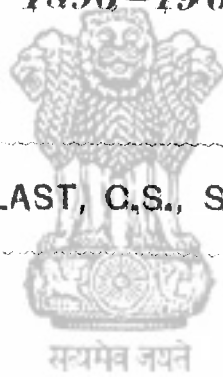


**FINAL REPORT**  
**ON THE**  
**SETTLEMENT**  
**OF THE**  
**SHAHJEHANPUR DISTRICT,**  
**1896-1900,**

By W. A. W. LAST, C.S., Settlement Officer,



**ALLAHABAD:**

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FROM

THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE,  
N.-W. PROVINCES AND OUDH,

TO

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,  
N.-W. PROVINCES AND OUDH,  
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

*Dated Naini Tal, the 25th June 1901.*

SIR,

DEPARTMENT I.

Settlement of Land  
Revenue.

*Present:*

The HON'BLE MR. H. F.  
EVANS, C.S.I.

I AM directed to submit, for the information and orders of Government, the final report on the recent re-settlement of the Sháhjahánpur\* district, together with the Commissioner of Rohilkhand's review of that report.

2. The district is one which from the beginning of British rule can scarcely be said to have ever been in a completely satisfactory condition as regards its land-revenue assessments. The earlier settlements appear from the report made by the Board of Commissioners in 1818 to have been severe, and Mr. J. W. Muir, who made the first long-term settlement in 1838-39, found the district "labouring under the pressure of a very heavy assessment." The sole object kept in view had been the enhancement of the demand, the great mass of the proprietors were in circumstances of extreme indigence, collections were made with great difficulty, and the wonder was that the State demand was realized at all.

3. The result of Mr. Muir's revision was to reduce the assessment from Rs. 10,22,324 to Rs. 9,75,273†. This settlement, in its turn, was not considered to be at all light, and in its earlier years worked by no means smoothly; but when the time came for its revision, though its incidence was considered to have been uneven, it was pronounced to have been a good settlement, and not only to have saved the district from impending ruin, but to have given a healthy impetus to industry and improvement.

4. Such at least was the verdict of Mr. Robert Currie to whom it fell to make the settlement of 1870 which has just expired. Mr. Currie had previously settled the Bulandshahr district, and, influenced not improbably by the adverse criticism which the lightness of the assessments in that district had evoked, as well as by the signs of increased prosperity which the new district exhibited, he came to the conclusion that a considerable enhancement of land revenue was called for. It must also be remembered, in this connection, that the position taken up by the Government at that time, and which found expression in the orders of 13th September 1873 and 5th June 1874, was that where a mahál had previously been highly assessed the assessment was not in ordinary cases to be lowered to half assets on purely arithmetical grounds, but that if the assessment had worked well it should not be lowered at all, while if it had worked ill the demand should be lowered, though not necessarily to the full extent of half assets.

5. The outcome, then, of Mr. Currie's revision was an enhancement of the demand to Rs. 11,84,425—a rise of 21·45 per cent. The settlement was reported by the Board in 1876 with a high eulogium upon the manner in which the operations had been conducted. The Government Resolution of five years later (26th January 1881) considered that the rates selected were low, that the tendency to a rise then apparent would be increased by the improvements in the means of communication recently made, that the claims of landholders and tenants had been treated with prudence, and that it was abundantly clear that a 30 years' settlement should be sanctioned.

\* This is the authorized spelling of the name of this district and not the variant adopted by Mr. Last throughout his report. Similarly Jellalabad should have been Jalalabad.

† These are the figures given by Mr. Last. In paragraph 54 of Mr. Currie's Settlement Report and in the Gazetteer slightly higher figures are given.

6. There had indeed been complaints of unduly heavy assessments before this, but they were considered to be without any real foundation. The Raja of Pawayan, for instance, is noted in the Government Resolution to which reference has just been made to have repeatedly complained that the Pawayan pargana had been over-assessed, but after full enquiry his petition had been rejected in 1878. Remissions, too, had been found necessary every year since the introduction of the new demand; but they had not been sufficiently large to attract attention, except possibly in 1875-76 (when they amounted to not far short of quarter of a lakh), and though the balances had been considerable, they were fully accounted for by the famine of 1877-79, which in this district was of exceptional severity. Down to the time of the issue of the Resolution of 1881, therefore, there had been no special ground for anxiety. As late as 1882 Mr. H. P. Mulock, the Collector, recorded that though the district had suffered from flood, famine, fever and cattle disease, as well as drought, and there had in consequence been a fall in the cultivated area, yet the blame was in no wise to be laid at the door of the settlement: the fact was "it had never had fair play."

7. In the first five years of this decade (1880-1889), however, considerable reductions had to be sanctioned over and above the yearly tale of remissions. The assessments of the Khutar pargana appear to have been the first to attract attention, and reductions amounting to Rs. 5,675 were sanctioned in 1882. In the following year the Tilhar assessments were reduced by Rs. 2,184. The charge of the Pawayan estate having been assumed by the Court of Wards, as the result of five years' management it was incontestably shown that the estate had been over-assessed, and in 1886 reductions were made amounting to Rs. 6,580. Other estates were also reported to be over-assessed; transfers were common; and complaints of the severity of the demand continued to come in. Year by year much trouble was experienced in collecting it, and recourse to the severer processes became more common.\* This state of things continued down through the nineties, and in 1894-95 the abnormally high number of 21 properties were sold by auction for the recovery of arrears.

8. In 1895 when, in the usual course, a forecast of the probable results of a revision of the settlement was prepared, it was reported that the number of over-assessed estates was undoubtedly considerable, and that though in the whole district an enhancement of from half a lakh to a lakh of rupees might be obtained, practically the only reason for recommending a revision was the necessity for rectifying the widespread inequalities of the existing demand. The Director estimated the then existing cultivated area at 739,793 acres, and, giving as the cultivated area of the previous settlement 732,522 acres, remarked that there had been virtually no extension of cultivation since then.† From the district returns it appears that the cultivated area was—

						Acres.
in 1889-90	...	...	...	...	...	728,737
in 1890-91	...	...	...	...	...	730,966
in 1891-92	...	...	...	...	...	734,723
in 1892-93	...	...	...	...	...	742,742
in 1893-94	...	...	...	...	...	748,949
in 1894-95	...	...	...	...	...	710,831

For assessment purposes the returns of 1895-96 have been taken for the Sháhjabánpur and Jalalabad tahsils, and those of 1896-97 for the Tilhar and Pawayan tahsils. The cultivated area so obtained is given in paragraph 26 of the report as 689,644 acres.‡ The exact cultivated area for either 1895-96 or 1896-97 cannot be

\* The statement of processes given in the report is wanting in succinctness. Several of the columns give particulars entirely irrelevant to the matter under consideration.

† The figures given for last settlement do not agree with those given in the settlement report (740,204 acres) or those given by Mr. Last (746,977 acres).

‡ In Appendix I it is given as 684,699 acres. The difference is due to the exclusion in column 19 of Appendix I of 4,945 acres of cultivation in revenue-free properties. The area 730,288 acres in column 14 of Appendix III includes 51,482 acres of land stated to be uncultivated but included in tenants' holdings. The remainder, 678,746 acres, is the cultivated area by that statement. Appendix IV gives the cultivated area as 729,058-49,931 or 679,127 acres. In both these appendices the cultivated land in revenue-free maháls has been excluded. No explanation has been given by the Settlement Officer of these discrepancies. The area given in paragraph 26, however, agrees with the figures given by the crop returns, and is more likely to be correct than the others.

given, as the patwaris during this period in some part of the district or another were engaged on survey work. While therefore the cultivated area returned by the Settlement Officer does not represent the minimum cultivated area reached during the famine, the extent of the difference cannot be accurately known, though it may be put conjecturally at 20,000 acres, giving as the minimum cultivated area of the district 670,000 acres. The exact figures are not a matter of any great moment, as the year in question was entirely exceptional in character. Suffice it to say that between the date of the forecast and the date on which the new assessments were introduced, the district had to pass through a severe crisis. Never showing a clear balance sheet, or even a balance sheet which did not involve remissions, the district has required, in the very last years of the expiring settlement, larger remissions than ever, and even then showed large outstanding balances. To this it has now to be added that, as the result of the recent famine and the famine of 20 years previously, the population of the district is now 30,000 less than it was 30 years ago.

9. Such is the history of the last settlement, and such the state in which the district was found on the eve of the revision. Before considering how that revision has been carried out, it may be convenient to note that seeing that a re-distribution of the existing demand was mainly what was required, the Director of Land Records and Agriculture recommended a summary revision of the assessments based upon the village records. The Board, after having preliminary investigations made in two parganas, agreed to the proposal, and the revision of the assessments in this manner was sanctioned by Government, and Mr. W. A. W. Last was appointed Settlement Officer towards the end of 1896. The scheme of summary revision proposed was the natural outcome of the procedure successfully followed in some of the Oudh settlements, and would have dispensed entirely with a revision of the record of rights. In 1897 however, after the question had been considered in connection with the subject of the Meerut settlement, it was ordered that a complete attestation of the Sháhjahánpur records should be undertaken. The original scheme was therefore abandoned, and the whole machinery of a regular settlement brought into play. The starting of attestation work at this period was not without its difficulties; but it will be better to postpone any further notice of this portion of the work until after the assessment work has been considered and its results discussed.

10. How Mr. Last has carried out this task is to be judged only from a perusal of his detailed assessment statements and from a critical examination of the results which he has obtained. The assessments have been scrutinized by the Commissioner, by the Board, and by Government, and the Commissioner (Mr. Cruickshank) has exhibited in a tabular statement the various alterations which have been made in the Settlement Officer's proposals. It is highly to Mr. Last's credit that though his assessments were subjected to such minute and detailed examination, the superior revenue authorities should have found it necessary to make so inconsiderable a modification of his assessments. It remains to examine the statistics exhibited in his final report.

11. The area on which the assessment is based is composed of about four-fifths held by tenants at cash-rents and one-fifth assumption area. The several component portions of these areas and their valuation are shown in Appendix VII to the report. These figures do not always agree with those given elsewhere in the report, but the variations are not of any magnitude and do not call for detailed consideration. It should be remarked however that neither the total areas nor the total rents recorded in the village papers are in any one instance the areas or the rents which have been accepted by the Settlement Officer. The variations are not explained; but in the case of the areas (with one exception) it is inferred that Mr. Last has excluded lands of which the cultivation is of a precarious and uncertain character, while the variation in the rentals is to be ascribed, in the case of non-occupancy tenants, to the rejection of unduly inflated rent-rolls and, in the case of occupancy tenants, to the levelling up of rents by the application of standard rates.

The exceptional variation in areas is the variation in the grain-rented area. In maháls in which the returns of the famine year showed a great fall in the cultivated area, it was considered necessary to make an addition in order that the settlement might be made upon something more nearly approaching the normal than these figures gave. As no separate column is provided for such additions, it is understood that Mr. Last has shown them as grain-rented areas. But this is misleading. It will be seen from Appendices III and IV that the grain-rented area throughout the district is insignificant. The difference between the actual grain-rented area 5,788 acres and the area 41,220 in column 6 of Appendix VII or about 35,500 acres is the addition made to the cultivated area of the year of verification to make a normal cultivated area for the purposes of assessment. The statement of assets (like other statements in the report) professes to give rates and incidences in rupees, annas and pies, but the figures are only worked out as far down as annas. In the remarks which follow they are given in rupees and decimals of a rupee. In Appendix VII it is also to be noted that the second entry against each description of soil is not of rupees, as stated, but of acres. The rental recorded as paid by tenants is only given in the total for the district and not by soils. The fact that rents are almost invariably lump rents renders it impossible to give details of actual rents for each class of soil.

12. The recorded rents of non-occupancy tenants amount to Rs. 10,71,008 for 314,749 acres, or Rs. 3·40 per acre: and those of occupancy tenants amount to Rs. 10,60,006 for 306,894 acres, or Rs. 3·45 per acre. The rental accepted by the Settlement Officer for the former is Rs. 9,73,334 for 306,253 acres, or Rs. 3·18 per acre, and for the latter Rs. 10,81,867 for 305,745 acres, or Rs. 3·54 per acre. As they stood recorded the rents in either case were much on a par, only differing by Re. ·05 per acre. As they stand after correction the non-occupancy rent is lowered by ·22 per acre and the occupancy (including ex-proprietary) rent is raised by ·09 per acre, so that the non-occupancy rate is Re. ·36 below the occupancy rate. The net result is that for the cash rental Rs. 20,55,201 is accepted in lieu of Rs. 21,31,014—a reduction of about Rs. 75,000. The all-round tenant rental incidence given by the recorded figures is Rs. 3·43 per acre and by the corrected figures Rs. 3·36 per acre.

13. Mr. Last has not attempted any analysis of the jamabandis, or explained to what extent they had to be rejected on account of excessive or concealed rentals, or what the incidence was in each case. He has however given in Appendix II a statement of demand and collections from which it appears that the records show 86·53 per cent. as collected and 13·47 per cent. as uncollected. Taking it that the short collections are the balances of occupancy and non-occupancy holdings alike, the recorded rental of non-occupancy tenants on the recorded area would require a reduction of ·46 per acre. The figures however may be erroneous, and in making an allowance of about half the above sum, after excluding the more precarious of the tenant areas, Mr. Last might well claim to have allowed a sufficiently liberal margin. Turning then to the occupancy rate. The non-occupancy rate being, so far as can be seen, fair, the occupancy valuation should also be fair, provided that the soil demarcation has been correctly done. It was remarked at last settlement that the occupancy tenants held the best land, and Mr. Last says that the same is the case now. As explained in paragraph 60, the correct relation between the rate of rent paid by occupancy and non-occupancy tenants for land of equal value is as 100 to 109. This explains why the occupancy rental is apparently higher than the non-occupancy rental; it is really about 8 per cent. lower. In this connection it is to be noted that, according to the analysis given by Mr. Last in the 55th paragraph of his report, the occupancy area took up 71 per cent. of the tenant area at last settlement. Before attestation (and Mr. Last's figures represent approximately the state of things before attestation) the percentage had shrunk

to 41. Thirty out of the 71 per cent. of the occupancy area of last settlement therefore had passed into the area treated by the Settlement Officer as the non-occupancy area (although a large portion of it was subsequently found at attestation to be held with a right of occupancy); and in the face of this it is somewhat surprising to find the occupancy rental after adjustment by the Settlement Officer so much ahead of the non-occupancy rental as Re. .36 per acre. It seems not at all improbable that the Settlement Officer's occupancy area, representing as it does all that survives of the occupancy area of last settlement, does contain the very best land in the district, and though the Settlement Officer's valuation gives the recorded occupancy rent without any allowance whatever for short collections with about Rs. 22,000 added thereto, there is no reason for inferring that it is unduly heavy. The rate is not in itself a high one, and with prices at their present level, or even appreciably below their present level, there should be no difficulty in enforcing its collection.

14. The assumption area (including the grain-rented area) is 124,516 acres. The component areas and the valuations taken are—

				Acres.	Rs.	Incidence.
Sir	...	...	...	69,840	2,35,359	3.37
Khudkásht	...	...	...	28,869	90,717	3.14
Grain-rented	...	...	...	21,276	41,220	1.93
Rent-free	...	...	...	4,531	14,855	3.28
Total				124,516	3,82,151	3.07

It is necessary again to mention that most of this so-called grain-rented area is really the area uncultivated at the time of the survey owing to the exceptional season of 1896-97, which the Settlement Officer has added to obtain a normal cultivated area and has therefore rightly assessed at a lenient rate.

15. To the assets thus obtained has been added a sum of Rs. 1,104 described as a "lump valuation added for sugarcane and opium," making the total rental assets Rs. 24,38,456 for 736,514 acres, equivalent to Rs. 3.31 per acre. Rs. 12,665 have also been added for sayar. The total assets are thus given as Rs. 24,51,121.

16. Improvements, the Settlement Officer says, he has seldom found it necessary to allow for: specially graduated assessments for 15 years have been allowed where there have been considerable reclamations of waste, but the deductions from assets on account of other improvements amount to Rs. 2,680 only.

17. The deductions on proprietary cultivation are shown as Rs. 34,196 only on Rs. 3,26,076 out of a maximum possible deduction of Rs. 81,519. It was not to be expected in a district in which many reductions of revenue had to be made, and many other assessments maintained as they were, that the allowances under this head would be large, but the matter is worth considering in the light of the variations in rents due to caste. References to this question will be found in the pargana assessment reports of last settlement, but no attempt was made to work out the percentage of variation for the district. In the present report there is a statement (Appendix VIII) which is intended to give an analysis of caste rents. It does not agree exactly with any other statement in the report, but taken for what it is worth it shows an advantage in favour of high-caste occupancy tenants of 9 annas per acre, or 15.52 per cent., and in favour of high-caste non-occupancy tenants of 4 annas per acre, or 7.14 per cent. The total low-caste rate being Rs. 3.54 per acre and the total high-caste rate Rs. 3.13 per acre, the difference is Re. .41 per acre in favour of the high-caste tenant, equivalent to 11.58 per cent. The full low-caste rate is exactly the rate which the Settlement Officer has adopted for the occupancy rate, and the same rate has been applied to the sir area and to the khudkasht area, allowing for the difference in soils. The sir and khudkasht valuations then being at full low-caste rates, 11.58, or say 11½ per cent., might have been deducted on account of caste from the circle rate valuation at Rs. 3,48,615, or rather over Rs. 40,000.

The full circle-rate valuations however have not been taken as assets, but a sum less than full circle rates by Rs. 22,539. Adding to this the *str* deductions amounting to Rs. 34,196, the total deductions on account of the proprietary cultivation are given as Rs. 56,735, equivalent to full caste deductions plus about 4·80 per cent. further allowance. So far then as assumption areas have been handled there is no ground for complaint.

18. The assets finally arrived at by the Settlement Officer are Rs. 24,14,245, upon which the full assessment imposed is Rs. 11,73,884, including Rs. 4,624 on account of revenue-free estates. The assets of the revenue-free estates are not separately given, and it is not correct to calculate the percentage of the revenue to be paid, Rs. 11,69,260, upon the combined assets of maháls both revenue-paying and revenue-free. The revenue-free area however being small, the percentage of the total revenue to the total assets will give practically the same percentage as the revenue payable to the assets of the revenue-paying maháls. This is 48·62 per cent.

19. This demand (Rs. 11,69,260) is the demand which will be finally realized if the revenue of the alluvial maháls and of the maháls for which short-term settlements have been specially sanctioned is the same 15 years hence as it is now. Mr. Currie's jama after all reductions subsequently made is given as Rs. 11,66,211. It appears however from the Board's administration report that the correct figures for the demand in the last year of the old settlement are Rs. 11,66,604. The gain to Government then after 15 years is shown as between two and three thousand rupees per annum.

20. The immediate effect of the settlement is to reduce the demand to Rs. 11,51,984, or nearly Rs. 15,000 per annum, after five years the figures will be Rs. 11,65,283, a loss of about Rs. 1,500 per annum, and after 10 years Rs. 11,68,390, a gain of about Rs. 2,000 per annum.

21. The final jama falls (taking the gross revenue and the total cultivation) at Re. 1·70 per cultivated acre, and (taking the realizable revenue and the cultivated area of the revenue-paying maháls) at Re. 1·71 per cultivated acre. The total area on which the assessments are framed is 736,514 acres, giving an incidence per assessed acre of Re. 1·59. The all-round recorded tenant rate being Rs. 3·43 per acre, the revenue rate gives a percentage of 46·34 on that rate.

22. The Settlement Officer now gives the present cultivated area as 724,767 acres, showing that a considerable recovery has already been made since the disastrous year 1896-97. This being so, the new settlement starts with an incidence per cultivated acre of Re. 1·62, with a fair prospect of its falling somewhat lower.

23. So far then as can be judged from a mathematical examination of the reported results of the re-settlement, there is nothing indicating severity in the assessments, and at the same time there is no ground for supposing that any undue liberality has been shown by the Settlement Officer. The figures point to a sensible and workable settlement, provided that (1) the soil classification has been made with substantial correctness, that (2) the additions made to the assets as representing the difference between famine figures and normal figures have been equitably apportioned, and that (3) the revenue has been properly distributed. This last point is of particular importance in a district in which single zamíndári estates constitute only 22 per cent. of the whole, and in which the percentage of pattidári estates is as high as 44. At the opening of his report (under the heading description of the district) the Settlement Officer has recorded that the whole of the distribution work has been done by him personally. There have been only 16 appeals from Mr. Last's orders in distribution cases, and there has been nothing so far to indicate that his distributions have not given satisfaction.

24. The enhancement to be finally obtained will be drawn from all tahsils except Pawayan, in which the reductions, amounting to Rs. 38,093, have to be set off against the Rs. 41,112 of enhancements in the other tahsils. In 1,476



out of the 3,558 revenue-paying maháls in the district the jama has had to be reduced, in 1,634 it has been enhanced, and in 448 the old jama has been maintained. Considering that this settlement was undertaken for the express purpose of re-adjusting the existing demand rather than of obtaining any enhancement, it would have been more satisfactory if the Settlement Officer had given some indication of the extent to which the expiring assessments were enhanced or reduced. As they stand the figures give no reliable data for an estimate of the extent to which the expiring assessments had become unfair. When alterations are being made right and left a Settlement Officer may make petty reductions, proposals for which would otherwise never have been entertained, or again may make petty additions in order to bring jamas up to even multiples of ten or a hundred. The point upon which information was desired is the extent to which any considerable changes had to be made—changes amounting to 25 per cent., to 50 per cent., and so on. As it is, there is merely a bare statement showing that in 12.59 per cent. only of his assessments did the Settlement Officer leave the old revenue undisturbed, while the demand was raised in 45.93 per cent. and reduced in 41.48 per cent.

25. Upon the subject of the revision of records the Settlement Officer's remarks are brief; and to the subject of the survey of the district there is only a passing reference in the second paragraph of his report. From a memorandum which Mr. G. B. Scott, Superintendent of Provincial Surveys, has been good enough to supply, it appears that the survey, both traverse and cadastral, began in October 1895. The traverse survey was finished in October 1897, and the cadastral survey in October 1898, and the maps and records for attestation purposes were made over to the Settlement Officer by the end of that year. Almost the whole of the work was done by patwáris after they had been trained for the purpose. Some difficult work had to be carried out in connection with the Gogra and Ramganga alluvial villages, and this was done under the Superintendent's personal supervision. The total area surveyed was 1,738 square miles,\* covering 2,365 villages with 1,332,727 field plots. The cost of the traverse survey was Rs. 51,601, or Rs. 29.63 per square mile, including the plotting of maps. The cadastral survey cost Rs. 98,935, or Rs. 56.92 per square mile, including the preparation of maps and records, but excluding the headquarter charges, which may be put at Rs. 16,511, or Rs. 9.50 per square mile. The total cost of the survey therefore was Rs. 1,67,047.

26. The survey having been decided upon before any conclusion had been arrived at respecting the re-settlement of the district, a revision of the records was more or less forced upon it. As the Settlement Officer has remarked, the attestation work was 15 months behind the assessment work. It gave no assistance therefore in the actual work of assessment. It was still further behind the survey work. The consequence was that by attestation-time the records prepared by the Survey Department were out of date, and all the preliminary work had to be done over again. The attestation work has now been completed, but at the time of writing the fairing of records is still proceeding, and is not likely to be finished for some months to come. The advantages claimed for the revision were the correction of the khewats and the bringing of the *sir* and occupancy entries up to date. The 15,000 cases of proprietary right instituted would indicate that the records had not been kept up to date, and that advantage was taken of the opportunity to have the mutations recorded for nothing for which otherwise the applicants would have had to have paid. With regard to the *sir* entries, as the figures before and after attestation are not given, it is impossible to say to what extent they have been affected. So far as the figures in the appendices go, they show that there has been a steady decline of the *sir* area from 106,727 acres at last settlement to 72,873 acres at the present time; but this is only partially true, as at last settlement all proprietary

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\* This is 17 square miles more than the area as given by the Settlement Officer. About half of this difference is due to areas subsequently decided to be portions of adjoining districts. The remainder (4 per cent.) is due to petty variations.

cultivation practically was entered as *sir*; and the *sir* and *khudkásht* areas now are together only 420 acres less than the *sir* area of last settlement (Appendix III), or 901 acres according to Appendix IV.

27. In respect of the occupancy area, the Settlement Officer has in paragraph 55 of his report given statistics indicating that it has fallen from 71 per cent. at last settlement to 69 per cent. now, and that the revision has resulted in an addition to the recorded occupancy area of 28 per cent.\* of the tenant area. The comparative areas are not given, but it has been ascertained that the occupancy and total tenant areas were—

		Tenant area.	Occupancy area.	Percentage.
At last settlement	...	649,095	458,489	70.63
Before verification	...	622,011	255,290	41.04
After verification	...	618,253	425,078	68.75

The present percentage of the tenant area, as it represents a percentage taken at a time of stress when inferior holdings were readily relinquished or abandoned, in other words, when there had been a shrinkage in non-occupancy holdings, is naturally an abnormal percentage. As it is, though the difference is shown as only 2 per cent. on the tenant area, the fall has between the two settlement periods been 33,500 acres—a drop on the old settlement area of 7.29 per cent. As an instance of how misleading percentages may be when unaccompanied by the figures upon which they are calculated, the case of Pawayan tahsíl may be cited. The percentages indicate a growth of occupancy rights by 5 per cent. As a matter of fact the occupancy area has dropped 29,000 acres, and the increase in the percentage is due solely to the holdings area having decreased by 60,000 acres. In the Tilhar tahsíl, where the increase in the holdings area is most marked (17,500 acres), the occupancy area has fallen 3,000 acres. There has been a similar fall in the Sháhjahánpur tahsíl, where the holdings area has advanced 5,000 acres. On the other hand in Jalalabad, where the holdings area has advanced 7,000 acres, the occupancy area has increased by 1,500 acres—the only instance of an actual increase in the whole district, though the percentage to the tenant area shows a fall of 3 per cent. It may be added that nearly 17,000 cases relating to tenant right were before the courts in the course of the settlement.

28. The only other figures in connection with the revision of the record of rights that call for notice are those relating to the enhancement of rent. Notwithstanding the enhancement of occupancy rents which has been adverted to above, there were only 2,439 applications for enhancement. Whether this is owing to the fact that landholders were discouraged by about three-fifths of their cases being dismissed, or to rents being enhanced by private agreement, or to the season being considered inopportune for attempting enhancements, does not appear, but the figures are unusual.

29. The total cost of the settlement has been—

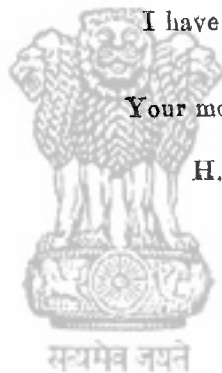
				Rs.
For the survey	...	...	...	1,67,047
For the record of rights	...	...	...	1,21,425
For assessment	...	...	...	97,612
Total				3,86,084

To this must be added Rs. 50,000, the cost likely to be incurred in completing the records. This brings the total up to Rs. 4,36,084, or, taking 1,721 square miles as the area of the district, Rs. 253.33 per square mile.

30. Mr. Last's work would have been more likely to inspire confidence had he been a little more explicit in his account of his methods and a little more attentive

\* In paragraph 55, 41 per cent. is given as the percentage before attestation. From Appendix VII it would appear to have been 49.34 per cent., from Appendix VIII 48.67 per cent., and from Appendix IV (which alone gives the ex-proprietary area separately) 46.57 per cent.

to the irksome but necessary details of a settlement report. Explanations should have been given of the apparent discrepancies between the statistics in different appendices and parts of the report. Such discrepancies give rise to doubts of the accuracy of those statistics which are probably undeserved. At the same time the Board have pleasure in recognising, with the Commissioner, the keen interest which Mr. Last has taken in the task entrusted to him, and in recording their opinion that his account of his work has been faulty rather than the work itself. His assessments of the individual maháls which have all passed under the scrutiny of higher authorities indicated scrupulous attention to details and the varying characteristics of the villages he was assessing. Based upon figures which represent the district at no great remove from its worst, and introduced (as there is good ground for believing that it has been introduced) upon a rising wave of agricultural recuperation, the settlement will, there is every reason to hope, not merely be able to stand the strain of exceptionally bad seasons, but will conduce in no small measure to the material prosperity of the district. The assessments came into force on the 1st July 1900, and in the limited time within which it has been possible to observe their working have been found to work in every way satisfactorily: the collections in fact have been considerably ahead of the estimates. The Board recommend that all the assessments be sanctioned for 30 years, with the exception of those of the alluvial maháls and of the maháls for which short-term settlements have been specially sanctioned.



I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

H. F. HOUSE,

*Secretary.*

No. 6187 of 1901.

FROM

A. W. CRUICKSHANK, Esq., C.S.I., C.S.,

COMMISSIONER, ROHILKHAND DIVISION,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

N.-W. PROVINCES AND OUDH.

*Dated the 27th May 1901.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Final Report of the settlement of the Sháhjahánpur district which is dated 25th April 1901, but of which a copy did not reach me till 20th May 1901.

2. Paragraphs 3—33—"Description of the District" are prefaced by two paragraphs relating to the progress of the survey and explanatory of the delay in preparation and attestation of the records-of-rights.

For the latter the Settlement Officer does not seem to have been responsible. These paragraphs might, however, perhaps more fitly have been placed in a later chapter.

3. The rough sketch map following paragraph 3 suffices to give the general lie of the boundaries of the district, tahsils and parganas, and also of the two railways and one tramway that pass through the district and of the main metalled roads and the rivers—the Ganges, the Rámghanga and its affluents, the Bahgul, the Garra and the Gomte.

The fluvial tracts on the margin of the Ganges and Rámghanga and to a less extent on the Garra are liable to alluvion and diluvion and 221 maháls have been quinquennially settled.

The soil and their location are briefly described in paragraph 4 of the report, and as they have been noticed in detail in former reports need not be here discussed. The northern part of the district is liable to suffer much from any scantiness of rainfall being chiefly sandy bhúr. The clay stretches between the Rámghanga and Ganges and elsewhere are still more liable to damage if the rainfall fails. The climate is rather more moist than that of the ordinary Doáb district and the rain, fall is ordinarily full. The average rain for 9 years—1891-92 to 1899-1900 (including the year of scanty rainfall 1895-96 which caused the distress in 1896-97)—was 38.93.

The north-east of the district has bad drinking water and malaria is there prevalent. There is no irrigation in the district from the snow fed rivers Ganges, Rámghanga or Sará. Irrigation from wells is extensively practised as the water is no where far below the surface. The dammed streams and water courses available as a supply for local lift irrigation in years of average rainfall, fail in very dry years.

4. Paragraphs 10 and 11 of Mr. Last's report deal with the communications and notices the fact that with the exception of the grand trunk road all the other improvements in communication, viz., the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, the Lucknow-Bareilly Railway and the Mailani-Sháhjahánpur Tramway date from since the last settlement as do the metalled roads.

## 5. The figures of population given in the Gazetteer show :—

1847	...	...	...	...	750,501
1853	...	...	...	...	908,064
1865	...	...	...	...	933,979
1872	...	...	...	...	951,006
1888	...	...	...	...	856,946
1891	...	...	...	...	918,551
1901	...	...	...	...	921,624 or 920,302

as per figures supplied on 24th May 1901.

The decrease in 1881 was, as pointed out in the report, chiefly due to the famine of 1877 and the epidemic fever which followed it. The scarcity in 1896-97 resulted in a large decrease in the population of Powayan tahsil who, enfeebled by scanty food, could not withstand the malarious climate.

The other tahsils show an increase since 1891 :—

Tahsil.						
			Jalalabad.	Sháhjahánpur.	Tilhar.	Pawayan.
1872	...	...	165,763	279,191	244,558	261,494
1881	...	...	168,813	252,028	173,590	246,454
1891	...	...	205,398	273,146	190,785	249,222
1901	...	...	175,617	264,470	256,904	223,231

The population of the two municipalities according to the Gazetteer is :—

			1872.	1881.	1891.	1901.
Sháhjahánpur ...	...	...	72,140	77,936	78,522	72,756
Tilhar ...	...	...	18,900	15,559*	17,265	19,146

\* Boundaries of the municipality were contracted.

Besides the Municipalities of Sháhjahánpur and Tilhar (on the flourishing state of which it is unnecessary to here descant, as the Local Government receive Annual Administration Reports) there are the following towns administered under Act XX of 1856 :—

Tahsil.	Town.	Population in—		
		1881.	1891.	1901.
Jalalabad ...	Jalalabad ...	8,085	6,729	Figures are not at present available.
Pawayan ...	Pawayan ...	5,478	5,548	
Tilhar ...	Khudaganj...	6,025	6,161	
	Miranpur Katra	5,949	6,230	
Total ...		26,377	24,668	

6. The grain trade is, of course, the main trade of the district and the constant drain of exports to the south and elsewhere since 1896-97 has been highly profitable to dealers and producers. The following figures for the Sháhjahánpur Municipality may be quoted here. Extract from last Municipal Report, Sháhjahánpur :—

Food-grains.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Mds.	s.	Mds.	s.
First class, i.e., gram, mung, moth, urd, rice, wheat	...	5,90,726 25	2,97,860	7
Second class, i.e., bijhra, bajra, barley, gujari, juár, lobia, masur, paddy seed, arhar	...	2,54,006 35	1,06,386	2

In mentioning the manufacture of refined sugar "kand" as practised more extensively than any other trade by the natives of the district on the indigenous system (as described in the Gazetteer) and as occupying the Managers of the Rosa

Factory on the European method, Mr. Last has not noted that this latter manufactory is combined with a distillery of spirits, Rosa rum chiefly, and that without the refinery the distillery could hardly be run as a paying concern and *vice versa*.

Cotton is grown over a considerable area but there are no mills in the district and the cotton is not sufficient for all the local consumption.

Indigo is on the downward grade.

Amongst smaller manufactures the "baib matting" of Sháhjahánpur is well known, but its total outturn is not large.

7. The non-agricultural populations have a larger proportion of Musalmáns in the Towns than in the villages where servile classes of Hindus are more common. The local distribution of the main castes of cultivating classes does not probably differ much from the detail given on pages xxii—xxv of Mr. Currie's last Settlement Report. The present numbers are not yet available, as the figures of the census of 1901 are not yet printed.

8. The information about the prevailing class of proprietors is somewhat sparse (see paragraph 24). The large proportion of area, 44 per cent., held in pattidari tenure is remarkable and possibly this may, to some extent, have operated to retard a rise in rents. The area held by single zamíndárs, 22 per cent., is less than the balance which is held by joint zamíndárs. It would have been interesting to have known the proportions of Musalmáns and Hindus under some of these heads.

At the last settlement the proportion of separate maháls held by the higher castes of Hindus and by Patháns was :—

Caste.	Sháhjahánpur.	Jalalabad.	Tilhar.	Pawayan.	District percentage.
Rájputs ...	23	44	44	42	38
Patháns ...	32	13	20	9½	18
Brahmans ...	9	3	9½	10	8½
Kayasthas ...	5	3	9½	4½	5½
Banias, Mahájans ...	5	1	3	5½	4
Kurmís ...	½	...	3½	6	3
			Total	...	77½

Mr. Currie adds, this accounts for 77½ per cent. of the maháls in the district and most of the remainder belong to these same castes and are owned by them in various proportions. Some simple comparison of the existing distribution of proprietary right would have been interesting as showing how the various classes had stood the ups and downs of the last period of settlement, including the famine of 1876-77 and the scarcity of 1895-96-97.

When Mr. Currie wrote—600 maháls or rather less than 20 per cent. of the whole district was owned by residents of the city of Sháhjahánpur—who also owned shares in different villages—so that nearly one-fourth of the entire area of the district was owned by residents of Sháhjahánpur. This fact that non-resident owners prevailed to so large an extent might have been considered in the light of recent figures illustrating the present position in that respect, but this is not perhaps strictly required.

9. Paragraph 25 certainly shows that land owners of great substance are not common in Sháhjahánpur. A detail of the locality and caste of some of the classes of Hindu zamíndárs will be found in paragraph 23 as well as the distribution of the principal Musalmán proprietors.

The prevailing castes of cultivators are grouped in three arbitrary divisions—

- A. High caste (apparently).
- B. Skilled cultivators.
- C. Others including Musalmáns.

It does not convey much information to read that "other cases are found in about the usual proportion all over the country." Apparently this refers to the village servants. *e. g.*, Nai, Barhai, Dhobis.

10. There is no information on the cultivation of "sír" or "khudkasht" by the different castes.

The area table and verified rent-roll has the following figures of tenant holdings :—

No. of khatas	...	Ex-proprietary tenants as such.	Occupancy tenants as such.	Tenant-at-will at full rates.	Total.
	...	2,610	132,511	203,152	338,273
Cash-paying	...	12,327	289,684	315 460	617,471
Grain-rented	...	...	736	4,830	5,566
Total	...	12,327	290,420	320,290	623,037

The total 623,037 includes apparently 49,931 rented uncultivated area. This gives the average area per khata of 1·8. The Settlement Officer has explained that the area of the verified rent-roll is less than the average area, but that is not sufficient to account for difference between 1·8 acres and 5 acres given as the average tenants' holding in paragraph 26 of the Final Report. The Settlement Officer has used holding to mean the average aggregate area held by a tenant. There are 124,294 tenants.

11. *Section 27.*—High caste cultivators are by nature less industrious than lower castes and have to get some of the details of cultivation done by hired labour. They are also able to oppose a more combined opposition to enhancement by the zamindár.

The figures in the statement in paragraph 33 would be more convincing if it were known that the soil and crops grown in the holdings of A, B, C were exactly similar. The method of cultivation has not practically changed since last settlement. It is noticeable in statement VI that the "dofasli" area has increased from 10,932 in 1870 to 54,072 in the year of verification, and to 148,269 if the average of five normal years 1298-1332 fasli be taken. The increase is chiefly in gram, peas and masur and garden crop including poppy in *rabi* and in rice, urd, kodon and cane in the *kharif*. The increase in cane area is explained in paragraph 14 of Mr. Last's report.

The now common use of the Mynce-Belcea cane crushing mill enables a larger quantity of juice to be expressed than was possible 30 years ago.

12. *Chapter II.*—The results of the assessment imposed by Mr. Currie on the basis afforded by a too hopeful estimate of future assets have been repeatedly discussed during the term of settlement now ended.

Obviously a demand that fell at 55 per cent. on actual assets could not stand the test of a period in which the famine of 1877 and the scarcity of 1896-97 were not the only disastrous evils. The enfeeblement of the people through want in 1896-97 rendered them a more easy prey to malaria and other diseases and diminished the supply of cultivators.

The ultimate result was that in many villages the revenue demand bore a far heavier proportion to the diminished assets than even at settlement and the already heavy demand became accentuated by the disasters which aided in many cases the evil of a disproportionate distribution of the original burden over deteriorated villages with insufficient population.

13. In paragraph 99 of his Final Report on last settlement Mr. Currie gives for each tahsíl the result of his revision showing the following statistics for the district :—

Number of mauzas in which the jama has—

(a) remained unaltered	...	...	...	...	238
(b) decreased	...	...	...	...	363
(c) increased	...	...	...	...	1,755
Total	...	...	...	...	2,356

Percentage of decrease in (b) = 11·1

Ditto of increase in (c) = 37·7

The net percentage of increase of the new demand at last settlement on the preceding revenue equals 21·4 per cent.

In pargana Khutar and tahsíl Pawayan (though this was the least favoured tract in the most inferior tahsíl) the percentage of increase was 78·1.

A similar statement showing how the villages in classes (a), (b), (c) had been treated in the present settlement would have been more illustrative of the necessity for, and the leniency of, the present revision of settlement than many pages of writing but the labour of preparing it would have been great.

Doubtless, during the last period of settlement attempts to deal piecemeal with the severity of the assessment and to remit arrears impossible of payment were made.

The scale of the remissions in the years subsequent to 1876-77 necessitated by the famine in that year which pressed with particular harshness on Sháh-jahánpur district contrasts strangely with the large handed treatment of this district in respect of revenue collections since the scarcity of 1896-97. It is true, however, that the latter disasters came at the end of a period of exhaustion and over-assessment, while in 1876-77 it had not been fully realized that Mr. Currie's estimated assets were as a rule too sanguine: but there is no question that in other times there were other manners of dealing with revenue arrears and manners not so sympathetic as those of a later day.

I am writing of the revenue policy as a whole—I do not attach much importance to the decrease in number of writs of demand, for the use of this form of process depends much on the individuality of the Collector and Tahsildár for the time being. The liberality of the suspensions and remissions subsequent to 1896 was misunderstood by many grasping zamíndárs. In the end it was necessary to compel the payment of arrears in case of substantial defaulters by the sterner means of arrest, distraint and attachment. This severity was unavoidable in the case of those who could pay but would not pay till compelled to do so. They were impelled to resist payment in the belief that if they only held out long enough they would force the hand of Government. The difficulty of realization had been much increased by the fact that a long line of Collectors had allowed the privilege of paying in revenue direct to Government without the intervention of the lambardár to degenerate into a practical disinclination to enforce joint responsibility in the case of such privileged proprietors when they defaulted. This has been dealt with by re-arranging the lambardári system.

14. I note from the *Gazetteer*, page 117, the aggregate number of private sales of property in Sháhjahánpur was as follows :—

	1873-74.	1880-81.	Average per year.
A. In revenue-paying land ...	2,688		394
B. In revenue-free land ...	339		50

Mr. Last gives a table for the period 1879-1880 to 1899-1900 which shows the following result :—

	Transfers.			
	By order of court.		By private sale.	
	A.	B.	A.	B.
Total number, 1879-1880 to 1899-1900 ...	3,278	149	7,612	972
Average number of sales per annum ...	156	7	362	46
Average revenue of property transferred ...	8,013	21	16,324	189

It seems to me unfruitful to speculate on the relative value of revenue paying and revenue free estates. The root difficulty attending such comparisons is that the amount for which each of the estates in the table was hypothecated at the time of sale is an unknown quantity and without this information the knowledge



that the tabled value of such and such an estate was so many times a multiple of the revenue is of imperfect use.

15. With reference to paragraph 47 in Mr. Last's report, the figure of 19 per cent. as indicative of the proportion of area held by the non-agricultural classes is partly based on guess work. Whether such area has really increased from 6 per cent. in 1840 to 19 per cent. in 1900 depends very much on the classification of such non-agriculturists, and the accuracy of the figures in each year.

16. It is resultless to compare the areas actually irrigated in the year of verification with the area shown as irrigated at last settlement, for the latter was the irrigation measured in a good year and the former is the record of years of varying inferiority.

The effects of the famine in 1876 and the scarcity in 1896-97 is clearly illustrated as regards tahsil Pawayan by the shrinkage of cultivation shown in paragraph 50, from 65 per cent. of total area in 1870 to 58.91 per cent. Average of 1891-1895, and to 48.63 in the year of survey 1897. By 1899 it had commenced to rehabilitate itself, the percentage of cultivation to total area being 52.52. I may here remark that the area of 1,721 square miles given in Chapter I is 12 square miles less than the total area at last settlement. Difference in modes of survey would account for this, and also some small discrepancy may be due to slight changes in the Ganges deep stream.

The cultivating class in Sháhjahánpur do not want any canal irrigation in Sháhjahánpur, and would deprecate its introduction on the score of the unhealthiness likely to be induced, and the destruction sure to result in the matter of kacha wells becoming to a large extent impracticable.

The portions of the district indicated by Mr. Last as having a margin for extension of cultivation are precisely those where canals would accentuate the natural unhealthiness of the locality. Good drainage might mitigate this but would not entirely obviate it. I believe, however, it has been proved to demonstration that as far as Sháhjahánpur is concerned a canal is not required, and would prove to be a source of financial loss in every way.

17. Section 54 would be more clearly expressed if for "extent" we read "proportion" and for "cultivation" substitute "holdings."

All the percentage in this statement appeared to have been based on the areas of 1870-1900 given in statement IV and in these areas rented uncultivated land is included.

The remarks on paragraphs 55 and 56 on the loss, survival growth of occupancy rights are interesting, and seem to show that loss of right of occupancy has been nearly counterbalanced by growth of new right of occupancy or recognition of existing but formerly unregistered right of occupancy.

18. Mr. Last's figures in paragraph 59 show a rise in the rental incidence of 10 annas per acre, *i.e.*, from Rs. 2-12-0 to Rs. 3-6-0 per acre. This is approximately equivalent to 23 per cent. I do not find any indication that the Settlement Officer has considered how far this rise of 10-16 a rupee per acre in the rent rate is or is not an increased burden on the tenant. Let us examine the price list of past and present years—

			1871.	1881.	1901.
			S. ch.	S. ch.	S. ch.
Wheat	...	...	28 2	21 1	14 4
Barley	...	...	35 9	27 10	21 8
Rice (best sort)	...	...	6 1½	7 10	8 0
„ (common)	...	...	19 0	15 11	11 4
Juár	...	...	28 4	26 9	24 0

There is no doubt that most of the prices of staple grains expressed in rupees have been rising.

In wheat the price has since 1871 risen approximately 100 per cent. in rupees : expressed in terms of gold the rupee (1s. 4d.) is only five-eighths of its value in 1871.

Speaking generally then as far as pertain to the cultivator procuring rupees for his rent, half an acre will now provide in wheat the price that 30 years ago he got for the product of a whole acre, and he is, as far as his rent is concerned, a gainer by the rise in the price of wheat to an extent far more than 23 per cent. The case is similar with most staples of Sháhjahánpur agriculture, and I have taken the prices from the Gazette of May 18th, 1901, which are prices of a favourable year, the *kharíf* having been unusually good and the *rabi* also good.

With a population showing no increase it is not likely that the rents would really rise in value much.

19. No doubt external matters such as bad famines in Bombay and in Bundelkhand have, by drawing off the surplus food supply, accentuated the local rise in price, but the rise could not have been so continuous had not the improvement of communication by rail and road facilitated the accumulation of grain at places whence it could be exported with ease to any mart where a demand existed.

The net assets now Rs. 24,14,245 are in rupees worth 1s. 4d. each and as compared with assets of last settlement are worth Rs. 15,08,903 of the 2 shilling rupee of 1871.

20. *Chapter IV.*—It is not necessary for me to detain this report by a lengthy reiteration of the definite rules in Board's Circular No. 15-I. Mr. Last is technically incorrect in stating that the extent to which the power of raising occupancy rents in the valuation of villages was exercised in cases where rents were very low is apparent from Appendix VII. It might easily have been made to show this, but in fact it only shows the net result of substitution of raised rents where right-of-occupancy rents were too low : and of substitution of fair rents where the right-of-occupancy rents were obviously too high.

It is true that this latter process was very sparingly used. As a rule this power was exercised in a judicious manner. Some cases, especially in the tahsils first assessed, appeared to me to show unnecessary minuteness in rejecting rents as too high or too low for the same practical result might have been obtained by accepting the rents and taking a lower or higher percentage respectively of the assets accepted, or by amending the assets and taking the percentage chosen as the fair demand.

As, however, each mahál's assessment statement as well as the assessment register was examined by me before submission to the Board and Government, it is not necessary for me to add any generalizations. The annexed statement shows the relatively small extent to which the Settlement Officer's assessments were amended in the course of the triple examination. The amendments on regular appeal up to date have been very minute.

Tahsil.	Number of Mahál.			Total jama proposed by the Settlement Officer.			Total jama recommended by the Commissioner.			Total jama recommended by the Board.			Total jama sanctioned by Government.			Subsequent alterations on appeals up to date.
	Quinquennial mahals.	Ordinary mahals.	Total.	For quinquennial mahals.	For ordinary mahals.	Total.	For quinquennial mahals.	For ordinary mahals.	Total.	For quinquennial mahals.	For ordinary mahals.	Total.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
SL. Jahánpur ...	55	803	858	8,864	2,99,257	3,08,121	11,772	2,95,548	3,07,320	11,772	2,90,239	3,02,011	11,747	2,89,495	3,01,242	20
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jelábad ...	104	556	660	4,142	2,22,306	2,26,448	16,630	2,08,086	2,24,716	16,630	2,05,966	2,22,593	16,510	2,05,833	2,22,343	115
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tilthar ...	62	895	957	14,412	3,41,008	3,55,420	14,922	3,38,876	3,53,798	14,922	3,37,981	3,52,903	15,647	3,35,508	3,51,155	50
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pawayan ...	...	1,083	1,083	...	3,61,215	3,61,215	...	2,96,668	2,96,668	...	2,96,626	2,96,626	...	2,94,705	2,94,705	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total District Sháhjahánpur.	221	3,337	3,558	27,413	11,63,786	11,91,204	43,324	11,39,178	11,82,502	43,324	11,30,812	11,74,136	43,904	11,25,541	11,69,445	185
	...	12	12	...	4,604	4,604	...	4,624	4,624	...	4,624	4,624	...	4,624	4,624	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	221	3,349	3,570	27,418	11,68,390	11,95,808	43,324	11,43,802	11,87,126	43,324	11,35,436	11,78,760	43,904	11,30,165	11,74,069	185

The only alteration in revenue-free maháls is an increase of Rs. 20, proposed by Commissioner. In the case of the revenue-paying maháls the large increase in the quinquennial maháls demand is mainly due to the number of such maháls having been increased on Commissioner's recommendation from 151 to 221 and their boundaries altered. Similarly a large part of the decrease in the demand on permanent maháls is due to the same cause. The rest is due to comparative leniency of treatment.

				Jama proposed in—		
				Quinquennial maháls.	Ordinary or (permanent) maháls.	Revenue-paying.
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
By Settlement Officer	...	...	...	27,418	11,63,786	11,91,204
By Commissioner	...	...	...	43,324	11,39,178	11,82,502
				+15,906	—24,608	—8,702
By Board of Revenue	...	...	...	43,394	11,30,812	11,74,136
Compared with Settlement Officer	...	...	...	+15,906	—32,974	—17,068
Compared with Commissioner	...	...	...	+0	—8,366	—8,366
By Government	...	...	...	43,904	11,25,541	11,69,445
Compared with Settlement Officer	...	...	...	+16,486	—38,245	—21,759
Compared with Commissioner	...	...	...	+580	—13,637	—13,057
Compared with Board	...	...	...	+580	—5,271	—4,691

21. It is always natural for a Settlement Officer who is younger than the criticising officers to take a more hopeful view of the capacity of any given village, but as a rule Mr. Last showed creditable moderation and appears to have been guided by that sound rule in the old directions for Settlement Officers. "If he is in doubt" "which of two jamas to fix—a high one or a low one—he should always incline to" "the latter." From these figures—

		Number of maháls in which jama has been	Number of Mr. Currie's mauza in which jama was
Enhanced	...	1,634	1,755
Reduced	...	1,476	363
Left unaltered	...	445	238
Total	...	3,558	2,356

It would appear that the present number of maháls is approximately 50 per cent. more than the number of mauzas in 1871. The above statement emphasises the moderation of the settlement of Mr. Last in which the numbers of cases of reduction of demand and of demand left unaltered are comparatively much larger than in Mr. Currie's settlement and the number of demands enhanced relatively fewer.

It would have been interesting to know in how many cases of enhanced demand at last settlement Mr. Last found it necessary to reduce the figure of demand and in how many cases of reduction at Mr. Currie's settlement enhancement was found justifiable. Some such data would have illustrated the inequality of incidence of the revenue after the period of last settlement, but would have taken more time and labour than would have been justified. It is, however, clear that the reductions by Mr. Last are infinitely more numerous in tahsíl Páwayan where enhancements reached so high a number in Mr. Currie's settlement, and enhancements relatively more numerous in the remaining three tahsils.

22. The reasons for preferring the spreading out of the improvements' allowance over 15 years at a higher rate than that proposed for 30 years will be found on pages 2 and 3, paragraph 9 of my No. 5644, dated 9th May 1899, forwarding the Assessment Report for Sháhjahánpur and Tilhar Tahsils. Briefly the system I suggested was pecuniarily more beneficial to the zamíndár and was approved by Government.

23. Though as I have shown before the net gain to Government by this new settlement measured in rupees is only Rs. 3,019 and the result expressed in the relative value of rupees as against gold and against most food grains is a diminution of the annual value of the revenue demand the result should be extremely beneficial to the district at large, and ultimately at the end of the period of settlement, profitable to the State. Obviously, as in the past, so in the future, the stability of the settlement rests ultimately on the course and nature of the seasons. All that care could do to ensure a moderately assessed and impartially distributed revenue demand has been done.

24. The cost of assessment is estimated at Rs. 57 per square mile. The cost of revision of records cannot yet be gauged as there is a considerable amount of record work remaining to be done. I do not propose therefore to comment on Chapter V beyond saying that as far as I have seen them the records appear to have been attested with care and prepared with despatch. The statement of case work speaks for itself, and in view of recent orders curtailing reports I need not comment thereon. Mr. Last's encomia on his coadjutors and subordinates are endorsed by me.

25. Mr. Last has worked hard and untiringly. His proposals were generally clearly defined and acceptable though occasionally his deductions appeared intuitive rather than based on expressed reasoning and further reference was necessary. I know that if his settlement result in a period of 30 years' successful working of the initially sound revenue demand now fixed, he will feel himself more than rewarded for he takes a deep personal interest in his work.

The crystallization of settlement procedure into rules more and more rigid as time goes on leaves little room for originality. Mr Last's business was to carry out the Board's rules and he has done this with energy and care. His proposals were based on intimate acquaintance with local conditions and were judiciously framed. His supervision over others engaged in the settlement was not the least of the good points in his work.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

A. W. CRUICKSHANK,  
*Commissioner.*

No.  $\frac{545}{F-10-27}$  OF 1901.

FROM

THE SETTLEMENT OFFICER,  
SHÁHJEHÁNPUR,

TO

THE COMMISSIONER,  
ROHILKHAND DIVISION,  
BAREILLY.

*Dated Sháhjehánpur, the 25th April 1901.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Final Report on the settlement of the Sháhjehánpur District.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

W. A. W. LAST,

*Settlement Officer.*



## Final Report of the Settlement of the Shahjehanpur District, 1896—1900.

### CHAPTER I.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT.

THE last settlement of the Sháhjehánpur district was made in 1870 and expired on the 30th June 1900. The district was cadastrally surveyed in 1895-97 by the Provincial Land Records Survey. I was deputed to the district in October 1896. The last sanctioned assessment was declared in November 1900. Distribution of jama was done from time to time either at or shortly after declaration, and was all done by me personally.

2. It was originally determined to have a reassessment merely, and no preparation of a record-of-rights; and the notification bringing the district under settlement was worded accordingly. But during 1897 these orders were changed, and two Deputy Collectors and a regular attestation establishment were deputed from February 1898. The record-of-rights operations therefore were about a year and a quarter behind the assessment operations, and were still further delayed in two tahsils (Sháhjehánpur and Jellalabad) by the fact that a gap of two years had been created between the survey operations and the attestation, rendering the survey papers useless as a basis for attestation, and consequently rendering it necessary to prepare papers afresh. The record-of-rights operations are estimated to be completed by December 1901.

Record-of-rights.

3. The Sháhjehánpur district is in the south-east corner of Rohilkhand, bordering on Oudh. It stretches from the Ganges in the south-west, where it touches Farrukhabad, up across the Rámghanga Garra and Goomtee rivers into the forests of the Terai, where it marches with Pilibhút and Kheri. Its area is 1,721 square miles. The subjoined rectilinear sketch will give an idea of the general lie of the district, and of the position of the tahsils and pergunnahs of which it consists.

General description of the district.

सत्यमेव जयते

Name of tahsil.				Name of Pergunnah.
Sháhjehánpur	...	...	...	{ Sháhjehánpur.
Ditto	...	...	...	{ Jamaur.
Ditto	...	...	...	{ Kant.
Jellalabad	...	...	...	{ Jellalabad.
Pawayan	...	...	...	{ Pawayan.
Ditto	...	...	...	{ Baragaon,
Ditto	...	...	...	{ Khutar.
Tilhar	...	...	...	{ Tilhar.
Ditto	...	...	...	{ Khera Bajhera,
Ditto	...	...	...	{ Miranpur Kátra.
Ditto	...	...	...	{ Jalalpur.
Ditto	...	...	...	{ Nigohi.

4. Beginning from the south-west, the Ganges khadir is of the usual poor and jungly character. It extends about two or three miles into the district. The country between the Ganges khadir and the Rámanga is a flat clay plain, bearing moderate crops if well watered, but useless and impracticable in drought. The Rámanga basin, about five miles wide, is rich alluvial loam. Beyond the Rámanga basin the country rises to a tableland of bhur, 5 to 10 miles wide, which stretches right across the district from the Oudh border towards Bareilly in the north-west. The bhur is not very bad; its rent averages about Rs. 2 an acre. After the bhur (still going north-east) the land sinks into a plain of middling good loam, with two wedges of clay in it (in pergunnahs Jamaur and Nigohi), which continues across the Garra and right up to the Goomtee. The Goomtee country is bad and sandy, thinly-populated, and very poor. Beyond this comes the beginning of the forests of the Terai, the soil again changing to loam, and the district ends with the Pilibhít border.

5. The rivers are shown on the sketch. The main direction of all is from north-west to south-east. The drainage of the whole district is in that direction. The Ganges, Garra and Rámanga are alluvial, and the villages along their banks have for the most part to be quinquennially settled. The others are non-alluvial. The Goomtee, Jhukna and Khanaut are very small, their sources being only a few miles beyond the northern border of the district. Besides the rivers shown on the sketch there are a good many small streams and nullahs, mostly dry in the hot weather, which fall into one or other of the rivers.

6. The climate is comparatively mild and pleasant, lying about half way between the heat and drought of the north-west and the moisture and greenness of the south-east towards Bengal. The average rainfall of the last 9 years is 38·93 inches. The following table indicates the manner in which this amount has been distributed over the different seasons.

Year.		Rainfall in inches.				
		December to February.	March to May.	June to August.	September to November.	Total.
1891-92	...	·58	·1	29·15	18·69	48·52
1892-93	...	2·73	1·56	32·41	1·1	37·8
1893-94	...	1·37	·19	42·94	12·8	57·3
1894-95	...	4·11	·48	20·01	10·41	35·01
1895-96	...	·35	·05	*22·3	*33	23·03
1896-97	...	·96	·07	31·98	8·44	41·45
1897-98	...	4·45	·37	31·98	8·52	45·32
1898-99	...	·75	·64	26·79	5·	33·18
1899-1900	...	·9	·92	26·73	·23	28·78
Total	...	16·2	4·38	264·29	65·52	350·39
Average	...	1·8	·48	29·37	7·28	38·93

The figures marked \* indicate the cause of the 1897 Famine.

7. The monsoon rains generally begin in the latter half of June, and continue with occasional breaks till about the latter half of September. The Christmas rains are rather uncertain, both as to time and quantity; but there are practically always some. From its position near the foot of the Hills—the northern border is



about 90 miles from Naini Tál—this district is probably less liable to suffer from local deficiencies or eccentricities in the monsoon current than districts further to the south and west; but presumably has no advantage as against a failure or deficiency in the monsoon, as a whole. There is no canal irrigation. The sources of irrigation are shallow ponds or jheels, kutchas (*i. e.*, temporary and non-masonry) wells, and in some places dammed-up streams and nullahs. None of these sources are, of course, for a moment capable of replacing the ordinary rainfall, but the last two are in most parts of the district capable of supplementing a not too deficient or ill-timed one. It is the exception for wells to be impossible, and the sub-soil water level is only about 12 or 15 feet down. The first mentioned source is practically no protection at all against drought, as, if the rains fail, the ponds are not filled.

8. The position of the district, as a whole, may perhaps be summarised by saying that the rainfall is ordinarily sufficient and reliable: and that the facilities for irrigation afford fairly adequate protection against eccentricities of rainfall in all but exceptionally bad years.

#### Health.

9. As regards health, the north-eastern parts of the Pawayan Tahsil, *i. e.*, the Terai country and the Goomtee country, are very unhealthy, from malaria and bad drinking water. The worst time there is the rainy season and the beginning of the cold weather. The rest of the district is ordinarily healthy and deserves no remark in this respect; except perhaps the country just north of the Ganges, which is rather feverish, though nothing like the country mentioned above.

#### Communications.

10. The centre of the district is traversed by the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, and the northern portion by the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway; and these two systems are connected, also in the district, by the Pawayan Steam Tramway. The Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway was made (as regards this district) in or about 1873, the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway between 1887 and 1891 and the Pawayan Steam Tramway between 1890 and 1895. The Grand Trunk Road passes through the district, coming into the Jellalabad Tahsil from Fatehgarh, and passing out through the town of Katra on towards Bareilly. The other metalled roads are one which goes from the Grand Trunk Road at Katra to Sháhjehánpur city and on to Sitapur, and another which goes from Jellalabad through Sháhjehánpur and on to Pawayan. These latter roads were made between 1867 and 1874. The Grand Trunk Road was made earlier. Besides these roads there are numerous unmetalled roads in all directions, for the most part good, and as easy for wheeled traffic as an unmetalled road can ever be.

11. Communications may be summarised as distinctly good. There is only one part of the district which is not within easy reach of the railway, and that is the part between the Ganges and the Rámghanga.

#### Towns and trade.

12. There are only two towns of importance, Sháhjehánpur and Tilhar; and these are the centre of the main trade of the district, which is in sugarcane. The Rosa Sugar Factory is three miles from Sháhjehánpur.

13. The sugarcane trade, setting aside the ordinary grain trade, is the only important trade in the district, and it is exceedingly important. It has two branches, the trade in the sugar refined on the European method by the Rosa Factory and the trade in the sugar refined on the native method by the local khándsaris.\* The latter branch is by far the largest. As near as I can estimate, the Rosa Factory has during the past 10 years dealt with from 10 to 12 per cent. of the cane produced in the district, the balance having been dealt with by the native trade. The Sháhjehánpur native-made sugar, called "khánd," has a great reputation, and is largely exported all over India, to Bengal, Bombay and the Punjab. Sháhjehánpur gur is also famous and similarly exported. The greater number of the khándsárs are located in the towns of Sháhjehánpur and Tilhar, but there are numerous khándsárs in the villages also, all over the district.

\* "Khánd" is the native-made sugar, "khándsari" the man who makes it, "khándsár" the factory where it is made.

14. The relation which the sugarcane trade bears to the agriculture of the district is indicated by the following table :—

Year.		Total cultivated area.	Sugarcane area.	Percentage of sugarcane area to total cultivated area.
Last settlement, 1870	...	7,52,376	49,094	6.53
Average of last five years	...	7,38,431	55,953	7.58
Settlement year	...	6,89,644	54,289	7.87

*Note.*—It will be observed that the sugarcane area here given for the settlement year does not agree with Statement VI in the Appendix. This is because the figure for the settlement year in the statement VI (according to rule) includes pandri (land prepared for sugarcane) while pandri has been excluded from the figure in this table to make it properly comparable with figures of past years, which do not include pandri. This table is altogether exclusive of pandri.

The sugarcane cultivation is diffused very evenly all over the district, except in Tahsil Jellalabad and the Rámanga portion of pergunnah Khara Bajhera, where there is hardly any. It is thickest round Sháhjehánpur and Tilhar.

15. As regards the effect of the sugarcane trade on the agricultural classes, it is beyond doubt a source of very considerable profit to the capitalist zemíndár, and to the exceptional cultivator who is able to cultivate independent of advances and can sell his own produce at his own price; but the benefit to the poor cultivators who must have advances—i.e., to the great majority—is not so obvious. The general practice is for the zemíndár to advance money for the sowing, on the stipulation that the tenant shall, after the harvest, sell all the cane-juice to him at a fixed price. The price is, as a rule, fixed decidedly low, and while the tenant is obliged to sell his cane-juice at the price named, the zemíndár is not obliged to buy it unless it suits him: which in practice generally means that if the zemíndár finds he has made a mistake and fixed the price too high, the tenant finds himself under the necessity of letting the zemíndár have the juice at a reduced price. The extent of the onesidedness of the agreement varies, of course, with the character and power of the zemíndár and the sturdiness of the tenant. Speaking generally, it is to be feared that a large amount of undue influence is habitually used. Certainly the business is a fruitful source of dispute and complaint between zemíndár and tenant.

16 Putting away details and side issues, the effect of the sugarcane trade upon the agricultural classes comes to this—that to those who possess capital, whether zemíndárs or cultivators, the trade is a great source of profit, from the removal of which they would suffer much; but that the place of the ordinary cultivator in the trade is that of the mere labourer, who earns the simple wages of his labour, but derives little profit from the trade itself, except in an indirect and general manner. Doubtless the ordinary cultivator derives some small benefit from growing sugarcane in preference to other crops, or he would not grow it. Undue influence on the part of the zemíndárs could not accomplish so much as that. But I think it is fairly safe to say that the benefit to him is reduced to the very minimum for which he can be induced to cultivate the crop, the capitalist absorbing all the remainder.

17. The following figures give the population by tahsils at the four periods of census since 1870. The figures exclude the population of the towns of Sháhjehánpur and Tilhar, and may therefore be regarded as figures of rural population :—

Population.

Census.	Rural population per square mile in—				
	Sháhjehánpur.	Jellalabad.	Pawayan.	Tilhar.	Whole district.
1871 ...	531	510	442	553	503
1881 ...	454	453	415	476	446
1891 ...	499	495	422	525	478
1901 ...	492	545	378	569	481

18. The heavy decrease between 1871 and 1881 may be attributed without hesitation to the famine of 1877 and the epidemic fever which followed it. Paragraph 37 of the 1881 Census Report may be read in this connexion. In the whole North-Western Provinces and Oudh there were three well-defined geographical tracts where the 1881 census showed a decrease. Of these three, the tract which showed the heaviest decrease was the Central Doab and Eastern Rohilkhand. Sháhjehánpur is almost in the middle of this tract; and it showed the largest decrease of all the districts in the province except another district in the same tract—Muttra. There can be no doubt that the 1877 famine was felt in this district very severely indeed.

19. The figures after 1881 are easy to read. Recovery set in fairly rapidly in all tahsils except Pawayan, where owing to the unfertility of the soil and the unhealthiness of the climate it was very slow. The famine of 1897 touched Jellalabad very little, and Tilhar practically not at all; but it was felt in the clay and the bhur portions of Sháhjehánpur, and in Pawayan the feeble tendency towards recovery was violently checked, and the population thrown back to far worse than it had been even after 1877.

For the state of cultivation in Pawayan corresponding to this decrease of population see paragraph 50.

20. The population of the towns of Sháhjehánpur and Tilhar, which is not included in the figures just given, is shown here:—

Census.	Sháhjehánpur.	Tilhar.
1871	72,186	11,326
1881	74,830	15,351
1891	78,522	17,265
1901	72,756	19,146

The Census Officer attributes the decrease in Sháhjehánpur since 1891 to the recent withdrawal of the garrison. The withdrawal would naturally take away the occupations of a large number of people of all kinds, and it is common knowledge that many persons affected by it have left the place.

21. After making allowance for this consideration, the figures seem to point to a slow but steady growth in Sháhjehánpur, and a decidedly rapid growth in Tilhar. The growth of Tilhar is natural enough. The opening of the railway in 1873 at once erected it into a convenient railway station, well placed in the centre of the best sugar and cane growing part of the district.

22. Including this town population the total population for the district in 1901 was 9,20,312, or 535 per square mile.

23. The prevailing castes of the cultivators are exhibited in the following table:—

Class A—Thakurs.

Brahmans.

Kaisths.

Class B—Kachis.

Muraos.

Kurmis.

Kisáns.

Ahírs.

Mális.

Class C—Others, including Musalmans:—

Tenure.		Percentage of total tenant area held by—		
		A.	B.	C.
Exproprietary and occupancy	...	32	39	29
Non-occupancy	...	24	36	40
All tenants	...	28	37	35

The only parts where Kurmis are numerous are the good country round Tilhar and the good country near the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway in the north-east. Ahirs are strong in the bhur. Elsewhere Chamárs and Kisáns are the most prominent of the low caste. Musalmans are few. Other castes are found in about the usual proportion all over the country. The cultivators as a class are poor and have little capital, I think.

24. The prevailing tenures are pattidári and joint zemíndári. In the south-west, Jellalabad, Kant and Khera-Bajhera, small resident Hindu pattidárs, mostly high caste, predominate. Round the towns of Sháhjehánpur, Tilhar and Katra these give place a good deal to Musalmans and to Hindus of the mercantile classes, who mostly live in the said towns. In the north-east the land again is found in the hands of high caste Hindus, with a preponderance in this instance of large proprietors. The following figures may be useful :—

Proprietors.

Percentage of area under—			
Single zemíndári.		Joint zemíndári.	Pattidári.
22		34	44

Percentage of area held by—			
Hindus.		Musalmans.	Christians.
High caste.	Mercantile and others.		
59	16	23	2

25. As a class, the landlords are certainly poor. The number of men who could be called rich is very small indeed. The only large proprietor is the Rája of Pawayan, whose revenue is a little over Rs. 60,000. The next largest is Rája Narayan Singh of Paraur, who pays about Rs. 10,000. The number of zemíndári estates paying between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 10,000 is:—

		Number.	Revenue.
Tahsíl Sháhjehánpur	...	42	83,712
„ Jellalabad	...	...	..
„ Pawayan	...	16	53,912
„ Tilhar	...	15	42,780
Total	...	73	1,80,354

That is, out of a total revenue for the district of Rs. 11,69,260, only some Rs. 2,50,000, or about 21 per cent., is paid by zemíndári estates paying over Rs. 1,000. It is therefore mainly a district of small revenue-payers. Most of the pattidárs and a proportion of the small zemíndárs could not live on their rents alone, their shares being too small, but are largely dependent on their own cultivation; and many of them are poor and in debt.

26. The cultivated area at this settlement was 6,89,644 acres; but this figure is somewhat lower than the normal on account of the 1897 famine, the survey and settlement year having in two tahsís (Tilhar and Pawayan) been the famine year 1896-97. The year in Sháhjehánpur and Jellalabad was 1895-96. The average cultivation of the five years before the famine was 7,33,431 acres. Cultivation has recovered a good deal since 1897, and is now 7,24,767 acres. Of the uncultivated area some 33,000 acres (about 52 square miles) is taken up by the forests of the Terai, and about the same amount in useless bhur and swamp in the Goomtee country. The balance represents the margin of uncultivated land which exists in every village in ordinary cultivated country. The average tenant's holding is five acres, and the average number of acres ploughed by every plough is seven.

Cultivation.

27. The crops are shown in statement VI of the appendix. The sugarcane and opium are, where grown, important sources of wealth to the people. The advances given by the Opium Department are a great financial assistance to them: but opium cultivation only pays small and industrious cultivators.

Crops.

## Irrigation.

28. Irrigation is good. The clay country and the bad Goomtee country are the only parts seriously liable to drought. In these parts kutchha wells cannot, as a rule, be successfully sunk. In most of the clay country nullah irrigation is generally available, and suffices for ordinary years; but with the least sign of drought the demand for water becomes very imperative. The Goomtee country is altogether unprotected. In the other parts of the district kutchha wells can generally be dug. Water is reached near the surface mostly, seldom deeper than 12 or 15 feet. Masonry wells are rare, the kutchha wells seeming to serve all purposes sufficiently. The people also seldom have capital enough to make wells of masonry.

29. The clay country, by which is meant the Bunkuttee circle of Jellalabad, the Bahgul circle of Khera-Bajhera, the greater part of Jamaur and the Khaimua circle of Nigohi, includes some 15 per cent. of the total cultivated area of the district, and the Goomtee country some 7 per cent. And of the clay country about  $\frac{1}{3}$  may be considered fairly well protected by nullah irrigation. Therefore—considering capacity for irrigation broadly, by assessment circles and not field by field—the proportion of the cultivated area of the district which is altogether unprotected by irrigation may be put at about 17 per cent.

30. Figures showing actual irrigation, measured field by field, are given in statement I of the appendix. It is difficult to deduce from these figures what the physical capacity for irrigation is, because it cannot be known how far the people have taken advantage of it. In years of good rainfall many fields which could be irrigated if necessary are not irrigated because they do not require it; and in years of drought many fields which might be irrigated are not irrigated because the people have not the strength or the capital to irrigate them in time.

31. I may conclude by quoting the following paragraph from Mr. Currie's report; which I think is as applicable now as it was in his time, 1870.

"Irrigation is not a *sine qua non* in this district as it is in the Doab, and from the fact of the water level being only a few feet from the surface, and kutchha wells being made with great facility, irrigation is possible almost anywhere, and can be arranged for speedily, though no traces of wells may be visible a week or ten days before irrigation actually commences. The area actually irrigated in any one year depends, therefore, more on the season and necessity for irrigation than on the capability of irrigation. The area entered as irrigated is that ordinarily irrigated in average years, not the area capable of irrigation, or protected area, irrespective of harvest or crop. Out of a total cultivated area of all but  $7\frac{1}{2}$  lacs of acres, nearly five lacs are irrigable, chiefly from wells, but in some pergunnahs extensively from ponds and rivers; and there are from 87,000 to 90,000 acres of khadir or terai lands not requiring irrigation; so that more than  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lacs of acres, or about  $77\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., out of a total cultivated area of under  $7\frac{1}{2}$  lacs, are either irrigable or independent of irrigation, and only one lac sixty seven thousand acres, or about  $22\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., are incapable of irrigation in the whole district. So long, then, as the present rainfall and regular winter rains continue, and the water level remains unchanged, it seems a self-evident proposition that canals are not required in this district, and are more likely to do harm than good, by raising the water level, causing a spread of malaria, and possibly a growth of rehs, where there is none whatever now."

## Rents.

32. Rents are practically all in cash, and have been so for at least 100 years. Only exceptionally precarious lands here and there are grain-rented. The rents are mostly rents by rates on the kutchha bigha, which is about one-sixth of an acre; but in the more advanced parts of the district the tendency is more for new holdings to be let at lump rents. In the Pawayan tahsil the rate often varies with the crop sown. There is very generally a differential rate for sugarcane.

33. As regards high and low-caste rents, it is the result of my observation in this settlement that except near the large towns, where competition for land is keen, caste has a decided influence upon rent. Whether or not there exists any definite or understood custom on the subject, it is an almost universal fact that high-caste tenants pay less rent than low-caste. The high-caste are sure to be unconsciously

favoured to some extent, if not consciously ; while they are also worse cultivators than the low-caste ; their women do not work in the field, and it is much harder to get rent out of them : which things seem a sufficient explanation.

The following caste statement gives the figures :—

Tenure.	All-round recorded rent rate paid by—		
	A.	B.	C.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Exproprietary and occupancy ...	3 1 0	3 11 0	3 8 0
Non-occupancy ...	3 4 0	3 8 0	3 8 0
All tenants ...	3 2 0	3 9 0	3 8 0

Class. A.—Thákurs, Bráhmans and Kaisths.

„ B.—Kachis, Muraos, Kurmis, Kisáns, Ahírs and Mális.

„ C.—Others, including Musalmans.

Ahírs might, perhaps, have been more appropriately included in class C ; but by the time I found this out it was too late to change. In tendency to pay low rents and in indisposition to submit to exactions they incline to resemble the high-caste.

The difference between high and low-caste rents may be put at two annas in the rupee, as a rough average. This was the difference which I generally found suitable for the purposes of assessment and fixation of rent.



## CHAPTER II.

## FISCAL HISTORY.

## Fiscal history.

34. The fiscal history of the district has, it must I fear be allowed, been a history of over-assessment for many years, of trouble in revenue and comparative stagnation in rents. The comparison of the demands in the old settlements with the demand which has now been decided to be a fair one in this settlement speaks much in this behalf. It is :—

<i>Settlement.</i>	<i>Demand.</i>
	Ra.
Mr Christian's	10,22,324
Mr. Muir's, 1840	9,75,273
Mr. Currie's, 1870	11,84,425
„ after reduction	11,66,241
This settlement	11,69,260

35. Mr. Muir's was the first long-term (30 years) settlement made in this district. Before him all the settlements were for short terms. Mr. Christian's was the last of the short-term settlements, and was the 8th ; so that the average term of settlement up to 1840 appears to have been about 5 years. Correct figures for these early settlements are not ascertainable ; but Mr. Muir's opinion was that their general tendency was to undue severity in assessment and to too little restraint in enhancement ; that this had been particularly the case in the 8th settlement, and that the distressed state which he as a fact found the district to be in was mainly attributable to this cause. He made considerable reductions in every pergunnah except Khutar.

36. Mr. Currie's opinion of Mr. Muir's settlement was as follows :—

“ I think that Mr. Muir's was a good settlement ; that he apportioned his reductions according to the exigencies of the case as then apparent ; and that he not only saved the district from impending ruin, but gave a healthy impetus to industry and improvement which has borne good fruit, as is abundantly evident from this present report, and the large increase of cultivation and revenue. Mr. Muir's assessment was, as a rule, somewhat heavy at its commencement, although a considerable reduction on its predecessor, and punitive measures for the collection of the revenue, as well as transfers caused by its pressure, were rather numerous in the first ten or twelve years of the settlement ; but these became gradually less as extension of cultivation and general development and improvement took place, and after permanent reductions of revenue had been granted in all cases of marked severity. ”

37. Mr. Currie, therefore, considered the district in 1870 practically recovered from the evil effects of the settlements previous to Mr. Muir's and in a condition to bear enhancement on Mr. Muir's demand. It is, I think, now generally allowed that his view was somewhat too optimistic, and that he took too much enhancement ; but this remark must be qualified by stating that it does not apply to the district universally, but only to parts of it, and by recalling that his settlement had within a short time of its commencement to face the famine of 1877, a calamity which would upset any calculations.

38. The settlement of 1870 was made not on actuals as Mr. Currie then found them, but on what he considered would become actuals as soon as the pressure of the enhanced demand began to be felt. The Board have said : “ The assessment, being based on what were termed the gross potential assets, took into account prospective extensions of cultivation and enhancements of rent ; and thus largely discounted, if it did not help to check, future improvement.” Mr. Currie's demand fell at 55 per cent. of actual assets as we should now calculate them, and in some places the enhancement also was heavy. In pergunnah Khutar, where there had been large extension of cultivation, it was 78 per cent. It was made progressive there.

39. The following extracts from recent correspondence are to the point :—

“ The last settlement of the district is now admitted to have been originally severe. It has been necessary, from time to time, to grant considerable reductions and remissions of revenue, and there are still estates in which the assessment is a heavy burden. The existing demand is collected with greater difficulty than is experienced in any other of the Rohilkhand districts.”

Secretary, Board of Revenue, No. 1202N  
I—579,  
dated 17th July  
1895, to Chief Secretary to Government, paragraph 2.

Secretary, Board of Revenue, No. 1202N  
I—579,  
dated 17th July  
1895, to Chief Secretary to Government, paragraph 2.

"There can be no doubt, I think, that the district has suffered from over-assessment during many settlements, and that its development has been greatly retarded in consequence. The villages and the inhabitants have an unusually squalid and poverty-stricken look; and except in the busy markets of Sháhjehánpur and Tilhar, there are few or no signs of wealth."

"The revenue history of Sháhjehánpur, unlike that of other districts recently reported on, is far from being a record of agricultural progress and growth of rents. The only material improvement has been in communications. The population is smaller than it was in 1871, and according to the Director's returns there has been practically no expansion of cultivation. There has been no improvement in the means of irrigation. The statistics, in fact, show a large decrease in the irrigated area, which, however, is probably due to the character of recent seasons. To the same cause may be attributed the changes in the method of cultivation referred to in paragraph 14 of the Director's report, which do not indicate any real and general improvement in the system of agriculture. Prices have risen, as in other districts, but there has been no corresponding development in rents."

"The Famine of 1877..... evidently struck a serious blow at the prosperity of the district. The population which in 1872 was 949,471 fell to 857,885 in 1881, and in 1891 it was 918,551, or over 30,000 short of the population at settlement. In this respect Sháhjehánpur differs from Bijnor, where the population, despite a temporary check between 1872-1881, had increased by 56,000 during the currency of settlement." It will be observed that these remarks were made before the 1897 famine.

40. The following statements illustrate the working of the settlement in respect of realization of revenue :—

*Statement showing the reductions, remissions, and balances of revenue in the Sháhjehánpur district from 1872 to 1899.*

Year.	Balance of revenue.	Remission.	Decrease during the year—						Total.			
			By revision of assessment at regular settlement.	By summary reduction of revenue on account of over-assessment or any other cause.	By delivision.	By Government appropriation.	By any other cause.					
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	
1872-1873	4,528	3,981	7,704	...	...	...	...	...	1,703	0	0	
1873-1874	5,859	2,499	5,082	...	...	300	0	0	621	0	0	
1874-1875	60,849	2,263	...	150	0	0	305	0	0	380	0	0
1875-1876	10,705	23,053	...	...	...	1,877	6	0	...	...	...	
1876-1877	17,738	4,306	...	...	...	1,593	12	0	35	0	0	
1877-1878	81,106	7,512	...	...	...	605	0	0	1	0	0	
1878-1879	23,531	5,561	...	...	...	585	0	0	76	0	0	
1879-1880	21,129	4,412	...	180	0	0	2,956	0	0	116	0	0
1880-1881	15,359	9,336	...	6,835	0	0	276	1	0	...	...	...
1881-1882	21,290	14,207	...	30	0	0	2,407	10	0	3	0	0
1882-1883	27,850	4,667	...	60	0	0	2,684	0	0	13	0	0
1883-1884	19,504	13,294	...	2,623	2	0	...	...	24	0	0	
1884-1885	11,001	4,411	...	461	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	
1885-1886	21,563	35,212	...	13,719	5	6	1,440	0	0	...	...	...
1886-1887	6,590	22,964	...	70	0	0	1,084	0	0	199	0	0
1887-1888	3,780	2,659	...	...	...	...	932	0	0	...	...	...
1888-1889	3,595	2,249	...	...	...	...	1,046	0	0	...	...	...
1889-1890	8,930	5,677	...	600	0	0	1,426	6	0	13	10	0
1890-1891	5,475	6,826	...	...	...	...	1,123	7	3	106	0	0
1891-1892	18,863	1,815	...	180	0	0	2,573	9	0	10	0	0
1892-1893	1,925	4,440	...	459	0	0	490	0	0	9	8	3
1893-1894	5,971	1,562	...	157	4	0	589	0	0	...	...	...
1894-1895	61,469	1,372	...	...	...	...	384	0	0	...	...	...
1895-1896	188,641	1,170	...	...	...	...	...	...	99	0	0	
1896-1897	558,214	944	...	20	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...
1897-1898	115,220	12,780	...	...	...	...	1,397	0	0	6	0	0
1898-1899	81,660	32,631	...	...	...	...	2,970	7	6	54	0	0

Director of Land Revenue, No. 2209  
dated 4th March 1895, to Board of Revenue, paragraph 26.

Secretary, Board of Revenue, No. 1202N  
dated 17th July 1895, to Chief Secretary to Government, paragraph 2.

Commissioner, Rohilkhand Division's No. 5474  
dated 11th May 1895, to Board of Revenue, paragraph 4.



## Statement of coercive processes for recovery of arrears of revenue, district Sháhjehánpur.

Year.	Writs of demand.											
	Number of maháls in district.	Number of maháls concerning which writs of demand issued.	Number of writs.	Number per mahál.	Arrears on account of which writs issued.	Largest number of writs issued on any single mahál in a single <i>kist</i> .	Process-servers' fee.					
							Amount of fees leviable, arrears.	Amount of fees leviable, current.	Realized.	Disbursed.	Surplus.	Deficit.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1879—1880	3,150	995	1,358	...	2,32,254	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1880—1881	3,164	884	1,239	...	2,34,980	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1881—1882	3,167	878	1,198	1	2,21,989	4	1,046	...	900	692	208	...
1882—1883	3,171	636	854	1	1,83,565	4	640	...	640	566	74	...
1883—1884	3,200	740	849	1	2,19,109	8	52	637	681	670	11	...
1884—1885	3,203	1,054	1,069	1	2,25,344	1	7	802	809	514	295	...
1885—1886	3,207	1,003	991	1	1,85,632	2	...	765	765	582	183	...
1886—1887	3,216	846	848	1	1,53,617	1	...	683	683	538	145	...
1887—1888	3,234	601	598	1	1,18,816	2	...	449	449	349	100	...
1888—1889	3,253	764	729	1	1,68,144	2	...	547	547	467	80	...
1889—1890	3,255	839	762	1	1,20,706	2	...	572	572	523	49	...
1890—1891	3,260	685	644	1	82,258	2	...	483	483	400	83	...
1891—1892	3,270	592	596	1	77,771	2	...	447	446	434	12	...
1892—1893	3,305	610	610	1	76,014	1	1	457	458	395	63	...
1893—1894	3,362	466	466	1	58,008	1	...	349	348	190	158	...
1894—1895	3,473	424	424	1	61,949	1	1	318	299	...	299	...
1895—1896	3,515	763	626	1	97,690	1	20	469	449	...	449	...
1896—1897	3,595	297	136	1	62,413	1	41	102	66	...	66	...
1897—1898	3,595	308	99	...	62,649	1	77	74	100	19	81	...
1898—1899	3,595	646	306	1	903,91	1	52	229	273	47	226	...
1899—1900	3,595	542	244	1	73,835	1	8	183	190	32	158	...
Total	69,785	14,568	14,646	18	28,07,128	33	1,945	7,566	9,158	6,418	2,740	...
Average	3,323	694	697	1	1,33,673	2	93	360	436	306	130	...

*Statement of coercive processes for recovery of arrears of revenue, district Sháhjehánpur*  
—(continued).

Years.	Arrest and detention.					Distress and sale of moveable property.							Attachment of shares, patts or maháls.		
	Number of maháls in which process issued.	Number of persons arrested.	Arrears on account of which process issued.	Number of defaulters actually detained.	Average term of detention.	Longest term any single defaulter was detained.	Number of maháls in which process issued.	Number of defaulters.	Arrears on account of which process issued.	Number of cases in which sale actually took place.	Arrears due in these cases.	Amount recovered by sale of distraint property.	Number of maháls, shares or patts attached.	Revenue of such maháls, shares or patts.	Arrears on account of which process issued.
1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1870-1880	29	47	9,979	...	...	...	115	90	5,906	...	...	...	...	...	...
1880-1881	74	181	29,878	...	...	...	137	155	15,518	...	...	...	5	793	575
1881-1882	182	240	41,958	...	...	...	194	214	44,664	16	1,063	441	44	14,927	6,958
1882-1883	36	51	6,188	...	...	...	266	194	25,060	8	3,233	586	7	2,402	919
1883-1884	94	68	7,385	...	...	...	206	307	22,471	3	37	28	6	1,819	822
1884-1885	...	...	...	...	...	...	223	169	16,329	5	404	109	2	190	190
1885-1886	37	1	1,535	1	8	8	246	251	21,052	22	2,031	935	18	5,890	2,270
1886-1887	513	81	51,425	1	1	1	158	100	10,863	16	1,543	335	1	191	82
1887-1888	179	21	26,597	1	5	5	215	340	23,957	17	1,220	510	3	2,022	1,454
1888-1889	167	10	26,746	...	...	...	183	195	17,153	11	648	354	18	5,181	4,407
1889-1890	133	15	24,173	7	2	2	145	177	10,439	16	1,010	687	12	3,598	1,291
1890-1891	56	10	11,652	3	1	2	129	130	12,599	4	926	179	3	7,448	4,043
1891-1892	25	4	5,823	1	4	4	73	78	43,230	5	542	528	5	266	300
1892-1893	42	9	10,946	5	3	6	45	51	5,037	7	1,260	955	22	8,700	8,700
1893-1894	57	11	6,378	7	6	15	52	57	6,576	3	28	8	18	4,020	3,353
1894-1895	85	23	12,547	16	3	15	276	252	43,547	12	1,658	1,025	...	...	...
1895-1896	213	52	47,800	27	5	15	357	217	78,860	14	1,659	749	38	9,660	5,457
1896-1897	125	39	28,228	17	5	15	111	49	5,464	8	2,142	577	114	28,524	24,290
1897-1898	202	41	38,711	28	9	15	249	193	22,405	16	4,000	2,348	159	68,977	90,014
1898-1899	174	78	46,168	64	8	15	731	560	74,105	69	17,815	5,359	87	24,320	27,745
1899-1900	184	41	14,873	27	6	15	921	794	1,00,461	51	14,443	522	88	25,200	32,352
Total ...	2,607	1,021	1,48,990	205	66	133	5,032	4,573	6,05,696	303	55,662	16,235	650	2,13,623	2,15,222
Average...	124	49	21,380	10	3	6	240	218	28,843	14	2,651	773	31	10,173	10,249

*Statement of coercive processes for recovery of arrears of revenue, district  
Sháhjehánpur—(concluded).*

Year.	Transfer.				Annulment of settlement.						Sale.							
					Farm.			Direct manage- ment.			Of maháls or pattis.				Of other immoveable property.			
	Number of maháls in which shares or pattis were transferred.	Number of shares or pattis transferred.	Revenue of such shares or pattis.	Arrears on account of which process issued.	Number of maháls or pattis farmed.	Revenue of such maháls or pattis.	Arrears for which farmed.	Number of maháls or pattis held under direct management.	Revenue of such maháls or pattis.	Arrears for which taken under direct manage- ment.	Number of maháls or pattis sold.	Revenue of such maháls or pattis.	Arrears for which sold.	Amount realized by sale.	Number of maháls or pattis on account of which process issued.	Revenue of such maháls or pattis.	Arrears for which sold.	Amount realized by sale.
1	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46
1879-1880	6	6	1,521	515	1	58	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1880-1881	7	7	862	827	4	387	387	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1881-1882	2	2	682	144	...	...	...	2	140	167	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1882-1883	5	5	673	435	2	283	211	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1883-1884	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	450	562	562	...	...	...	...
1884-1885	2	2	340	211	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1885-1886	1	1	85	95	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1886-1887	4	4	859	983	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	635	1,443	1,443	...	...	...	...
1887-1888	2	4	5,787	1,269	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1888-1889	...	...	...	...	1	20	61	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1889-1890	3	3	236	148	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	635	172	172	...	...	...	...
1890-1891	1	1	201	127	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1891-1892	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	635	2,363	5,000	...	...	...	...
1892-1893	3	3	82	140	8	899	602	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1893-1894	1	1	219	317	2	218	219	...	...	...	1	738	630	630	...	...	...	...
1894-1895	...	...	...	...	1	86	53	...	...	...	21	156	313	313	...	...	...	...
1895-1896	1	1	121	241	...	...	...	1	232	464	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1896-1897	1	1	22	38	...	...	...	2	348	597	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1897-1898	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1898-1899	2	2	192	280	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1899-1900	1	1	233	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	42	44	12,115	5,773	19	1,951	1,568	5	720	1,228	26	3,249	5,483	8,120	...	...	...	...
Average ...	2	2	577	275	1	93	75	...	34	58	1	155	261	387	...	...	...	...

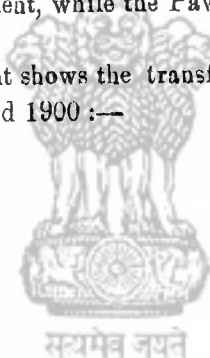
41. The unfortunate state of things indicated above mainly refers to two pergunnahs, Pawayan and Khutar. Jellalabad has been a troublesome tahsíl, but in my opinion the cause has been, not overassessment, but the complex pattidári tenure which prevails there and the absence of a well-ordered lambardári system to cope with it. An attempt has been made at this settlement under the orders of the Board to re-establish the lambardári system on a satisfactory basis, and if the reformed system is adhered to and kept in working order, there is every reason to hope that things will be better in the future.

42. The reductions which had to be granted so soon after the beginning of the settlement were nearly all in the Pawayan and Khutar pergunnahs, and chiefly in Khutar. It was found that the Settlement Officer had allowed insufficiently—though he did allow something—for the fact that the year of assessment was an unusually favourable year and the cultivated area unusually large: and that his anticipations as to rise of rent and extension of cultivation had not been fulfilled.

43. Cases of overassessment existed in other parts of the district also, but they were isolated cases, generally occurring in villages which were, and are still, uncertain villages and difficult to assess. The most even and moderate settlement was, I think, that of tahsíl Tilhar. This was done by the Assistant Settlement Officer, Mr. Butt. The settlements of the Sháhjehánpur and Jellalabad tahsís, though less even and less moderate than that of Tilhar, resulted in nothing like the state of things that resulted in Pawayan. All these three tahsís have admitted of small enhancement at this settlement, while the Pawayan tahsíl has required heavy reduction.

44. The following statement shows the transfers which have taken place in landed property between 1879 and 1900 :—

Transfers.



*Comparative statement of proprietary mutations registered under orders of Civil and Revenue Courts or by private transfer, consequent on sale or mortgage, etc., during the agricultural years 1879-1900.*

Year.	Under orders of court.										By private transfer.										Number of mortgage cases.	Number of redemption of mortgage cases.	Number of other cases.	Total number of cases.
	Sale of revenue-paying lands.					Sale of revenue-free lands.					Sale of revenue-paying lands.					Sale of revenue-free lands.								
	Number of cases.	Aggregate land revenue.	Price.	Number of years' purchase of the revenue.	Number of cases.	Estimated land revenue.	Price.	Number of years' purchase of the revenue (assumed).	Number of other cases.	Total number of cases.	Number of cases.	Aggregate land revenue.	Price.	Number of years' purchase of the revenue.	Number of cases.	Estimated land revenue.	Price.	Number of years' purchase of the revenue assumed.	Number of cases.	Number of successions cases.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
1879-1880	80	8,931	53,065	...	5	11	157	...	36	121	369	31,041	2,65,678	...	63	303	15,952	...	1,370	109	...	189	2,100	
1880-1881	128	9,829	76,823	...	12	22	942	...	60	200	463	21,152	2,63,456	...	53	126	10,929	...	1,084	146	...	238	1,984	
1881-1882	187	8,511	69,380	...	7	21	684	...	11	205	336	20,310	2,04,048	...	64	255	8,441	...	510	95	...	105	1,160	
1882-1883	164	8,890	50,299	...	7	20	732	...	11	182	409	18,360	2,82,532	...	63	228	12,496	...	560	141	...	149	1,322	
1883-1884	159	9,736	69,644	...	5	13	289	...	13	177	351	19,678	2,46,016	...	42	188	11,175	...	414	109	...	128	1,044	
1884-1885	141	10,577	98,940	...	3	4	305	...	3	147	320	24,982	1,83,522	...	47	261	8,979	...	419	91	...	187	1,044	
1885-1886	112	6,043	46,886	...	8	47	269	...	4	124	265	10,800	1,76,534	...	45	247	8,690	...	549	88	...	183	1,130	
1886-1887	152	8,174	48,495	...	7	12	372	...	13	172	315	11,442	1,54,430	...	47	247	8,690	...	619	114	...	122	1,229	
1887-1888	149	6,190	74,475	...	2	7	177	...	25	176	306	9,026	1,21,276	...	50	407	15,793	...	919	103	...	94	1,510	
1888-1889	148	8,408	75,084	...	9	30	850	...	23	178	323	10,688	2,47,137	...	41	168	7,947	...	659	84	...	118	1,265	
1889-1890	113	4,602	42,230	...	3	8	83	...	34	150	242	12,986	1,95,369	...	40	238	10,738	...	1,371	105	...	140	1,932	
1890-1891	136	5,230	48,471	...	8	39	1,392	...	63	207	417	20,177	3,21,183	...	36	69	7,840	...	1,286	98	...	153	2,028	
1891-1892	137	3,435	33,801	...	4	10	254	...	80	221	376	15,756	2,87,149	...	41	110	10,691	...	1,425	151	...	192	2,241	
1892-1893	137	3,896	51,913	...	14	6	1,620	...	75	218	346	14,650	1,91,374	...	37	122	7,887	...	1,190	121	...	102	1,936	
1893-1894	170	8,263	16,131	...	7	64	3,145	...	55	232	274	12,629	1,86,354	...	31	170	14,599	...	988	114	...	121	1,872	
1894-1895	181	6,659	72,715	...	11	31	1,512	...	81	272	354	10,671	1,86,717	...	44	187	11,196	...	1,498	152	...	119	2,220	
1895-1896	141	9,645	1,61,868	...	17	9	2,444	...	71	221	303	10,454	2,00,714	...	55	187	13,532	...	1,313	122	...	100	1,926	
1896-1897	161	8,794	1,17,615	...	13	8	809	...	54	223	470	15,673	2,89,043	...	38	221	12,499	...	1,337	159	...	142	2,229	
1897-1898	212	10,125	1,69,316	...	17	12	1,173	...	65	231	424	14,945	3,17,115	...	21	135	6,935	...	1,111	113	...	85	1,785	
1898-1899	265	12,656	2,11,645	...	17	19	1,637	...	67	284	428	15,086	3,20,106	...	21	141	7,847	...	1,073	218	...	90	1,919	
1899-1900	205	9,791	1,63,725	...	17	...	...	...	33	239	471	16,502	3,52,266	...	23	75	4,197	...	1,205	65	...	115	1,905	
Total	3,278	1,08,275	17,71,042	171	149	432	18,866	843	752	4,179	7,612	3,42,808	48,53,219	240	972	3,968	2,17,044	945	20,900	2,498	603	2,886	35,471	
Average	156	8,013	84,335	8	7	21	898	40	36	199	362	16,324	2,31,106	11	46	189	10,335	45	995	119	29	137	1,689	

Taking columns 3 and 13, this means that land paying some 43 per cent. of the total revenue of the district has been sold during the last 21 years, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  under order of court and  $\frac{2}{3}$  by private sale.

45. The area transferred affords useful information, but too much stress must not be laid upon the prices realised. In as much as the rental value of the land transferred may be anything from 7 or 8 rupees down to 4 or 5 annas an acre, it is clearly impossible to draw any sound inference from the average price realised till the average rental value is to some extent known. The labour of ascertaining the average rental value, even if it be possible to ascertain it, would be enormous.

46. Subject to the above remarks, the difference between the prices fetched for revenue-paying and revenue-free lands tends to show that many of the former must have been heavily assessed.

47. Though the area transferred since 1870 has been considerable it does not appear that there has been any marked tendency for the land to pass from the agricultural to the non-agricultural classes during this period, but rather from one person in the agricultural class to another person in the same class. Between 1840 and 1870, according to the last Settlement Report, the area held by the non-agricultural classes was nearly trebled; but the advancement of these classes since 1870 appears to have been slight. The following are the figures:—

Year.	Percentage of area held by non-agricultural classes.
1840	6
1860	13
1870	17
1900	19

Some explanation is required as to what is meant by the non-agricultural classes in these figures. They mean Hindus of the mercantile castes, such as Bunniahs and Mahájans, etc., and Muhammadans whose main profession is trade and who have only acquired their zemíndáris recently. This was the distinction adopted by Mr. Currie, and I have of necessity had to follow it as far as possible in order to permit comparison between his figures and the present. Which Muhammadan estates Mr. Currie included in each category cannot now be ascertained, but it is clear from what he says that he included the great majority in the agricultural class, on the ground of their being hereditary zemíndárs. It is still true that the great majority of the Muhammadan zemíndárs are of old land-holding stock and not new men. The knowledge of what Muhammadan estates Mr. Currie classed as non-agricultural not being definite, it did not appear to me worth while to attempt to obtain definite figures now. I have therefore made a guess merely, and have taken  $\frac{1}{3}$ th of the existent Muhammadan estates to belong to the non-agricultural class as defined by Mr. Currie. The Muhammadan estates make up 23 per cent. of the district. I have therefore taken  $\frac{1}{3}$ th of this or 3 per cent. and added this to the percentage held by the Hindu mercantile castes, which is 16. This is the manner in which the figure given above, 19 per cent., has been obtained. If the reliability of the 3 per cent. estimate be disallowed, we at any rate can make the statement that 59 per cent. of the district is still held by Hindus of the land-holding castes, and 23 per cent. by Muhammadans of whom the great majority are undoubtedly of land-holding stock. My own opinion is that the 3 per cent. estimate is near enough for the purpose of the argument.

## CHAPTER III.

## COMPARISON OF PRESENT CONDITION OF DISTRICT WITH THAT IN 1870.

48. Statements I and VI in the appendix compare the present with the former condition of the district as regards cultivation, irrigation and crops. The question of irrigation has been dealt with in paragraph 28 above. Irrigation conditions have not changed since last settlement.

As explained above, the figures for "year of verification" in the table are to some extent vitiated by the 1897 Famine. In Statement VI the average of the last five years affords the best indications.

49. The most noticeable changes in cultivation and crops since 1870 are the partial replacing of wheat by barley and mixed rabi crops: the increase in the rabi sown after kharif (dofasli): the increase in the rice at the expense of bajra and juar: the increase of opium: and the increase of sugarcane. With regard to this last it must be noted that the figure for the settlement year includes pandri (land prepared for sugarcane), while the figures for previous years do not. The amount of pandri included is 20,352 acres. Deducting this, there appears a slight decrease in absolute area in the settlement year, but a slight increase relative to total cultivated area. The percentages of sugarcane area to total cultivated area are:—

Year.					Percentages.
Last settlement 1870	...	...	...	...	6.53
Average of last five years	...	...	...	...	7.58
This settlement year	...	...	...	...	7.87

50. The cultivation figures given in the appendix may be supplemented by the following, which compare the different tahsils one with another:—

Tahsil.	Percentage of cultivated area to total area.			
	In 1870.	Average of five years ending 1895.	Year of settlement, 1895-1897.	1899 (1307F).
1	2	3	4	5
Sháhjehánpur ...	71.63	69.74	69.74	72.07
Jellalabad ...	61.91	64.69	64.53	68.03
Pawayan ...	65.21	58.91	48.63	52.52
Tilhar ...	70.72	74.12	74.31	77.07
Total	67.38	66.13	62.62	65.81

In tahsils Pawayan and Tilhar the year of settlement (*i. e.*, of survey) fell in the Famine of 1897, while the survey in Sháhjehánpur and Jellalabad took place just before it. This remark is made in order to avoid misunderstanding. Columns 3 and 5 are the columns most to be looked at.

51. The part which has gone out of cultivation in Pawayan is the bad, unhealthy and precarious country of the Goomtee, comprising the Tareona-Goomtee and Samwat-Bhainsi Circles of pergunnah Pawayan and the Jhukna Circle of pergunnah Khutar. A full account of this country is given in the Tahsil Assessment Report. For the corresponding decrease in population see paragraph 17 of this report.

52. Against this falling off there has been a slight extension of cultivation in the forest country along the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway.

53. As regards the possibility of further extension of cultivation, the Sháhjehánpur and Tilhar tahsils possess practically none. In them the uncultivated land is practically all either barren or else required for purposes other than cultivation. In Jellalabad there is still waste land left, mostly dank and scrub jungle, which may be cultivated: but there is not very much, and what there is looks of poor quality, being largely tainted with usar. In Pawayan the possibilities lie in the reclamation of the abandoned bhur lands on the Goomtee and in the clearing and cultivating of the forest, of which there is about 50 square miles.

54. The following figures give the present and former extent of proprietary cultivation.

Proprietary cultivation.

Tahsil.	1870.				1900.			
	Percentage of seer.	Percentage of khud kasht.	Total.	Percentage of total actually cultivated by proprietors.	Percentage of seer.	Percentage of khud kasht.	Total.	Percentage of total (i.e., preceding column) actually cultivated by proprietors.
Sháhjehánpur ...	14	Included in seer.	14	Not available.	10	4	14	61
Jellalabad ...	24		24		15	8	23	69
Pawayan ...	9		9		6	4	10	72
Tilbar ...	15		15		10	3	13	63
Whole district ...	14	...	14	...	10	4	14	66

55. The following figures show the history of occupancy right since 1870 : —

Loss or retention of occupancy right.

Tahsil.	Percentage of total tenant area under.					
	1870.		This settlement before attestation.		This settlement after attestation.	
	Occupancy.	Non-occupancy.	Occupancy.	Non-occupancy.	Occupancy.	Non-occupancy.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Sháhjehánpur ...	78	22	41	56	73	27
Jellalabad ...	69	31	41	59	66	34
Tilbar ...	80	20	44	56	70	30
Pawayan ...	60	40	35	65	65	35
Whole district ...	71	29	41	59	69	31

The central pair of columns has been given in order to make clear the fact that column 6 does not represent merely the survivals of column 2. The survivals of column 2 are represented by column 4, less the probably not large number of tenants who were decreed fresh occupancy right by the rent courts between 1870 and this settlement. If for the sake of example this latter element were put at 6 per cent. out of the 41 per cent. in column 4, it would mean that only about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of column 6 was a survival from column 2. It is impossible to ascertain exactly how much of column 4 dates back to 1870, and we can only make an estimate. In my opinion it is justifiable to state the case in this manner, that only about a half, or a very little more than half, of the occupancy right of 1870 has subsisted till 1900 ; or, in other words, that the occupancy tenants have in the space of a generation lost practically half their land. Of course, there is a constant natural tendency for occupancy right to become extinguished, through lack of heirs, calamities, improvidence and the like ; but a rate of extinction amounting to 50 per cent. in a generation would appear rather unduly rapid. The explanation of the undue rapidity is doubtless contained in the two exceptional calamities of 1877 and 1897, and in the fact that many of the occupancy rents fixed at last settlement were somewhat overstrict.

56. Passing to the other phase of the matter, the acquisition of new rights, it is clear that such acquisition has been very freely permitted, and that the landlords as a class have offered no general or determined opposition to it. It is probable, from what I know of the landlords and their sentiments, that this attitude on their part is not so much due to any special liking for the occupancy tenant as to the simple fact that tenants are not so plentiful as to create much competition for land. The degree of competition for land may be judged from the two facts that the rural population is now  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. less than it was in 1870, and that current market rents are only on the average some 9 per cent. above existent occupancy rents (see



paragraphs 17 and 60). It seems a clear and natural law that a landlord's effective opposition to occupancy right must be in direct proportion to the competition for land. Where there are two or three immediate competitors for every holding which becomes vacant, the landlord will naturally oppose occupancy right; but where he is only too thankful to get tenants at any price he cannot afford to oppose occupancy right—he cannot afford either to vex a tenant with the usual means adopted for checking the right, or to think of breaking him after he has earned it. Landlords of bad villages have told me on several occasions that they regarded their occupancy tenants as the most precious thing in the village, and that they only wished there were more of them: their meaning being of course that an occupancy tenant has a stake in the village, and will stay through a trouble which would make a non-occupancy tenant leave the place at once.

57. According to this law, the largest proportion of occupancy right ought to be found in the Pawayan tahsil and the smallest in Tilhar: and it doubtless would be so but for the operation of the equally obvious counteracting law that the more precarious and undesirable the country the less tendency is there for occupancy right to be earned, and the greater tendency for it to be lost; because more non-occupancy tenants will abscond, or be ruined, or die before putting in their 12 years' cultivation, while the occupancy tenant will find it more difficult to pay his rent punctually year by year, and will also feel less incentive to try to do so; and conversely. It may be noted, without laying too much stress on the fact, that in spite of this counteracting law, Pawayan is the only tahsil which has a greater proportion of occupancy right now than in 1870, and that Tilhar, where the demand for land is keenest, has fallen back more than any other tahsil from the proportion of 1870.

Rise of rent since 1870.

58. It is difficult to say how much rents have risen, and the problem is complicated by the fact that they have not changed equally in all places. In some places they have undoubtedly risen a good deal, in others they have actually gone down at any rate, land which fetched a certain rent years ago will not fetch it now. This can be seen by comparison of occupancy with non-occupancy rents in the different places. The part where rents appear to me to have risen most are the good loam lands of the Tilhar tahsil. Here new non-occupancy rents are often, in individual cases, 50 to 100 per cent. above the old occupancy rates. The part where rents have shrunk is the bad bhur country about the Goomtee. Here land can often not be let now at within 30 to 50 per cent. of the old occupancy rates. This state of things may in part be temporary, due to the 1897 Famine, which hit the Goomtee country very hard; but I do not think more than in part. The loam country in Tilhar is about the best land in the district, and the Goomtee country about the worst and most precarious; so this may have something to do with it. But it is also instructive to note that the Tilhar tahsil was the lightest assessed of all at last settlement, and the Pawayan tahsil the heaviest.

In my opinion, the shrinkage of rents where it has taken place is largely attributable to the depressing effect of overassessment, and the excess of old occupancy rents over present market rents to the former having been fixed too high, those now remaining only representing a survival of the fittest; and conversely.

59. In comparing the recorded rents of the 1870 settlement with the rents recorded now, occupancy and non-occupancy, it must be carefully borne in mind that occupancy land is practically always—if a large enough area is taken—better than non-occupancy land. I know this from applying the circle rates to the occupancy and non-occupancy areas in each circle and comparing the results with the recorded demands. This fact deprives us of the possibility of drawing reliable inferences from a comparison of the occupancy and non-occupancy incidences of 1870 and of the present time. Present occupancy incidences may be usefully compared with present non-occupancy incidences, because the circle rate figures in statement VII of the appendix show the comparative value of the soils involved; but we have no means of knowing the comparative value of the occupancy and non-occupancy soils in 1870, so that it is valueless to compare the 1870 occupancy incidence with the

1870 non-occupancy incidence. The only just comparison which can be made between present and past rents is a comparison between present occupancy and non-occupancy taken together and past occupancy and non-occupancy taken together. This comparison is here given :—

Tahsil.	1870.			1900.			Percentage of rise.
	Tenants area.	Rental.	Incidence.	Tenants' area.	Rental.	Incidence.	
	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	
Sháhjehánpur ...	1,54,354	4,56,765	2 15 0	1,57,524	5,66,399	3 10 0	23
Jellalabad ...	1,03,805	3,32,286	3 3 0	1,07,128	3,84,672	3 9 0	12
Pawayan ...	2,29,848	5,12,696	2 4 0	1,79,511	5,06,372	2 13 0	25
Tilhar ...	1,61,198	4,95,604	3 1 0	1,79,658	6,62,713	3 11 0	21
Total ...	6,49,205	17,97,351	2 12 0	6,23,921	21,20,156	3 6 0	23

The figures, as far as they go, indicate a rise of 23 per cent. over the whole district. The rise in Pawayan is partly apparent and not real, due to so much of the worst land having gone out of cultivation.

60. We may now turn from the comparison of present rents with old, occupancy and non-occupancy being taken together, to the comparison of present occupancy rents with present non-occupancy rents. This comparison does not of course help much in establishing the relation between things now and things in 1870; but it is probably the best criterion of existing conditions. It is the comparison between the extreme rent which tenants are willing to offer, but which it still remains to be proved whether they will be able to pay, for land at the present time, and the rent which tenants offered a few years ago and have proved able to pay. It is as follows :—

Tahsil.	Incidence of recorded rental.		Incidence of rental by circle rates.		Percentage of the inferiority of non-occupancy land to occupancy, calculated from preceding two columns.	Correct relation between occupancy and non-occupancy recorded rents on equal lands taking occupancy rent at 100.	
	Occupancy.	Non-occupancy.	Occupancy.	Non-occupancy.		Occupancy.	Non-occupancy.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sháhjehánpur ...	3 7 0	3 13 0	3 10 0	3 8 0	4	100	115
Jellalabad ...	3 11 0	3 10 0	3 11 0	3 8 0	5	100	103
Pawayan ...	3 0 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	2 10 0	13	100	105
Tilhar ...	3 10 0	3 14 0	3 12 0	3 7 0	9	100	117
Total ...	3 7 0	3 6 0	3 9 0	3 3 0	11	100	109

On the whole district, therefore, non-occupancy rents are now about 9 per cent. above occupancy rents.

61. In Pawayan the demand for land at the present time is very slack. In the bad parts it is extremely difficult to obtain tenants. This has been the case for some years, and since the 1897 Famine it is much worse. The population figures in paragraph 17 very sufficiently give the reason why. The very low figure in Jellalabad is at first sight surprising, but I think it is explained by so many of the tenants being small pattidars, co-sharers in the villages of which they are tenants; a fact

which would naturally tend to make rents more regulated by custom and less by competition.

62. On the whole district, it is clear from the above figures that there cannot be said to be a keen effective demand for land at the present time.

63. The history of the last 30 years as bearing upon the present revision of settlement may briefly be summarised thus. Owing to two Famines, in 1877 and 1897, of which the first seriously affected the whole district and the second practically only the Pawayan tahsil, the rural population has declined from 503 to 481 the square mile, and cultivation has declined (taking the figure of 1307 Faslī, the latest year available) from 67·38 to 65·81 per cent. of total area. Owing to a too sanguine assessment in some places, the effect of the famine was greater than it might otherwise have been. There have been no improvements except the reclamation of a certain amount of waste, which has failed to balance the area fallen out of cultivation. Irrigation conditions are as they were. Communications have been very greatly improved, all the three railways and practically all the metalled roads except the Grand Trunk Road having come into existence since 1870. Rent rates appear to have risen about 23 per cent.

64. The nett result of all these things has been that the assets of the district, which were assumed at last settlement at Rs. 23,63,850, have now become Rs. 24,14,245: which remark must be qualified by saying that the last settlement assets have now proved to have been somewhat overestimated.



## CHAPTER IV.

## ASSESSMENT.

65. The assessment in this settlement was conducted under the rules in Board's Circular 15—I of 1897. The Settlement Officer had no concern with any theoretical calculation of value. The aim was to ascertain for each estate what income the landlord, assuming him to be a man of reasonable business habits, might be supposed to be in fact receiving. There was also power to raise occupancy rents, where these seemed very low; but under the direction of Government this power was exercised sparingly and with extreme moderation, and only in cases where rents were beyond doubt very low. The extent to which it was exercised will appear from statement No. VII in the appendix. In a few cases occupancy rents were found excessive and were abated. The statement VII gives the nett result.

Assessment.

The same statement also gives the whole valuation of the assets for assessment, shows how the accepted rents compare with the recorded rents, shows how the assumption areas (grain-rented, landlord's cultivation, &c) have been valued, and states what value has been assumed for assessable siwai items. The only siwai item of importance is the forest in the north-east of the district. The manner in which this was valued and assessed is described in detail in paragraph 9 of the Pawayan Assessment Report.

Valuation.

66. The assets as calculated for this settlement are Rs. 24,14,245. The new revenue is Rs. 11,69,260. This includes the revenue of alluvial mahals, which were all assessed by me and have been started fresh from this year with a new roster. It does not include the nominal revenue assessed on revenue-free land, which is Rs. 4,624, making a grand total of Rs. 11,73,884.

New revenue.

67. In some villages which, owing to the Famine of 1897, or over-assessment, or such causes, were in a deteriorated and distressed condition, light jamas have been imposed for the first five years under Rule 48 to allow them to recover. In others where no anticipation that they would recover in five years or any named period was justifiable, short term settlements for 10 years have been made. These distressed villages are nearly all in tahsil Pawayan, the poorest tahsil and the one which was most severely assessed at last settlement.

Deteriorated villages.

68. Allowances for improvements have been hardly found necessary at all. The only improvements to allow for were reclamations of jungle and waste, and those only here and there.

Improvements.

69. The last settlement demand being Rs. 11,66,241, the nett enhancement has been Rs. 3,019 or .26 per cent. Rs. 11,69,260 is the final demand. Owing to the operation of Rule 48 and the rules for progressive enhancement and allowance for improvements, this demand will not be realized in full immediately, but as follows:—

Enhancement.

Years.	Demand.			
	Rs.			
1900-1904	...	...	...	11,51,984
1905-1909	...	...	...	11,65,283
1910-1914	...	...	...	11,68,390
1915 onwards	...	...	...	11,69,260

70. The preceding paragraphs give the results of the settlement summarised for the district as a whole. The following table (which does not include revenue-free) gives the results in more detailed form, and the tables beneath it give an idea of the extent to which readjustment has taken place among the individual villages:—

Tahsil.	Number of mahals.			Old jama.	Assets.	New jama.				Amount deferred under rule 48.	Percentage of jama to assets.	Enhancement.		Reduction.	
	Quinquennial.	Ordinary.	Total.			For term of settlement.	For 10 years.	For 5 years (Quinquennial).	Total.			Rupees.	Percentage.	Rupees.	Percentage.
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.				
Shahjehanpur	55	803	858	2,91,761	6,23,277	2,89,475	...	11,747	3,01,222	453	48	9,461	3	...	...
Jellalabad ...	104	556	660	2,09,543	4,65,658	2,05,833	...	16,395	2,22,228	...	48	12,687	6	...	...
Pawayan ...	...	1,083	1,083	3,32,798	5,96,035	2,78,223	16,482	...	2,94,705	2,576	49	...	...	38,093	11
Tilhar ...	62	895	957	3,32,139	7,29,275	3,35,324	180	15,597	3,51,105	90	48	18,966	6	...	...
District ..	221	3,337	3,558	11,66,241	24,14,245	11,08,851	16,662	43,781	11,69,260	3,119	48	3,011	26	...	...

Tahsil.	Total number of mahals excluding revenue free.	Number of mahals in which jama has been—		
		Enhanced.	Reduced.	Left unaltered.
Shahjehanpur ... ..	858	501	294	63
Jellalabad ... ..	660	368	181	111
Pawayan ... ..	1,083	229	730	124
Tilhar ... ..	957	536	271	150
Total district ... ..	3,558	1,634	1,476	448

Number of mahals in which—	Tahsil Shahje- hanpur.	Tahsil Jellala- bad.	Tahsil Paway- an.	Tahsil Tilhar.	Total District
Light jama has been imposed for five years under Rule 48...	9	...	46	3	58
Enhancement has been made progressive—Rule 46 ...	44	53	66	89	252
Enhancement due to reclamation of waste has been deferred for 15 years.	...	11	4	22	37

The total amount of revenue deferred for 15 years on account of reclamation of waste is:—

	Rs.
Tahsil Shahjehanpur ... ..	Nil
Do. Jellalabad ... ..	590
Do. Pawayan ... ..	140
Do. Tilhar ... ..	710
Total ... ..	1,440

The method in which this has been calculated is described in paragraphs 74-83 of the Shahjehanpur and Jellalabad Tahsil Assessment Report, read with paragraph 7 of the Tilhar Assessment Report. A want of correspondence will be observed between these figures and the improvements allowance shown in the No. VII in the Appendix. The reason is that in Jellalabad and Pawayan I had proposed to spread the allowance over 30 years, but on the Commissioner's recommendation Government preferred to spread it over 15 years only. The number VII figure of course corresponds with my proposals. This is why the figure above (Rs. 1,440) is more than half the allowance from assets in the number VII.

71. The nett gain to Government in this settlement has therefore amounted to practically nothing. But if there has been no gain in revenue demand, I trust there will prove to have resulted a very substantial gain in ease of realization and in the satisfaction of the people. As far as it is possible for me to form an opinion, the new assessments have been received with general content. Appeals have been few, and I have reason to believe that the cases in which the appellants really thought themselves aggrieved were fewer than the appeals. The litigation statement in the appendix gives the figures.

## CHAPTER V.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

72. The cost of the settlement up to the end of February 1901 and its distribution against the two heads of record-of-rights and assessment, appears in the following table :—

Cost of the Settlement.

Head.			Total cost.	Cost per square mile.
			Rs. a. p.	Rs.
Assessment	{ Pay and travelling allowance of officers	...	53,803 8 6	...
	{ Subordinate establishment and other charges	...	43,808 14 5	...
	Total	...	97,612 6 11	57
Record-of-rights...	{ Pay and travelling allowance of officers	...	39,003 12 11	...
	{ Subordinate establishment and other charges	...	82,421 5 9	...
	Total	...	1,21,425 2 8	71
GRAND TOTAL			2,19,037 9 7	128

This distribution has been obtained by debiting "assessment" with two-thirds of the Settlement Officer's pay, all the Assistant Settlement officer's pay, all the cost of the English office and of the distribution of jama, all things which were for the sole benefit of "assessment," and a fair proportion of things which were for the benefit of both heads; and debiting "record-of-rights" with the balance. Assessment having been completed, the figures for "assessment" here given are final. The record-of-rights being estimated to be completed by about December 1901, the figures here shown for expenditure under "record-of-rights" will have to be increased by the amount which is spent between 1st March 1901 and the final closing of the office. The proposed budget allotment for this period is Rs. 30,762. If this is spent in full the whole table will appear thus :—

Head.		Total cost.	Cost per —				
			Square mile.	Village.	Mahal.	1,000 tenants holdings.	
						Including sub-tenants.	Excluding sub-tenants.
		Rs. a. p.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
ASSESS- MENT.	{ Pay and travelling allowance of officers.	53,803 8 6	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Subordinate establishment and other charges.	43,808 14 5	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	97,612 6 11	57	42	27	18	26
RECORD- OF- RIGHTS.	{ Pay and travelling allowance of officers.	41,653 12 11	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Subordinate establishment and other charges.	1,10,533 5 9	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	1,52,187 2 8	88	63	43	28	41
GRAND TOTAL		2,49,799 9 7	145	105	70	46	67

I have in this table given the cost per village, mahal, 1,000 holdings, and 1,000 fields, because neither for assessment nor for record work, particularly not for record work, is the cost per square mile a fair test. The assessing officer's labour varies partly with the area he has to inspect and soil-classify, but in a much greater degree with the number of mahals, each of which he has to consider and assess separately. The record officer's work does not depend on area at all, but to a slight extent upon the number of mahals, to a greater extent upon the number of holdings, including sub-tenants' holdings, but most of all on the number of fields. If it is

necessary to go upon one factor only, neglecting the others, the best test for the assessment work in my opinion is the cost per mahal, and the best test for the record work the cost per 1,000 fields.

Mention of officers.

73. In the cold weather of 1898-99 two officers, Mr. W. E. M. Campbell and Mr. J. C. Fergusson, were attached to the settlement for instruction. My report on the aptitude shown by these officers for settlement duty was submitted through the usual channel, and it is not necessary for me to say anything in this place further than that the report was entirely satisfactory in each case.

In the cold weather of 1899-1900 Mr. Muhammad Ahmad was attached as Assistant Settlement Officer for the purpose of inspecting and assessing the alluvial villages, under my responsibility. It was his first experience of assessment, but he learnt very quickly, and was of great assistance to me. His good work has been recognised by his appointment as Assistant Settlement Officer at Aligarh, and it is unnecessary for me to add any further commendation.

75. The two Deputy Collectors were Pandit Syama Bihari Misra and Maulvi Muhammad Fazl Rabb. I am much indebted to both these officers for the untiring and conscientious zeal which they applied to their task, the most tedious and laborious in the settlement. As soon as the bulk of attestation proper was over, Maulvi Fazl Rabb was transferred to the Pilibhit Settlement (Bisalpur). Pandit Syama Bihari Misra still remains and will remain in charge till the operations are closed. I cannot pass the name of this officer without some special mention. He has the advantage of a very good English education, a most excellent practical ability, and a power of work which is something very unusual. His control over the vernacular office—the greater portion of which was in his hands throughout—was satisfactory and efficient. I feel enabled to hand over the conclusion of the settlement to his charge with a confidence which I should be able to feel in the case of very few of the officers of similar rank whom I know.

Mention of subordinates.

76. The Head clerk up to August 1900, when he was transferred to be General Superintendent of the Deputy Commissioner's Office at Sitapur, was Babu Har Bishun Dyal. His services and his value have been too well described by Mr. Butler with reference to the late Sitapur Settlement for it to be necessary for me to say more than that my experience of him is the same as Mr. Butler's, and that my indebtedness to him is great. I trust that his exceptional worth and his valuable services will not be lost sight of.

77. Since Babu Har Bishun Dyal's departure, Babu Lakshman Prashad, 2nd Clerk, has been in charge. I have been well satisfied with him, and the result of this his first experience in charge of an office is to establish in my opinion that he is in every way fit to be a Head Clerk.

78. In conclusion I wish to mention Babu Rameshwar Prashad, Sudder Munsarim. The bulk of the statistics on which both the assessment and distribution were based were prepared under his control. The manner in which he got the work done has given me a high opinion of him.

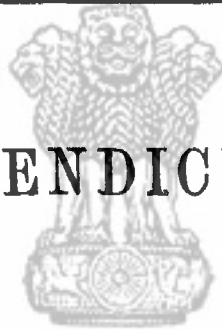
W. A. W. LAST,

*Settlement Officer.*

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# APPENDICES.

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सत्यमेव जयते



I.—COMPARATIVE AREA STATEMENT.

Period.	Not assessable.						Assessable.										Incidence of revenue per acre of cul- tivation.	Incidence of revenue per acre of assess- able area.			
	Total area.	Reve- nue- free.	Village site.	Covered with water.	Other wise barren.	Total.	Out of cultivation.					Cultivated.									
							Groves.	Cultur- able waste.	Fallow.		Total.	Canals.			Wells.	Other sources.			Total.	Dry.	Total.
									Old.	New.		Flow.	Lift.								
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Former Settlement.	Acres. 1,116,576	Acres. 8,278	Acres. 16,905	Acres. 39,945	Acres. 58,503	Acres. 1,23,631	Acres. 29,455	Acres. 89,606	Acres. 1,03,957	Acres. 22,950	Acres. 2,45,968	...	...	1,94,659	1,04,437	2,99,096	4,47,881	7,46,977	9,92,945	1 9 0	1 3 0
Present Settlement.	1,101,301	7,839	16,575	39,678	44,780	1,08,872	30,621	1,30,483	69,557	77,069	3,07,730	...	...	1,11,257	47,955	1,59,212	5,25,487	6,84,699	9,92,489	1 11 0	1 3 0
Increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,166	40,877	...	54,119	61,762	...	...	...	...	...	77,606	...	...	...	...
Decrease	15,275	489	330	267	13,723	14,759	...	...	34,400	...	...	...	...	83,402	56,482	1,39,884	...	62,278	516	...	...

NOTE.—Land prepared for sugarcane is included under "cultivated."

II.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF JAMAS.

Period.	Revenue.
Before 1840	Rs. 10,22,324
1840	9,76,273
1870	11,84,425
1870 after reduc- tion.	11,66,241
1906	11,60,260

III.—RENT-ROLLS AND COLLECTIONS.

Year.	Tenant's land held in—						Total demand (columns 4 and 6).	Collec- tions in- cluding arrears.	Sir.		Khudkasht.		Siwai income.		Total.		Shikmi.		
	Rented unculti- vated area in- cluded.		Cash.		Kind.	Rent de- mand.			Area.	Rent de- mand.	Area.	Ra.	Acres.	Ra.	Acres.	Ra.	Acres.	Ra.	Acres.
	2	3	4	5	6														
1																			
F o r m e r Settlement.		Acres. 16,937	Rs. 6,49,205	Rs. 17,86,336	Acres. ...	Rs. 12,015	Rs. 17,97,361	Rs. ...	Acres. 1,06,727	Rs. 1,93,593	Acres. 1,395	Rs. 2,937	Rs. 24,889	Acres. 7,57,327	Rs. 20,18,270	Acres. ...	Rs. ...	Acres. ...	
1291 F. ...	...	6,11,785	19,53,335	...	...	10,359	19,63,694	16,72,974	87,543	1,62,614	30,447	76,709	35,987	7,22,775	22,39,004	87,397	3,69,863	...	
1292 F. ...	...	6,24,576	19,50,467	...	...	12,714	19,63,181	18,06,747	87,304	1,60,630	31,750	77,939	29,000	7,43,630	22,30,200	92,002	3,90,504	...	
1293 F. ...	...	6,36,125	19,32,087	...	...	8,497	20,00,584	17,49,478	87,034	1,60,818	32,776	79,638	29,552	7,55,935	22,70,592	93,627	4,06,502	...	
1294 F. ...	...	6,35,791	20,46,168	...	...	9,332	20,55,509	17,80,658	85,235	1,59,195	33,180	82,340	38,178	7,54,206	23,35,213	98,825	4,28,202	...	
1295 F. ...	...	6,40,538	20,51,533	...	...	11,212	20,62,745	18,19,923	83,624	1,54,877	33,365	82,421	38,120	7,57,527	23,35,310	1,06,148	4,58,180	...	
1296 F. ...	...	6,53,097	20,90,908	...	...	14,951	21,05,859	18,79,409	82,638	1,52,312	32,821	80,421	38,120	7,68,556	23,76,712	1,13,431	4,91,480	...	
1297 F. ...	...	6,61,533	21,45,720	...	...	12,341	21,53,561	19,17,922	82,273	1,48,912	31,164	75,135	45,138	7,74,970	24,27,745	1,13,324	4,93,330	...	
1298 F. ...	49,786	6,70,024	21,56,686	...	...	16,217	21,72,903	19,39,632	80,203	1,44,825	31,112	74,691	43,278	7,81,339	24,35,637	1,17,081	5,09,990	...	
1299 F. ...	53,963	6,78,060	21,98,923	...	...	17,582	22,16,505	18,47,132	79,539	1,42,943	31,838	76,498	44,708	7,89,437	24,80,654	1,23,821	5,40,418	...	
1300 F. ...	49,772	6,79,731	22,30,776	...	...	17,737	22,48,513	19,68,452	78,539	1,40,843	33,372	80,448	63,009	7,91,642	25,32,813	1,30,840	5,75,767	...	
1301 F. ...	46,549	6,82,391	22,60,771	...	...	11,893	22,72,664	19,41,850	77,027	1,38,407	34,542	83,841	77,405	7,93,960	25,72,317	1,33,703	5,94,113	...	
1302 F. ...	64,831	6,95,456	21,79,548	...	...	6,714	21,86,262	16,62,934	75,366	1,33,318	34,286	82,318	55,420	7,75,108	24,57,318	1,39,963	5,96,184	...	
Total of 12 years.	2,64,701	78,39,107	2,52,86,922	...	...	1,50,049	2,54,06,971	2,19,86,241	9,86,325	17,99,693	3,90,653	9,51,744	5,35,167	9,216,085	2,86,93,576	1,350,062	58,54,031	...	
Average ...	52,940	6,58,259	21,04,744	...	...	12,504	21,17,248	18,32,187	82,194	1,49,974	32,554	79,312	44,597	7,68,007	23,91,131	1,12,505	4,87,886	...	
Year of verifi- cation.	51,432	6,18,355	21,19,066	...	...	1,090	21,20,156	...	72,873	1,34,010	33,434	84,578	65,609	7,30,228	24,04,353	1,05,709	4,84,011	...	

NOTE.—(1) The collections in column 8 include collections of arrears as well as of the current demand, on account of tenants' cash-paying and grain-rented lands (columns 10, 15, 16, 17 of jamabandi).  
 (2) For year of verification exclude all land belonging to revenue-free holdings included in the maiāl. As the figures for previous years will ordinarily be obtained from the maiāl register, they will necessarily include revenue-free holdings.  
 (3) In the case of maiāls created by partition less than 12 years ago, the form is filled up from the date of partition.

## IV.—AREA TABLE AND VERIFIED RENT-ROLL.

Last settlement.			Present (year of verification).										Remarks.
Area.	Rent.	Description.	Number of Khatas.	Cash-paying.		Grain-rented.		Under-tenants.					
				Area.	Rent.	Area.	Rent.	Area.	Rent.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
Acres.	Rs.			Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.				
1,06,727	1,93,593	Sir	12,989	72,416	1,33,358	1	...	32,172	1,57,166				
1,395	2,937	Khudkasht	10,577	33,410	84,537	5	...	3,910	17,207				
1,08,122	1,96,530	Total	23,566	1,05,826	2,17,895	6	...	36,082	1,74,373				
1,764	4,168	Ex-proprietary tenants as such	2,610	12,327	30,193	...	...	5,138	24,777				
4,56,725	13,62,854	Occupancy tenants as such	1,32,511	2,89,684	10,07,944	736	296	41,353	1,88,651				
1,90,606	4,30,180	Tenants-at-will at full rates	2,03,152	3,15,490	10,78,856	4,830	794	23,136	96,210				
6,49,095	17,97,202	Total	3,38,273	6,17,471	21,16,993	5,566	1,090	69,627	3,09,638				
6,697	741	Rent-free for service, and favoured tenures.	7,523	† 5,761	25	...	...	1,754	6,393				
*7,63,914	19,94,473	GRAND TOTAL	3,69,462	†7,29,058	23,34,913	5,572	1,090	1,07,463	4,90,404				
11													

\* Rented uncultivated 16,937.

† Favoured tenure 110, with rent 149.

‡ Ditto, ditto. 15 ditto 25.

NOTE.—Exclude from this statement any lands which may belong to revenue-free holdings.

## VI.—COMPARATIVE CROP STATEMENT AND CENSUS AND AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

Year.	Total cultivated area per kharsa.	Wheat.	Barley.	Gram, peas and masur.	Gard. en crops, poppy and tobacco.	Gujai.	Bijra and others.	Total.	Rice.	Juar.	Bajra.	Urd. mung, moth and lobia.	Kodon and kodon mixed.	Sugar-cane.	Cotton with arhar.	Garden crops, fasal and others.	Total.	Dofasli.	Census and Agricultural statistics.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
* Includes Revenue free, 5,399.	*7,52,376	2,53,625	25,394	52,805	9,193	16,707	15,748	3,73,272	85,668	43,813	1,25,955	20,232	8,349	49,094	23,933	32,992	3,50,036	10,932	
1298 F. ...	7,35,285	1,94,605	37,440	1,38,578	12,182	40,598	51,434	4,74,837	1,54,274	21,556	84,933	35,944	13,016	46,207	10,190	36,250	4,02,380	1,41,932	Plough-cattle
1299 F. ...	7,39,697	1,76,416	38,075	1,57,966	11,676	39,874	63,659	4,37,666	1,35,014	24,450	83,291	28,215	14,733	61,282	8,530	37,098	3,22,643	1,40,612	Year of last settlement.
1300 F. ...	7,47,433	1,63,992	30,480	1,24,539	11,107	85,434	45,547	4,14,099	1,65,347	43,067	98,165	23,378	17,605	58,960	7,243	37,531	4,51,186	1,17,862	Year of settlement.
1301 F. ...	7,53,394	1,60,539	36,391	1,43,693	12,911	39,507	71,162	4,54,203	1,79,033	46,378	91,797	24,437	10,771	68,297	7,193	37,863	4,65,769	1,76,678	Year of vert-5,16,095
1302 F. ...	7,16,344	1,67,470	42,612	1,46,828	15,792	40,991	81,966	4,95,659	1,67,469	21,806	71,907	20,348	12,913	45,055	8,577	36,891	3,65,056	1,64,871	Year of vert-5,16,095
Total of 5 years	36,92,153	8,63,022	1,84,998	7,11,604	63,665	1,96,404	3,10,768	23,36,464	8,01,137	1,57,387	4,30,033	1,32,322	68,938	2,79,791	41,733	1,85,633	20,97,034	7,41,345	Non-agri-cultural settlement.
Average ditto ...	7,38,431	1,72,604	36,999	1,42,321	12,734	39,281	63,954	4,67,293	1,60,227	31,477	86,019	26,464	13,788	55,958	8,347	37,127	4,19,407	1,48,269	Year of vert-2,24,443
* Includes Revenue free, 4,945.																			Number of inhabited sites.
Year of verifica- tion.	*6,89,544	1,48,095	33,953	67,009	17,601	25,975	27,217	3,19,850	1,38,129	45,250	89,879	24,867	16,437	74,641	11,660	23,003	4,23,866	54,072	Number of resident tenants.

( 4A )  
VII.—STATEMENT OF ASSETS.

Soil.		Tenants' cash-rented area in acres.		Assumption areas in acres with valuation.				Total columns 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.
		Tenants-at-will.	Occupancy tenants.	Sir.	Khudkasht.	Grain rented.	Rent-free.	
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Dumat I...	Recorded ... Acres.	1,33,066	1,65,574	40,297	15,539	1,275	2,858	3,58,609
	Accepted ... Rs.	1,32,099	1,65,498	39,863	14,374	2,907	2,413	3,57,154
	Rental ... "	...	...	1,59,045	54,588	8,510	9,434	...
Dumat II...	Recorded ... Acres.	97,778	79,279	17,807	10,826	2,863	1,626	2,10,179
	Accepted ... Rs.	95,313	79,057	17,056	9,129	9,144	1,233	2,10,932
	Rental ... "	...	...	45,547	23,647	18,152	8,341	...
Matiar ...	Recorded ... Acres.	49,808	36,821	8,907	4,472	686	671	1,01,365
	Accepted ... Rs.	46,928	36,561	8,473	3,517	2,536	493	98,508
	Rental ... "	...	...	22,947	9,312	5,993	1,391	...
Bhur ...	Recorded ... Acres.	30,709	20,764	4,447	2,399	815	565	59,699
	Accepted ... Rs.	28,748	20,301	3,981	1,644	6,299	373	61,346
	Rental ... "	...	...	6,826	2,703	7,693	645	...
Dhankar ...	Recorded ... Acres.	3,388	4,456	560	293	149	36	8,892
	Accepted ... Rs.	3,165	4,328	467	205	990	19	8,574
	Rental ... "	...	...	1,129	467	872	44	...
Recorded ...	Area ... Acres.	3,14,749	3,06,894	72,018	33,529	5,788	5,756	7,38,734
	Rent ... Rs.	10,71,008	10,30,006	1,32,435	84,684	8,292	29	23,56,504
	Incidence ... "	3 6 0	3 7 0	...	...	...	...	...
By circle rates.	Area ... Acres.	3,06,253	3,05,745	69,840	28,869	21,276	4,531	736,514
	Rent ... Rs.	9,66,734	10,33,762	2,50,470	98,145	43,594	15,744	24,58,449
	Incidence ... "	3 3 0	3 9 0	3 9 0	3 6 0	2 1 0	3 8 0	3 5 0
Accepted...	Area ... Acres.	3,06,253	3,05,745	69,840	28,869	21,276	4,531	736,514
	Rent ... Rs.	9,73,334	10,81,867	2,35,294+65	90,717	41,220	14,855	24,37,352
	Incidence... "	3 3 0	3 9 0	3 6 0	3 2 0	1 15 0	3 4 0	1,104*
								Rs. 24,38,456
								3 5 0
								12,665
								24,51,121
								34,196
								2,680
								24,14,245

\*Lump valuation added for sugarcane and opium.

VIII.—CASTE STATEMENT.

Class.		Occupancy and ex-proprietary tenants.				Tenants-at-will.				Class A.	Class B.	Class C.
		No. of khata.	Area.	Rent.	Rate.	No. of khata.	Area.	Rent.	Rate.			
			Acres.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.		Acres.	Rs.	Rs a. p.			
A ...	...	36,807	97,354	2,97,053	3 1 0	45,542	74,452	2,41,150	3 4 0	Brahmans	Kachis	All others including Musalman.
B ...	...	52,717	1,17,456	4,33,994	3 11 0	71,997	1,13,354	3,93,652	3 8 0	Thakurs	Muraos	
C ...	...	45,906	87,929	3,08,825	3 8 0	85,651	1,27,795	4,44,367	3 8 0	Kaisths	Malis	
											Kisans	
Total B and C,		98,623	2,05,385	7,42,819	3 10 0	1,57,648	2,41,149	8,38,019	3 8 0		Kurmis	
											Ahirs	
Total A B and C.		1,35,430	3,02,739	10,39,872	3 7 0	2,03,190	3,15,601	10,79,169	3 7 0			

## IX.—Statement showing the number of cases and appeals instituted and disposed of in the Shadjehanpur Settlement up to 28th February, 1901.

Name of officer.	Class of application or case.	Disposed of—										Appeals to Settlement Officers from their subordinates.										Appeals from the settlement officer to Commissioner.				Appeals against assessment to Commissioner.					
		On their merits.					Otherwise than on their merits.					Pending at close of February 1901.	Decided.				Reversed.	Confirmed.	Pending.	Total.	Total number of appeals in which appeals were lodged.	Total number of appeals in which appeals were lodged.	Total number of appeals in which appeals were lodged.								
		For plaintiff.	For defendant.	Total on merits.	By concession, compromise, or consent.	By default of plaintiff.	By personal service of summons.	By substituted service of summons.	Total <i>Ex parte</i> .	Withdrawn.	From any other cause.		Total decided otherwise than on merits.	Instituted.	Total.	Confirmed.								Reversed.	Pending.	Total.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
All Officers. Mr. Last, Settlement Officer, Pandit Shriani Bihari Misra, Deputy Collector, Mr. A. S. O. did no duty falling within this table.	I.—Cases connected with patwaris section 23, <i>et seq.</i>	3,135	421	82	503	1	..	..	..	..	1	2,628	2,630	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	II.—Boundary disputes, sections 40, 140, 141.	293	99	29	128	59	3	..	..	..	6	12	80	85	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	4	..	..	..	..	
	III.—Cases coming under sections 43, 44, 48, 49, or 50, admission to or exclusion from settlement.	173	173	..	173	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	IV.—Distribution of assessment or redistribution of land and revenue under sections 46 and 47.	1,458	1	..	1	1,456	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,456	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	9	16	..	..	..	..	
	V.—Sub-settlements under sections 53, 54, 55 and 56.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	VI.—Settlement of waste lands under sections 57, 58, and 60.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	VII.—Cases arising— (a) Proprietary right, out of the preparation of record-of-rights. (b) Cultivating right, out of the preparation of record-of-rights. (c) Rent-free tenure. (d) Revenue-free tenure. (e) Cesses, section 66, under section 65. (f) Any other matter under section 65.	14,920	9,065	1,941	10,306	508	460	925	..	..	197	249	1,414	3,300	3,300	..	77	49	25	2	76	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	(a) Determination of rent on dispute.	118	84	32	116	..	..	..	..	..	231	331	2,155	4,670	4,670	..	207	134	58	12	204	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	(b) Ditto of rent of excluded proprietors.	2439	894	1,535	2,429	1	3	..	..	..	..	3	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	(c) Enhancement of rent.	474	71	279	350	2	117	..	..	..	..	5	184	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	(d) Abatement of rent.	11	11	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	(e) Commutation of rent.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
IX.—Partition of (a) Imperfect mahals. (b) Perfect mahals.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
X.—Union of mahals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
XI.—Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
XII.—Appeals against assessment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
	Total	45,300	20,144	5,435	25,939	2,711	1,515	..	..	442	6,132	10,800	8,621	8,621	..	234	183	83	14	280	4	13	62	21	96	3,570	30	426	426	426	

(a) Columns 24—27 and 29-31 include figures up to 28th February 1901.

(b) Column 24— includes also cases remanded for retrial.

(c) " 30—These appeals were admitted on Settlement Officer's recommendation.



सत्यमेव जयते

## ORDERS OF GOVERNMENT.

No.  $\frac{2131}{I-325B}$  OF 1901.

### RESOLUTION.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

*Dated Naini Tal, the 12th July 1901.*

READ—

Letter No.  $\frac{1795N}{I-22A}$ , dated 25th June 1901, from the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, submitting the Final Settlement Report of the Sháhjahánpur district, by Mr. W. A. W. Last, I.C.S., together with a review thereon by the Commissioner, Rohilkhand Division.

OBSERVATIONS.—Settlement operations in the Sháhjahánpur district commenced in October 1896, when Mr. W. A. W. Last was appointed Settlement Officer. The last assessment was sanctioned and declared in November 1900. The Settlement Officer's report is dated 25th April 1901, and after review by the Commissioner and the Board reached this Government on 26th June 1901.

2. The district lies to the south-east of Rohilkhand and may be described as fairly fertile. Except in its northern táhsil, it is healthy. Irrigation affords adequate protection to the crops in ordinary years, the water lying near the surface, and wells being easily sunk. The communications of the district are good: and during the past thirty years three lines of railway have been opened. These have given a great impetus to sugar refining, the staple trade of the district. The returns of the recent census show a population of 535 to the square mile.

3. Petty proprietors own the greater part of the district. There is but one large landlord, the Rája of Pawáyan. Forty-four per cent. of the entire area is held by co-parcenary bodies, and 34 per cent. in joint zamíndári tenure. As a rule, the landlords are poor, and many are indebted.

4. It cannot be said that the district has been fortunate in its revenue administration. The earliest settlements were undoubtedly severe. Some relief was given by the first regular settlement made in 1840, which, though not lenient, was equitable. During its currency the district made satisfactory progress. But the settlement of 1870, which expired in 1900, was undoubtedly a severe one. It took into account prospective extensions of cultivation and rental enhancements and "largely discounted, if it did not help to check, future improvement." The district, weighted by severe assessment, had to face the famine of 1877, which struck a serious blow at its prosperity. The revenue, which from the outset had been collected with considerable difficulty, fell into arrears: and, despite a free use of coercive processes, large remissions had to be given. The famine of 1896-97 further retarded the return of prosperity, and again large remissions of revenue were necessary.

Board of Revenue's letter  
No.  $\frac{1202N}{I-579}$ , dated 17th  
July 1895.

5. It is obvious that the new settlement could not be expected to yield any appreciable enhancement of revenue, and a summary revision of assessments based on the village records was at first proposed with a view to the redistribution of revenue. Later, however, in 1897 it was determined that a complete reattestation of the records should be undertaken. Events have justified this decision : for the existing records were found seriously inaccurate. Moreover, the survey of the district having been decided upon, a revision of the records was practically inevitable. But the work of settlement was hampered by the delay in the attestation work, much of which had to be done over again, and the Settlement Officer was deprived of the assistance which the attested records should have given him in the actual work of assessment.

6. The Settlement Officer's report gives statistics which indicate the effects on the district of the two famines, and of the severe assessment of 1870. The population fell from 951,006 in 1872 to 920,302 in 1901, a diminution of over 30,000 in the thirty years, or of 503 to 481 per square mile of the rural population. The cultivated area had fallen from 67·38 to 65·81 of the total area. The collection of revenue was attended with great difficulty. Much of the land had changed hands during the period of the previous settlement, and in the north of the district signs of deterioration were visible. The large decrease in land held with right of occupancy attested the general decline of prosperity.

7. The work of assessment under the conditions described above required peculiar care and discrimination. It was necessary that the area assessed should be moderate ; that its valuation should be lenient ; and that the distribution of the revenue should be carefully effected. The latter point was of extreme importance in view of the prevalence of coparcenary bodies.

8. Taking first the question of the area, it will be seen that the Settlement Officer has accepted 736,514 acres for valuation purposes. This is rather lower than the average of the cultivated area for the five years preceding the recent famine (738,431 acres). But it is in excess of the returns of the year of verification, in which the recorded area is shown as only 689,644 acres. The cultivated area was then suffering from shrinkage due to famine, and could not be accepted as a basis for assessment. As the latest returns show that the process of recovery is in active operation, cultivation having already extended to 724,767 acres, it does not appear to the Lieutenant-Governor that the accepted area is unduly high. It will be noted, too, that the additional area which has been included to bring the cultivated area nearer the normal is assessed at very easy rates. The Settlement Officer has classed no less than 15,488 acres of the additional land as grain-rented, assuming a grain-rented area of 21,276 acres (not 41,220 acres as stated in the Board's report) against an actual area of 5,788 acres, and has assessed it at extremely moderate rates. Moreover, a further safeguard is found in the fact that the assessment has been made progressive, so that if the recovery is not completed in five years, effective allowance may be made for the shortage.

9. The question of the rates accepted by the Settlement Officer for valuation purposes has been exhaustively dealt with in the Board's review, and may be briefly examined. Roughly speaking, four-fifths of the assessed area is held by tenants, the remaining one-fifth being assumption area. According to the valuation statement, about half the cash-rented area is shown as held by tenants with right of occupancy, but the subsequent attestation showed that more than two-thirds of the area was so protected, though this proportion was exceptionally high in the year of verification, owing to the abandonment of inferior non-occupancy holdings during the famine. There has been, beyond question, a marked decrease in the right of occupancy area since the 1870 settlement. For this area the Settlement Officer has accepted an incidence of Rs. 3·54 an acre, the recorded incidence being Rs. 3·45: while for the non-occupancy area Rs. 3·18 an acre has been accepted, as compared with a recorded incidence of Rs. 3·40. The Settlement Officer has, in fact, rejected much of the non-occupancy rents as excessive, while he has found the right of occupancy rental inadequate. His valuation of the right of occupancy rental assumes that it will be collected in full, with an addition of nearly Rs. 22,000. In justification of this belief the fact is set forth that the best land in the district is in the cultivation of the occupancy tenants: and it is maintained that, though the rental paid by these tenants is apparently higher, it is really 8 per cent. lower than the non-occupancy rental. The Lieutenant-Governor does not question the statement that, taken as a whole, the occupancy lands are the best in the district, and he considers that, having regard to the course of prices during the last twenty years, some of them admitted of enhancement. But he does not conceal his feeling that a weak point of this settlement may be found in the enhancement of occupancy rents. He would have been better pleased had the enhancement been somewhat less. Still he must admit that the mahāls were all considered in detail both by the Board and by the Government, and he believes that, although when viewed in the gross, the enhancements seem substantial, they appeared after scrutiny and adjustment to be moderate when regarded in detail.

The non-occupancy rents have been treated with extreme moderation: and it is doubtful whether there has not been an undue rejection of rentals deemed excessive.

Taking the cash rentals as a whole, the Settlement Officer has accepted Rs. 20,55,201 as an estimate, a sum of about Rs. 75,000 below the actuals, and yielding an incidence of Rs. 3·36 an acre. Viewed in the aggregate, this cannot be deemed an excessive valuation. The assumption areas have been valued at an average rate of Rs. 3·07, the grain-rented area being rightly valued with extreme moderation.

10. The assets finally obtained by the Settlement Officer, after adding Rs. 12,665 for *siwāi*, and making a deduction of Rs. 34,196 for proprietary cultivation and Rs. 2,680 for improvements, are Rs. 24,14,245. On this the revenue proposed is Rs. 11,69,260, exclusive of the nominal revenue of Rs. 4,624 assessed on revenue-free estates.



Considerable reductions have been made by the Commissioner, the Board and by Government on the assessments as originally proposed by the Settlement Officer ; and the percentage of assets taken is 48·62 per cent. The revenue incidence on the actual cultivated area is 1·62 per acre — an incidence which will be lowered as cultivation expands, and which at present does not represent more than about 8 per cent. of the value of the produce in staple food-grain only.

11. The final gain to Government from the revision is inappreciable. When the progressive assessments come to an end, it will be only about Rs. 2,000 per annum. For the first five years of the new assessments there will be a loss of Rs. 15,000 a year : from the sixth to the tenth year the loss will be Rs. 1,500 a year : after this a gain of Rs. 2,000 a year will accrue. The final assessments show a slight increase in all the tahsils except Pawāyan, where a decrease of no less than Rs. 38,093 has been given. The expenses of the settlement have been heavy. The survey cost Rs. 1,67,047 : the record of rights Rs. 1,21,425 : the assessment proper Rs. 97,612. A further expenditure of Rs. 50,000 will be necessary to complete the records, bringing the total cost to Rs. 4,36,084, or Rs. 253 the square mile.

12. The report which has been submitted is an imperfect record of the work of the settlement. As the Board point out, there are numerous discrepancies between the figures in the appendices and in the body of the report, and, though the variations are capable of explanation, the Settlement Officer's account of his procedure is lacking in explicitness and detail. The report does not do justice to the actual work performed, which has been found careful and thorough, though exposed to close and searching review. The important duty of distribution of revenue was kept by the Settlement Officer in his own hands, and the very small number of appeals appear to indicate that this difficult work was carried out with discrimination. The assessments have been in force for a year and have been found to work smoothly. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes that the assessments now made, both by the more equitable distribution of the burden and by the reduction allowed for the next few years, will give the district relief. With favourable seasons, a return to agrarian prosperity may, His Honour thinks, be confidently predicted. He accepts the Board's proposal to sanction the assessments for thirty years, except in the case of the alluvial mahāls and those mahāls for which special short-term settlements have been proposed.

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ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, for the information of the Board.

R. G. HARDY,

*Chief Secy. to Govt., N.-W. P. and Oudh.*

