestone rock by a stream which now works its way through this series of caverns and emerges far below in a deep gloomy gorge. The caverns are full of Lingams consisting of stalagmites. The stream is heard rushing along the underground passages far out of sight. The water is used for the worship of the tutelary deity of Jeypore, and we were reminded of the place where—

" Alph the sacred river ran
Through caverns measureless to man
Down to a sunless sea."

The river into which the sacred river falls is known as the Pedagunda river. It eventually emerges from the hills at Kasipatnam and then flows out through the Srungavarapukota taluk, where much water is diverted into irrigation channels, and it eventually joins the sea at Bimlipatam.

4. So much we discovered on our first visit. On my second visit to the cave in November, I think, I made a further discovery, viz., that the Pedagunda river itself encounters the same band of limestone just above its plunge into the gorge, where it receives the little stream above-mentioned as the author of the stalactite cave, and it also "through the shaggy hill passes underneath engulfed." This passage is a low arch affording just sufficient room to the water. High above the present tunnel is another great open hole in the rock, which evidently served as a vent for the water before the river denuded its way down to the present orifice—altogether a most interesting place—and I fancy that the limestone bed is of larger extent than we at first thought, for on my last visit I struck it again much higher up the river.

I know of two other caves or more of this sort. One at Gopteswaram, which is also a thirtham on the banks of the Sebheri, 8 miles west of Ramagiri — a place of much sanctity and of extensive legendary associations.

5. The line of road which I am now engaged on will be, when finished, of equal importance with the Sálúr ghât and the road from Pottingy to Koraput.

From Vizianagrum it will be 25 miles to the foot of the new ghât. Five miles of road will be cut out of the side of the hill, and we shall then find ourselves at Dhamuku, 2,000 feet above the level of the sea. The road must then run, I think, to the Borra saddle, some 3 miles through the Raevalsa valley. From the Borra saddle, if we go that way, it must descend a few hundred feet to cross the Borra valley, and then it will ascend again and emerge into the open plateau near Bondam.

6. This route was explored by Colonel Shaw-Stewart some 25 years ago. Exception has been taken by various officers to the other route selected eventually for the bridle-path, to wit, over a spur of Galikonda, 4,500 feet above sea level, instead of adopting what these critics considered the better route for a bridle-path round by Borra and Bondam. But I am happy to be able to state that the engineers were right and the critics wrong, for the country round by Borra is a very difficult country indeed, and for a bridle-path a uselessly circuitous route. I am afraid that I must go that way with my cart road, but for a bridle-path there is no doubt that the shortest and best way is the one now in existence. The party engaged in the work certainly took the greatest pains to find out the best way, and it is most interesting to me to come across their old traces now overgrown with jungle as I go poking about to find my way over and round the various obstacles which vex the schemes of the road-maker.

7. I have completed three miles of the section that has to be cut out of the hill-side, and have done a good deal of the fourth and fifth miles. The whole of this section will be finished in six months, and carts will then have access to a considerable extent of country hitherto trodden only by the pack beast. I will dismiss this part of my subject by saying that the road will probably run from Bondam to Aruku, thence to Padawa, Sogaru and Guniapodu, thence to Baliguda and so by Janitigiri, where it will bifurcate—one branch running down to the north Malkangiri country and so opening out to trade a vast extent of fertile land, and the other branch will run down to Dasumutpur and open up all the Ramagiri country, which contains excellent land of unquestionable value.

8. Interesting again are the associations of this road as it gets into the Sogaru country, for here in this corner is an extensive Kolairean colony of Gadabas and their cousins the Bonda Porjas and the Kerang kapus. Here also at Baliguda are the falls of the Sibru, a most weird gaunt abyss of cliffs into which the river here known as the Matsyagunda, but further down as the Sibru, makes a perpendicular plunge 480 feet deep. I discovered these falls nearly twenty years ago, and I revisited them recently and took their height with an aneroid barometer.

9. These Kolaireans are excellent husbandmen, and a road through their country will give a decided stimulus to the agriculture of the part. A cross road will leave the main artery at Tobah and run through Nundapur and Paleba to Koraput. Speaking roughly, it will be about 100 miles from the foot of the new ghât to the Malkangiri taluk, and the cross road to Koraput will be about 25 miles in addition. But as soon as the pass over the mountains is completed, carts will be able to penetrate almost along the whole length of this line. It is all on the 3,000-feet plateau, a hard dry soil, perfectly open and free from any serious obstacles. It will be an enormous boon to

the country, and I expect that colonists from the Vizianagrum zemindari will be induced by the facilities of communication to settle on the lands of Ramagiri and Malkangiri if proper arrangements are made for their reception. It is to be hoped that the Government will ere long pay special attention to the migration of people, organize and encourage it. It is a matter of great public moment. It embraces considerations of the very highest policy, and, in my opinion, it ought to take an ascertained place in the sphere of our administration.

10. The roads in the Special Assistant's division are much cut up by the cart traffic. The District Engineer counted as many as 500 carts loaded with grain passing down the Sálúr ghât in one day.

During the year under report definite arrangements have been made by Government for the construction of the Pottingy and Koraput road, and the Public Works Department commenced work on that section in April 1886. The Tandevalsa ghât road has been repaired, and the causeway across the river at the bottom has been reconstructed with vents. Revetments and easing of gradient are among the works that have been carried on on that communication, which is now used by carts on their way to the Thonam market. Brinjaries continue to use it, preferring it over the new road owing to the grass and water found along the route. On the Vizagapatam and Central Provinces trunk line bridges have been built at Pauperhandi and Dabugaon; also causeways across some swamps and other embankments, and the road has been carried to a point 26 miles north of Nowrangapore. Mr. Wedderburn points out that the allotment of Rs. 25 a mile for the repair of this road was miserably inadequate. I have increased it to more than Rs. 50 a mile for the current season, but even that amount is far too small. I cannot spare more funds without starving other works, and I hope that the Public Works Department will press on their road and open sections of it as quickly as possible.

The question of running the Public Works Department road parallel to the existing line of communication is under discussion. Mr. Wedderburn draws attention to the question of a ferry raft over the Indrávati, which I shall take up this year, as also the new trace for the Jeypore-Koraput road. He reports that the other roads are in fair order, drawing attention to the improvement of the Kolab crossing and of the Malkangiri ghât. I have already touched on the Central Provinces road beyond Nowrangapore, and I agree with him in thinking that a road might be opened from Pauperhandi over the Ampani ghât into Kalahandy. The curtailment of the budget was caused by financial retrenchments decreed by Government.

11. Turning now to the education question, the scheme for educating the Maharajah's son is progressing favorably. There was some difficulty in arranging the terms upon which Mr. Marsh would come. But I have been able to effect an arrangement which will form the subject of a special letter* to Government, and Mr. Marsh will probably enter on his duties in November next.

* Letter No. 586, dated 12th August 1886.

On examining the proposals for general education, it was at once seen that nothing can be done until measures are taken for paying the masters from Government funds. This involves the transfer of the complete control from the Maharajah to the agency and the appointment of a special superintendent for each division, the plan of employing one superintendent for both the Senior and Special Assistant's division being unworkable. A scheme has been drawn up in consultation with the Inspector of Schools, and it is now on its way to Government through the Director of Public Instruction—*vide* G.O., No. 354, dated 10th June 1886, Educational.

Under law and justice, I have to notice the decrease of the crime of cattle theft. The Acting Sub-Magistrate of Nowrangapore has been relegated to his substantive appointment of Head Clerk in the plains. The question of the Koraput Hill Jail is before Government in my letter No. 243, dated 6th March 1886, and has been put into a settled form by G.O., No. 1277, dated 15th May 1886, Judicial.

12. Mr. Wedderburn enters at some length into the difficulties he experiences in getting through his civil file.

It has all along been our policy to discourage resort to civil tribunals in the agency from the fear that the people would be victimized by vakils, and I believe

that no such courts as district munsifs' courts are at all necessary in the Hill tracts, except in such places as Koraput, Jeypore and other large villages to which low country traders resort. What may be necessary hereafter when the country is opened out to cart traffic I know not, but when we come to think of the vast quantities of transactions that are carried on throughout the country without any sanction of a resort to law, why, I ask, should we dig a pit in their midst for them to fall into? Beyond any part of the country I know, Jeypore is distinguished for the marvellous numbers of weekly markets. On the road between the summit of the ghât and the interior of the country—say, 50 miles—there are five large markets held on five days in the week, viz, at Sipaiput, Dumriput, Cheptaamb, Boregumma, and at another place. These markets are frequented by large concourses of people bent on bargaining, the inter-marketal trade being in the hands of the Dombs, an out-caste tribe. Yet the whole of these transactions take place without any resort to law, and more than this all the native produce merchants, who live round the foot of the hills from the Godávari to Gunapur, advance on crops, on jungle produce, on beasts, on hides, and so forth, quite content to run whatever risks there may be in giving over money to the hill man without any security at all. They are, I believe, content with the state of the law as it now stands, and though it might be argued that the want of security disables the hill man from driving a better bargain, I have no doubt at all that on the whole the hill man would be at a disadvantage if he tried to sue his sowcar for breach of contract.

Mr. Wedderburn's remarks on the Rent Recovery Act are equally to the point. The power of distraint cannot be granted to the landlords in a country where several days journey must be traversed before redress for illegal seizure can be obtained. It is far better to let all public business of this kind vest summarily in the divisional officer.

13. Mr. Wedderburn draws attention to the meritorious efforts of the Sub-Magistrate of Malkangiri in pushing vaccination, and care will be taken that a vaccinator accompanies the divisional officer on his tours. His suggestions regarding medicines will receive attention. The business of slaying wild beasts is steadily improving, and the tappal arrangements claim a passing notice. I am in communication with the Postmaster-General regarding the postal connection with the Central Provinces.

14. I have informed the Commissioner of Chhetisghur that I concur in the decision of the boundary dispute on the Tel which has been settled by Mr. Wedderburn and Mr. Fox Strangeways, and I am awaiting his reply.

Since drafting the above, the reply of the Chief Commissioner has been received, and I am forwarding the case to Government for their formal approval.

15. In the course of my tour through the Senior Assistant's division, the Dewan of the Maharajah of Jeypore brought to my notice the very unsatisfactory behaviour of the ameens of Rayaguda and Gunupur. These managers had contrived to get possession of the rents of these two large taluks and played with him and the Maharajah in a way that called to mind the story told by Burke of the noteworthy transactions of Paul Benfey and his co-adjutors in connection with the Nabob of Arcot's debts.

These ameens were in the habit of receiving from the Maharajah orders called Barátams directing them to pay certain monies to the person named therein. To these orders these worthy men were in the habit of replying that they had no rents belonging to the Maharajah in hand, but that they would advance money to meet the Barátams from their own resources, on what they called moderate interest, *i.e.*, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. *per month*. The money was advanced, not at once, but from time to time, that is, as the rents came in, and so it came about that a large debt was formed, built up by lending the Maharajah his own money and charging 18 per cent. per annum for it. This *debt* again was liquidated by the ameens by an assignment to themselves of the revenues they collected. Bonds passed between the parties confirming these transactions, or to quote Burke—it is quite interesting to apply his words to these events, for they are so delightfully applicable—"Bond is paid by bond; arrear is turned into new arrear; usury engenders new usury, until all the revenues and all the establishments are entangled into one inextricable knot of confusion from which they

are only disengaged by being entirely destroyed." This is exactly what we had to do. The ameens could or would produce no accounts. They came before us clothed in the commonest of cloths as evidence of their poverty, and they sat before us hour after hour prevaricating, withdrawing statements, qualifying admissions, and all done with a mien the most plausible and a submission humiliating to witness. There could be no adjustment made. All we did therefore was to make the ameen of Rayaguda sign a bond for Rs. 27,000 and him of Gunupur one for Rs. 60,000 and to turn them out of their employments subject to the confirmation of the Maharajah, to whom I sent the obligations they executed. But I know what will happen. They will go up to the capital and by back-stair influence they will probably recover their bonds and perhaps get reinstated in their appointments, though I shall stop the latter catastrophe by a stern exercise of authority.

16. Mr. Elwin sends an interesting account of his doings during the five-and-half months he was in charge. His touring shows a good record. I am glad to be able to bear testimony to the very zealous and intelligent way in which this young officer conducts his duties. I have treated so fully of the incidents of the Singapore case in the papers marginally noted that I need hardly swell this report by recapitulating them here.

G.O., Judicial, 9th January 1885, No. 52, Mis.
Do. 25th August „ „ 2220, „
Do. 19th May 1886, „ 1326, „

All I need mention is that the Maharajah of Jeypore has filed a suit in my court to resume possession of the estate, or for an increase of rents, and it will be for the law courts to decide on the strength of his claim. The ryots of the estate are not settled down yet. I had a deputation from them quite recently, but they were amenable to argument and they returned to their country in a peaceful state of mind. The country will require careful attention for some time to come. I have not relaxed my endeavours to effect a compromise between the Maharajah and the Ranee, and only a few days since I hoped that an opening was preparing itself. Perhaps when the cause comes into court some arrangement may be effected.

17. I was unable to visit the Sowra hills. Mr. Elwin states that the Gomangoes, who are independent of the authority of the Urya Patro of Bhimpuram or of the Dhora of Kuttmi, were ill-mannered enough to complain of the cloths given them from the Government bounty. The best thing to do will be to intermit these presents until the recipients seem disposed to appreciate them.

It is very encouraging to note the interest the Sowras take in vaccination. In paragraph 30 Mr. Elwin complains of a want of zeal and energy among the vaccinators. This paragraph will be communicated to the District Surgeon.

There was still some question regarding the ownership of Ongara village which was decided by Messrs. Sewell, Welsh and Joseph to belong to Jeypore.

18. The Government have already been requested in the letter marginally noted to allot money for the erection of hospitals at Rayaguda and Bissemkatak and Nowrangapore, and their order sanctioning the outlay has been recently received—G.O., No. 544, dated 19th June 1886, Financial.

Letter, dated 17th May 1886, No. 442.

Mr. Elwin then touches on the sanitation of these places, mentions that Bhimpuram was visited by a bad attack of cholera between May and July last year, and tells us that fever has carried off his mahout. When on tour with Mr. Elwin in November, a tiger-skin was brought to me with the story that the beast had been killed through being impaled on two bamboo stakes. Observing foot-prints of a tiger that used to walk along a path and spring over a fence, the hunter placed four sharpened stakes on the landing side of the fence so disposed that the tiger would alight on them when it jumped over the obstacle. The tiger actually did jump over the hedge and did impale himself on the stakes and then the poor brute lay howling on his back for two days, the villagers being afraid to go up and put him out of his misery. Eventually he died, and the skin had a long bare patch all down its back from the head to the tail where the hair was scraped off as it lay writhing on the ground. The story is hard to believe, but I know that deer are killed in this way and it is possibly true.

19. In the agency taluks of the Senior Assistant's division there are 260,000 inhabitants. The villages they occupy are 2,500 in number. The country consists

of two large valleys and the hills between and around them. One of these valleys is drained by the Nagavalli river, the other by the Vamsadhára. The valleys are exceedingly fertile and yield a revenue to the Maharajah of Jeypore of upwards of a lakh and a half of rupees. One of these valleys, *i.e.*, the Rayaguda valley, is the channel of communication between the Vizagapatam plains and the Central Provinces. Through the other, the Gunupur valley, lies the route from Chicacole and Kimedy to Central Provinces.

The roads necessary to open out these valleys to cart traffic are the following:—

	Miles.
(1) Chollapadam to Rayaguda	18
(2) Rayaguda to Ombadola	62
(3) Komatipet to Singapore	22
(4) Butili to Gunupur	10
(5) Gunupur to Ombadola	60
(6) Gunupur to Párvatipur	32
Total ...	204

If this system of roads were taken up by the Public Works Department, there would undoubtedly accrue to Government a very large increase in revenue from salt and abkári. The increase in agricultural and jungle produce would be very great, and lands would be brought under the plough by people migrating from the congested taluks of the coast which are known to be as thickly populated as any taluks in the Madras Presidency. It is therefore a scheme that I can confidently recommend to the notice of Government.

I will permit myself to anticipate an objection that may be probably raised regarding this great extension of roads. This may be that Government have already committed themselves to considerable expenditure under this head in respect of the undertaking they have in hand on the Pottingy-Koraput line and thence to the borders of this district towards Raepore, and that this district can have no further claims on the public purse at present. But this view of the question becomes considerably modified if we consider that it is not the Vizagapatam district that we are roading, but the district called the Vizagapatam agency. So far as population is concerned, the agency can rightly lay claim to be considered a district. The people living in it number 694,673, that is, it is a more populous district than Anantapur or Kurnool or the Nílgiris, nearly as populous as Bellary, and within the same category of districts containing fewer people than a million as Chingleput and South Canara. I am persuaded that if the outlay on public works in Jeypore be compared with that of any one of these districts, there will be found a very large balance still due to the country, the claims of which I am now advocating.

20. I have endeavoured to make a sort of estimate of the value of the trade which is carried on with the agency. The principal items of export trade from the coast ports of the Vizagapatam district which amounted last year to 46 lakhs are indigo, myrabolams, seeds, jaggery, hides and skins, turmeric, lac, long-pepper, gunnies, jute and punjam cloth.

Of these items, all the myrabolams, lac, turmeric and long-pepper come from the agency, and probably 50 per cent. of the seeds, hides and skins. All the jaggery, gunnies, cloth, indigo and the remaining portion of the seeds and hides are produced in the plains. The Board's annual volume and my district returns give the proportions which each product bears to the grand total, and from this I calculate that at least 25 per cent. of the total value consists of those articles that come from above the ghâts. Therefore I fix the total value of the trade derived from the agency and exported by the coast at 11 lakhs.

There is great difficulty in arriving at any satisfactory estimate of the produce that comes across the ghâts and is arrested in the plains. It consists of food stuffs. We never have great distress in the congested taluks of Vizagapatam, partly because of our food imports from the agency. There are four principal passes into the hills through which food-grains come into the plains, viz., viâ Gunupur, Párvatipur, Sálúr and Kasipatnam. I think I am well within the mark when I put down a figure of 100,000 loads of grain, consisting principally of paddy, rice and ragi, as an approximate estimate of this trade, and I value this grain at 10 lakhs of rupees. Therefore

I adopt a figure of 21 lakhs as representing the value of the entire export trade across these roads that we are now constructing. The trade into Jeypore from the coast taluks consists of salt, cotton goods, tobacco and sundries.

Of these, cotton goods only come from beyond sea, valued at 13 lakhs for the whole district. If the hill tracts took their share of these goods in proportion to their population, they should take about one-third of the imports. But they certainly do not take as much as this, because the hill people are not so well off as the people of the plains, and because they use a great deal of twist which they spin themselves. I should think that 3 lakhs would represent the money they spend in imported cotton goods. Then as to salt they ought to consume 13·22 lbs. per head according to the accepted figures, but I am very certain they do not, because pack-borne salt is a costly article. On the other hand, they pay more than Rs. 3-8-0 a maund for it.

Suppose then we say they consume 70,000 maunds of salt and pay 3 lakhs for it. This would make about 6 lakhs of imports. Besides this, we send about a lakh of treasure into the country to pay for the balance of the cost of our administration and on roads, &c. Total import trade 7 lakhs. Grand total import and export trade 27 lakhs. But how much trade comes and goes through the agency to and from the countries beyond it, is impossible to say. Certainly all the plateau of Bustar (not the Godávari bordering parts), nearly all Kalahandy and a considerable part of Patna, Nowaghar and Khariar come within the influence of these trade routes. These countries lying around Jeypore occupy an area of more than 20,000 square miles in extent with an additional population of 500,000 souls.

21. What vast quantities of unoccupied land there are in these unfrequented areas lying between our ghâts and the plains of Nagpore! What have we ever done for this country and for these people, which, with our agency population, number over a million? Suppose an island were suddenly discovered in the Bay of Bengal thirty thousand square miles in extent inhabited by a million of people, another Ceylon, what schemes, what reports, what a vista of administration does the idea open out? Upper Burma has furnished an enterprise during the past year which will remain graven "monumentum ære perenius" in the history of India. Its incorporation in the civilization of the empire will be the subject of anxious thought and of great expense, and it will be guided on its path by the most able of our officers. Justice, education, public works will be inaugurated with a lavish hand; trade routes will be opened out and enterprises proposed for reclaiming lands and spreading abroad the searching aims of commerce. Are the countries I am writing about not equally entitled to participate in the benefits of our English ideas and in our schemes for ameliorating the condition of the people we have taken upon ourselves to govern? If these lands lay within a few miles of Madras, or of Calcutta, they would be in as prosperous a state as the best district in India. But because they are situated at the remote end of Madras and at the remote end of the Central Provinces, they are voted to be a bore and a burthen. If the country were a hilly country with but small extent of cultivable land, it might accept the fate of all mountainous regions, and be left to enjoy such crumbs of progress as it might pick up.

"Given," says Major Holdich, "a wise and strong Government and an industrious class of settlers, there is nothing in the soil and climate of Bustar to forbid a happy future of broad cultivated lands, and it may be yet that this country may be populated and cultivated by a people whom pressure of numbers has driven out from the overstocked districts of Upper India."

Proceedings of Geographical Society, June 1879.

Major Holdich was of opinion that the population of Bustar was decreasing. He says, "There are many evidences of a better state of things in the past, and the decrease is due to the wretched misgovernment that prevails, combined with facilities of late years in obtaining employment under British control in the neighbourhood of the Godávari." When Major Holdich wrote this, he was surveying the country as an officer of the Government of India, and had therefore no possible bias for or against the Local Governments.

As I have already said in another communication, I am convinced that there is no country in Madras, and I believe none in the Central Provinces or perhaps in the rest of India, that would better repay Government to open out than this great area of land. The truth is that the British Empire in India is so repleted with land that we

despise an enterprise which any continental nation would take up with enthusiasm. Probably there is no plateau in India better watered, containing more fertile land and more admirably adapted for a scheme of migration to be presided over by Englishmen than the elevated tract of country known as "the Great Jeypore plateau which breaks upon the line 81°·30 E. long." *

* Major Holdich.

22. Another matter of interest that was brought to my notice during my tour was that there is a great want of copper coin in Jeypore for the purposes of currency. As I have already said, the Jeyporeans are intensely given to petty huckstering transactions at the weekly markets. A large class of people—principally Dombs or outcastes—are engaged in this petty trade. They buy commodities at one market and carry them on to the next, hoping to benefit by a small difference in rates; but nearly all their dealings are by barter, and in some instances they still use cowries. I find on inquiry that there is a dearth of copper coin not only in Jeypore but also throughout the plains. From inquiries I have made, I learn that the money-changers require a discount of from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for changing silver for copper. The rates vary according to the seasons, for at harvest time, when labourers can be paid in kind, there is less demand for copper, and consequently discount is less than at transplanting time. What amount of copper money there is in this district I do not know, but the complaint of a deficiency of small currency is pretty general. I see by the last report on the operations of the mints in Calcutta and Bombay that extraordinary little copper is minted per annum, only $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees worth of copper, and I hazard a calculation that in the whole of India there cannot be more than 100 lakhs of rupees of copper coin in circulation, nominal value. The copper coin probably circulates throughout the whole of India and supplies the wants of 2,500 lakhs of people, that is, there is about 4 rupees worth of copper coin to 100 people, or about 1 penny per head (taking the anna at $1\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*). "Now in the British Isles the people seem to be sufficiently supplied with $8\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* per head. In France they want $21\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, and in Italy $29\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*" If countries require more fractional currency as we descend the scale of comparative wealth, it is certain that the population of India requires a vast increase of bronze coinage. Argument might be advanced for giving India a bronze coinage of standard value. Perhaps the necessity for expanding the currency lies at the bottom of the arguments in support of bimetalism. If the expansion of the currency is regarded as an important factor in increasing the wealth of the European nations, surely the same factor should not be disregarded in our administration of the nations of India. If the peoples of the West require a gold and a silver currency of standard value, might not the peoples of the East require a silver and a bronze currency of standard value?

I think there is nothing like sufficient currency in India. The silver currency does not supply the wants of the masses. Even if it be true that India absorbs immense quantities of silver, it is certain that the silver never reaches the millions in the form of currency. So far as my observation goes, I doubt whether it reaches the rural population in any form.

The rupee is far too valuable for a standard silver coin, and the fractional silver coinage is certainly unacceptable to the masses as currency possibly from being also too valuable, or from its being too small in size, or from its not being obtainable except at a discount, or from its being driven out by the bronze token coinage.

A country like India which depends for its prosperity in the petty operations of husbandry would seem to require a very large amount of fractional currency, and I believe it would lend an enormous stimulous to industry if that fractional currency were of standard value. It seems to me that the copper coinage of India is not really used like the bronze coinage of England as a token coinage. It is really the money of India, certainly of rural India, and if this be true, it follows that rural India is suffering from all the evils of an over-valued currency.

Not only therefore is the currency of rural India inadequate, but it is also debased. I do not see how we can expect any material advance in the prosperity of the country under such a state of things. I introduce these remarks with great diffidence. I have only looked into the subject since my attention was attracted to the deficiency of copper coins in Jeypore, and I am well aware that the topic is one that requires very deep consideration. I think that hardly sufficient attention has been paid to the subject of supplying the people of India with a proper currency, and I

hope that my mention of the matter may attract the attention of those who are better able to give an opinion thereon than I am.

I will in conclusion draw attention to the fact that in the second empire 1,200 millions of pieces of bronze coinage were distributed throughout France, and it might well be argued that the great impetus to the rural wealth of that land, which took place in the period of a not wholly immaculate Government, was in a great measure due to the great attention that was bestowed on the currency of the country by its rulers.

23. I was unable to visit the hill tracts of the Principal Assistant's division in the year under report.

Mr. Power reports that he has completed the Rampol ghât and has settled the trace of the Budaralla ghât. He says that the Lammasinghi and Minamalur ghâts are in excellent order, and that new buildings for itinerating officers have been constructed at Lammasinghi and other places.

Civil justice calls for no remark, except that we have not yet been able to inaugurate the punchayets alluded to in my last year's report, dated 21st July 1885, No. 537, paragraph 70.

Crime has also been light during the past year.

Abkári and opium affairs work smoothly, though notice is made of smuggling liquor, and I have little doubt that the opium is sometimes adulterated. In other parts of the hills, viz., in the Srungavarapukóta agency which I have under my immediate charge, I frequently give licenses to the heads of muttas, and I find that the plan is a good one.

24. There is a very gratifying decrease in the number of lives lost by wild beasts though the "Tiger fitouri," *i.e.*, the tiger war, which lasted three years, is not yet forgotten.

We might be able to get schoolmasters for Paderu and Lammasinghi, though I am not very sure that the game is worth the candle. Perhaps we might next hear of an education "Fitouri."

25. I shall await Mr. Power's letter relating to the advances for constructing irrigation works with interest. It is really a most noteworthy thing to see the difference between the agricultural energies of one class of hill people and another in this district. To the north the Sowras inhabit a hilly country not so fertile by some measure as the Gudem hills, yet while the latter is nothing but a jungle, the former is cultivated to a marvellous extent. Every hill is terraced, every rill of water turned to account; the mhowa tree stands among the rice-fields like the olive tree in Italy, to which it is very comparable in its aspect and as to its value. Wheat is grown throughout the agency of this district to a very considerable extent. It is grown largely in many parts of Jeypore. But a great impetus to the cultivation of a staple of this sort cannot be effected by any detached or desultory plan of sending up a two-penny packet of seed. So far as my experience of introducing new staples goes, for instance indigo, jute and sugarcane, nothing is effected without a patient and persistent expenditure of capital. Let us first satisfy ourselves that the measure is a prudent one and then doggedly invest capital in it to an ample extent until the enterprise succeeds or fails. The attempt to introduce sugarcane from the Mauritius failed here, after the expenditure of much capital. On the other hand, jute is doing well and so is indigo, but both products swallowed up many lakhs of rupees before they reached the condition they now occupy, and I believe that much the same policy must be pursued before we see corn-fields waving in the tiger-haunted uplands of the Gudem hills.

26. Mr. Power then brings to notice the continued absenteeism of the Lammasinghi muttadar, on which subject he promises a separate letter, and concludes by lamenting that other duties prevented him from spending more time in hills. In this I most heartily concur, the more so that I am afraid that the time has now come when Mr. Power will leave us on promotion. I have never had an officer in the Principal Assistant's division since Mr. Winterbotham was here more singularly fitted for hill work or who has entered more completely into the spirit of the thing than Mr. Power has done during the too short period of his service in this district. It is, without affectation, positively heart-breaking to me to have to begin over and over

again with fresh officers in the agency part of this district. I cannot hope or expect that any officer can make any head way until he has been in charge for about two years. No officer ever stays longer than this, if so long. If it were possible to introduce for the three divisions a system of graduated pay, I believe it would be of immense benefit to the Administration. I hope that this remark may attract the attention of Government, for it is nearly of serious evil that so many changes should take place in the agency where personal rule is everything and routine administration not yet reached.

Since penning the above, the pillage and burning of the Gudem police station has taken place, and the whole subject of our administration of these parts will be placed before Government in my report on this affair.

27. A sum of Rs. 566-15-1 was spent, as detailed in the statement appended, on account of hill tour charges, and I solicit sanction for the same.

Hill Tour Charges for 1885-86.

	RS.	A.	P.
Value of cloths purchased for presents to Khond chiefs and ready-money presents in excess of the budget allotment of Rs. 230	234	0	9
Warm clothing of Agent's establishment	83	13	3
Carriage hire of doolies, &c.	108	0	10
Value of gunpowder supplied to taxidermist	15	4	0
Tappal expenses	71	12	9
Total ..	512	15	7

CRIMINAL Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for the year 1885-86.

| Name of Court. | Trials or Inquiries. | | |

Name of offence.	Number of cases.	Number of prisoners.	Number sentenced to death.	Number sentenced to transportation.	Imprisonment. Simple.	Imprisonment. Rigorous.	Fine.	Whipping.	Total convicted.	Number discharged.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
.. Murder under section 302, I.P.C. ..	7	15	1	(a) 5	..	..	..	..	6	8	1
2. Do. and attempt to commit murder, sections 302 and 307, I.P.C. ..	1	1	..	(b) 1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
3. Murder and attempt to commit suicide under sections 302 and 309, I.P.C.	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
4. Culpable homicide not amounting to murder, section 304, I.P.C. ..	10	17	..	..	..	(c) 11	..	..	11	6	..
5. Grievous hurt by dangerous weapon and culpable homicide not amounting to murder, sections 326 and 304, I.P.C.	1	1	..	..	..	(d) 1	..	..	1	..	..
6. Attempt to commit murder under section 307, I.P.C.	2	2	..	..	..	(e) 1	..	..	1	1	..
7. Grievous hurt and culpable homicide not amounting to murder, sections 325 and 304, I.P.C.	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..
8. Mischief by fire with intent to cause damage, section 435, I.P.C. ..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
9. Mischief by fire, section 436 ..	2	2	..	..	..	(f) 1	(g) 1	..	2	..	..
10. Criminal breach of trust by public servant and intentionally suffering an offender to escape from confinement, sections 409 and 221, I.P.C.	1	2	..	..	..	(h) 1	..	..	1	1	..
11. Criminal breach of trust by public servant under section 409, I.P.C. ..	1	1	..	..	..	(i) 1	..	..	1	..	..
Total ..	28	49	1	6	..	16	1	..	24	24	1

(a) For life. (b) For life.
(c) Two for 5 years each; one for 7 years; three for 3 years; two for 2 years, two for 4 years; one for 6 years.
(d) For 5 years. (e) For 2 years. (f) Two months. (g) Rs. 3. (h) Two years. (i) Five years.

CIVIL Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for 1885-86.

Original Suits.

Name of Court.	Original Suits. Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer or reference	Total.	Disposed of	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
1. Agent to the Governor	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	2
2. Principal Assistant Agent	..	2	..	2	..	1	1	1
3. Senior Assistant do.	2	23	..	25	22	1	23	2
4. Special do. do.	36	65	..	101	53	18	71	30
5. Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. District Munsif, Golgonda	13	26	..	39	22	..	22	17
7. Do. Narayanapatnam ..	21	31	4	56	52	..	52	4
8. Do. Rayagada	22	42	37	101	26	38	64	37
9. Do. Bissemkatak	..	13	39	52	7	37	44	8
10. Do. Gunupur	16	69	..	85	61	..	61	24
11. Do. Koraput	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1
12. Do. Jeypore	..	43	12	55	28	1	29	26
Total ..	110	316	93	519	271	96	367	152

Civil Statistics of the Vizagapatam Agency for 1885-86.

Appeal Suits.

Name of Court.	Appeal Suits. Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
Agent to the Governor	2	2	..	4	4	..	4	..
Principal Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Senior do. do.	..	8	..	8	5	..	5	3
Special do. do.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Assistant Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	2	10	..	12	9	..	9	3

From G. F. T. POWER, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam, to the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, dated Narsapatam, 13th May 1886, No. 161.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the administration of that portion of the agency which is in my division for the official year 1885-86.

Public Works.—The amount allotted by you for expenditure during the year was Rs. 3,430 of which Rs. 2,709-9-9 was actually spent. In the progress report of agency works for the month of March 1886, details of the different works on which expenditure was incurred will be found, and I need not therefore recapitulate them here.

The Rawpol ghât, between Kistnadevi Peta and Peddavalasa, was completed during the year, and is now a good bridle-path. The Budaralla ghât, between Koyyur and Peddavalasa, which I had intended to improve during the year, could not be taken in hand for want of supervision, owing to my detention at the head-quarters of the district during a great part of the working season. I have, however, since the close of the year, been over this ghât, and settled the new trace, and during the current year a good riding road will, I hope, be substituted for the present very steep and rough foot-path. The current year's allotment for repairs (300 rupees) will hardly suffice for the work, but additional funds can easily be provided from the allotment for repairs to tracks above ghâts.

The Lammasinghi and Minamalur ghâts, the two most important in the division, are both in excellent order, and the latter needs but little improvement to be a good cart-road. New buildings constructed during the year were a bungalow at Lammasinghi and sheds for native officers at Lammasinghi, Chintapalli, Gudem, Lotugedda, Darakonda, Peddavalasa and Koyyur. The old bungalows were repaired and whitewashed and all are now in good order.

Civil Justice.—At the beginning of the year 13 suits were pending on the file of the Golgonda Agency District Munsif. During the year two suits were instituted in the Principal Assistant Agent's Court, and 26 in the Agency District Munsif's Court, making a total of 41 cases for disposal. Of these, 23 cases were actually disposed of, and when the year closed 18 suits were pending, viz., one on the Principal Assistant Agent's file, and 17 on the District Munsif's file.

The great majority of the suits instituted were for the recovery of money or movable property, and the property in question was generally of trifling value.

The highest valued suit was one for the recovery of movable property worth 800 rupees which was instituted in the Principal Assistant Agent's Court.

There was no suit instituted to which a mittadar or other hill dignitary was a party.

Crime.—This was as usual light in the Golgonda and Viravilli Agency tracts, which alone come within my jurisdiction as Magistrate, Hill Madgole still forming part of the Special Assistant's division for magisterial purposes. There were in all 32 cases in which 86 persons were accused and these were disposed of as follows:—

	Cases.	Persons.
(a) Committed to Sessions Court	1	1
(b) Convicted	9	15
(c) Acquitted or discharged	22	70

For the most part the offences of which these persons were accused were not of a grave character. The case committed to the Sessions was one of culpable homicide.

In another case I convicted a man of uttering counterfeit coin.

The other cases were of an unimportant nature.

Abkári.—The rented system was in force as in the previous year. The number of shops and stills licensed was as follows:—

	Shops.	Stills.
Golgonda	18	18
Viravilli	5	5

Hill Madgole is for abkári purposes under the Special Assistant and therefore figures for that portion of the agency are omitted here.

No complaints were made against the renters or their shopkeepers by the inhabitants of the agency, but vendors of excised liquor in the "ordinary" or non-agency portion of Golgonda taluk complained that unexcised liquor was smuggled to a considerable extent from the agency into the ordinary portion of the taluk and sold there. There is undoubtedly much truth in this complaint, but after all we can hardly expect smuggling to cease as long as the price of liquor in the excise taluks is so much higher than it is elsewhere. Meanwhile all that can be done is to impose exemplary punishment whenever a case of smuggling is detected, and this is being done.

Opium.—The number of shops licensed for the sale of opium was—

Golgonda	8
Viravilli	2
Hill Madgole	20
Total ...	30

A few complaints were made that the drug was not sold as cheap as the vendors are bound by their licenses to sell it, *i.e.*, at 3 tolas per rupee, but this was not proved In Golgonda the vendors were mostly malas, the principal trading class of that portion of the hills, while elsewhere the headmen of villages are licensed to sell.

It appears to me that the fixed Government rate of 3 tolas per rupee is more likely to be observed if the vendors are like mittadars and paddals men whose principal occupation is not trade and whom we have some hold over, rather than unresponsible malas whose sole business is trade and all whose instincts are commercial. I am therefore now (1886-87) trying the experiment in Golgonda of licensing mittadars, &c., instead of malas.

Wild Beasts.—Rs. 1,617 were paid as rewards for the destruction of 47 wild beasts in Golgonda and Viravilli. I do not give the figures for Hill Madgole as it is in the magisterial jurisdiction of the Special Assistant.

Of these 47 wild beasts, ten were tigers, for each of which a reward of Rs. 100 was paid.

Twenty-five cheetas, six bears and five hyænas were also killed.

One man was killed by a tiger near Kudapasinghi; a few miles from Lammasingi a tiger was shot in that neighbourhood shortly afterwards and there have been no deaths since, so that we may fairly conclude that the man-eater has been accounted for. No other lives were lost during the year, and the "tiger terror," which was so prevalent two years ago, seems to have nearly died out. One can, however, still see all over the hills the ruins of deserted villages, and it will, I fear, be some time yet before the country has fully recovered from the effects of what, the other day, I heard a hillman picturesquely describe as the "puli fituri".

Education.—This is still backward. The two agency schools at Kristnadevipeta and Chinna Golgondapeta are doing fairly well, but they are attended entirely by the children of inhabitants of that portion of the agency which lies below ghâts. The more important portion which lies above ghâts is still wholly uneducated. None of the Golgonda mittadars have as yet, in spite of the offer of scholarships, sent their sons to Narsapatam for education, and as far as I can see none of them are likely to do so. The truth is, I think, that if we wish the hill country children to be educated, we must establish schools in the hills. Now that Paderu is a Sub-Magistrate's head-quarters, we might have good school there for Hill Madgole, and the Sub-Magistrate could keep the master up to his work. In the Golgonda hills a school might be started at either Lammasinghi or Peddavalasa, and as both these places are now connected with the plains by good riding roads, the Principal Assistant Agent and the tahsildar of Golgonda could arrange for frequent inspection. The great difficulty of course is to get a schoolmaster who can stand the climate of the hills, but this difficulty will not I hope prove insurmountable.

(1) *General.*—The year was one of profound tranquility, there being no disturbance and no signs of public discontent in any part of the division. The season was favorable, and so far as I can ascertain, in the absence of trustworthy vital statistics, the public health was good. There were no epidemic diseases.

(2) In the Golgonda hills the mittadars are beginning to take advantage of the offer made by you last year of advances of money for the purpose of constructing irrigation works, and Gudem Patavidhi, Darakonda, and Lammasinghi Patavidhi have applied to me for advances, which I think may be given and regarding which I will report fully in another letter. It is eminently desirable that the construction of irrigation works in these hills should be encouraged as much as possible.

(3) Another thing which should be encouraged is the cultivation of wheat. At present some is grown in the neighbourhood of Lammasinghi Antarla, &c., but there is a great deal of land which appears to me to be well suited for wheat which is now waste. The seed used at present is of inferior quality and I therefore propose to get some really good seed and distribute it for experiment. I have spoken to the mittahdars on this subject and several of them have promised to give the new seed a fair trial and if it produces a good crop, to do what they can to extend the area under wheat. Without being too sanguine one may I think look forward to a not far distant day when wheat will be largely exported from these hills.

(4) The mittadar of Lotugedda, whom Mr. MacCartie reported year before last for omitting to live in his mitta, still continues an absentee. He is in other respects a bad mittadar, and I think he ought to be removed and another man appointed. I will send a separate report on this point. The other mittadars are doing very well.

(5) In conclusion I have to say that the time (28 days) which I spent in the agency during the year was I am aware less than it should have been, but that this was so is not my fault. If I consulted my own personal inclinations I should, as you know, spend the greater part of my time in the agency, and it was only because other work kept me in the plains that my stay there last year was so short. I joined the district at the end of April 1885 and had first to do the jamabandi of Sarvasiddhi and Golgonda taluks. As soon as this was over I made a short tour in June (11 days) through Hill Madgole, and came down the Lammasinghi ghât to Narsapatam. Again in July I made a short tour (9 days) in the Golgonda hills visiting Lammasinghi, Antarla and Chintapalli. Again at the end of October I again went for 8 days to Hill Madgole (Minamalur and Paderu). In November I was just about to start on a long tour when you ordered me into Vizagapatam to attend to the head-quarter office during your own absence in the agency. I was kept at Vizagapatam till the Christmas holidays. After this I had to do jamabandi of Sarvasiddhi (which was unusually tedious owing to extensive failure of crop and consequent claims for remission) and when this was all over I was again about to start on an agency tour in February when I was again directed to go to Vizagapatam and remain there during your absence in the agency. I was in Vizagapatam accordingly till the end of the official year.

I have, however, just made a three weeks' tour (22nd April to 12th instant) through the Golgonda hills, in the course of which I have visited all the hill mittahs, and this I hope will to some extent make up for short touring last year.

From E. A. ELWIN, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam district, to the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam, dated Párvatipur, 24th May 1886, No. 265.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the hill tracts of my division.

2. I succeeded Mr. Broadfoot as Senior Assistant Agent about the middle of October last and have therefore been in charge some five and-a-half months out of twelve.

3. *Duration of tours.*—My predecessor spent 31 days in travelling. I was on tour for 104 days, viz., from November 16th up to December 31st, 1885, and again from February 1st, 1886, until the close of the official year. The period of four months lately settled by Government for the Senior Assistant Agent's residence in agency tracts has thus been exceeded by 15 days.

4. *Details of tours.*—All the places of any importance in this division have been visited, with the exception of Ombadola which lies to the extreme north of the Bissemkatak taluk.

5. Mr. Broadfoot travelled in the Rayagada and Bissemkatak taluks and also saw something of Narayanapatnam (Párvatipur hill tracts) and of the Sálúr Agency.

6. In November and December I accompanied the Agent through Rayagada and Singupur to Bissemkatak; thence on to the Kottiya Khond hills in the north of Gunupur by way of Gudari. The Agent then left me and proceeded to Pálkonda while I after a short stay at Gunupur visited the Saura hills halting at Kuttini, Putosingi and Bhimpuram. Returning to Gunupur I spent a few days there and then set out for Párvatipur where I had business relating to the hill jail and other matters to attend to.

7. In February I went to Alamanda and Narayanapatnam; thence by way of Párvatipur to Rayagada where I stayed some time. Starting out again at the beginning of March I visited Paikapad and Bissemkatak and went on to Gunupur through Durgi and Gulliti. While at Gunupur I got orders from the Agent to proceed to Singupur and at once set out for that place *viâ* Kailasakota ghât and Komatlapeta, &c. I stopped at Singupur and in the neighbourhood for ten days, returning to head-quarters by way of Rayagada at the end of March.

8. From the above details it is clear that the touring in this division has been of a very complete nature during the year under report.

9. *The public peace and state of the people.*—I am able to report that there have been no serious disturbances since I took charge. Government have received a full report of what occurred in the Singupur estate in my predecessor's time and there is no need for me to touch on the subject again. Some circumstances that have taken place since my joining the division will be treated of further on.

10. Owing to the system of holding bhets at important places in the hills to which all the neighbouring headmen come and pay their respects to the Government officers, we are pretty well able to find out the real state of the people. The hill people appeared to me to be for the most part flourishing and contented.

11. *Singupur.*—While I was on tour with the Agent bhets were held at Sikarapai and Singupur in the Singupur territory. There were several trivial complaints against the Rani and her manager, but on investigation these proved to be mostly frivolous. Some of the Khonds asked that Gopinath Devu should be sent to rule over them, but when we told them that he was doing well at school at Vizianagrum and was far too young to hold any important position yet, they acknowledged that what we said was quite reasonable.

12. *Khond hills.*—In the Khond hills north of Gunupur bhets were held at Kutraguda, Dangusurada, Chendrapur (for the mittahs of Chendrapur and Rayabijji) and at Gudari for the mittahs of Gudari, Bijjapur and Karlaghati. Three Majjis or village heads of Rayabijji mittah complained that as their Patro had been unduly levying a tithe of their early crops, they had lost all confidence in him and would be in future compelled to pay their sist at Gunupur instead of remitting it through the Patro in the usual manner. A careful inquiry was subsequently made into this complaint which proved to be utterly false.

13. *Saura hills.*—There is an Uriya Patro for the mittah of Bhimpuram and a Soura Dhora over that of Kuttini. The Gomangos or heads of the other villages are entirely independent. It is to be regretted that they are so, for their behaviour during the bhet at Putosingi formed a striking contrast to that of the Gomangos of Bhimpuram who, marshalled in order by their Patro for whom they entertain the greatest respect, appeared to be as well conducted a body of men as one could come across anywhere. These independent Gomangos were clamorous, eager to complain and in many cases indisposed to accept the really very nice cloths I brought for them which were of the same kind as are usually distributed whenever an European officer visits their country. There were many complaints of a revenue character, most of which I disposed of then and there with the help of the Gunupur Amin who had accompanied me.

14. At Kuttini the Dhora of that place complained that the Revenue officials had been raising his rent; he said that he had for many years been paying Rs. 800 and that 2 or 3 years ago he was compelled to pay Rs. 1,000, but that his rent had again been reduced to Rs. 800. He now claimed to have it further reduced to Rs. 600. I pointed out to him that he could not expect this and promised to ask the Gunupur Amin to consider the rent as fixed, Rs 800. With this the Dhora was perfectly satisfied and when he came with his seven village heads to do that at Putosingi he asked my leave to withdraw his complaint.

15. There is no doubt that the Souras are daily advancing in intelligence and civilization. The willingness with which they allow themselves and their children to be vaccinated will be treated of further on. On market day they crowd the streets of Gunupur and make a great noise as they bargain with the Sundi people (liquor sellers) for the vippa spirit to obtain which they frequently mortgage their standing paddy crops.

16. *Rayagada, Bissemkatak and Narayanapatnam.*—I do not remember having received a single complaint of a serious nature from the people in this portion of my charge. The system of renting out the villages followed in Bissemkatak seems to work satisfactorily.

17. *The Singupur Rani.*—It has been our object for some months past to affect a compromise between the Singupur Rani and her suzerain and relative, the Maharajah of Jeypore. In November last the Agent wrote to this lady strongly advising her to come to a settlement with the Maharajah and sent the deputy tahsildar of Rayagada to explain the contents of his letter to her. She was also cautioned not to adopt a son without first consulting the Agent and the Jeypore Maharajah. The Rani who has displayed a very contumacious spirit throughout these negotiations said she could not give an answer for two months as she wanted time to consult with her relations in Ganjam on the subject.

18. In the month of February the Rani, who had taken no steps to follow the Agent's advice, to crown her folly suddenly went to Bhavanipatnam in the Kalahandi territory and there adopted one Debysingho Bakkela, second son of Sri Niladri Singho Bakkela of Chokkali, in the Sumbalpore taluk, and performed his coronation giving him the name of her late husband's father, Mukunda Deo Maharajah. The Rani returned to Singupur on the 3rd March and entered the fort with the adopted boy. Of these circumstances I was informed by the Singupur Manager. Some days after this I heard from the Agent who informed me he had likewise heard of the adoption from the manager and had at the same time received an alarming mahasarnama from the Khonds of Singupur in which they declared themselves unwilling to tolerate the Rani's rule any longer. I was ordered to proceed forthwith to Singupur to find out the grievances of the Khonds and to report whether there was any likelihood of a disturbance. I accordingly set off and held an inquiry in course of which I ascertained that the Khonds although no doubt vexed with the Rani for having adopted a boy without first consulting their wishes were not the originators of the mahazar. From what I heard I have no doubt that it was the work of some intriguing shristi-karanams with whom Singupur is literally infested.

19. I assembled all those Khond village heads by whom the mahazar purported to be written On my telling them that although the last action of the Rani might not be quite to their taste yet they were bound to respect her rule as long as it was countenanced by the Agent, the representative of Government; they all without exception promised me to keep their villages quiet and to pay sist regularly to the estate manager. I left the Singupur country after a stay of 10 days fully satisfied that the Khonds were thoroughly loyal to our rule and that unless they should be unduly excited by some foolish action on the Rani's part there was no reason to anticipate their causing us any trouble.

20. *Boundary disputes—Ongara.*—At the bhet held at Putosingi the Sarada Gomong complained that Sirang Bissoyi of Ganjam had issued demand notices to him and others for the rents of certain lands of Ongara which they had cultivated. The question as to which district the village belonged to had come up before Mr. Welsh and Messrs. Joseph and Sewell in January 1885 and they found it belonged to Vizagapatam.

21. As this was by no means the first time there had been complaints against Sirang Bissoyi I suggested that it would be as well if he were to be formally warned by the Ganjam authorities not to give any more trouble to our people. The Agent thereupon requested the Ganjam Agent to point out to the Bissoyi that persons who in spite of warning persist in trying to rake up settled boundary disputes render themselves liable to deportation under the Agency rules. The Gunupur Amin has been told that he should in future treat Ongara as belonging to Jeypore.

22. *Disputes between the Gunupur Amin and Karadango Patro.*—While at Bhimpuram I sent for the Patros of that place and of Karadango and the Gomangos of Sinduba, Udalingi and other boundary villages. I explained to them the boundary line determined by Messrs. Welsh and Joseph and they all expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the settlement arrived at by those officers.

23. On my reporting this to the Agent and informing him that the settlement had not been formally communicated in writing to the parties concerned, I was ordered to inform them officially of the decision arrived at. This I subsequently did and I believe there is not the slightest reason to fear any future breach of the peace with regard to this dispute.

24. *Hospitals.*—Gunupur is the only place in the division that can at present boast a hospital. There the accommodation is quite inadequate, though the building is in a fair state of repair. The Police are treated as in-patients; no others are received. The number of civil outpatients treated during the year 1885-86 was 1,602 as compared with 1,498 in 1884-85. The principal complaints were ague, rheumatism, fever, dysentery, diarrhœa, ulcers and itch.

25. Government in their order passed on the Vizagapatam Agency report for 1883-84 sanctioned the erection of a new hospital at Gunupur. A large piece of unoccupied land at the back of the Sub-Magistrate's house was selected as a site in the time of Mr. Welsh. I have recently had plans and estimates prepared and sent up for a new hospital at Gunupur as well as for hospitals at Rayagada and Bissemkatak which were sanctioned by Government in their order on the last Agency report. Hospitals at the latter two places will be a great boon to the people who at present have no opportunity of resorting to European treatment.

26. *Sanitation.*—The establishment of sweepers at Gunupur has done good work in and around the town. Last December I induced the Jeypore Maharajah's officials and the Komatees each to contribute Rs. 3 a month for the entertainment of two additional sweepers, so that there are now five in all. A conservancy establishment has been sanctioned both for Rayagada and Bissemkatak from April 1st; these places are I fear at present in a very unsanitary condition.

27 *Public Health.*—There was an outbreak of cholera in the Gunupur taluk at Bhimpuram in February 1885 soon after Mr. Welsh left that place. It appears to have been of a severe type, for the Patro told me that he alone lost 18 of his relations by the disease. Many villages were deserted. The same disease broke out in the Sirdarpur mittah of the Khond country. There were about 40 deaths between 24th May and 19th July and again some 10 deaths afterwards. The services of a hospital assistant were engaged with a view to putting a stop to this outbreak which subsided at the end of August. The other taluks seem to have escaped.

28. I have not heard that fever was more than usually prevalent during the year. My Mahont died of hill fever in January a few days after coming into head-quarters from the hills. A clerk and the dresser who accompanied me on my first tour were laid up with fever for a long time.

29. *Vaccination.*—Below is a comparative statement for 1884-85 and 1885-86:—

Taluks.	Number Vaccinated.							
	During 1884-85.				During 1885-86.			
	Total.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Uknown.	Total.	Successful	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.
Gunupur	590	580	2	8	997	972	8	17
Rayagada	569	569	..	..	674	672	..	2
Bissemkatak	450	438	7	5	367	356	8	3
	1,609	1,587	9	13	2,038	2,000	16	3

There was a great increase of successful operations in Gunupur, a fair increase in Rayagada and a light decrease in Bissemkatak. The figures are on the whole very satisfactory.

30. The Soura people willingly submit to the operation of vaccination. I took a vaccinator with me to Putosingi and in few hours had some 50 unprotected persons vaccinated. By that time the vaccinator's stock of lymph was unfortunately exhausted and many women who had brought their children from a distance had to go away disappointed. If these vaccinators would only show a little more zeal and energy in the discharge of their duties, I believe our returns would soon be doubled or even trebled.

31. *Wild Beasts.*—Seven persons are reported to have been killed by tigers during the calendar year 1885 as against 19 during 1884. There were 3 deaths from panthers in 1884 but none in 1885. In each year three tigers were destroyed. The jungles of Rayabijji and Chendrapur which were infested with tigers about a year ago were said to be free from these pests when I visited the Khond hills in November.

32. *Crime.*—Housebreaking, theft in a building and simple theft continue to be the principal offences in the division.

33. The reopening in January 1885 of the Police station at Gulliti, which was closed as useless in 1881, has resulted in a great decrease in the number of cattle thefts in that mittah.

34. *Opium.*—The present system worked smoothly during the year under report. Twelve shops were opened for the sale of opium in these hill tracts. The renter kept a sufficient stock of the drug at each of the three depôts established in this division.

35. *Abkári.*—No remarks.

36. *Roads.—Chollapadam-Rayagada road.*—The traffic over this road from December to the end of March is very large indeed. I was quite astonished at the number of carts I saw going out of Rayagada towards Párvatipur day after day in the month of February. The road seems to be one that should be properly made by the Public Works Department. Meanwhile

we have to do the best we can with the small allotments placed at our disposal. Great improvements have been made this year at a cost of about 2,000 rupees. A good part of the road has been marked out by the digging of side channels. Masonry works in the shape of culverts and road dams have been built and wooden bridges put up where necessary. An entirely new track has been made near the river Nagavali at Chollapadam. The old road ran over very low-lying ground and used to be several feet under water in the rainy season. For a couple of miles outside Rayagada rocks have been buned away and the track properly levelled.

37. *Narayanapatnam road.*—Some Rs. 800 have been spent with fairly good results. The section called Battivalsa ghât has been metalled.

38. *Kurapam-Gunupur road.*—A small sum of Rs. 100 was spent. The Kurapam Zemindar promised Mr. Welsh that he would annually make one mile of road from Kurapam towards Gunupur (see Agency report for 1884-85, page 26). On my reminding the zemindar of his promise he declared that he had no intention of making any agency road and had never told Mr. Welsh he would do so.

39. *Rayagada-Bissemkatak road.*—Rs. 400 were spent in patching up some of the worst parts of the road. The Local Fund roads are made up to the agency boundary in the Sálúr taluk only. Pucka roads should now be made from Kotapam to Chollapadam on the Rayagada side and from Dugge to Kurapam on the Gunupur side. The road from Párvatipur to the Narayanapatnam agency boundary is a mere path running across paddy fields and scarcely passable in wet weather. I hope it will not be long before these three pieces of road are taken in hand by the Local Fund Engineer.

40. *Rest-houses.*—These have been nicely kept up and repaired. New rest-houses have been built at Singupur and at Limmabhadra (the halting place between Gunupur and Gudari) where they were much needed.

41. *Bissemkatak taluk office.*—The work has been satisfactorily performed on contract by Kruttivasa Patnaik, Dewan to the Tat Raja. The total cost was Rs. 2,800. Besides the usual rooms for the Sub-Magistrate and his clerks, the building consists of a treasury, a sub-jail and a capital police station with lockup. The structure is altogether most comfortable and suitable. It was quite finished by the beginning of October, but owing to damp I did not allow the Sub-Magistrate and his establishment to move into it until the new year.

42. *Education.*—I have examined several of the schools in the division.

43. *Gunupur.*—There was a Government middle school here with a normal school attached until November last. As, however, very few boys were forthcoming who cared or could afford to continue their studies up to the third class, it was determined to reduce the standard of the school. It is now known as a Primary school, pupils being taught up to the second class. When I examined the school in December I found the boys, 40 in number, intelligent and well informed. The head master and his assistants evidently take interest in their work.

44. I also examined seven result schools in which besides boys some 30 little girls were reading. I was very pleased with the progress the latter had made in arithmetic. There are altogether 40 result schools in this taluk.

45. *Rayaghada.*—There are but two schools at present in the taluk, both at Rayaghada itself. The master of the Government Primary school receives Rs. 8 a month from Government, his salary being made up to Rs. 20 by the Jeypore Maharaja's annual contribution of Rs. 144. With regard to the pupils and their master, I have the same remarks to pass as on the Primary school at Gunupur. There were 24 names on the books in February 1885 and 36 in the same month of this year. The increase is satisfactory. The pupils are taught up to the second class.

46. The second school is on the result system and consists of 12 boys who are taught up to the second standard. Their knowledge at examination was fair.

47. The school that was established at Singupur by the late Raja of that place has been closed ever since his death in February 1884. I am endeavouring to get a new school started.

48. *Bissemkatak.*—There was a primary school here up to March 1885 which was supported by the Tat Raja. The masters' salary was Rs. 30 a month. The school is said to have collapsed owing to the apathy of the inhabitants who did not care to get their children educated. I impressed on the Raja the necessity of establishing a new school in the place. He promised to do his best, but added that he had not much hope of success.

49. At Durgi there is a small Uriya school on the result system. There were 16 boys on the books when I visited the school in March. The master, a respectable old man, told me he had got Rs. 87½ as result grant at the recent examination of his school.

This is the only school in the Bissemkatak taluk, the schools at Jagdalpore and Ombadola having come to grief within a few months of their opening.

50. *Narayanapatnam.*—The result schools where boys are taught up to the third standard is supported by the Jeypore Maharaja who pays the master Rs. 15 a month. When examined by Mr. Welsh at the beginning of 1884 it consisted of 50 boys, but I regret to say that when I examined it in February last, there were but 25 names on the books. The ignorance displayed by the pupils was quite surprising. I cannot but attribute this unsatisfactory state of things to the carelessness of the master who appeared to be scarcely more intelligent than his pupils. As

the school has been steadily decreasing in numbers ever since this master was appointed, I have recommended his dismissal and the appointment of a man I believe to be more suitable for the post. The Superintendent of Hill schools has never visited this school.

51. There is, I think, no doubt that there should be two Hill School Superintendents, one for the Special Assistant's division and one for this. At present it is extremely difficult to ascertain the Superintendent's whereabouts and to get any information whatever out of him. This is not altogether his fault, for his range extending as it does from the north of Bissemkatak to Malcangiri is far too large for any one man to attend to properly.

52. *Officials.*—Kesanapalli Narasimha Rao seems to take much interest in road making and has done useful work in this respect since he came to Párvatipur.

53. The Agency Sub-Magistrates have on the whole performed their duties satisfactorily throughout the year.

54. We are about to lose Datla Tirupati Raj from Gunupur as he will be obliged to retire in May on attaining the age of 55.

55. *Season and Crops.*—The rainfall registered at Rayaghada during 1885-86 was 46·5 inches as compared with 36·725 inches in 1884-85

The rain gauge at Gunupur was under repairs for some months and none has yet been supplied for Bissemkatak, so I am unable to give figures for all the taluks.

56. During my November and December tour I noticed that the mustard and tobacco crops were very fine. Paddy is said to have been fair, but gingelly, horse-gram, green-gram and ragy were poor.

CRIMINAL Statistics for 1885-86.

Name of court.	Number of cases.					Number of persons.							Remarks.
	Pending from last year.	Received during the year.	Total.	Disposed of.	Still pending.	Pending from last year.	Received during the year.	Total.	Convicted.	Otherwise.	Total.	Still pending.	
Original.	..	6	6	6	..	..	17	17	17	..	17	..	
Appeal. Senior Assistant Agent's.	..	5	5	5	..	..	5	5	3	2	5	..	Reversed on appeal.

Court.	Pending on 31st March 1885.	Instituted.	Received by transfer or reference.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred to other courts.	Total.	Pending on 31st March 1886.
Original, 1885-86. Senior Assistant Agent's ..	2	6	..	8	5	1	6	2
Appeals, 1885-86. Senior Assistant Agent's ..	..	8	..	8	5	..	5	3

From F. E. K. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Special Assistant Agent, Vizagapatam, to the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, dated Pottingi, 26th April 1886, No. 391.

I have the honor to submit my tour report for year 1885-86.

Tour.—A few days before the end of last official year I joined my appointment at Koraput and have now been in charge of Jeypore for over a year. In April I made a fortnight tour through Jeypore taluk and in May a tour on the higher plateau in Koraput and Pottingi taluks. In June I spent three weeks in the south part of Jeypore taluk and early in July I left Koraput for Vizagapatam. July and August were spent at Waltair and at the beginning of September I returned to Jeypore in consequence of the inquiry into Bustar affairs and September and October were spent on partly in Bustar and partly in the border.

In November and December I made a six weeks' tour through Malcangiri returning to Koraput at Christmas.

In January I spent a month in Nowrangapur and Ommerkote taluks and when returning met the Commissioner of Chattishghur and Mr. Priest, Political Agent, Kalahandi, on their way through Jeypore.

Learning from them that an Assistant Commissioner was on his way from Raipur to meet me to settle a boundary dispute on the north of Ommerkote taluk, I turned back and accompanied Mr. Chisholm as far as Bhavanipatnam.

Thence I returned west back into Jeypore district and reached the place of dispute on the Tél river, nearly a fortnight before the Assistant Commissioner joined me.

After settling the boundary dispute, I returned to Jeypore, where I met the Agent and accompanied him on a fortnight's tour through Jeypore and Koraput taluks.

55 days in Vizagapatam.
62 Koraput.
248 Camp.
365

I have thus spent 248 days or eight months out of the year in camp.

2. The most important event of the year was the investigation into the charges brought by the Jeypore police against the Bustar Raj of performing human sacrifices at Dantawar and elsewhere and of kidnapping victims for this purpose from Jeypore.

The facts have been fully reported to Government and it would be out of place for me to discuss the evidence here. I shall confine myself to recording a brief statement of the course of events.

During the months of May and June a belief was prevalent in the Ommerkote taluk that gangs of kidnappers from Bustar were abroad endeavouring to procure victims for sacrifices to be held the following Dussara at Dantawar and three cases were reported to the police of alleged attempt to capture persons in Ommerkote taluk presumably for this object.

In July suspicions were further aroused by the sudden and mysterious disappearance within a mile or so of Nowrangapur village of a boy employed as abkári peon in the Sub-Magistrate's office.

Application was then made to the Central Province Government for assistance in the inquiry and Surdar Ratna Sing, Police Superintendent, was despatched from Raipur to co-operate with the Jeypore police in the investigation.

Meanwhile, in August additional reports were received professing to give details as to capture and sacrifice of victims in Bustar, and upon further and more urgent representations the Central Province Government directed Mr. Priest, Political Agent, Kalahandi, to proceed to Bustar and in communication with Jeypore fully investigate the several charges. Under the orders of the Agent I left Vizagapatam for Jeypore in the beginning of September and reached the Bustar borders with Mr. Young just in time to meet Mr. Priest on his way from Kalahandi.

Mr. Young at once proceeded to put the evidence he had collected before Mr. Priest and we then undertook together a tour through Bustar territory with a body of Jeypore and Kalahandi police with a view to test the evidence and, if possible, recover any victims that might be concealed.

The result of this tour though not confirming altogether the truth of the previous reports induced the Political Agent, Kalahandi, to believe that there were sufficient grounds for continuing the inquiry, and he left us to make further investigation at Dantawar, the headquarters of the alleged sacrifices. Mr. Priest rejoined us at the end of October at Kotapad having during his absence collected a large quantity of evidence which he considered strong enough to justify the arrest of the jiah or head priest of Dantawar and the recommendation that the Bustar Rajah should be temporarily removed.

After receiving at Kotapad such prisoners as were in the custody of the Jeypore police, Mr. Priest returned to Bustar, and with the subsequent course of events the Jeypore officials had no direct connection. Mr. Priest continued his inquiries during the following two months under orders of the Central Province Government. The Bustar Raja was removed from Jagdalpore to Raipur and out of the mass of evidence collected, Mr. Priest considered the evidence in one case in which an inhabitant of Bustar by name Jondie was alleged to have been sacrificed under orders of the jiah in 1883, sufficiently conclusive to warrant the prosecution of the jiah on a charge of murder. The case was placed by Mr. Priest before a Native Magistrate and the jiah was committed to the Court of the Commissioner of Chattishghur. In January the Commissioner proceeded on tour to Bustar and tried the case. When the case came on all the prisoners and witnesses (I understand) retracted their previous statements and the case was thrown out by the Commissioner and all the prisoners under arrest were released. After the termination of the sessions case, Mr. Priest reviewed all the evidence collected in the four months' inquiry in a most minute and careful report and though naturally his view of the case was weakened by the failure of the sessions case against the jiah, he concluded by holding that "there were and are ample grounds for the suspicions entertained by the Jeypore officials that kidnapping for the sacrificial purposes went on in Bustar.

The Commissioner did not however follow Mr. Priest in his conclusions further than to allow that while entertaining no theory as to the origin of the case, he thought there might be grounds for the suspicions entertained. The case is now before the Government of India and I shall leave it to next year's report to record the conclusion of this inquiry.

3. To turn to the more prosaic details of administration I take roads first.

Appendix A shows the expenditure on roads during this year compared with last year.

1. *Pottingi to Koraput.*—The traffic over this road, the feeder of the district, continued to increase largely this year and during the harvest the string of bandies passing was continuous. Our allotment of Rs. 750 or Rs. 25 a mile was miserably inadequate and complaints of the state of

the roads were loud. With this pittance it was almost impossible to keep even the bridges in order. This year we have a more liberal allowance of Rs. 1,700 and the Department of Public Works are now beginning their work in this section, but as I understand the new road will be parrellel to the present one, we shall have to keep up old road for some time to come.

2. *Koraput to Nowrangapur.*—The allotment, and we somewhat exceeded it, was not sufficient with the increased traffic to keep this road in order. After the rains the ghât was put into fair order, but towards Nowrangapur work was not completed. A ferry raft for the Indravati which was proposed last year is much required as this river at present acts as a break in the current of traffic into Ommerkote taluk.

3. *Koraput to Jeypore.*—The road is good till the bottom of the ghât. If the road is to be permanently improved a new trace must be taken on the ghât.

4. *Jeypore to Borigummah.*—The road is in fair order.

5. *Borigummah to Kotapad.*—This very important road is fairly good, but requires a good deal of attention. When Bustar affairs are settled, Mr. Priest proposes to assist us in extending the road Kotapad with Jagdalpore.

6. *Jeypore to Mote.*—A large sum was spent in clearing the old road between Malcangiri and Mote. The road is a good fair weather road, but few trading bandies have penetrated into Malcangiri. What is wanted is to open the entrance to Malcangiri by improving the Kollab crossing and the ghât down into Malcangiri. At present I understand the trade of Malcangiri almost exclusively goes now to the river at Mote instead of coming north in Jeypore.

7. *Nowrangapur to Raighur.*—This road has been carried on to some six miles beyond Dabugam and as far as it goes is good and well bridged. With this year's allotment I propose to carry on the road as far as I can beyond Ommerkote. The road will run into the Central Province eventually and I can understand from Mr. Chisholm that a road is being carried down in the Central Provinces towards Raighur. The two will eventually join.

8. There is a road from Pappadahandi over the Ampani ghât into Kalahandi which I should like to see brought into the budget The road has been made from time to time for the Central Provinces Commissioner on tour. The greater part of the ghât at Ampani and thence to Bhavanipatnam is kept up by Kalahandi estate and is in good order. I saw a large number of bandies in Kalahandi as I passed that had come round through Jeypore into Kalahandi by this road from the plains. The road was repaired this year by village labor, but it should, I think, be made permanent on our side.

Before leaving roads I must note that the Jeypore budget last year suffered heavily from curtailment. The allotment was cut down far from 18,650 to 14,070, out of which only some Rs. 8,000 were available for over 300 miles of road.

4. *Education.*—During the year the Jeypore schools were transferred from the Educational Department to the agency. At the request of the Agent, I submitted a scheme on the lines of the Ganjam agency of which the chief points were—

(1) To transfer the payment and appointment of masters from the Maharaja to Government so that complete control may be in the hands of the Agent.

(2) To increase the salaries and number of masters, abolish purely result schools and build school-houses.

(3) Separate the Special Assistant and Senior Assistant divisions giving each officer a separate Superintendent. The scheme will undoubtedly cost a good deal, but it must be remembered that hitherto Government have spent nothing but a small result grant upon education in the agency which providing in a large yearly grant in Ganjam. The schools in my division have been kept up either by the Maharaja or by private persons. I have examined most of the schools and found the Jeypore school better than I expected. I have no doubt that there will be a speedy improvement as soon as the scheme gets into working order.

5. *Law and Justice*—(*Criminal, Appendix B*).—I am glad to be able to say that complaints of cattle theft have decreased probably owing to the heavier sentences that have been inflicted for the last two years. The only charge of Sub-Magistrates was at Koraput, where a new Sub-Magistrate was appointed in place of the previous man removed for unsatisfactory conduct. The present Koraput Sub-Magistrate is an active and intelligent man and has given me satisfaction. I cannot say the same for the Nowrangapur Deputy Tahsildar whom I have had to report during the year.

Jails.—The Jeypore sub-jail has been almost completed this year. The amount required to finish it had to be found out of the other allotment as it was not included in the budget for last year.

The Pottingi sub-jail will have to be finished out of this year's grant and I have given orders to try and put the roof on before the next rains.

For the Koraput Hill jail some measures are urgently required. The state of the jail was noticed by the Agent last year and has formed the subject of another report this year.

Last year an estimate was submitted for about Rs. 4,460 for alterations and repairs to the jail, but being referred to the Public Works Department it came back increased to Rs. 12,920. I do not think it any use to spend so large a sum in tinkering so wretched a building. A new jail will have to be built eventually.

For the greater part of the year I had to accommodate twice the number of the prisoners the jail ought to hold. The Párvatipur jail appears to be almost always full and only three or four times in the year relieved us of part of our excess. The guard will have to be permanently increased as well as the accommodation.

A new cutcherry and sub-jail ought at once to be built at Koraput for the Sub-Magistrate. The present buildings form part of the hill jail block and are in as miserable a condition as the rest. In the monsoon the cutcherry is unfit to sit in.

Civil.—The number of cases disposed of are shown in appendix C.

I cannot say the civil work is satisfactory. The Jeypore and Koraput Sub-Magistrates have been made munsifs this year to relieve me of the petty bazaar suits which used to form a large portion of the cases in this court and which from the constant absence on tour of my office used to remain pending till return to headquarters. But the settlement of civil suits with a court so continually on tour over so great a distance is very difficult without causing great hardship to the parties and witnesses by summoning them far from their houses and making them follow the court.

Time after time I have fixed dates with a view to the convenience of the parties and found that circumstances have caused an alteration in my tour and that the parties have returned home.

The difficulty in getting a punchayet to assemble in the cutcherry limits was noticed last year.

It is not easy to get the parties to court together, but when they come the headmen do not come with them, and I should prefer deciding the case myself to referring it to a punchayet consisting of the on-hangers of the court, while to send for the headmen would entail a further adjournment.

I have tried to settle the suits by getting the parties to name a punchayet in their village and referring the decisions to them in writing and deciding according to their answer, but have not found it answer well. The parties return to court full of complaints that justice was not done them and the punchayetdars are rarely unanimous. After all 99 out of 100 civil disputes are settled by headmen and punchayets in the villages without recourse to any court and I would not encourage parties to come to civil courts at all. Any increased facility for coming to court will most certainly undermine the settlement of disputes by punchayet.

Disputes as to boundaries of villages, payment of kist and cultivation of land are much more satisfactorily settled by an agency order after a full inquiry than by a general suit.

A word as to the Rent Recovery Act: we have not yet received the final decision of Government promised in last year orders.

During the year I have refused to enforce the Act whatever may be the legal aspect of the case. I do not see what protection the villagers will have against forceable seizure of the cattle improperly for alleged arrears. The first notice that would reach the court of the attachment would probably be a police report of a serious disturbance, while the power to bring a summary suit for damages against the padal or renter would on the hills at least be no check whatever. Any speedy inquiry in my court owing to distance would be ordinarily impossible.

The only times when the Act has been used in Jeypore it has been worked improperly by a rival renter to enforce his claim and what chance has a ryot between two renters, both attaching his property on their own responsibility.

6. *Opium and Abkári.*—The statements in the appendix show the demand and collection. I have nothing to remark thereon.

7. *Medical.*—Two dispensaries have been sanctioned this year for Jeypore and Nowrangapur and plans are being prepared for the buildings. At Jeypore a temporary building is being put up to accommodate the apothecary till the proper quarters are erected, and the apothecary might be sent at once. I hope eventually to get dispensaries at Malcangiri and Ommerkote.

The vaccination returns (appendix E) show a decrease. Malcangiri as usual heads the list. Thanks to the old Sub-Magistrate whose efforts in the encouragements of vaccination have been several times brought to the notice of Government.

From what I have seen in the villages, I think Jeypore is fairly well on in vaccination, but more might be done if the vaccinators made a point of accompanying the Government officer on tour. I have written several times about this and the District Surgeon has given strict orders on the point.

The supply of medicines for the use of the Sub-Magistrates has during the year been very irregular. The Pottingi Sub-Magistrate was for some months without the most necessary of medicines, quinine. All my Sub-Magistrates should, I think, be provided with a supply of the common medicine at fixed times, say twice a year, to avoid the delay in getting a special indent passed.

Public Health.—Cholera which was prevailing on through plains last year found its way on to the hills and lingered on in some of the villages for some months. It disappeared in October.

8. *Destruction of Wild Beasts.*—There is a most satisfactory decrease in the number of persons killed by tigers and a corresponding increase in tigers killed and rewards paid.

Six man eaters (for which additional rewards were paid) were killed. A large proportion were killed by the police who deserve credit. Several tigers were killed by what the reports term "a machine of carbines" set over the kill. The increase in cattle killed merely indicates that the reports are more accurate.

9. *Tappal.*—The new post office at Koraput has been almost completed. The Koraput Post Master was convicted by the Agent of embezzling a large sum of money received for money orders. It is to be hoped that in future the post will be better paid and more under supervision. A post office was opend in Jeypore at the beginning of the year and has proved very useful.

The Agent has applied for extension of the service to Kotapad and Nowrangapur. Mr. Priest with whom I spoke on the subject promises to connect Nowrangapur and Kotapad with his dawk from Bhavanipatnam to Jagdalpore which now runs near Nowrangapur. This will give us a very much needed line of communication with the adjacent districts in the Central Provinces.

10. *Boundary Disputes.*—The dispute on the Tél river between some Jeypore and Nowrangapur ryots (Central Provinces) mentioned before cropped up a year ago. Mr. Fox Strangways, Assistant Commissioner, came down from Raighur and met me at the place of dispute and we went over the land and examined the witness together. The dispute was a very trivial one; we agreed as to our decisions and reports were sent by each of us to our respective chiefs.

Another dispute between Jeypore and Kasipore was brought to my notice and Mr. Priest has promised to meet the Jeypore officer in May on the spot to settle it.

11. *Establishment.*—During the year my head clerk was appointed Sub-Magistrate at Paderu and my second clerk was promoted to head clerk. The post of second clerk is not yet filled up.

I have already addressed you separately on a proposal to increase the pay of my office by granting a hill allowance. Last year you remarked that my office was inefficient, but considering the difficulty in getting any good man to serve in these hills from the un healthiness of the district, I cannot hope to improve it, while the pay is less than in the office of the Senior Assistant in the plains and less even than in the office of the police at Koraput.

12. *Miscellaneous Complaints.*—The year has been very free from any important complaints. During the year when in Malcangiri the constables complained of the difficulty in following the Government order on the subject of purchasing rice stating that though they had paid their money to the Nigaman, no rice was supplied to them. A special report was sent by me on this point. No complaints were made against the Malcangiri Nigaman who was newly put in last year.

13. Money prices have been steadily rising and there can be no doubt that the Jeypore ryots are benefiting greatly by the opening up of the country and as far as I have seen they appear to be fairly prosperous and contended.

14. In conclusion, I must apologise for the length of my report. Having only joined last March, I had no opportunity of having my say last year upon the many matters of importance in the district.

A.

Comparative Statement showing the Expenditure during the year 1885-86.

No.	Name of work.	Expenditure, 1884-85.	Expenditure, 1885-86.
	Roads.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1	Nowrangapur to Raighur	3,000 0 0	2,501 11 6
2	Koraput to Pottingi	1,231 11 4	690 0 0
3	Koraput to Nowrangapur	2,053 1 6	1,956 3 6
4	Koraput to Jeypore	1,013 5 0	587 0 2
5	Jeypore to Mote	2,391 0 0	2,222 14 11
6	Malcangiri to Kondakamberu	1,057 1 6	..
7	Borigummah to Kotapad	1,000 0 0	693 9 0
8	Turner's Ghât	1,200 0 0	1,195 1 3
9	Jeypore to Borigummah	400 0 0	600 3 6
	Buildings.		
10	Travellers' bungalow and chattram at Koraput ..	813 10 10	185 7 2
11	Rest-houses	1,496 0 0	306 8 0
12	Government buildings at Koraput	1,307 4 3	483 15 8
13	Sub-jail, Jeypore	1,769 12 4	2,000 0 0
14	Sanitary works at Koraput	475 1 3	549 9 5
15	Road from Ommerkote to Kalahandi frontier ..	700 0 0	..
	Total ..	19,908 0 0	13,972 3 6

B.

Statement showing the Cases filed and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Magistrate and Agent ..	3	71	..	74	73	..	73	1

C.

STATEMENT showing the Civil Suits instituted and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Suits.							
	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Agent	35	65	..	100	51	18	69	31

D.

STATEMENT showing the Appeals filed and disposed of during the year 1885-86.

Name of the court.	Appeals.							
	Pending on 31st March.	Instituted.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Disposed of.	Transferred.	Total.	Pending.
Special Assistant Magistrate and Agent ..	1	13	..	14	13	..	13	1

E.

STATEMENT showing the Vaccination carried out in my Division during the year 1885-86.

Taluk.	Number vaccinated during the year 1884-85.					Number vaccinated during the year 1885-86.					Increase.	Decrease.
	Total number of vaccinators employed.	Number vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.	Total number of vaccinators employed.	Number vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Unknown.		
Koraput	5	1,214	1,190	..	24	5	1,104	1,023	37	44	..	110
Jeypore	2	759	742	..	17	2	717	711	1	5	..	42
Pottingi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nowrangapur	3	883	846	..	37	3	820	811	6	3	..	63
Malcangiri	2	1,895	1,832	..	63	2	1,207	1,183	8	16	..	688
Total ..	12	4,751	4,610	..	141	12	3,848	3,728	52	68	..	903

F.

STATEMENT showing the Animals killed by Wild Beasts and the Amount of Reward paid for them.

Division.	Animals killed by				Amount of reward paid for			
	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Hyænas.	Bears.	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Hyænas.	Bears.
Special Assistant Agent's Division ..	254	71	..	..	Rs. 4,000	Rs. 2,800	Rs. 15	Rs. 70

G.

ABSTRACT Statement of Wild Animals killed, Rewards distributed and Loss of Life during the year 1885-86.

Years.	Tigers.	Cheetas.	Bears.	Hyænas.	Reward paid.	Loss of life.	
						Men.	Cattle.
1885-86	35	112	10	3	Rs. 6,885	96	325

Appendix to Agent's Report.

EXTRACT from the Geological Sketch of the Vizagapatam District by W. KING, Esq., B.A., D. Sc., Superintendent, Geological Survey of India.

Gneisses of the Galikonda Hill Tract.—An opportunity, under the guidance of Mr. H. G. Turner, C.S., the Collector and Agent of the district, was afforded me of visiting this region and of thus making a traverse as far as the verge of the Jeypore territory, over a considerable thickness of gneisses which by their lie appear to be subjacent to, or older than, any of the bands or sub-divisions already described. They are, at any rate, all dipping to the east-south-eastward: at first on the skirts of the hills about Bodara and thence westwards to the first ascent (1,000 feet) below Raivalsa, at high angles, and then at lower and lower inclinations until, in Devadimanda (over 5,000 feet), the highest station of the Galikonda ridge, they are lying so low as 30°. The rocks are still garnetiferous, but not nearly to such an extent as is the case with those already described; while they are more decidedly quartzo-felspathic in their constitution and not so schistose though still well-bedded and laminated, and their colors are of correspondingly lighter shades. They must, for the present, be considered as belonging to the Vizagapatam series, being still, on the whole, markedly different from the more massive and less foliated and older-looking gneisses of Southern India. The main ridge beds, however, run up at the low angle of dip given above, and give a steep and high craggy face looking out over the lower upland of Jeypore to the west, thus exhibiting a break in the surface contour which may arise from a change in the character, and even the relative age, of the crystallines to the westward. Galikonda is the proposed hill resort of Vizianagrum, but as yet it has only received very slight attention in that way, partly from its distance, some 45 miles westward, and from want of convenient accessibility. The old Raivalsa track in the direction of Jeypore passes over a lofty (over 4,200 feet) saddle, a short distance north of the highest point of the Galikonda ridge, after which it descends again rather rapidly to a lower upland: this is now being made by slow degrees fit for cart traffic. Long ago, some enterprising official built a bungalow and planted a garden of various fruit-trees high up on the eastern slopes, but the garden only now remains the living and luxuriant result of that experiment. At a much lower elevation, about 3,000 feet and about half-way up the ghât, an experimental plantation for coffee, tea, cinchona, and other products has been started under the local Government, with, I think, fair prospects of success.

Crystalline Limestone Bands.—A very interesting occurrence in the gneisses of the hill tract is a series of apparently isolated outcrops of crystalline limestone, which, irrespective of the industrial value they may come to possess, are pierced by swallow-holes or caverns, one of which is of considerable extent and magnificence. The southernmost outcrop within the range of our traverse is on the low saddle above the village of Nilgalgunta, six miles south-east of Devadimanda hill. There is a small cave here, lined with travertine but without any stalactites or stalagmites: other recesses are said to exist which are now blocked up. The limestone is of grey and dark-green or nearly black colours, the latter arising from a strong admixture of hornblendic minerals, generally coarsely saccharine, in thick beds having a high dip to east-south-east, with an exposed aggregate thickness of about thirty yards. Some six miles to the north-north-east, a short distance beyond the village of Borra, a much more important outcrop forms a low hill, through which the village stream passes by a series of swallow-holes to the Peddagunda river. Formerly the subterranean channel was free, but within the last few years it became choked up, and, as a consequence, a small lake or tarn has been formed behind the southern end or headland of the limestone hill, the flooded waters of which have in time cut a temporary off-flow on its western side. Half-way over the hill, going northwards, there is an opening to a cavernous shaft, down which one can look into dim depths, and from which issues the murmur of running water. A short distance further on, the path reaches the edge of the northern face of the hill, where it overhangs a deep ravine, in which the village stream again comes to light about 300 feet below. The hill thus traversed by a series of swallow-holes is made up, as far as outcrop shows, of about 500 feet in thickness of generally massive and pale-coloured granular crystalline limestone, some beds of which, in their fineness of texture and pure colour, compare favorably with Carara marble; though, as a rule, the rock is more coarsely crystallized and of grey or dirty-white colours, weathering dark or nearly black. The dip is high, 50° or 60° or even more, to the eastward with a N.N.E.—S.S.W. strike. As far as I could see, the band is lenticular, thinning out rather suddenly to the southward.

Borra Cave.—About 50 feet below the northern brow, a large but low entrance leads into a deep and lofty cavern having a rude, dome-like roof opening to the sky above by the orifice already mentioned Here, in fact, is a huge natural cave temple, bearing a rugged resemblance to the Pantheon at Rome, though, as yet, it contains only one god, Priapus,* represented by a fragment of stalactite. The roof is crossed or irregularly ribbed with thick-short, curtain-like masses of stalactitic deposit, only one or two of which towards the sides of the cavern, are connected with the thickly-grouped and large mammilated mounds of stalagmite forming the floor. The latter slopes rapidly down on the eastern

* Presumably so, at least, for the pillar of travertine is to all appearance a sort of lingum, and there was no authoritative priest or devotee at hand to settle the question.

side to a narrow cleft or rift, along which the waters from the stream above pursue their still hidden course, this rift being generally in a plane of bedding. Further cavernous recesses are seen to occur upwards towards the dammed-up tarn, while on the other side, the existence of yet lower caverns is evidenced by gleams of light pouring in from the deep ravine in front to the depths of the side rift. We were only able to note the features of this great cave in a very rapid way. The single stalactite (6 feet long and 4 to 8 inches in diameter) has been appropriated for the devotional service noted above, the cave being the resort at certain seasons of many pilgrims. There is one other pillar in the shape of a small stalagmite, 3 feet high and 8 inches in diameter, which is slowly rising from the floor by deposition from the drops falling at long intervals from the roof. The interior of the cavern is coated over with travertine—a dull, cream-white, compact, semi-crystalline rock, the surface sparkling a little owing to minute sparry facets. The stalactitic festoons are beautifully fluted and wrinkled, while the huge fungoid and coralloid mounds of stalagmite are wrinkled in little waves of terracing, the mounds themselves being made up of successive shells with irregular cavities between.

A good deal of rubbish, the sweepings from the numerous pilgrim gatherings, lies collected among the stalagmitic mounds, forming an uneven earth floor, but with no thickness; and this appears to be the only material in which any remains could occur otherwise than in the substance of the mounds themselves.

On a subsequent visit, as I am informed by him, Mr. Turner ascertained, notwithstanding that we were told to the contrary by the villagers, that this band of limestones is continued to the northward, and that it even bars the passage of the Peddagunda river itself by a wall some 20 or 30 yards wide, which is pierced by a cavernous channel having two apertures on the upside, each 40 feet high, one above the other, but not in a straight line. Further in, the hollow is only about 3 or 4 feet above the level of the water, and through it, Mr. Turner could, by creeping in as far as possible and bending down, just see the light coming in at the orifice on the down side. There is no particular show of travertine in this swallow-hole.

From all Mr. Turner could gather by inquiry—and curiously enough the villagers appear very reserved on the subject—there appear to be other caves or outcrops of limestone both in this neighbourhood of Borra and yet further eastward at the foot of the hills. This Borra band and that reported to the eastward would be, if continued northwards in the line of strike held by the gneisses, somewhat in the direction of other reported outcrops of calcareous rocks in the Salúr zemindari, and it is not improbable that the ultimate tracing out of them, as well as of a yet further outcrop (to be noticed immediately) to the north of Vizianagrum, may bring the Galikonda gneisses into a closer relation with the Kailassa band than my traverse of them has led me to suppose is the case.

From the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam, dated 19th November 1886, No. 742.

Order—dated 23rd December 1886, No. 3387, Judicial.

The first of the foregoing papers is the annual report on the administration of the Agency tracts of the Vizagapatam district, which His Excellency the Governor in Council will now proceed to review.

2. *Touring.*—The amount of touring done by the Agency officers is very satisfactory; Mr. Wedderburn was especially active, having spent no less than 248 days in camp. His Excellency in Council notices with much pleasure the high terms in which Mr. Turner speaks of Messrs. Power and Elwin.

3. *Communications.*—The Agent devotes much of his report to the question of roads, and urges the adoption of a more liberal policy towards the Agency in the matter of funds for this purpose. The Government have always recognised the importance of the development of communications in these backward tracts, and they have made considerable yearly grants from Provincial funds for the construction and maintenance of roads and buildings. The cost of the Pottingi Ghât road was Rs. 4,56,581,* and sanction has already been accorded to the construction by the Public Works Department of a first-class road from Pottingi to Koraput, to be eventually extended to the Central Provinces' frontier.† The Government do not think, therefore, that there has been any want of liberality in the treatment of the Agency tracts. It must be remembered that in other districts the cost of the construction and maintenance of communications is met from special funds raised locally, assistance being given from Provincial funds only in exceptional circumstances; and that the Agency yields to Government in direct revenue a comparatively trifling sum. Upon a consideration of these facts, the Government are of opinion that, while the present policy of steady progress in the matter of opening new roads should be maintained, it would be unfair to other portions of the presidency to sanction the large expenditure contemplated by Mr. Turner. In the present financial position, the utmost that can be hoped for is that Government may be able to maintain expenditure on the present scale.

* *Vide* G.O., dated 10th October 1885, No. 2365 W., Public Works Department, recorded in Judicial Department G.O., dated 26th October 1885, No. 1429.

† *Vide* Government Order quoted above, and G.O., dated 4th January 1886, No. 8 W., Public Works Department, recorded in Judicial Department G.O., dated 19th January 1886, Mis. No. 151.

4. The Government do not possess such full information as is desirable regarding the roads in the Vizagapatam Agency. Mr. Turner will therefore be requested to submit a special report on the subject. The report should show the number and mileage of existing roads and the amount spent upon them during the last five years. It should also contain a full description of the roads which Mr. Turner proposes to open, their mileage, and a rough estimate of their cost. A map should be furnished, and in this all ghâts and rivers should be clearly marked. Full particulars regarding the length of ghât roads and the necessity for bridging rivers should be given in the body of the report. Mr. Turner should also consider whether the yearly allotment could not be more effectively utilised if work were more concentrated. In this way each road in turn could be put into thoroughly good order; the subsequent cost of maintenance would probably be less than the sum now expended on this account, while in place of many indifferent roads there would be a few good ones, and the number of these would be gradually increasing.

5. *Buildings.*—Turning now to the question of buildings, the Government observe that the Jeypore sub-jail and cutcherry was not completed at the close of the year, although so far back as 1884 nothing remained to be done but to put on the roof.* The Government trust that the work is now finished. The Bissemkatak taluk office was completed, and appears to be a satisfactory building.

* Paragraph 22 of G.O., dated 13th October 1884, No. 2619, Judicial.

6. *Education.*—The education of the only son of the Maharaja of Jeypore by an English tutor has at length been arranged for, and the tutor, Mr. Marsh, was to have entered on his duties in November. The general question of education in the Agency tracts was dealt with in G.O., dated 10th June 1886, No. 354, Educational. The scheme then sanctioned contained no provision for schools in the Golgonda or Paderu taluks, the backward educational condition of which is now brought to notice by the Principal Assistant Agent. This matter should receive the further attention of the Agent.

7. *Law and Crime.*—The number of civil suits instituted in the Agency Courts during the year was 316, the number pending from the previous year being 110. Of this number only 271 were disposed of, the number pending at the end of the year being 152. The above figures are not satisfactory, and special efforts should be made to ensure the more speedy disposal of cases. The arrears before the munsifs of Rayaghada and Jeypore are specially heavy. Now that the Koraput and Jeypore sub-magistrates have been given civil powers, the delays caused by the Special Assistant Agent being so constantly on tour should no longer occur.

Two appeals were pending and ten were instituted during the year. Of these, nine were disposed of.

8. The outturn of criminal work is more satisfactory. One thousand two hundred and twelve cases were instituted during the year, and 42 were pending from the previous year. These were all disposed of except 19. The institutions in the

previous year numbered 1,313. Among the committals to the Agent's Court were 9 cases of murder and 10 of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The number of prisoners involved in these cases was 34, of whom 18 were convicted and 15 discharged, the remaining one being still under trial. It is satisfactory to observe that the crime of cattle-theft has begun to decrease, "owing," it is said, "to the heavier sentences that have been inflicted during the last two years." The cases of alleged kidnapping of Jeypore people by men from Bastar have been dealt with in separate papers.

There were no serious disturbances of the public peace during the year.

9. *Wild Animals.*—In the Special Assistant Agent's division, 96 persons were killed by wild animals. Figures for the previous year are not available, but the number of deaths in the calendar year 1883 was 234. The number of persons killed in the other divisions was 8. The number of tigers destroyed in the whole of the Agency tracts was 54, as against 58 in the previous year. Of this number, 7 were man-eating tigers. The figures are satisfactory. In his next report the Agent should give a comparative statement showing the number of tigers, panthers, &c., destroyed in each of the previous five years, as also the number of persons killed by wild animals and the amount of rewards paid.

10. *Miscellaneous.*—The administration of the Opium and Abkári revenue calls for no remarks. The vaccination figures of the Senior Assistant Agent's division show an improvement, but there was a decrease in the number of vaccinations in that of the Special Assistant. No figures are given by the Principal Assistant. It is not stated whether any attempt is made to check the returns submitted by the vaccinators. This should be done, and the vaccinators should certainly accompany the Agent and his Assistants when on tour. The cost per case should in future be given, and the number of vaccinations per man employed.

11. The attention of the Accountant-General will be drawn to the alleged deficiency of copper coinage in Jeypore. Mr. Turner's general remarks on coinage are out of place in a report on the Agency tracts. He should, however, explain what he means by saying that the copper coin is debased.

12. The action taken by the Agent in connection with the amins of Rayaghada and Gunupur is approved. The Government trust that they have been replaced by men whose probity can be relied upon. The Agent should recommend the Maharaja to introduce a system of accounts that would ensure the speedy detection of frauds upon his revenues.

13. The payment of the tour expenses, amounting to Rs. 512-15-7, is sanctioned.

14. The Superintendent of Survey will be directed to state whether he can furnish a map of the Agency tracts. His attention will be drawn to paragraph 9 of G.O., dated 13th October 1884, No. 2619, Judicial, and paragraph 16 of G.O., dated 20th October 1885, No. 2822, Judicial.

15. Dr. William King's note is interesting, and will be printed as an appendix to the report.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam.
" " Ganjam.
" Government Agent, Godávari.
" Revenue Department.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Inspector-General of Police.
" Public Works Department.
" Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
" Accountant-General.
" Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.

Exd. A. Raitt.