

Thus the number of suits in the 13 Districts under Settlement was half as great again as that in the remaining 19 Districts. The litigation under this head in the former will be alluded to under the head of Settlements. In the other Districts resort to the provisions of the Act is sparingly made. In some few Districts the number of cases is increasing, as in Hissár and Sirsa; but where the provisions of the Act were brought into full use immediately after its passing, as in the Districts of the Amritsar and Lahore Divisions, cases are yearly and rapidly decreasing.

116½ The object of the Act was twofold: to maintain a status which had been asserted in the early Settlements of the Province, and to restore to that status those who had been ejected from it by the action taken in more recent Settlements without institution of a regular suit. When the latter object was effected, its remaining effect has been rather passive than active, except in Districts under Settlement, where the minute enquiry into rights at once suggests and affords opportunity for the assertion of a more profitable interest in the land. It may be that the advantages to be gained by tenant and proprietor respectively by a freer resort to its provisions will, in process of time, result in a larger number of claims on both sides, but at present the number of suits relating to occupancy holdings in comparison with the total number of such holdings in the Province is almost inappreciable, except where Settlement operations are in progress.

The result of the suits for ejectment and declaration of status cannot be ascertained from the returns on which the above remarks are based; the Financial Commissioner proposes to obtain information on these points in future years. But the working of the Act in the interests of landlord and tenant respectively may be inferred from the following institutions:—

Suits by landlords.				Suits by tenants.			
Regarding rights of occupancy	...	192		Regarding rights of occupancy	...	2,491	
Regarding rent	...	478		Regarding rent	...	36	
Regarding ejectment	...	860		Regarding ejectment	...	513	
Total	...	1,430		Total		3,040	

so that in about two-thirds of the cases the institution is taken by tenants.

The result of suits for enhancement is given in the Statement appended (No. XLII). Out of 274 institutions a decree for enhancement was given in 161 cases. The enhancement in the sum fixed as rent over and above the Government demand amounted to an average increase of 162 per cent., and the actual increase in rent 43 per cent., which shows how inadequate the former rent must have been, and how useful the provisions of the Act are in such cases.

There were 91 of these cases in the Hazára District alone; of the remaining 71, 43 were in the Amritsar Division. One of the reasons why suits for enhancement are not more frequent is that the people consider themselves bound to abide by whatever rent was fixed at Settlement, whether or no it has been entered in the record and attested. Such entries, if made and attested previous to the passing of the Panjáb Land Revenue Act of 1874, have the force of agreements under Section 2 of the Panjáb Tenancy Act, as

regards the rate of rent, for the term of Settlement. Since the passing of the Panjáb Land Revenue Act, mere entries in the Settlement record have not this artificial force.

The Panjáb Tenancy Act has worked well. In some respects it requires revision. The provisions of Section 19 are specially hard on tenants. In other points also amendment is required.

The Act has now been long enough at work to show in what points it requires amendment. The excitement, which attended the discussion of its provisions six years ago, has subsided completely, and the time appears to have come when it may safely be revised. Its main provisions do not require alteration, but its minor defects may with advantage be removed.

### PART III.—SETTLEMENTS.

Statements Nos. XXI and XXII. Number and control of Settlements.

117. Settlements were in progress in 13 Districts during the year—

Dehli Division	... (3 Districts forming one Settlement).
Rohtak.	
Ferozpúr	... (The Muktsar Tahsil and Ilaka of Mamdot).
Multan.	
Montgomery.	
Muzaffargarh.	
Derah Ismail Khan.	
Derah Ghazi Khan.	
Bannu.	
Peshawar.	
Hazara.	

The Dehli Settlements are under the control of the Commissioner of Dehli, the Rohtak Settlement under the control of the Commissioner of Hissar, the Peshawar and Hazara Settlements under the control of the Commissioner of Peshawar, and the remainder are under the Settlement Commissioner.

The Settlements completed during the year were those of the Muktsar Tahsil and Mamdot Ilaka of the Ferozpúr District, and that of the Montgomery District. The announcement and distribution of the assessments were completed, the Settlement Courts closed, and the records made over to the Deputy Commissioner. The establishment was transferred to the Rohtak Settlement.

118. The fiscal results of these Settlements have been noticed under the head of Land Revenue.

Fiscal results.

The amount of work done was as follows :—

	Villages.	
Boundaries completed in	... ..	2,299
Preliminary statements of rights and holdings prepared in	... ..	2,315
Measurements completed in	... ..	2,204 Area 61,77,807 acres.
Area and field maps passed in	... ..	481 Area 8,24,369 acres.
Holdings attested in	... ..	224 No. of holdings 36,597
Assessments reported in	... ..	1,784 Revenue assessed Rs 3,29,890 18
Assessments announced and distributed in	... ..	2,370
Rents adjusted in	... ..	144 No. of holdings 7,39
Administrative papers prepared in	... ..	200
English assessment returns completed in	... ..	1,580
Settlement records faired in	... ..	1,611
Settlements finished in	... ..	2,080

Progress made.

119. The state of Settlements in progress at the close of the year was as follows :—

*Dehli.*—Demarcation and mapping of boundaries and preparation of preliminary statements of rights and holdings complete, except in eight villages as regards the latter process. Measurements completed in 142 villages, leaving 665 to be finished.

The progress of the Settlement, which was commenced in February 1872, has been very slow. The Settlement Officer has had difficulties to contend with in the inefficiency of the Patwáris; but he anticipates that the measurements will be completed within the current year.

*Gurgaon.*—Boundaries demarcated and mapped in all but 14 villages; preliminary statements in all but 78; measurements in all but 261. The total number of villages in this District is 1,269. The progress made during the year has been fair.

*Karnál.*—Boundaries all demarcated and mapped, and preliminary statements completed in 263 villages out of the total number of 330; measurements completed in 152 villages. The progress in this District has been very slow, but the same difficulty exists as in the Dehli District, and the establishment is deficient. A recommendation for its increase is now before Government.

*Rohtak.*—The work was not properly commenced until the end of November; from that time to the close of the year the boundaries of 223 villages out of a total of 283 were completed. As the Rohtak villages are very large, this out-turn must be considered good.

The Settlement Officer has adopted a new mode of surveying boundaries, approaching nearly to the system of triangulation worked by the Revenue Survey Department. This method involves a larger expenditure of time in the first instance, and has the advantage of greater accuracy. The Financial Commissioner is not in favor of any attempt generally to introduce scientific accuracy into the Patwáris' measurements, as the agency is not usually fit for such an innovation, but in view of the great extent of the Rohtak villages, and of the greater ease with which the interior measurements can be filled in when the boundaries have been carefully mapped, he has approved of Mr. Purser's method in the present instance.

*Multán.*—The number of villages is 1,483. Boundaries were demarcated and mapped in 504 villages; preliminary statements of holdings completed in 544 villages; and measurements completed in 409 villages. The alluvion and diluvion work occupied the Patwáris for a considerable time and retarded Settlement operations; the out-turn is nevertheless satisfactory.

*Muzaffargarh.*—The Settlement Officer joined at the commencement of the year, and the two first quarters were consumed in preliminary work. The alluvion and diluvion work of this District, which is very heavy, also occupied the Patwáris for a long time; notwithstanding this the boundary maps of 266 villages and the field maps of 169 villages were completed, and preliminary statements finished in 323 villages.

The Settlement Officer has made good use of his time. The demarcation of the Government rakhs has been recommenced in accordance with orders received from Government during the year.

*Derah Ismail Khán.*—Boundary maps completed in all but 24 villages, and field maps in all but 17; preliminary statements in all but 35;



272 field maps were faired and passed; and attestations effected in 74 villages. The village note-books of the more advanced Tahsils were under preparation. The progress of the Settlement has been satisfactory.

*Derah Ghází Khán.*—The work of this Settlement was completed, with the exception of the fairing of records and distribution of the jamas in a few villages; all the jamas have been taken up. The Deputy Commissioner, Captain Sandeman, writes:—"I do not hesitate to say that in my opinion the orders about abíána, batái, and canals, as well as the general lightness of the assessments themselves, have secured to Government the loyal devotion of all concerned. To Mr. Fryer, the Settlement Officer, with whom I have acted in all Settlement operations in thorough accord throughout, my gratitude is due, and is sincerely given. Nothing could surpass the tender care he has evinced for the rights of all, both high and low, and with rare tact and judgment he has secured, for the Settlement he has conducted throughout, the confidence alike of Chiefs and Zamíndárs; nor has he in obtaining this in any way neglected the rights of Government. I have every confidence that the new assessments will in practice work well."

The Financial Commissioner concurs with the Commissioner in endorsing the appreciatory remarks of Captain Sandeman regarding the manner in which the Settlement has been conducted. The final Report has yet to be submitted. It is noteworthy that, since the announcements of the new jamas, there has been a large increase in cultivation in the Derah Ghází Khán District. The area shown as cultivated in 1872-73 was 2,26,693 acres. That given in Statement No. XXIX accompanying this Report is 2,97,636 acres.

The only subjects still calling for disposal are those connected with the rakhs and canals, regarding which His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has ordered further report in the Derah Ghází Khán, (Resolution No. 18 dated 2nd January 1874.) These subjects will be separately dealt with.

*Bannú.*—Boundary and village field maps and preliminary statements nearly completed; 185 field maps faired and passed; and attestation commenced. The measurement of the Wázírí lands, a delicate process, was successfully performed, and a Report made on the proprietary rights of Government in the Káchi Sissú Forest, which was provisionally approved. Good progress has been made.

*Pesháwar.*—All that remains to be done is the fairing of 142 village records, the distribution of jamas, and some miscellaneous work. The assessments have all been announced and distributed in 325 villages. This Settlement has been conducted by Captain Hastings, whose treatment of the various important questions connected with it, and whose conciliatory regard for the people, are worthy of all praise.

*Hazára.*—454 village records remain to be faired. The other operations were nearly completed. The demarcation of the Kágán Forests, the Settlement of the Kágán Valley, and the re-organization of the Patwáris, were reported during the year.

The care and judgment evinced by Captain Wace throughout the proceedings of this Settlement need no mention here, as they are fully known to the Government.

The establishments of the Derah Ghází Khán, Pesháwar, and Hazára Settlements will be available during the current year for the Settlements of the



Jhang, Kohát, and Jhelam Districts, which are to be undertaken under the orders of Government.

120. The total expenditure during the year from Imperial Revenues amount to Rs. 6,77,406. The total expenditure up to date and the average annual expenditure on each Settlement are as follows :—

			No. of years in operation.	Total expenditure up to date.	Average annual expenditure.
				Rs.	Rs
Dehli	...	...	2	1,19,779	59,889
Gurgáon	...	...	2	1,13,290	56,645
Karnál	...	...	2	57,662	28,831
Rohtak	...	...	1	35,923	35,523
Multán	...	...	1	66,855	66,855
Muktsar	...	}	5	2,77,717	55,543
Montgomery	...				
Muzaffargarh	...		9 months.	51,413	...
Derah Ismail Khán	...	...	2	1,17,997	58,998
Derah Ghází Khán	...	...	5	2,55,494	51,099
Bannú	...	...	2	94,754	47,377
Pesháwar	...	...	5	4,87,417	97,483
Hazára	...	...	6	3,35,324	55,887
Total			...	20,50,231	...

This does not include expenditure on Settlement Commissioner's establishment.

121. The Judicial suits instituted in the Settlement Courts during the year were as follows :—

Suits for rights	...	...	9,735
Rent suits and suits under Panjáb Tenancy Act	...	...	3,594
Total	...	...	13,329

In the Dehli Division ordinary suits are only heard by the Settlement Courts in villages under Settlement for the first time, so the number of these suits is small; but suits under the Panjáb Tenancy Act are in all cases heard by the Settlement Courts. There was a large number of these suits in the Gurgáon District, chiefly brought by tenants for rights of occupancy.

The Judicial work was not heavy in the Districts of the Multán Division.

In the Deráját, as might have been anticipated, suits for rights in Derah Ismail Khán and Bannú are increasing as Settlement operations progress, and diminishing in Derah Ghází Khán, where they are being concluded. There are few cases under the Panjáb Tenancy Act in these Districts which are under Regular Settlement for the first time. Great care is being taken in defining and recording the status of cultivating tenants, so that no doubt hereafter may arise regarding them.

The suits for rights in Pesháwar and Hazára were very numerous.

In Pesháwar there were 1,225 cases under the Panjáb Tenancy Act, of which 980 were by tenants for rights of occupancy.

In Hazára the number was only 487; but there were 545 rent suits.

The number of Judicial appeals disposed of by Settlement Officers and their Assistants with appellate powers was 1,441 :—

Rejected at first hearing	...	...	...	159
Remanded	...	...	...	209
Decided in favor of Appellant	...	...	...	273
Do. Respondent	...	...	...	800

The percentage of orders interfered with was high, being 33 per cent.

The Revenue cases disposed of were as follows :—

Boundary disputes between villages	...	...	611
Incomplete partitions	...	...	724
Maáfi investigations	...	...	5,490
Zaildári and Lambárdari cases	...	...	1,970
Kánúngos and Patwáris' cases	...	...	550
Irrigation rights	...	...	536
Mutation cases	...	...	10,620
Miscellaneous	...	...	26,518
Total	...	...	47,261

The maáfi investigations were chiefly in the Pesháwar District. Irrigation cases were chiefly in the Pesháwar and Deraí Ghází Khán Districts. There were only 185 Revenue appeals, of which 97 were rejected at first hearing, and 55 subsequently decided in favor of Respondent.

The Officiating Settlement Commissioner, Major W. G. Davies, has submitted a Report on the Settlements under his charge, which will be found among the Appendices. Extracts from the Report by the Commissioner of Dehli and Settlement Officers of Rohtak, Pesháwar, and Hazára, are also appended.

122. *Existing Settlements.*—This Statement gives statistics regarding current and previous Settlements, with the date of expiry of each. The Districts of which the Settlements have expired, exclusive of those in which Settlement operations are in progress, are :—

Statement No. XXIII, Imperial  
Return I E. 1. Expiry of  
certain Settlements.

			<i>Date of expiry.</i>
Parts of Simla	...	...	1862 & 1870
Bijwát Iláka, Siálkót District	...	...	1872
Jhelam	...	...	1874
Jhang	...	...	1872
Kohát	...	...	1866

It has been decided by Government that the Bijwát Settlement is to run until the date of expiry of the Settlement of the remainder of the District in 1885, such relief as may be necessary being meanwhile reported for orders.

The assent of Government to begin the Settlement of the Jhelam, Jhang, and Kohát Districts has been received, and schedules of establishment are in course of preparation. The Settlement of these Districts is undertaken in succession to the Settlements of Hazára, Pesháwar, and Deraí Ghází Khán, where operations are completed.

The orders of the Government of India prolonging the period of Settlement in the Districts of the Amritsar Division, and in the Lahore, Gujranwála, and Gujrat Settlements, from 10 to 20 years, were received in the year under report, and have been duly carried out. It was also ruled that the progressing jamas, which were ordered to be taken at once in full in the Gujranwála and Gujrat Districts, should be postponed until the time originally proposed for their realization by the Settlement Officers. The result of this has been a reduction of the rent-roll in these two Districts, which is not, however, fully shown in the Statement accompanying this Report, but which will appear in next year's Report.

The Settlement of the Crown lands in the township of Kasúr Khás, Lahore District, which was effected by Extra Assistant Commissioner Ghulám Nabí, has been reported during the year, and has received the sanction of Government.

#### PART IV.—STATISTICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

123. **Rain-fall and harvest.**—The rains were, on the whole, plentiful; the provincial average was 28·6 inches, which, although lower by 2·5 inches than the year before, slightly exceeded the average of the five preceding years.

Statement No. XXIV.—Quantity of rain.

In the Dehli Division the *rabí* of 1873 was good in all three Districts; the heavy rains in the Dehli District resulted in a harvest over the average; some damage was done by the overflow of the Najafgarh Jhíl, on account of which Rs. 6,700 of the *kharíf* demand were remitted to the injured villages.

Dehli.

In Gurgáon the rain was late, which retarded the sowings; but when it did come in July, it was very heavy, and did a great deal of mischief, preventing further sowings and destroying young plants. All the streams, great and small, overflowed, and did damage to a large extent, both to cultivation and house property. Suspensions of the revenue on account of the inundation had to be granted to the extent of Rs. 8,982, of which Rs. 6,901 has been recently recommended for remission. In Karnál the *rabí* crop was very good; but an unusual fall of 3·6 inches in May deteriorated the *kharíf* harvest. In February a heavy fall of hail did some damage in five villages of the Balabgarh Tahsíl, in the Dehli District, but this affects the *rabí* crop of 1874, the result of which belongs to next year's Report.

In the neighbouring Division of Hissár there was a decrease in the rain-fall, nearly as great as was the increase in the Dehli Division. It was below the average of the five previous years in Hissár, and in this District, as well as in Sirsa, it did not fall seasonably. *Jowár* and *bájrá* are the great staples of this Division, and there was a considerable falling-off in the cultivation of these cereals. A late fall of rain saved the "*Moth*" and "*Múng*," but several villages had only their "*Pálá*" (*Zizyphus nummularia*) to depend upon. The Commissioner adds that the assessment is so light that a good crop of "*Pálá*" is sufficient to meet it. The *rabí* of 1873, moreover, was a fair crop, as well as the preceding *kharíf*.

Hissár.

Between the 19th July and 8th September nine flights of locusts were observed in the Hissár District. No damage was done, and the eggs were destroyed wherever they were observed. Colonel McMahon called attention to the fact that locusts are very frequently hatched in large numbers within the limits of Native States, where no measures are taken to destroy them; and the Government has addressed

Locusts in Hissár District.



the chiefs of Pattiala, Jhind, and Nabha on the subject ; but Bikánir and the other States of Rájputánah contain sandy tracts, which are more favorable to the breeding of the young locusts, and it is from this direction that they generally arrive.

Both harvests were good. The rain-fall was plentiful, though not excessive, and on the whole fell seasonably. Some cotton was damaged in the Ambálah District by the heavy fall in July, but there are no other complaints.

In these favored Divisions failure is almost unknown. In Jálándhar 36 inches of rain fell in July and August of 1872, and only 6 inches during the remaining 10 months. In 1873 the rain-fall was much more evenly distributed over the months of June, July, August, and September, and generally throughout the Districts of these Divisions the rain-fall was seasonable. The Deputy Commissioner of Kángra notices the severity of the frost in the winter of 1873 as having destroyed several mango groves in his District.

The rabí crop was an average one. There was some failure from blight in the Sharakpúr Tahsíl of the Lahore District. The Muktsar Tahsíl, of the Fírozpúr District, suffered from want of rain both in the rabí and kharíf crops. The latter crop also suffered for want of seasonable rain in the Chúníán Tahsíl of the Lahore District, but on the whole this crop was equal to the average in all three Districts. The cotton crop in Gujránwála failed owing to the heavy rains.

The rabí crops were good, and in the Ráwalpindi and Jhelam Districts the rains were copious and seasonable, and resulted in a good out-turn for the kharíf. In 11 villages of the Khárián Tahsíl, in the Gujrát District, owing to some atmospheric phenomenon, it almost entirely failed ; in the remainder of the District the crops were good. In the Sháh-púr District there was less rain than usual, and this fact, combined with the fall of water in the Jhelam, which threw out of use many of the inundation canals, caused the kharíf out-turn to be below the average.

The rabí harvest of the Multán and Muzaffargarh Districts was good ; but a good deal of damage was done to the cut crops by the rain and hail which fell in April and May 1873. The kharíf harvest was not so favorable in Multán owing to the late and insufficient filling of the inundation canals.

In the Montgomery District the rain-fall was below the average, and there was not so large an increase in cultivation as might otherwise have been looked for at the close of a favorable Settlement. Some extensive damage was caused in Muzaffargarh owing to a serious inundation from the Indus, which devastated the north-west angle of the District. The crops in the higher ground in the west centre of the District also suffered from the canals not filling as early as was desirable. In the southern Tahsíl the harvest was satisfactory. During the months of May, July, and August, five flights of locusts passed over the Multán and Jhang Districts from west to east, but no damage was done.

A hail-storm visited seven villages in the Jhang District during April 1874, which caused considerable damage, and has necessitated remissions to the extent of Rs. 457 from the demand for the rabí of 1874.

The *rabí* of 1873 is only noticed in the Bannú Report. The crop was a good one, except in the Mirián Iláka of the Bannú Tahsíl, which suffered in consequence of the want of water in the Tochi nalah on which it depends for irrigation. In the Bannú and Derah Ismail Khán Districts the rain-fall was somewhat in excess of that of the preceding year, and the crops, except in some isolated parts of Marwát, were not below the average. There was a large decrease in cotton cultivation in the Derah Ismail Khán District owing to high river inundations. The opening of a new irrigation cut from the Lúni, and the erection of an embankment at Bakhshindwála, has resulted in a large increase of cultivation in Derah Ismail Khán, and has assured a considerable amount of prosperity in the neighbouring villages.

The *rabí* crop of 1873 is not noticed in the local reports. The falls of rain in the Districts of this Division, though much less than the previous year, were more timely, and resulted in a bumper autumn crop. The area under cultivation in Kohát increased by 17,000 acres.

Locusts were observed in the Pesháwar and Hazará Districts during the spring of 1873, which, however, did no damage. In Pesháwar special efforts were made to destroy the eggs, which were rewarded with success. In September 1873 a severe hailstorm damaged the crops of three villages in the Pesháwar District, necessitating remissions to the extent of Rs. 900.

The general conclusion arrived at by the Financial Commissioner is that both *rabí* and *kharíf* crops of 1873-74 were above the average. The notices of the spring crop refer generally to the *rabí* of 1874-75, which, owing to timely rains, was an excellent one. Indeed, without exception, the crop which was under the sickle at the close of the year appears to have been larger than has been known for many years. At a time when large calls were being made upon the Panjáb for the export of grain to the famine-stricken Districts in Bengal, this bountiful harvest was singularly opportune. Further mention of the large amount of grain exported from the Province will be made under the head of prices.

The *kharíf* crop was above the average owing less to the copious rain-fall than to its seasonableness.

The reports on the autumn crops of this year demonstrate clearly that the timely fall of rain is more essential to the success of these crops than its quantity.

Statement No. XXV, Imperial Return L. A. 1. Area of the Province.

124. **Area, cultivated and uncultivated.**—The total area of the Province in 1868-69 was shown to be 1,02,001 square miles.

Decrease in area.

125. The Statement now submitted gives a total of 98,461 square miles. The greatest differences are in the following Districts :—

						<i>Square miles.</i>	
						1868-69.	1873-74.
Kángra	...	...	...	...	...	8,990	2,474
Amritsar	...	...	...	...	...	2,036	1,562
Derah Ghází Khán	...	...	...	...	...	2,319	4,740
Pesháwar	...	...	...	...	...	1,929	2,497
Hazará...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	2,835



The large decrease in Kángra is not noticed in the local reports. The Census Returns of 1868 show a total of 8,762 square miles. In 1867-68 the area was shown to be 2,826 square miles, and the large increase in 1868-69 was due to the inclusion of four jágirs (Goleir, Síba, Nadaon, and Kulú), which had not been shown previously. The area of these jágirs has probably been omitted in the present Return.

In the other four Districts the difference in the areas is due to the revised surveys of the Settlements.

126. The increase in cultivation, amounting in all to 3,824 square miles, has been most marked in the following Districts :—

	Square miles.		Increase per cent. in 5 years.
	1868-69.	1873-74.	
Sirsa ... ..	366	1,487	306 per cent.
Gurdáspúr ... ..	961	1,337	38 "
Gujránwála ... ..	651	865	33 "
Derah Ghází Khán ... ..	367	1,605	337 "
Pesháwar ... ..	1,173	1,441	23 "
Hazára ... ..	330	596	80 "

In the Montgomery District the cultivated area has decreased from 841 to 658 square miles, or nearly 22 per cent.

The increased cultivation in the Sirsa District contrasts strongly with the remarks made under Land Revenue regarding the time of drought through which it has passed. But no certain conclusions can be drawn from these figures. In no District is cultivation so liable to fluctuation. Lands are not cultivated from year to year, as in the Districts where the rain-fall is more certain and greater facilities for irrigation exist; but when the rain-fall is favorable as last year, large tracts are sown, which may then lie fallow for a number of years. In dry seasons the people relinquish cultivation to a great extent and follow cattle. The rain-fall in 1868-69 was unfavorable. In the preceding year, 1867-68, the area in this District shown as cultivated was 1,348 square miles, which does not differ widely from the figures now shown.

In Derah Ghází Khán, Pesháwar, and Hazára, no regular Settlement had been effected when the Returns of 1868-69 were furnished, and the amount of cultivation could not be accurately ascertained. The Returns are now correct, having been furnished from the records of the new Settlement.

It is satisfactory to observe the increased cultivation in Gurdáspúr, which, from a comparison with other Returns, appears to be the result of steady improvement.

127. The amount of unappropriated culturable waste, the property of Government culturable waste, was 91,82,424 acres, of which 2,847 acres were granted during the year, chiefly in the Ráwalpindi and Sháhpúr Districts. The culturable waste in the Salt Range was omitted from the Returns of 1868-69 for the latter District, and has now been entered. Similar omissions have been supplied in the Muzaffargarh, Derah Ghází Khán, and Bannú Districts.

128. **Population.**—No census of the Province has been taken since that of 1868, and the figures given in the Statement are accordingly only a transcript of the Census Returns of that year. There is a small discrepancy in the case of the Gurgáon District, where the decrease of 6,039 souls is due to territorial transfers.



129. **Surveyed and assessed area.**—The cultivated, unculturable, and total area in acres given in this Statement corresponds with that given in square miles in Statement No. XXV. The culturable area is divided into "grazing lands" and "culturable" in this Statement. The differences between the figures now given and those shown in 1868-69, when this Statement was last submitted, are due to the same causes as have been noted with regard to Statement No. XXV. They exist principally in the Returns for the following Districts: Kangra, Amritsar, Gurdáspúr, Derah Ghází Khán, Pesháwar, and Hazára. From the Returns of the Kangra District the area of the four jágirs of the Rájahs of Goleir, Síba, Nadaon, and of Rái Dalíp Singh, of Kulú, has been omitted, causing a large decrease. The transfer of parganah Batála, which originally formed a part of the Amritsar District, to the Gurdáspúr District, accounts for the difference in the area of these Districts, while it does not affect the total assessed area of the Division. The increase in Derah Ghází Khán and Pesháwar are due to the revised area obtained from the measurements of the recent Settlements, while in Hazára there is a decrease due to the exclusion of the Government reserved forests from the Statement. The decrease in total assessed area from 6,52,83,050 acres to 6,30,16,854 is owing to the omission from the Statement of the Kangra jágirs above noted. But for this there would have been a large increase.

Distribution of increase in cultivated area.

130. The increase in cultivated area is distributed as follows :—

		CULTIVATED,			
		Irrigated.		Unirrigated.	Total.
		By Government.	By private individuals.		
1868-69	...	13,72,987	46,11,904	1,41,86,667	2,01,71,558
1873-74	...	16,18,854	50,00,481	1,60,21,559	2,26,40,894
Increase	...	2,45,867	3,88,577	18,34,892	24,69,336
Increase per cent.	per ... }	18	8	13	12.2

The gross assessment has increased from Rs. 2,17,09,288 to Rs. 2,20,88,201, or 1.7 per cent. only, which is only about one-seventh of the increase which might have been expected from the increased cultivation. Accordingly, the rate of assessment per acre on cultivation has decreased from Re. 1-1-3 in 1868-69 to 15 anas 7 pies in 1873-74, and the cultivated area of the Province is now assessed nearly one-tenth lighter than it was in 1868-69. It must, however be remembered that the whole income secured to Government by irrigation works, constructed at the Government expense, is not shown in this Statement, which does not contain the amount of water-rate, nor the water-advantage Revenue levied on lands irrigated by Government canals.

The reason for the total assessment of the Province being in excess of that shown in Statement No. I as the demand for the year is that the assessment fixed at Settlement for lands of which the Revenue assigned is included in the total. The difference, amounting to about 30 lakhs of rupees, represents the amount of the Government Revenue which is assigned, of which a detail is given in Statement No. XII.

131. **Mines and Quarries.**—The rock salt of the Salt Range in the Jhelam and Sháhpúr Districts on the hills near Kálábagh, and of the Khatak Range, in the Kohát District, is undoubtedly the most valuable mineral product which the Panjáb possesses. The former has been excavated in a much more methodical system since the arrival of Dr. Warth, the present Deputy Collector of Customs at Khewrá. New seams have been discovered, and the valuable mineral economized by more effective working. The out-turn from mines for the past year was 15,00,607 maunds. The resources of the Khatak and Kálábagh Salt Mines are probably very large. At present only five mines are worked. Last year the out-turn was 4,18,904 maunds.

“Kankar,” a calcareous concretion, chiefly valuable for lime-burning, but hardly less so for road-making, is quarried in most of the plain Districts. Slate quarries exist in the Gurgáon District, in Kángra, and Hazará. Regarding the Kángra quarries the Deputy Commissioner writes :—“The largest are at Kángra, which, being now managed in a more economical manner, are giving the shareholders some return.” The out-turn last year is shown to be 1,74,135 maunds.

In the Kángra District there are, no doubt, extensive mineral resources ; but the question of expense in working the mines of copper, iron, and even silver, which appear to exist in the Kulú Sub-Division, or along the slopes of the Dhaolá Dhár Range, has not yet been satisfactorily solved, although a mining company has been employed for some years in Kulú holding a lease from Government. Colonel Paske has made some discoveries of salt springs on the outer Himalayan range, and the quality of the salt obtained from them by evaporation has been favorably reported on ; the brine is, however, very weak. Iron ore exists in the hills of the Fírozpúr Tahsíl, in the Gurgáon District. Iron was somewhat extensively manufactured from these mines previous to the year 1836, but was then abandoned owing to the difficulty of procuring charcoal.

The Mandi Salt Mines produced 1,33,981 maunds last year, and the iron mines at Bír Bangáhal, of the same State, 2,042 maunds.

Petroleum is still obtained in the Ráwalpindi District. The amount extracted by means of shafts near the springs was 2,756 gallons last year. There are three springs, of which two only were worked.

Coal or lignite is found near Kalábágh. It used to be consumed for the river steamers ; but since the abolition of the Government Flotilla, the amount excavated has diminished.

There are lead mines near Sabáthú, in Patíálah territory, and an attempt to work them has been made by a company composed of European and Native shareholders.

No new discoveries of importance have been made in the Panjáb since this subject was last reviewed in the year 1868-69.



Statement No. XXIX,  
Imperial Return III. D. I.  
Area under crops.

132. **Crops cultivated**—The area in acres of land under crops, as compared with the previous year, was as follows :—

	1872-73.	1873-74.
Spring crops ... ..	99,02,744	1,00,34,202
Autumn crops ... ..	98,69,242	96,90,338
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>1,97,71,986</b>	<b>1,97,24,540</b>

The large increase of last year has therefore been nearly maintained. As shown above, the season for sowing the rabi crops was favorable. As regard the kharif crops, it was stated that the out-turn was above the average; but in the Dehli Division an unseasonable fall of rain in May, and in the Hissár Division deficiency of rain, reduced the area under cultivation. This is exemplified by the following figures, which refer to the kharif crops in those Divisions :—

	Area in acres.	Under cultivation.
	1872-73.	1873-74.
Dehli Division ... ..	12,32,907	9,48,258
Hissár Division ... ..	26,46,603	25,53,261
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>38,79,510</b>	<b>35,01,519</b>
<b>Decrease</b> ... ..		<b>3,77,991</b>

This decrease is alone sufficient to account for the diminished kharif cultivation in 1873-74.

The total area in acres for the principal spring crops of the Province, as compared with the previous year, was as follows :—

	1872.	1873.
Food Grains { Wheat ... ..	57,16,867	58,20,861
{ Barley ... ..	17,95,843	17,84,920
Pulses ... { Gram ... ..	12,47,936	13,06,061
{ Peas ... ..	1,11,900	1,11,807
{ Lentils (Masúr) ... ..	1,67,726	1,66,417
Oil seeds... { Mustard ... ..	2,88,159	3,37,006
{ Tará Mirá ( Sinapis eruca) ... ..	1,29,583	1,48,166
Tobacco ... ..	87,127	72,754
Spices ... ..	1,25,068	1,09,393
Vegetables ... ..	1,40,122	1,03,281

The cultivation of wheat, gram, mustard, and tará mirá, shows an increase, and that of spices and vegetables the most considerable decrease.

The principal autumn crops were as follows :—

	1872-73.	1873-74.
Food grains. { Rice ... ..	7,28,973	7,34,957
{ Great millet (Jowár) ... ..	21,49,029	19,94,252
{ Spiked millet (Bájrá) ... ..	26,48,944	24,90,078
{ Italian millet (Kangní) ... ..	1,10,617	99,004
{ Indian Corn ... ..	9,07,203	9,86,033
Pulses ... { Moth (Phaseolus aconitifolius) ... ..	9,55,187	11,71,120
{ Másh ( do. radiatus) ... ..	3,01,775	2,69,595
{ Múng ( do. mungo) ... ..	3,02,405	2,83,561
Oil seeds.—Til (Sesamum) ... ..	1,68,724	1,88,547
Cotton ... ..	7,89,762	6,24,459
Indigo ... ..	71,713	89,959
Vegetables ... ..	1,08,489	1,20,872
Sugar-cane ... ..	3,72,816	3,73,952



The decreased cultivation of millets is due to the Hissár Division, as above noticed. The area under pulses has increased. "Moth" is a species which depends entirely upon rain, and is unsuited for low-lying or alluvial lands; hence its larger production points to the rain-fall having been more generally seasonable.

**Cotton.** A separate Report has been submitted on cotton cultivation. It was shown in that Report that there was a falling off in every Division except Jálándhar, and that the area was less than during the four previous years. The figures given in the Statement, herewith annexed, differ materially from those furnished in the separate Report, and are generally still smaller than those shown therein. The reason of this is perhaps that the Returns for the Special Report are collected earlier, when sowings have been effected, and the present Return more nearly represents the amount which came to maturity. The most marked difference is in the Gurgáon District, where 54,933 acres would appear to have been sown with cotton, of which only 5,626 yielded a crop. In this District, as also in Dehli, Karnál, Gujránwála, and Derah Ismail Khán, heavy rains and inundations damaged the crop. The average out-turn of cleaned cotton per acre was only 67 lbs. on the area sown, as compared with 86 lbs. the previous year. The average wholesale price, notwithstanding this, fell from Rs. 15-4-0 per maund to Rs. 14-9-6 per maund.

On the whole the season was unfavorable for cotton crops. The outturn was small and the market dull.

**Indigo.** There was a large increase in the cultivation of indigo in the Derah Ghází Khán and Muzaffargarh Districts.

**Sugar-cane.** On the cultivation of sugar-cane in the Jálándhar District, the Deputy Commissioner has the following remarks:—"Though the cultivation of sugar-cane has increased considerably when compared with the previous year, the amount is much less than what was returned five years ago, and is also below the area under that crop at Settlement. It is probably, however, fully as large as can be permanently kept up without unduly exhausting the soil, and in some localities it is certain that too much is grown now."

**Experiments.** 133. **New staples.**—There is not much to report under this head. A few experiments were made with exotic cotton seed, but, except in the Ráwalpindi District, where some successful results were obtained with Hinganghát seed, they were unsuccessful. In this District 636 lbs. of seed produced an out-turn of 2,433 lbs. of cleaned cotton, and the people are said to appreciate the seed.

**Carolina rice.** Carolina rice seed was also tried again in some Districts, but without any satisfactory result. The cultivation of this rice appears to require greater expense and labor, and the produce is coarser than the ordinary rice. In the Ambálah District an experiment with Sikkim dry rice, undertaken by Mr. Robinson, Manager of the Wards' School, promised well, the plants shooting up to a considerable height; but owing to a sudden fall of rain, when the crop was ripening, only a small out-turn was secured.

The result of experiments made with oat seed had not been sufficiently tested at the close of the year to allow of any opinion on them being formed.

Indigo has been grown successfully in the Dipálpúr Tahsil of the Montgomery District for the first time; and though the extent sown was only three acres of land, the experiment deserves to be recorded.

Experiments were also made with "*Sorghum saccharatum*," but without any marked success. The Deputy Commissioner of Gujrát reports that an attempt to grow it was made in his District and "some magnificent specimens grown in the Jail garden were exhibited at a District Committee, but no one was willing to take any of the seed. The people do not like the labor of cutting up the fodder for their cattle; and till they are driven to use a little more labor by the increasing pressure of population, it is vain to expect them to adopt new staples."

The model farm at Chandí, in the Ambálah District, which was started principally with the object of making experiments in growing cotton after the Egyptian method, has been transferred to the Amritsar District. The plan of operations has been somewhat modified, the principal object kept in view being the production of superior seed of all kinds.

The progress of the experiment of a model farm depends much upon the plan of operations adopted. It is to no purpose that superior staples are grown before the eyes of the people if the mode of cultivation is totally foreign to them. The only means by which any real aid towards the development of the resources of the country can be afforded is by a study of the system of tillage which is in ordinary use, and by applying to it such improvements as the people are competent to appreciate. Any movement towards improvement in agricultural produce must therefore initiate with a full appreciation of the mode of agriculture to which the people are addicted, and in which they have confidence; and only those innovations will be accepted by them which tend gradually to ameliorate this method, and not those which involve a total abandonment of their time-honored habits.

134. **Rates of rent and produce.**—Several experiments regarding statistics of the yield of different crops, based upon the instructions given in Financial Commissioner's Book Circular No. XX of 1871, have been reported by District and Settlement Officers. These statistics enter into a more minute detail than the accompanying Statement showing the actual amount of seed sown upon a given area, the nature of the soil, irrigated or unirrigated, and manured or unmanured; but the tabulation of these statistics involving a considerable amount of labor has not yet been accomplished, and the results of the present Statement cannot be tested by them.

The columns which show the produce per acre without distinction of the different soils can therefore only be regarded as approximately true, although it is probable that the yearly attempt to obtain correct averages carry with them a certain amount of success. The disparities are not so great as in former years, and in most cases, the true yield, and not the green or unmanufactured produce, has been shown.

The average yield of wheat per acre was 842 lbs., which differs by 1 lb. only from the average obtained in England for 16 years, from 1852 to 1867, on unmanured land. Last year the yield was 866 lbs. In previous years it was considerably smaller. The greatest discrepancy this year is between the yield in Amritsar (1,772 lbs)



and Kángra ( 383 lbs ). Amritsar is a canal District, but Kángra also has irrigation, and so large a difference is unaccountable.

Rice. The average yield of rice was 924 lbs. This is larger than has been shown for many years, and is accounted for by the plentiful rains in rice-growing Districts. The largest yield was in the Hoshiárpúr District ( 1,804 lbs. ), and the smallest in Jhang ( 226 lbs. ); but only 553 acres were cultivated in the latter District.

Indigo. The indigo crops, the area of which considerably increased, yielded on the average 51 lbs. per acre as compared with 36 lbs. the two previous years.

Cotton. The failure of the cotton crop has been noticed above. The average yield was only 96lbs. of cleaned cotton against 132 in 1871-72 and 137 in 1872-73.

Rents. In comparing the average rent with the average yield it must be borne in mind that rents depend not only on the productive powers of the land and on the season, but also on the nature of the tenure and on the mode of paying rent, whether in cash or kind. It is therefore difficult to draw a just comparison between different Districts.

A comparison of the general averages, however, with those of the previous year, shows that there has been a rise in rents. This is more apparent as regards the minimum rates than the maximum, and the state of the former is probably a more safe criterion than the latter, as they are less liable to fluctuations from special causes :—

						Minimum rate.					
						1872-73.			1873-74.		
						Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	8	4	6	2
Indigo	...	...	...	...	...	4	10	9	5	10	9
Cotton	...	...	...	...	...	3	14	6	4	1	8
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	10	9	8	10	10	9
Opium	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	5	7	15	3
Tobacco	...	...	...	...	...	5	14	0	6	0	4
Wheat	...	{ Irrigated	...	...	...	3	11	10	4	4	10
	...	{ Unirrigated	...	...	...	2	5	2	2	6	11
Inferior grains	...	{ Irrigated	...	...	...	2	15	6	2	14	9
	...	{ Unirrigated	...	...	...	1	10	6	1	10	2
Oil-seeds	...	{ Irrigated	...	...	...	2	10	10	2	10	9
	...	{ Unirrigated	...	...	...	1	12	8	1	12	1

In all of these, except the last two, there is an increase.

Rents in Montgomery. The Deputy Commissioner of Montgomery notes a very decided rise in rents, which has been observable since the new Settlement in the Dipálpúr and Pákpattan Tahsils. The average used to be Rs. 9 per acre for the best land and Rs. 6 for that of inferior quality; it is now quoted at Rs. 15 for the best and Rs. 9 for inferior land.



135. **Stock.**—The total number of live-stock returned for 1868-69 was Statement No. XXX, Imperial Return III. D. 2. 1,12,25,324. The present Return shows a total of 1,10,58,750, or a decrease of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The following table shows the comparative numbers of each kind for the two years :—

	1868-69.	1873-74.	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
Cows and bullocks ... ..	67,97,561	65,70,212	...	3
Horses ... ..	96,226	84,639	...	12
Ponies ... ..	51,302	51,395	...	...
Donkeys ... ..	2,57,615	2,88,118	12	...
Sheep and Goats ... ..	38,03,819	38,49,842	1	...
Pigs ... ..	70,219	48,977	...	30
Camels ... ..	1,48,582	1,65,567	11	...
Total ... ..	1,12,25,324	1,10,58,750	...	$1\frac{1}{2}$

The number of cattle has decreased from 67,97,561 to 65,70,212. The largest falling-off has been in the following Districts :—

	1868-69.	1873-74.	Decrease per cent.
Lahore ... ..	2,91,765	1,61,149	44
Gujránwála ... ..	2,43,222	1,55,670	36
Gujrát ... ..	3,22,437	2,16,452	33
Pesháwar ... ..	2,94,686	1,37,372	52
Kohát ... ..	* 1,80,000	78,571	59

\* This was apparently only an estimate.

A considerable increase has occurred in the following Districts :—

	1868-69.	1873-74.	Increase per cent.
Hissár ... ..	86,706	1,47,140	69
Ráwalpindi ... ..	91,376	1,59,016	76
Jhang ... ..	1,40,317	2,58,337	84
Hazára ... ..	† 90,000	1,89,952	111

† Apparently an estimate.

If the increase and decrease respectively of the number of ploughs in these Districts corresponded with the variations in the number of cattle, this would form a basis for some conclusions as to their agricultural prosperity. But this is not always the case. In Lahore ploughs have increased from 53,540 to 68,777, and of the remainder the District in which there has been the largest decrease is Gujrát, where the decrease is only 10 per cent. On the other hand, ploughs in the Jhang District have fallen off by a small number, and the highest increase in the remaining Districts mentioned above is in Ráwalpindi, where the increase is 32 per cent.

The above statistics are, however, borne out in the case of the Gujrát District by the remarks of the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Perkins, who says :—“Stock has undergone much hardship during the past years of drought ;

and in Tahsíl Gujrát, where the crave (*sic.*) for culturable land has driven the people to redeem almost every acre of pasture, the stock suffers greatly. This is a matter which must be allowed to right itself by time and experience."

The Deputy Commissioner of Gurgáon, Mr. Oliver, says :—" I am of the opinion that live-stock is failing, particularly the horned cattle. The pressure for food grains for human consumption has not only caused breaking up of the pasture land, but prevents fodder being cultivated. I think measures should be taken, before it is too late, to oblige every village to retain a certain quantity of land for pasturage." It is to be observed, however, that, with the exception of horses and ponies, there has been an increase in every kind of live-stock in the Gurgáon District since 1868-69, and especially in cattle and sheep. Ploughs have also increased in this District from 47,132 to 57,485.

Cattle disease made its appearance during the year in the Ambáláh and Amritsar Districts. The disease in Ambáláh appears to have been the foot and mouth disease, known to natives as "Rorá and Múkh-khúr;" but from the descriptions received it seems probable that there were also some cases of rinderpest; 92 cattle died during the months of May and June in two villages of the Piplí and Jagádhri Tahsils, of the Ambáláh District. "Foot and mouth" disease also appeared in Amritsar; it was disseminated at a cattle fair by cattle, which were supposed to have contracted it by drinking impure water; 97 animals were attacked, of which 73 died.

Horses. The decrease in the number of horses, as compared with 1868-69, is marked, amounting to 12 per cent. It is greatest in the following Districts :—

			1868-69.		1873-74.
Karnál	...	...	3,815	...	3,060
Jálandhar	...	...	4,420	...	3,696
Hoshiárpúr	...	...	5,120	...	4,200
Gurdáspúr	...	...	5,647	...	3,020
Lahore	...	...	2,756	...	1,506
Fírozpúr	...	...	2,685	...	1,930
Gujrát	...	...	9,351	...	3,627
Sháhpúr	...	...	1,524	...	615

In Gurdáspúr and Sháhpúr the number of ponies has increased, which may point to a different classification; but in Hoshiárpúr, Lahore, Fírozpúr, and Gujrát, the number of ponies has also decreased considerably. The Returns, however, cannot be very accurate. It is not credible that the little District of Gujrát should, in 1868-69, have contained more horses and ponies than the whole of the Lahore Division, or that the latter in 1873-74 should contain only two-thirds of the number in the Siálkót District alone.

Pigs. The number of pigs in the Dehli District in 1868-69 was 32,741. The number now shown is only 6,550. This causes the provincial decrease of 30 per cent.

Camels. Camels have increased principally in the Hissár and Multán Divisions. The Districts which contain the largest number are—

Hissár	...	...	...	13,561
Sháhpúr	...	...	...	15,448
Multán	...	...	...	15,050
Jhang	...	...	...	19,918
Montgomery	...	...	...	11,748
Derah Ismail Khán	...	...	...	14,672
Derah Ghází Khán	...	...	...	12,289



These figures do not include the Povindah camels which graze in the Deráját, and which do not form part of the stock of the Province.

The number of carts in the Province has decreased since 1868-69 from 1,03,586 to 97,909. This is due to the extension of railways, and is its natural result.

Ploughs have increased from 16,48,628 to 17,46,687 in the last five years. The increase is largest in the Gurgáon, Hissár, Sirsa, Ambálah, Ráwalpindi, Sháhpúr, Montgomery, and Hazára Districts. The increase of ploughs denotes partly increased agricultural activity, and partly the more minute sub-division of holdings.

136. The object of cattle fairs is quite as much to attract persons to bring their stock into the agricultural market as to encourage the breed. It is only in the former aspect that any decision can be pronounced as to their success. Attempts are made to secure the latter object by the distribution of bulls and rams from the Hissár Farm. It is very difficult to obtain a trustworthy record of the quality of the produce of the bulls and rams from the Government farms. Bulls and rams of other breeds are not excluded from the herds, and the parentage of the young stock is not thoroughly well known. No doubt the stimulus, which rewards at cattle fairs has given to the improvement of the breed, is being felt. But the increasing popularity of cattle fairs, both in regard to the number of cattle displayed and their quality, as well as the interest manifested by the people, is chiefly valuable in its commercial aspect.

Twelve cattle fairs have been established in the Province. There are two fairs in the Hissár, Rohtak, and Amritsar Districts, and one in each of the Districts of Sirsa, Jalandhar, Siálkót, Gurdáspúr, Ferozpúr, and Gujranwála.

The total number of cattle exhibited was 1,74,773, of which 883 competed for prizes. Fees were collected to the amount of Rs. 41,470, of which Rs. 6,299 were distributed in prizes, and Rs. 4,207 spent in the arrangements for the fairs. The number of cattle exhibited last year was 1,21,754. The most notable fairs are those in the Amritsar District, held at the Baisákhí and Díwálí festivals, the autumn fairs of the Hissár and Sirsa Districts, and the spring fair at Jaházgarh, in the Rohtak District.

The results of these fairs were as follows :—

Districts.						Number of cattle exhibited.	No. sold.	Percentage of animals sold.
Amritsar	{	Baisákhí	...	...	...	50,000	35,093	70
		Díwálí	...	...	...	34,989	18,602	53
Hissár	...	...	...	...	...	25,880	18,014	69
Sirsa	...	...	...	...	...	13,129	11,068	89
Rohtak	...	...	...	...	...	16,158	8,806	54

The system of levying fees on a small scale per head of cattle exhibited is followed, which has been adopted in Amritsar, and is gradually being introduced throughout the Province. It is more popular than the levy of fees on sales.

The large proportion of sales is very satisfactory. The high prices paid for bullocks in the fairs of the Hissár Division are noted by the Commissioner of Hissár, who gives some interesting remarks, which are printed in the Appendices. Prizes are awarded for sheep at all these fairs, but as yet the number exhibited has not been large.



137. **Labor.**—This Statement does not disclose any material advance in the price of labor since the year when it was last compiled, 1868-69. The highest rate for skilled labor, 12 anas per diem, is the same as that given five years ago ; but the lowest rate for unskilled labor is now shown in two Districts, Karnal and Sirsa, to be as low as one ana six pies, whereas a single rate of three anas was given in 1868-69 for such labor. Scarcity of labor is shown more by a high minimum rate than by a high average, and on this supposition there has been no rise of late years.

The hire of paid carts depends upon the number of bullocks employed, so no conclusions can be drawn from the somewhat large increase, 14 anas 7 pies to 1 rupee 13 anas 10 pies, in the minimum rate paid. If any thing can be gathered from this, it is perhaps that carts are used less for light traffic and more for heavy loads, which require a larger number of bullocks, and this may be one of the results of the railway.

There has been a considerable rise in some Districts in the hire paid for camels. In 1868-69 no District gave a higher rate than eight anas per diem. In Derah Ghází Khán four anas was the rate paid ; in Kohát a single rate of three anas six pies was given. Now, as much as one rupee per diem is sometimes given in Derah Ghází Khán, and the lowest rate is stated to be 10 anas, while in Kohát there is a single rate of seven anas six pies.

In Derah Ismail Khán there has also been a considerable rise. In other Districts there has been no great increase ; indeed, the minimum average is slightly less than in 1868-69.

138. **Prices.**—Statement No. XXXI gives the prices of produce on the 31st March 1874 ; Statement No. XXXII gives the number of sers per rupee for agricultural produce on the 1st June and 1st January for the two years 1872-73 and 1873-74.

The average price of wheat at the close of the year was Re. 1-13-9 as compared with Re. 1-14-6 at the close of the previous year. The period for which these prices are recorded is just before the wheat harvest, when its out-turn can be calculated with some certainty, and in an average year they are therefore lowest at that time.

The price per maund for each Division was as follows :—

			1872-73.	1873-74.
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Dehli	...	...	1 15 7	2 1 2
Hissár	...	...	1 13 6	1 12 5
Ambálah	...	...	2 2 6	2 0 9
Jálandhar	...	...	1 13 1	1 13 9
Amritsar	...	...	1 8 2	1 13 3
Lahore	...	...	1 11 7	1 13 7
Ráwalpindi	...	...	2 1 0	2 1 4
Multán	...	...	1 12 7	1 13 11
Derájút	...	...	1 13 3	1 10 6
Pesháwar	...	...	2 6 0	2 2 2

The prices for the Ambálah and Jálandhar Divisions are raised by the inclusion of the Hill stations of Simla and Dharmasálah. The export of wheat to the Bengal famine districts, which was further stimulated by reduction in the freight charged by the Sindh, Panjáb and Dehli and East Indian Railways, caused a considerable rise in prices towards the end of the year. Between the 15th

November and 31st March no less than 21,242 tons of wheat and 96,500 tons of other edible grains, total 1,17,742 tons, were so exported from the Panjáb. Notwithstanding this the average price for the Province was lower at the close of 1873-74 than at the close of the previous year. It will be seen that, with the exception of Ambálah, the prices for all the Divisions through which the line of rail passes were slightly in excess of those of the previous year, while in every other case, except Ráwalpindi, they were lower. If the prices given in Statement No. XXXII be consulted, it will be seen that but for the Bengal famine, prices would have been considerably lower. Taking the stations on the line of rail, it appears that the prices on 1st June 1873 were considerably lower than those of 1st January 1874, when the export of wheat to Bengal, though not at its height, was considerable.

<i>Railway Stations.</i>	<i>No. of sers per Rupee on 1st June 1873.</i>		<i>No. of sers per Rupee on 1st January 1874.</i>	
Dehli ... ..	...	20	...	19
Ambálah ... ..	...	22	...	22
Ludiánah ... ..	...	27	...	24
Jálandhar ... ..	...	26½	...	24
Amritsar ... ..	...	26½	...	23
Lahore ... ..	...	24	...	22
Montgomery ... ..	...	24	...	19
Multán ... ..	...	21	...	16

The rabí of 1874 was a magnificent crop, and, notwithstanding the large drain on the Province between November 1873 and the end of the year, the prices were lower than the former year. The export of other grains to Bengal correspond to that of wheat. In the single week ending the 14th March the amount despatched was 10,730 tons of grains of all kinds, and the total amount exported up to the close of the year reached the high figure of 32,96,783 maunds, or 1,17,742½ tons, in the following proportions :—

Gram ... ..	6,46,725
Barley ... ..	6,47,375
Wheat ... ..	5,94,788
Rice ... ..	1,75,649
Múng ... ..	50,666
Maize ... ..	2,13,457
Jowár ... ..	6,70,959
Moth ... ..	45,958
Urd ... ..	23,408
Bájrá ... ..	36,252
Masúr ... ..	2,440
Mixed grain ... ..	1,89,103

Assuming the average consumption per head of population (including children) to be 5 maunds, or 400 lbs. of food grain per annum, and taking the figures of the last census, it appears that during the last six months of the year the Panjáb was enabled to part with an amount of grain equal to one-eleventh part of the whole consumption required for the Province without the prices of the preceding year being reached. This is sufficient proof of the excellence of the harvest gathered in at the close of the year, and its effects will doubtless be observable in the increased prosperity of the agricultural classes which found a market for their grain. The value of the exports at the current rates amounted approximately to £550,000, or more than half a million of money.

Strange to say, gram and rice were both cheaper on the 1st January 1874 than on the 1st June 1873; yet up to the former date large quantities had been exported, and no prospect of an abundant supply could have been predicted. Gram does not ripen till April, and rice is an autumn crop.



The fluctnations of prices of the principal produce are shown in the annexed table :—

					NO. OF SERS AND CHITAKS PER RUPEE.							
					1872-73.				1873-74.			
					1st June.		1st Jany.		1st June.		1st Jany.	
					Sers.	Ch.	Sers.	Ch.	Sers.	Ch.	Sers.	Ch.
Wheat, 1st sort	...	...	...	...	20	0	20	10	22	9	20	0
Flour	...	...	...	...	16	15	17	1	19	4	17	1
Barley	...	...	...	...	29	2	27	8	34	14	26	13
Gram	...	...	...	...	19	8	22	7	27	15	28	3
Indian corn	...	...	...	...	21	1	27	0	27	13	26	14
Jowár	...	...	...	...	20	15	30	12	31	15	30	2
Bájrâ	...	...	...	...	18	7	23	9	27	5	25	9
Rice	...	...	...	...	7	11	5	9	8	8	8	11
Cotton, cleaned	...	...	...	...	2	4	2	10	3	0	2	13
Sugar, 1st sort	...	...	...	...	2	8	2	9	2	12	2	12
Fire-wood	...	...	...	...	94	0	116	0	123	0	122	0
Tobacco	...	...	...	...	6	15	7	2	5	9	5	7
Salt	...	...	...	...	9	3	9	6	9	0	9	3

Thus the prices of all food grains on 1st June were much lower than last year, while, with the exceptions above noted, the prices of 1st January were generally a little higher. When the prospects of the rabí became secure, they were again reduced, as has been shown above notwithstanding the large export; and by the close of the year the comparison shown in rupees anas and pies stood as follows :—

*Price per maund.*

		1873.			1874.		
		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Wheat	... ..	1	14	6	...	1	13 9
Gram	... ..	1	10	1	...	1	6 3
Rice	... ..	3	12	7	...	3	6 5
Other food grains...		1	6	10	...	1	5 6

The high price of fire-wood has been noticed in previous Reports as a subject calling for serious attention, owing to the pressure felt in consequence by the poorer classes. It is satisfactory to observe the fall of price this year, and especially in Ráwalpindi where it was most scarce, the rate on 1st January having fallen to three maunds per rupee. This is probably due to sales having been more freely effected by the Forest Department, and to the removal of some of the restrictions from taking dry wood, which accompanied the introduction of the authority of that Department into many of the 2nd class rakhs. In the lower Districts of the Province the fall in price is due to the fact that coal is now used on the railway instead of wood-fuel, as far north as Phillour.

In Pesháwar the supply is plentiful as long as the tribes beyond the Frontier are quiet, but on a disturbance arising it is liable to be cut off, as much of the fire-wood is brought in from foreign territory.



Plough bullocks have risen in price in later years to a large extent.

Plough bullocks.

The prices given in the Statement are high when compared with the statistics afforded in some of the cattle fair reports. For instance, the average price of the Hissár Division is given at Rs. 40, whereas the following were the prices realized at some of the cattle fairs of the Division :—

				Rs.
Hissár autumn fair	...	...	...	25
Hissár spring do.	...	...	...	31

But the reports on the fairs do not give the prices for plough bullocks separately.

A still greater contrast is apparent in the case of Amritsar. The Return gives Rs. 60 as the price of a plough bullock, but the average price for cattle realized at the Baisákhí and Díwálí fairs was Rs. 12. The latter computation possibly includes young animals, but it also includes milch kine and buffalos, which are more expensive.

139. **Fisheries.**—The rules continue to work well, although it is doubtful whether the present system, by which a hold is obtained only upon those persons who take out fishing licenses, will eventually be found sufficient to prevent the destruction of small fish.

Under Act VIII of 1873 rules can be framed regarding the destruction of fish in canals; but without further legislative enactment it will be more difficult to deal with the question of preservation of fish in rivers. The Financial Commissioner has recently recommended further action in regard to the former. The Commissioner of Dehli has called attention to the wholesale destruction of fish at the Okla weir. The fish which come up the river to spawn are checked by the weir, and collect in the back waters, where they are netted in large quantities. The Financial Commissioner has assented to a proposal for prohibiting fishing during the spawning season on penalty of forfeiture of license, and a reference has also been made to Government with a suggestion for the construction of proper fish-ladders at the weir, to enable the fish to pursue their course to the places where they resort for spawning.

The Revenue (shown under the head Miscellaneous) realized from fishing licenses in the Panjáb increased from Rs. 8,015 to Rs. 9,593, but, as has been before remarked, this Revenue is of less importance than the attainment of the object of the rules, viz., to prevent the wholesale destruction of small fish.

140. **Arboriculture.**—There is not much to report under this head in the Revenue Department. The formation of fuel preserves, as well as the supervision of District arboriculture, is now in the hands of the Forest Department. The Deputy Commissioner of Gurgáon wishes to see an entry made in the Administration paper of the new Settlement, binding Zamíndárs to preserve trees on the pasture lands, which he would desire to see set apart for cattle. A provision of this kind exists in the old Settlement records of the Sirsa District, but it is not clear how it could be enforced against the wishes of the people. The only feasible methods of furthering arboriculture appear to be :—

1. By Government fuel plantations.
2. By planting trees on roadsides.
3. By voluntary effort on the part of the people.

The Deputy Commissioner Sirsa has tried to persuade Zamíndárs to plant eight trees (two Shísham, two Ním, two Pípal, and two Banian) in the

villages, and to hand-water them. The second method has been more or less acted upon in all Districts. The Commissioner of Ráwalpindi notices a proposal by Col. Medley, R. E., Superintending Engineer 1st Circle, for planting trees on the Grand Trunk Road, and making them over to the villagers, with a promise that for every such tree found alive and thriving a certain sum should be paid annually for four years, after which they might be left to themselves. He estimates the cost of raising trees on this system, including a reward of eight anas for four years, at Rs. 2-8-0. The Financial Commissioner thinks this plan very suitable for a country like that which adjoins the Lahore and Ráwalpindi Road in the Ráwalpindi District.

The Fuel Plantation in the bed of the Jamna near the walls of Dehli has this year been retransferred from the Forest to the Civil Department, owing to the inconvenience occasioned to the inhabitants of the city, whose cremation and bathing gháts were at the further side of the plantation. The growth of jungle was, moreover, propagating wild animals, and the proximity of the city rendered this most undesirable.

141. **Tenures.**—The minute classification of proprietary and subordinate tenures shown in these Statements renders it extremely difficult to secure uniformity in the Returns. Careful attention to their preparation was enjoined this year with reference to the remarks in para. 27 of the Panjáb Government Administration Report for 1872-73, and para. 20 of the Government Review on the Revenue Report for the same year, with what success will be judged from the following table, showing the figures for each Division, and subsequent remarks:—

			Area in acres.					
			Census Returns, 1868.	According to Statement No. XXVII, 1873-74.	Of proprietary tenures.		Of subordinate tenures.	
					1868-69.	1873-74.	1868-69.	1873-74.
Dehli	...	...	35,80,815	35,90,325	35,92,607	31,58,760	Not given.	7,54,957
Hissár	...	...	54,26,407	54,21,743	56,65,638	56,51,949		15,33,568
Ambálah	...	...	25,63,046	25,64,618	33,48,979	36,40,343		5,69,268
Jálandhar	...	...	77,96,039	37,67,758	86,66,855	42,28,176		7,46,979
Amritsar	...	...	34,22,249	34,14,820	37,18,584	37,58,509		9,34,026
Lahore	...	...	57,42,837	57,34,912	59,00,454	65,42,738		13,57,560
Ráwalpindi	...	...	1,07,03,665	1,07,88,264	83,38,323	86,36,110		13,20,104
Multán	...	...	1,29,23,307	1,29,00,319	87,99,359	55,11,311		68,83,735
Derájat	...	...	80,41,318	96,04,552	36,37,079	58,80,517		10,30,428
Pesháwar	...	...	49,71,074	52,29,543	12,36,360	31,64,801		6,03,162
Total	...	...	65,170,757	6,30,16,854	5,29,04,238	5,01,73,214	...	1,57,33,792

The Statement showing proprietary tenures should account for all the surveyed area of the Province, except unappropriated Government waste. This, as shown in Statement No. XXV, amounts to 91,82,313 acres. On the other hand, Revenue-free tenures are separately included in the Statement, which also for the most part fall under one of the descriptions of proprietary tenures, and are therefore entered twice. The same remark probably applies to all cases of grants of land by Government except leases. The amount of land held revenue-free is shown in Statement No. XII to be 48,24,282 acres, of which 47,77,610 acres are accounted for in this Statement.



Now, performing the process above indicated, we have—

	Acres.
Area shown as held direct from Government ... ..	5,01,73,214
Deduct area of land of which the Revenue is assigned ... ..	47,77,610
Balance ... ..	4,53,95,604
Add unappropriated Government waste ... ..	91,82,313
Total ... ..	5,45,77,917

The difference between this area and the total area of the Province, as shown in Statement No. XXVII, is 68,90,066 acres. In making the above calculation for the several Districts we find that in only the following does it bring to light serious discrepancies :—

	Area after deducting Government waste.	Area held by proprietors after deducting Revenue assignments.	Difference.
Derah Ismail Khán ... ..	41,64,989	16,62,202	25,02,787
Bannú ... ..	20,06,500	9,36,744	10,69,756
Kohát ... ..	18,15,242	Not shown.	18,15,242
Total ... ..	...	...	53,87,785

which accounts for three-fourths of the difference. The Returns for Kohát could not be furnished, as there has been no Regular Settlement.

In Derah Ismail Khán the total unculturable waste is 23,05,227 acres, while the Government unculturable waste is only 3,76,811 acres, and the amount, exclusive of land of which the Revenue is assigned, shown to be held in proprietary tenure is 16,62,202 acres; the unculturable waste appears therefore to have been omitted both from the Returns of proprietary tenures and Government unappropriated waste. In Bannú the unculturable waste amounts to 10,92,593 acres, and this also appears to have been similarly omitted from both Returns.

In both Districts the line of boundary between British and independent territory is not clearly defined, and the exact area of unculturable waste on the Frontier cannot therefore be exactly ascertained. It is probable also that in both cases the area occupied by the river Indus is included in the Return of total area, as the Derah Ismail Khán and Bannú Districts lie on both sides of the river; but the river bed has not been reckoned in the details of area.

In other respects the Return of proprietary tenures shows more accuracy than in previous years.

142. There are no ryotwári tenures, or tenures in which the Settlement has been made with cultivators to the exclusion of proprietors in the Panjáb. From annexation the policy of Government has been to define who shall be proprietors of revenue-paying lands, and to make the assessment with those persons. This principle is asserted in the Panjáb Land Revenue Act, 1871. Under Section 30 the Settlement must be made with the owners of the soil, and where there are two classes of owners the Settlement may be made with either class. Where the status of the various



claimants to the soil was doubtful, the Government has in the first instance disposed of the question of proprietary right, preferring rather to create the status than to leave the proprietary right undefined or to retain it. Hence the entries under Tálukdarí should more properly be classified as superior proprietorships. Where a Tálukdarí allowance in the form of a percentage upon the Government demand has been maintained, the status of the recipient more nearly resembles that of an assignee of Land Revenue than of a Tálukdar.

Settlements in the Panjáb are made for each village, and the village is the unit for purposes of assessment. A proprietor may own more than one village; but a separate assessment is fixed for each village, and not for the whole estate.

The tenures of the Province are classified as—

- I. Zámíndári.
- II. Pattidári.
- III. Bhaiáchára.
- IV. Mixed or imperfect Pattidári or Bhaiáchára.

There are no "great Zámíndáris" paying above Rs. 50,000 in the province.

The distribution is as follows:—

Class of tenure.	Number of tenures.	
	1868-69.	1873-74.
Zamíndári	2,377	4,059
Pattidári	4,337	6,472
Bhaiáchára	11,832	13,556
Mixed or imperfect Pattidári or Bhaiáchára }	3,843	5,840

But the number of estates was very imperfectly shown in 1868-69 for the Districts of Jálándhar, Gujránwálá, Ráwalpindi, and Bannú, while those for Siálkót, Lahore, Jhelam, Gujrá, Multán, Montgomery, Derah Ghází Khán and Hazára, were not shown at all. All these omissions have been filled up in the present Returns, and the Kohát District alone is blank.

These rectifications have altered the figures so much that it is difficult to draw any comparison between present and former Returns.

The column showing the supposed net profit cannot be filled up with any approach to accuracy, and is therefore left blank.

143. The classification of tenures not held direct from Government, given in Statement No. XXXIV, includes all tenants of whatever description holding under proprietors liable to the payment of Government revenue, and also all assignments, whether of a share in the profits of the land, or of a fixed allowance made voluntarily or by order of Government in accordance with previous custom by such proprietors.

Tenants are of three kinds—

1. Tenants with right of occupancy.
2. Tenants on leases for fixed terms.
3. Tenants-at-will.

144. The tenants of the second class are a creation of our system of contract. There are 16,809 such tenants in the Province, but these include leases of Government waste, which, although held direct from Government, pertain more properly to a Return in

which non-proprietary tenures are shown, than to the Statement of proprietary tenures. The system of written leases is not much resorted to by the people. Proprietors, as a rule, prefer to retain the power of ejectment from year to year, and do not recognize any advantage in granting leases for a term of years. The increasing value of land tends to foster this idea; and while no difficulty is experienced in obtaining yearly tenants, there is not much inducement to grant longer leases.

145. The status of the tenant with right of occupancy was recognized in the earlier Settlements of the Province. It formed the subject of a protracted controversy during the years 1865-1868. In the latter year it was recognized and defined by the Panjáb Tenancy Act. After this Act was passed, the Government directed that a revision of the entries in the records of the Settlements conducted by Mr. Prinsep, by which a large number of tenants, entered in the records of the first Settlement as tenants with right of occupancy, were reduced to the status of tenants-at-will without a regular suit or granted compensatory leases for a term of years, should be made, and the result of this revision was fully reported in 1872. The principal features of the status, as defined by the Act, are as follows:—

I. The status of tenants with right of occupancy cannot be acquired by mere lapse of time, but it is open to any tenant to claim it in a Civil Court if he can prove certain facts regarding his tenure which are detailed in the Act. The entry of the name of any tenant in the Settlement records as having a right of occupancy constitutes a presumption in his favor, which can only be set aside by a regular suit, in which it must be proved either that—

1. The landlord has ordinarily been able to eject at will within 30 years tenants of the same class, or
2. That the tenant has voluntarily admitted before a Settlement Officer that he has no right of occupancy, and that such admission has been recorded.

II.—The tenant with right of occupancy can only be ejected in execution of a decree of Court, and such decree can only be given when he is in balance, and on payment of compensation.

III.—He may let or underlet his land, and even alienate his right, provided that pre-emption be offered to the landlord.

IV.—His rent can only be enhanced in accordance with a decree of Court, which can only be granted on certain grounds defined by the Act.

These are the main provisions of the Act, which constitutes the charter of tenants of this class. Its working has been mentioned in previous Reports and at para. 116 of this Report.

In the Return to which these remarks apply, there are 4,76,225 tenants with rights of occupancy against 3,78,957 in 1868-69. The increased number is due partly to the revision under the Act above referred to, which was effected in the Lahore, Gujranwála, Amritsar, Siálkót, and Gurdáspúr Districts, and partly to the progress of the Regular Settlements in the Frontier Districts, where no searching investigation of the status had been previously made.



146. **The Panjáb Tenancy Act** also provided certain procedure regarding the ejectment of tenants-at-will, based upon economical considerations. The number of these tenants in 1868-69 was 12,32,467. It has now fallen to 8,63,407. This is due partly to the elevation of some of the class into tenants with rights of occupancy; but this cause is not sufficient to account for so large a falling-off, and it must be attributed mainly to the increasing desire on the part of proprietors to retain their lands under their own cultivation. The number of proprietors in 1868-69 was 19,87,298, and the present number 20,06,679; the increase is more than accounted for by the Hazará entries, which are now for the first time given. When in connexion with this small increase the large decrease in the number of tenants and the extension of cultivation are considered, it appears (if these figures are to be relied upon) that, together with the transfer of cultivation from tenants to proprietors, there is a growing indisposition to subdivide proprietary holdings. But although there is little doubt of the growing wish on the part of proprietors to cultivate their own lands, it may be doubted whether the number of proprietors is accurately obtained. For instance, there is a manifest error in the case of Ludiánah, where 83,067 holders in 1868-69 have diminished to 1,520 in 1873-74. The Return of the Ráwalpindi and Gujráť Districts also show a large decrease, which is not explained. In districts where no such large discrepancies occur, the number of proprietors has increased, and the average area held by them has diminished. The increase in the number of ploughs confirms this view. (Statement No. XXX).

147. **Partitions.**—The only fact to be recorded under this head is the issue of new rules for incomplete and complete partition under the Panjáb Land Revenue Act. No rules on the latter subject existed previously.

148. **New villages.**—Three new villages have been founded in the Montgomery District by Baba Khem Singh, upon the extensive lands which he has been allowed to purchase from Government in former years.

149. **Transfers of land.**—The extent to which Revenue-paying land is exchanging hands under British rule, and the conditions of its transfer, are subjects fraught with great interest and importance. They are generally held to involve grave considerations. The displacement of a considerable portion of the old agricultural proprietors by the class of money-lenders, has been thought to demand legislative interference, both on economical and political grounds.

The state of indebtedness, which gives rise to the necessity for these transfers, is caused, not as in former times in other Provinces, by the pressure of the Government demand, nor does it prevail amongst the whole agricultural community. A small minority, probably not a larger proportion of the whole number than might be expected to be improvident, seeing the greatly enhanced value of the land, in which for the first time in the history of the country they have a valuable property, launch into extravagant habits of living, and so become involved in debt.

Now, admitting that a certain amount of discontent is necessarily engendered in the minds of those who find an ancient privilege slipping out of their hands, it is useless to attempt to stop by legislation the result of the causes which our own method of government has set at work. The result of British rule has been, and ever will be, to throw the people more on their own resources, and make them feel responsible for their own actions. The prosperity of



improvident landowners cannot be forced upon them in spite of their improvident habits; and if the powerful machinery of the State is employed to prevent the voluntary transfer of land, and thus to prevent the natural effect of such habits from making itself felt, the result can only be depreciation in the value of the land itself, and deterioration of its productive power. It may be granted that if the displacement of the agricultural classes were due to the intricacy of our legal or administrative system, by which advantage might be taken by those more competent to avail themselves of it than the simpler races whose status is being lost, there might be ground for such alterations as would bring its provisions within the scope of the intelligence of the latter. But is this the case? Is the system of our law of debt so complex as to be beyond the apprehension of the least educated? Are lands parted with below their market value? Do cases occur in which industrious Zamindárs, for no fault of their own, are involved in suits for exorbitant demands, and compelled to part with their lands? So far as these questions can be answered in the negative, will it be apparent that legislative remedy will not only be inoperative, but will further promote habits of inactivity and extravagance.

The answer to the first of the above questions belongs more properly to the Judicial branch of the Administration. But from the opinions generally advanced on the subject by those most desirous of interfering with the existing state of things, it may be concluded that it is not in the mode of administering justice that any change can be introduced to protect the agriculturists.

150. Sales of land in execution of decrees of the Civil Court are allowed only in very special cases, and when land is so sold, the right of occupancy as a cultivator is reserved by law to the ex-proprietor. The second question, as to the price for which lands are alienated, will be best answered by the following table, showing for the last six years the amount of land sold and mortgaged, and average value realized upon it:—

YEARS.	AREA IN ACRES OF LAND.		AVERAGE JAMA PER ACRE OF LAND.		NO. OF YEARS PURCHASE OF LAND.		AVERAGE AMOUNT AGREED ON PER ACRE.	
	Sold.	Mortgaged.	Sold.	Mortgaged.	Sold.	Mortgaged.	Sold.	Mortgaged.
			R. A. P.	R. A. P.			Rs.	Rs.
1868-69 ...	71,235	1,29,653	0 10 10	0 13 9	18	13	12	11
1869-70 ...	1,03,787	1,44,460	0 7 10	0 12 6	20	15	10	12
1870-71 ...	67,673	1,38,674	0 10 5	0 15 7	23	14	15	14
1871-72 ...	91,395	1,74,298	0 10 8	0 15 8	21	14	14	14
1872-73 ...	86,638	1,95,277	0 10 7	0 13 11	23½	16	16	14
1873-74 ...	93,645	1,85,863	0 10 2	0 12 3	28½	18	14	14

Several interesting facts are brought to light by this statement :—

1. That the area sold is not increasing in any startling proportion.
2. That the agriculturists succeed in retaining a lien on the more valuable lands which they alienate.
3. That the amount realized by sales and mortgages is steadily progressing, reaching, in the case of the former, to  $28\frac{1}{2}$  years' purchase of the Government demand for 1873-74.

The following table shows that the interest at 12 % on the amount agreed on for sales and mortgages in every case exceeds largely the annual Government demand :—

				INTEREST AT 12 % ON THE AMOUNT AGREED ON FOR		ANNUAL GOVERNMENT DEMAND ON LAND	
				Sales.	Mortgages.	Sold.	Mortgaged.
1868-69	...	...	...	1,09,073	1,74,535	45,710	1,14,923
1869-70	...	...	...	1,24,749	2,00,391	50,896	1,12,624
1870-71	...	...	...	1,29,691	2,34,261	44,241	1,35,229
1871-72	...	...	...	1,56,542	2,99,812	60,685	1,70,885
1872-73	...	...	...	1,61,194	3,36,531	57,262	1,69,902
1873-74	...	...	...	1,58,334	3,11,519	58,642	1,43,024

The excess has, therefore, continuously increased in the last 6 years. When it is apparent that the amount paid for sales or mortgages exceeds by so large an amount the interest obtainable thereon at the current native rate of 12 %, it may be safely asserted that pressure of the Government demand is not the cause of these transfers.

These facts, it is maintained, do not constitute any grounds for serious apprehension ; on the contrary, it appears from them that a natural and healthy process is going on. Land is increasing in value ; almost every year the disinclination to part with valuable land is able to assert itself, and the facility of raising loans on mortgage is increasing. Is it necessary or desirable to introduce a disturbing element in this self-adjusting process, one of the first effects of which would probably be the sensible depreciation in the market value of land ? The system of protection has been tried in other countries with the result, not of preventing loans, but of depreciating the security and increasing the rate of interest.

The last question, whether agriculturists are involved in suits for exorbitant demands involves a much wider question than the mere transfer of land, and any measures framed specially to protect agriculturists, would necessarily be partial. It is affected by the law of limitation, of registration, and of interest, and is beyond the scope of a Revenue Report. But here, again, it may safely be affirmed that any legislation designed to protect one class to

the exclusion of others, will re-act upon the very persons whom it is intended to favor, by raising the interest on loans raised for improving the land; by destroying their self-reliance, and removing the incentives to self denial and industry; lessons which are being gradually learnt, and by means of which alone the agriculturists of India will keep pace with their fellow subjects in success and prosperity.

The returns of sale or transfer by order of Court clearly include, in many cases, mere decrees for land, whereas it is intended that only sales or transfers in execution of decrees for money should be shown. The number of such cases shown in the statement is 433; but in the report for Civil Justice, it is stated that only one sale in execution has been sanctioned, while there were 188 cases of temporary alienation in satisfaction of decree.

The Imperial return on transfers is arranged according to the nature of the holding transferred, and as has been previously pointed out, *its minute classification* renders it liable to inaccuracy. Transfers by gift are included, which swell the number of voluntary transfers to 12,458. Mortgages are excluded, and the value of land sold is not given, so the local return is more valuable.

The sales of land were largest in the following districts :—

	No. of acres.	Price per acre.		
		Rs.	A.	P.
Sirsa ... ..	22,731	0	13	0
Lahore ... ..	4,466	30	0	0
Gujránwála ... ..	4,446	15	0	0
Montgomery ... ..	4,234	3	0	0
Derah Ismail Khán ... ..	6,202	5	0	0
Derah Ghází Khán ... ..	3,764	14	0	0

The sales in Sirsa rose more than 50 per cent.; but the average price of land rose from 10 anas to 13 anas, which is higher than has yet been shown in any returns for this district. The area mortgaged diminished considerably. The large increase in sales of land in Derah Ismail Khán is reported to be nominal, as the people have taken the opportunity afforded by the Settlement of registering mutations of past years.

Land fetched the highest price in :—

	Rs.	
Hoshiárpúr ... ..	70	per acre
Jálandhar ... ..	62	"
Kohát ... ..	52	"
Ludiánah ... ..	40	"

The average amount realised by mortgage was highest in :—

	Rs.	
Hazára ... ..	73	per acre
Hoshiárpúr ... ..	49	"
Jálandhar ... ..	33	"
Pesháwar ... ..	33	"

Simla, being an exceptional district, is not included in the above.

151. **Municipal taxation.**—The Financial Commissioner's supervision over this subject has been abolished by recent orders, and future reports will therefore contain no allusion to it.



152. **Government suits.**—The Government Advocate's report on the cases conducted by himself will be found among the Appendices to this Report.

Statement No. XXXVI gives the total number of cases to which Government was a party ; in many of these the Government Advocate was consulted ; but towards the close of the year, on account of the large increase in that Officer's work, only the important cases were referred.

The following is an abstract of the Statement :—

	Government— Plaintiff.		Government— Respondent.		Total.	
	1872-73.	1873-73.	1872-74.	1873-74.	1872-73.	1873-74.
Original cases ...	5	7	27	42	32	49
Appeals ...	1	4	4	9	5	13
Total ...	6	11	31	51	37	62

Of the original cases Government gained 31 and lost 18. Of the appeals Government gained 6 and lost 7. In Pesháwar alone there were 28 original cases and 8 appeals. These cases were chiefly suits for land.

The amount of decrees outstanding in favor of Government at the beginning of the year was Rs. 11,602, of which only Rs. 292 were realized, while Rs. 219-13 were expended on execution processes. This is far from satisfactory. The decrees are outstanding in the Dehli, Hissár, Hoshiárpúr, Gurdáspúr, and Pesháwar Districts.

Statement No. XXXVII, Imperial Return III G.

153. **Manufactures.**—The abstract of this elaborate Return shows the following result, as compared with the Returns furnished in 1886-69 :—

	1868-69.	1873-74.
Mills and large manufactories ...	480	1,775
Private loans or small works ...	3,70,498	4,81,441
Total number of workmen employed ...	13,59,631	13,77,497
Estimated annual out-turn of all works in Rs. ...	3,77,33,675	5,30,64,223

The number of silk manufactories now shown is 101 as compared with 35 in 1868-69. In Amritsar there is an increase from 27 to 82. In Lahore, where none were shown in 1868-69, 9 are now returned. Of the 303 paper manufactories said to exist in 1868-69, 302 were in the Siálkót District. This number has fallen to 228. The artizans are said to be leaving their homes and seeking employment in other Districts, and the business is declining owing to supply for official requirements being met by the Jail manufactories. Sháwl manufactories show a large increase, from 16 to 1,205, but 1,095 of these are in the Gujrát District, and are probably small. The number in Amritsar has increased from 16 to 110. The former Returns must have been short of the mark.

The distinction between large and small works is not one which is easy to define; but it is satisfactory to observe that the latter also show a considerable increase. The totals of both kinds are as follows:—

	1868-69.	1873-74.	<i>Out-turn in rupees.</i>	
			1868-69.	1873-74.
Silk ... ..	1,319	2,184	13,66,390	21,33,473
Cotton ... ..	2,22,992	2,59,091	1,21,71,092	1,98,66,771
Wool ... ..	5,578	8,965	11,26,179	9,99,619
Iron ... ..	23,418	29,582	27,75,852	38,51,845
Brass and copper ...	1,467	2,659	13,63,001	5,52,589
Leather ... ..	39,210	44,783	45,39,804	47,66,654
Gold and silver lace ...	8,325	10,617	15,41,960	33,23,905
Dyeing ... ..	2,818	3,820	4,16,325	5,10,248
Oil ... ..	7,061	11,419	20,22,782	15,39,596
Tea ... ..	29	29	1,45,760	32,923
Shawl ... ..	16	2,031	10,12,000	15,11,229
Other manufactures, including paper, wood, building, soap, &c. ...	58,738	1,08,045	92,52,530	1,39,75,371
	3,71,978	483,216	3,77,33,675	5,30,64,223

The estimate of out-turn is of necessity only an approximate one; but the enumeration of works is more certain, and, where attention is paid to the subject, can be ascertained. Only in the case of tea has there been a falling-off; and the report of the Deputy Commissioner of Kángra by no means leads to the supposition that it is a real one. He states that "the manufacture of tea has progressed," and that the out-turn in 1873-74 was 5,26,385 lbs. There appears, therefore, to be some mistake in the estimate of out-turn.

The general result is satisfactory, and indicates a development of industry in the last five years; but no great reliance can be placed upon the comparative return of different Districts, as their accuracy depends upon the amount of enquiry bestowed upon the subject by District Officers, and the Reports show that this is not uniform.

154. **Revenue buildings.**—The Tahsíl buildings which are required are being gradually constructed. New standard plans have been sanctioned by Government, providing for the varying requirements of different places. The completion of Settlements in several Districts has rendered increased accommodation for records necessary, and the requirements are being met as they arise.

#### PART V.

155. **Commissioners' tours.**—The Commissioner of Hissár (Colonel McMahon) made an extensive tour, and inspected every Tahsíl, and visited almost every part of his Division. The Commissioner of Ambálah (Mr. Gore Ouseley) visited Ludiánah and marched through the Jagráon Tahsíl. During February, March, and April, he officiated as Financial Commissioner, and his *locum tenens* (Mr. J. Macnabb) did not find leisure to go into Camp owing to the heavy Appellate Civil work. Colonel Coxe joined the Jálándhar Division in February, and spent nearly two months in camp in the Jálándhar and Hoshiárpúr Districts.



The Commissioner of Amritsar (General Taylor) marched through the Gurdáspúr and Amritsar Districts. The Commissioner of Lahore (Colonel Young), besides frequent expeditions to Firozpur and Gujranwála for the trial of Sessions cases, made a prolonged tour from 29th December to 15th March, and thoroughly inspected the Tahsils in his Division. His tour was accompanied with many useful results. The Commissioner of Ráwalpindi (Colonel Farrington) made a circuit through his Division, and inspected four Tahsils in the Jhelam and Shahpúr Districts. The office of Commissioner Multán was held by Colonel Hall, Colonel Young, Colonel Coxe, and Major Tighe. Colonel Coxe spent two months in camp in attendance on His Honor the Lieutenant Governor. Major Tighe marched through the Montgomery, Jhang, and Muzaffargarh Districts, inspecting the buildings and Treasuries in each. Colonel Munro during the winter visited most parts of his Division, and inspected nearly all the offices and Tahsils. The Commissioner of Pesháwar (Mr. D. Macnabb) visited almost every part of his Division more than once. He proceeded to Agror, and saw every village and hamlet in U'safzái, accompanied by the Settlement Officer. The Commissioner of Dehli (Colonel Cracroft) alone does not mention the subject.

156. The usual notices of Officers are forwarded separately.

I have, &c.,

W. M. YOUNG,

*Offg. Secy. to Finl. Commr., Panjáb.*



# EXTRACTS FROM COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS.

## RAWALPINDI DIVISION.

(COLONEL O. J. MC L. FARRINGTON).

### LAND REVENUE.

6. With regard to Mr. Perkins' remarks on the assessment, they would seem to be based for the most part on what came under his observation with reference to certain villages that had, in a peculiar manner, not received a share of rain proportionate to the adjacent country. In reporting on the subject, the Deputy Commissioner wrote—"One of those singular atmospherical phenomena has recently occurred in the district which baffles our calculations and impose on District Officers the necessity of asking for consideration on behalf of certain villages; though the rain-fall was good in every other part of the district, there was an elliptical part comprehending some 29 villages where it almost entirely failed.

7. All this clearly points to an unlooked-for incident, and one distinct from any data that could have been available to the officer who made the assessment.

### EXCISE.

33. \* \* \* \* Sufficient time has not elapsed to admit of any decided opinion being offered, but the general belief is that the cultivation will not decrease; and this opinion is supported by the remarks of Colonel Dwyer, Deputy Commissioner Sháh-púr, in whose district Opium is mostly cultivated.

He writes:—

"The poppy cultivation this year will probably be less than in previous years, as the new rules came out inopportunistically just as the cultivating season was about to commence, and caused a panic amongst cultivators, who feared that only a few persons would take out licences for the purchase of the produce, that they would be monopolists, and be able to dictate their own terms.

"These fears have been quite dispelled, and no decrease is at all likely to take place in the production of the drug in future years. The number of licenses taken out is large."

### SHAHPUR CANALS.

38. The large decrease in the revenue for the year resulted from a fall in the Jhelam river, in July and August, to a level that would not feed the canals. The canals could not consequently be used at the time irrigation was most needed.

39. This decrease in the Canal Revenue is to be regretted; the Deputy Commissioner will be requested to keep the subject of the existing canals well in view. Previous Deputy Commissioners have regarded them as a very promising source of revenue and benefit to the country. The experience of the current year may show whether any improvement is necessary as regards their construction.

40. I would invite attention to the Deputy Commissioner's remarks regarding the observations made by Mr. Murray when engaged on a survey which extended into the Bár in the neighbourhood of Míáni and Bherah. During one of my tours I met Mr. Murray at the former place. He seemed much impressed with the facilities for extending irrigation. No doubt the Sháh-púr District possesses great capabilities towards such an end. It would be very desirable to commence with one good canal; we should soon find the people of the Bár abandoning their thieving propensities and taking vigorously to cultivation.

## RAWALPINDI DIVISION.

## TAKAVI ADVANCES.

59. As far as the general result of the Division is concerned, it would appear that the new rules have not caused any material diminution in the number of applications for advances.

## RAIN FALL AND HARVEST.

96. The rain-fall in the Ráwalpindi and Jhelam Districts was more abundant than in 1872-73. In Gujrát it was somewhat less, but the rain in July and August was sufficient. In Sháhpúr also there was a decrease in the rain-fall.

97. Both the autumn and spring crops in the Ráwalpindi, Jhelam, and Gujrát Districts were good, except in 11 villages of Tahsíl Khárián, of the Gujrát District.

98. The *kharíf* in Sháhpúr was generally bad owing to insufficiency of rain in July and the want of water in the inundation canals from a fall in the Jhelam.

99. The cotton crop, I believe, was below par in most of the districts.

100. In Jhelam the *kharíf* was good; in Gujrát also, with the exceptions noted. The Ráwalpindi report makes no mention of the *kharíf*, but it is believed to have been good; in Sháhpúr it is said to have been inferior. The spring harvest has been very good throughout the Division.

## CROPS CULTIVATED.

105. In the cultivated area there was an increase in *rabí* of 63,630 acres, and of 95,666 acres in the *kharíf*.

106. The increase in both harvests was in all the districts, except Gujrát, where there was a small decrease of 754 acres in the *rabí*.

107. The increase in Ráwalpindi was chiefly in wheat, barley, gram, joár, and oil seed; in Jhelam, in bájra, wheat, joár, and oil seed; in Gujrát, in Indian corn, drugs and spices; and in Sháhpúr, in wheat, bájra, and cotton.

108. Sháhpúr was the only district in which there was an increase in cotton. The cotton cultivation in the other districts decreased.

110. The experimental sowings of the Carolina rice have been continued, and the result has been separately reported. Sorgho seed has been furnished to the Deputy Commissioner Gujrát. \* \* \* \* Deputy Commissioner in his Revenue Report states that "an attempt was made to grow sorghum, and some magnificent specimens grown in the Jail garden were exhibited at a District Committee, but no one took it. The people here do not like the labor of cutting up the fodder for their cattle; and till they are driven to use a little more labor by the increasing pressure of population, it is vain to expect them to adopt new staples."

111. A supply of Spanish Chestnut seeds has been sent to the Deputy Commissioner of Ráwalpindi for experiment in the lower hill tract of his districts, with the necessary instructions for sowing.

## LIVE-STOCK.

112. Sixteen young Hissár bulls have been sent for by the Deputy Commissioner Gujrát, half of the Nagori and half of a smaller breed. The Nagori are for the *Bár*, where large cattle are required to work deep wells. The smaller ones are for the hilly cultivated tracts.

113. The bulls in the Jhelam District are mostly too old. The last batch of six was received in 1867, and a further supply of young bulls is required.

114. Although no allusion is made to the subject by Deputy Commissioner of Ráwalpindi, I am aware that a good supply of bulls of different breeds has been received and distributed. The Deputy Commissioner of Jhelam will be requested to state the measures he is taking to replenish his stock of bulls.



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FUEL SUPPLY IN RAWALPINDI DISTRICT.

120. The price of agricultural produce was generally lower than in the preceding year, and a marked decrease in the price of fire-wood at Rawalpindi, which was selling at three maunds per rupee on 1st January 1874. On 1st January 1873 it could scarcely be procured at little more than half that quantity per rupee.

## ARBORICULTURE.

122. Large numbers of trees were planted out in each district. In the Jhelam District 51 maunds of kīkar, tāli, and plum seeds were sown on lands surrounding villages, and the zamīndārs themselves planted out on their own lands 26,700 trees.

123. In Gujrāt some few villages have commenced planting fuel trees systematically to supply the void caused by the extreme felling of trees for the Railway works in progress in that district.

## REVENUE BUILDINGS.

133. The Revenue Buildings are in good order.

134. Provisions for new Tahsils at Pindi Gheb and Fatteh Jang in the Rawalpindi District and at Talagang in the Jhelam District, have been provided for in the Budget for 1874-1875.

135. The construction of the Tahsil at Fatteh Jang has been suspended, and collection of materials stopped owing to the Bengal Famine, under the provision of Government, Public Works Department, Circular Memo No. 779 dated 2nd March 1874. This Building is much needed, and it is to be hoped that its construction will be allowed at the earliest opportunity.

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## HISSAR DIVISION.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL C. A. MACMAHON.)

### LAND REVENUE.

Demand in the Sirsa District.

3. The Demand in the Sirsa District was—

			Rs.
On account of 1873-74	..	..	1,79,058
Ditto former years	..	..	20,678
		Rupees	1,99,736

#### Collections.

On account of 1873-74	..	..	1,70,448
Ditto former years	..	..	16,660
		Rupees	1,87,108
		Balance	12,628

Balances in the Sirsa District.

4. The unrealized balance of the demand for 1873-74 is accounted for as follows:—

			Rs.
Remission in annual River Statement	..	..	54
Suspended with sanction of Financial Commissioner	..	..	7,156
Realized since close of year	..	..	1,034
Under realization	..	..	366
		Rupees	8,610

5. These results are, I think, good, considering that the Sirsa District is recovering from a series of droughts in former years.

### SETTLEMENTS.

50. I think the Settlement operations in the Rohtak District have advanced with as much rapidity as could be expected at starting.

51. I think the "Triangle" system of surveying and mapping village boundaries introduced by Mr. Purser, is in every way superior to the old plan of taking an angle and measuring from pillar to pillar. The former affords means of constantly checking the work, facilitates the subsequent interior measurement of fields, and reduces the sources of error to a minimum.

52. On the other hand, it requires a very expert surveyor to angle from pillar to pillar all round the village, and then protract the boundary lines on paper, so as to make the last line join on to the first without a liberal allowance of fudging.

### RAIN-FALL.

54. The rain-fall has not been favorable. As compared with the previous five years, it was below the average in the Hissar and above the average in the other two Districts. As compared with 1872-73, there was a serious falling-off in all three Districts. The rain which did fall, moreover, did not fall seasonably.



## HISSAR DIVISION.

5

### HARVEST.

55. The crops were, as a rule, below the average. Joár and bájra are the great staples of this Division, and there was a considerable falling-off in these cereals in all three Districts.

56. The out-turn of rice was much the same as in 1872-73 in all Districts, whilst the gram crop showed a considerable improvement, as compared with that year throughout the division. A late fall of rain saved the moth and mung, after much of the joár and bájra was ruined. Some villages towards the south of the Hissár District had little beyond their "Pála" to depend on. The assessment, however, is so light that a good crop of "Pála" is sufficient to meet it.

### LIVE-STOCK.

58. The statement of stock introduced this year for the first time is likely to form an interesting feature in the Returns, but I hardly think those now submitted can be quite accurate.

Sirsa District.

59. The number of cows, sheep, and camels in the Sirsa District are probably under-estimated. The cows and camels belonging to the Sirsa District out grazing over the border were probably not enumerated.

Hissár and Sirsa compared.

60. The figures compared with Hissár are—

			<i>Cows and bullocks.</i>			<i>Camels.</i>		<i>Sheep and goats.</i>
Hissár	...	...	1,47,140	...	...	13,561	...	88,107
Sirsa	...	...	65,562	...	...	9,900	...	50,072

From what I saw when on tour I should have thought that the number of sheep in the Sirsa District exceeded those in Hissár.

61. Then, again, it is remarkable that Sirsa, a pastoral country, the revenue of which is only Rs. 1,79,058, should have 28,090 ploughs as compared with 31,522 in Rohtak a highly cultivated District with a jama of Rs. 8,82,729. The number of ploughs in the Rohtak District will probably increase rapidly when the settlement is over.

### CATTLE FAIRS.

74. The speciality of the Jaházgarh fair is a small, active, hardworking breed of bullock known as the Baudh breed, Baudh being a village in the Dádri Iláká not far from Jaházgarh. It is said, with what truth I do not know, that since the extinction of the Jhajjar State this breed is rather falling off; the Chúchakwás stock of the Jhajjar State being no longer kept up.

75. I think we might "take special steps to encourage the improvement of this breed. A small, compact, "chálák," breed like this, with great staying powers, is what is wanted by the agricultural community generally. Large *bullocks* (I am not speaking of *cows* for milking), such as the Gujrát and Hariánah breeds, eat too much, and are "sust" withal. The Baudh breed, if crossed at all, should be crossed with the Mysore breed. The Mysore is a small compact animal, very fast and very enduring.

### SHEEP IN THE HISSAR AND SIRSA DISTRICTS.

78. There are numerous flocks of sheep in the Hissár and Sirsa Districts, but they are rarely parted with, as the wool is "very valuable," and forms a considerable portion of the export trade *via* Fázilká.

The Bikánír breed of sheep is a particularly good one, and I found by enquiry from the wool-dealers of Fázilká that the commercial value of the Bikánír wool is as high as that of the half English sheep of the Hissár Cattle Farm.

### PRICES.

84. The Bengal famine does not seem to have affected prices in this Division in any perceptible degree. In the town of Hissár grain has, I am told, been largely bought up in anticipation of a fall in price.

## ARBORICULTURE.

87. There is a tree which appears to be indigenous to this part of the country, which should, I think, be encouraged.\* It is called the Rohira, vulgarly The Rohira tree. Rohida (Tecoma Undulata). The flower is large and beautiful, whilst the wood, which is hard and close grained, is said to resist the attacks of those numerous insects which are so peculiarly destructive to wood in the dry climate of this Division. I have seen this tree growing rather commonly in some of the most barren parts of the Hissar District. I saw the principal room in a native gentleman's house on the borders of Bikanir roofed with this wood, which was grown in his own village. The span of the room was not however great. I took the wood for sal until my mistake was pointed out. Dr. Stewart in his hand-book says that trees of four and five feet girth are not uncommon, and that he saw a group of 20 on the banks of the Satlaj which had attained a girth of seven or eight feet, and a height of 40 feet.

\* Page 149 of Dr. Stewart's Hand-Book.



## DEHLI DIVISION.

(COLONEL J. E. CRACROFT).

### LAND REVENUE.

4. The balances amount to Rs. 19,145 as compared with Rs. 4,083 in the preceding year, and are owing chiefly to the unprecedented overflow of the Najafgarh Jhíl during the last rainy season, and to the failure of crops in the Gurgáon District caused by inundation and submersion.

### EXCISE ON DRUGS.

8. \* \* \* \* In accordance with Rule 1 of the Rules published under Notification No. 1244 in the *Panjab Gazette* of the 25th September 1873, and the instructions contained in your No. 3137 of the 15th May 1874, the cultivation of poppy, which since 1863 had by mistake been cultivated free of taxation in the Kythal and Indri Parganahs (transferred to the Karnál District from Thánesar), has been prohibited in future. \* \* \*

### CANAL IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE.

44. For the material prosperity of this Division one paramount necessity exists, which has been patent for many years, namely, the Division of the Western Jamna Canal to a higher level, and the provision of drainage all over the Division. The mortality and sickness which prevail in consequence of the defective state of canal irrigation and drainage in the Dehli and Karnál Districts, and of drainage in the Núh and Firozpur Tahsils of the Gurgáon District, must be a matter of deep regret to all who have the prosperity of the people at heart.

### GOVERNMENT ESTATES.

15. The Deputy Commissioner of Dehli alludes to the Government estates in the Balahgarh Tahsil and in Tahsil Dehli. The present Revenue derived is Rs. 17,659 for both sets of villages. They are now under Settlement for the first time. They are valuable properties, much coveted by various would-be purchasers. Their value will, however be considerably diminished under the operation of the Tenancy Rules, which will be applied, in accordance with the orders contained in the correspondence ending with your No. 3277 of the 21st May 1874, with the utmost consideration for the cultivators in possession. They are well adapted to the purposes of conferring rewards on loyal subjects for conspicuous service, and of making experiments in improved agriculture.

### REALIZATION OF LAND REVENUE.

16. \* \* \* \* In Gurgáon the number of warrants issued was 1,780, or 1,031 more than in the preceding year, and in 41 cases, with an average balance of Rs. 314 Revenue payable, 91 persons were imprisoned for an average of five days.

Coercive measures for realization of Revenue.

Mr. Oliver states that the approach of the time for the new assessment of Revenue has suggested to the people the idea of making difficulties about paying, in hopes of obtaining lighter rates under the new Settlement; and he adds that the ready payment, that is, after an average of five days, on serious action being taken, shows that the recusancy was only an attempt to deceive. This state of affairs does not, however, seem to exist in the Districts of Dehli and Karnál, where new Settlements are also in progress; for in Dehli only 742 warrants, or 401 less than in 1872-73, were issued during the year; not a single person was imprisoned, and distraint of personal property was found necessary in only one case for Rs. 137-12-0; while in Karnál 971 warrants, or only 14 more than in the preceding year, were issued, and in no case was imprisonment or distraint of personal property resorted to. The arrears due from the village of Opli, in the Karnál District, in which the Jágirdár's income was attached under decree of Court, have since been paid up.

It is notorious, however, that in the Gurgáon District several tracts are much more highly assessed than others. Mr. John Lawrence's Settlements were high, and Mr. Barnes' (who succeeded Mr. Lawrence) were low. But Mr. Barnes only partially reduced the assessments, and where the former still exists, there is doubtless a strong desire felt by the landowners to obtain a reduction.

#### TAKAVI ADVANCES.

18. \* \* \* \* The Tahsildárs in Gurgáon state that the interest now charged on these advances deters applications. Mr. Oliver's opinion, however, is that the Tahsildárs throw obstacles in the way, as the new system of recommendation entails greater labor on the Tahsildárs who have to visit the spots and are held responsible for any mistakes.

On this subject I would observe that the present is no new system; it is merely the same system enforced in a new form. Experience has shown that vigilance is required to prevent misappropriation in this Department. Unchecked, the takávi system would become simply a mode of banking with Government for payment of the Government Revenue and other debts of the agricultural community.

I am far from saying that such banking would be bad, or that it might not even be advantageous; but it is clearly not a legitimate way of spending takávi advances. The charge of interest is a certain check on dilatoriness of repayment, to which, I apprehend, no serious objection is raised.

#### RAIN-FALL.

30. The rain-fall was plentiful throughout the Division. In the Dehli District there were 42·3 inches (against 35·1 in the previous year) resulting in harvests over the average; a fall of hail in February last did damage to the extent of Rs. 1,670 in five villages of the Balabgarh Tahsíl. In Gurgáon 45·1 inches fell, compared with 30 in the previous year; but it was late, and did damage to a large extent, both to cultivation and house property; 42·3 inches fell in Karnál against 33 in the year 1872-73; an unusual fall of 3·6 inches in May deteriorated the kharif harvest, but the rabí was very good.

#### MINES AND QUARRIES.

35. Though the slate and stone quarries in Gurgáon are believed to be capable of producing annually 78,500 maunds of slate and 250 maunds of stone, it appears that the quarries are but nominally worked, as the demand is not sufficient to make them pay. This is to be regretted, since the slate is good, and might with great advantage be extensively used.

The Chief Engineer of the Rajpútána State Railway has universally adopted this slate for roofing, and I believe that if Government, in the Department of Public Works, were made acquainted with the excellence of the material and facility of transport, the slate would be more generally brought into use in Government works. The appearance of the buildings is also materially improved by the use of slate. Any thing of the kind is of advantage, and should be made use of to improve the present style of building, which, for hideousness and vulgarity, is unsurpassed in the civilized world.

#### HARVEST.

36. In Gurgáon the rabí was good, but the kharif was almost a failure owing to the excessive rain-fall and overflow of the streams; in Dehli the harvests were above the average, and in Karnál the rabí was fine, but the kharif was not so good. As regards irrigation, the Agra Canal was opened in March last by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces in person. The Deputy Commissioner of Karnál mentions that no new staples were introduced into his District; and as the other two District Officers are silent on the subject, it may be presumed that none were introduced throughout the Division.

#### LAND RENT.

I observe that in Gurgáon land suited for tobacco fetches the highest rent, viz., Rs. 20 per acre, and the average produce is only 440 lbs., whereas land suited for sugar fetches only Rs. 15 maximum rent, and it yields on an average not less than 1,234 lbs. of refined sugar. Can this be correct? In Karnál also land suited for sugar fetches Rs. 15, but this is the highest price in the District, and it produces so much as 1,680 lbs. of refined sugar.



while tobacco land is to be had for Rs. 12 maximum rent, and yields on an average 560 lbs. As regards wheat-growing land, the maximum rent in Karnál is Rs. 8, whilst it produces 1,500 lbs.; whereas in the Gurgáon District the maximum rent is Rs. 9-4, and the average produce only 1,316 lbs. It would appear, therefore, as regards sugar, tobacco, and wheat, if these returns are to be accepted as correct (and he would be a bold speculator who should embark capital on a venture in reliance on these data), that land is much cheaper and its power of production higher in Karnál than in Gurgáon; and although rents are in some cases higher in Karnál per acre of land in every instance, save in land suitable for inferior grains, the land in the Karnál District has higher productive powers than that in the Gurgáon District.

#### LIVE-STOCK.

Mr. Oliver is of opinion that live-stock is failing in Gurgáon, particularly horned cattle, owing to the want of food grains for human consumption, not only causing the breaking up of pasture land, but also preventing the cultivation of fodder. I notice, however, from Statement XXX that there are 2,52,000 cows and bullocks in the Gurgáon District, while in the Karnál District there are 1,93,000, and in the Dehli District only 1,59,000.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

\* \* \* The work of improving the village communications has been insisted on with much urgency, advantage being taken of the present Settlement operations to lay out the existing roads on the village maps at their original width; the District Committees doing all the work of demarcation, &c., on the ground. It is a large subject requiring much energy, vigor, and the power of organization. It is premature for the present to form any anticipation of the probable result. \* \* \*

#### LABOR.

The Deputy Commissioner of Dehli states that the demand for labor, owing to the various Imperial and Local works, is greater than the supply; that laborers are at a premium; and that wages have increased in proportion. The price of grain has also risen owing to the famine in Bengal. In Gurgáon the price of labor is a little reduced on account, says Mr. Oliver, of food grains being slightly cheaper; but I perceive from Statement XXXII that although food grains were cheaper on 1st June 1873 than they were on 1st June 1872, yet in the beginning of 1874 there was a rise in the price of all food grains except Urd dāl, as compared with the prices prevailing on the 1st of January 1873. In Dehli and Gurgáon skilled labor fetched six anas and five anas and unskilled labor three anas and two anas per diem, whereas the Karnál Statement XXXI A, furnished by Colonel Babbage, shows that the former was as high as one rupee and as low as four anas, and that the latter could be had for three anas and 1½ ana.

#### FISHERIES.

\* \* \* Serious attention is required to the wholesale destruction of fish at Okhla below the weir. This matter was separately reported. The fish are checked by the weir, and collect in large numbers in the comparatively smooth and shallow pool formed by the back water, where they are netted in immense quantities, even when spawning.

#### ARBORICULTURE AND FUEL PLANTATIONS.

\* \* \* In Gurgáon the severe frost last winter destroyed young trees of from 5 to 10 feet high and 3 or 4 years old, and the hot winds scorch them unless watered incessantly.

The Plantation near the Dehli City wall on the bed of the Jamna is the only plantation in the Division under the District authorities, and it has only lately been transferred from the charge of the Forest to the Civil Department for purposes other than those of Forest Conservancy.

#### MUTATIONS.

40. In Gurgáon there were 13 transfers by order of Court averaging Rs. 33 per acre, 10 private sales for mere patches averaging Rs. 10 per acre, and 181 mortgages averaging

Rs. 17 per acre. In Karnál the 19 transfers by order of Court averaged only Rs. 8 per acre, 61 private sales Rs. 14. per acre, and 42 mortgages Rs. 15 per acre. In this District as much as Rs. 40 per acre for canal-irrigated land, Rs. 30 for well-irrigated, Rs. 20 for bārání, Rs. 10 for culturable banjar, and Rs. 5 for unculturable banjar, were demanded.

#### REVENUE BUILDINGS.

43. Application has been made for extra accommodation for the Vernacular and English records of the Dehli Sadr Office. I do not think that a better site could be selected without incurring expenditure disproportionate to the advantage gained, or without inflicting loss of one kind or another on local interests. What the present site really wants is enlargement and ventilation,—objects which could most easily and advantageously be attained if permission were granted to remove the city wall in that locality and to fill in the ditch, leaving sufficient waterway in the covered drain. The building in which the Dehli Tahsíl is located having been lately restored to the claimants will necessitate the erection of a new building. The other buildings in the Dehli District the Deputy Commissioner reports to be in fair order.

The Tahsíl building at Rewári requires certain additions, which it is hoped will be soon taken in hand. I have already addressed you on the subject of a new building required at Firozpur, in the Gurgáon District. A new Tahsíl for Karnál has already been recommended.

The accommodation in the Divisional office is altogether insufficient, and I am glad to say that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has recently ordered the preparation of a sketch plan for a new building.

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## AMBALAH DIVISION.

(MR. GORE OUSELEY).

### LAND REVENUE BALANCES.

3. I do not advise the adoption of the Deputy Commissioner of Ambálah's proposition that the balances recommended for remission owing to loss of area by diluvion should be entered as nominal, for this course might lead to a careless method of dealing with balances under this head, which in reality require careful scrutiny before they should be sanctioned.

### PAPER CURRENCY.

29. The Deputy Commissioners do not say so, but I am under the impression that large payments were made to the merchants of the District in Currency Notes for the grain which was exported to Bengal, and these Notes, I believe, were tendered at the Tahsils in payment of the Land Revenue due from the agricultural population.

### SAVINGS BANKS.

31. These institutions do not seem to have made much progress in the favor of the masses as yet in this Division. I doubt if the suggestions made by the Deputy Commissioner of Ludiánah for rendering them more popular would be feasible without entailing undue loss on Government.

### WORKING OF THE INDIAN COINAGE ACT.

32. The provisions of this Act are apt to press harshly on the agricultural population if their working is not carefully watched.

33. Whilst in Ambálah only 2,418 short-weight rupees were received, of which only 312 were cut, 10,441 such rupees are said to have been presented at the Ludiánah Tahsils.

34. Two of the Ludiánah Tahsildárs took upon themselves to cut short-weight rupees, which may in some degree account for the large number of these rupees, which appear to have been tendered in the Ludiánah District.

35. Strict orders have been given that none but Treasury Officers are to cut short-weight rupees, and I will see that the number of short-weight rupees which a Revenue-payer is said to have tendered at the Tahsíl are entered in his Dakhilah or receipt, and that the short-weight rupees which each man is said to have tendered are secured in a separate packet, with the owner's name on it, when they are despatched to the Sadr Treasury, so that if they should not be found to be light, then the person to whom they belonged may be credited with them.

### INSTRUCTION OF PATWARIS.

41. Patwáris' circles have been re-arranged in Ambálah and Ludiánah, and steps have been taken in both Districts to have the Patwáris thoroughly instructed. In Ambálah the Patwáris seem to have attained the desired standard of education; if it is found that the Ludiánah Patwáris are unable to reach a similar degree of efficiency, those amongst them who are unable to improve will be discharged, and their places will be filled by a more intelligent class of men.

### COURTS OF WARDS.

43. I agree with the Deputy Commissioner of Ambálah in the general tone of his remarks as to the mode in which Mr. Robinson has supervised the Government Wards institution at that place. If the results of the educational training which the lads receive are not so successful in all respects as might be desired, it should be remembered that many of them are too old to learn readily or to bend themselves willingly to habits of study; and as they are in good circumstances, they have not the incentive to labor which is imparted by a knowledge of one's poverty.

44. It is intended, I believe, to increase the sphere of the usefulness of this institution at Ambáláh by sending boys to it from other Divisions.

45. I shall endeavour, as far as in me lies, to see that measures are taken for improving the internal discipline of the school, and for strengthening Mr. Robinson's hands, so as to assist him in educating and controlling his pupils more efficiently than he can, as he is at present circumstanced, be expected to do.

#### HARVEST.

54. Throughout the Division the harvests, and more specially the spring harvests, were very good. In the Ambáláh District, owing to the heavy rains which fell in July, there was a partial failure of the cotton crop, but the area of land, which yielded the various descriptions of crops grown throughout the year, exceeded in the Ambáláh District the producing area of the preceding year by 11,646 acres. In Ludiánah, on the contrary, the area under cultivation in 1873-74 fell short of the area cultivated in 1872-73 by 14,018 acres. This is accounted for by the comparatively small rain-fall of last year.

55. If these returns are accurate, they show, speaking in round numbers, that in Ambáláh and Ludiánah, after excluding the land under cultivation with drugs and spices, such as poppy, tobacco, coriander seed, chillies, &c., and the space occupied by sugar-cane, oil-seeds, fibres, &c., some 15,00,000 of acres are annually cultivated with food grains, whilst the total population of the two Districts does not exceed 16,00,000 of souls. If the same excess, as regards production in comparison with the requirements of local consumption, is general throughout the Panjáb, there need be no fear that the requirements of a famine year in Bengal should not, under ordinary circumstances, be in a great measure met by the surplus produce of the Panjáb.

#### PRICES OF PRODUCE.

67. With respect to the prices of agricultural produce, it need only be said that notwithstanding the enormous export trade in grain which the Bengal famine has caused to be developed throughout this Division, and more especially from the Railway Station of Ludiánah, the exports from which have been as large as 1,50,000 maunds of grain in the course of a week, prices of food grains have not risen, except slightly, as regards jowár and maize.

#### VARIETY OF TENURES.

58. The District Officers say that they have scrutinized their Returns No. 33 and 34, and that they consider them to be correct.

59. I believe them to be so as far as they show what lands are not held direct from Government and what lands are so held direct. In this Division there are no large tracts of waste land belonging to Government, or of confiscated estates, of which the Government has assumed the proprietorship. These returns should also be correct in the details which they show of tenures not held direct from the Government; for, as the Ambáláh and Ludiánah Districts were settled many years ago, and much attention has been bestowed on the preparation and the revision of the record of rights in land, it is to be expected that returns based on these records should be correct.

60. At the same time it seems strange that in Ambáláh out of a population of 10,00,000 the number of tenants-at-will should amount to only 19,000, and that in Ludiánah, the population of which is only half that of the Ambáláh District, the number of tenants-at-will should be about the same as the number of such tenants are shown to be in Ambáláh.

#### VALUE OF LAND.

65. The average price of land in the Ambáláh District was, in cases of sales, Rs. 34 per acre, and in cases of mortgages Rs. 32 per acre against Rs. 40 and 33 respectively in the preceding year. In the Ludiánah and Simla Districts the averages in both the above description of cases rose higher than in 1872-73. They were as follows:—

		Sales.	Mortgages.
In Ludiánah	...	Rs. 40 per acre	Rs. 29 per acre.
In Simla	...	" 53 do.	" 61 do.



66. The average price of land taken up by the Government was, of course, much higher than the average rate of sales by private agreement, but this is very natural, and is very easily explained. If a man sells voluntarily, he sells under the pressure of want, and he often sells only that portion of his land which he least values. If the Government requires the land, it often wants the land of a person who does not want to sell; it often takes up the best land which a man possesses, and it takes it up very frequently in a way in which it does the utmost injury to the proprietor's remaining property. A man's fields are often split into two disjointed estates by a slip of land being taken up for a canal or railroad, or a plantation, and a man has to walk miles before he can take his bullocks from one field into another, though they are separated by only a few yards of what used to be his own lands.

#### REVENUE BUILDINGS

72. Are, as a rule, in good order. The accommodation afforded by the Deputy Commissioner's office at Ambalah is very cramped and ill ventilated.

#### SADR DISTILLERIES.

7. The gross receipts amounted to Rs. 34,509 against Rs. 30,692 in the previous year. From the Financial Commissioner's remarks in paras. 44 and 45 of the Revenue Report for 1872-73 it appears that a high proportion of license fees to still-head duty is regarded as inconsistent with good management, and that where the proportion of liquor of the 3rd class is abnormally high, there is reason to suspect that spirits are being passed out below their proper rate of duty. Judged by the standard of excellence, there has been a very steady and marked progress in this District during the last three years, as will be seen from the following table :—

Year	Amount of license fees.	Amount of still-head duty.	Total.	PROPORTION OF		Amount of duty on liquor 59 per cent. below proof.	Percentage of duty on liquor 50 per cent. below proof to total still-head duty.	NUMBER OF GALLONS SOLD.			
				License fees.	Still-head duty.			Proof	25 per cent. below proof.	50 per cent. below proof.	Total.
1871-72	24,923	10,207	35,130	70	30	9,586	94	72	220	6,390	6,682
1872-73	18,366	11,441	29,807	61	39	6,051	53	146	2,513	4,034	6,693
1873-74	19,608	13,959	33,567	58	42	3,838	28	381	4,559	2,592	7,532

This shows that the proportion of still-head duty to the whole receipts rose from 30 per cent. in 1871-72 to 39 in 1872-73 and to 42 in 1873-74; likewise that in 1871-72 94 per cent. of the whole liquor sold was of the third quality, while in 1872-73 the percentage fell to 53 and in 1873-74 to 28! I and my Assistants have from time to time carefully tested the hydrometers in use with an instrument of English manufacture, and, as mentioned in my last year's Report, I at one time found out that some of them marked too low a strength of liquor, and I had them corrected accordingly; this, doubtless, caused some liquor, which formerly paid the lowest rate of duty, to be taxed higher, but I do not think it can have effected the very great change I have pointed out. The explanation, which suggests itself to me as a likely one, is as follows :—It is well known that the retail dealers dilute with water the liquor they sell, and I much doubt whether the ordinary consumer can tell the difference between a bottle of spirits 50 per cent. below proof and half a bottle of full proof liquor filled up with water. It is therefore all the same to the vendor whether he buys from the Distillery the third quality of liquor, and sells it neat, or whether he buys the stronger qualities, and mixes water with them, or rather the latter plan is the most advantageous to him, for on a gallon of proof liquor added to a gallon of water he has paid only Rs. 2-8-0 duty, whereas on two gallons of the weakest spirit he has paid at the Distillery Rs. 3. It seems to me that a good deal more attention than formerly having of late been paid to the subject, and it being understood that the sale of more liquor paying higher rates is desirable, the Dárogah has instructed the

dealers to buy a larger proportion of strong liquor from the Distillery. Of course he will not own to this, but I think it not unlikely. With due deference to the opinion of higher authority, I would point out that the figures above given do not support the theory that a low proportion of license fees to total receipts, and of sale of 3rd class liquor to the total manufactured, is a sign of good management, for the principle aimed at is to obtain the maximum of Revenue from the minimum of consumption, and, strange to say, this object was better attained in 1871-72 when the license fees bore the proportion of 70 per cent. to the whole income, and 3rd class liquor yielded 94 per cent. of the still-head duty than in 1873-74 when these proportions were 58 and 28 respectively. In 1871-72 the number of gallons sold was 6,682, almost the whole of which was of the weakest description, and the receipts were Rs. 35,130. In 1873-74 the receipts were only Rs. 33,567, and the consumption amounted to 7,532 gallons, two-thirds of which were only 25° below proof; in other words, the Revenue diminished and drinking increased! Even supposing the license fees yielded an exceptionally large income owing to excessive competition in 1871-72, as seems probable, still a comparison of 1873-74 with 1872-73 shows that in the year under report the Revenue only increased in the same proportion as the number of gallons sold increased, while the strength of the liquor sold was much greater, so that again drinking increased in a greater proportion than the Revenue.

#### OPIUM CULTIVATION.

8. The area under opium cultivation paying acreage duty was 1,504 acres, as compared with 145 in the previous year. This was owing to the fact that in 1872-73 an opium agent came from the North-Western Provinces to buy up the produce, and those who sold to him were excused payment of the acreage tax.

#### LAND REVENUE ASSIGNED.

20. One of my largest Jágirdárs, the Rájah of Manimájah, whose Revenue was Rs. 39,083, died without heirs in November last. His widow announced herself to be pregnant, and a month after his death reported that she had given birth to a son and heir. From information which I received I suspected the child to be supposititious, and on the 10th day after its alleged birth I went to Manimájah, accompanied by the Civil Surgeon and an English widwife, and succeeded in proving that a fraud had been attempted. The jágir was resumed, and the Native officials who had assisted me in the investigation were handsomely rewarded by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor at a Darbár held at Rúpar in March last, when His Honor's camp passed through this District. A detailed report of the circumstances of this case was made at the time, and I only allude to it here as being one of the most important occurrences of the year connected with the Revenue administration of this District.

The Rájah's family being entitled to the Revenue of the rabí harvest, the lapse of the estate does not appear in the Statements herewith submitted.

#### TAKAVI ADVANCES.

The new Rules work well, and I do not think that the fact of interest, being now demanded, will prevent any one really in need of help from applying for an advance, as it is clearly much more advantageous to a landowner to borrow from Government at a moderate rate of interest than to pay the exorbitant charges of the money-lenders.

#### INSTRUCTION OF PATWARIS.

37. There are 448 Patwáris, of whom 74 read and write Urdú, and the rest Nágrí.

38. During the past cold season the Patwáris have been under instruction. I sent to Dehli, Saháranpúr, and Lahore for qualified teachers, and appointed one to each Tahsíl. Each teacher has had a class of Patwáris, which their sons and other candidates for the office were allowed to join. Each man was instructed for about two months, and made his own arrangements for carrying on his duties during his absence at the head-quarters of the Tahsíl. Those who were previously well acquainted with their duties of course passed through the class much more quickly. When the teacher reported his pupils qualified, and the Tahsildár confirmed the report, they were sent to the Sadr, and examined by Rái



Gopál Saháí, Extra Assistant Commissioner, and those who passed received from him 1st, 2nd or 3rd class certificates according to qualifications. 332 Patwáris and 73 Umedwárs have been instructed up to the present date; 214 Patwáris and 31 Umedwárs have passed the examination; 118 Patwáris and 42 Umedwárs have been reported to be qualified, but the Extra Assistant Commissioner has not yet had time to examine them. 116 Patwáris are still under instruction; 11 were dismissed for having failed to pass or refused to be instructed; 4 were dismissed for bad conduct; and 4 died. These 19 vacancies were filled up by 13 relations of deceased or dismissed Patwáris and by six Umedwárs, not relatives.

#### RAIN-FALL.

47. The rain-fall was plentiful, but not excessive. It was very heavy in July, but in August there was less rain than usual. On the whole, the rain fell seasonably, and was rather above the average in quantity, the total fall being  $39\frac{1}{2}$  inches against  $44\frac{1}{2}$  inches in 1872-73.

### LUDIANAH DISTRICT.

#### PATWARIS, AND THEIR RECORDS.

\* \* \* \* A revised scheme of distribution of Patwáris' circles has been submitted for the sanction of higher authority, the effect of which will be, if it be sanctioned, to reduce the number of Patwáris from 331 to 298. \* \* \* \* \*

I do not think it necessary to report the matter here, but my object has been, as far as practicable, to increase the pay of Patwáris, and thereby have some greater guarantee for their honesty, though some few outlying and isolated Patwáris' circles, with low pay, bordering on or surrounded by independent territory, have unavoidably been unaltered. A Patwáris' school has also, as at Ambálah, under the instructions of Government, been established, the expenses of which are defrayed out of accumulated fines upon Patwáris in deposit, following the course adopted in the Ambálah District, the correspondence regarding which was communicated through the Commissioner and Financial Commissioner's office. A teacher is employed at each Tahsíl on Rs. 20 a month, and classes of Patwáris attend and study for two to three months, when they are examined by a Committee consisting of an Extra Assistant Commissioner, a Tahsildár, and the Sadr Qánúngo.

It is proposed to dismiss all those who fail to pass the test fixed, and appoint qualified men in their room; wherever the near relatives or heirs of Patwáris are qualified, they will of course enjoy a preference over outsiders. One batch of 85 Patwáris has been examined by the Standing Committee, and of these 46 have passed the test, a very easy one, and this after going through a course of nearly three months school instruction, which shows how grossly incapable the Ludiánah Patwáris are as a body. When the entire body has been examined, the utterly incapable ones will be dismissed, and others appointed in their room.

## LAHORE DIVISION.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL R. YOUNG, R. E.).

### LAND REVENUE.

2. The Land Revenue and commutation tax of this Division for the year-under report aggregated Rs. 14,83,514, being an increase of Rs. 45,347 over the demand of the preceding year. \* \* \* \*

4. The noteworthy causes of increase are—

	Rs.
Enhanced assessments in Muktsar and Mamdot ...	29,355
Resumption of Revenue-free grants in Lahore District ...	18,692

### FLUCTUATING AND MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE.

6. Under these two heads of income there is a total decrease of Rs. 36,797.

7. In the Lahore District a decrease of Rs. 19,601 in water-advantage Revenue is owing to the very favorable rainy season through which the demand for canal-water was considerably reduced.

8. In Gujranwala a total decrease is exhibited of Rs. 30,311, of which Rs. 29,514 is due to the remission of the progressive jamas by order of Government.

9. I beg to call attention to the remarks of Mr. Cordery on the grazing tracts of the Gujranwala District at para. 5. Many villages maintain habitually more cattle than their own lands will feed. The murrain of 1869 lessened the demand for grazing, but it is rapidly increasing, and consequently grazing near home fetches a good price. Those who cannot get it have to go to the Jhang District. It would not suit Government to sell its lands, but because it needs fuel preserves, and because their values are rapidly increasing, and, with the extension of canals, may very greatly increase. My advice is that every rakh which is enclosed among arable villages be given on a lease, either in shares or by partition, for 10 years, at reasonable rates, to those surrounding villages, and that the job be carried out by the Deputy Commissioner.

### ABKARI INCOME.

11. The gross Revenue from Sadr Distilleries amounted to Rs. 68,611, or a decrease of Rs. 15,270, as compared with the income of the previous year.

12. The loss in the Ferozpur and Gujranwala Districts is inconsiderable, but in Lahore it amounts to the large sum of Rs. 14,462 as follows:—

	Rs.
License fees for Native liquor ...	2,003
Do. English do. ...	189
Still-head duty ...	12,270

As reported in this office No. 29—214 of 4th February last, this is chiefly owing to the sanction given by the Financial Commissioner to the contractors to utilize the surplus liquor remaining over from the previous years, and on which duty had been paid, but also partly owing to a combination of the sellers to sell diluted spirit.

13. To obviate this latter evil the shops are, with the sanction of the Financial Commissioner, being sold from different dates, one shop being sold for a year upon the first of nearly every month. This lowered the price of spirits from Re. 1-6-0 to 14 anas a bottle. It has extinguished monopoly. Still the spirit is very bad, very diluted, very dear, and our receipts, but small, compared to what they might be, and the cause of this is in our system. No Hindustani Bass or Kinahan dare invest capital in the production of good spirits, because he cannot assure himself that the retail shops will sell his goods. There being but few of them and those sold annually by auction, he can be any year driven by his rivals out of the retail market.