

with the chief men of the district in these endeavours, which, if successful, ought to prove a boon to the more ignorant and indebted of the agriculturists. These and other measures, such as the movement for the reduction of marriage expenses, are good examples of the way in which an officer in the position of a Deputy Commissioner can by the prestige of his position and the organization at his command promote social and economical reform in matters which do not fall strictly within the scope of his official duties.

SECTION V.—TENANCY ACT.

26. *Enhancement of rent.*—The number of enhancement cases was 3,788 as compared with 1,746 in the previous year and 1,391 in 1890-91. Of the cases belonging to the year under report 2,953 were instituted in the Gujrát district. The circumstances of this litigation are referred to by the Commissioner in the extracts. The suits follow of course the recent enhancements of assessment and are, it is believed, of a simple character, the general principles upon which enhancement should be given having been decided at the commencement of the litigation. Landlords were successful in 2,520 of the Gujrát cases and in 3,153 out of the 3,788 cases decided throughout the Province. In Hissár and Jullundur this class of litigation is rapidly subsiding, but in Rohtak, it is stated by the Deputy Commissioner, landlords are beginning to wake to the fact that they can get their rents enhanced. In Hoshiárpur the number of enhancement cases is still above 200. The district is one in which landlords are not slow to insist to the utmost on their legal rights, and in which the provisions of the Tenancy Act are well understood. There were 282 suits in the Amfítisar district as against 459 in the previous year. It is not expected that these high figures, which are of course the result of the completion of the settlement, will be maintained. There are some interesting remarks in the Gujránwála report (*vide* extracts where Mr. O'Dwyer points out that in cases in which rents are stated in terms of the Government revenue with a *malikána* superadded the enhancement of the Government demand operates in itself as an enhancement of rent. The demand for tenants consequent upon the colonization of the Bár waste in this district acts as a check to rack-renting. There was only one enhancement suit in each of the frontier divisions. Reduction of rent was applied for in 80 cases throughout the Province, in 44 of which the application was successful.

27. *Ejectment of occupancy tenants.*—The following abstract of the statistics relating to ejectment of occupancy tenants, shows on the whole a satisfactory decrease in the number of cases of this description as compared with last year's figures:—

1 YEAR	2 Number of decrees for ejectment under section 39.	3 Number of applications under sections 42a and 43.	4 Number of notices served under section 44(1).	5 Number of ejectments ordered under section 44(2).	6 <i>Ejectments actually made under order or process of Revenue Court.</i>		7 Area affected, acres.
					a Number of cases.		
1890-91	22	68	130	26	31		194
1891-92	28	104	162	18	118		1,103
1892-93	26	118	219	32	42		564

Decrees for ejectment under Section 39 were passed in six districts only, *viz.*, Hissár (4), Kángra (2), Mooltan (3), Ferozepore (3), Rawálpindi (8) and Hazára (6). The Deputy Commissioners of Hissár and Hazára alone have given particulars of these cases. The decrees in the Hissár district were all passed against men of the Pacháda tribe for neglecting to cultivate their land. It appears that in one of the six cases in the Hazára district no decree was given, the defendant being successful. In the other five it was held that an occupancy tenant by building a house on the tenancy without the consent of

the landlord had rendered it unfit for the purpose for which it was held. Of the 42 cases in which ejectment was actually carried out 17 belong to the Hissár district, 8 each to Delhi and Ráwalpindi, 4 each to Umballa and Hoshiárpur and 1 to Kángra. Here again no information is given as to the nature of the cases, except by the Deputy Commissioner of Delhi, who reports that all 8 cases occurred in one village owned by an Extra Assistant Commissioner and a Tahsildár, the tenants being ejected for non-payment of arrears of revenue.

Statement No. XXXI.

27 (a). *Ejectment of tenants-at-will.*—The following is an abstract of these proceedings for the past three years:—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
YEAR.	Number of ejectments.		Ejectments actually made under order or process of Revenue Court.		Number of notice issued under section 45(1).	Number of successful suits to contest liability to ejectment.
	Decreed under section 40 and 45(6).	Ordered under section 45(5).	Number of cases.	Area affected.		
1890-91	1,112	4,486	4,606	42,334	13,412	721
1891-92	1,655	5,346	4,978	43,860	14,768	913
1892-93	1,268	4,824	5,163	48,074	15,484	1,028

It would thus appear that though the number of ejectments decreed and ordered was less than in 1891-92, ejectment was actually carried out in a greater number of these cases. The Hissár figures show a considerable diminution in the number of ejectments decreed and carried out, but the area from which tenants were ejected was 17,163 acres as against 13,287 acres in 1891-92, being over one-third of the total area shown above. It is noteworthy that every single decree and order for ejectment in this district was carried into effect. A large number of the ejected tenants are Pachádás, who prefer cattle-lifting to agriculture. No very remarkable increases or decreases occur in the case of other districts, except perhaps in Gujrát, where the figures show an increase of 40 per cent. over those of last year. The Deputy Commissioner reports that the proceedings in this district are mostly between mortgageed money-lenders and their debtors. The latter, though at first allowed to retain possession as tenants of their mortgaged holdings, are eventually turned out lest they should secure too firm a footing on the land. The same state of things is noticed by Mr. Ibbetson in the Jullundur district.

SECTION VI.—OTHER ACTS.

28. *Northern India Canal and Drainage Act.*—The area irrigated during the year by Government and private (including district) canals, according to the Patwáris' returns is shown below:—

YEAR.	Area irrigated by	
	Government Canals.	Private and District Canals.
	Acres.	Acres.
1890-91	2,514,733	947,077
1891-92	2,605,773	900,620
1892-93	2,550,441	919,646

There was a great falling-off in the area irrigated by the Perennial Canals, except the Chenáb and Swát River Canals, due to the fact that the plentiful rainfall of the year in many localities enabled the cultivators to dispense with canal water. On the Chenáb Canal there was an increase of

130,000 acres in the area irrigated, while in Montgomery an increase of 40,000 acres is shown in the returns of canal irrigation. Generally speaking, the Inundation Canals irrigated larger areas than in the previous year, and the occurrence of timely rains rendered the irrigation more effective in its results. A detailed report on each of the canal systems of the Province is given in the Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department. The following paragraphs will therefore deal only with those canals which are under civil management, or which are connected with colonization schemes.

28 (a). The area irrigated by the Shah Nahr Canal in the Hoshiarpur district was 6,782 acres as compared with 4,894 acres in the previous year, when the mouth of the canal was blocked. The canal worked well and could have supplied an even larger area had there been a demand for the water. At the request of the local authorities an officer of the Irrigation Department was deputed to visit the canal and advise on certain points requiring a professional opinion. His report will, it is believed, be useful to the local managing authorities.

28 (b). The area irrigated by the Ferozepore Inundation Canals during the year, including the canals constructed by the Nawáb of Mamdot was 202,477 acres, of which 73,479 acres belonged to the Nawáb. Since the introduction of the fluctuating water-advantage rate on these canals the income derived therefrom has been :—

Year.	Collections.									
	Rs.									
1888-89	33,586
1889-90	31,017
1890-91	30,258
1891-92	28,548
1892-93	47,249

The imposition of double clearance and establishment rate on rice crops has not so far resulted in checking its cultivation. The crop is found to be such a profitable one that it is cultivated in spite of the heavier rates. The trees which have been sown along the canal banks have now grown up and are a valuable property. These trees are granted to the zamíndárs free of payment, the only condition of grant being that a young tree shall be planted in place of the one removed. The canals continue to be successfully worked under the management of Rái Máya Dás, Extra Assistant Commissioner.

28 (c). The year was a most prosperous one for the Sidhnái Canal, the area of matured crops being the highest on record. The figures for the irrigated area on this canal and its subsidiary rájbahas are as follows :—

					1889-90.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
					Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Matured crops	...	...	...	...	84,937	113,336	114,420	138,095
Kharába	...	...	...	...	24,145	9,189	43,095	13,552

A form of deed of sale has been approved by Government to meet the case of colonists, who under the terms of the lease now desire to purchase proprietary rights. It is feared that in some cases the colonists have already parted with their interests to money-lenders.

28 (d). There is little to record concerning the Sohág-Pára Canal during the year. An increase last year of 27 per cent. in the area irrigated has been followed by a further increase in the year under report of 43 per cent. upon last year's figures. The year was a prosperous one for all the canals from the Sutlej in the Montgomery district.

28 (e). The report of the Colonization Officer, Chenáb Canal, is published as Appendix D. It will be seen that during the year 151,865 acres were allotted to the various classes of colonists, but nearly one-third of the number had not actually taken possession of their allotments. The latest figures showing the progress of colonization up to the end of December 1893 are the following :—

Area allotted to peasant colonists.	Area allotted to yeoman colonists.	Area allotted to capitalists.	Total.
Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
343,916	37,896	29,928	411,740

Possession had actually been taken of all but 21,711 acres out of the above. A large area has however been applied for and granted by the Financial Commissioner to yeomen applicants who have not appeared before the Colonization Officer to receive their allotments. These men were warned that their grants would lapse if they did not present themselves to the Colonization Officer before the 15th of January. The Financial Commissioner has recently marched through the area under colonization and he thinks that the progress so far made may be considered decidedly satisfactory. The most urgent want at present is the construction of good roads and a railway along the canal to enable the colonists to convey their agricultural produce to markets where they can dispose of it.

28 (f). A full account of the working of the Shahpur Canals will be found among the printed extracts. The Provincial Canals are the Ráníwah in the Bhera tahsíl and the Corbynwáh in tahsíl Khusháb. The area irrigated, revenue and expenditure of these two canals are as follows :—

Year.	Area irrigate d.	Income.	Expenditure.	Net income.
	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91	19,052	47,425	10,545	36,880
1891-92	17,637	35,917	7,739	28,178
1892-93	16,782	45,821	22,039	23,782

The falling-off in the area irrigated during the year was due to the state of the river. There was however an increase in the gross income. A large sum has been spent out of revenue on improvements. Hence the net revenue shows a falling-off. A sum of Rs. 4,929 on account of water-advantage rate up to 31st March 1893 should also be regarded as indirect revenue of the canals.

28 (g). The Michni-Nowshera Canal in the Pesháwar district, which is a Provincial work, was handed over by the Public Works Department as completed in February 1893. Mr. Dane has submitted a report on the working of the canal, from which some passages have been extracted (*vide* printed extracts). The canal has cost Rs. 4,00,257. Water commenced to run in it in November 1892, and during the year under report 11,095 acres were irrigated. The revenue amounted to Rs. 14,599 from water-rates and Rs. 4,748 from water-mills. The Canal establishment costs Rs. 579 *per mensem* or Rs. 6,948 *per annum*, and since the canal was handed over Rs. 4,080 have been spent on repairs. The system of assessment of water-rates, which is at present a very rough-and-ready one, will come under revision in the course of the present settlement.

28 (h). There are in the Pesháwar, Kohát and Bannu districts small Canal establishments maintained from special local funds for the administration of district canal systems. A canal

cess is levied in each case, but the amount does not exceed what is required for the maintenance of the canals, including the pay of the establishment. The Bannu canals irrigated areas in the Indus riverain tract which are subject to fluctuating assessment.

A revised draft of the Canal Bill prepared by Government was circulated for opinion towards the end of the year. All opinions have not yet been submitted to the Financial Commissioner. With the sanction of Government a more liberal rule than that heretofore in force has been promulgated on the subject of remissions of water-rates in the case of the non-germination or failure of canal-irrigated crops.

29. *Land Acquisition Act (X of 1870)*.—About 1,188 acres of land were acquired in Hissár, and about 450 in Karnál for the Sirsa Branch Canal. In Ferozepore, also 846 acres were acquired for irrigation purposes.

In the Gujránwála district about 648 acres were acquired, in connection with the Chenáb Canal.

In the Ráwalpindi district 2,728 acres were acquired for the Mari-Attock Railway; and 236 acres in connection with the Ráwalpindi defence works.

The amount of compensation paid per acre varied between the districts abovenamed from about 16 rupees in Hissár to about 86 rupees in Ráwalpindi.

The Financial Commissioner believes that instances still occur of considerable laxity of procedure, in connection with the acquisition of land for State Railways. This matter is noticed by the Commissioner of the Ráwalpindi Division, and by the Deputy Commissioners of Ráwalpindi and Gurgáon. The Deputy Commissioner of Gujránwála makes similar remarks regarding the procedure of the Canal Department. The Financial Commissioner hopes that, when the amended Act is passed, and the rules are revised, these irregularities will cease.

30. *Land Improvement Loans Act (XIX of 1883)*.—The annual reviews of Statements Nos. XXVI and XXVII accounts of advances under the Land Improvement and Agricultural Loans Act, submitted in former years, have been discontinued under instructions issued in June 1893; and the detailed account Statement (No. XXVI) is accordingly now appended to this report.

The total grant placed at the disposal of the Financial Commissioner for the financial year 1893-94 was five lakhs, including Rs. 50,000 for the Farrakhnagar estate, and Rs. 85,000 for the Chenáb Canal. The sum of Rs. 3,65,000, available for distribution to Divisions under both Acts has proved to be in excess of Provincial requirements. The agricultural seasons were favourable in the year under report, and fewer irrigation works were undertaken than was anticipated.

The total amount of advances under the Land Improvement Act was Rs. 2,18,582.

The largest advances were made in the following districts:—

	Rs.
Mooltan	39,959
Jullundur	31,860
Montgomery	12,850
Siálkot	11,850
Gurgáon	10,920
Shahpur	10,660

In Mooltan the advances were chiefly given to settlers on the Sidhnái Canal for construction of wells. The number of new wells, constructed from taccávi advances, completed in the year in this district was 32. The results of the advances given in the year will become apparent in future years.

In Jullundur the number of new wells constructed from taccávi advances was 141.

The Deputy Commissioner remarks that applications for the grant of advances in this district are now on the decrease, apparently, because little now remains to be done in the way of sinking wells. In Gujranwála Rs. 6,185 were advanced for new wells, though none were completed in the year. This is a satisfactory beginning. In Gurgáon 20 new wells were completed; and Rs. 10,920 advanced. The Deputy Commissioner remarks that one reason why fewer new wells are now constructed than in the years previous to 1889-90, is that district irrigation works have been extended; and the Commissioner notes that this is a valid reason.

As regards Ludhiána it appears doubtful whether the small number of applications is due to the absence of necessity for more wells in a large part of the district, or to a certain disinclination on the part of the people to take advances from Government. The amount advanced in this district was Rs. 1,440 only. It is in the Financial Commissioner's opinion a fact that, in certain districts there is a general disinclination to take taccávi, and that this feeling is not always due to ignorance of the system, but is a genuine prejudice, which the District Officer often finds very difficult to be overcome. The Commissioner of Ráwalpindi, writing of the Gujranwála district, remarks that if a man whose revenue payments have been suddenly doubled has also to pay taccávi *kists* he may be thrown into debt before his new work has begun to repay the outlay. It can only be hoped that by slow degrees and skilful handling the system may in some districts become more popular.

In regard to accounts it is to be noted that Departmental and Treasury Accounts have been compared and discrepancies reconciled. This remark applies to both Acts.

The amount of overdue arrears under the Land Improvement Act was Rs. 11,644 at the close of the year. The arrears at the close of the preceding year, 1891-92, amounted to Rs. 13,493. The result is accordingly comparatively favourable.

NOTE.—The closing balance of the year 1891-92 was shown in last year's statement, as Rs. 15,49,390. There was an error in this total, because it included interest realized and credited to revenue in 1891-92. The total should have been Rs. 15,19,472. The recurrence of this error has been provided for in the present Statement XXVI, by showing separately, the amount of interest realized in the preceding year, and transferred to Revenue during the year under report, and the amount realized and transferred to revenue during the year under report.

The difference of Rs. 60,017 between the total of Advances (Part A (2) and total Disbursement (Part B) in the statement, is due to the fact, that advances made by the Colonization Officer, Chenáb Canal were in former years kept in a separate account, and have now been included in the General Account, under directions of the Accountant-General.

Statement No. XXVI.

31. *Loans to Agriculturists (Act XII of 1884).*—The total amount advanced under the Agricultural Loans Act was Rs. 1,06,859.

The largest advances were made in the following districts:—

	Rs.
Kángra	25,374
Gujranwála	14,240
Pesháwar	9,415
Amballa	7,782
Amritsar	7,300

Regarding the Kángra district the Commissioner remarks that much help has been given to the many zamíndárs who suffered heavy losses owing to the cattle disease which has prevailed in this district during recent years. In Gujranwála the advances were made to settlers on the Chenáb Canal, and also to sufferers from the floods of the Chenáb River.

The Deputy Commissioner reports that the system has now become very popular in Gujranwála.

The Deputy Commissioner of Shahpur who advanced Rs. 6,601, writes that these loans were of immense advantage to the poorer peasants. His remarks on his system of making these advances will be found in the extracts. The Commissioner remarks that a great deal of good has been done by the timely distribution of these advances in Shahpur.

The amount of arrears overdue at the close of the year was Rs. 9,844. Out of this total Rs. 6,954 were overdue in Kángra. The arrears in other districts were inconsiderable, except in Amballa, where Rs. 1,787 were in arrears. The arrears in the Kángra district are said to be due in the Plách tahsíl, and the Deputy Commissioner states that orders have been given for their collection as soon as possible.

32. *Indian Forest Act (VII of 1878).*—The management of certain district rakhs in the Jhelum, Ráwalpindi and Gujránwála districts has been transferred to the Forest Department. The Forest settlement in Kulu has recently engaged the attention of the Financial Commissioner and of Government. Since the proposals of the Forest Settlement Officer were submitted, experience has shown that in regard to some matters an amendment of the draft rules is necessary. The Financial Commissioner, under the orders of Government, held a local inquiry in October 1893 and submitted a report to Government. The new Hazára Forest Regulation came into force in April 1893.

The area at the tail of the Sohág-Pára Canal, which was reserved with a view to its being constituted an irrigated fuel and fodder reserve was, during the year, abandoned by the Forest Department as the Conservator of Forests was unable to hold out any prospect of its successful treatment. The land will be made available for cultivation. Similarly it has been decided to reduce the area of the irrigated forest reserve on the Chenáb Canal from 27,000 acres to 12,000 or 15,000 acres.

The income from sale of wood and grass was Rs. 36,554 as compared with Rs. 31,482 in the previous year. The revenue derived from *sajji* and *tirni* has been noticed under the heading miscellaneous land revenue.

33. *Court of Wards (Act IV of 1872).*—A separate report will be submitted on this subject under the orders conveyed in Government of India letter No. 2353, dated 18th October 1892.

34. *Business returns.*—The number of cases disposed of by Revenue Officers seems to be steadily increasing, as will be seen from the following table:—

Statements Nos. XXVIII A, B & C.									
Year.					Civil and criminal cases.	Revenue Court cases.	Revenue Officers' cases.	Total.	
1890-91	...	...	...	...	117,572	30,981	135,571	284,124	
1891-92	...	...	...	...	136,570	35,246	132,682	304,498	
1892-93	...	...	...	...	130,757	37,568	143,583	311,908	

The number of officers employed during the year was nine less than in 1891-92. An increase in the number of Revenue Court cases occurred in 16 districts and a decrease in 15. In Gujrát the number rose from 1,545 to 4,448 owing to the large number of suits for enhancement of rent instituted as already noticed. One-third of the total number of Revenue court cases are suits for recovery of rent and one-fourth are applications for execution of decrees. The revenue judicial work is heaviest in the districts of Hoshiárpur, Jullundur, Siálkot and Gujrát, but this year's statistics for the last mentioned district are exceptional. It is lightest in Montgomery, Jhang and the Deraját, and generally in those districts in which the relations of landlords and tenants are least strained.

The largest increase in Revenue Officers' cases occurred in the Kángra district, where the number rose from 4,242 to 9,276. The increase occurs mainly under the head "other cases under the Land Revenue Act." In Gujrát, too, there is an increase of nearly 3,000 cases, mainly under the same head. There was an increase of 20 per cent. in the total number of cases relating to processes for the collection of land revenue.

The Siálkot district is still far ahead of any other in the total outturn of work, which in the year under report amounted to 22,808 cases. The districts next in order are:—

	Number of cases.
Gujrát	17,954
Kángra	16,196
Amritsar	14,545
Mooltan	14,385
Jullundur	13,466
Gujránwála	13,222
Hoshiárpur	12,454
Ferozepore	12,300

In those of the above districts which were under settlement during the year the figures are probably abnormally high as a result of settlement operations.

34 (a). *Appellate work.*—The number of appeals in Revenue court cases decided by Collectors was 2,886 as compared with 3,493 in the previous year. This work is heavy in the following districts:—

	Number of cases.
Lahore	269
Hoshiárpur	251
Ferozepore	229
Pesháwar	220
Jullundur	160
Siálkot	159
Ráwalpindi	140
Hissár	130

Of the Lahore cases 156 had been left over from the previous year and only 125 were instituted during the year. In Hoshiárpur this work is always heavy and much of the Collector's time is taken up with it. The Pesháwar figures are doubtless the result of settlement operations. Appellants were successful either in obtaining a reversal of the order of the lower Court or a retrial in 35 per cent. of the appeals decided.

There were 1,343 appeals in revenue executive cases, 77 more than in the previous year. Of these 500 belong to the Ráwalpindi Division. Appellants were successful in one out of every three cases.

The number of appeals decided by Commissioners was slightly less than in the previous year:—

Year.	Revenue Court appeals.	Revenue executive appeals.
1891-92	688	2,731
1892-93	529	2,589

In the Ráwalpindi Division however there was an increase of 57 and 15 per cent. respectively, a circumstance which bears out the remark made in last year's report as to the connection between the number of appeals and the degree of success attending them. There were a good many appeals in the Ráwalpindi Division against assessments announced by Settlement Officer, resulting in a reduction of revenue to the amount of Rs. 2,435 in Shahpur, Rs. 1,298 in Gujrát, and Rs. 220 in Gujránwála. The Commissioner of Delhi accepted 17 out of 166 revenue executive appeals as compared with 4 out of 83 in the previous year.

In the Financial Commissioner's Court there were 111 appeals, an increase of six on the previous year's figures. Revision cases on the other hand show a decrease from 376 to 275.

SECTION VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

35. *Local Rate.*—The demand of the year was Rs. 28,42,717, nearly a lakh in excess of last year's demand. Of the total demand 99·3 per cent. was collected as compared with 98·15 per cent. last year. A large sum, Rs. 28,253, was also collected on account of arrears of former years. The balance on 30th September 1893 was Rs. 53,615.

36. *Government Suits.*—The Government Advocate's Report is separately printed in an Appendix. The total number of references was 262, being 76 less than in the preceding year. The decrease was chiefly in references from the Irrigation and Railway Departments. Other details will be found in the Government Advocate's Report. The Financial Commissioner has nothing to add to the general remarks made in former years in regard to this subject.

37. *Tours of Commissioners.*—The Commissioner of Delhi, Colonel Grey, spent the cold weather in camp up to 16th February 1893, when he was appointed to act as Financial Commissioner for 2½ months. Mr. Ibbetson, who officiated for Colonel Grey, was in camp for 1½ months.

Mr. Smyth, the Commissioner of Jullundur, spent 97 days in camp in the cold weather and during the summer visited the Mandi State.

Colonel Hutchinson held charge of the Lahore Division from 17th October to 6th April, and was in camp most of the time. He inspected the Deputy Commissioners' offices in five districts and 13 tahsíl offices.

The Commissionership of Ráwalpindi was held by Mr. Ibbetson from 2nd October 1892 to 1st January 1893, and by Mr. Thorburn during the remainder of the year. Mr. Ibbetson spent 36 days and Mr. Thorburn 48 days in camp.

Mr. Udny, Commissioner of Pesháwar, was three months and one day in camp and accompanied His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor throughout his tour in the Division.

The Commissioner of the Deraját, Mr. Bruce, was on tour for 84 days, exclusive of the time spent across the Frontier on political work.

38. *Selected Reports.*—The Financial Commissioners have decided not to forward any of the district reports in original to Government, as the passages of interest in these have in most cases been included in the extracts. The reports of Messrs. Ibbetson, Wilson, Cunningham, L. W. Dane, and L. W. King, and of Captain Inglis (Hoshiárpur) and Lieutenant C. P. Thompson (Hissár) are good ones.

EXTRACTS FROM DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SETTLEMENT OFFICERS' REPORTS.

PART I.

RAINFALL AND HARVESTS.

HISSAR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT C. POWNEY THOMPSON, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

The June rainfall of 1892 was scanty and not sufficient to enable the agriculturists to do much ploughing or to tempt them to sow. The July, August and September rains were abnormally heavy and the people cultivated every bit of land they could get seed down in.

The September rain benefited rabi sowings without damaging the kharif standing crops, as the latter harvest was a very late one. The kharif crop was a 16-anna one and the area sown for rabi abnormally large.

There was no rain in either October or November, but owing to the previous heavy rains they were not wanted. There was slight rain in December and more in February and March. It would be hard to imagine a more timely or ample rainfall for either of the harvests. The rabi crop was a bumper one. Both harvests will long be remembered as notably good ones.

ROHTAK DISTRICT.

(COLONEL A. RENNICK, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

The regular monsoon rains set in towards the end of July when plentiful rain fell throughout the district, and it was so well distributed that a very large amount of land was put under kharif crop exceeding that of last year by 46,610 acres, with the exception of the cotton crop the outturn was a good one in all four tahsils. The rabi harvest was an exceptionally good one in the year under report, zamindars of the country round Mehun, Kanhaur, Beri, &c., who have been suffering from successive poor harvests have not had such a rabi for the past 15 years. The quality of the harvest was due to the favourable rains in September at the sowing time and also to the winter rains being seasonable; for this reason canal water was dispensed with in many villages, and there was a falling off from last year of 13,079 acres in the irrigated area and an increase of 73,898 acres in unirrigated lands, the increased cultivation was principally in gram and rape. The outturn on canal land was an average one, but that on unirrigated land was a bumper one.

DELHI DISTRICT.

(A. ANDERSON, ESQUIRE, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

The rains were somewhat late in commencing, and there was, for some time, a little anxiety, but, while in Ballabgarh only, was the rainfall up to the average in June, prospects very much improved in July over the whole district and the fears of distress and of failure in the kharif crop were removed; and even in the Sonapat tahsil, where the rainfall was still much below the average, there was sufficient to admit of the seed being put into the ground. In August the rainfall was, in all the tahsils, much above the average, and in September it was sufficient. The result was a kharif considerably over the average as a whole. The area cropped was 272,448 acres, as compared with 214,046 acres in 1891. But the fact which shows that the rains were favorable and sufficient is that the area irrigated in the kharif of 1892 is the smallest for many years, at least since 1884, when our present statistics began to be kept.

The rainfall in September was sufficient for the rabi sowings; and though there was no rain in October and November, nor until the last day of December, still the prospects of the rabi were good, and now began one of the wettest seasons on record. Up to the end of March, the rainfall in each tahsil was ten times the average, being five inches, instead of half an inch. In the northern part of the district, there was in April also more than the average, and May also was a wet month. There was considerable damage done, especially in the Delhi tahsil, by hails, and much more damage was done after the crop was cut by the excessive constant rain and damp weather which prevented the threshing of the grain which in consequence began to sprout and was damaged in colour. But the crop was good, the outturn was above the average, and the grain plump and full.

GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT M. W. DOUGLAS, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

The rains for kharif crops were late, but in quantity heavy and favourable for sowings, which resulted in the cultivation of 11 per cent. area more than in the last kharif harvest.

On the whole the kharif harvest was fair. There was a decrease of 20 per cent. in the cultivation of sugarcane, 4 per cent. in *til*, and 3 in maize, while there were increases of 23 per cent. in rice, 4 in *mash* and *mung*, 14 in cotton, and 23 in fodder for cattle. Crops which benefited by heavy rain prospered best.

The rain in September allowed a large area of rabi sowings, there being an increase of 6 per cent. on the last rabi. There was no rain during the months of October and November, but the rains of December and subsequent months, though they injured the crops of lowlying lands, were favorable for the rabi harvest on higher ground. Some crops in the Batála and Shakargarh tahsils were injured by rain and hail, but in general the harvest was good, both in area and yield.

SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. A. L. MONTGOMERY, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

If we take the year as a whole, the rainfall has been more than ample. During the previous year the average fall of the five tahsils was 19.28 inches; this year it has been 45.52 inches, an increase of 139 per cent. Zafarwál shows the highest record and Daska the lowest. The following table shows for the three periods of the year the variations of the rainfall during last year from that of the two previous years and of the average. The figures are those recorded at the meteorological stations in the city of Sialkot:—

Period.	Average.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.
June to September	25.66	45.59	21.04	30.76
October to December	1.20	5.38	0.96	1.51
January to May	7.63	12.68	4.53	16.54
Total for the year	34.49	63.65	26.53	48.81

Thus the greatest excess over the average took place between January and May.

* * * * *

There was hardly any rain at all in October which was of benefit to the rice crop and the rabi sowings. There was a great demand for *Chhamb* water. There was no rain in November and the first winter rain did not come till the end of December. After that rain fell constantly till the end of May. The rabi harvest was good, but much grain was spoiled on the threshing floor by the rain in May. As a rule the zamindárs got their own share of the spring cereals threshed and stored before the rain came, but all over the district the *kamins* suffered much loss. They had almost finished threshing and winnowing their master's grains when the rain came and ruined their own share of the crops which they had not had time to secure. The distress among this class was so acute that the Deputy Commissioner issued a general injunction to all the zamindárs to be generous in their treatment of their servants.

GUJRAT DISTRICT.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent.)

The rainfall of the year recorded at the Sadr was over double that of the previous year. All over the district the rainfall was very copious. Of course cultivation expanded, being nearly double that of the previous year. The increase of cultivation however chiefly, if not entirely, meant a decrease in fallows. It is to be noted that notwithstanding its favorable rainfall, the cultivation in the Sadr tahsil shrunk slightly, fallows having increased by 17 per cent. and cultivation decreased by 1 per cent. The fallows however are only 7 per cent. of the culturable area which, as 80 per cent. of the land in the tahsil is cultivated, leaves no room for expansion, favourable weather notwithstanding. In Phalia, where cultivation is mostly *bārāni* and room for expansion is great, the increase is equal to 107 per cent. over last year's cultivation.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

As regards rainfall and harvest the agricultural year 1892-93 was an exact contrast to the year which preceded it and an exact parallel to the year 1890-91.

The monsoon rains were very abundant, but began late and ceased early. Little rain fell from the end of August to the end of December. The winter rains then set in with unusual force and persistency, and in January and February the fall was incessant. There was a respite in March, but a good deal of rain fell again in April and May, and the spring rain practically continued till the monsoon of 1893 burst.

The mean rainfall of the district was about 32 inches as against 9.5 inches in 1891-92 and 34 inches in 1890-91, and a mean of 18 inches for the last 25 years.

The result of the very heavy monsoon rains was that a very large area was sown for the kharif, but their untimely cessation in August and the almost total failure of the September rains, which are so necessary to mature the kharif unirrigated crops, caused the outturn of the latter to be much poorer than was anticipated. The moisture in the ground however enabled an abnormally large rabi to be sown, and the copious and prolonged winter and spring rains rendered this one of the most abundant and successful crops on record; but the strong and unsettled weather in May and June made the reaping and garnering of the crop very difficult, and the early setting in of the monsoon of 1893 ruined much of the wheat and straw that were still on the threshing floor. One peculiar feature of the rains in 1892-93 was the evenness with which they were distributed. The Hafizabad tahsil, most of which lies in the almost rainless Bār tract, received almost as much as the more favoured tahsils of Gujranwala and Wazirabad, which are closer to the hills and in the direct line of the monsoon.

RAWALPINDI DISTRICT.

(H. B. BECKETT, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner.)

There was very scanty rainfall at the time of the cotton sowing (March). Hence a very small area was sown with cotton. But there was plentiful rain at the time of the other kharif sowings. A sufficiently large area was, consequently, sown with *bājra makki* and other kharif grains. On the whole, the yield of the kharif crop was an average one, except in the case of *múng*, *moth*, *másh* and *makki* in the hilly parts of the district. These were below the average for want of rain at the time the crop was approaching maturity.

The yield of the rabi crops was generally good. Though at the beginning of the sowing season there was no rain, a deluge came on in December and January which permitted late sowings, and the plentiful rain of February and March was most beneficial, but the rain did not cease when the crops were harvested and much damage was done.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division.)

Notwithstanding the break in the rains from August to November, the rainfall was, on the whole, very favorable and cultivation expanded considerably, particularly in the Pindi-Gheb tahsil, where there was an increase equal to 60 per cent.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

(L. W. DANE, Esquire, *Settlement Collector*.)

As compared with the previous year the harvests have been excellent. The total crop area has risen by 34 per cent and that of the kharif harvest by 28 and of the rabi by 38 per cent. The whole of this increase has taken place in the unirrigated area which has risen by 116 per cent., and the bulk of this increase has of course taken place in the Mardán and Utman Bolak tahsils, where rainfall cultivation is most practised. Wheat, barley, *jowár*, *til*, pulses and cotton grown on *bárání* soils account for most of the increase. The kharif harvest was good, though some damage was caused by want of rain at sowing time and by excessive rain in August, and the rabi harvest was, taking the district as a whole, a bumper. The kharif sowings were carried on under most adverse circumstances. There were practically no winter rains and hardly any rain fell in the spring which was one of the hottest seasons known for many years. It was at first apprehended that the harvest would be a failure, but fortunately rain fell in June and was followed by copious and seasonable showers which revived the plants and changed the prospects of the harvest altogether. It was then thought that there would be a bumper harvest, but the unusually heavy showers in August seriously injured the crops, especially maize sown on lowlying lands in tahsils Pesháwar and Doába Dáúdzaí, with this exception the crops were wonderfully free from disease and blight, and the outturn was excellent. The staple produce of the harvest are maize, rice and sugarcane. *Jowár* was also extensively cultivated during the present harvest, and this is due to the fact that there was hardly any *bhusa* in last rabi, and to meet the demand for fodder this crop was largely sown.

BANNU DISTRICT.

(H. A. CASSON, Esquire, *Deputy Commissioner*.)

The rainfall was extraordinarily heavy in amount and most opportune both for the kharif and the rabi harvests. It was well distributed over the district, each tahsíl recording an increase of more than five times the total amount of rainfall for the preceding year, excepting the Marwat tahsíl, where the total rainfall amounted to about twice as much as in 1891-92. The rains began early in June and continued till September, the fall during the months of July and August being the heaviest. October and November were almost dry months, but rains in December and January helped much in the growth of the rabi crops. The Indus was in unusually great flood during the summer, and this considerably increased the *sailába* area. The canals in the Bannu tahsíl were full with water and hill torrents also brought down strong currents of water. The Marwat tahsíl, which depends mainly on rain water, was greatly benefited by the rainfall, which although not as heavy as in other parts of the district was unprecedented in the history of the tahsíl for several years past.

It will thus be seen that the agricultural year under report has been most distinctly favourable, and as a natural result the crops were most flourishing and fodder abundant.

The whole of the revenue demand of the year together with Rs. 37,715 or 87 per cent. of the arrears of past years, was realized without difficulty.

CALAMITIES OF SEASON.

UMBALLA DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS, *Deputy Commissioner*.)

The one calamity of the year was the early advent of rain in June 1893. The rain fell long before the threshing floors were clear of the rabi grain and kharif ploughings were in progress long before the rabi was garnered. It was painful to see good grain being soaked in heaps and to see the thin sheets with which the zamíndárs tried to protect the grain. Some zamíndárs put up thatches over their floor. At my suggestion a contractor is attempting to open a market for large cheap tarpaulins. I believe zamíndárs would try these, as they had a lesson, this rabi.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(M. F. O'DWYER, ESQUIRE, *Settlement Officer.*)

The great flood in the Chenáb in August 1892 did a good deal of damage to several villages in the vicinity of Wazirabad; and also here and there down-stream. There was some loss of life, considerable loss of cattle and crops, but this did not extend beyond a dozen villages, and to alleviate it proposals for remissions of part of the kharif demand amounting to Rs. 1,278 in nine villages in Wazirabad and Rs. 239 in two villages in Hafizabad, were submitted.

The excessive monsoon rains brought on a severe outbreak of malarial fever in the autumn months which interfered with the reaping of the kharif and the sowing of rabi and sent the mortality up to a very high figure. The Chenáb canal, the failure of which at a critical season had been a recurring agricultural calamity for the last four years, is now on a secure footing and one of the main sources of the prosperity of the district.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

* * * * *

Last year the district suffered from almost unprecedented drought, this year it has suffered from unprecedented rainfall and floods. The heavy rainfall in the autumn injured the crops in places, and especially in the Salt Range, carried away some valuable land and caused the land-locked lakes to swell beyond their usual limits and submerge a considerable area of cultivated land. On this account a remission of revenue amounting to Rs. 2,499 (including *khálsa*) was granted to 26 estates in the hill circle. But the worst effect of heavy rain and high floods was that great part of the district and, especially the river valleys, suffered very severely from an epidemic of fever which prostrated a very large proportion of the population and carried off, in some places, nearly 10 per cent. of their total number. The death-rate for the whole district for the year 1892 in the hot months of which an epidemic of cholera proved fatal to nearly 3,000 persons, was 57 per thousand, or about double the average. For the month of October, when the fever was worst, the death-rate for the district reached the terrible figure of 156 per thousand per annum. In the town of Bherá, during the year, one person out of every fourteen died.

On 7th April a most destructive hailstorm passed across the district from the Salt Range to the Chenáb with a path of nearly 50 miles in length and about 2 miles broad, doing immense injury to the ripening crops of wheat and poppy. The single village of Nasirpur lost in half an hour at least Rs. 20,000 worth of wheat. Remissions amounting to Rs. 4,192 (including *khálsa*) were granted on this account in 20 villages.

The most striking calamity of this chequered year however was the tremendous flood in the Jhelum river of 20th July 1893, which rose higher than any other flood within living memory and spread devastation far and wide, reaching in the south of the Shahpur tahsil as far as 10 miles from the ordinary river channel. Only 15 persons and about 1,000 cattle were drowned, but over a very large area the unstored grain and fodder were entirely washed away and the growing kharif crop destroyed; and the chief damage was done to houses, of which 31,000 are reported as having been destroyed. Large quantities of garnered grain, the produce of an unusually good rabi crop, were also irtrievably damaged. Altogether the loss to the people of this district from this flood is estimated at eight lakhs of rupees.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, *Commissioner and Superintendent.*)

The loss caused by floods was enormous. A separate report has been submitted on this subject. It is unfortunate that in a season so favourable as that of the past year there should have been calamities which necessitated such large remissions as had to be sanctioned. The circumstances of the cases in which remissions were recommended are too new to need further comment. The obligation here and elsewhere to grant remissions in localities when a district, as a whole, has harvested the highest area on record 23 per cent. above average of the last four years is one of several arguments in favour of fluctuation *versus* fixity.

BANNU DISTRICT.

(H. A. CASSON, ESQUIRE, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

Locusts were also observed in Isa Khel and Marwát. Occasional swarms passing from one direction to another were first seen, and at last eggs were laid in May and June. Fortunately the rabi crops had then been cut and the fields had not yet been ploughed for either the extra rabi or the kharif, otherwise some damage to crops would have been inevitable. The zamíndárs had a very better experience in 1890-91 and at once responded to the call of the tahsíl officials for help. The locust destruction scheme established in the past year was put into operation and the mischievous insects with their eggs were promptly destroyed without causing the least damage to cultivation.

INCREASE OR DECREASE IN CULTIVATION.

GURGAON DISTRICT.

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

From 1888 to the year under report a progressive gradual increase in the total cultivated area is shown, and the figure for 1892-93 is only about 20 per cent. below the Settlement Record. It is perhaps even more to the purpose to compare the cultivated area of 1892-93 with the area on which the crops were taken as harvested in the year, which was assumed for Mr. Channing's registers, thus :—

1879 (Settlement)	976,938 acres (harvested).
1892-93	... 974,443 acres (cultivated).

—2,495

This gradual recovery is doubtless partly due to the character of the intervening seasons, but, when it is considered, particularly that at least one decidedly bad year is included in the recent period of steady increase in the cultivated area, it is probable that other causes should be looked for, and the following suggest themselves as probable, viz. :—

- (a) Replacement of plough cattle, and of farm hands; these again are due to moral causes in part as well as physical circumstances, the people being in better heart for example :—
- (b) opening out of markets ;
- (c) restoral of credit ;
- (d) reclamation of valuable lands by works of irrigation and protection.

KARNAL DISTRICT.

(P. D. AGNEW, ESQUIRE, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

Instances of encroachment on land reserved for grazing and other common purposes have been brought to light. In several cases action under Section 150 of Act XVII of 1887 was taken, and where the offenders neglected to comply with orders they were punished under Section 188, Indian Penal Code. As the population tends to press more hard-ly on the land, encroachment on the common land will present stronger attractions year by year.

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

It should be firmly resisted. Doubtless the grazing areas are at present 'waste' in every sense ; but the time will come when they will be improved and form valuable fuel and fodder preserves for the villagers, who must otherwise continue to burn manure required for the fields and to starve such cattle as they cannot stall-feed.

AMBALLA DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

This system of planting *bind pulla* (munj) and *mála* in torrent beds and rain fissures introduced by Mr. Gladstone has done a great deal towards the reclamation of land, and the villagers take to it the more readily now that they find it of pecuniary benefit to them. Some villagers have sold their harvests of thatching grass for sums over Rs. 100 and Rs. 200.

Bind pulla is what they call in Mooltan "munj." It is a 'bind-fast' for land in river-beds and dhárrás. It yields splendid thatching grass and all 'zaildárs' have orders to insist on its being planted during the rains in places where lands are suffering from erosion. Men in the plains can only do real good by planting 'munj' &c., in dhárrás which are in their smaller way as destructive as hill torrents. Dhárrás are fissures formed in the soil by rain-water pouring off uplands. These can be really well remedied by plantations. If not so remedied, they spread and spread till they almost become the sources of torrents. To grapple with the hill torrents which start from the Sewálíks is a task of despair for men who do not control the hills.

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

It sounds a small thing, but the results are already great and will, I anticipate, be very great, for the zamíndárs have appreciated and are heartily adopting Mr. Gladstone's measure. This applies to land subject to sand deposit or erosion. For the dharrar or "spread of ravines," they have not adopted the measure so keenly. This evil is of such magnitude that they regard it with the apathy of despair. But doubtless general and systematic operations could do much.

I have written much on this subject. The denudation of the Sewálíks is a matter which I have got Patiála, Nálágarh and Kalsia to deal with, and the results there are already very marked. But in the B territory nothing can be attempted without legislation.

JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

(DENZIL IBBETSON, *Esquire, Deputy Commissioner.*)

The pressure of population upon the land is great, especially in the numerous Aráin and less numerous Saini and Kamboh villages. Many families of Aráins have emigrated to cultivate the Government waste land on the Chenáb Canal, and others would have followed, had colonisation not been stopped for the present.

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

The increasing pressure of the population, and the small area of the soil remaining which is capable of cultivation may in the near future become a problem involving some anxiety, but the transfer of a considerable number of cultivators to areas irrigated by the Chenáb Canals and by other canals likely to be constructed, will, it is hoped, serve to relieve the anticipated congestion.

FEROZEPORE DISTRICT.

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

A large increase in area cropped, and 1,914,050 acres is a very large proportion of the total cultivated area. Leaving out of account the figures for the year ending 30th September 1892, when as much as 851,136 acres of the area cultivated bore no crop, some comparison may be made with the returns for the year ending 30th September 1891. The relative figures are as below :—

	Total cultivated area.	Portion which bore no crop.	Balance cropped.
1890-91	2,043,869	578,388	1,465,481
1892-93	2,094,630	180,579	1,914,054

The rainfall accounts chiefly for the increase in cultivation during the year under report, but the canals are naturally advancing cultivation steadily as they extend. Since 1874 the area brought under canal irrigation amounts to 95,262 acres.

In the year under report it is shown that the area irrigated by the district inundation canals was considerably greater than the area irrigated by these canals in the previous year. It is reported however under subject No. 33 in Part II of this Report, that "the area irrigated during the year by Government canal," under charge of the Irrigation Department was considerably below the canal irrigated area during 1891-92, and this was to be expected, considering the heavy rainfall.

JHANG DISTRICT.

(Remarks by J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.)

It is very satisfactory to find increase of cultivation in other parts going on simultaneously with the development of the canal irrigation. It shows apparently that as yet the colonization policy has been successful in avoiding a danger, found real in Mooltan on the Sidhnái, of diminishing the local labor supply.

MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(T. J. KENNEDY, ESQUIRE, Officiating Deputy Commissioner.)

The figures for the year under report show that both rabi and kharif crops were larger than any that have been sown during the last 19 years. The crops sown would have been even larger, than they were, but for three causes; these were (1) the desertion of cultivators for the newly irrigated lands on the Chenáb Canal, (2) the severe epidemic of cholera in the summer of 1892, (3) the approaching reassessment and the wilful abandonment of well cultivation in view of this. A substantial decrease in the double-cropped area was due to the decrease in well cultivation, partly caused by the abundant *sailab* and partly by the wilful abandonment of wells just alluded to.

(Remarks by J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE, Officiating Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.)

This is the danger always to be looked out for, as I noted in the Jhang Report. I should doubt whether *there* too something of the kind will not occur.

SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.)

As was to be expected, the favourable rainfall led to an expansion of cultivation and to a slight neglect of irrigation. The current fallows were 65 per cent. less than those of the previous year. The cultivated area is nearly 75 per cent. of the total area of the district, and of this 50 per cent. is nominally at least irrigable. The agricultural condition of the district during the year was altogether favourable.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

Of the increase in the Háfizabad tahsil, over 46,000 acres represents land broken up by colonists in the Government waste, who received their allotment in the spring of 1892, and the speed with which they have developed their resources in spite of great initial difficulties is a most hopeful sign of the success of the colonization scheme.

* * * * *

One hundred acres of cultivation yielded last year 70 acres of successful crops, this year 97 acres, and nothing could illustrate better than these figures the extent to which, even in a district like this when 70 per cent. of the cultivation is protected by wells or canals, the success of agriculture is dependent on a timely and well distributed rainfall.

BANNU DISTRICT.

(H. A. CASSON, ESQUIRE, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

The gaudis or embankments constructed in the Miánwáli and Isá Khel tahsils to drain off the Indus water and the Kharoba band on the border of the Marwát tahsil, are greatly helping towards the expansion of cultivation.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

In this connection it may be noted that when on tour in the cis-Indus tahsils, the zamíndárs complained that they could not get a sufficient quantity of seed for their requirements. I accordingly got the baniás together and persuaded them to supply seed to the cultivators at fair rates. The stock of seed was so exhausted from the unusual demand and the large exports, that a portion had to be obtained from Ferozepore and elsewhere.

During the year under report an experiment in indigo cultivation was made in the Tánk tahsíl, but with indifferent success. In one of the two villages in which the experiment was tried the plant grew to a fair height, but in the other the seed failed to germinate. The experiment will be repeated next year.

The zamíndárs of the Tánk tahsíl seem opposed to the cultivation of the sugarcane (*gur*) and say that their lands are not suitable for this class of crop.

The cultivation of potatoes continues highly successful and a large quantity of seed has been distributed this year gratis to selected zamíndárs of the Dera and Tank tahsils.

An experiment was made during the year with varieties of date, palm seeds, provided by the Director of Land Records. This succeeded well at Leiáh and Dera, where the plants have grown to a height of 10 inches and are in a flourishing condition.

CROPS AND PRODUCE.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

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

The rainfall for five months was equal to the average yearly fall and was from 5 to 6 inches in excess of what is usually expected in the kharif season. The fall was well distributed over the whole district and was in every way favorable in matter of time. Consequently a very large area, as will be seen from the figures given above, was sown and harvested.

The rice crop was generally a good one. Maize, unless on light land, suffered from excess of moisture and often gave but a poor return. *Jowár* was a better crop than any reaped within the last six years both in grain and fodder. *Mung* and *másh* gave a large return, but moth is said not to have blossomed as well as expected. Cane and cotton were average, the latter in some parts shot up too rapidly and ran too much to stick. But on the whole the harvest was an excellent one. The unirrigated maize which is usually only about one-fifth of that irrigated, covered this year a larger area than the irrigated crop, though the *bárání* cotton fell off.

* Taking the whole area sown, wet and dry, it is seen that there was a decrease under rice and sugarcane and an increase under all other crops.

* The season was favorable for rabi sowings, and a large area was sown. But for sickness in the autumn and the large area covered by kharif crops, the rabi area would have been more extensive. The winter rains began at the proper time, viz., in Christmas week and rain fell at short intervals throughout January, February and the first half of March. More than double the usual quantity fell, the result being a heavy crop on light *bārāni* soils, a very fair crop on most irrigated lands and a good deal of damage in the low-lying parts. The harvest was a very late one owing to the absence of sun in the two first months of the year, and threshing operations were much hindered by the rain storms of May and June. Even by the fourth week of June the wheat had not all been taken off the threshing floor. Both the grain and the *bhoosa* were a good deal damaged by this late and unseasonable rain, and the quality of the grain raised on irrigated land was certainly not above the average and often below it. The wheat and gram grown on *bārāni* lands was much better in quality and gave a large return of straw.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(M. F. O'DWYER, ESQUIRE, *Settlement Officer.*)

The copious monsoon rains enabled the zamindars to prepare a large area for the rabi, and the unirrigated area sown was the largest ever known. Even after the winter rains began at the end of December, barley was sown in large quantities. Owing to the continuous winter and spring rains (Gujranwala 11.05 inches, Wazirabad 8.67, and Hafizabad 6.36), the crop was very successful, the outturn on dry lands was almost equal to that on irrigated soils, and, as the wells were at a standstill for nearly all the cold weather a bumper harvest was secured with little labor and expense. The area of failure was only 1 per cent., while the area of crops harvested was 15 per cent. above the average of the preceding five years, while the yield was at least 20 per cent. above the average.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

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Altogether the kharif harvest may be considered to have been a fair crop.

Rabi.—The monsoon rains of 1892 were unusually heavy and favourable for the rabi sowings, and the winter rainfall was also exceptionally good, so that a large area was sown for the rabi, and the area that failed to come to maturity was small (only 9,195 acres against 31,912 last year). The area cropped was therefore unusually high, being 18 per cent. above the average of the past four years and 39 per cent. above the exceptionally poor crop of last year. It was almost equal in area to the bumper crop of 1891, which is the highest on record, and exceeded it in outturn, as the winter rains were most opportune and the average produce per acre generally very good, both in quantity and quality. The gross outturn of the harvest must have been much the highest ever known, and at least 50 per cent. above that of an average rabi. A little damage was done by wind, hail and rain to the ripe crops, but on the whole the crop was decidedly a bumper, almost all over the district.

BANNU DISTRICT.

(H. A. CASSON, ESQUIRE, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

Owners of irrigated lands are not in all cases owners of water also, and they take water in return for some personal services, and in a few cases on payment of a part of their produce to water-owners. These men own *bārāni* lands also, and as the rains were so plentiful, they preferred to work on their *bārāni* possessions, which had remained uncultivated for some years and had thus gained in the power of production. By this arrangement they succeeded in securing full produce of their *bārāni* lands, neglecting the irrigated lands, for which they had to pay an *ābiāna* to waterlords.

CATTLE.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, Esquire, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

The bullocks produced in this district are quite insufficient for its requirements, so these animals are imported in large numbers from Sindh and the southern parts of the Dera Gházi Khan district.

The bullock-dealers made handsome profits from these transactions as they do not generally insist on cash payment and realize the amount by instalments from the zamíndárs. The latter too find it doubtless more convenient to pay when the crops are harvested, and do not therefore object if a few rupees extra are charged over and above the actual price of the animal. The traders are generally Muhamadans, who would not charge interest directly, but make due provision therefore in fixing the price.

PRICES.

ROHTAK DISTRICT.

(COLONEL A. RENNICK, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

The price of wood is steadily rising as wood is becoming scarce owing to the breaking up of the village common lands and woods. No new trees are planted by the zamíndárs, so in a few years they will have to import their fire-wood, and it is fortunate that a railway line is to pass through the district.

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

Village commons, except in Jhajjar, have practically disappeared. Admitting that, till improved, they are of little use for fodder, still, as regards fuel, this is a serious matter, the manure is thus entirely divested from the fields.

DELHI DISTRICT.

(A. ANDERSON, Esquire, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

The price of wheat in June 1893 was not in a marked degree different from what it was in past years. It was selling retail at 17 sérs then and in 1892 in the same month at 15 sérs. This was the highest price in this month during the last five years, and it rose gradually to twelve sérs in March 1893, but in the second half of April it fell to sixteen sérs. For some time in the city of Delhi the poorer people, who are accustomed to eat wheat, felt the high rates in March, but since then the prices have been low, and instead of the usual rise during the hot weather, there has actually been a fall, and in September and October 1893 wheat has been selling cheaper than at the end of the harvest. Indeed it is now cheaper than it has been at any time during the last five years, cheaper even than in any of these years in May, June. There is little or no demand for export. This, along with a good harvest and the damaged nature of some of the wheat, explains the sudden change in 1893 from the highest to the lowest price.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

Owing to the bad harvest of the year 1891-92, the year 1892-93 opened with high prices and exhausted stocks. The outturn of food grains in the kharif was so poor, that prices so far from falling continued to rise during the cold weather, wheat selling at 11 or 12 sérs per rupee, and the export to Europe and the increased demand within the district owing to the immigration of 30,000 settlers and canal labourers soon exhausted the local supply. In December import of food grains began chiefly from Ferozepore, Bhatinda, Ludhiána and Delhi, and lasted till this rabi crop came to maturity. In one month over 1,00,000 maunds of wheat was imported to Gujranwála Railway Station, while the import of jowár was even greater.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

In May 1893, the prices began to fall owing to the abundant outturn of the rabi harvest and the withdrawal of the troops from the frontier.

The fall was however slow at first, because the zamindars held their hands in the expectation that the merchants would as usual make arrangements to buy up and export a quantity of wheat to the English market. By and by, however, when they became convinced that the market was dull, they began to sell out their stores freely, which resulted in a considerable fall in prices.

The rates of *bājra* were high during July, August, September and October 1892, but as soon as the kharif crop was harvested, the prices fell from 13 to 19 sérs per rupee.

The price of wheat rose as high as ten sérs per rupee from October 1892 to April 1893, but fell to 18 sérs per rupee from May 1893. The price of barley rose and fell just in the same manner as in the case of wheat.

In January, February, March and April, the rate averaged from 13 to 15 sérs per rupee, while in May the price fell to 27 sérs per rupee.

PATWARIS AND KANUNGOS.

GURGAON DISTRICT.

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

As regards the classes from which the Patwari candidates were drawn certain information is subjoined, which indicate some progress in the leavening of the Land Records' staff with recruits from the cultivating body itself.

	Non-Agriculturists.	Agriculturists.
Candidates admitted	65	37
Do. passed	40	22
Do. failed	25	15
<i>Per cent. of Agriculturists—</i>		
(a) Admitted	36	
(b) Passed	35	

Among the agriculturist candidates, there were one Rájput, one Jat, one Ahir and five Meos, besides a number of Khanzádás, Sayads, and Sheikhs belonging to land-holding communities.

In appointing to all district vacancies, so far as possible a preference has been assigned to candidates for subordinate revenue posts, who have passed by the Patwari standard, with the view of adding to the status of the subordinate Land Records' agency, as well as to the usefulness of the men appointed in their actual work.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(M. F. O'DWYER, ESQUIRE, *Settlement Officer.*)

Throughout the settlement, which is now approaching a close, steady efforts have been made to improve the patwaris by weeding out corrupt and inefficient men. Of 253 patwaris, with which we started the settlement, 108 have been retired for old age or inefficiency, of whom 24 received gratuities, 33 have been dismissed for dishonesty or misconduct.

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The deeper one gets below the surface, the more clearly one realises that nine-tenths of the litigation among the agricultural community is fomented by corrupt patwáris, who use their position to further their own interests, or those of their friends among the money-lending elements, or if they have no personal interest in the case, sell their services to the highest bidder.

It is by no means uncommon, especially in the Háfizabad tahsíl, where the zamíndárs are very backward and ignorant, for some of wealthy money-lenders to give retaining fees to patwáris to secure their services in obtaining land by sale or mortgage, and the patwári is the usual intermediary in such transactions, though his name is not allowed to appear at the time.

The old system by which most of the patwáriships got into the hands of certain cliques, connected closely together, allied to the money-lenders, led to great abuses. I have endeavoured to break up these 'rings,' and in appointing new patwáris, generally select men who have no previous connection with the circle.

There is no doubt a steady improvement in the standard both as regards the status of the men who came forward, their efficiency and honesty.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division.)

Mr. O'Dwyer's picture of the state of morals amongst the patwáris, is, I think, overdrawn. It is true that what with patwáris, girdáwars and munsiffs, all being more or less in the money-lending interest, the stupid peasant, especially where a Muhammadan, is too often bested. The farther west one goes—west of Lahore in the Punjab, the larger is the Muhammadan element amongst zamíndárs until it becomes all Muhammadan, and I think the stronger that element, the stronger is the feeling of dissatisfaction amongst the peasantry. I constantly hear expression of hostility against the "Sáukár-ká-ráj." However dealing only with patwáris, they are better now than they were ten years ago, and every year sees an improvement. Whether they foment litigation or not as a rule, they are a necessary evil. The thing is to improve the standard of education amongst them and encourage as large a zamíndári element as possible in the agency.

About Patwár Khánahs, they are generally in disrepair, or if repaired, have been so at the cost of the zamíndárs. The institution is a costly and oppressive failure in most districts in which I have served. The patwári should, I think, be simply compelled to reside in a central village inside his circle, be given a rough safe (say a good tinlined box with a good padlock) and be required to keep one room as an office room.

DERA GHAZI KHAN DISTRICT.

(M. L. DAMES, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner.)

Soon after I took over charge, the Patwáris' School was started. A specially competent girdáwar was put in charge of it, with instructions to pay special attention to training the candidates in surveying. Over one hundred pupils were admitted to the school, fully one-half of these being Muhammadans. The Bilochís who had hitherto held back from the school were induced to send in a fair number of candidates from their tribe, and the result is that the additional staff of patwáris that is being entertained for this settlement will consist, to considerable extent, of the residents of this district, the Muhammadans, and among them the Biloches being fully represented.

RECORDS OF RIGHTS.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

The work of framing a correct record in the Háfizabad tahsíl has been a very tedious and laborious one. The record of last settlement was often erroneous or imperfect. Rights in land in this backward tract were then of little value and the people took little trouble to have them correctly ascertained or accurately recorded.

The enhanced value given to land in late years by the high prices of produce, and especially by the opening of the Chenáb Canal, has led hundreds of claimants to come forward to assert their real or supposed rights. Owners hitherto recorded as "absent" or "out of possession" shareholders whom the new survey shows to have received less than their share on partition; persons in cultivating possession, but not recorded as owners, persons out of possession but recorded as owners, all of these have now become clamorous for what they consider their rights. The technical course would perhaps be to refer them to the Civil Courts, but they are generally unwilling to adventure on the risk and expense of protracted litigation, and usually agree to accept any reasonable arrangement carried out by the settlement agency, which can deal with the claims on the spot, and is in a better position than the Civil Courts to arrive at the true facts. Hundreds of cases of this nature have been dealt with within the past year, and a satisfactory settlement has been made in nearly every case by consent or compromise. It is found that the parties are more reasonable in their claims, less apt to put forward exaggerated pretensions and more willing to come to an amicable settlement when the case is dealt with in the village by an officer who can easily unravel it, and in the presence of parties who know all the facts, than when they came into Court committed to a stereotyped claim, which amounts to a declaration of war against their adversaries supported by manufactured witnesses and eager to win the battle at all costs even though the victory be a barren one.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division).

Mr. O' Dwyer has done good work in the preparation of these records and a good deal of it too. Mr. O'Dwyer's treatment of this subject appears to have been very good indeed, but he is himself so explicit that I hardly know what to say.

ANNUAL RECORDS.

KARNAL DISTRICT.

(P. D. AGNEW, ESQUIRE, Deputy Commissioner).

Special measures were taken during the year to secure the accuracy of the records, I think that a good many mistakes in totalling results for the various statements (*jinswar*, *milan rakla*, &c.) occur in excerpting the figures from the khasra girdáwáris and *jamabandis*. It is usual for a patwári to make rough notes on scraps of paper in making up the figures for the statements. The notes are destroyed, mistakes have crept in and check is difficult. To remedy this patwáris have been supplied with regular printed forms of all the returns in the village Note-books, on these they collect materials by entering totals of each page of the khasra girdáwári, mutation register, &c., *pari passu* as they total each page. Check on the part of the inspecting officer is much easier and no extra work is involved on the part of the patwári. These rough abstracts are intended to be retained by the patwári for a year.

ANNUAL RECORDS.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

Mutation proceedings are year by year assuming more importance in the eyes of the people and the Civil Courts, and are coming to be looked upon as one of the chief evidences of title. The extent to which the work is scrutinized is hardly commensurate with its importance. The parties affected rarely prefer a formal appeal against the order, and it is only indirectly in looking over the registers and checking *jamabandis* that irregular or erroneous orders are brought to light. The power of attestation is one which can easily be abused by an unscrupulous official. Its exercise requires to be carefully supervised. I have this year had to dismiss a Deputy Superintendent of Settlement and reduce a Field Kánungo to patwári for malpractices in such cases.

PARTITIONS.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

* * * * *

During settlement over 300,000 acres or about one-fifth of the area excluding Government property has come under partition, and in 1892-93 the area was nearly 100,000 acres. These figures afford a striking proof of the magnitude and importance of the work. It is especially heavy in the Hafizabad tahsil, where owing to the spread of canal cultivation whole villages are now rapidly partitioning the waste, the profits from which, in the shape of grazing fees, sales of wood and charcoal, &c., they formerly shared in common. The movement, in so far as it stimulates the development of cultivation, is a healthy one, but there is danger of its being carried too far. I have therefore insisted in all recent cases on a substantial area being reserved for fodder and have refused many applications to partition the grazing reserve. This is especially necessary in the interest of non-owners who have usually a prescriptive right or privilege of grazing in the village common with or without the payment of fees, but who are apt to be overlooked in the partition proceedings in which they are not represented.

Moreover the common land of a village is often the only land of community in this district, and as complete partition would unduly hasten disintegration, it is so far to be deprecated.

TRANSFERS OF LAND.

JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

(DENZIL IBBETSON, Esquire, Deputy Commissioner.)

	SALES.		MORTGAGES.		REDEMPTIONS.	
	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Total area.	Cultivated area.	Total area.	Cultivated area.
Transactions of past years, recorded in 1892-93.	3,540	3,376	9,584	9,361	5,365	5,220
Transactions of year under report.	1,270	1,161	3,707	3,504	2,885	2,060
Total ...	4,810	4,537	13,291	12,865	8,250	7,880

These figures are very startling. This is the first year in which an attempt has been made to discriminate between old and new transactions, with the result that something like three-quarters of the transactions (taking area as our guide) are shown as old. The reason is clear. Under the present system of mutation a considerable period elapses between two successive visits of an attesting officer to a village. Moreover, for a considerable period at the end of the year no mutations are entered. The consequence is that a very large number (in this case apparently the majority) of mutations are attested not in the year during which the transfer was made, but in the course of the year next succeeding. The Revenue Extra Assistant Commissioner is of opinion that about half of the mutations now shown as "old" may be more than a year old; but this is a mere guess. I should imagine that the proportion would be much smaller, at any rate it is clear that if we wish to attain our object of discriminating between really old and new transfers we must alter our system.

SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division.)

The number of transfers recorded during the year shows an increase under all three heads, both in transactions and areas. Under sales, however, the increase in

area is very small, being barely more than one per cent. of cultivated land. From the Appendix to Statement X, it is clear that more than three-fourths of the transactions belong to the year under report, though the Settlement Collector admits that his figures are not reliable.

The number of redemptions is equal to about one-third of the number of mortgages, showing, as previously pointed out, that the land is gradually changing hands with the cumulative effect of these transactions.

The proportion of the total area of land alienated by mortgage and sale is however only some $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total area, the proportion of cultivated land alienated being about the same. The process therefore is slow, and at the present rate of progress, it would take over 50 years for the entire lands to change hands.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

The conclusion may safely be drawn that the rapid progress of alienations which in the previous five years had been growing to an alarming extent and reached climax in 1891-92, has now received a sudden and well marked check. This is, no doubt, due to the abundant harvest and general agricultural prosperity of the year. Another satisfactory sign is that two-thirds of the area mortgaged and over half of the area sold has passed to old agriculturists.

KOHAT DISTRICT.

(C. E. F. BUNBURY, Esquire, *Deputy Commissioner.*)

The large increase in the area of mortgages as compared with the previous year is attributable to a single transaction in which about 10,000 acres were mortgaged. The figures for area alienated to new agriculturists during the year under report are normal as compared with the preceding year, and do not call for any special remarks. There were no transfers by mortgage or sale to new agriculturists during the year in the Bārak Tappa. In the Kohāt tahsīl and Bārak Tappa it is only among the class of agriculturists between whom the land changes hands. In a few villages of the Kohāt tahsīl, however, Hindū money-lenders and persons, other than agriculturists, such as *Mullās* have begun to acquire interest in land to a small extent.

EXTRACTS FROM DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SETTLEMENT OFFICERS' REPORTS.

PART II.

FIXED LAND REVENUE (INCLUDING TRIBUTE.)

DELHI DISTRICT.

(A. ANDERSON, ESQUIRE.)

* * * In this district the collection seems to go on all the year round and is made with considerable difficulty in the Balabgarh tahsil, and in parts of the Delhi tahsil. If punctual payment is any test of the lightness of an assessment, then the assessment here must be heavy, and the assessment in Hissár, with which I cannot but make a comparison, very light even after the recent enhancement. But even in Sonapat tahsil, where the assessment is certainly not severe, the delay in collection is almost as great as in Balabgarh where there may be some excuse.

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

Dilatory collection is a matter of habit and tradition in the old Delhi Commissioner-ship. I have been struggling against it for nearly eight years.

UMBALLA DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

* * * * *

It was pointed out by the Financial Commissioner during the year under report that the system introduced by Mr. Gladstone of payment of revenue into the treasury without pre-audit by the Revenue Accountant was opposed to the rule contained in Revenue Circular No. 40, para. 11, and it was ordered that the system should be discontinued.

In the correspondence that ensued it was observed that the rule quoted had reference only to the Sadr Tahsil Treasury, and while at the sadr the procedure was discontinued, it was arranged that at the out tahsils a continued trial should be given to Mr. Gladstone's system. This was agreed to by the Commissioner of the Division, who has asked for a report on the system after a two years' trial. The system is, I apprehend, not entirely understood. It does not do away with *dákhilás* though if the system were carried out to its logical conclusion it would end in *arz-irsáls* being dispensed with in favor of *dákhilás* written by the patwári. This is the pith of the system. *Dákhilás* are necessary both as treasury vouchers and as formal receipts to the payer. As yet the patwáris have not been educated up to the stage of being able to prepare *dákhilás*, but there is no reason why they should not be in time. The object of the system is to prevent the lambardár from being brought into contact first with the patwári, second with the wásil báki navís, and third with the syáha navís.

It is now arranged that he shall get his *arz-irsál* made out in detail by the patwári; that he shall go straight to the tahsil treasurer and pay in his cash, and that subsequently (when he has got the treasurer's endorsement on the back of his *arz-irsál*) he shall go to the syáha navís or wásil báki navís and show his *arz-irsál*. A formal *dákhila* is then made out as a treasury voucher, and a duplicate as a receipt for the lambardár to hold, the *arz-irsál* being taken from him and retained for reference in case of any mistakes.

I cannot say that the patwáris do not make mistakes in the *arz-irsáls* (invoices). They pretty often do, but they are not serious ones as a rule, and they are mostly capable of speedy adjustment. If the system continues it is necessary that patwáris should be made to make correct invoices. The system is simpler than the one generally in vogue, and I believe that if an addition was made to the Patwári Rules on the subject, patwáris would soon make out *dákhilás* as well as any wásil báki navís in the district. They should have *dákhila* books supplied to them.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(COLONEL R. T. M. LANG.)

* * * * *

The year was not an unfavorable one, except in the Ajnāla tahsíl, which was affected by hail-storms, and of which full particulars have been given elsewhere. The land revenue demand, though considerably increased in consequence of re-assessment operations in the district, was realised without difficulty.

GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT M. W. DOUGLAS.)

* * * * *

The collection of the revenue during the year was somewhat delayed owing to the damage done to crops by heavy rain and hail, applications for suspensions were numerous, and while these were under consideration collections were retarded.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

The total collections this year have been nearly two lakhs above the average of the last four years. The rainfall and crops of the year have been so good that this large increase has been realised without difficulty. It is made up of enhancements of assessment of balances realised, of water-advantage revenue and royalty rates newly imposed, and of an improvement in the income from grass, and from lands leased for one year only.

BANNU DISTRICT.

(H. A. ANDERSON, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * * Rupees 37,715 of the arrears of previous years were realised, and there is now a balance of Rs. 5,829 only outstanding. The greatest part of the arrears realised belong to the Marwat tahsíl. This tahsíl had suffered from a succession of bad harvests, and although the year under report was exceptionally favorable, the zamíndárs have not sufficiently recovered, and it was not without strenuous efforts that Rs. 34,964 out of the suspended revenue of Rs. 37,324 was realised.

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

The harvest was so good that I believe the realisations did not cause undue distress.

REMISSIONS AND SUSPENSIONS OF FIXED LAND REVENUE.

GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

Rupees 1,146 were sanctioned for remission on account of submergence of culturable area in certain tahsils under the conditions indicated in Section 220, page 140 of the Gurgáon Settlement Report.

KARNAL DISTRICT.

(P. D. AGNEW, ESQUIRE.)

No remission of fixed demand took place during the year, but suspensions to the extent of Rs. 5,193 had to be granted in some villages affected by hail in March. Of this Rs. 2,404 stand against mauza Nawach alone, a village in Kaithal Naili, in which floods have caused great injury both to health and prosperity of the residents. Introduction of fluctuating assessment in this village was applied for and sanctioned. * * *

Population has much decreased in Nawach, and tenants are very difficult to procure. In fact the owners would be glad enough to give land free of rent to any one willing to cultivate it, but no tenants are forthcoming. It is hoped that, when the Naili is drained by the Sarsuti Canal Drainage Scheme, the state of Nawach and neighbouring villages may improve.

JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

(D. C. J. IBBETSON, ESQUIRE.)

There were hail-storms in the district on 17th March and 3rd April 1893, which damaged the rabi crops of several villages, some of them seriously. The damage done was the more severely felt because a succession of inferior harvests had preceded the rabi of 1893 and was emphasized by the fact that the anticipations of the harvest were excellent. Accordingly remissions and suspensions of the land revenue aggregating respectively Rs. 9,392 and Rs. 2,074 were proposed and sanctioned.

FEROZEPORE DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. S. DE BUTTS MARTINDALE.)

It is satisfactory to note that the extension of canal-irrigation and the plentiful rainfall during the hot months of 1893 obviated the necessity of any suspensions in the Fázilka tahsil. The season was so favorable that the cultivators were enabled to pay Rs. 13,286 of previous year's suspended balances.

LAHORE DISTRICT.

(A. E. HURRY, ESQUIRE.)

The remissions out of the suspended balances for previous years were in tahsils—

									Rs.
Lahore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,090
Chúnián	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,502
Sharakpur	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27,921
Total									32,513

These remissions are due to the distressed state of villages on the banks of the river. In Chúnián and Sharakpur the succession of bad harvests since the year of 1886-87 due to continuous drought and the impoverished state of the people necessitated the remission of these suspended balances.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

The only important remissions are Rs. 2,418 remitted to 26 villages in the Salt Range on account of damage done by the lakes overflowing their usual limits owing to the exceptionally heavy rainfall. Rupees 4,141 remitted to 20 estates, chiefly in the Bhera tahsil, on account of damage done by hail (see head 2), and Rs. 2,586 on account of diluvion. For these sanction has already been given. Sanction has been solicited to a remission of Rs. 1,706

on account of reduction of assessment in some villages and will be solicited to a remission of Rs. 773 on account of damage done by the great flood in the Jhelum river. The total remissions of all kinds amount to Rs. 11,978, of which all but Rs. 7,332 remitted on account of damage done by rain, hail and flood, is merely nominal.

In consequence of the very poor harvests of 1891-92, there was a large arrear under suspension at the beginning of the year, amounting to Rs. 54,009, or 11 per cent. of the year's demand. The kharif harvest of 1892 was so good almost everywhere that no suspensions were necessary for that instalment except in three villages in the Salt Range, which had failed to get their share of the rain so abundantly showered on their neighbours, and it was found possible to realise some Rs. 20,000 of the suspended arrears. Again the rabi harvest of 1893 was a bumper everywhere, no new suspensions were found necessary, and a further large amount of suspended revenue was realised with ease. Altogether Rs. 43,017 of suspended revenue were realised during the year, and the amount under suspension at its close was only Rs. 13,325 or about 3 per cent. of a year's demand. None of this arrear is of older date than Kharif 1891. The only villages now in arrear are in the Chenáb and Bár circles of the Bhéra tahsil, and the Salt Range circle of Khusháb, and as this kharif has been generally good in those tracts it is expected that the greater part of this arrear will soon be realised.

Before ordering the realisation of suspended revenue in any estate, I carefully compared its return of area harvested with those of previous harvests, discussed its condition with the Tahsildár and headmen, and if possible saw the village myself. In almost all cases the headmen expressed their willingness to pay a share or the whole of the arrear, and in no case did the collection cause hardship.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division).

The remissions of Rs. 4,161 and Rs. 2,586 were duly sanctioned. I have not been able to ascertain particulars of the others. The progress in collecting suspensions outstanding has been very satisfactory, especially considering that the enhanced assessments were being collected at the same time.

HAZARA DISTRICT.

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

In the last year's report it was noted that though the locusts and the drought had done much damage, a suspension of Rs. 328 only was found necessary.

Of this Rs. 128 were recovered, and only Rs. 200 had to be suspended; of this Rs. 200 during the year under report Rs. 35 were realised and the balance Rs. 165 had to be remitted.

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BALANCES OF FIXED LAND REVENUE.

DELHI DISTRICT.

(A. ANDERSON, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

The balance at the end of September 1892 was Rs. 26,635, of which Rs. 633 was struck off in 1891-92, and Rs. 1,061 was struck off in 1892-93, and a sum of Rs. 14,177 was collected during the year, so that the balance was diminished by Rs. 14,177 \times Rs. 633 \times Rs. 1,061 = Rs. 15,871. This leaves a balance of Rs. 10,764, and of this a sum of Rs. 1,860 was remitted during the year in Bahlolpur Dahri. There is included in these balances a sum of Rs. 396 which will not be recovered. There is thus a real recoverable balance of Rs. 8,508.

SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

The only balances of former years in the fixed demand were on account of revenue suspended for damage from hail. All these were realised during the year.

GUJRAT DISTRICT.

(BARON J. BENTINCK.)

The balance outstanding at the commencement of the year was Rs. 28,377, and that which accrued during the year under report Rs. 6,961.

	Rs.
Collection was	22,316
Remission	2,349
Remitted by order of Financial Commissioner but not yet struck off	150
Total	24,815
Balance at close of the year	10,523

(Remark by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.)

The collection of outstanding balances has been satisfactory.

JHELUM DISTRICT.

(J. G. SILCOCK, Esquire.)

Balance outstanding at the commencement of the year was Rs. 28,167, of which Rs. 24,721 were collected, and Rs. 3,417 were struck off, being nominal balance, and Rs. 29 remitted on account of crops destroyed by hail.

(Remark by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.)

The realisation of the large balances outstanding under suspension at the beginning of the year was very satisfactory.

BANNU DISTRICT.

(H. A. ANDERSON, Esquire.)

There is no balance remaining unrealised for the year under report. As regards the balances of previous years there was a total amount of Rs. 48,757 outstanding at the commencement of 1892-93; of this Rs. 5,003 were remitted and Rs. 210 struck off as irrecoverable under proper authority, and Rs. 37,715 collected and credited to Government, leaving a balance of Rs. 5,829 at the close of the year.

* * * * *

The most important balances were those of the Marwat tahsil. This tahsil had suffered from bad harvest for three years successively, but the kharif of 1892 and the past rabi were exceptionally good.

FLUCTUATING LAND REVENUE (GENERAL).

HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN E. INGLIS.)

The demand amounting to Rs. 13,062 for the year under report was all collected within the year. The principal items are on account of alluvion Rs. 2,804 and the water-advantage rate of the Shahnahr Canal Rs. 9,795.

The balance at the close of the previous year was Rs. 106. This amount has been collected within the year under report.

MOOLTAN DISTRICT.

(H. A. CASSON, Esquire.)

* * * The outstandings of previous years have all been realised and credited to Government during the year under report.

The increase in the demands of over Rs. 37,000, compared with the preceding year, is due (1) to good river inundation, (2) to successful working of the Sidhnai Canal, not only in regard to water-supply, but also to irrigation being carried on for a longer period than usual, and (3) to the introduction of the fluctuating system in the *bār dārāni* lands.

MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(T. J. KENNEDY, Esquire.)

* * * * *

The chief increases are under the heads of fluctuating assessments of other lands and of those irrigated by canals, in the former of Rs. 22,867 and in the latter of Rs. 19,885. This is due to the favorable and seasonable character of the inundations and the heavy rains in both the Rāvi and Sutlej tahsils.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, Esquire.)

* * * * *

The income under the Dāman assessment is the largest on record since the settlement, which is mainly owing to timely rainfall and good irrigation from hill torrents.

SYSTEMS OF FLUCTUATING ASSESSMENT.

HISSAR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT C. P. THOMSON.)

* * * * *

The number of villages subject to the fluctuating assessment is 31, the same as last year, all in the Sirsa tahsíl.

These are all irrigated by the overflow of the Ghaggar.

In certain of the villages under fluctuating assessment the proprietors are either Sukhlambers or the heirs of Sukhlambers, whose assignments have been resumed.

As a rule they are not residents of this district. Very few of them cultivate the land themselves, and many of them do not even take the trouble to have it cultivated. A large culturable area is thus left uncultivated, and Government loses a considerable amount of revenue every year.

ROHTAK DISTRICT.

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

Portions of the following villages in the Jhajjar tahsíl are subject to fluctuating assessment:—

* * * * *

The assessment is made on the land as soon as the seed is put down, irrespective of whether the crop matures or not. It is certainly an easy mode of assessment though not one productive of gain to Government, as the amount realised has fallen short of the fixed assessment by about 30 per cent., viz., the fixed demand at settlement for the fluctuating area of these villages was Rs. 12,168, whereas the amount realised for the year under report is

- Rs. 8,993, being a loss to Government of Rs. 3,175, the cause of this is that zamindárs will only cultivate when sure of a good crop. Ten of these villages are clamorous to be allowed to revert to the fixed assessment, and I think their prosperity would be greatly increased if they were allowed to do so.

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

I have advised this for years past. Originally (in 1884) some 80 villages accepted the fluctuating assessments. The others reconsidered this in time, but these 12 persevered, and have ever since lamented it, except three of them, who find their advantage in grazing instead of agriculture.

GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND, ESQUIRE.)

The only system of fluctuating assessment of land revenue which is controlled by the Collector in this district is that applied to certain estates upon the Kotla jhil in the tahsils of Nuh and Ferozepur, which is described briefly in para. 62 of the report on the revision of the Gurgaon assessment (1879), page 148.

Mr. Ibbetson, when in officiating charge of the Division, pointed out that possibly the system of assessment planned by the Settlement Officer was not adhered to by the subordinate staff, and this might be indirectly a cause of land being thrown out of cultivation. There is a dispute with one estate as to the interpretation of the terms of assessment.

The revenue-payers do not appear to have reason on the side of their interpretation, but great care is requisite in working the rather difficult provisions of the current scheme; and the whole question has received special attention, with the result that a reference may not improbably have to be made to the higher authorities on certain practical details.

On the whole I am disposed to think in view of the very great fluctuations, shown in the income of past year that there is nothing very abnormal in the present falling off as compared with last year's income.

The impression left by my own inspections was that the State, if anything, has been the loser on the actual assessments of late years, including that under report.

The subjoined table will serve to illustrate this matter.

Year.	Talabána.	Area cultivated.	Jama.	REMARKS.
		Acres.	Rs.	
1877-78	9,980	(1). Assessed at various crop rates. (2). These figures include the moiety assigned to the District Board.
1878-79	5,583	5,160	10,319	
1879-80 ... ..	...	4,618	9,060
1880-81 ... ..	...	1,891	3,782
1881-82 ... ..	...	5,196	10,391
1882-83 ... ..	...	4,908	9,817
1883-84	8,159	2,413	3,337	
1884-85 ... ..	...	5,619	8,626
1885-86 ... ..	...	851	1,404
1886-87 ... ..	...	209	297
1887-88	307	449	Only the amount due to Government has been shown; an equal amount has been realized and credited to the District Board.
1888-89 ... ..	...	830	1,269
1889-90	8,159	5,180	5,080	
1890-91 ... ..	...	3,147	3,419
1891-92 ... ..	...	5,249	5,249
1892-93	2,833	2,779	

FEROZEPORE DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. S. DE BUTTS MARTINDALE.)

The working of the system of fluctuating assessment remains unaltered. The patwári measures the areas under the different crops when they mature. His measurements and classifications are verified by the Tahsildár, and finally checked and passed by the Revenue Assistant (Sub-divisional Officer, Fázilka), who reports the result to the Collector. The statement is then prepared and submitted to Commissioner for sanction.

* * * * *

MOOLTAN DISTRICT.

(H. A. CASSON, ESQUIRE.)

Fluctuating assessments have during the year under report been extended to the *bár bārání* lands in the Mailsi tahsíl, superseding the former arrangement by which the lands were farmed on contract for a term of years.

JHANG DISTRICT.

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

* * * * *

The system of fluctuating assessment is preferred by the inhabitants of this district to the fixed system of payment of revenue demand, as they only have to pay rent for wells which are working.

GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT M. W. DOUGLAS.)

There are 37 villages in the Gurdáspur tahsíl in which fluctuating assessments are in force.

The area cultivated during the year was 3,034 against 2,222 in the past year, and the total revenue due to Government was Rs. 22,150. The increase is due to increase of area under crops paying the higher rates of assessment, and also to the fact of some land having been newly broken up.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

A modified system of fluctuating assessment was sanctioned for the Ara circle of the Shahpur tahsíl, but as only two villages agreed to it, I have recommended that it be not introduced.

BANNU DISTRICT.

(H. A. ANDERSON, ESQUIRE.)

This system was introduced in the Kachi tracts of Isákhel and Miánwáli at the last regular settlement of the district, and has worked satisfactorily ever since. It requires most careful supervision, but it saves people and Government the anxiety of suspension and remission of revenue, as the assessment varies from year to year according to area brought under the plough. The system is popular with the zamíndárs, and it has been very beneficial in the interest of Government, as the revenue assessment of the year amounted to Rs. 92,923 as against the Settlement Officer's estimate of Rs. 75,916 only.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE.)

The fluctuating system of assessment in force in the Kachi tracts is very simple; the actual cultivated areas 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 satisfactorily both as regards the interests of Government and those of the zamíndárs, who much appreciate it.

In the Daman circle of the Dera and Kuláchi tahsils, except the Kundi circle of the Tánk tahsíl, where there is only a single crop rate charged, the system in vogue is that of one-fourth fixed and three-fourths of fluctuating revenue. In realizing the latter the crop rates as fixed at the regular settlement, are charged on the cultivated area for each harvest. Though the system has worked satisfactorily during the year under report as shown by figures on the margin, it is not generally popular among the people as they have suffered considerably of late years in consequence of the fixity of one-fourth of the jama. On the above grounds Government in 1892 sanctioned in the case of 20 villages an assessment at full crop rates instead of one-fourth fixed and three-fourths fluctuating. The introduction of this revised system in the above villages came into force in the year under report. The jama of these 20 villages under the old system came to Rs. 8,210, while in the year under report, under the revised system it amounted to Rs. 19,638.

Settlement forecast
Rs. 34,457.

Collection of the year
under report Rs. 52,569.

MISCELLANEOUS LAND REVENUE.

UMBALLA DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

The money due from major and minor jágírdárs on account of their shares in the cost of the settlement has been entirely realised. The recoveries were in the interest of the jágírdárs spread over four harvests by sanction of the Financial Commissioner. The amount to be recovered was a large one, viz., Rs. 1,28,775, but this has now been collected in full and the accounts may now be considered as wound up.

JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

(D. C. J. IBBETSON, ESQUIRE.)

It is satisfactory to note that the fines levied from zamíndárs under Section 149 of the Land Revenue Act are decreasing, and that there was less necessity to resort to the penal provisions of the Act during the year under report.

MOOLTAN DISTRICT.

(H. A. CASSON, ESQUIRE.)

The balances are, under *tirni* Rs 5,529, due to the heavy floods in the Lodhrán and Shujabad tahsils which caused considerable distress, and numbers of agriculturists in consequence left their villages; and it was not considered advisable to press for the collections.

Sajji was cultivated experimentally in three small plots by orders of my predecessor, but the crop totally failed in one, and was very light in the other two, chiefly owing, it is said, to the seed being damaged by rain. More plots are being selected this year, in consultation with the Forest Officer, and a separate report will shortly be submitted, in accordance with the wish of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, expressed in paragraph 20 of the Review of last year's Revenue Report.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

Sajji realisations are better than last year, but still much below the previous normal of Rs. 10,000. The *sajji* plant suffered greatly from the drought of 1891-92, and has not yet recovered from its effects.

The royalty rate of 8 annas per acre on the Jhelum and 4 annas per acre on the Chenáb is, under orders passed on the Assessment Report, realised on all lands irrigated by private canals. The realisations are Rs. 9,401 (besides Rs. 105 still under realisation) against my estimate of Rs. 10,800. The details are as follows:—

* * * * *

Owing to the destructive Jhelum flood the income from this source will be very small in the coming year.

The balance of Rs. 1,732 has almost all been realised since the close of the year.

LAHORE DISTRICT.

(A. E. HURRY, ESQUIRE.)

The demand for the year under report was Rs. 25,876 as against Rs. 12,377 in the previous year. The increase is chiefly due to demand for recovery of cost of settlement from assignees having been fixed in July 1893 as a result of the closing of settlement operations. There was left outstanding at the close of the year, a balance of Rs. 10,683 out of the demand of Rs. 21,920 on account recovery of cost of settlement from assignees, of which the collections have been delayed owing to the demand having been fixed very late in July, and to most of assignees being residents of other districts.

ALLUVION AND DILUVION.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(COLONEL R. T. M. LANG.)

The floods on the Rávi were very destructive this year, and carried away a good deal of valuable cultivated land. Those on the Beás were less so. The enquiry, and assessment was done by the Settlement Collector on the Rávi, and by his Extra Assistant Settlement Officer on the Beás. During the year a report on the method of assessing di-alluvial lands, the procedure to be followed in measuring them, and the forms to be used was submitted in the shape of a set of rules.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(A. BRIDGES, ESQUIRE.)

Above the Khánki weir the set of the Chenáb is still towards the Gujrát bank, but the effect of the weir has been to make the river lower down keep to south or Gujránwála bank. Though 103 villages are in direct contact with the river, which has a course of nearly 80 miles through the district, the financial results of river action are small.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

These assessments were made in accordance with the new rules adopted by the conference of Settlement Officers called by the Commissioner, which have not yet received formal sanction.

They worked well and are much better than the former vague rules, which were often worked too leniently or too harshly.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN H. A. DEAN.)

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During the year it was proposed to introduce a system of assessment by uniform rates based on the crops actually grown on the new areas, as is done in most of the newly settled districts. The introduction of the Gurdáspur rules, slightly modified to suit local requirements was sanctioned by letter No. 4832 of 26th July 1893, from Senior Secretary to Financial Commissioner to Commissioner. The riverain area is now being measured on the square system, and during the current year the actual area under cultivation will be treated as new alluvion, and we shall then have a correct basis for future returns.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

There is an increase of 95,087 acres in the area under cultivation, and of Rs. 51,018 in the jama of the Daman which was due to the abundant supply of water from the hill torrents and the timely rainfall.

DERA GHAZI KHAN DISTRICT.

(M. L. DAMES, ESQUIRE.)

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The river Indus has for a long period been cutting steadily into the right bank at the expense of the Dera Gházi Khan District, but at present this process seems to be suspended, and it is possible that a period is now setting in when the force of the current will be towards the left bank. The changes are most numerous and important below the junction with the Panjnad, and they have a special importance, as at this part of its course the Indus forms to some extent the boundary between British territory and that of the Baháwalpur State. The revenue and administration are both affected by the numerous changes which take place, and the question of substituting a permanent boundary for the present fluctuating one between the two States is one of great importance. A separate report is being submitted on this subject, and it is hoped it may be taken into consideration during the present settlement.

LAND REVENUE ASSIGNMENTS.

UMBALLA DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

The third annual attestation of *haftami pattis* in tahsíl Kharar was made during the year. A separate register is kept for each *patti* in which all births and deaths of *pattidárs* are recorded. There were 73 changes recorded during the year as compared with 83 in the previous year. Seven *mists* were made up for these changes. The changes occurred in six out of the seven *pattis*.

LAHORE DISTRICT.

(A. E. HURRY, ESQUIRE.)

* * * * *

This return includes the correct result of the settlement investigations made into the revenue free assignments. This heavy work was completed at the close of settlement operations. During the course of such enquiries a few cases had come to light in which the heirs of certain deceased assignees were found enjoying the grants against the terms and conditions set forth for the same, several cases have been reported for orders because no authorities for the grants were available at all.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(COLONEL R. T. M. LANG.)

* * * * *

Close on 4,000 persons hold land revenue grants, amounting to Rs. 2,06,701, which is about 16 per cent. of the total revenue. Besides this Rs. 22,352 is enjoyed by inámdárs of various kinds, which brings the total assignments up to 18 per cent. of the district revenue.

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GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

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

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The total amount of assigned revenue has risen from Rs. 1,22,197 to Rs. 1,42,556. The increase is due to re-assessment in Gujránwála and Wazirabad, where the amount has risen from Rs. 84,209 and Rs. 8,467 to Rs. 1,03,704 and Rs. 11,322 respectively. The grantee who has profited most by re-assessment is Rája Harbans Singh whose *jágir* in the Gujránwála tahsil alone has in round numbers been enhanced from Rs. 39,320 to Rs. 51,607 per annum.

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The general result of the settlement has been to greatly reduce the number of petty grants to menials and village institutions, which instead of being held direct from Government are now placed at the discretion of the village community.

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The Gujránwála registers are under preparation, and those for Háfizabad and Khangah Dográn will be taken up when the assessments are announced. The *muáfi* and *jágir* work in this district is very heavy, as almost one-fifth of the revenue is assigned, and the number of grants and grantees, in spite of the great reduction now made, is still very great.

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(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent,
Ráwalpindi Division).

Mr. O'Dwyer has dealt with the assessments very thoroughly and the results of his work are satisfactory. Fourteen per cent. of the total of the area of the district is assigned and 20, not 10, per cent. of the entire land revenue assessed is also assigned. The matter is therefore important in this district.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

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Owing to the introduction of the new assessments the value of the assigned *jama* has greatly increased.

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(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent,
Ráwalpindi Division).

The assigned revenue amounts to 8 per cent. of the total assessments, which is high. The increase in the value of assignments was of course to be expected. Collector does not mention the condition of his assignment records.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

(L. W. DANE, ESQUIRE.)

During the year the revision of revenue assignments was started. Lithographed lists, in the form of the list of revenue assignments attached to the *jamabandis* but containing additional columns for report of Muafi Muharrir and Tahsildar, and orders of Settlement Collector have been supplied to the patwaris. These have been written up for the whole district, and checked as far as this is possible by the *jamabandis* and *muafi* registers. They are now being attested on the spot, during which process the descriptive roll of existing assignees is written up, and errors in area or in the field numbers shown as in the possession of the *muafidars* are corrected.

The present statement is the result of the compilation of these lists. It has been under preparation for six months, and if not correct as regards totals and classification it ought to be.

Next year the revision of assignments will be complete, and any errors still undetected in the present return can be corrected.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE.)

An assignment of one-fourth revenue which was sanctioned to the Bhitannis under authority of Chief Secretary's No. 44, dated 21st January 1891, was also brought into force during the year under report.

GENERAL REASSESSMENT.

MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(T. J. KENNEDY, ESQUIRE.)

During the year a general assessment has been in progress in the Ravi tahsils of the district. Good progress has been made with the measurements. Up to the end of 1891-92, 3,336 squares had been laid on the ground, 14,036 fields, and 25,834 acres completely remeasured.

During the past year 9,373 squares have been laid on the ground, 92,523 fields and 185,015 acres completely remeasured. The rate of progress now attained is satisfactory, and I anticipate that measurements will be completed at the end of next hot weather, and before the rains, in time to allow of complete *jamabandis* being prepared after the new assessments have been announced.

The total expenditure up to date has been Rs. 21,272 and the net increase of revenue will probably not fall short of Rs. 51,000, so that financially this settlement should be a success.

LAHORE DISTRICT.

(A. E. HURRY, ESQUIRE.)

The revised assessments of the Lahore, Chunián and Sharakpur tahsils were announced during the year under report. A very heavy work of *Bachh* was consequently thrown at once on the patwaris and Settlement officials, who did it successfully, and completed the records of right as well. The *Bachh* entries were read out to zamindars holding by

holding, and their objections taken into consideration with great care. The people were generally satisfied with their new assessment and new *Bachh*, and the few who appealed against the assessment orders were not successful in their attempt. I know of a single case of a village in the Sharakpur tahsil where the revenue was reduced on appeal by the Commissioner by Rs. 20 only. Not a single appeal has been preferred against the *Bachh* orders. Administration papers were drawn up for about 1,200 villages during the year; several disputes were raised in connection with the entries to be made in such papers, but their disposal seems to have satisfied the people so well that they have not taken them up in appeal.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(J. A. GRANT, ESQUIRE.)

Before the year under report began I had received orders on the assessment of the Tarn Taran tahsil, and had announced and distributed it. The initial increase was Rs. 95,682 or 32 per cent. The new revenue fell at Re. 1-8-10 an acre of cultivation. I had also submitted Assessment Reports for the Amritsar and Ajnala tahsils. Orders on that for Amritsar reached me in November of the year under report, and the new revenue was announced the same month. The initial increase was Rs. 84,238, or 19 per cent., and the rate on cultivation Re. 1-14-6 an acre. The new revenue took effect from Kharif 1892, or one harvest after that for Tarn Taran. Within the year the revenue was distributed, and it appears in the new standing record, which was made over to the Deputy Commissioner in September. Orders on the Ajnala assessment were received in April, and the new revenue was announced at once in that month with effect from Rabi 1893. The initial increase was Rs. 44,923 or 18 per cent. The rate on cultivation was Re. 1-14-9. Distribution was carried out during the year, and the new standing record was bound and filed in the month succeeding the close of the year.

In all three tahsils there were items of progressive revenue (not included in the above quoted increases) on account of protective leases to new wells, aggregating Rs. 4,623. Excluding these the total increase was Rs. 2,24,483. Including them, the ultimate increase will be Rs. 2,29,466. Of the initial increase Rs. 37,357 is assigned, and the total assigned revenue is now Rs. 2,29,612.

In all twenty objections to village assessment were presented. One was accepted and nineteen rejected. Such appeals as were filed in the Commissioner's Court were all rejected. At the distribution stage objections by the individual proprietors were of course more numerous. These have all been disposed of on the merits, and up to date I have not heard of any appeal against an order passed in distribution being successful.

Out of the two and a quarter lakhs of enhanced assessment three-quarters of a lakh, or just one-third is the sum yielded by the new *nahri parta*, or tax on profits of irrigation supplied by the State, which has taken the place of the old fluctuating water-advantage rate abolished in 1891. To be exact the total of *nahri parta*, *khalsa* and assigned is Rs. 74,709.

Separate reports have been submitted as to customs, *ala* lambardárs, zails, patwáris' cess and circles, secure and insecure villages, and di-alluvial assessments, and on all but the last named, orders have been received. Statements have been sent in showing the compensation due to assignees for the period that elapsed between abolition of water advantage-rate and accrual of *nahri parta*, and showing the sum to be recovered per contra from the larger *jágirdárs* on account of share of cost of assessment. The total compensation is estimated at Rs. 20,087, the total recoveries will be Rs. 17,605. The total cost of settlement up to the end of the year was Rs. 3,18,570, from which the sum due by *jágirdárs* has to be deducted. The remaining three lakhs will all have come in, in the shape of enhanced assessment by the month of February 1894.

The final report on the operations has been written and printed, and the proofs of the revised edition of the District Gazetteer are being corrected.

Operations will be concluded by the 7th November 1893, by which date all the establishment will have been dispersed, and the settlement, which dates from 15th February 1888, will have lasted 5½ years.

GUJRAT DISTRICT.

(BARON J. BENTINCK.)

During the year under review, from Kharif 1892, the jama of tahsil *Phalia* was announced, and from Rabi 1893, that of the *Khárian* tahsil, and on preparation of the *Bachh* for both the tahsils, the new jama was realized on the above harvests. The

assessment of the Kháráń tahsíl was increased from Rs. 1,74,630 to Rs. 2,03,852 and the Phália tahsíl from Rs. 1,84,952 to Rs. 2,57,053. The new revenue is being realized without any difficulty.

(Remark by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.)

The new assessments too are giving satisfaction. The ease with which they are collected show that they are not oppressive.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(M. O'DWYER, ESQUIRE.)

The new assessment of tahsíl Gujránwála, sanctioned in 1891-92, which raised the total demand from Rs. 2,64,000 to Rs. 3,28,612, was introduced from Kharif 1892. In November 1892 the orders of Government were received on the Wazírabad tahsíl, and the detailed village assessments, the result of which was to raise the demand from Rs. 1,86,100 to Rs. 2,32,638 were announced early in December, and also took effect from the kharif. The new assessment was well received by the people. * * * *

The internal distribution for both tahsíls was completed by the end of March. This was rather a laborious and difficult operation. The people of this district do not as elsewhere, distribute the revenue by an all-round rate on cultivation, or even by all-round rates for each class of soil. The system generally adopted was one of differential rates on well areas classified according to the quality of soil, nature and success of the husbandry pitch of the cash rents, condition of the well, &c. In many cases they elected for differential *ábiana* or lump sum on the wells as well as differential dry rates on the well areas. Hence everything turned on the class in which a well was placed. Many disputes arose as to classification, and careful enquiry was necessary to settle these. In fact each well was regarded as a separate estate, and in the distribution of the assessment among the wells, it was necessary to fix the quota to be paid by each with reference to the same considerations, as the demand for a whole assessment circle is distributed among the villages included in it. The great diversity of soil produced and rents found to exist on adjoining wells even in small villages renders the method described essential in this district. * * * *

The settlement work of Gujránwála and Wazírabad was completed in July, the records made over to the Deputy Commissioner, and the special establishment removed. Only the Háfizabad tahsíl now remains to be completed. I finished village inspection work last cold weather; wrote up all the village note-books, and in June submitted proposals for reassessment which, if accepted, will enhance the demand from Rs. 1,95,900 to Rs. 3,29,911, or by nearly 70 per cent. Assuming that the assessment sanctioned will not be less than this, the total increase of land revenue for the district will be Rs. 2,43,000, or about 38 per cent. on the old demand.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

* * * *

The total final assessment has been increased from $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $6\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, or by 51 per cent., besides which there is a new revenue from water-advantage rates and royalty, estimated at Rs. 44,000. The initial khálsa increase is from Rs. 3,95,695 to Rs. 5,50,388, or by 39 per cent., and if the estimated revenue from water-advantage rate and royalty rate be added, the initial increase of income to the State is about Rs. 1,98,000 or 50 per cent.

The total cost of the settlement to date is Rs. 2,61,878, or about $1\frac{1}{2}$ years' enhancement.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

(L. W. DANE, ESQUIRE.)

Experience elsewhere had shown how very desirable it was if practicable to have as many estates as possible measured on the same series of squares, as this prevents all possibility of error and precludes the fomenting by patwáris of boundary disputes. The portion of the district for which a re-survey was obviously obligatory lay in a compact block. The frontier villages could not be measured until the boundary had been settled, and the patwáris were too bad to allow of their being turned on to separate measurements at once without a course of instruction. It seemed to me that the circumstances were therefore favorable for an attempt to have the survey of the district conducted on one series of squares from a common base line. Mr. Francis, Director of Land Records, whose experience in survey work is unrivalled, was consulted and cordially concurred, so the experiment was started.

In order to enable work to be commenced as soon as possible, a point was selected on the borders of the Charsadda, Naushera and Mardán tahsils, as the point of origin. Through the courtesy of Mr. Preston, Superintending Engineer, Chenáb Circle, Mr. Rose, Assistant Engineer, laid down a base line due north and south from Dorarah to Khesghi, a distance of 7 miles, and laid off a perpendicular from this to the west for four miles across the river at Dheri Zardád Khan, and another for four miles to the east near the Mardán border. This was done in three days in January 1893.

The system adopted was the following. The base line and perpendiculars were extended by fixing up lines of flags and aligning these by field glasses. The line was then pegged out into regular distances of 200 *kadams*, 1,100 feet, by stout wooden pegs. The original perpendiculars were carefully tested by taking the diagonals of as many as four squares in a line. As the lines extended from the point of origin and passed through each kánúngo's circle he proceeded to lay off subsidiary lines in the same way, testing their accuracy by chaining the diagonals of two or more squares to verify the rectangle. These subsidiary lines were tied back on to the main line or other subsidiary lines. Then at intervals, as a rule of four squares, 800 *kadams* corresponding to the mapping sheets the patwáris took off perpendiculars tying these on to each other at every fourth square, obtaining in this way correct squares of 16 squares of 200 *kadams* each. These form the basis of the actual squares, which are laid down by alignment and intersection of flags within the *masawi* or mapping sheet square. Having got his 16 squares marked on the ground, the patwári proceeds to mark the intersection points on the sides and diagonals of three or four squares, maps these, and so on, till he has finished his 16 squares. He then takes another square of 800 *kadams* a side and finishes that in the same way. Where the estates are smaller, he lays out and measures of course only as many squares as are required for the village area.

The results are surprisingly accurate.

KOHAT DISTRICT.

(H. J. MAYNARD, ESQUIRE.)

In the Khattak iláka measurements were completed in 44 villages last year, and 51 villages were measured during the year.

The measurements have been completed in full within the fixed period.

These villages were finally inspected by the Revenue Officers. The papers were checked a second time very carefully to avoid as far as possible any mistakes. Out of 95 villages administration papers for 79 villages and statements describing irrigation system (*Riwáji abpáshi*) for 83 villages have been prepared, and the remaining will be finished during the next quarter. Enquiry into máfi cases has been made and files completed.

Enquiry as to lambárdarship is in progress.

The Assessment Report is under preparation.

The expenditure on the permanent establishment and on account of contingencies amounted to Rs. 10,222, out of a total allotment of Rs. 10,424 for 1893-94. The expenditure on account of temporary establishment was Rs. 6,483 out of Rs. 7,776 sanctioned for the purpose, total Rs. 16,705. The expenditure up to date amounted to Rs. 28,289.

DERA GHAZI KHAN DISTRICT.

(M. L. DAMES, ESQUIRE.)

The resettlement operations of the district have now commenced with effect from 1st October 1893.

SURVEY AND BOUNDARY DEMARCATION.

JHELUM DISTRICT.

(J. G. SILCOCK, ESQUIRE.)

The readjustment of the boundary between this and Shahpur districts has been completed, and *pacca* pillars are being erected.

The survey pillars are in good order, necessary repairs duly carried out.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN H. A. DEANE.)

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The boundary demarcation work in this district is very important, as most of it affects the trans-border tribes. A long standing dispute between Tangi in Charsadda and the Utmán Khels and Ránizai has been satisfactorily disposed of, and two hamlets called Asyhar and Kila have been thereby added to British territory.

A dispute between Bára and Kiára in Swábi with Gandap, a Gadun village, which has been outstanding for years, was also disposed of by Lieutenant Rawlinson, Assistant Commissioner, Mardán, and a satisfactory boundary laid down by Man Mohan Náth, Náib-Tahsildár.

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COERCIVE PROCESS FOR COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE BY GOVERNMENT.

MONTGOMERY DISTRICT.

(T. J. KENNEDY, ESQUIRE.)

The aggregate number of processes issued for the collection of land revenue was 607 as against 481 last year, and 645 the year before last. Of these 269 were writs of demand, and 338 warrants of distress. In most of the cases it was found necessary to issue warrants of distress in the first instance, it being feared that the defaulters were about to make away with their moveable properties; this was mostly in the Gugera tahsil. This explains the increase in the number of warrants over writs. In one case a warrant of distress having failed, a defaulter had to be detained in custody, but in less than a week the revenue was paid in, and the defaulter released. In seven cases property to the value of Rs. 353 was attached, but before the sale could be effected the balance due was paid in. It was only in one case that the revenue was recorded by sale of property. In 28 cases warrants of attachment were granted on the applications of Tahsildárs, but before their issue the amount due was paid up by the defaulters, and in 55 other cases the revenue was paid at the time of attachment.

(Remark by J. R. MACONACHIE, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Lahore Division.)

I do not think there is any undue severity indicated in this paragraph. I am quite in favour of making lambardárs come up to time as a usual thing.

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

KARNAL DISTRICT.

(P. D. AGNEW, ESQUIRE.)

There were no writs of demand or warrants of arrest issued during the year on the application of lambardárs. This justifies the view expressed in previous year's report that no difficulties are experienced by lambardárs in collecting the demand, and that the issue of coercive processes by the authorities is in many instances necessitated solely by the neglect of lambardárs to pay in revenue which they have collected from the landholders.

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

Hereditary and subdivision is gradually lowering the status of the lambardárs. They are generally needy men, and found it difficult to part with money which comes into their hands.

SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

The writs of demand issued on the applications of village headmen were 373, and warrants 3 in number.

The people with whom the lambardárs often have the greatest difficulty are rich money-lenders, residents of other villages, who have acquired land by purchase or mortgage.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.)

No consideration should be shown to the persons mentioned in the second clause above. Money means interest to such persons, and they therefore retain possession of it as long as they can.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

Of this class 211 warrants were issued against 172 last year, and 106 in the previous year. Headmen are gradually finding out the advantage of enforcing punctuality on revenue-payers by this means.

REVENUE RECORD ROOMS.

GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND, ESQUIRE.)

The Umballa system of a copying agency with a slight modification of detail has been introduced from 1st September 1893 and appears to work well, and is appreciated by the public. A statement showing the results of the copy agency system for the six weeks has been in operation, i. e., from 1st September 1893 to 15th October 1893 is appended.

DELHI DISTRICT.

(A. ANDERSON, ESQUIRE.)

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It has not been found possible yet to separate the settlement records from other records, as there is no room available for the purpose, and we were told that no expenditure was to be incurred in making the separation. The question of making a new strong room for the treasury reserve is under consideration; and if that is sanctioned it may be possible to give a room for settlement and annual revenue records.

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UMBALLA DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

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The copying agency system was noticed at length under this head in last year's report. The system is working well and is finding favor in other districts. A number of candidates are always kept in training who can be drafted to other districts when required.

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Except for some little hitches when the post office servants do not deliver value payable parcels properly could have had no trouble with this copying agency.

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AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(COLONEL R. T. M. LANG.)

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The settlement records of Amritsar and Tarn Taran tahsils have lately been received into district record rooms, and are kept separately from the judicial records, under charge of the Sadr Kánungo as Record-keeper.

The papers of the Ajnála tahsil are now being received into the record room. It was with some difficulty that by re-arranging the files, so as to make the best use of the racks, space was found for these papers. There is absolutely no margin in the present record room for expansion, but it is hoped that when the two proposed new rooms are built (for which administrative sanction has already been obtained) they will supply a separate Kánungo's office and afford space for expansion of the record office for a few years.

The system of supplying copies of documents by value payable post to persons residing in villages (referred to in the last annual report) was continued during the year and has been so far a success.

SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

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There is a separate room for the District Kánungo's records, but it has been found that only half the settlement and patwári papers can be contained in it.

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(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division.)

The wants of record office accommodation is acutely felt, and has formed the subject of very recent correspondence. I fear however that owing to want of funds none but temporary makeshifts will be possible for some time to come.

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GUJRAT DISTRICT.

(BARON J. BENTINCK.)

The vernacular record office continues to be in a cramped state, and this situation will remain until additional accommodation is provided. The project for a new record room has not yet been sanctioned although it was sent up long ago.

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GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(A. BRIDGES, ESQUIRE.)

The settlement files have begun to be received for record in this office, and great inconvenience is experienced for want of accommodation to house them.

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(*Remark by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindí Division.*)

The only complaint is want of record accommodation, chiefly for the new records, which have been prepared at settlement.

DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE.)

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The record room is quite insufficient to accommodate all the records, and it cannot be enlarged till the new katchery is built for which administrative sanction has been received, but owing to want of funds the work has not yet been taken in hand.

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OTHER MATTERS UNDER THE LAND REVENUE ACT.

UMBALLA DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. G. PARSONS.)

I may mention here the "Márkanda Bet" and the "Ghaggar Naili" assessment questions. Both these circles were assessed in the recent settlement for five years only. The assessment of the Naili circle has been sanctioned for another, I think, three years, and proposals have been made that the assessment in the Márkanda Bet should (after additions or diminutions according to improvements or degradation of soil in different villages) be extended for another term of five years. Final orders have not been received in this latter case yet.

In the Khalsia Naili (which is the lower end of the Ghaggar delta of which the Umballa Naili forms the upper portion) almost prohibitive irrigation rates on rice have, during the last two or three years, been introduced. By this means it is hoped that rice cultivation will be largely put an end to, and that not only will the local climatic conditions and the health of the people of this notoriously unhealthy tract be bettered, but that as paying crops of wheat, gram, &c., will be raised, as have hitherto been raised of rice. The final decision upon the Umballa Naili assessments is, I understand, to largely depend upon the result of this experiment. The irrigation rates in Khalsia have undoubtedly stopped rice sowings almost completely, and if wheat and gram can fill the zamíndárs' pockets as well as rice, there is no reason why the noxious

rice cultivation should go on. At the same time I have felt a doubt whether the climatic conditions of the lower part of the delta can greatly improve, while the people in the upper part continue sowing rice; for it occurred to me that the people down below are likely to suffer from the percolation and overflow of the lands above, but in this I may be completely wrong, as the natural drainage may lead the surplus irrigation water off into the western affluent of the Ghaggar, and not down to the apex of the Ghaggar delta.

JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

(D. C. J. IBBETSON, ESQUIRE.)

The system of payment of Government revenue through the agency of the Post Offices having now been extended to the whole Province, arrangements will be made to introduce the system into this district as soon as formal orders are issued. The Revenue Extra Assistant Commissioner remarks that the success of the system depends to a great extent on Government remitting in whole or in part the amount of commission levied on postal orders. I do not, however, understand that the object of Government is to relieve the lambardárs, at Government expense, of the duty of paying in Government revenue at the tahsíl. In a district like this, where distances are small, the bulk of the revenue will always be brought in direct, and the real benefit of the money order system will be the saving the lambardárs from the necessity of another journey, when they have, as not unfrequently happens, brought a few rupees too little owing to some miscalculation of the demand.

LAHORE DISTRICT.

(A. E. HURRY, ESQUIRE.)

The system of payment by revenue money orders has made some progress, Rs. 70,926 were transmitted by revenue money orders as against Rs. 67,117 in the previous year, or Rs. 3,809 more.

It may be repeated again this year that only lambardárs of small estates which lie at a great distance from the tahsíl use this system, while those of large estates prefer to save 1 per cent. by making a journey to the tahsíl.

SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

Much inconvenience was felt in the district owing to the great variety of measures of capacity, there being material differences sometimes even in neighbouring villages. In order to remedy this defect, a meeting of the leading landowners and traders of every tahsíl (150 in all) was held last May under the presidency of Munshi Ghulam Ahmad, Revenue Extra Assistant Commissioner. It was unanimously agreed that with effect from the kharif of 1893 there should be only two standards of measure for the whole district, *i. e.*, in tahsils Siálkot and Daska the *daropa* should have a capacity of 3 seers pacca of wheat, and in tahsils Pasrúr, Zafarwál and Raya its capacity should be of 3½ seers. I think it is a pity that one standard was not agreed to for the whole district. At all events a great step has been gained in having something definite fixed, and the measures decided on approximate as far as possible to the standards already in use in each tract. A large number of measures of the new standards are being made, and will immediately be distributed. A proposal was made in the same meeting by Sardár Baghel Singh, Rái Bahádur of Wadála, and agreed to, that on certain dates the ruling prices at which debts were to be paid in kind should be settled for each tahsíl. The dates fixed were—

For rabi produce	...	...	...	...	15th Hár
For kharif produce	...	...	...	...	15th Maggar and 15th Phágan

Under this arrangement the Tahsildár of each tahsíl collects the leading landowners and traders of each tahsíl on these dates and records the current rates of the principal staples. These rates, after comparison with those of the other tahsils to prevent glaring inequalities, are then published. The advantage is that, although the rates so published are not necessarily binding on any one, every one knows that they are really the current rates, and debtors are less likely to be imposed upon by their creditors when accounts are balanced, and debts in kind are entered in their money value. The rates will also be a great help to the courts in deciding claims for rents in kind, and finally they will be a valuable guide to the Settlement Officer at the next revision of assessment.

Both measures have been introduced for the good of the people, and they appear to me to be really appreciated by them.

Payment of land revenue by money orders.

C. The amount of land revenue paid by money orders during the year was Rs. 15,967 only, a little more than in the previous year, and less than in the first year of the system.

I doubt if much revenue will for a long time be paid through the Post Offices. The area of the district is not large, though it is so densely populated, and the distances to the head-quarters of each tahsil are not very great. Every endeavour also is made to ensure that the money brought to the tahsils is received at once, and the payment of fees to tahsil officials stopped as far as possible. To these two reasons I attribute the small use made heretofore of the Post Offices.

Colonization on the Chenáb Canal.

D. The following table shows the land allotted on the Chenáb Canal to this district to date since the beginning of the colonization scheme. The rush for land is very great. I should have no difficulty in colonizing 200,000 or 300,000 acres from this district:—

Serial No.	Name of tahsil.	LAND ALLOTTED.			Total.
		To capitalists.	To yeoman.	To peasants.	
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1	Raya	420	8,736	13,860	23,016
2	Pasrúr ... ..	...	2,968	16,884	19,852
3	Siálkot	1,120	2,940	9,758	13,818
4	Zafarwál	336	3,500	11,690	15,526
5	Daska	280	3,332	28,604	27,216
	Total	2,156	21,476	75,796	99,428

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division.)

A.—This is a matter that was discussed in 1890 when I gave my opinion in favor of the introduction of a recognized unit for measures of weight and capacity. See my No. 446, dated 28th July 1890, but nothing seems to have come of it. I am still of opinion that such measures should, if possible, be equalised, though doubtless the railway has done, and is doing much towards this end.

B.—A good measure if all parties concerned can be induced to act upon it.

C.—The system of paying revenue by money orders does not seem to be making much progress in Siálkot probably for the reason stated by the Deputy Commissioner, the compactness of the district. The measure has recently been extended to other districts, and its real value will probably be tested elsewhere than in Siálkot, e.g., in Shahpur, Jhelum and Gujranwála.

D.—Siálkot is a densely populated district, and though a fair proportion of land on the Chenáb Canal has already been taken up by the peasantry of the district, a great deal more will have to be given to relieve the congestion.

ENHANCEMENT OF RENT.

HISSAR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT C. P. THOMSON.)

There were 40 cases in all under Section 24 of the Punjab Tenancy Act.

In 37 cases enhancement of rent was granted. Last year 111 cases of this kind were instituted.

The decrease in the number of these institutions is due to the fact that last year the settlement had just been completed.

No applications for the reduction of rent were made in the year under report.

ROHTAK DISTRICT.

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

Landlords who have occupancy tenants are beginning to discover that they can get their rents enhanced, hence this year there were 27 suits instituted for this purpose, in 24 of which they obtained decrees, and 3 were dismissed. The demand for culturable land is greater than ever, and the landlords take the opportunity of steadily raising the rents of their non-occupancy tenants.

DELHI DISTRICT.

(A. ANDERSON, ESQUIRE.)

There were six cases instituted for enhancement of rent; but they are all pending with the Revenue Assistant. Two cases were instituted for reduction of rent, and one has been decided, reduction being refused. In 1891-92 there were only six cases for enhancement; and only 13 in the year before. It is a matter of astonishment to me, coming from Hissár, to see how many tenants pay only the land revenue without any *málikána*. It is rare as the statistics show for old proprietors to sue for an enhancement. The cases that do arise are mostly instituted by new men, or by proprietors who have some object in view other than the mere enhancement.

There are few true rents in this district, except close to the towns.

AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

(COLONEL R. T. M. LANG.)

The number of suits instituted has been—

1890-91	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	148
1891-92	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	459
1892-93	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	282

In 215 cases enhancement was granted. In one case reduction of rent was asked for and refused. The enhancements granted are not large and generally a *málikána* of 6 to 8 annas per rupee of revenue is the utmost allowed. There is no sign that any large increase in this class of litigation is to be expected in consequence of completion of settlement operations, or any other cause, nor is it likely that the total reached in 1891-92 will again be soon touched.

GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT M. W. DOUGLAS.)

There were 34 cases in which enhancements of rents of tenants with occupancy rights were asked for, out of which in 24 cases enhancements were granted.

Statement No. XIII shows enhancement of rent in almost all classes of soils. The enhancements are due to the fact that after the termination of settlement, rents were increased by landowners in proportion to the increase of assessments. These rents were ascertained during the time of quadrennial attestation. There was a general tendency at the time of settlement to understate rents, and a general rise naturally followed after the announcement of assessments.

SIALKOT DISTRICT.

(MAJOR J. A. L. MONTGOMERY.)

There have been only 8 cases of enhancement of rent during the year, although the new assessments in Daska took effect from the kharíf harvest of 1891.

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GUJRAT DISTRICT.

(Remark by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.)

In 1891-92 enhancement of rent was asked for in 330 cases, and granted in 323. The figures for this year were 2,953 and 2,520, respectively, indicating an increase of some 900 per cent. The cause of course was the re-assessment, but so large an increase should not have been passed over in silence by Deputy Commissioner. Before the enhancement cases were heard the lines on which enhancement was to be made, and status of occupancy tenants fixed were decided, hence most appeals have failed. As a rule a Section 6 status was given, and enhancement from Re. 0-2-6 and Re. 0-4-9 to Re. 0-6-0 and even Re. 0-8-0 per Re. 1 of revenue made.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(A. BRIDGES, Esquire.)

Notwithstanding the progress of settlement, the increase of the land revenue demand in Gujranwála and Wazirabad, and the fact that there are 8,261 occupancy holdings covering 38,568 acres, suits for enhancement of rent continue to be very few.

Only 26 cases were instituted in the settlement, of which 10 were disposed of, decrees for enhancement being given in all cases, and 16 were transferred to the District Courts when the records of the Gujranwála and Wazirabad were made over. In all not more than 60 cases were brought into Court, and considering that the great majority of the tenants pay only the Government demand with an addition of 1 to 4 annas per rupee as *malikána*, this shows that the relations between landlord and tenant continue to be on an amicable footing.

Indeed owing to the great amount of surplus land over most of the district, and the competition for tenants the scale of rents is generally low, and the margin of profit left to the tenant is considerable. In such cases, the result of re-assessment has generally been to raise the cash rents in proportion to the increase of the Government demand, so that the profits of non-cultivating owners have been little diminished. The tenants have a perfect safety valve against rack renting, in the fact that if the landlord attempts to enhance beyond a reasonable limit they can throw up their holdings, and migrate to the new lands on the Chenáb Canal, where the great demand for cultivation will enable them to obtain easy terms for some years to come.

(Remark by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.)

Above is satisfactory reading. Enhancement of rent suits will come in heavily about close of and after settlement operations. The tenants for some few years to come have the whip hand of the owners, as tenants are at a premium, and canal cultivation attracts them.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, Esquire.)

In only seven cases has enhancement of rent been asked for, and in only four was it granted. Reduction of rent was granted in only one case. It is satisfactory that the introduction of the new assessment has not given rise to more cases of this kind.

(Remark by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.)

The number of cases for enhancement is insignificant, but there has still been a great reduction in their number.

EJECTMENT.

FEROZEPUR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN C. DE BUTTS MARTINDALE.)

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Applications for ejectment under Section 42 (b) were made in 586 cases, and decrees for ejectment under Section 45 (6) were passed in 109 cases, and tenants successfully contested their liability to ejectment in 177 cases.

As compared with the year 1891-92 these figures show a considerable falling off in applications for ejectment, which in that year numbered 781.

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GUJRAT DISTRICT.

(BARON J. BENTINCK.)

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Such applications were made in the Gujrat tahsil generally by mortgagees against their mortgagors who had the status of tenants.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division.)

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The fact noticed at beginning of the para. is the source of much discontent to Muhammadan owners who, though mortgagors, were in possession as their money-lending mortgagees' tenants. So long as the mortgaging owner continues to cultivate his mortgaged land as a tenant he is content, but on his ejectment he becomes bitter. The same is the case in all the Muhammadan districts of the Western Punjab.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, Esquire.)

In no case were tenants with rights of occupancy ejected. Only 155 cases of ejectment notices were issued against 290 last year, in 60 cases ejectment was ordered, and in 41 actually made. The Revenue Courts are careful to award fair compensation for improvements and ejectment; a measure which greatly enhances the security of the tenant and prevents ejectment from being generally contemplated, or if contemplated, from being carried out to the bitter end. The relations between landlord and tenant in this district are generally good.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, Esquire, Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division.)

The Tenancy Act seems to be very judiciously worked in Shahpur. But the main security of tenants with vested rights consists no doubt in the proximity of the Chenab Canal lands, and the large area of waste land in the Shahpur district itself.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN H. A. DEANE.)

* Two hundred and five applications to eject non-hereditary tenants were filed, against 255 in 1891-92, a decrease of 50.

In 204 cases notices of ejectment were served, the reason for this decrease is that there was a rush of applications at the commencement of re-settlement operations, the proprietors being afraid lest the tenants may set up claims to rights of occupancy during settlement enquiries.

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DERA ISMAIL KHAN DISTRICT.

(L. W. KING, ESQUIRE.)

Owing to the great demand for tenants and the vast areas that are left waste for want of cultivators it is natural that the landlords should avoid, as far as possible, discouraging them by bringing suits for ejectment or enhancement of rent against them. As a general rule both landlords and tenants in this district live on excellent terms, but the increasing value of land tends to disturb somewhat these amicable relations.

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

MOOLTAN DISTRICT.

(H. A. CASSON, ESQUIRE.)

The canals worked remarkably well during the year, and it is very satisfactory to note the increased area brought under irrigation.

SHAHPUR DISTRICT.

(J. WILSON, ESQUIRE.)

The area irrigated by canals has been as follows:—

Year.	State 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
1892-93	50,522	29,280	79,802

The area irrigated from State canals continues to expand rapidly owing to the improvements and extensions made by the Executive Engineer who was deputed four years ago to assist the Deputy Commissioner in the management of these canals, a deputation which has given most valuable results both to the District and to the State. The area irrigated by private canals has increased considerably as the state of the river in 1892 was more favourable than in the previous year. Some of the private canals are badly managed, and the powers for their control proposed to be given by the Canal Bill now under consideration are urgently required in this district. Sanction has been obtained to the purchase and extinction of one of these canals (the Mahotewála) at a cost of Rs. 1,200.

Imperial Canals.

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

YEAR.	Area irrigated.	Demand of agricultural year.	Income of financial year.	Total expenditure including extensions and improvements.	Net revenue.
	Acres.	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	21,089
1892-93	29,577	68,037	59,986	22,504	37,482

Taking the figures for the financial year 1891-92 the income is much the highest on record, and although Rs. 7,505 were spent on extensions and improvements, the net income exceeded the average of the past three years by Rs. 13,739 and amounted to 33 per cent. on the capital expenditure, which was raised during the year from Rs. 67,676 to Rs. 1,15,112. This great increase is chiefly due to the improvements made by the Engineer deputed to assist in the management of these canals, which are still being rapidly developed. Thus the area irrigated during the agricultural year under report was again the largest on record, notwithstanding a poor kharif supply, and was more than 50 per cent. above the area irrigated in 1889-90, or any previous year. The demand for the year (kharif and rabi) was Rs. 68,037, much the largest on record, and nearly twice the average of the five years 1885-90.

Moreover these canals are entitled to a book credit of the new water-advantage rate assessed at eight annas per acre. The amount assessed on land irrigated from the Imperial canals for the agricultural year is Rs. 14,690, of which Rs. 6,354 had been realised before the 31st March. If we include this in this income and deduct from the expenditure the Rs. 7,505 spent on extensions, it may be said that the net income of the year was Rs. 51,371, or 45 per cent. on the capital outlay to date. These canals form a most profitable investment of State funds.

The figures for the current year will be very much less favourable. The tremendous flood in the Jhelum of 20th July breached the canal banks in many places, destroyed the growing kharif crop and obliterated the effects of previous irrigation, so that the demand for the year will be very much reduced, and the expenditure on repairs much larger than usual.

Provincial Canals.

The Provincial canals are the Rániwah in the Bhera tahsíl, and the Corbynwah in the Khusháb tahsíl, purchased two years ago from the District Board.

The figures for both canals are as follows :—

Year.						Area irrigat- ed.	Demand.	Income.	Total expen- diture includ- ing improve- ments.	Net income.
						Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91	...	...	...	...	...	19,052	45,175	47,425	10,545	3,6880
1891-92	...	...	...	...	...	17,637	33,208	35,917	7,739	28,178
1892-93	...	...	...	...	...	16,782	43,610	45,821	22,039	23,782

The area irrigated from these canals shows a falling off owing to the state of the river, but the demand and income of the year are much better than those of last year, and are nearly up to those of 1890-91. A large sum has been spent this year on improvement both of the Rániwah and Corbynwah, and although the returns of the coming year will be poor owing to the losses caused by the great flood, the figures should show considerable progress in following years. These canals should also be given a book credit for water-advantage rate, amounting to Rs. 4,929 realised up to 31st March 1893.

(Remarks by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Ráwalpindi Division.)

The results are satisfactory. The canals are a valuable property. I am glad that the Government of India has recently expressed itself willing to appoint the Canal Engineer permanently.

DERA GHÁZI KHAN DISTRICT.

(M. L. DAMES, ESQUIRE.)

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The extensions of irrigation during the currency of the settlement now coming to a close have been few and unimportant. Some private rights have been bought out by Government, but no new schemes of any importance have been undertaken.

The most important scheme, the construction of the Talaiwála embankment and extension of the Kádra Canal, a perfectly feasible scheme which would bring a very large area under irrigation, has been laid aside because under the settlement now expiring it did not appear that it would be a financial success. I believe that as a matter of fact the extension of this scheme would amply repay Government, and as the district is now under re-settlement, it seems to be a favorable opportunity for reconsidering the project.

NOTE ON THE WORKING OF THE MICHNI-NAUSHERA CANAL DURING 1892-93.

PESHAWAR DISTRICT.

(CAPTAIN H. A. DEANE.)

The canal was handed over as completed at the beginning of February 1893, but it had actually commenced to run on 29th November 1892. It worked fairly well, but with a short supply to avoid undue straining of the new banks, up to April 15th when the banks were breached in Maira Kachauri, Urmār and Azakhel by rainfall drainage from the hills. The damage done was not extensive, and the canal was only blocked for one day. After that, however, the breaches were more serious and frequent.

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The long break of a month in July and August threatened to prove fatal to the crop, but fortunately the canal was opened just in time, and beyond slight damage to the rice and cotton no great harm was done. The *kharāba* allowed only amounted to 511 acres or 7·5 per cent. on the total kharif crop, though special instructions were issued to allow liberal deductions this year, as this was the first season in which the canal had run regularly.

The rabi crop was good everywhere and was not especially superior on the canal-irrigated lands, but the kharif has been excellent. The rice in the Khalil villages, and the maize in Maira Kachauri and Urmār and the other Naushera villages were very good. Maize had never been grown on these lands in Urmār before.

The following statement shows the area irrigated during the year and the resulting revenue which amounted to 11,095 acres and Rs. 14,599. The assessments were made at an all-round rate of Rs. 2-8-0 per harvest, and from the revenue so obtained the amount of the former assessment was deducted, and the balance levied as water-rates.

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Up to the date when the canal was handed over as completed by the Irrigation Department early in February 1893, the total cost had amounted to Rs. 4,00,257. The original estimate had been Rs. 3,60,000, but owing to the abnormal floods which occurred in July and August 1892, a further sum of Rs. 40,000 had to be expended on the virtual re-construction of some of the main works. Since it was made over the sum of Rs. 4,080 has been expended on repairing the breaches which occurred during the year. No attempt has yet been made to repair the Kāpurdheri and Tahkal weirs, and the water has been passed by *katcha* bands.

LAND ACQUISITION ACT (No. X OF 1870).

GURGAON DISTRICT.

(J. R. DRUMMOND, ESQUIRE.)

A case in which land had been irregularly taken up by the Ferozepore-Rewari Railway in 1887, settled during the year under report after a good deal of correspondence, a parcel of 3·1 acres being duly acquired, and compensation to the amount of Rs. 27 awarded to the owners.

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KARNAL DISTRICT.

(P. D. AGNEW, ESQUIRE.)

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So much land has been taken up for various public purposes throughout the district that the rates for each class of land in each locality have become fixed by custom. Hence assessment by the Collector is easy, and the awards have in all cases been accepted by the owners.

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The areas surrendered by the Canal Department amounted to 434.2 acres, the greater part of which was restored gratis, as no compensation appeared to have been paid for the land at the time of its original acquisition, while Rs. 439 was recovered for the rest and duly credited to Government.

GUJRANWALA DISTRICT.

(A. BRIDGES, ESQUIRE.)

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Registers are properly kept up. But the provisions of the law as regards taking possession of lands are not properly observed by the Canal Department, as possession is sometimes taken before the publication of notification in the *Gazette* and issue of orders by the Collector.

RAWALPINDI DISTRICT.

(B. BECKETT, ESQUIRE.)

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A difficulty experienced under this head is that constant demands are made for lands to be given over at once without waiting for the issue of *Gazette* Notifications. The Engineer-in-Chief of the Mari-Attock Railway at the end of the year called on us to distribute a very large sum, and said if it was not disbursed, the budget provision would lapse. Mr. Renouf, Assistant Commissioner of Attock, took up the matter and succeeded in paying off the money, it was a most difficult business, and Mr. Renouf is entitled to great credit for the manner he carried it out.

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(Remark by S. S. THORBURN, ESQUIRE, Commissioner and Superintendent, Rawalpindi Division).

I have in correspondence shown the difficulties experienced by Revenue Officers in dealing with cases under the Land Acquisition Act, particularly in regard to land taken up for the Mari-Attock Railway. Officers of other Departments find that the procedure laid down in the Acts and Rules does not move fast enough for them. Another difficulty is in collecting all the proprietors together when awards or payments have to be made. The individual interests involved are frequently so small that proprietors do not care to travel long distances to be present, and delays occur, the odium of which falls on the Officers of the Revenue Department, who are more frequently than not the least to blame of all concerned in the transactions. The amendment of the Act, and I hope too of the Rules when the law is amended, will perhaps remove these difficulties.

Considering the large demands made on this district for land from time to time, and the yearly increasing value of land, the prices paid for that taken up seem on the average to have been moderate.

.. (LAND IMPROVEMENT LOANS ACT (NO. XIX OF 1883).

HISSAR DISTRICT.

(LIEUTENANT C. P. THOMSON.)

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No taccávi for the improvement of land was asked for, nor paid during the year under report.

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In this district zamíndárs seldom apply for taccávi advances except in a season of drought to repair existing wells.

ROHTAK DISTRICT.

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

As I have before stated, except in Jhajjar tahsíl, where this year seven wells have been completed and are now working, the zamíndárs are not keen in sinking wells owing to the great cost of both construction and working as the spring level is very low.

[KARNAL DISTRICT.

(P. D. AGNEW, Esquire.)

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There can be little doubt that people are loath to take loans to effect improvements if they can avoid so doing. But it may be mentioned that in the prosperous tahsíl of Pánipat no necessity for Government aid arises, and applications are accordingly rarely received for that portion of the district.

In the Naili tracts of Kaithal, and Khádir part of Karnál, which are liable to inundation by the Jumna floods, people seldom construct any works of the sort, because floods are liable to render the outlay of no avail. In the Kaithal Bangar and Nardak, and the Karnál Nardak, where land improvement is still much needed, it is not an easy task to construct serviceable works. To build a well is costly and troublesome, while the cost of working the well when built, owing to the depth of the spring level, is a by no means unimportant factor in the zamíndár's calculations.

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JULLUNDUR DISTRICT.

(D. C. J. IBBETSON, Esquire.)

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No protective *pattás* were granted during the year, as 22 years still remain of the term of the present settlement. This point was carefully considered by myself and the Revenue Extra Assistant Commissioner. It is a pity that *pattás* have not been regularly given all along for new wells. None have been granted however; the term of settlement does not expire until 1915; and to now begin granting 20 years' *pattás* for new wells might lead to discontent when the man who had his *pattás* in 1896 got remission at revision of settlement, and he who had it in 1894 got none. It will be sufficient to commence the issue of these *pattás* when only 19 years of the settlement term remains to run.