

changing its ownership. When a landowner cannot pay his debt and has to borrow more he is obliged to mortgage his land. It is very seldom that he is in a position to redeem the mortgage. In fact he may be said never to do it. But very often he mortgages it to some other person for a higher sum, and the latter redeems the first mortgage, or he sells it, generally to the mortgagee and occasionally to others. It is the new purchaser that redeems the mortgage. All these transfers are shown as redemptions of the mortgages, and it is these transactions that swell the number shown in the returns as redemptions. It would be wrong to argue from these that the poor landowners in a good many cases are able to redeem the mortgages of their lands.

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OTHER MATTERS.

ROHTAK DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. C. RENNICK.)

The country lying south of the Butána Branch of the Western Jumna Canal and to the east and south-east of the Western Jumna Canal from Sarsadh downwards is still much water-logged. The Executive Engineer of the Delhi Division is taking steps to drain some of the villages lying east of it at the expense of the District Fund, but nothing has yet been done for Butána and the country south of it. The Executive Engineer of the Karnál Division reports it is not practicable to drain these villages into No. VIII Main Drain*, but I have again addressed him on the subject and he is going to take fresh level this cold season and will, I hope, be able to relieve these villages which suffer much from fever.

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

* As noted on the Delhi report, the drainage of the east of the district has been very successful.

KANGRA DISTRICT.

(E. O'BRIEN, ESQUIRE.)

With reference to the supplementary statement of variations, states that no such statement is submitted with the past year's returns, because, as has been noted in the several statements, the variations in the statistics of recent years are due mainly to the re-settlement operations now approaching completion in this district. Inaccuracies of former measurements have been corrected and completed; the area of several *jágirs* has now for the first time been included in the returns, and the figures indicating the assessments have necessarily undergone great changes in the present re-settlement. Under the circumstances it is hoped that the statement of explanations will be dispensed with this year.

MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(A. J. HARRISON, ESQUIRE.)

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It is a great pity that the people are so fond of grazing cattle to the utter neglect of their land. The rainfall is, as a rule, too scanty to afford any grass, and the result is that after March scarcely a herd of goats or sheep or cows and buffaloes is to be seen on the Rávi. There has also been a great tendency latterly for the zamíndárs on the Rávi to emigrate to the Sutlej and even to Baháwalpur. They have become too lazy to pay even the fluctuating revenue, and have left their homes in bands. It is utterly incomprehensible that wells almost on the banks of the Rávi should be lying idle, as the water is always near the surface, even when the sandy bed of the river is to all appearance dry. They are, however, mostly Sayads, Fatianás, Belochís and Khagás, and irreclaimable cattle-lifters and receivers of stolen property.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

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

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In the Hashtnagar tahsil hamlets are founded by the trans-frontier tribes, and they are in a thriving condition. The settlers, however, are not of the most desirable class and are not good cultivators. They are mostly men who owing to feuds in their own country find it advisable to leave their old homes.

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We have the satisfaction of knowing that the revenue was collected with creditable promptitude and with a minimum of trouble to the people.

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

Nothing can be done till the hill sides are closed against sheep and goats, and arrangements are made for periodical closing of parts in rotation against cattle even, to permit of recovery and reproduction.

REMISSIONS AND SUSPENSIONS OF FIXED LAND REVENUE.

LAHORE DISTRICT.

(H. C. FANSHAWE, ESQUIRE.)

Rupees 29,463 out of the demand for the year were suspended on account of failure of the kharif harvests of 1891 and rabi 1892 in tahsils—

	Rs.
Chúnián	2,262
Sharakpur	24,363
Lahore	2,838

The sums suspended in Sharakpur were recommended for remission, and there is no doubt they will have to be remitted where the new assessments are announced, especially as the present kharif is by no means a good one generally. The facts justifying these large suspensions were reported fully at the time to the Financial Commissioners.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

No remissions other than nominal have been made during the year.

For years previous to that under report, the amount shown as under suspension is only Rs. 125. This balance has been realised in October, so that there is now no arrear older than Kharif 1891. This sum of Rs. 125 was the remains of a large balance of some Rs. 6,000 suspended in the Khusháb Thal five or six years ago after a series of bad seasons. At one time I was about to propose that Rs. 4,178 of these balances should be remitted, but the Financial Commissioner (Colonel Wace) thought it better to wait for good seasons. Accordingly whenever rain fell and grass grew in these villages, a portion of the arrear was realised, and now after a considerable period these long standing balances have been cleared off, without any hardship to the people, an example of the system under which by careful suspensions and collections, a fair average fixed demand should be realized from a tract where the seasons are exceedingly variable in their character.

For the year under report there is a large balance in train of liquidation, Rs. 54,930, of which Rs. 54,884 is under suspension. When it appeared that the monsoon rains of 1891 had been much below average and the kharif crop a very poor one, I carefully considered the condition of each estate in the district, using as a rough guide an estimate of what the fluctuating assessment would have been, had the rates recommended in the Assessment Report of the Shahpur tahsil been accepted. I visited those parts of those districts where the failure of harvest had been most serious and inspected with some care a large number of estates in the Chenáb and Bár circles of the Bhera tahsil where a heavy enhancement of assessment had recently been imposed. The area harvested in the Chenáb circle was much less than half the average area of past years, the gross outturn being considerably below a fourth of that of an average harvest, and notwithstanding the excellence of the previous rabi crop I found it necessary to suspend Rs. 4,246 equal to 12 per cent. of the whole kharif instalment of the circle. In the Bhera Bár where the cattle were in great straits for want of grass I suspended Rs. 6,300 or 33 per cent. of the whole kharif instalment. The only other suspensions necessary were Rs. 840 suspended in two estates of the hill circle of Khusháb.

The failure of rain in the winter season was still more serious, and not only was it impossible to realise any of the suspended kharif revenue, but further suspensions of the rabi instalment became necessary. I again visited the Chenáb circle where the area actually harvested (deducting crops consumed green by the well bullocks) was less than a fourth of an average harvest, and the outturn very poor. I suspended the whole of the rabi instalment in 39 estates and half or three-fourths in 38 estates, altogether Rs. 25,415, or 48 per cent. of the total rabi instalment of the circle. In the Bhera Bár

the area harvested was nominally about half the average of previous years, but in many villages the whole crop was consumed green by the well bullocks, the villages were almost entirely deserted, the cattle having been driven elsewhere in search of grass. Of the whole rabi instalment of the circle, Rs. 10,621, I suspended Rs. 8,783. No suspensions were found necessary in the Bhera Jhelum circle which is largely protected by wells and canals. In the Shahpur and Khusháb tahsils which had not suffered so badly from the failure of rain, only Rs. 10,469 were suspended, the suspensions being granted chiefly to villages along the foot of the Salt range, where hardly any crop was reaped.

These liberal suspensions were acknowledged by the people as a great boon, and the whole of the unsuspended revenue, except some Rs. 46, has been realised without serious difficulty. Considering that the seasons have been almost the worst within living memory, the balance is comparatively small, and it would no doubt have been larger had not the rabi crop of the previous year (1891) been a bumper one.

I have along with the Tahsildárs considered the present condition of each village where revenue is under suspension, and issued orders for its realisation as follows :—

TAHSIL.	ASSESSMENT CIRCLE.	AMOUNT UNDER SUSPENSION.			TO BE REALISED THIS KHARIF.		
		Kharif 1891.	Rabi 1892.	Total.	For Kharif 1891.	For Rabi 1892.	Total.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
BHERA ...	Chenáb ...	4,246	25,306	29,552	3,927	4,646	8,573
	Bár ...	6,142	8,845	14,987	4,137	1,201	5,338
SHAHPUR ...	Ara ...	...	268	268	...	...	...
KHUSHAB ...	Mohar ...	...	7,252	7,252	...	6,477	6,477
	Hill ...	840	1,885	2,725	...	...	...
Total ...		11,228	43,556	54,784	8,064	12,324	20,388

Owing to the abundant rainfall the present kharif harvest is generally good and grass is everywhere plentiful. It will not be necessary to suspend the present instalment except in two or three estates in the Khusháb tahsil. The prospects of the coming rabi crop are at present excellent almost everywhere, and should the winter rains prove favourable, I anticipate that the greater part of the remaining arrear will be realised with the rabi instalment.

HAZARA DISTRICT.

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

Although drought and locusts played an abnormal part and at one time during the year under report it seemed likely that heavy suspensions, if not remissions, of land revenue would be necessary, but eventually the whole difficulty resolved itself into a suspension of Rs. 328, of which Rs. 128 had been collected when sanction was received.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(R. W. KING, ESQUIRE.)

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Of the suspended revenue of previous years Rs. 4,925 were remitted in the Daman villages of the Dera and Kuláchi tahsils and the system of complete fluctuating assessment introduced. These remissions were necessitated by a succession of bad harvests due to continuous drought and the consequent impoverished state of the people. Large remissions have also been recommended in the case of the Cis-Indus Thal, but the matter is still pending before Government in connection with the introduction of a fluctuating assessment into that tract.

BALANCES OF FIXED LAND REVENUE.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

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

Considering that both the harvests of the year were of inferior quality as well as quantity, the fact that on a rent roll of a little over seven lakhs only Rs. 1,121 remained to be recovered at the end of the year (omitting the suspension of Rs. 5,437 on account of a special calamity, viz., a hailstorm, and other minor items which are merely nominal) is very creditable to the Revenue establishment and also shows how easy the demand must be.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, Esquire.)

Rupees 4,925 of the suspended revenue of the Dera and Kulachi tahsils were remitted, while Rs. 97,682 on account of the Bhakkar and Leiah Thal were reported for remission and have been classified as doubtful.

Deducting the above items from Rs. 1,14,188, a sum of Rs. 11,376 remains in train of liquidation.

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

These are pending decision of the question of introduction of fluctuating assessment in Thal.

FLUCTUATING LAND REVENUE (GENERAL).

GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND, Esquire.)

The assessment of this charge against the land is practically made by the district Patwaris, and the rates are fixed, usually at Re. 1 per acre inundated, by more or less formal agreement with the owners of the lands affected.

The financial aspects of this important system of works (class D) which was largely developed under Mr. Maconachie's auspices, have been recently under consideration; and with the approval of the Financial Commissioner a complete report is being prepared with a view to the assessment and collection arrangements being placed, if possible, on a fixed and definite basis.

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

It is time that the large and increasing irrigation protection and drainage system of this district should stand upon its own bottom. It should have a debit and credit account distinct from the District Fund, and thus clearly show its own actual expenditure and earnings. It may in time be self-supporting; till then, whatever help it gets from district funds should appear clearly as such, and should go to the capital account of the works.

JHANG DISTRICT.

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

The total demand under fluctuating revenue for the previous year was Rs. 66,323 and that for the year under review Rs. 58,683, indicating a decrease of Rs. 7,640, generally under *kasht barani* which was carried out to a limited extent through want of rain and was also stopped in consequence of the extension of the Chenab Canal operations at the request of the Colonization Officer.

MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(A. J. HARRISON, ESQUIRE.)

Sources of fluctuating
revenue.

The sources of fluctuating land revenue are:—

	1890-91.	1891-92.	Difference.
Lapsed revenue free holdings	54	40	-- 14
Alluvial assessments	4,611	3,778	-- 833
Waste lands brought under assessment, lease of Government waste and allotments granted on Lower Sohág Para	10,175	13,000	+ 2,825
Other items, viz., release of lands acquired by Government	12	...	-- 12
Total	14,852	16,818	+ 1,966
Fluctuating assessments of canal-irrigated lands	1,07,139	1,58,400	+ 51,261
Ditto ditto other lands	34,276	26,106	-- 8,170
Other items (<i>káshí bárdni</i>)	19,869	13,981	-- 5,888
Total	1,60,784	1,98,487	+ 37,703
Grand Total for the year	1,75,636	2,15,305	+ 39,669
Demand for the year	1,75,877	*2,15,564	...
Balance	241	259	...

GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

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The water-advantage rate has now been abolished and will not appear again in the returns.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE.)

The following table compares the various fluctuating systems of assessment in force in this district since settlement:—

YEAR.	Revenue on lands under the <i>sailába</i> system of fluctuating assessment.	Revenue on lands under the <i>Daman</i> fluctuating system of assessment.	REVENUE ON ESTATES HELD KHAM.				Total of fluctuating revenue.
			Gurdáspur lands.	Bhittáni lands.	Ustarána lands.	Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1878-79	1,41,060	37,742	...	...	...	...	1,78,802
1879-80	1,40,429	15,938	...	...	...	...	1,56,367
1880-81	1,51,931	31,056	...	...	...	...	1,82,987
1881-82	1,58,680	30,810	4,844	7,079	...	12,523	2,02,013
1882-83	1,61,590	38,876	10,882	6,059	...	16,941	2,17,407
1883-84	1,61,976	8,708	14,778	9,758	...	24,536	1,95,220
1884-85	1,67,646	81,052	22,237	8,967	...	30,704	2,09,402
1885-86	1,71,612	19,223	7,115	12,680	...	19,795	2,10,630
1886-87	1,74,785	17,357	8,350	15,617	2,870	26,837	2,18,979
1887-88	1,82,064	19,597	25,520	20,572	2,106	48,198	2,49,859
1888-89	1,92,280	11,039	12,990	11,895	665	25,550	2,28,869
1889-90	2,08,853	32,098	17,902	14,169	3,253	35,324	2,76,275
1890-91	2,13,197	45,244	27,343	9,890	3,008	40,241	2,98,682
1891-92	2,19,890	17,994	17,363	13,256	3,079	33,698	2,71,582

The revenue under the head *sailāba* fluctuating system has steadily increased since the settlement. This marked increase since 1887-88 is chiefly attributable to the fact that the inhabitants of the Thal tract were driven by the long continued drought to migrate to the Kachís with their cattle where they broke up and brought under cultivation a large extent of waste land.

SYSTEM OF FLUCTUATING ASSESSMENT.

HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

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As to the popularity of the system Mr. Fagan made some apposite remarks last year.

* * * * *

Mr. Fagan said that when in the late settlement of the Hissár tahsils it was suggested that the riverain lands in Fatehabad (which are exactly similar to the Sirsa riverain lands being only just a little higher upstream) should be put under fluctuating assessment, the zamindárs refused absolutely to have anything to do with the arrangement.

* * * * *

If owners have an extreme disinclination to put riverain lands under fluctuating assessment then *a fortiori* the proprietors of uplands would view such an arrangement with dismay.

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

Of course fluctuating assessment is extremely unpopular, and the people would sooner lose by a fixed assessment than have the patwáris and the kánúngo for ever at their doors. But Sirsa Rohi is not in point. There the question is between a nominal fixed assessment and a fluctuating assessment, and of course they would prefer the former, even had the latter no annoyances connected with it.

ROHTAK DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. DE C. RENNICK.)

As stated in previous reports in 12 villages of the Jhajjar tahsíl, the system of fluctuating assessment is in force though only a portion of the land of each village is subject to it. The assessment is made on the amount of land put under cultivation and not on the crop. This system has serious disadvantages as when the zamindár sees no likelihood of obtaining a good crop he allows the land to lie fallow and uses it for grazing purposes thus escaping payment of revenue, and in Dádri and Aurangpore the proprietors have set aside these lands for growing thatching grass for which they get a good price. It will be seen from the following figures that the loss to Government in the last five years, *i.e.* from 1887 to 1892, has been Rs. 10,029-8-0.

	Rs.	a.
Fixed assessment	60,840	0
Fluctuating assessment	50,810	8
Difference	10,029	8

The owners with exception of those of Aurangpore are anxious to return to fixed assessment and I propose sending in an application to have this sanctioned.

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

The present arrangement is a losing one for Government, and it keeps land out of cultivation which should bear food. Aurangpore is inhabited by Rájpúts who prefer grazing to cultivation, but their objection should not delay a return to fixed assessments which is generally desired.

The total area cultivated was:—

	Acres.
1889-90	27,236
1890-91	34,873
1891-92	26,675

There is of course practically no attempt to sink new wells anywhere.

GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

* * * * *

Fluctuating assessments are in force in 37 villages in the Káhnúwán Chhamb. The system is not popular among the landowners, but it is necessary for their well being, and has been continued in the recent settlement after a due consideration of all the circumstances. The rabi crops were better than usual in these villages, as a dry year is always favourable at this harvest for low lying lands.

No other villages are now under actual fluctuating assessments; but there are 120 villages, most of them situated on the Kiran in the Gurdáspur and Batála tahsils, the assessments of which have been fixed for only four years certain. That is, every fourth year the condition of each of these villages is to be reviewed, and the assessment revised if necessary.

Notwithstanding the large sums spent by the District Board on the protective works at Bohr Vadála and Bahlpur, the exceptional floods of the present year have done a good deal of damage in the Kiran valley. But this affects the kharíf of 1892 rather than the year under report.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, Esquire.)

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The fluctuating system of assessment in force in the Kachi tracts is very simple the actual cultivated area in each village being assessed on a uniform rate per acre as fixed at the regular settlement. During the year under report this system worked very satisfactorily, both as regards the interests of Government and those of the zamíndárs who much appreciate it.

In the Daman circles of Dera and Kuláchi tahsils except the Kundi circle of the Tánk tahsil where there is only a single crop rate charged the system in vogue is that of $\frac{1}{4}$ fixed and $\frac{3}{4}$ fluctuating revenue. In realizing the latter the crop rates as fixed at the regular settlement are charged on the cultivated area for each harvest. The system is not generally popular among the people as they have suffered considerably of late years as a consequence of the fixity of the $\frac{1}{4}$ jama. The average yearly collections since settlement on account of the $\frac{3}{4}$ fluctuating revenue amount to Rs. 25,482 or 67 per cent. less than the anticipated jama. It would therefore appear from this that the system had failed to work satisfactorily.

On the above grounds Government has sanctioned in the case of 20 villages (*vide* Financial Commissioner's No. 2913, dated 2nd May 1892), an assessment from the kharíf of 1892 at full crop rates instead of $\frac{1}{4}$ fixed and $\frac{3}{4}$ fluctuating. The Government has further left it to the discretion of the Financial Commissioner to introduce a similar system in other Daman villages also which may subsequently apply to be put under the revised system of assessment. It is believed that this revised system will work satisfactorily and be much appreciated by the zamíndárs.

* * * * *

The system of fluctuating assessment in its various forms is certainly well adapted to the needs of this district which is mainly dependent for its irrigation (except in the Tánk tahsil) on rainfall and the supply from hill torrents. The work and hardship, however, that it entails on the Revenue Officers are very great especially in the Daman where the distances to be travelled are so enormous and water and other necessities so scantily supplied. The work of supervision in the Kachis is not of such a laborious nature as in the Daman as in the former the Revenue Officer has to satisfy himself only of the correctness of the patwáris figures during *girdáwari*, while in the latter tract besides this a Revenue Officer is obliged to ascertain the quality and mode of irrigation of every field and to declare the rates that should be charged, as these differ in each case. When it is remembered that the fields are often far apart and the distance between each series of cultivation plots considerable, some idea may be formed of the arduous nature of the Revenue Officer's work

MISCELLANEOUS LAND REVENUE.

MULTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE.)

								Rs.
Demands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68,944
Collections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56,953
Balances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,891

i. e., under *talabána* Rs. 28, and *tirni* Rs. 12,863.

The large balance in the *tirni* is due to sanction to the new assessments being received late. The items are being collected and will be recovered soon. The decrease in the demand is due to only half the *tirni* assessments being collected in order to bring in the collections within the agricultural year. The decrease is therefore only nominal.

JHANG DISTRICT.

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

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There was a large balance of Rs. 29,782 left uncollected during the year under report, but Rs. 21,222 minus cesses, out of Rs. 29,782, were held under suspension till February 1893 under orders of Commissioner, Lahore, *vide* his No. 131, dated 26th July 1892. This was on account of *tirni* revenue due by the inhabitants of Bár, who left their *rahnas* in search of grass which was scanty at that time in the Bár through want of rain. The miserable condition of the Bár people induced me to apply for suspension.

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The remaining *tirni* revenue, *viz.*, Rs. 8,487 is being recovered and the whole of it, with the exception of Rs. 100, was outstanding in the tahsil of Chiniot which was due to the calamity of the season which was highly felt and to the want of energy in the Tahsildár, but as the prospects have since been changed on account of heavy recent falls of rain I am sure that the balance will be paid in before long.

MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(A. J. HARRISON, ESQUIRE.)

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The former demand was fixed in 1886-87, and since then cattle have increased and prices of fodder have risen. Higher tenders were consequently made at the renewal of leases for the next five years.

The total demand is Rs. 1,45,813 as against Rs. 1,28,758 last year. The following deductions must be made from the gross demand Rs. 1,45,813

								Rs.
Lambardár's fees, 5 per cent.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,055
Patwári's fees	3	„	...	...	...	...	...	4,163
Local rate	8	„	...	...	...	...	...	11,101
Share of Forest Department	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27,802
Net demand	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50,121
Tirni	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	95,692

There is an item of Rs. 179, which has to be added to this on account of grazing dues by enumeration of cattle not so classed in the returns by a mistake. There is also a deduction to be made of Rs. 325 recovered in advance in 1890-91, so that the net demand actually recoverable is Rs. 95,546; of this Rs. 95,259 has been collected, leaving an outstanding balance of Rs. 287. A large number of people had left the district with their cattle owing to scarcity of fodder and are still absent. Four defaulters were imprisoned for a month. These have paid up since the close of the year. The outstanding balances of the previous years aggregated Rs. 163, of which Rs. 157 were recovered, and the remaining Rs. 6 are recommended to be struck off.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(J. A. GRANT, ESQUIRE.)

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The amount of fines is always large during settlement operations.

Last year the increase of lawlessness throughout the district necessitated the enforcement of the responsibility of lambardárs and zaildárs and *pachotras* were consequently forfeited in a good many instances.

DERA GHAZI KHAN DISTRICT.

(R. E. YOUNGHUSBAND, ESQUIRE.)

The demand for the year was Rs. 29,491 of which Rs. 15,951 only were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 13,540. This balance occurred under the following heads :—

	Rs.
Talabána	1
Camel <i>tirni</i>	3,734
Grazing leases	734
Rakh „	2,608
Leases of gardens (date trees)	6,405

The camel *tirni* is assessed at one rupee on each male camel over three years of age. A list of camels is maintained and kept up to date by inserting any camels that come within the prescribed age from time to time, striking off those which die, and altering the names of owners in case of sales. Every five years all the camels in the district are enumerated and the list is re-written. The quinquennial alteration took place during the year under report, there was some delay in getting out the new lists and there was consequently a large balance outstanding at the end of the year. This is being collected now.

The arrears of grazing leases and rakhs are due from the Rájanpur tahsíl. As I reported last year the accounts of the Rakh Dárogah were found to be in great disorder, large amounts were outstanding, these have nearly all been realized, but there has been in consequence some delay in realizing the current year's demand. The revenue shown as sale-proceeds of wood from rakhs and forests consists almost entirely of revenue taken from annual leases of rakh lands for cultivation. The amount shown as the demand on account of "leases of gardens and groves" is the sum for which the Government share of the date trees is sold. The sale is made annually, the fruit is gathered in August, and it is found that better prices are obtained by allowing the purchase money to be paid in instalments extending over a few months than by requiring it all to be paid at once. The amount shown as arrears, viz., Rs. 6,405 consists of instalments which are not yet due.

Rupees 11,731 were in arrears from previous years at the commencement of the year under report. The whole of this has been collected with the exception of Rs. 1,290, due from rakhs in the Rájanpur tahsíl.

ALLUVION AND DILUVION.

JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

(COLONEL A. S. ROBERTS.)

* * * * *

The losses by diluvion during the year were 20,372 acres assessed at Rs. 5,651 and the gains by alluvion amounted to 4,832 acres assessed at Rs. 3,415, thus the net result was a decrease of 15,540 acres in area and of Rs. 2,236 in *jama*.

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

A very considerable loss of area.

During the last three years the area removed from assessment by diluvion has been large, viz., 17,730 acres in the year ending Rabi 1890; 16,519 acres in 1891, and as shown by the Deputy Commissioner 20,372 acres in the year ending Rabi 1892.

In the year ending Rabi 1889 the area thus removed was only 2,041 acres.

The reduction of revenue due to diluvion has been in—

								Rs.
1889	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,820
1890	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,623
1891	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,736

On the other hand the gain by alluvion on area newly assessed each year has been—

					Acres.	Rs.
In 1889	3,694	2,321
„ 1890	4,354	3,142
„ 1891	2,746	1,478

GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

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The new alluvion and diluvion rules have now been sanctioned for the district and are an undoubted improvement on the old system, or rather want of system. Mr. Dane notes in his final report on the settlement that the new rules have, on the whole, been found to work “smoothly, and are much approved of by the people.”

GUJRAT DISTRICT.

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

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The matter of revising the system of di-alluvial measurements in this division is under consideration. I have left the file to be disposed of by Mr. Thorburn with a suggestion that this be done at a conference of Settlement Officers.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

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The set of the Chenáb still seems to be to the north or west bank. During the heavy rains of August a flood of unprecedented height came down from the hills spread over all the low lying villages, several of which were completely or partially washed away, carried away several hundred head of cattle, four or five human beings, and damaged or ruined about 8,000 acres of crops. The full results of this calamity will not be evident till the kharif *girdawari* and the di-alluvion measurements have been completed, but to alluvial villages generally the immediate results have been disastrous.

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

The flood alluded to above is a matter in which I am in correspondence with the Deputy Commissioner; compensation has been claimed for the damage done on the ground that the flood was aggravated by railway works.

DERA GHAZI KHAN DISTRICT.

(R. E. YOUNGHUSBAND, ESQUIRE.)

In last year's report I referred to the reclamation bunds, a few of which have been constructed chiefly through the energy of Mr. Molloy, the Canal Officer. So far these have undoubtedly been a success. Silt has been deposited in front of them and the river has been diverted from fresh encroachments. In fact the success has been so great that I have felt justified in asking Government to make an annual grant for the purpose of constructing fresh reclamation bunds in places where it may be possible to do so. The question was brought personally before His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor on his visit to Dera Gházi Khan in April last by the Superintending Engineer and myself.

LAND REVENUE ASSIGNMENTS.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(J. A. GRANT, ESQUIRE.)

The enquiry into revenue assignments has been completed in Tarn Tāran where registers are now under preparation, and is all but complete in the other two tahsils. Over a thousand files had to be examined, many of them intricate cases. The difficulty in tracing out the authority for the several grants was as great as ever, and as a rule the larger the jāgīr the more difficulty there was in discovering the sanction under which it was held.

The number of resumptions has not been large in reality. The total should have been swelled by the inclusion of about 350 ālā lambardāri *māfis* resumed in Tarn Tāran for which in each case a cash *inām* was substituted. These however have not been entered among the resumptions. The genuine resumptions were only about 250 in number.

By next year I hope the tahsīl *māfi* registers will all be complete, and it may be possible to submit a really correct statement in form XXV. I cannot yet assert that the statement is correct. A grossly incorrect statement was sent in by the Extra Tahsildār of Tarn Tāran, which at the eleventh hour had to be sent back for correction. Meanwhile I have had the figures altered in my office, and some of the more glaring errors corrected and am obliged as time is short, to send in the form thus corrected if more exact figures are obtained in time, an amended statement will be submitted.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

The result of the year's proceedings has been to reduce the total assigned revenue from Rs. 1,22,197 to Rs. 1,20,247. Two new grants of small amount were made in favour of institution.

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

Over 18 per cent. of the entire land revenue demand of the year was assigned revenue. This is a very high proportion. Nearly 80 per cent. of the assignments are in perpetuity.

GENERAL ASSESSMENT.

HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

New assessments were announced with effect from Kharif 1890 and settlement operations have terminated.

GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND, ESQUIRE.)

As nothing has been said on this subject since the report for 1888-89, it is convenient to note briefly here how settlement matters stand at date in the Gurgāon district.

Mr. Maconachie's revised assessments in 725 estates were sanctioned by the Local Government as follows:—

- (1) No. 18, dated 18th January 1890, from Junior Secretary to Government, Punjab, to Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab, (Gurgāon tahsīl);
- (2) No. 25, dated 29th January 1891, from Officiating Revenue Secretary to Government, Punjab, to the Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab, (remaining four tahsils);

and are now fully in working. Mr. Channing's original settlement of 1878, as revised by Mr. Wilson, was sanctioned by the Government of India in 1890 for a period of 30 years from 1878, and intimation of sanction was conveyed to the district office by Commissioner's endorsement No. 109, dated 3rd July 1890, sending copy of Supreme Government's No. 133, dated 29th April 1890. There are now no operations in the nature of a general assessment pending in the Gurgáon district.

AMBALLA DISTRICT.

(C. E. GLADSTONE, ESQUIRE.)

The revised assessment of Morni Iláqa was announced this year. The assessment was increased from Rs. 5,370 to Rs. 8,046, and the enhanced revenue has been realized from the Kharif harvest of the year under report.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(J. A. GRANT, ESQUIRE.)

Towards the end of November I received orders on the Assessment Report of the Tarn Taran tahsil which I had submitted in March of the previous year. I was ordered to raise the demand from Rs. 3,03,641 to Rs. 4,00,244 or by 32 per cent. The assessments were announced by the first week in December, the orders being delivered in camp at some large village in or near each *zail*. The sum to be paid by each village including the new *Nahri parta* was announced in the lump, and at the same time the village headmen were told what portion of the new demand was in my opinion fairly chargeable to the wells should they wish to continue the existing system of imposing a lump sum on each working well. It was not meant that they should actually impose this sum and in practice many villages imposed a less sum on the wells, but in nearly every case they expressed a desire to be told what portion it was thought the wells should bear.

With hardly an exception the people elected to continue the old system of having a lump sum as *abiána* imposed on each well, which the owners of the well were to pay according to the shares in which they held it.

The new revenue has now been paid for two harvests without much difficulty though it unfortunately happened that both harvests were poor. The people so far as I can hear express themselves as satisfied with the orders passed.

GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

The general assessment of the district was completed during the year by the announcement of the new assessments in Pathámkot in Kharif 1891.

The settlement was wound up by Mr. Dane in March 1892.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

During the year the orders of Government were received regarding the re-assessment of the Gujranwála tahsil, and the new assessments have now been given out, the effect of which has been to increase the gross demand of this tahsil from Rs. 2,64,000 to Rs. 3,28,612. The zamindárs appear to be on the whole well satisfied with the new *jamás*. An Assessment Report was submitted in March for the Wazirabad tahsil, on which the orders of Government are now awaited, and it is hoped that these will be recieved in time to allow of the new *jamás* taking effect from this Kharif.

During the year I completed the inspection of the Wazirabad tahsil and am now engaged in inspecting Háfizabad villages. This is likely to be a lengthy proceeding as there are over 500 estates, many of which are over 8,000 acres in area and the conditions of

agriculture have changed so much since last settlement owing to canal irrigation that careful and minute inspection is necessary. I make these remarks to explain that I shall probably be unable to submit assessment proposals for the Hafizabad tahsil till the beginning of the hot weather. Measurements were completed in April for the whole district having taken a period of $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, attestation work has been finished for the Gujranwala and Wazirabad tahsils and the revised Record of Rights will be completed by the end of the cold weather, and will incorporate the results of the new assessment and its distribution. All the English note books have been written up for these two tahsils, and I have got the Settlement and District Tahsildars to fill in their remarks about each estate in the Vernacular note books.

* * * * *

In the English and Vernacular note books the remarks made by inspecting officers at the regular and revised settlements have also been incorporated, so that we now have for each estate, a pretty complete history of its statistics since the summary settlement of 1848-49, and the opinion of the various officers at subsequent settlements as to its condition and capacity. If properly utilised these ought to be a great help hereafter not only to District Officers but also to Tahsildars.

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Rapid progress is now being made with the new *báchh* papers in the Gujranwala tahsil and rough copies of the *wájib-ul-arz* or village administration papers have been practically completed in Gujranwala and Wazirabad, though little has as yet been done to attest them. I think that by 1st May operations will have been concluded in Gujranwala and Wazirabad and most of the special settlement staff will then be available for transfer to other settlements. This will leave only the large Hafizabad tahsil now about to be divided into two to be dealt with and the work should be completed for the whole district by 1st April 1894.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, Esquire.)

Before the commencement of the year, the new assessment had been announced in the Bhera tahsil and in the Hill Circle of the Khushab tahsil. Orders have lately been received on the Assessment Report of the Shahpur tahsil and the new assessments are now being announced. Towards the end of the year the last Assessment Report, *viz.*, for the plain portion of the Khushab tahsil, was submitted, and orders are now awaited. It is hoped that the new assessments will be in force throughout the District for this Kharif instalment.

The results of the re-assessment are shown approximately in the following statement which includes assigned land revenue:—

TAHSIL.	Assessment of last year of expiring Settlement.	NEW ASSESSMENT.						
		Final fixed assessment.	Amount deferred.	Initial fixed assessment.	Estimated water-advantage rate.	Total initial new demand.	Initial increase including water-advantage rate.	Percentage of initial increase.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Bhera	1,44,660	2,57,490	33,182	2,24,308	11,700	2,36,008	91,348	63
Shahpur	1,34,588	1,96,131	16,800	1,79,331	20,500	1,99,831	65,243	48
Khushab	1,40,754	1,92,267	1,000	1,91,267	1,200	1,92,467	42,713	29
TOTAL DISTRICT ...	4,29,002	5,45,888	50,982	5,94,906	33,400	6,28,306	1,99,304	46

Thus the re-assessment will have raised the total fixed land revenue demand from Rs. 4,29,002 to Rs. 5,94,906 to which is to be added Rs. 33,400 on account of water-advantage rate, making a total initial demand of Rs. 6,28,306 an increase of Rs. 1,99,304 or 46 per cent.

The total cost of the settlement to date has been Rs. 2,26,623 or little more than one year's increase of assessment.

SURVEYS AND BOUNDARY DEMARCATION.

MULTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE.)

Only one village was newly measured in Tahsil Multan and re-measurements made and *shajras* amended in :—

Tahsil Multan	...	...	...	...	17 villages.
Do. Shujabad	...	...	...	...	20 "
Do. Lodhrán	...	...	...	...	25 "
Do. Mailsi	...	...	...	...	40 "
Do. Kabirwála	...	...	...	...	15 "

Altogether 56 tri-junction pillars were repaired in the district.

GUJRAT DISTRICT.

(BARON J. BENTINCK.)

One thousand two hundred and ninety-one boundary pillars have been repaired and the majority of the pillars are now in good repair. The difficulty in keeping them in repair is great, the people render no assistance, they allow their cattle and cowherds to destroy them and then say it was an accident. In spite of all notices issued to *lambardárs* they seldom repair the pillars thoroughly, so the only course left is as often as they are broken to send a contractor to the village to repair them, and to charge the cost against the village; until their pockets are affected they manifest no concern, but let these be touched and they begin to exert themselves a little.

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

A little of this system will do no harm. The people are very careless about the matter.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

The completion of survey work has enabled us to make better progress with the demarcations of boundaries. Of 207 cases, 186 have been disposed. The most important cases were, or might be expected in the *Háfizabad* tahsil, where owing to the enormous areas chiefly waste land, the survey at last settlement was not found to be very accurate and the maps of adjacent villages generally overlap, or there is a hiatus between them. The area in dispute is often considerable and has now become valuable. In such cases where the maps of last settlement were of little help the parties generally agreed to a demarcation in accordance with the Revenue Survey Maps of 1852-54, and as these are almost invariably accurate and show the boundaries of adjacent villages as locking together their value in settling disputes was very great. The only cases in which they cannot be utilised with advantage are for disputes between estates on opposite banks of the river. Ever since last settlement there have been a number of hopelessly involved disputes pending with *Shahpur* villages on the north bank. Under the instructions of the Financial Commissioner the maps of both districts have now been so prolonged as to show not only the whole bed of the river but also some of the land and permanent banks on the other side. This secures that no area shall be omitted from both districts, and a comparison of the maps showed what areas were in dispute, *viz.*, had been measured on both sides and were claimed by both sides. All such cases have been gone into by the Deputy Commissioner, *Shahpur*, and myself and a decision come to which is given effect to in the maps and papers of both districts so that these protracted disputes have now been once for all settled. The Commissioner has directed similar action to be taken between this district and *Gujrát*, but this has not yet been begun.

COERCIVE PROCESS FOR COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE BY GOVERNMENT.

GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND, ESQUIRE.)

Indiscriminate use of writs is an evil which it is peculiarly necessary to repress in this district. The village tradition that one should never pay until the summons comes

is inveterate, and in many cases the headmen are only too glad to await the arrival of a peon or process server in the hope that he will help them to intimidate refractory or struggling contributors. The process fee and the keep of the process server fall as a rule upon the village fund, and not upon the village officers, sometimes the headmen succeed in charging their commission if confiscated in the same way so that in fining dilatory headmen, one has to consider individual cases.

Last year's report commented on the association of zaildars in the work of collecting the land revenue demand which I was disposed to restrict in some degree.

Matters which have transpired during the year under report tend to confirm the view that this agency must be used in matters of collection most cautiously and only under fixed and carefully explained conditions.

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

I do not think zaildars should be used further than to stir up the lambardars when the time of payment approaches. There is plenty for zaildars to do in other directions if only they will do it.

MULTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, Esquire.)

The total number of processes issued was 849 against 1,812 last year, viz. :—

	1890-91.	1891-92.
Dastaks	979	508
Warrants of arrests ...	735	274
Ditto of attachment ...	93	67
Ditto of sale	5	...

One defaulter was confined in the lock-up for more than three days and one for less than that time.

* * * * *

It should be noted in explanation of the great decrease in the number of coercive processes that great pains have been taken to impress on the zaildars and lambardars (through the Tahsildars) the fact that their revenue duties are real and substantial, and that their efficient discharge is a necessary and precedent condition of their enjoying *inam* and *pachotra* fees.

COERCIVE PROCESS FOR COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE ON APPLICATION OF VILLAGE HEADMEN.

GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND, Esquire.)

The difficulty is to inspire respectable headmen with confidence in the provisions applicable, without encouraging spiteful or oppressive action by the unscrupulous.

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

I concur. I do not think lambardars should generally require much assistance. They receive five per cent. for collection, and if they have any influence they should be able to collect.

KARNAL DISTRICT.

(W. CHEVIS, Esquire.)

The delay in payment of revenue which resulted in employment of coercive processes was not due to defaults on the part of shareholders to any large extent, but to the neglect of lambardars themselves who collect the money on due dates, but in some cases defer payments into tahsil until called upon to do so and the small number of processes issued shows that the lambardars experience no difficulty in collecting the revenue from the biswadars.

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

A needy lambardár will do this. The gradual deterioration of lambardárs in Amballa, Delhi and Karnál is marked. It is the necessary result of the heredity of the office combined with sub-division of holdings.

HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

(E. B. STEEDMAN, ESQUIRE.)

The increase in coercive processes issued on the application of village headmen from 80 to 207 is a conclusive proof of the badness of the rabi harvest. At the same time, I do not think the increase is entirely due to this. Lambardárs are beginning to resort more freely to this procedure to compel defaulting malguzárs to pay up. I called the attention of Tahsildárs to this matter when I first came to the district, and told them that they should encourage lambardárs to apply when necessary for coercive proceedings. Well-to-do mortgagees and land-owners of the money-lender class, who do not live in the village often delay their payments and give great and unnecessary trouble to lambardárs.

LUDHIANA DISTRICT.

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

One hundred and fifteen warrants were issued during the year on the application of lambardárs, all of which were successful.

The number of such warrants is annually increasing. Those issued last year being 107.

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

This is probably owing to the lambardárs becoming better acquainted with the provisions of the law. The Deputy Commissioner might have at the same time noted whether there is a proportionate decrease in the number of suits for revenue brought by lambardárs against defaulting sharers.

MULTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE.)

I have already said that the lambardárs generally have a deficient sense of their duties. They are unwilling to attend at the tahsíl even to pay revenue, and I am told unofficially that fees are heavily taken by the tahsíl subordinates on such payments. Such practices would sufficiently account for the unwillingness of lambardárs to come to their local head-quarters. I need hardly record the fact that I have done my utmost to find out any such cases of oppression, but proof is exceedingly difficult. One case of alleged extortion of the kind is now pending before me judicially which reflects discredit any way on the tahsíl management (Máils), but the truth of the matters alleged seems very doubtful.

(Remarks by Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. HUTCHINSON, Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.)

In this district I am aware that it has always been the custom for revenue to be paid in by the village bania.

This occurs in most districts, I was told by one Tahsildár that it was at the *kists* that the tahsíl establishment got their real income.

REVENUE RECORD ROOMS.

HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

A new topographical list of all the villages of each tahsíl recently re-settled has been prepared, numbers being assigned to each village according to the assessment circles framed in the current settlement. The whole of the records of the four tahsils newly re-settled have been re-arranged in complete topographical order.

UMBALLA DISTRICT.

(C. E. GLADSTONE, Esquire).

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The appointment of a Deputy Superintendent for the Deputy Commissioner has enabled the Superintendent to devote all his time to his legitimate duties. He has gone through all branches of the office and is able to supervise every branch. The Superintendent has shown a great interest in the working of our copying agency scheme which has become very popular. It has saved the applicants from the worry and expense of coming to Court from their homes, seeing a copyist before they could get a copy, and has checkmated the touts who calculate on country men coming to the Courts for their copies, and on catching silly fellows while hanging about the Courts. The applicants can get copies at their homes by Value Payable Post.

During the year under report 10,804 applications for copies were received of which 5,679 applications were received by the Agent. The rest were given in direct to the copyists. The fee of two annas assessed as Agent's commission has cleared off the debt incurred in conducting this scheme and the copying agency is now self-supporting. The Deputy Commissioners of Jhelum and Gurdáspur applied for two trained candidates to conduct this scheme in their districts and two trained men were supplied to them. It is believed that the scheme has become very popular in those districts. It would be an excellent thing if a short Act of a few lines were passed declaring the Copying Agent the "Recognised Agent," of the men applying for a copy through the Agent. Some of the Civil Courts have been from the first bitterly opposed to the scheme, and they can at present, without transgressing the law, refuse to consider the Copying Agent a recognised Agent. Indeed some do this. Touting pleaders are also against the scheme.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(J. A. GRANT, Esquire.)

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The system of sending copies of documents and decisions of Courts by value payable packet post (as noted by the Lieutenant-Governor in para. 17 of His Honor's review in the Revenue Report for the last year) has also been introduced in this district with effect from the 1st May 1892. The system is becoming popular.

About 1,400 applications were received up to 30th September.

RECORD ROOM.

GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

A copying agency on the Umballa system for facilitating the grant of copies was introduced in this district in March last. There was of course the usual opposition to it, for it interfered with many vested interests of the copyists and the Record Room establishment. But the opposition has been overcome, and the new system is working well.

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

There is no doubt that the copying agency has been an unqualified success.

HAZARA DISTRICT.

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

Revenue Judicial Records are filed in one place in the same Record Rooms. Each village has three bundles for Revenue, Civil and Criminal Records separately and within the Revenue bundle is a smaller bundle for the Settlement papers, so that the Settlement papers can at once be got at.

DERA GHAZI KHAN DISTRICT.

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

The Sadar Record Room of this district is I think quite a model one, and shows real good work on the part of the Deputy Commissioner.

OTHER MATTERS UNDER THE LAND REVENUE ACT.

UMBALLA DISTRICT.

(C. E. GLADSTONE, ESQUIRE.)

There are 113 lambardári schools established in the district in which Mahájni is taught by Pádáhs. There are at present 1,383 lambardárs, 532 sons of lambardárs and 695 other zamíndárs, and their sons attending the schools. I am afraid that they do not attend school with any regularity. Some take to it, some are very lazy. All we can say is that we get something in. At present I do not suppose that anything like five per cent. of the population can read or write any language. This is a very sad state of affairs and anything we can do to remedy it is in the right direction.

During the year under report 443 lambardárs and 93 sons of lambardárs have learnt to read and write. A great many have learnt a little arithmetic, chiefly mental arithmetic and how to sign their names. This last matter is not a small one, as it will do away with the practice of affixing fraudulent seals to documents.

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The expenditure of the schools is paid by the people themselves. The question of the teacher appointed and how he is paid is a matter left entirely to themselves.

No lambardár over the age of 40 years is asked to attend school unless he wishes it. Though I have seen lambardárs far exceeding that age learning Hindí, it has always seemed strange to me how very long it takes a pupil to acquire any knowledge of Urdú and how soon he learns something of Hindí.

MULTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE.)

It had been the practice for a lambardár being headman of several villages to have no sarbaráh or agent for the villages in which he did not reside, work consequently was as a rule not done. During the year under report orders were issued for all such men to have sarbaráhs. This has to a great extent been complied with, and there remain only a few villages without sarbaráhs. These too will be appointed as soon as practicable. In introducing any such measure, however much called for, remembrance must be had of previous conditions.

MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(A. J. HARRISON, ESQUIRE.)

The zaildári agency is far from satisfactory. The zaildárs as a rule frequently absent themselves without leave, and many cases have been known of their refusal or neglect to help District Officers. During the recent cholera outbreak, I fined one zaildár for refusing to give intelligence as required, at the nearest thána. These zaildárs want thoroughly overhauling, they are many of them old and incapable, or very heavily involved in addition to the fact that they largely abet and aid in the crime of the district. Very much the same may be said of the lambardárs, who especially on the borders of the Baháwalpur State frequently absent themselves for months together on their cattle forays without being reported.

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

In this district as in Multan the zaildári and lambardári agency is much more difficult to manage than Lahore, Amritsar or Gurdáspur, because the zaildárs are the real heads of their clans, and it would be no use to dismiss them. No one could be found to take their place. But the allowances can always be forfeited and the men can be suspended under the rules. This power should be freely exercised. The institution of zaildárs' books as in Multan and Gurdáspur would have an excellent effect. The attention of the Deputy Commissioner will be invited to this.

LAHORE DISTRICT.

(H. C. FANSHAWE, ESQUIRE.)

In compliance with the orders contained in the letter from the Senior Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, No. 1315, dated 24th February 1892, the subject of remitting land revenue by money order is briefly noticed below.

The above system was introduced in this district with effect from Kharif 1890 (letter from the Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner, No. 126 C., dated 18th July 1890, to the Postmaster-General, Punjab, copy received with Commissioner's No. 380, dated 21st August 1890).

Out of the total collections (land revenue rates, cesses, *takávi*, water-rates and water-advantage revenue) of Rs. 19,34,022, the sum remitted by revenue money order was Rs. 63,177 or 3·32 per cent. The details by tahsils are as follows:—

									Rs.
Lahore ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	607
Kasur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,445
Chúnán ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32,225
Sharakpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,900
							Total	...	63,177

The system is convenient and has generally been understood by the villagers, but it is not utilized by all the lambardárs. Only the headmen of petty and distant estates use the system. There is one difficulty that they do not remit the whole amount due to Government, but keep back a portion of it which is afterwards realized with some delay. The headmen of large estates bearing demand over rupees one thousand pay in the revenue personally at the tahsil in order to save the postal commission of one per cent. They prefer walking a few miles to losing more than ten rupees.

The results, so far, are perhaps better than would have been expected. As a rule only the headmen of distant villages with a small revenue make use of the system at present, as those who have to pay in large sums and do not live at a very great distance from the tahsil, naturally prefer to save the one per cent. commission charged on the money order.

If this commission of one per cent. could be reduced, the system might become more popular, if anything is to be gained by its popularity.

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

I do not think it is at all probable that the system will be generally adopted in any district unless the commission is very much reduced. It must be remembered that the tahsil establishment naturally dislike it.

SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(J. F. CONNOLLY, ESQUIRE.)

Payment of land revenue by money orders.

This year Rs. 12,170 were paid through the Post Office as compared with Rs. 16,876 in the previous year; the number of villages in which the system was utilized being as follows:—

	TABSIL.	Number of vil- lages.	• Amount paid.
Zafarwál	2	Rs. 84
Raya	24	3,195
Siáلكot	59	2,933
Pasrúr	35	5,352
Daska	3	606

The system does not appear to be gaining ground in this district, the *arz irsáls* are seldom if ever written by the patwári, the result being that lambardárs are apt to make mistakes in calculating the revenue. If the lambardár goes to the tahsíl he can generally borrow any small deficiency on the spot and save himself, and the tahsíl officials further trouble. But when the money order is utilised, and error occurs, coercive measures are at once taken. As a matter of fact, out of the 123 money orders received this year, 40 contained mistakes of the nature alluded to, the deficit being generally small sums of Rs. 2 or Rs. 3. In many cases the amount of revenue received was only a small fraction of the total of the village; and, but for the cholera and floods, I think the total revenue paid in this way would have been much less.

The matter was criticised at length in last year's report, and it was then stated that it tended to weaken the administration by making the lambardárs independent of the tahsíl. I think that is the cardinal objection, and outweighs anything in its favour. In connection with payment of land revenue I see no reason why the preparation of the *arz irsáls* should not be made obligatory on the patwári, and he be held responsible for any error. It is commonly urged that he may be in some other village of his circle when he is wanted. But why not prepare them beforehand and distribute them when opportunity offers. It means very little extra work to him, and it would certainly tend to lessen mistakes.

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

It is surely. But during the progress of settlement operations some disturbance of the patwáris' routine duties is unavoidable; and for this reason it is doubtful whether the system has had a fair trial in Siálkot. Certainly, so far, it has not been successful. But it is purely optional, and I would continue it. When the settlement is over, the difficulty about *arz irsáls* (which is quite enough to account for the unpopularity of the system) can be overcome.

ENHANCEMENT OF RENT.

HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN O. G. PARSONS.)

The applications for enhancement were 39 in 1889-90, 345 in 1890-91 and 131 this year. The new assessments were announced in Kharif 1890. These figures are sufficiently significant. It may be expected that the number of applications returned next year will be smaller. In 111 out of the 131 cases enhancement was allowed.

* * * * *

Mr. Fagan showed last year how the introduction of owner's rate as a levy distinct from the land revenue proper (which was reduced) created a good deal of agitation concerning rent between landlords and tenants in canal villages. But this agitation has I think subsided or is subsiding. Landlords as a rule tried to foist the onus of paying the owner's rate upon their tenants to their own very great advantage, seeing that the land revenue proper had been reduced and they demanded the same if not higher real rent than before, but a large number of ostensible *kabuliats* in which tenants were supposed to have agreed to pay "owner's rate" in addition to rent were discredited by the courts, and I think that now the majority of landlords and tenants have come to terms.

ROHTAK DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. DE C. RENNICK.)

Now that there is less recruiting among Jats in consequence of several of the Jat regiments having been disbanded, and owing to the increasing population, the demand for land is very great, and tenants-at-will are having their rents raised steadily every year, and lands which three years ago were renting at 12 annas per bigha *pacca* are now let at Re. 1-4-0.

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

The rise is general throughout the division.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(J. A. GRANT, ESQUIRE.)

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Four hundred and fifty-nine suits were filed against 148 last year. This increase is the natural result of a settlement being in progress, directing the attention of landlords to the small amount of *mālikāna* they receive from many of their tenants and unsettling their minds. - But the enhancements allowed are small, and I do not anticipate that there will be any very startling increase in the number of institutions after the assessment of the two remaining tahsils is announced, unless indeed the increase I propose taking is much pushed up. Some difficulty has been found in interpreting and giving effect in the record to some of the less recent enhancement orders, from the wording of which it is far from clear whether the court intended that the tenant shall in future pay as rent a sum equal to the revenue and cesses, whatever that may be, plus a *mālikāna* bearing a fixed proportion to the revenue, or shall pay a lump sum on his holding. The importance of carefully wording the decree so that there shall be no room for doubt, has sometimes been lost sight of.

GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

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The prevailing rents paid by tenants-at-will shown in Statement No. XIII are taken from the Assessment Reports for Tahsils Gurdāspur, Pathānkot and Shakargarh, and from the Final Report for Tahsil Batāla. A note on these rents will be found in paras. 14 and 15 of the Final Report. The rents will probably require revision in a year or two because, as Mr. Dana has pointed out, there was a tendency to understate the true rents during settlement, and after the assessments are brought out a general rise occurs.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

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It may be noticed that the tendency of rents to rise owing to the increased competition for land and the higher prices of agricultural produce has, over part of the district at least, received a check from the opening up of the Chenāb Canal lands. The progress of colonisation work has attracted thither tenants in great numbers from the Charkhari or highly developed circles of Gujranwāla and Siālkot, and large numbers of small peasant proprietors who used to eke out a living by cultivating as tenants of larger owners have been selected as peasant colonists for the new lands. The supply of tenants having diminished rents have shown a tendency to fall, and though landlords are apt to exaggerate the extent of this, there is no doubt of its existence. To some extent I believe the tendency has been beneficial, as the competition for land in the more densely populated and highly cultivated villages had enabled landlords to rackrent, and the rents which were in some cases as high as six *mans* of wheat per acre were oppressive and could only be paid in full in good years.

(Remarks by D. C. J. IBBETSON, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Rāwalpindi Division.)

There is no doubt that the opening out of the Hāfizabad canal lands to cultivation will decrease the *excessive* competition for land, and this is good. I do not think, however, that it will create a scarcity of tenants except perhaps temporarily and in certain classes of villages.

EJECTMENT.

HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

(E. B. STEEDMAN, ESQUIRE.)

In the case of tenants-at-will only half the number of notices issued last year were served in the year under report. The number of applications fell off from 467 to 408. The Assistant Collectors do not always properly use these sections. Many notices issue which should not issue and would not issue if the entries in the annual papers were carefully

scrutinised. That this is the case is shown by the large number of cases to contest liability to ejectment decided in the tenants' favour. In a litigious district like this a recorded landlord whose title is disputed invariably first applies for the issue of a notice against his so called tenant, though he knows that the tenant has never paid rent and does not admit the landlord's title and he often manages to get the notice issued.

MULTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE.)

A good tenant is rarely turned out in Multan. He is too hard to get.

GUJRAT DISTRICT.

(BARON J. BENTINCK.)

No occupancy tenants were ejected, 321 tenants-at-will were ejected. There were no suits to contest liability to ejectment decided in tenants' favour.

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

The proportion of ejectments to applications was extraordinarily large. No one tenant successfully contested ejectment. Either the tenancy law is being worked with harshness or the state of affairs is peculiar.

HAZARA DISTRICT.

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

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In 140 suits by landlord to eject tenant, 135 were decided. In 41 of these decrees for ejectment were given under Section 40 and the rest were dismissed. The reason for the number of suits brought in this form is that persons whose claim is perhaps founded only on mistakes in the entries in the yearly paper, when they find that the entry of their names will give a pretext for a suit, prefer to lay their suit against the occupant of the land as against a tenant in order to defeat a plea of undisturbed possession.

NORTHERN INDIA CANAL AND DRAINAGE ACT (No. VIII OF 1873).

HISSAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

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The Indri-Sirsa canal is being pushed on rapidly by Mr. Hatten, the Executive Engineer, and his Assistants. Digging within the district has commenced. This will change the whole nature of the Fattahabad tahsil, as it is calculated to irrigate about 50 villages.

KARNAL DISTRICT.

(W. CHEVIS, ESQUIRE.)

The Sirsa Canal was opened for irrigation during the year.

HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

(E. B. STEEDMAN, ESQUIRE.)

The areas irrigated from Government and private canals have fallen off by 2,069 acres and 1,638 acres respectively. The larger portion of the area irrigated by private canals is on canals that are really branches of the Shah Nahr canal, and the causes of the decrease are the same. In Part I. I have stated that the main causes of the decrease were (1) the lateness of the rains in June-July and (2) the heavy floods in the Beas during the rains

that did so much damage to the head of the canal. In addition to this several villages petitioned that they might be excused from paying water-rates as they did not take water, believing that we could not prevent the overflow from the Shah Nahr from reaching them. This manœuvre was completely unsuccessful. No water whatever from the Shah Nahr reached these villages, and last cold weather they petitioned to be allowed to get water again from the canal.

In the case of several other villages I had to stop the supply of water, because the villagers would not pay up what they admitted to be due on account of water-rates to the old proprietors. Up to date out of a balance of Rs. 16,993 due to the old proprietors I have collected Rs. 12,380, and most of the remainder will be paid in instalments.

I suggest for the consideration of higher authorities that it would be a good thing to have the canal inspected by an officer of the Canal Department. He could, I think, see the whole of it in a month, and his suggestions as to management would be of the utmost value. The Manager, Kharak Singh, does very well, but he is only an amateur and the Tahsildár and the Deputy Commissioner are still more amateurs in canal management.

LUDHIANA DISTRICT.

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

The Sirhind Canal which is imperial passes through all three tahsils of this district.

The area irrigated by the canal during the year as compared with that in the past year stands as follows:—

					1890-91.	1891-92.
					<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
In Kharif	...	...	...	...	12,903	10,690
In Rabi	...	...	...	...	38,329	31,558
					<u>51,232</u>	<u>42,248</u>

The water rate demand for the year was Rs. 1,68,666 against Rs. 2,19,034, showing a decrease of Rs. 50,368.

This enormous decrease in the revenue deserves special attention and full enquiries will be made as to the cause of this decrease during the next touring season.

MULTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE.)

The following table furnishes details in regard to the Sidhnai and other canals issuing from the River Rávi:—

Tahsil.	Name of Canal.	AREA IRRIGATED IN PREVIOUS YEAR.			AREA IRRIGATED IN YEAR UNDER REPORT.			DIFFERENCE.	
		Kharif.	Rabi.	Total.	Kharif.	Rabi.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.
		<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Multan	Sidhnai	17,013	16,814	33,827	19,412	19,893	39,305	5,478	...
Kabirwála	Do.	35,844	36,712	72,556	31,445	34,335	65,780	...	6,776
	Total	52,857	53,526	106,383	50,857	54,228	105,085	...	1,298
Kabirwála	Kuranga	653	2,297	2,950	661	2,017	2,678	...	272
Do.	Fázil Shah	265	2,177	2,442	1,794	2,058	3,852	1,410	...
Do.	Abdul Hakím	...	63	63	1,191	1,614	2,805	2,742	...

The inundation canals are —

Name of Tahsil.	Number of Canal.	AREA IRRIGATED IN ACRES.		Difference.
		1890-91.	1891-92.	
Multan	8	76,685	73,432	— 3,253
Shujabad	8	70,972	72,285	+ 1,313
Lodhrán	17	88,563	98,618	+ 10,055
Mailsi	11	74,160	127,135	+ 52,975
Kabirwála	3	3,468	3,885	+ 417

The private canals are —

Tahsil.	Number of Canal.	AREA IRRIGATED IN ACRES.		Difference.
		1890-91.	1891-92.	
Shujabad	5	1,879	1,725	— 154
Lodhrán	3	338	644	+ 306
Mailsi	1	42,622	8,982	— 33,640
Kabirwála	Not known	24,173	12,075	— 12,098

The large decrease in the private canals and increase in the inundation canals is due chiefly to the transfer of the Hájiwah Canal to the imperial head of accounts with effect from 1st April 1892.

SIDHNAI CANAL.

The kharíf of 1891 was a record one and opened with a full supply of water in the canal. As water came down in small quantities on 1st January and gradually increased until at kharíf sowings there was plenty of water, and this desirable state of affairs lasted right through the kharíf crop.

The total of cultivation taken from the Deputy Commissioner's figures show 157,168 acres, and out of this only 43,095 *kharába*.

Though of course this season with its early water is one to be remembered by the zamíndárs, still it is probable that it had an indirectly bad effect on the cultivators in discouraging outlay on wells and generally making them careless in their methods as to *kárís*, waste of water, &c.

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The fate of the rabi of 1891-92 has been far different from that of kharíf of 1891. The canal ran dry on 15th November, by which time first waterings had for the most part been given, second waterings occasionally, and sometimes even third waterings. The unusual supply of previous year probably induced careless and insufficient ploughing, and no doubt the same reason led cultivators generally to go in on a very large scale for wheat. A most profitable crop, if successful but unluckily requiring very heavy irrigation for success. A total sowing of 79,239 acres which beats all previous years is the result, but of this 30 or 40 per cent. may turn out *kharába*, the exact figures are not yet to hand. If, as is hoped, this year's rabi's bad results will convince zamíndárs of the necessity for wells and careful cultivation they will really be most beneficial.

SUBSIDIARY CANALS.

The general remarks on the Sidhnai Canal apply to these three canals. But as to the silt the Fázil Shah behaved extremely well, needed no clearance, whereas the Koranga and Abdul Hakím silt heavily. The zilladárs' figures for these three canals are most satisfactory and show large increases, though the irrigation really is still far from fully developed and much jungle clearance remains to be done.

ZILLADARS' FIGURES.

CANALS.	Kharif 1890.	Kharif 1891.	Rabi 1890.	Rabi 1891.
Koranga	736	923	2,300	3,000
Fázil Shah	203	1,647	1,101	2,715
Abdul Hakím	Nil.	1,430	34	2,100

The subject of canal administration is of almost endless interest, but the remarks which I can usefully make will be of a general nature, as the irrigation experience of 1892 is so different from what has been here recorded for 1891-92 as to make comment in detail useless. One fact that needs record as to the inundation canals in Mooltan is the precariousness of the supply as regards individual villages. The average inundation of the district may perhaps be steady, though under present circumstances that too seems doubtful, but for each village the fluctuations for successfully irrigated areas vary very considerably indeed from year to year, and where our records seem to negative this, they should be at least doubted. I do not think that at present our system of checking measurements fully represents this, it has been repeatedly forced on my mind while marching through in individual villages that their irrigation results as shown in the records are not so elastic as the facts. This is partly of course the fault of the patwári, partly that of the people themselves, but when complaint is made, the Tahsildárs are not always ready enough to investigate it thoroughly.

There are three sources of supply for our canals of very different character.

The Sidhnai Canal with its auxiliaries depends on the Rávi which has already been tapped by the Bári Doáb Canal. The District Officer must perforce be anxious as to anything which tends to diminish the supply down the Sidhnai, and the useful experience of this year coming so soon after that of 1890 has done great harm to the settlers. If it has not done more, it is partly because of the strong persuasions and statements made by district officials of the certainty that water must soon come (it did not appear till July 19th); and partly because of the new hope arising from the scheme of tailing in the Chenáb Canal above the Sidhnai weir. I wish to represent strongly that, quite apart from its convenience for the Chenáb Canal and its irrigated tract, this measure is very necessary as a partial act of justice to the Mooltan district in return for taking so much of its Chenáb supply.

The Chenáb Canals indeed will lose part of their water, and I see no remedy for this at present. The lower ones, say the Gajjuhatta and the Sikandarabad, may feel no material harm, but it is hard to suppose that the Wali Muhammad, Daurána Langána, Matti Thal, and Khadal will not suffer sensibly when the big scheme of the Chenáb Canal comes into full operation. No one of course would wish to urge that that scheme should not be developed, but it is necessary to remember the facts, and I sincerely hope that some method may be found of helping this part of our irrigation. For the Sutlej irrigation short of the gigantic scheme of a back-bone canal coming down in the middle of the district, an idea which can be worked out only after a generation at least, the greatest help possible is to be derived by the developments of the Hájiwah which can be improved into a really great work. I mention this specially because of the peculiar history of the canal.

JHANG DISTRICT.

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

The private "nálas" flowed as before and irrigated areas as detailed below:—

No.	NAME OF NALA.	Total area, Kharif 1891.	Cultivated in Rabi 1892.
		Acres.	Acres.
I	Uch in Tahsil Jhang	195	167
II	Halriwah in Chiniot	1,314	3,375
III	Kurk Mohammadi in Chiniot	89	250
IV	Uch in Tahsil Shorkot	285	...
V	Bakhtwah do.	796	1,797
VI	Sujáwawah do.	1,019	4,294
VII	Wakefieldwah do.	211	218
	Total	3,909	10,101
	GRAND TOTAL		14,010

MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(A. J. HARRISON, Esquire.)

The results of irrigation from canals are compared in the following table :—

	1890-91.		1891-92.		DIFFERENCE.	
	Kharif.	Rabi.	Kharif.	Rabi.	Kharif.	Rabi.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Upper Sohág	15,533	23,620	21,749	47,800	+ 6,216	+ 24,180
Lower Sohág-Pára	18,948	19,656	20,853	28,170	+ 1,905	+ 8,514
Khanwah	34,742	24,982	30,923	41,536	- 3,819	+ 16,554
Katora	155	591	111	247	- 44	- 344

All these canals received an abundant supply of water this year, and the lateness of the rains induced the cultivators to irrigate much more land than last year.

The decrease on the Khanwah during kharif is said to be due to the stoppage of water owing to the silt not being properly cleared out.

With regard to the settlements in these new *chaks* (Sohág-Pára) out of a total of 750 holdings, about 300 still remain unprovided with wells.

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The *chaks* are on the whole in a most flourishing condition, as the year has been a good one.

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The water-rate aggregated Rs. 2,28,342 as against Rs. 1,60,981 last year.

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The following table shows the irrigation from District Canals :—

	1890-91.		1891-92.		DIFFERENCE.	
	Area irrigated.	Demand.	Area irrigated.	Demand.	Area irrigated.	Demand.
	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.
Nikki	2,307	1,080	707	370	-1,600	-709
Sukráwa	3,438	1,709	1,945	1,020	-1,493	-689
Degh	4,560	2,253	2,194	1,299	-2,366	-954
Pindi Sheikh Musa cutting	128	64	23	12	- 105	- 52

There is a great falling off this year owing to the Rávi being very low and the Degh not being in good flood.

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There are two private canals from the Degh whose construction is contemplated. But the proposals have met with great opposition from a great many villages through whose lands the cuttings will be taken.

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Much has been done to persuade them to give the necessary permission, but it is greatly to be hoped that the proposed addition to the Canal Act giving the Deputy Commissioner power to buy out such unprincipled objectors will shortly be passed.

SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(J. F. CONNOLLY, Esquire.)

Irrigation from the Degh has been largely increased in the Raya tahsil. The canal which takes out at Jiwan Guraya has been considerably enlarged and a much greater volume of water is now brought into the Chakráli *kund* for distribution to the lower villages in the Kalar. The canal taken from the Hachár *band* has also been widened.

These works have been carried out from money contributed by the villages which benefit from the irrigation.

Colonisation on the Chenáb Canal.

As already mentioned a considerable number of people have gone from this district to take up allotments of land on the Chenáb Canal. This scheme has been very popular, particularly in the case of peasant grants. There were several thousand applications for the latter, but there was only sufficient land for 2,637 applications that will mean an exodus from the district of about 25,000 or 30,000. I hope more land can be given as the district is in many parts over-populated, and holdings are very small. Fifty-six men got yeoman and 3 capitalist grants.

(Remarks by D. C. J. JBBETSON, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent,
Rāwalpindi Division.)

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Recent discussions regarding the Raya assessment show how very desirable it is to relieve the congestion in parts of Siálkot.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

The area irrigated from canals has been as follows :—

YEAR.	Government Canals.	Private Canals.	Total.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1889-90	36,431	40,796	77,227
1890-91	37,024	39,434	76,458
1891-92	42,809	24,743	67,552

The area irrigated by Government canals shows a considerable increase owing to the improvements and extensions carried out on the Imperial canals in the Shahpur tahsíl by Mr. Fraser, the Executive Engineer, deputed to assist the Deputy Commissioner in his management of the inundation canals in this district. The great decrease in the area irrigated from private canals is partly due to the unfavourable character of the floods of the year and partly to the introduction, in the Bhera tahsíl, of the water advantage and royalty rates which have induced the canal owners to restrict the use of their canal water to a smaller area. Some of the private canals are badly managed and do not flow well in years of poor flood like 1891.

Imperial Canals.

For the Imperial canals in the Shahpur tahsíl, the statistics are as follows :—

YEAR.	Area irri- gated in acres.	Demand for agricul- tural year.	Income for financial year.	Total expen- diture in- cluding ex- tensions and improve- ments.	Net revenue.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1889-90	18,535	42,140	43,391	18,275	25,116
1890-91	21,313	47,699	49,465	24,438	25,027
1891-92	28,292	60,220	48,306	27,219	21,087

Taking the figures for the financial year ending 31st March the income is nearly as much as in 1890-91, and much higher than in any previous year, the expenditure includes Rs. 7,463 spent on extensions and improvements, so that the true net income of the year was Rs. 28,550 or 42 per cent. of the total capital outlay, which was raised during the year from Rs. 40,739 to Rs. 67,676. The effect of Mr. Fraser's improvements is seen in the increase of area irrigated which has risen from 21,313 to 28,292 acres, and of the consequent demand for the agricultural year which has risen from Rs. 47,699 to Rs. 60,220. As the improvements are still in progress a further large increase is to be expected in the coming year.

For the Rániwah (a provincial property) in the Bhera tahsil the statistics are as follows :—

YEAR.	Area irrigated.	Demand.	Income.	Total expenditure including improvements.	Net income.
	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1889-90	17,896	46,143	41,384	11,102	30,282
1890-91	16,749	43,140	45,390	9,613	35,777
1891-92	15,334	31,255	33,964	7,094	26,870

The decrease in the area irrigated is due to the unfavourable nature of the floods of the year, 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 their kharif crop so early as usual, and to the introduction of the water-advantage rate which made them more chary of irrigating their fields. The rules sanctioned in the orders on the Bhera Assessment Report allow of liberal remissions on fields that have failed to produce a crop, and as the kharif and rabi crops were both poor, and the measurements and assessments of canal revenue were carefully checked, no less than 2,118 acres of the 15,334 acres irrigated were left unassessed as having failed to produce a crop, another reason for the large falling off in the demand for the year for water-rate, to which, however, has to be added the new demand for water-advantage rate Rs. 5,920, and cesses thereon Rs. 1,118, making a total demand of Rs. 38,293, which is still, however, below the water-rate demand of the previous two years.

Under Mr. Fraser's economical management, the expenditure on this canal has much decreased and when the improvements now being planned have been carried out, a considerable increase of income is to be expected.

For the Corbynwah Canal in the Khusháb tahsil, which was purchased during the year by the Provincial Government from the District Board and the Municipal Committee of Khusháb at a cost of Rs. 15,000 the statistics are as follows :—

PERIOD.	Average area irrigated.	Average annual income.	Average annual expenditure.	Average annual surplus or deficiency.
	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Five years ending March 1887	2,290	1,016	1,873	— 857
Three years ending March 1890	2,493	1,935	1,173	+ 762
1890-91	2,356	2,035	932	+ 1,103
1891-92	2,303	1,953	645	+ 1,308

The financial position of the canal has thus greatly improved of late years. Improvements costing Rs. 13,671 have been sanctioned and are in progress. The canal is not so favourably situated as those on the other side of the Jhelum and has suffered considerably from this year's excessive floods.

I have again to acknowledge the great assistance I have received from Mr. Fraser in the management of the inundation canals of the district. He has greatly improved their alignment and administration, and designed and carried out large extensions which have already greatly increased the area irrigated and the income, and will make these canals still more profitable to the State and beneficial to the people. I have in a separate report pointed out the necessity of extending the period of his deputation now about to expire.

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PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN H. A. DEANE.)

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The Michni-Nowshera Canal was completed during the year, it was estimated to cost Rs. 3,60,000, nearly all of which has been expended. The canal was opened for a few days in July, but the heavy rain during August caused considerable damage to it,

and a further sum of Rs. 40,000 has been allotted for its repairs. It is anticipated that the canal will be in working order again by the middle of December 1892.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE.)

The codes of irrigation rules and customs are being translated into English, and it will be a great advantage if these are declared to have the presumption of truth.

DERA GHAZI KHAN DISTRICT.

(R. E. YOUNGHUSBAND, ESQUIRE.)

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All the canals of the district are Government canals in the sense that they are controlled and managed by Government. They were for the most part excavated by private individuals under the control and orders of the Sikh Governors, and both Government and the irrigators have rights in the canals. Four of the canals of the district, the Massuwah Dhor, Fazalwah, and Dhundi have been bought outright by Government since the last settlement. The purchase of the Dhundi included a strip of land the whole way along its banks.

The total area irrigated from canals during the year under report was 191,505 acres as against 207,742 acres in the previous year. The area irrigated by canals has been considerably extended since settlement, and the decrease in 1891-92 was due to the failure of the Manka, Dhingana, Chibri and Sahiban Canals. The head of the Manka has given much trouble of recent years. The falling off was entirely in the kharif irrigation. In the rabi the irrigation increased from 66,815 to 68,300 acres. During the last two years the Dhundi Canal has been kept running during the winter months, and the income from this canal has in consequence increased very considerably.

MUZAFFARGARH DISTRICT.

(SARDAR GURDIAL SINGH.)

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There has been an extension of 39.96 miles in the length of canals, mostly the branches of Indus Canals; 14.19 miles of canals have been given up as unserviceable.

LAND IMPROVEMENT LOANS ACT.

GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND, ESQUIRE.)

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The remarkable hold which the system has obtained upon this district is unmistakeably due to the personal exertions of Mr. Maconachie. It takes some time for the rural body to make acquaintance with the District Officer, and until this acquaintance is established the more prudent and frugal among the smaller farmers will not come forward, even where a loan is strongly wanted. By having an extract from the last annual papers filed with the application when presented, a proportion of delay and correspondence has been saved, and the advantage of this arrangement has been duly made known. For disbursements at the district head-quarters the Treasury Officer has instructions to see the money counted over in his presence, and Tahsildars are enjoined to see it paid in front of them when vouchers are enfaced for payment through a tahsil. No obstacles to disbursements at Sub-Treasuries, where convenient, have arisen in this district.

A stock of the proper voucher forms is taken with the Deputy Commissioner on tour, and even if the requisite calculations cannot be performed on the spot by a revenue muharrir, the Tahsil Revenue Accountant is not usually far off, the file can be completed in a couple of hours at most in ordinary cases, and the voucher is then made out, enfaced

for payment at the tahsíl under the Deputy Commissioner's signature which has hitherto been accepted for this district by the Accountant-General, and delivered in the Deputy Commissioner's presence to the applicant, the whole transaction occupying less perhaps than a working day out of the cultivators' time. It is most useful to take up *taccávi* business during tours, because then the Deputy Commissioner can ascertain for himself on the spot the merits of the application, to say nothing of cases in which he may safely suggest improvements that might never have been started but for a word of counsel or encouragement. Caution of course has to be applied and a knowledge of the village politics is most desirable. Cases have occurred in which plausible requests were made, almost certainly in the hope of palming off old work as new and spending the bulk of the grant in litigation. Applications put in just before the revenue term day too, must be rather zealously examined.

DELHI DISTRICT.

(R. CLARKE, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

The Taccávi Department in this district is not satisfactory, and although I am a strong advocate for the extension of the system, I have been unable to grant new loans while the condition of the old ones was what it is. Most of the old loans were granted in 1885, enough was not given to carry out the work, the instalments began to be demandable too soon and were not spread over a sufficient period, so as a rule the wells were not sunk. The instalments were paid regularly enough as long as the crops were average ones, but a run of bad years has been experienced in the Ballabgarh tahsíl and payment was withheld or could not be exacted. I have had to report cases for sale of the hypothecated land but a good deal of hardship will be involved if the sales are sanctioned.

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

The money in each case has been misapplied, but it is not a necessary inference that poverty was the cause—at least unavoidable poverty.

KARNAL DISTRICT.

(W. CHEVIS, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

I have moreover reason to believe that loans both under this and the Agriculturists' Loans Act are not always applied to the objects for which they are obtained, and that in many instances advances are applied for to meet other demands under the Land Improvement Act; the applicant has to convince the Revenue authorities of having made some preliminary preparations for effecting the improvement in view before he can obtain a loan, but the case is quite different under the Agriculturists' Loans Act where he has simply to file an application and to assert his inability to meet the demand otherwise. Again the applicant has to offer his land as security for the loan under the Land Improvement Act, whereas a personal security only has been considered sufficient under the Agriculturists' Loans Act. Applications for loans to effect improvements are therefore rarely made to Collector, whereas a large number of applications is presented for loans required for the purchase of bullocks every year (at least this was the case during the past and preceding years) and in several instances the applicants were found to be in no need of bullocks. It is thus clear that loans were applied for either to meet the demands of usurers or to cover some other expenditure. Repayments are however generally punctual.

JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. S. ROBERTS.)

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In the report for 1890-91 the Financial Commissioner in statement XXVI gave among other information the amount of advances made by each district during the year. From this it appears that this district was a long way the first in the Province in the amounts advanced, viz., Rs. 70,000, while the next two districts were only Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 21,000 respectively. There was a great deal of interesting information given at page 40 of the report and in Appendix I. All this led me to think that it would be interesting to review the entire transactions which have taken place in this district during the last 42 years (no earlier statistics than those of the year 1849-50 are procur-

able) so with some difficulty I had a list compiled from old records of the number of wells constructed and the amount advanced for each year since 1849-50. There is no necessity to give the whole list here; suffice it to say that the transactions of the forty-two years naturally fall into five periods as shown in the accompanying statement. With reference to the amount of advances made in each period, it is interesting to note how the loans fell off during the five years the late settlement was in progress, and for the three years immediately preceding it.

When the Settlement authorities had classified the land into well-irrigated and unirrigated, and the people saw that they had a thirty years lease of certain lands at unirrigated rates they immediately began taking loans to a great extent so as to get the benefit of wells without paying extra revenue on the land irrigated. So that of the total amount taken in forty-two years two-thirds was taken during the last eight years since settlement.

During the year 1890-91 the immense sum of Rs. 70,000 was taken. Doubtless the great demand which has arisen of late years for exporting grain, cotton, sugar and other products has been a great incentive to the people to construct wells. This district is favourably situated on the railway and is particularly adapted to the sinking of wells owing to its being situated between the rivers Sutlej and Beas and getting the sub-soil percolation of these rivers and of the sub-montane to the north.

Statement III of Part I, column 16, shows 23,788 wells as the total number which were in use during the year, so that of these 2,367 or exactly one-tenth were constructed out of loans advanced by Government. This large proportion shews what an incalculable amount of benefit the Government has bestowed on this district by this system of advances. In seasons of drought like that which we have just been through the benefit afforded by these wells must have been very great. The average amount spent on each well (see column 6) is rather low but it is here explained that advances are very often taken for the construction of only portions of a well or for repairs.

Statement of agricultural loans for the construction of wells made between the years 1849-50 and 1891-92.

1		2	3	4	5	6
PERIOD.		Number of years.	Number of wells.	Amount advanced.	Proportion of the amount advanced during each period to the total amount advanced.	Average value per well.
From.	To.					
				Rs.		Rs.
1849-50	1867-68	18	167	13,988	2.95	84
1868-69	1875-76	8	609	72,911	15.39	119
1876-77	1883-84	8	155	26,380	5.57	169
1884-85	1887-88	4	539	1,17,346	24.77	217
1888-89	1891-92	4	897	2,43,000	51.30	270
1849-50	1891-92	42	2,367	4,73,625	99.98	200

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

The above is an interesting account of the system as it has worked in the Jullundur District. Its popularity since 1884-85 is clearly illustrated. The advances averaging as high as Rs. 60,000 per annum during the last four years. In the last column of the above statement it is shown too how the average cost per well has steadily risen, the proportion being $3\frac{1}{2}$ times the cost what it was in the first year for which statistics are supplied by the Deputy Commissioner. The large number of wells in the Jullundur District is a distinctive feature of its agriculture. In a bad year like that under report the dependence on wells becomes a matter for grave anxiety. The wells showed symptoms of failing to supply water, but fortunately the heavy summer rains arrested what might have been a very grave calamity. The failure of water in the wells and the consequent failure of fodder crops and the probable mortality amongst bullocks would involve an immense loss of capital from which the district would require several years to recover.

LUDHIANA DISTRICT.

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

* * * * *

Ten applications for advances for the construction of eleven wells for irrigation purposes were made during the year under report for an aggregate sum of Rs. 2,580 as against Rs. 2,140 in the previous year. Of these one application was rejected and nine applications were granted for Rs. 2,380. No application was pending at the end of the year.

* * * * *

(Copy of remarks by G. SMYTH, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Jullundur Division).

The system of advances under the Land Improvement Act apparently requires to be better understood in this district. In the neighbouring district of Jullundur the amount advanced is very large. There is a slight increase in the year under report, but no great interest is taken by Tahsildars in the matter.

MULTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

Another fact which is recorded not for complaint but as faithfully giving the revenue history of the year, is that in a good many cases the instalments for repayment were found to be excessively large, and this necessitated reduction in their amount and lengthening of period of payment entailing extra work on the Tahsíl establishment. I brought the point to the personal notice of the Financial Commissioner, but he did not agree with me that the rules themselves were not quite blameless, in that they regard the payment of much interest as something to be avoided. Of course if long instalments are allowed the aggregate of the interest must swell. He agreed, however, that my action had been necessary, and I have since received official approval of it. I need hardly say that the *taccávi* payer approves and the spread of information as to this new policy may partly account for the increased willingness to take advances. This work should be an important feature of this next revenue year. Government has allowed my proposal to threaten the Sidhnái cultivators with no allowance for *kharába* if they wilfully neglect to make wells on canal land, and I earnestly hope that no untoward check may be received to their good intentions at present developing.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

* * * * *

It was noted last year that the system was not popular in this district. This year however there has been a marked improvement. Excluding the sum which was advanced by the Colonization Officer in connection with the colonization, the advances made this year amount to Rs. 3,480 against Rs. 1,880 last year and Rs. 960 in 1889-90. I hope this is a sign that the people are beginning to see the advantage of borrowing money from Government instead of from money-lenders. The loans are as a rule faithfully applied and punctually repaid.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

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

* * * * *

Rupees 20,420 were granted under this Act against Rs. 30,420 in 1890-91, a decrease of Rs. 10,000. This decrease is in a great measure due to these loans not now being required to such a large extent as in the two previous years by the inhabitants of the Nowshera tahsíl. Loans were given in this tahsíl on a very liberal scale during the two preceding years on account of their lands having suffered for several consecutive harvests from want of rain.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE.)

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The advance is made chiefly in the cis-Indus tahsils for the construction of wells only. In the trans-Indus tracts necessity seldom arises for taking *taccavi* advances as the irrigation is chiefly from hill streams. For these only *bands* are necessary which require no skilled labour to construct and which the zamindars can therefore put up themselves.

* * * * *

Every effort is being made to make the system popular. Applicants for *taccavi* are not now required to attend at the Saddar (except in special cases) before the grant is made.

* * * * *

Loans amounting in the aggregate to Rs. 3,200 were granted for the sinking of 22 new wells and the repairing of two old ones in the cis-Indus *kachi*. The works are under progress. As a rule the zamindars defray about half the cost of these works from their own pockets and apply only for such amount as they are unable to afford themselves.

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

I have discussed with zamindars why they prefer taking loans from *buniah*s rather than from Government. Their principal objections seem to be (1) the delay and trouble involved in going through the usual formalities preliminary to the grant of the loan, (2) having to pay up the instalments by certain fixed dates, and (3) their ignorance and consequent inability to appreciate the difference between the two systems. They dislike hard and fast rules, like to get the money when they want it, and to repay it when convenient. Efforts are being made to save them unnecessary trouble and make the system more popular.

The procedure for calculating interest has not been correct, but this is being remedied and is not the reason why the system is unpopular.

DERA GHAZI KHAN DISTRICT.

(R. E. YOUNGHUSBAND, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

Some three years ago my predecessor Mr. Dames made out a scheme for the gradual extension of wells in the district. This scheme was approved by Government, but I regret to say that the matter has been overlooked. I have recently written to all Tahsildars directing them to enquire how far the zamindars are willing to construct wells on the lines laid down, and to take *taccavi* loans for the purpose, and I hope that some advance may be made in this direction during the year just commenced.

MUZAFFARGARH DISTRICT.

(SARDAR GURDIYAL SINGH, MAN.)

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

In this district the middle classes take loans. The poorer classes dislike the formalities and hard and fast rules and fixed dates for repayment.

AGRICULTURISTS' LOANS ACT.

KANGRA DISTRICT.

(E. O'BRIEN, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

The outstanding balance includes a sum of Rs. 1,585 which has fallen into arrears owing to the severe drought which almost wholly destroyed the rabi crop in many parts of the district and affected the agricultural prospects very injuriously. The suspension of a considerable portion of the demand for Rabi 1892 afforded much relief to the distressed

zamindárs who would otherwise have had to apply for agricultural advances on a large scale in order to replace the many plough cattle which were starved or killed by the drought.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, Esquire.)

* * * * *

The exceptional drought of the past year having caused great mortality among the cattle, I encouraged the peasants when rain fell and fodder again became abundant, to apply for advances for the purchase of well bullocks and they gladly took advantage of the offer. The prospects of the rabi sowings being unusually favourable and the price of wheat very high, large numbers of applications for petty advances for the purchase of seed were made but these were more charily sanctioned. The total amount advanced for these purposes during the year was Rs. 6,250 against Rs. 150 in the previous year. In circumstances like those of the present season such advances are a very great help to the poorer peasantry in enabling them to take advantage of the favourable rainfall and recoup the losses of the past bad year.

Several well-to-do land owners applied for large advances, amounting in some cases to as much as Rs. 1,000 promising to distribute the sums in small amounts to their poorer neighbours for the purchase of seed. As there was no fear that the money would not be easily recovered from them, and it was much more convenient to advance it in this way than to have a large number of petty accounts with the individual peasants, I granted the advances by way of experiment and hope to find that the money has really been applied to the purpose for which it was intended and has benefited the poorer peasantry.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, Esquire.)

* * * * *

Owing to the impoverished state of the Thal the zamindárs were unable to purchase bullocks and seed to work the wells that had fallen into disuse during the period of drought without help from Government in the way of *taccávi* loans, while the heavy rains in July and August last presented a fitting opportunity for extending the cultivation in this tract. On these grounds it was considered advisable to apply for a special allotment under the Act and accordingly Financial Commissioner and the Commissioner sanctioned an additional provision of Rs. 4,000 for the district. Of this only a portion was disbursed during September, the remaining having been expended in October. An application has been submitted for the allotment of a further advance of Rs. 1,000 for this purpose and if sanction is accorded in time it can be utilised at once without difficulty. The period of two years usually given for the repayment of *taccávi* granted for the purchase of bullocks having been found too short, the Thal zamindárs requested the Financial Commissioner during his recent visit to this district to increase it, and the Collector was authorised to use his discretion in fixing a period not exceeding five years according to the value of the bullocks purchased. The following scale was accordingly framed with the Commissioner's approval. Rupees 50 and under two years, and one year for every Rs. 50 above this, *e. g.* :—

100 = 3 years.

150 = 4 years.

200 = 5 years.

The advances were chiefly made to the cis-Indus zamindárs.

INDIAN FOREST ACT No. VII OF 1878.

MULTAN DISTRICT.

(J. R. MACONACHIE, Esquire.)

* * * * *

The decrease in the *sajji* income was due to the formation of a "ring" whose operations were favoured by the untimely death of Mr. Cookson, and also by the unsuitable period of the lease. Alteration has now been made in this, the "ring" broke up this year, and the leases sold very fairly well. I consider the *sajji* income an item which might be enormously developed if due measures were taken by the Collector in concert with the Assistant Conservator. I have had some small areas sown as an experiment, but what is wanted is large, bold, and persistent operations systematically

pursued for some years. There seems reason to anticipate that *sajji* might well exceed in importance the income of *tirni* in Multan.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, Esquire.)

It having been brought to my notice that great injury was being done to the trees in the Thal rakhs in which no suitable provision for supervision exists and that these were in danger of being deforested altogether, I gave orders prohibiting the issue of licenses for wood cutting in them for the present, and at the same time made it a condition of the grazing lease that the lessee should be responsible for the conservation of the trees in his rakh.

DERA GHAZI KHAN DISTRICT.

(R. E. YOUNGHUSBAND, Esquire.)

* * * * *

The afforestation experiment at Fort Munro promises to be a great success. The heavy rain of 1892 caused the *phulai* seeds which had been sown in the previous year to germinate, and the young plants are doing well. I have also tried some *dhauman* plants which are growing vigorously on the rocky soil. Only a very small area has hitherto been sown, as the digging the trenches to catch the water requires a considerable amount of labour, but I hope to extend the operations each year.

BUSINESS RETURNS.

HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

(E. B. STEEDMAN, Esquire.)

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The case work of the Deputy Commissioner has been extremely heavy during the past year. I notice it because case work virtually takes precedence of every thing else. The cases decided are given below :—

CRIMINAL.		REVENUE.		
		ORIGINAL.	APPEALS.	
Original.	Appeal.	Officers.	Judicial.	Executive.
53	336	1,290	224	70

The result is that the Collector is always in arrears, that all his efforts are directed to getting level with his own office work, and that he has no time for the proper discharge of his duties as a supervising and executive officer.

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

There can be no doubt this is a heavy tale of work. The appellate work (630 appeals in all) is exceedingly heavy.

LAHORE DISTRICT.

(H. C. FANSHAW, Esquire.)

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The number of appeals instituted during the year was 238 as against 127 filed in the previous year, showing an increase of 111 appeals. The increase is chiefly due to a large number of appeals (138) against orders in cases to contest liability to ejectment and to establish right of occupancy which have been filed during the year as a result of the

concluding operations of the current settlement. The number of appeals disposed of decreased by 18 as compared with the previous year. The decrease in disposals was due to the increase in criminal work (18 cases under Sections 30, Criminal Procedure Code, and 75 of Indian Penal Code were disposed of in excess of the number decided in the previous year) and the disposal of other miscellaneous executive work.

The pending file increased from 21 in the previous year to 156 in the year under report, representing an increase of 135 appeals. The number of appeals pending more than three months was 70. This is due to the causes stated above.

GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

The following statement shows the work performed by different classes of officers during the year :—

COURTS.	CIVIL.		Criminal.	Revenue judicial.	Revenue executive.	Total.
	Original.	Other (executive.)				
Deputy Commissioner ... ..	...	...	51	...	1,696	1,747
District Judge	169	143	8	...	17	337
Extra Assistant Commissioners	922	713	1,255	999	403	4,292
Tahsildárs	426	94	1,134	499	711	2,864
Náib-Tahsildárs ... ..	...	...	822	506	141	1,469
Total ...	1,517	950	3,270	2,004	2,968	10,709

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

I think the Civil work given to Tahsildárs is too much. It must be remembered that they are all cases connected with land and therefore take more time and are more contested than ordinary debt cases. When the Chief Court laid down what Civil work the Tahsildárs were to do, the Judges made their calculations on all kinds of cases.

If the Tahsildárs in this district are to properly perform their revenue duties especially in connection with the crop inspections and mutations they must be relieved to a great extent of Civil work. The four Tahsildárs did an average of over 700 cases of all kinds during the year.

APPENDIX A.

No. 181 M., dated 24th December 1892.

From—E. P. HENDERSON, Esquire, Government Advocate, Punjab,

To—The Junior Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

I HAVE the honor to submit the prescribed report of the civil business transacted by this office during the 12 months, 1st October 1891 to the 30th September 1892, inclusive.

2. I held the office of Government Advocate until the forenoon of the 5th March 1892 when I was placed on special duty in connection with certain Incumbents of office. business of the North-Western Railway. I resumed charge of my duties on the forenoon of the 14th April 1892. Mr. J. A. Sinclair, Barrister-at-Law, officiated for me during my term of special duty and performed the work of Junior Government Advocate in addition to the duties of Government Advocate.

3. Appendix A shows a detailed abstract of cases and matters submitted to this office for opinion during the year under report, and the number of Appendix (A) opinions. references disposed of during that period is compared with the number disposed of during each of the past five years in the following tabular statement :—

Comparative statement of References disposed of during the years from 1886-87 to 1891-92.

No.	Name of Department.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.
1	Secretary to Government, Punjab, Civil Department ...	81	90	71	57	44	49
2	Ditto ditto Public Works Department	3	21	38	17	19	9
3	Ditto ditto Irrigation Branch ...	62	139	82	64	60	87
4	Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab ...	28	64	35	40	21	28
5	North-Western Railway ...	25	30	20	72	42	99
6	Conservator of Forests, Punjab ...	1	1	6	2	1	6
7	Inspector-General of Police, Punjab ...	...	...	5	...	1	...
8	Ditto of Civil Hospitals ...	...	...	1	...	1	1
9	Ditto of Prisons, Punjab ...	7	5	4	2	...	...
10	Ditto of Registration, Punjab ...	...	2	...	...	1	...
11	Director of Public Instruction, Punjab ...	8	10	3	2	3	1
12	Accountant-General, Punjab ...	1	3	1	1	...	3
13	Deputy Commissioner of Paper Currency, Punjab ...	...	1	...	...	...	...
14	Postmaster-General, Punjab ...	2	2	3	1	1	11
15	Registrar, Joint Stock Companies, Punjab ...	1	...	...	1	4	...
16	Superintendent of Stamps, Punjab ...	...	...	...	1	1	1
17	Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Punjab	...	...	...	1	2	...
18	Commissary-General, Western Circle, Punjab ...	...	4	2	6	5	8
19	Miscellaneous ...	5	23	18	32	28	35
Total ...		227	395	289	299	234	338

This gives 338 references during the year 1891-92 or 104 more than last year and 49 above the average of the past five years. The references from all departments have, with one or two exceptions, largely increased. This is particularly noticeable as regards the Irrigation Branch and the North-Western Railway.

4. Particulars as to original suits are given in Appendix B, Part I, from which it will be seen that Government was a party to 23 original suits during the year or four more than in the previous year. Of these suits 10 were successful and 10 were pending at the close of the year.

Appendix B, Part I.
Original suits.

5. Appendix B, Part II, relates to civil appeal and revision cases conducted by the Junior Government Advocate or myself. The number of these cases is nine the same as last year. Three of these were pending at the close of the year, two were decided against Government and the remaining four in favour of Government.

6. Details of civil execution cases will be found in Appendix B, Part III. The amount outstanding during the year was Rs. 7,486-2-11, of which Rs. 2,171-0-10 was recovered, leaving a balance of Rs. 5,315-2-1. The progress made during the year in recovering the amounts due does not compare favorably with that of last year; but this is due to a very great extent to the Armstrong case (claim Rs. 5,00,000) in which the costs were Rs. 3,001, which amount it is very probable will have to be written off as irrecoverable.

7. It is unnecessary for me to say more as regards Mr. Sinclair than that I have every reason to endorse the expressions used by me concerning him in past reports.

NOTE.—The appendices to this report are not printed.

APPENDIX B.

No. 277, dated Camp Kullu, 2nd November 1892.

From—The Officer in charge No. 18 Party (Himalaya) Survey of India,
To—The Financial Secretary, Punjab.

I HAVE the honor to submit the following report on the progress of the work of No. 18 Party (Himalaya) during the season 1891-92.

2. The party remained under my charge until the 25th March 1892, when on my proceeding on furlough, the charge devolved upon Captain J. M. Fleming until the 16th July, when he was relieved by Captain Bythell, R.E., who held charge until the expiry of the season under report.

3. The programme as sanctioned by the Punjab Government was not in any material way departed from.

4. The 4 inch survey in Kángra was carried on in Tahsils Kángra, Pálapur, Dera and Hamirpur embracing roughly the country lying between Dharmsála and Jowála Mukhi. Five complete sheets and portions of three others were surveyed.

As soon as warm weather set in, a portion of the Kángra detachment was sent into Chota Bangahál to complete the survey of the higher portions of ground which had not been finished the previous year owing to the abnormally heavy snowfall of that year.

5. In Kullu no regular Survey detachment was employed for the reasons mentioned in the sanctioned programme; it having been determined to send in a party in the autumn of the present year.

Advantage was however taken of the presence of Mr. Senior in Kullu, where he was employed on triangulation, to take up the survey of the high ground lying north-west of Sultánpur and bordering on Chota Bangahál. This ground, varying in height from 8,000 to 13,000 feet, is particularly difficult for native Surveyors owing to its rugged character and its altitude. Mr. Senior completed 30 square miles of this ground.

6. In the Simla Hill States, a small detachment was employed on the standard 2 inch survey of the Native States. They were wholly employed in Sirmur territory in the neighbourhood of the Giri River.

Some small portions of ground still remaining unsurveyed in the neighbourhood of Simla and of Narkanda were also taken in hand and finished.

Thus, during the season the following sheets were completed, Sheets 311 N.-E. :—311 S.-E., 311 S.-W., 312 S.-E. and 313 N.-E. :—a total of 239 square miles.

7. *Forest Surveys.*—In Kángra as usual, all forests met with were surveyed on the standard scale of 4 inch=1 mile. All under the charge of the Conservator of Forests were found well demarcated. In all 51 blocks were met with and were surveyed wholly or in part.

In Kullu the upper limits of forest were approximately marked in the high ground. This has been done by arrangement with Mr. Pigot, the late Forest Officer, in order to allow of any subsequent entry of the upper boundaries of the forests on the fair maps which may be considered desirable.

In the Simla Hill States, in the course of the standard 2 inch survey, no demarcated forests were met with in Sirmur, the laying out and marking of the forests in that State not being yet completed.

The special surveys of the forests in the Hill States on the standard forest scale of 4 inch=1 mile were commenced during the year.

A beginning was made with those of the Patiala State, as their demarcation was in a forward state, Mr. Minnikin, of the Forest Department, having been deputed to that State for the purpose.

Work was commenced in the lowlying forests south of Kalka, the "Kholas of the Daw" and "Ritaw."

The work proceeded satisfactorily after one or two slight delays; the demarcation of the second class forests which usually border on the first class forests was not quite complete at the time the latter were surveyed, this however was soon remedied.

The demarcation was well and satisfactorily done, but it should be noted that where a number of forest blocks are joined together, no internal separating boundaries appear to have been laid down. In all 45 square miles or 23,804 acres of forest comprising 10 first class and 64 second class forests were surveyed and 7 first class and 5 second class blocks partially completed. Rather more than half the forest area of the hill portion of the Patiala State has been surveyed during the season.

8. *Triangulation*.—Triangulation has been as usual carried on in advance of the Topography during the season, 1,157 square miles having been thus prepared for detail survey.

9. *Mapping*.—On account of the mass of arrears of mapping which had accumulated under my predecessor, the Surveyor-General's sanction was obtained to the retention of two European Assistants and several Sub-Surveyors in the Simla Office during the field season with a view to the completion and examination of as many sheets as possible. This measure has proved very successful, no less than 7 sheets of the 2 inch and 25 sheets of the 4 inch maps having been sent for publication during the year. Several more Sub-Surveyors have now been trained to draw fair maps and the arrears will I hope be steadily worked off.

10. *Soldier Surveyors*.—One soldier Surveyor completed his course satisfactorily during the year and two others were under training throughout that period.

11. The health of the Party was fortunately fairly good throughout the season. A good deal of influenza prevailed in Kángra during the early part of the season, which incapacitated several men for a time. Later in the season a very severe outbreak of cholera took place in Kángra and Kullu. Fortunately there were no men working in Kullu at the time, but in Kángra though the Surveyors and their men escaped attack, yet the whole country became so demoralized, that work was seriously impeded.

12. The usual tabular statement showing the progress of the work is appended.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

ST. GEORGE GORE, Major, R.E.,

In charge No. 18 Party.

STATEMENT OF PROGRESS OF WORK OF No. 18 PARTY (HIMALAYA) SURVEY OF INDIA FOR THE YEAR 1891-92.

Antique figures up to date. Ordinary figures for past season.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
DISTRICTS.	Total area by Map or other authority (approximate) to be surveyed.	WORK COMPLETED IN 1891-92.								
		Forest Blocks.		Topography 4 inches = 1 mile. Square miles.	Topography 2 inches = 1 mile. Square miles.	Topography 1 inch = 1 mile. Square miles.	Topographical Maps.		Triangulation in square miles.	Settlement sheets plotted.
		Area in square miles.	No.				Fair mapping in hand.	Sent for publication.		
Umballa Hills (including Morni)	365	Nil.	Nil.	...	...	Nil.	Nil.	7	...	...
	...			108	129			7	157	161
Gurdáspur Hills (Sháhpur Kandi)	108	Nil.	...	...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	...	...	...
	...		12	111				6	108	162
Kángra	2,725	(b.)	51	203½	Nil.	...	...	13	(a) 460	...
	...		91	862½		254	11	16	1,615	730
Kullu Sub-Division	1,934	...	Nil.	30	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	5	80	...
	...	122 2		550				14	851	212
Simla Hill States	3,203	...	...	...	239½	Nil.	...	7	282	...
	...	706	114	104	1,567		8	7	2,574	Nil.

(a). Includes portion of the Hoshiárpur hills.

(b). Area not at present available.

STATEMENT OF PROGRESS OF WORK OF No. 18 PARTY (HIMALAYA) SURVEY OF INDIA FOR THE YEAR 1891-92—concluded.

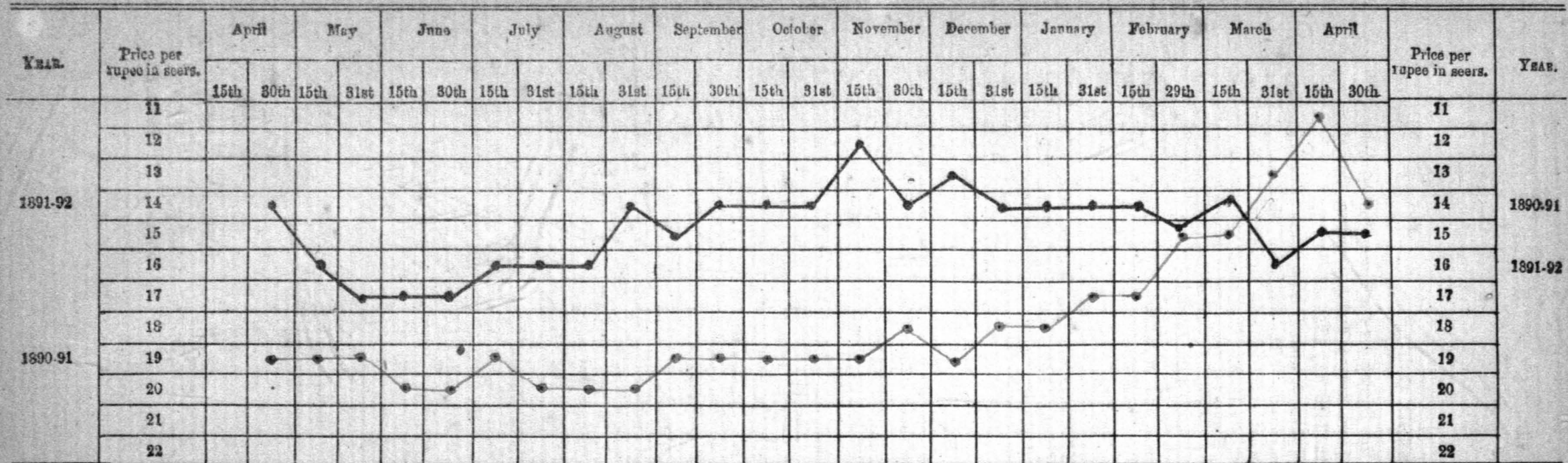
Antique figures up to date. Ordinary figures for past season.

1		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
DISTRICT.	Total area by Map or other authority (approximate) to be surveyed.	WORK COMPLETED IN 1891-92.								
		Forest Blocks.		Topography 4 inches = 1 mile Square miles.	Topography 2 inches = 1 mile Square miles.	Topography 1 inch = 1 mile. Square miles.	Topographical Maps.		Triangulation in square miles.	Settlement sheets plotted.
		Area in square miles.	No.				Fair mapping in hand.	Sent for publication.		
Simla Special Forest Survey	Nil. {	45	74	Nil. {	Nil.	Nil. {	... 1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
		45	74							
Mandi State	1,125 {	Nil.	Nil.	12 97½	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	335 721	Nil.
Suket State	395 {									
Hoshiárpur Hills	1,000 {	Nil.	Nil.	Nil. {	...	6	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Lahaul	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	400	Nil.
Total for past season ...	...	(b.) {	125	245½	239½	...	...	32	1,157	...
Total up to date ...	...		291	1,832½	1,702	254	20	50	6,426	1,265

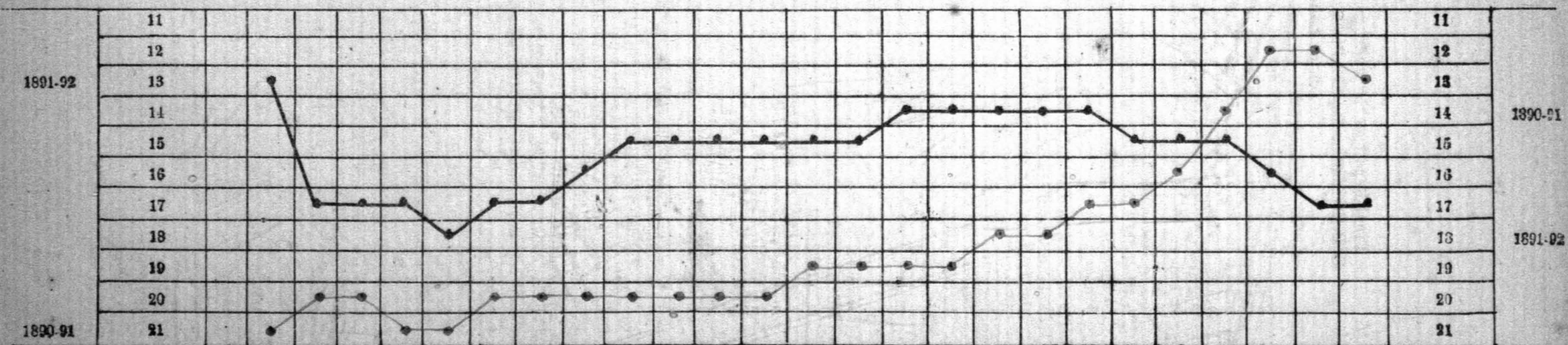
(a). Area not at present available.

Diagram showing the Rise and Fall in Prices of Wheat during the years 1890-91 and 1891-92.

Ferozepore District.



Amritsar District.



APPENDIX C.

**Final Report on the wheat crop of the Punjab for the Season 1891-92, by
E. B. Steedman, Esquire, Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab,
dated Lahore, the 14th May 1892.**

1. *The season.*—For the wheat sowings the rainfall of September and October was generally very favourable. The first forecast said:—"The rainfall in September and the early part of October was generally much heavier and more favourable for wheat sowings, except in some districts in the Ráwalpindi and Deraját Divisions, than was the case last year." The only districts in which the September rain was markedly deficient were Amritsar, Mooltan, Shahpur and Pesháwar. The rain of October was absent or very slight in Lahore, Pesháwar, the South-Western Punjab and the Deraját.

November and December were rainless, and in January what rain there was did not fall until the middle of the month. There was therefore no late sown wheat this year in marked contradistinction to the immense area that was sown last year in December and January.

Up to the end of January the wheat had not been really injured, and good rain in February would have ensured a much improved, if not an excellent, crop. But all that the January rain can be said to have done was to keep the plant alive and to prevent injury. In only two districts—Rohtak and Jhelum—did an inch of rain or over fall. In February, a few districts excepted, the rainfall was utterly insufficient, and gave no assistance to the crop. The districts of the Delhi Division received the largest amount. In only five other districts was the fall over half an inch.

In March Ráwalpindi and the three districts of the Pesháwar Division received a fair amount of rain, but there was none elsewhere. April was almost rainless.

Owing to the failure of the winter rains in the plains and of snow on the hills the weather became abnormally hot in the first half of March and continued so until the harvest was reaped. The wheat plant on unirrigated land already stunted and weakened by prolonged drought was unable to withstand the unusual heat, and on thousands of acres there has been no return whatever. The dust-storms in the first week of March, and the cold winds and frosts of the last week in February, were also very injurious. In April heavy westerly gales did considerable damage in the frontier and western districts.

Irrigated lands even have not escaped injury, and notably on the Sidhnai Canal in Mooltan the wheat has failed over a very large area.

The case may be stated concisely thus :—

Weather preceding seed time favourable and sowings extensive, young plant strong and healthy up to the middle of January in spite of absence of rain, but a little backward; rain in January did a little good, but was insufficient; the subsequent failure of rain, the abnormally high temperature of March and April, and the strong dry westerly winds did the greatest damage, and what promised to be a wheat harvest over the average has turned out one of the worst the province has had for many years.

2. *Area and yield.*—The areas and yield in tons of the last seven years are given below :—

YEAR.	Area in acres.	Yield in tons.
1885-86	6,970,600	1,820,834
1886-87	5,943,400	1,361,915
1887-88	6,179,800	1,668,507
1888-89	6,919,100	2,054,074
1889-90	6,222,900	1,603,176
1890-91	7,074,000	2,071,239
1891-92	6,223,600	1,392,146

The present harvest, though not the lowest in area, is the lowest in yield for the last seven years except 1886-87. The area at first forecasted, 7,153,400 acres fell to 6,948,400 acres in the second forecast, and the final figures are 6,223,600, a decrease of 929,800 acres on the first forecast and of nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million acres on the second and more trustworthy estimate. Stronger evidence of the very unfavourable character of the season after the sowings could not be obtained. The area of 1891-92 is 3.8 per cent. below the normal, i. e., the average of the last five years, and 12 per cent. below that of last year. Of the six preceding harvests the wheat areas of three are above and of three below that of this year.

The marked and important falling-off is in the yield. The yield is the worst since these special wheat reports have been prepared, except 1886-87. It is 32.8 per cent. below that of last year and 20.5 below the normal. The average yields in sérs for the province for the last seven years are compared below :—

YEAR.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.
Yield in sérs	293	257	302	332	289	328	251

The total outturn of grain is estimated to be 1,392,146 tons, which is less than that of last year by 679,093 tons and is 359,636 tons below the normal.

In only one district, Gurgáon, is the outturn of this harvest higher than that of last. I estimate the wheat crop of 1891-92 as a 12-anna crop.

3. *Prices.*—It was pointed out in last year's report that prices were extraordinarily high at the end of April 1891. A fall then set in and the price was lowest (18 sérs per rupee at Amritsar and 17 sérs at Ferozepore) at the end of June. A slow and steady rise followed and prices were highest in the period November—January, 12 sérs per rupee being touched early in November at Ferozepore and 14 sérs at Amritsar. Since then the market has been falling, and prices are now steady at 17 seers at Amritsar and 15 seers at Ferozepore.

The noticeable points in the prices of the past year are two. *First*, though the harvest of 1891 was probably far the best the province has ever had, yet prices were only slightly affected. The harvest was very late, and the new grain could not have been fully in the market before the middle of June. Nevertheless prices remained at the lowest point touched for two months only, May and June, and began to rise early in July. *Secondly*, though the present harvest is one of the worst the province has had for some years, prices are now only 2 sérs higher than the lowest point touched during the past year; are steady throughout the province, and are expected to fall. It should also be noted that the knowledge that the wheat crop of 1892 was going from bad to worse did not check the steady fall in price during March and April. Prices rose in July because so much grain was being exported and probably also because the rains were so late; and subsequently did not fall because the autumn harvest was generally inferior. The fall that has set in since January and the present steadiness I attribute to two causes—

- (1) A fall in the price of wheat and a depressed market in England; and
- (2) the presence of considerable stocks of grain in the province.

The Calcutta and Karáchi markets are both dull. I quote the last Chamber of Commerce Reports: "Supplies are coming in freely and in sympathy with home advices values have receded slightly. Unless there be a renewed demand from the home markets prices here must find a lower level for any quantity of fresh business to be done. Native sellers of new crop wheat are holding for prices far above home equivalents, and until such time as they come down in their rates new business is impracticable."

The prices of wheat in sérs per rupee at Amritsar, Calcutta, Karáchi and London, taking exchange at 1s. 3½d. are respectively 17, 12½, 12½ and 9½. The margin of profit on exportation is therefore very small.

4. *Character of the harvest.*—The harvest was best in Gurgáon and Delhi. In the other districts of the Delhi Division the harvest was somewhat below the average, but well above the average of the year. In all other districts the crop has been a bad one. It has been worst in Kángra, Shahpur, Jhelum, Jhang and Dera Ismail Khan.

The unirrigated crops have suffered the most. As compared with last year, the percentages of decrease in area are—

<i>Canal irrigated.</i>	<i>Well irrigated.</i>	<i>Flooded.</i>	<i>Unirrigated.</i>
(+1)	3.0	8.9	22.9

It is the unirrigated lands that have also given the worst yield. On land irrigated by perennial canals the yield of grain has been a good average, but the crops on wells have suffered severely, and so also have those on flooded lands.

5. *Stocks.*—Very little information has been given on this head by the District Officers. I believe that the stocks of grain are for this province considerable and adequate. In some districts no doubt the stocks have fallen low, but imports from other tracts keep down prices. It is reported that stocks are “ample” in Shahpur, where the harvest is very bad, and “not plentiful” in Jullundur, where the harvest is fairly good for the year. I believe that there are large stores of grain in Ludhiana and the tract to the south.

6. *Export.*—I give below the figures for the last six years:—

YEAR.	EXPORT OF WHEAT IN TONS BY			
	Rail.	River.	Land.	Total.
1886-87	119,121	29,615	5,180	153,916
1887-88	30,909	12,789	2,098	45,796
1888-89	167,864	46,113	3,302	217,279
1889-90	312,350	51,992	2,724	367,066
1890-91	255,720	58,198	2,255	316,173
1891-92 to 31st December	431,358	50,271	1,060	482,689

Since January 1st, 118,701 tons have been exported from Karachi. Part of this may be included in the exports of 1891-92, shown in the statement, but the greater portion is probably additional. Large forward purchases for export were made long before the character of the harvest could be foretold, but now there is very little doing. Buyers are loaded up with high-priced grain and are not likely to go into the market until prices rise in Europe or fall in India. The home markets show no sign of a rise, and exchange is not likely to fall lower at present. If there is no rise there will be no demand for export until prices have fallen in the Punjab. Grain that has been purchased forward and delivered at a seaport may be exported as the best means of disposing of it, but it will not be profitable to send grain down from the Punjab until prices fall so as to allow a profit on exportation.

7. *Increase in the area under wheat.*—As the complete crop returns for the past harvests are not yet available nothing can be said concerning the question whether a permanent increase in the area under wheat is going on or not. But the figures for last year are available and show that the area, under wheat, though the crop was probably the best on record, was 31.8 per cent. of the total crop area of the year and 55.9 per cent. of the total spring (rabi) harvest area, while the wheat area of the preceding year, though the harvest was distinctly poor was respectively 30.3 per cent. and 60.4 per cent. Though the wheat area of 1890-91 had increased by 16.4 per cent. the increase in the area under other spring crops was still greater, being 25.7 per cent. These figures support the opinion I formed four years ago, that “the area under wheat of a given year in all districts depends largely on the season.” No doubt the area under wheat is increasing, but it is not possible to say whether this is due to substitution or not.

APPENDIX C (i).

Final Report on the Oil-seeds Crop of the Punjab for the Season 1891-92, by
E. B. Steedman, Esquire, Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab,
dated Lahore, 14th May 1892.

(Twenty out of 31 districts are dealt with.)

Season.—The character of the season has been described in detail in the wheat report. All that has to be added is that the rape-seed crop, which is sown earlier and ripens earlier than wheat, has not been damaged to the same extent by the scantiness of the cold weather rains. The reports of most districts note that the crop has turned out much better than was expected.

Area and yield.—I give below the area and yield for the last five years :—

Years.	Acres.	Yield in tons.
1887-88	474,000	63,974
1888-89	579,100	82,703
1889-90	298,000	38,498
1890-91	552,300	81,738
1891-92	594,100	67,053

In area the crop is the largest on record, but in yield it has been exceeded by the crops of 1891 and 1889. The final figures are considerably above those, 554,300 acres, of the second forecast in which the area was put much higher than that, 475,700 acres, of the first forecast. The area of the present year is 31·5 per cent. over the normal. The late rain in September and October enabled a larger area than usual to be sown. Of the total area 86·5 per cent. is unirrigated. The largest increases in area are in the Rāwalpindi, Jhelum, Dera Ghāzi Khan, Karnāl, Hissār, Delhi and Hoshiārpur districts ; the greatest decreases in Peshāwar, Lahore, Shahpur and Amritsar.

The yield is disappointing. Five districts report a yield above that of last year, but in three of these the crop of 1890-91 was greatly injured by locusts. In all other districts there is a decrease, and in most it is very heavy. The total yield is returned at 67,053 tons, which is 17·97 per cent. below that of last year, but 8·5 per cent. higher than the normal. Dera Ghāzi Khan is the only district growing a large area of rape that reports a good yield. The provincial yield has fallen from 156 sérs per acre to 126 sérs.

Prices and export.—I give below the prices for the last five years and also the total export :—

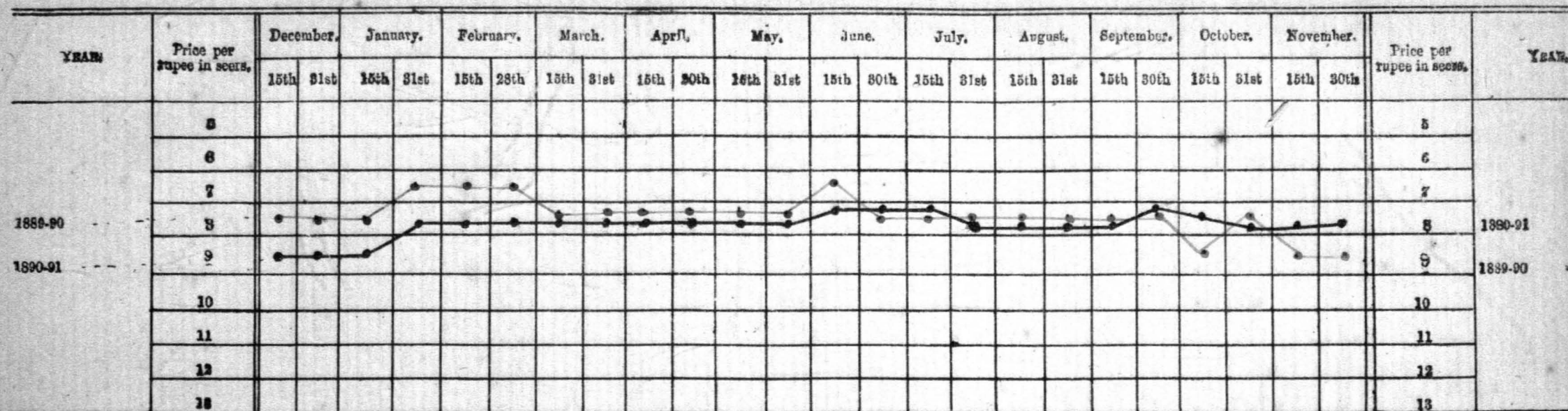
Years.	Price per maund on 31st May. Rs. a. p.	Export in tons.
1886-87	3 2 4	43,730
1887-88	3 6 3	36,466
1888-89	3 12 0	84,697
1889-90	4 11 0	64,790
1890-91	4 1 11	12,256
1891-92 to 31st December ... ..	...	16,888

The price of rape-seed at Karāchi has fallen since this time last year from Rs. 39 to Rs. 35-4-0 per 656 lbs., and the market is reported dull and nothing doing. Rape is now selling in Lahore at Rs. 4-5-3 per maund. The exportation of 1891-92, though considerably larger than that of 1890-91, is much below that of the two preceding years. The exports from Karāchi from 1st January 1892 to 2nd May 1892 are 798 tons as against 4,775 tons in the corresponding period of 1891.

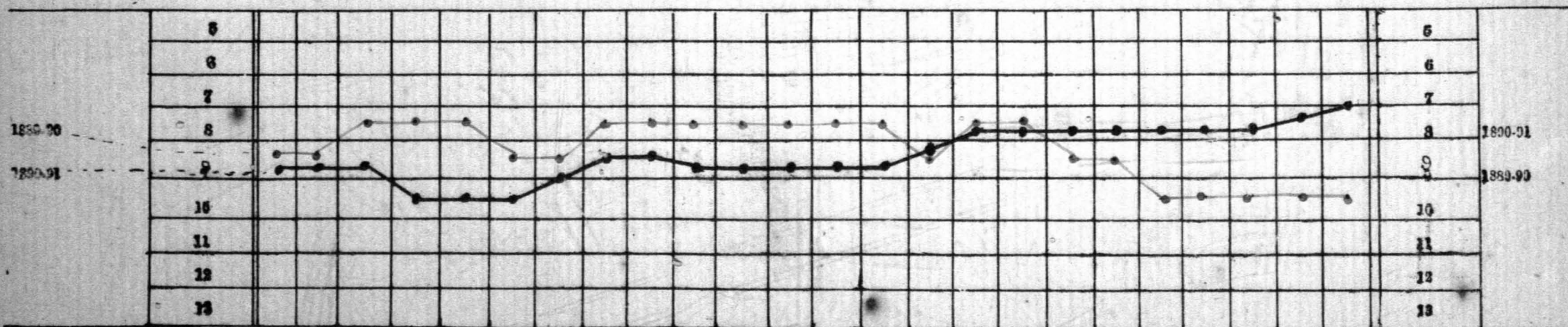
The rape-seed crop of 1891-92, though the largest on record in area, is not more than a 13-annas crop in yield.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE RISE AND FALL IN PRICES OF COTTON FROM 1ST DECEMBER 1889 TO 30TH NOVEMBER 1890 AND 1ST DECEMBER 1890 TO 30TH NOVEMBER 1891.

Delhi District.



Amritsar District.



APPENDIX C (ii)

**Note on the Cotton Crop of the Punjab for 1891. by F. A. Robertson, Esquire, C. S.,
Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab.**

The area estimated to be under cotton in the final forecast of this year in the Punjab is only 497,900 acres. The area last year was given at 840,200 acres, and the average area of the last five years is 658,900 acres. There is therefore a falling off from the area of last year of 342,300 acres, or 40·7 per cent., and from the normal area of 361,000 acres or 42·0 per cent.

The area this year is less than $\frac{2}{3}$ ths of the normal area.

The total yield for the province is estimated at 112,413 bales of 400 lbs. of clean cotton against a yield of 175,090 bales last year and a normal yield of 172,620 bales. The outturn this year is therefore 35·8 per cent. below that of last year and 34·9 per cent. below the average of the last five years.

The area estimated in the first forecast was 601,400 acres and in the second 605,900 acres. The present forecast falls far short of either of these.

The average yield per acre for irrigated lands of cleaned cotton is given as 107 lbs. against 102 lbs. last year. The average yield for unirrigated land is 59 lbs against 53 lbs. last year. The average outturn for the last five years is 103 lbs. and 54 lbs. for irrigated and unirrigated land respectively.

The following table compares the areas irrigated and unirrigated of this year with those of last year :—

Detail.	IRRIGATED BY		Flooded lands.	Dry lands.	Total.
	Canals.	Wells.			
1890 	295,100	229,500	12,200	303,400	840,200
1891 	191,100	136,200	9,200	161,400	497,900
Difference + or - per cent. ...	-35·2	-40·7	-24·6	-46·8	-40·7

It will be seen that much the heaviest falling off was in lands entirely dependent on rainfall.

The area under cotton is lower than it was in every district except Hissár and Mooltan. In Hissár the area shows an increase, the outturn a decrease. In Gurgáon the outturn is good, and shows an increase on a diminished area. In Mooltan alone, where no cotton is grown except on irrigated lands, there has been an increase both in area and outturn. In every other district there has been a decrease—often very large—in both area and outturn, though in several other districts the quality of the cotton is said to be very good though the quantity is small.

The crop for the province on the whole is the smallest of which we have any authentic record.

The season was a very unfavourable one. At first the heavy winter rains promised to be very good for early sowing of cotton, but unfortunately a very long drought ensued later on, and the monsoon rains did not break till close upon the end of July. This was bad for early-sown cotton, and prevented late sowings from being attempted or from being successful to any extent. The very heavy rain which then fell did harm, and it again ceased early in several districts, and this again was hurtful to the crop.

And in addition to all this locusts appeared in every district of the Pesháwar, Deraját and Ráwalpindi Divisions, and in most of the districts of the Lahore Division and elsewhere. These did some damage to the actual crop, though not so much in most cases as might have been expected, and also had the effect of frightening the farmers and causing them not to sow late cotton under the belief that it would all be destroyed by the locusts.

The result of this array of adverse circumstances has been that the cotton crop of the Punjab for this year must be classed as very poor in area and total outturn. The outturn on lands on which the crop came to maturity may be stated at 12 annas.

APPENDIX C (iii).

**Note on the Sesamum (Til) Crop of the Punjab for 1891, by F. A. Robertson, Esquire, C.S.,
Director, Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab.**

(Sixteen out of 31 districts are dealt with.)

The area estimated in the final forecast of the year to be under sesamum (til) in the Punjab is 121,500 acres. The area last year was 177,400 acres and the normal area, *i.e.*, the average for the past five years, is 174,400 acres. The area this year is therefore 31.5 per cent. below that of last year and 30.3 per cent. below the normal area.

This report is furnished from 16 districts only. In the remainder the area under this crop is insignificant.

The outturn is estimated at 16,824,200 sérs or 15,022 tons against an outturn of 24,610,400 sérs or 21,974 tons last year, the decrease amounting to 31.6 per cent.

The average outturn per acre is 276 lbs. against 278 lbs. last year.

The only districts in which there is no decrease in the area under sesamum are Hissár and Gurgáon.

The falling off is due to the very late arrival of the monsoon rains and in some cases to damage done, or rather the fear that damage would be done, by locusts. The season was altogether an unfavourable one.

The crop on the whole must be classed as a poor one. The area only amounted to 70 per cent. of the normal area.

Owing to the system in force in this province of deducting areas on which the crops though sown have failed and proportionately for partially failed crops, the outturn per acre as shown in the return shows less variations from year to year than would otherwise be the case.

APPENDIX C (iv).

**Note on the Indigo Crop of the Punjab, 1891, by F. A. Robertson, Esquire, C.S.,
Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab (only 7 out of 31 Districts
are dealt with), dated 17th December 1891.**

This Indigo crop of the Punjab is a very small one, but is important because a considerable portion of it is available, and is purchased by other provinces for seed.

The total area under this crop this year amounted to 52,200 acres. The average for the last five years being 105,200 acres, and in every district the produce was below average. The decrease in area from the figures given in the crop returns of last year which were 75,700 of 23,500 acres, or 31 per cent., was due to the late arrival of the rains, and in some cases to the depredation of locusts. In Gurgáon the Deputy Commissioner puts it down to the low price ruling for indigo and the Deputy Commissioner of Hissár remarks that the crop is unimportant in that district, is grown for seed only, and that its cultivation is steadily diminishing.

This is the first final forecast of this crop which has been submitted.

Statement showing area under Indigo in hundreds of acres and estimated yield in hundreds of sérs in each district of the Punjab for Kharíf 1891.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16					
No.	District.	LAND IRRIGATED BY						FLOODED AND ALLUVIAL LAND, SAILABA, BET, KHADIR, &c.			DRY LAND DEPENDENT ON RAIN.			TOTAL.		Average produce per acre in sérs.	Average area for last five years.	Estimated outturn in annas per rupee.	REMARKS.	
		Canals.			Wells.			Area.	Total yield.		Area.	Total yield.		Area.	Total yield.					
		Area.	Total yield.		Area.	Total yield.			Area.	Total yield.		Area.	Total yield.							
			Seed.	Dye.		Seed.	Dye.			Seed.			Dye.		Seed.					Dye.
1	Hissár	9	1,296	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	1,296	...	144	...	89	...	For seed only.			
2	Rohtak	49	33,250	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1,980	...	57	35,230	...	618	...	75	...	Ditto.
3	Gurgáon	14	196	126	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	196	126	140	10	58	...	One-tenth for seed, nine-tenths for dye.
4	Karnál	4	80	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	80	11	80	4	40	...	One-fourth for seed, three-fourths for dye.
5	Mooltan	201	3,600	2,407	95	1,600	1,008	...	...	...	...	...	296	5,200	3,415	347	12	358	...	One-twentieth for seed, nineteen-twentieths for dye.
6	Dera Gházi Khan	75	7,800	615	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75	7,800	615	208	16	134	...	One-half for seed, one-half for dye.
7	Muzaffgarh	67	800	882	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67	800	882	200	14	299	...	One-fifteenth for seed, fourteen-fifteenths for dye.
	TOTAL	419	47,022	4,041	95	1,600	1,008	...	...	...	8	1,980	...	522	50,602	5,049	...	...	1,052	...