

No. VI.

ACRES (No. V) OF THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

OF AREA IN ACRES.								
CULTURABLE.		CULTIVATED.			Total of Malgozaree.	Assessment on total area per acre.	Ditto on total malgozaree land cultivated and culturable per acre.	Ditto on land under cultivation per acre.
Culturable.	Lately abandoned.	Irrigated.	Not irrigated	Total cultivation.				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
4,55,968	5,042	60,633	33,442	94,075	5,55,085	... 3 2 ...	3 6	1 5 ...
6,81,087	8,186	10,070	1,08,248	1,18,318	8,07,585	... 2 1 ...	2 9	1 3 2
1,58,991	23,359	55,905	29,250	85,155	2,67,505	... 6 2 ...	6 8	1 4 10
12,96,046	36,587	1,26,608	1,70,940	2,97,548	16,30,181	... 3 ...	3 6	1 4 3

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT SHOWING DETAILS OF PROPRIETARY HOLDINGS, ETC.,

[illegible]

Shahpoor, Settlement Office,
The 17th September 1866.

APPENDIX No. VIII.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF JAGEERS HELD IN THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT WITH REFERENCES TO CORRESPONDENCE CONNECTED THEREWITH.

Number.	Name of Jageerdars.	Name of jageer vil-lages.	Amount of jumma.	Total of each.	Grand Total.	Period for which granted.	REMARKS.
1	Mullick Futteh Sher Khan Tiwana, Ditto,	Koond, ...	2,193	2,668		In perpetuity.	Conferred by Supreme Government in its Secretary's No. 1641, of 21st August 1850.
		Kirpalké, ...	475				
	Ditto,	Oote rae, ...	900	1,444	4,112	For life.	Conferred by Supreme Government in its Secretary's No. 1386, of 31st January 1860.
	Ditto,	Roda, ...	225				
	Ditto,	Lookkoo, ...	50				
	Ditto,	Sheikhoo, ...	60				
	Ditto,	Mungoor, ...	93				
	Ditto,	Mahomed Shah, ...	116				
2	Mullick Sher Mahomed Khan, Tiwana, ... Ditto, Ditto, Ditto,	Jubbee, ...	5,000	5,920		In perpetuity.	Same authority as in the case of Mullick Futteh Sher Khan's Jageer.
		Jowra, ...	688				
		Sigwâl, ...	54				
		Kotla, ...	178				
	Ditto,	Beonga Sigwâl, ...	50	1,029	6,949	For life.	Conferred by Supreme Government in its Secretary's No. 3346 of 31st May 1859.
	Ditto,	Tetree, ...	550				
	Ditto,	Chandee, ...	54				
	Ditto,	Khichee, ...	375				
3	Mullick Alum Sher Khan, Tiwana. Ditto,	Sheikhowâl, ...	328	628	628	In perpetuity.	Same authority as in Futteh Sher Khan's case.
		Mohra, ...	300				
4	Mullick Sher Bahadur Khan, Tiwana, ... Ditto,	Futtehpoor, ...	700	916	916	Ditto,	Ditto ditto.
		Gogochukkee, ...	216				
		Carried over,			12,605		

Shahpoor, Settlement Office, }
The 17th September 1866. }

Appendix No. VIII.—Continued

Number.	Name of Jageerdar.	Name of jageer vil- lages.	Amount of Jumma.	Total of each.	Grand Total.	Period for which granted.	REMARKS.
	<i>Brought forward, ...</i>		...	...	12,605		
5	Mullick Ah- med Khan, ... Tiwana, ... Ditto,	Joweah, ... Hamoka, ...	300 935	1,235	1,235	In perpetuity.	Same authority as in Mullick Fut- teh Sher Khan's case.
6	Mobaruck Khan, Be- looch, ... Ditto, Ditto, Ditto, Ditto,	Thuttee Yaroo, ... Jhök Mun- goor, ... Keyla, ... Muglawala, Noon, ...	325 511 308 750 1,125	3,019	3,019	Ditto,	Conferred by Supreme Govern- ment in its Secre- tary's No. 1590, of 16th August 1850.
7	Sirdar Uttur Sing, ...	Nowshera, ...	4,100	4,100	4,100	Ditto,	Conferred by Supreme Govern- ment in its Secre- tary's letter No. 2675 of 15th Sep- tember 1859.
8	Mullick Sa- hib Khan, ... Tiwana, ... Ditto, Ditto,	Mégha, ... Sydûl, ... Busra, ...	750 250 200	1,200	1,200	For life.	Do. do., in Sec- retary's letter No. 386 of 31st Janu- ary 1860.
9	Syed Sooltan Ahmed Shah, }	Boonga, Ichral, }	336	336	336	In perpetuity.	Do. do., in Sec- retary's letter No. 295 of 14th Janu- ary 1853.
10	Sooltan Mo- homed Awân, }	Jhoonga Saloe, }	400	400	400	For life.	Do. do., in Sec- retary's letter No. 1,472 of 14th March 1856.
	GRAND TOTAL			Rs.	22,895		

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT EXHIBITING RESULTS OF MAUFEE INVESTIGATIONS

NAME OF TAHSEEL.	No. OF CASES.			RESUMED.			RELEASES					
							IN PERPETUITY.			FOR THE MAIN- TENANCE OF INSTITUTION.		
	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.
Bhera, ...	499	25,109	18,578	275	7,871	7,736	17	326	370	28	2,760	2,635
Shahpoor, ..	196	17,051	10,601	111	3,835	2,448	24	9,485	5,461	4	246	153
Khosbab, ...	325	11,567	10,022	245	4,768	5,546	10	4,037	2,488	13	1,156	382
TOTAL, ...	1,020	53,727	39,201	631	16,474	15,730	50	13,848	8,319	45	4,162	3,170

Shahpoor, Settlement Office, }
The 17th September 1866. }

No. IX.

IN THE TRACTS COMPRISED IN THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

ED.						DETAIL OF MAUFEES GRANTED FOR SUPPORT OF INSTITUTIONS.								
FOR LIFE.			TOTAL.			HINDOO.			MOOSUL- MAN.			TOTAL.		
Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.	Cases.	Area in acres.	Jumma.
179	14,152	7,837	224	17,238	10,842	32	2,947	2,840	13	139	165	45	3,086	3,005
57	3,485	2,539	85	13,216	8,153	14	6,147	2,230	8	180	101	22	6,327	2,331
57	1,606	1,606	80	6,799	4,476	11	919	157	2	290	311	13	1,209	468
293	19,243	11,982	389	37,253	23,471	57	10,013	5,227	23	609	577	80	10,322	5,804

REMARKS.
Since May 1863, of the Maufees released for life 1009 acres assessed at Rs. 907 have lapsed.

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W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT OF JUDICIAL AND OTHER BUSINESS TRANSACTED

Number.	Name of Officers.	Extent of service.	JUDICIAL CASES.							
			Boundary disputes.	Entire villages.	Shares or portions of land and other rights such as irrigation.	Division amalgamation or exchange of villages.	Release or resumption of rent-free plots.	Disputes regarding share of assessment allotted to land.	Disputes regarding lumberdaree.	Do., regarding status of cultivators or demand for which they are liable.
1	Mr. G. Onseley, Settlement Officer, ...	From May 1854 to 8th March 1860, ...	1	16	258	1	200	43	15	3
2	Mr. D. C. Macnabb, Officiating Settlement Officer, ...	From 9th March 1860 to 19th August 1861, ...	...	...	10	...	72	1	...	...
3	Captain W. G. Davies, Settlement Officer, ...	From 26th July 1862 to April 1866, ...	...	26	104	...	...	...	89	...
4	Other Officers, ...	Various, ...	...	...	42	...	...	...	2	...
	Total, ...		1	42	414	1	272	44	106	3
1	Mr. Thompson, Extra Assistant Commissioner, ...	From 11th June 1854 to 3rd March 1855, ...	115	...	22	...	2	...	...	...
2	Mahomed Buksh, ditto, ...	From May 1854 to 17th January 1856, ...	165	25	435	5	19	4	132	18
3	Pandit Motee Lall, ditto, ...	From 26th January 1856 to 3rd June 1861, ...	15	40	3,113	78	115	322	240	225
4	Bukhtawur Lall, Superintendent, ...	From 11th April 1856 to 15th December 1865, ...	37	46	4,908	19	168	239	270	141
5	Hurbunse Lall, Naib Tahseeldar, ...	From 12 August 1864 to April 1866, ...	...	7	1,211	...	...	...	1	48
6	Other Officers, ...	Various, ...	13	...	130	9	...	3	9	...
	Total, ...		345	118	9,819	111	304	568	652	432
	GRAND TOTAL,		346	160	10,233	112	576	612	758	435

Shahpoor, Settlement Office,)
The 17th September 1866.)

No. X.

IN THE SETTLEMENT OF THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

		MEASUREMENT AND KHEWUT.						Miscellaneous matters relating to measure- ment.	Total of Judicial measurement and miscel- laneous cases.	Measurement made; area in acres.	Assessments announced.	Miscellaneous proceedings.	Grand Total.
Appeal cases.	Total.	Village Hud-bust maps prepared.	Preparation of genealogical trees and statement of shares.	Villages measured.	Khuteonees prepared.	Khewut ditto.	Total.						
1,012	1,549	...	...	561	...	...	561	32	2,142	9,86,788	2,71,400	1,493	3,635
192	275	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	282	...	691	198	480
766	985	...	...	86	...	...	86	...	171	10,06,840	1,04,471	557	1,628
113	157	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	157	...	175	50	207
2,083	2,965	...	...	647	...	...	647	39	3,652	19,93,628	3,76,737	2,298	5,950
...	139	309	...	...	...	...	309	55	503	...	...	653	1,156
...	803	252	150	...	...	...	402	132	1,137	...	...	589	1,926
...	4,148	...	332	...	393	393	1,118	252	5,518	...	...	3,586	9,104
...	5,828	19	165	...	254	252	690	181	6,699	...	...	2,447	9,146
...	1,267	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	1,269	...	...	348	1,617
...	164	67	...	...	...	...	67	...	231	...	...	51	282
...	12,349	647	647	...	647	647	2,588	620	15,557	...	...	7,674	23,231
2,083	15,315	647	647	647	647	647	3,235	659	19,920	19,93,628	3,76,737	9,972	29,181

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT SHOWING NUMBERS JURISDICTIONS AND

NAME OF TAHSEEL.	Number of Mehals or estates.	Number of circles of manage- ment.	Number of Putwarees.	Total area in acres.	Total of new jumma.	Average number of Mehals to each Putwaree.	Average jumma allotted to each Putwaree.
Bhera, ...	277	41	41	7,52,245	1,27,531	6.75	3,111
Khoshab, ...	142	44	47	15,89,878	1,44,220	3.	3,069
Shahpoor, ...	251	36	37	6,54,637	1,17,210	6.78	3,168
TOTAL, ...	670	121	125	29,96,760	3,88,961	5.36	3,112

Shahpoor Settlement Office, }
The 17th September, 1866. }

No. XI.

SALARIES OF PUTWAREES OF THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

No. of PUTWAREES CIRCLES ACCORDING TO NEW RATES OF SALARY.					Total amount of salary per annum.		Average amount of pay per Putwaree per annum.	
@ R. A. P. 3 0 0 per cent. on jumma.	@ R. A. P. 3 8 0 per cent.	@ R. A. P. 4 0 0 per cent.	@ R. A. P. 5 0 0 per cent.	@ R. A. P. 5 14 0 per cent.				
22	...	4	14	1	4,059	7 ...	99	...
29	2	8	8	...	4,961	5 ...	105	8 10
25	...	3	9	...	4,044	1 ...	110	10 5
76	2	15	31	1	13,114	13 ...	104	14 7

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE INCURRED IN REVISING

NAME OF OFFICERS.	No. of villages.	Jumna of regular settlement.	Name of Pergunnahs.	SETTLEMENT EXPENDITURE.					
				Hul-bust.	Measurement.	Partial.	Khuteence.	Khowut.	Total.
Mr. G. Ouseley,	670	3,04,295	Bhera, Shahpoor Kaloowal and part of Khoshab, ...	4,417	23,753	189	15,200	20,935	64,494
Captain W. G. Davies, ...	86	1,04,076	Remaining portion of Khoshab (86 villages), ...	...	555	...	...	3,885	4,440
TOTAL, ...	756	4,08,371		4,417	24,308	189	15,200	24,820	68,934

REMARKS.—Of the whole area settled by Mr. Ouseley, 109 villages paying a revenue of Rs. 1861-62, as explained in para. 11 of the Introduction.

Shahpoor Settlement Office,)
The 17th September, 1866.)

No. XII.

THE SETTLEMENT OF THE SHAHPOOR DISTRICT.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE.						SALARY OF OFFICERS AND UMLAS.							
Salary of Office Mohurrirs.	Salary of Putwarces.	Hire.	Stationery.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	OFFICERS.			UMLAS.		Total.	Grand Total.	Per-centage of expenditure on revenue of villages settled.
						Salary.	Deputation allowance.	Travelling allowance.	Salary.	Travelling allowance.			
6,204	...	2,580	9,040	3,524	21,348	35,082	2,150	5,247	29,892	4,665	77,036	1,62,878	53
...	5,040	150	572	364	6,126	...	...	...	1,464	332	1,796	12,362	12
6,204	5,040	2,730	9,612	3,888	27,474	35,082	2,150	5,247	31,356	4,996	78,832	1,75,240	42

32,776 were transferred to the Jhung district, from the commencement of the financial year

W. G. DAVIES,
Settlement Officer.

FROM

HONORABLE E. L. BRANDRETH, ESQUIRE,
Commissioner Rawul Pindee.

TO

J. A. E. MILLER, ESQUIRE,
Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Punjab.
Dated 1st November 1866.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit Captain Davies' report, with maps accompanying, of the settlement of the Shahpoor district. The settlement was commenced by Mr. Ouseley, who completed, though without reporting, the settlement of what formed the district of Shahpoor as then constituted. A portion of what was settled by Mr. Ouseley was transferred to Jhung; great additions were subsequently made to Shahpoor from other sides, on the various occasions when the districts in this part of the Punjab were remodelled. These additions were to such an extent that they comprise nearly one-half of the district as now constituted; it is these additional tracts that Captain Davies has settled, but his report describes the settlement of the whole district, including Mr. Ouseley's settlement, as well as his own.

2. The district as now constituted contains an area of 4,682 square miles, of which not much more than a tenth is cultivated. It is divided by the river Jhelum into two nearly equal portions, of which Captain Davies gives a very clear and good description. The southern portion, on the left bank of the Jhelum, and lying between that river and the Chenab, yields double the revenue of the other half of the district, and is divided into two Tahseels; it has the usual features of the Bar tracts observable in other parts of the Punjab, consisting of the fertile and highly cultivated alluvial land along the course of the rivers, while the central part of the Doab, properly called the "Bar," consists of hard soil, covered principally with Peeloo trees, not cultivated except here and there where there are hollows in the otherwise continuous plain, but affording extensive pasture grounds.

3. It appears however that the Bar was in former times much more densely peopled than it is at present; it is full of the deserted sites of villages, and the water used to be much nearer the surface than it is at present; water is at present some 60 feet below the surface, but in a memo. by Mr. Ouseley, from which Captain Davies quotes, it is stated that there are traces of old brick wells which are not more than 25 feet deep, so that when these wells were used the water must have been very near the surface indeed. Captain

Davies adds that the same result has been observed in many other parts of the Punjab, and he therefore thinks it probable that a general depression in the water-level has taken place throughout the province.

4. The physical features of the other half of the district on the right bank of the Jhelum, which forms only one Tahseel, are more curious and varied; the main features of which described by Captain Davies are the Salt Range, with its lakes and elevated fertile valleys, which produce such wonderful crops of wheat owing to the fertilizing influence of the lime brought down by the drainage from the surrounding peaks: the Mohar, or plains extending along the base of the Salt Range, with exceptional fertile spots, as where they are watered by fresh springs out of the Salt Range, but for the most part uncultivated, impregnated with salt, and producing little vegetation except the Kureel bush: and the Thull, the country to the south of the Salt Range, but beyond the influence of its drainage, consisting for the most part of a sea of sand, with occasional fertile spots between the waves; but there are here and there, Captain Davies says, long belts of perfectly level ground, which under artificial irrigation, the water being from 45 to 60 feet below the surface, produce excellent crops.

5. Captain Davies next describes the two great rivers of his district, the Chenab and the Jhelum, of which the Jhelum from its more extensive floods and better alluvial deposits is the most fertilizing; while the benefits derived from this river have been still further extended during the last few years by inundation canals. The first of these was cleared by Mr. MacNabb, but several additional canals have been dug under Captain Davies' encouragement; the system of inundation canals is not new to the district, as is evidenced, Captain Davies says, by the many remains of such works to be met with along the edge of the Bar, but all of them had long ago fallen into disuse and silted up.

6. Among the products of the district the salt, saltpetre and soda are noticed. Of these the saltpetre manufacture has greatly declined, while the demand for soda (sajji) is increasing every year; a revenue of upwards of 8,000 rupees per annum is now derived from the lease of the manufacturing monopoly. Besides salt, sajee and grain, the principal exports of the district are wool, cotton, and opium. There has been a great increase in the cultivation of the poppy of late years; nearly the whole of the opium produced is exported; about 3,000 acres are now cultivated with the poppy, and the value of the opium produced at Rs. 10 per maund Captain Davies estimates at Rs. 1,30,000.

7. Captain Davies' account of the tribes is illustrated by an excellent map shewing the distribution of the most important tribes. It will be seen that nearly the whole agricultural population is Mahomedan. Most of the tribes are converted Hindoos; but two the Awan and Beclooch tribes, are of foreign origin. The Awans are the most important and numerous tribe in the dis-

tract. They occupy not only the whole Salt Range, part of the Shahpoor district, but the entire western portion of the Jhelum district. From these tracts they expelled the ancient tribe of the Junjooahs, by whom the Salt Range and adjacent upper plains were before possessed. Mr. A. Brandreth, in his Jhelum Settlement Report, supposes that the Awans came from Herat, less than 250 years ago; and the Emperor Babur, who in his autobiography gives such a minute account of the Salt Range and neighbouring country, and of the tribe of the Junjooahs who dwelt there, as Captain Davies points out, makes no mention whatever of the Awans. It is strange that so little should be known of the circumstances under which this large and important tribe invaded and settled in the country.

The daily life and habits of the people, their mode of computing time, their dress, ornaments and dwelling houses are next described by Captain Davies; these last are built of the materials that come most readily to hand, of stone in the Salt Range, of grass and wood in the Thull, and of clay in the other parts of the district.

9. The past history of the district is well described by Captain Davies, especially where it is of interest as leading up to the present circumstances of some of the principal families in the district. After briefly telling us what is known of the territory forming the present district of Shahpoor during the decline of the Mahomedan power and subsequent anarchical period, he describes more in detail its political sub-division immediately previous to its final subjugation by Runjeet Sing; these sub-divisions are shewn in an excellent map which accompanies the report. At that time about half the district was held by the Bhungee and Sookur Chuksa misls, and the other half by a Belooch chief named Futteh Khan, and by Mullick Khan Mahomed Tiwana; some Syuds also in and about Shahpoor had rendered themselves independent.

10. After the subjugation of the district by Runjeet Sing, Futteh Khan Tiwana, son of Mullick Khan Mahomed, succeeded in obtaining his former possession in farm, though he was deprived of his farm after Runjeet Sing's death; but in consequence of the signal services rendered during the Mooltan rebellion, and again during the mutiny, by Futteh Shere Khan and Shere Mahomed Khan, the first the son, the second the nephew, of Futteh Khan, these two principal representatives of the Tiwana family now enjoy as a jagir under the British Government a considerable portion of their former possessions. To Lungar Khan, the son of the Belooch Chief Futteh Khan, Runjeet Sing gave a jagir worth 3,000 Rs. per annum out of his former possessions. Lungar Khan did good service during the Mooltan rebellion; and his jagir was confirmed in perpetuity. The present jagirdar is Moobarick Khan, son of Lungar Khan. The descendants of the former Syud rulers have no jagirs, but still hold the greater part of the land in Shahpoor and its neighbourhood. The only Sikh Chief who has retained any interest in the district is Attar Sing Lumba, son of Sirdar Goormookh Sing, one of Runjeet Sing's most successful generals. He holds in jagir the estate of Nowshera, worth about 4,000 rupees per annum.

11. The principal towns of the district are Bhera, Saiwâl, Khoshab and Meeani; of these Bhera is the largest and finest; it is built throughout of pukka bricks, and has a population of 14,000 souls. Meeani is the great depôt of the salt trade, being beyond the Customs line; Khooshab is the principal mart on the river from which the surplus produce of the district, such as grain, wool, ghee, &c., is sent down in country boats to Mooltan and Sukkur.

12. Captain Davies concludes his general description of the district, with brief notices of the roads; state of education; principal shrines and religious festivals; and the antiquities of the district.

13. Captain Davies next describes the settlement, to which, as might be expected, the greater portion of his report is devoted. The work was commenced by Mr. Ouseley in 1854, and carried on by that officer with considerable interruption, occasioned by the mutiny and its results, until 1860, when he left the district. What little work remained to complete the settlement of what formed the Shahpoor district as originally constituted, was completed by Pundit Motee Lall; but the large tracts of country, with an area of 2,116 square miles, which had been added subsequently to this district from the Leia and Jhelum districts, still remained for settlement. This work was commenced in July 1862, by Captain Davies, and the completion of it is now reported. At Captain Davies' request, Mr. Ouseley furnished him with a memo. explanatory of the principles on which his settlement was made, and considering how long it is since Mr. Ouseley left the district, it is wonderful he should be able to give as much information as he has done. A great part of this memo. has been embodied in Captain Davies' report.

14. The first summary settlement of that portion of the present district, the assessment of which was revised by Mr. Ouseley, was based on the data furnished by the Sikh jamabandeas, on which a reduction of 20 per cent was taken; but as the Sikh revenue had for the most part been taken in kind or by appraisement, this estimate was found too high, and the assessment had to be reduced by three-fourths of a lak, out of a total assessment of Rs. 3,42,492. The revised assessment of the whole district made by Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies shews a further slight reduction of 3 per cent on the last summary settlement jamma, which includes "tirnee."

15. The most important question Mr. Ouseley had to settle was that of the village boundaries in the Bar. In this tract the villages were often 10 to 12 miles apart. They were inhabited by various Mahomedan tribes, who did little in the way of cultivating the soil, but had large herds of cattle, from which, so far as any count could be taken of them, tirnee dues were collected. The zemindars of this tract thought that according to our system of putting up boundaries they would be allowed to divide the whole "Bar" jungle among them; they accordingly, Mr. Ouseley says, established little out-posts with a few men and a few cattle, each at distances of several miles from the parent

village, and proposed to enclose them all in one boundary. But with the sanction of Mr. Thornton, the Commissioner, Mr. Ouseley determined to include in each village only as much waste land as was requisite for the pasturage of the estimated number of its cattle, allowing at the rate of about 4 acres for each head of cattle. If zemindars objected to the estimate of their cattle, they were told they need not have any more waste land included in their boundaries than they choose to pay for at the rates fixed, which were one rupee for every 20 acres. The objectionable tirnee system was thus got rid of, and all the remaining waste was formed into Government rukhs.

16. The tirnee system was also judiciously abolished by Captain Davies in a similar manner, in the part of the district settled by him; but as the pasturage in the Thull, where most of the waste lands settled by Captain Davies were situated, was very inferior to that of the Bar, he allowed 10 acres for each estimated head of cattle.

17. A number of Government rukhs, containing valuable grazing land, have thus been formed in different parts of the district, the amount of revenue from which under the leases given out by Captain Davies has already reached the sum of Rupees 23,000, which is nearly twice as much as the amount by which the summary settlement jumma has been reduced in the revised settlement; and, moreover, this is a revenue which is likely to increase still further, as additional land is brought into cultivation within the village boundaries, and the demand for such products as ghee and wool, which is already largely exported from the district, increases.

18. The tests on which Mr. Ouseley principally relied for fixing the amount of his assessment were some authentic "kunkoot" and "buttai" papers, the weighing of the produces of certain fields before his own eyes, and the summary suit decisions. The result, however, was only an increase of about 1 per cent on the last summary settlement jumma, and this was chiefly owing, it would appear, to the formation of some new estates. The summary settlement jumma of the portion of the district settled by Mr. Ouseley was Rs. 2,67,455; the revised jumma rupees 2,71,141. This jumma, however, apparently, is not quite the whole of what Mr. Ouseley assessed, as two talooquas transferred from Leia and Jhung in 1853 and 1854, have been excluded, in order, Captain Davies says, not to disturb the comparison between the summary settlement and revised jumma—(see para. 125).

19. The most important thing that Captain Davies had to attend to in the part of the district settled by him, was the right of the hill torrents, the water of the hill torrents by which both the villages of the Salt Range and the plains below are irrigated. These rights have all been carefully recorded; the various channels by which the water is conveyed to the different fields have been marked in the village plans; and where the irrigation is carried on by means of dams; a separate plan of the stream has been prepared, showing the recognized dams, and the fields which may be irrigated from them.

20. The most difficult part of Captain Davies' task in determining the correct classification of the estates in the Salt Range, owing to the great difference in the productive powers of the land, according as it was more or less irrigated by the drainage from the adjacent hills, or not irrigated at all. In framing rates, Captain Davies seems principally to have relied on two ways, one that of actual experiment, threshing out the grain and seeing what fair samples of each kind of soil would thus yield; the other that of enquiry from the people. The result of his assessment has been a decrease on the whole of rather more than 5 per cent on the summary settlement jumma; but this decrease is almost entirely confined to the Salt Range, on the summary settlement jumma of which it amounts to nearly 10 per cent. These reductions however, were not apparently given, because the former revenue was high, compared with the produce of the land, but in consequence of over population.

21. If I remember right, in some villages in which the greatest reductions were given, the inhabitants had only about one acre of culturable land each; on an average. No doubt the slightest assessment, or no assessment at all, must be very burdensome under such circumstances; but Captain Davies contends that it was necessary to make the people content by giving them some reduction. As the subject is one of no slight importance I extract here some of Captain Davies' remarks on the subject.—“It was objected at the time” he says “that I had allowed myself to be too much influenced by this consideration; and there is no doubt that carried too far, it would lead to unnecessary sacrifice of revenue, because the only remedy, emigration, owing to the peculiar tenacity with which people cling to their paternal acres, is one that is never seen to result from pressure of taxation. But I contend that we must respect the feeling that stands in our way, and that until Government changes its policy, and in imitation of its predecessors the Sikhs, allows the love of rupees to outweigh in its estimation the contentment of its subjects, this is a point that a Settlement Officer can never over-look”—(see para. 221). Mr. Arthur Brandreth, who had villages similarly circumstanced to assess in the Jhelum district, objects altogether (see paras. 205, 210, Jhelum Report) and with much right as it seems to me, to reductions on such grounds, though he gave them himself because he was ordered to do so. If an artificial limit to subdivision were fixed by law, as is said to be the case in France and Prussia, the prosperity of these villages would be immensely promoted by such a rule, the surplus population would then be compelled to go and cultivate the abundant wastes in other parts of the country, as tenants-at-will if they could not get proprietary right; there should be a prohibition against land being subdivided where the quantity did not exceed what could be cultivated by one plough.

22. Of the tract assessed by Captain Davies, the summary settlement jumma was Rs. 1,06,301, the revised jumma Rs. 1,00,755, giving a net decrease of Rs. 5,546.

Total assessment of the district.

23. The result of the revised assessment of the whole district is as follows:—

Name of Tahseel.	Summary settle- ment jumma.	Revised ° settle- ment jumma.
Bhera,	1,29,879	1,23,689
Shahpoor,	1,09,215	° 1,10,917
Khooshab,	1,49,143	1,41,906
Total, ..	3,88,237	3,76,512

giving a net decrease of Rs. 11,725, or about 3 per cent.

24. It is to this jumma for which sanction is asked as a 10 year settlement, or for such further additional period as may be hereafter decided on. I think there can be no doubt that the assessment proposed is at any rate not too high; the only tract in which the summary settlement was thought to press at all heavily was the Salt Range, and here a reduction of 10 per cent has been given; the revised assessments of the other parts of the district do not materially differ from the summary settlement jumma, and most of Mr. Ouseley's assessments have now had the actual test of having been collected for upwards of 10 years; and Captain Davies, who has watched the working of them for the last 4 years, states that if Mr. Ouseley erred at all, it was on the side of leniency, more especially in the Bar, from which "no doubt double the existing revenue could be obtained without much difficulty" (see para. 186). Captain Davies' assessments are from S. 1,921 to S. 1,930, and I would recommend Mr. Ouseley's assessments also being confirmed for this additional period, unless this part of the district is to be immediately re-assessed by Mr. Prinsep, as any uncertainty in such a matter is very injurious to the agricultural progress of a district.

25. The amount of revenue alienated in jagheers or maafee plots is shown by Captain Davies to be rupees 46,366, or rather more than 12 per cent on the jumma; but of this sum upwards of rupees 15,000 appear to be new grants to the Tiwanas for their services under Major Edwardes, and rupees 11,982 are for charitable maafee grants for life only; of the whole of the claims to maafee lands investigated during summary settlement, about two-thirds were rejected: these included most of the grants to the village head-men, but as these were deemed most important grants, and the entire resumption of them which took place

was considered most impolitic, a separate report has been submitted to the Financial Commissioner in which it has been proposed to give a partial compensation for some of these resumed grants by assigning inams, which have been made a certain per-centage of the jumma, in the case of the most distinguished among the head-men.

26. The latter part of the report is taken up with an account of the various rights that were ascertained, or determined, and recorded during the course of the settlement, and here also Captain Davies gives several extracts from Mr. Ouseley's Memorandum. It would appear from Mr. Ouseley's account as if in the Sikh times the Government share was taken in kind from the whole of the cultivators, both from those who were clearly admitted to be the proprietary body, or "waris" as I believe they are generally called, and original founders of the village, as well as from those cultivators who settled in the village at later periods and had no claim to be ranked among the Proprietary cultivators. "waris." Mr. Ouseley shows (paras. 256 and 257) that there was a well marked difference between these two classes, and that, as a rule, the latter rarely raised any proprietary claims; he shows also that in the greater part of the district settled by him the non-proprietary cultivator paid 5 per cent on his quota of the Government demand, ordinarily in kind to the recognized proprietor. In such cases, Mr. Ouseley fixed at his settlement a money payment at an increase of from 35 to 40 per cent, including all extra cesses on the jumma of the land. It would also appear that only those cultivators were recorded as hereditary who had either sunk or repaired wells or broken up the waste.

27. If the foregoing were a complete account of the way in which the claims of cultivators were treated in Shahpoor, if no length of occupancy unless accompanied with special claims, of having broken up waste or sunk wells, was deemed sufficient to constitute a man a hereditary cultivator, and if the proprietors were allowed to take grain rates from all other non-proprietary cultivators from whom not they, but the Sikh Kardars only, formerly took these rates, the proprietors would have had less cause for complaint in Shahpoor, than in, perhaps, any other district in the Punjab; but I think there must have been besides, a considerable number of cultivators who formerly paid grain rents directly to proprietors, or at any rate, did so during the summary settlement, and whose payments were also converted into money on the same principles. In these cases this conversion of the grain into money payments, by taking a per-centage on the jumma, would be a very arbitrary way of dealing with the matter, and a very insufficient account would thus be taken of the real produce of particular fields, and of the share in that produce formerly paid by the cultivators. Several complaints on this subject were made to the late Financial Commissioner, who is now Lieutenant Governor, when he visited the Shahpoor district in 1862, and he subsequently directed, after examining several of the files, that Captain Davies should be authorized to revise his predecessor's orders in these cases wherever he saw sufficient reason for doing so (Financial Commissioner to Commissioner, No. 880, dated 28th March 1864). In one or two

cases that were appealed to me revision was ordered. Captain Davies does not mention what he has done with reference to these instructions.

28. In other parts of the district, where Mr. Ouseley says "the heavy assessments of the Sikh times had quite trampled out all proprietary rights" (see para. 262), even the 5 per cent. on the Government demand was not allowed to the proprietors and all the non-proprietary cultivators of long standing, including even the artizans and village servants, have been recorded as owners of the land in their occupancy; if this had been done by the Settlement Officer's order it would I think have been a decided error. Though by the Sikh exactions, the proprietors had been brought down to the level of the non-proprietary cultivators, yet when the value of the possession of the proprietors was raised by the reduction of the Government demand, it certainly was not necessary to confer equal benefits on the non-proprietary cultivators, but I am told that, in these instances, it was at the express wish of the real proprietors that the others were made proprietors also.

29. The tenure is said both by Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies to have become almost universally bhayachara, where the land is no longer either held or paid for according to ancestral shares; when the revenue, as in the Sikh times, was all taken in kind, there was no place left for payment by ancestral shares, and if it is quite clear that under the summary settlement the people of their own accord distributed the assessment according to their holdings, I certainly agree with Captain Davies (see para. 267) in thinking that any attempt by a Settlement Officer to restore ancestral shares, unless it was unanimously asked for by the people, which would be hardly credible, would not be advisable; but though the jummas have now been distributed primarily on the quantity of land held by proprietors, yet Captain Davies says, in another part of his report, that the revenue was at any rate on a certain number of villages after annexation, paid by a distribution on ploughs. I am assured, however, that there was not any attempt to revise ancestral shares, but that the shares called ploughs corresponded exactly with the possession of each proprietor at the time this distribution was made.

30. It is another question however, whether the waste and common land should not be assigned according to ancestral shares; this might possibly have been in accordance with the wishes of the people. In Shahpoor however it appears that each man's share in the common land has been recorded as more or less according to the sum at which his separate holding has been assessed in the khewut.

31. In the part of the district settled by him, Captain Davies has very greatly, and I think very properly, reduced the number of lumberdars appointed at the summary settlement. Both Captain Davies' inquiries in this district and Mr. Arthur Brandreth's in the adjoining district of Jhelum, shew that, as the rule in former times, there was only one head-man in each village, who received the lion's share of the "inam," though there were doubtless often others subor-

dinate to him, receiving smaller shares. In the summary settlements, not only the former sharers in the inam, but sometimes entirely new men were admitted to sign the jumma agreements, and then all shared the small puchotra which was substituted for the former large inam, the man who had the lion's share before, as well as the man who had none, on exactly equal terms. Such a change in the distribution of the manager's fund, had nothing whatever to recommend it, the system had not the sanction of previous custom, and it certainly had no intrinsic merits; for when the fund was thus minutely divided, it was no one's business to aid the administration, to assist the police, or to do anything at all: the putwaree became the great man of the village, and even the jumma, I believe, was generally collected by him. I think that Captain Davies has done well in endeavouring to remedy this state of things; he might, in my opinion, in many cases, have drawn even a greater distinction than he did between the head lumberdar and those subordinate lumberdars whom he still retained, in respect to the distribution of the lumberdaree fees.

32. The lands thown up by the river are one of the most fertile sources of disputes in the Shahpoor district; the rule which theoretically governs the decision of cases of this class is that known as the "war-par bunna" rule, the object of which rule is to maintain the original boundary of every estate. No matter for how long a period the land may have been washed away by the river, when any new land is formed within the original boundary line, the village is entitled to claim it by this rule, without any reference to the deep stream or subsequent course of the river, and even though the land should have been formed on the boundary of another estate, and separated from the estate claiming it by the deep stream of the river; but this is a rule exceedingly difficult of application. Captain Davies says (see para. 312) no great difficulty is experienced in its application, now that a regular survey and settlement of the estates on both banks have been made, but this does not in my opinion remove the main difficulty; there is still the whole breadth of the river between the different estates, unless in the case of villages that have got land on both banks; how much of the original area of any estate is now at the bottom of the river, is not so easy to discover; if this had been investigated and recorded at the settlement, it might have been a good thing done, but it was not; after new land has been formed and become the subject of dispute between two villages, and covetous desire to possess it has been excited, it is very difficult to obtain any reliable evidence; though before the land comes into existence reliable evidence may I think sometimes be obtained as to the original extent of the boundaries of the different estates. People will be found who remember that such and such trees and wells at so many paces from the existing village site, have been washed away. I have ascertained that there is a plan of the river in the Surveyor General's office, and he has promised to supply a copy of it, and when this is obtained, it might be worth while to require all villages that have claims against the river, to record them. A short time since, I had to decide a dispute between a Goojerat and a Jhelum village regarding some newly formed land: it was impossible to tell from the conflicting evidence that was then recorded, to which village the land-in dispute had originally belonged, but in a boundary dispute which

had been decided some years previously, in which the Jhelum people had claimed some of the Goojerat lands, it was found that the Goojerat people had admitted that the whole bed of the river, as its course then was, belonged to the Jhelum village, and on this admission, the Jhelum zemindars abandoned the claim they had set up to the land that had been included in the Goojerat village boundary; the land that was the subject of the recent dispute, had all been formed on the Goojerat boundary, but in consequence of this evidence, I awarded possession of it to the Jhelum village, where however, no reliable evidence as to former boundaries is forthcoming; there is no other way of deciding a dispute, that I know of, except by the "accession law."

33. In conclusion, I would propose that the thanks of the Government should be given to those officers who have been the most conspicuously engaged in this settlement, to Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies, and to their Assistants, Extra Assistant Pundit Motee Lall, Tehseeldar Buktawur Lall and Naib Tehseeldar Hurbuns Lal. It is six years since Mr. Ouseley left the district; his assessment has been very moderate, not to say light. I do not mention this as entitling him to any great praise, for all the assessments of late years have been very light in accordance with the supposed wishes of the Government, but he is entitled to the acknowledgment of the Government for the very great care and accuracy with which I understand most of his work has been done, for the finish of the maps, the correctness of the measurements, and the accuracy of all the entries, and for the care and patience with which he disposed of a more than ordinary quantity of judicial work even for a settlement; his work too, it must be remembered, has now stood the test of several years, he had a remarkable power of securing to himself the regard of the people among whom he was employed for so many years, and Captain Davies bears witness that his name is always in their mouths, and is never mentioned but with marks of respect and affection. Captain Davies in his completion of this settlement of this district has, it seems to me, shewn considerable ability, and his knowledge of the people with whom he had to deal during the last 4 years is very remarkable; his judicial decisions are ever sound, and all his work connected with the assessment and the record of rights, seems to have been done in a very satisfactory way; moreover, he has had charge of the district, besides carrying on the settlement, and certainly has been behind no other officer in his attention to district work in general; and as regards local improvements by the many new and important roads, serais, canals, and other public works, which he has so efficiently carried out, he has unquestionably gained the first place for Shahpoor among the districts in this Division. Mr. Ouseley bears strong testimony to the experience, intelligence, and industry of Pundit Motee Lall. Tehseeldar Buktawur Lall is highly commended by both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies, under both of whom he worked, for his great industry and integrity. My opinion was some time since asked by the Financial Commissioner as to whether this officer should be exempted from the Tehseeldar's examination. I objected on the ground that it would create an inconvenient precedent, but after the testimony to his merits borne by Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies, and on the special grounds of his services in the Shahpoor settlement, I wish to withdraw my objection, and to petition in favor of his being

exempted from examination. Hurbuns Lall, Naib Tehseeldar, deserves mention both for the great care with which he supervised the measurements, and also for the special aptitude which he shewed for judicial work.

I have &c.

(Signed)

E. L. BRANDRETH,

Commissioner.

*Memo. by Lieutenant Colonel E. J. Lake on the Settlement Report of the
Shahpoor District.*

I submit a valuable and interesting Report prepared by Captain W. Davies, on the revised Settlement of the Shahpoor district, which has been effected partly by himself, and partly by Mr. Gore Ouseley. The Report is illustrated by some excellent maps, to which attention may be first directed.

I. There is a map exhibiting the limits of the district as it was constituted when it was settled by Mr. Ouseley, with the fiscal divisions then recognized.

II. There is a map showing the limits of the district of Shahpoor as at present constituted, with its present fiscal divisions.

III. In a third map is shown the location of the several tribes into which the population of the district is sub-divided.

IV. The past history of the district is illustrated in a fourth map, which shows the political sub-divisions which existed in the district prior to its conquest by Maharaja Runjeet Sing.

V. In a fifth map the boundaries of the several circles are shown, into which the Settlement Officers divided the district for purposes of assessment.

VI. Lastly, there is a sheet containing some excellent drawings of the ornaments in common use.

2. A review of this report by Mr. Edward Brandreth, Commissioner of the Rawulpindee division, also forms one of the enclosures to this Memo :

3. The full and detailed description given by Captain Davies of the district in its physical aspects, renders it unnecessary to add much on this head. It will suffice to say that it covers an area of 4,682 square miles, of which more than half is taken up by dreary tracts known under the general names of the "Bar" and the "Thull." There are spots, here and there in the "Thull," where good grass is produced, and where,

Area in square

miles.

"Bar"

1,434

"Thull"

918

2,352

by the aid of artificial irrigation, water-melons and other crops can be raised ; but its general character is that of a desolate wilderness, in which nothing but stunted bushes will grow. In its present condition, the "Bar" is only less dreary than the "Thull" ; for although trees of the more hardy varieties take the place of bushes, they are also stunted in size, and the water is brackish, and from 60 to 75 feet below the surface. The "Bar," however, produces rich crops of grass, and thus is turned to good use as a pasture ground for cattle. The soil, moreover, is good, and nothing but canal irrigation is needed to turn this wilderness into a garden. On a small scale this good work has been happily commenced, as described in para. 24 of the report ; for several inundation canals, under the fostering encouragement of Captain Davies and his predecessor Mr. MacNabb, have already been constructed ; and "there is every reason to believe that "this system of irrigation will ere long be largely developed." To relieve the barrenness of the "Thull and the Bar," which take up so large a portion of the Shahpoor district, there are along the banks of the Jhelum and the Chenab, and at the base of the Salt Range rich alluvial strips of land, the

productive powers of which are greatly stimulated by periodical overflowings of the streams which bound or intersect those strips. Bounding these alluvial strips on the Jhelum and Chenab, and filling up the space between them and the "Bar," is a productive tract of country in which sweet water is found at a practicable depth below the surface, and in which tillage is entirely dependent on wells. In the Salt Range also are to be found vallies of extreme fertility; still how much remains to be done to develop cultivation in the district may be inferred from the fact that while only 530 square miles are cultivated, 2,210 square miles are culturable. In a district like this, in which the average rain-fall is only 15 inches a year, the extension of cultivation is necessarily dependant upon the extension of irrigation.

4. The habits of the people also have been largely influenced by the character and past history of the country. Thus many portions of the district are in the hands of a pastoral population, who have only turned their attention to agriculture since the commencement of British rule. The average population for the entire district is only 64 souls per square mile, and even where the population is most dense in the alluvial tracts of the Chenab and Jhelum, the average per square mile is not more than 198 souls. In the Salt Range villages, however, the extent of cultivated and culturable lands is only 46,000 acres, while the inhabitants number 28,607 souls; so that in point of fact, here, the population is larger than the land can properly support; but elsewhere in this district the reverse is the case, for lands are abundant and more hands are required to bring them into cultivation.

5. The Mahomedan element, it may be observed, so largely predominates throughout the district over the Hindoo, that out of a population of 3,02,700, only 52,052 are Hindoos, and the rest are Mahomedans. Many of these latter however were converted from Hindooism. Captain Davies gives a full and interesting account of the tribes of the district. The Junjooahs, who formerly held as lords vast tracts of country, the Awāns and Beloches, of whom colonies have been settled in all parts of the Punjab, and the Tiwanahs, who have actively supported, more than once, the British Government, are among the most noted, although none of them except the Awāns are formidable in number.

6. There are only five town-ships in the district which contain a population of more than five thousand souls; and Bhera, the largest of these (although in Imperial times a large city) contains now only 13,973 souls. Kooshab, which now contains only 7,261 souls, is destined probably to increase largely, if its new site does not share the fate of the old, of which the larger portion has been washed away by the river. Its situation on the Jhelum points it out as the best port for shipping the surplus produce of the district, which may find its way to Mooltan, Sukkur, Kurachee, Bombay and England, besides which the cloth manufactured here finds its way to Afghanistan. Under Captain Davies' directions a new town has been laid out at Kooshab, on an excellent design, the buildings of which already present an imposing and commodious appearance. Although Meeanee is insignificant in size and population, (containing only 6,005 souls), it is well known as the great salt mart of the Punjab, as some traders, and particularly those who use wheeled carriage, prefer purchasing their salt at Meeanee instead of going on to the mines. Much has been

Bhera.
Saiwāl.
Khooshab.
Meeanee.
Mitta Tiwanna.

done by Captain Davies to embellish Meeanee as well as the other townships of the district; and the roads he has made, particularly those which open up the Salt Range, cannot but have the best effect in developing trade.

7. The past history of the country, as related in the report, supplies incidents similar to those which have been enacted not only in other parts of the Punjab, but in other parts of the world. Thus, when the vast Mahomedan empire crumbled to pieces, there was a general scramble for power, and men of influence and force of character asserted their independence. Among the men who thus came prominently forward, were the representatives of two races, Sikhs and Mahomedans, and then followed a period of general commotion during which the Sikhs and Mahomedans strove for mastery. As the Sikhs had all the vigour and energy of a young race in whom religious fervour had been recently kindled, victory would sooner have declared in their favour but for the divisions which prevailed among themselves. It was reserved for Maharajah Runjeet Sing to bring under subjection, not only all rival Sikh chiefs who had established principalities in the Punjab, but also the Mahomedans who had hitherto held their own against the Sikhs. Maharajah Runjeet Singh's policy is too well known to require detailed description. It will suffice to say that scarcely a year passed that he did not incorporate within his own dominion, the principality, sometimes of a rival, and sometimes of a friend, and no one has ever pursued more systematically the policy of annexation.

8. First and foremost among the natural products of the district Captain Davies has rightly placed salt; for although the principal mine (Khewra) from which the largest revenue is derived is situated in the Jhelum district, other mines are worked in the Shahpoor district, which contain inexhaustible supplies of this valuable mineral. Of the other products of the district, a detailed account will be found in the report. Saltpetre, sujje— or an impure carbonate of soda, wool, ghee, hides, opium and cotton may be enumerated among the products which are in demand in distant as well as in the local markets of the district. The area under poppy cultivation is nearly three thousand acres, and the value of the opium produced is put down at a lakh and thirty thousand rupees. As there has been a remarkable increase in the quantity of opium produced in the Shahpoor district; it is evident that the system of leasing the monopoly for the sale of opium, which prevails there, does not operate so unfavourably upon the culture of opium as some officers of high standing have been led to suppose. It may be noted that a specimen of opium sent from Shahpoor was favorably reported upon by the Government Opium Agent at Patna. The cotton also which is produced in the Shahpoor district is of superior quality, and a specimen of the "Thull" wool sent from this district to the Panjab exhibition carried off the first prize. It is mentioned by Captain Davies that sugar-cane is grown exclusively along the Chenab; and as regards other vegetable products, they seem to be the ordinary staples found in other parts of the Punjab.

9. The mode of operation adopted in the settlement of this district has been fully described by Mr. Ouseley in a memorandum he has drawn out, and by Captain Davies in the report he has submitted. It will be observed that among other precautions for ensuring accuracy in the record of measurements, Mr. Ouseley furnished every shareholder and every tenant with a right of occupancy with an extract from the record, showing every particular regarding the lands of which he had been recorded proprietor or tenant.

Although now such a precaution is taken as a matter of course in all settlements, this was not the rule in the earlier settlements of the Punjab; and its adoption, to quote the words of Mr. Ouseley, "secured an accuracy in the settlement papers which could not have been otherwise attained amongst an ignorant people unacquainted with our revenue system." I fully concur with Mr. Ouseley "that no greater error can be committed in the course of a settlement than to have villages measured by any one except the village putwarree." Others may be advantageously associated with him, but he should certainly take part in the work. There is no doubt also, as pointed out by Mr. Ouseley, that in working out what is technically called a "produce jumma," or an assessment based upon the estimated yield of the land, gross errors are likely to be made; and the result thus obtained is chiefly of use for testing and correcting the estimates formed by independent enquiries conducted in other ways. In determining the assessments finally fixed, both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies availed themselves largely of the local knowledge which their connection with the district had enabled them to acquire, and to perfect which they had spared neither pains nor labour. Mr. Ouseley's assessments have now been in force for some years, and experience has proved that they are equable and moderate. There is every reason to anticipate that Captain Davies' settlement will work equally well. In these assessments, aggregating rupees 3,76,512, particulars of which are noted below, sanction is now solicited, and I would at the same time recommend that the term of the present settlement be extended to the close of 1886-87, or for twenty years from the date on which the present settlement was completed, but with the reservation that the rents paid by landlords to tenants, and the relations existing between these classes, may be reconsidered whenever the term of settlement originally fixed has expired. By para 315 of the report it will be seen that excepting in the villages settled by Captain Davies, and in some villages of the Kaloowāl tehseel incorporated with Bhera, the term of settlement has already expired, so there will be no difficulty in giving effect to the rules which may be laid down by the Supreme Government for regulating the relations between landlords and tenants.

Particulars of the summary and revised settlement:—

Tehseel.	Summary settlement jumma.	Revised settlement jumma.	Increase.	Decrease.	REMARKS.
Bhera, ...	1,29,879	1,23,689	...	6,190	Captain Davies effected the settlement of lands assessed at Rs. 1,00,755, and Mr. Ouseley settled the remainder.
Shahpoor,	1,09,215	1,10,917	1,702	...	
Kooshab,	1,49,133	1,41,906	...	7,237	
Total,...	3,88,237	3,76,512	1,702	13,427	

10. The apparent loss of revenue here exhibited is more than counter-balanced by the income derived from Government rukhs or preserves, which have been separately demarcated and formed at the present settlement. These rukhs yield about 23,000 Rs. per annum, and the settlement officers have arranged in a most judicious manner all matters which have arisen in connection with them. Thus, while on one hand the people have been allowed to retain ample lands for grazing purposes, the rights of the Government have been secured to all surplus lands in excess of their legitimate wants. From returns rendered to this office it appears that these Government preserves, which are now at the absolute disposal of the State, cover an area of about 4,99,784 acres.

11. As regards the future management of these rukhs or Government preserves, the views expressed in para. 318 of the report appear to be sound; and instead of disposing of the grazing leases annually by public competition, it will be preferable to lease them out for two or three years at moderate rates, either to approved parties among the grazing classes, or to men of character who are not likely to oppress the people.

12. The recent discussions regarding tenant-right in the Punjab invest with more than ordinary interest the remarks on this subject by Mr. Ouseley, which are to be found in paras. 253 to 262 of the report. Mr. Ouseley is well known as a pains-taking officer, who mixed much with the people, and who was most earnest in all enquiries conducted by him to arrive at the truth, and his conclusions, therefore, are entitled to more than ordinary weight. His enquiries shewed "that there were parties who, though they had no claim to proprietary title, asserted a claim to cultivate the land in their possession subject to the payment of a rent more favorable than was demanded from the mere tenant-at-will. These men had acquired their right by one of two ways: they had either broken up the waste land (generally land on the banks of the river), and were called 'Abād Kōrān' or 'Bunjur Shijafan,' or they had sunk a well on the land which they cultivated, or had cleared out and put into working order an old well situated in the land they tilled." "In either case," Mr. Ouseley goes on to say, "it was the custom to allow tenants of the above description a certain amount of indulgence compared with ordinary tenants in taking their rents &c." These conclusions do not differ materially from those of other settlement officers employed at the commencement of British rule in the Punjab. Mr. Ouseley dealt with these claims in an equitable manner, and in a spirit of consideration for both landlords and tenants. It may be a question whether, as urged by Mr. Brandreth, the procedure was not erroneous under which in the Kaloowāl tehseel and Zīl Moosa, (see para. 262) all cultivators of long standing were recorded owners, and these cases may possibly be reviewed with advantage. It is also likely that an enhanced rent should be paid by several of the tenants; at the same time it is noteworthy that there are a few tenants "who with the consent of the proprietors are excused all payment on account of *malikana*" or proprietary dues. These matters may however be left for future consideration, after the issue of instructions by the Supreme Government on the reference recently made by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor.

13. Both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies concur in the opinion that the prevailing tenure of the district is "bhayachara," or that in which the measure of rights is possession in supersession of ancestral rights; and in paras 265-267 Captain Davies gives very cogent reasons why this tenure should predominate, not only in the Shahpoor district, but in other parts of the Punjab. It will be important to ascertain whether Mr. Prinsep has arrived at an opposite conclusion in the districts in which he has conducted a revision of settlement, because his classification of tenures is based upon different principles to those adopted by other settlement officers, or because parties have taken advantage of a revision of settlement to revive ancestral rights without regard to the law of limitation.

14. In accordance with the very decided views held by Mr. Brandreth the Commissioner, and by Captain Davies, that the number of lumberdars should be limited, several have been removed from office during the present settlement. It is admitted that a great deal of discontent has been created, but Captain Davies flatters himself that "the feeling was confined entirely to those immediately affected by the reductions," and that "the population at large decidedly approved of what had been done." Even admitting that an error was made at the summary settlement in nominating too many lumberdars, I question the wisdom of *suddenly* restricting their number, and would have preferred an arrangement under which the number would have been *gradually* reduced as existing incumbents died off. Confidence in the stability of our arrangements must be shaken when the people find that our policy is so suddenly reversed, and few European officers can have the intimate local knowledge requisite to determine who, of several claimants, has the best right to retain office. The difficulties of such an enquiry are greater when a number of claims of this kind are taken up simultaneously; when however the settlement and divisional authorities concurred in removing an incumbent from office, I did not consider it advisable ordinarily to interfere, although I did interfere in some few cases in which, apart from prescriptive rights, those deprived of the office of lumberdar had established a claim to our consideration by fighting for us at Mooltan, or in Hindustan;—for it seemed impolitic to disgust those who had served us so well, in deference to an abstract theory that we ought to revert to the Sikh system, under which the emoluments pertaining to the office of lumberdar were chiefly monopolized by one man. In my opinion, the expectations of those will prove illusory who imagine that by increasing the emoluments of the lumberdar they will restore him to the position of influence he held under the Sikhs. It was part of their revenue system to invest the lumberdars with unusual powers, so as to turn them to better account in squeezing revenue out of the people; and so long as this object was attained no complaints were listened to, however oppressively those powers were exercised. Now however it is very different: the powers of the lumberdar are regulated by the law, any infraction of which will subject him to prosecution, in the course of which no favor will be shown to him because he is the head-man of the village.

15. In para. 294 of the report reference is made to a rule under which, for the purpose of increasing the emoluments of the head lumberdar, an additional five per cent payable to him is imposed upon outsiders who have obtained a proprietary footing in a village. The legality of such an arrange-

ment was questioned; because if the additional cess thus levied was of the nature of a proprietary or talooqdaree due, then its appropriation by one man was unfair to other shareholders whose rights were not inferior; if, on the other hand, this cess was to be regarded in the light of remuneration for the discharge of the duties of an office, there seemed no reason why one class of proprietors should be charged double the rates paid by others, and by tenants with a right of occupancy. The correspondence* which has passed on this subject is herewith submitted in original.

* No. 2721 dated 1st July 1865, from Financial Commissioner to Commissioner, Rawul Indee.

No. 199 dated 31st idem to Do. from Do. with enclosures.

16. The proposal referred to in para. 250 to improve the position of some of the head-men of influence and note by bestowing "inams" upon them has my support, and in the * correspondence marginally noted specific recommendations have been submitted for the approval of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor.

* Financial Commissioner No. 110 dated 26th February 1867, to Government Punjab.

17. As described in para. 214 of the report, and as noted by the Commissioner, Captain Davies has done well in preparing a complete and careful record of the rights of all parties who have a prescriptive title to share in the waters brought down by the hill streams which intersect the district, and the separate plans of these torrents described in para. 214 showing the exact spots at which it is allowable to erect dams, and the fields entitled to participate in the irrigation are calculated to prove of the greatest use in disputes which may hereafter arise.

18. Both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies refer to the large number of contested cases which have been brought into Court during the progress of this settlement, and Captain Davies further observes that "a large portion of the claims preferred were shown to be utterly false and fictitious." The spirit of litigation has doubtless been fostered by settlement operations having been protracted and extended over such a number of years, and this delay in bringing the settlement to a completion also accounts for the large expenditure which has been incurred from first to last, and which amounts to no less a sum than 1,75,240 rupees, or about 42 per cent on the revenue of the tracts assessed. The bulk of this expenditure, however, was incurred on the portions of the district first settled. The outlay incurred by Captain Davies on the work effected by him was most moderate, and did not exceed twelve per cent on the revenue assessed. The delays which occurred must be attributed to the system adopted, under which settlement work was imposed upon district officers whose attention was thus divided between district and settlement duties.

19. It is most creditable both to Captain Davies and Mr. Ouseley that although they were harassed with the onerous charge of a district and all its important duties, they have succeeded in effecting the settlement in so complete and thorough a manner. By his pains-taking and searching enquiries, by his earnestness, by the justice of his decisions and by the considerate interest he evinced in all matters affecting the welfare of the people, Mr. Ouseley has won a lasting place in their regard, while at the same time

credit was reflected upon the administration, of which he was an honoured and useful member. The work left unfinished by Mr. Ouseley has been completed in a masterly manner by Captain Davies, who has displayed considerable ability in the work, and who has furnished an interesting record of Mr. Ouseley's labours as well as his own. The energy displayed by Captain Davies in the construction of roads, seracs, canals, and public buildings, and in the prosecution of other material improvements has quite altered the face of the district. Both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies have earned warm commendations, and I bring their names to the favorable notice of His Honor, the Lieutenant Governor. I also request that the labours of Extra Assistant Pundit Motee Lall, of whom Mr. Ouseley speaks highly, may be suitably acknowledged; the labours also of Buktawur Lall, Ram Sahae, Hurbuns Lall, and Meer Goelam Hossein, have earned the commendations of their superiors, and the first named of these, Buktawur Lall, appears from the combined testimony of several officers to be specially deserving.

20. It will be observed by reference to para. 129 of the report that Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies are both under the impression that "at one time the Bar jungle was thickly populated," and that the gradual subsidence of the water-level has led to its depopulation. Without entering into the question as to when and how this occurred, it may be affirmed that the Bar is capable of being restored to a high state of prosperity. This would be best done by the State undertaking to construct a canal; but if owing to more important projects this cannot be done, then by extending the benefits of inundation canals. As pointed out in para. 317 of the report, to ensure satisfactory results, discrimination must be shown in leasing waste lands to men of capital, energy, influence and intelligence, who are really in earnest about cultivating them and extending to them the benefits of irrigation. Further, as for the want of the requisite engineering knowledge, it cannot be expected that the natives of the country will be able to lay down the best line for a canal, and experience has shown that canals with a defective alignment are maintained with great difficulty in proper working order: it would be very desirable if the Engineer officer at Pind Dadun Khan, or some canal officer were allowed to aid the people in these important works upon which the prosperity of the district so much depends.

EDWARD LAKE,

Financial Commissioner.

Minute by the Hon'ble the Lieutenant Governor on the Shahpûr Settlement Report.

It is not necessary to enter with any minuteness into the principles of assessment described, and other details given, in this excellent report; but much is stated in it of a suggestive character, in connection with administrative and general matters, on which it will be well to remark, leaving historical and some other subjects, which are given with great clearness, to be fully studied by the reader in the report itself.

2. From the detail given in paras 2 and 3 as per margin, it seems that

Physical features of the District.

Cultivated, ...	530 square miles.
Culturable, ...	2,210 "
Barren waste, ...	1,942 "
Total, ...	4,682 "

only one-fifth of the culturable land is at present under the plough, while a very large proportion of the remaining four-fifths would become as valuable as what is now cultivated if water could be supplied; this being however possible in a large part of it, only by introducing a system of reservoirs or canals, the depth of wells being so great and the water so alkaline as to render these almost useless for irrigation. In the Bar, however, the central ridge of the "Jach Doab," or that between the Jhelum and Chenab, there exist, it would appear, more or less in nearly all parts, depressed hollows, elsewhere termed "Rahnab," where temporary accumulations of the rain-fall admit of crops being raised with some degree of success. In the Thall or desert tracts of the Western or Sindh Sagâr Doab, that between the Jhelum and Indus, there appear in like manner to be comparatively level and continuous depressions, designated Patti, or by other names, which are probably remains of old channels or branches of the river; and in these water is procurable by digging wells at smaller depths, and of superior quality to what generally prevails. Still, even in these parts, the cultivation must ever continue but scant and precarious until canals are introduced.

3. The great fertility of portions of the Salt Range, as described in para. 42, is not I believe generally known; but here, save in the very few spots, where streams of constant or frequent flow exist, the only prospect of securing irrigation would appear to depend on the formation of reservoirs, which have not yet been attempted under British rule, nor has the feasibility or desirableness of resorting to the expedient been fully considered, though

the subject appears to be one well worthy of being fully discussed. One large natural lake, that of Uehhâli, exists, immediately under the hill of Sakêsar, but it is much too salt for either irrigation or drinking purposes, while the smaller ones at Kabakki or elsewhere appear to be but little used for the former purpose.

4. The only description of canals as yet attempted, and that only in the "Jach" Doab, from the Jhelum, is the inundation canal. But it seems probable that from somewhere near *Mông Resûl* (the site of the battle of Chilianwalla) the head for a canal of permanent flow might be obtained; and Captain Davies has, I believe, had it in contemplation to propose this. In the meantime, however, it is hardly possible to exaggerate the value of inundation canals to this parched tract; that they formerly existed to some extent is still traceable; and their revival under us is due, in the first instance, to Mr. Donald Macnabb, who with great benevolence and public spirit, dug a small canal a few years ago, to irrigate the station of Shahpûr, and some of the villages adjoining. But its success was but very partial, and Captain Davies is unquestionably entitled to the credit of having brought an amount of energy and intelligence to bear on the whole subject, which have already produced most remarkable and gratifying results, and have aroused a spirit of enthusiasm on the subject, on the part of the population occupying the left bank of the Jhelum; which is not likely to be extinguished. He is also of opinion that an inundation canal may be taken off from the right bank of that river, to irrigate lands even as far as Mittha Tiwanah, which would be an immense boon. And there appears to be no reason why similar canals should not be taken off from the right bank of the Chenab.

5. As water runs in these canals only from April or May to September or October, that is, during the season when the rivers are more or less in flood, their possible utility is necessarily limited; though even thus limited, they suffice, in a very short time, entirely to change the aspect of the country permeated by them. In addition however to this limitation of period, there is an amount of uncertainty necessarily attending them, consequent on the fluctuations in the rise of the rivers, from year to year, more especially in their higher portions, as well as a liability in the mouths to get filled up, or cut away from changes in the course of the

latter, which in many parts renders reliance on them very precarious, and everywhere renders the application of matured engineering skill very essential for their proper maintenance. The Shahpûr canals, especially that formed by Sâhib Khan Tiwanah, appear to have been hitherto more than usually successful and permanent, but difficulties are already beginning to be felt, and when a Deputy Commissioner succeeds, less remarkably qualified for supervising such operations, than Captain Davies undoubtedly is, I feel assured that it will become as necessary here, as elsewhere, to place the management of these canals under the Irrigation Department.

6. The existence of no less than 270 mounds in the centre of the Bâr of the "Jach" Doab, indicative of the former existence of villages and towns where all is now desolation, is a very interesting and remarkable fact; and as the same state of things occurs in the Rechna and Bâri Doabs, there can be no doubt that at a remote period, the circumstances of a large portion of the Panjâb were very different from what they are now. The fact mentioned by Captain Davies, that the remains of old wells exist, of which the masonry walls go not down nearly to the depth that is now indispensable, appears clearly to show that the water level was higher than at present, as compared with the surface; though whether this was the result of the course of the rivers being then different, of the annual rain-fall being larger, of the level of the soil having been raised by subterraneous forces or otherwise, or whether the phenomenon is the result of other causes, it would be difficult now to determine. It may be that in different parts, the present desolation has resulted from different causes, and in some places (as at Pâk Pattan) successive remains of towns have been met with, in digging for wells &c., each lying many feet below the superjacent layer, sometimes as much as 60 and 70 feet below. But whatever be the explanation, it seems certain that until an elaborate system of artificial irrigation is introduced, the productiveness of soil, and density of population, which once existed, are no longer to be looked for.

7. Captain Davies has not confined his efforts after improvement to the plain portions of his district, capable of being more or less irrigated by canals and wells, but he has given much attention also to the hill portions. The lines of communication between them and the plains, are in a very different state now, from what they were a few

years ago: gardens have been established, and rest-houses built; where fertilizing streams are available, tea culture has been tried, and pine and other hill seeds introduced and sown; while the hill sanatorium of Sakésar, at an elevation of about 5,000 feet, has become greatly improved under his care, and the access to it greatly facilitated, so that this station has now become as great a boon to the European officers of the Shahpûr district and the Cis-Indus portion of Bannu, as Shekh Buddin is to those of the Derajât, and is likely to become yet more so. He has also conferred a great benefit on the occupants of the hill tract, and facilitated its future administration, by having maps carefully prepared on a large scale of the several hill streams, of which the monsoon waters are embanked for the supply of adjoining fields, and having all claims thereto recorded on the spot, whereby it may be hoped that a cause of unceasing contention in the past, has been effectually put an end to for the future.

8. Passing on to the financial and administrative results of the settlement, it may be remarked, that while the portion of it effected under Mr. Ouseley's orders, which was carried out on the old system of large establishments, working very deliberately, and employed exclusively on settlement work, has cost 53 *per cent.* of one year's jamma, the portion completed by Captain Davies, in which the existing district establishments were more largely employed, the work being performed by them in addition to their ordinary duties, from the Deputy Commissioner downwards, has cost but 12 *per cent.* The amount of the assessment arrived at, tells strongly in favor of the appropriateness and moderation of the last summary settlement, the new assessment being in the aggregate nearly identical with the old, showing a decrease on the latter of 3 *per cent.*; this reduction, moreover, occurs exclusively in the hilly portion, while even this small amount is more than made up by increase of income from grazing dues levied on the waste marked off as Government rakhs. Inequalities doubtless existed, which have been rectified, and the beneficial effects which may be looked for from the settlement as now revised, may be gathered from the fact that Mr. Ouseley's assessments have been collected now for a series of years with the utmost facility, and that cultivation, irrigation, and general improvement in the circumstances of the people, have taken place to a marked extent; while as regards the portion settled by

Captain Davies, the fact mentioned in the 244th para. of his report, that within two years, no less than 276 plots of land have been redeemed from mortgage, is most encouraging and hopeful; and the statement that the semi-nomad races inhabiting the Thalls (para. 201) are by their own confession inclining to more settled habits than heretofore, indicates that agriculture has become more remunerative and better appreciated than heretofore.

9. Captain Davies admits that as regards the portion of the district settled by him, he has assumed one-third of the nett proceeds only as the Government revenue, instead of one-half as prescribed by existing rules; and he assigns as a reason for this (para. 237) that throughout the tract in question, the harvests are entirely dependent on the rain-fall. It certainly admits of question, whether this argument applies to the Sailâb lands near the river, or to any portion where wells for irrigation are really effective. But the revenue rates fixed by him on the several classes of soil and cultivation appear, considering the circumstances of that part of the Shahpûr district, to be fair and reasonable, as compared with the assessments of other tracts; and seeing how liable to error are all the detailed methods of ascertaining nett proceeds, this is perhaps the safest criterion by which to judge. Under any circumstances, there can be no doubt that in so remote and little favored a tract, it is far wiser to keep our assessments very low, than to fix them at an amount which might prove in the least degree oppressive.

10. Another special cause assigned by him (see para. 221) for fixing the assessment of lands in the Salt Range at a low amount, with reference to their great fertility, is that the population of those parts (26,607 souls to 46,000 culturable acres) is excessive; a ground for reduction which the Commissioner does not consider to be valid. It is certain that in theory the argument cannot hold good. But in a country where equal division of ancestral property amongst the heirs is the rule, the only really salutary mode in which the evil of excessive sub-division can be checked, appears to be by encouraging the more prosperous to purchase out their poorer brethren, and thus to enable the latter to seek employment in other parts, or in other occupations; and this is more likely to take place if a good margin of profit be left for accumulation by the more provident, than if all be restricted to a bare sufficiency for subsistence. It would I think be a wise policy on the part of Government to adopt every available measure that may appear calculated to lead the surplus agricultural population to resort to

other employments; and as one means toward that end, I think that light assessments in highly peopled tracts are by no means inappropriate.

11. The further cause assigned by Captain Davies, however, (in his 222nd para.)* for light assessments, viz. the progressive tendency towards a rise in prices, should lead to an opposite conclusion;—as the money value of agricultural produce, and with it the cultivator's power of paying an enhanced revenue, must thus increase in like manner with the prices of other commodities. That this general rise of prices, or what is the same thing, a general fall in the value of money, is rapidly taking place, there can be no doubt;—not as Captain Davies supposes owing to large influx of silver, which is the effect, not the cause, of this rise, but owing to the other causes mentioned by him—the extension of trade, opening out of improved means of communication, increase and progress of large engineering works and other undertakings, and general advance in the productive powers of the country. That this fall in the value of money will continue to increase owing to these causes, if peace and prosperity be maintained, until its value with relation to labor becomes more on a par with the state of things existing in England, there can be no reasonable doubt. But so far from this being a ground for lowering assessments, it is the argument widely urged against permanently fixing assessments in cash, on the ground that two or three generations hence, the existing assessments will probably not represent more than a fraction of their present value.

12. The method of assessing the Bâr lands of villages for the period of settlement according to the number of cattle possessed by them at the time of settlement, the area to be included therein having been previously determined on the same ground, appears without doubt to be the correct one. This method was first suggested, it would seem, by Mr. Edward Thornton, when Commissioner. It is essentially just, and appears in practice to operate with much better effect, than the system still prevailing in some other parts, of levying a grazing tax on these lands or on the villagers, the aggregate amount of which fluctuates with the number of cattle possessed by them, or grazed on their lands. Greater contentment has been secured by this arrangement; as there is no further interference with the villagers, who can allow the cattle of out-siders to graze on their lands if they think fit, appropriating the grazing dues paid by them; and where

* Since this minute was written, Captain Davies has explained that he did not intend to convey the meaning that high prices were a reason for low assessments; but only to signify that they were one circumstance among many to be taken into consideration in fixing the assessment.

any portions of the lands in question are culturable, the inclination to bring such portions under the plough is becoming stronger.

13. The mode in which the claims, in respect to waste lands of Government, acting on behalf of the public, have been asserted and defined in this settlement, is very satisfactory. As ordered by the Board of Administration, with the approval of the Supreme Government, in the 9th para. of the enclosure of their Circular No. 15 of 1st March 1852,—after making a most liberal allowance for the grazing and other requirements of each village, all waste land in excess of this has been marked off as Government preserves or rakh lands, and these now amount in the Shahpûr district, to 4,99,784 acres, from which an annual grazing income of Rs. 23,000 or upwards is obtained.* In the Thall in particular, the task of demarcation appears to have proved a somewhat difficult and delicate one; and both Mr. Ouseley and Captain Davies appear to have executed it with much judgment. The wooded slopes and pastures of the Salt Range, over portions of which cattle from all adjoining villages graze, have also been now for the first time declared to be Government preserves; thus following the example set by Mr. Arthur Brandroth in the adjoining district of Jhelum. Existing grazing rights have been maintained, and there can, I think, be no doubt that the measure will prove highly advantageous in all ways.

14. Wherever this work of demarcating of Government preserves remains in other districts unaccomplished, the earliest opportunity should without doubt be taken advantage of for carrying it out, and it is much to be regretted that the matter has not been kept in view everywhere from the first. This remark applies more especially to those hill tracts in which the claims of Government have not been asserted, save as regards standing timber. Thus, in Kângra, where the demarcation of village boundaries was effected on a different principle from that adopted in Kamâon, and in the adjoining portions of territory under the management of the Deputy Commissioner of Simla and Superintendent Hill States, no reservation has been made on account of Government; but the entire area of forest and waste has been parcelled out amongst the adjoining villages. Much of the

* I agree with the Financial Commissioner and other officers in thinking it advisable that the grazing dues be farmed out to selected parties, for periods exceeding a year, in preference to putting them up annually to auction.

demarcation of those tracts was probably completed before the issue of the Board's Circular above alluded to, while that Circular was not at the time considered to apply to the Trans Sutlej Division, which had been under British Administration three years previous to the formation of the Board ; but it may in my opinion still be considered an open question, whether this matter should not be reconsidered on the next revision of settlement in that district.

15. It is however very essential to bear in mind that the circumstances of waste and forest lands in most hill tracts, differ essentially from those of Government waste lands in the Bâr. In the latter, unless perhaps in exceptional cases, where a preferential claim to lease or purchase may be allowed, the people of the adjoining villages cannot be considered as having any claim ; as, although their cattle, in common with those of others, may have grazed on them, their right to do so has been of the most undefined character, being shared, in fact, with the public at large. In the hills, however, the case is very different ; for there, the use for grazing purposes of a large portion at least of the waste lands in question, is an absolute necessity to the adjoining villages ; and it will usually, I believe, be found that recognized portions of them have always been allotted to and made use of by certain adjoining villages, either separately or in common, so that if Government were to consider itself at liberty to dispose of these at discretion, there can be no doubt that great hardship and wrong might be inflicted.

16. In respect to such lands therefore, Government must be regarded merely as trustee, primarily on behalf of the adjoining villages, and generally on behalf of the public, only after the wants or vested interests of the former have been fully provided for. In one case, which occurred some years ago, during my incumbency of the post of Financial Commissioner, a plot of Government waste on the Salt Range was assigned as a grant to a retired native officer, without, I believe, due consideration having been given to the above view of the matter. This was in my opinion a mistake, and accordingly, the case in question should not be allowed to form a precedent for the future.

17. Great pains appear to have been taken throughout these settlement operations, to allow the distribution of the demand, adjustment of shares, and all internal details connected with the village record, to be

determined, as far as possible, by the people themselves, so that existing recognized usages should be nowhere interfered with; and so far as this principle may have been really carried out, the record cannot but prove satisfactory. It appears to be admitted, on all hands, that the prevailing and almost universal tenure, in this district, is the Bhayachâra; and where attempts have been made to establish claims to ancestral shares, they have been usually rejected. It is remarkable with what tenacity ancestral claims have been urged, and how freely they have been conceded in most parts of the Panjâb, notwithstanding vicissitudes which have vastly altered the state of actual holdings, from that of ancestral title. But, nevertheless, the tendency of all village systems must be more or less to lead to the formation of coparcenaries, in which actual possession alone determines the share. And from the unanimity which exists upon the point, it may be presumed that in Shahpûr, this state of things has undoubtedly been arrived at. This being the case, I think it must be conceded, that the share of waste likewise has been rightly adjudged in the ratio of actual holding.

18. The precaution adopted throughout, from Mr. Ouseley's time, of giving each individual concerned an extract from the record relating to him, is the only one which can ensure a cognizance on the part of every one, of what has been determined in respect to him, and this practice, added to the most important and essential one of having measurements made by Patwâries, who are resident and responsible, instead of by Amîns, who are for the most part strangers, afford the best guarantees that the record is a *bonâ fide* one, and in a great measure to be relied on. It is greatly to the credit of Mr. Ouseley and his successor, that in this comparatively secluded quarter, the Patwâries have been so efficiently trained as they appear to have been, and the care taken by Captain Davies to have their Shajrahs prepared on a scale which bears a fixed and convenient ratio to that of the survey village maps, is worthy of commendation. The plan first introduced by Mr. Arthur Brandreth, and adopted by Captain Davies, of having these Shajrahs prepared in separate sheets, appears also to be deserving of the attention of officers elsewhere.

19. The fact, incidentally mentioned (para. 276 of Report) that the Awâns, who are believed to be of purely Mahomedan descent, have an

especially strong objection to landed property being inherited through females, appears somewhat remarkable, as the sentiment is usually supposed to emanate from the tenets of Hindû law alone. But I have observed the same amongst the pure Pathâns of the Jalandhar Doâb; and it seems probable, that in all countries which have in time past been continuously under Hindû rule, or the rule of Mahomedans sprung from Hindûs, who invariably cling to their ancestral usages, this feeling is prevalent. Another fact of a somewhat analagous character is mentioned in para. 300, which is in like manner remarkable, viz. that the usage of "Chûnda vand," by which the off-spring of each wife separately inherits an equal share of the ancestral property with the offspring of each other wife, which usage is commonly considered to appertain exclusively to a section of Hindûs and Sikhs only, is exceptionally prevalent amongst Sayads, Qurêshies, and Pathâns, the last two of whom at least may be presumed to be of purely Mahomedan descent.

20. I do not think it necessary, in this place, to dwell at length on the much vexed question of hereditary tenants. But the remarks of Mr. Ouseley on this point (para. 253) are valuable, and the interests of all appear to have been carefully considered, and (*vide* para. 361) for the most part suitably provided for. That those who have broken up wastes, or who from ancient incumbency or special causes have attained a prominent and favored position, are everywhere regarded as having special claims to consideration; and that to regard all cultivators as on precisely the same footing, would be unjust, there can be no doubt whatever; but what form their special privileges should take, in accordance with the feelings and usages of the people, is a point on which great differences of opinion exist; and as this matter is being separately considered, in communication with the Supreme Government, further remark would be out of place here.

21. The person designated throughout the Rawalpindi division "Mâlik Maqbûzah," or proprietor of his own holding, a designation first introduced, it is believed, by Mr. Edward Thornton, when Commissioner, must be regarded as in fact the highest and most privileged class of hereditary tenant; and although, as a consequence of the obliteration of previously established distinctions, resulting from the levelling system followed by Sikh Governors, the claim to this designation has probably been somewhat too readily conceded by Mr. Ouseley; the creation of this special

class will probably prove beneficial, especially where their precise position and rights have been sufficiently defined, which has not perhaps been everywhere the case. I am much opposed myself to all arbitrary alterations of existing usage or status, however expedient those alterations may appear to us; and there is, I think, much force made by the Commissioner in paras. 27 and 28 of his letter, and by Financial Commissioner, in the latter part of para. 12 of his memorandum. Much of Mr. Ouseley's work was performed at a time when the parties concerned had by no means attained to a full cognizance of their rights or of their value, and it is quite possible that a reconsideration of some portions of his conclusions may hereafter become necessary.

22. Before quitting the subject of the record, it may be well briefly to allude to the usage which prevails on the Thelum, of villages holding lands on both banks, a usage which appears to be peculiar to this river (para. 312). Captain Davies has rendered good service in elucidating this matter, though, as remarked by the Commissioner (para. 32 of his letter), difficulties in regard to boundary may still arise, where a village does not possess lands on both sides; and it seems expedient that the precautions suggested by him be adopted, on receipt of plans of the river from Surveyor General's office. Captain Davies has also adopted an excellent arrangement, in introducing another clause into the record, defining the principles on which claims to lands recovered from the river shall be adjudicated in each village, this being frequently a subject of endless contention, if not thus provided for beforehand. The 10 *per cent.* rule, I may add, referred to in his 310th para., may be a convenient one in a large number of cases, as obviating the necessity for enquiry in every case, however trifling; but it has very rightly been ignored in cases where its application would be productive of obvious hardship. The above per-centage appears a somewhat high one to adopt, and it might perhaps be advantageous to substitute 5 *per cent.* for it.

23. Although the Commissioner considers that the reduction of Village administration. Lambardârs effected by Captain Davies was quite proper, yet I incline to the opinion of the Financial Commissioner (para. 14 of his memorandum) that if serious dissatisfaction has resulted, even amongst a small section, the measure is to be regretted. It would, I concur with him in thinking, have been better to allow any

excess in their number to be gradually absorbed, especially as the creation of a principal Lambardâr or Head-man, has very greatly diminished, if it have not entirely removed, the evils formerly resulting from a multiplicity of Lambardârs. I cannot entirely concur with the Financial Commissioner in the opinion which he appears to entertain, that the importance of these village functionaries has materially diminished since the time of the Sikhs; for, although their influence is no longer required for the purpose of rack-renting, yet their services can be rendered most valuable, if duly made use of, in respect to everything which relates to the social interests of the people, and their relations with the Government. The position which the post affords them is still so much valued that its possession is eagerly competed for, and it is of importance that every section of the village community which has, or believes it has, interests apart from the rest, should be separately represented: as a Lambardâr thrust upon those who do not desire him can do but little good, and may do harm.

24. The creation of a principal representative in each village, selected out of the Lambardârs already existing, who shall be ordinarily the channel of communication with Government, and to whom the other Lambardârs shall be subordinate, a superior allowance or *inâm* being granted him, to meet the requirements of his position, is, in my opinion, one of the most important measures connected with the internal administration, which has yet been introduced into this province. And I am glad to observe that Colonel Lake, though objecting to some of the details, expresses, in the 15th para. of his memorandum, approval of the measure generally. It was first proposed by Mr. Arthur Brandreth, and has been carried out with great energy and success in the Amritsar Division, by Mr. Edward Prinsep and his subordinates engaged in the settlements. The state of comparative uselessness, to which the office of Lambardâr had been reduced, by the number of independent functionaries existing in the great majority of villages, has thus been effectually remedied; all are now under local control; while a spirit of emulation has been excited amongst them, and the intercourse of Government authorities with the people greatly facilitated and simplified.

25. In the Amritsar Division, the village quorum consisting of the Lambardârs and their head, has become the lowest member of an ascending series of administrative bodies, culminating in the principal panchâyat

of the district, all receiving some remuneration, in the shape of inâms or allowances, and all being entrusted with functions, however inconsiderable, sufficient to secure them influence and respect amongst their respective communities. The eagerness resulting from this organization, to initiate and promote projects for the amelioration of the people, and co-operation with the Government officers, has been there most remarkable, especially in Syâlkôt; and I trust that efforts, more or less successful, are being made to introduce arrangements more or less analogous elsewhere. I do not gather, from the present report, that this remark applies to Shahpûr, but the foundation has been laid, and the matter will not, I trust, be lost sight of here or elsewhere. Very much must necessarily depend upon the judgment with which such arrangements are carried out in each locality, but I believe them to contain the germ of the only system of partial self government which is at present practicable in this province, and to be eminently congenial to the instincts of the people in most parts of it.

26. Entertaining these views, I very greatly regret the extent to zamîndâri and other imâns have been heretofore resumed or allowed to lapse; and, believing as I do, that at a very small sacrifice, they afford us a great increase of power, I regard with great satisfaction efforts such as Captain Davies has made, appropriately to restore them, or to create substitutes for them. The Financial Commissioner, in the 15th para. of his memorandum, objects to the arrangement by which the 5 per cent. levied from inferior proprietors is made over to the head Lambardâr, as being illegal. That cess, if not thus appropriated, would have formed a fund to be distributed among the proprietary body generally. Granting, therefore, that Government has a right to call upon proprietors to pay the cost of such administrative arrangements as it may deem necessary for the village, the cost may as well be taken from this as from any other portion of the general receipts; so that the measure is not, in my opinion, chargeable with illegality; while it has this advantage, that being a cess newly introduced, its loss is not felt by the community, or the popularity of the institution of head Lambardâr jeopardized, to such an extent as might have been the case if a fresh demand had been made on the pre-existing assets of the village.

27. It should be borne in mind at the same time, that as the inâm of the head Lambardâr, in whatever mode realized, forms a deduction

from the nett assets, of which Government claims one half as revenue, the community in reality pay but one half of the charge, Government bearing the other half. But seeing that there is no necessary connexion between the claims of the head Lambardâr, and the number of inferior proprietors who may happen to exist in the village, I agree with the Financial Commissioner in thinking, that the arrangement made in this matter at the outset, should not be continued as a permanent one; but that in future revisions of settlement, when the new office will have become familiar, whatever extra allowance the head Lambardâr receives, shall be regarded simply as a deduction from the assets of the village, in common with the 5 *per cent.* theretofore fixed for the Lambardârs generally.

28. The tabular statements annexed to the report, contain many

Appendices to Report.

details of interest. No. II shows how largely wheat is cultivated, in excess of barley and all other cereals; a fact which I should have hardly expected in a district so circumstanced. The proportional area allotted to turnips is also unusually large, and the same may be said in regard to sweet melons, to which the sandy tracts across the Jhelum are especially suited. The area covered with poppy is entered as 708 acres only; while in the 6th para. of the Commissioner's letter it is stated to be 3,000 acres; which, seeing how large a quantity of opium is exported from this district, seems the more likely. The price realized being about Rs. 10 per seer (not per maund as entered in the above para. of Commissioner's letter), it cannot be doubted that this article contributes largely to the increasing wealth and prosperity of the district; and the fact remarked upon by Financial Commissioner, in para. 8 of his memorandum, that the monopoly of sale appears not to tell so injuriously as in other districts in which the same system of yearly farm prevails, is no doubt attributable to the circumstance, which is remarkable in itself, that whereas the only product of the plant in the latter is the poppy-head, an article so bulky as to preclude extensive export, the poppy in Shahpûr yields opium of excellent quality, and in general demand, so that if the monopolist should attempt to be oppressive, the grower would export his produce, instead of selling it on the spot.

29. In statement No. III, which gives the population of the district, there appear to be some errors both in the numerical entries,

and in the headings of the columns. Thus, as respects the former, the aggregate number of adult Mahomedan males appears to be 45,013, and not 54,013, while, as respects the latter, the ratios given are not those of men to women, but of women to men.

The following abstract appears to show the results given in this statement:—

Statistics of Sexes in the Shahpûr District.

Adult Population.

SEXES.	MAHOMEDAN.				HINDU.			
	Agricultural.		Non-Agricultural.		Agricultural.		Non-Agricultural.	
	Num- bers.	Ratios.	Num- bers.	Ratios.	Num- bers.	Ratios.	Num- bers.	Ratios.
Males,	45,013	100	39,134	100	2,064	100	17,240	100
Females,	36,439	81	33,657	86	1,477	71	14,756	85

Non-Adult population.

Males (boys), ...	28,626	100	21,890	100	1,060	100	7,493	100
Females (girls), ...	25,520	89	20,369	93	859	81	7,073	94

Total Population.—Adult and Non-Adult.

Males, ...	73,639	100	61,024	100	3,124	100	24,733	100
Females, ...	61,959	84	54,026	88	2,336	74	21,820	88

Total of Mahomedans and Hindûs respectively.

	Numbers.	Ratios.	Numbers.	Ratios.
Males, ...	1,34,663	100	27,857	100
Females, ...	1,15,985	86	24,165	86½

Total of all classes.

	Numbers.	Ratios.
Males, ...	1,62,520	100
Females, ...	1,40,150	86

and the remarkable fact is elicited from it, that in every case the ratio of females to males is greatest in the non-agricultural classes, whether adult or juvenile, Mahomedan or Hindû. The state of indigenous education amongst this population of 3,02,670 persons, as shown in statement No. IV, is not very encouraging; as there are but 233 schools, of which no less than 211 are held in mosques or dharmshâlas, and but 4,016 pupils, of whom 3,320 learn only Arabic, which, in their cases can mean little or nothing more than committing the Qurân to memory.

30. Statements Nos. VI and VII show the area of the district and its distribution, from which it appears, as before remarked, that less than one-fifth of the culturable land only is under the plough, nearly one half of which is irrigated. That each proprietor possesses, on the average, less than 10 acres, each cultivator $4\frac{1}{2}$, the latter class occupying less than one-third of the cultivated land, and about one-fifth of their number having been declared hereditary. The average extent of land cultivated by one plough appears to be about $8\frac{1}{2}$ acres, so that one plough of land in the average, nearly suffices for two cultivators. Statements Nos. VIII and IX show the extent of jagîr and mâfi lands, aggregating something less than half a lakh of rupees in yearly income, of which lands, yielding about 30,000 rupees per annum, have been released in perpetuity. It is remarkable that in a district of which Hindûs form but one-fifth of the population, the endowments granted to Hindû institutions are 9 times the value of those to Mahomedan ones. The maps which accompany this report are truly admirable, and although they do not contain all the copious statistical details shown in the elaborate maps which accompany Mr. Prinsep's Syâlkôt Settlement Report, there is no other report save that one, which has been so excellently illustrated, as this of Shahpûr has been by Captain Davies.

31. I entirely concur in the very high encomiums passed on Mr.

Concluding Remarks. Gore Ouseley, in respect to his portion of the settlement of this district. That gentleman possessed

in an eminent degree, the very valuable characteristic of warm sympathy for the people, whose interests were entrusted to him, an attribute more keenly appreciated by orientals when they discover it in their foreign rulers, than any other; and as he added to this, great intelligence, diligence, and an aptitude for communicating with them, it can well be understood how his memory is regarded with affection and respect by all

classes; while the experience of several years which have elapsed since he left this province, attests the substantial character of the work performed by him. The work which he commenced, has been completed by Captain Davies, as Colonel Lake remarks, in a masterly manner. The mode, too, in which he has combined in his report, into a more or less homogeneous whole, the details of settlements effected by different hands, under very different circumstances, and at intervals of many years, is highly creditable to him, paying, at the same time, as he does, a generous and graceful tribute to the merits of his predecessor, and acknowledging the aid he has derived from him.

32. I request, accordingly, that the acknowledgments of this Government may be conveyed to both these officers; as well as to Extra Assistant Moti Lâl; and to Bakhtâwar Lâl, Tehsildar, and Harbans Lâl, Nâib Tehsildar; who have taken so prominent and effective a part in carrying this settlement to completion, and have been especially commended by them. Râm Sahâi and Mîr Ghulâm Husain should also be borne in mind, when suitable opportunities occur for evincing the sense entertained of their services. That the settlement now completed will, in a few years, with the extension of canals, wells, and cultivation, prove very light, I have no doubt; but in a tract so circumstanced this is very desirable; and as I have no doubt as to the care and judgment with which the assessment has been made, I sanction the continuance of the whole, without revision, until the official year 1880-81, which will, I think, under existing circumstances suffice. The Commissioner suggests the Sambat year 1930, which corresponds with 1873; but in such documents, the official year should invariably be employed.

(Signed) D. F. McLEOD.

Lieut. Governor Punjab.

27th August 1867.

