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GEOGRAPHICAL

AND

STATISTICAL MEMOIR

OF

TIRUNELVELI AND ITS ZEMINDARIES.

BY

THOMAS TURNBULL,

ASSISTANT SURVEYOR.

TINNEVELLY:

PRINTED BY P. SOORBAH NAIDU.
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GEOGRAPHICAL AND STATISTICAL MEMOIR OF TIRUNELVELI AND ITS ZEMINDARIES.

SITUATION AND EXTENT OF THE PROVINCE.

TIRUNELVELI.—A Province of some celebrity near Cape Comorin, considered one of the holy countries in the southern continent of India, styled "Detchinadesam," situated principally between 7 - 57 & 9 - 51 Degrees of North Latitude. In times of remote antiquity this Province formed part of the great *Pandian Dynasty, the capital of which was Madura; and was divided into Principalities & States, denominated †Naads, governed by a noble race of Chettie Princes, whose title and designation was Maha Chackrawarti Pandi Rajah; their government was monarchical and despotic, each possessing an internal government, independent of one another; their succession was hereditary. Their rule continued till the thirteenth century, when their dominions were subverted by a successful Mahomedan Establishment, from the northern countries, whose Governors were delegated by the ‡ Delhi sovereigns to whom the country was tributary for forty-eight years. Their government was overthrown by the Rajah of Mysore, whose administration in the Pandi kingdom continued till about the year 1404 A. D. when a Gentu family in the service of the Maha Rayer in the Annagundi Province acquired the Government of the Madura kingdom who enjoyed it nearly 260 years. This family was succeeded by the ancestors of the celebrated Trimul Naigue, known by the name of Kertakle, who frequently became independent in consequence of the convulsions in the Supreme Government. Trimul naigue the last of the Gentu Kings, died after a long and prosperous reign, in the year 1666. The assumption of these countries in 1738 was held by the Nabob of Arcot until it was transferred by a treaty in the year 1801 A. D. to the Honorable Company during the Collectorship of Stephen Rumbold Esquire [now Governor of Madras] then Collector of Peshcush Pollams in Tirunelveli, Ramnad and Manapar.

ANCIENT BOUNDARY OF THE PANDIAN DYNASTY.

Tirunelveli with the countries of Madura proper, Dindigul, South Coimbatore Trichinopoly, and those of the great and lesser Maravers of Ramanad and Shevagunga, and the Zemindaries comprehended in these Districts, forms a Hindu Geographical Division of the Pandyan Dynasty. The Boundary was defined by the ancients, as follows, to be 56 § Kadums, equal to 560 English Miles in circumference. At present the above mentioned Districts are comprehended in the Collectorsates of Coimbatore, Trichinopoly, Madura and Tirunelveli. The following are traced to have been the principal Sea Port Towns of the great Pandian Empire, commencing from Kotteipattanam, and Minbeshel in Tanjore of the Choli Rajahs Dynasty. Sundripandipattanam, Vuttanam, Tondi, Devipattanam, Attancurrei, Tonitorei, Pamben (in Ramaseram Island) Mootopettei, Keelacurrei, and Veimbar in Ramnad now under the Collectorate of Madura; Vypaur, Tutigudi, Kayalpatnam, Tiruchendur, Manapadei, and Cape Comorin in Tirunelveli. The most remarkable entrances or passes across the great chain of woody mountains, which defines the western Boundary of the Pandian Empire, common to the other Dynasty pertaining to Sharen, are as follows :— Ananimalli pass, on the limits between South Coimbatore and Cochin; Tallamalli, Vullackeipara or Choureyemalli passes are on the limits between Dindigul and Travancore; Atchinkovil Pass, Arriankovil Pass & the Kolatupillei Pass, Shurimutian Pass, Arrambullei Pass, and ¶Kotteicurravassel to Cape Comorin, between Tirunelveli and Travancore. To the north, the Boundary is said to be defined partly by the Rivers Noyel, and the Agundei Caveri, and by the Vellar; the latter at present divides the Arcot Collectorate from Trichinopoly.

This fertile region, with its splendid Religious structures, Tanks, Reservoirs, Canals, Anni-cuts &c. &c. and charitable foundations, give a just idea of its former agricultural prosperity, as

* Ancient Government.
† A List of the Naads will be found in the Appendix to this work.
‡ Under the Delhi Sovereigns from 1324 to 1372 A. D.
§ A Kadum is equal to Seven-and-half Malabar miles or Ten English miles.
¶ A gateway built on the line, which forms an entrance into Travancore; & a road leads to Cape Comorin; an Havildar's guard of the Rances Sepoys are usually stationed here to afford protection to the Chowkeydars, as well as to prevent smuggling.

well as the epulence of the Government, and chieftains. The primitive manners & customs of the mass of the population are found preserved in great purity in Tirunelveli and adjacent Districts.

SILLA SASSANAMS OR INSCRIPTIONS.

Silla Sassanams or Inscriptions are very numerous in Tirunelveli; they are found on granite walls without and within the cincture of the Temples. They are the testimonials of gifts & privileges, bestowed on Religious Institutions, either in land or other offerings to the Pagodah or to its establishment of Bramins, styled "Dermasanam," by the ancient Rulers, whose title & dignity are termed Teru Bonichacravarti Maha Pandian Rajah. During their reign there was no specification of dates; reference was made to such an Aundu or Year of such a one's reign, the day of the week, the age of the moon, the name of the periodical constellation, together with the happy & auspicious conjunction of the celestial bodies. The preamble bears an ostentatious introduction of the extraordinary titles, valour, & dignities of the donor, setting forth their superiority, power and influence, with other high strained eulogiums, which, with Hindu exaggeration, are considered as divinities.

The general character of the Sassanams is that of the vernacular language of the country and in old Tamil. Several are blended with Sanscrit, & a few with Malleyalum. Some that are defaced, are yet intelligible from their well-known character. Several copies were transmitted to Calcutta, to Colonel Mackenzie, late Surveyor-General of India.

LANGUAGE.

In that division of Southern Carnatic denominated the Pandian Dynasty, lapse of centuries appear scarcely to have made any change in the habits and peculiarities of the Hindoo, either in their civil or religious condition. The southern extremity is called the Dravira-rajiam, where Tamil is the Vernacular language, which differs materially from that spoken north of the Coleroon River, and in Madras. It is said to vary both in dialect & character from the southern countries. Sanscrit is chiefly studied by Bramins, their compound words are often used in Tamil writing. Telugu, an harmonious and learned language of the northern countries, is spoken chiefly by Bramins, Gentoo, Kummawars, Reddies, and Totiars; the latter supposed to be a modern people, that emigrated from the northward and mark a different origin from the Pandi aborigines. The Bramins, generally have their sacred writings preserved in the Telugu language blended for the greater part with Sanscrit. They consider Tamil shavuddies, or Cadjan Books to be unworthy of preservation, or of being held sacred. The provincial accounts of the Taluq Cutcherry, and Huzoor Establishments are in the Mahratta language which appears to have been recently introduced into the several Collectories. The real Mahomedans are comparatively few in proportion to the Labhays amongst whom the vernacular language of the country principally prevails.

PLACES OF PUBLIC WORSHIP.

It is too evident that Paganism continues to prevail throughout the Southern Provinces. Tirunelveli is distinguished by the number and variety of its places of worship. It contains including the Zemindaries, 2783 Shiva, Vistnu and other Temples; of which, 42 are considered of peculiar celebrity and sanctity. There are besides 9799 petty Kovils of Male and Female Deities; 513 Mahomedan places of worship. Out of 45 Protestant churches and chapels, established by the Society for promoting Christian knowledge in Tirunelveli, about the time of the Reverend Swartz, there are only 25 now remaining. The largest of them is at Palamcottah, which was built by a Braminy woman, a proselyte of the Reverend Swartz. It is an important fact that several of his pupils who renounced Paganism for the Religion of Christ, have by Divine blessing, done good by their zealous exertions and labor, under their pious Pastor the Reverend John Caspar Kohlhoff, English Missionary in Tanjore. Several pious Catechists were ordained in the year 1810 at Tanjore, as Native Priests, one of whom named Vissuvasenaden, has the charge of the congregation of that society, in this Province. He resides at Valladdy in the Azhwar Tirunagari District, in the midst of idolatry, and occasionally goes about teaching and preaching to the Pagans. He made upwards of 300 converts in that District. His Christian meekness and piety commanded the love, not only of his converts, but Pagans & Mahomedans. The number of decayed churches cannot but be felt as a great loss in the work of conversion; notwithstanding which, however, sanguine expectations are entertained, since the recent establishment of two Missions at Palamcottah in 1820, which will, no doubt, greatly contribute to promote religion, and stimulate those that have departed from it, to return. There are 141 Roman Catholic Churches and Chapels under the diocese of the Bishop of Cochin. Vuddakankolam, a village in the Kalkad Taluq S. 6 W. 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Tirunelveli is the residence of the principal Vicar of the District. The inferior Religious edifices pertaining to the lower classes of the Suder tribe and Pradial slaves &c. contain 1286 Shanar, 11 Covils, and 972 Puller and Pariar places of worship. By the statistical documents it will appear that the Shiva sect is more widely spread than that of Vistnu, the devotees of the latter comprise about $\frac{1}{3}$ th, the former, the Mahomedans, $\frac{1}{12}$ th, Christians of all denominations $\frac{1}{12}$ th, extending over a space from 4 to 5000 square miles.

DIVISION OF SECTS.

The following brief statement of the division of sects, exhibits the amount of the Population of the Province, concluded in 1823.

	HINDUS OF ALL DENOMINATIONS*					Total amount of population.
	Devotees of Siva.	Devotees of Vistnu.	Mahomedans.	Christians		
				Protestants	Roman Catholics.	
Tirunelveli Province.	603,033	113,676	49,211	3,320	19,500	788,740

RELIGIOUS MONUMENTS.

SHARIN, SHOLIN, PANDIAN. In these three ancient Dynasties, buildings for religious uses were constructed. The oldest of them are from 1000 to 800 years. Of the infinite number of religious edifices, several are distinguished with huge solid pyramids. The grandeur and durability of these structures shew that Artists in those days labored for posterity. The form of temples both ancient and modern is always the same; the Hindus are well known to be attached to the customs of their ancestors. The entrance to their Pagodahs generally fronts to the east, but occasionally to the south and west. The pyramidal spire is usually from 70 to 150 feet high. In pagodahs of the first order, three courts are entered before approaching the deity. They are usually surrounded by high granite walls from 500 to 900 feet or more in length. In the precincts are a variety of other buildings dedicated to tutelar deities, or objects of their idolatrous worship and adoration.

Some of the most extensive remains of antiquity in this province, are those at Tirunelveli, Tachanallur, Suttamalli, Manur, Strivaikuntam, Alwar Tirunagari, Trichendur, Nanganacheri, Tirukurangudi, Seranmahadevi, Teruppudeimaradur, Attalnallur, Brahmadesam, Ambasamudram, Mannarkovil, Papanassam, Tenkasy, Tirukuttalam, Sankaranainarkovil, Shatur, Pasuvantanay, Devidanam, Daragapuram, Kallugumalei, Strivilliputtur, Sivakasi, and Tirutungal.

Besides the temples above enumerated there are several other religious edifices, founded by private munificence; of these, some are endowed with perpetual revenues, others supported by annual or occasional voluntary contributions. The expense of the idolatrous worship of the Hindus is very considerable. The temples in Tirunelveli and adjacent Districts, enjoy extensive endowments of land, exempt from all taxation; in a word, every Pagodah great or small, still has its resources for defraying their expenses. Each have their votaries who bestow considerable offerings in money, jewels, cattle, provisions, and other articles. But after the assumption of the Pagodah lands, during Mr. Lushington's Collectorship, in July 1212, each Pagodah was granted compensation in money, and Maniums, agreeably to the following brief statement.

CIRCAR MOHINS, OR READY MONEY ALLOWANCES											
Number of Pagodahs supported by		Amount payable to the Pagodahs &c. from the different funds in the Treasury of the Collector.				Amount of Maniums or Ready Money deducted from the Jumma-bundy.				Total allowances in Money.	
Circar Mohins and Maniums.	Maniums alone.	Amount of the fixed Devasthanam Revenue.		Amount of Tiruppunni Revenue.		Total:					
		Cully Cs.	F. C.	Cully Cs.	F. C.	Cully Cs.	F. C.	Cully Cs.	F. C.	Cully Cs.	F. C.
301	1385	84711	912	8131	121	92843	33	7222	945	100,066	...
301	1385	Rapees.	A. P.	Rapees.	A. P.	Rapees.	A. P.	Rapees.	A. P.	Rapees.	A. P.
301	1385	179,691	15 5	17247	14 1	196939	13 6	15,321	8...	212,261	5 6

MAUNIAMS.

Extent and amount of the Mauniams, in Nunjei, Nunjeimail Panjei, Bauga, Panjei, Topoe, Village Taxes, Grain, Pattam land, and different other descriptions &c.

	Extent			Equiv- alent in Acres.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
	Cawnies.	Gds.	Sq. feet.							
Total allowances in Ready Money.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	212261	5	6
Extent & amount of Mauniams in Nanjei land.....	1783	3	1227 $\frac{8}{16}$	2357	13038	1	7	...	...	...
Do. in Nanjei Mail Panjei land.....	182	11	1638 $\frac{8}{16}$	240	107	5	...	...	...	...
Do. in Bauga or gardens.....	35	15	1459 $\frac{8}{16}$	46	290	2	9	...	...	...
Do. in Panjei lands.....	16539	4	1200	21869	9789	13	4	...	...	...
Amount of Mauniams from Topes.....	...	...	...	...	5799	14	8	...	...	...
Do. from village taxes.....	...	...	...	...	3051	3	7	...	...	...
Quantity & amount of grain Mauniams, 7 garce, 115 Maracals and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ measures.....	...	...	...	...	735	1	8	...	...	...
Total amount of Mauniams.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32811	10	7
Extent of Pattam land and amount of surplus produce.....	752	6	2241	994	5826	9	...	...	...	...
Do. Nunjei Porupu land and Do.....	233	5	440 $\frac{7}{16}$	308	2219	2	1	...	...	...
Do. Panjei Porupu land and Do.....	750	...	1350	991	184	13	10	...	...	...
Do. Kovil Mirassy land and amount of Kudi-varum.....	241	21	373 $\frac{1}{16}$	318	365	2	11	...	...	...
Quantity & amount of allowances as Sudandaram from heaps of paddy 10 garce, 23 Maracals, 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ measures.....	...	...	...	...	909	8	1	...	...	...
Amount of surplus Revenue from land held on Shotrium.....	...	...	...	...	639	7	$\frac{3}{16}$	...	...	...
Total of different descriptions of Mauniams.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10144	11	$\frac{3}{16}$
Number & amount from Mauniam villages 53.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14521	13	10
Do. from Shotrium villages 17.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5117	11	3
Total amount of the revenue to the pagodahs exclusive of the allowance in money.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62595	14	11 $\frac{3}{16}$
Total allowance in Ready Money.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	212261	5	6
Grand Total of the Devas-tanum Establishment in the Province of Tirunelveli.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	274857	4	5

A detailed account of the support of the Pagodahs of each Taluq will be seen in the Appendix.

A sect is known in the southern Provinces whose tenets and conduct excite some curiosity. The original founder of this new sect, was Timmapiengar, a native of Sakulapuram near Delhi who came to Madura during the Government of the Kurtacles in the reign of *Mutu Alagherri

* 1667. Naick, of the family of the celebrated Trimals Naick, and disseminated his doctrines in the system of the Ettalavedam & Suktipegei of the Perria Perattiar.

The votaries pretend to believe that the goddess will grant offspring to barren women, and cure all kinds of diseases and honor the goddess by nocturnal orgies, conducted principally by a Gentu Dassari. Anniversaries are celebrated in two places, the one on the 15th day of Chittri corresponding to the 29th of April at Chettipett, in the Panchamal Taluq, and the other on the 5th day of Tye, corresponding to the 16th January at Kalagumalli, in the Ettapuram Zemindary; it is not a little singular, that on these two festivals the devotees appear not to regard pollution, nor any acts of defilement, which on ordinary occasions would excite abhorrence. They eat and drink indiscriminately without any regard to the accustomed usages of caste, all distinctions are abolished and the Parriah is as welcome as the Brahmin to participate in the same morsel, and drink out of the same vessel. Transgressions of the most abominable kind, is considered a particular moral excellence. The devotees of this sect make large offerings to the Priest on these occasions, to mark their gratitude and adherence to the doctrines of their faith and adoration. A brief account of its origin, and the Hustaconum, or octagonal figure on each side of the first letter of their prayers will be circumstantially detailed in the Appendix.

DEITIES.

Siva and Vistnu are the principal Deities in the Southern Provinces; they are known by numerous appellations, the former by 1008 and the latter by 108 names. Brahma, although first among the Hindu Deities, has neither Temple, worship, nor followers in this Province. Siva is known principally by a few names; the Lingam is the ordinary symbol of all the followers of that deity, whose weapons are the Teru Sulei, and Damram. Some of the principal names of the god Vistnu, generally styled Perumal, will be found below and whose votaries imprint on their forehead the mark of the Nama, by three perpendicular lines. The armour of this deity, consists of the Pancha-cydhm, or five weapons; the two principal with which he is accoutred, are the Sankha and chackram. Every other deity has his peculiar instrument of offence with which each is represented. The Vaganam or Vehicle, assigned to Siva, is a Bull; and to Vistnu a large bird, called Garuda: the Temples of the latter exceed those of the former.

VIGNASWARA

Known to Europeans, as the Elephant headed Deity is also known by a few other names, and is more frequently seen than any other deity. Several have small temples, some at villages under trees, or on platforms raised round Trees. Puliars are seen in Mantapams, choultries, and places of public resort, in Tamil schools, in Fortifications, on the banks of streams, Tanks, Anicuts, Avenues, and in all frequented places. This Deity has a Bandyoot for its vehicle; he receives the foremost worship in all ceremonies. An offering of coconuts, sandal, & flowers, is ascribed as peculiarly efficacious in securing its protection and support, prior to commencing any undertaking, especially marriage.

Murda Appen, Piddari, Kali, Sattan, Marri Ammun, Buddrakali, Hunnumar. The inferior divinities are also very numerous. Those mentioned are principally venerated by the Suder and low classes: their sacrifices are animals. There are some, however, at which Brahmins officiate. The Temples consecrated to these Deities, are of the most common kind, with tiled and thatched roofs, or merely gigantic figures of Horses, Bulls &c. of Pottery in the fields; they notwithstanding command the liberality and zeal of the votaries who believe they preside over their actions, and protect them from all evils and disease.

Pei Kovils or Devils Temples. It is a curious fact that every caste or family has its own particular Peikovil; these structures are nothing more than solitary pyramids built of mud, from 4 to 6 feet high; some are whitewashed, others are besmeared with cowdung; propitiatory sacrifices and oblations are offered at their Shrine, to defend them from all the evils, which their neighbours or enemies might inflict. The inhabitants are also known to pay honors to certain Trees, particularly those which yield a grateful shelter from the scorching sun. There is also a prickly shrub, which grows like an Umbrella, to which offerings are made by sticking rags on its branches.

TOMBS OF IMMOLATED WIDOWS.

Mallies, Teipanjankovils—These monumental relics, in memory of self devoted victims to the funeral pile of deceased husbands are authentic memorials of immolation that prevails with the four principal tribes of Hindoos. This horrid rite seems with a few exceptions, scarcely to have occurred within the last 20 years, in this Province and neighbouring Districts. There now only remain 702 of these monuments of antiquity, as given in the Provincial accounts of Zemindars, one half of which appear to have been of very ancient date. These monuments have external homage paid them. This barbarous rite does not exist in Travancore, nor does that Government sanction any practice foreign to their religious usages. As an instance, a Sutte was to have been performed at Quilon in 1818, by a gentu woman, the wife of a sepoy of the 2nd Battalion 5th Regiment N. I; the Rance of Travancore was solicited to sanction a custom so generally manifest throughout India, but she saved the deluded woman from so painful a sacrifice, by urging the British Resident (Colonel Munro) not to suffer any human sacrifice to be committed within the limits of her country, and prevented the horrid deed taking place. There is a caste of people, styled "Cottah Vellalars," of respectable and origin, whose women live in seclusion, who are not permitted to perform the practice of self-immolation. They reside at Striveikuntam within a high mud wall on the left bank of the Tambrapurney River 13 miles S. E. of Palamcottah, within which no male is permitted to enter, and out of which their women are not permitted to come. It is not a little singular, that a woman of this sect, after the death of her husband, must live confined and allow her body to waste, by abstaining from every comfort or gratification and live only on rice and water or herbs and roots. She abstains from betel, washing head, or shifting cloths, and is obliged to devote herself to the most severe austerity in hopes of soon meeting her husband in another world.

It is asserted, that a widow leading such a life seldom or never survives her husband three or four, or at utmost six months.

* Parameshwara, Sadzeiva, Iswara, or Esuren, Subramanier, Rudra, Lingam.

† Rama, Narayana, Govinda, Krishna, Tiravonkidapathi.

‡ Puliya, Ganisa, Vinayaga.

§ Allimaram; Aroli; Arashamaram; Vepamaram; Murdamaram.

¶ Vannimaram.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

The erection of charitable edifices, although nominal as to their real object, is still considered the most honorable and meritorious works on which a Hindu can bestow his riches. They are generally known to do so however more from ostentation than real benevolence; and these buildings are oftener appropriated to domestic purposes, than for the accommodation of travellers.

The ample list of 1073 charitable edifices are distinguished by different designations, such as Sanniasy Maddum, Tirumalligei Muddam, Pandara Mudam, Muddum, Sandgei Muddum, and Muntapum; besides which there are 80 Chuttrams, 527 choultries, and some few shattered old Muntapums on the high roads, which appear originally to have been dedicated to some deity or other. There are scarcely any ancient accommodations for travellers. The greater number of charitable buildings are generally built in large Towns or suburbs of a city (where there is a great sanctified Pagodah) for the accommodation of Bramins, Pilgrims, and Devotees that resort to Pagodahs especially on Anniversary festivals when they are fed in limited numbers, by private munificence, or by voluntary contributions as also by corporate bodies of tradesmen, weavers, mechanics, and others. In many places where public accommodations are wanting, Reservoirs, wells, and resting stones on the high roads, and bye-paths, contribute to refresh the weary traveller.

There are about 703 Tamil day schools and a few Hindu Colleges for Bramins. The Reverend T. Hough, late Chaplain at Palamcottah, so much esteemed for his pious labors in the Missionary cause, opened at Tirunelveli in 1817, a few schools for Pagan youths, in behalf of the Church Mission Society; which are at present conducted by the Reverends Messieurs Rhenius and Schmidt at Palamcottah. These schools have since been increased in number, & a Seminary for Native Girls has since been established here.

PRESENT STATE OF THE DIVISIONS IN THE COLLECTORATE OF TIRUNELVELL.

The Collectorate of Tirunelveli is composed of Eleven Taluqs, Twenty-five Zemindaries and Three Mittahs. Six of the original Peshcush Pollams have been sequestered and annexed to the Zemindaries of those chiefs, who served with honor and fidelity during the rebellion of the refractory Poligars in 1801.

BOUNDARY.

This Collectorate or Province is bounded on the north partly by the Shuddragherry Mountains between that portion of the Dindigul Valley over Warsanaad, and partly by the ridge of hills dividing Dodapanaick's Zemindary, and Tirumangalam Taluq of Madura; on the East by Ramnad; on the South by the Sea, exclusive of that part of it which belongs to the small territory of Tuticorin of the Netherlands' Government which was last restored to them in 1817, and on the west by the great chain of woody mountains which separates it from Travancore.

EXTENT.

The extreme length of this Province from north to south is 110 miles, and its average breadth from east to west 40 miles. It contains no less than 4103 square miles. The country is diversified by Paddy, Cotton, and Dry Grain fields in abundance, and is reckoned exceedingly fertile, especially the lands dependant on the Tambrapurney, Sittar, and other rivers which furnish two abundant crops in the year.

DIVISION OF THE PADDY LANDS.

The estimated extent of Paddy lands in this Collectorate, by the Provincial accounts obtained from the Village Kurnams, amounts to 292277 Kottei, 6 Marcals, and 2½ measures equal to 474,173¹/₁₀ British Acres; of which 204770²/₁₀ Acres are cultivated, 66254³/₁₀ Acres uncultivated, and 203148⁴/₁₀ Acres fall under the description of waste lands.

DIVISION OF DRY GRAIN LANDS.

The tract of dry grain lands comprise 642,490¹/₁₀ chains, or 2,344,224 Acres, of which 1,148,626²/₁₀ Acres are cultivated, 768,657³/₁₀ uncultivated, and 426,930⁴/₁₀ Acres waste. The greater part of the Dry grain lands to the north and east of the Sittar River is a deep black loam, well adapted for the excellent cotton there grown. Many tracts produce a superior description of Tobacco. Cudlay grain and coriander, are grown north of the Nechabanuddee, which are exceedingly productive.

A considerable tract of country comprehended under the head Dry grain lands, is covered with Palmyrah Trees, principally in the Southern Taluqs Panchamal, Kalakadu, Alwar Tirunagari and other places where extensive Topes of them appear like forests. In the whole Province there are no less than 5,603,933 Palmyra Trees, which yield a good Revenue in the manufacture of

* In the year 1823, it was in contemplation to have Bangalow accommodations for Travellers, built on the regular stages on the high road from Madura to Palamcottah and Travancore; these edifices to be erected under the superintendence of the Civil Engineer of Estimates and tank repairs.

Jaggery, and Sugar candy; these form very valuable articles both of consumption and export. Several families of Shamars, styled Nadaguls, who manufacture and sell those articles have embraced Christianity. The other Palm, the *Cocus-nucifera*, are not numerous in Tirunelveli; scarcely ¹/₁₀th of the *Borassus flabelliformis*, which latter grows exuberantly on the high grounds in a stiff red loam mixed with sand.

CLIMATE.

The mountainous country on the west that traverse this District for more than 100 miles, and divide it from Travancore, are covered with clouds for 8 or 9 months in the year. Tirunelveli is reckoned a hot country, but as it participates in the Monsoons of both coasts, renders it more temperate than in the interior, and adjacent Districts to the north. The mountainous nature of the country dividing this Province from Travancore renders the seasons very unequal. The inhabitants of Travancore reap in the months of June and July; while those in the Tirunelveli District commence preparing the soil. The dews are very heavy, from the latter end of December to February, which is favorable to vegetation, such as Horse gram, Pulses, and a small grain called Raspalum farment, Pannicumitalicum and Pannicummillacum, which are usually obtained are the Peshanam harvest of Paddy. But during the latter period, the season becomes unfavorable, Fevers and agues prevail. As the lands soon after harvest become parched, canals and Tanks dry, the heat then becomes progressively intense particularly towards the Hills; the atmosphere is often sultry, and scarce any breeze, about the end of March to April disagreeable whirlwinds commence. The coast at this season often induce gentlemen from Tirunelveli and Palamcottah, to proceed to Trichendur, Cape Comorin, or Tutacerin, to enjoy the refreshing sea breeze, from the months of February or March, to the middle of May or June during which the weather about the Hills is intolerable as well as in the open tract of the black cotton soil, where there is scarce a vestige of vegetation, or trees to admit of shelter. The greater number of the cattle of the open country are driven to the Hills for pasture, for two or more months, where they find herbage that is very nourishing. Sheep and goats are said to grow fat upon it. In the months of March and April, the casual Rains (called Koddeimazhi) are looked for. At this season, there is often hail after a heavy shower of rain, and the weather becomes more favorable. A failure in these months renders it otherwise. From the middle of May or June to October the atmosphere becomes clouded, owing to the S. W. monsoons on the other coast. When westerly winds prevail, which abates the heat in a great measure, in the open country, and renders it temperate, and salubrious in the vicinity of the Hills, particularly at Kuttalam, Pappanassam, Shevagherri, and beyond the Hills of Tallamallay in the Dindigul Valley where nothing can be more delightful, particularly to Europeans, than the summer months in this charming country similar to the Neilgherries and in all probability equally congenial to that of the Cape of Good Hope. It is beyond doubt, that in remote times, the ancient Princes of Madura were in the habit of resorting to the Hills to enjoy the summer at Pappanassam where there are pavilions on the verge of the Tambrapurney River, contiguous to the Waterfall called the Kallianni teertum; also vestiges of a Palace at Pappanassam. This country towards the Hills is subject to almost incessant rains called *shonay*, which are mild during the season. But the prevailing winds are very boisterous in the months of July and August, which is an unfailing indication of the high freshes, or floods down the River. Some days previous to the freshes, the atmosphere becomes remarkably hazy and charged with clouds of dust for several days during the land winds. The period of summer at Kuttalam, is generally considered salubrious and beneficial to health, from the refreshing mild showers. Bathing under the falls of the cataracts, on the Tambrapurney and Sittar Rivers, is supposed to be beneficial. The most predominant times observed by the Hindus for bathing in the Kuttalam waterfall are on the days of the Arpissi vissuvu, Chittrivissuvu, and Chittri purrunum, or days of the full Moon in April. The latter originates from a credulous tradition they have, being the anniversary of the Saffron River. The people who resort here for bathing on that day, ascend to the first fall of the stream called Thane Arrivu, or the Honey fall. The Adi and Tie Ammavassies, Solar and Lunar Eclipses, are also particular days for ablation. But the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages resort to it twice a week, on Mondays and Fridays, but more especially the last Friday of the month is considered a very auspicious day for it.

Ladies and Gentlemen resort annually to Kourtalam to enjoy the fine climate during the summer, from the months of May or June to October. The Collector of Tirunelveli & Resident of Travancore have summer residences here. The gardens abound with a variety of vegetables and fruits, such as Cabbages, Turnips, Carrots, Lettuce, &c. &c. also Oranges, Limes, Lemons and Pamplemuses. It is singular that the inhabitants of the country rarely cultivate these articles. The N. E. Monsoon commences about the middle of October, previous to which European visitors abandon the place, when the wild animals of the Hills often resort and shelter round their dwelling. In the months of December and January, Fevers, Fluxes, and Agues prevail and the ravages of small-pox in February and March are considerable contiguous to the hills.

The mountains of Kuttalam are the highest of that range of ghauts. The cultivation on their acclivities and summit, induce Ladies and gentlemen to visit them under many difficulties. The visitor on gaining the summit, is struck with admiration at observing mountains, heretofore ever barren and infested by Tigers, Bears, and Elephants covered with luxuriant spice and coffee plantations. The unwearied and persevering efforts of Mr. Casamajor on the part of Government effected this improvement in 1800. Besides the indigenous productions of cardamoms, the nut-

3942
7

meg grows exuberantly in these gardens. The annual expense for Gardeners &c. in 1821 amounted to Rupees 1224, but the productions (of late) both in Coffee and Nutmeg have abundantly repaid the expense, and yield a Revenue.

POPULATION.

The Census of Tirunelveli was obtained from the village Kurnums, as it stood in the years 1821/22 and 23, during the Collectorship of J. B. Huddleston Esqre, and that of J. Monroe Esqre, who from the novelty and importance of the subject, was pleased to afford every facility, by strict injunctions to the several Tassildars, Zemindars and Mittahdars &c. to give every possible aid, so as to obtain accurate population Tables.

It appears that an enquiry was instituted in 1811 requiring Collectors of Districts to give their opinions on the population of their respective collectorates. An epidemic Fever having raged in the southern Provinces, caused a great * mortality in the population. The Collector J. Hepburn Esquire estimated the population of Tirunelveli at 610,696, and in October 1817 by a statement prepared from Accounts in Fuslies 1225 and 26 by J. Cotton Esqre, then Collector, it amounted to 629,450. But a better and more diligent enquiry was instituted at the recommendation of Colonel Mackenzie, late Surveyor General of India, when Mr. Thomas Turnbull, Assistant Surveyor was appointed to the Statistical researches of this collectorate in the year 1821. The result from the Tables according to the division of people into castes, and professions, gives the whole population of Tirunelveli including the Zemindaries at 788,740 souls, exclusive of the Garrison consisting of a Battalion of Native Infantry and followers.

The most perspicuous method has been adopted in arranging the Tables according to the divisions of castes, in all those gradations according to Hindu distinction. The division of castes are preserved with much purity in the Southern Provinces, particularly in Tirunelveli.

In this portion of the Pandya dynasty, the great mass of the population is Hindu; the Siva Sect greatly exceed that of Vistnu, and the divisions of castes in each Taluq are from 65 to 95 in number.

The general result of the Statistical Tables gives the following Population.

Tirunelveli Collectorate.	Males above 10 years of age.	Females above 8 years of age.	Male Children under 10 years of age.	Female Children under 8 years of age.	Total Population
Amount of Population in Eleven Taluqs.....	212,187	222,912	91,826	78,552	605,427
Do. Zemindaries.....	60087	64638	31,569	27,019	183,313
Total of the Collectorate....	272,224	287,550	123,395	105,571	788,740

Brahmins of all denominations are about $\frac{1}{20}$ th part of the population.

The Chetties and Vaisya tribe are comparatively few, the former contains $\frac{1}{13}$, & the latter $\frac{1}{15}$ parts of the population.

The various classes of Suders connected with Pagodah establishments and religious mendicants amount to $\frac{1}{10}$ th.

Principal Suders, Vellalars & Modeliars amount to about $\frac{1}{10}$ th, Gentus, Kummavars, Totiars, turers of fine and coarse cloths is $\frac{1}{10}$ th of the population. The various classes of tradesmen amount to $\frac{1}{10}$ th. The Herdsmen's tribe to $\frac{1}{15}$ th. Maravars of all denominations $\frac{1}{10}$ th. Oil Mongers and Betel Farmers $\frac{1}{10}$ th. Various classes of intermixed castes $\frac{1}{10}$ th. Kummalars or Artizans $\frac{1}{10}$ th. Barbers, Potters, and Dyers to about $\frac{1}{10}$ th. Mahomedans about $\frac{1}{10}$ th, Christians of all

* The general mortality on the centage of deaths in Tirunelveli for five months, was according to a report of the Committee instituted in 1812 5— Madara for 12 months 10, Dindigul for 12 months 7—, Coimbatore for 16 months 3— and the average mortality on the centage of Deaths amount to 5— 16

denominations to $\frac{1}{10}$ th, of which the Protestants are about $\frac{1}{10}$ th to the Roman Catholics. Shanars, Elavars and other classes who rank above the Pullers and Parriars, styled inferior Suders, consists of about $\frac{1}{10}$ th, and the Low castes consisting of Pullers and Pariars, Chucklers &c. amount to about $\frac{1}{10}$ th of the population.

The Inhabitants of the southern countries occasionally emigrate in consequence of drought, famine, &c. when tillage and manufactures are retarded. One-eighth of the population are husbandmen. Some parts of Tirunelveli considerable tracts are almost wholly waste. From the Official Registers of Surveys undertaken in Fuslies 1225 & 26 the estimated portion of dry grain lands amounts to 1,917,283 Acres, subtracting the waste lands gives 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ Acres of Arable land to each ryot. The amount of Arable Paddy lands in the Province is 271,024 Acres, which gives only about 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ Acres to each husbandman. The population resulting from the Tables gives 179 to a square mile, and about 199 to a village, and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ to a family. Tirunelveli does not appear among the most populous Districts of the Territories under the Madras Presidency.

DIVISION OF THE TALUQS.

Names.	No. of Villages held under lease, Amani Shotrium and Inam &c. from the Uzoor Accounts.					No. of villages from the Provincial accounts.			
	Settled on Lease.	Under Ammani.	Held on Shotrium.	On poruppu.	Inam poruppu.	Surva Maniam.	Total of villages.	Principal.	Subordinate.
1 Nelloiyambalam.....	109	11	16	...	...	1*	137	88	157
2 Seranmahadevi.....	130	2	6	...	...	1	139	54	126
3 Vidukramam.....	45	...	8	...	...	...	53	32	66
4 Brahmadesam.....	36	1	5	...	...	3	45	26	123
5 Tenkasi.....	63	14	...	...	...	...	77	28	143
6 Nadumandalum.....	191	14	11	8	8	15	247	247	387
7 Sankaranainarcovil.....	28	2	3	...	...	...	33	93	167
8 Sriveikuntam.....	89	24	16	...	...	4	133	103	275
9 Kalakadu.....	208	6	...	...	...	9	223	47	567
10 Alwarternagari.....	32	2	...	...	...	...	34	21	119
11 Panchamal.....	87	31	2	...	...	8	128	76	338
Total....	810	309	73	8	8	41	1249	755	2468

Register of the Peshcush Pollams or Zemindaries in Tirunelveli.

Names of the Taluqs.	No. of Zemindaries.	Names of the Peshcush Pollams or Zemindaries.	No. of Villages.	Principal.	Subordinate.	Total.	Names of the Pollars or Zemindars.	Castes.	Cusbah or Rasedany of the Pollars.	Situation of the Cusbahs from the Taluqs so which they are attached.	Annual Peshcush of each.	Total.
1 Bramadesam	3	1 Urcad (Minor)	1	...	...	...	Seturoyan.....	Maravar.	Urkad.....	S 61 30 E	2 4	3700
		2 Singampatti.....	1	...	...	...	Nullakutti Tevar..	do	Singampatti.....	South....	4 6	2300
		3 Shorundei (Minor)	7	...	...	...	Sulva Tevar.....	do	Surandei.....	S. 78 E.	5 4	200
2 Tenkasi..	3	4 Ootmatli (attached.)	64	...	...	...	Murthapa Tevar...	do	Agaram.....	N. 80 E.	13 6	7777
		5 Chokampatti.....	97	...	...	...	Vullangapuli tevar	do	Sokumpatti.....	North....	12 6	7300
		6 Sivaghiri.....	122	...	...	...	Verama Nachiar...	Vunnian.	Shivagberry.....	N. 36 W.	14	16000
3 Sankaraninarkoil.	3	7 Avudiapuram (Minor)	3	...	...	...	Gomadimuttu Ta-lavachi.	Maravar.	Nelkuttam-seval.	N. 64 W.	6 3	1270
		8 Alagapuri (Minor)	7	...	...	...	Retta Kodavannian	Vunnian.	Alagapuri.....	N. 60 E.	6 6	200
		9 Naduvakurichi	11	...	...	...	Kuttala Tevar.....	Maravar.	Naduvakurichi..	S. 34 W.	0	874
4 Streoviguntam.	3	10 Dulvankottai (Minor)	5	...	...	...	Maderanacheamin	do	Dulvankottah..	N74 38 W	4 6	800
		11 Ettiapuram.....	277	...	...	...	Ettapa Naiken.....	Totiar...	Ettiapuram.....	N. 9 E.	36 2	25982
		12 Maninchi.....	54	...	...	...	Choka Talaven.....	Maravar.	Maninchi.....	N. 5 W.	16	2609
5	3	13 Attankarei.....	6	...	...	...	Patama Naiken.....	Totiar...	Attankarei.....	N. 24 E.	41 6	1000
		14 Kudumbar.....	13	...	...	...	Kumarasami Th-das Thalevon.	Maravar.	Kudumbar.....	N. 10 W.	25 3	1100
		15 Melmandei.....	73	...	...	...	Kunjai Naiken.....	Totiar...	Melmandei.....	N. 37 E.	42	2430
6	3	16 Nagalapuram Mittah.	...	...	...	...	Arnachela Row & Seahigiri Row.	Bramina.	Nagalapuram...	N. 19 E.	44 2	3072

Names of the Taluqs.	No. of Zemindaries.	Names of the Peshensh Pallems or Zemindaries.	No. of Villages.	Principal Subordinate.	Ruled Total.	Names of the Poligars or Zemindaries.	Caste.	Custah or Rasadary of the Poligars.	Situation of the Custahs from the Taluq to which they are attached.	Course.	Distance.	Actual Peshensh of each.	Total.
5 Naduman dalum.	17	Setur.....				Teruvanna Tevar.	Maravar.	Setur.....	S. 65 W. 10	7	3503		
	18	Kolangondan.				Vendoy Tullaven.	do.	Kolangondan.	35 W. 8	5			
	19	Pavali.....				Avallapa Naick.	Totiar.	Pavali.....	N. 70 E. 22	1	800		
	20	Chinnalgudi.				Ghizama Naick.	do.	Chinnalgudi.	East.....	26	4	1300	
	21	Koteipatty.				Gazalapa Naick.	do.	Koteipatty.	S. 66 E. 26	7	1000		
	22	Puriyur.....				Toombechi Naick.	do.	Periur.....	N. 31 E. 20		3500		
	23	Shandiyur.				Golapa Naick.	do.	Shandiyur.	N. 31 E. 16	4	1100		
	24	Saptur.....				Vudakama Naick.	do.	Saptur.....	N. 21 E. 18	7	2582		
	25	Yelumali.				Yerrachama Naick.	do.	Yelumalai.	N. 15 E. 27	4	1050		
	26	Mannarkotta (Minor).				Manarkottah.	do.	Manarkottah.	S. 79 E. 24	2	1488		
	27	Shevelputti Mitah.				Shama Naick.	do.	Shevalputti.	S. 29 30 E. 15	6	1799		
	28	Vady Mitah.				Muttukumarasami Muniagar.	Anbala-kuren.	Vandy.....	S. 83 E. 17	2	1587		
													96,388

NELLEIYAMBALAM TALOOK.

DIVISION OF THE TALOOK.—Nelleiyambalam Talook forms one of the eleven divisions, the capital of which is Tirunelveli. The villages Kadeiyam and Anapur are insulated in the Brahmadsum Talook.

SITUATION.—Tirunelveli is in latitude 8 - 43 - 25 north, and longitude 77 - 44 - 39 East of Greenwich, at the distance of 388 miles S. W. of Madras, and 46 miles N. by W. of Cape Comorin, 86 miles S. by W. of Madura, and 89 miles S. W. of Rannad.

BOUNDARY AND EXTENT.—This Talook is bounded on the north by Streevygundam; on the south by Kalakadu; on the east partly by Vidukramam and partly by Streevygundam, and on the west by Shermahadevi and Bramadesum Talooks, comprising an area of 190½ square miles, exclusive of hills, which abound in that portion of Kadeiyam, and Anapur insulated in the latter Talook to the west.

CAPACITY.—The Talook is flat and open, very fertile, and adapted for the cultivation of paddy, from its being dependent on the Tambrapurni and Sittar rivers, and yields two abundant crops in the year. The extent of the paddy lands is 34920 ¹⁰/₁₀₀ acres, of which 20566 acres are arable, and the remainder waste. The dry grain lands are of a very inferior quality, & comprise 93343 ¹/₁₀₀ acres, of which 76745 ¹⁴/₁₀₀ acres are arable, and the remainder waste.

DIVISIONS AND THEIR SUB-DIVISIONS.—The former sub-divisions into which the Talooks were divided have been abolished, since a decennial settlement was made with the ryots in 1801 and 2. This Talook contains 245 villages of which 83 are principal, 157 subordinate; of these 60 are in ruins, but by the Hoozoer accounts they are held under the following manner, viz. 109 villages are held on lease, 11 under Amani, 16 are Kuttugutagai or Shrotriuna, and one granted on Inam or Survamaniam. The results of the statistical accounts give 395 inhabitants to each village or 197 males and 198 females, and more than 365 to the square mile.

FORTS, TOWNS, MARKETS, AND OTHER CONSIDERABLE PLACES.

PALAMCOTTAR.—The only regular Military fortress now extant in this province, situate on a vast plain 3 miles 5 furlongs east of Tirunelveli. The fort is about 3 furlongs, almost square, has 40 Bastions, 4 gates, and 8 slopes or ramps for ascending the ramparts. It has a parapet with loop holes and a dry ditch with rampart and parapet.

The east or Tiruchendur gate is shut up, and converted into a Powder Magazine; the west is the main gate which leads to Tirunelveli; the north is called the Madura gate and the south the Travancore gate. This Fort is said to have been built 257 years ago by a Gentu King named Kistnapa Naick, one of the ancestors of the celebrated Trimul Naick. The Garrison at present consists of one Battalion of Sepoys. A Colonel commands the Fort and District. One-third of

* These will be found in the Appendix.

the Fort on the south side is occupied by the officers, the houses being at a considerable distance from each other affords a fine circulation of air and preserves healthiness. The Commandant's house is large and spacious; it is near the south gate, opposite to which is the parade or exercising ground, on the extremity of which is a Sepoy Barrack and Magazine, and on the north is a small Protestant church and Burial ground belonging to the Tanjore Mission, said to be erected many years ago by a converted Brahmin woman, baptized by the late Reverend Mr. Swartz. In the Burial ground are a few remarkable monuments, with *Inscriptions of some note; the oldest of them is in the year 1785.

The first Military Chaplain, the Reverend I. Hough, received his appointment to this station in October 1816; he opened an English school for native children; and a few Tamil schools in this vicinity, and at Tirunelveli. At present the Reverend Doctor Hatchison, L. L. D. officiates here and superintends the school in the Fort. At a small distance north of the Protestant church is a Roman church; a Goa priest occasionally resorts to officiate at it from Vellankulam. The Public Buildings in the Garrison are as follows, viz.

No. 1	A Field Officer's Quarters....	96 yards from the south gate.
2	Gun Shed... ..	220 do. do.
3	Garrison stores... ..	221 do. do.
4	Powder Magazine... ..	S. E. Angle of Fort 60 yards.
5	Expense Magazine... ..	E. Gate and stone choultry.
6	Sepoy Barracks... ..	388 yards from south gate.
7	Barrack guard and store room... ..	389 do. do.
8 & 9	2 Guard rooms... ..	On the E. and S. W. angle of Fort.
10	Powder Magazine, guard room... ..	Near the S. W. angle.
11	Sepoy Hospital about... ..	254 yards N. face.
12	Place of arms for a Battalion... ..	E. face 130 yards.
13	Granary, about... ..	75 yards from the S. W. angle.
14 to 30	Sentry houses... ..	In different places in the Fort.

The high Cavalier or Flag Staff Battery being at present in a decayed state, the British Flag (on every Sunday) is hoisted on the main gate. Palamcottah has 5 subordinates, and contains 2167 houses, and 9460 inhabitants, exclusive of the Military. There are several Hindoo temples, the two most remarkable are dedicated, one to the god Rajah Gopaul, and the other to Peraum Eshuren: the former has a pretty high spire and a wall surrounding it. A car festival is celebrated annually in the month of February for 10 days. The latter is patronized by a very respectable and opulent Hindoo named Teroovarkad Vengoo Moodeliar, well known to the European community. His ample fortune enables him to be splendidly hospitable and generous. A festival is celebrated to this temple in the month of April for 10 days with a magnificence rarely equaled in any other Hindoo temple; the illumination displayed at this brilliant festival was in a saloon embellished with paintings and rich lustres and variegated lamps. A grand entertainment is given on the fifth day of the festival which is usually honored by the presence of gentlemen of the Garrison. The saloon is part of his dwelling house, which is a superb upper roomed edifice furnished with a variety of costly Europe Furniture, Pictures, Clocks &c. and a valuable Library of English books &c. &c. The Moodeliar established a Band of English music at a considerable expense which is chiefly devoted to the service of the temple every evening in the Fort.

The Putnoolcar weavers occupy the N. E. and N. W. quarters of the Fort which is crowded with houses, among which are several good buildings. This class is remarkable for their unwearied industry in the manufacture of excellent cambrics, muslins and Izarees of superior qualities; Gindums, long cloths, towels, and napkins, tapes and a variety of embroidered cloths for natives, are also extensively manufactured and form a valuable article of export especially to Travancore, and the Malabar coast.

A Europe shop is kept by a respectable Parsee merchant in the Fort. The wells in the Fort with few exceptions, are very brackish; the water of the river is generally preferred and is chiefly used.

A gravel road has been recently made on the south side of the Fort, leading from Mr. Sullivan's garden house near the river, and affords a pleasant drive to the Fox hills nearly 5 miles to the S. E. of the Fort.

TIRUNELVELI.—A celebrated and populous town in the southern Carnatic, of considerable antiquity, situated upwards of a mile west of the Tambrapurni river, 35 miles from the sea, where that river disembogues. The town consists of 6 principal villages, viz. Nelleiyambalam, Ettukunnari, Tenputtu, Palaputtee, Cundiaperi and Pulliapputtadapettah; these with their subordinates form the town of Tirunelveli. It contains 6857 houses, of which 142 are upper roomed and terraced, 323 low terraced, and 741 tiled buildings; the remainder thatched. The number of inhabitants is 23024. It is in a low situation surrounded by paddy fields; the streets are under water during the rains. The Shuttamallay and Arnapuram canals from the Tambrapurni river pass through the town, over which bridges are constructed. They supply water for nearly 8 months in the year. There are 12 principal streets and 142 lanes, several of which have names indicating the various professions and castes of the inhabitants; the E. and S. parts are occupied chiefly by Brahmins; the N. and W. side of the temple is lined by bazaars and houses of the Suder part of the population. The streets with exception of the principal ones, which are wide and airy, are intricate. Near the S. E. angle of the great car street is a commodious and extensive dwelling of a respectable and opulent Goozerat Brahmin named Tackr, with splendid furniture of British manufacture. Scarce a year passes without fire making ravages among the thatched buildings; but the most dreadful calamity of that kind that ever happened at Tirunelveli was in 1779, when two thirds of the town were consumed. The Bazaars and granaries are well supplied. A market is held every Thursday in the western suburb called Pelliya Pettay which was established in the reign of Mungammal (Queen of Madura). Articles exhibited for sale are grain, culinary stuffs, onions, yams, vegetables, cotton, yarns, cloths, nuts, salted fish and salt.

The great Shiven temple dedicated to the goddess Kandimadi Ammen and her consort Nelliapper affords evidence of its antiquity and former grandeur. It is said to have enjoyed great privileges, as recorded in the numerous inscriptions on the walls. The pagoda or temple is within three enclosures, the outer wall is 770 feet by 550, 27 feet high, and 4 feet thick. It has 5 spires or Goburams, two on the east facing the Sunnadee or presence of the god and goddess, the other three towards the cardinal points. Six Poojahs or ceremonies are daily performed from dawn of day to midnight, at the following stated times.

DAILY CEREMONIOUS OFFERINGS OR POOJAHS				DAILY EXPENSE			
Name.	English hours of the day.	Performances.	No. of Poojahs.	Cully Chuck-rans.	Rs.	A.	P.
1 Vailu Poojah or Sern Kalsundhee...	Morning twilight	Rising and ablution.	2	19	40	4	2
2 Kala Sundhee.....	At 9 o'clock A. M.	Procession	1				
3 Ochee Kalam	Midday	Do	1				
4 Shayarutchey	Evening twilight	Do	1				
5 Urtajamum	Midnight	Retires to the bed chamber	1				

The expense of these ceremonies conferred by Government per diem amounts to Rupees Forty and a quarter. There are 12 annual festivals, two of them grand ones; that in the month of June is in commemoration of the origin of the deity; the other in the month of October is the nuptial anniversary usually solemnized in all the Shiven temples; on these occasions, 5 cars highly ornamented and decorated, are drawn in procession through the streets; the expense for the latter festival is 1554 rupees, and the former 1550. At the grand festivals, the large Muntapams at the east gate of the temple are magnificently decorated for the reception of the deities. The expenses of the other festivals are also defrayed by Government and are from 74 to 375 rupees each. The whole expenses for the great Shiven temple amounts annually to Rupees 17,871 Annas 9 and Pice 1.

Car festivals for the Perumal or Vistna deity happens twice a year in the months of September and March; the sum allowed on these occasions do not exceed Rupees 210. There are 21 lesser temples within the precincts of the metropolis, to each of which an allowance of one Rupee is allowed, to defray the expenses of their establishments. There are besides several substantial edifices of granite dedicated to other deities and where food is usually served out to a limited number of Brahmins, from funds arising from charitable offerings. Exclusive of the Muntapams, there are Muddums appropriated for Brahmins & monks and Chuttrams for Bramin Sanscrit, Hindoostanee, Arabic. These schools average from 30 to 40 pupils each amounting to 2100 children, exclusive of the 4 Mission schools which meet every Wednesday evening in the town, and where the Hindoos, both men and women, often attend and hear a portion of Scripture tracts printed at Nagercoil in south Travancore are received by the Heathens of all castes and sexes, to whom they are gratuitously distributed, just after the meeting breaks up which often ends with a scramble. Of Mahomedan places of worship there are 18 principal mosques, 4 of which are designated by the term Muspeeds and 14 Pullivasals or lesser ones, together with several inferior kinds known by the name of Fakeer's Taikal, supported by Mohins or small sums in money conferred by Government according to the former usages of these institutions. There are two Roman churches and some chapels; the one at Poliappettay is the largest where a Goa priest resides; the other is on the north side of the town called Kundiaperi, built in 1786. The Tahsildar holds his Cutcherry in the outer apartment of the great pagoda.

The Police administration of the Talooks and Zemindaries is vested in Tahsildars since the offices of Darogahs were abolished in 1820. A Commissioners Court is held here for the recovery of small debts; the former under the control of the Magistrate, and the latter subject to the authority of the Judge of Madura.

The Zillah of Tirunelveli was established in the year 1808 when the Court of Ramnad was incorporated with Madura. This Court has since been abolished and annexed to the Zillah of Madura. The Court house is surrounded by a high wall, and since June 1823 has been appropriated as the Huzur Cutcherry. Tirunelveli has little manufacture besides the common long cloths &c. manufactured for the lower orders. Reed mats are manufactured by the Moormen or Lubbays, and Puttay Arrack by the Elawars, who also carry on a small manufacture of cloths. Here are two Mills for the manufacture of coarse *brown paper. A vast number of carts employ- ed in the transit of grain, cotton cloths, straw, tobacco, firewood, bamboos, timber &c. &c.

* 1st sort paper per quire 6 annas 10 pice;
2d sort paper per quire 4 annas 2 pice.
3d sort paper per quire 3 annas 1 pice.

† The hire of a cart, 2 bullocks and a driver is 10 annas per day or 24 rupees per month. A cart load of firewood sells from 3 to 3½ rupees, and 5 trips in a month will bring from 15 to 17 rupees living to a cart man.

TACHANALUR.—A fine village on the Suttamalli canal 2 miles N. E. of Tirunelveli. The great southern road well shaded by ancient and lofty banian trees, passes this village. There is a Farm here held by a Mr. Hughes, under Shrotrium tenure, where Indigo & senna are extensively cultivated. The village is chiefly inhabited by Vellalers and Vullyyedians; the latter trade in salt and cattle. A small Sivankovil of very ancient date (supposed to be co-temporary with the great Siven temple in Tirunelveli) stands on the E. side of the canal where a few Brahmins reside. A Mission school was opened here in 1819. At a small distance on the road to Madura is a fine commodious choultry built by Mutlakistappa Naick, an inhabitant of Tirunelveli. Contiguous to Mr. Hughes' garden house are a few mosques, enclosed by gardens and paddy fields.

SINDUPUNTUREI KOVILATTU AND SINDUPUNTUREI PALAYAGRAMUM.—These are two principal villages; the former contains 5 subordinates, and the latter 4, all of which are uninhabited.

SINDUPUNTUREI.—A celebrated village and pagoda on the left bank of the Tambraparni river, where there is a Ferry. There is a grand Muntapam erected in the bed of the river styled the "Shivaterum Muntapam," to which the deities from the temple of Tirunelveli are conveyed and where the celebration of the floating festival is solemnized in the month of January, for which Government allows Rs 210. This fine village is chiefly inhabited by Brahmins; in the vicinity is a large upper roomed house, formerly the property of a Mr. Young, Judge of Tirunelveli; it at present belongs to a respectable Mussulman. The garden is well stocked with fruit trees and grapes, and within the premises is a mosque dedicated to the memory of the father of the present proprietor.

KONKARABULAM.—A commercial village on the right bank of the Tambraparni river, and opposite to the ferry of Sindupunturei. It is on the left of the road from Palamcottah to Tirunelveli. Here is a Company's ware-house and cotton screw contiguous to the residence of the Commercial Agent whose dwelling is pleasantly situated on the bank of the river. The garden of the late Collector J. P. Huddleston Esquire is separated by a surplus drain of the paddy fields, called Pillei *Pottu pella pullum yeduta Voikal, which is crossed by a bridge. There are a few more garden houses occupied by Gentlemen of the Civil Service, and on the road to Madura there are two extensive gardens, the one on the left belongs to T. Vengu Mudaliar and the other on the right to Ramalinga Mudaliar, a person of fortune who formerly held a confidential situation under Colonel Maccauly, British Resident of Travancore. His dwelling is a large capacious edifice with a prominent cupola. Within Vengu Mudaliar's garden is an open building or Muntapam highly finished with paintings; here a festival is solemnized yearly on the day of the celebration of the floating festival, when the gods of Tirunelveli are conveyed thither with much pomp and grandeur, and where a sumptuous banquet is liberally provided on the occasion to a thousand Brahmins. Music and dancing is kept up almost till the following morning when the deities are re-conveyed to the temple.

KULAVANIGAPURAM.—A village a small distance from the south gate of Palamcottah on the right of the road to Travancore. The many ruined habitations indicate its having been once a populous place. There is a Mosque enclosed by a small garden 3 miles 2 furlongs east of Tirunelveli.

KURICHI.—A small village east of Melapaliam on the bank of the Palavur water course. Here is an ancient temple dedicated to the god Sokeinader and his consort Meenachi Ammen and a small Agrarum on the east; the suder population is divided from it by a Tope of palmyra trees. One of the Mission schools here has been abandoned owing to the small number of children that attend. It is 2 miles 2 furlongs east of Tirunelveli.

MELAPALAYAM.—A large populous village next to Palamcottah for its extensive manufacture of cloths, situated 3 miles from that place, and 2 miles 2 furlongs east of Tirunelveli, on the Palavur canal of irrigation. Melapalayam is said to be so called from its having been once the site of the Kartakals or Gentoo kings encampment after the invasion of the Pandya Dynasty. It was originally a small village; a number of Moormen have settled here as weavers. It contains 1252 houses with 5431 inhabitants of whom 4914 are Lebbays. It is in 8 divisions,

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. Melapalayam. | 5. Karunkulam. |
| 2. Viraragavapuram. | 6. Palla Pettre or Nelliambalam Permapattu. |
| 3. Kulavanigapuram. | 7. Vallagam. |
| 4. Kurichi. | 8. Velleikovil. |

The two latter appertain to the Seranmahadevi Talook; the others to the Nelliambalam Talook; their precincts are complicated and form 32 streets with a row of trees in the middle of each, affording shade to the manufacturers who employ 806 looms in the manufacture of long cloths or Cutchey from 8 to 12 Kaul qualities, also carpets, Gingham, coarse narrow cloth in imitation of Nankeen, table cloths, towels and napkins, Jools for horses, white and striped girths, lined and narrow tapes; these are chiefly exported to Ceylon, Malabar and Bombay. There are several mosques & burial grounds. The Mission school that was opened here has been recently abolished owing to the refractory conduct of the Lubbay Moormen and the non-attendance of the children. The environs of this place abound with paddy cultivation which yields 2 crops a year.

* This name carries a tradition that a woman of one of the common labouring classes having seen a Jack fruit coming down the stream, threw the child she held in her arms into the stream, and thereby lost her child, for the fruit. Hence the name of the canal originated.

MELNATTUR.—A village & Agrarum on the right bank of the Tambrapurni opposite Kurpentorei and ferry on road to Melapalayam $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. E. of Tirunelveli. It contains 144 houses chiefly occupied by Putnoolcar weavers; the lands on both sides of the river are exceedingly fertile, and well cultivated with paddy, betel, sugar cane and plantains &c.

MINNIRPULUM.—Village and Agrarum contains two subordinates, one of which is in ruins. It is on the right bank of the Palavar canal $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. of Tirunelveli. It is chiefly occupied by a peculiar description of religious mendicants called Jangamandees and noted for a Brahmin Sanniasy Muddum and other religious buildings. Here are a few mechanics and the place is overspread with palmyra trees.

TARUVET.—A village and Agrarum 4 miles S. by W. of Tirunelveli below the Puthayar, which crosses the Palavar canal close the road from Palamcottah to Stheranmahadevi &c.; the former discharges itself into the Tambrapurni river.

KILA OMANELLUR.—A village on the right bank of the Puthayar & limit of Stheranmahadevi $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. of Tirunelveli. It contains two subordinates. It is chiefly inhabited by Vellalars. Mela Omanellur is on the opposite bank.

KARUNKADU.—A small village and Agrarum on the left bank of the Suttamalli canal and Tambrapurni river $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles W. of Tirunelveli. It is chiefly occupied by Pullers, who are the agricultural labourers. Here is a small Shiven or Vishnu Kovil. The soil is fertile, and abounds with paddy.

NARASINGANULLUR.—On the left bank of the Ariyanapuram canal below the village Suttamalli $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles W. of Tirunelveli. It contains 7 subordinates, of which one is in ruins. On the north is a high rising ground which inclines for a few miles W. N. W. to Milelaedipotha. This village is chiefly occupied by Yeddears or Herdsmen and Artizans. Here are a few Papists of the Rajah and Paravar caste who have a chapel for the performance of divine worship.

MURTIWARAM.—A small village and Agrarum of considerable antiquity on the left bank of the Tambrapurni river $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. of Tirunelveli, and at a small distance N. of the road which leads from Palamcottah to Madura.

PALAVUM.—A small village and Agrarum on the left bank of the Tambrapurni 6 miles W. of Tirunelveli. It is noted for a substantial dam or Anicut, which leads off a large canal of irrigation called the Palamcottah water course, and which extends to the eastward as far as Melapattam, and is said to cultivate 3100 Koties of seed land, or 5022 Acres. There is a small Kovil on the W. side, and on the opposite bank a delightful Tole that affords a pleasant cool shade to a number of workmen that are employed on the Anicut for the last 21 years, at an expense of nearly 25,000 Rupees.

KODANGANALLUR.—A village pleasantly seated on the N. bank of the Tambrapurni river 7 miles W. of Tirunelveli. It contains 265 houses, 897 inhabitants. The Brahmins form one fourth of the population. The Agrarum was founded by Anantappa Naiker of the Genta kings from which the place is sometimes called Anantappahsamudram. A venerable Braminy priest or Sanniasy resides here (as a recluse) in a Munlapum on the brink of the river contiguous to an old pagoda dedicated to the god Abmoortee Esuren, and a pagoda dedicated to Perumaul in the termination of the Agrarum. The neighbourhood abounds with paddy fields studded with villages and minor pagodas of little or no note.

MARUDUR.—A very ancient village 6 miles N. E. of Palamcottah. It is pleasantly situated on the right bank of the Tambrapurni river; this place is remarkable for the great Anicut across the river, which is said to record the name of two Princesses, Marudavulli and Sedeivalli, the original founders of this important work; the former is said to have led off a canal of irrigation to the right called the Azhwartirunagarum water course. This Anicut notwithstanding the great improvement made by Colonel Caldwell in the year 1807, occasions considerable expense from year to year; the upper branch on the left of the river cultivates upwards of 6100 acres of paddy, while the lower one on the right irrigates 7129 Acres. The country is diversified by a pleasing scenery of fields, topos and palmyras.

SIVALAPERI.—A village pleasantly situated east of the confluence of the Sittar river with the Tambrapurni. The Agrarum is noted for the temple dedicated to Kistnasawmy; it is surrounded by the dwellings of the Vishnuvite Bramins who are chiefly the Mirasidars. The houses are separate and have names descriptive of the various castes and professions of the inhabitants, such as Vellalarkudi, Cosvenkudi, Shanarkudi, Tulukerkudi; there is a breach between the two latter divisions occasioned by the bursting of the Sevalaperi tank which falls into the river. A stone bridge has been constructed across this breach. A fine weekly market held every Sunday, where cattle from Virduputti, Nagalapuram & Komari are brought for sale, as also grain, cotton, yarn, cloths, jaggery, betel and vegetables; the Shanars have a warehouse for jaggery which is bartered for cotton. Here reside a few Papists of the Paravar caste who have a small chapel. Sivalaperi is situated $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. of Palamcottah and $23\frac{1}{2}$ miles E. of Tuticorin.

SUTTAMALLI.—A village of some antiquity, seated on the canal of that name $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. W. of Tirunelveli. It is divided by a canal and bridge called the new and old Agrarum, which with its dependant hamlets, are thinly scattered. It contains 244 houses, 11 of which are terraced and tiled, inhabited chiefly by Brahmins & Vellalars; the former opulent Mirasidars, & the latter cultivators.

Tradition ascribes the name of the village to the purity of an ordeal event that happened in the reign of Allagiah Pandi Permaul Rajah of Vullainagaram (one of the kings of the 6 principalities of the Pandi dynasty) who accused his consort of infidelity; but the Queen to prove her

innocence appealed to heaven, that is, to pass through fire, after preparing herself by bathing and performing her devotions in the most solemn manner, adorned with jewels, and flowers, compatible to her dignity; she was conducted to a convenient place near the temple, where the dreadful ordeal by fire was prepared; and it is affirmed that she passed through the element unhurt, with her only son (the young Prince then 12 years of age) that even the flowers with which the mother and son were adorned, did not sustain the least injury, whereby the Queen was declared innocent of the crime she was unjustly charged with; and such a proof of her innocence perpetuated her memory and gave name to the place Suttamalli or Suttavalli as it is sometimes called & which illustrates those names to be "Pure Jessamine," or "Pure woman". This singular circumstance is said to be recorded in the Stallapuram of the temple dedicated to the gods Buggawuddy Esurer & Sokaanayaghee Ammen. The Brahmins never fail to turn such occurrences to advantage by imposing on the ignorant and superstitious of all ages, to bestow manors to the temple by which their establishments have been richly endowed with lands for their support from the most remote times. There are two car festivals in the year; one in April & the other in October; the latter is generally in all Siven pagodas in commemoration of the marriage of that deity.

KONDANAGARAM.—A small village 5 miles W. of Tirunelveli on the road to Kuttalam; the houses are on both banks of the Ariyanapuram canal, a branch from the Tambrapurni river. It contains 74 houses and 332 inhabitants, chiefly husbandmen.

MELAKULLUR.—On the left bank of the Ariyanapuram canal, on the road to Kuttalam $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles W. of Tirunelveli; has two subordinates, both of which are in ruins. A small Agrarum & pagoda dedicated to Vistnu stands on the west. It is considerably elevated above the surrounding paddy fields.

RENGASAMUDRAM.—On the left bank of the Kuddenanuddi river 14 miles W. of Tirunelveli. It contains 8 subordinates, with exception to the Cusbah and Eddikal; the others are very thinly inhabited. Here a fine market is held weekly which is resorted to from the neighbouring districts and villages; at Eddikal is an ancient Goburum where periodical festivals are celebrated to the minor deities. 64 looms are employed. The soil is fertile and abounds with groups of palmyra trees.

MANUR.—A very ancient village on the left of the road which leads to Sunkaranainarkovil, $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. of Tirunelveli. It was formerly very populous and is said to be co-temporary with Tirunelveli. An old pagoda dedicated to Subbabadi is regarded by the Hindoos as the place of accouchment of the Queen Padagavalli, of a Prince named Streveelli Maharajah. The father of this Prince was called Prandi Maha Rajah, who died soon after the Queen conceived, and the Queen is said to have died almost instantly after the birth of the young Prince: such are the memorable remembrances of this place. Some curiosity is excited as to the exquisite carvings of numerous wooden idols or images deposited here: about 400 yards to the south stands another temple dedicated to Perumaul. The extensive ruins in this vicinity indicate its once having been a place of some celebrity; at present it contains a few houses of Brahmins, Suders and Pullers; in the whole 146 houses and 570 inhabitants. It is remarkable that on the day of the Avani Mulam constellation, when the Chittri Subbei festival is solemnized at Tirunelveli, the gods Nelliappar and Sabapadi are brought hither on their vehicles followed by the Tahsildar and dancing girls with music to perpetuate the event of the deity having been found here in the disguise of a mendicant, to which an offering of 12000 Padeigams of land was endowed as charity to the temple. Near the temple on the south side is a granite pillar $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height and one foot thick, brought it is said from Mecca, by some Mahomedans who regard it as an emblem of adoration. The Hindus also testify their homage to it by the name of Tiruvaddipoti, the votaries make offerings and anoint the stone with oil, and which bears an inscription the character of which is unintelligible. Manur is noted for one of the largest tanks in the province for irrigation; it is supplied by a canal from the Sittar river. It is asserted that the tank was also supplied by a canal from the Tambrapurni river, of which, however, no traces are discernable. But for want of necessary repairs, the tank is dwindling into insignificance by the vast accumulation of soil in its bed, so that it scarcely admits of the whole of the paddy lands being irrigated.

INSULATED INTO THE BRAMADESAM TALOOK.

AMBUR.—A fine village and Agrarum W. of the road from Ambasamadram to Tenkasi and Kuttalam, almost 3 furlongs S. of the Kuddenanuddi, and 20 miles W. of Tirunelveli, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. W. of Bramadesam. It has a pagoda on the west dedicated to Perumaul. A few Shanars form the lity of the Roman chapel. A ridge of low hills E. of the road is covered with coppice or brushwood.

KADAYUM.—A pretty populous village & Agrarum E. of a small stream, called the Errenceaur on the road to Kuttalam from Bramadesam. Here another road from Tirunelveli via Stheranmahadevi joins, and is $22\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. W. of Tirunelveli. There are two Shiven Kovils, 3 temples of the Vistnavites. On the E. side is a small Kovil. Among the Maravar habitations stands a gigantic figure of Potter's ware, to whom offerings & sacrifices are made, of cocks by the Suders. Here is a Roman Church, the congregation consists of a few Vellian Chetties. The hamlets dependant on Kadayum are thinly inhabited. This insulated portion contains 2578 souls. At some distance to the N. W. is a high ridge of hills called Kurumalli, and its vicinity abounds with palmyra trees. Jaggery is manufactured here, as also coarse cloths, reed mats, gunnies &c.

KUTTUGUTTAGAI VILLAGES.

VYGIYARAGAVA MUDALI SATTIRAM.—A small distance E. of Palamcottah, on the direct road to Trichendur about 6 miles from Tirunelveli. It contains one subordinate village granted to the Suttiram which bears the name of its founder. The Suttiram is a commodious building adapted for the accommodation of Hindu travellers, and is occupied by a Brahmin family. Here is a small Siven Kovil surrounded by 4 wide streets. A car festival is celebrated at it once a year. There are establishments which provide daily from 10 to 15 Brahmin travellers. The Villa or Suttiram consists of 107 houses and 232 inhabitants. Here is a Tamil school for educating a few youths; they have 3 looms, also an oil Mill. The lands abound with fine tanks which irrigate 58½ Koties of seed in paddy, and from 979 chains of dry grain land; 391 are cultivated, 353 uncultivated, the remainder waste; there are besides 2567 trees of various descriptions, mostly palmyra; about 2000 sheep, black cattle and buffaloes are reared for maintaining an efficient establishment for the management and preservation of the Suttiram.

VELLANKULAM.—A village having two subordinates granted to Rungapunditee Shrotriumdar. It is 5 miles N. W. of Tirunelveli, and south of the road which leads to Tenkasi; it contains 107 houses and 513 inhabitants.

SETTIKULAM.—Situated 7 miles E. of Tirunelveli on the left side of the road which leads to Tuticorin and Ramnad from Palamcottah. It contains 14 houses and 71 inhabitants, and is held by Kumaraswamy Pillai on Shrotrium tenure.

PANEIYANKULAM.—Gives name to a tank on the E. of Palamcottah which irrigates 12 Kotois of paddy land, and 5 chains of Punjai land, is cultivated with dry grain on the Shrotrium tenure granted to Alvar Pillai.

PARTIVOI KULAM.—A small village containing 17 houses and 69 inhabitants granted on Shrotrium tenure to Kasi, by whose agents the revenue is collected.

TACHANALLUR BANGALA.—This village has been already described amongst the Izara villages in this Talook. It is a short distance N. of Tirunelveli on the high road from Madura. It is granted on Shrotrium tenure to Muttukarpa Pillai. Mr. George Hughes, an Indo-British merchant has his residence here with extensive indigo works, from which it appears that the word "Bangala" is an addition to the name of the village, which contains 220 houses and a population of 895 inhabitants, chiefly Maravars. Here are about 15 bazaars which the road to Palamcottah separates.

SHERNMAHADEVI TALOOK.

SHERNMAHADEVI.—A very fertile Division W. of Tirunelveli, designated a Pergunnah, and ranks first in the List of the Provincial accounts of that Collectorate. It was originally an Hierarchy, conducted chiefly by Brahmins of the sacred order, styled "Dermasamam." It is said to have been incorporated with the other Talooks, after the Government of the Kurtacles or Gentoo Kings were overthrown by the Mahomedan power, in 1739 A. D.

DIVISIONS AND THEIR BOUNDARIES.

This Division is in four distinct parts, viz. 1st Shernmahadevi Cusbah, 2d Vellangudi to the west, 3rd Karuvannallur to the N. E., and 4th Melapattam to the E. The boundaries of each are respectively as follows:—

SHERNMAHADEVI CUSEAH.—Is bounded on the N. by the Nelliambalam Talook, and defined by the Tambrapurni River 6 miles; on the E. and S. partly by Nelliambalam and Kalakadu Districts, and by a small portion of the Shencottah Talook of Travancore, insulated by the villages Poodugoody and Shevacampuram, lying on the S. bank of the Kunnadian canal.

VELLANGUDI.—Lies 5 miles of Shernmahadevi, it is bounded on the N. and E. by Brahmadessam, embracing the lands of Makkudal N. of the river. On the S. by the Kunnadian canal, & on the W. partly by Brahmadessam, & partly by the Woorkad Zemindary; the latter is defined by the left bank of the Tambrapurny River, which also divides Sattupattu, an insulated village of Nelliambalam Talook.

KARUVANALLUR.—7½ miles of Shernmahadevi. This portion is bounded on the N. and E. by the Nelliambalam Talook, and on the S. and W. by Brahmadessam.

MELAPATTAM.—Is the most easterly portion, embracing several villages on the right bank of the Tambrapurni river, which defines the limit from Vannarpatay upwards of 7 miles to Toneythory between the Vidukramam Talook; on the E. by the great collateral branch of irrigation of Strivikuntam, which defines the limit of Vidukramam, on the S. & W. partly by the Kalakadu District and partly by Nelliambalam. The several insulated Boundaries are estimated to comprise an area of 104 square miles, of which the extent of paddy lands contains 27,070½ Acres, 14,931 of which are cultivated, and 1,103 uncultivated, the remainder waste. The dry grain lands are estimated to be 29,764½ Acres, of which 27,856 are cultivated, and 5,276 uncultivated, the remainder waste.

SUB-DIVISIONS.

This Division or Pergunnah, constitutes 108 villages, of which 54 are principal, 126 subordinates, and *60 in ruins: abstracting the ruined villages, the population gives 284 souls to each village and 361 to a square mile.

VILLAGES, MARKETS AND OTHER CONSIDERABLE PLACES.

SHERANMAHADEVI.—A town of considerable antiquity gives name to the division. It is a short distance from the right bank of the Tambrapurni 9 miles W. of Tirunelveli. The Town contains 5 subordinates, one in ruins, is divided by a large water course called Kannadiankal, and esteemed for several Hindoo temples in its vicinity, and for having been the residence of one of the foreign Princes, named Seran of Kerallam, who it is said, was the founder of the Town; his alliance with the Princess Mahadevi of the Pandi Dynasty, from which was derived joint names Sheran-Mahadevi. It is chiefly inhabited by Brahmins, partly Vistnu, and partly Shiva. The Town contains 1142 houses; the Agraram of the former surrounds Ramaswamynader temple, skirting the paddy fields on the N. side; and that of the latter the S. W. part of the Town. The suder part of the population live divided according to their respective caste and profession. The Cutcherry of the Tahsildar is a new tiled building, fronting the pagoda of Ramaswaminader. To the E. are the remnants of Seran's ruins, where a small rustic building, evidently a temple of ancient date, and a stone well and cistern, the latter an excavated piece of granite 117 inches in length, 30 inches wide, and 12 inches in depth, the remains of antiquity. The Maravars occupy this part of the Town, who it is curious, from time immemorial, venerate a Cenotaph, in memory of the defunct Sovereigns of the Pandian race: This emblem consists of a rude Pyramid with paintings, under a thatched roof, where sacrifices of Boars, Cocks &c. are made, & buried within its precincts. On the right bank of the Tambrapurny is a temple with spacious buildings of stone Mundapams, and a fine Chuttriam founded by a Kannadi Brahmin, an opulent modern Traveller well known also as the founder of the great Annicut and canal on the Tambrapurny River, above Kallanaikurichi, both of these admirable works are called after his

* Kannadian Annel. Kannadiankal. *name to the present day. The Chuttriam is liberally endowed so as to provide food for 24 Brahmins daily. In the enclosure is a grove of Myrabolam trees, as also mango and tamarind, and kitchen herbs. The Agattees greens cooked at this Chuttriam, is said to be much prized as a dainty by the Brahmins, for its peculiar flavour and taste. Besides endowments of lands, it receives a gratuitous offering of six Tulams of pepper, from the Travancore Government. There are two rude bridges of stone across the canal, on the N. of the canal is a fine Reservoir built of stone, with regular steps, supplied by an aqueduct from the river, a small square edifice supported by four Pillars, stands in the centre; and on the N. and S. sides of this fine tank, are two substantial Mundapams. There is a Bungalow on the N. side of the tank, occasionally resorted to by the Collector, about the commencement of the Kuttalam season (the middle of June). It may be proper to record the melancholy event of the death of John Bernard Hudleston Esquire (late Collector). That unfortunate Gentleman quitted Palamcottah on the 7th May 1823, with the best part of the Huzzoor establishment, on their annual tour to Kuttalem, to enjoy the benefit of the season during the S. W. monsoon; on the second day after his arrival, after the close of public business, between the hours of 6 and 7 in the afternoon, he bolted the door of his room, and committed suicide by firing a pistol through his body. The deceased was conveyed the same evening to Palamcottah.

Adjacent to Seranmahadevi on the right bank of the Tambrapurny River, and E. of the aforementioned Chuttriam, is an old temple of note called Sribaktaperiam, dedicated to Meenjaray Swamiar of Travancore, as a benefice for his pious & religious zeal. It is fast falling to decay, but is one of the few existing remnants of beautiful ancient carved work, though on a coarse grained granite; there are others of modern date, that vie with its sculpture. It is affirmed that the artists of the present day in the southern countries avow "that with the exception of the carved work and sculptures, in the temple of Sribaktaperiam, Sattupattu, and Manamungalum, their work would be equal to any other extant in the Province." In the temple of Sribaktaperiam, there is still to be seen a subterranean passage called Padallapuditoray, which leads to a spring in the river, named Vecaushateertum; it is now less frequented by the Brahmins, on account of the pagodah fast falling to ruin.

The establishment of Aggrarams became prevalent in the reign of the Kurtacles in A. D. 1545, when many Brahmins were invited to settle on the banks of the Tambrapurny and Sittar rivers; the encouragement held out to them was that each Brahmin should enjoy 1½ of a Cotay of seed-land free of taxation. At that period the Aggraram of Shernmahadevi was enlarged, and lands endowed to a complement of 1800 Brahmins.

* There are 130 villages with their subordinates leased, 2 on Amani, 6 on Kattuguthagni & one on Inam or Fee gift.

† One Cotay equal to 70,644 square feet or 1½ Acres.

The following Table exhibits the principal Temples within the precincts of the Town.

Names of Temples and to whom dedicated.		Remarks.
Gods.	Goddesses.	
1 Ramaswaminader covil...	Seeta. Tyelammen.	In the Town N. W. quarter.
2 Vydenader covil...		
3 Nuddairapar covil...		S. bank of the River.
4 Allageappar covil...		
5 Ammanadaswamy covil...		do. do.
6 Davy Eshuramodiar covil...		On the E side & on Sharens ruins In the Town S. side.

The Brahmins of Seranmahadevi are known to be as inhospitable as they are dishonest, and exceedingly remarkable for falsehood; they are fond of quarrelling; should it happen even with a Pariah, they approach and drub him with their hands or stick, and observe no modesty in their language.

KUNYUR.—A principal Village on the right of a road which leads to the Aggraram, and on the right bank of the Kannadiankaul water course, $1\frac{1}{2}$ Miles S. W. of Seranmahadevi. It has one subordinate in ruins, a small Pagodah, and contains 245 houses; the lands about it is fertile, and well cultivated with Paddy.

KARISULANADAMANGALAM.—On the right bank of the Tambrapurney River, above the Palavur River, 2 Miles E. of Seranmahadevi, has 4 subordinate Villages, one in ruins. The banks of the River are shaded by a thick grove of Tamarind and Elapa Trees; a Pagodah dedicated to Venkatachalapuddi, is reputed for its antiquity, and the etymology of the place, which is recorded in an inscription "that the Palavur anicut was built in the reign of Stri-balli-maha Rajah, whose efforts to effect the work were in vain, until he obtained the advice of a pious sage, named Rama Reshee, who resided here. This devout personage urged the Rajah, first to build a Temple to the deity at this place, which was complied with, and was pleased to endow it with lands, as much as could be coured by an elephant in one day, after which the anicut was finished to the satisfaction of the Rajah, from which circumstance the place derived its name "Elephant coured city".

PATTAMADEI.—A Town of two Villages, one called Paleyagramam, the other Kovilpattu, and has 9 subordinates, 4 of which are in ruins. The Town is on the Kannadian-kaul water course, on the right of the road from Palamcottah to Papanasam, 2 Miles S. E. by E. of Seranmahadevi. Here are a few opulent Lubby Moormen, who monopolize the trade in cloths, which they export to Malabar via Cunnawaddy and Paul ghaut cherry. This being a thoroughfare, a choultry is established here. Besides 14 Minor Festivals that are celebrated, there is an Annual Car Festival takes place here. A Mosque, and Barial Ground, and a few Parriar Papists have a chapel.

KARAKURCHI.—Lies about 2 Miles S. by W. of Seranmahadevi on the road to Papanasam, and on the sides of the Kannadian watercourse. The canal is crossed by a Bridge to the Aggraram. A Perumal covil on the W. the dome of which has been injured by lightning, and by which several Houses of Brahmins were consumed at the same time, in February 1821. This Village contains 421 Houses, and 1384 Inhabitants, one third of whom are Brahmins. It is noted for the number of sheep bred here. A wide sheet of Paddy cultivation covers the space between the Village and River (with a few betel and sugar cane Gardens) on which the paddy lands chiefly depend. Here are 3 Sugar Presses for the manufacture of Jaggry and coarse sugar.

ANANDASAMUDRUM.—A principal Village and Aggraram. It has 5 subordinates, 3 of which are in ruins; there is a Temple to Shiven. It is noted for a sanscrit school and two Telugu schools. The weaving class consists chiefly of Putta shallians, who manufacture cloths of strong red dye: they employ about 63 Looms, and the Elavers seven. There is also a Granary, a few Bazars, arrack and Toddy shops; including subordinates it contains 427 Houses, and 2049 Inhabitants.

KESAVASAMUDRAM.—A principal Village containing one subordinate, Miles of Seranmahadevi. Gopalasamudram.—Situated on the Palavur canal, E. $5\frac{1}{2}$ Miles of Seranmahadevi. It contains 368 Houses chiefly Brahmins, a few of whom are very opulent husbandmen. There are 49 terraced Houses, two are upper roomed, coarse cloth and Gunnies are manufactured here, the former by Elavers, and the latter by Chalapirs, who are also Palankoen Bearers; they fish in Tanks and Rivers, and are excellent swimmers, who guide passengers across the Rivers where there are no ferries. The Village is surrounded by a wide extent of Paddy cultivation.

VENKITARAYAPURAM.—A small Village dependant on the Kannadian canal Miles of Seranmahadevi.

SEVAL.—Is divided into two Villages, the one on the W. is called Sevalmataverapuram, and the other on the E. Keela Seval; the former contains 5 subordinates, 4 of which are in ruins, the

latter 4 subordinates 3 of which are in ruins. The Village has a Pagodah on the W. dedicated to Auditha vanna Eshuren; a Car festival is celebrated at it on the day of the Chittravissu. It lies 4 Miles E. of Seranmahadevi, where the Kannadian canal empties itself into the Seval Tanks. Keela Seval on the E. is noted for the manufacture of Gunnies, and is about a mile distant from the former.

PIRANYERI.—Is on the right of the road to Papanasam, below the bank of a large tank of irrigation E. 5 miles of Seranmahadevi. It contains 4 subordinates, 2 of which are in ruins.

KODAGANALLUR KOVILPATTU.—A small village of 22 houses on the Tambrapurni river, bestowed to the temple at a village on the opposite bank of the river pertaining to the Nelliya-balam Talook.

OMANALLUR.—A small village of 66 houses, 2 small pagodahs, and a Muddum on the left bank of the Patchayaur, which marks the boundary of this division with Nelliya-balam. There are 14 looms employed in the manufacture of coarse cloths, and the lands to the N. are well cultivated with paddy, the Kannadian water course ceases here.

TERUVENKIDANADANKOVIL.—A fine village and Aggraram, which gives name to a modern temple, pleasantly seated on the declivity of a low hill, on the left bank of the Suttamalli water course E. 7 miles of Seranmahadevi, and which runs contiguous to the Tambrapurni river, and the Kunnattur (naked hill) on the N. E. It contains 11 subordinates, 1 of which is in ruins. The pagodah is dedicated to the god Venkitachellaperumal, and is peculiarly celebrated for the offerings made to its shrine every Saturday, especially in the month of September, called Puratassi in which an annual festival is solemnized in honor of the deity, that is so much famed at Tripetty. It may not be improper to observe, that the common name of the place, by which it is sometimes called, "Dandu Tivenna Covil," is said, that the Brahmins believe, that when the Grand Army of the Kurtack encamped here, the deity presided on the summit of the hill, hence the modern origin of the temple. Here is a Sanscrit and Tamil school. The surrounding lands exhibit a wide sphere of paddy cultivation, betel, plantain and sugar cane gardens. The manufactures here are coarse cloths, sugar, pots, chatties &c.

MINASLEIPURAM.—A small village pleasantly seated on the left bank of the Tambrapurni river E. of Tirunelveli. It contains 13 subordinates of which 8 are in ruins. The Lubby weavers dependant on this village having settled at Melapoleyam, in the Nelliya-balam Talook, their number and looms are mentioned in the description of that village.

MELAPATTAM.—Lies on the N. E. side of a naked hill of the same name, between the embankments of a string of tanks, and the Palavur canal. It contains 2 subordinates; on the summit of the hill is a small pagodah, and another in the village. A car festival is celebrated at it annually. The country abounds with paddy cultivation and palmira trees. It is N. E. 16 miles of Seranmahadevi.

KERAPATTAM.—Lies about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Melapattam; it has 2 subordinates, both in ruins. A Mission school was opened here in the year 1821.

AVANAPERI.—A small village containing 4 subordinates, 3 of which are in ruins E. 1 mile of Melapattam.

NADUVAKURCHI.—A village on a plain, environed by tanks of irrigation, and about a mile right of a road from Palamcottah to Tuticorin. It contains 3 subordinates, 1 of which is in ruins. The tanks are well supplied by the Palavur canal. 5 miles E. of Palamcottah.

ARVAKULAM.—A pleasant Village below the embankment of a large Tank, S. E. 4 Miles of Melapattam. It contains 13 subordinates, 1 of which is in ruins. There is a Temple dedicated to Shiven, where an annual car festival is celebrated. The country in this vicinity abounds with Palmyra trees, the Paddy lands are supplied by the Palavur canal, from the Tambrapurney. The Missionaries established a Tamil school here.

ATTALANALLUR. A populous Town and Temple of great sanctity; the streets are well formed, the Aggraram is divided from the sader population. It contains 1 subordinate, and is pleasantly situated on the right bank of the Tambrapurney W. $6\frac{1}{2}$ Miles of Seranmahadevi. A Shiven Temple on the E. side of the Town, is dedicated to Gaja-Indravurder; two car festivals are celebrated annually, much resorted to by the people of the adjacent Districts. This place is noted for its fine red cloths, dyed by the Putta shallians; the colour both in cloth and thread is very durable, and are exported to the neighbouring Districts. With respect to the deity, the Brahmins have a tradition, that while one of the ancient Rajahs, Manappadevidu, was on a visit here, he was transformed into an elephant by the curse of the celebrated Aggustiar; hence the name Gaja Indravurder originated. The Kannadian water course affords an abundant supply for fertilizing the Paddy lands, with which it abounds.

TENNUR.—A small Village containing 86 Houses, and 1 subordinate in ruins.

VELBANKOLLI.—A Village and Aggraram on the right bank of the Kannadian canal W. 5 Miles of Seranmahadevi. It contains 2 subordinates 1 of which is in ruins; there are several relics of monuments of antiquity, which indicate its former prosperity, especially when the Shoorimootian Pass to Travancore was frequented. This place being a thoroughfare, a choultry is established for Land custom duties. It contains 402 houses, and 1,693 Inhabitants. An annual car festival is celebrated here. There are Sanscrit, Tamil and Telugu schools, besides about 81 Looms are employed, 60 of which by the Putnool Weavers, where coarse and fine muslins are made for the Nairs in Travancore. Jaggry and coarse sugar are also manufactured and

Paddy and Betel cultivated. The ruins of the small Pagodah of Manamangalam, are on the right bank of the Tambrapurney opposite the Village Sautupattu. The sculptures and carved work are admirable and worthy of notice. This Temple is mentioned in the description of Seranmahadevi, being contemporary with the old Pagodah Sribaktaperiam.

TIRUPUDEIMARUDUR.—An ancient Village on the right bank of the Tambrapurney River opposite the confluence of the Cuddananathee River or Kannayaur. It contains 8 subordinates, 4 of which are in ruins. The Temple dedicated to the god Nagum banader is a sublime monument, with a high Gobrum or spire on the E. face. It is celebrated for its great sanctity, and supposed to have been founded long prior to the invasion of the Pandya Dynasty. The name of this place is derived from a venerable tree (on the brink of the river, facing a small entrance on the N. side of the Pagodah) called Maradamaram, the circumference of which is no less than 300 inches. It is affirmed, that the god Nagumbanader sprung from it, which has a neat platform under its bower and adorned with buildings, and a flight of stone steps to the bed of the River, where the Brahmans perform their ceremonies and ablutions. This Temple is surrounded by a high wall, and four wide streets. In the reign of the Kurtacles, a very grand Gobrum was commenced upon, on the east side which remains unfinished. On the S. E. side of the Pagodah is a fine stone Reservoir, with a square edifice in the centre supported by 8 Pillars. The Audy amnavassy is a day observed by the Hindus for bathing here. It is next in sanctity to the upper cataract of the Tambrapurney on the Pademeah mallei called the Bhana teertum, and those who do not go so far, resort here, where the junction of the two Rivers takes place; on this day the Deities of the Temple are conveyed in procession round the streets. The annual car festivals are celebrated here in the months of January and April. The endowment to the Pagodah was formerly very considerable, amounting to 8,560 cully chuckrams or 18,157 Rupees. There is a large granary within the precincts of the Temple, and a stone Mill or Press for manufacturing sugar, for the use of the Temple; also a large Tamarind Tree, called Orungapully, which implies "restless tree," from the circumstance that its leaves in the night remain unclosed. It is said not to bear fruit. There is also a Naval or Jumblum tree, remarkable for the white fruit it bears, which is quite the reverse of its kind. At a small distance from the Aggraram, is a stratum of white clay, 30 or 40 inches thick, with which the Hindus of the Shiva sect besmear their fore heads, and upper part of the body. There is a tradition, that an heathen sacrifice, or aggrum was performed here, similar to the one at the Temple of Inhardana at Wircullay in Travancore. The soil is exceedingly fertile, and widely cultivated with paddy, being well replenished by the Kannadian water course.

GIRIYAMMALPURAM.—A village consisting of 5 subordinates, 3 of which are in ruins. There is a small manufacture of coarse cloths. The lands are dependant on the Tambrapurney. It lies W. 3 miles of Seranmahadevi.

ARIKESAVANALLUR KOVILPATTU.—A small village containing 87 houses, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles W. of Seranmahadevi.

TINTIRUPUVANAM.—A small village on the right bank of the Tambrapurney river, 4 miles W. of Seranmahadevi.

MANABANALLUR.—A village containing 2 subordinates, 1 of which is in ruins; it lies a small distance below Tintirupuvanam.

MURAKANKURICHI.—A village has 1 subordinate, contiguous to Palamcottah, on the road to Madura and Tirunelveli. It is an insulated village of Seranmahadevi Talook. There are a few garden houses belonging to the civil servants attached to this Collectorate; also a Missionary garden, where 2 Missionaries reside, who have established several schools in this neighbourhood.

TEPAKULAM.—A small village containing 6 houses. It is merely noted for the 30 Cotays of Nunjah land: it is on the right bank of the Tambrapurney, 8 miles S. E. of Tirunelveli.

SUBRAMANIPURAM.—A village with one subordinate. It is dependant on the Palavur water course, miles of Seranmahadevi.

VELLAKOVIL.—A fine village and Aggraram between the Tambrapurney river and Palavur canal, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. N. W. of Palamcottah. It has 5 subordinate villages, 3 of which are in ruins. This place is noted for Gunnies; the Lubbay weavers, pertaining to this village, settled many years ago at Melapattam 2 miles S. W. by W. of Palamcottah.

KUMARASWAMIAPURAM.—A village with 2 subordinates, 1 of which is in ruins. It lies miles of Seranmahadevi.

KILA NATTAM.—A fine village and Aggraram on the right bank of the Palavur canal $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. of Palamcottah. It is chiefly inhabited by Shanars. The country abounds with palmyrah trees and paddy cultivation.

TIRUVANNADAPURAM.—A village and Aggraharam dependant on the Palavur canal $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Melapattam. It has one Esuren, and two Vistnu temples, and contains about 150 houses, of which 31 are terraced. Excepting the manufacture of a few coarse cloths there is nothing worthy of notice.

VISWANADAPURAM.—Village and subordinate in ruins.

TIMMARAJAPURAM.—On the right bank of the Palavur canal, opposite Kotoor of Nelloiyambalam on the opposite bank N. E. 1 mile of Palamcottah. On the East is a Chuttrum, and tank, and a fine Tope on the road which leads to Tuticorin via Shevalaperi.

KOLUMADEL.—A village on the Kannadian canal E. 8 miles of Seranmahadevi. It contains 78 houses, chiefly inhabited by husbandmen.

DESAMANIKAM.—A village and Aggraram dependant on the Palavur canal. It contains two subordinates, 1 of which is in ruins. It is held under Amani, with exception to 5 Cotays 11 Mercals and 5 measures of paddy land, which are leased, and held under the denomination of Desamanikam Covilpattu, which originally belonged to the pagodah; lies miles of Melapattam.

MANAPPADIVEDU.—A village held under Amani, is of considerable antiquity, on the right bank of the Tambrapurney N. E. $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Palamcottah, where this fine river winds in an easterly direction, and receives the Sittar, a short distance above Shevalapery on the opposite bank. This village, although small and running into insignificance, is somewhat celebrated in the Puranas, as having been the residence of one of the Pandya Kings, some vestiges of antiquity exhibit the vicissitudes of time. The portion of this village denominated Manappadevidu Kovilpathu, pertaining to the pagodah, contains only six houses. Out of 50 Cotays of paddy land, 17 are only cultivated.

The Kuttukuttagai or Shotrium villages granted on a moderate tenure in this Talook, are as follows, viz:—

Reddiarpatty, Yellanayakanpatty, Velankulam, Uttamapandiyankulam, Tannuttu, & Sivanadiyarkulam, three of which are very thinly inhabited, and three in ruins. The only Inam village contains an endowment to the pagodah at Seranmahadevi, to which the lands of Kuttiparcheri belong.

BRAMAHDESAM TALUQ.

NAME AND SITUATION.

BRAMAHDESAM.—Literally the name of a great city, by which a Division W. of Tirunelveli is known. It is also commonly called "Melmogan" or West Frontier Talook. It is situated 23 Miles W. by S. of Tirunelveli, and 6 Miles E. from the foot of the Mountains above Pappanasam Pagodah.

BOUNDARY AND EXTENT.

This Taluq is bounded on the N. by Tenkasi, and by the insulated portion of the Nelloyambalam and Streevikuntam Talooks, and partly by the Woothumalai Zemindary; on the S. by Seranmahadevi and Singampatti Zemindary, and on the W. it is separated by a high ridge of woody mountains, between the Districts of Neduvencand and Kotara curray of Travancore. Over this lofty range there are two Passes, the one into the latter District is called Munnemootar Pass, (which leads to Kolatupolay shantan covil from Alvarikurichi), and the other through the former is called the Shuriamuthankovil Pass (leading to Trivandrum from Singampatti Zemindary in Tirunelveli). This District comprises an area of 160 square Miles, exclusive of Hills and Forest. The extent of Paddy cultivation is 13,950 $\frac{1}{2}$ Acres; the uncultivated portion amounts to 3326 Acres, and the Dry grain land cultivated 36674 $\frac{1}{2}$ Acres, while 16,033 $\frac{1}{2}$ Acres remain uncultivated. There are several rivulets and the Tambrapurney River that take their rise from the mountains, with which this Talook abounds and fertilize the soil by artificial dams.

DIVISIONS AND THEIR SUB-DIVISIONS.

There are 149 villages in this Talook, 26 of which are principal, and 123 subordinates; or these 19 are in ruins. The number of villages on lease in this District are 36; one under Amani, 5 Shotrium or Kuttukuttagai, and 3 Inam or Jaghires amounting to 45 villages exclusive of their Subordinates. According to the census taken in the year 1821, there are upwards of 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ persons to each family, and about 200 to a square mile, and 214 to each village.

TOWNS, VILLAGES, MARKETS AND OTHER CONSIDERABLE PLACES.

BRAMAHDESAM.—An ancient city formerly the capital of the Talook of the same name. It has a temple of celebrity. The inhabitants chiefly Brahmans. Here are several edificial remains indicating its ancient magnificence during the reign of the Kurtacles or Gentu Kings in Madura, together with other renowned places of Hindoo worship. The temple stands on the N. W. part of the Town, surrounded by a high granite wall, with two large Gopurams. The principal entrance on the East is faced by an open edifice of granite, adorned with huge sculptured pedes- tals of elaborate workmanship. There is a fine Reservoir surrounded by a flight of steps, and a small spire in the centre. The annual car festivals are solemnized with much pomp, which commonly last 10 days. The sader population, who are chiefly husbandmen, occupy the S. E. side of the town bordering the large canal of irrigation, which supplies the lands to the Eastward. The soil is rich and fertile, abounds with paddy cultivation, and yields two abundant harvests in the year. A short distance to the East is a chalk pit.

MUNNARKOVIL.—An ancient village cotemporary with Brahmadessam. It contains 3 subordi- nates, 1 of which is in ruins. This place is much celebrated by the Hindoos, as being dedicated to Rajagopalaperumal (one of Vistnu's names). It has a high Goburum or spire on the East and a fine stone edifice of substantial granite, exhibiting architectural magnificence, called Pooliam Mundapam. A neat row of Brahmans houses on each side of the Muntapum, forms a wide street.

Between the first and second court of the temple, is a Mundapam and chapel dedicated to Sangaradialvar; the offertory rites of Pujah to it and Venu Gopalaswami is said to have ceased since the M. Era or Andu 925, corresponding to A. D. 1750. There is a cenotaph within the precincts of the temple, dedicated to the Prince Kolashagaraperumal, who it is said, was never seen again after entering the temple.

In consequence of this event, a statue is represented on a column. On one of the pedestals is a muntapam which fronts the cenotaph, and in memory of whom Pooja is daily performed by the Brahmins of the Temple. A Priest of the Yeddiar Tribe, a Vistnuvite Bramin, resides here, who is said annually to visit the people of his sect, who generally contribute not less than a cully Fanam, about a fourth of a Rupee each family. There are two car festivals celebrated annually, one in April, in commemoration of Raja Gopal, and the other in February in memory of Prince Kolashagaraperumal; there are a few other Temples in this vicinity consecrated to Sivan, Rama and other Deities falling into a state of delapidation.

The surrounding country is fertile in Paddy, betel and sugar cane; the lands are well supplied by canals, both from the Tambrapurney and Guddananuthee Rivers. It lies 1 mile W. of Bramadesam.

AMBASAMUDRUM.—A populous Town, at present the cishah of the Talook. It lies 2½ Miles S. of Bramahdesam, and contains 3 Subordinate Villages. It is the residence of a Tahsildar. There is a catcherry, and about 968 Houses, containing 3952 Inhabitants, the tenth of whom are Brahmins, chiefly of the Siva sect; one third are Kykolar Weavers, who employ about 344 looms. The West frontier chowkey is established here, where considerable Revenue is derived, chiefly from the exportation of cloths and Muslins to Travancore. Here is a plentiful market once a week, the chief articles Grain and vegetables. A road from Kuttalem communicates here with that from Tirunelveli to Pappanassam Pagodah, proceeds South to Kalakadu and Arrambuli and ultimately to Cape Comorin. The Temple dedicated to Kasinader and Marudakavulli ammen, stands on the left bank of the Tambrapurney River, enclosed by a high stone wall. The car festivals are celebrated twice in the year, the god Kasinader is sometimes called Erracha modiar, from a tradition, that a Brahmin stoned the Nambian of the Pagodah was burnt to death for per-naked Hills of gravel and rock, and on the S. and E. by the large collateral branch of irrigation from the Tambrapurney River to the Eastern lands, which are exceedingly fertile.

VIKKIRAMASINGAPURAM.—A Village upon a high site on the road to Pappanassam Pagodah, 2½ Miles S. W. of Bramahdesam. It has 9 Subordinates, 5 of which are in ruins. This place is noted for a large Gobram on the E. Gate of the Pagodah. It is situated a small distance S. of a range of low hills clothed with wood, and is inhabited chiefly by the dependents of the Temple, and also those of Pappanassam. The hamlets are thinly inhabited; the Paddy lands are well supplied by a canal from the Tambrapurney above the Pappanassam Pagodah.

PAPPANASSAM.—No village, but gives name to a very ancient pagodah, on the left bank of the Tambrapurney river, in a forest contiguous to the brow of the mountains, and confluence of an exceeding deep rivulet, called the Koreiaur, which is crossed by a bridge named Aneiapalam or elephant bridge 5½ miles west of Bramahdesam. This pagodah is one of the principal architectural monuments, and place of pilgrimage. It is about 1½ mile from the celebrated cataract called the Kalianiteertam or marriage spring; so called from the union of the Yeddiar with the Tambrapurney, which flows over a table land, elevated from two to three hundred feet above the plains; the fall is about 90 feet; the torrent dashes into the abyss with great impetuosity and noise, which exhibits an imposing spectacle. On the massy and huge rocks, with which the place abounds, are several inscriptions.

The Chitterivissu and Appasivissu, are the particular times when the place is resorted to by pilgrims and devotees, especially on the former occasion, from the grand festival happening at this time, dedicated to Pappanassam Esuran and Olagamen. These deities are conveyed to the village Vikkiramasasingapuram 1½ miles distant to the East where the festival is solemnized with pomp and magnificence. The deity is re-conveyed to its own abode accompanied by music, but no dancing girls (as none from time immemorial appear to have served in this temple) and whose festivals for ablutions are held at some sacred spring, source of a river, waterfall, sea shore, junction of one or more rivers, &c. The Kalianiteertam at Pappanassam is esteemed above any other in the Province from its supposed sanctity; the Audy Amnavassay, the Babna Teertum, the great waterfall over Podemeah Mallay, is considered the best day, for cleansing and purifying themselves by bathing; which the Hindoo believes will cleanse their hearts, to the ever-satisfying perfections of their deity. Here are several religious edifices. Teruvadutory Muddum on the S. W. where a Bramin monk resides. A fine square Mundapam is in front of the pagodah, and from which is a flight of steps to the river, where there is a bathing Muntapam. There is ruins of a palace on the S. E. side of the temple, said to have been the occasional residence of the sovereigns of Madura. The numerous fish in the river are fed daily with rice; they are large, notion, that if cooked, they will dissolve into blood. The country here is mountainous, and abounds with Forests, and tracts of paddy cultivation along the canal, North of the Koreiaur. The road from Vikkiramasasingapuram to Pappanassam is bad and swampy. The devotees appear to have contributed to pave the road with stone, but still much requires to be done.

KISTNAPURAM OR LAVANASAMUDRAM.—A small Village on the left bank of the Vurretaur, and road to Kuttalem 7 Miles N. W. of Bramahdesam. It contains 13 Subordinates, 2 of

ruins. It has a Sivan Covil, and a few other religious edifices. It is chiefly inhabited by Moor-men, who have 25 Looms employed. Reed Mats are also made here; the country on both sides the River is well cultivated with Paddy.

ALVARKURICHI.—A pretty populous Village and Aggraram. It has 13 Subordinates, 2 of which are in ruins. It is pleasantly situated on the Road to Kuttalem 5 Miles N. W. from Bramahdesam, and a Mile above the confluence of the Vurretaur with the Guddananathee and is considered a place of some celebrity. The Pagodah dedicated to Narasinganader stands on an elevated site on the E. with other religious edifices; on the W. is a stone Reservoir about 150 feet square, with a neat spire in the centre; beyond the Aggraram is a Temple consecrated to Venka-tachalabudthee. The annual Car festival takes place in March, on which occasion the deity Bramakalience from Shivasylum is conveyed hither to mount the car, and is reconveyed the same night to its temple, on the right bank of the Guddananathi 3½ Miles W. of Alvarkurichi. There is a fine road thro' the forest between two hills, the one called Mooly mallay, and the other Nangacolampotha, two choultries and a small kovil are on the left or opposite bank of Sivasylum Pagodah; the road continues to the Kolathapalay Iyen covil pass, over the mountains, which separate Tirunelveli from Travancore. Being one of the thorough fares, a choukey has been established. The surrounding country is fertile, and tolerably well watered as to yield two abundant crops of Paddy annually.

PAPPANULAM.—Lies between two Tanks of irrigation 3½ Miles N. W. by W. of Bramadesam. It has 46 Subordinates, 1 of which is in ruins. It may be inferred by the whole, containing 996 houses, and 3080 Inhabitants, that they must be thinly inhabited, and the lands although fertile, are but indifferently cultivated. The inhabitants consist chiefly of Shanars, and partially Lubbays who are weavers.

MUDDATUR.—The ruins of a subordinate village of Pappankulam on the right bank of the Guddananathee river 4 miles N. W. of Bramahdesam. A pagodah & a ruined Covil mark its site.

ARASANI.—A fine village and Aggraram picturesquely seated between a collateral branch from the Guddananathee River and a cluster of rocks in a ridge projecting from Sholypotha hill on the W. It has 5 subordinate villages, and close to which the Nelliambalam Talook boundary terminates. It has a pagodah dedicated to Shiven, and lies 1½ miles N. by E. of Bramahdesam. The lands to the W. are diversified with paddy fields, and betel and sugar cane gardens, well supplied with water from the Verretaur into a large Yeri or tank, whose southern embankment is a ridge of rocks. The country abounds with palmyras.

TUPPAGUDI.—A subordinate village to Arasani 3 miles N. of Bramahdesam, remarkable for a Pulliar Covil. It is below the bank of a large tank, which cultivates a large tract of paddy.

KALLANEIKURICHI.—A considerable Aggraharam and village of some antiquity. This place was formerly much larger. It appears to derive its name from being originally founded (by the Brahmins) near the great Anicut across the Tambrapurney River. The houses are on the right bank of the Kannadian water course 3½ miles south of Bramahdesam; has two subordinate villages chiefly inhabited by Brahmins, Vellalers, Maravers, Vaniens, Kykolar weavers, Panjalars, and Lubbays. The Brahmins are said to have settled here with the view of effecting an intercourse with Malliyalam, and established several places of trade in Travancore, Pandalam, and Cochin states, called "Samungams," hence Kallaneikurichi derives its rank as the first Samugam. The Sholia or Seiviar Brahmins, commonly called Puttars, are merchants and Bankers, several have accumulated large fortunes; their loans are at an interest from 15 to 24 per cent with a mortgage never less than the principal. They are considered inferior to the Smarta Tamil and Telugu Brahmins, they engage in the labours of the soil. The frugal disposition of the Seiviar women is remarkable as interesting; beside their domestic duties they participate in the toil of their husbands. There are several religious structures the principal temple is dedicated to Addyvirraga Perumal. A car festival takes place in April, and another styled "Geruda Servi" in September on Saturdays. There is a large Mundapam supported by a thousand granite Pillars on the bank of the river opposite the pagodah of Ambasamudram. This place was once populous and originally contained eighteen streets, six of which are at present uninhabited. The following are the names of the streets, and the sect of Brahmins by which they are chiefly inhabited.

Names of the streets.		Occupants.
1	Ramasunderapuram.....	Smarta Tamil Bramins.
2	Vydeippapuram.....	Ditto.
3	Puttarnainarkolam.....	Ditto.
4	Addyvirraga samiadi.....	Sholiar seivasar Bramins.
5	Terukumada Teravu.....	Ditto.
6	Vadakumada Teravu.....	Ditto.
7	Mela Teruvu.....	Smarta Tamil Bramins.
8	Tondivilakum.....	Partly sholia and partly smarta Bramins.
9	Vuduka Teruvu.....	Smarta Bramins.
10	Muddaliappapuram.....	Do.
11	Yegambarapuram.....	Telugu Bramins.
12	Mudavillakumcotay.....	

1. Appi Putter street.
2. Veerappapuram street.
3. Moototeruvu street.
4. Muddivilagam Shokalingappa street.
5. Persuramapuram street.
6. Vuddamullapuram street.

ALANKULAM.—A village and Agoraram, 11 miles North East of Brahmedesam. It contains one subordinate. It is chiefly inhabited by Herdemen, and Shanars; the lands are well cultivated with paddy and dry grain, palmira trees are exceedingly productive and abundant.

PUDUPARTI.—Village and small Aggraharam, held under Amami situated 8 miles & a quarter north east of Brahmadesam, has three subordinates chiefly inhabited by Shanars. It is on the left of a redundant stream from the Calingulah of a tank, on its right bank is a choultry, and Ammençovil of note in the centre of the village, regarded as the principal temple. The lands are well cultivated, especially the dry grain, the jungle streams are lined with palmrah trees in this vicinity.

VAGEIKULAM.—A Kattukottam, situated 10 miles north of Amami, is a small village, the lands are well cultivated, especially the dry grain, the jungle streams are lined with palmrah trees in this vicinity.

KATTARUNKULAM.—A Kattukuttagei village and Aggraharum lies within the precincts west of Brahmadesam, and confines of Mannarkovil. It contains 6 subordinate villages, these are

TENKASY TALOOK.
NAME AND HISTORY.

His successor was a valiant Prince esteemed for his courage and prowess as a warrior. He was the terror of his neighbours, and honored by a title *Kundeï Nad. Kondu Kundeï Nad, Kudukadeï Pandi Mundalam Jittala or Chariar, who reigned but a short period till the 676th Andu or M. E. or A. D. 1501.

SITUATION.

TENKASI.—Lies 28½ miles N. 570 W. of Tirunelveli situated not far from the range of ghats, and vicinity of the Courtalam cataract, and the mountainous passes of the Arriangavu and Koteitupoletem, both of which lead into Travancore.

BOUNDARY.

This Talook is bounded on the N. chiefly by the Chokampatti Zemindary and by other insulated portions of country in Senkotei of Travancore, within this division; on the E. partly by Wutumalli, and Shorundei Zemindaries, and partly by Nelliambalam, and Sherumahadevi Taluqs, on the S. by Brahmadesam and Kadeiyam portion of Nelliambalam Talook, and on the W. by the great chain of mountains, which divide it from Travancore, including the Senkotei Kurri-vaussel lands appertaining to the latter State.

EXTENT AND CAPACITY.

Tenkasi comprises an extent of country without the hills, upwards of 145 square miles, of which extent 3 Acres are paddy lands; of these 16,319 are cultivated, 5,945 uncultivated & the remainder 3,652 are waste: the dry grain lands amount to 63,894½ Acres, of which 26,027½ Acres are cultivated, 20,142½ uncultivated, and 17,724½ Acres waste; upon the whole it is considered a fertile division, affording two fine crops of paddy in the year; the lands are chiefly supplied by the Sittar River, and other rivulets which have their sources from the hills on the west, the whole of which ultimately falls into the Sittar River before its entrance to Sorundei. This division is one of the most productive for cocoanuts, and fruits. It also abounds with other trees, such as palmyras, tamarind, and mango.

DIVISIONS AND THEIR SUB-DIVISIONS.

This Talook forms no subdivisions, but constitutes chiefly 171 Villages, of which 23 are principal, and 148 subordinates; of these 36 are in ruins. The number of Villages leased, otherwise called Izara, are 63; 5 are held on Amani, and 9 Raja Graham Juptee. The population gives 227 to a square Mile, and 94 Males, and 98 Females to each Village; and an average of nearly 4 persons to each family.

FORTS, TOWNS, VILLAGES AND MARKET PLACES.

TENKASI.—Was formerly a fortified city on the western frontier, below the Ghats, similar to the innumerable Poligar fortresses and strong holds in the Southern Provinces; but the insurrection which commenced with Catabomanaick of Panjeilankurichi, and other rebellious chiefs, occasioned in the year 1799, the complete demolition of all the Poligar Forts and strongholds, as well as for disarming the Poligars, and the inhabitants of the country.

TENKASI.—The principal Town, is situated almost in the centre of the Talook of the same name, on the left bank of the Sittanadi or Sittar River, as it is commonly called. It lies about 4 Miles E. by S. of Senkotei, * and 3 Miles N. E. of Courtalam, the latter being nearest the foot of the western range of the great mountains, and is a place of considerable antiquity as appears by the Hindu chronicle of the reigns of several independent chieftains, by one of whom this Town was modernized, by the name of Tenkasi, which implies Southern Benares. The Pagodah stands about the centre of the Town surrounded by a high wall, of 540 feet by 380. It has a lofty spire and formerly had a clock, similar to the one now at Sunkaranaimarcoil; the upper part of the spire of this ancient fabric has been of late years partly demolished, which gives it a confused and deplorable appearance. This Town is inhabited by 55 Castes, and has 1,666 Houses, of which several are terraced and tiled, and contains 6,305 inhabitants; upwards of 4d of the population consist of Moormen, chiefly Lubbays, who are principally employed in the manufacture of cloths, mats, and in the business of trade with Travancore: the next in number are the Kykolar weavers, there are 255 Looms employed here, and the exportation of cloths peculiar to the dress worn by the Nairs, are carried to Unjull, Koturakurray, and Pundalam, and other places in Travancore. The principal front of the Temple faces east, and was built in the reign of Sembaga Maha Rajah in the M.E. 274 or A. D. 1,099. This place is the residence of the Tahsildar, whose cutcherry is held within the apartments of the Pagodah, and during the Kuttalam Season, from the months of May or June to October, the greater part of the Huzzoor Cutcherry of the Collector is also held in the Temple. The road from hence to Shenkottai and Courtalam, are lined with an avenue made by Mungamal, Queen of Madura; and since the climate of Courtalam was first recommended to Europeans, the place has become much improved, with several handsome edifices and gardens laid out with great taste, by Gentlemen that resort annually to enjoy the salubrity of that climate. Besides the several religious edifices, there are a few Inns and Caravansaries for Bramins, and other religious devotees and pilgrims independent of the above. There are 2 Gentu and 8 Tamil schools, in the former of which Sanscrit is taught. The street which leads from the porch of the Pagodah, is occupied by Bramins, and beyond it to the N. E. by Lubbay moormen:

* The Capital of a District below the Ghats dependant on Travancore about Three and half Miles W. by N. of the Arriankow Pass and Three and quarter Miles N. N. W. of Courtalam.

about this vicinity is a long ridge of rocks, called Nolkuttipario: it is so termed, because the Paddy is beat into Rice, on the small hollows or cavities affording much convenience. A considerable quantity of Rice is daily beat on this rock, to furnish the Bazaars and Markets in the neighbourhood. Two Car festivals are celebrated here yearly, besides several periodical ones. The Moormen celebrate the Kantri, in memory of an opulent and pious Lubbay, by name Panjun-vittanpadagei, who died on a rock at a small distance S. E. of the Town. Kolashagarakovil lies in the N. E. part of the Town, below the head of the Pillur anicut on the left of the Canal. It is surrounded by a Wall 265 by 156 feet, contiguous to which is a Roman Church dedicated to Saint Michael originally built by Ammardepa Naick alias Fernandez, in the year 1786. A festival is celebrated at it annually on the 19th day of September, when a great concourse of people assemble from the neighbourhood, and the Roman Priest from Tirunelveli presides at its functions. The Sittar has two fine Bridges over it, the one leading into the Town on the E. and the other over the road to Courtalam, and the Suburbs of the city on the N. and W. are diversified with fields productive of Dry Grain.

MELAPOLIYUR.—Lies seated 1 mile and 3 furlongs E. of Tenkasi, on the left bank of a canal, which bears the name of Puliur voykaul. It has one Subordinate Village, and contains 331 Houses, and 1279 Inhabitants. A small complement of Bramins compose the Aggrauram; there are two Shiven and one Vishnu Pagoda, with a few other minor religious edifices studded about the brink of the Canal and Villages. This place is regarded more for its agricultural pursuits, than for manufacture or trade; two roads separate from this Village, the one to Sorundei, and the other to Melapayar: the Country is beautifully variegated by an extensive cultivation of Paddy, South and East of the Canal, where Betel and Sugar Cane plantations thrive exceedingly well, and are here very productive.

MELAGARAM.—A fine built Village seated on the left of the road which leads to Courtalam, about 1 Mile S.W. of Tenkasi: the road is lined with lofty trees forming a fine shady Avenue. There are a few Inns, one of which is noted as being the seat of a Gosami Muddum, and who appears to be held respected by the Hindus; this Village has two subordinates, of which one is in ruins, there are 154 Houses, and 616 Inhabitants, who are partly Husbandmen, Mechanics and Servants of the Temple at Courtalam, consisting of Bramins and Mallei Kuttei Pandarums.

KUTTALAM.—Is no village of itself, but constitutes a sub-division, denominated Kuttalapadagei, containing 17 subordinates, of which 14 are in ruins. Kuttala Kovil is a place of great sanctity, and possesses a celebrated pagodah, at the verge of a stupendous cataract 3 miles S. W. of Tenkasi. It stands below the range of the western mountains, whose distant brow separates the country of Tirunelveli from Travancore; this pagodah is dedicated to the god Tirukuttalanader and is resorted to by pilgrims of the two coasts, Coromandel and Malabar, with the idea of cleansing themselves from sin, by washing under the fall for as many days as they have made their vows: contiguous to the waterfall, the Sittar River is crossed over by a fine bridge, there are several religious edifices studded about this vicinity, those of note are the Chittrie Muntapum an extensive building walled round, and the Chokumpatti Zemindar's Chuttrum; the latter place affords accommodation for several pilgrims and devotees, who are daily fed by regular managers appointed by the Zemindar, to the charge of the Revenues attached to its support; & the former is remarkable for the merit of its paintings, and ornaments, at which a festival is celebrated on the day of the Arpissivissu, when 5 Cars are usually drawn in procession and the festival lasts for 10 days; several Bungalows are raised in the vicinity of this place, by Gentlemen for spending the summer hot months. Mr. Casamajor was the first Collector that built a house here, who also founded a small village which lies on the road to Senkotei, called Casamajarpuram, from whence fowls, eggs, butter, milk, &c. &c. are supplied to those persons that resort to this place.

The original endowments of lands, and other Munificence formerly granted to the Pagodah, consisted of Kuttalapadagei and its subordinates, yielding a Revenue of 6,000 Cully Chuckrums or 13,333½ Rupees yearly, when the expenses appear to have been liberal as to afford 3 Koteis of Paddy and 30 cully fanams per diem, exclusive of the expenses attending the periodical and annual festivities, which continued during the Kurtacles Government. But after the assumption of the country by the Nabob, the original endowments that were appropriated to the Hindu Temples, was reduced to 105 Koteis of seed land, and 1,189 Cully Chuckrums and 3 Cully Fanam or 2,642½ Rupees; this privilege continued to the year 1,764 A. D. when the Pagodah lands were assumed, and underwent a modification by the Circular of a further reduction, allowing one Kotei of Paddy and 10 Cully fanams per day; the introduction of which privilege, is said, to have been sanctioned by S. R. Lushington Esquire, Collector, in the year 1800, and which continues to be followed to the present day.

MUTTALAMPAREI.—A small village subordinate to Kuttalapadagei 3 Miles S. E. of Tenkasi, and on the right of the road which leads from it to Kudeiyam:—It is chiefly inhabited by Husbandmen. This place is noted for a flat rock, of which they have a tradition, that the tabret sounded distinctly from the rock, to have derived its name.

ILANJI.—A small Village and Aggraram situated south of the junction of two fine roads, which cross each other at a choultry; and about 2 furlongs north runs the Uttirup River 2 Miles W. of Tenkasi. It has four subordinate villages, of which two are in ruins; they contain 207 Houses and 677 Inhabitants. There is a large Tank on the E. which is well supplied by a canal from the River, and cultivates the whole of the lands below, to the confluence of the Uttirup with the Sittar River.

KUMARAKOVI.—Is a small village on the right bank of the Sittar, below the Bridge and on the road which leads from Kuttalam to Senkotei. It is celebrated for a Temple it possesses, dedicated to the god Subbramaniam swamy, two Car festivals are annually solemnized at it, in honor of the high sanctity it seems to hold in competition with those of Kuttalam and Tirumalli Pagodahs. It has 3 subordinates, of which 2 are in ruins, and lies 2½ Miles of Tenkasi.

KADEIYANALLUR.—A pretty populous village lies situated N. of a ridge of low hills, which bears the name of the village. The road from Arriankow pass and from Tenkasi joins here, and leads to Madura via Strivilliputtur; the road is adorned with avenues through the village. Altho' the village appears to be regular and compact, it is still, however, divided by a diversity of classes, of a dense population. The Aggraram lies on both sides of the road; the Bramins consist chiefly of the Sholiar caste, who traffic with Travancore. There is a small thatched choultry on the north of a large canal, above which the road passes through dispersed habitations of Lubbay moormen. Here is a small Braminy Village, founded by the Chokumpatty Zemindar, and is to the present day supported by that Zemindar. Kadeiyannallur lies 8½ Miles of Tenkasi; it has 3 Subordinates, and contains Houses and Inhabitants. The Lubbay moormen employ 157 Looms for the manufacture of cloths for exportation to Travancore. Here are several religious Institutions, both of Hindu and Mahometan, which have their respective festivities, celebrated at their periodical seasons, that there is nothing particular worthy of notice. The country is evidently well cultivated with Paddy, by the supplies of water that are secured in the numerous Tanks about here, and the lands are dependant on the Kurppinaddi, Kandar, and Vurretaur Rivers.

KISTNAFURAM.—A village and Aggraharam on the left of the road which leads to Madura, 10 miles N. of Tenkasi. It has 3 subordinates, and the lands dependant on it are supplied by the Kurppinaddi.

MELA PAVUR.—A village and Aggraharam seated on the right bank of a canal from the Sittar River 5 miles E. of Tenkasi. It has 1 subordinate village containing 263 houses, & 911 inhabitants, the greater part of whom are husbandmen; there is a large tank of irrigation on the east, well supplied by a canal and irrigates upwards of 1300 Acres of paddy land.

TIRUPPANNAMPEITTI.—Lies situated 6 miles S. E. of Tenkasi. It has 13 subordinates containing 293 houses and 1083 inhabitants, a very small complement of whom are Brahmins; the greater part of this population consists of Shanars, who manufacture palmyra jaggry, and sugar candy; here the country abounds with palmyra trees, and the tanks are tolerably supplied by a rivulet called the Ramanaddi; and most of the Hindu religious edifices about these parts are dedicated to the worship of Marriamman, and other inferior deities.

KULASEGARAPATTI.—A small village lying about 4 furlongs S. W. of Melapavur. It has 43 subordinate villages, containing 1027 houses, and 3280 inhabitants, chiefly Shanars, who carry on an extensive manufacture of the palmyra jaggry and sugar candy; there being nearly a lac of trees of that description, which affords sufficient employment to many, especially where agriculture is less carried on.

KILA PAVUR.—An Aggraharam lies 6 miles S. E. of Tenkasi upon a plain formed on the right of a canal from the Sittar. It has 9 subordinate villages of which 2 are in ruins. On the W. of the village are seen three detached hills which form a triangle, and the country facing them are studded with groups of palmyras, on the E. paddy fields, and a string of large tanks to the S. E. which irrigates a considerable quantity of paddy cultivation. A few learned Brahmin Shasters reside here, who possess considerable talents and intelligence, and are much respected by the inhabitants. Here is a sanscrit school for Brahmin youths; also two or more Tamil schools. There is a bridge over the canal opposite the religious edifices on the left bank of the canal. The hamlets dependant on this village contain 603 houses and 2064 inhabitants.

SURANDEI.—A village & Aggraharam 7½ miles E. of Tenkasi. It has 5 subordinate villages and contains 517 houses, and 1724 inhabitants. It is divided by a town which belongs to the Zemindar of a Pollam, the Cusbah of which is called Surandai; and is situated on the Annamanuddi River. The cultivation of paddy is extensive, the soil being adapted for its fertility and growth. Here is a choukey established for customs, as a place of traffic.

SUNDARAPANDEYAM.—A village and Aggraharam 6 miles N. E. of Tenkasi. It lies on the road which leads to Surandai, facing the bed of a tank of irrigation, and contains 358 houses and 1457 inhabitants, the greater part of whom are chiefly husbandmen.

TIRICHITTAMBALAM.—A small village on the left bank of the Sittar 5½ miles E. of Tenkasi; over this the road from Mela Pavur leads to the village Sundarapandiam. It contains 41 houses and 122 inhabitants.

PATTAKURICHI.—A village and Aggraharam seated on the banks of the Pilliyur canal, south of the road which leads from Tenkasi to Surandai, about 2½ miles N. E. of the capital; containing 136 houses, and 580 inhabitants. The country to the south and east abounds with paddy fields, and to the north it is covered with jungle, and one or more detached hills at some little distance to the westward.

VADAKAREI.—Lies situated 6½ miles N. W. of Tenkasi, and about a mile N. of the Annamanuddi River. This place was originally possessed by a Palygar chief of the Murravar caste, whose Pollam lies along the foot of the mountains to the W. adjoining the Achenkovil pass into Travancore. This Poligar defended a position against assailants, by a strong barrier which he raised along his limits, that during the Carnatic wars 1746 to 1760, is known to have given a great deal of trouble, both to the Nabob of the Carnatic, and to the Company's Government; at present the strong position of the Poligar exhibits symptoms of ruin, the Fort and Barriers stand demolished,

and the Pollam was assumed and annexed to the Tenkasi Talook, of which it forms a part on the N. W. quarter; Vadakarei contains 3 subordinate villages, of which 1 is in ruins. It is chiefly inhabited by Lubbay moormen who traffic with Travancore.

NEDUVOTAL.—A small village originally dependant on Vadakarei, situated on the road which leads from Kuttalam to Madura 6 Miles N. W. of Tenkasi, its situation lies between a string of Tanks closing with each other, and are well supplied by the Annamanuddi and Kirppanuddi rivulets, from the western hills; and the soil is fertile both for coconut and Paddy. Travellers find little or no accommodation here.

KODIKURICHI.—Lies situated on the plains 4 Miles N. W. of Tenkasi. It has 3 subordinate villages of which one is in ruins. One Braminy family lives here, as also a few Lubbay moormen and the remainder are husbandmen. There is a small choultry on the bank of a tank on the north side, evidently built for the convenience of a meeting of the inhabitants, than for the accommodation of Travellers.

SIVIRAMPETTEL.—A subordinate village to Kodikurichi. It lies about 4 furlongs E. of it on the road which leads from Tenkasi; on the right bank of the Annamanuddi there is a choultry, and another on the south of the village. Here a few Lubbay Merchants reside. This place is noted for having been once a large commercial town and pettah; but at present it is much fallen into insignificance. 3½ Miles north of Tenkasi.

KUMPILI.—Commonly called Kumbilputnam is a pretty populous Town, pleasantly situated on the right bank of the Annamanuddi River, and on the road which leads from Quilon via Arriankow Pass to Madura 6½ Miles N. W. of Tenkasi and 3½ Miles N. from Senkotei. It was formerly the residence of three Brothers of the Pandi chiefs, vizt. Venkeidasalla Pandi Rajah, Puvanassatorunterra Pandi Rajah, and Seigavera Pandi Rajah. The seat of the Temple dedicated to the god Nagararsurenodiar and Arramvullartavul occupies the N. E. part of the village, and which is surrounded by a car street, inhabited partly on the south, and partly on the West. A small Perumal kovil stands on the West end, and the Aggraram from its former state appears to be much impoverished. A few Moormen inhabit the S. W. part, where a Bridge is built over the nullah at the Southern entrance. The Annual festival is celebrated in the month of February and lasts for 10 days. This place is also remarkable, that in the month of January, at the Teipusam in honor of the festival at Tirumali (a rock) 2 Miles S. W., the car is dragged here, and the offerings conveyed in Kavvadies are taken up to the Hill, where they are received. The ruined vestiges of the dwellings of the three ancient Kings that have resided here, are one on the N. E. of the Temple, another on the W. side of the large Tank of irrigation, and about 1 mile N. N. E. of Tirumali rock. Kumpili contains 5 subordinate villages, of which 4 are in ruins. The Tank on the West is supplied by the River, and cultivates about 324 Acres of Paddy land, which yields 2 fine harvests in the year. The Town has good wheel-wrights and Carpenters, the best in this Talook, who often go and employ themselves at Kuttalam, during the summer residence of the Gentlemen at that place, and many deal in Teak, Blackwood, Bamboos, and other serviceable Timber for buildings.

PULIYAREI.—Lies above the confluence of two rivulets, beyond the boundary of Tenkasi, in the Senkotei District of Travancore, and on the entrance of the Arriankow Pass. It has one subordinate village, containing 53 houses, and 161 inhabitants; also an Ammenkovil and tank on the west. It is 9 miles W. N. W. of Tenkasi.

KUTTUKULVALASEI.—A small village lies seated on the left of a road, which leads from Tenkasi to Kumpili 2½ miles from the Cusbah of the Talook. Here a road which leads from Senkotei intersects the former on the north of this place, which seems to take its name from the high pointed stones, that are studded over the plains of the dry grain lands. It contains 4 subordinates, consisting of 148 houses and 450 inhabitants.

KANAKKAPILLEIVALASEI.—Lies situated on the road from Kuttukulvalasei to Kadeiyannallur via Neduvoyal 4½ miles N. W. of Tenkasi. It contains one subordinate, consisting of 204 houses and 672 inhabitants. There is a choultry on the road, and a Perumanilkovil; and the country is diversified with a pleasing group of coconut and palmyra trees, and tanks of irrigation supplied by the redundant waters of one tank to another from the Annamanuddi.

PERIAPILLEIVALASEI.—Lies situated on the plains of a dry grain field, between two small tanks of irrigation, 4½ miles N. W. of Tenkasi, and about a mile north of Senkotei. It has two subordinate villages, of which there is nothing worthy of notice.

SEQUESTERED VILLAGES OF TRAVANCORE DENOMINATED RAJAHAGRAMAM JUPTI.—Constitutes portions of 9 villages, of which six are in ruins, the assumption of which have been annexed to the Revenue of Tenkasi Talook. The villages inhabited contain 286 houses and 995 inhabitants, one fifth of whom are Lubbay Moormen.

VIDUKRAMUM TALOOK.

SITUATION.

VIDUKRAMUM.—A fertile Division having its situation on the Tambraparaey river, North and East of Palamcottah. This division is so called from the Tamil words Vidu and Kramum, which imply let and Villages, indicating the villages that have been let or farmed to combine, so as to give it the appellation of the talook.

BOUNDARY.

MARAPANADU CUSBAB.—on the East of Palamcottah, is bounded on the North and East by Sriveikuntam; on the south partly by Sriveikuntam and partly by Kalakadu; and west by a portion of the Seranmahadevi talook.

The portion of the Vidukramum talook on the north of Palamcottah, and west of the Tambrapurni river is bounded on the north by the junction of the Sittar river common with Nelliambalam; the South and East boundary is defined by the course of the Tambrapurni between a portion of the Seranmahadevi talook and west by Nelliambalam talook.

A few more isolated tracts are irregularly situated in small portions, with the adjacent talooks, the boundaries of which are not defined.

EXTENT AND CAPACITY.

VIDUKRAMUM.—Comprises a superficies of 87 Square Miles; its division contains 20896.55 acres of paddy, of which 8403½ are cultivated, 1268½ uncultivated, and the remainder waste. The division of dry grain lands contains 34,894 acres, of which 11844½ acres are cultivated, 8836½ uncultivated, and 14215½ acres waste. The growth of the paddy is considered prolific, and a fine quality of rice is obtained by the Peshanum harvest. The paddy lands yield two crops yearly.

DIVISIONS AND THEIR SUB-DIVISIONS.

This talook constitutes 53 villages held on lease, 8 Kuttugutagai villages, and 1 subordinate. The number according to the Provincial accounts, contains 98 villages, of which 32 are principal, and 66 subordinates; of these 12 are in ruins. The population gives 274 to each square mile, and the disparity of the sexes are 141 males to 135 females to each village, and 3½ to each family.

TOWNS, VILLAGES, MARKETS AND OTHER CONSIDERABLE PLACES.

VIDUKRAMUM.—Is no town or village, but gives name to the talook.

MARAPANADU CUSBAB.—Lies situated on the west bank of the Tambrapurni river, 6½ miles east of Palamcottah. It contains 8 subordinate villages, very thinly inhabited. There are 986 inhabitants, one sixth of whom are Bramins, chiefly devotees of Siva. Near the Aggraharam is a Pagoda. A car festival is celebrated at it annually. This place is the residence of the Tahsildar. A fine Srama Muddum is erected on the brink of the river for the convenience of Bramins who perform their supplications generally after ablution. A Tamil Mission School has been opened here for the education of heathen youths, who are taught ethics and moral lessons; this school is superintended by the Missionaries residing at Palamcottah. A temple dedicated to Kylas-nadar stands 400 yards N. of the village, surrounded by paddy fields between the river and canal. A small manufacture of coarse cloths, worn by men and women, are carried on here. A road from the northern villages leads southward to Seysanganallur market, where it joins the road to Azwarthirunagiri and Trichendur.

PUTTANERI.—A village and Aggraharam seated on the left bank of the Alwartirunagiri canal, over which is a bridge. It lies about 5½ furlongs W. of Morapanadu Cusbah; there is 1 subordinate village and contains 250 houses and 1059 inhabitants, of whom 164 are Bramins; of these ½ are devotees of Vishnu. This fine village derives its name from the large tank of irrigation which lies contiguous to it on the east, and the country abounds with a pleasing diversity of paddy fields, water courses, tanks, religious edifices and abundance of palmyra trees studded on the banks of the river and water courses.

AGARUM.—A small village and Aggraharam situated on the left bank of the river & opposite Morapanadu Cusbah. It has a pagoda in the village and an Ammenkovil without on the N. side, on the verge of an extensive sheet of paddy cultivation well irrigated by the Strivikuntam canal.

VILLANADU.—A village of considerable antiquity said to derive its name from one of the ancient nads or divisions. It lies situated 1½ miles E. from Morapanadu Cusbah, on the E. of the large Streivygundam canal of irrigation which is led off from the Mardur Anicut. A fine ridge of hills presents itself about 1½ miles to the E. which bears the name of the place. Villanadu has 2 subordinate villages. Here is an Aggraharam and several religious structures studded within its precincts. A car festival is celebrated once a year, and the minor divinities partake of their share of festivals contributed by the villagers. The country is diversified by tanks and paddy cultivation, as well as dry grain in abundance; sheep and goats are said to thrive here exceedingly well.

NANALRADU.—Lies pleasantly situated on the left bank of the Tambrapurni River 1½ miles S. E. of Morapanadu Cusbah. It contains 1 subordinate village and abounds with a Forest of palmyras on its opposite bank studded with detached huts of Shanars, who manufacture jagghery from the toddy they draw from the palmyras, and also palmyra sugar candy.

MANAKKABEL.—A pretty populous place and Aggraharam situated 3½ miles S. E. of Morapanadu Cusbah, on the left bank of the Tambrapurni River, and below an embankment or dike, laid along the Strivikuntam canal for the purpose of retaining an adequate supply for irrigating a vast extent of paddy lands. It contains 10 subordinate villages, a few Shiven & Vishnu temples

a Pallivassal, and a Roman chapel with other minor places of worship of the inferior suders and low castes. Here is one sanscrit and 2 Tamil schools. The country abounds with coconut and palmira trees added to a fine extent of paddy cultivation and dry grain, gives a most picturesque scenery by the course of the Tambrapurni River on the one side, and a ramification of the Vallanadu hills on the other.

VITTALAPURAM.—Lies situate on the E. bank of the Alwartirunagiri canal of irrigation, 2½ miles south of Morapanadu Cusbah, and contains 6 subordinate villages. A road from Puttaneri leads through this to Seysanganallur.

KONGAROTAKKURICH.—A small Aggraharam and village situated on the east bank of the Tambrapurni River 5½ miles S. E. of Morapanadu Cusbah, and contains 3 subordinate villages, all of which are in ruins. This village is chiefly inhabited by Lubbay Moormen who employ 62 looms for the manufacture of fine and coarse cloths, besides which, there is nothing worthy of notice.

KAMAYUR.—Lies situate on the left bank of the Tambrapurni River, above the Mardur Anicut, 3 miles north of Morapanadu Cusbah, and contains two subordinate villages. It is chiefly inhabited by Lubbay Moormen and artificers, who are commonly employed on the works of the Anicut. This place does not contain any thing remarkable than that the soil is classed under the lowest tenure, being sandy, and appears to be adapted for the growth of palmyras with which it abounds.

SEYSANGANALLUR.—A fine Aggraharam and village situated on the banks of Alwartirunagiri canal, and north of the road which leads to Trichendur 3½ miles S. of Morapanadu Cusbah, contains 5 subordinate villages. There are 1 Shiven and 2 Vishnu Kovils, among the Bramins; the devotees of the latter exceed those of the former; there are also 4 Pallivassals, one masjid and 2 Roman Chapels, the one here, and the other at Iyanarwutupatti. A weekly market is held here on every Thursday, where grain, cotton, yarn, vegetables, fruits, cloths, mats, stuffs, and saltfish are exhibited for sale throughout the day.

NARANAMMALPURAM.—Lies on the left bank of the Tambrapurni River 6½ miles W. of Morapanadu Cusbah, and contains 7 subordinate villages. This place is noted for an ancient pagoda, being contemporary with Tirunelveli, dedicated to Naranammal, commonly called Sheppary pagoda which is surrounded by a wall; 2 car festivals are celebrated yearly. Here is a Chuttram and a Sundiya Muddum for Bramins, besides several other minor edifices for worship. The paddy lands are replenished by a supply from the Ariyanapuram canal, and abounds with palmyras.

ARUGANKULAM PALEIYAGRAMUM.—A fine small Aggraharam and village pleasantly seated on the left bank of the Tambrapurni River 7½ miles west of Morapanadu Cusbah. This place is chiefly adapted for an agricultural field; the inhabitants consist of husbandmen and prodial laborers of the soil. A direct road from Palamcottah crosses the river here and leads to Pundarakulam choultry on the road to Madura.

PANDARAKULAM.—A small village subordinate to the above, situated 2½ miles N. W. of it on the right of the road which leads to Madura. About 10 furlongs to the S. is a Chuttrum & tank on the road, built by Jaddykhan Saib during his management under the Nabob's Government, and is about 6 miles from Palamcottah. Here is a fine reservoir and a Tapa which affords great refreshment to travellers; there is also a mosque which receives a Mohin from Government, that the daily rites be performed by a Fakcer. The salubrity of the place has often excited the Officers of the Garrison to pass a day occasionally here. The Chuttrum is in a state far from perfection, and it will be a pity to let it go to decay.

ARAGANKULAM.—On the left bank of the Tambrapurni river, seated below the village Araganakulam 7 miles W. of Morapanadu cusbah. It contains one subordinate village and its lands are supplied by the Ariyanapuram canal.

ALAGANARI.—A small village pleasantly situated on the bank of Ariyanapuram canal 9½ miles W. of Morapanadu cusbah. It has one subordinate village: its name is supposed to be derived from a large tank of irrigation, and to have originally belonged to a person by name Alagan.

KUTTU GUTTAGEI OR SHROTRIUM VILLAGES.

ALIGUDI.—An Aggraharam pleasantly situated on the banks of the Tambrapurni river, 1½ S. of Morapanadu cusbah. It is wholly inhabited by Bramins of the Vishnuvites. This village is dedicated to the support of Karantorei Subastogor chetty chuttrum. miles N.

KUTTALAI UDEIVANERI.—Lies above the bed of a string of tanks of irrigation miles N. W. of Morapanadu cusbah. This village has one subordinate and is endowed to Kandinaadi Ammin pulian Kuttalai as shrotrium, whereof the expense is devoted to the offerings made to the goddess in Tirunelveli, denominated Pulam Kuttalai.

NUNJANKULAM.—A small village containing 53 houses and 222 inhabitants, situated—miles N. W. of Morapanadu cusbah: this village is held by Andivanni Ramasami Naiker, as shrotrium.

YELANDERKULAM.—A few Paller huts north of Kandiyaperi in Tirunelveli, miles W. of Tirunelveli, gives name principally to the tank of irrigation and has 3 Betel gardens cultivated, and is held by Muta Naiker, Commandant, and Sungara Sastry.

KAREYIRUPPU.—A small village seated below the bank of a tank furlongs W. of Araganakulam and E. of the high road which leads to Madura. This village is held in common by Kouari Rayer, Gopalapillay and Devapiranpillay, Shrotriamdars.

SEDUROYAPUTTUR.—A small village consisting of 20 houses and 59 inhabitants, E. of Madura. This village is endowed to Subbaroya Chetty Chattram at Kurukutorei or village on the left bank of the Tambraparni, not far from Tirunelveli and ford to Melapoham.

TENKATTALEI AND SHIVASURUNADAN TIRUTU.—are two ruined villages; the former is about the vicinity of Arangankulam held by Annadaroyor and Venketroyor: the latter is a shrotriem endowed to Sanderinoyalen in Tirunelveli which perpetuates an offering conferred by a dancing girl.

SUNKARANINARKOVIL TALOOK.

DIVISION AND NAME.

SANKARANINARCOIL.—One of the northern talooks in Tirunelveli. It is so called from a town which bears the name of an ancient pagoda of considerable celebrity. The name of the place is peculiarly interesting from the circumstance of the deity Sunkaralingum or Siva, having assumed a fictitious character in the personality of Narayana (to pass for Vishnu) with a view to impose a miraculous penance on the goddess Gomadi Amman, who, it is said, led an austere life for 1000 years. Hence the place perpetuates the memory of the event, under the designation of Sunkaraninar; partaking the names of the two deities, Siva and Vishnu, and the esteem with which the place is regarded, render it somewhat superior to other temples of its age: it is the resort of numerous pilgrims and devotees throughout the year, and the pagoda establishment enjoys a considerable revenue, for its support and respectability.

SITUATION AND CLIMATE.

It lies N. N. W. at the distance of 32 miles from Tirunelveli, and about 15 miles E. of the great chain of mountains over a campaign country, whose climate is reckoned exceedingly pleasant both for its air and salubrity, and the healthiness of the inhabitants, is said, chiefly to be ascribed to it.

HISTORY.—Tradition of the most remote times, inscriptions, and Mythology of the Hindoos, allege certain traits of history of the ancient Government of the Chettie Princes styled "Pandi" as to their names, titles, mads and residence &c. &c. These records are traced so far back as A. D. 823, at which period the Stalaparanas bear date, that Oogara Pandi Rajah lived here, and that Sivalavakunci Pandi reigned about the 12th century, and whose reign followed by a succession of Princes from Madura. On or about the 14th century Prince Kolesegaradichader of Tenkasi assumed the Government by right of conquest, he having anticipated some convulsions in the Supreme Government, obliged him to leave the capital of Oogara Pandi Rajah's residence, and resort to the vicinity of the mountain, about 5 miles N. of the village Vasudevanullur, the Government of which continued to the period that the Kingdom of Madura and other subordinate States were invaded by the Kurtakles; a Genta king having taken his residence at Madura, invested Vadumallei pillai, Prime minister to the management of the affairs of the country, & whose administration ended with his death; in the year 1663 A. D. Sunkararoyen succeeded as minister to the Government of the Kurtakles, & continued till the year 1739, when the Nabob's Government commenced, and ended in the year 1801, at which period the countries of Madura and Tirunelveli ceded to the Honble Company during the Collectorate of *Stephen Rumbold Lushington Esquire, then Collector of Ramnad & Peishcush pollams of Tirunelveli & Manapara.

BOUNDARY, EXTENT AND CAPACITY.

This Talook is bounded on the N. by a portion of the Sivaghiri Zemindari and partly by the Nadumundalam Talook; on the S. by the Zemindaries of Nadurakurichi, Ootumalei, and Chockampatty; on the E. by the Ettisuram Zemindari, and on the W. by the great chain of Mountains dividing this from Pundalam in Travancore. The superficial area of the Talook is computed to be 354½ square miles, and contains 35264 Acres of paddy lands, of which 11721 are cultivated, 5725 lies uncultivated and 17818 waste. The dry grain lands are far more extensive, and its fertility is also reckoned more abundant than those of the same description of grain cultivated south of the Tambraparni River. It contains 191623 Acres, of which 75760 are cultivated, 73549 uncultivated and 42323 waste. The paddy here affords but one crop in the year, and it is said that more than ½ of its produce is exported to the neighbouring markets and towns as far down to Trinelveli: the cultivation here depends more particularly on the local rains, than the more southern districts which have an additional supply from the two fine rivers, Tambraparni & Sitar during the S. W. monsoons in Travancore.

SEQUESTERED LANDS PRODUCTIVE OF CONTENTIONS AMONG THE INHABITANTS.

This Talook in common with other districts in the province possesses several sequestered villages and portions of detached lands belonging to Zemindars situate in the interior of its limits surrounded by Circar lands, and which appears to have been established from time immemorial. Hence a perpetual source of controversies and boundary disputes originate between the neighbouring villagers, by making gradual encroachments, from the irregular and confused manner in which the villages and detached portions appear to be intermixed; that is, by the removal of land marks, temporary dams, and for cutting off the Mamool supply of water used for the purpose of

irrigation, such as from a water course or tank, and especially where the inhabitants never fail to complain of violence committed in these sequestered lands. In fact these nuisances often tend to be productive of too extensive an evil, that it has been under contemplation by the late Collector, John Bernard Hadleston Esquire, when that Gentleman was on circuit in this District in March 1822. It appeared to him proper from the above stated circumstances to dispossess the Zemindars having any interference with the Circar lands by effecting a judicious arrangement in assuming all such sequestered villages and detached portions of lands belonging to Zemindars, beyond the exterior limits of the Zemindary, and bestow an equivalent at a just valuation of such village, land &c. brought under assumption, and which should be previously ascertained by a minute survey and investigation, that the arrangement ought not in any manner to effect the Revenue, either on the part of Government, or that of the Zemindar, and such a measure would not only be conducive to the benefit and convenience of the public functionaries, but it will ultimately restore tranquility and peace amongst the borderers and inhabitants in general.

DIVISIONS AND THEIR SUB-DIVISIONS.

The provincial accounts of this Talook give no less than 200 villages, 33 of which are principal, and 167 subordinates, and of which number 16 are in ruins. The Jumabundy Settlement of the village, descriptive of the Huzoor accounts are as follows, viz., 28 are under lease, 2 under Amani, and 3 are held under the Shrotriem tenure, with their respective subordinates attached to them.

POPULATION.

The census in this Talook upon an average estimation gives 120 males and 121 females to each village, 125 to a square mile, and nearly 4 persons to each house or family. The population amounts to 44398 inhabitants consisting principally of Kummavars, Maravars and Pullers; the two former are chiefly husbandmen, and the latter labourers &c. &c.

It is worthy of remark that a considerable difference appears to arise in some parts from the nature of the soil and climate, as well as from situation and habits of the people, in rendering females less or more prolific. An instance of pro-creation in the village of Mahendiravadi, is not a little singular, to find that out of 197 females there were 17 children, giving only 1 to 11½ females, while, it will appear that according to the average mode of calculation, that each woman would give not less than one offspring.

TOWNS, VILLAGES AND OTHER REMARKABLE PLACES.

SANKARANINARCOIL.—Cnshah of a Talook of the same name; it is a pretty populous town situated on a plain over the high road which leads from Tirunelveli via Streevilliputtur to Madura and Travancore. The houses are neatly built having regular streets, and possesses one of the most distinguished monuments of antiquity dedicated to the gods Sunkaranarayana & Sunkaralingam. Over the grand pyramidal spire of the pagoda is a clock which strikes every hour of the day, and is wound up once a week by an Artist who is paid from the funds of the temple establishment; this grand edifice is surrounded by a high wall, measuring 560 by 390 feet. There are 5 festivals celebrated in the year, viz. 1st the Tappasi Tirunal in memory of Gomaddi Amman in the month of July when one car only is drawn. 2nd Tirukaliamam in the month of October. 3rd Tiruvatore Ootchaban in the month of December, 4th Tie Pusam Tirunal in January, and 5th the grand Chittri Tirunal in April, when two large cars, richly decorated are drawn in procession through the car streets in the town, measuring in length from E. to W. 1370 feet and from N. to S. 500 feet. A fine reservoir built of stone, faces the pagoda on the S. E. side called Nagasany or the serpent spring which is 150 feet square. A turret stands on the temple angle of the town called Magamairu. Here are several religious edifices of Sanniyasi Muddams and Mundapams, and from the numerous avocations that are daily observed in the temple renders the place engaging and interesting to the Hindoos. There are other small rustic edifices in the N. E. part, and right of the road leading to Madura, which is said to commemorate the memory of those immolated widows who have fallen a sacrifice on the pile of their deceased husbands in very remote times: they bear no inscription as to name or date. The temple here is also much adored for the virtue it possesses in the cure of the ophthalmia, as well as in curing violent bellyaches and other painful and tormenting diseases; the votaries to obtain their wishes perform the most painful and austere vows. It is not uncommon to see either sex prostrating at full length round the car street, or by rolling themselves more than once round, according to their vows. The festival of the place is usually said to be very fully attended, and a great Fair is also kept here during its continuance. This place is the residence of the Tahsildar who holds his Cutcherry in the apartments of the temple, and it is also the station of a Chowkey.

The town contains 920 houses and 4147 inhabitants, of whom Bramins and the establishment of the pagoda, comprise one-fifth of the population. A small complement of Lubbay moor-men reside here.

Sunkaraninarkoil has 17 subordinate villages out of its suburbs; they contain 612 houses and 2206 inhabitants, who are chiefly Yeddiers, Vanians and Maravars. The country is uncommonly open and abounds with dry grain cultivation and patches of paddy also below the banks of their respective tanks. This place has been a Military station for some years, during the continuance of the rebellion of the southern Poligars.

PERANKOTTUR.—A small village below the bank of a tank of irrigation situated $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. of the cusbah of the talook. It is chiefly inhabited by husbandmen and Pullers of the labouring class.

PERUMBATTUR.—Lies about 2 miles N. of the Cusbah below the bank of a large tank of irrigation, and left of the high road which leads to Srivilipootur. It contains 4 subordinate villages, which amounts to 126 houses and 467 inhabitants.

SINDAMANI.—A village and Agrarum of great antiquity; it is said to have flourished in times prior to the Kurtakles, who invaded the countries of the Pandya chiefs. It lies situated between two tanks on the right of a road which leads from Tenkasi to Madura via Sriviliputtur, 5 miles 3 furlongs west of the cusbah and contains 2 subordinate villages, of which one is in ruins. There are two temples of note, the one dedicated to Shiva and the other to Vishnu. Two Car festivals are celebrated yearly. The population consists chiefly of Kykolars, Shanars and Pullers, the former of whom employ 51 looms for the manufacture of coarse long cloths, and the latter are devoted to the manual labours of the soil in husbandry; whilst the Shanars manufacture Jaggrly from the palmyra toddy which they extract, and which are very abundant in these parts.

PULIYANGUDI.—A populous village formed on both banks of a rivulet, which marks the limits W. of Sunkaraninarkoil. This place is built irregular and inhabited by 47 castes of which one family alone are Bramins; several manufactures are carried on here, such as cloths, Reed mats, Iron, sugar and Jaggrly; the two latter are from the Sugar cane and Palmyra trees. Besides a granite quarry is worked, and fuller's earth is obtained in a few places in this vicinity, that the washermen from the neighbouring districts resort & convey them on asses to their villages. There are a few families of the hill tribe called Pulliers who generally assist the renters and supply them with the production of the hills by whom they are paid in cumblies, Tobacco and such other articles they require. The Pagodas here are of the ordinary dimensions and of very ancient structure; the one is dedicated to Vishnu and the other to Subramaniam: two car festivals in the year take place. The long continuing boundary dispute of the inhabitants of the Chockum-patti Zemindari with those of the Circar, seem to prevail here from the most early times, and the consequence is, that occasional affrays take place between the contending parties, and it is confidently asserted that during these skirmishes many lives were lost.

VIRASIGAMANI.—A village of considerable antiquity; it has an Agrarum situated miles S. W. of Sunkaraninarkoil. It contains 5 subordinate villages, and is regarded for the ancient monuments of the place. A pagoda stands in the village surrounded by a wall dedicated to the god Rajah Gopallamanar. A festival is celebrated annually in the month of March, and the expenses which this festival enjoys with its lesser ones, amount to 129 pagodas yearly. A fine reservoir is built on the N. side, and at a small distance is a stone Mantapam on the verge of the paddy fields. On the W. side is a large tank of very extensive dimensions for irrigation; the northern part of the embankment forms the basis of a rock measuring 1900 feet called Risibum-talli: at the south end of this rock the most inexplicable works of ages are to be seen, such as a Bull, large as life hewn out of the rock, and opposite to which is seen an artificial excavation of the rock 20 by 15 feet, and 12 feet high, supported by two pillars consisting of carvings of 5 persons said to be 5 brothers, or the Punjee Pandivars known by the names of Darmaraja, Biman, Visseigan, Nagulan, and Sukkadeivan; and on the N. side of the cavern the god Subramaniam is represented, and on the opposite quarter stands Vinnoyakum, the elephant-headed deity, but the inmost recess of the cavern is called Garbagayam where the Lingam presides, and which is also called Kilasanadar and Sivalingam, at whose shrine Pujeis are twice offered in the week, that is, on Mondays and Fridays. On the upper part of this rock, is a natural cavern where it is said that the Punjee pundeivars slept; the traces of the bed, however, remain discernible. Besides these curious marks of antiquity, there is a prodigious stone of 36 feet in circumference and 8 feet high; one end of it rests upon the rock in an oblique position, so that it appears to visitors as if likely to fall. It is affirmed that a barren woman who ventures to go round the stone according to the ceremonious rites in performance of her vows, will become fruitful, and on the highest part of the rock is seen marks of the foot of the deity, as if sunk through a lotus, which evidently appears to be the work of a chisel effected by art, but the superstitious inhabitants deny its having been carved. It is highly probable that the veneration of the Hindu deities deem it the honor of their lives to pay their vows and devote their offerings to the oral tradition of their legend, which bear evident traces of ages, however, noticed as a curiosity amongst the credulity of the people.

NAGARUM.—A small village having one subordinate containing 119 houses occupied by husbandmen, situated $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles W. of Sunkaranainarcovil contiguous to a village, Maslikolum, near the road which leads from the S. W. and to Dalavankottai, the Rassdani of a Zemindar which is about a mile N. on the way to Shivaghiri.

PUNNAVANUM.—A small village lying below the bank of a tank on the skirts of the boundary common to the Chockumputti Zemindary, situated about $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. W. of the Cusbah of the Talook. It contains 48 houses, $\frac{1}{4}$ of its inhabitants being husbandmen, and the remainder pracial slaves.

VASUDEVANELLUR.—A populous village and Agrarum of considerable antiquity, situated on the high road which leads from Madura to Travancore, along the western range of the mountains at the distance from 3 to 5 miles. The village lies between two fine rivulets, whose united streams bear the name of Nitchabanuddi 10 miles N. W. of Sunkaranainarcovil. It contains 6 subordinate

villages and the lands about it are very fertile abounding with tanks of irrigation for the cultivation of paddy. This place is said to have received its name from one of the ancient ministers, by name Vasudeva Pillai, who founded this place in A. D. 1030, and gave it after his own name during the reign of Sriviahvarmah Rajah of Kelaseigaraputtanum, situate 5 miles N. of this place, but there does not appear to be any traces of this once renowned city of the Pandian chiefs. Here is a very ancient temple of ordinary size dedicated to Tirunuddenum Kundereswamy, contiguous to which on the north is Sembagavenoyakunkovil, and on the west Alangari Ammenkovil and also Saveidivan Kovil, which is remarkably noted for the fountain head of the exceeding great depth, and this place is more particularly celebrated for the fountain head of the Nitchabanuddi, where it is supposed that Augustiar performed a penance, and gave it that name, which signifies "perennial spring," and which ultimately after a course of — miles falls into the Vypar. The grand festival is solemnized in the month of June, and besides which they have another holiday, when the god is conveyed to Purvadum or hill about 10 miles N. W. on the day of the Chittri Vissu, for the purpose of washing in a stream called the Tirtavarri, which is regarded principally by the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, who resort thither for cleansing themselves from their sins. This is considered one of the finest agricultural villages, and where especially cattle and sheep thrive exceedingly well, both from the moisture and abundant pasture the vicinity of the hills and forest affords.

NAGARUM.—Lies $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles W. of the Cusbah, and is adjacent to Moolikolum, a village on the road which leads to Shivaghiri via Dalavankottai, and is near the confines of the boundary with the Zemindary of the latter. It has one subordinate village and contains 119 houses occupied chiefly by husbandmen.

PERIYUR.—Is the ruins of a principal village of that name, whose vestiges are seen situate on the right bank of a small rivulet called the Kuliaur. It has 4 subordinate villages, very thinly inhabited, about 5 miles N. W. of the Cusbah.

ARIYUR.—Lies situated nearly 6 miles N. W. of Sunkaranainarcovil below the embankment of a tank of irrigation, and on a road which leads to Vasudevanellur. It contains one subordinate village, and are both very thinly inhabited.

KARISATHAN.—Lies on the left bank of Nitchabanadder, $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. N. E. of the Cusbah, and contains 5 subordinate villages, of which one is in ruins.

MANALUR.—Is an ancient village of some note as to render it conspicuous; it has a few interesting temples dedicated to the principal deities Shiva and Vishnu, together with several other minor divinities, besides a Pallivassel where a Fakcer resides. It lies below the bank of a large tank which cultivates an extensive sheet of paddy lands, and is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. by E. of Sunkaranainarcovil.

KUVALAKANI.—A small insignificant village occupied by Pullers who are chiefly the agricultural labourers of the husbandmen: it lies on the right bank of the Kaliaur $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. of Sunkaranainarcovil; at a small distance to the W. a road leads to Striviliputtur via Karuvannellur and Sholapoor.

SATTIRANKONDAN.—A small village situated on a plain $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. N. E. of Sunkaranainarcovil: it has one subordinate.

MARATONI.—A fine village and Agrarum pleasantly situated on the left bank of the Nitchabanuddi, at the confluence of the Kuliaur, which is sometimes called the Kuliaur. It lies 8 miles N. N. E. of Sunkaranainarcovil, and its precincts possesses several ancient edifices consisting of Shiver, Vishnu, Subramanian and other minor temples at which the annual and other periodical festivals are celebrated in common with others of its celebrity. There is also a Musjeed and Pallivassel having a small complement of moormen who reside here. On the N. of the village is an extensive sheet of paddy cultivation, irrigated from a large tank; a road runs along the eastern bank to Striviliputtur.

TIRUVENKIDAM.—A pleasant village and Agrarum situated on the right bank of the Nitchabanuddi $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. of Sunkaranainarcovil. It contains 13 subordinate villages inhabited chiefly by a respectable class of husbandmen styled Mirasidars, and it is not a little singular to find this the only place in the Talook where the Muconiar Brahmins reside: these Brahmins are better known in Travancore where they have formed an Association in common with the Cholia Brahmins, and they are commonly called Puttars, owing to the traffic they carry on in cloths &c. &c. They live 6 months in Travancore and 6 months in their own villages as Bankers, lending out their money upon mortgages, and receiving interest from 12 to 15 per cent, similar to the Brahmins that reside at Kullaneikurichi in the Brahmadesam Talook. Goats and sheep are found to thrive remarkably well.

SIPPAPAREI.—Lies in a plain $17\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. by E. of Sunkaranainarcovil. It derives its name from a rock contiguous to it, and contains one subordinate village. The cultivation of cotton and dry grain are more prolific and abundant than that of paddy.

KARISALKULAM.—A village and Agrarum seated on a road which leads via Maratoni to Strivilipootur below the bank of a large tank of irrigation, and N. of Allagaperi Zemindary, and about $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. of Sunkaranainarcovil. It has 6 subordinate villages, of which one is in ruins.

SEVAKULAM.—A village and Agrarum seated on the road $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Karisalkulam, and 6 miles E. N. E. of Sunkaranainarcovil. It has 4 subordinate villages which are chiefly inhabited by husbandmen. A few tanks seen in this neighbourhood depend on the local rains for

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agriculture: the cultivation of dry grain, Cotton and Cuddalaygram are considered abundantly fertile. A small manufacture of coarse cloths is carried on here by the Kykolar weavers, who are to employ 18 looms.

TONUKAL.—A small village and Agrarum seated on the road $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles E. S. E. of Sunkaraninarcoil; it contains one subordinate village; at the distance of 2 miles E. is seen a low craggy ridge of hills, which runs about 4 miles parallel to the road, and marks the boundary common to Tonukal and Kallugumalli of the Ettiapuram Zemindary.

NILIDANALLUR.—A village and Agrarum; the latter is chiefly occupied by the Vistnu Bramins. It lies 6 miles S. E. of Sunkaraninarcoil and has 8 subordinate villages, the population of which amounts to 2003 inhabitants. Here is a Vistnu pagoda dedicated to Permal, besides which there is scarce any thing worthy of notice.

SAYIMALLEI.—The ancient ruins of a village of that name which originated from the long ridge of hills seen E. of a road below the village Vulleishi $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. E. of Sunkaraninarcoil. It has 23 subordinate villages; the principal (as observed) is in ruins, the former contains 486 houses, and 1984 inhabitants, of whom there are a few families of Bramins, and is a place too well known to travellers, especially from Tirunelveli to Sriviliputtur, and there is a Shiven temple of some note, besides which there is nothing worthy of notice.

MAHINDIRAVADI.—A small Agrarum and village; it has 3 subordinate villages, consisting of 89 houses and 988 inhabitants, chiefly of the Maraver and Vellala caste. It lies situated near a ridge of hills 11 miles S. E. of Sunkaraninarcoil. Here are two fine quarries of granite, and because of the population of this talook, to give but one child on an average to $11\frac{1}{2}$ women; none can account for this singular circumstance, although its proximity to other villages, does not appear to effect the inequality in the procreation of children in the same soil, climate &c.

VAGRIKULAM.—Lies situate 6 miles E. of Sunkaraninarcoil on the plains W. of Nalvassil Kotei of Ettiapuram Zemindary. It has a small village chiefly inhabited by Pullers, the proclial laborers of the soil.

PALANKOTAI.—Lies situate on the eastern borders of this talook in common with Kalugumalai of the Ettiapuram Zemindary, 11 miles E. S. E. of Sunkaraninarcoil, and derives its name from the ancient ruins of a bulwark or fortress it once possessed. It has 5 subordinate villages, of which one is in ruins, and contains 172 houses and 734 inhabitants, chiefly Bramins, Kummavars and Pullers.

PULANEULAM.—Lies situate below the bank of a large tank of irrigation on the E. of a long ridge of hills, known by the name of Sayimallei 13 miles S. E. of Sunkaraninarcoil. It has 2 subordinate villages, consisting of 2 families of Bramins, and inhabited chiefly by Maravers and Pullers.

AMANI VILLAGES.

VAYYALI.—A small village and Agrarum situated on the right bank of the Kullaur $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. by E. of Sunkaraninarcoil. This village is split into two, called Melai and Kilai Vayyal, and contains 3 subordinates, consisting of 115 houses and 361 inhabitants. This village is not leased and tank dependant on it, and there does not appear any agriculture to be carried on in Nunjai since the last 50 years, so that the Nunjai lands have been turned into Panjai or dry grain lands, and from which circumstance this village continues to be held under Amani by the Circar.

KARIVAYALAM-VANDA-NALLUR.—Commonly called Kurvanellur is a celebrated village and Agrarum, pleasantly seated on the right bank of the Nitchabannuddi, and on the road to Sriviliputtur 5 miles N. of Sunkaraninarcoil. It contains 4 subordinate villages, of which one is in ruins. The pagodas here dedicated to Shiven and Vishnu are of considerable antiquity; particularly the former is regarded for its natural entity in having sprung from the forest, and is thereby esteemed as one of the principal temples in the Province both for its celebrity and high sanctity: 3 car festivals take place in the year, where the Tahsildar of the talook gives his attendance; besides there are other periodical festivals and banquets commemorated on the occasion of certain events &c. &c. This village is also held under Amani by the Circar, as being long contested by the Shivagiri Zemindar as his property pertaining to the Zemindary.

KUTTUGUTTAGAI OR SHROTRIUM.

ILAYARASANADEL.—Commonly known by the name of Yelavunthel, contains a large Shrotrium estate granted originally by the Kurtakles in the reign of the Gentu Kings, to certain families of the Kummavars of the Gentu tribe, who are sectaries of Vishnu. The present Shrotrium is of Sunkaraninarcoil, and has 23 subordinate villages of which 3 are in ruins. It is bounded on the north by Sippipare; on the south by Vannarumpatty of Ettiapuram Zemindary; on the east by Kovilputty of Sriviliputtur, and on the west by Kurivikulam Shrotrium in Sunkaraninarcoil. The extent of Nunjai lands dependant on this estate contains 1165 Koties, 17 Mercals and $6\frac{1}{2}$ measures, and the extent of Panjai or dry grain lands amount to 8705 $\frac{3}{4}$ chains, and the lands in the whole are rendered fertile and productive of an abundant crop of grain and cotton. The villages are well inhabited, giving upwards of 233 at an average to each village, nearly 4 persons to a family, and nearly one half of the population consists of the Kummavars themselves.

KURIVIKULAM.—A Shrotrium estate granted to Ramalinga Naick (Kummavar) situated $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles E. of Sunkaraninarcoil, and contains 8 subordinate villages, of which 2 are in ruins. It is bounded on the N. by Teruvenkidam, on the S. by Kalugumalai of Ettiapuram, on the E. by Ilaiyaranandel and on the W. by Sevakulam. The extent of Nunjai lands contains 237 Koties, 10 Mercals, $7\frac{1}{2}$ measures, of which one half is cultivated. The dry grain or Panjah lands contains 2555 $\frac{1}{2}$ chains, and the houses in the whole are 470. The population does not exceed 2150 inhabitants, who are chiefly Kummavars. There is an Agrarum consisting of about 30 families of Brahmins and a Shiven temple, with a few other religious edifices: there are 23 looms employed in the manufacture of coarse cloths, and a few families of mechanics and artizans reside here.

TARUKAPURAM.—A Shrotrium estate granted to the Thuleivenkottai Zemindar, situated 8 miles W. N. W. of Sunkaraninarcoil. It is bounded on the N. by Saunkranaperi; on the S. by Malleideikurichi, and on the E. by Ariyur, and contains 4 subordinate villages, of which 2 are in ruins. The Nunjai lands pertaining to this Shrotrium, consist of 1556 Koties, 5 Mercals, $7\frac{1}{2}$ measures, of which 275 is cultivated and 650 uncultivated, and the remainder waste. The dry grain lands contain 261 $\frac{1}{2}$ chains, of which the greater part appears to be uncultivated. This village possesses a temple of high celebrity in its neighbourhood, built on the summit of a rock, which stands between two fine tanks of irrigation. A numbian Priest resides here, and the annual and periodical festivities are celebrated with a magnificence as to draw numerous devotees from the neighbouring villages and towns, for many miles distant.

NADUMUNDALUM TALOOK.

NAME.

NADUMANDALAM.—This District is so denominated from time immemorial, as being supposed to be centrally situated from the holy Temples of Ramisseram, Seringham, and other renowned places of Hindu celebrity.

HISTORY.

It is however memorable in the History of Southern Carnatic for the many devastations it has sustained about the middle of the Seventeenth century by the intrepid spirit of the western Poligars, then in rebellion with the Government of the Carnatic: and is the Northernmost District in Tirunelveli which gives name to a Talook, the principal Town of which is called Sriviliputtur.

SITUATION.

Latitude 9-30-36 North and Longitude 77-41-17 East and lies 54 miles N. of Tirunelveli and 45 Miles S. W. of Madura.

BOUNDARY.

This Talook is bounded on the N. partly by the Chaddrigherri mountain, dividing it from the Sippitir Zemindary and partly by the Zemindaries of Sanduir and Paurur, and by the Madura country. On the E. partly by the Zemindaries of Pavullay, Chennalagoody and Manarkottei; and partly by the Ramnad country, and Sriviguntam Talook. On the south partly by Sankaranaynar Kovil, and partly by Shavagherri and Chotur Zemindaries; and on the west by the great chain of woody mountains which divide it from the valley of Dindigul.

EXTENT AND CAPACITY.

Nadumandalam comprises an area of 725 $\frac{3}{4}$ square miles; it is the largest Talook in the Province, and although it has not that advantage the southern Talooks have by the Tambrapurney and Sittar Rivers, yet the paddy lands vie in fertility with the Nelliayambalam Talook. The numerous dry beds, however, which intersect this District in the nature of Rivers, and water courses, have several stone annicuts and temporary dams, from whence the waters during the periodical rains are turned to advantage, for replenishing the Tanks and which serves as occasion requires to irrigate the lands for obtaining a crop called the Pishanam harvest. The paddy lands contain 66,713 $\frac{1}{2}$ Acres, of which 213,77 $\frac{1}{2}$ are cultivated, 1606 $\frac{1}{2}$ uncultivated and 2926 $\frac{1}{2}$ waste. The Dry grain land amounts to 397505 $\frac{1}{2}$ Acres, of which 17138 $\frac{1}{2}$ are cultivated, 153118 $\frac{1}{2}$ uncultivated, and 73248 $\frac{1}{2}$ waste. In most parts the soil is of a fine deep black mould which from its fertility produces an extraordinary luxuriance of cotton, and dry grain; the former being very much esteemed for its excellent quality in which the fine manufacture of cloth is carried on in Palamkottei. Tobacco, coriander, and cudlay gram are also cultivated in great plenty and the country is well supplied with cattle and abounds with innumerable goats, and sheep; and the mountainous tracts, were they investigated, would probably prove rich in physical and mineral researches.

CLIMATE.

The mountains to the W. forms the ghats: and a ramification of Hills to the N. marks a stupendous and remarkable hill called Chaddrigherri, from its apparent resemblance to a square from any side, from whence this noted Hill may be seen. The valleys are fruitful, and very well

cultivated, and from its proximity to the S. W. Monsoon partakes the humidity of the Dindigul valley, and which contributes much to the prevalence of most of the diseases, which in fact partakes the noxious climate of that valley in certain months of the year. In the months of April and May the prevailing winds are from the west. The rains are usually accompanied by hail and also by heavy thunder, the latter is sometimes destructive to buildings, trees, men and cattle, and the showy rains which are almost incessant during the months of June and July abates the heat and dust, which prevail so as to obscure the atmosphere for some weeks, and the diseases are said to become moderate and the cultivation commences about fifteen days earlier than the more eastern parts.

DIVISIONS AND THEIR SUB-DIVISIONS.

This Talook comprises 20 Sub-divisions, each of which contains several principal and subordinate villages and is called a Taruppu.

The Izara villages that are leased in this District amount to 191 principal and 336 Subordinates; of these 98 are in ruins. The Ammani villages contain 14 principal & 23 Subordinates; of these 3 are in ruins. The Porapu villages constitute 8 principal and 11 Subordinates; of these 4 are in ruins. The Kuttu Kuttigei or Shotrium villages are 11 principal and 9 subordinates; of these 4 are in ruins. The Enam Porapu are 8 principal and 6 Subordinate villages; of these 4 are in ruins. The Sarvamaniam villages are 15 principal alone and the whole contains 634 villages of which 247 are principal and 387 Subordinates; of these 113 are Bajakar or ruined villages.

POPULATION.

The population of Nadumandalam by an enumeration of the castes, as given in the Statistical Tables drawn up in the year 1822, amounted to 108415 consisting chiefly of Kammuvars, Maravars, Shanars, and Pullers. The Bramins of all denominations consist of about $\frac{1}{10}$ th part of the population; their residence in these parts are confined to Towns and is otherwise narrowly dispersed in situations by one or more families for officiating in the ceremonious rites of Priesthood in some old Temple or Pagodah. The Suder part of the Population amounts to $\frac{3}{4}$ th of the whole including Husbandmen, weavers and mechanics of all descriptions. The Mahomedan and Lub-two former to $\frac{3}{100}$ th of the population. The inferior Suder description consisting of Shanars and Elavers &c &c contains $\frac{1}{4}$ th, and the Pullers and Parriars to $\frac{1}{4}$ th and the population upon an average gives $3\frac{1}{2}$ to each family, and $8\frac{1}{2}$ Males and $4\frac{1}{2}$ Females to each village and 149 $\frac{1}{2}$ to a square mile. The Shanars are very numerous in this District, they are styled Naddigals and are a mercantile people, distinct from those that extract the Toddy from the Palmyra and Coconut Trees.

FORTIFICATIONS.

This Talook gives the ruins of four fortresses at the following places, namely 1st. In the N. W. frontier Sub-division of Vattirayirup in the village of the same name. It was built here against invasions, as well as to defend the passes common to it and the Dindigul valley; 2nd at Serukulam in Irunkangudi Sub-division; 3rd In the Vallikkulam Sub-division about $2\frac{1}{4}$ furlongs west of the Town of Srivilliputtur; and 4th of the road which leads to the Hills are the remains of a Fort razed to the ground where a garrison has been stationed for some time between the years 1797 and 1801 to preserve tranquility in the country, and check the hostilities of the refractory Poligars, whose habits of life was nothing but pillage and plunder. And the 4th at Kovilpatti situate on the high road which leads from Madura to Tirunelveli, and besides these vestiges, their natural strength remains to be seen to the present day. This class of Fortifications was innumerable in the southern Carnatic, and was fast falling to decay, but the greater number of them are demolished by order of Government; and it is certain that these chieftains, will be found to have thrown the venom of plunder and rebellion of their ancestors to enjoy in undisturbed repose, their several possessions and states in succession to their present unostentatious title and dignity as "Zemindar."

TOWNS, VILLAGES, MARKETS AND OTHER CONSIDERABLE PLACES.

NACHIARKOVIL, VARADARAJAPURAM MALLI and VALLAKULAM.—Are four sub-divisions. The first of these partakes the name of the goddess of the temple and is distinguished as the Cusbah village; and which in union with other principal and subordinate villages in the above mentioned sub-division forms a populous Town which bears the common name of Srivilliputtur, the etymology of which is said, to record the name of its founder who was a Vaiden or Hunter. The word "Sri" implies a term for a woman of dignity, a goddess and the adjunct word "Villi" bears the name of the founder, and the spot being found to be infested with ant-hills, he called it "Puttur". Hence the name of the place originated and which is a large & agreeable Town that almost every part of it abounds with Hindu magnificence & also with evident marks of antiquity. It is situated in an open plain on the road which leads from Madura to Travancore via Senkottai and Kuttalam through the Arriankow Pass, & besides its contiguity with the other passes leading into the Dindigul Valley, renders its situation for mercantile speculation advantageous.

The pagodah and other religious edifices in and about the precincts of the Town are most stately buildings. It has a venerable spire built of granite eleven stories high, and wrought with

innumerable sculptures, and commands the surrounding country for many miles. The pagodah is encompassed by a stout wall of granite, measuring 385 feet by 185 having its entrance on the E. and is dedicated to the god Rungamunnar Perumal; and is also predominant for the devotees of the Vishnuvite Brahmins who occupy those airy and wide streets on each side of the pagodah. The celebrated Temple dedicated to the goddess Nachiaramm is also enclosed by a high wall measuring 385 feet by 195 and the minarets which adorn the dwelling of the deity within, are finely gilt. The Annupu Mundapum before the entrance on the E. is a spacious and open granite building supported by huge pillars divided into squares, and from its convenience is used for the Cutcherry of the Tahsildar; and the southern car street is intersected by another street from the temple at right angles and where is seen an old gothic structure measuring 132 by 62 feet with a Verandah having its roof arched after the fashion of a dome, and is said to be Tirumalainken's residence (one of the late Gentu Kings of Madura) which in its present state is converted into a receptacle for grain. The Town is skirted on the southern side by a large tank of irrigation, called Pereakolum which for seven or eight months in the year remains perfectly dry. The streets are pretty wide and airy, and regularly formed, dividing the several castes according to their several professions and tribes. The houses in general are low and amounts to 11835 inhabitants. There is a rivulet, which for the best part of the year is dry; it takes its course from the calingulah of the Perea Kolum and runs through the N. part of the Town, dividing the village Arracheputty of Shevagherri, between the town, and which during the rains contributes greatly to wash away the filth that accumulated abundantly as to produce a nuisance not easily to be removed; hence the water course bears the name of Pe-aur. The Pettah is a large square on the S. side of this stream and has proper accommodations for the country people and merchants who attend it with provisions and other commodities. A Chowkey is established here; a considerable trade in cotton and cloths &c. particularly coarse muslins, called Moondos, the habit and dress of the nairs, for exportation to Travancore, are manufactured here, so that upon the whole it is a very flourishing place for trade. The periodical and annual car festivals are celebrated with as much pomp & grandeur as any in the province, and is usually resorted to by numerous devotees and votaries as well as merchants and tradesmen from Madras and other distant countries, and during the last five or six days of the festival the town and its suburbs, yet nothing engages the attention of a traveller more than the gratifying scenery and magnificence of a reservoir built on the west side of the town called Terumacolum. It occupies about 9 Acres of ground in extent measuring from W. to S. 640 feet by 610 from E. to W. with a series of regular stone steps having a square pavilion built in the centre. This most beneficial reservoir not only heightens the charm of this delightful place, but contributes bountifully to supply the inhabitants of a dense population with water which greatly adds to their comfort and convenience as well as to the visitors and travellers that frequent the place and besides the number of pilgrims and devotees who resort here during the periodical and annual festivals. This reservoir receives its waters by a sluice built with three apertures in the N. W. angle of the tank and a calingulah is constructed on the S. W. side for discharging the superabundant water into a water course communicating with the Pe-aur. The Yennikap Muntapum (on the W. side of the reservoir) is so called from the circumstance of the goddess being bathed, is hither once a year to commemorate the ceremony of ablution when certain costly liniments and other valuable oils are prepared, with which the goddess is anointed and after being bathed, is reconveyed to the temple of her dwelling. This stately edifice is supported by 104 granite pillars and has a square projection facing the tank called the Mugappoo which is 50 by 30 feet, consisting of 20 Pillars with a Verandah on the N. and S. entrance and the whole of this sacred structure measures from E. to W. 127 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet and from N. to S. 91 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet. A small Muntapum is built on the S. E. angle and another on the N. E. contiguous to Valak-kulam Aggraram; these evidently constitute the most ancient class of edifices, and are eminently interesting for the purpose they are designed throughout the Southern countries, both for their usefulness and durability.

A small Roman chapel is built on the E. part of the Town where a few suder papists of the Vellalar caste reside at which the officiating Roman Priest of Tirunelveli visits annually about Whitsuntide.

Several other monuments of antiquity exhibit a small and curious rude architecture resembling pyramids with a pointed top scarcely 6 feet high which commemorate from time immemorial the immolation of women who have fallen a sacrifice on the funeral pile of their deceased husbands. It is impossible to ascertain the time when these structures were first built; they bear no inscription, nor does it appear to be known to whose memory they stand recorded. But the opinion of the oldest inhabitants is that no female is known to have fallen a victim since the last 60 or 70 years.

MADAVARVILAGAM.—A principal village in the Cusbah Subdivision and contains 12 subordinate villages: it is pleasantly seated below the bank of the Perria Yairi about 4 or 5 furlongs S. W. of the Town. It is noted for an ancient spire or gobrum having a Pagodah dedicated to the god of the Shiva sect. The car festival takes place once a year and the residence of one of the ancient Gentu Kings exhibit a partial retreat of those chieftains whose palace is converted to a repository for grain.

MELPUVANI.—A village in the Sub-division of Varadarajapuram; it lies comprehended in the northern part of the Town and it has two Subordinate villages.

SOKKALAMPATTI.—A small village dependant on the Varadarajapuram Sub-division, lies 6 miles N. E. of Srivilliputtur about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile E. of the high road which leads to Madura. A ridge of hills called Yairuda mandil presents itself on the W. at the distance of nearly 2 miles and on the northernmost summit of its range, stands a Perumalkovil which gives it a conspicuous appearance over a rugged precipice of rocks, and a foliage with which it abounds.

SINNIPATTI.—Lies on the cultivated plains of the Dry grain fields about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. of Srivilliputtur. It is a small village in the Sub-division of Varadarajapuram.

VENDURAYAPURAM.—Lies situated on the plains of an extensive cotton field, about a mile S. of the road which leads to Sivakasi $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. E. of Srivilliputtur. It contains 3 subordinate villages appertaining to the Vardarajapuram Sub-division.

PONANKANI.—Is the ruins of a village of that name in the Vardarajapuram Sub-division about 3 miles W. of the Town and the country abounds with vast groups of Palmyras.

CUMMAPATTI.—* A subordinate village and Aggrauram situate about 6 furlongs W. of the Town above the northern bank of the Perriyair from which it is supposed to take its name.

LEKSHIMPURAM.—Is the ruins of a village of that name comprehended in the northern Suburbs of the Town. It has three subordinate villages dependant on the Varadarajapuram Sub-division.

SINGAMMAPURAM.—Lies on the northern Suburbs of the Town and has one Subordinate village attached to it.

UTTANJULAM.—Lies on the northern suburbs comprehended in the Town.

MELAKKANKULAM.—Is the ruins of a village of that name, a few miles W. of the Town of which no vestiges remain.

VENKITESWARAPURAM.—Is comprehended on the northern part of the Town, and has 2 Subordinate villages of which one is in ruins.

MUNGAPURAM.—Lies comprehended on the W. face of the Town and its suburbs.

MARIKULAM.—Is the ruins of a village of that name, a few miles west of Srivilliputtur of which no traces are discernable.

MALLI.—Gives name to a Sub-division N. of Srivilliputtur & contains 9 subordinate villages; the most part of them are in ruins, and from its proximity to the Town some of its villages are said to be comprehended within its suburbs.

MILLAKULAM.—Lies 3 miles East of Srivilliputtur on a vast plain of Dry grain fields, it composes a small village inhabited by Husbandmen and is in the Sub-division of the malli Tarupu.

INJAR.—An ancient village in the above mentioned Sub-division on the left bank of the Pearu $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles E. by S. of Srivilliputtur. This village is split into two parts at a small distance from each other, the one on the E. of the Pagodah is called Kil-Injar, and the habitations on W. side is called Mil-Injar. It contains Nine Subordinate villages, the inhabitants of which enjoy a great share of agricultural prosperity, the soil being adapted both for cotton and Dry grain, and the neighbourhood is cultivated with Tobacco in abundance.

VILLIPPANUR.—A small village seated on a plain $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. of Srivilliputtur and which gives name to a Sub-division. It has five Subordinate villages and an old Pagodah on the west is obtained annually.

POTTAKULAM.—A small village situated about half a mile N. of Villippanur; a string of Tanks embankments with which the place abounds.

KULLIPUTTUR.—Lies 13 miles N. E. by N. of Srivilliputtur, about 6 furlongs west of the road which leads to Kulpatti. A large insulated tract of the Madura country bounds it on the East and a small insulated piece of Ootreponeckenur of Golapanaicks Zemindary lies contiguous to it on the west.

KALLEYAKURICHI.—Lies on the right bank of the River 11 miles E. N. E. of Srivilliputtur, over an insulated tract of the Madura District, and it has two Subordinate villages of which there is nothing particular worthy of notice.

NEDYAKULAM.—A pretty populous village on the bank of a large Tank of irrigation between two fine rivulets 9 miles E. by N. of Srivilliputtur; it has 11 subordinate villages all of which are well inhabited.

ACHANTAVILLITAN.—Gives name to the Cusbah of a sub-division and is situated on the left bank of the Coyakudinudthee River $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. S. E. of Srivilliputtur having a pagodah and Aggrauram on the opposite bank. It contains 21 subordinate villages of which 9 are in ruins.

NARREKUDI.—Lies at a small distance from the right bank of the Coyakudinudthee River 7 miles S. S. E. of Srivilliputtur. It contains 13 subordinate villages of which one is in ruins.

PULLEIYAKULAM.—A pretty populous village on the road which leads from Sankaranainarkovil to Srivilliputtur on the left bank of the Coyakudinudthee River. A pagodah and Aggrauram lies on its opposite bank 4 miles S. from Srivilliputtur, it contains 3 subordinate villages. A Muddum on the left of the road affords accommodation to Brahmans and Suders.

* Cusbah signifies a large Tank, which is sometimes called Perrea-Yairy.

REGUNDAPURAM.—A ruined village in the sub-division, the first of which is Tulukkankulam seated on River $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. W. of Srivilliputtur. It is noted for the country abounds with a pleasing prospect of paddy of the river.

RAJAKULARAMEM.—Gives name to a sub-division & miles S. on the high road which leads from Srivilliputtur and contains 12 subordinate villages, of which two are West contiguous to a fine Tamarind Tope on the North bank tract of paddy land and the southern end of the bank patti. A Shastakovil which is a very ancient edifice regarded by the inhabitants as their titular deity and gous breaches.

SOLAPURAM.—An ancient village and Aggrauram miles S. on the high road which leads from Srivilliputtur to Sankaranainarkovil and about 12 miles S. S. W. from tank of irrigation and about a mile west of the confluence and Deivi aur; several insulated villages of Shevagherr Solapuram and which contains 5 subordinate villages.

VADAKAREI.—This village derives its name from it lies 12 miles on one of the southern roads from Srivilliputtur of these 6 are in ruins. The scenery of the country is of the river, tanks and groves, with that of the paddy cultivation in the higher parts.

ANMARUNADU.—A village and Aggrauram lies 14 miles S. by E. from Srivilliputtur on the N. & a Muddum at a small distance left bank of Deivi-aur. Here is a fine Shiven temple subordinate villages of which 4 are in ruins.

SAMEISOGAPURAM.—A pretty populous village; the houses of the inhabitants are divided according to their cast and professions; this village takes its name from a hill on which it is situated. It lies $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. S. W. from Srivilliputtur and contains 4 subordinate villages. Here is a fine Tamarind Tope on the west and a large well built of stone used for the purpose of horticulture with a Pickottah. In the centre of the village is a small white Kovil, dedicated to Vignaiswara and another very shady grove of Tamarind trees on the E. affords much convenience to the weaving tribe who manufacture coarse cloth, the common wear of the inhabitants. The E. side is covered by an extensive sheet of paddy fields which is irrigated by the large tank on the S. side of the village.

KUNNUR.—Gives name to a sub-division and lies situated $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. of Srivilliputtur at the distance of about a mile left of the road which leads to Madura. It is chiefly inhabited by Totiars and Vellalars and upwards of 30 families of the Rajah tribe, and a few Brahmans. Here is an old pagodah dedicated to Perumal and a Muntapum on the west bank of Vishnu sect. Here is an old pagodah dedicated to a maintenance, providing daily for 6 is used as an alms house, the same being endowed with a Pandya Chetty. This place is a Brahmin travellers, by the munificence of one Pandya Chetty. Here is also a Vallamakkovil which is much regarded by the inhabitants as a titular deity of the village. This place is a thoroughfare for merchants trading with grain and cloths laden on bullocks, the former from the Dindigul valley and the latter from the most Southern Districts in Tirunelveli to Palghat and Cannanore in Malabar.

RENGAPPANAIYAKKAMPUTTI.—A subordinate village situated $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles W. by N. of Kunnur. It is noted for the many forges worked here in the manufacture of iron, the ore is procured from the black sand found in the rivulets descending from the hills in this neighbourhood.

KOTTUR.—A pretty populous village in the sub-division of Kunnur situated $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. of its cusbah, and a detached Hill called Oonancastumalli lies on the W. about a mile distant. It contains 3 subordinate villages of which one is in ruins.

NUVAARIVENRAN.—Lies on the left bank of the Chuddrigherri rivulet and the left of the high road which leads to Madura 10 miles N. N. E. from Srivilliputtur. Here is a small Aggrauram Kovil, and a Muntapum on the right bank of the river. It contains 3 subordinate villages inhabited chiefly by husbandmen.

VELLEIPPOTTAL.—Lies 13 miles N. E. from Srivilliputtur on a plain bounded on the N. E. and W. by the Madura country and contiguous to an insulated village Padripanayakkanpatti of Sandiur Zemindary. It contains two subordinate villages, and cultivates a small extent of paddy in that neighbourhood.

AYIRATARMAM.—A fine village on the left bank of a rivulet, and contains one subordinate village and Gollappanayaken Zemindar seated between two Tanks, and contains one subordinate village and about 2 miles S. by W. of Sandiur.

NATTAMPATTI.—A fine village situated on the left bank of the Urjininuddiur and a small distance N. of the high road which leads to Madura $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. from Srivilliputtur. It contains 1 subordinate village and there is nothing worthy of notice.

VADAGAPATTI.—Lies on a plain about 10 miles N. N. E. of Srivilliputtur, at a small distance N. of the Chuddrigherri-aur which with the Urjiniraddi and 5 other streams compose the Vypear, at its termination. Two miles towards the E. is a low ridge of hills, which appears to

of Achantaviltan; it has 8 subordinate left bank of the Coyakudinudthee Pambaddiammenkovil on the west and is and tanks along the southern skirts

of the principal villages situated $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. of Srivilliputtur on the left bank of the Coyakudinudthee Pambaddiammenkovil on the west and is and tanks along the southern skirts

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be well clothed with brushwood and with its two subordinate villages.

YELANDEIKULAM.—A village partially on its embankment 11½ miles N. by E. situated not far S. from the Chuddrigherri.

KALATTUR.—A pleasant village on the bank of a Tank which cultivates a little Paddy. It contains 4 subordinate villages and Pullers. It is about a mile E. of the

DEVANKURICHI.—An ancient village conspicuously situated at the southern end of the summit dedicated to the god of other remains of antiquity indicate the place. The road to Madura from this leads to Madura and contains 4 subordinate villages.

MADIPPANUR.—A fine village on the branches or streams composing the and 4½ miles N. of Devankurichi contiguous so dissipated and intermixed with the northern parts of this Talook and its adjacent Pollams of the western Zemindaries, that it would be a puzzle to the most ingenious traveller in his topographical researches without the aid of a well defined map of the country. Madippanur contains 5 subordinate villages and the

VATTIRAYIRUPPU.—Is the cusub of a subdivision situated in a fertile valley containing 8 subordinate villages 9 miles N. of Strivilliputtur, about the western range of the mountains denoting Topemalli and Toongallum. Odia malli and is about 6 miles distant. The southern River is called the Urjiru-naddi which takes its rise from the two former mountains. It is noted for the Sivanciry annicut recently built shutting up its former course, and turning its waters into the large Vattirayiruppu. The northern River is called the Chuddrigherri-aur and these united streams with the union of seven streams and assumes its name above the village Vellittikolum. The road leading from Palamkottei to Ramnad: Vattirayiruppu is a populous village and Aggrauram; the latter is said to have been formerly occupied by six streets two of which are found to be uninhabited; the former is well built with regular streets between the Aggrauram and the Puller's Houses. There is a thatched choultry in the village and the suburbs of the place marks the different Temples of worship according to several castes & persuasions from the Hindu to the Mahomedan and other inferior classes. There are a few families of the Weaver tribe, who carry on a small manufacture of coarse cloths, earthen Pots; Reed Mats &c. are made here and exported to the neighbouring towns and Markets. This place is resorted to by the inhabitants and other devotees three times in the year, viz. on the day of the Tye Sankrandi in January; Chittrivissu in April, and especially in the month of July on the day of the Auddy Amnavassi great crowds resort for washing themselves with a notion that they would be cleansed from their sins against their lodgings and other conveniences afforded them according to Mamool custom. The same preparations are also made by the several Zemindars, Guntappanayakken of Dindigul, Sappitur, Sandur and Sheitur of Tirunelveli, all of whom endeavour to provide the utmost comfort and convenience to the devotees at large. The Canveyity Pandaram officiates as Poojaray on the summit of the hill where the offerings are made. The several streams that descend from the mountains here afford an abundant ore from the black sand gathered in them for the manufacture of Iron, which is forged in several places in this District especially at Rajapaleiyam, the road from Strivilliputtur to Kuttallum; a vast quantity of iron is forged there and exported to the markets and Fairs in Travancore.

SATTUR.—A place of great antiquity commemorates a miracle noted in the history of the Paravans, and is said to have been a forest. It is affirmed, that about 400 years ago the Totians kept their cattle and used to dispose of the milk and ghee and appropriate the money for defraying the expenses to perform the religious rites and ceremonies to the god Vengidachalabaddi. In these remote times, a Tadan from Tiruppathi, brought away an image of 16 inches in height, & stopped one night at Padandal and early the next morning came to the Herdsman's stall where the cattle were kept; a small Kovil, dedicated to Sattur was under the canopy of a huge Banyan tree over which the Tadan hung up a basket in which he kept the image: about this time the Ettiyapuram Poligar dreamed a dream, that the Brahmin (a Pilgrim from Kas and Ramiseram) shall be restored to sight if a temple was built by that chieftain: the following morning the Tadan untied the basket as usual, and found it to be very heavy and was not able to raise it. The Ettiyapuram Poligar having found the Brahmin's eyes already restored resorted to the ph and desired the Tadan not to touch the basket. The Poligar immediately summoned the chief of his ministers and the Priests of his country to repair to Sattur to consecrate the place and to build a temple to the god Venkadachalabaddi after which period the god was commonly called Sattur Appan, hence the place derived its name Sattur; which gives name to a sub-division and is well known being situated on the high road which leads from Madura to Palamcottah, and on the south side is a river from 500 to 600 feet wide called the Nichibanaddi and which ultimately

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the name of a Tank of irrigation which lies seated between Strivilliputtur and contains 4 subordinate villages.

ft bank of the Chuddrigherri-aur and contiguous to tent of Paddy situated 10½ miles N. E. from Strivilliputtur which are tolerably well inhabited by Husbandmen. The road which leads to Madura.

cusubah of a sub-division of the same name. It lies on the Kulpatti hill, a detached rock having a Temple commonly called Iykanni Esueara and which with to have been originally of some repute and importance to Kulpatti and enters the Tirumangalam Talook as all of which are well inhabited.

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in its course forms the Vypar. The Sattur Pagodah is a small edifice with various figures of deities on the east side facing the River. It is interesting to see the number of sculptures exhibited on the walls of the temple. The most distinguished individuals in the Kurtakles Gove have greatly promoted the prosperity of their temples and have acquired that celebrity in the southern Carnatic to remote times of their first establishment to the present measures in length from E. to W. 130 feet and from N. to S. 85 feet. The village is small and contains principally the houses of the temple establishment. On the south bank is a large and spacious Chuttrum built by Jaddykhan which affords comfortable accommodation for Brahmins especially to provide for Byragees and Pilgrims.

SATRIPUTTY.—A village situated on the road about 1 mile S. E. from Strivilliputtur and contains a good extent of irrigation lies contiguous and cultivates a good extent of Paddy.

PADANDAL.—Is considered the Cusub of the Sattur subdivision and is situated on the right bank of the Vypar. It contains two subordinate villages inhabited chiefly by husbandmen.

SINDAPPALLI.—Lies situated on the plain of a black soil 20 miles S. E. from Strivilliputtur and contains two subordinate villages.

CHINNAKKAMAPATTI.—Lies on the left of the road which leads from Amattur to Kovilpatti, and is about 18 miles E. S. E. from Strivilliputtur and contains two subordinate villages.

METTEMALI.—Lies on a plain 19 miles S. E. by E. from Strivilliputtur and is about 18 miles E. S. E. from Strivilliputtur and contains two subordinate villages.

NEENMENI.—A tolerable village and Aggrauram pleasant by a road which leads from Virudakkapatti to Tutu and by a road which gives name to a Sub-division and contains two Roman chapels in this sub-division whose converts or manufacture of coarse cloths are carried on here which employ many hands.

MUDITTALANAGALAPURAM.—A pleasant village situated on the right bank of the Vypar and contains 2 subordinate villages.

RAJAPATTI.—Lies on the right side of a road about 1½ miles S. E. from Strivilliputtur and contains 2 subordinate villages.

KRAYLASAPURAM.—Is a village of considerable antiquity, situated on the right bank of the Vypar and contains 2 subordinate villages.

VALAKKANATTAM.—Is a small village situated on the right bank of the Vypar and contains 2 subordinate villages.

MASURAPATTI.—Lies situated on the left of a road which leads from Amattur to Kovilpatti, and is about 18 miles E. S. E. from Strivilliputtur and contains two subordinate villages.

MUTILLAPURAM.—A small insulated village situated on the left bank of the Vypar and contains 2 subordinate villages.

VANDAMALHIPURAM AND ACHANKULAM.—Lies on the boundary which divides it from the K. Ramnad limits. It contains three subordinate villages and lies 43 miles S. E. from Strivilliputtur.

KOTTEIYUR.—A small village situated on the S. of a reservoir and left of a road which leads from Virudakkapatti and is about 2 miles E. of Mannarkottei.

IRUKKANGUDI.—Gives name to a sub-division and is a small village seated above the confluence of the Vypar with the Nichubanaddi 28 miles S. E. from Strivilliputtur and about 1½ miles N. W. of Neenmeni.

CHIRUKKULAM.—A small village below the bank of a tank 2 miles N. of Irukkangudi.

METTUPATTI.—Lies on the right of a road which leads to Vilattikulam, contiguous to the bed of a long Tank which irrigates a fine sheet of Paddy and is about two miles of Irukkangudi.

SENAYPATTI.—In ruins.

MAYUMADAPURAM.—A small village on the road about 4 furlongs south of Mettupatti of Irukkangudi sub-division.

KORUGUNDU.—A small village on the plain, abounding with Tanks situated about 4 miles north east from Irukkangudi and contains two subordinate villages tolerably well inhabited.

MAVILPATTI.—Lies on the plains about 4½ miles E. by S. of Irukkangudi.

VEMBUR.—A populous village situated on the junction of two roads, the one from Virudakkapatti and the other from Pandilligudi in Ramnad. It has one subordinate village and is seven miles E. by S. of Irukkangudi and 84 miles from Strivilliputtur.

KARISALKULAM.—A village on the road 2½ miles N. N. W. from Vembur.

METTILPATTI.—Lies 34 miles S. E. from Strivilliputtur and contains 5 subordinate villages situated near the boundary common to Tirunelveli and Ramnad.

ended by a high wall of about 177 feet in length and 94 feet broad which has a spacious building on the east side facing the River. This edifice with various figures of deities on the east side facing the River. It is interesting to see the number of sculptures exhibited on the walls of the temple. The most distinguished individuals in the Kurtakles Gove have greatly promoted the prosperity of their temples and have acquired that celebrity in the southern Carnatic to remote times of their first establishment to the present measures in length from E. to W. 130 feet and from N. to S. 85 feet. The village is small and contains principally the houses of the temple establishment. On the south bank is a large and spacious Chuttrum built by Jaddykhan which affords comfortable accommodation for Brahmins especially to provide for Byragees and Pilgrims.

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one subordinate village. Strivilliputtur. The husbandry in the soil particularly north

ed on the right bank of the Vypar and is about 18 miles S. E. from Strivilliputtur and contains two subordinate villages; there are ravens and Elavara. A small Looms.

bank of the Vypar miles the country is fertile and well

E. from Neenmeni.

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Strivilliputtur and about two and three quarter miles from Tiruttungal; the country is hilly to the west abounding with copses and stony grounds.

he left bank of the Kalikarichi sur 13 miles east from quarter miles from Tiruttungal; the country is hilly to the grounds.

on the road which leads to Kuttalam, 7 miles S. W. hills covered with wood, running in a north and south direction, a mile and half south of the Koyakudinaddi river where the following are the following

Vengannallur and 3 subor
Sammandapuram and 1 sub
Sarvasamudram and 1 sub
Vadamaleisamudram in 1
Puduppaleiyam.
Teruchalur in ruins.
Vadamaleipuram and
Pettavanallur, and 1 subor
populous place, and gives it the
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Vadamaleipuram is occupied by L
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a distinct class of people, who tra
to have come originally from the
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totally abolished among them,
who trade in cotton, and cloths;
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nut: a Bullock load contains from
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ore found in the vicinity of the V
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In the reign of Vizia Shoka
flourished considerably in trade, b
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west of Vengannallur Aggraharum,
adore the Perumal deities and they
fertile, abounding with tanks, which
descend from the hills, and produce

KOTTANKULAM.—Is situated on the
miles S. W. from Strivilliputtur, and c
hill called Kollanmaller.

KOLLANKONDAN.—Is a pleasant village on the left bank of a rivulet, which discharges itself into the Deviar, below the village Solapuram, and gives name to a sub-division 11 miles S. W. from Strivilliputtur, and contains 1 subordinate village. There are 58 looms employed chiefly by the Puttasallian and Shader weavers, and the country abounds with palmyra trees.

ILANDRAIKONPAN.—Lies situated on the eastern declivity of a rock—Miles S. E. from Kollankondan, and contains one subordinate village.

PUTTUR.—Lies situated on the northern bank of a large tank of irrigation south of the Deviar, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Kollankondan, and contains four subordinate villages of which two are in ruins.

PUNALVELI.—A village and Aggraharam pleasantly situated on the right and left banks of the Deviar, about 6 furlongs north of Puttur, and contains one subordinate village. There is a large tank on the north of the river, which cultivates an extensive sheet of paddy.

SOKKANADANPUTTUR.—A fine village on the high road which leads from Strivilliputtur to Kuttalam, via Rajahpaleiyam, and is about 2 miles north of the Shivagiri Cuttram; $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. E. from Shivagiri. This village is under Ammani and management of the Circar.

KOVILPATI.—Is an ancient and celebrated village and Agraharam, situated on the high road, which leads from Madura to Pallankottai, miles from Strivilliputtur, and gives name to a sub-division. This place is noted in recording from time immemorial three remarkable events, vizt, First, the high celebrity of the temple, which is dedicated to god Pushyanam Esuren; second, A perennial spring, called Aggastiar Teartur, and lastly, for the memorable birth of that celebrated Hindu Fortune teller, Oolumodian, who is known to be an excellent commentator and author of a book named after him; "Oolumodian". The pagodah stands on a sort of table land, and has a flight of steps ascending to it, on the north and west sides. Here is an Agraharam, and two cars which are drawn on the festival celebrated in the month of March.

On the north side is the excavation of a reservoir 156 by 140 feet, which has a perennial spring, issuing from the bowels of the rock into a cistern or basin on its declivity, and a flight of steps to descend it, is called Aggastiar Teartur, by whom it is supposed to have been founded. About a mile S. W. of Kovilpatti is a rock, noted for its extraordinary cavern; on the west

of these 1 in ruins.

village. The union of the foregoing villages renders it a name of Rajapaleiyam; the three former constitutes mes on the west, Pudduppaleiyam on the south, and Moormen, and Palayapaleiyam on the north; several are, from the early times of the Gentu Kings Govern-ment: certain endowment of landed property was they seem to enjoy, or rather the tenure held out to as a Military Jaghire or Fief. The Puliankudi Chetties about 20 or more families reside here, who are also said to be highly distinguished for their valour, and countries. The sacrifice of immolation is said to have the Rajah caste, and which practice seems to become Company's Government. Here are about 20 merchants is manufactured for the dress of the Nairs in Travan-e, and Atchencovil passes to Pundalum, Mavillikkurrei, sent three times in a year, and they return with betel olams. The nuts are taken to Virdukkapatti, Tiru-tare, iron is manufactured here abundantly, from the appu hills; fine mats, sieves, and baskets are made

Nayakkan he established a Pettah here, when this place the two countries to which the great mountains are core. At present here is no pettah, and the trade is Government; and the Choukey of this station is dary; a Kovil, or pagodah, dedicated to the god is on the portion of the village, Pettavanallur; a car le Perumalkovil is on the west of the southern Agra-f Pudupaliyam, and the Perumalkovil, which stands ated to Cholimali Perumal; the Rajahs here are said to rship the Iyanar, as their tutelar god. The lands are well replenished by the streams and rivulets which ndant crop of paddy.

and which leads to Sankaraneinarcovil, via Solapuram, 3 ins one subordinate village, and takes the name of the

side is the entrance of the cave, which has the sembla appearance within is a regular dome; it is called Panippa term, is from a belief, that the ancient Pandevans inhabit from the vultures, which are seen to infest it, and crevic swarm the place, and a very strong sulphurous smell affe occasional eruptions were witnessed many years ago, and was in March 1821; about the time of the celebration of tion caused smoke to emit from the cavern, and that it c it ceased. The third event, which this place records is celebrated author of a work of that name, and from the upwards of 900 years ago there lived a Brahmin, by nar at Kunkigondan in the Tirunelveli province, who used t tion prognosticating to them propitious and unpropitio astrologers. The Joshiair on returning to his country, after the twelfth year of his birth, he sought for a propi obtaining to himself a son and heir. He was suddenly which caused the rivers to swell and impeded his progr patty, when his nuptials were to be consummated by it disappointment so agitated the Brahmin that he looked beheld a Dancing girl of the temple before him, with v propitious moment that he was to consummate his seco girl and gave her a paper on which he wrote his own wards proceeded with the intention to go to Kasi; and Tondamandalam, and remained with the Rajah of that his scientific knowledge.

The dancing girl at Kovilpatti conceived, and after who on attaining his seventh year enquired of his moth paper which she received from the Joshiair, and soon af pilgrimage; the youth was much admired everywhere lent qualities and endowments he possessed in the 1 he arrived at Tondamandalam, where the Brahmin J assembled to witness the discovery of some jewels th

The Astrologer being seated, drew a diagram manifested pretensions to recover the jewels. The y posture, with the view to endeavour by his skill to pleas by reciting certain prayers, entreating that the jewel wh the diagram drawn by the Brahmin, and found in the s man in the mean time was much agitated against the y offer schemes in opposition to his project. It was how as was seen flying in the air, that had the jewel in its beak as to touch the diagram drawn by the Joshiair, and from thence rolled into the one described by the stranger, to the ne less astonishment of the Rajah and the occasion. The Brahmin immediately enquired of the young man who he was, and whether he was proceeding. The stranger gave the Joshiair the paper he received from his mother; the Brahmin on seeing which, he recognized his hand-writing he gave to the dancing girl, and to much parental affection, embraced his son, and exclaimed in an affectionate manner Joshiair obtained the Rajah's permission, and returned with his son to Kovilpatti, to see the dancing girl; and to commemorate this eventful circumstance the Brahmin built a Muntapam, in front of the pagodah in which the sculptures of the learned Joshiair, the dancing girl, and his son, whom he called Oolumodian, are exhibited to the present day; and whose work is still extant, & prevails through out the Carnatic, and is consulted by the Hindoo Astrologers of all classes, especially in predict- ing bad and good fortunes. The monuments in this place record a variety of circumstances too numerous for description.

TITTANKULAM.—Lies $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Kovilpatti, below the table land on the south, situated between two tanks, each irrigating a small extent of paddy land.

PANDAVAMANGALAM.—Lies in an open plain about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. S. E. from Kovilpatti; it is supposed to derive its name from the Pandavar hill on the west.

MUDUKTALANKULAM.—An insulated village, bordering a woody ridge of hills on the S. W. called Karmamali. It lies 6 miles S. S. E. from Kovilpatti.

KAMANPATI.—A village in ruins, in the sub-division of Kovilpatti.

ATTAKUNDAN.—A small village attached to the insulated village of Mudukhalankulam, in the sub-division of Kovilpatti.

AYALNAPPAM.—A village in ruins, in the sub-division of Kovilpatti.

The foregoing villages are those principally leased in the Nadumundalam Talook.

AMANI VILLAGES.

VALAKKULAM.—An Amani village and Agraharam, on the left bank of the Kayilkudi-aur in the Varadaryapuram sub-division, 3 miles west of Strivilliputtur, and contains 6 subordinate villages. It is chiefly noted for the Sulian and Sudar weavers, who employ 113 looms for the manufacture of cotton cloths &c. for exportation.

an artificial gateway; and the all, or Kugeimalli; the former cavern, and the latter is derived rock. Innumerable bats also sit; and the people assert that of these uncommon phenomena at this place, a slight erup- tion for the space of 40 days before and origin of Oolumadian, the narrative it is believed, that vandan Joshiair, an astrologer, had among the people of distinc- tion, which is common with Hindoo to perform the second marriage is that he may be successful in en by heavy rains, on the road, he had just time to reach Kovil- ty of his second marriage; this and down again, when he he was enamoured, and at the he cohabited with the Dancing "Ooyeivandan Joshiair" and after- he arrived at a place called where he was much esteemed for

all time, was delivered of a fine boy, who was his father. She gave him a he left his mother, and proceeded on a went, and was regarded for the excel- ar of his age. During his pilgrimage, and a great concourse of people were lost at the Rajah's palace.

he ground (and by the art of Astrology) stranger seated himself in an humble the Rajah, and the crowded populace he was lost might first fall so as to touch the Rajah, and which accordingly fell in a manner

er soon observed that a Brahminy kite was seen flying in the air, that had the jewel in its beak and which rolled into the one described by as to touch the diagram drawn by the Joshiair, and from thence rolled into the one described by the stranger, to the ne less astonishment of the Rajah and the occasion. The Brahmin immediately enquired of the young man who he was, and whether

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AYALNAPPAM.—A village in ruins, in the sub-division of Kovilpatti.

PULIYAMPUTTURANI.—A village
YEDUKOTTEL.—A tolerable
the right bank of the Marikudi-
subordinate villages which are

TENKAREL.—A village and
 aur, in the sub-division of Raja
 west of the road, and contains s

DEVANKURICHI.—Gives name amongst the Izara villages in the

CHINNAREDDIPATTI.—Lies c
north of Devankurichi, close the
of paddy.

SENKOTTEL.—Is a small village situated on a road which leads from Kottai to Kottai. It contains one subordinate village.

NADEIYANERI.—A village of Senkottai, in the Senkumrapu taluk, transferred to Gopallaswamy in an in

VIRUDAKKAPATTI.—This is a small town, 12 miles from Strivilliputtur, on the high road treated among the Izara villages.

constitutes the manufacturing &
three looms are in operation chi
which gives an additional popul

PALAYAPALEIYAM.—A village leads to Senkottei and Kuttalam.

Chetties, who appear to be more
description either Nunjei or Punjei
population amounts to 2210.

SOKKANADANPUTTUR.—Al
to Senkottei, about 16 miles S.
PURIPPUGRAMAM m.

upon a favorable tenure, not ex-
ment, and is not unlike the priv-

TADANKANNI.—In the Malabar and Cochin Districts, consisting of

KILANKULAM.—A small vil-

SATTUR.—A pleasant village it is already described among the

VISSUVANATTAM.—A fine station, in the Sivakasi sub-division

VACHAKKARPATTI.—Lies 22
puram, and contains 3 subordin

KATTUKUTTAGAI OR SHROTRIUM.

Villages under this designation are such as are held by incumbents upon a fixed rent, the tenure of which is never below 20 per cent, a privilege granted from time immemorial by the prince or chief of the country, as an appendage for service, or of some particular mark of favor.

CHINNODEIPATTI.—Lies 25 miles S. E. of Strivilliputtur in the Sattur sub-division. Here one forge is worked in smelting iron, and the lands granted is very inconsiderable both in Nanjai and Punjai.

NAMHIPURAM.—A fine village and Aggraharam on the left bank of the Vypar, 36 miles S. E. of Striviputtur in the Nenmeni sub-division. It contains 5 subordinate villages, and there are 423 houses the population of which amounts to 1762 inhabitants, of whom there are 245 Brahmans of Smarta Telugu, and among the Sudra are chiefly Kummawars. There is an oil mill,

one forge, and 8 looms employed for manufacture and used for the culture of paddy, extending from Kotar to the south and the lands here are fertile both in grain and cotton.

KODANGIPATTI.—Lies S. E. by E. 33 miles from Madras division, on the high lands, abounding with grain and cattle inhabitants, besides which there is nothing worthy of note.

YELLINGANAYAKKANPATTI.—Lies 18½ miles N. E. of
in the Senkunapuram sub-division. Here are 247 hou
leads from Kuttanpatti southward to Pavelli. Here are

Shiven Numbiar Brahmins.

MUTHURAMENPATI.—Lies 22 miles E. N. E. from S. and contains one subordinate village; the lands here comprise about 6 square miles.

RAJALEIPATTI.—Lies about 1½ miles E. of Virudakk division, of which there is nothing worthy of notice. contains one subordinate village, and the lands are fertile.

NINMALLIPATTI.—In ruins in the Virudakkapatti taluk, of which Karukkaandu lies about 2 miles S., on the highway between Karaikal and Pondicherry.

KADAMANKULAM.—Gives name to a small hamlet inhabited by 19 Pallars, of the labouring purpose of cultivating the lands dependent on it.

APPANERI.—A ruined village in the Pullers of
Nunjei land, of which 92 is cultivated by of the two last
Punjei, which constitutes the Shrotrium of the two last
Kolankondan

ENAM PORIP

Villages or lands held by incumbents under this
are considered as ^{exempted} ~~exempted~~ from taxation, with except

81

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1126

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FORTIFICATIO

a good order, and six in ruins; one of two distinct classes of the other at Striviguntam, where will be found in the Appendix the Nabob's Government of the country as follows, vizt. 1st Mallaveikuntam, 2nd Seleiyannellur Gengakondan 23 miles N. N. W. Sittar Kiver 28 miles N. W. of that name, near where it is a well; 5th Kytar is a well on the left of the great plain, on whose plain the city of Kuttanbur Zemindarship in 1800 A. D.: 5th Akilandan of the Kuttanbur Zemindarship. The Survey of the country, and no traces of them

CONSIDERABLE PLACES

Places and Remarks.

There are altogether Ten temples, 1 of Shiva, and 9 Vistnu, 4 of which are considered principal. Here is a Commissioners Court for the recovery of small debts. A plentiful market is held every Wednesday. A Roman Chapel is on the S. side contiguous to the Market place which is well studded with Trees, that afford a grateful shade.

The Aggraharam is a double row of neat houses with a clean and wide street fronting the temple, intersected at right angles by the Pandal Mundapam, and East street. The houses of the Suder population are in streets of distinct castes. A spacious edifice on the N. E. called the Dalavoy Mudaliyar's house, with a few other upper roomed buildings in the town and suburbs, distinguish this place from the common villages. The festivals of the Vistnu Pagodah in addition to the Punguni Ootrum and Addi Amnavassi are celebrated in the months of January February and April, with considerable pomp and magnificence:— the principal car streets measure about 1 mile in circumference.

The Shiva Temple at the N. E. angle of the Town dedicated to Kylasinader is surrounded by a wall 20 feet high measuring 400 by 180 feet. It has two porches, the one on the E. side is called the Sannadi of the deity and the other on the S. which faces the great car street, is the Sannadi of the Amin or gods. Two cars are drawn round this temple during its festivals, which happen in the month of Peran.

The Kottei Vellalars, no times, and do not appear to be bulwark of mud and stone, as Pandi and other Vellalars. to W. 750 feet, and from N. and shut at night. The men sign. A woman is prohibited, daughter, nor a brother his sister female slaves. Few as are the Vistnu. A particular account of separate place. Striveikuntam Parriars, the prædial labourers of 1835 houses, 71 of two stories, 2 looms, the greater part used by

PERUNKULAM.—A pretty place 6 miles E. from Striveikuntam, an ing of 263 Brahmins, one Siva and sanctity. There is a public houses, and 2,346 inhabitants chi

MANGALAKURICHI.—A small Chittar Rivers 8 miles E. from Striveikuntam. It contains 4 subordinate villages, 131 houses and 596 inhabitants. A market is held here once a week.

TANNUTHU.—A ruined village 3 miles N. E. from Striveikuntam. It has 3 ruined tanks, so that for many years the paddy lands have been held upon the Panje tenure. The lands are cultivated by Yairvaddies or Ryots, containing 353½ chain. The Mirasidar resides at the Cusbah.

ARUNUGAMUNGALAM.—Lies 9 miles N. E. from Striveikuntam, below the southern end of the bank of a large tank of irrigation. It contains 15 subordinate villages, the greater part inhabited by the lower class of the agricultural servants. On the whole it is a populous village and Agraharam, adorned with a car, and 4 wide streets, having 2 Shiven and 3 Vistnu temples. A festival is celebrated once a year. There are 552 houses containing 1955 inhabitants, 287 of whom are Brahmins, 99 Moormen who are chiefly engaged in traffic, and in manufacture of coarse cloths. Here is a sanscrit and a Tamil School and some durable edifices of stone.

MADATHUR.—A small village containing 35 houses, and 92 inhabitants, situated 4 miles W. of Tuticorin, on the high road from Palamcottah. The road to Tuticorin is over a heavy sand covered with jungle.

PANDARAMPATTI.—An abandoned village in the neighbourhood of Mappilleiyurani, about 20 miles N. E. from Striveikuntam. It has 153¼ chains of dry grain land, of which 117 are cultivated by Yairvaddies or tenants.

VEIPPAR.—An ancient village on the road to Ramnad, on the S. bank of a wide river which takes that name. It has a small Aggraharam, a Shiva temple and is about 35 miles N. E. from Striveikuntam. The site of a ruined fortress is on the W. side of the village, and a large stone Muntapam. An annual car festival is celebrated here, and a Chuttram which affords food, daily for Brahmin travellers. There are 6 subordinate villages, which contains 308 houses and 1898 inhabitants.

KILVEIPPAR.—A subordinate village on an island formed on the N. bank of the Veippar river, where it communicates with the sea. It is a mercantile place. Here are 6 Banks, the property of different merchants that carry on a trade with Ceylon. The exports are, Iron, Paddy, Choyavair, Cuddalei, Horsegram, various sorts of pulse, coriander, cotton, and cloth &c. The imports are coconuts, coconut-oil, pepper, betel nut, benjamin, sandalwood, cardamoms, dates, sugar, sugar candy and coir ropes &c. There is a Chowkey for land and Sea-Customs; and 5 old places indicate the place to have been once the resort of the Pandi chiefs. The Paravar Christians reside at Chippikulam, who have a Roman Church at Tekkur, and a new building at Vadakar by contribution. Their number amounts to 519 souls.

VILATTIKULAM.—A fine village & Aggraharam, on the road from Tuticorin via Nagalapuram to Madura below the embankment of a large tank of irrigation and about 5 furlongs from the right bank of the Veippar and 40 miles N. E. by N. from Striveikuntam. It has 10 subordinate villages, 4 of which are in ruins. Here is a temple dedicated to Sokkalingam of Minachi Ammen a very ancient structure walled round. It is surrounded by a car street forming the Aggraharam and the greater part of the Sudar habitations. Two grand festivals are yearly celebrated in the months of April and July. The southern suburbs of the town is a Pettah where a plentiful market is held every Wednesday. The Kyeolar weavers occupy the street on the N. side of the Pettah, where 25 looms are employed in the manufacture of common coarse cloths.

MELATATTAPAREI.—A small village consisting of 105 houses, on the N. side of the road which leads from Palamcottah to Tuticorin. The cattle here are of a large size and appear to thrive abundantly.

KILATATTAPAREI.—Lies 1½ miles S. of Melatattaparei, contain 81 houses, chiefly occupied by Husbandmen. The soil partakes a moisture of clay and sand, adapted for the cultivation of dry grain.

KOTTALI.—Lies about 5 miles S. E. from Kytar consisting of 39 houses and 471 inhabitants. There are 4 looms employed for the manufacture of coarse cloths and a mat frame. Besides an old Vistnu temple, there is nothing worthy of notice.

KILKOTTEI.—Is a small village in the Kytar portion of Striveikuntam about 17½ miles N. W. by W. from the Cusbah of the Talook. It contains 2 subordinate villages, 104 houses and 227 inhabitants. The tanks of irrigation in this neighbourhood are in a ruined condition: the rupture of the banks appears to have occurred at the same time with the bursting of Prakurmapandikko-lum, and the large tank of Sivvalperi upwards of 40 years ago. It is said that 600 Koteies of paddy land are sorted upon the Punjab tenure, owing to the state of the Anicut on the Chittar River and the above mentioned tanks.

AVYANARUTHU.—Lies 4½ miles S. S. W. from Kytar, 26 miles N. W. from Striveikuntam. It contains 69 houses and 329 inhabitants, the greater part of whom are Lubbay Moormen who employ 14 looms in the manufacture of coarse cloths. A piece of 14 cubits in length sells at the rate of 1 Cully Panam per yard. Five tanks here are in ruins, said to be in that state from a very long date. Dry grain only is cultivated here.

TIRUMUNGALAKURICHI.—A small village and Aggraharam on the bank of a tank of irrigation situated 6½ miles N. N. W. of Kytar. It contains 79 houses and 314 inhabitants.

VELLAPPANERI.—A small village situated 2 miles N. W. of Tirumungalakurichi.

TEKKONARKOTTEI.—N. W. 1½ miles of Tirumungalakurichi.

VENKIDACHELLAPURAM.—N. W. 3 miles of Tirumungalakurichi.

CHEDAMBARAMPATTI.—N. N. E. 2 miles of Teramungalakurichi—the above mentioned villages are in the division of Kytar, held under Amani Management.

RENDAMPULI.—A small village of Kytar Division, consisting of 6 houses and 42 inhabitants, situated about the northern brow of a low ridge of hill 3 miles N. W. of Kytar.

KYTAR.—Although at present only a village, was in former times a place of considerable repute and said to have been the residence of Juggavi Pandi-Rajah of Kyveinagarum, the remnant of whose family of Chettri princes resides at Lir asamudram, commonly called Kanki-kondan on the left bank of the Sittar River. This village has one subordinate, about 24 miles N. N. W. from Striveikuntam, on the road from Madura to Palamcottah & Tirunelvely. Among the several monuments and vestiges of antiquity of this distinguished city of sovereigns, is the demolished Fort, two Hindu Temples dedicated to Shiva and Vistnu in a ruinous state; the Aggraharam has been abandoned with exception of one amily which remains to perform the ceremonious rites of the Perumal pagoda which is also falling to decay. A deep rivulet called the Kusset-aur runs on the W. side, and crosses the road about 3 miles south. The soil is a deep black loam; a singular property of the soil is its producing a sort of white chalk, where also several petrefactions are found. Coarse cloths and reed mats are manufactured here, chiefly by the Lubbay Moormen; here are about 238 houses and 172 inhabitants. It was for many years a Military post, before the capture of Seringapatam in 1799. In the ruins of the Fort is a monument to the memory of Ensi-n Narcott who died here from cholera while on his way to Quilon in 1820. The awful execution of Cattabomma Naick of Panjalankurichi which took place here in the year 1800, a heap of stones mark the spot where he was hung and gibbeted. A fine Bungalow was built in 1824-25 for the accommodation of European travellers (since these papers were in progress) and which affords much convenience and comfort.

* It will be recollected, that this Poligar after having stabbed Adjutant Clarke in Ramnad, took flight in Tondaman country where he was taken as a rebel and delivered up by that faithful chieftain to the English Government.

29/52
29

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Madras,

Dated 11th July 1877.

No. 1188

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

Ten copies of the Geographical
and Statistical Memoir of the
Tinnevely District and its
Zemindaries received from the
Collector of Tinnevely with his letter
dated 26th June 1877 No. 416 are herewith
forwarded to the Secretary to Govt.
R.D. with reference to S.O. No. 329.

(By order)

Chm. Maslam

Addl. Sub. Secretary.

To The Secretary to Govt. R.D.
with 10 copies of Geographical
& Statistical Memoir of Tinnevely
District.

S. Maslam

S. Maslam

Mis. No. 14-7-77 No. 3942

3442
31

3942

Recd 1877 Sept 14
No 3245

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

From *Sept*

The Sub-Secretary to the

To Board of Revenue,

The

Secretary to Govt

Sr: 1 *Recd Sept 14*

Dated 11th

Despatched

Received

No. 1188

13th July 1877

*For Secretary to Govt
At District Purnea
of the Government of
Bihar & Benares*

No. 3942

Subjed ✓

14th July 1877