

the total enhancement of revenue, including water-advantage rate, being a little over 2 lakhs of rupees, in addition to which a further increase of half a lakh will be claimable after five years.

21 (h). In Montgomery settlement operations were commenced during the year in the Rávi tahsils where the new maps were completed in 70 out of 654 villages. This settlement has been placed in charge of the Deputy Commissioner of the district. The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 8,184 only.

21 (i). The resettlement of the Pesháwar district was sanctioned by the Government of India during the year, and the greater portion of the sanctioned establishment was drafted to the district, and preliminary operations commenced under the superintendence of an Extra Assistant Settlement Officer. Mr. L. W. Dane, late Settlement Officer, Gurdáspur district, has since the close of the year taken charge of settlement operations in Pesháwar. The expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 5,142.

21 (j). The preliminary report containing proposals for the resettlement of the Dera Gházi Khan district has been submitted to Government. The Financial Commissioner has proposed to defer the commencement of operations until the cold weather of 1893-94.

21 (k). The settlement of the Seni Khwarram and Teri tappás of the Khattak jágír in the Kohát district commenced on October 1st, 1891. No previous settlement has ever taken place in this tract and there were no maps or records. Delay occurred in getting patwáris from the Punjab and in teaching them Pashtu. Good progress, however, has been made, and in 44 out of 95 villages measurements have been completed, while in 32 more the work is more or less advanced. The operations are in charge of the Revenue Assistant of the district under the superintendence of the Deputy Commissioner. Expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 11,584.

21 (l). The orders of the Government of India on the Jullundur Settlement Report have been received since the close of the year. The final Settlement Report of the Gurdáspur district and of the Muktsar-Mamdot *iláka* of the Ferozepore district have recently been submitted to the Financial Commissioner for review. The Hissár Settlement Report has been printed and is now with the Commissioner of Delhi. Mr. A. Kensington, late Settlement Officer, North Umballa, has recently been placed on special duty to write the final Settlement Report of the Umballa district and to revise the *District Gazetteer*.

22. *Surveys and Boundary Demarcations*.—This subject has been noticed in connection with the work of patwáris and kánúgos. The Deputy Commissioner of Gurgáon was during the year engaged in demarcating the boundary at certain points between his district and the Native States of Bhartpur and Alwar. The boundary between the Amritsar district and the Kapurthala State was relaid as usual. In the Lahore district the boundaries of the Sutlej river have been marked off with accuracy on a map for the whole river line founded on one common base of squares. Between the Gujránwála and Shahpur districts an accurate survey of the boundaries on the Chenáb has been carried out with a view to the village maps of the two districts fitting into each other. A similar survey of river villages on the Chenáb between the Gujrát and Gujránwála district will be carried out. A demarcation of the boundaries between the Shahpur and Jhelum district was effected during the year. The usual repairs of village boundary and tri-junction pillars were carried out. The Settlement Officer of Gujrát reports that the people are generally very careless in the performance of the duties imposed on them by law in this behalf. In consequence of special attention called to the matter during the year the Financial Commissioner has issued special instructions as to the inspection and repair of survey marks. Rule 44 of the rules under the Land Revenue Act already provides for the systematic inspection of all pakka survey marks, and in the quarterly busi-

ness Statement No. IV the progress made in carrying out necessary repairs is periodically reported.

Imperial Survey.  
Appendix B.

22 (a). Only one Imperial Survey Party was at work in the province during the year. It was under the charge of Major Gore, R.E.; whose account of its progress is given in Appendix B.

The 4-inch survey in Kangra and Kulu was carried on. All forests under the charge of the Forest Department were found to be well demarcated. In the Simla Hill States the Party was engaged in the Sirmur State, and in a 4-inch survey of the forest chiefly in the hill portion of the Patiala State. In all 45 square miles of forest were surveyed, rather more than half the forest area of the Patiala territory having been completed.

23. *Processes for Collection of Land Revenue.*—Notwithstanding unfavourable seasons the total number of writs of demand was 3,903 less than in the previous year, the decrease being general throughout nearly all districts. As village headmen are becoming better acquainted with the provisions of the law, the procedure of issuing writs against defaulters upon the application of the lambardár is being more largely resorted to. The Commissioner of Derajat remarks that in the Muzaffargarh and Dera Ghazi Khan districts lambardárs were obliged to bring suits against defaulters owing to the Revenue authorities having refused assistance. A report has been called for in the matter. In the printed extracts will be found some remarks of interest regarding the lambardári agency in Montgomery and Mooltan. In Mooltan a practice has arisen of payment of the revenue by the lambardárs through the Bannahs. A note regarding the Lambardári Schools in Umballa is printed in the extracts. The subject is of interest though it hardly belongs to the Revenue Report. Mr. Gladstone has also introduced a system of payment of revenue into the treasury without pre-audit by the Revenue Accountant. The practice is not in accordance with the standing orders contained in para. 11 of Circular No. 40 regarding the payment of revenue at head-quarters tahsils, and so far as it contravenes those orders its discontinuance has been directed. The system of resorting to fining lambardárs as a coercive process for the recovery of land revenue has already been alluded to.

Revenue money orders.

23 (a). The system of paying land revenue by money order is in force tentatively in the districts of Delhi, Lahore, Ferozepore and Siálkot. In Delhi the Deputy Commissioner remarks that the system has been distinctly appreciated in the Ballabgarh tahsil as Rs. 11,500 were remitted by money order as against Rs. 9,273 in the previous year. Distance is found to be the chief factor affecting the use of the Post Office for revenue remittances. In the Lahore district as much as Rs. 63,117 was remitted by money order. The system, the Deputy Commissioner remarks is convenient and has generally been understood by the villagers. As a rule, only the headmen of small estates with petty sums to pay use the system, as in the case of large sums lambardárs prefer to save the one per cent. by making a journey to the tahsil.

In Siálkot Rs. 12,170 were paid through the Post Office as compared with Rs. 16,876 in the previous year. It is stated that mistakes are frequently made owing to the "arz irsáls" not being prepared by the patwáris, but it ought not to be difficult to insist upon patwáris performing this part of their duties. The Commissioner (Mr. Ibbetson) is of opinion that any disadvantages attaching to the system can be overcome.

In Ferozepore the amount of revenue remitted by money order was Rs. 35,186 as against Rs. 29,154 in the previous year. The system is favoured chiefly by the lambardárs of the two tahsils which are without railway communication. The Deputy Commissioner speaks approvingly of the experiment.

The Financial Commissioners have recommended that the system of payment of Government dues by means of money orders may be generally extended in regard to land revenue payments.

24. *Record Rooms.*—One of the most important questions in connection with record room management is the destruction of useless records. The subject was noticed fully in last year's report and it was there recognised that the



complaints received from many districts of the want of accommodation for records were in large measure the result of the failure of the temporary establishments to cope with the destruction work and the consequent accumulation of large masses of useless and time-expired papers in record rooms. The Financial Commissioner regrets to have to record that in several districts during the year under report the temporary establishment sanctioned for the destruction of records proved quite insufficient to deal with the work and that little or no impression could be made on the accumulated arrears. This is especially the case in the Jullundur Division, the records in the Jullundur, Ferozepore, Hoshiarpur and Ludhiána districts being hopelessly in arrears. Gurdáspur is another district which is in a very bad state. In the budget for 1893-94, however, the Financial Commissioner has been able to utilise certain excess income which is expected to be realised over the estimated income of 1890-91 in allowing considerably increased establishments of temporary muharrirs to those districts in which the destruction work is most seriously in arrears, and if the budget is sanctioned it is hoped that great progress in clearing off old papers will be made all over the province in the coming year. It is satisfactory to note that in Karnál and Dera Ismail Khan the records have been brought completely up to date while the work is well in hand in Mooltan, Kangra, Hazára and Muzaffargarh.

24 (a). Paragraph 2 of Financial Commissioner's Circular No. 3 of 1892, stated that it was the desire of the Financial Commissioner that the revenue records of each district should as opportunity offered be completely separated off from the other records and placed in a separate room under the charge of the district kánúngo. Satisfactory arrangements have been made for this purpose in Ludhiána, and in Jhelum the revenue records were entirely separated during the year and placed under the district kánúngo. In Karnál, where the work of destroying old records has been brought completely up to date, three of the sanctioned establishment of temporary muharrirs were employed in separating the revenue records. Plans for certain alterations in the existing buildings at Gurgáon and Ráwalpindi and Hazára so as to allow of the setting apart of a separate room for the revenue records of those districts are also under consideration.

24 (b). Some of the complaints of want of accommodation in record rooms have been met or are to be met by the construction of additional buildings. In Kohát a plan for improving and enlarging the existing room will be carried out during the current financial year. The pressure in the Montgomery room, which is at present very crowded, will be relieved when the new treasury which has been sanctioned is built and the old treasury room becomes available for the accommodation of records. In Dera Gházi Khan a new record room has been built which was completed in the spring of 1892.

24 (c). The management of the record rooms in certain districts during the year has been worthy of special notice. In Gurgáon many of the most important files in the English Office were re-arranged and the flat-fold system gradually introduced as opportunity offered. The records of Delhi city which were very voluminous and had not been touched for years were taken in hand and practically brought up to date. In the Hissár district a topographical list was prepared of all the villages in the four tahsils recently resettled and their records were completely re-arranged in topographical order in accordance with it. In Kangra and Amritsar careful attention was paid to the management of the record room, and in both districts various small improvements in routine procedure were instituted. Some remarks were made in last year's report upon a scheme started by Mr. Gladstone in Umballa for furnishing copies of records to applicants by Value Payable Post. Full particulars of the system have been forwarded by the Chief Court to all districts and Deputy Commissioners have been invited to give the plan a trial. The experiment is being made now in some districts and the results of its working after a period of six months will be reported to the Chief Court and to the Financial Commissioner.

25. *Other matters under the Land Revenue Act.*—There are no other matters calling for remark this year.

## SECTION V.—TENANCY ACT.

26. *Enhancement of Rent.*—The number of enhancement cases rose from 1,391 in 1890-91 to 1,746 in the year under report. The

Statement No. XXX.

Hissár and Hoshiárpur districts which usually swell the returns of this class of litigation show a considerable diminution in the number of cases decided. On the other hand there is a large increase in the suits for enhancement in the Amritsar and Gujráť districts due to the completion of settlement operations in some of the tahsils. In Jullundur the number of suits rose from 243 to 343, but in only 95 of these suits was enhancement decreed, the usual proportion in which landlords are successful being four out of five. The Deputy Commissioner of Hissár reports that the efforts of landlords to charge the owner's rates upon their tenants have not been generally successful. The Deputy Commissioner of Hoshiárpur anticipates a still further diminution in the number of suits for enhancement of rent. In Gurdáspur the effect of settlement seems to have ceased and the number of suits which last year was 185 is now only 64. Enhancement was decreed in 323 out of 330 suits in the Gujráť district and in 438 out of 459 in the Amritsar district. The Settlement Officer of Amritsar complains of the indefinite wording of the decrees for enhancement drawn up by some of the courts.

There were no suits for enhancement of rent in the Deráját Division and only 7 (in Hazára) in the Pesháwar Division. Landlords were successful in 1,410 out of the 1,741 cases decided during the year. Only 28 suits for reduction of rent were brought during the year. In half of these the tenant was successful.

27. *Ejectment.*—There seems to have been some misunderstanding as to

Statement No. XXXI.

the proper entries to be made in the columns of Statement No. XXXI relating to ejectment of occupancy tenants. According to column 3 there were 28 decrees for ejectment of occupancy tenants, of which 24 were passed in the Hissár district, but the Deputy Commissioner refers in his report to these 24 cases as "applications" for ejectment. Again column 7 shows 118 cases in which ejectment was carried out, of which 56 belong to the Jullundur district and 51 to the Hissár district. On referring to the Deputy Commissioner of Jullundur it has been ascertained that in these cases what actually took place was not ejectment under the Tenancy Act, but execution of decrees for possession passed by civil courts against occupancy tenants. In this connection it may be mentioned that the Financial Commissioner has recently had occasion to draw attention to a practice, which had arisen in some of the subordinate courts in cases in which landlords sued to set aside unauthorized alienations by their occupancy tenants, of granting decrees for possession against both alienor and alienee. It was pointed out by the Financial Commissioner that according to the judicial decisions of the Chief Court the relief to be granted in such cases must be confined to a decree for possession against the alienee alone, together with a declaration of the invalidity of the transfer.

27 (a). Sixteen hundred and fifty-five decrees were passed for ejectment of tenants-at-will as against 1,112 decrees in the previous year. In addition to this ejectment was ordered under Section 45 (5), after issue of notice in 5,346 cases as against 4,486 cases in the previous year. In 4,978 cases involving an area of 43,860 acres was ejectment actually carried out. The figures of the year 1890-91 were 4,606 cases with an area of 42,334 acres. In 2,586 cases tenants brought suits to contest their liability to ejectment and were successful in 913 cases. Nearly one-fourth of the cases in which ejectment was decreed or ordered belong to the Hissár district, and out of the 4,978 cases in which ejectment was actually carried out, 1,038 or more than one-fifth belong to the same district. The Deputy Commissioner states that the ejected tenants are in many instances re-instated by the landlords who have merely used the revenue courts with a view to prevent the growth of occupancy rights or to secure enhancement of rent. A considerable increase in the number of ejectment cases took place in the Gujránwála and Pesháwar districts owing to settlement operations. In the south-west of the province ejectment cases are

Ejectment of occupancy tenants.



always few in number as tenants are at a premium. In the Montgomery District only one and in Jhang only two applications for ejectment were made during the year. As remarked by the Deputy Commissioner of Mooltan, a good tenant will never be turned out. Mr. Steedman draws attention to the necessity of exercising circumspection in the issue of notices of ejectment, as the procedure is often resorted to by persons who have no rights of ownership in order to throw upon the party in possession the onus of bringing a suit to contest liability to ejectment. Mr. Steedman in support of his remarks points to the number of cases 74 out of 121, in which the persons upon whom such notices have been served have successfully contested the notice.

Statistics of cultivating occupancy and rents have been commented upon in Part I of this report.

## SECTION VI.—OTHER ACTS.

28. *Northern India Canal and Drainage Act.*—The area irrigated during the year by Government and private (including district) canals according to the patwáris' returns was as follows:—

YEAR.	AREA IRRIGATED BY	
	Government canals.	Private and district canals.
	Acres.	Acres.
1890-91	2,514,733	947,077
1891-92	2,605,773	900,620

In the districts watered by the Western Jumna Canal there was a considerable decrease in irrigated area. There was on the other hand a large increase in the area of irrigation on the Sirhind and Bári Doáb Canals. The Deputy Commissioner of Rohtak notices a considerable difference in the canal-irrigated area as shown in the patwáris' registers and as recorded by the Irrigation Department. The matter will be further inquired into. The Indri-Sirsa Canal is being pushed on rapidly and digging has commenced within the Hissár district.

28 (a). The area irrigated by the Shah Nahr Canal in the Hoshiárpur district has fallen off by 2,069 acres. This is partly due to the lateness of the rains and damage done to the head of the canal by floods, and partly to the fact that certain villages declined to take water in the hopes that the overflow from the canal would reach them. The manoeuvre was however unsuccessful. In the case of other villages it was necessary to withhold irrigation in order to enforce payment of the arrears of water rate due to the shareholders from whom the canal was taken over by Government. It is satisfactory to note that three-fourths of these arrears have been recovered. The Financial Commissioner has communicated to the Chief Engineer the suggestion made by Mr. Steedman in the printed extract from his district report that an officer of the Irrigation Department be occasionally deputed to inspect this canal.

28 (b). The irrigated area on the Ferozepore district canals fell from 111,812 acres in 1890-91 to 98,561 acres in the year under report, chiefly owing to low river floods. The latter area, however, is the same as that of the year 1889-90. The area irrigated by the canals constructed by the Nawáb of Mamdot, which in the year under report approximated to 50,000 acres, has not been included in Statement No. VIII. In future the total irrigated area should be shown in this statement. The visit of inspection paid by Colonel Grey in the cold weather of 1891-92 has been

noticed in last year's report. One of the measures recommended by Colonel Grey which has been adopted and will come into effect from 1st April 1893 is the amalgamation of the managing establishments of the Mamdot and district canals consequent upon the Mamdot estate coming under the Court of Wards. The measure is expected to tend to economy and greater efficiency in the administration of the system. Proposals for the expenditure of the last instalment of the Government grant towards the improvement of these canals have recently been submitted to Government. In accordance with Colonel Grey's recommendation the clearance and establishment rates in the case of rice crops have been doubled with effect from Kharif 1892.

28 (c). A full account of the working of the Sidhnai Canal and its three auxiliaries is given among the printed extracts.

Sidhnai Canal. There was a total increase of 2,582 acres in the area irrigated, but these figures are no index of the character of the season as affecting the colonists, for at the time the report was written the "kharaba" remissions of Rabi 1892 had not been settled. Moreover it is not merely to the canal-irrigated area but to the total area of crops that we must look to judge of the character of the season. In this respect the kharif of 1891 was a "record" one. As remarked by Mr. Maconachie, however, the season had an indirectly bad effect on the cultivators in encouraging them to think that they could dispense with wells and generally in making them careless as to "kiaris" waste of water, &c. The necessity of wells to aid the canal in maturing the rabi crop has been demonstrated by the results of the past rabi season, which was as bad as the kharif was favourable. The local officers have recently been instructed to bring pressure upon the colonists to make up for past neglect in the matter of well construction.

Applications are now being made by the colonists for permission to purchase proprietary rights in their holdings in accordance with the terms of their leases. Careful inquiry is necessary before such applications are sanctioned, as several cases have been brought to the notice of the Financial Commissioner in which colourable transfers of the lessees' rights, contrary to the terms of the lease, have taken place.

28 (d). The Sohag-Para Canal in the Montgomery district irrigated an area 27 per cent. in excess of that of the previous year and the condition of the colonists was most prosperous. Well sinking has made much more progress in this tract than on the Sidhnai Canal. In 90 per cent. of the holdings wells have either been sunk or sinking has commenced. The only matter of complaint in regard to this canal is that tenants have been drawn away to it from other parts of the district.

28 (e). The Colonization Officer's report has been published *in extenso* in Appendix E. It will be seen that colonization commenced in February, and that by 30th September the following areas had been allotted:—

	Acres.
To peasant grantees	206,346
„ yeomen „	5,481
„ capitalist „	15,171
„ Mazbi Sikh pensioners	8,704
„ auction purchasers	9,058*
	<hr/> 244,760

The area reserved for grazing purposes is not included in the above. As evidencing the value of land on the canal it may be mentioned that 8,783 acres were sold by auction in March last at an average price of Rs. 43½ per acre. The area allotted to yeomen is small, but grants of an aggregate area of over 18,000 acres have been sanctioned by the Financial Commissioner up to

\* There is some discrepancy here as the area sold by auction was 8,783 acres.



date. A considerable portion of the area allotted to capitalists has been granted free of *nazarāna* to native Military Officers and others to whom land grants had been promised by way of reward. The very numerous questions which have arisen in connection with the colonization scheme cannot be dealt with or even referred to within the limits of an annual report. Suffice it to say that the scheme has up to the present given every prospect of success. The fever which prevailed in the Bár country last autumn was an unfortunate occurrence, but does not seem to have had any general effect in checking the enterprise of the new settlers, who have been encouraged by the excellent kharif harvest, the yield of which in some instances has been quite phenomenal.

28 (f). It has been usual to refer in the Land Revenue Report to the Ráníwah Canal in the Shahpur district, because it is a Provincial Canals. its finances being excluded from review in the Annual Report of the Imperial Irrigation Department. Another canal in the Shahpur district, the Corbynwah has during the year been purchased by the Provincial Government at a cost of Rs. 15,000. The working of these two canals in the year under report and the previous year was attended by the following results :—

Canal.	Year.	Area irrigated.	Income.	Expenditure.	Net income.
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ráníwah ...	1890-91 ...	16,749	45,390	9,613	35,777
	1891-92 ...	15,334	33,964	7,094	26,870
Corbynwah ...	1890-91 ...	2,356	2,035	932	1,103
	1891-92 ...	2,303	1,953	645	1,308

The decrease in the area irrigated by the Ráníwah is due to the unfavourable nature of the floods, to the fact that the rabi crop of 1891 was unusually good and that the cultivators could not avail themselves of the canal water for the kharif crop so early as usual, and to the introduction of the water-advantage rate which made them more chary of irrigating their fields.

\*An expenditure of Rs. 13,671 in improvements on the Corbynwah has been sanctioned. The improvements are in progress.

The Michni-Nowshera Canal in the Pesháwar district was completed during the year, but owing to floods, considerable damage was caused last August which entailed the expenditure of an additional Rs. 40,000, bringing up the total estimated expenditure to Rs. 4,00,000. The canal was expected to be in working order by December 1892.

28 (g). Among the extracts will be found a brief notice of the works for extending irrigation from the Deg in the Siálkot district. Major Montgomery has paid the greatest personal attention to this subject and his efforts have been attended with much success. Lower down the Deg in the Montgomery district an attempt to extend irrigation from this stream by private capital has been frustrated by the action of certain villages which refused to give the land required for the bed of the canal. The case is one which points to the necessity of the contemplated legislation dealing with private canals. Another matter which is engaging attention in connection with the proposed Canal Bill is the examination of records of irrigation rights and usages with a view to determine whether a presumption of truth should by law attach to such documents. Many important records of this description at present exist only in vernacular. With a view to enhance their utility for purposes of reference in judicial cases the Financial Commissioner has requested Commissioners to arrange for the translation of all such records as are of general application.

29. *Land Acquisition Act, (X of 1870).*—Permanent acquisitions of land of an important nature were made during the year for public purposes in the following districts :—

Statement No. XXIV.

	<i>For Canals.</i>								Acres.
Karnál	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	281
Ferozepore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	321
Mooltan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	325
Shahpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
Pesháwar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	101
	<i>For Railways.</i>								
Jhelum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	214
Pesháwar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Bannu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	156
Muzaffargarh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	295

The total area taken up for all public purposes under the Act was 2,549 acres, for which Rs. 1,83,816 were paid as compensation.

29 (a). The detailed figures given above show that no very large amount of land was acquired in any district during the year. The acquisitions for canal purposes were, as in former years, most numerous; 1,519 acres out of the total of 2,549 acres, or about 60 per cent., being taken by the Irrigation Department. The 281 acres in Karnál were occupied at a cost of about Rs. 5,000 for constructing Sirsa Canal works, and in the other districts included in the list above the acquisitions were made for extending the area of canal cultivation.

29 (b). The amount of land taken up on account of railways was 862 acres, or about 34 per cent. of the total area acquired in the province. In Pesháwar the ground was wanted for making a platform to the city Railway Station, and in Bannu the land was acquired for the Miánwáli-Mári Branch Railway.

29 (c). Besides the acquisitions which have been already mentioned notice may be made of the taking up of 57 acres in Lahore for the river Ravi training works, and of 113 acres at Umballa in connection with the jail hospital and Western Jumna Canal. On the land thus acquired for the extension of the Umballa jail, two bungalows were standing for which Rs. 21,850 had to be paid as compensation. Large restorations of land were made in Umballa and Karnál. In the latter district the land was in most cases made over gratis to the former owners as it appeared that they had never been paid compensation for the Government occupation of the land.

29 (d). The regularity of procedure which was noticed with approval in last year's report has continued during 1891-92. The average duration of compensation cases is not long, and in Hissár and Karnál in which districts there were by far the largest number of such cases outstanding at the end of the year, the dates of the oldest cases were only March and May 1892 respectively.

30. *Land Improvement Loans Act (XIX of 1883).*—The principal outstanding at the beginning and end of the year under report was—

Statement No. XXVI.

	Rs.							
On 1st October 1891	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,39,919*
On 30th September 1892	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,49,390

The sums advanced and recovered during the year were—

Advances made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,56,001
Recoveries made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,16,596
Remissions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	184

In the above figures for advances made during the year it must be noted that Rs. 1,08,132 were specially advanced in the districts of Jhang and Gujránwála by the Colonization Officer to the settlers on the Chenáb Canal tract. The amount actually disbursed in ordinary advances throughout the province

\* "The difference of Rs. 2,230 between these figures and those given in para. 30 of the Revenue Report for 1890-91 is due to the fact that the sum of Rs. 6,500 in the Simla district has now been correctly classified, being distributed under both Acts instead of being shown entirely under Act XII of 1884 as before and to the Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon; also transferring Rs. 23 from Act XII of 1884 to Act XIX of 1883 to correct a previous misclassification."



was Rs. 2,47,869 as against Rs. 2,40,248 in the previous year. Rupees 70,250 which were recovered in 1890-91 and credited to the Loans Account as recoveries of principal were in reality on account of interest and were transferred to revenue during the period under report by the orders of the Accountant-General. The total arrears overdue at the end of the year were not very considerable, though they had increased to Rs. 13,493 from Rs. 9,340 in the previous year. Delhi, Mooltan and Dera Gházi Khan remained, as before, the most heavily defaulting districts.

30 (a). The figures showing the number of wells and similar works of improvement brought into use during the year which owed their existence to loans advanced by Government have been shown in Statement No. XXVII as was suggested last year. The largest number of wells thus constructed was 188 in Jullundur and 136 in Siálkot, while the number of wells made from private capital in the same two districts was 574 and 516 respectively. In Lahore, where the advances under this Act were over Rs. 10,000, there were only 44 wells constructed during the year with the aid of *takkávi* as against 963 built from private capital. Gurgáon and Rohtak were the only districts in which the number of wells constructed with Government assistance exceeded the number made independently.

30 (b). The following are the districts in which the largest advances were made in the year under report:—

District.	Rs.
Jullundur	50,510
Mooltan	29,040
Montgomery	12,900
Lahore	10,730
Amritsar	11,480
Siálkot	31,200
Pesháwar	20,420

The amount advanced in Jullundur, though still larger than in any other district, has fallen by over Rs. 20,000 since the previous year. In Pesháwar also the advances are Rs. 10,000 less than they were in 1890-91, the decrease being accounted for by the fact that the latter figures were abnormally large on account of the distress due to scantiness of rainfall in several consecutive years. The advances in Siálkot showed an increase of about Rs. 10,000 which is attributed to the general drought which prevailed throughout the district and in part also to the special exertions of one of the Tahsildárs. The large increase of advances in Mooltan (where Rs. 29,040 were expended under the Act as against Rs. 17,730 only in the previous year) is the result of the policy which is now being widely carried out of granting advances freely for the construction of wells to settlers on the Sidhnai Canal lands to assist the irrigation from the canal. In Ludhiána, the advances made amounted to Rs. 2,380 only, although in the neighbouring district of Jullundur upwards of Rs. 50,000 was given out. The Financial Commissioner agrees with the Commissioner (Mr. Smyth), whose remarks are printed at page 68 of the extracts at the end of this report, in thinking that the *takkávi* system might be better worked in this district. He notices that no new wells are reported as having been made in the year under report, either with or without assistance from Government loans. In dealing with the recent Assessment Reports of the Gujránwála and Wazirabad tahsils of the Gujránwála district, attention was drawn to the fact that so little *takkávi* had been granted in years past in this district where the cultivation depends so largely on wells. Although the year under report shows some improvement in this respect, still much more requires to be done and the matter is one which should receive the Deputy Commissioner's close personal attention.

30 (c). For the financial year from the 1st April 1892 to 31st March 1893 a total grant of Rs. 3,90,000 was made to the Financial Commissioner for advances under Loans Acts throughout the province. The allotment at first stood at three lakhs only, but it soon became evident from the number of applications received for additional grants that that amount would not be sufficient, and the Financial Commissioner accordingly applied for a further sum of one lakh to be placed at his disposal, but only Rs. 90,000 in addition could be allotted. This

sum did not prove sufficient to meet all the demands which were made, and it has been necessary to refuse for want of funds several applications in which the relief asked for would have been of great use. The Financial Commissioner thinks that any repulse of this kind is prejudicial to the continued popularity of the *takkávi* system, and he has estimated the requirements of the province during the financial year 1893-94 under both Acts at 4½ lakhs. No further remarks in connection with the transactions under the Loans Acts during the revenue year under report seem necessary. A separate report on the whole question of the working of both Acts in the Punjab was submitted to Government more than a year ago.

30 (d). In the present report as in that for the year 1889-90, Statement No. XXVI has been made an abstract one for the province and does not show district figures. The Financial Commissioner thinks that the detailed statement in the form given in last year's report is somewhat unwieldy and fuller than necessary considering that a complete review of the operations under the Loans Acts is under existing orders submitted annually to Government by his office in August. The Financial Commissioner therefore proposes to retain in future years the abstract form of statement which has been prepared for the present report.

31. *Loans to Agriculturists (Act XII of 1884).*—The principal outstanding at the beginning and end of the year under report was—

									Rs.
On 1st October 1891	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	92,879*
On 30th September 1892	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,09,045

The total sums advanced and recovered under the Act during the year were—

									Rs.
Advances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62,810
Recoveries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52,383

There were no remissions. Of the amount collected last year and credited to the Loans Account as capital recovered, Rs. 5,739 were really on account of interest and were transferred to Revenue during the year under report under orders of the Accountant-General. The arrears outstanding are quite inconsiderable, Kangra and Ráwalpindi being the only districts in which sums of any amount remained overdue. Though the advances made under this Act fell from Rs. 76,770 in 1890-91 to Rs. 62,810, still more general use has been made during the year under report of the provisions of the Act and the transactions have extended over a larger area. The abnormally high figures of the previous year were due to the very large advances made then in two districts, Rs. 43,270 being given in Kangra and Rs. 11,800 in Pesháwar to replace serious mortality of cattle from disease and want of fodder. In the present year though there have been no exceptional advances to any one district the total sum expended was very considerable and far in excess of the advances of 1889-90 which was an average year. In Umballa Rs. 8,411 were given in the year under report for the purchase of bullocks and seed grain, most of this money going to the Naráingarh tahsil where there was heavy mortality of cattle from sickness and scarcity of fodder. Rupees 4,997 were advanced in Simla to replace some of the cattle destroyed by the serious epidemic of disease in 1888-89. In Kangra further advances of Rs. 8,340 were made in addition to the very large sums given in the previous year. In Ferozepore, where no money had been advanced in the year before, Rs. 3,645 were given in the three months from January to March 1892, this result being in some measure attributed to the exertions made by the Deputy Commissioner (Mr. Francis) to make the system popular. In the districts of the Ráwalpindi Division it was found necessary to advance considerable sums for the purchase of seed grain and plough cattle. Rupees 8,000 were thus expended in Ráwalpindi district, Rs. 6,250 in Shahpur and Rs. 5,340 in Jhelum. In Shahpur advances were made of large sums to certain responsible inámdárs who agreed to take upon themselves the burden of distributing the money in small amounts to numerous petty cultivators who were in want of seed at the rabi

\* The difference between these figures and those given in last year's report has been explained in the foot-note to para. 80 above.



sowings. The heavy rain at that time had put the ground in a favourable state and it would have taken too long to prepare all the numerous papers required before advances could be made to each small cultivator. In Hazára there was great mortality among cattle from rinderpest aggravated by scarcity of fodder and Rs. 4,440 were advanced during the year to repair the ravages of the disease. Although no advances were recorded in the Amritsar district, applications were received there for a considerable allotment under this Act and Rs. 7,500 were actually given out just after the close of the year under report in time to allow the zamíndárs to purchase cattle at the Diwáli fair.

32. *Indian Forest Act (VII of 1878).*—Most of the remarks in the district reports under this head deal with matters which are usually noticed in the Annual Report of the Forest Department and in the District Boards and Arboriculture Reports. No important Forest settlements were before the Financial Commissioner during the year. Certain rakhs made over to the Military Department for grass operations in the Siálkot, Dera Ismail Khan, Bannu and Kohát districts were during the year under Forest settlement with a view to their being gazetted Reserved Forests. Orders on Mr. Anderson's Forest Settlement Reports of Kángra and Kulu are awaited. Proposals have been made to Government for the transfer to the Forest Department of certain rakhs in the Jhelum, Ráwalpindi and Gujránwála districts at present under District management. On the other hand the colonization of the waste lands in the Gujránwála district has necessitated the surrender by the Forest Department of large areas which are required for cultivation. The scheme of a large irrigated plantation on the Chenáb Canal has recently engaged the attention of Government. An area of 27,000 acres had originally been set apart for the purpose, but on reconsideration it has been decided to confine planting operations to an area of 12,000 acres, the remaining 15,000 acres being made available for colonization.

The income of the Khwárra and Zíra Forests during the year was Rs. 5,966 as against Rs. 8,972 in the previous year, the receipts of which were swollen by the demand for fuel caused by the Miránzai Expedition and the Attock Camp of Exercise. The income of these Forests is credited to a special Local Fund. The income of waste lands generally which are managed by Deputy Commissioners is credited as grazing dues, *sajji*, sale of wood, &c., &c., under the head of miscellaneous land revenue. The *tirni* and *sajji* income has already been alluded to. The income from sale of wood was Rs. 37,806 in 1891-92 as against Rs. 42,289 in the previous year.

33. *Court of Wards (Act IV of 1872).*—There were 64 estates under the management of the Court of Wards at the end of the year under report as against 63 at the close of the previous year. The number of estates actually entered in the statement is larger as it includes all estates which were under the management of the Court during any portion of the year, and some of which were released before the end of the year. There were five estates released during the year on the wards attaining their majority, being those of Sardár Amar Singh, of Mokandpur, Jullundur district; Sardárs, Umrao and Sundar Singh of Majitha, Amritsar district; Nawáb Ghulám Karim Khan, of Tank, and Allah Bakhsh, both of the Dera Ismail Khan district; and the Manawar estate in the Ferozepore district. The principal estates taken under management during 1891-92 were those of the late Sardár Rajindar Singh, of Katgarh, Hoshiárpur district; Makhdúm Jalál, of Hassn Babel, Jhang district; and Sayad Hamíd Shah of Mooltan. For the last named estate a special manager on Rs. 200 *per mensem* has been temporarily appointed for a period of 6 months to make arrangements for paying off the liabilities which amount to 5½ lakhs. For the Katgarh estate mentioned above a scheme of management has been sanctioned, but it will require reconsideration as the ward has since inherited a valuable property in Amritsar. Since the close of the year the estate of the late Rai Dhalí Singh, of Kulu, has also been taken provisionally under the management of the Court of Wards pending the orders of Government as to the succession to the *jágír*.

33 (a). In the case of the Mamdot estate which was the most important of those taken over in 1890-91, the appointment of Rái Maya Dás, Extra Assistant Commissioner, as Manager on a salary of Rs. 200 *per mensem*, was

formally sanctioned during the year under report. The estate of the late Bhai Naráin Singh of Bagarián, District Ludhiána, which had been under the management of the Deputy Commissioner since 1889 was formally brought under the Court of Wards in the year under report. The income of the estate which amounts to about Rs. 16,000 is nominally all spent in charity. The family is held in high esteem by the rulers of the Phulkián States and receives presents from them, especially from Nábha. In the case of the estate of Guru Nau Nihál Singh, of Kartárpur, Jullundur district, the balance of the debt to Government amounting to Rs. 12,877-2-8 which remained unpaid at the close of the previous year was paid off during 1891-92 and the estate is now free from all encumbrances. Considerable difficulties have been experienced in connection with the Farrukhnagar estate, Gurgáon district, as it was found impossible to repay the full instalments due on account of a loan contracted with the Alliance Bank of Simla. The whole question is, however, now under consideration, and it is hoped that Government may find itself able to extricate the estate from its embarrassments by advancing it a fresh loan at a lower rate of interest than is due to the Bank. In spite of all the difficulties attending the management of the estate, the exertions of the Deputy Commissioner have brought about a steady increase each year in the income realized and have permitted of increasingly large instalments of the loan being paid off. The accounts received of the administration of the estates of Sardár Balwant Singh, of Atári, and his brother Sardár Pritam Singh, of Majitha, both of the Amritsar district, and of Sardár Gurbakhsh Singh of the Gujranwála district, all show that particular attention has been paid to their affairs by the Deputy Commissioners concerned. In the first named of these estates strict economy has been practised and savings have been effected in several directions, while the successful results of the good management of the last estate give good reasons to hope that it will gradually be freed from its embarrassments. In the management of the Umballa estates very satisfactory results have been obtained owing to the personal interest taken by the Deputy Commissioner and the energy of the Manager, Rái Dharm Naráin. Mr. Gladstone observes that the working of stallions and mares in lieu of oxen on the Manauli and Buria home farms has been very successful indeed in Buria and very fairly so in Manauli. They have been found to work well in the plough, harrow and Persian-wheel. Cattle breeding also has not been neglected. The Rámgarh estate in that district has been completely relieved of debt and the Raipur one very nearly so.

33 (b). The management of wards' estates has on the whole been distinctly satisfactory. The total excess of income over expenditure for all such estates in the Punjab was Rs. 3,19,183 in the year under report against Rs. 1,95,273 only during the previous year. Of the total surplus income Rs. 2,88,115 was invested and only Rs. 31,068 was kept as cash in hand. The Financial Commissioner has had occasion during the year to impress upon Deputy Commissioners the advisability of investing surplus income in works of improvement or in the purchase of landed property or in loans secured by mortgages on landed property, in preference to keeping a large amount of cash in hand, which is likely to lead wards into extravagance when they become their own masters. The Government of India have since the end of the year under report asked that arrangements may be made for the preparation each year of a separate and fuller report on the Court of Wards' administration. Measures are being taken for having such a report prepared for the year 1892-93.

34. *Business Returns.*—The number of cases disposed of by Revenue Officers rose from 284,124 in 1890-91 to 3,04,498 in the year under report.

Statements Nos. XXVIII  
A, B and C.

The figures of the two years are as follows :—

	Civil and Criminal cases.	Revenue Court cases.	Revenue Officers' cases.
1890-91 ... ..	117,572	30,981	135,571
1891-92 ... ..	136,570	35,246	132,682
Increase ... ..	+ 18,998	+ 4,265	— 2,889



The increase amounted to 45 per cent. in Gujranwála, 38 per cent. in Lahore, 25 per cent. in Ráwalpindi and 14 per cent. in Siálkot where the number of cases (25,027) was nearly 10,000 in excess of any other district. The Deputy Commissioner's case work in the Siálkot district is excessively heavy, the disposals in the year under report being—

Appeals.			Original Cases.	
Criminal.	Revenue Court.	Revenue Officers.	Criminal.	Revenue Officers.
569	164	46	62	1,826

In the Lahore and Hoshiárpur districts too the time of the Deputy Commissioner is largely taken up with case work. The increase of work in the Gujranwála district is of course due to the Chenáb Canal, and will necessitate the creation of a new tahsíl.

34 (a). The number of Revenue Court cases has, it will be seen, increased by 4,265, and is nearly the same as in the year 1889-90. In only seven districts did the number of cases exceed 2,000, viz :—

Jullundur ... ..	3,256	Hissár ... ..	2,065
Siálkot ... ..	3,117	Gurdáspur ... ..	2,004
Amritsar ... ..	2,399	Ferozepore ... ..	2,002
Hoshiárpur ... ..	2,363		

In the whole of the Deraját Division the number of Revenue Court cases was only 2,324. The largest increase has occurred in the Jullundur, Siálkot and Amritsar districts and in respect of suits for arrears of rent, for enhancement of rent, to contest liability to ejectment, and in execution cases. The number of appeals in Revenue Court cases increased from 3,026 to 3,493. The appellate work is heavy in the districts of Hissár, Rohtak, Hoshiárpur, Jullundur and Siálkot. Appellants were successful in 22·5 per cent. of the appeals. In Commissioners' Courts the number of appeals increased from 596 to 688. The appellate work of the Commissioner of Jullundur is more than double that of any other division.

34 (b). The number of Revenue Officers' cases in the Siálkot district (13,638) is more than double that of any other district except Amritsar (9,252). The excess occurs under the headings "other cases under Land Revenue Act" and "cases relating to patwáris and kánungos." In Amritsar the Settlement Officer investigated over 1,000 revenue assignment cases. There were only 1,266 appeals to the Collector in Revenue Officers' cases, i.e., in less than 1 per cent. It is, however, to be remembered that a very large proportion of the Revenue Officers' cases are decided by Collectors themselves. Appellants were successful in one out of every three appeals. There were 2,731 appeals to Commissioners as against 2,564 in the previous year. The appellate work is very unevenly distributed, there being only 331 cases in the Delhi, Pesháwar and Deraját Divisions as against 2,400 in the three Central Divisions. The Commissioner of Ráwalpindi accepted 406 out of 968 appeals. The Commissioner of Delhi rejected all but 4 of the 88 appeals preferred in his Court. This difference of treatment may account for the difference in the number of institutions in the two divisions.

34 (c). The appellate work of the Financial Commissioners shows a slight decrease both in Revenue Court and in Revenue Officers' cases. The figures are given below :—

Year.	REVENUE COURT CASES.		REVENUE OFFICERS' CASES.	
	Appeals.	Revision cases.	Appeals.	Revision cases.
1890-91 ... ..	97	602	109	430
1891-92 ... ..	91	532	105	376

In only 8 Revenue Court cases were applicants for revision entirely successful, in 16 cases a new trial was ordered. Only 18 out of 376 applications for revision in executive cases were successful.

## SECTION VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

35. *Local Rate.*—The demand for the year rose to Rs. 27,49,220 and the collections amounted to Rs. 26,98,929 or 98·15 per cent. The balances of the year which are outstanding in those districts in which revenue has been suspended amounted to Rs. 50,550. Of the balance of previous years Rs. 36,908 were collected in 1891-92, leaving Rs. 25,982, a third of which is recoverable, outstanding at the close of the year.

36. *Government Suits.*—The usual report submitted by the Government Advocate is printed as Appendix A. Mr. E. P. Henderson, C.S., held the office throughout the year with the exception of a short period from 5th March to 14th April 1892, when he was on special duty in connection with business of the North-Western Railway during which the Junior Government Advocate Mr. Sinclair officiated for him. Both these officers continued to do satisfactory work for Government and the Financial Commissioner holds the same opinion with regard to the value of their services as has been expressed by his predecessor in previous years. The reference work of the Government Advocate which had considerably decreased during 1890-91 increased again largely during the year under report. The number of references rose from 234 to 328, an increase of 104 over the previous year and of 49 over the average of the previous five years. The increase was mainly in references from the North-Western Railway and from the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department. The number of original suits conducted by the Government Advocate or his Junior was 23 as against 19 during the previous year. Of this number 10 were successful and 10 remained pending at the close of the year; two were wholly unsuccessful, and in the remaining case an award of compensation by a Collector under Act X of 1870 was reduced by the court.

Of nine civil appeals in which the Government Advocate took part, 4 were successful, 2 unsuccessful and 3 undecided. In the execution of decrees the results do not come out so satisfactorily as in 1890-91. Only Rs. 2171 were recovered out of outstandings of Rs. 7,486 due to Government. It should be noted, however, that Rs. 3,001, of the balance of Rs. 5,315 unrecovered were on account of one case in which Rs. 5,00,000 was claimed and are likely to be irrecoverable.

37. *Tours of Commissioners.*—In the Delhi Division Colonel Grey spent 4½ months on tour excluding halts at Simla and head-quarters.

The Commissioner of Jullundur, Mr. Smyth, who was absent on privilege leave for three months, spent nearly four months on tour and visited all the districts of his division.

Mr. Rivaz was in camp for 2½ months out of the 10 months during which he held charge of the Lahore Division.

Mr. Thorburn, Commissioner of Rawalpindi, was on tour for nearly 3 months and inspected 11 tahsils of his Division.

The Commissioner of Peshawar, Mr. Udny, was on tour for a month and a half.

In the Derajat Division Mr. Bruce who was absent on leave for six months, spent 69 days in camp.

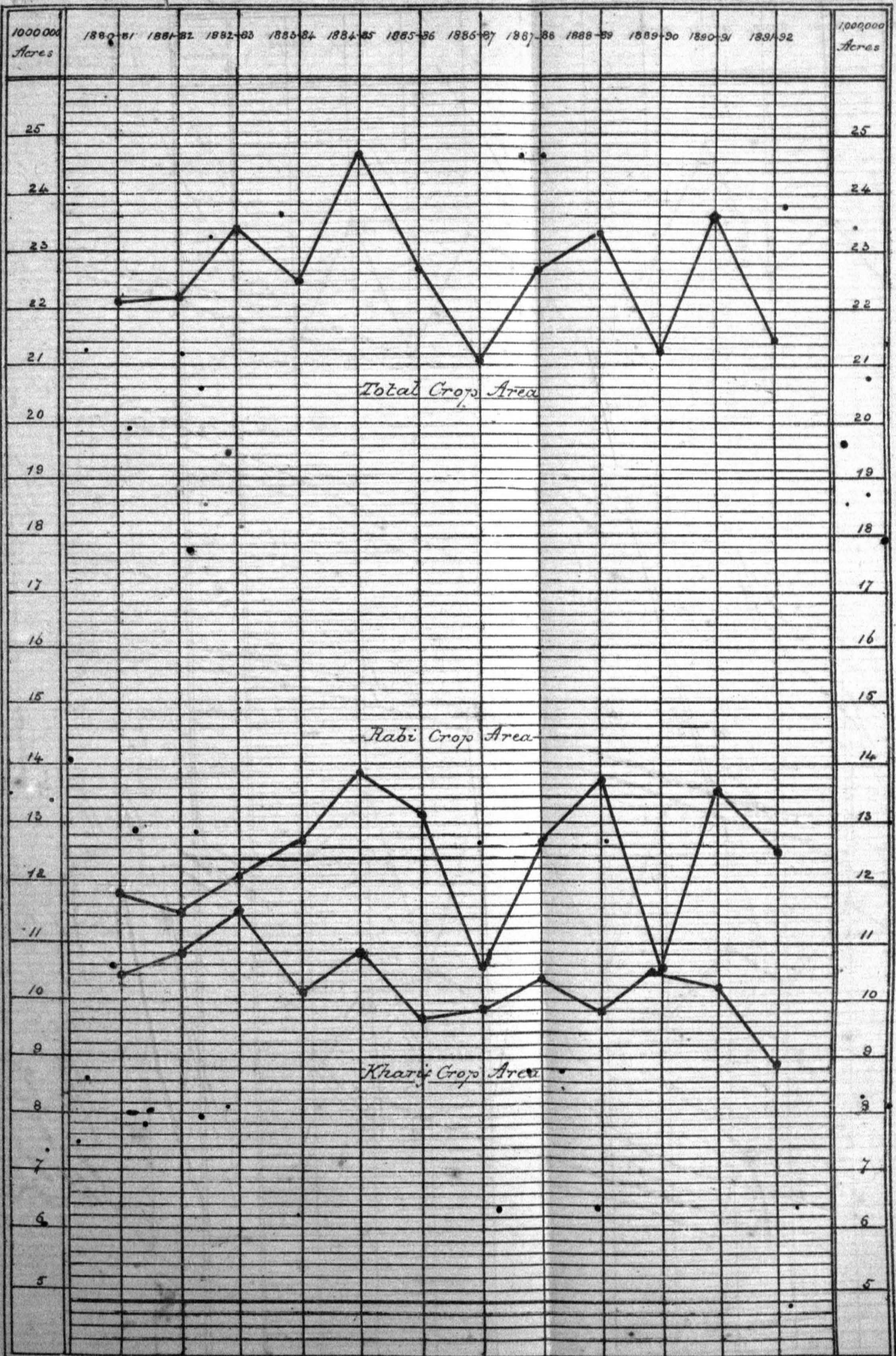
Colonel Hutchinson spent some time on tour in the Lahore, Jullundur and Derajat Divisions where he officiated as Commissioner during the year.

38. *Selected Reports.*—The reports of Mr. Maconachie (Mooltan), Mr. Wilson (Shahpur), Mr. Grant (Amritsar) and Mr. O'Dwyer (Gujranwala), are submitted for the perusal of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.



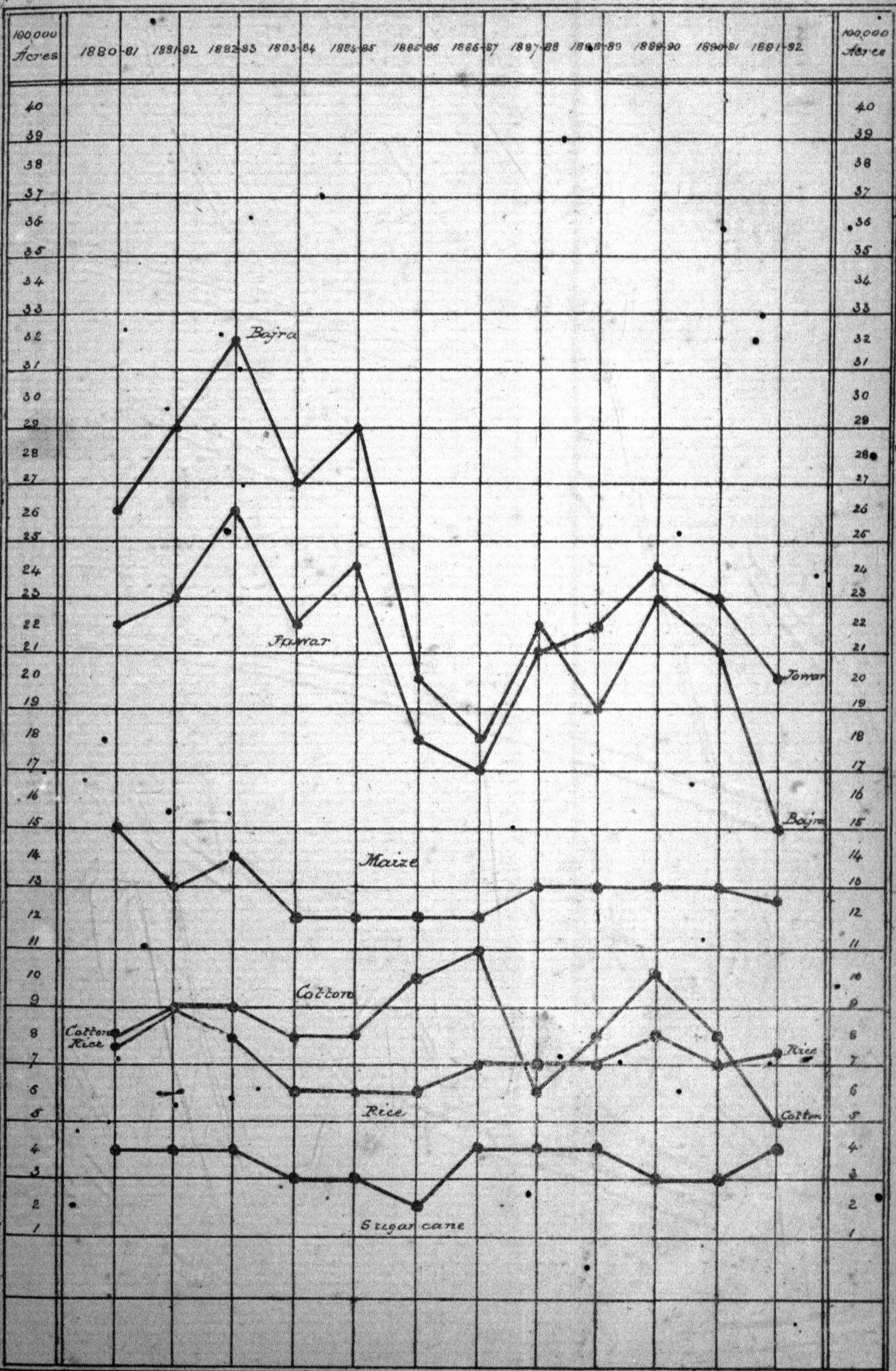
# TOTAL AREA

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# KHARIF CROPS

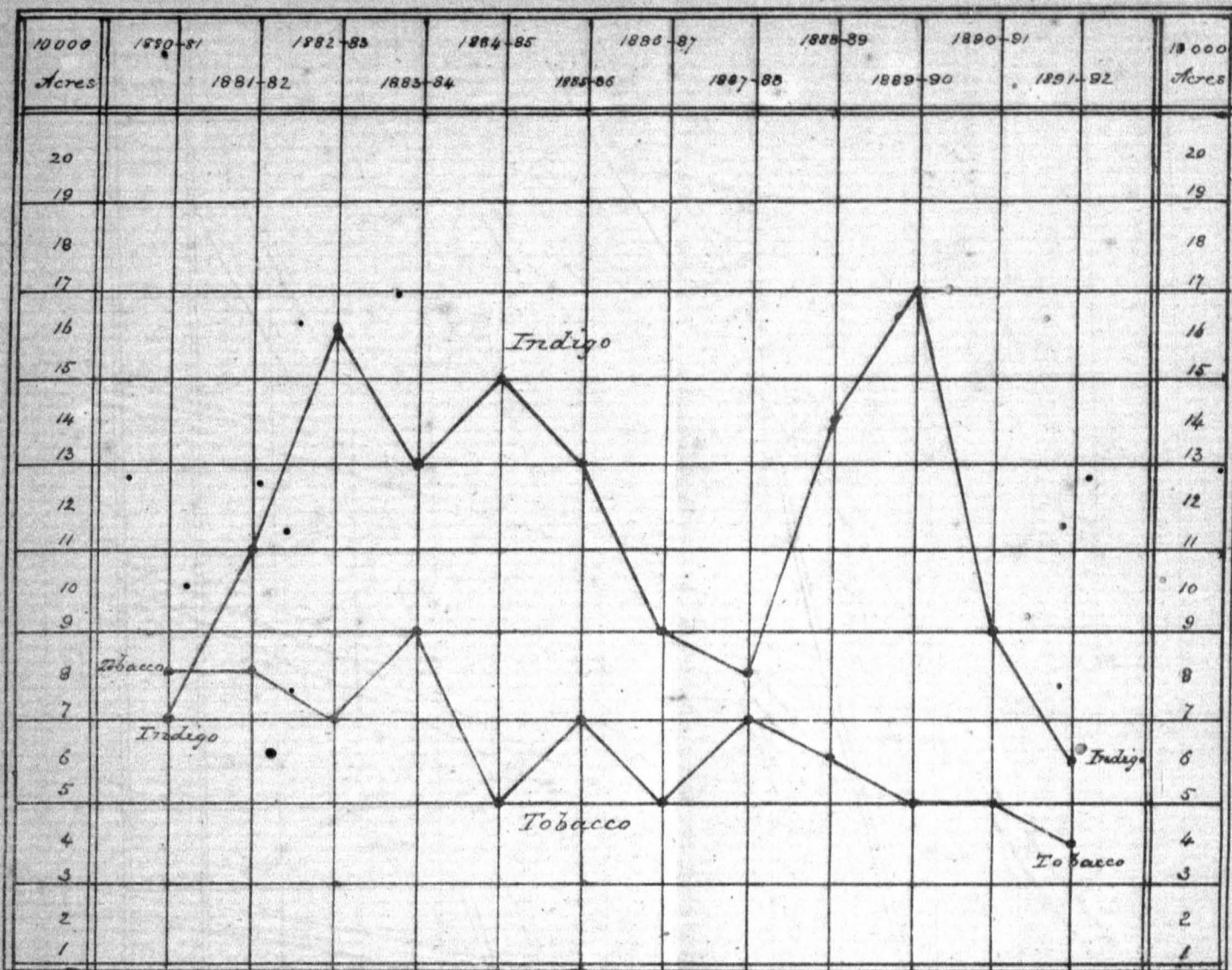
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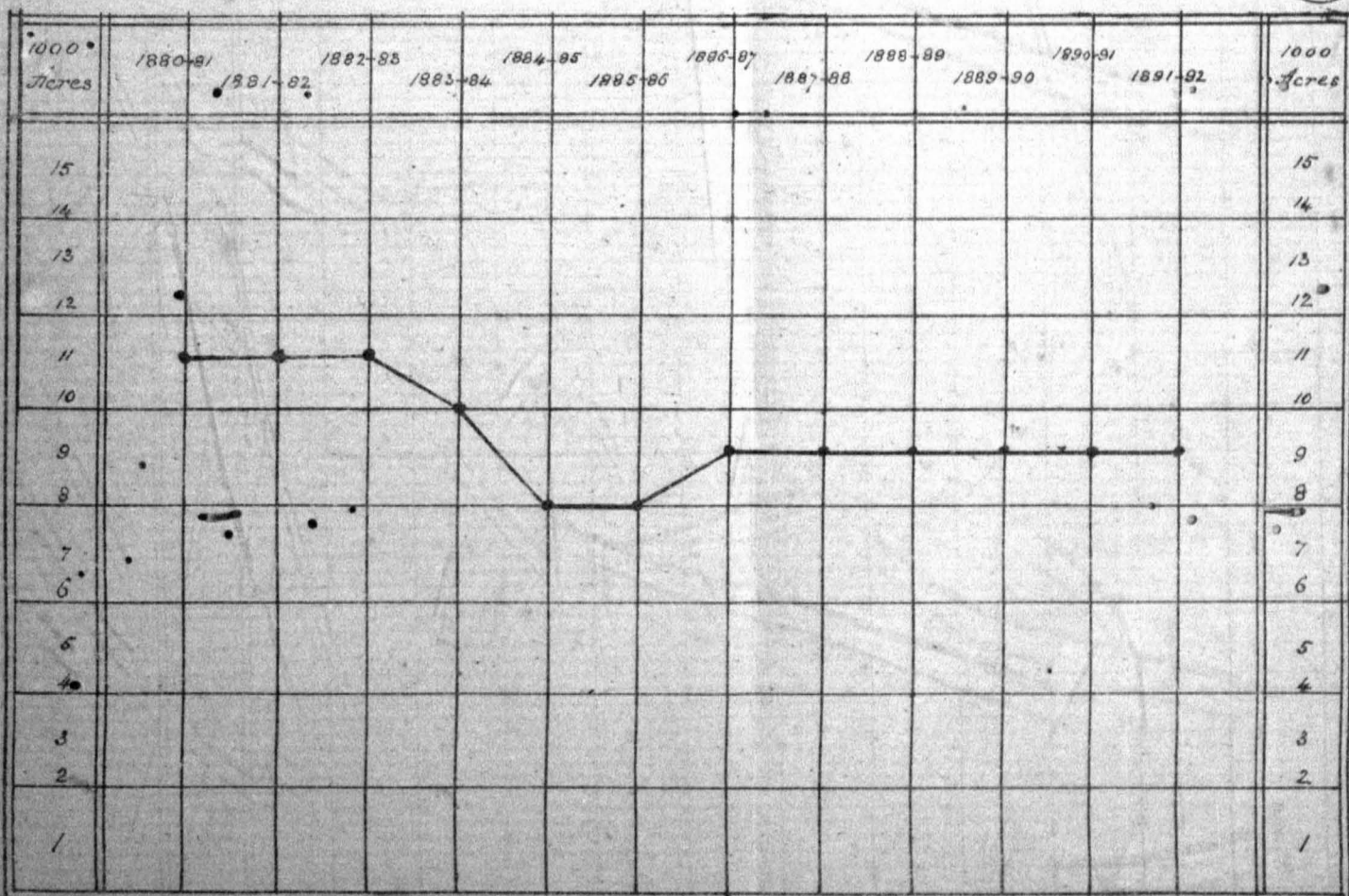
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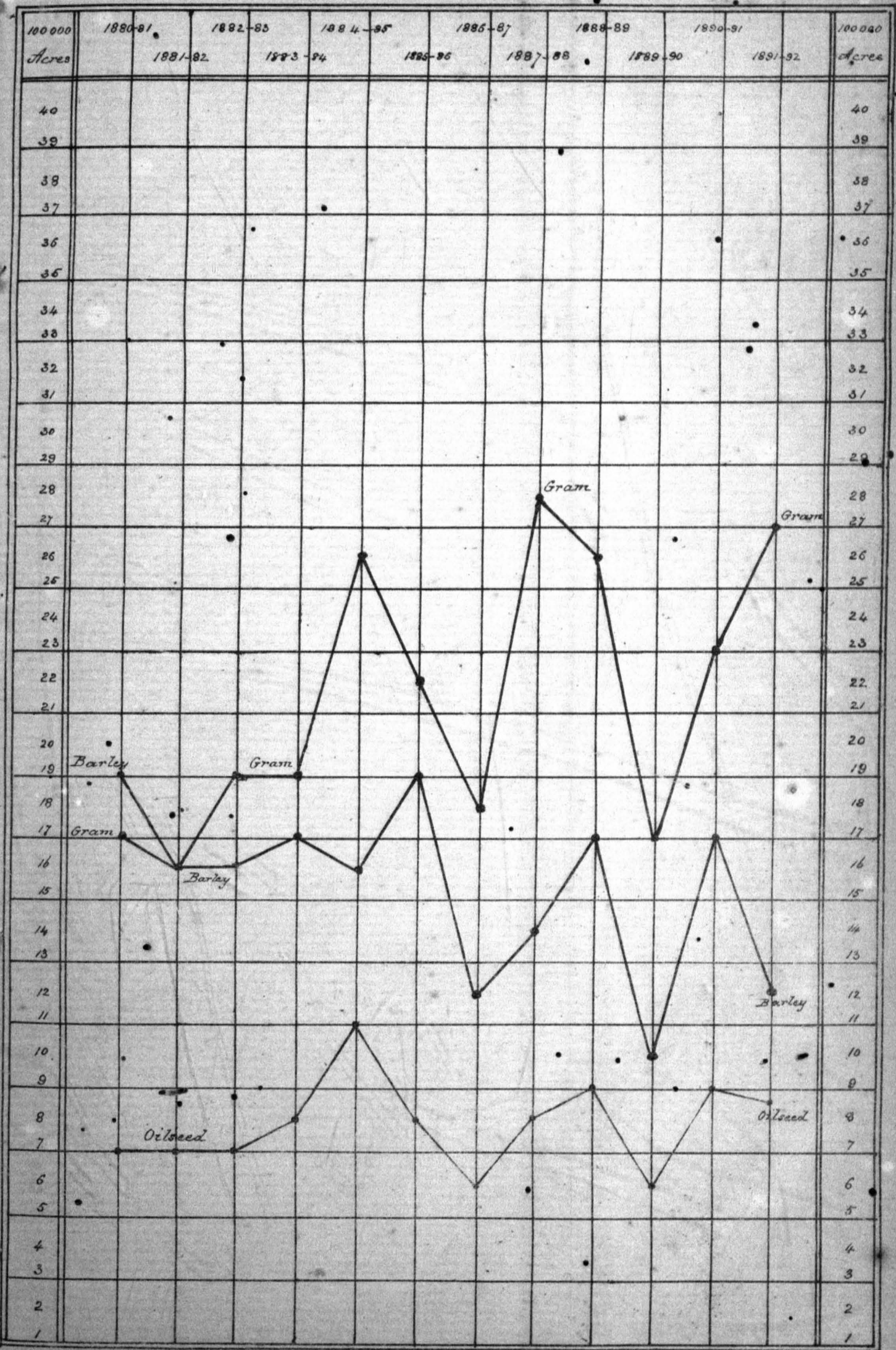
# TEA

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# RABI CROPS

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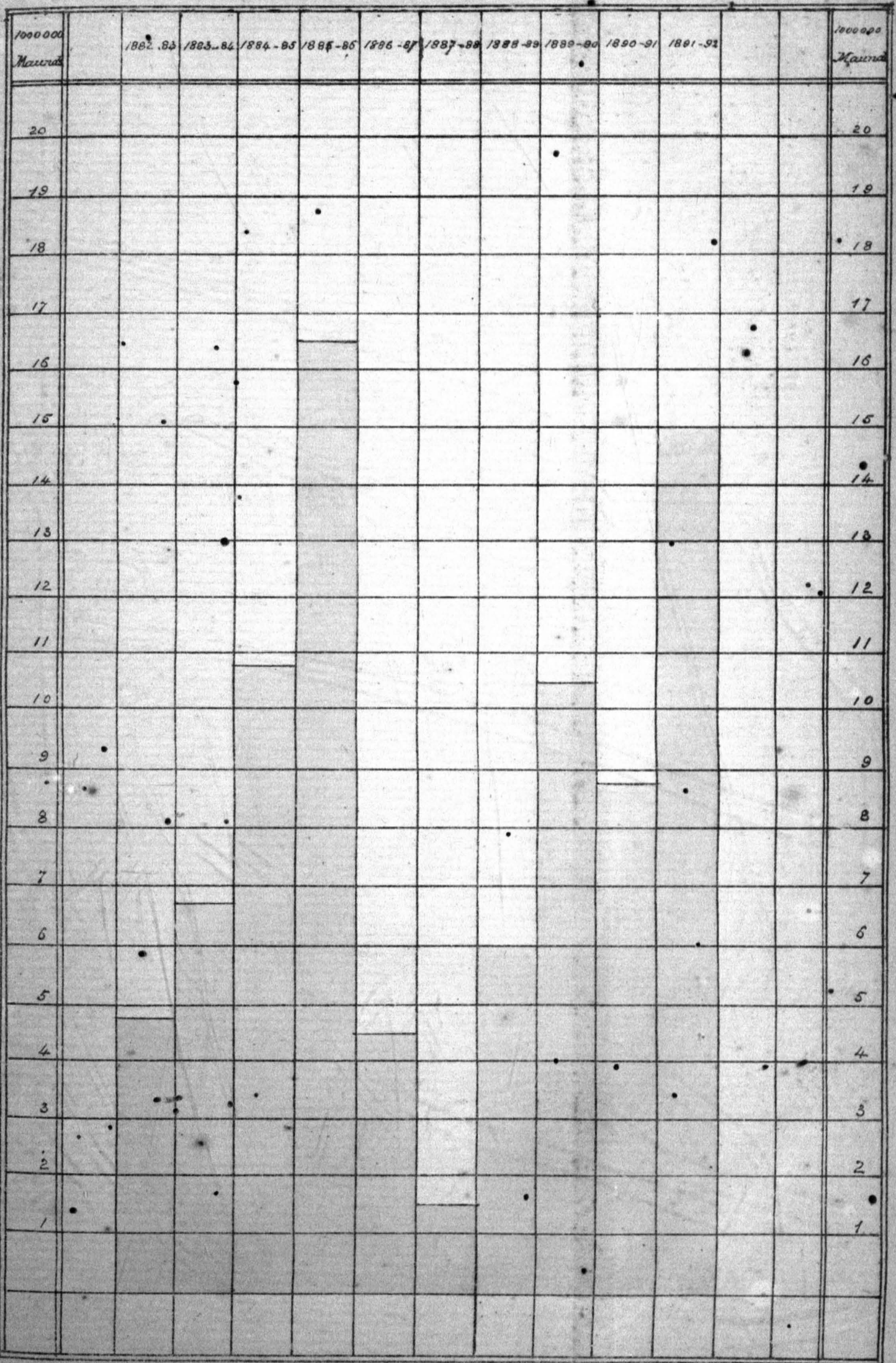
# WHEAT AREA

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# EXPORT OF WHEAT

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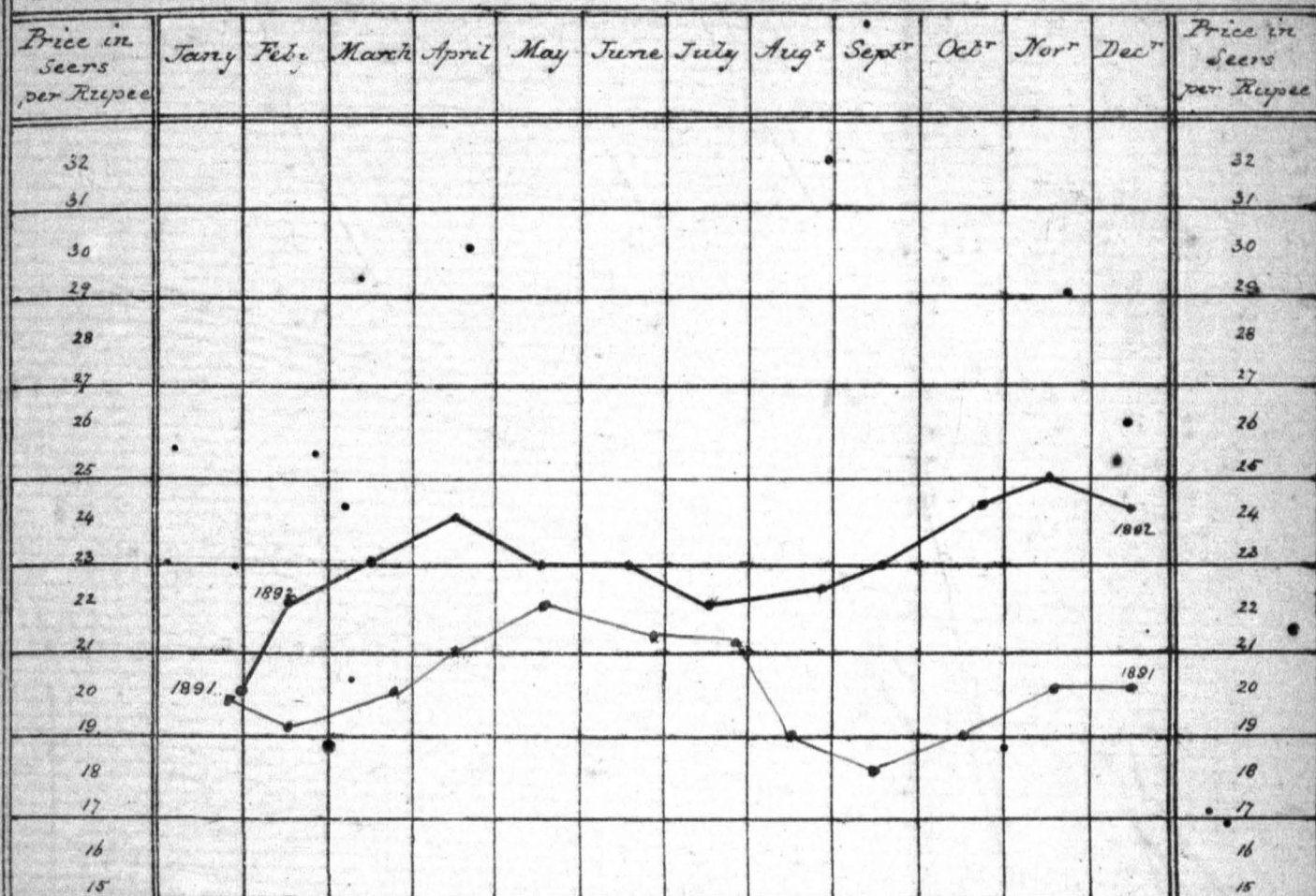
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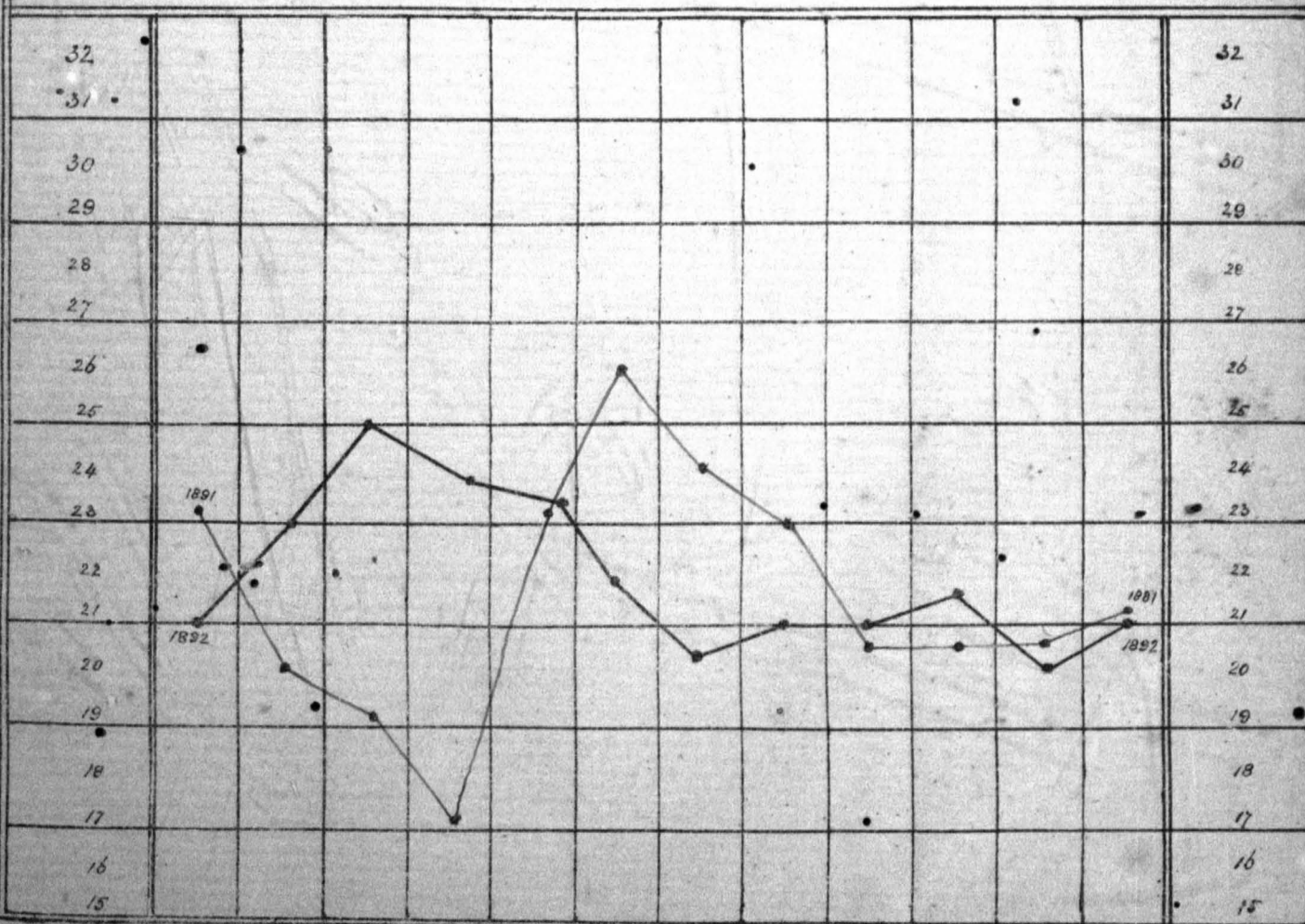
# PRICES OF GRAM

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## DELHI



## FEROZEPORE





# EXTRACTS FROM DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SETTLEMENT COLLECTORS' REPORTS.

## PART I.

### RAINFALL AND HARVESTS.

#### HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The kharif could not be sown till the beginning of August, as no ploughings could be effected till the rain in the last week of July moistened the land. Extensive kharif sowings then took place. But the inequality and insufficiency of rain in August made the prospects of the young crops bad. The zamíndárs became uneasy, and as the season was one at the end of a series of indifferent ones, they were contemplating deserting their crops and moving off in search of labour. However in September there came a good fall of rain, and this revived the kharif and gave excellent opportunity for rabi ploughings. All hands set to work and ploughed hard and the rabi was sown extensively. There was a great demand for plough cattle at the Hissár autumn fair. The rabi seed could not have been put in the ground under better conditions. If there had been average falls of rain in December and at critical times in the January-May period there would have been an excellent rabi. But the reverse happened and the outturn was disappointing in both grain and straw. At any rate it was not more than a 10 or 12 anna harvest. The kharif was unsatisfactory also, or at any rate disappointing, though it was very much better than the extremely poor one of last year.

\* \* \* \* \*

Some suspensions were allowed in the Sirsa tahsíl of about Rs. 6,000 and local improvements of tanks and drains which put about Rs. 5,000 or 6,000 into the pockets of the villagers in exchange for labour were started by the District Board.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Karnál Branch of the Western Jumna Canal worked extraordinarily badly just at the most critical times for the rabi canal crops and also for the cotton sowings for Kharif 1892.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Ghāggar floods were not of great volume, and thus though a larger area of rice was cropped the rabi sowings were restricted. When the Ghāggar floods largely the rice crops can either not be planted or are drowned, but a good rabi ensues. The reverse was the case this year.

#### GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND, ESQUIRE, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

\* \* \* \* \*

In the autumn (August-October) the rainfall, especially near the central mass of hills, and the wedge of upland bordering on the Delhi district, was unusually heavy. There was also an incursion of moisture from the south-west which seems to have given heavy showers in the Landoha valley of Ferozepore Jhir and in the south of Palwal. The autumn rainfall culminated in September, and this was good, of course, for the gram sowings, as well as for ripening pulses on upland fields; but it injured certain other staples.

September, in Gurgáon, as elsewhere in the Division, is a critical month for either harvest; but it is seldom that the later rain can benefit the autumn crop and at the same time forward operations for the spring throughout the district. Moreover, rainfall figures for this period are locally misleading; because a heavy measured fall at Sohna, Nuh or Ferozepore does not necessarily mean a heavy crop of wheat, or mixed barley, in the adjoining villages to follow. These depend more for their sowings of spring staples as a rule on floods which come down from more or less distant uplands, in some cases outside the district limits.

If these floods follow on heavy local rainfall, the standing water will not, perhaps, drain off, or dry in time to get spring seeds in; and thus a large recorded fall in September may, in some circles of this district, mean a bad autumn harvest, followed by a scanty rabi.\*

This is reported to have actually occurred in parts of Nuh in 1891-92, while in Ferozepore the western valley suffered from too much rain for millets in the autumn and yet the spring sowings were restricted, because there was drought at the sources of the Landoha flood supply in Rájputána.

Briefly, and taking the district as a whole, the summer rains were very seriously delayed, and the autumn harvest was accordingly in part diminished.

There were heavy autumn floods in the northern and eastern circles, which damaged the kharif locally, but prepared a large area for rabi tillage.

The winter rains were also late and rather light, and the hot winds set in much earlier than has been usual for some years past; these dried the grain too fast, and stinted somewhat what would otherwise have been a bumper yield. The kharif of 1891 may be regarded as all round an average harvest, and in certain circles such as Taoru, more than average, but the cotton crop, except in the canal-irrigated belt of Palwal, was a general failure, not more perhaps than half a crop.

The rabi of 1892 was on the whole above an average, and in places very fine. The area sown in most circles, upon inundated land was very large, and except where early west winds shrivelled the ear of barely the yield was excellent.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Remarks by COLONEL L. J. H. GREY, C. S. I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division.)

\* This will be less the case yearly as Mr. Drummond's completion and development of Mr. Maconachie's admirable drainage and protection schemes proceed.

## DELHI DISTRICT.

(R. CLARKE, ESQUIRE, B.A., C.S.).

\* \* \* \* \*

The rainfall was moderate but satisfactory during the closing days of July, an average of 3 inches having fallen. On the 5th and 6th of August from 9 to 7 inches of rain fell, and this was followed up by another downpour on the 9th and 10th, when 9 inches more fell in the Ballabgarh tahsil and 4 inches elsewhere.

The result of this excessive rainfall in a short period was that a large area of land in the Ballabgarh tahsil was hopelessly flooded and could not be cropped with kharif.

The Agra Canal which crosses the drainage of the tahsil acted even more injuriously than usual. Sir James Lyall visited the tract during his autumn tour, and it is understood that the North-West Provinces Government is considering the possibility of drainage works to relieve the lands that are almost annually flooded owing to the obstruction caused by this canal.

It was fortunate that the system of drainage initiated by the District Board in the northern half of the district had been practically completed when the rains came, or the damage done in the Sonapat and Delhi tahsils would have been very great. As it was the drains worked to perfection and no serious flooding took place except in the Dahar tract about the Najafgarh Jhil into which most of the new drains conduct the water.

The villages about the jhil undoubtedly suffered, the fact being that the escape from the jhil has become less effective than it ought to be. The question of improving the escape is believed to be under consideration in the Irrigation Department, but as the works that would be necessary would also be expensive and would not yield any direct return to the department, it is not anticipated that they will be undertaken by any early date.\*

The villages along the right bank of the Jumna also suffered severely from high floods, but with the exceptions I have mentioned the kharif harvest of 1891 was above the average.

\* \* \* \* \*



(Remarks by COLONEL L. J. H. GREY, C.S.I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division.)

\* I enquired into this at Bahádurgarh. The Rohtak and Gurgáon Jhíl villages do not complain. I was told that it is the Tagás who complain, whereas the Jats of Rohtak and Gurgáon do well under similar circumstances. Certainly my informants were Jat zaildárs.

### KANGRA DISTRICT.

(Remarks by G. SMYTH, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.)

Altogether the year has been a most unfavourable one for the district from beginning to end as the accounts under the next five subjects will further show. It is very unfortunate that the new assessments should have been subjected to such a severe strain just at the commencement of their incidence.

### GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(M. F. O'DWYER, Esquire, Settlement Collector.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The deficiency in the rains was greatest in the Gujránwála and Háfizabad tahsils which being less fully protected by wells than Wazirabad are more dependent on favorable rains, and for the district generally the rainfall was smaller, and the harvests more unfavorable, than in any year of the last 25, except perhaps, the disastrous year 1879. It is no exaggeration to say that if the drought had not been broken by the recent favorable monsoon the district would have been in a most critical condition, and it will take a cycle of good harvests to enable the people to rally from the effects of it.\*

(Remarks by D. IBBETSON, Esquire, Offg. Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.)

\* Perhaps Mr. O'Dwyer exaggerates somewhat the permanent effect of last year's drought, unless, indeed, the cattle died in large numbers.

### SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, Esquire.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The previous year had been a very prosperous one for the peasantry, but this year what with locusts, drought, failure of crops, scarcity of grass, mortality among cattle, and cholera among human beings, followed now by excessive floods and an epidemic of fever, has been perhaps the most disastrous within living memory.

### CALAMITIES OF SEASON.

#### UMBALLA DISTRICT.

(C. E. GLADSTONE, Esquire.)

The scanty winter rains resulted in a scanty supply of fodder grass, and as the rains of 1892 were very late the cattle of the district suffered greatly. The practice of cutting and stacking hay in October and November on the encamping ground which we have adopted not only brings in a larger Provincial Revenue, but supplies an excellent object lesson to the zamíndár. Some few, very few indeed, have begun to profit by it, but most trust altogether to the autumn rains and winter rains keeping a sufficiency of green pasturage on the ground. In a year like the one under report the cattle in consequence suffer greatly. Indeed in an ordinary year they suffer considerably. It will take a great deal of trouble and much time to convince the zamíndárs on this point.\*

\* \* \* \* \*

There was epidemic cattle disease in Pípli and Naráingarh in January, June and September last. The Veterinary Overseer attended and cured many cattle, but the mortality in Naráingarh tahsil was great and many advances for purchase of bullocks had to be made.

We find our Veterinary Hospital a great boon and fortunately our own Overseer works in great harmony with the zilladár of the C. V. D.†

(Remarks by COLONEL L. J. H. GREY, C. S. I., *Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division.*)

\* The cultivation and curing of hay, and its storage on the above ground silo principle, or at any rate in well leaped stacks, so that air may be excluded and the hay preserved for longer than three years which is now its entirely useful life—this the problem which should now engage the attention of all District Officers, for mitigation of inevitable fodder famine. *Bhusa* and *kirbi*, the people will no longer store; they are tempted by high prices, or driven by pressure to sell off these fodder stocks at once. In the year I have twice seen *bhusa* sold off at 3 maunds per rupee and rebought the same autumn at 1 maund per rupee.

† It is an admirable institution and much appreciated.

## KANGRA DISTRICT.

(E. O'BRIEN, ESQUIRE.)

A severe and prolonged drought which lasted from November 1891 till the end of June 1892, and a violent epidemic of cholera which raged in the district during the last six months of the year, affected the agricultural prospects of the district most seriously.

The drought destroyed the rabi crop of 1892 almost entirely in many parts, and even in the most favorable situations the produce was considerably below the average.

The cholera epidemic which destroyed over six thousand people aggravated the situation. The imports of grains from the plains which supplement the local produce largely were stopped for several months. This deficiency added to the failure of the rabi harvest occasioned a season of great scarcity. The prices of food grains rose considerably and remained unprecedentedly high throughout the latter half of the year. In parts of the district seed is found with difficulty for the rabi of 1892-93.

## JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. S. ROBERTS.)

The scarcity and unseasonableness of the rainfall affected all the crops of both harvests which were poor ones of course to a greater degree than those on unirrigated lands. The cattle were much affected by the prevailing drought. The spring level in the wells fell to an extent sufficient to cause great alarm and anxiety. The small amount of water and the depth from which it had to be drawn gave extra labour to well bullocks, while at the same time owing to the poorness of fodder crops there was a scarcity of food for them. They became very thin and weak and suffered greatly (see details in subject No. 5). The price of fodder rose very high. Had the late rains not been unusually good ones the state of the country would have been desperate.\*

(Remarks by G. SMYTH, ESQUIRE, *Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.*)

\* All cause for anxiety is, however, happily at an end. The recent "charri" crop has been an exceedingly good one, and with the other fodder crops will afford a plentiful supply for the cattle, which have undoubtedly suffered greatly between May and August 1892.

## MOOLTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE.)

The agricultural year has on the whole been distinctly unfavorable. In November 1891 an epidemic of fever set in, which spread especially in the Mailsi and Lodhrán tahsils developing into pneumonia (through weakness, very often, of the patient through fever).



This illness was so general that the *chher* work was lamely done and the list of absentees was enormous, entailing a phenomenal addition to the demand on account of the *nāga* fines. The effects of this illness were manifold and serious. First the canal clearances were not fully done, the people were disheartened and depressed at their work, lazy persons took advantage of the distress to absent themselves from their duties and altogether the administrative machinery of the canals in these parts was exposed to very severe strain.

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### JHANG DISTRICT.

(KAZI MUHAMAD ASLAM, C.M.G.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The price of grain continued to rise and the scarcity was to some extent felt by the poorer classes until the fruits of *Jāl* trees called "*pilu*" ripened in the *Bār* when the poor people went in large numbers to the *Bār* and fed on the fruit. They also used the corn produced from the wild *lamb* grass and the "*swāki*" as food. *Tindās* produced artificially, and those which grew spontaneously in the *Bār* were also eaten as food sometimes mixed with *āta* and milk. Labour on the *Chenāb* Canal afforded much relief to the people, but unluckily cholera broke out in the *Bār* and the people were afraid to go to work on the canal.

\* \* \* \* \*

### MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(A. I. HARRISON, ESQUIRE.)

The holding off of the rains and the drying up of the *Rāvi* gave cause for great anxiety at the commencement of the rain year, and a famine was apprehended, but the fall of rain in July and August though late and scanty, warded off starvation.

\* \* \* \* \*

### AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(J. A. GRANT, ESQUIRE, *Settlement Collector*.)

\* \* \* \* \*

In almost all parts of the district the cattle are largely stall-fed and much fodder is grown. The failure of *jowār* fodder was extensive and wheat straw was a very short crop. The *jowār* and wheat ripened early and both were short in straw. The well cattle were over-worked and the weakly among them soon succumbed. It was only by utilizing a considerable part of the cane crop that the more valuable cattle were kept at work, and I believe that from a quarter to one-half of the cane was so used.

\* \* \* \* \*

Altogether prolonged drought and unseasonable weather led to a failure of grain and fodder crops, such as the district rarely suffers and though suspensions gave some relief they will not go far towards making up for the losses in cattle which have occurred. Stocks ran very low at the end of the year, money-lenders were chary about making advances and the sum obtained for advances for purchase of cattle was altogether insufficient to relieve the distress which was caused.

### GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(F. O'DWYER, ESQUIRE, *Settlement Collector*.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The locust plague in the early part of the *kharif* harvest aggravated the distress. The invasion began when cane, cotton, melons and the other early *kharif* crops were beginning to sprout. These were literally devastated all over the district, in May and June; the cotton crop was totally ruined, but was in parts resown, the cane in places sprouted again in July when the break of the rains cleared away the locusts, but the out-turn of both crops was hardly one-third of the average. The locusts having consumed every green thing and the monsoon rains being so scanty and the *kharif* crop so poor as not to renew the supply, the scarcity of fodder became so acute in the autumn months as

to amount to a famine. The sugarcane and most of the other kharif crops were cut down for fodder, but these only staved off the scarcity for a time, and from 1st January to 1st July fodder became almost unprocureable. All over the district the branches and bark of the trees were lopped off for the cattle, which became emaciated by the strain of working the wells, and where this resource failed many were sent off to graze in the Rávi belás and more favored districts.

Cattle disease too began to show itself in an epizootic form; murri-rinderpest and pleuro-pneumonia carried off great numbers of the old or emaciated animals while an even greater number died from overwork and starvation. I think I am well within the mark in stating that in the Háfizabad tahsil one-third of the live-stock died; in the rest of the district one-fourth succumbed to disease, over-work or starvation during the year.

The year was also an unhealthy one for the population. True the district escaped the autumn fever which follows on a heavy monsoon, but the excessive heat in April and May was accompanied by a severe epidemic of cholera. There were I believe in all over 5,000 cases and about 3,000 deaths, but the epidemic disappeared with the approach of the cold weather. Of minor calamities it is only necessary to record that in October hail did serious danger to some villages in Háfizabad, and Rs. 220 was remitted on this account in two villages. The Chenáb Canal also ran dry at a critical time when water was required to ripen the kharif and prepare the ground for the rabi sowings. This is the fourth year running that I have had to record this phenomenon for the canal, but I am happy to be able to say, it is also the last, as the completion of the weir at Khánke has now put irrigation on a certain and permanent footing.

### SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, Esquire.)

The chief calamity of season has been the unprecedented and general drought, owing to which the outturn of the harvests has been exceedingly poor, prices have risen and all classes, especially of the *agricultural* population, have suffered greatly. Owing to the scarcity of grass and fodder, large numbers of cattle died, and the agricultural wealth of the district must for the time have been greatly diminished.

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### HAZARA DISTRICT.

(A. F. D. CUNNINGHAM, Esquire, C.I.E.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Works suitable for famine relief and prevention were revised during the year for the year 1892-93 and reported with my letter No. 343 of 1st March 1892.

A further report as to the greatest numbers for which relief would be demanded in a severe famine was furnished in my No. 906 of 18th May 1892.\*

(Remarks by R. UDNY, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Pesháwar Division.)

\*In my remarks on last year's Revenue Report regarding the famine organisation of the district I said that neither the list of relief works nor the scheme of relief organisation seemed to have been revised since May 1834, and that the Deputy Commissioner had accordingly been asked to submit a report at once for putting famine arrangements on a proper footing up to date. In reply the Deputy Commissioner pointed out that though it was true the list of Relief Officers had not been corrected, recently he had sent up a scheme of relief works as lately as March 1891. Under the orders of Government issued in January 1891 that such schemes should be revised annually, the Deputy Commissioner submitted a further revised list on the 1st March 1892, together with a fresh statement of relief circles. This latest list of proposed relief works provides employment for 5,580 men for a year, whereas the previous lists had only shown work sufficient for 2,000. During the two years 1889-91 two important preventive works have also been carried out in the Haripur tahsil in the shape of two large schemes for the storage of water. I consider, therefore, that the famine organisation of Hazára is in quite a satisfactory condition. In spite of the apprehensions mentioned in last year's report of possible scarcity during the ensuing winter in the Boi and Bakál ilákás, it was found that though the Indian corn crop had been below the average, the rice harvest had been good, and no distress occurred.

For the winter now approaching no fears are entertained at all, the summer rains though rather late having been unusually plentiful, and produced bumper autumn crops, especially in the hilly portions of the district.



## BANNU DISTRICT.

(H. A. ANDERSON, ESQUIRE.)

The locust plague of 1890-91 continued for some time during the early part of the year of report and the measures that then proved only partly successful were repeated with the result that crops did not suffer any considerable amount of injury such as was the case in the year preceding. A full account of the appearance of locusts, the measures taken for their destruction and the results achieved so far as they relate to the period under review is given below. In 1890-91 the visitation of locusts began in October 1890, and ceased in the middle of July 1891. There was then an undisturbed interval of more than a month, but in the third week of August swarms of locusts reappeared and passed away not settling anywhere except during the night. A fortnight later young unwinged locusts were observed in three villages of Tahsíl Miánwáli, and it was found that eggs had been laid in one of them. By degrees the plague covered all the four tahsils of the district in a more or less extent and in October it was very general. The authorities had from the first been on the alert, and on the first report reaching the tahsíl the following measures were put into operation without loss of time.

Each tahsíl was divided into circles under the supervision of leading Khans and Raíses, and villages in which eggs had been deposited villagers were called out *en masse* to help in the destruction of the mischievous insects.

Village headmen were ordered to work in their respective villages under the supervision of the circle officers, and the official agency—Tahsildárs, Náib-Tahsildárs and Kánúgos—were instructed to devote their special attention to this matter. The Sub-Divisional Officer looked after the operations in force in Tahsils Miánwáli and Isákhel, and the other two tahsils were placed under the charge of the Revenue Assistant; weekly reports of the progress made being laid before the Collector for orders. Small rewards were paid from the District Fund according to the quantity of locusts destroyed, but the more acceptable and economic method of payment was the entertainment of the men employed according to old established custom. The *modus operandi* for destruction of the locusts was (1) by ploughing the land in which eggs were laid, (2) by burning the young ones with long torches, and (3) by trapping in pits dug for the purpose.

The shooting of *tiliars* was forbidden as these birds devoured large numbers of locusts. In Waziri tracts immense numbers were killed by Waziris who ate them. The process number (3) above proved most successful. The following table shows the quantity of dead locusts weighed, the total amount spent in cash reward and in entertaining the men employed in each tahsíl of the district during the months of September, October and November 1891:—

Tahsíl.								Quantity of locusts destroyed.	Quantity of eggs destroyed.	Amount spent in rewards, &c.
								Mds. S.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.
Miánwáli	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,099 34½	66 16	1,548 2 0
Marwat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	138 2	0 10	252 7 0
Isákhel	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 18	218 7 0
Bannu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33 28	...	84 8 0
Total								1,271 24½	68 4	2,103 8 0

As regards the quantity destroyed the above figures are by no means full as in Tahsíl Isákhel the quantity destroyed was not weighed, the labour being compensated exclusively by entertaining the zamindárs employed, and in the other tahsils the statistics are short of the work actually performed.

## MUZAFFARGARH DISTRICT.

(SARDAR GURDYAL SINGH, MAN.)

The agricultural prosperity of the district entirely depends upon the regularity of floods. If they come in winter (which occasionally happens with the Chenáb) they destroy rabi on sailáb lands. If they come early in summer they are very beneficial provided

they do not stop in the middle of the hot weather. If they are continuous throughout the summer and autumn we have splendid kharif and an excellent rabi afterwards. But if we have heavy floods as we had in July 1889 and in August 1892, we have great deal of injury done to the kharif, but are as a rule fully recompensed for this loss by the excellence of the next rabi.

## INCREASE OR DECREASE IN CULTIVATION.

### ROHTAK DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. C. RENNICK).

The demand for land is so great in this district that year by year the village common lands are being partitioned and brought under cultivation. There has been an increase of 2,021 acres in the cultivated area compared with last year, and that under crop this year exceeds that of the past year by 134,749 acres due to the plentiful rains. The increase was principally in the rabi crop, there was also an increase of 36,431 acres in the area under double crop compared with that of the previous year. \*

(Remarks by COLONEL L. J. H. GREY C.S.I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division)

\* These facts—breaking up of the already inadequate commons, and increased double cropping—are ominous nevertheless the district is on the whole still very prosperous.

### GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND ESQUIRE.)

The records of the Local Funds Department show 12,699 acres as irrigated or otherwise directly watered from such works during 1891-92; and this excludes extensive areas of beneficial percolation.\*

The general tendency of cultivation for the present is to expand; and this is due allowing for the primary influence of the rainfall to two main causes, viz.—

- (a) the rehabilitation of agricultural stock; which again is due to better pasture and fodder supply; and better credit; these in their turn depending on the seasons;
- (b) the reclamation, chiefly in the Nuh tahsil, of areas which suffered from capricious inundation, this is due to a measure of control having been obtained over surface floods through works constructed or improved by the District Board at the instance of successive District Officers, Mr. Maconachie particularly. †

(Remarks by COLONEL L. J. H. GREY, C. S. I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division.)

\* This percolation is the form of irrigation afforded by the works in this district, and hitherto the sole form; important as it is, it does not afford the full benefit due from these works and the gradual substitution of surface for sub-soil irrigation will show, I am confident, results very greatly more extensive, and patent, too, beyond dispute, to which percolation irrigation is always liable when we come to ask for payment.

† These works, besides protecting lands for water not wanted therein, convey the water where it is wanted. Their results in irrigation can be shown and taken credit for, but their results in protection, though greater, cannot thus be demonstrated in money figures.

### KARNAL DISTRICT.

(W. CHEVIS, ESQUIRE.)

The area cultivated shows an increase of 17,777 acres mainly in the Kaithal and Karnal tahsils. The opening of the Sirsa Canal, which began to irrigate last rabi, no doubt, accounts to some extent for this increase, but judging from the past few years,



experience I am inclined to think that there is a general tendency on the part of zamindars to extend the plough over as much waste as they can. In some villages they brought under cultivation even the roadways marked and defined at the time of settlement, and special steps had to be taken to prevent these encroachments.

\* \* \* \* \*

The area which yielded double crop during the past and preceding years was as follows :—

							Acres.
1890-91	...	...	...	...	...	...	58,026
1891-92	...	...	...	...	...	...	76,489
Difference	...	...	...	...	...	...	+ 18,463

This increase may be accounted for by the increase in the total area cultivated.\*

\* \* \* \* \*

(Remarks by COLONEL L. J. H. GREY, C. S. I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division.)

\* Increase of double cropping and breaking up of pastures are significant of pressure of the population of the soil. There is still, however, room in Karnál.

### UMBALLA DISTRICT.

(C. E. GLADSTONE, ESQUIRE.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The plantation of *saccharum cereale* and the encouragement of *saccharum spontaneum* on the bank of rivers and hill torrents which is now being warmly taken up, has reclaimed very large areas of worthless sand. Full account of this will be incorporated in next year's report. Most of this land will remain as mere grass bearing land for three years, after which it will be fit for cultivation.

### JHANG DISTRICT.

Kazi MUHAMMAD ASLAM, C. M. G.

The area cropped during the year was 334,241 acres as against 377,401 acres during the year ending Rabi 1891. The decrease occurs in all the three tahsils, but Chiniot shares the largest decrease and Shorkot the smallest in both the rabi and kharif harvests. The falling off in Tahsil Jhang was also remarkable. All this diminution is due to the scanty rainfall in winter and spring and to their having been no high floods which formerly inundated a large area. The following is a detail of the area actually cropped in the past two years :—

										1890-91.	1891-92.	Decrease.
										Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Jhang	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	148,793	136,802	11,991
Chiniot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	122,507	92,357	20,150
Shorkot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106,101	105,082	19
Total										377,401	334,241	43,160

Twenty-six thousand five hundred and ninety-seven acres was the area that failed during the year under report through want of winter rains, also the unfavourable winds in March 1892 and the rust (*kúrgi*) proved detrimental to the wheat, grain and other inferior crops, such as *maltar*, *massar*, &c.

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### MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(A. I. HARRISON, ESQUIRE.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The well-irrigated area diminished from 209,799 acres last year to 169,302 this year, notwithstanding the addition of 423 new masonry wells and 178 *kacha* wells during the year. The water in the wells sank very low owing to the drying up of rivers

and canals, and the half-starved bullocks were unable to work the water at that depth. Six-hundred and seventy-two *pakka* wells were constructed last year, and only 423 in the year under report, or a decrease about one-third. Prevalence of cholera and unfavourable harvests retarded progress in this branch. Of the total number of wells sunk, 62 were constructed with the aid of *takkávi*. Ninety-seven wells were sunk in the new allotments on the inundation canals; of these 55 were by *takkávi* and 42 by private expense. The people have been forewarned that no remission of crops will be allowed in *chaks* unprovided with the proper number of wells. It is now reported that as many as 295 holdings are without wells. These have been now served with a notice that they will have no remission granted them.

### LAHORE DISTRICT.

(G. C. WALKER, ESQUIRE, *Settlement Collector*.)

The crop area of 1891-92 shows a very heavy reduction on that of the previous year. Unirrigated cultivation was almost worthless everywhere owing to the unbroken drought which prevailed throughout the year.

Canal irrigation came to the fore very much in Lahore and Kasúr tahsils, less so in Chunián, which lies further away from the heads of the supplying distributaries. In the latter canal irrigation can hardly be trusted to extend itself much, however badly it may be required; in the two Western tahsils it is fairly elastic. Well irrigation was fairly up to the mark in Kasúr and Lahore; in Chunián there was a falling off of 15 per cent. and in Sharakpur of nearly 30 per cent. as compared with the previous year. In both these tahsils, but especially in Sharakpur, there was great scarcity of fodder, consequently the well cattle died in large numbers or could not do their work.

### SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN J. R. DUNLOP-SMITH, M. A., *Settlement Collector*.)

The kharif sowings were carried out on a large area, but the outturn was so poor that when the time came for the rabi sowings many fields where the crop had failed were at once ploughed up, and put under spring crops. The drought continued however, and again the failed area was large. Thus while the amount of labour performed by both men and cattle was unusually great, the return in crops was unusually small.

### GUJRAT DISTRICT.

(Remarks by D. IBBETSON, ESQUIRE, *Offg. Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division*.)

As in other districts affected in the same way by drought, large areas were left uncultivated notwithstanding the fact that about 27 per cent. of the cultivated area is protected by irrigation. In the year under report the "fallows" or uncropped area amounted to 26 per cent. of the cultivated area which is very high and shows the extent of the damage caused by bad seasons and locusts.

### SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

The area under irrigation from wells continues to increase, and is again the highest ever recorded. The same may be said of the area ordinarily irrigated from canals, which are at present being rapidly developed. The *sailáb* area is practically stationary, but the unirrigated area continues to steadily increase. In some parts of the district it is usual to change the area under cultivation from year to year, so that the returns of "area cultivated" are only a rough guide to an estimate of the actual produce. It is, however, a healthy sign that the area under tillage continues to expand from year to year.



*Wells.*—Still more satisfactory is the steady increase in the number of masonry wells in use, the figures for which for the last three years are 6,442, 6,534, 6,601 and now 6,674. The average area returned as *chāhi* per well (including 273 *kucha* wells) is 34 acres, and the average area of *chāhi* crops actually harvested this year is 22 acres per well against 27 acres last year.

## HAZARA DISTRICT.

(A. F. D. CUNNINGHAM, Esquire, C. I. E.)

The cultivated area continues to increase as more hill waste is broken up every year and new cattle byres, small hamlets and isolated homestead appear owing to general security and the difficulty of taking cattle for agricultural purposes or grazing any distance from the parent village or hamlet.

The newly broken soil is poor, hence the need for carrying the cattle up for the benefit of grazing and for their manure.

The large herds of goats which migrate up and down are housed and the people put up with the damage they do to shrubs and young trees for the benefit of the manure they leave behind.

## CROPS AND PRODUCE.

### HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

With the exception of *bājra* there was an all round increase in the areas cropped. Why this should have happened, is not altogether clear at first sight, for there were extremely good rains in July-August 1890, and the Settlement Officer recorded that "every available acre was ploughed and sown." Nevertheless, 117,383 more acres are recorded to have been cropped in 1891. This large difference can only be accounted for either (1) by great failures of crops having taken place in 1890; or (2) much *banjar* having been broken up in 1891; or (3) considerable *kharif* having been sown on *sailāha* lands of Ghaggār in 1891.

The zamindars disheartened with bad seasons of rainfall preferred to sow a crop which requires less moisture to bring it to maturity than barley or wheat. The move was a lucky one as when the winter rains failed and the barley and wheat suffered much, the gram was satisfied to some extent by dews alone.

The produce of both barley, wheat and gram was disappointing. The gram held out best under adverse circumstances, but the plants when matured were not satisfactory.

The wheat and barley were also weak in both ear and straw.

## AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(J. A. GRANT, Esquire, Settlement Collector.)

As already stated earlier in this report the summer rains were late in coming and short when they came. The Amritsar tahsil got half its usual supply, Tarn Tāran nearly two-thirds and Ajnāla a little more than a third.

The cane and cotton were sown at the usual time, but the former suffered from the long drought of May and June and the latter to a small extent from locusts. Part of the latter was resown.

No sowings of *bārāni* crops were attempted till the beginning of August and the maize was also late. There was a great scarcity of *jowār* seed, owing to the scanty seedling of the previous year's crop. The price rose abnormally high and the difficulty of procuring seed made the crop later than ever.

When the *bārāni* crop was in the ground it did little owing to the short rain in August and September. It did best in Tarn Tāran owing to local showers which just came in time. But elsewhere *jowār* and pulses were a poor crop. Irrigated crops did fairly well, but the demand for canal water was keen and the wells had to be constantly worked to keep the cane, maize and cotton from withering. *Sailāb* crops were poor. Rice fell off 13 per cent. from normal, *jowār* 22, cotton 31, *til* 51, and pulses 23 per cent. Sugar-cane and maize were steady. Inferior millets were only half a crop.

The yield in grain of such crops as succeeded was good in quality except rice. Ultimately much of the cane had to be fed to cattle.

When the time for sowing the rabi harvest came round, the rainfall was insufficient throughout the most of the district. The centre of Tarn Tāran certainly received a good fall in September and October, and a very large area was sown, but other parts of the tahsīl were not so favoured. Amritsar got an inch and a half in September and Ajnāla only an inch. The preparation of the ground was imperfectly carried out. No rain fell in November and December. During the next three months Tarn Tāran received 60 cents. Amritsar 76 cents, and Ajnāla only 40 cents. Thus by the practical failure of the winter rains, what might have been a good harvest in Tarn Tāran was spoilt and the *bārāni* crops in the other two tahsīls were a miserable failure. The irrigated crops suffered also and the cattle were overworked, and at the end of the season died in large numbers.

\* \* \* \* \*

The harvest was a bad one all over the district. Even on irrigated lands, except in villages with exceptional canal advantages, or where the well oxen were strong and able to survive the unusual strain. The grain was light and shrivelled and the yield of straw small. *Sailāb* lands suffered equally with *bārāni*, for the summer floods had never been high and the moisture left in the ground soon evaporated. The harvest was about a 7 anna one at the best on *bārāni* lands and about a 12 anna one on irrigated.

## CATTLE.

### HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS).

There were no superfluous stores of fodder in hand when the kharīf was sown, and though a fair quantity of fodder was obtained by the kharīf, it was not more than was required to last for the dry season even if the rabi happened to yield good straw. The rabi did not yield good straw and as a consequence the cattle suffered considerably during the hot months. After September there was no rain till the end of January and dry fodder was being used. In February and March there was rain but in May and June cattle were very much reduced. In Sirsa this was particularly the case as the monsoon rains there were bad. The cattle were kept going on *Karbi* and *bhūsa*, but there was hardly anything on grazing lands for them to feed on.

The state of the cattle in the Cattle Farm was, I imagine, about parallel with that of the cattle in the district generally and the farm cattle were very much reduced. They were greatly emaciated and appeared to prefer to look for something to eat on the branches of the bush in the Bir rather than try to find any thing on the ground. The state of these cattle caused considerable anxiety; they were fed principally on green fodder raised on irrigated lands. It is certain that a considerable number of cattle died in the district.

Scarcity of water added to the distress of the animals, for in May and June the village tanks were practically dry, and as often as not only the foulest water was obtainable for cattle while men were with difficulty kept fully supplied by the working of village wells.

The deaths of cattle were not properly reported, but it was doubtless the old and infirm ones which could best be spared that died.\*

I heard of considerable mortality of cattle in the Bhatinda illāka, but in this district the mortality was not considered so remarkable as to cause Tahsildārs to formally report.

\* \* \* \* \*

A cattle census was held last year in connection with the settlement operations and the number of cattle returned this year is practically the same as in last year's case, except



in Sirsa and Badhlāda illāka, Tahsil Fatehabad. In the above tracts which were not under settlement, the quadrennial enumeration took place this year.

The system of taking cattle on what is called "gol" is bound to make an enumeration taken at any given time uncertain. What is meant by "gol" is that cattle are sent in large herds away from their homes to graze in other tahsils or in Bikāner or in Patialā or wherever there happens to be good grazing.\*

*Remarks by COLONEL L. J. H. GREY, C.S.I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division.*

\* Weeding out of the cattle in this way is no real loss, only the comparatively worthless ones are neglected and allowed to starve.

## ROHTAK DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. C. RENNICK.)

\* \* \* \* \*

There are only five Hissār bulls in the district. These are not very popular, this the villagers say is because they find their progeny superior and have quite enough of them for their work. The truth appears to me to be that the lambardārs do not care to have the responsibility of looking after the Hissār bulls and much prefer their own animals which are generally cared for by the families who have let them loose.

## KARNAL DISTRICT.

(W. CHEVIS, ESQUIRE.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Experience shows that the people of this district are getting a little apathetic about the Hissār bulls which are looked upon as unsuited for the district cows on account of their large size. They say they would rather have their cows covered by local bulls which are better suited for their requirements.

The suggestion contained in Circular Letter No. 3, dated 9th May 1892, from the Director of Land Records and Agriculture for working the bulls was explained to those in charge of the Hissār bulls and to the members of the District Board. They are, however, very unwilling to act upon it, but the District Board has resolved to bring in two of these bulls to head-quarters as an experiment. The success of this experiment is much to be desired. At present the bulls constantly remain with the herds of cows and thus become enfeebled in a very short time and the result is the deterioration of young stock, whereas if they were separated for a time they would retain their power of vitality for a much longer period and otherwise keep better health and condition while the services of the bulls being limited to a proper number of cows, the best cows can be chosen for covering by these bulls.

## UMBALLA DISTRICT.

(C. E. GLADSTONE, ESQUIRE.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The return for agricultural stock for the year under report shows an increase under every head except that under sheep and goats. This diminution in sheep and goats is hardly a matter for regret, for I have never seen a worse breed anywhere than our Umballa sheep. I have introduced some nearly pure bred English sheep into some of our wards' estates and so far they are doing well.

\* \* \* \* \*

The people have only just begun to appreciate the value of a buffalo as against an ox as a motor power in a Persian wheel. I think they begin to know fast.

The way in which in most tahsils the people have taken to horse breeding is most creditable. Except in Kharar and Rupūr, the number of mares increases steadily. The people have begun to appreciate the advantages of mule breeding.

The increase under all the heads is due to the fact that in Morni illāka an enumeration of cattle has taken place this year. The figures for the previous year do not include the Morni illāka.

The decrease under the head sheep and goats is really due chiefly to a diminution in goats which is very satisfactory. It is due to the fact that the people have been induced to some extent only to preserve the denuded Siwálik from the goats which used to render those low hills perfectly bare.\*

† With regard to horse breeding the District Board, &c., had 20 stallions at work during the year under report. They are almost all Arabs. One died, leaving in all 20 for the year under report. They are as follows:—

District Board	...	...	...	...	...	4
Municipal Committees	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sardár Jewan Singh, C.S.I., Shahzdápur	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sardár Jewan Singh, of Buria, C.I.E.	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sardár Antar Singh, of Manauli	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sardár of Kandhola	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sardár of Mustafabad	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sardár of Kharindesa	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sardár of Raipur	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sardár of Rámgarh	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total						20

\* \* \* \* \*

These stallions have covered about 1,400 mares.

(Remarks by COLONEL L. J. H. GREY., C.S.I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division.)

\* This is the result of advice and persuasion and pressure for the past six years in default of a Waste Lands Act.

† I invite attention to the following remarks on horse breeding and mule breeding in which I entirely concur. If Mr. Gladstone had done nothing else for Umballa, his efforts in this direction would deserve the people's gratitude.

### DELHI DISTRICT.

(R. CLARKE, ESQUIRE, B.A.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Three Arab stallions were purchased by the District Board in 1890-91 at a cost of Rs. 1,726. Two Persian donkeys were added this year, costing Rs. 220. The stallions covered an average of 20 mares, but only 4 or 5 out of the whole number threw foals, so that the result has been far from encouraging.

### KANGRA DISTRICT.

(E. O'BRIEN, ESQUIRE.)

Cattle suffered severely for want of food and water in the prolonged drought which prevailed during the greater part of the year. Fodder, of which there is never a plentiful supply in many parts of the district, became very scarce owing to the grass and leaves having dried up. The sources of water-supply also failed to a large extent and in many parts drinking water for men and animals could only be procured from a distance. A large number of cattle were killed or starved in consequence.

### HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

(E. B. STEEDMAN, ESQUIRE.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The Hissár bulls continue to be much appreciated in the district. There are now 41. Lately the District Board has been considering the system under which they are kept and some improvements have been introduced by making some particular rural notable responsible for each bull.\*



This is not a leading horse-breeding district. In response to the demands of Government the District Board has lately voted a liberal sum for the purchase and keep of additional stallions. In October 1891, a gathering of branded mares and produce was held and prizes awarded. Mr. Hallen and Mr. Robertson were present and the meeting was a distinct success. The District Board defrayed the cost of green fodder supplied to the horses present.

Mule breeding is practised all over the district but not to the extent that I should have supposed. Hoshiárpur and the villages round constitute the head-quarter of the mulemen who go annually to Ladákh for *charus*.

(Remarks by G. SMYTH, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.)

\* This is a step in the right direction. Much is yet required to be done to improve the breed of cattle.

## JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. S. ROBERTS.)

\* \* \* \* \*

There are some Hissár bulls in the district, but the result is not favourable as they are not popular with the zamíndárs, as there is no waste land for them to roam about in and they trespass on private fields.\*

(Remarks by G. SMYTH, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.)

\* There is a great want of interest in cattle breeding. If the District Board were to take energetic measures the result in a very few years would doubtless be successful.

That the breed of cattle in the district is at present very poor, will be evident from the prices realized at the cattle fair in October last as shown in the next paragraph of this report, viz., Rs. 10 per bullock, Rs. 6 per cow, Rs. 8 per male buffalo and Rs. 24 per female buffalo.

## MOOLTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE.)

\* \* \* \* \*

So far as I have observed there is no systematic export of cattle from Mooltan to the Hindustáni provinces. From Montgomery apparently the supply begins which may be noticed in the Southern Punjab districts passing through year by year in the cold weather. Hissár is a great feeder of this traffic, but Mooltan would seem to have passed the degree of aridity which allows of a larger production of cattle than the district needs for its own use. In fact bullocks are often difficult to buy. The produce of Hissár bulls is not well spoken of here, but the animals have not been fully tried, and a fresh proposal is under the consideration of the District Board. No doubt it may prove that the regal size of the Hissár animal can be improved by judicious crossing, but it is difficult to believe that a substantial advance cannot be made on the local breed which is very poor.

\* \* \* \* \*

The District Board has bought an Arab stallion, and also a donkey stallion under the guidance of Mr. Hallen, whose kind helpfulness every District Officer must thankfully acknowledge. I have also had the list of branded brood mares revised and looked after to see whether they are duly covered by Government horses or not. It must be acknowledged however that at present the mass of the zamíndárs who might help Government and themselves in this matter are inert. The show of mules was good, and some of the young animals exceedingly fine and their owners are the men whom we should try to convince of the profit of horse breeding.

\* \* \* \* \*

## JHANG DISTRICT.

(KAZI MUHAMMAD ASLAM, C.M.G.)

While in camp I explained to the zamíndárs all the advantages of horse breeding and also awarded consolation prizes at the Horse Show to all the classes of horses which did not compete in any class. I also purchased a stallion of local breed from a zamíndár at the cost of District Fund, as the zamíndárs of this district do not much like the Government stallions especially the heavy horses as Norfolk trotters, &c., and it was to encourage the good breeding that the District Board took this step. I may add that the horse was approved by the Assistant Superintendent, Horse Breeding Operations. The people in general, in this district, have not learnt to keep horses for sale and the zamíndár, I have seldom seen here selling his dear horse or mare. Some of the intelligent zamíndárs have now realized the benefit which they will derive from breeding horses for the purpose of trade, and in a few years I hope Jhang will be one of the best breeding districts in the province.

## SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN J. R. DUNLOP-SMITH, *Settlement Collector.*)

There was practically no grazing at all available. Fortunately the rabi of 1891 resulted in an excellent yield of straw, but all other fodder crops fell off lamentably. The result was the cattle were kept underfed and eked out their strength by sugarcane and other food crops. At the same time the drought caused an unusual demand on their strength. Numbers died from overwork and in many cases zamíndárs sold part of their stock for what they would fetch in order to lessen the strain on the land.

I am afraid the lot of the cattle in Siálkot is becoming harder every year. There being so little grazing ground almost all farm stock are stall-fed and have generally to be recruited by importations from other districts which last only half as long as the home bred animals.

## SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, Esquire.)

In the Khusháb tahsíl the failure of grass was not very serious and there was no great mortality among the cattle. But in the Bhera and Shahpur tahsils, and especially in the Bár and Chenáb circles, where there is practically no canal irrigation, fodder became extremely scarce and dear (*bhúsa* selling at a maund per rupee) and a very large proportion of the cattle were driven long distances in search of food. Many of them died, including a considerable number of the well bullocks, to feed which about half the growing wheat was cut green. This summer the usually heavy rains have produced an ample growth of grass and fodder everywhere, and the survivor now in good condition, but it is to be feared that the number of cattle in the Cis-Jhelum tahsils has been much reduced. A considerable sum has lately been advanced to enable the peasants to purchase plough-cattle and take advantage of the favourable rainfall. It is at such a time that advances for the purchase of cattle can do most good, for it is of comparatively little use to grant loans for the purpose while the drought lasts, and the purchaser finds it difficult to keep his purchase alive.

The services of the bulls received from Hissár are much appreciated. An attempt was made to tie them up and allow only good cows to have access to them, but the cost of feeding and looking after them was found to be almost prohibitive.

## RAWALPINDI DISTRICT.

(W. RENOUF, Esquire.)

Cattle disease was prevalent all over the district, except in the Gujar Khan tahsíl. Twenty-five thousand head of cattle are said to have died in Pindigheb. Rs. 8,000 has been advanced to the zamíndárs for purchase.\*



\* The mortality amongst the cattle was mainly due to want of fodder. The heavy rain of July and August worked a wonderful change and a great improvement has taken place.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Remarks by D. IBBETSON, Esquire, *Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division.*)

\* More (Rs. 10,000) was applied for; but the funds at the disposal of the Commissioner had been exhausted and before a further allotment could be procured and distributed the occasion had passed by.

In applying in August last for *takávi* to advance to zamíndárs in Pindigheb, Mr. Beckett reported the loss of "cattle of all kinds" from disease and starvation to have been 2,217. It would appear, therefore, that the number of deaths stated above in Deputy Commissioner's report is probably greatly exaggerated. It will be seen, however, from Statement XIV that the number of cows and bullocks in the Pindigheb tahsíl is returned at 50,648 and of buffaloes at 3,772. Last year the corresponding figures were 40,536 and 4,874. It is true that the enumeration is only made each year in one out of every four villages. But it is hardly probable that there was a gain of 10,000 in these villages and a loss of 35,000 in the other remaining ones. The number of cows and bullocks for the whole district is shown to have increased by 9,000 and the number of buffaloes to have decreased by 5,000 roughly.

## HAZARA DISTRICT.

(A. F. D. CUNNINGHAM, Esquire, C.I.E.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The cattle died chiefly from foot and mouth disease and from rinderpest where they did not die of absolute want, and these diseases were accelerated by poor food. Unfortunately in this district dying animals are not allowed to expire in peace but when at their last gasp either from disease or starvation they come under the knife, and the owner makes a virtue of necessity and distributes the flesh in charity, and a certain amount of sickness among the people of the district may have originated in this way. Special measures had to be taken to secure the burial of carcasses of dead cattle which lay about in unusual numbers, while dogs carrying about pieces of half putrid skeletons poisoned water springs. A somewhat severe epidemic of cholera swept over the district; and it is possible that the people have taken the lesson to heart.

Only one Hissár bull remained in the district and three others were indented for in August 1892 for Abbottabad, where alone these bulls are in demand for the larger class of cows in the civil station and cantonments.

At Abbottabad the bulls are housed, fed and looked after in the Abbottabad garden where the light garden work taken from them in return keeps them in condition.

The Hungarian bull received in March 1891 is doing well and is more suitable for other parts of the district than Abbottabad itself, as it is likely to produce a good small sized stock adapted to the mountain parts of the district. Horse breeding is not much carried on, except by a few Khans in Haripur and to a smaller extent in Mansehra.

The 9th Bengal Lancers started an experimental horse farm near Kalábut under the management of Khanezamán Khan, Honorary Magistrate, or his family, but it did not succeed and was closed.

Arab stallions are more popular than the Norfolk trotter. Mules are bred in the Mansehra tahsíl where work could be found for more than the number of stallion donkeys at present stationed there.

The District Board is too poor to buy or to pay for the keep of stallions; its income barely covers fixed compulsory charges and the cost of repairs of buildings and roads which last in a mountain district is a very heavy item.

## PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

(W. R. H. MERK, Esquire, C.S.I.)

\* \* \* \* \*

There are Hissár bulls, one each, in Tahsils Hashtnaggar and Mardán, but there is no improvement in the breed of the cattle. The reason is that the bulls are too big for the cows of this district, which are mostly small. The best cattle in the district are all imported.

## BANNU DISTRICT.

(H. A. ANDERSON, Esquire.)

\* \* \* \* \*

A horse fair was for the first time held in the district in March 1892. More than 400 horses and ponies were brought into the fair and prizes aggregating to Rs. 605 were distributed. A contribution of Rs. 500 per annum has now been sanctioned from the Provincial Revenues. This added to the contribution from the District Fund and Imperial Revenues makes a handsome amount available for prizes, and will help materially in the development of the fair. A stable for a horse stallion has been built by the Edwardesabad Municipality and a requisition for an Arab stallion has been sent to the Superintendent, Horse Breeding Operations. Many of the Waziris brought their mares to be branded at the fair and they are very anxious to secure the service of an Arab stallion. It is most satisfactory to find that in process of time they have overcome their objection to branding.

## MUZAFFARGARH DISTRICT.

(SARDAR GURDYAL SINGH, Man).

The camels and cattle this year suffered indirectly from the effects of locusts on fodder. Not only was most of the fodder destroyed but a number of animals was lost through the injurious effect on them of the half locust eaten leaves and grass they had to feed on. The Thal zamindars attributed the loss of large numbers of camels, immediately after the young locusts (that had bred there) had been on the ground, to the injurious fodder. Almost every Thal zamindar complained of their camels taking ill immediately after eating fodder half devoured by locusts. With reference to the concluding sentence in para. 4 of His Honor's Review of the last year's Land Revenue Report, I have to explain that the statement was made on the testimony of a large number of cattle owners from the Thal tract. It is only here that we have large cattle and camel owners, and it was also in this tract that we had the largest swarms of locusts. It was this region where they were the longest on the ground, and it was from there that they spread. During the plague (when it was the worst, when the swarms of the crawling insects and the hopping young locusts left the Thal and invaded the country all round) I was at Muzaffargarh. Soon after I observed that all my horses, ponies and mules took ill, suffering at first from cough, and they all rapidly lost in condition. The ailment ended fatally in case of one valuable young filly. The cough and catarrh had ceased but she never regained in condition and getting weaker and weaker she fell down one morning, got slight convulsions and died. This instance came under my personal observation. Most of the ponies in the station suffered similarly. This observation and the general testimony makes me believe that grass and leaves of trees when half eaten by locusts are injurious to ponies, cattle and camels. Cows from the Thal were reported to have suffered similarly. The same thing having been observed in the Dera Ismail Khan district confirms me in this belief.\*

\* \* \* \* \*

The introduction of the Hissar breed has been a failure. Its unsuitability to the sort of work in the district was pointed out in the last year's report. What is more suitable for the district is a hardy breed of little bullocks that would stand the long continuous heavy work in the wells and fields during an exceedingly hot climate.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Remarks by R. I. BRUCE, Esquire, C.I.E., Commissioner and Superintendent, Derajat Division.)

\* This was reported in last year's report by the Deputy Commissioner, Dera Ismail Khan. I saw myself numbers of dead camels lying on the Gomal pass and along the Kafila route right up to the Spin, and the Powandas told me it was from the same cause and that they had lost large numbers of camels.

## PRICES.

### HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

\* \* \* \* \*

There was great despondency in the district in August 1891, and the position of the zamindars showed that they could not stand high prices and bad seasons any longer. Some of course held out on their own resources, but very large numbers had no reserves



of grain and only managed to obtain it on credit from the *bunniahs* who took advantage of the situation to sell food grain at rates much higher than those quoted in the returns and also to sell their old stocks of rotten and worm-eaten grain which was hardly fit for food. The rains of the monsoon 1892 have been a blessing to the district, and if the rains are tolerable winter rains prices should recover.

## LUDHIANA DISTRICT.

(J. G. M. RENNIE, Esquire.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Prices were generally high throughout the year. The reason was not the scarcity of produce but heavy exports to Europe by the European firms of Ralli Brothers, McHinch & Co., and others.\*

\* Prices having risen to the height at which they now stand show no signs of falling. Even the abundant rain we have had this year seems to have had no effect upon them, and though cultivators and traders largely benefit by them, the labourer and artisan class appear to suffer considerably.

(Remarks by G. SMYTH, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.)

\* The rabi harvest preceding the year under report was an exceptionally good one, the high prices prevailing in consequence of the heavy export to Europe have benefited the agricultural classes, but have been severely felt by the poorer classes and by those receiving a fixed income in money.

## AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(J. A. GRANT, Esquire, Settlement Collector.)

\* \* \* \* \*

A rise in the price of spring cereals just after a bad rabi might be expected, but it is not easy to understand why maize, *jowár* and pulses, all kharif cereals, should have fallen in price. No one could have said in either year by the 15th of June what the prospects of the coming kharif would be, so the price could not have been lowered by the expectation of a bumper harvest in Kharif 1892.

It seems likely that however the price of wheat may be governed by home export and by the outturn of the preceding harvest, the price of the minor cereals on a given date in a large city like Amritsar depends almost entirely on whether the imports from down country have lately chanced to be more or less than usual. Fluctuations from year to year in the prices prevailing on a given date must be largely due to chance in the case of inferior grains which are not the staple food of the people. It is plain they are not much influenced by the character of the harvest, for in the present case we have *gur* and all kharif cereals except rice selling dear eight months after a good harvest (1890) and cheap eight months after a bad one (1892).

But the price of a commodity so largely dealt in as wheat, still continues to slowly rise to the no small profit of those landowners whose holdings are large enough to admit of their selling part of their produce.

## SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, Esquire.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Since the failure of the kharif harvest became established, prices have been very high, those of wheat and barley being the highest known for some years, and about 40 per cent. above the average of the past 14 years. Even *jowár* and *bájra* sold at Rs. 2-8-0 per maund. The failure of fodder and mortality among cattle caused a rapid rise in the value of *ghi* from Rs. 26-11-0 to Rs. 33-11-0 per maund. The high prices caused great distress among the poorer classes, for whose benefit earthworks on a considerable scale were started by the District Board, not as Famine Relief Works, but at the usual rates for such work.

\* \* \* \* \*

## DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The remarkable rise in the price of wheat was due to large quantities being exported to England *via* Karáchi and to Appozai in Belochistán *via* the Vehoa Chuharkhel, Zao and Gomal routes, as well as to the small outturn of the last rabi. The movement of troops to the Gomal Pass also contributed towards the rise in prices.

As a general rule the zamíndárs reaped the full benefit of the prevailing high prices, as the export agents in most cases dealt direct with them without the *bunniah* as an intermediary. Under these circumstances the export of surplus grain is a benefit to the district.

## PATWARIS AND KANUNGOS.

### HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

\* \* \* \* \*

I cannot say that the patwári rules are faithfully and fully followed in the matter of patwáris charging only prescribed fees for extracts from registers and in the matter of their not cultivating lands within their circles. A patwári charges pretty well what he likes for an extract from his registers and as long as zamíndárs are weak enough to give it is impossible for District Officers to help them.

Similarly patwáris are often promoters of litigation with a view to serve their own interests, and some of them are not above falsifying entries in their *girdawáris* and diaries if sufficiently well recompensed therefor.

But these things are inevitable, and considering the work they have to do, the patwáris are on the whole a painstaking class of officials.

In the matter of acquiring land they are discreet, but in several cases I have seen portions of land (ostensibly cultivated by a distant relation of the patwári) which are nothing more than lands on easy leases given to obtain the good will of the patwári.

But in such matters it is useless to systematically interfere. If an example is made of a notorious patwári these delinquencies can be easily kept down.

### KARNAL DISTRICT.

(W. CHEVIS, ESQUIRE.)

I have nothing to complain about as regards the efficiency of the patwári staff, the generality of whom consists of regular trained men holding office from the time of settlement. They reside with their families in their circles and their work has a good deal improved since the appointment of present District Kánungo who takes interest in his work and never fails to explain mistakes which come to his notice at the time of his inspection.

Cases of absence without leave or any other breach of the rules are few and far between, and when brought to light are properly dealt with.

The kánungo staff also consists of men trained in Mr. Donie's settlement who are well up to their work.

### MOOLTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE.)

\* \* \* \* \*

On coming here in October 1891 I found 55 passed candidates awaiting appointment, so that with the sanction of the Director of Land Records it was resolved to hold no examination for new candidates. My year's experience warrants the conclusion that



when the examination is held next time it will be advisable to aim at a higher standard than has yet been obtained. It is not an uncommon thing in official reports for the plea to be made that, though a man has passed, he cannot do the work at once without help. The fact seems to be that some passed candidates here (among the older men) have passed only the Upper Primary test in general education, whereas now of course we admit Middle passes.

\* \* \* \* \*

### • AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(J. A. GRANT, ESQUIRE, *Settlement Collector.*)

\* \* \* \* \*

I find that men of good class come forward. This is as much due to its being hard now-a-days to get a living as to any attractions which the life of a patwári holds out. The attractions are certainly few.\* I have heard it said that the class of candidates now coming forward are not so given to crooked practices as the old stamp of patwári. No patwáris' school was opened, nor was one necessary, where training was being given to a large number of candidates and assistants in the field.

(Remarks by LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. HUTCHINSON, *Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.*)

\* With extra fees the position of the patwári is by no means a bad one. In former days the post of patwári was hereditary and frequently boys were appointed. Now we get well-educated men and many are men who have passed the Entrance Examination.

### GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

The patwáris and kánungos have just been through the instruction of a settlement, and it is to be presumed that they were, when made over to the district, as efficient as it is possible for any body of such officials to be.\* But I fear that since the completion of settlement, the inevitable result has followed; the tension of supervision has been relaxed and work is not now so efficiently done. During a settlement there is a perpetual driving, and even with this driving a Settlement Officer sometimes almost breaks his heart over the bad work turned out. After a settlement the Collector has many other duties besides that of supervision of kánungos and patwáris, and must perforce leave much of this supervision to his Revenue assistant. The Tahsildárs and Náib-Tahsildárs also now have much larger circles to supervise, and some of them (the majority I fear in this district) do not do all they ought to do. The result is considerable laxity in the work all round.\*

It is to be hoped, however, that this next winter will show more hopeful results. The Revenue Extra Assistant Commissioner (Lála Hukam Chand) is doing his best to keep the record agency up to its work.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Remarks by LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. HUTCHINSON, *Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.*)

\* There is a great deal of truth in the District Officer's remarks, and it will be necessary for the Collector and his assistants to be very strict with the subordinate establishment. I have already noticed in my inspection of the Patháukot tahsíl a tendency to carelessness.

### SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN J. R. DUNLOP-SMITH, *Settlement Collector.*)

\* \* \* \* \*

The men promoted from patwáris to kánungoships have still shown a better out-turn of work than the Entrance passed candidates. They are men of tried experience and know their work. This is natural as there is a large field of selection. But the training and supervision of Entrance passed men have been more carefully attended to. Men

promoted from patwárships have three great faults. They are shy of enforcing their authority, they are adepts at making a great parade of work when the real amount done is small, and they have little compunction about squeezing the people and fostering strife and litigation in the hundred and one ways so well known to them.

The Entrance passed men are more intelligent. With steady application on their own part and careful teaching on the part of their officers they turn out quite as good field kánúgos after two years as the promoted patwáris. Their character too is higher. They are neither so ready to fudge their own work and gloss over patwáris' imperfections nor so grasping in their dealings with the people.

## GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(M. F. O'DWYER, Esquire, *Settlement Collector.*)

I have been endeavouring to strengthen the zamíndár element among the patwáris. Out of the 31 new men appointed 9 were zamíndárs, 13 Khatrís, 2 Brahmans, 2 Ulmás, 2 Kashmírís, 3 Sayads, Moghals or Sheikhs. The process is not an easy one as it is difficult to obtain properly qualified men from the land-holding classes, and they require a longer training than others though they turn out better men in the end. One had also to contend with a good deal of passive resistance from the subordinate officials, who prefer to see these appointments follow the traditional lines, and who being rarely sprung from the land-holding classes are not over-anxious to advance their interest.

## RECORDS OF RIGHT.

## KANGRA DISTRICT.

(Remarks by G. SMYTH, Esquire, *Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.*)

The progress made in settlement work in spite of many difficulties has been very satisfactory and very creditable to Mr. O'Brien himself and to his Assistant Lála Moti Rám.

## MOOLTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, Esquire.)

Special measures under the sanction of the Financial Commissioner have been in progress in the Bár Báráni tract of the Mailsi tahsil to carry out long standing orders of Government as to the record of tenant right and measurement of cultivated lands. The work is being well done under the immediate charge of Mehar Chand, Kánúgo, appointed for the time a Deputy Superintendent, but it is exceedingly arduous, and I am not satisfied that the supervision of the Tahsildár of Mailsi has been either sufficient or efficient. The completion of this matter and report on the arrangements made will form the most urgent duty of the Collector during the cold season now coming on.

## GUJRAT DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN H. S. P. DAVIES, *Settlement Collector.*)

Measurements have been completed in all assessed villages and *jamabandís* have been prepared in accordance with the new measurement. The settlement record has been recognised as the *jamabandi* made immediately new measurements of any village have been completed. In that *jamabandi* the old and new numbers of the fields are shown, and



if it is required to trace land back, that is the *jamabandi* it would be necessary to consult In the last column of this *jamabandi* has been entered the new *jama* by *khátás* and the statement at the end shows the whole *jama* of the village. This *jamabandi* will, as soon as it is completed, be bound, and one copy made over to the *patwári*. The new *jama* as referring to a future year has been entered in red ink and to complete the detail of the *jama* two other statements have been included, one a statement showing deferred *jama* and the year for collection, consequent on well leases, the other is a statement showing the *muáfis* which are in effect from the date of the new *jama*.

\* \* \* \* \*

## ANNUAL RECORDS.

### MOOLTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, Esquire.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Mutation procedure is as a rule strictly and correctly followed. The question remains whether it is wise to give so much power to the *patwári*; and villagers also complain that they have three *hákims* to deal with now—*patwári*, *kánúngo* and *tahsildár* instead of only one as under the old rules. They forget, however, the enormous delay and inconvenience of the old rules, and on the whole, while not ignoring our present drawback, I do not think they are greater than under the old system, while the correction of the record is certainly facilitated.

### LAHORE DISTRICT.

(G. C. WALKER, Esquire, *Settlement Collector*.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The abstract returns of the *kharíf* harvest were mostly filed in time. Crop inspection of the *rabi* was not commenced till the middle of March purposely, so as to ensure a full record being made of all crops spoilt by the long drought that had lasted through the winter into the spring. The *jamabandis* were all being prepared in detail and with unusual care as this year's are the *jamabandis* on which the permanent distribution of the new assessments will be made in every *tahsíl*. They were completed before the end of September in two *tahsils*: in the other two, several remained incomplete as the work of preparation commenced late in the hot weather only after the conclusion of all field remeasurements.

### GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The work of the *Tahsildárs* and *Náib-Tahsildárs* does not show well either in mutation work or in crop inspections.\* Indeed the number of unattested mutations at the end of the year had risen to 10,999, of which 6,201 were in *Batála*. The mutation work of the district is undoubtedly very heavy and requires the constant and unremitting attention of the *Tahsíl* Officers. Mr. Dane and Mr. Rivaz have, I believe, both proposed that selected *kánúngos* should be given powers to attest uncontested mutations.

I am now issuing strict orders to the *Tahsildárs* and *Náib-Tahsildárs* to show a considerable improvement in their attestation work in the current quarter, on pain of being reported to the Commissioner for continued neglect of duty.

(Remarks by LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. HUTCHINSON, *Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division*.)

\* I am afraid that the Collector's report on this matter is only too true. I note, however, that my late inspection of *Pathámkot* and *Gurdáspur* *tahsils* shows that the *Tahsildárs* have done better, and I hope to find the same at *Shakargarh* and *Batála*. The

fact remains though that some 50,000 mutations have to be annually attested and as there are only four Tahsildárs and four Náib-Tahsildárs to do them each has to attest an average of 6,000, and this is impossible. Supposing each man on tour 15 days every month he would have to attest 33 daily including Sundays and holidays.

## JHELUM DISTRICT.

(Remarks by D. IBBETSON, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.)

Generally speaking the work of the patwáris was done with fair promptness, but there was great delay in both Jhelum and Chakwál in filing the village abstracts of the rabi harvest. Mutation work by Tahsildárs of Chakwál and Pind Dádan Khan fell off somewhat, and there seems to be a tendency to throw this work on the Náib-Tahsildárs. Crop inspection also show the same tendency in a less degree. This is not right. Tahsildárs especially in out tahsils should take their full share of the work.

The touring record is fairly good except that the Tahsildár of Jhelum and Náib-Tahsildár of Chakwál do not appear to have been active enough.

## PARTITIONS.

### HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Sirsa tahsíl effected 122 partitions last year and 263 in this; 44,000 odd acres were partitioned as against 17,000 odd last year. The desire for partition is set down by some to the quadrennial measurements, but I think that the reason is a deeper one than this. I think that there is a strong tendency in Sirsa to break up zamíndári villages and to go on partitioning *pattis* and moreover the hold that some of the Sirsa *bunniahs* get on the villages promotes partitioning greatly.

### GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

The area divided this year was 5,849 acres against 15,093 in 1890-91. It is possible that a smaller number of holdings were divided this year, but I am sure the difference is not so great as appears above. Since the settlement has been finished fewer private partitions have been brought to record as the Revenue staff is smaller, and not so well supervised. No doubt there is a tendency to greater partitions during a settlement, but I do not think the sudden drop to nearly a third of the previous year is quite natural.\*

(Remarks by LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. HUTCHINSON, Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.)

\* I think the cessation of settlement operations is sufficient to cause the difference. If this is not the case what can be the reason? The Collector does not show that there is an accumulating undisposed of balance of applications. So it would follow that fewer have been filed.

### GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(M. F. O'DWYER, ESQUIRE, Settlement Collector.)

As might be expected the progress of settlement operations has caused an increase in the number of partition cases and the area partitioned. The former have gone up



from 362 cases (not including private portions) to 382, of which 292 were decided; the latter from 61,347 to 89,777 acres. The increase is due to

- (1.) The progress of settlement operations which leads shareholders of common land to desire to have their rights separated out;
- (2.) The increasing value of land, especially in the Háfizabad tahsil;
- (3.) The extension of canal irrigation;
- (4.) The fact that the new survey shows accurately how much common land is in the separate possession of shareholders, and gives those who hold a smaller area than they would be entitled to receive on partition an inducement to sue for the latter.

The partition work has been done chiefly by the Extra Assistant Settlement Officer. Previous to settlement operations it was left almost entirely in the hands of the Tahsildárs who gave the patwári and arbitrators appointed a free hand. The result is that we have now to deal with numbers of objections to old partitions, the most common one being that the fields pointed out by the patwári at the time were not the same as those recorded in the file, with the result that cases in which one man is in proprietary possession of fields recorded as the share of another in the partition file are very common.

## TRANSFERS OF LAND.

### HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS).

In last year's report remarks were made under this head which especially attracted the attention of the Government. I have noticed all the main points of Form X A and B below and here point out that the area mortgaged has increased by about 1,500 acres, the area sold has increased by 11,386 acres, and the area redeemed has decreased by 1,143 acres; 20,786 acres are recorded to have been sold, whereas only 9,400 acres were sold last year, and from this latter figure the Settlement Officer drew deductions suggesting that enhanced assessments had disheartened land operators.

The Settlement Officer had gone into the subject more thoroughly than I have, and all that I have to do is to show how this large area was transferred. Personally I do not think that now that the settlement is over the *buniah* will cease from operating.\*

\* \* \* \* \*

The Pachhádás are addicted to mortgaging their land on the condition of *bai-bil-wafa* in order to raise money for various wants. They very seldom are able to redeem their mortgages.

† Several Sirsa *buniahs* are becoming landowners in Sirsa in place of the Pachhádás.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Remarks by COLONEL L. J. H. GREY, C. S. I., Commissioner and Superintendent, Delhi Division.)

\* Certainly he will not. The margin of profit left by the new demand is still very tempting.

\* \* \* \* \*

† The Pachhádás must all eventually so lose their lands.

### ROHTAK DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. C. RENNICK.)

During the year 1,642 acres were sold; 1,129 were given in bequest; 6,933 acres were mortgaged; and in all 9,704 acres of land were alienated, on the other hand, 4,680 acres of land were redeemed. Nearly half of the mortgages were made to zamindárs,\* and compared with last year there is a decrease of 20 per cent. in mortgages due doubtless to good harvests, and in transfers of 14 per cent.; but the prices obtained were 10 per cent. above last year.

(Remarks by COLONEL L. J. H. GREY, C. S. I., Commissioner and Superintendent,  
Delhi Division.)

\* The zamíndár is, I am told, rapidly ousting the *buniah* as money-lender on  
anded security.

## GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND, ESQUIRE.)

- \* \* \* \* \*
- (a). The annual addition to the land owners' encumbrances by mortgage and recharge, or renewal of mortgage, has been decreasing during the past five years pretty steadily; and if allowance be made for the greater activity of record operations about 1887-89 there is still a substantial declination due most probably to the improved harvests of the past two years.
  - (b). The balance between the redemptions and fresh mortgages is not yet equal but the progress in redemptions is steady, and in particular there are indications from the figure of value that the richer parcels are in part beginning to revert to their primary owners in some cases;
  - (c). There is no serious increase in the extent of sales; the value shown tends on the whole to increase, if any thing, while the area sold decreased each year from 1887 to 1890 both inclusive.

A certain number of the redemptions registered do not represent an actual release of the subjects, being followed by a fresh mortgage immediately; but to my knowledge even in some of the most precarious villages, land has been really freed with the proceeds of the past two wheat and barley harvests. When inspecting certain estates in which there were outstandings of suspended revenue I urged the owners to pay off their mortgage creditors once for all from the current surplus, and explained the duty of this course where suspensions had been granted. In several instances I believe this was actually done and fresh land at the same time brought under irrigation; the reason being that the cultivators while they had no inducement to work harder than they cared, so long as the grace obtained under the suspensions of 1890 was utilized simply to pay up the money-lender's interest, felt bound to put fresh land for first class crops under well command, so soon as they were convinced that the surplus created by suspension of the state demand would not be allowed to find its way into the pockets of the usurer.

In two such cases the proprietors were Sayads and Patháns respectively, and recovery of their estates seemed rather hopeless; but similar want of precedence, in the absence of official stimulus, is no less conspicuous in the rich canal protected tahsil of Palwal. Given certain conditions, and the Palwal Jats seem just as ready to tie a load of debt about their necks as the Chauháns of the western circle or other reputedly unthrifty classes; while the better credit they and their estates enjoy is only, in some cases, an incentive to extravagant borrowing.

\* \* \* \* \*

The most hopelessly encumbered part of the District appears to be the Western tract of the Gurgáon tahsil. A number of transfers have taken place in the Furukhnagar and adjoining circles in past years to an undesirable and unimproving class of speculators, some of them being Government officials of the non-agricultural classes. This portion of the district calls for careful revenue management.

## KARNAL DISTRICT.

(W. CREVIS, ESQUIRE.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The transfers by sale and mortgage to money-lenders or new cultivators are numerous in the Karnál Khádir and the Naili tracts of the Guhla sub-tahsil where zamíndárs suffering from the effects of floods can ill afford to help a needy brother, who is thus compelled to resort to a *sah*, either of his own or of some neighbouring village, and to yield to terms most disadvantageous to himself.

But the case is different in Pánipat tahsil and the Bangar tracts generally where the Jat population will resist to the very last a Mahajan's obtaining a footing in their village as a biswádar. Instances have occurred in which Jats have tried to turn Mahajan purchasers out of their village by pre-emption cases even though they had to borrow large sums of money on interest in order to purchase the land themselves.



As remarked in last years' reports I have no doubt that in most of the cases in which the land was transferred to money-lenders the transferers belonged to the Rájpút and Gujar clans.

## KANGRA DISTRICT.

(E. O'BRIEN, Esquire.)

The areas sold, mortgaged and redeemed during the past three years are noted below :—

Acreage and value in—				1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.
Sold	...	...	Acreage	...	4,003	4,591
			Value	...	2,56,402	1,98,985
Mortgaged	...	...	Acreage	...	9,394	8,179
			Amount	...	3,47,477	2,47,574
Redeemed	...	...	Acreage	...	6,000	4,655
			Amount	...	1,13,039	99,567

No satisfactory comparison can be made between these years. The large fluctuations are due entirely to settlement operations, but the following causes, without doubt, contributed to make the sales and mortgages numerous. The drought in winter and spring caused a very few transfers. As far as I can ascertain the pressure did not go farther than to compel the agriculturists to borrow freely from the *sahúkars* and to pawn some ornaments but not very many. It did not force on many transfers of land.\*

\* \* \* \* \*

(Remarks by G. SMYTH, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division).

\* The number of sales is large but chiefly due to more careful record. It is, however, natural that the sales and mortgages should have increased considering the unfavourable character of the year.

\* This fact is not in accordance with usual experience, but the introduction of fresh assessment checks for a time the desire to invest in land.

## HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

(E. B. STEEDMAN, Esquire.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The area mortgaged shows a very large increase over that of last year's returns, but the increase in the mortgage money is not correspondingly large. There is also a considerable increase in the area redeemed; but this year the area redeemed is about 1,000 acres less than the area mortgaged, whereas last year it exceeded the area mortgaged. No reason can with any accuracy be assigned for these fluctuations. It might be expected that after the specially good harvests of 1890-91 a large area would be redeemed, but why should there be a large increase in the number of new mortgages? \* A disturbing element is that the figures of a given year do not represent the transactions of any one year but of several. The mortgages to new agriculturists amount to only 2,659 acres in area and 2½ lakhs in consideration money.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Remarks by G. SMYTH, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division).

\* No sufficient comparison is afforded here, the rabi harvest of 1891 having been exceptionally good. The mortgages during the year under report hardly exceed the normal figure when compared with those of previous years as shown below :—

YEAR.	MORTGAGES.		REDEMPTIONS.	
	Area.	Mortgage money.	Area.	Mortgage money.
	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.
1888-89 ... ..	17,176	11,51,356	15,003	5,97,764
1889-90 ... ..	13,009	9,19,096	13,389	5,74,000

It is certainly an unaccountable circumstance that the area redeemed was not larger in 1890-91. The poor rabi of 1892 doubtless accounts for the larger number of mortgages in the year under report, this also, in a measure, accounts for a larger number of redemptions, the area redeemed in certain cases being in all probability re-mortgaged for a higher consideration wherever this was feasible.

Sales are not reported on, but I take the figures from the statement, and for the sake of comparison note the figures of the three previous years.

	Area in acres.		Price realized.	
			Rs.	
1888-89 ...	7,950		4,34,702	
1889-90 ...	5,675		4,47,431	
1890-91 ...	3,123		4,11,745	
1891-92 ...	4,915		4,41,239	

I may also note for ready comparison the value per acre of the area mortgaged and sold and mortgage money discharged per acre of area redeemed.

	Mortgaged.		Sold.		Redeemed.	
	Rs. a.		Rs. a.		Rs. a.	
1888-89 ...	67-0		54-11		39-13	
1889-90 ...	70-10		78-13		42-14	
1890-91 ...	100-12		131-11		55-13	
1891-92 ...	82-3		89-12		54-5	

The value of land has, it will be seen, risen very considerably during the last two years, having sold in 1890-91 for about 2½ times the price realized per acre in 1888-89. The land must have varied much in quality.

## JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. S. ROBERTS.)

\* \* \* \* \*

There was an increase under all the heads of transfers shown in the above table. The increases under heads sales and mortgages may be attributed mainly to scarcity of rain throughout the year owing to which agriculturists were obliged to part with their lands.\*

The cause of increase under head redemption of mortgages was due to the fact that correctly speaking most part of the mortgaged area was redeemed merely with the view of re-mortgaging the same to new mortgagees for higher considerations as the mortgagors stood badly in need of money owing to scarcity of fodder, and famine rates of edible grains prevailing in the district.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Remarks by G. SMYTH, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.)

\* The increase in area mortgaged, sold and redeemed is not great. The exceptionally good rabi harvests of 1890-91 was doubtless the cause in that year of considerable falling off in mortgages and sales. The area mortgaged and sold in 1889-90 was 10,201 acres and 4,617 acres respectively, and the area redeemed 9,916 acres. Going back still one year further an examination of the figures shows that the area mortgaged was 12,223 acres, sold 5,267 acres, and redeemed 10,597 acres, so that the area transferred during the



year was considerably below that transferred in 1888-89, and not much above that transferred in 1889-90. The only extraordinary circumstance is that so exceptionally small an area was redeemed in 1890-91. The value per acre of the area mortgaged, sold and redeemed during the last four years has been as noted below :—

		Value of land per acre.		
		Mortgaged.	Sold.	Redeemed.
		Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.
1888-89	...	87 15	120 9	52 2
1889-90	...	91 15	130 9	53 9
1890-91	...	93 12	141 5	65 3
1891-92	...	100 11	140 7	59 1

The above figures show clearly the improvement in value generally.

### FEROZEPORE DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT C. P. EGERTON.)

There has been an enormous increase in the area of land sold during the year under report as compared with the area sold during 1890-91. The figures for the two years are respectively 25,449 and 7,112 acres.\*

(Remarks by G. SMYTH, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division.)

\* Yes, there is a considerable increase in the area transferred by sale during the year, even when compared with the figures for 1888-89 and 1889-90, viz., 16,134 acres and 14,043 acres respectively. The large increase in the area sold, mortgaged and redeemed is perhaps to a large extent a pure matter of record. A considerable number of the mortgages in the Moga tahsil where mutations are most frequent are temporary and little more than nominal. These are not always brought to book, but increased care in recording them increases the area shown as mortgaged and redeemed. Excepting the Muhammadan villages near the river the agricultural classes are as a rule in prosperous circumstances.

The Deputy Commissioner does not report as to the area mortgaged. This amounted to 28,790 acres in the year under report. The area mortgaged in three preceding years was—

	In	1888-89	...	...	...	Acres.
		...	...	...	...	33,588
	"	1889-90	...	...	...	29,128
	"	1890-91	...	...	...	25,568

The money value per acre of land mortgaged and sold and that discharged on area redeemed was as follows :—

		Value per acre of land.		Average amount discharged per acre redeemed.
		Mortgaged.	Sold.	
		Rs. a.	Rs. a.	Rs. a.
1888-89	...	33 11	25 10	28 5
1889-90	...	40 14	30 3	30 9
1890-91	...	36 3	42 2	30 15
1891-92	...	38 14	22 6	24 3

These are exceptional figures when compared with those of other districts in the Division, and there are moreover extraordinary variations in the figures of one year compared with those of another. With the exception of the value obtained in 1890-91 it will be observed that the price per acre of land sold has each year been below that of land mortgaged as also below the amount discharged per acre redeemed. The explanation doubtless is that the area sold was for the most part uncultivated. The proportionate value per acre respectively of land mortgaged, sold and redeemed during 1890-91 is more in keeping with what is usual in other districts.

### MOOLTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, Esquire.)

\* \* \* \* \*

The area transferred to new agriculturists was—

		Area.	Value.
		Acres.	Rs.
By sale	...	3,511	1,56,463
By mortgage	...	8,180	1,78,532

The transfers are chiefly made by Muhammadan agriculturists to the hands of Kirárs and to a small extent to more energetic Muhammadan cultivators. The reasons of indebtedness as elsewhere are luxurious expenditure and want of thrift and energy.

This subject has been so well threshed of late that there is nothing novel to be said. Government revenue is certainly not a cause of embarrassment in Mooltan to any industrious cultivator.\*

(Remarks by LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. HUTCHINSON, Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.)

\* No, most certainly it is not. The assessments are light.

## MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(A. J. HARRISON, ESQUIRE.)

The sales have decreased considerably this year as also the mortgages; while the redemptions maintain a very good set-off during the year under review. I think that as most of the Rávi villages are already very heavily hypothecated, the number of sales and mortgages will now have a tendency to get less and less every year. There is an Arora banker, named Daryaditta Mal, who is the mortgagee of a number of Rávi villages. But the sales and mortgages will still go on, I fear, until the whole land has got into the hands of the *bunniyah*, as the Muhammadan owner of land contracts debts in a marvellous way and with equally astounding rapidity. His cattle-thefts sometimes cost him dear if he is unfortunate enough to be caught over his favourite pastime. On the other hand he spends any available cash in reckless extravagance. Cases have been known in which Government defaulters of land revenue have notwithstanding had the hardihood to spend outrageous sums on their children being married.

## LAHORE DISTRICT.

(G. C. WALKER, ESQUIRE, Settlement Collector.)

Mortgages and sales show a considerable increase in the year under report over those of the previous year. The pressure caused by the long drought may perhaps largely account for this increase; also it is possible that the preparation of records at remeasurements which was carried on with ever-increasing energy throughout the year brought to light a large number of old transfers.

## GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

The mortgages and sales compare as follows with those of the preceding year :—

				Cultivated area transferred.	Price.	Average price per acre.
				Acres.	Rs.	Rs.
Mortgages	...	...	1890-91 ...	18,978	10,19,206	54
			1891-92 ...	9,359	6,17,638	66
Sales	...	...	1890-91 ...	3,120	2,36,230	76
			1891-92 ...	2,043	2,36,530	115

It would appear from this that there have been fewer transfers of land, and that the prices realized have been much higher. The former is not the case. The real fact is that the whole number of sales and mortgages have not been brought to record. The reason I have already given, the tahsil officers have not exercised the supervision that was needed over their *kánungos* and *patwáris*.\* I believe that as a fact more land has pro-



bably been alienated this year than in the previous year, for the harvests were below the average, and some people had to borrow money on the security of their land in order to supply themselves with means of subsistence. Moreover, in bad years, money-lenders are especially active in pressing their claims in order that they may the more easily get a hold on the land. But it must be allowed that alienation in consequence of the poor rabi harvest would ordinarily not appear until the following year.

The figures for redemption of mortgage bear out my contention that the alienations have not really decreased, for the cultivated redeemed this year is shown as 6,252 acres against 11,246 in 1890-91.

Had the present year been a prosperous one with fewer sales and mortgages, the probability is that more land would have been redeemed from mortgage instead of less.

(Remarks by LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. B. HUTCHINSON, *Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.*)

\* The Collector may be quite correct in his remarks, but they are not apparently founded on any actual information received. If the calculation has been made on the actual number of mutations attested, it must be remembered that during settlement the annual figures were considerably raised by old mutations in former years being brought to book.

### SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN J. R. DUNLOP-SMITH, *Settlement Collector.*)

\* \* \* \* \*

The figures for all the details of mortgages show a marked increase. But it is significant that while the cultivated area mortgaged has increased by 11 per cent. and the revenue of that area by 20 per cent., the consideration money has risen by only 3 per cent. This shows, I consider, that the zamindárs resorted to mortgage to make up for their losses in the two bad seasons especially in the way of farm stock, and it also shows that the money-lenders are as willing as they ever were to secure land. The high incidence of the revenue rate per acre is at the same time partly due to the enhanced demand in Daska.

### GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(M. F. O'DWYER, *Esquire, Settlement Collector.*)

\* \* \* \* \*

Combining the figures of the last five years which I consider to have been a normal cycle, we find that 7 per cent. of the cultivation paying 9 per cent. of the land revenue has been mortgaged, over 60 per cent. passing to money-lenders, while 5 per cent. of the cultivated area paying about 5 per cent. of the land revenue has been sold within the same time, and of this nearly half has been to money-lenders. It cannot be considered a satisfactory state of things that 12 per cent. of the area should change hands in five years, and about 8 per cent. pass to money-lenders.

No doubt the increase in transactions during the past year was due largely to pressure of bad harvests. In Wazirabad, where agriculture is pretty well secured by wells and the harvests fluctuate little, there was no increase; in Gujranwála, which was more severely affected by the drought than the rest of the district, there was an increase under all heads, and in Hafizabad the figures went up by leaps and bounds. I was much puzzled to explain the increase in mortgages in Hafizabad from 2,924 to 14,918 acres, which was found eventually to lie in the fact that a single indebted landholder had mortgaged his entire property, over 9,000 acres, to the Court of Wards to raise a loan sufficient to pay off his debts.

We must, however, look forward to a steady increase in the transfer of land in Hafizabad for some years to come. This, in so far as it shows that the opening of the canal has given an enhanced value to land which was formerly in this tahsíl a drug in the market, is not an unhealthy sign, especially as in this tahsíl it is not unusual to find a village with a few families owning areas of over 5,000 acres. Considerable inducements are now being offered to these zamindárs by the capitalists who have received grants of land on the Chenáb Canal and wish to supplement these by private speculation to part with their property in a wholesale manner and there is danger of their being outwitted and induced to sell for much less than the market value. I have tried to impress on them that the longer they stick to their land, the more its value will be enhanced, and have pointed out that the Government waste on the canal sold for Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 per acre. This

latter argument appeals strongly to them, and would-be investors inform me that since the auction sales of the Government waste it is impossible even in villages remotely commanded by the canal to purchase uncultivated land for less than Rs. 20 per acre, whereas a few years ago such land would have been freely sold for from Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 per acre, and Government in taking up land for the canal in no case allowed more than the latter figure. Undoubtedly the Chenáb Canal has opened out an *El Dorado* for this tahsil and this has given rise to a spirit of land speculation, even among certain classes of Government officials, which will require to be watched, or jobbery and scandal will be the result.\*

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(Remarks by D. IBBETSON, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division.)

\* The figures at the head of this para. deal only with ownership lands. There has apparently been some confusion in compiling the figures for the first two years of the five reported on in regard to redemptions and mortgages. The striking feature apart from the increase in transfers of all kinds is the sudden drop in the proportion of cultivated land to total area transferred in the past year compared with those preceding in all three classes of transfers. It has fallen from 83 to 55 per cent. for mortgages and from 74 to 57 per cent. for sales. The fact is explained by the speculation in irrigable waste in Hafizabad. I am not sure that the transfer of this land is always to be regretted. The areas owned by a few owners were enormous; and if a fair price is got, and the money spent in developing the rest, the process is not unhealthy. The price has naturally fallen also from Rs. 17 to Rs. 5 for mortgages and from Rs. 21 to Rs. 10 for sales. As to the progress of alienation noted by Mr. O'Dwyer, although these transactions are undoubtedly cumulative, yet the accumulation must progress much less rapidly than this report would appear to imply since many transactions must be mere renewals, and in others the same land passes hands several times and in several different ways. It is curious that, as in Rawalpindi, redemptions should have been more numerous, and much more extensive than in any other of the past five years. It looks as if the purchase money of a portion of the land was being used to set free the remainder.

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## SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

The number of sales and the area sold show a large increase as compared with last year. This is probably due to the bad seasons of the year, sales being more rapidly brought to record than mortgages. It is noticeable that while last year, when the seasons were good, three-fifths of the land sold were bought by "old agriculturists," this year almost the whole of the land sold has been bought by "new agriculturists," mostly no doubt money-lenders—another evidence of depression from which the peasant class is now suffering.

Sales are in one respect preferable to mortgages. The purchaser is likely to expend some capital in the development of the land purchased by him, while in the case of a mortgage, neither mortgager nor mortgagee is likely to sink more money than he can help in the land.

Notwithstanding the great enhancement in the land revenue now being taken, the price of land per acre continues to rise steadily and is now Rs. 28, or 76 times the annual assessment of the land sold.

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## RAWALPINDI DISTRICT.

(Remarks by D. IBBETSON, ESQUIRE, Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division.)

There has been a marked increase in mortgages, and sales, and curiously enough in redemptions also; see the annexed table comparing the figures for the past three years. But the figures for 1890-91 for sales and redemptions seem to have been abnormally low. Twenty-four thousand cultivated acres have been alienated; and only 5,800 recovered during the year. Of the 24,000 acres, however, only 5,000 were transferred by order of court or to "new agriculturists." Unfortunately many money-lenders are no longer "new agriculturists." In mortgages the consideration money is showing a slight increase per acre. Redemptions are almost double what they were in the previous year. The price paid per acre from year to year fluctuates violently; while the larger or smaller proportion of cultivated to total area transferred only partially explains the fluctuations. Sales were three-quarters as many again as those of the previous year; the proportion of cultivated land being in all three years much smaller than in the case of mortgages and redemptions.



## KOHAT DISTRICT.

(C. BUNBURY, ESQUIRE.)

The explanation of the large area of land under mortgages in the Barak Tappa is that the Baraks habitually mortgage to one another those lands which they cannot conveniently cultivate owing to their distance from the owner's residence. When the land has once been mortgaged, the mortgagee generally does not care to redeem it. He prefers to lay out any spare money in getting a mortgage of some one else's land near his own home.

A good deal of land has also been mortgaged on account of poverty, the proprietors now supporting themselves by cultivating elsewhere as tenants and being too poor to redeem.

## BANNU DISTRICT.

(H. A. ANDERSON, ESQUIRE.)

The increase in mortgages and sales is attributed to unfavorable character of the year on account of failure of winter rains and want of timely rainfall in kharif. The increase in redemptions *primâ facie* points to a contrary view, but redemptions are to some extent nominal. Lands that have remained under mortgage for a number of years and of which the holders have not been able to pay up their debts have been redeemed from mortgage and finally parted with by sale. In other words a considerable part of the area appearing under redemptions is repeated under the head "sales."

The class of population parting with their lands are zamindárs of small holdings whose resources are too limited to allow them to fall back when the harvest fails. They are replaced partly by *sâhukárs*, but chiefly I think by well-to-do members of their own class. The *sâhukárs* investing capital in land are generally persons already owning lands and possessing in some cases rights of pre-emption.\*

(Remarks by R. I. BRUCE, ESQUIRE, C.I.E., Commissioner and Superintendent, Derajat Division.)

\* In this district most of the purchasers are well-to-do agriculturists, not *sâhukárs*.

## DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE.)

The area sold and that redeemed from mortgage show an increase of 6,500 and 11,093 acres respectively during 1891-92 as compared with the preceding year.. On the other hand there is a decrease of 17,563 acres in the area mortgaged as compared with last year's figures. The value of landed property having risen, people are now beginning to think it advantageous to sell a portion of the land mortgaged for a small sum and redeem the remainder out of the sale proceeds. This probably accounts for the increase in the totals of the areas sold and redeemed. The exceptionally good rabi crop of 1891 is another reason for the increase in the area redeemed, and the decrease in the area mortgaged.

## MUZAFFARGARH DISTRICT.

(SARDAR GURDYAL SINGH, MAN.)

The increase in mortgages and sales shows the increased poverty of the landowners and the transfer of land from cultivating landowners into the hands of moneyed classes. The increase of redemptions of mortgages, instead of meaning anything to the contrary as might at the first sight appear, really denotes the rapidity with which the land is