
R E P O R T

EXPLANATORY OF THE

REVISED ASSESSMENT INTRODUCED INTO THE
TALOOKAS OF BADAMEE AND BAGULKOTE,

IN THE

BELGAUM COLLECTORATE.

BY CAPTAIN WINGATE,

REVENUE SURVEY COMMISSIONER,

LATE SUPERINTENDENT OF REVENUE SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT, SOUTHERN MAHRATTA COUNTRY :

ALSO,

PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE SUGGESTIONS MADE BY CAPTAIN WINGATE
FOR CONSTRUCTING, FOR PURPOSES OF IRRIGATION, MASONRY
DAMS ACROSS THE KRISHNA, GUTPURBA, AND
MULPURBA RIVERS;

AND

THE INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED ON THE ABOVE SUBJECTS BY GOVERNMENT

Printed for the information of the Revenue Officers under the Government of Bombay.

*Revenue Secretary's Office,
3rd January 1853.*

H. E. GOLDSMID,
Secretary to Government.

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No. 256 of 1851.

To

E. H. TOWNSEND, Esquire,

Revenue Commissioner S. D.,

Poona.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit copy of a letter received from Captain Wingate, Superintendent of Revenue Survey and Assessment, dated 6th instant, No. 81 of 1851, in which that Officer requests permission to introduce the new rates which he has ascertained to be applicable to the Badamee and Bagulcotta districts, without delay, on the understanding that they are to be submitted for approval with the usual Assessment Report in the course of next season.

2. The grounds on which he makes this application are fully detailed by Captain Wingate, and I need not repeat them: they appear to me to be cogent; but I must say that, however desirable it is that no time should be lost in introducing the new assessment into the districts referred to, nothing would have warranted a departure from the regular procedure but the experience and skill of Captain Wingate, and the means of thorough research into the exigencies of the cultivation which he possesses. On this ground, and on the advice of my First Assistant, Mr. Tucker, I respectfully request that the new rates may be immediately introduced, as proposed.

3. The maximum dry crop rates of Badamee are to be Rs. 1-4-0, 1-2-0, and 1-0-0, while those of Bagulcotta are to include one rate more, Rs. 0-14-0, the soil in the latter district being of an inferior order; and into the class represented by this last maximum rate most of its villages will fall.

4. The present dry crop rates of Badamee vary from 6 to 11½ pies per acre, while those of Bagulcotta extend from 6 pies to Rs. 5-15-0; a considerable reduction in the assessment, therefore, will ensue. The new Baghayet rates are not noticed by Captain Wingate, but I have no doubt these will meet with due attention.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) H. W. REEVES,

Collector.

Belgaum, Collector's Office, 20th March 1851.

No. 81 of 1851.

To

H. W. REEVES, Esquire,

Collector, Belgaum.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that the field operations of the survey of the Government villages of the Bagulkote and Badamee talookas are now completed, and, as you are aware, the pahnee, or annual inspection of waste and cultivated land, is now being made by the district establishments, in accordance with the survey numbers, with a view to the introduction of the new settlement at the Jummabundee of the present season.

2. I have collected all the information necessary to the fixing of the new rates, and have also settled in my own mind what these rates should be; but I have not found leisure since my return from England even to commence the preparation of the usual assessment report for the districts in question; and the season is now so far advanced that every spare moment of my time must be devoted to the application of the rates in detail, and preparation of the survey registers, if the new settlements are to be introduced this season.

3. Under these circumstances, and in consideration of the fact that the ryots of both talookas have long looked forward to the introduction of the new settlements this season, and in this anticipation have in many instances extended their cultivation, I trust that you will agree with me as to the expediency of recommending to Government that I may on this occasion be permitted to carry the new assessment into effect provisionally at the present Jumma-bundee, and subsequently report my proceedings for the sanction of Government.

4. I would not propose this course, did I feel doubtful of the proper rates to be adopted for Bagulkote and Badamee, or were there not very strong reasons in favor of it. In addition to those already given, I would urge, that unless the new settlements be introduced this season, the benefits to be anticipated from them will not only be withheld for a season from the district just named, but also from some of the remaining districts of your Collectorate, as it would be barely practicable for me to undertake the settlement of more than two, or at the utmost three talookas in the same season, and consequently some years would be required to overtake the work, if the settlement of two districts were allowed to fall into arrears. The districts proposed to be settled next year are Hoongoond, Uthnee, and Yadwar. The two latter, above all others, require immediate relief; and I feel certain that you are equally anxious with myself that their impoverished ryots should have the new settlement with the least possible delay. To admit of the new assessment being introduced into all of these three districts next season, however, it is absolutely necessary that Badamee and Bagulkote should be got out of hand this season.

5. I propose to divide the villages of Badamee into three classes, with maximum dry crop rates of Rs. 1-4-0, Rs. 1-2-0, and Rs. 1-0-0 respectively; and those of Bagulkote into four classes, with the same rates for the three first, and Rs. 0-14-0 for the 4th class, into which last most of the villages will fall. These rates have been adjusted with reference to those fixed in other districts of your Collectorate, and of Dharwar, as well as on a consideration of the circumstances of Badamee and Bagulkote; and I feel confident that they will prove suitable. They will effect a liberal reduction of the present assessment, which in both districts is high, and in certain villages of Bagulkote most oppressively so. The Jodee assessment in both districts is also frequently high, and the new rates will afford a most desirable relief to such of the Jodeedars as are now most heavily assessed. I cannot hold out a prospect of the settlement proving very favorable to the revenue, but I am quite convinced that higher rates could not be imposed with safety.

6. I trust, therefore, that Government will allow the rates to be at once introduced, on the understanding that they are to be submitted for sanction with the usual assessment report in the course of next monsoon.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) G. WINGATE,

Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment S. M. C.

Superintendent's Office, Belgaon Districts, Camp Eckul, 6th March 1851.

(True copy)

(Signed) H. W. REEVES,

Collector.

No. 1672 OF 1851.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT,
REVENUE.

Forwarded for the sanction of Government, under the circumstances explained by the Superintendent. A similar proposition, as regards certain villages in the Moolgoond and Dumbul Mahals, accompanies the Memorandum from this Department (No. 1625) of yesterday's date.

(Signed) E. H. TOWNSEND,
Revenue Commissioner S. D.

Revenue Commissioner's Camp, Poona, 26th March 1851.

No. 3848 OF 1851.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT,
REVENUE.

To

E. H. TOWNSEND, ESQUIRE,
Revenue Commissioner S. D.

SIR,

I have placed before Government the letters from the Collector of Belgaum, and the Superintendent Revenue Survey and Assessment, Southern Mahratta Country, submitted with your Memorandum No. 1672, of the 26th ultimo.

2. In full reliance on Captain Wingate's judgment, and on the careful prosecution of the work carried on under his superintendence, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council has been pleased to authorize the introduction, at the present season, of the rates which he intends proposing for the villages of the Badamee and Bagulkote talookas.

3. Captain Wingate will, of course, subsequently report his proceedings for the sanction of Government.

4. Copy of this letter will be sent direct to Captain Wingate, and the Collector of Belgaum.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 9th April 1851.

No. 1709 OF 1852.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT,
REVENUE.

From

W. COURTNEY, ESQUIRE,
Revenue Commissioner S. D.,

To

A. MALET, ESQUIRE,
Chief Secretary to Government.

SIR,

In Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter to my predecessor Mr. Townsend, No. 3848, of 9th April 1851, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council was pleased to

authorize by anticipation the introduction, at the revenue settlement of the year 1850-51, of the revised rates which Captain Wingate, then Superintendent of the Southern Mahratta Country Survey, intended proposing for the villages of the Badamee and Bagulkote talookas of the Belgaum Collectorate, in full reliance on his judgment, and on the careful prosecution of the work carried on under his superintendence, his proceedings being subsequently reported for the formal sanction of Government.

2. I have now the honor to lay before you, for submission to His Lordship in Council, the accompanying letter from the Collector of Belgaum, No. 448, dated 6th instant, forwarding to me Captain Wingate's report of the 9th of the preceding month, No. 165, explaining in detail the revised assessment which he has introduced, in pursuance of the authority thus given, into the two talookas above alluded to.

3. In explaining his proceedings, Captain Wingate has followed the usual course of considering the assessment of each talooka separately, and commences with that of Badamee, which, as appears from the sketch-map accompanying his letter, is a large talooka of irregular shape, and comprises three divisions, forming the charges of a Mamlutdar and of two subordinate Mahalkurries, and containing 147 Government and 76 alienated villages: his proposals are, as usual, confined to the villages of the talooka, of which the revenues are collected on account of the British Government.

4. The talooka is represented to be divided, by natural limits and peculiarities of soil and climate, into three well marked sub-divisions, not exactly corresponding with those into which it has been apportioned, as above described, for convenience of fiscal and police management, the southern portion forming a part of the great cotton plain, extending towards the Dumbul hills; the central being hilly and rugged, and, except along a few lines of road, impracticable for carts, and the soilsandy and naturally poor; and the northern, or rather north-western portion, undulating, but without any considerable hills; and the soil for the most part of an inferior description in point of climate. The central of these divisions is stated to be most favored: the husbandry in the northern villages is represented to be slovenly and indifferent, and in the southern but little better, while in the central division it is said to be "especially deserving of commendation."

5. In this talooka, as in many of the Southern Mahratta Country, the population is not entirely dependent on agriculture for support: besides several large manufacturing towns, looms, or spinning wheels, are to be found at work in many of the smaller villages, and the people generally are industrious and thrifty. To these causes the comparative prosperity of its agriculture is no doubt in a great degree attributable, both as enabling the farmer, by additional sources of income, more readily to pay the land-tax, and at the same time furnishing a market for his surplus produce by increased consumption.

6. It seems not necessary that I should follow Captain Wingate through his description of the operations of the present survey, connected with the measurement and classification of the land: these he has fully explained in his 14th and following paragraphs; nor does the past history of the talooka, alluded to in his 20th paragraph, or its revenue management under British rule, with its results, as described in paragraphs 21—26, call for any particular remark. From paragraph 27 he proceeds to consider the rates of assessment for dry crop land: these he shows by the results of past management, and peculiarity of soil in some of the lands to be subjected to it, must, to afford the new settlement a fair chance of success, be much lower than those they are to supersede: unless a liberal reduction be made, it is feared that many of the light lands could not be continued in cultivation. Their produce is not suited for exportation, and is at present all consumed in the district for the support of the cultivators and their families, and the supply of food for the manufacturing population: their power to pay an assessment is in a great degree dependent on the latter, whose members have, it is stated, already been much reduced, 300 looms being thrown out of work in Kehroor alone, and the weavers gone elsewhere in search of employment. The increasing competition of England, as well as of the other manufacturing towns in this Presidency, coupled with the extended use of

English yarns in place of those of Native growth, seem not unlikely in time to lead to a more considerable shifting of the manufacturing population, and a consequent further diminution in the agricultural prosperity of which they are, as has been shown, one great cause. This anticipated falling off it is of course very desirable to provide for in fixing the new rates; nor is the reduction of assessment in the neighbouring villages of the Dharwar Collectorate to be lost sight of, in estimating what would be a fairly remunerative scale of taxation for those immediately under consideration.

7. Captain Wingate, accordingly, after a careful consideration of all these circumstances, adopts the same maximum dry crop rate of Rs. 1 per acre, as in the Dharwar district, for the neighbouring villages of Badamee, to the south of the Mulpurba river, and for those lying to the north and north-west of the talooka; and a rate of Rs. 1-2-0 for the central group of villages, increased to Rs. 1-4-0 in respect to the lands of the large manufacturing towns, in consequence of the superior advantages they enjoy in markets and abundance of manure. Of this latter class there are only seven; of the former, assessed at Rs. 1-2-0, eighty-seven; and at the rate of Rs. 1, fifty-three; while for garden and rice lands, a maximum rate of Rs. 5 and Rs. 4 per acre respectively has been fixed, giving in the case of the former an average assessment of Rs. 2-13-0, and in the latter of Rs. 2-1-7 per acre, in place of Rs. 5-12-10, and Rs. 7-1-10, the present average assessment.

8. The results of the new rates on dry crop land, as compared with those of the old assessment, are given in the table embodied in the 34th paragraph, from which it appears, that in 1st class villages there has been a reduction from an average rate per acre of Rs. 1-2-1 to Rs. 0-10-5, in the 2nd class from Rs. 0-14-5 to Rs. 0-9-4, and in the 3rd from Rs. 0-11-8 to Rs. 0-9-4.

9. In his 35th and following paragraphs, Captain Wingate explains the measures adopted for settling the value of the haks of district and village officers, and the quit-rent on land held on jodee tenure: compensation has been awarded in the form of a remission from land revenue, pending a final settlement, in the case of Patels, Naiks, and Cooleurnees, to the extent of Rs. 1,218 per annum, for the disbursement of which the Collector requests sanction at the close of his 7th paragraph; and the quit-rent has been reduced to the extent of the excess of the present jodee over the survey assessment on all the land belonging to hereditary office.

10. The general result of the settlement is exhibited in detail in the statement given in the 38th paragraph: the financial effect of it is further explained in paragraphs 41 and 42, and is summed up by Mr. Inverarity in the 9th and 10th paragraphs of his letter; and even if, as anticipated, this talooka will not, under the survey settlement, yield a revenue equal to past collections, if Captain Wingate has satisfactorily established, as I think he has, the necessity of the sacrifice to the future well-being and progress of the district, there seems no reason to question the propriety of his proposals.

11. From his 43rd paragraph, Captain Wingate proceeds to describe the Bagulkote talooka, and explain his proceedings in connexion with the revision of its assessment. It is situated immediately north of Badamee, and is, as will be seen from the map, of a compact form, bounded on the north by the Krishna, and divided and partially watered by the Gutpurba river. It contains 124 Government and 37 alienated villages, at present forming the charge of a Mamlutdar, and of one subordinate Mahalkurry. Its climate is represented, particularly in the valley of the Krishna, to be precarious, and the fall of rain scanty and uncertain, except in the immediate neighbourhood of the Gutpurba river, which generally receives a better supply. A great portion of the land is poor and stony, and the black soil in the plain of the Krishna requires, owing to its compact formation, a much more abundant fall of rain than it ordinarily receives. In husbandry it is inferior to Badamee, and the number of cattle is not sufficient for the ordinary agricultural operations. It exports but little raw produce, though the soil seems, in the neighbourhood of the rivers, to be suited for cotton: there is, however, a large internal

demand for the consumption of a non-agricultural population resident principally at the large manufacturing town of Bagulkote, and the Military Cantonment at Kaludghee.

12. I pass over Captain Wingate's account of the measurement and classification of soils, the history of the district, both under the Native administration and our own, and its past revenue management generally, all of which are very fully described in paragraphs 50—58 of his report, to his 59th paragraph, where, on a full consideration of what he has been explaining, he comes to the conclusion that all the peculiar circumstances of this talooka will be provided for by arranging the villages into four groups, with maximum dry crop rates of assessment, varying from Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 0-14-0 per acre. There are but three villages in the 1st of these classes, thirty-two in the 2nd, twenty-nine in the 3rd, and sixty in the 4th.

13. There are only 95 acres of garden land in the whole talooka, and but 62 of rice. The same maximum rates are proposed as for Badamee and other settled districts; and the average assessment resulting from it is a rate of Rs. 2-5-2 for garden, and Rs. 1-12-8 for rice land.

14. A comparison of the dry crop rates proposed with past collections is given in the table in paragraph 61: the rate per acre, it will be seen, is, in the case of 1st class villages, reduced from Rs. 2-0-11 to Rs. 0-13-11; in the 2nd, from Rs. 1-0-2 to Rs. 0-10-3; in the 3rd from Rs. 0-14-1 to Rs. 0-9-3; and in the 4th, from Rs. 0-10-10 to Rs. 0-8-2.

15. The haks of district and village officers have, as in the former case, been absorbed in the new assessment, and an interim compensation, to be met by an annual remission, has been awarded to the latter, pending a final settlement, amounting to Rs. 1,808-8-0 per annum, for which the Collector requests sanction in his 18th paragraph. The jodee and mahal jodee cesses in this talooka have been treated in the same manner as in Badamee, and the results of the new assessment, both as respects the Government revenue and the immediate benefit to the cultivators, are fully and satisfactorily explained.

16. It only remains for me to solicit the formal sanction of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to the new rates introduced into both the Badamee and Bagulkote talookas, for the usual period of thirty years.

17. In his 23rd paragraph, Mr. Inverarity requests sanction to refund to the ryots of the village of Son the sum of Rs. 743-12-0, being the excess of collections in A. D. 1850-51 beyond the survey assessment, for the reasons assigned by Captain Wingate in his 68th and 69th paragraphs. A correspondence seems to have taken place with the Inam Commissioner on the subject of this village, the result of which is stated to be that it was ascertained to have been always entered in the records of the former Government as Khalsat. Should His Lordship in Council consider any further or more formal investigation desirable, before finally disposing of the question, he will doubtless refer the subject to Mr. Hart, before sanctioning the arrangements which have been adopted by the settling officer in respect to it, and the refund now proposed.

18. In his 72nd paragraph, Captain Wingate alludes to the want of roads in the two talookas he has been reporting on. The new line to which he alludes, at present being cleared, so as to admit of cart traffic from Solapoor to Hoobullee, will pass through these districts, and in some measure provide the means of communication; but, as he very justly observes, cross-roads are urgently required, both to connect remote villages with their market town, and to act as feeders to any main line which may pass through the talooka.

19. I have lately had occasion to enter at considerable length into the subject of opening up new lines of road in the Belgaon Collectorate and Kolapoor Territory, in connexion with a proposition for a grand trunk line from Hyderabad in the Deccan to the sea coast, *via* Kolapoor and the Phonda Ghaut. It is a subject the importance of which can scarcely be overrated, and I trust it may meet with early consideration, more

Sanctioned in Mr. Secretary Lumsden's letter to the Military Board, No. 1891, of 21st May 1852.

See my letter to Government in the General Department, No. 1501, of 30th June 1852.

particularly with reference to the works on which Captain Phayre is at present employed at the top of the Phonda Ghaut; for, as I have observed in the letter to which I have above adverted, and to which I respectfully beg to refer you, no long line of road traversing a country from end to end can possibly succeed, or fulfil its true object, unless it be fed as it runs its course by branch lines, opening up on all sides the productive resources of the countries through which it passes.

20. The letter alluded to by Captain Wingate (No. 57, of 17th February 1852) on the subject of the formation of a local fund for improvements of this nature, was referred to me by Government for report and opinion with Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's Circular No. 1902, of 23rd March last, and was replied to by me under date 1st April following (No. 740). In the 13th paragraph I stated :

“In all Captain Wingate's observations in respect to the facilitation of communication by roads and bridges, I entirely concur : his views seem perfectly sound, and the arrangements he proposes most judicious. Of late years roads of the description he advocates, constructed at small cost, have, I am happy to see, greatly increased :
 * Rutnagherry, from in the Southern Mahratta Country, the Kolapoor State, and in
 which place my letter this Collectorate,* many such cleared lines have been laid out,
 was written. tending almost as much to the extension of cart traffic as the
 much more costly moorum roads.”

21. From paragraph 73 to the end of his report, the great facilities afforded for irrigation by means of bundaras, or masonry dams thrown across the large rivers by which these talookas are watered, are pointed out and enlarged on. I observe from Mr. Inverarity's letter that the feasibility of these projects has been referred by him for the opinion of the Executive Engineer of the Belgaon Division, and a report in elucidation of his views on the subject is promised ; any further consideration of them in this place would therefore be, perhaps, premature. I may, however, remark that, so far as can be judged of the proposed undertakings, from the results anticipated by Captain Wingate, they seem eminently calculated not only to promote the prosperity of the district, by placing it beyond the risk of famine in seasons of drought, but also to yield a large return to Government in the shape of enhanced revenue from the large and valuable crops which would be raised under the extensive system of irrigation for which they provide.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) W. COURTNEY,

Revenue Commissioner S. D.

Poona, Revenue Commissioner's Office, 23rd July 1852.

No. 448 of 1852.

From

J. D. INVERARITY, ESQUIRE,
 Collector of Belgaum,

To

W. COURTNEY, ESQUIRE,
 Revenue Commissioner S. D.

Belgaum, Collector's Office, 6th July 1852.

SIR,

Adverting to Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter, No. 3848, dated 9th April 1851, to your address, I have the honor to submit Captain Wingate's report, No. 165, dated the 9th

ultimo, explanatory of the revised assessment introduced by him into the talookas of Badamee and Bagulkote of this Collectorate.

2. This report opens with a description of the Badamee talooka, comprising 147 Government and 76 alienated villages, with observations on its climate and system of husbandry, which in the northern villages is described as slovenly and indifferent, somewhat better in the southern villages, and as especially deserving of commendation in the central division, where a manufacturing neighbourhood provides a home consumption for the agricultural produce, which is of too poor a kind to bear a distant carriage. The condition of the farming class throughout the talooka is stated to be at best stationary, and to have exhibited no signs of improvement under our administration.

3. Captain Wingate's account of the measurement and classification of the land by the officers under him is clear and explicit, the result of the test exhibited in paragraph 17 showing an average error in measurement of $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and in classification of 8 pies per field—an accuracy, as remarked by that officer, quite sufficient to afford a sound and satisfactory basis for the assessment.

4. After a most careful consideration of climate—the element of most importance in adjusting rates for different parts of a country ; after looking fully into the effects of the existing over-assessment on cultivation—not losing sight of the fact that the light sandy soil of Badamee is unsuited to the growth of exportable products ; and alive to the necessity of placing the black soil of the Roan sub-division on an equality with the adjoining and already surveyed lands of the Dummul and Nowlgoond talookas,—Captain Wingate distributes the villages to be assessed into three groups, and proposes rates of assessment for them as follows :—

A maximum rate of dry crop assessment of Rs. 1-4-0 per acre for 7 villages, most favourably situated with regard to climate, markets, &c., descending to similar maximum rates of Rs. 1-2-0 per acre in 87 villages of the central division of the talooka, and Rs. 1 per acre in 53 villages less favourably situated south of the Malpurba river, and along the northern and western borders of the talooka.

5. The garden land of the talooka amounts to 223 acres, to which a maximum rate of Rs. 5 an acre has been attached, the assessment resulting therefrom giving an average of Rs. 2-13-0 per acre, instead of the present average of Rs. 5-12-10. The extent of rice land is 301 acres, to which a maximum rate of Rs. 4 per acre is attached, the assessment resulting therefrom giving an average of Rs. 2-1-7, instead of the present average of Rs. 7-1-10 per acre.

6. As shown in Captain Wingate's 34th paragraph, the 1st class villages have received the greatest relief, their average assessment being reduced from Rs. 1-2-1 to Rs. 0-10-1 per acre ; the 2nd and 3rd class villages have been relieved in a minor degree, their respective averages being reduced from Rs. 0-14-5 and Rs. 0-11-8 to Rs. 0-9-11 and Rs. 0-9-1 respectively.

7. The value of the huks of district and village officers absorbed in the new assessment, though entered in the village chittas at Rs. 3,562, has been admitted in the settlement of compensation only in cases where payments had not become obsolete, where village officers had been in the habit of collecting their huks. Compensation in the form of a remission from land revenue has been allowed to Patels, Naiks, and Coolournees, to the extent of Rs. 1,218 per annum, for the annual disbursement of which I solicit sanction.

8. With the exception of the quit-rent paid by district officers, which is not affected by the introduction of the new assessment, quit-rent on land held on jodee tenure has been reduced to the extent of the excess of the present jodee over the survey assessment of the whole of the lands belonging to an hereditary office.

9. The whole area of the Badamee talooka is entered at 380,394 acres, of which 93,581 acres are unarable, consisting, as stated in Captain Wingate's 15th paragraph, of hills,

rivers, roads, sites of villages, and localities incapable of cultivation. The total arable land of the talooka is entered at 286,813 acres, capable of yielding a realizable revenue of Rs. 1,25,103. This, again, is divided into—

Arable Government land	1,67,403	acres, assessed at Rs. 91,491
„ Jodee land	30,384	„ „ „ 18,670
„ Enam and Mahal Jodee.	89,026	„ „ „ 14,942

10. The land revenue for collection in 1850-51 on Government lands, amounting to Rs. 51,172 under the new assessment, is shown to be a decrease of about one-fourth on the average of previous years, the immediate benefit to cultivators being a reduction of former payments to the extent of from 20½ to 31 per cent. Captain Wingate (paragraph 41) does not anticipate that this talooka will, under the survey settlement, yield a larger revenue than it has hitherto done, or even a revenue equal to past collections, although the sacrifice will not be considerable; and I agree with Captain Wingate, that, so long as the progress of the district is secured by this sacrifice, there can be no reasonable cause for regret.

11. Captain Wingate proceeds to describe the talooka of Bagulkote, extending from the Badamee district on the south to the river Krishna, which forms its northern boundary. Intermediately the western portion of the talooka is watered by the Gutpurba river, whose valley possesses a better climate than the more northern extended plains of deep fertile soil along the banks of the Krishna.

12. Bagulkote consists of 124 Government and 37 alienated villages, whose husbandry is generally inferior to that of the Badamee district, chiefly because of the deficiency of stock, of the general poorness of the soil, and the precariousness of the monsoons; for a farmer to work well must work in hope; and energy against adverse circumstances is not a point in the Native character.

13. There are no great manufactures in the district of Bagulkote, but the town of this name is still a place of considerable trade, though its merchants have told me the town does not possess the life it once did. Its non-agricultural population provides a market for the ordinary produce of the district, which will not bear the cost of exportation.

14. The result of Captain Wingate's survey places the area of the Government villages of the talooka at 316,816 acres, of which 70,123 acres are incapable of cultivation, and 246,693 acres are fit for the plough.

15. The results of the measurement and classification of this talooka are equally satisfactory as those of Badamee, and its assessment is proposed, after the arrangement of its villages, into four classes, as follows :—

A maximum dry crop rate of Rs. 1-4-0 in the three most favored villages of the district, viz. Bagulkote and its two adjoining villages.

A maximum dry crop rate of Rs. 1-2-0 in 32 villages along the Gutpurba, above its passage through the hills at Yerkul.

A maximum dry crop rate of Rs. 1 in 29 villages enclosing those of the 2nd group.

A maximum dry crop rate of Rs. 0-14-0 in 60 villages in the valley of the Krishna and lower valley of the Gutpurba.

16. The irrigated and rice lands of this talooka are altogether trifling. The assessment on 95 acres, constituting the former, with a maximum rate of Rs. 5 per acre, gives an average rate of Rs. 2-5-2, and that on 62 acres, constituting the latter, with a maximum rate of Rs. 4 per acre, gives an average rate of Rs. 1-12-8 on these descriptions of land.

17. The result of the new assessment shows a considerable reduction in the average of 1st and 2nd class villages from Rs. 2-0-11 and Rs. 1-0-2 to Rs. 0-14-9 and Rs. 0-11-2 per acre respectively. In the remaining two classes the average is reduced from Rs. 0-14-1 to Rs. 0-9-10 in the 3rd, and from Rs. 0-10-10 to Rs. 0-8-8 in the 4th class, a reduction imperatively called for by the depressed state of agriculture in this

talooka, induced by the over-taxation which has existed in it since the earliest period of our rule.

18. The value of the huks of village officers absorbed in the new assessment has been fixed at Rs. 1,808-8-0, to be allowed for by an annual remission to this extent from the land revenue payable by these officers, for which arrangement I beg the sanction of Government.

19. The land revenue for collection on Government lands under the new assessment in 1850-51 is shown to be Rs. 45,177, a decrease of about one-fourth on that of the preceding year, the immediate benefit to cultivators being a reduction of former payments to the extent of from 19 to 32½ per cent.

20. The total arable land of the talooka is, as already stated, 246,693 acres, which, under the new assessment, will yield a realizable revenue of Rs. 1,14,580 : this extent of land is divided into—

Government land.....	1,45,745 acres, assessed at Rs.	80,044
Jodee land	35,648 „ „ „	16,950
Enam and Mahal Jodee	65,300 „ „ „	17,586

21. From the depressed state of the agriculture and unproductive character of Bagulkote, it cannot be expected that under the new assessment it will do more than average the collections of past years ; unless, indeed, the bundharas across the Krishna and Gutpurba, proposed by Captain Wingate, should, by their construction, afford the means of entirely changing the face of the country. The feasibility of the projects now brought forward in paragraphs 73—80 of Captain Wingate's letter have been referred by me for the consideration and report of the Executive Engineer of the Belgaum Division, whose views on the subject shall, on receipt, be submitted to Government.

22. The subject of roads through the Badamee, Hoongoond, and Bagulkote talookas was referred by me to my First Assistant on the 31st of January last. His report is still awaited. On its receipt I shall be prepared to submit to Government a project for further developing the resources of these districts, by providing facilities for cart communication, as adverted to in Captain Wingate's 72nd paragraph.

23. With reference to Captain Wingate's 68th and 69th paragraphs, I have the honor to request the sanction of Government to the refund of Rs. 743-12-0 now in deposit in this treasury, being the excess of collections in 1850-51 beyond the survey assessment made from the ryots of Son, which has been very properly treated as a khalsat village by Captain Wingate. The Enam Commissioner, in his letter No. 1930, dated 1st July 1850, states that the public accounts in his charge show that throughout the Peishwa's Government the village in question was a khalsat one, let in farm to Gudgyapa Dessae.

24. A comparison of the entries in Statement F, which accompanied the Jumma-bundee Report of this Collectorate, No. 1381, dated 14th November 1851, with the tables entered in paragraphs 34 and 61 of Captain Wingate's letter now submitted, gives the following differences, which this officer has on application been unable to explain, and which have now been referred to the Mamlutdars of Bagulkote and Badamee, whose explanations can be hereafter submitted :—

BADAMEE.

<i>Total Extent of Culturable Land bearing Assessment.</i>		<i>Acres.</i>
Column 5 of Statement F of Jumma-bundee Report		154,732
Column 12 of Table in paragraph 34 of Captain Wingate's Report.....		155,260
More in Captain Wingate's Report.....		528
<i>Cultivated Land.</i>		
Column 9 of Statement F.....		85,821
Column 6 of Table in paragraph 34 of Captain Wingate's Report.....		85,808
Less in Captain Wingate's Report.....		13

BAGULKOTE.

Total Extent of Culturable Land bearing Assessment.

Column 5 of Statement F.....	140,564
Column 12 of Table in paragraph 61 of Captain Wingate's Report....	141,287
	<hr/>
More in Captain Wingate's Report.....	723

Cultivated Land.

Column 9 of Statement F.....	70,967
Column 6 of Table in paragraph 61 of Captain Wingate's Report.....	70,974
	<hr/>
More in Report	7

As the figures in Captain Wingate's Report are stated by that officer in his letter to me, No. 193, dated 29th ultimo, to be sufficiently correct for the explanation of the results of the survey settlement, which was the object he had in view in employing them, I do not delay the transmission of his report, and shall hereafter furnish the Mamlutdar's explanations of the discrepancies when received.

I have the honor to be, &c.

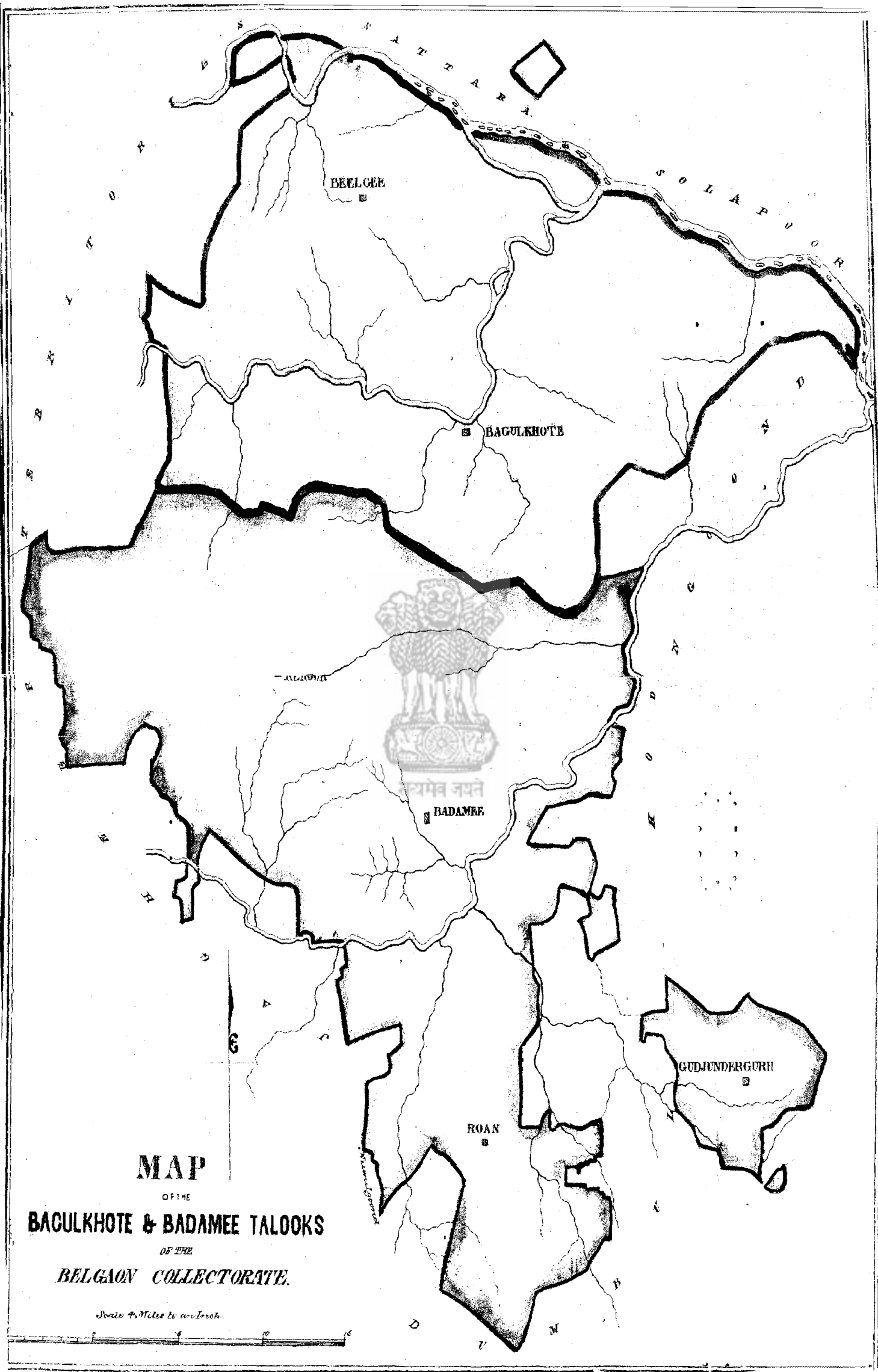
(Signed) J. D. INVERARITY,

Collector.





सत्यमेव जयते



MAP
OF THE
BAGULKHOTE & BADAMEE TALOOKS
OF THE
BELGAON COLLECTORATE.

Scale 4 Miles to an Inch.

INDEX.

	Paras.
Introductory	1— 2
BADAMEE TALOOKA.	
General description of the talooka, comprising remarks on its climate, agriculture, manufactures, trade, &c.	3—13
Measurement and classification of the talooka.....	14—19
Period preceding British rule	20
Revenue management under British rule, and results of.....	21—26
Rates of Assessment proposed for dry crop land	27—32
" " " garden and rice land	33
New rates compared with past collections.....	34
Huks abolished by the new Settlement, and amount of interim compensation proposed	35—36
Effect of Settlement on the quit-rent of alienated lands	35
Financial results of the Settlement	36—42
BAGULKOTE TALOOKA.	
General description of the talooka, comprising remarks on its climate, agriculture, manufactures, &c.	43—49
Measurement and classification of the talooka.....	50—53
Period preceding British rule.	54
Revenue management under British rule, and results of.....	55—58
Rates of Assessment proposed for dry crop land	59
" " " garden and rice land	60
New rates compared with past collections	61
Huks abolished by the new Settlement, and amount of interim compensation proposed.	62—63
Treatment of quit-rent of alienated land	64
Results of the Settlement	65—67
Settlement of the village of Son held in farm by the Beelgee Desace, and recommendation regarding over collections now held in deposit.....	68—69
Financial results.....	70—71
GENERAL REMARKS.	
Urgent want of roads in the Badamee and Bagulkote talookas ..	72
Facilities afforded for the irrigation of the Bagulkote talooka, by means of bundaras thrown across the Krishna river at Gulgulleh, and the Gutpurba river at Moornal	73—79
Capabilities of the Mulpurba river for irrigation	80
Concluding remarks	81



सत्यमेव जयते

From

Captain G. WINGATE,

Revenue Survey Commissioner,

To

J. D. INVERARITY, ESQUIRE,

Collector, Belgaum.

Dharwar, 9th June 1852.

SIR,

I now do myself the honor to submit, for the consideration and sanction of Government, a detailed report in explanation of the revised assessment introduced into the talookas of Badamee and Bagulkote, under the sanction conveyed in the Government letter No. 3848, dated 9th April 1851. I will adhere to the usual course of considering the assessment of each talooka separately, and commence with that of Badamee.

2. The sketch map of both talookas, which lie contiguous, exhibits their relative position and boundaries, and renders it unnecessary for me to enter upon any very detailed description in regard to these points.

3. Badamee, it will be seen from the map, lies immediately south of Bagulkote. It is a large talooka, and of very irregular shape—the southern portion, forming the Roan Mahalkurree's division, protruding far into the Dharwar districts. Another portion, situated still further east, and almost isolated from the main body of the talooka by intervening territory of His Highness the Nizam, consists of villages belonging to the Chief of Gudjundurgurh, but subordinate in respect of police management to the British authorities. The proposals to be submitted in the present report do not extend to these and other alienated villages, which are numerous, but are confined to the villages of the talooka of which the revenue is collected on behalf of Government, which are 147 in number.

4. Both classes of villages are distributed into three divisions, forming the charges of a Mamlutdar stationed at Badamee, and of two subordinate Mahalkurrees at Roan and Kehroor, as shown in the subjoined Statement :—

Present Divisions.	Name of Mahal, or old Division to which the Villages belong.	Belonging to Government.			Alienated Villages.				Grand Total of Government and Alienated Villages.
		Villages.	Bazars.	Total.	Jodee, or subject to Quit-rent.	Surru Nam, or Rent free.	Jagheer.	Total.	
BADAMEE MAM- LUTDARS.	Badamee	18	...	18	18	3	1	22	40
	Nundeeekeshwur	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	6
	Neelgoond ..	5	...	5	...	...	...	...	5
	Putudkul	7	...	7	...	...	...	...	7
	Belloor	13	...	13	...	...	...	...	13
	Kutgerree	20	...	20	...	...	...	...	20
	Purwuttee	17	4	21	...	...	...	...	21
	Kehroor ... ..	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	2
		86	4	90	19	4	1	24	114

KEHROOR MA- HALKURRIES.	Kehroor	22	..	22	19	..	..	19	41
	Moodkuvee..	12	..	12	..	..	..	..	12
	Anwal ...	11	..	11	4	..	..	4	15
	Phootgaon...	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	3
		48	..	48	23	..	..	23	71
ROAN MA- HALKURRIES.	Koonnoor ...	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1
	Roan ...	13	..	13	..	1	..	1	14
	Gudjundurgurh	..	..	..	..	27	..	27	27
		13	..	13	..	29	..	29	42
		147	4	151	42	33	1	76	227

5. There are three well marked natural divisions in the Badamee talooka. The portion south of the Mulpurba river formed of the thirteen villages of the Roan Summut, and some belonging to the Mamlutdar's division, forms part of the great cotton plain which extends southwards to the Dumbul hills. The soil of these villages is mostly black, and in this particular, as well as in climate, they exactly resemble the villages of the Nowlgoond and Dumbul talookas of the Dharwar collectorate, by which they are enclosed on three sides. Along the north bank of the Mulpurba, on the other hand, a range of rugged sandstone hills extends from the western extremity of the talooka at Moodkuvee to the eastern extremity beyond Gooludgoodupeth, with ramifications stretching northwards as far as Kehroor and Kutgere. The whole of this tract is hilly and rugged; and, except along a very few lines of road, is impracticable for carts. The soil is chiefly sandy, and naturally very poor; but by the application of manure, and a better system of cultivation than is met with anywhere in the eastern part of the Collectorate, it is made to yield fair crops and subsistence for a considerable population. In the extreme north-west of the talooka, the sandstone is overlaid by trap rock, or is succeeded by limestone. This division of the district lies high, but is without any considerable hills. The surface is generally undulating, and the soil varies very much in quality, but is for the most part inferior.

6. In point of climate, the central of the three divisions is the most favored. The monsoon showers there, owing probably to the numerous hills, fall more frequently than in the more level divisions to the north and south—a circumstance the more fortunate, inasmuch as the dry sandy soils of this division can only be cultivated with the early or monsoon crops. Their loose open texture enables the rain to sink through them readily, while the same peculiarity promotes rapid evaporation. Their crops succeed best with light showers, occurring with tolerable frequency; and this is fortunately the kind of weather which prevails in this part of the talooka during the monsoon months. After the monsoon the sandy soils rapidly dry up, and are in consequence unsuited for the production of cotton, wheat, and gram, which come to maturity during the dry season. The black soils, on the other hand, of the northern and southern divisions, being very retentive of moisture, are well suited to the culture of these crops, which, in consequence, are grown extensively there, and particularly so in the southern divisions. The fall of rain, however, during the monsoon, is more uncertain than in the central division, and the early crops, in consequence, do not succeed so well.

7. The processes of husbandry followed in this talooka do not differ from those of other dry crop districts; and as these have been described in previous reports, it appears needless to do so again. The farming in the northern villages is generally slovenly and indifferent, and that of the southern villages is better, while the tillage of the sandy soils of the populous villages of the central division is especially deserving of commendation. The fields there are well ploughed up annually, and manured every second year, or at least as often and as plentifully as the manure at the disposal of the cultivator will permit. They are well weeded, and, being often surrounded by milk-bush hedges, these

enclosures give to certain localities a neat and almost English look, that I have nowhere else met with in this country. In some of the black soil villages south of the Mulpurba manure is not applied to the soil at all, and generally only to fields situated within a limited distance of the village. The latter remark applies also to the villages of the northern division. In all parts of the talooka carts are very little used for agricultural operations, and the manure is usually taken out to the fields, and the crops brought home on the backs of bullocks. An improvement in this respect may be anticipated from the opening of the road from Hoobullee to Solapoor through the talooka, but in addition to this are several other lines of road passing through the district, which it would be very desirable to clear of obstructions, so as to make them available for carts.

8. In the sandy soils of this talooka the mango grows admirably, and flourishing plantations of it are to be found in several villages. Planting, however, has been greatly discouraged by Government selling the fruit annually by auction in many villages, and even in the case of trees standing on enam land, and appropriating a half or other share of the proceeds. These useful and ornamental trees will, I anticipate, be planted to a very considerable extent under the survey settlement, which secures to the owners the entire produce.

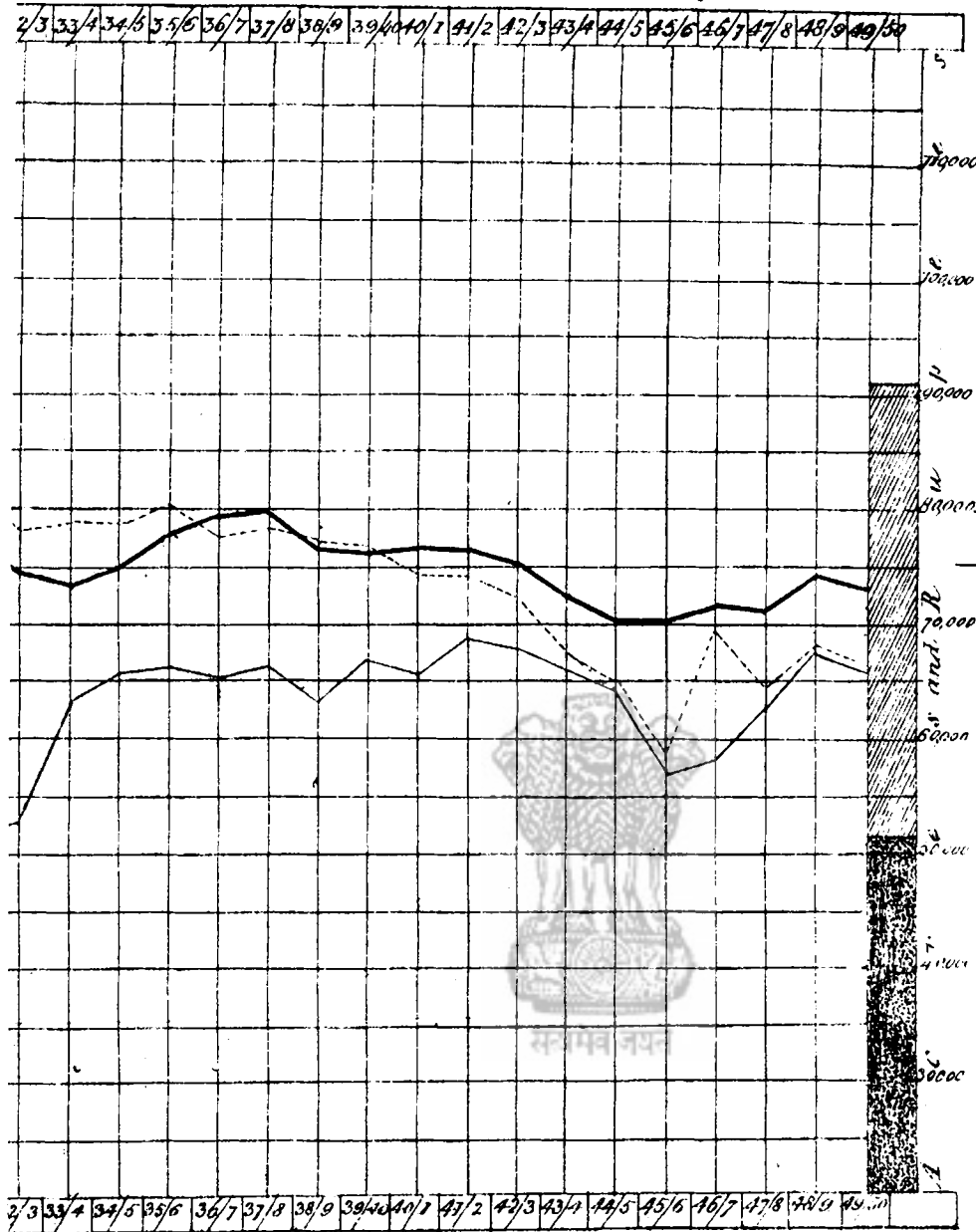
9. The population of Badamee is considerable. A considerable proportion subsists by manufactures, and to this circumstance the comparative prosperity of its agriculture is attributable. The chief manufacturing towns are Kehroor and Gooludgood, but besides these there is a considerable manufacturing population dispersed in other villages of the talooka.

10. The chief manufacture of Kehroor is low priced "Sarees" (women's robes) for export to Poona, Bombay, and the Conkan. About three years ago, according to my informants, as many as 500 looms were in constant work at this town, but they do not now number above 350, the decline being ascribed to the high prices of cotton and indigo which the manufacturers have had to pay for the last two or three years, without being able to obtain any higher prices for their goods than before. The demand, in fact, for this kind of manufacture has fallen off, owing, probably, to the competition of Gokak, Rubkuvée, and other towns nearer to the coast, where the same goods are produced, and where the purchasers from the coast who used to visit Kehroor obtain their supplies more conveniently. In consequence of this decline in the demand, the master weavers have discharged many of their hands, who have left Kehroor, and gone elsewhere in search of work.

11. On the other hand, the manufactures of Gooludgood, which are greatly more valuable than those of Kehroor, are on the increase. There are now about 1,800 looms at work in the former town, and nearly all for the manufacture of cloths for cholees, or boddices worn by females. These goods contain a mixture of silk and cotton, or are wholly made of silk, and they vary in price from one anna up to Rs. $1\frac{1}{2}$ the "kun" of $20\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The cotton yarn used in the manufacture is mostly English. It is satisfactory to find that these finer manufactures, which require comparatively little of the raw material, instead of being displaced by British goods, are actually on the increase. The annual produce of the Gooludgood looms is valued at 4 lakhs of rupees, and it is nearly all exported to Solapoor, Poona, the Conkan, and Bombay. The cotton manufactures of the towns of Badamee and Moodkuvée, which each possesses a considerable number of looms, are of a coarse kind, similar to those of Kehroor, and are in the same depressed condition as those of the latter town.

12. The agriculture of the talooka is in a great degree dependent on these manufactures, which supply the means of paying the land tax, and also the imports of cotton yarn, silk, wheat, rice, gram, salt, chillies, sooparee, pepper, cocoanuts, metals, &c. required for the internal consumption of the district; for there is little, if any, agricultural produce exported from the great body of the talooka, which is north of the Mulpurba river. The

ON, ASSESSMENT, REMISSIONS, and COLLECTIONS in the case
of the BADAMEE TALOOK during the last 32 years.



EXAMPLE

In 1846-47

Cultivation — 71,700 Acres

Assessment — 69,386 Rs.

Collections — 58,256

Remissions — 31,140

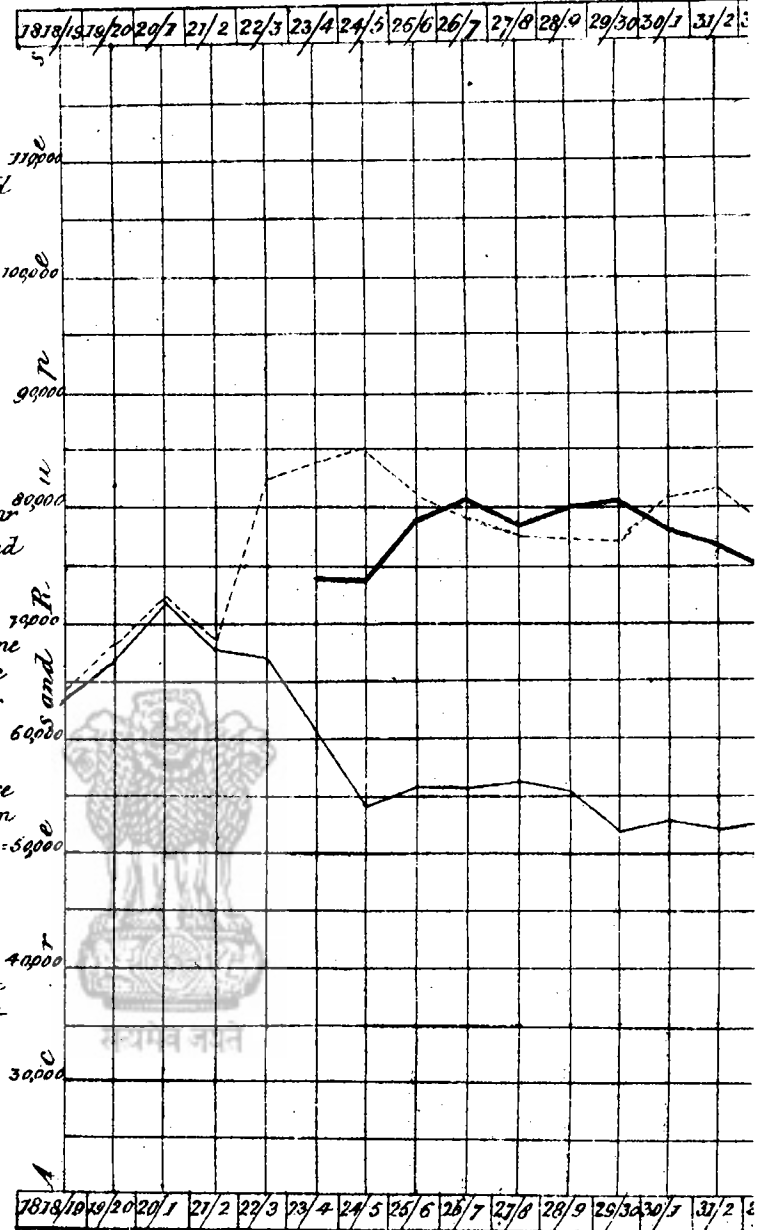
Average rate of Assⁿ $\frac{R. A. P.}{C}$ 0.75.5

Rate of Collectⁿ 0.72.11

DIAGRAM illustrative of the fluctuations in the CULTIVATION of the Government Arable land of 136 Villages,

EXPLANATION

The various items are measured by the scale of Acres and Rupees carried across the Diagram. The thick zigzag line represents the cultivation; the broken the Assessment, and the thin the Collections, each of these items being measured by the height of the point where the zigzag line crosses the perpendicular for each year. The portion of each perpendicular intercepted between the broken and thin lines shows the amount of remissions in each year. According as the broken or thin line crosses any perpendicular above or below the thick the Assessment or collections for the year marked by that perpendicular exceeded or fell short of one rupee per acre. The summit of the striped column on the right of the Diagram represents the Survey Assessment of the whole arable land at the proposed rates and that of the shaded portion of the same column the Survey Assessment of the land Cultivated in 1850-51.



light soils of this quarter, forming the great breadth of the arable land, produce almost nothing but the common grains, bajree, and jowaree; and as these will not bear a distant carriage, the cultivators have only been enabled to pay their present assessment, which is often very high, by the market afforded for their grains by the manufacturing population in their immediate neighbourhood. This is a point of great importance to be considered in adjusting the new rates, as any diminution of the numbers of the manufacturing population, of which the facts already mentioned in regard to Kehroor and other villages leave room for apprehension, would *pro tanto* lessen the consumption of grain, and, perhaps, render it impossible for the cultivator to dispose of the whole of his surplus produce in the district markets, which he has hitherto been able to do.

13. The circumstances of the cultivators of Badamee are considerably better than those of the same class in Bagulkote. In the northern villages, however, they are frequently poor. In the central division, too, many of them leave their villages regularly every year to work at the rice harvests of the western districts, and to pick cotton in the black plain, in order to provide the means of paying the assessment, and a subsistence for their families during the whole year, which the poor soils they cultivate do not afford them. The most substantial farmers are to be found in the black soil villages of the plain to the south of the Mulpurba, though the high rates of assessment obtaining in this quarter have kept cultivation from extending. Throughout the talooka the condition of the farming class is at best stationary, and has exhibited no signs of improvement under our administration.

14. I will now proceed to notice the operations of the present survey, connected with the measurement and classification of the land. These have already appeared in my Progress Reports of the last two years, though not in a connected form; and I will, therefore, endeavour to make my description of them in this place as brief as is consistent with the object of showing that they form an accurate and trustworthy basis for the assessment which the present report is designed to explain.

15. The Government villages of Badamee, 147 in number, contain, inclusive of alienations, within their limits 380,394 acres of land, of which 93,581 acres consist of hills, rivers, roads, sites of villages, and other localities incapable of cultivation.

16. The measurement of these villages was prosecuted during the seasons 1847-48 and 1848-49, under the superintendence of Lieutenant Biggs, Lieutenant Kemball, and Mr. Springer, and completed in 1849-50 by Captain Anderson. The classification was commenced in the season 1849-50 by Lieutenant Kemball, and completed during the following season by Mr. Young.

17. The general accuracy of both operations, and extent of test taken for the purpose of establishing this point, are exhibited in detail in the following Statements:—

Government Villages.			Nature, extent, and result of Test.													
			Nature of Operation.	Total number of Villages tested.	By European Officers.				By Natives.				Total Test.			
Fields.	Acres.	Average Error			Fields.	Acres.	Average Error		Fields.	Acres.	Average Error					
		Per cent.					Per Field.	Per cent.			Per Field.	Per cent.	Per Field.			
Nos.	Fields.	Arable Acres.														
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
147	20,933	286,820	Measurement.	125	1,442	20,416	$\frac{3}{4}$	Pies. ...	112	1218	$\frac{3}{4}$	Pies. ...	1,554	21,634	$\frac{3}{4}$	Pies. ...
			Classification.	143	1,430	19,295	...	8	6	85	...	84	1,436	19,380	...	8

18. The errors from which the average errors of the preceding Statement have been deduced are exhibited in the two following Statements, the first being for the measurement, and the second for the classification :—

1st.

Total number of Fields tested.	Number of Fields in which the difference between Original and Test Measurement did not exceed											
	1 Percent.	2 Percent.	3 Percent.	4 Percent.	5 Percent.	6 Percent.	7 Percent.	8 Percent.	9 Percent.	10 Percent.	11 Percent.	12 Percent.
1,554	1,127	331	58	22	8	3	2	..	..	2	..	1

2nd.

Total number of Fields tested.	Number of Fields in which the difference between Original and Test Classification was									
	Nothing.	Rs. a. p. 0 0 1 to 0 0 6	Rs. a. p. 0 0 7 to 0 1 0	Rs. a. p. 0 1 1 to 0 1 6	Rs. a. p. 0 1 7 to 0 2 0	Rs. a. p. 0 2 1 to 0 2 6	Rs. a. p. 0 2 7 to 0 3 0	Rs. a. p. 0 3 1 to 0 3 6	Rs. a. p. 0 3 1 to 0 3 6	Rs. a. p. 0 3 1 to 0 3 6
1,436	114	590	469	166	70	20	6	1		

19. It appears from these Statements that the average error of the measurement was only $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and that of the classification 8 pies per field, while no very gross errors enter with either of these averages; and both operations will, I trust, appear sufficiently accurate to afford a sound and satisfactory basis for the assessment, to the consideration of which I will now proceed.

20. The Badamee talooka, like other parts of the Southern Mahratta Country, once formed part of the Hindoo State of Annagoondee. It afterwards was attached to the Beejapoor State, and on the fall of the latter passed into the hands of the Moguls. It was subsequently held for a time by the Mahrattas, then taken by Tippoo Sultan, and again recovered by the Peshwa, with whom it remained until we got possession of the country. During the period preceding our occupation, it experienced many changes of revenue management, and many alternations of prosperity and adversity; but these all occurred too far back to have any practical bearing on the question I am discussing, and may therefore be passed over without further notice.

21. All the villages forming the present talooka of Badamee were surveyed shortly after we obtained the country, with the exception of 11 villages of the Anwal Summut, which at the time were alienated. The survey measurements were made the basis of the revenue accounts in 1823-24, and from that year the cultivation in acres is shown upon the diagram, which will be described presently. A revision of the assessment founded on the survey operations was introduced into the talooka during the years 1825-26, 1826-27, and 1827-28, by Mr. Stevenson, of the Madras Civil Service. This, however, did not extend to the villages of the Belloor and Roan Summuts, in which the assessment that obtained previous to the survey continued in force till the introduction of the new settlement, upon which I am reporting. Mr. Stevenson subsequently made some modifications of his assessment in a few villages, and the old rates have also in many instances been reduced by revenue officers at the annual settlements, to meet the exigencies of particular cases; but since Mr. Stevenson's time there has been no attempt to effect any systematic revision or alteration of the assessment.

22. The accounts of the revenue and cultivation of the Badamee talooka are unusually complete. I have obtained an unbroken series for all the years of our administration for every village. From these I have prepared the General Abstract, forming Appendix A to the present report, and also the diagram given on the opposite page. The latter refers only to 136 out of the 147 Government villages at present included in the talooka. The 11 villages whose accounts have not been made available for the construc-

tion of the diagram belong to the Anwal Summut, and lapsed to Government in 1836-37, at the demise of the late Nana Saheb Chinchnikur.

23. This diagram is similar to those given in my last Assessment Report on the talookas of Purrusgurh and Gokak. The thick zigzag line crossing the diagram represents the acres in cultivation each year; the broken line the assessment leviable on this cultivation; and the thin line the collections, or rather the portion of the assessment left for realization after deducting the remissions granted at each annual settlement. The outstanding balances in this talooka were quite insignificant, and have, I understand, since been written off. For practical purposes, then, we may safely assume the amounts represented by the thin line on the diagram to have been all collected. The cultivation is shown from the year 1823-24, in which it was recorded for the first time in acres, as determined by the former survey, executed under the orders of Mr. Thackeray, then Principal Collector. The near coincidence of the thin and broken lines representing the collections and assessment for the first four years entered in the diagram is, I understand, due to the circumstance of the gross demand before the grant of remissions not being shown in the accounts of these years, but merely the actual demand fixed by the Collector at the Jumma bundee. The abatements from the gross demand do not therefore appear in the accounts of these years at all.

24. On tracing the courses of the three lines across the diagram, the most remarkable fact to be noted is, perhaps, the limited extent of the fluctuations in the cultivation, assessment, and collections from year to year, as compared with those of similar items for most of the districts I have already reported on. The cultivation especially has been singularly steady. It has never risen beyond 81,000 acres, or fallen below 70,000 acres. The range between the years of highest and lowest assessment and collections is more considerable, but still far short of what I have been accustomed to in other districts. I attribute this fact in part to the climate of great part of Badamee being less liable to long-continued drought than that of most other districts equally far removed from the Ghauts; but in a greater degree to the comparative density of its population, and the considerable portion of them engaged in manufactures, whose consumption affords a ready and convenient market for agricultural produce. The central and eastern parts of Badamee, where the manufacturing population is chiefly located, do not produce sufficient grain for their own consumption, and the land in these neighbourhoods is for the most part well cultivated, and much subdivided. The cultivation there could hardly be seriously contracted, without requiring a portion of the population to emigrate, and this, doubtless, has stimulated the cultivators to exert themselves to retain their lands in cultivation. To the same circumstance may be attributed the fact of their having paid for the land a considerably higher assessment than neighbouring districts have done for land of equally good quality.

25. While this diagram presents evidence of a less fluctuating, and probably, therefore, a more successful agriculture, than that of most of the districts of Dharwar and Belgaum hitherto settled, a closer examination will show that it was nevertheless by no means a prosperous agriculture. Instead of the extension of cultivation to have been anticipated during upwards of 30 years of peace and security, we find the breadth of land under tillage in 1845-46 less than it had been in any previous year of our administration. Subsequent to 1845-46 a slight extension of cultivation has taken place, which may be altogether attributed to the present survey operations, which of late years, since the people have acquired confidence in their results, have frequently the effect of stimulating cultivation, for some years previous to the introduction of the new settlements: but for this it is probable that the cultivation of the talooka would be less now than it was in 1845-46.

26. The decline of cultivation which I have been considering may, I think, be clearly traced to over assessment. There is no want of people nor of capital in Badamee

for a more extended cultivation than the present, and I am not aware of any cause besides over assessment that has operated to prevent such an extension taking place. It will be seen from the diagram that the assessment represented by the broken line has been gradually falling below the cultivation represented by the thick line;—in other words, the average rate of assessment per acre has been gradually becoming lower and lower. This result is to be ascribed to the most heavily assessed lands falling out of cultivation, and to abatements of the assessment made in individual cases by the Collector. The latter cause, however, has been of comparatively limited operation, and the reduction of assessment shown by the diagram is chiefly due to the lands thrown up from year to year having been generally those most highly assessed, while the fresh lands taken into cultivation in the same periods were comparatively moderately assessed. The joint result of these processes was of course a reduction in the average rate per acre of the whole land in cultivation. By these means the cultivators have managed to obtain a very considerable abatement of the assessment formerly paid by them, but the declining state of the cultivation up to 1845-46, notwithstanding such reduction, affords abundant evidence of its having fallen far short of what was necessary. All that the reduction effected was to retard the declension of cultivation, but it could not wholly arrest it.

27. I trust by these remarks to have made it evident that the new assessment must be pitched considerably below the old to afford it a chance of success; and there is another circumstance peculiar to this talooka, or rather to the portion of it where the soil is light and sandy, that affords additional evidence in favour of this course. I allude to the fact mentioned in my paragraph that these soils are unsuited to the growth of exportable products. Their produce is all consumed in the district for the support of the cultivators' families, and the supply of food for the manufacturing population. The power of these soils to pay an assessment, in addition to providing a sustenance for the cultivators, is in a great degree dependent on this manufacturing population; and were the numbers of the latter to be seriously reduced, nothing but a liberal reduction of assessment could enable the cultivators to retain many of these light lands in cultivation. There is reason to apprehend such a reduction of the manufacturing population. It has already taken place to some extent in Kehroor, where 300 looms have been thrown out of work, and many weavers have left the town in search of employment elsewhere. The same result has happened in Badamee, Moodkuee, and generally in all the villages of Badamee, where coarse goods, similar to those made at Kehroor, are manufactured.

28. In Gooludgood alone, where the manufactures are of finer quality, the looms at work have increased of late years; but I doubt whether this increase fully balances the loss sustained in other quarters. And even in Gooludgood, as elsewhere throughout the district, the wages of the weaver and the profits of the manufacturer are said to have fallen considerably of late years. The yearly increasing use of English manufactures, if it does not displace the Native ones, can hardly fail of lowering the price of the latter, and thus reducing the means of those engaged in their production.

29. It is not, however, merely the competition of England, but also that of other manufacturing localities in this Presidency, that has to be considered. The use of English yarns in Native manufactures is very fast increasing, and they threaten to supplant the Native yarns altogether in the manufacture of the finer qualities of goods. The location of so many seats of manufacturing industry in the Southern Mahratta Country is to be ascribed to the advantages they enjoyed over other places in possessing an abundant supply of cheap yarn spun from the cotton raised in their immediate neighbourhood, but this advantage will disappear when they have to obtain their yarns from Europe. The advantage of position will then be transferred from the interior, where cotton is grown, to the coast, where supplies of imported yarns may be most cheaply obtained, and it would not at all surprise me were this circumstance hereafter to occasion

a considerable shifting of the manufacturing population. But whether such a result take place or not, an extended use of English yarn must deprive the manufacturing villages of the interior of much of the peculiar advantages they have hitherto possessed; and this possibility—I might say probability—affords, in my opinion, a valid ground for liberality of assessment in the case of a district situated so far inland as Badamee.

30. Another argument in favor of a reduction of assessment is to be found in the revised rates of assessment introduced into the adjoining talookas of Nowlgoond and Dumbul, in the Dharwar Collectorate. The Roan division of Badamee adjoins the Yawungal division of Nowlgoond, and the northern part of the Gudduck division of Dumbul, and may be considered to possess equal advantages with them in respect of climate and markets. The maximum dry crop rate for the adjoining villages of both talookas of the Dharwar Collectorate was fixed at 1 per acre, and the results of this rate, in the case of 17 villages of Yawungal and 26 villages of Gudduck, which most nearly resemble the villages of Roan, are exhibited in the subjoined Table:—

Group of Villages.	Years.	Arable Acres of Government Land.		Assessment of cultivation.	Remission from Assessment.	Increase or Decrease of Cultivation each year.	
		Waste.	Cultivated.			Increase.	Decrease.
17 Villages of Yawungal division of Nowlgoond Talooka.	1844-45	9,443	17,341	12,403	1,686	..	..
	1845-46	5,428	21,603	15,391	11,885	4,262	..
	1846-47	2,838	24,362	17,263	434	3,759	..
	1847-48	2,015	25,328	17,868	400	966	..
	1848-49	2,789	25,577	18,106	727	249	..
	1849-50	3,680	24,758	17,540	..	..	819
26 Villages of Gudduck division of Dumbul Talooka.	1845-46	40,622	63,527	42,984	22,199	..	...
	1846-47	29,430	76,539	50,966	1,202	13,012	...
	1847-48	24,323	81,681	54,156	678	5,142	...
	1848-49	19,073	86,929	57,505	973	5,218	...
	1849-50	23,491	82,751	54,728	...	..	4,178
Total.						32,638	4,997
Net.						27,641	

31. The large remissions shown in this Table for the year 1845-46 were given in consequence of an almost complete failure of the harvest. The remissions for subsequent years are nearly nominal, being almost wholly on account of compensation to village officers for abolished huks. There was a large increase of cultivation for the year of settlement compared with the last year of the old assessment, which does not appear at all in this Table; and on taking this into account it will be seen that the new settlements have had the effect of causing a large extension of cultivation. In the year 1849-50 a falling off is observable, which is principally owing to the previous season having been unfavorable, but in fact, too, in my opinion, to the ryots having increased their farms too rapidly on the introduction of the new assessment. Upon the whole, the new settlement seems to have been sufficiently successful, but not in such an extraordinary degree as to warrant the inference that it has been pitched too low.

32. I have adopted the same maximum dry crop rate of Rs. 1 for the neighbouring villages of Badamee situated to the south of the Mulpurba river, and also for the villages along the north and north-west of the talooka; a higher rate of Rs. 1-2-0 for the central parts of the talooka, which enjoy a better climate, increased to Rs. 1-4-0, in consequence of superior advantages, as respects market and abundance of manure, enjoyed by the manufacturing towns of Badamee, Kehroor, Moodkuvée, and Gooludgood. My intention to assess the talooka at these rates was reported in my letter No. 81, dated 6th

March last, to the address of your predecessor, Mr. Reeves, and the number of villages placed in each group, as well as my reasons for so placing them, are shown in the subjoined Table. The names of the several villages in each group will be found in Appendix B:—

Groups of Villages.	Number of Villages in each Group.	Distinguishing Characteristics of the Groups.	Maximum rate of Dry Crop Assessment per Acre.
1st	7	Villages with, or immediately adjoining others with, a considerable manufacturing population, in consequence of which they possess advantages over the rest of the talooka in respect of market and supplies of manure, while they are situated in the central part of the talooka, which possesses the best climate	<i>Rs. a. p.</i> 1 4 0
2nd	87	Villages forming with those of the preceding group the central part of the talooka, and possessing an equally good climate, but less favored in other respects	1 2 0
3rd	53	Villages lying south of the Mulpurba river, and the town of Jalechal, and along the northern and western border of the talooka, with a less favored climate than that of the two preceding groups	1 0 0

33. For the garden and rice land of this talooka which occurs in several villages, I have adopted maximum rates of Rs. 5 and Rs. 4 per acre respectively. The garden land amounts to 223 acres, and the rice to 301 acres. The assessment resulting from the above-mentioned maximum rates gives in the case of the garden an average rate of Rs. 2-13-0 per acre, and of the rice land Rs. 2-1-7 per acre. The best garden-land is Toluchgode, where the irrigation is partly derived from a bundara across a small stream, and at Kendoor, where it is obtained from a tank of considerable size, which, however, dries up in the hot weather. Wells in both cases are required in aid of the stream and tank irrigation. The rice land is chiefly under the same tank at Kendoor, and under another at Teemsagur. The old garden and rice rates of assessment are very high in this talooka, averaging in the former case Rs. 5-12-10, and in the latter Rs. 7-1-10 per acre, according to the cultivation of the year of the settlement. The reduction effected by the new rates is, therefore, great, but it has been necessary, in order to equalize the rates of this district with those of others previously settled, and is also in my opinion highly desirable, with a view to encourage the extension of irrigated cultivation, which might be prosecuted in this talooka to a considerably greater extent than it is.

34. The rates which have now been explained are compared with those of the old assessment for the year of settlement, in the subjoined Table, the cultivated acres in both cases being those of the new survey:—

Class.	Number of Villages.	Cultivated Acres according to New Survey.	According to Old Survey.		According to New Survey.								
					Land in cultivation.			Waste.			Total.		
			Assessment.	Rate per Acre.	Acres.	Assessment.	Rate per Acre.	Acres.	Assessment.	Rate per Acre.	Acres.	Assessment.	Rate per Acre.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1st	7	4,979	5,646	1 2 1	4,979	3,150	0 10 1	3,923	2,636	0 10 9	8,902	5,786	0 10 5
2nd	87	38,627	34,832	0 14 5	38,627	24,089	0 9 11	34,217	18,501	0 8 4	72,844	42,590	0 9 4
3rd	53	42,202	30,856	0 11 8	42,202	23,986	0 9 1	31,312	19,129	0 9 9	73,514	43,115	0 9 4
3	147	85,808	71,334	0 13 3	85,808	51,225	0 9 6	69,452	40,266	0 9 3	155,260	91,491	0 9 5

35. The value of the huks of district and village officers absorbed in the new assessment was recorded in the village chittas as follows :—

		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
District Officers.	{ 1 Desace.....	885	1	8			
	{ 2 Deshpandeh	39	5	0			
	{ 3 Nadjowra	37	5	0			
	{ 4 Desace Carkoon	69	8	0			
		<hr/>			1,031	3	8
Village Officers.	{ 5 Patels.....	1,205	6	5			
	{ 6 Coolcurnees	1,116	13	11			
	{ 7 Naiks	208	8	0			
		<hr/>			2,530	12	4
		<hr/>			3,562	0	0

36. This valuation is far beyond the truth. From what I could learn at the Jumma-bundee, the ryots have long ceased to pay huks to the district officers at all, and in many cases to the village officers also. I have, in consequence, fixed no interim compensation for the huks in the case of the district officers, as they have in reality lost nothing by their formal abolition, but have left the question of compensation to be considered when the settlement of their emoluments generally is taken in hand. In the case of the village officers, who had up to the time of settlement collected more or less of their huks, I have settled an interim compensation, to be awarded in the form of a remission from land revenue, pending the final settlement of their offices. In instances when the whole emoluments were small, this compensation has been made more liberal than in others, when the remaining emoluments formed an adequate remuneration for the duties of the office. The total amount of compensation awarded to the village officers, Patels, Naiks, and Coolcurnees, is Rs. 1,218.

37. The quit-rent on land held on the jodee tenure has been reduced by the introduction of the new assessment, when the former was in excess of the survey assessment of all the land belonging to a hereditary office, whether "Surwa Enam" or "Jodee," as explained in the 54th paragraph of my Assessment Report on Purrusgur and Gokak, No. 246, dated 24th December 1849. The "Muhul Jodee," or quit-rent, paid by the district officers for their estates, has not been affected by the introduction of the new assessment.

38. The general result of the settlement, as regards all descriptions of tenures, compared with the averages of different periods under the former assessment, and with the year immediately preceding the revision, is exhibited in detail in the Statement given on the following page. The entries for the year 1851-52 have been obtained from settlement registers prepared at the Jumma-bundee, when each ryot was required to engage for the cultivation of the year in question, and had the option given him of relinquishing any land he might not wish to hold at the new rates. The entry for the year 1851-52 in the 11th column of the Statement is not the net revenue, as in the case of the other years, but the survey kumal, or total revenue realizable under the new settlement, on the supposition of the whole land being cultivated.

Statement showing the Cultivation, Assessment, Remissions, and Net Land Revenue for collection, for 147 Villages composing the Badamee Talooka, under the Old and New Settlements.

Tenure.	Years.	Cultivated Land.				Arable Waste.			Total Arable Acres.	Total Net Land Revenue for Collection or Survey Assessment.
		Acres.	Assessment.	Remissions.	Balance for Collection.	Acres.	Assessment.	Net Produce of grass farms, fruit trees, &c. &c.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Kanaalsat.	Average of past years...	78,362	Rupees. 77,187	Rupees. 14,252	Rupees. 62,935	48,372	..	1,544	126,734	64,479
	Last 10..	73,208	70,234	3,756	66,478	52,109	..	2,513	125,317	68,991
	1849-50..	78,321	68,583	819	67,764	55,658	..	5,858	133,979	73,622
	1850-51..	85,808	51,316	5,473	45,843	69,452	..	5,329	155,260	51,172
	1851-52..	94,151	57,178	..	57,178	73,252	34,313	..	167,403	91,491
Jodee and Alienated Land under attachment.	Average of past years...	35,586	32,239	4,748	27,491	..	..	..	35,586	27,491
	Last 10..	34,440	31,857	4,655	27,202	..	..	..	34,440	27,202
	1849-50..	40,113	31,894	4,479	27,415	..	..	..	40,113	27,415
	1850-51..	50,618	22,251	175	22,076	..	..	..	50,618	22,076
	1851-52..	30,384	18,670	..	18,670	..	..	..	30,384	18,670
Surwa Enam and Mahal Jodee.	Average of past years...	84,882	16,554	..	16,554	..	..	..	84,882	16,554
	Last 10...	80,582	16,104	..	16,104	..	..	..	80,582	16,104
	1849-50..	87,785	15,801	..	15,801	..	..	..	87,785	15,801
	1850-51..	80,977	14,942	..	14,942	..	..	..	80,977	14,942
	1851-52..	89,026	14,942	..	14,942	..	..	..	89,026	14,942
Total Arable Land on all Tenures.	Average of past years...	198,830	1,25,980	19,000	1,06,980	48,372	..	1,544	247,202	1,08,524
	Last 10..	188,230	1,18,195	8,411	1,09,784	52,109	..	2,513	240,339	1,12,297
	1849-50..	206,219	1,16,278	5,298	1,10,980	55,658	..	5,858	261,877	1,16,838
	1850-51..	217,403	88,509	5,648	82,861	69,452	..	5,329	286,855	88,190
	1851-52..	213,561	90,790	..	90,790	73,252	34,313	..	286,813	1,25,103

1. The averages of past years entered in this Statement are for the 26 years immediately preceding the revised settlement, as regards the acres, and for 31 years as regards the rupees in the case of 136 villages. In the case of the remaining 11 villages, they are for 14 years as regards both acres and rupees. These villages, which form the Anwal Summut, were never measured previous to the present survey, and their acres for the 14 years have been obtained approximately by calculation.

2. The three first lines in each division of the Statement refer to the old settlement ; the two last, viz. for the years 1850-51 and 1851-52, to the new.

3. The rupees in the last column of the Statement opposite the year 1851-52 form the Survey Kumal, or total assessment capable of realization from the whole land held on the several tenures, while for the preceding years the rupees in this column represent the net land revenue for collection.

39. On examining this Statement, a considerable difference in the number of acres entered in column 10, under the heads of Khalsat, Jodee, and Surwa Enam, for the years 1850-51 and 1851-52 will be observed. This is owing, in fact, to the form in which the returns from which the Statement has been prepared were made out. The extensive estates of Rugoba Desaeenee, which were under temporary attachment in 1850-51, will appear in that year under the same head with jodee lands, and in the next along with

the surwa enam lands, which accounts for the apparent increase in the latter in 1851-52. The increase in the khalsat land in 1851-52, as compared with the preceding year, is owing to the recording under that head lands relinquished by Jodeedars either previous to or at the Jumma bundee.

40. The financial results of the settlement, as shown by the per-centages by which the net revenue of the 1st year of the survey settlement falls short of, and the survey kumal exceeds, the net revenue of preceding periods, are exhibited in the following Table for the khalsat or Government land only, and also for the entire arable land, inclusive of alienations of all descriptions:—

Survey Settlement.	For what Lands.	Per-centages by which the Survey Settlement falls short of, or exceeds, the Net Revenue of the under-mentioned periods previous to Survey.		
		Average of pre- ceding 31 Years.	Average of pre- ceding 10 Years.	Year immedi- ately preceding 1849-50.
The Net Revenue of the 1st year of the Survey Settlement (1850-51) is less per cent. than that of	Khalsat land only	20½	25¾	31
	Khalsat and Alienated together	18¾	21½	24½
The Survey Kumal, or Gross Rent- al, is more per cent. than the Net Re- venue of	Khalsat land only	42	32	24½
	Khalsat and Alienated together	15½	11	7

41. As regards the khalsat lands, then, the immediate benefit to the cultivators from the new rates is a reduction of former payments to the extent of 20½ to 31 per cent., and the prospective possible increase of revenue to Government 24½ to 42 per cent. But upon the whole arable land, inclusive of that held on the jodee and surwa enam tenures, the result is not so favorable, and the survey kumal or gross rental in this case only exceeds the past collections by 7 to 15½ per cent. I do not then anticipate that this talooka, under the survey settlement, will yield a larger revenue than it has hitherto done, or even a revenue equal to the past collections; but I anticipate that the sacrifice of revenue will not be considerable; and if it secure the future progress and welfare of the district, there will, in my opinion, be no cause for dissatisfaction at the result.

42. The following Table, which shows the entire area of the 147 villages under report, arable and unarable, the total survey assessment for the same, as well as the portions of this assessment, alienated and realizable, completes my exposition of the settlement:—

Description of Land.	Area in Acres.	Full Survey Assessment.	Deduct portion of Assessment Alienated.	Balance of Assessment realizable, or Survey Kumal.
Unarable.	93,581	.....	.....	.....
Arable Khalsat	167,403	91,491	.....	91,491
„ Jodee	30,384	19,693	1,023	18,670
„ Surwa Enam and Mahal Jodee	89,026	53,959	39,017	14,942
Total Area and Assessment of 147 Villages	380,394	165,143	40,040	1,25,103

43. I have still to explain the settlement of Bagulkote. This talooka is immediately north of Badamee, and is of a compact form, approaching in shape to a parallelogram. The Krishna river forms its northern boundary, and divides it from the Sattara and Solapoor districts. The Gutpurba river enters the talooka a few miles west of the station of Kulludghee, and after running nearly due east for about twenty miles, turns suddenly to the north immediately below the town of Bagulkote, and; passing through a chain of

hills into the valley of the Krishna, falls into the latter river about fifteen miles lower down. The hills just mentioned approach the Gutpurba much more closely than they do the Krishna, and it is, probably, owing to this circumstance, and to its position on the south or monsoon side of the range, that the valley of the former river receives a better supply of rain than that of the latter, situated to the north of the hills. The extended plains of deep fertile soil along the banks of the Krishna have unfortunately a very precarious climate, and the crops there are very liable to suffer from deficiency of rain, though not, I think, to the same extent in this talooka as in some of the villages of the Uthnee district, situated higher up the river.

44. The talooka of Bagulkote contains 124 Government and 37 alienated villages, which are now formed into two divisions, under the charge of a Mamlutdar, stationed at Bagulkote, and a subordinate Mahalkurree, stationed at Beelgee, as shown in the sub-joined Statement:—

Present Divisions.	Name of Mahal, or Old Division to which the Villages belong.	Government.			Alienated.			Grand Total of Government and Alienated Villages, &c.
		Villages.	Bazars.	Total.	Jodee, or subject to Quit-rent.	Surwa Pnam, or Rent-free.	Total.	
BAGULKOTE, Mamlutdar's Division.	Huvelee	21	4	25	23	1	24	49
	Bennoor	16	...	16	...	...	...	16
	Munkaunee	12	...	12	...	...	...	12
	Beoor	8	...	8	...	...	...	8
	Phoot (broken up)	6	...	6	1	...	1	7
	Kulladghee... ..	16	1	17	1	...	1	18
		79	5	84	25	1	26	110
BEELGEE, Mahalkurree's Division.	Beelgee	13	1	14	6	1	7	21
	Koondurgee	8	...	8	...	...	...	8
	Huvelee	6	...	6	...	2	2	8
	Herkul	3	...	3	...	...	...	3
	Phoot (broken up)	1	...	1	...	2	2	3
	Rollee	14	...	14	...	...	...	14
		45	1	46	6	5	11	57
		124	6	130	31	6	37	167

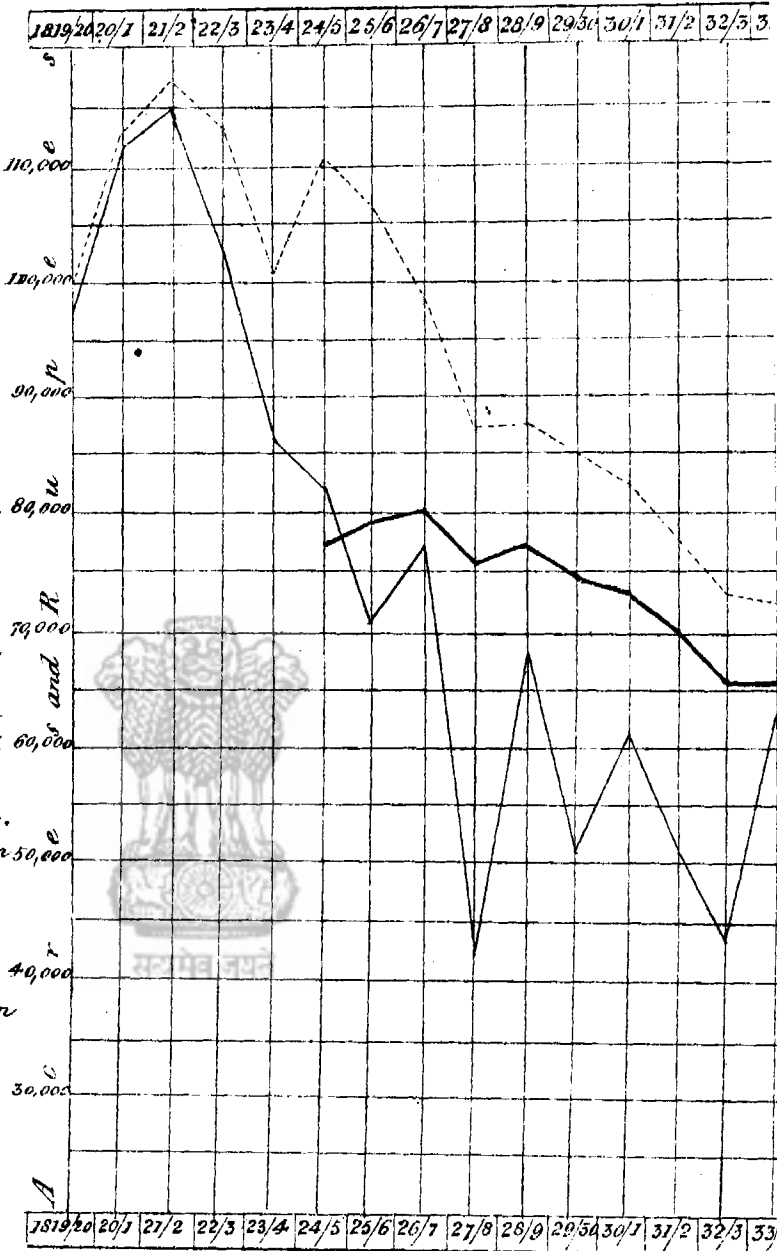
45. A great portion of the land of this talooka is poor. In the valley of the Gutpurba the Bagulkote and Kulladghee plains contain a large proportion of black soil, of a quality well suited to the climate, as it requires but little rain. A great deal of the black soil in the plain of the Krishna, on the other hand, is of the compact indurated variety termed "Kurrul," and requires abundant rain for the full development of its productive powers. It seldom receives a sufficient supply, and the crops upon it are, in consequence, much more liable to failure than those raised on the more easily saturated black lands of the Gutpurba. With the exception of the plains of the Krishna and Gutpurba, there is little good land in the district. The soil of the whole central part sloping from the chain of hills separating the valleys of these rivers, and also that of the villages along the Badamee border, is poor and stony.

46. The husbandry, generally speaking, is inferior to that of Badamee. In a few populous villages, chiefly in the neighbourhood of Bagulkote, the fields are clean, and well kept; but generally, and especially in the valley of the Krishna, they are very much the reverse. Many of the ryots in these parts employ their cattle during the fair season in conveying produce for hire from one part of the country to another, and I am inclined to attribute in part to this practice the neglected condition of many of the fields. The number of cattle is also deficient: according to my returns there are less than 13,000 bullocks employed in agriculture in Bagulkote, while there are 20,000 employed in

DIAGRAM illustrative of the fluctuations in the **CULTIV.**
in the case of the Government Arable land of I.

EXPLANATION

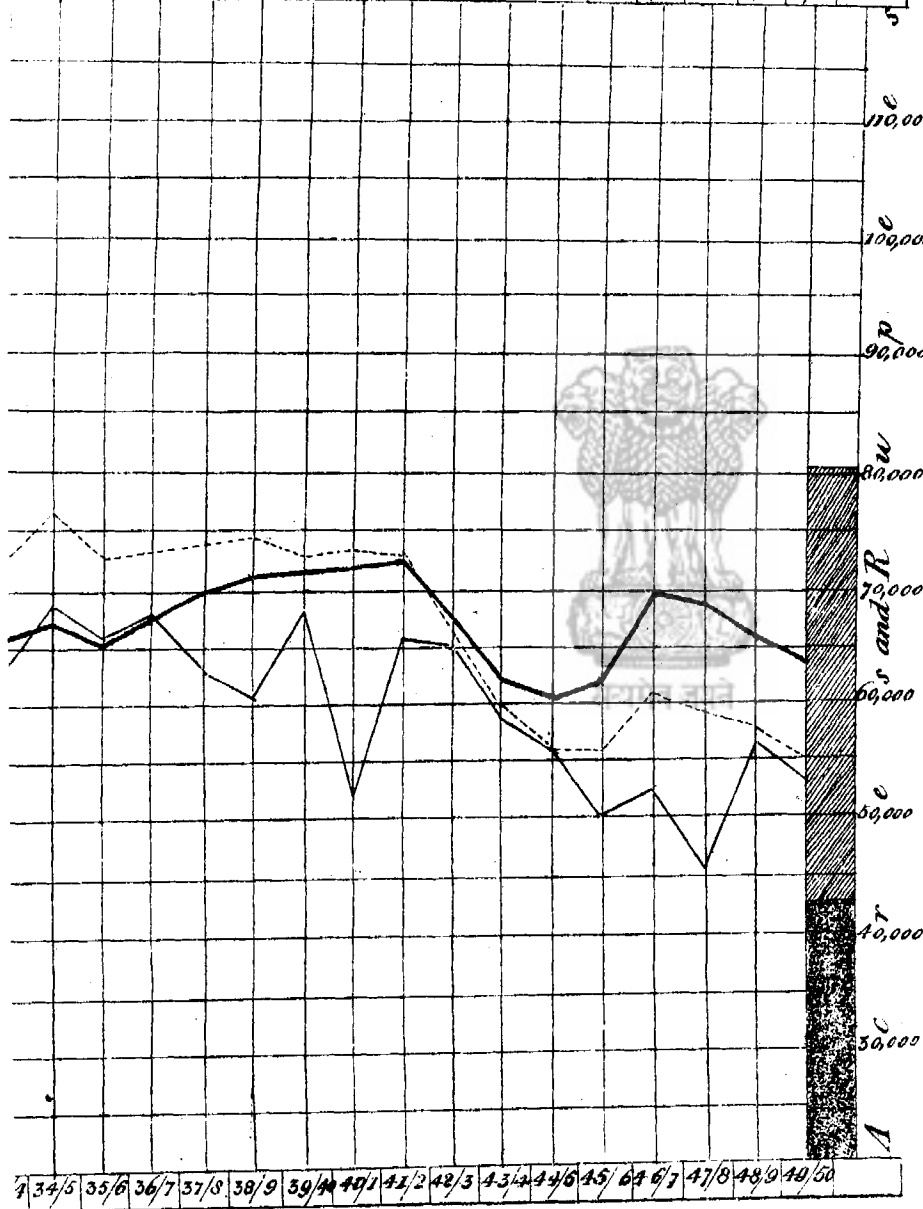
The various items are measured by the Scale of Acres and Rupees carried across the Diagram. The thick zigzag line represents the Cultivation; the broken the Assess-ment and the thin the Collec-tions; each of these items being measured by the height of the point where the zigzag line crosses the perpendicular for each year. The portion of each perpendicular intercepted between the broken and thin lines shows the amount of remissions in each year. According as the broken or thin line crosses any perpendicular above or below the thick, the Assessment or collections for the year marked by that perpendicular exceeded or fell short of one rupee per acre. The summit of the Streaked Column on the right of the Diagram re-presents the Survey Assessment of the whole arable land at the proposed rates, and that of the shaded portion of the same column the Survey Assessment of the land cultivated in 1850-51.



ATION, ASSESSMENT, REMISSIONS, and COLLECTIONS

24 Villages of the **BAGULKHOTE TALOOK** during the last 31 years.

1/4 34/5 35/6 36/7 37/8 38/9 39/40 41/2 42/3 43/4 44/5 45/6 46/7 47/8 48/9 49/50



EXAMPLE

In 1846-47

Cultivation _____ 69,953 Acres

Assessment _____ 61,009 Rupees

Collections _____ 52,547

Remissions _____ 8,462

Average rate of Ass^t 0.13.11

Rate of Collect 0.11.11

Badamee. The villages, too, of the former district are less thickly populated, and there are several of them without inhabitants at all. Manure is applied everywhere to the land situated within a convenient distance of the village, except in a few villages near the Krishna.

47. The talooka exports very little raw produce. The black soil plains of the Gutpurba and Krishna appear well suited for cotton, but there is little grown, and the exports of this article are very limited: wheat, jowarree, and oil seeds, &c. are also exported, but the value of the whole is trifling, and the languishing condition of agriculture is to be ascribed in part to the want of any active demand for its products. This is partly compensated, however, by a large internal demand, as in Badamee, for the consumption of a non-agricultural population. The latter is almost confined to the town of Bagulkote, containing nearly 12,000 inhabitants, and the town and station of Kulladghee.

48. The population of Bagulkote is said to have increased considerably of late years, while its manufactures have fallen off. The latter do not now afford employment for more than 500 to 600 looms: "Dhotur Joras," the cloth worn by Brahmins and the upper classes of Hindoos round the lower part of the body, form the chief article of manufacture. They are made of cotton, with the addition of a silk border in the more expensive descriptions, and vary in price from eight annas to ten rupees the piece. Cloths similar to those made in the Badamee talooka, and turbans, are also made at Bagulkote. The lower priced varieties of all these goods are exported to Poona, Solapoor, Bombay, &c. while the more expensive ones are consumed in the neighbourhood. The turbans of Bagulkote used to be highly esteemed, but the manufacture has fallen off greatly of late years, and is now quite insignificant.

49. The trade of Bagulkote, however, is of more importance than its manufactures. Traders of the Wance caste are very numerous here, and they hold a large share of the trade of all the neighbouring country in their hands. They are rather packmen, however, than merchants, and are engaged during the fair season in making small ventures between the several towns in this part of the country, or between them and the nearest ports on the coast. Bagulkote has also considerable transactions with Hoobullee and Solapoor, being used as a depôt for the staples of both these marts. It possesses four or five considerable bankers, and hoondces are cashed here annually to a considerable amount. Besides Bagulkote, there are no towns of importance in the talooka. The most considerable are Beelgee, the station of the Mahalkurree, and a place of some trade, which contains about 3,500 inhabitants; Kulladghee, with about 2,000 inhabitants, independent of the population within military limits; and Seroor, a large agricultural village, with some manufactures also, which has a population of 2,700. The population of the whole talooka, exclusive of alienated villages, is very nearly 60,000.

50. The results of the present survey show the area of the 124 Government villages of Bagulkote to be 316,816 acres, of which 70,123 acres consist of hills, rivers, roads, sites of villages, and other localities incapable of cultivation; the remaining 246,693 acres are arable land.

51. The measurement of Bagulkote was executed under the superintendence of Messrs. Springer and Price. It was commenced in 1848, and completed in 1850. The classification of the talooka was executed by Mr. Young's establishment in the course of two seasons.

52. The following Statements, similar to those already given for Badamee, exhibit the test of both operations :—

Government Villages.			Nature, extent, and result of Test.													
			Total number of Villages tested.	By European Officers.				By Natives.				Total Test.				Nature of Operation.
				Fields.	Acres.	Average Error		Fields.	Acres.	Average Error		Fields.	Acres.	Average Error		
Nos.	Fields.	Arable Acres.	Per cent.			Per Field.	Per cent.			Per Field.	Per cent.			Per Field.	Per cent.	Per Field.
1	2	3	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	4
124	15,809	248,17	{ 122 108	1,349 1,354	25,621 18,775	³ ₄ 7		74	1355	1	...	1,423 1,354	26,976 18,775	³ ₄ 7		Measurement. Classification.

Total Number of Fields tested.	Number of Fields in which the difference between Original and Test Measurement did not exceed									
	1 Per cent.	2 Per cent.	3 Per cent.	4 Per cent.	5 Per cent.	6 Per cent.	7 Per cent.	8 Per cent.	9 Per cent.	10 Per cent.
1,423	382	750	281	6	2	..	..	1	..	1

Total Number of Fields tested.	Number of Fields in which the difference between Original and Test Classification was							
	Nothing.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
		0 0 1 to 0 0 6	0 0 7 to 0 1 0	0 1 1 to 0 1 6	0 1 7 to 0 2 0	0 2 1 to 0 2 6	0 2 7 to 0 3 0	0 3 1 to 0 3 6
1,354	199	482	498	116	51	6	1	1

53. The measurement in this case, as in Badamee, differs from the test by about $\frac{2}{4}$ per cent., while the classification approximates the test even more closely than in the case of the latter district, the difference being 7 pies instead of 8, which is, I think, owing to the soils of Bagulkote being less varied and difficult to class than those of Badamee.

54. Bagulkote, like Badamee, once appertained to the Hindoo State of Annagoondee, and experienced the same changes of rulers, excepting that it never passed under the Government of Tippoo Sultan. Shortly after our conquest the whole talooka was measured at the survey instituted by the Principal Collector, Mr. Thackeray. No change, however, was made in the assessment until 1827-28, when Mr. Stevenson revised the assessment of 37 villages. With this exception, the rates that obtained in the several villages when we took the country continued to form the basis of the annual settlements until the introduction of the revised assessment on which I am reporting.

55. The revenue accounts of Bagulkote, like those of Badamee, are very complete, and I have obtained a series for the last 31 years for all the Government villages of the talooka, which are 124 in number. From these accounts the general abstract for the whole talooka, forming Appendix C, and the diagram opposite, have been prepared. In this diagram, as in that for Badamee, the thick line represents the cultivation, the broken the assessment, and the thin the portion of the assessment set apart for collection at each yearly settlement.

56. The slightest glance at this diagram will suffice to show that the fluctuations in the cultivation, assessment, and collections, have been much more considerable in Bagulkote than in Badamee. In Bagulkote the cultivation has ranged from 80,000

acres to 61,000 acres. But the fluctuations in the assessment and collections have been much more extreme, the former having attained to Rs. 1,17,000 in the year 1821-22, and fallen to Rs. 56,000 in the year 1849-50, while the latter rose to Rs. 1,14,000 in the year 1821-22, and fell to little more than Rs. 42,000 in the year 1827-28. The enormous collections made in this district in the early years of our rule, when its capabilities, like those of many other districts in the Southern Mahratta Country, were greatly over-rated, must have drained it of its resources to a serious extent, and contributed greatly to bring about the depression in the condition of agriculture from which the district is still suffering.

57. The observations contained in my 26th paragraph, ascribing the decline of cultivation in Badamee to over-assessment, and showing how the most heavily assessed lands had been gradually thrown out of cultivation, as evidenced by the path across the diagram of the broken line, representing the assessment, compared with that of the thick line, representing the cultivation, are in all points applicable also to this talooka. In the year 1824-25, the first in which the cultivation is shown upon the diagram, the assessment averaged Rupees 1-6-10 per acre in the Bagulkote talooka, while in the year 1849-50 it had fallen to Rs. 0-13-9 per acre. But even this great decrease failed to promote any extension of cultivation, and it is evident that a further reduction is requisite for this purpose.

58. The fluctuations in the collections have been very great in this district, as will be at once evident from the thin line on the diagram. I infer from them that the climate of Bagulkote is uncertain, and the harvest liable to failure. During the period of 31 years entered on the diagram, the collections have averaged 83 per cent. of the assessment. During the last four years, even with the revised settlement in view, the cultivation has continued to decline, and I apprehend that this is owing to a destruction of agricultural capital. Bagulkote is quite as favorably situated as Badamee in regard to markets, but the crops in the former are more liable to failure, and on this account lower rates of assessment, especially in the uncertain climate of the Krishna valley, are necessary.

59. I am of opinion that all the peculiar circumstances of this talooka which I have endeavoured to explain will be adequately provided for by an arrangement of the villages into four classes, with maximum dry crop rates of assessment, varying from Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 0-14-0 per acre, as shown in the following Table, and according to which the settlement has been made:—

Groups of Villages.	Number of Villages in each Group.	Distinguishing Characteristics of the Groups.	Maximum rate of Dry Crop Assessment per Acre.
1st	3	Villages adjoining the large manufacturing town of Bagulkote, equal in respect of climate to any part of the talooka, and most advantageously situated in respect of market and supplies of manure.	1 4 0
2nd	32	Villages along the Gutpurba river above its passage through the hills at Yerkul, with easy access to the markets of Bagulkote and Kulladghee, and equal to the 1st group in respect of climate	1 2 0
3rd	29	Villages enclosing those of the 2nd group, and less advantageously situated as regards markets, and also, though in a less degree, climate.	1 0 0
4th	60	Villages situated in the valley of the Krishna and lower part of the valley of the Gutpurba, where the climate is more uncertain and liable to droughts than any other part of the talooka; these villages are also the most disadvantageously situated as regards markets.	0 14 0

60. The irrigated land of this talooka is quite unimportant, amounting only to 95 acres of garden and 62 acres of rice land. The maximum rate for the former is Rs. 5 an acre, as in the case of previously settled districts, and Rs. 4, in the latter. The resulting assessment gives an average rate of Rs. 2-5-2 for the garden land, and Rs. 1-12-8 for the rice.

61. The assessment resulting from the application of the rates which have just been explained is compared with the old assessment on the land in cultivation for the year of settlement in the subjoined Table. The reduction is most considerable in the 1st and 2nd classes of villages, but it was in these classes that the oppressive nature of the old rates was most complained of. The cultivated acres on which the rate per acre has been deduced are those of the present survey in the case of the old as well as the new assessment.

Class.	No. of Village.	Cultivated Acres according to New Survey.	According to Old Survey.		According to New Survey.								
			Assessment.	Rate per Acre.	Land in Cultivation.			Waste.			Total.		
					Acres.	Assessment.	Rate per Acre.	Acres.	Assessment.	Rate per Acre.	Acres.	Assessment.	Rate per Acre.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1st	3	1,426	2,937	2 0 11	1,426	1,317	0 14 9	1,260	1,029	0 13 1	2,686	2,346	0 13 11
2nd	32	16,125	16,338	1 0 2	16,125	11,246	0 11 2	17,762	10,495	0 9 5	33,887	21,741	0 10 3
3rd	29	18,364	16,167	0 14 1	18,364	11,338	0 9 10	15,880	8,498	0 8 7	34,244	19,836	0 9 3
4th	60	35,059	23,782	0 10 10	35,059	18,989	0 8 8	35,411	17,132	0 7 9	70,470	36,121	0 8 2
	124	70,974	59,224	0 13 4	70,974	42,890	0 9 8	70,313	37,154	0 8 5	141,287	80,044	0 9 1

62. The real reduction of assessment effected by the new settlement is somewhat more than is here shown, as the direct lines of the village and district officers, which are valued in the chittas as follows, are absorbed in the new assessment; but the amount is not included in the old assessment entered in column 4 of the Table:—

District Officers.	1. Desaees	Rs. 328 13 11
	2. Deshpandehi	76 4 10
	3. Nadgowda	39 12 0
	4. Putten Shetee	10 0 0
	5. Naik	51 0 0
		505 14 9
Village Officers	7. Patels	1,129 11 2
	8. Naiks	387 0 4
	9. Coolcurvees	1,637 0 3
		3,153 11 9
		3,659 10 6

63. This valuation of the huks is considerably too high, but, pending a final settlement, I have fixed the compensation for the huks of the village officers at Rs. 1,808-8-0, to be met by a remission of land revenue of equivalent amount as in the previously settled districts.

64. The remarks in my 37th and 38th paragraphs relative to the treatment of the jodee and muhal jodee cesses, and in explanation of the Table showing the results of the settlement, apply also to this district.

65. The extent of cultivation for the year 1851-52, entered in the 3rd column of the following Statement, is about 2,000 acres less than the cultivation of the previous year, or that in which the settlement was introduced. This is accounted for by the advanced period of the season (July) in which the settlement was made. It was then too late to plough and sow for a crop during the current season, and, in consequence, there was little land taken up at the settlement, to counterbalance the diminution of cultivation occasioned by resignations. I think, however, that this was a fortunate circumstance for the future progress of the talooka, for, when the settlement is made early in the season, there is

generally too great eagerness to take up land, and a spirit of competition and rivalry is engendered, which induces the ryots to engage for more land than they have stock to cultivate, and thus they are prevented from benefitting by the new assessment to the extent they might do were they content to refrain from extending their farms until their stock had increased sufficiently to enable them to do so with advantage. I think that the future extension of cultivation in this district will be more gradual and natural than in most districts hitherto settled, owing to the Juminabundee having been unusually late.

Statement showing the Cultivation, Assessment, Remissions, and Net Land Revenue for collection, for 124 Villages, composing the Bagulkote Talooka, under the Old and New Settlements.

Tenure.	Years.	Cultivated Land.				Arable Waste.			Total Arable Acres.	Total Net Land Revenue for Collection or Survey Assessment.
		Acres.	Assessment.	Remissions.	Balance for Collection.	Acres.	Assessment.	Net Produce of grass farms, fruit trees, &c. &c.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Khasat.	Average of past years...	69,864	Rupees. 80,415	Rupees. 14,889	Rupees. 65,526	61,125	..	1,320	130,989	Rupees. 66,846
	Past 10...	66,451	61,826	6,348	55,478	60,890	..	2,756	127,341	58,234
	1849-50..	64,066	55,214	1,708	53,506	53,895	..	7,846	117,961	61,352
	1850-51..	70,974	42,898	5,560	37,338	70,314	..	7,839	141,288	45,177
	1851-52..	68,886	42,704	..	42,704	76,859	37,340	..	145,745	80,044
Jodee and Alienated Land under attachment.	Average of past years...	38,581	36,920	17,623	19,297	..	..	..	38,581	19,297
	Past 10...	38,724	37,009	18,005	19,004	..	..	..	38,724	19,004
	1849-50..	38,791	37,103	17,810	19,293	..	..	..	38,791	19,293
	1850-51..	45,033	17,691	131	17,560	..	..	..	45,033	17,560
	1851-52..	35,648	16,950	..	16,950	..	..	..	35,648	16,950
Surva Enam and Mahal Jodee.	Average of past years...	60,763	17,182	..	17,182	..	..	..	60,763	17,182
	Past 10...	60,849	17,150	..	17,150	..	..	..	60,849	17,150
	1849-50..	60,647	16,702	..	16,702	..	..	..	60,647	16,702
	1850-51..	60,374	16,632	..	16,632	..	..	..	60,374	16,632
	1851-52..	65,300	17,586	..	17,586	..	..	..	65,300	17,586
Total Arable Land on all Tenures.	Average of past years...	169,208	1,34,517	32,512	1,02,005	61,125	..	1,320	230,333	1,03,325
	Past 10...	166,024	1,15,985	24,353	91,632	60,890	..	2,756	226,914	94,388
	1849-50..	163,504	1,09,019	19,518	89,501	53,895	..	7,846	217,399	97,347
	1850-51..	176,381	77,221	5,691	71,530	70,314	..	7,839	246,695	79,369
	1851-52..	169,834	77,240	..	77,240	76,859	37,340	..	246,693	1,14,580

1. The averages of past years entered in this Statement are for the 26 years immediately preceding the revised settlement, as regards the acres, and for 32 years as regards the rupees.

2. The three first lines in each division of the Statement refer to the old settlement; the two last, viz. for the years 1850-51 and 1851-52, to the revised settlement.

3. The rupees entered in the last column of the Statement opposite the year 1851-52 form the new survey kumal, or total assessment capable of realization from the whole land held on the several tenures, while for the preceding years the rupees in this column represent the net land revenue for collection.

66. The jodee revenue for the future will be Rs. 16,950, as shown in the 6th column of the Statement opposite the year 1851-52, which is Rs. 2,343 less than the same time

for the year preceding the introduction of the revised settlement. The decrease is occasioned by the reduction of jodee upon whole wuttuns, and by resignations of wuttun land, as already explained in the case of the Badamee talooka.

67. The apparent increase in the extent of surwa enam and muhal jodee land shown in column 3, opposite the year 1851-52, is occasioned by the transference to that head of land which the previous year was under attachment, and entered in the Statement under the head of jodee, &c.

68. All the collections made in excess of the survey assessment were returned to the ryots at the time of Jummahundee, except in the case of the village of Son, which had been held in farm for nearly a century by the Desaee of Purgunna Beelgee, at a fixed sum of Rs. 1,814-14-6. The Desaee had, I believe, at different times, petitioned to have this amount reduced, or to be relieved of the village altogether, but without success, as there seemed to be a doubt whether the village was to be considered part of his wuttun as Desaee or not. From the inquiries made at the time of settlement, it appeared that the village had always been treated in all respects as a khalsat village held in farm, and there was no evidence of any sort to show that it was in any way connected with the Desaee's wuttun, beyond the fact of his having long held it in farm.

69. Under these circumstances, and following the precedent of a similar case which was met with in the Dharwar Collectorate, I introduced the new settlement into Son, as in other khalsat villages; but, pending a reference to the Enam Commissioner, and the decision of Government on the case, I thought it better to place the excess of collections beyond the survey assessment made from the ryots in deposit, instead of returning it to them at once, as in the case of other villages. I have since been informed by the Enam Commissioner in a Mahratta Yadee, No. 5579, dated 18th November last, that in all the records of the former Government in which the village appears, it is entered as a khalsat village, and in some of them as in farm to the Desaee, but nowhere as belonging to his wuttun. The Desaee, in a written statement, given in to me at the time of settlement, declined to hold the village in farm any longer on the existing terms, or to pay the full survey assessment for it, without being permitted to collect more from the ryots. The latter, on being questioned, stated their wish that the village should be managed by Government, instead of by the Desaee, even though the survey assessment should be guaranteed to them in the latter case. Under these circumstances, I trust Government will approve of my having relieved the Desaee of his farm, and placed the village under the direct management of the Mamlutdar, and I beg further to recommend that the sum of Rs. 743-12-0, collected last year from the ryots in excess of the survey assessment, and now in deposit in the district treasury, may be returned to them, as was done at the time of settlement in the case of all other khalsat villages.

70. The following Statement, in the same form as that already given for Badamee, exhibits the financial results of the settlement:—

Survey Settlement.	For what Lands.	Per-centages by which the Survey Settlement falls short of, or exceeds, the Net Revenue of the under-mentioned periods previous to Survey.		
		Average of preceding 32 Years.	Average of preceding 10 Years.	Years immediately preceding 1849-50.
The Net Revenue of the 1st year of the Survey Settlement is <i>less</i> per cent. than that of	Khalsat land only	32½	19	26½
	Khalsat and Alienated together	23½	16	18½
The Survey Kumal, or Gross Rental, is <i>more</i> per cent. than the Net Revenue of	Khalsat land only	19½	37½	30½
	Khalsat and Alienated together	10½	21½	17

71. And the total area, assessment, and amount of revenue alienated, are shown in the following Table, also in the same form as that given for Badamee:—

Description of Land.	Area in Acres.	Full Survey Assessment.	Deduct portion of Assessment Alienated.	Balance of Assessment realizable, or Survey Kumal.
Unarable.	70,123	.....	.....	.....
Arable Khalsat	145,745	80,044	.....	80,044
„ Jodee	35,648	22,513	5,563	16,950
„ Surwa Enam and Mahal Jodee	65,300	40,027	22,441	17,586
Total Area and Assessment of 124 Villages	316,816	142,584	28,004	1,14,580

72 Before closing this report, I avail myself of the opportunity it affords for noticing a few subjects closely connected with the future development of the resources of the Badamee and Bagulkote talookas, and the success of the survey assessment. The cultivators of both districts are very disadvantageously situated as compared with their neighbours in the plain to the south of the Badamee hills, owing to the want of roads practicable for wheeled vehicles. In consequence of this, it is the practice in many villages for the manure to be taken to the field, and the crop to be brought home on the backs of bullocks. There are now very few carts, and their general introduction would be of great importance to the agriculture of both districts. The line of road now, I understand, being cleared from Hoobullee to Sholapoor, will pass through both talookas, and confer a most important benefit on them; but in addition to this there are many cross-roads requiring clearing to open cart communication between the villages and their market towns. All that is urgently required might be effected at a very small cost, and I am satisfied that the expenditure would in a very short time be more than repaid by the increased revenue that would be obtained by the fresh land which the improvement of the roads would occasion to be taken into cultivation. The local fund discussed in my letter noted in the margin would be of the utmost importance to the

Letter to Government,
No. 57, dated 17th February 1852.

Badamee and Bagulkote talookas.

73. But in the case of Bugulkote, particularly where the climate is uncertain, and the crops very liable to failure, irrigation is a subject of much greater importance even than roads. The deep soils of the spacious plain through which the Krishna flows would be unsurpassed in fertility could we supply to them the means of irrigation. At present they are comparatively valueless and unproductive, yielding merely scanty crops of jowarae and other dry grains, instead of rich returns of sugar cane, rice, and other tropical products, which they would readily produce with irrigation. Independent of the religious objection entertained by the Hindoo cultivators to drawing water from the sacred stream of the Krishna, the great depth of its bed below the plain, throughout the whole of its course along the Bagulkote talooka, renders this plan of irrigation impracticable. Nor is water to be obtained from wells in the neighbourhood of the river, except at a depth so great as to make it economically useless for agricultural purposes.

74. The only means, then, for obtaining water for the irrigation of the plain of the Krishna, would be by damming the river itself at a sufficient distance up the stream to obtain a head of water, that might be led off by a canal to overflow the portion of the plain situated within the limits of the Bagulkote talooka. I have examined the course of the river with a view to this object, for many miles above the Bagulkote talooka, and found at the town of Gulgulleh, in the Uthnee talooka, an eminently favorable position for the construction of a bundara. At this spot the river precipitates itself over a ledge of hard sandstone rock, which already forms a natural dam, and retains the up-stream water at an elevation of several feet higher than the level of the river below. Great part of this ledge is already probably as high as the bundara, would require to be

built, so that the work would be limited to building a masonry wall across the channels, which the river in the course of ages has worn through the barrier-rock. The cost of the bundara itself would be wonderfully small, with reference to the size of the river, but the irrigation canal, or canals, should it be deemed desirable to irrigate the land on both banks of the river, would require to be taken along the bed of the river for a considerable distance, in consequence of the banks being here high and rocky, and the retaining walls for these canals would be heavy works. Taken altogether, however, the site appeared to me a most eminently favourable one for the construction of a bundara, and I doubt whether another equally so could be found between Kooroondwar and the Magullae border.

75. I had no opportunity of taking a set of levels between Gulgulleh and the plain of the Bagulkote talooka, to ascertain the proper height for the bundara required for the irrigation of the latter, but, roughly judging by the fall of the river between the two places, it is my opinion that an examination of the ground would show the scheme to be perfectly feasible, and that a very moderate height would suffice. It seemed to me that the bundara at no place would require to be built above 10 feet in height, so that the obstruction it could cause to the river would be quite inconsiderable, and in consequence there could be no difficulties experienced in the construction of the work itself, or chance of its being seriously injured or carried away by the river during floods. The sandstone rock upon which the bundara would be built is as durable as granite itself, and would supply in abundance on the spot the material for its construction.

76. In regard to the supply of water, the Krishna at the place where the bundara is proposed to be built is, as you are aware, a very large river, of several hundred yards across, and its stream never dries up entirely, though towards the end of the hot season it becomes comparatively insignificant. Between, however, the months of June and November, or during a period sufficient for bringing rice and other early crops to maturity, the supply may be considered to be practically unlimited, and would be determined by the size to be given to the irrigation canals. I apprehend that during this season there would be an ample supply of water for the irrigation of 30,000 acres of land. For the rest of the season it would suffice for the irrigation of a less but still large breadth of land cultivated with sugar cane, wheat, and other cold weather crops. Should the plain of the Bagulkote talooka above the junction of the Gutpurba and Krishna rivers not prove sufficiently extensive for the consumption of the whole supply of water, a second canal of irrigation might be led from the bundara along the north bank of the river, for the use of the villages of the Sattara Territory and Solapoor Collectorate situated along that bank, as for the Nizam's border. There would, therefore, be no lack of land to be irrigated.

77. Land irrigated from the canals could pay with ease water-rates varying from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6, according to the descriptions of crop grown; and I am taking a low average in assuming that every acre of land irrigated would yield a revenue of at least Rs. $2\frac{1}{2}$ over and above the jerayet rate now paid to Government when it is cultivated. And if we only suppose 20,000 acres irrigated, instead of the much larger number for which I believe the supply of water would suffice, this would yield a clear additional revenue of Rs. 50,000 per annum, which represents at 5 per cent. a capital of ten lacs of rupees. Government, then, in my humble opinion, might safely incur an expenditure of ten lacs on the work, but I am inclined to think that the actual cost would be very far short of this, and that without reference to the immense benefits it would confer in placing so considerable a portion of the talooka beyond the possibility of suffering from failures of the harvest, it might most safely be undertaken as a mere financial speculation.

78. The Krishna river, though the chief, is not the only source from which a supply of water could be obtained for the irrigation of the Bagulkote talooka. The Gutpurba river passes almost through the centre of the district, and though a much smaller stream

than the Krishna, is still a river of considerable size, which is capable of yielding a large supply of water for irrigation. I have also examined part of its course, with a view to the discovery of a suitable locality for a bundara, and found one at the village of Moonal, immediately below the town of Bagulkote, very similar to that of Gulgulleh, already described, but perhaps even more favourable. The bed of the Gutpurba, like that of the Krishna at Gulgulleh, is here crossed by a ledge of sandstone rock, which would form an admirable foundation for a bundara, and furnish excellent material for its construction. A moderate height of 10 or 12 feet to the work would, I am inclined to think, (for I had no opportunity of taking levels,) suffice to secure a head of water that would overflow the lower portion of the plain of the Gutpurba beyond the Yerkul Hills, down to its junction with the Krishna, and also the plain of the latter river to any distance for which the supply of water might suffice. The Moonal bundara and subsidiary works would cost a small sum compared with the works proposed for the Krishna, and they are, I think, even more promising as financial speculations.

79. Should these works, on examination, be found feasible, and be constructed, they would convert Bagulkote, which is now almost the poorest and most unproductive talooka of your Collectorate, into one of the richest. The new roads, being opened out by Napanee and the Phonda Ghaut, and by Kurar and Chiploon, to the coast, would afford ready outlets for the transport to Bombay of the valuable exports it would then produce, and so prevent all chance of the scheme failing through want of a market to take off the increased produce. It is also a matter well deserving of consideration, that the population of the Southern Mahratta Country, and the Deccan generally, is fast increasing, and will inevitably be straitened for subsistence at no distant date, unless the soil can be made to yield a larger and larger produce, in proportion to the increasing numbers of the people. But the climate of the whole of this tract is so subject to drought, that it is only by additional means of irrigation that any great and reliable supply can be looked for. To provide, then, the means of irrigation on a large scale, wherever this can be done, seems in these provinces to be especially the duty of Government, while the almost marvellous success which has attended similar undertakings in the North-west and Madras territories removes all ground for hesitation as to the expediency of proceeding with the task.

80. The Mulpurba river passes through the Badamee talooka; but I have not examined its course with sufficient care to be able to point out any particular spot from which water for the irrigation of the Badamee villages could be obtained from it. From the rocky character and comparative shallowness of its bed, however, I am satisfied that they could be found. Above the town of Manowlee, in the Purrusgur talooka, and close to Eiwulee, in the Hoongoond talooka, bundaras for irrigation could be constructed upon this river; but I am not sufficiently acquainted with the position and extent of the lands that could be irrigated from them to offer an opinion as to the advantage of proceeding with their construction. The whole course of the Mulpurba, however, is worthy of examination, with a view to ascertain its capabilities of affording water for irrigation.

81. In closing this report, I beg to explain that the unusual delay that has occurred in its preparation has been owing to the length of time taken by the late Badamee Mamlutdar to furnish me with returns of the survey settlement, on which subject I had the honor of addressing you in my letter of 18th December last, No. 36.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) G. WINGATE,

Revenue Survey Commissioner,

Late Superintendent Revenue Survey Southern Mahratta Country.

APPEN

REVENUE STATEMENT FOR

Statement showing the number of Government Villages in the Badamee Talooka, from 1818-19 up to 1849-50, together with the Assessment, Remissions, and Collections on

Years.	Number of Villages.	GOVERNMENT LAND IN CULTIVATION.								GOVERNMENT WASTE LAND.		Su Colour 3 ar	
		Acres.	Assess-ment.	Deduct Remis-sions.	Remaining on Account of				Total.	Acres.	Grazing Farm, Sheep Tax, and sale of Fruit Trees, &c.		
					Dry Crop Land.		Garden Land.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
			Rupees.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.	Rupees.		Rupees.	Ac	
1818-19	136	..	63,999	43	..	63,581	..	375	63,956	..	455		
1819-20	136	..	68,336	1,455	..	66,346	..	535	66,881	..	180		
1820-21	136	..	72,890	372	..	71,474	..	544	72,018	..	736		
1821-22	136	..	68,644	505	..	67,571	..	568	68,139	..	682		
1822-23	136	..	82,609	15,323	..	66,226	..	1,060	67,286	..	841		
1823-24	136	73,483	83,497	23,366	73,382	59,598	101	533	60,131	49,729	879	1,2	
1824-25	136	73,483	84,958	30,690	73,387	53,772	96	496	54,268	49,729	1,081	1,2	
1825-26	136	78,770	81,119	25,224	78,618	54,814	153	1,081	55,895	45,418	1,346	1,2	
1826-27	136	80,800	79,832	24,103	80,649	54,567	151	1,162	55,729	43,944	1,521	1,2	
1827-28	136	78,870	77,910	21,848	78,714	54,901	157	1,161	56,063	44,635	918	1,2	
1828-29	136	79,950	77,458	22,438	79,778	53,810	172	1,210	55,020	43,790	1,343	1,2	
1829-30	136	80,391	77,197	25,126	80,220	50,927	171	1,144	52,071	42,762	1,229	1,2	
1830-31	136	78,118	80,901	27,931	77,959	51,891	160	1,079	52,970	42,898	1,455	1,2	
1831-32	136	76,898	81,812	29,295	76,739	51,438	159	1,079	52,517	45,118	985	1,2	
1832-33	136	74,942	78,127	25,606	74,778	51,367	164	1,154	52,521	46,478	1,123	1,2	
1833-34	136	73,558	89,049	25,733	73,388	62,127	170	1,189	63,316	47,690	756	1,2	
1834-35	136	75,026	78,927	13,311	74,858	64,458	168	1,158	65,616	47,655	1,752	1,2	
1835-36	136	77,749	80,170	13,888	77,592	65,228	156	1,054	66,282	44,588	1,163	1,2	
1836-37	136	79,159	77,980	12,662	79,006	64,263	153	1,055	65,318	42,992	754	1,2	
	11	5,579	4,343	2,489	5,579	1,854	..	..	1,854	815	..	
1837-38	136	79,917	78,545	12,273	79,762	65,177	155	1,095	66,272	42,541	1,251	1,2	
	11	5,606	2,076	213	5,606	1,863	..	..	1,863	790	..	
1838-39	136	76,632	76,649	13,093	76,475	62,379	157	1,177	63,555	46,296	890	1,2	
	11	5,613	2,039	730	5,613	1,359	..	..	1,359	786	30	
1839-40	136	76,104	76,528	9,601	75,945	65,790	158	1,137	66,927	43,622	2,163	1,1	
	11	5,565	2,113	432	5,565	1,681	..	..	1,681	872	..	
1840-41	136	76,891	74,406	8,808	76,738	64,541	153	1,057	65,598	40,878	628	1,1	
	11	5,548	2,148	467	5,548	1,681	..	..	1,681	941	..	
1841-42	136	76,484	74,255	5,418	76,337	67,797	147	1,040	68,837	47,062	802	1,1	
	11	5,427	2,155	94	5,427	2,061	..	..	2,061	1,151	..	
1842-43	136	75,225	72,389	4,274	75,081	67,032	144	1,083	68,115	48,089	782	1,1	
	11	5,466	2,174	28	5,466	2,146	..	..	2,146	1,173	..	
1843-44	136	72,470	68,123	1,911	72,323	65,138	147	1,074	66,212	53,579	1,952	1,1	
	11	5,463	2,106	12	5,463	2,094	..	..	2,094	1,223	12	
1844-45	136	70,268	65,166	673	70,120	63,410	147	1,083	64,493	55,398	1,178	1,1	
	11	5,150	2,067	53	5,150	2,014	..	..	2,014	1,490	16	
1845-46	136	70,007	58,766	1,381	69,860	56,319	146	1,066	57,385	56,374	1,287	1,1	
	11	5,192	2,018	..	5,192	2,018	..	..	2,018	1,413	22	
1846-47	136	71,761	69,396	11,140	71,599	57,015	162	1,241	58,256	55,846	2,952	1,1	
	11	5,228	2,043	133	5,228	1,910	..	..	1,910	1,276	50	
1847-48	136	71,227	64,385	1,472	71,069	61,700	159	1,213	62,913	56,185	4,269	1,1	
	11	5,213	2,037	72	5,213	1,965	..	..	1,965	1,296	88	
1848-49	136	74,422	68,089	560	74,262	66,288	160	1,241	67,529	53,641	5,069	1,1	
	11	5,182	2,031	..	5,182	2,031	..	..	2,031	1,370	166	
1849-50	136	73,329	66,570	819	73,169	64,510	160	1,241	65,751	54,040	5,635	1,1	
	11	4,992	2,013	..	4,992	2,013	..	..	2,013	1,618	223	
General Average		136	72,989	74,943	12,823	72,834	61,108	155	1,012	62,120	45,214	1,501	1,1
		11	5,373	2,244	337	5,373	1,907	1,907	1,158	43	
Average for last 10 years, from 1840-41 to 1849-50		136	67,922	68,155	3,646	67,769	63,375	153	1,134	64,509	50,814	2,455	1,1
		11	5,286	2,079	86	5,286	1,993	1,993	1,295	58	

1. Fractions of Acres and Rupees are omitted in this Statement.
2. The Cultivation for the first five years of the period shown in this Statement was recorded in the old Native Land Measure
3. The 11 Villages entered separately in the Statement from the year 1836-37 were never measured before the present survey been obtained approximately by calculation.
4. The entries for 136 Villages from 1818-19 till 1849-50, in columns 3, 4, 5, and 10, correspond with the Diagram in the bo
5. The Net Revenue entered in column 23 is that fixed for collection at each Annual Settlement, but a fraction of it, exceedi
6. This Statement has been compiled from similar Statements for each Village, prepared from the Village Revenue Accounts from the Survey Department, and is, I believe, as nearly correct as the nature of the data will admit. It certainly

DIX A.

THE BADAMEE TALOOKA.

to the present time, the extent of Government Land, Cultivated and Waste, and of Alienated account of the same, for the 32 years contained in the above period.

GOVERNMENT LAND, CULTIVATED AND WASTE.		JODEE LAND.				SURVEY ENAM AND MAHAL JODEE LAND.			GOVERNMENT AND ALIENATED LANDS TOGETHER.	
Serial No.	Net Revenue, being Sum of Columns Nos. 10 and 12.	Acres.	Jodee Assessment.	Deduct Remissions on all Accounts.	Net Revenue for Collections.	Acres.	Net Amount of Assessment on Survey Enam Land.	Mahal Jodee Net Assessment.	Sum of Columns Nos. 13, 15, and 19.	Net Revenue for Collections, or sum of Columns Nos. 14, 18, 20, and 21.
3	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
res.	Rupees.		Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.		Rupees.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.
..	64,411	..	30,759	4,390	26,369	..	..	12,331	..	1,03,111
..	67,061	..	29,419	..	29,419	..	5,409	12,899	..	1,14,788
..	72,754	..	36,186	4,299	31,887	..	1,794	15,823	..	1,22,258
..	68,821	..	35,616	5,098	30,518	..	504	14,952	..	1,14,795
..	68,127	..	34,733	4,946	29,787	..	369	15,599	..	1,13,882
3,212	61,010	32,631	34,794	6,978	27,816	81,337	1,203	13,949	2,37,180	1,03,978
3,212	55,349	32,631	31,767	6,336	25,431	81,337	918	13,716	2,37,180	95,414
4,189	57,241	36,973	30,938	5,500	25,438	81,049	701	13,949	2,42,210	97,329
4,743	57,250	32,993	29,777	4,283	25,494	81,173	690	13,949	2,38,910	97,383
3,505	56,980	33,047	28,772	4,668	24,104	81,582	637	13,827	2,38,134	95,548
3,740	56,363	32,962	28,415	3,863	24,552	81,627	462	13,944	2,38,329	95,321
3,153	53,300	32,694	28,234	4,973	23,261	81,434	460	13,944	2,37,280	90,965
1,016	54,425	32,951	27,755	4,870	22,885	81,522	460	13,470	2,35,490	91,240
2,016	53,502	32,873	27,678	5,294	22,384	81,601	368	13,620	2,36,490	89,874
1,420	53,644	32,893	27,854	5,483	22,371	81,525	346	13,525	2,35,839	89,886
1,247	60,072	33,048	28,404	3,704	24,700	81,525	358	13,794	2,35,821	1,02,924
2,681	67,368	33,535	28,365	3,408	24,957	81,531	358	13,746	2,37,747	1,06,429
2,337	67,445	33,703	28,423	3,473	24,950	81,443	358	13,695	2,37,483	1,06,448
2,151	66,072	33,728	28,843	3,546	25,297	81,397	358	13,696	2,37,276	1,05,423
6,395	1,854	3,863	2,247	178	2,069	7,817	..	2,333	18,075	6,256
2,458	67,523	33,781	28,795	3,624	25,171	81,523	318	13,696	2,37,762	1,06,708
6,396	1,863	3,863	2,207	316	1,891	7,817	..	2,333	18,076	6,087
2,928	64,428	33,874	29,009	3,639	25,370	81,413	330	13,696	2,38,215	1,03,822
6,400	1,889	3,863	2,232	820	1,412	7,817	..	2,333	18,080	5,134
9,725	69,090	33,852	29,284	3,551	25,733	81,446	358	13,696	2,35,023	1,08,877
6,437	1,681	3,863	2,267	264	2,003	7,817	..	2,333	18,118	6,017
7,769	66,226	33,850	29,490	4,594	24,896	81,615	328	13,696	2,33,234	1,05,146
6,488	1,681	3,834	2,253	514	1,739	7,817	..	2,333	18,140	5,753
3,546	69,639	33,838	29,353	3,466	25,887	81,348	328	13,696	2,38,731	1,09,550
6,578	2,061	3,785	2,251	168	2,033	7,817	..	2,333	18,180	6,477
3,314	68,897	33,890	29,480	3,597	25,883	81,283	328	13,696	2,38,487	1,08,804
6,639	2,146	3,785	2,236	263	1,973	7,817	..	2,333	18,241	6,452
6,049	68,164	32,859	29,885	4,154	25,731	80,995	328	13,696	2,39,903	1,07,919
6,686	2,106	3,643	2,221	533	1,688	7,817	..	2,333	18,147	6,127
5,666	65,671	33,554	29,828	4,198	25,630	80,305	328	13,945	2,39,526	1,05,574
6,689	2,030	3,642	2,254	451	1,803	7,817	..	2,333	18,099	6,166
6,381	58,672	33,366	29,634	4,819	24,815	80,136	841	13,371	2,39,882	97,699
6,605	2,040	3,565	2,270	479	1,791	7,817	..	1,571	17,986	5,402
7,607	61,208	33,416	29,494	5,110	24,384	80,091	865	13,371	2,41,115	99,828
6,504	1,960	3,565	2,248	601	1,647	7,810	..	1,571	17,879	5,178
7,413	67,182	36,520	29,644	4,254	25,390	80,033	874	13,371	2,43,966	1,06,817
6,509	2,053	3,565	2,198	529	1,669	7,793	..	1,571	17,867	5,293
8,063	72,598	36,560	29,709	3,852	25,857	80,007	859	13,371	2,44,631	1,12,685
6,552	2,197	3,565	2,232	493	1,739	7,793	..	1,571	17,909	5,507
7,369	71,386	36,546	29,661	3,974	25,687	80,002	859	13,371	2,43,917	1,11,303
6,610	2,236	3,567	2,233	505	1,728	7,783	..	1,571	17,960	5,535
10,203	63,621	31,874	30,000	4,311	25,689	77,071	709	13,784	2,29,148	1,03,803
6,531	1,950	3,712	2,239	437	1,802	7,811	..	2,061	18,054	5,813
8,736	66,964	30,788	29,617	4,901	25,416	72,774	594	13,558	2,22,298	1,06,532
6,581	2,051	3,652	2,240	454	1,786	7,808	..	1,992	18,041	5,789

s, and has therefore been omitted.

Their cultivation was recorded in the Native Land Measures, the equivalent Acres of which shown in the Statement have ly of the Report.

ing on the average 1,000 Rupees per annum, has never been realized, and has since been written off as irrecoverable. deposited in the Talooka Cutcheries, or among the Records at Kalludgee, under the superintendence of experienced Carpoons contains no error of sufficient importance to affect the accuracy of any argument founded on the information it presents.

(Signed) G. WINGATE,

Revenue Survey Commissioner, late Superintendent Revenue Survey Southern Mahratta Country.

APPENDIX B.

List of Government Villages in the Badamee Talooka, to be assessed as specified in the Table inserted after the 32nd paragraph of the Report.

Class.	Names.	Class.	Names.	Class.	Names.
1st Maximum Rate, Rs. 1-4-0.	1 Badamee.		45 Muneenagura.		9 Benhal.
	2 Kuttesserry.		46 Soorgeewod.		10 Kudputtee.
	3 Purwuttee.		47 Konkunkop.		11 Kutkinhullee.
	4 Kerroor.		48 Hangurkee.		12 Asungee.
	5 Mutteekuttee.		49 Heerehboodeehal.		13 Heyloor.
	6 Moodkuvee.		50 Kehlowdee.		14 Ingunwarree.
	7 Timapoor.		51 Simsagur.		15 Boodungud.
2nd Maximum Rate, Rs. 1-2-0.	1 Adgul.	2nd Maximum Rate, Rs. 1-2-0.	52 Lingapoor.	3rd Maximum Rate, Rs. 1-0-0.	16 Hunumnehree.
	2 Bulgerry.		53 Hunsnoor.		17 Sagnoor.
	3 Kubulgerry.		54 Kootkinkerry.		18 Phukeerboodeehal.
	4 Mootulgerry.		55 Chikmoochulgooda.		19 Havulkod.
	5 Yergop.		56 Byodruboodeehal.		20 Butkoorkee.
	6 Lukhmapoor.		57 Naglapoor.		21 Ranjunhal.
	7 Mullapoor.		58 Khanapoor.		22 Kulmuda.
	8 Jeknoor.		59 Hurdolee.		23 Aneegoondie.
	9 Shivpoor.		60 Moordee.		24 Nagnoor.
	10 Tuminhal.		61 Hunapoor.		25 Oomtur.
	11 Neerulgee.		62 Togoonshee.		26 Hunmapoor.
	12 Boodeehal.		63 Layudgoonda.		27 Chunnapoor.
	13 Katurkee.		64 Kotunhullee.		28 Rokudkuttee.
	14 Toluchgod.		65 Aloor.		29 Oblapoor.
	15 Nagurhal.		66 Podunkuttee.		30 Nursapoor.
	16 Anuntpoor.		67 Seggee.		31 Anwul.
	17 Kendoor.		68 Hooleekerry.		32 Yundeeegerry.
	18 Nundikeshwar.		69 Kudputtee.		33 Kurdehgood.
	19 Bhudranar Kunjaleehal.		70 Moosteegerry.		34 Kadurkop.
	20 Bachingood.		71 Oogulwat.		35 Kulwundkerry.
	21 Neelveegee.		72 Hulgerry.		36 Kudleemuttee.
	22 Sheerbudgee.		73 Mununtgerry.		37 Sheepurmuttee.
	23 Govunkee.		74 Hunumusagur.		38 Jungwad.
	24 Neelgoond.		75 Supuskuttee.		39 Belkhindee.
	25 Bunknaru.		76 Kullapoor.		40 Simapoor.
	26 Aldkuttee.		77 Koolgerry.		41 Kainkuttee.
	27 Simapoor.		78 Khanapoor.		42 Krishnapoor.
	28 Kurdeegood.		79 Chirlehkop.		43 Bhaslapoor.
	29 Putudkul.		80 Aloor.		44 Marunbusree.
	30 Kotapoor.		81 Neerleekerry.		45 Jigloor.
	31 Subulhoonshee.		82 Kaknoor.		46 Ubbeegerry.
	32 Mungulgood.		83 Agsurkop.		47 Moodengoodee.
	33 Nagurhal.		84 Malgee.		48 Modleegerry.
	34 Rungsumoodra.		85 Kullapoor.		49 Koorhuttee.
	35 Chimmulagee.		86 Khanapoor.		50 Kotbal.
	36 Beyloor.		87 Roan.		51 Juklee.
	37 Heerehnusvee.	3rd Maximum Rate, Rs. 1-0-0.	1 Busrukod.	Three Classes.	52 Hosahullee.
	38 Munnehree.		2 Bullehree.		53 Halkerry.
	39 Sool.		3 Munnoor.		
	40 Hooleegerry.		4 Hoollloor.		
	41 Kugulyom.		5 Anuntgerry.	1st Class 7 Villages.	
	42 Hoolumgerry.		6 Belwulkop.	2nd Do. 87 Ditto.	
	43 Lukuskop.		7 Heerehhal.	3rd Do. 53 Ditto.	
	44 Ekunchee.		8 Hoongoondie.	Total.... 147 Villages.	

(Signed) G. WINGATE,

Revenue Survey Commissioner,

Late Superintendent Revenue Survey Southern Mahratta Country.



सत्यमेव जयते

REVENUE STATEMENT FOR

Statement showing the number of Government Villages in the Bagulkote Talooka, from 1819-20 up to together with the Assessment, Remissions, and Collections on account

Years.	Number of Villages.	GOVERNMENT LAND IN CULTIVATION.										GOVERNMENT WAST LAND.	
		Acres.	Assess-ment.	Deduct Remis-sions.	Remaining on Account of						Total.	Acres.	Grazing Farm, Sheep Tax, and sale of Fruit Trees, &c.
					Dry Crop Land.		Rice Land.		Garden Land.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			Rupees.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.	Rupees.		Rupees.
1819-20	124	..	1,00,472	3,292	..	97,004	..	52	..	121	99,177	..	154
1820-21	124	..	1,12,846	597	..	1,11,976	..	52	..	221	1,12,249	..	441
1821-22	124	..	1,17,491	2,726	..	1,14,467	..	51	..	247	1,14,765	..	1,695
1822-23	124	..	1,13,064	10,594	..	1,02,207	..	179	..	84	1,02,470	..	956
1823-24	124	..	1,00,330	14,114	..	86,088	..	48	..	80	86,216	..	1,030
1824-25	124	77,445	1,10,796	28,397	77,396	82,082	..	..	49	317	82,399	56,886	116
1825-26	124	79,107	1,06,836	35,464	79,013	70,974	33	57	61	341	71,372	56,222	474
1826-27	124	80,059	99,334	21,417	79,929	77,562	49	134	80	221	77,917	54,669	634
1827-28	124	75,648	87,298	45,444	75,528	41,579	45	98	75	177	41,854	57,426	518
1828-29	124	77,447	87,672	18,447	77,323	68,697	38	100	85	228	69,225	55,833	620
1829-30	124	74,672	85,316	34,867	74,562	50,253	28	136	82	160	50,449	58,734	523
1830-31	124	73,387	83,011	21,815	73,302	60,960	38	134	47	102	61,196	59,319	830
1831-32	124	69,887	78,033	26,752	69,802	51,035	38	150	47	96	51,281	62,782	467
1832-33	124	65,677	73,279	29,584	65,596	48,485	39	134	42	96	48,695	66,965	409
1833-34	124	65,447	72,702	9,240	65,365	63,217	39	139	42	106	63,462	67,048	293
1834-35	124	67,078	76,759	7,911	66,984	68,532	39	139	56	177	68,818	65,425	713
1835-36	124	65,499	73,412	7,537	65,405	65,569	39	139	56	167	65,875	67,602	567
1836-37	124	67,908	73,787	5,858	67,811	67,614	42	149	56	166	67,929	64,944	365
1837-38	124	69,877	74,409	11,178	69,782	62,919	40	144	56	168	63,231	62,878	721
1838-39	124	71,195	74,415	13,601	71,105	60,518	35	129	56	167	60,814	62,018	1,173
1839-40	124	71,621	73,348	5,455	71,623	67,586	42	149	56	158	67,893	61,602	664
1840-41	124	71,622	73,349	21,821	71,620	51,211	38	136	64	181	51,528	61,180	475
1841-42	124	72,286	72,931	7,038	72,184	65,618	38	103	64	172	65,893	60,926	691
1842-43	124	67,523	67,129	2,106	67,429	64,728	37	126	58	169	65,023	66,004	553
1843-44	124	62,203	59,850	817	62,108	58,728	37	126	58	179	59,033	71,835	1,080
1844-45	124	60,455	56,083	613	60,365	55,180	32	111	58	179	55,470	73,612	972
1845-46	124	61,751	55,900	5,682	61,659	49,929	31	109	61	180	50,218	72,501	1,008
1846-47	124	69,954	61,009	8,462	69,857	52,240	35	122	61	185	52,547	47,936	3,348
1847-48	124	68,749	58,978	13,527	68,653	45,158	35	119	61	174	45,451	48,641	5,011
1848-49	124	65,906	57,818	1,322	65,810	56,192	35	119	61	185	56,496	52,065	6,579
1849-50	124	64,066	55,214	1,708	63,970	53,202	35	119	61	185	53,506	53,895	7,846
General Average..	124	69,864	80,415	13,464	69,768	66,667	36	110	60	174	66,951	61,125	1,320
Average for last 10 years, from 1840-41 to 1849-50	124	66,451	61,826	6,310	66,355	55,218	35	119	61	179	55,516	60,890	2,756

1. Fractions of Acres and Rupees are omitted in this Statement.
2. The Cultivation for the first five years of the period shown in this Statement was recorded in the old Native Land Measures, and has
3. The entries for 124 Villages from 1819-20 to 1849-50, in columns 3, 4, 5, and 10, correspond with the Diagram in the body of the R
4. The Net Revenue entered in column 25 is that fixed for collection at each Annual Settlement, but a fraction of it, exceeding on the
5. The Statement has been compiled from similar Statements for each Village, prepared from the Village Revenue Accounts deposited in Department, and is, I believe, as nearly correct as the nature of the data will admit. It certainly contains no error of sufficien

DIX C.

THE BAGULKOTE TALOOKA.

At the present time, the extent of Government Land, Cultivated and Waste, and of Alienated Land, and the amount of the same, for the 31 years contained in the above period.

GOVERNMENT LAND, CULTIVATED AND WASTE.		JODEE LAND.				SURWA ENAM AND MAHAL JODEE LAND.			GOVERNMENT AND ALIENATED LANDS TOGETHER.	
Sum of Columns Nos. 3 and 13.	Net Revenue, being Sum of Columns Nos. 12 and 14.	Acres.	Jodee Assessment.	Deduct Remissions on all Accounts.	Net Revenue for Collections.	Acres.	Net Amount of Assessment on Surwa Enam Land.	Mahal Jodee Net Assessment.	Sum of Columns Nos. 15, 17, and 21.	Net Revenue for Collections, or sum of Columns Nos. 16, 20, 22, and 23.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Acres.	Rupees.		Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.		Rupees.	Rupees.	Acres.	Rupees.
..	97,331	..	30,674	94,23	21,250	..	..	19,443	..	1,38,024
..	1,12,690	..	38,263	13,634	24,629	..	124	17,843	..	1,55,286
..	1,16,460	..	41,453	16,380	25,073	..	1,449	17,534	..	1,63,516
..	1,03,426	..	37,970	13,870	24,100	..	160	21,022	..	1,43,708
..	87,246	..	37,733	15,417	22,316	..	..	18,265	..	1,27,827
1,34,332	82,516	38,606	36,008	14,651	21,357	61,254	..	17,704	2,34,192	1,21,576
1,35,329	71,845	38,443	35,125	15,842	19,283	61,002	2,486	16,714	2,34,775	1,10,328
1,34,728	78,551	38,214	37,153	16,266	20,887	59,607	..	16,345	2,32,548	1,15,783
1,33,073	42,372	38,367	37,226	23,755	13,441	60,218	..	12,785	2,31,658	68,598
1,33,279	69,845	38,508	36,981	17,502	19,479	60,284	1,682	15,734	2,32,071	1,06,740
1,33,406	50,972	38,176	36,710	22,023	14,687	60,259	..	13,770	2,31,839	79,429
1,32,706	62,026	38,349	36,908	18,972	17,936	60,914	..	14,877	2,31,969	94,539
1,32,669	51,748	38,345	36,808	21,018	15,790	61,112	70	14,587	2,32,126	82,195
1,32,642	44,104	38,338	36,760	19,067	17,703	60,970	..	15,038	2,31,950	76,845
1,32,494	63,755	38,564	36,804	18,768	18,036	60,974	1,745	15,657	2,31,033	99,193
1,32,503	69,561	38,590	37,572	18,988	18,584	60,856	70	15,812	2,31,950	1,04,027
1,33,102	66,442	38,582	36,840	18,503	18,337	60,834	70	15,917	2,32,619	1,00,766
1,32,852	68,294	38,602	36,869	18,059	18,810	60,903	1,725	16,548	2,32,856	1,05,377
1,32,755	63,952	38,671	36,943	18,550	18,393	60,930	50	17,201	2,32,365	99,696
1,33,213	61,987	38,766	36,845	18,418	18,427	61,116	50	17,068	2,33,095	97,532
1,33,223	68,557	38,743	36,779	17,138	19,641	61,111	1,515	17,094	2,33,077	1,06,807
1,33,102	52,003	38,737	36,872	19,533	17,339	61,119	49	16,876	2,32,958	86,267
1,33,212	66,584	38,736	36,869	17,010	19,859	61,145	70	17,164	2,33,093	1,03,677
1,33,527	65,576	38,731	37,047	17,820	10,227	61,001	1,458	16,862	2,33,259	1,03,123
1,34,039	60,113	38,689	36,884	17,450	19,434	60,850	70	16,989	2,33,578	96,606
1,34,067	56,442	38,687	37,077	17,456	19,621	60,849	70	16,404	2,33,603	92,535
1,34,252	51,226	38,689	37,085	18,703	18,982	60,709	1,425	15,762	2,33,649	86,798
1,17,890	55,895	38,813	37,120	18,047	19,073	60,665	79	16,935	2,17,368	91,982
1,17,390	50,462	38,687	37,066	18,970	18,036	60,763	79	16,403	2,16,810	84,980
1,17,971	63,075	38,687	37,023	17,251	19,772	60,744	1,467	16,632	2,17,402	1,00,946
1,17,961	61,352	38,791	37,103	17,810	19,293	60,647	70	16,632	2,17,400	97,347
1,30,989	68,271	38,581	36,920	17,623	19,297	60,763	614	16,568	2,30,333	1,04,750
1,27,341	58,272	38,724	37,009	18,005	19,004	60,849	484	16,666	2,26,914	94,426

therefore been omitted.

report.

average 1,000 Rupees per annum, has never been realized, and has since been written off as irrecoverable.

the Talooka Cutcheries, or among the Records at Kalludgee, under the superintendence of experienced Carpoons from the Survey Department, to affect the accuracy of any argument founded on the information it presents.

(Signed) G. WINGATE,

Revenue Survey Commissioner, late Superintendent Revenue Survey Southern Mahratta Country.

APPENDIX D.

List of Government Villages in the Bagulkote Talooka, to be assessed as specified in the Table inserted after the 59th paragraph of the Report.

Class.	Names.	Class.	Names.	Class.	Names.
1st Maximum Rate, Rs. 1-4-0.	1 Bagulkote. 2 Salgoondee. 3 Kudampoor.		9 Heerehshuleekerry. 10 Chikshelleekerry. 11 Toorchegerry. 12 Hunmapoor. 13 Toogulkuttee. 14 Lukmapoor. 15 Shardal. 16 Malapoor. 17 Govindkope. 18 Khujjeedonee. 19 Oodgultee. 20 Kulluskop. 21 Beelgee. 22 Arkerry. 23 Kop. 24 Katurkee. 25 Jankuttee. 26 Kudputtee. 27 Soomburmuttee. 28 Soonugee. 29 Algoondee.		24 Hundreegul. 25 Hossoor. 26 Nogurhal. 27 Bummungee. 28 Chitkunkop. 29 Nagsimpgee. 30 Domunhall. 31 Dewlapoor. 32 Hulloor. 33 Bodkhindee. 34 Tukulkee. 35 Khivurtee. 36 Guruddinnee. 37 Dhowleshwur. 38 Gooddinnee. 39 Doodehhal. 40 Bulloor. 41 Badgee. 42 Kwanteegal. 43 Seggee. 44 Sonna. 45 Koondurgee. 46 Solunmuttee. 47 Rollee. 48 Kumdal. 49 Goondunpullee. 50 Sungum. 51 Mootuldinee. 52 Heggoor. 53 Govundinee. 54 Kop. 55 Chinwalkop. 56 Hadrehhal. 57 Lingapoor. 58 Mungoor. 59 Timmapoor. 60 Gwadeehal.
2nd Maximum Rate, Rs. 1-2-0.	1 Moornal. 2 Veerapoor. 3 Anundulee. 4 Yedeehullee. 5 Chhubie. 6 Soknadgee. 7 Yekunchee. 8 Shidnal. 9 Undmoornal. 10 Shindgee. 11 Nukree Gondee. 12 Sarkop. 13 Buneedinnee. 14 Behwinmuttee. 15 Kudleemuttee. 16 Simgodee. 17 Goliskop. 18 Seeroor. 19 Keerehsoor. 20 Mullapoor. 21 Kullodgee. 22 Munadgee. 23 Mudapoor. 24 Unkulgee. 25 Dyawunhal. 26 Suvsee Khoord. 27 Lingapoor. 28 Anugwadee. 29 Honnurlee. 30 Kowulee. 31 Bawulutee. 32 Booddehhal.	3rd Maximum Rate, Rs. 1-0-0.	1 Aloor. 2 Sheergoppee. 3 Sulgeehal. 4 Eelahal. 5 Hodloor. 6 Khoord Mormuttee. 7 Yetnahuttee. 8 Bahadurdinnee. 9 Kundgal. 10 Heerehgoolbal. 11 Chickgoolbul. 12 Mastehhal. 13 Judramkoontee. 14 Behwenmuttee. 15 Sowlehshwar. 16 Beoor. 17 Buhurunmuttee. 18 Sungapoor. 19 Simapoor. 20 Munknee. 21 Nyeneglee. 22 Budamyagerry. 23 Chota Myagerry.	4th Maximum Rate, Rs. 0-14-0.	1st Class 3 Villages. 2nd Do. 32 Ditto. 3rd Do. 29 Ditto. 4th Do. 60 Ditto. Total 124 Villages.
3rd Maximum Rate, Rs. 1-0-0.	1 Neerulkerree. 2 Bennoor. 3 Achnoor. 4 Bhuguwuttee. 5 Benkuttee. 6 Munneekuttee. 7 Honakuttee. 8 Hairkul.	4th Maximum Rate, Rs. 0-14-0.			

(Signed) G. WINGATE,

Revenue Survey Commissioner,
Late Superintendent Revenue Survey Southern Mahratta Country.



सत्यमेव जयते

No. 546 of 1852.

From

J. D. INVERARITY, ESQUIRE,
Collector of Belgaum,

To

W. COURTNEY, ESQUIRE,
Revenue Commissioner S. D.

SIR,

Adverting to the 21st paragraph of my letter No. 448, dated 6th ultimo, I have the

1. Collector of Belgaum to Captain North, Executive Engineer Belgaum Division, No. 412, dated 22nd June 1852.

2. Captain North to Lieutenant Colonel Scott, Superintending Engineer Southern Province, No. 523, dated 23rd July 1852.

3. Lieutenant Colonel Scott to Captain North, No. 3265, dated 28th July 1852.

honor to submit copies of correspondence as per margin on Captain Wingate's proposition for making the Krishna, Gutpurba, and Mulpurba rivers available for irrigation.

2. As Lieutenant Colonel Scott says, the fact of Captain Wingate being an Engineer

removes any doubt as to the feasibility of the plan proposed, and if the eye is cast upon the map it will be found that the slope of the country on the right bank of the Mulpurba from the neighbourhood of Goorl Hoosoor, and above that town as far as Boodehal, indicates that a considerable part of the Nowlgoond talooka of the Dharwar Collectorate might be irrigated by means of a canal cut from that river, but means for arriving at definite conclusions are wanting; and it remains for Government to decide whether Lieutenant Colonel Scott might not be requested to select the two Officers possessed of health and energy that he requires to carry out the necessary surveys, so that by the end of next fair season he might go before Government with a clear and definite plan and estimate.

3. It seems to me that the time has arrived to test the practicability of converting the Krishna, Gutpurba, and Mulpurba rivers, which now drain off the waters of this Collectorate, to the useful purpose of filling the country with fruitfulness. The local knowledge and skill of Captain North, and the experience in works of irrigation possessed in an eminent degree by Lieutenant Colonel Scott, are advantages at the present moment which should not be allowed to pass away, and I therefore would very strongly urge upon your consideration the propriety of obtaining the sanction of Government to the employment of the means required by Lieutenant Colonel Scott to enable him to decide upon the capabilities of the rivers in question in reference to the irrigation of the country.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) J. D. INVERARITY,

Collector.

Belgaum, Collector's Office, 6th August 1852.

No. 412 of 1852.

To

CAPTAIN C. F. NORTH,
Executive Engineer Belgaum Division, Belgaum.

SIR,

In transmitting to you the accompanying extract, being paragraphs 73—80 of a report No. 165, dated 9th instant, by Captain Wingate, Revenue Survey Commissioner, I have

the honor to request that you will, when time permits, favor me (for submission to Government) with the expression of your views of the facilities afforded for the irrigation of the Bagulkote or other talookas by means of bundaras across the Krishna at Gulgulleh and the Gutpurba at Moornal, and on the capabilities of the Mulpurba river for irrigation, particularly with reference to the Dharwar districts and the Hoongoond talooka of this Collectorate.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) J. D. INVERARITY,
Collector.

Belgaum, Collector's Office, 22nd June 1852.

No. 523 of 1852.

PUBLIC WORKS.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

From

CAPTAIN C. F. NORTH,
Executive Engineer Belgaum Division,

To

LIEUTENANT COLONEL WALTER SCOTT,
Superintending Engineer S. P., Poona.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for your perusal (to be returned) the accompanying letter in original, No. 412, of the 22nd ultimo, from the Collector of Belgaum, with an extract from a report by the Revenue Survey Commissioner, recommending some important works for irrigating the eastern portion of the Belgaum Collectorate.

2. My object now is to show you that there is here scope for benefiting the country and increasing the revenue on a large scale, and to point out the utter inadequacy of the means at my disposal for attempting the extensive and tedious operations that would be necessary to exhibit the details of these projects in the form in which they should be handed up for the consideration of Government. I need not specify these details to you, but will merely observe that it would be economical in the end to employ a sufficient number of Surveyors and Draftsmen upon them, so as to complete them in one season, rather than that they should be subject to the interruptions consequent upon their being thrown entirely upon the officer who has the superintendence of the whole of the work in the division.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) C. F. NORTH, Captain,
Executive Engineer B. D.

Belgaum, 23rd July 1852.

No. of 1852.

PUBLIC WORKS.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT,
REVENUE.

True copy forwarded for the information of the Collector of Belgaum.

(Signed) C. F. NORTH, Captain,
Executive Engineer Belgaum Division.

Belgaum, August 1852.

No. 3265 of 1852.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

To

CAPTAIN NORTH,

Executive Engineer Belgaum Division,

Belgaum.

SIR,

I have the honor to return the correspondence transmitted with your letter No. 523, which has much interested me. Captain Wingate, being himself an Engineer, removes any doubt as to the feasibility of the plan proposed; he probably underrates the extent to which the irrigation could be carried. With such a body of water as the Krishna, and such plains as exist to the south-west of the Bombay territory, there seems no limit to the amount of irrigation—and be it remembered that the cost of a canal to irrigate 100,000 acres would not materially exceed that of one to irrigate 30,000; it seems therefore that the supply of water could be made so cheap that it might be used even for the common cold weather grain crops during seasons of scarcity of rain.

2. There are no terms sufficiently strong to indicate the benefit which would arise at once from a good system of irrigation; and the slopes of the rivers and expanse of the plains are eminently favourable to such projects.

3. But to carry out such inestimable improvement we must use means. I can only afford you probably one surveyor. I have no means of obtaining another, and it is therefore most essential that the Collector should urge forcibly on Government the propriety of appointing at least two officers to make the requisite surveys.

4. If we commence with inadequate means, the scheme will draw its slow length along for years; with the assistance of two energetic officers, appointed at such an early period that they could learn their surveying work, I should hope by the end of next fair season to be able to go before Government with a clear definite plan and estimate.

5. I speak of Captain Wingate's large scheme merely: if other places are met with affording anything like the same facilities, it might be well to ascertain whether Government are likely to be able to afford the outlay. But suppose they should not be in the first instance, and suppose we can carry out Captain Wingate's scheme in four years from the date of commencing our surveys, Government would then have (at his very moderate estimate) an income of half a lac to expend, which might be fairly asked for similar improvements.

6. As I have had more experience in works of this nature than any person in the corps, I may, on inspecting the locality, be able to assist you in selecting the easiest course of proceeding; but neither you nor I could do anything to purpose without further assistance than is at present available.

7. I would therefore most strongly urge the Collector to press for the appointment of at least two officers possessed of energy and health. These are the only qualifications I ask for; we shall then have three persons to carry out the survey, and it is the smallest number I can recommend, it being (among other things) essentially requisite that we should be quite certain of the correctness of the work, and a smaller number than three will not ensure this without great waste of time in running check lines.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) W. SCOTT, Lieutenant Colonel,

Superintending Engineer S. P.

Superintending Engineer's Office, Southern Provinces,

Poona, 28th July 1852.

(True copies)

(Signed) J. D. INVERARITY,

Collector.

No. 1906 of 1852.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT,
REVENUE.

Submitted for the information of Government, with reference to paragraph 21 of the Revenue Commissioner's letter, No. 1709, dated 23rd ultimo.

2. From Lieutenant Colonel Scott's experience and practical acquaintance with works of irrigation on a large scale in Sindh, the Revenue Commissioner is disposed to attach great weight to his opinion ; he would therefore beg leave to recommend his proposals for the favourable consideration of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council.

(Signed) W. COURTNEY,
Revenue Commissioner S. D.

Poona, Revenue Commissioner's Office, 12th August 1852.

No. 9004 of 1852.

PUBLIC WORKS.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT,
REVENUE.

To

The RIGHT HON'BLE LORD VISCOUNT FALKLAND, G. C. H.,
Governor and President in Council.

MY LORD,

We have the honor to submit herewith a letter, No. 3391, dated the 4th August 1852, from the Superintending Engineer Southern Provinces, relating to plans and estimates required by the Collector of Belgaum for works of irrigation from the Krishna river, to water a very large tract of land in Bagulkote.

2. Should your Lordship in Council approve of the prosecution of the work, and the services of two officers be necessary, we beg to state that there are no Engineer Officers available, and to refer to the list of officers of the line qualified for such employment, submitted with our letter in the General Department, No. 7715, of the 28th July 1852.

We have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) C. WADDINGTON,
Lieutenant Colonel, Commandant,
Chief Engineer.

(Signed) J. SWANSON,
Major.

Bombay, Military Board Office, 16th August 1852.

No. 3391 of 1852.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

To

The SECRETARY MILITARY BOARD,
Bombay.

SIR,

I have the honor to state that the Collector of Belgaum has applied to Captain North for plans and estimates for works of irrigation from the Krishna river to water a very large tract of land in Bagulkote.

2. The projects bear every appearance of being perfectly feasible, but they are very extensive works, and will involve much accurate surveying and levelling before any fair estimate of the probable cost of the work, in the first instance, or of the returns, can be arrived at.

3. The subject is, I understand, before Government on Captain Wingate's Report, but before any real progress can be made, the surveys are quite indispensable ; I have therefore the honor to solicit the Board to obtain the services of two officers at least, to enable Captain North to meet the Collector's application. I shall most probably be able to send one surveyor, and I think I may fairly expect, with the aid of the assistance applied for, to submit the plans and estimates of one of the most important of the works by the end of the ensuing fair season : there are two projects specified, and more indicated, but the most that three people will be able to do will be to complete the estimates for one during the season.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) W. SCOTT, Lieutenant Colonel,

Superintending Engineer S. P.

Superintending Engineer's Office, Southern Provinces, Poona, 4th August 1852.

No. 6287 OF 1851.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT,
REVENUE.

To

WILLIAM COURTNEY, ESQUIRE,

Revenue Commissioner Southern Division.

SIR,

I have placed before the Governor in Council your letter of 23d July 1852, No. 1709, and its accompaniments, being a letter from the Collector of Belgaum, and a report from Captain Wingate, explanatory of the revised assessment introduced into the talookas of Badamee and Bagulkote, under the sanction conveyed by Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter of 9th April 1852 (No. 3848).

2. I have also placed before His Lordship in Council your Memorandum of 12th August, No. 1906, and its accompanying papers, relative to the suggestions made by Captain Wingate on the means of irrigating large quantities of land by constructing masonry dams across the Krishna, Gutpurba, and Mulpurba rivers.

3. The revised assessment is sanctioned for 30 years, commencing in 1851, and the Proclamation provided for in the foot note to Rule 1, paragraph 84 of the Joint Report of the three Superintendents,* is to be issued by the Collector.

4. Under the circumstances reported by Captain Wingate, Government fully approve of his having relieved the Desae of the Beelgee Purgunna of the farm of the village of Son, and they sanction the money in deposit being refunded to the ryots : it must be paid into their own hands by the Assistant or Deputy Collector in charge of the talooka, who is forthwith to proceed to the village for the purpose.

* Rule 1 to paragraph 84 of the Joint Report.

1st. With a view to the improvement of the country and people, the Assessment now introduced by the Superintendent Revenue Survey has been fixed by Government for a period of 30 years, viz. from Fuslee to during which period the full benefit of every improvement, such as the conversion of dry into irrigated land, by the digging or repairing of wells and tanks, the planting of fruit trees, &c. will be secured to the incumbent of the land, and no extra Assessment levied on that account.*

* Foot Note to Rule 1.

A proclamation to the effect of Rule 1 should be published when the revised rates are introduced in the District, and every Patell should be furnished with a copy.

Roads.—Captain Wingate's paragraph 72; Collector's paragraph 22; Revenue Commissioner's paragraphs 18, 19, and 20.

5. A copy of the paragraphs noted in the margin will be transferred to the General Department for consideration and disposal.

6. Government will take measures for giving at the opening of the season the assistance applied for by Lieutenant Colonel Scott in his letter, of which the accompanying is a copy, to enable him to prepare plans and estimates for one or more of the works indicated in Captain Wingate's letter. As Captain Wingate gives a guarded opinion after but a rough eye survey, the Governor in Council cannot concur with Lieutenant Colonel Scott and Mr. Inverarity that the fact "of Captain Wingate himself being an Engineer removes any doubt as to the feasibility of the plan proposed."

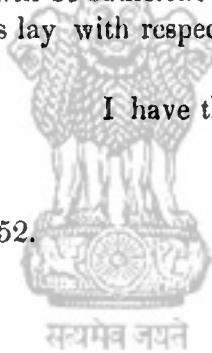
7. Government have on several occasions, and more especially in their letter of 4th November 1850, relative to the proposed dam across the Dharna river in the Nassik Sub-Collectorate, evinced their willingness to benefit the country by sanctioning the construction of expensive works of irrigation, even when the estimated results are not sufficient to yield what would be considered a fair return for the money to be sanctioned; but before sanctioning any such work it is necessary that Government should be informed by the Military Board, not only as to the estimated cost of the work, but also as to the extent of land which the water obtainable will be sufficient to irrigate, and the quantity of land, khalsat and alienated, which from its lay with respect to the head of water is capable of being irrigated with advantage.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) A. MALET,

Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 27th September 1852.



SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT.

No. II.

PORT BY CAPTAIN WINGATE,

SUPERINTENDENT OF REVENUE SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT, SOUTHERN MAHRATTA
COUNTRY, (NOW REVENUE SURVEY COMMISSIONER,)

ON THE SUBJECT OF INTRODUCING A

SURVEY AND REVISION OF ASSESSMENT

IN THE

ROUTNAGHERRY COLLECTORATE:

ALSO

A LETTER FROM THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER, S. D.,

SUBMITTING THE ABOVE REPORT,

AND

सत्यमेव जयते

THE INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT.

Printed for the Information of the Revenue Officers under the Government of Bombay.

*Revenue Secretary's Office,
8th September 1852.*

H. E. GOLDSMID,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay:

PRINTED FOR GOVERNMENT

AT THE

BOMBAY EDUCATION SOCIETY'S PRESS.

1852.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT,
REVENUE.

To

H. E. GOLDSMID, Esquire,

Secretary to Government, Bombay.

With reference to the correspondence quoted in the margin, I have the honor

to transmit a report from Captain Wingate, dated 30th January, on the subject of surveying the Rutnagiri Zilla.

2. The first question for disposal is, apparently, whether this survey and assessment should be undertaken or not: next, how far

the Government should, through its means, interfere with the existing privileges of the

landholders, and protect the subordinate reiyuts from their extortions.

The whole land of the Collectorate, not absolutely sterile, may, the Superintendent remarks, be considered under cultivation": this circumstance

removes one argument which is generally advanced in favor of a new assessment, viz. that the reduction of rates will bring a large quantity of land into cultivation. This argument, therefore, does not apply to the Southern Konkan: two questions, however, remain for disposal,—1st, Whether the present assessment would, in some places, admit of being raised? 2nd, Whether, if it would not, any and sufficient reasons exist for introducing a revenue survey?

Whether a revised assessment would, to any great extent, raise the revenues payable in any districts or villages, is a question which, with the little local information we possess, it would, I conceive, be premature to discuss; but this is, I would respectfully observe, a very minor point of consideration.

The principle which is supposed to have generally influenced Government in ordering revenue surveys, is the desire to ascertain the capabilities of the land and of the people, in connection with established customs, and to reduce or raise the assessment, as shall appear equitable, and consistent with the respective rights of the governors and their subjects; and though it is very satisfactory, when in the prosecution of this important and equitable principle, "brilliant success follows the survey and revision of assessment," and very possible that in the Konkan "the unpromising financial prospects of a survey will (not) be compensated by any immediate or marked improvement," still, I submit, if the Government demands upon this district are too heavy, they should be reduced: not to do this, would be to continue to subject this already impoverished district to an assessment which, in many places, a rack-rent, and that merely because the result would not be an increase of revenue: such a principle I respectfully trust that Government will not adopt.

All revenue officers who have had any practical acquaintance with the Southern Konkan will, probably, admit that its assessment is very unequal, and in some places ruinously high. Captain Wingate thus writes: "there are other features of the existing state of things open to objection, and seeming to call for change or improvement. In both khotee and kowlargee villages,

of the existing state of things open to objection, and seeming to call for change or improvement. In both khotee and kowlargee villages,

the assessment is generally complained of, as being oppressively high, and I think must have the effect of preventing the improvement of the land :” “the garden assessment is often injuriously high :” “it would be a desirable preliminary to revise the assessment of all garden lands” before Government pledge itself not to assess any new gardens.

7. The same officer again thus writes :—“The present assessment of a large proportion of the Konkun villages is believed to be very burdensome, and it is
73rd paragraph. probable that it would admit of being increased in very few instances indeed : a revision of assessment would most probably, therefore, occasion a considerable reduction of revenue.” I trust, however, that his Lordship in Council will coincide in the very just remark which follows :—“*this, however, forms no valid reason against a revision, if found necessary for the welfare of the district.*”

8. The Superintendent then proposes to undertake “an experimental survey and
75th paragraph. assessment of detached villages, several of which are now under Government management, owing to the khotes having failed to discharge
76th paragraph. their assessment,” and for this duty Captain Wingate proposes to detach “a single officer, of judgment and experience, with a small, but efficient establishment of measurers, and a few classers,” who would, in his opinion, suffice for the prosecution of the experiment, which might be brought to a close at the end of one or two seasons.

9. While extremely reluctant to differ in opinion from an officer of the Superintendent’s experience and judgment, I am unable to concur in this proposition, which in reality throws over the question of the survey, and instead of taking up a whole talooka, which would appear sufficiently small as a commencement for a department so efficiently conducted as Captain Wingate’s, would limit its operations “to a few detached villages :” neither am I certain what “experiment” is to be tried : that the Konkun assessment is very unequal, and in many places ruinously heavy, hardly admits of dispute ; even, therefore, though the few detached villages in question should afford no remarkable instances of under or over assessment, no one would be thence persuaded that the Konkun generally was equitably assessed. I trust, therefore, that Government will allow the “experiment” (if such it be) to embrace *at least* one talooka ; and, considering the novelty of the country, and the peculiarity of its features, tenures, and population, I should hope that the Superintendent would conduct the operations in person. His judgment and practical experience would probably be in greater requisition here than in any other district.

10. The question whether and how far Government should interfere with the khotes and their tenants, is necessarily subordinate to that of whether the
40th paragraph. survey is to be undertaken or not ; and at this stage of the matter, it would be superfluous to enter into any minute questions on this part of the subject. The reiyuts of the Konkun are of various classes, and the same rules will not apply to all. The dharakurees, and the merasdar mhars, are of more ancient standing than the khotes themselves ; and their rights are, or can be clearly defined. Of the other reiyuts, some have rights, which if not so clearly defined, yet do exist,
48th paragraph. and should be inquired into and protected, in order that their subjection to the khote may not, in practice, be as complete as that of tenants-at-will, put in by him or his ancestors, and who have subjected themselves to any terms which the khote chose to impose.

11. The khotes are of almost every caste and every condition in life : some are poor peasants—some are men of wealth and intelligence : that all these men
47th paragraph. cannot justly be subjected to the same sweeping condemnation will, perhaps, be admitted ; but, till a light and equitable assessment is imposed on the Konkun, it is evident that many khotes must be bad landlords : where the head landlord extorts more than his share, each subordinate must, for self-preservation,

extort from the next below him. The way to give khote and tenant a fair chance, is for Government to reduce its demands wherever they exceed a fair proportion of the produce. When this is done, the khotes will be able to deal liberally with their tenants, which now in many instances they cannot possibly do.

12. I should be sorry, therefore, to see Government resort to so "extreme a measure" as "the total abolition of all the rights and privileges of the khotes." I cannot suppose that there would be any great difficulty in modifying and controlling the power of the khotes; but I do not think that "this desirable end can be accomplished without the aid of a survey," and this assertion is supported by the fact that, since the possession of the Konkun by the British, this desirable object has hitherto been unattained.

13. In dealing with the rights and privileges of the khotes, it is well to bear in mind that "the circumstances of the Konkun are peculiarly those in which the utmost circumspection should be used before determining or altering a state of things which has subsisted in most parts for nearly a century," and perhaps in many for a much longer period. The fact, however, that the "survey took place many years ago," in no degree militates against the right of Government to institute a new one whenever it may see occasion to do so, and every khote or dharakurree in the Konkun will readily admit the right of Government to alter his payments at the next survey, an event to which frequent reference is made in kowls, and almost all documents of a prospective character.

14. I quite agree with the Superintendent that all gratuitous service exacted from hereditary tenants should be abolished: where a reiyut, however, has come into a village, and agreed to take a field on certain terms, inclusive of a certain amount of manual labour, such labour is not really gratuitous—it is part of the rent of his field. I also fully concur with the Superintendent that it is necessary to define the respective rights of the khote and his tenant, but I may here express a respectful hope, that the fact that the former have "rights" as well as the latter, will be borne in mind; and that if the Konkun has suffered from too heavy assessment, the khotes are not answerable for the extreme poverty of the people, with whom they are in many cases fellow-sufferers from the same cause.

15. Government will, I doubt not, concur in the Superintendent's opinion, that the grain rental should be everywhere replaced by a fixed money rent. This desirable reform has, I believe, long occupied the attention of Government.

16. In conclusion, I can only express a respectful hope that Government will sanction the immediate survey and assessment of at least one talooka in the Southern Konkun; which work, if intrusted to Captain Wingate, the latitude and discretionary power solicited may safely be granted: that a fixed money payment be substituted for a grain rental; that the respective rights and privileges of the khotes and reiyuts, of whatever class and description, be fully inquired into and clearly defined, and gratuitous service of hereditary reiyuts be abolished.

17. I have the honor to transmit the original correspondence received with the report, and to be, &c.

(Signed) E. H. TOWNSEND,
Revenue Commissioner, Southern Division.

*Nassik Districts, Revenue Commissioner's Camp,
Sinnur, 10th March 1851.*

INDEX TO THE REPORT.

No.	SUBJECT.	Paras.
1.	Introductory remarks	1, 2
2.	Notice of documents consulted for the preparation of the Report, and forwarded therewith	3 to 5
3.	Description of the Rutnagiri Collectorate	6, 7
4.	Culture and crops of " "	8 to 12
5.	Talooks and villages in " "	13
6.	Koolargee system of revenue management	14 to 17
7.	Condition of koolargee villages.....	18
8.	Khotee system of revenue management.....	19
9.	Khotee tenure, Mr. Pelly's opinion of	20
10.	" " Mr. Chaplin's "	21, 22
11.	" " Mr. Dunlop's "	23
12.	" " Bombay Government's opinion of.....	25
13.	" " Lieutenant Dowell's "	28 to 33
14.	" " subject continued	34 to 39
15.	" " preliminary points for consideration	40
16.	" villages, poverty of, how accounted for.....	42 to 44
17.	" " remarks on the partial discontinuance of the practice of obtaining military recruits from	45
18.	" " poverty of, also ascribable to the khotee tenure.....	46 to 48
19.	" " practice of exacting " atveth," or gratuitous service in	49
20.	" " interference between the khote and reiyut considered	50
21.	" " suggestions for abolition of atveth	51
22.	" " " recognition of tenant-rights	52 to 54
23.	" " tenant-right, how to be conferred.....	55
24.	" " by abolishing the office of khote	56, 57
25.	" " tenant right, by limiting the future demands of the khote	58
26.	" " applicability of the plan of settlement followed in N. W. P. considered.	59
27.	" " receipts by the khote for payments by his tenants made compulsory.	60
28.	" " maximum rents to be fixed for the land held on various tenures	61
29.	" " subject continued	62
30.	Matters requiring reform, in both koolargee and khotee villages, garden assessment..	63
31.	" " " estimation of assessment in kind	64, 65
32.	" " " obscurity resting on all questions connected with land	66
33.	" " " want of roads	67 to 69
34.	Kind of revenue survey most feasible to attempt.....	70 to 72
35.	Unpromising financial prospects from a survey	73, 74
36.	Suggestion for an experimental survey.....	75
37.	Establishment required for "	76
38.	Concluding remarks	77

No. 44 of 1851.

To

E. H. Townshend Esquire,

Revenue Commissioner, Southern Division.

Sir,

I have now the honor to submit my ~~opinion~~ and report on the question of undertaking a survey and revision of assessment of the Rutnagiri Collectorate, in compliance with the instructions contained in your communications, Nos. 3310 and 3727, dated respectively 22nd August and 26th September 1849.

2. The preparation of this report has been unavoidably delayed till now, to enable me to collect information, and owing to my late absence on leave to Europe.

3. Mr. Coles, the Collector of Rutnagiri, has furnished me with the full and well-selected collection of papers noted below, relating to the landed tenures and revenue management of his charge. These papers contain, I understand, nearly everything of importance that has been written on these subjects, from the accession of our Government up to the present time. They are, as far as practicable, arranged according to dates in the following list, and will be found in the same order in the compilation,* which I think it best to forward with the present report, for the purpose of reference, as I have been informed that there is no similar collection either on the records of your Office or on those of the Secretariate. I beg that the compilation may be returned to this office when no longer required.

Nos.	DESCRIPTION.	Pages of Compilation.
1.	Extract from the Revenue Report for 1819-20, by the Collector, J. H. Pelly, Esq., No 573, dated 18th December 1820	1— 28
2.	Government reply, No. 148, dated 23rd January 1821	29— 36
3.	Further reply, No. 955, dated 28th June 1821	37— 42
4.	Mr. Commissioner Chaplin's Report, containing information on the internal management of the Southern Konkun, and the origin and nature of the prevailing khotee system	43— 68
5.	Revenue Report for 1821-22, by the Collector, J. A. Dunlop, Esquire, No. 70, dated 31st December 1822, containing a history of the khotes, with suggestions for the improvement of the system of revenue management	69— 90
6.	Government reply, No. 435, dated 25th March 1823	91— 94
7.	Extracts from the Revenue Report for 1823-24, by J. A. Dunlop, Esquire, Collector, No. 53, dated 15th August 1824, regarding the revenue system obtaining in the Rutnagiri Collectorate, with remarks on the prevailing tenures, and of the Government reply, No. 33, dated 15th January 1825	95—166
8.	Government letter No. 2157, dated 7th December 1825, forwarding extracts from the Hon'ble the Court of Directors' letter, dated 4th May 1825, to G. More, Esquire, Collector in the Southern Konkun, requesting to be furnished with his observations on the several points noticed by the Hon'ble Court in the 5th and 11th paragraphs	167—190
9.	Hints for the young Assistants to the Collector in the Southern Konkun, by R. C. Money, Esq.	191—212
10.	Report by Mr. Collector Reid, No. 94, dated 6th December 1828, containing an account of the system of revenue management actually existing within the Rutnagiri Collectorate, with explanations regarding the mode in which the jumma bundee is formed, and the principles which regulate the settlement	213—232
11.	Account of the mode of survey used in the Revenue Survey of the Kuriat Newré and Kelé Mahals in the Rutnagiri talooka, completed in May 1827	233—250
12.	Survey Report of the Rutnagiri talooka, by Lieutenant Dowell, dated 1st November 1829	251—402

* Not printed.

Nos.	DESCRIPTION.	Pages of Compilation.
13.	Extract from Mr. Pyne's Jummabundee Report for 1830-31, with remarks on Lieutenant Dowell's survey	403—442
14.	Collector Glass's letter to Government, No. 29, dated 5th May 1837, stating the origin of the tenure by which the khotes claim to be considered as wuttundars and landlords of their estates, with accompaniments	443—460
15.	Government letter, No. 3810, dated 24th October 1844, forwarding extract paras. 26 to 28 from a despatch, No. 10, dated 15th May last, from the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, relative to the rights of the khote	461—464
16.	Government letter, No. 1710, dated 16th April 1845, to Revenue Commissioner, Southern Division, intimating that Government concurs in his opinion of the inexpediency of applying to khotes a legislative enactment for limiting the right of re-entry	465—472
17.	2nd Assistant Collector and Magistrate's letter to the Collector and Magistrate of Rutnagiri, No. 2, dated 27th February 1839, expressing his opinion more generally on the subjects which comprise the numerous complaints presented by the reiyuts of the Anjunwel talooka	473—484
18.	2nd Assistant Collector's letter to the Collector of Rutnagiri, No. 5, dated 14th January 1839, reporting the result of his investigation on three petitions, presented by the reiyuts of Anjunwel talooka	485—500
19.	Mr. Coles's letter to Captain Wingate, No. 1517, forwarding copies of Lieutenant Dowell's report, and Mr. Sub-Collector Pyne's remarks thereon, and affording further information regarding the revenue system and the privileges of the khotes	501—510
20.	Mr. Coles's letter to Captain Wingate, No. 1687, dated 7th November 1849, regarding revenue arrangements in koolargee and khotee villages.....	511—514
21.	Mr. Coles's letter to Revenue Commissioner, Southern Division, No. 678, dated 2nd June 1849, reporting the progress he had made in the preliminary inquiries entrusted to him, previous to the introduction of a Revenue Survey	515—536

4. I have carefully perused the whole of the foregoing documents, and was able to verify my impressions of their contents, as well as to obtain some additional information, during a fortnight's tour in the Rutnagiri districts last season, when I had the further advantage of conferring personally with Mr. Coles, who had made the subjects under consideration his diligent study, and most kindly furnished me with much valuable information on the state of his charge.

5. The tenures and revenue system of the Southern Konkun are fully discussed in the documents just alluded to, and must be familiar to Government; but as the proposals I have to suggest bear immediately upon these subjects, I think it will place them in a clearer light if, at the risk of appearing tedious, I preface my proposals with a short description of the country, and the circumstances to which they are intended to apply. In doing this, I will make use, as far as possible, of the words of the writers of the above correspondence, and quote in the margin my authority for all statements, not based on my own observation, that appear to be of importance.

6. The tract of country forming the present Collectorate of Rutnagiri lies between the Sylhadree range of ghauts and the sea, from the Saveetru or Bankote river on the north, to the state of Warree and the Portuguese territory of Goa on the south. The total length of the Collectorate, from Bankote to the Rairee creek, may be estimated at 159 miles; and its extreme breadth, from the ghauts to the sea, at 45 miles.

7. The whole tract is hilly and rugged, but yet presents characteristic features in different parts. In the neighbourhood of the ghauts the valleys are more open and the hills less rugged than towards the central part of the Collectorate, which consists of little else than a congeries of rugged jungly hills. These again towards the coast subside into elevated plateaus, nearly level, but rendered in great part sterile by a capping of laterite rock, and which are cut through by deep, narrow, steep-sided valleys and ravines, through which the various rivers and streams flowing from the ghauts find their way to the sea. These rivers are tidal, and navigable for some miles into the interior,

which has determined the situation of all the chief ports of the Southern Konkun, as Mahar, Chiploon, Rajapoor, and others. Nearly all the fertile land in the Collectorate is found along the banks of these rivers or salt-water creeks, in the neighbourhood of the sea; but its extent is very limited. The soil of the rest of the country is miserably poor, and consists in great part of a stiff, ferruginous clay, often mixed with gravel.

8. Cultivation is of three kinds: garden, rice, and dry crop, or wurkus.

9. The garden chiefly consists of cocoanut plantations, which are watered from streams or wells, although on the finer kinds of sandy soils, along the sea coast, the trees thrive with little or no water after having attained a certain height.

10. The better kinds of rice land grow also sugar-cane and second crops of rice, or some description of pulse or vegetables. In the villages along the creeks, many valuable rice lands have been recovered from the sea, by damming out the salt water by masonry walls, or earthen embankments. Most of the rice land of the Collectorate, however, is of inferior quality, and yields only one crop. As far as I have seen, all the level spots of land, in situations where water will drain into them during the monsoon, have everywhere been converted into rice grounds. This description of culture, however, might be still further extended by terracing the slopes.

11. The great proportion of the cultivation, however, is "wurkus," or that of dry grains. This cultivation is pushed over every part of the surface of the Collectorate, where there is soil to raise a crop at all, even to the summits of the highest hills. The wurkus land may be divided into the more level parts where the plough can be used, and the steeper slopes admitting only of cultivation by manual labour. The rice land is cropped annually; but from the want of sufficient manure the wurkus requires fallows. The best kinds bear crops for five or six successive years, and then require a fallow of nearly equal duration. The inferior kinds require longer fallows; and the worst will only bear two crops, it is said, in twelve years. Lieutenant Dowell, in his Survey Report for the talooka of Rutnagiri, written twenty years ago, estimated the proportion of the wurkus under-crop each year at one-sixth; but from what I have observed and learnt, I should imagine that this is now nearer one-fifth, or one-fourth, owing to the increase of population and the difficulty of obtaining subsistence. The hill wurkus is not cleared of trees for cultivation. The trees are merely stripped of their lower and smaller branches, and the crop is planted out among the stems; the trees being required to provide leaves for manuring the rice land.

12. The whole land of the Collectorate, not absolutely sterile, may be considered to be under cultivation, either with annual crops, or with occasional crops, and fallows. Some small patches are, indeed, reserved for the growth of trees in the barer parts, to supply branches and leaves to burn with cow-dung as a manure for the rice land, but these, too, may properly be viewed as under cultivation, and, so far as I have seen or can learn, there is now little if any unappropriated waste, which is never cultivated, to be found in the Collectorate.

13. The Collectorate is divided into the five talookas of Soovurudroog, Anjunwel, Rutnagiri, Viziadroog, and Malwan, and contains in all 1336 villages, hamlets, &c. The revenue management is either koolargee or khotee, but the khotee system greatly preponderates, and the koolargee villages do not amount to one-tenth of the whole.

14. Mr. Pelly, when in charge of the Konkun, stated in his Jumma-bundee Report for A. D. 1819-20, "that in the koolargee system each cultivator is understood to stand assessed at a certain fixed rental on the public records, beyond which nothing can properly be levied of him." According to Mr. Chaplin, "in koolargee villages the jumma-bundee is fixed, and the reynt pays the same rent invariably for his land until a new Pahance (survey) takes place, but he pays it either direct to Government or to the head of the village for Government. Mr. Collector Dunlop, in his Revenue Report for 1821-22, informs us that the hereditary proprietors in the koolargee villages of the Koodal Pranth are called gamkurs, or khutelees; the former having a right to the

Vide 2nd para. of Mr. Collector Coles's letter, dated 6th October 1849, at page 501 of Compilation.

Vide para. 8, at page 5 of Compilation.

Vide para. 11, at page 52 of Compilation.

Vide para. 6, at page 71, and para. 21, at page 80 of Compilation.

Vide para. 18, at page 269, and para. 23, at page 276 of Compilation.

management of the village, but both paying revenue alike, while those of the villages further north are styled dharakurrees." Lieutenant Dowell, in his report on the survey of the Rutnagiri talooka, written in 1829, states that "the koolargee villages are those in which all the lands are held by dharakurrees, or independent proprietors. In these villages there are khotes or mahajuns, and other village officers; but they have no proprietary right over the lands of dharakurrees. The land is held on a tenure similar to the merasee, every field belonging to some person who is called a wuttundar, in consequence of possessing it, and from which he cannot be ejected while he continues to pay the revenue: the customs regarding these lands are nearly the same as in the Dekhan."

15. But I am not certain that these descriptions convey a complete idea of the koolargee system; and I will, therefore, add a few words in explanation of my own view of it.

Vide 2nd para. of Mr. Collector Coles' letter, dated 7th November 1849, at page 115 of Compilation.

16. In the koolargee villages, the whole arable lands were long ago appropriated by the members of the community, and the portions of land in the possession of each individual or family represented by him were registered at the last or some former survey as his dhara, or estate; and generally still continue to be so. These dharas, or estates, are of all sizes, frequently consisting of fields situated in different parts of the village area, and sometimes of only one small plot, or even of a single tree.* Each of these dharas bears the assessment settled at the last survey, which remains unchanged from year to year, until Government undertakes another survey and revision of assessment. But by inheritance, mortgage, and sale, the dharas have generally become greatly subdivided, and have occasionally changed hands altogether since the last survey. Of their interior management, however, Government takes no account; but requires that some one of the co-proprietors shall each year become responsible for the payment of the assessment at which the property is rated in the public books, which he collects from his co-proprietors or their sub-tenants according to their own private arrangements. The tullatee, or coolkurnee, keeps an account for each of these dharas, or estates, under its original name, but enters in it also the name of the manager for the year. When, from disagreements amongst the proprietors, or from inability to pay the assessment, no one of them will pass his agreement to pay the revenue, the Collector attaches the dhara, and collects a share of the produce, according to the usage of the village or district, from the actual cultivators of it, whoever they may be. Attached dharas are also sometimes let by the Collector on lease to third parties, but the original proprietors, however, have been allowed to obtain the management again, on paying up any deficiency in the revenue realized compared with the regulated assessment during the time the estate may have been administered by the Collector.

17. The koolargee system was in its origin probably reiyutwar, as the dhara was most likely all the land, wherever situated, in the possession of one reiyut at the time of some former survey; but it has with the lapse of time become an assessment upon certain portions of the village lands, without reference at all to the persons by whom they may be owned or cultivated. The limits of these dharas, or even the parts of the village in which different portions of them are situated, cannot be learned from the public accounts, which only show the details of the assessment at which they are rated. They are, however, well known to the dharakurrees themselves; and from the fact of every part of the village lands being in the occupation of some one, I have little doubt but that the boundaries of the several estates composing it are very permanent.

18. The koolargee villages are mostly situated along the coast, and the banks of the several salt-water creeks. They contain most of the baghayut or oart cultivation, and are extremely populous. The land has been greatly improved in many instances, by

* In the village of Lanjé, Rutnagiri talooka, there is a dhara consisting of a single jack-tree; the annual assessment on which is three annas, six pices.

digging wells, embanking from the sea, and even by the laborious process of covering the bare rock with earth brought from a distance. They mostly enjoy the great advantages of a water communication with the markets for the disposal of their produce, employment for the surplus population in fishing or as boatmen, and easy access to Bombay. These villages are said to be generally more highly assessed than the khotee. Lieutenant Dowell states that in the Rutnagiri talooka the amount of revenue paid by the latter is Rs. 1-3-4, and in the former Rs. 3-8-9 per acre; and adds, that a small part of this difference is accounted for by the comparative richness of soil in koolargee villages. The capital sunk in permanent improvements in koolargee villages is certainly vastly greater than in khotee; and with every allowance for advantages of situation, the chief cause must be sought, in my opinion, in the different landed tenures obtaining in the two.

Vide para. 19 of his Report, at page 270 of Compilation.

19. The khotee villages, as already stated, are by much the most numerous; and as upon the view taken of the khotee tenure will depend the nature and extent of any revenue and administration reforms, whether by means of a survey or otherwise, capable of being introduced into these villages, I shall make no excuse for examining the khotee system at considerable length.

20. Mr. Pelly has stated, in his Revenue Report for 1819-20, that "the origin of the khotes is not easy to be traced, but it is believed they were introduced along with a grain rental no longer time back than about the time of Nizam Shaw. The principal benefit arising from their institution is the facility with which, through them, the revenues are collected; for the more respectable of them are capitalists, who lay out money in bringing new land into cultivation, and may be considered as a description of yeomanry. They may be separated into two classes, the wuttundar khotes (as they term themselves) and the sircarree. The latter are liable to be at any time displaced by Government. The wuttundar khotes, on the contrary, maintain that they possess an hereditary indefeasible right, and that they cannot be dispossessed; and there is this strong point in their favor, that under the late Government they frequently pawned, and sometimes sold, their offices. The older inhabitants, however, of the Northern Konkan ridicule the combination of wuttundars and khotes as terms irreconcilable, maintaining that as khotee means only 'nukta,' farm or contract, to designate a man an hereditary contractor is an absurdity."

Vide paras. 13 to 16, at pages 12 and 13 of Compilation.

21. Mr. Chaplin, from information obtained at Poona, was of opinion that the "khote is the farmer of the revenue, and is alone answerable to Government for the rent, and the reiyuts to him. He farms the lands at the Government assessment, and lets them out to the best advantage to the reiyuts. In letting the lands he is not guided by the rent fixed by Government for each reiyut's land, but gets as much more as he can; nor has the reiyut any right to it, except on the terms which he can agree upon with the khote; the only limit to the khote's demand being the fear that the land may be thrown up without his being able to find another tenant for it. If the khote demands more than the reiyut can pay, the latter quits the village in search of a more liberal landlord. If the reiyut refuses to pay an equitable rent, the khote ejects him, and lets the land to a better tenant. Custom, however, appears to have fixed one-half the produce as the limit of rent, when the khote and the reiyut cannot agree on any other settlement. The khote exhibits uniformly every year in his accounts the Sircar's total jumma bundee, whatever he may have levied from the reiyuts, so that Government does not know what they actually pay, nor whether the khote may gain or lose by his farm. The khotes are believed to have arisen during the government of the Beejapoor kings, and their sunnuds of appointment are said sometimes to specify that the person is constituted khote of the village to restore it to prosperity. This circumstance, added to the meaning of the word, renders it extremely probable that the origin of the system was a kowl or istawa lease, granted to individuals of property, to restore the prosperity and cultivation of ruined villages; but however this may be, it has grown into a regular established and acknowledged right of farm. The direct consequence of the khotwar system would seem to be to keep

Vide para. 6 of his letter, at page 46 of Compilation.

Para. 9, page 49 of Compilation.

Para. 10, page 50 of Compilation.

Para. 15, page 57 of Compilation.

Para. 16, page 58 of Compilation.

Para. 18, at page 61 of Compilation.

the reiyut in the lowest stage of poverty. He appears to be nearly in a state of villenage under the khote, and has scarcely any interest in the soil, since he neither gains by its improvement nor loses by its deterioration. The khote has little further interest in the reiyut than he has in the cattle or implements of his husbandry."

22. These opinions as to the absolute proprietary rights of the khotes over the disposal of the land were given in 1820 and 1821, shortly after we obtained possession of the country; but further acquaintance with the revenue system showed them to require considerable modification.

Para. 9 of his letter, at page 73 of Compilation.

Para. 10, page 73 of Compilation.

Para. 11, page 74 of Compilation.

Para. 14, page 75 of Compilation.

Para. 15, page 76 of Compilation.

Para. 18, page 77 of Compilation.

Para. 21, page 80 of Compilation.

Para. 22, page 81 of Compilation.

23. Mr. Collector Dunlop, writing in 1822, stated that "some of the khotes are described as wuttundars, and others as having acquired the khoteship by mortgage of various kinds. The first, or wuttundars, are purely farmers, and are found principally in the villages along the ghauts. They are said to have had their rise from the distracted state of the province, the revenue of which was divided between the Waree, Kolapoor, and Angria's governments. These disturbances caused many villages to be entirely deserted, which were, therefore, farmed to any person who would engage for their revenue. These persons now claim, on the ground of length of possession, to be wuttundars. The cultivators appear to be generally becoming entirely dependent on the khotes, except those employed in the pagodas and religious services." Previously to these disturbances, the whole province seems unquestionably to have been koolargee. The other description of khotes distinguished as not being wuttundars, have generally acquired possession either by a single mortgage—the village to be released on payment of the debt—the produce "being accounted against interest, or by mortgage for a term of years. Villages thus mortgaged have generally been koolargee at the time, and the mortgagees collect at the rate of half-produce from the cultivators who have pawned their rights as khutelees; but it is understood that there are many cases in which all the khutelees have not signed the mortgage bond, and these persons appear to have a good claim for restitution. I have also met with khotes holding under mhal or soobah sunnuds, which not being held to confer a proprietary right under the Peishwa's Government, should not be admitted under ours. The unfortunate reiyuts are asserted to be quite dependent on the khotes, which is at least true, according to the present practice; but some representations were at different times made to Poona, when the Peishwa's Government interfered, and settled the rates. It unfortunately happens that most of the hereditary district officers, deshmoookhs and deshpandeys, are also khotes, so that it is difficult to obtain information; but the practice of the former Government seems sufficient to authorize ours in establishing rules to restrain the exaction of the khotes."

24. The cultivators or reiyuts in khotee villages (with the rare exception of such former dharakurrees as had parted with their rights under specified conditions, to which the khote was bound to adhere, such as to pay $1\frac{1}{2}$, 2, or $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the Government assessment on their lands as rent to him,) were supposed by all the above-mentioned officers to be mere tenants-at-will of the khote, under the name of urdhelees, who paid half the produce as rent; or khundkerrees, who paid any amount agreed upon to the khote, generally in kind.

Para. 2, page 153 of Compilation.

25. The same view of the respective position of the khote and reiyut was adopted by this Government in 1825, as appears from the following remarks in the Government reply, No. 33, dated the 10th January of that year, to Mr. Dunlop's Revenue Report for 1823-24:—"There appears to be no reason to doubt that the khotes were originally farmers (as the name still implies in common language), but it is equally plain that many, if not all of them, have long been considered as enjoying a hereditary claim to these farms. Whatever may have, therefore, been the origin of their title, they appear now to have acquired a right with which it would neither be just nor politic to interfere.

Para. 3, page 154 of Compilation.

"The Governor in Council is therefore of opinion that any improvements should be confined to ascertaining and securing the rights of the other classes, without setting aside

the claims of the khotes. If it can be ascertained beyond a doubt that a certain portion of the gross produce was—during some good period of the former Government, as in the time of Nana Furnuvees—the acknowledged rent due by a dharakurree to his khote, it might be rendered obligatory on the latter to prove his title to any further payment before he was allowed to levy it. The urdhelees do not appear to possess even a usufructuary right to the soil which they cultivate, but to change from place to place as they are invited by favorable terms. With them it seems unnecessary to interfere by any rule on the part of Government. The competition among the khotes themselves will always secure them the requisite remuneration for their labour.”

Para. 6, page 158 of Compilation.

Para. 7, page 159 of Compilation.

26. In addition to the right of levying what rents he pleased, the khote was understood to have the right, and to be in the habit, of exacting one day's service in eight from all his tenants, or at least all who were not dharakurrees, or could not establish a right to exemption.

27. Such were the prevailing views on the subject of the relative position of the khote and his reiyut entertained by the revenue authorities of the Presidency, when a Revenue Survey of the Rutnagiri talooka was undertaken and placed under the superintendence of the late Lieutenant Dowell. The researches of this officer throw great additional light on the subject; but the record of them, completed twenty years ago, has lain in a great measure neglected on the shelves of the Rutnagiri office ever since; and I am not aware that they have been to any extent instrumental in changing the views of the khotee system propounded above, although the experienced evils of this plan of revenue management have brought about a general impression of the desirableness of some reform.

Lieut. Dowell's Report is not among the documents quoted by Mr. Spooner. For a description of the Khotee system, in his Report dated 12th June 1837, vide page 460 of Compilation. Consult 4th para. of Mr. Collector Glass' Report, at page 444 of Compilation.

Vide paras. 24 to 26 pages 276-282 of Compilation.

28. Lieutenant Dowell, in his report of 1st November 1829, gives the following description of the khotee system as it then existed in the Rutnagiri talooka, which I shall extract at length, as the most perfect account of the tenure I have seen:—“The khotee tenure is equally permanent with the koolargee, and possesses additional privilege. It is supposed to be of more modern origin (some villages have indeed become khotee within the last eighty years), and that the khotes were the farmers of the village revenue, who were suffered to remain till the tenure became hereditary, and that the present cultivators under the khotes are the families of the former dharakurrees, and of older standing in the villages than the khotes. They are usually called the kurdés, or tenants of the khotes, but are known among themselves as the wuttundars of the khotee villages. They consist of all castes, the koonbees being the most numerous, and they form the chief population of the talooka; each family, or each cluster of houses bearing the same family name, cultivate a portion of the wurkus land within fixed boundaries, and manage the crops and fallows without reference to the khote, who examines, however, at seed time the state of the cultivation, and goes round at harvest to collect his dues. The khotes usually divide the rice-land among their own family, each member of which holds also a piece of wurkus land like the other cultivators.

“The rights of the kurdés, as they are merely customers, are not the same in all villages; the commonest of these are the following:—A kurdé who pays his revenue cannot be ejected by the khote, nor can the khote or any other kurdé cultivate within his bounds, except by his permission, as long as he cultivates himself the accustomed portion; if a khote wishes to eject any troublesome kurdé, his only means is to assess his fields above what they can pay, which has been known to occur; the kurdé, however, might still remain in his own garden, and cultivate the surplus khotee lands of the village, but if he were to settle in another village, he would not acquire wuttun there, nor would he lose that which he had vacated in his own. If the family of a kurdé fall sick or diminish, so that part of his lands be waste, the khote may place a stranger temporarily to cultivate his land, or may divide the waste part between the adjacent kurdés, but when the family becomes able to till their lands, they may eject the new tenants, or if they return to the village after many years' absence, they may eject them; if they never return, it

becomes *gyallee* land, and belongs to the khote. The jack-trees that gradually arise in the garden or field of a kurdé belong to the khote, who assesses all new trees from the year of their first bearing fruit, from half an anna to four annas each, according to their produce, those of Brahmins being assessed most lightly; and each new reiyut that settles in the village is assessed by the khote for ghurputtee and gaom khurch. These customs concern only that part of a khotee village which is permanently divided among the inhabitants, and which usually consists of about three-fourths of the village. The remaining fourth is called gaweek land, and its annual cultivation is managed by the khote: it is generally the worst part of the wurkus land; a part of it is cultivated by as many of the villagers (of all castes) as are able, for which they ask the khote's leave, but he depends chiefly on strangers who come annually to rent pieces of gaweek waste, and who are called badeekurees and doolundees, and are allowed by the khotes some small abatement in their grain payments, to encourage them to cultivate. Some of these are wuttundar kurdés of neighbouring villages, and some possess no land elsewhere. The khote has no claim on them for the monthly days of labour which he exacts from the working castes of his kurdés at reduced wages. The cultivators of gaweek land resemble the oopurees in the Deccan, the khotes standing in the place of Government.

“The cultivators under the khote, both kurdés and badeekurees, are called urdhelees and teerdhelees; the share of gross produce to be paid by them is fixed annually in every field by agreement between the khote and cultivator, who go round together a few days before harvest and settle it, by estimating the quantity of grain each field appears to contain, both parties endeavouring to better their own bargain in every field. A third part of the gross produce is the share assumed as their due by the khotes in middling wurkus land, from which variations are made according to the soil, the labour required, &c. In the worst hill-land about a fourth is taken, in good level wurkus more than a third; the uen grain, however, to be paid by each field is fixed in maunds and pallees, the share to be taken being merely understood, otherwise the khote might be subjected to a measurement in over-assessed fields. In rice-land half is taken, and still more in the best rice soils, and the batty is measured, not estimated. The fees due to the mhar and gooroo are paid by the cultivators, which increases the real payments for middling wurkus to about half the produce. The kurdé, too, pays for the annual sacrifices each field requires, but they are of little cost.

“In fields where the khote and his kurdé cannot agree as to the produce, they appoint a tirayut of the chief wuttundars; and as all the villagers are present with the khote at his survey, the payment is settled at once: this occurs frequently. The only check the kurdés have against false entries by the khotes, is their own recollection of the agreement made in each field. In cases of poverty or loss, the khote remits a little of the revenue, but not to a greater extent than four or five maunds in the whole village. In bad seasons the loss falls on the khote, as the kurdés pay only for the grain that thrives; and when the Sircar grants a remission for a bad season, the khote is consequently the only gainer. The contract of the kurdé is sometimes for the field itself, without reference to the crop; this is usual for the grain cultivated in the small gardens of the wuttundars, the payment being permanent in money. The Mahomedans from the coast rent small fields in this way to cultivate hemp for their nets, and the Brahmin kurdés, who till rice and level wurkus land, sometimes agree for the quantity of grain to be paid before ploughing. This last they call the settlement by khund, the money payment mukta, and the usual harvest inspection thul. To this annual survey of zerayut and bagayut may partly be attributed the low state of cultivation in khotee villages, since the kurdés have little motive to make improvements which would be annually taxed. These are a few of the customs concerning the land, and there are others which vary in different villages; each village has indeed peculiar customs on many points, which descend into trifling matters, and are observed by the villagers, who are unwilling to depart from the custom of their village.”

29. These opinions on the respective rights of the khotes and their tenants were formed by Lieutenant Dowell, after a minute investigation of the tenures and customs obtaining in each village during the progress of the survey, the results of which he has left recorded in several large manuscript volumes, all written with his own hand. Two of these I have examined, and the following extracts from them are given, as bearing on the question at issue, and as examples of the information they contain:—

30. “In the khotee village of Oombree a kowl given in the time of Madoo Rao Peishwa, 1794 A. D., to a Brahmin, who made $1\frac{1}{2}$ beega of rice-land from wurkus, by Mypur Rao Krishn Mamlutdar, by which the Brahmin had the field for twenty-one years free, four years istowa, and subsequently one quarter enam, which is held to this day. Below the enam puttr is a proclamation that any one who will form rice-land out of jungul gurk shall have one quarter enam and — years free.” This instance of a Government officer granting land in a khotee village is against the hypothesis of the khote being absolute proprietor of the soil.

31. “A piece of land was sold to a person for 26 rupees a beega, and a meras and enam puttr given to him by the khotes and zumindars of three villages in which it was situated. In the enam puttr it says that he, the enamdar, having called together the khotes and zumindars of the three villages, and they having found a piece of land (bewarusa) without an owner, gave it of their own consent to him as meras, with a meras puttr; so that he became owner and enamdar at once. This was in Madoo Rao Peishwa’s time.” This case is in favor of the right of the khotes to sell, with the sanction of the hereditary zumindars, gaweek land, or that without owners; but with equal force might be used to show that they have no such right over the land of the kurdés, or permanent residents.

32. The following is an instance of badekurrees acquiring a permanent tenant-right in a village where they do not reside:—“The same cultivators call themselves wuttundars (hereditary landowners or occupiers) of Patrut and Kolwun (two villages, the latter without permanent residents). They have the whole of Patrut in wuttun, which is their first wuttun. They have also the whole of Kolwun in wuttun, but this they say the khote divided among them formerly, and so made it their wuttun, and they still have each their own field in Kolwun; and the neighbouring cultivators ask them, and not the khote, about tilling the land. There is no khotekée gaweek land in either village, except the Wussar Gurhwanee (deserted village site).” This is a very instructive example of the mode in which a khote may assign away his gaweek land to tenants in hereditary occupancy or wuttun, most probably with the view of inducing them to bring the waste into cultivation.

33. As an example of the difficulties of obtaining correct information as to the various tenures, I would cite the following:—“In Pawus Muhal, on arriving, the khotes, and coonbees, and mhars, who came to the tent, agree in stating that the wuttundar coonbees, who are the khotes’ kurdés, have no separate tikans (holdings) appropriated to each, and recognized and held in perpetuity by the coonbees under the khote, and not cultivated by strangers, except with the coonbees’ consent. This information is, I find, in Warree Nimboo, and in Waghrat, untrue; having found, by inquiries made of single coonbees in the fields in those two villages, that the coonbees have all wuttun land in perpetuity, and every village in the muhal has therefore probably the same,—as they have in Hautkambé and Kelé (two muhals or circles of villages). The khote and reiyuts of Chandwur stood a long examination without confessing this, having been previously instructed, probably.”

34. Numerous similar examples might be cited from Lieutenant Dowell’s notes, and all tending to prove the correctness of the opinion held by that officer, that, with the exception of the gaweek or gyallee land, which bears a small proportion to the whole, the land in khotee villages is divided among and held in perpetuity by the kurdés, or permanent tenants, whom the khote has no right to dispossess; and from whom he can

exact no more than the recognized share of the produce, and some additional cesses, according to the usage of the village. I am myself quite satisfied of the correctness of this view of the position of the khote and his permanent reiyuts, and, indeed, found that all the khotes whom I had opportunities of conversing with privately, during my short visit last season to the Koukun, indirectly admitted that they could not appropriate the land of a kurdé or permanent tenant, and give it to another party, without the consent of the former.

35. The data collected by Lieutenant Dowell refer only to the Rutnagiri talooka, but I was given to understand that the rights of the khotes are much the same in all parts of the Collectorate. They appear to me to fall very far short of an absolute proprietorship of the soil; and though the khotes hold among the members of their families much of the best land in khotee villages, they do so not in virtue of their being khotes, but of their being permanent cultivators. The rights of the khotes appear to me to be nothing more than might be anticipated to have grown out of their original position as farmers of the Government revenue. They were frequently, probably almost universally, at first, persons of some wealth and influence; and in the then disturbed and distracted state of the country the reiyuts were probably glad to have the khotes to stand between them and the revenue officers, and for this protection to put up with a good deal of oppression and injustice at their hands.

36. In the course of time, by fair means and foul, the members of the khotes' families became possessed of much of the best land, and the old proprietors were mostly obliged to content themselves with the inferior "wurkus," over which, however, their ancient rights have to a greater or less extent been continued to this date. In fact, so strong is the feeling of hereditary right, that, even in the case of a village peopled entirely by the efforts of the khote, the lapse of two or three generations would probably suffice to constitute a tenant-right in perpetuity in the opinion of the people; and any attempt on the part of the khote to oust a reiyut from a field which had descended to him under such circumstances, however acquired in the first instance, would be viewed as an act of glaring injustice and oppression. Any exercise by the khotes of absolute proprietary right over the lands of the permanent tenants, must, in my opinion, have originated in usurpation; for even the dharakurrees, who are said to have voluntarily become urdhelees, to escape the oppression of the Government officers, must have taken that step in order to retain possession of their lands, or some portion of them; and I do not think that any one familiar with the strong feeling of attachment entertained by the cultivators of this country for their paternal fields, would imagine that any circumstances of exaction would induce them to relinquish entirely a previously acknowledged hereditary right of occupancy. The dharakurree, without doubt, assigned away, in some instances, his rights as a superior holder to the khote; but, I think, for the purpose of preserving his still more cherished right of hereditary occupancy.

37. I am, therefore, inclined to think that the exercise of a power of dispossession towards the permanent tenants on the part of the khote, may fairly be viewed as based on usurpation, whereas the rights of the permanent tenants seem free from any such taint, and to have either been inherited from time immemorial, or to have naturally grown out of their position. The claims of the permanent tenants appear therefore to me to have, *prima facie*, a presumption of validity that does not attach to the counter-claims of the khotes.

38. The information contained in the compilation now forwarded on the relative positions and rights of the khotes and their tenants, appears to be sufficiently full for the purpose of enabling Government to decide as to the propriety of interfering for the purpose of adjusting or altering these; and I am of opinion that there is no necessity whatever for prosecuting further inquiries with this object, it being at the same time most unlikely that they would bring to light any important information that we do not already possess.

39. The tendency of our revenue administration has been all in favour of the khotes. At first we imagined them to be proprietors of their villages, and that all their cultivators were merely tenants-at-will; and in consequence of this view the revenue officers usually declined to interfere for the adjustment of disputes between the khote and his reiyut, by which the khote gradually acquired increased power. More recently, when the real position of the two began to be better understood, the system of non-interference had become too firmly established to be altered without careful consideration; and no decision, as far as I am aware, on this point has yet been arrived at, so that the khotes still retain most of the privileges allowed to them in the earlier years of our administration.

40. Before determining the future position of the khotes, there are two preliminary points for consideration:—1st, The competency of Government to interfere between the khotes and their reiyuts. 2nd, Supposing this competence to be admitted, the desirableness of such interference.

41. The first question may be readily disposed of, as it appears now to be generally admitted, both by philosophers and practical statesmen, that private property, with its rights and privileges, has no other basis for its existence than the general welfare of the community; and, consequently, that these rights and privileges may be modified for the promotion of the latter, in common with all other social institutions. All modern legislation proceeds upon this principle, whether acknowledged or not; and hardly a law can be passed which does not modify to a greater or less extent the pre-existing relations of the property affected by it. And in the case in point the privileges of the khote are neither of so long standing nor of such unquestioned authority as to require the observance of unusual scruple in dealing with them. The competence of Government in its legislative, if not in its administrative, capacity to regulate the relations of the khote and his reiyuts may therefore be conceded.

42. The second point demands further consideration, for although the miserable condition of the Konkun cultivator in khote villages be notorious, this may not be wholly, or even chiefly, owing to the nature of his relations with the khote. My own opinion is that it is so only in part. The Rutnagiri Collectorate is naturally poor. With the exception of a few inconsiderable strips of fertile land along the banks of its rivers, the soil is miserably sterile, and quite incapable, under any circumstances, of supporting a thriving agricultural population. The country, too, is over-peopled, and the wretched poverty of the peasants is in great part attributable to this cause. It is strange to find an overflowing population on this side of India, and the fact is, I think, to be attributed to the salubrity of the climate, and to the almost universal practice of inoculating children for the small-pox, by which the mortality from this disease, so great in most parts of India, is reduced within very narrow limits.

43. Considerable quantities of grain are imported from the interior, and also coast-wise; and I believe the agricultural products of the Collectorate do not suffice for the support of the population. The Collectorate has no manufactures of importance: and under these circumstances, it is not strange that the inhabitants, especially of the inland villages, have a hard struggle for subsistence. Women, and even children, share in the most toilsome field-work equally with the men; and the united labours of all often fail of supplying them with adequate food. The cultivators in villages which have not the resources of the sea at command, have almost universally a half-starved look, and many of them, I was informed, do not obtain a full meal for months together. The land cultivated by these people is so much subdivided, owing to their superabundant numbers, that it does not nearly suffice to afford them a maintenance. They eke out a subsistence by labouring for others, and cutting firewood, or they leave their villages altogether for a portion of the year in search of work. I feel satisfied that if the cultivators of this class were to have their present lands given to them wholly rent-free, they would not thereby be placed in easy circumstances, for the whole produce of the land would still prove

insufficient for their support ; and I think it possible that their numbers might in such an event so increase as to leave them at the close of a generation or two no better off than before. They are hard-working and industrious ; but the most resolute industry might fail of extracting an adequate subsistence from the sterile soil they have alone to work upon.

44. It seems to require explanation how, with a soil inadequate to raise food for the support of the population, and without manufactures of importance to exchange for the food and other articles imported, the Collectorate not only finds the means of obtaining these, but of yielding, besides, a large revenue to Government. This is accounted for by nearly the whole revenue collected being again returned to the Collectorate in payments to the public establishments, troops, and pensioners ; by the large number of Konkunees in our army, who remit a portion of their pay to their homes ; the numerous Konkunee Brahmins in public and private service throughout the country, whose home remittances must also be considerable ; but the largest influx of money is perhaps owing to the poorer cultivators and labourers, who flock annually to Bombay in great numbers, as well as to all the surrounding regions where work is to be obtained, and return home again at the commencement of the cultivating season, with whatever they may have earned. By such means the deficit in the productive resources of the country is made up, and a subsistence is afforded to the existing population, as well as a revenue to Government, beyond what the Collectorate from its own resources could possibly furnish.

45. It may be remarked here, that the practice which has grown up of late years of recruiting our regiments more from Hindustan than from the Konkun, has operated greatly to the disadvantage of the latter territory. The villagers frequently mentioned to me with regret that the recruiting parties now seldom visit them, and that many of their finest young men had been vainly looking for years past for opportunities of enlistment. Hereafter, when this change begins to diminish the present numbers on the pension-list, its influence will be still more disadvantageous to the industry, and also to the revenue, of the Collectorate. In a financial point of view, there can be no question as to the advantage of recruiting the army of this Presidency from its own territory ; and when, in addition to this, we have to consider the grave dangers to discipline that might result from a preponderance of Hindustanees in the Bombay, as well as in the Bengal army, it may appear worthy the attention of Government to consider whether it would not be desirable to institute inquiries into the present system of recruiting, with a view to ascertain all the facts connected with it, and to frame whatever regulations may appear desirable for limiting the number of recruits to be obtained from Districts beyond the limits of this Presidency.

46. Much of the poverty of the cultivating classes may thus be traced to causes independent of the relations between the superior and inferior landholders ; but it can hardly be doubted that these also exercise in many respects a hurtful influence on the community. Owing to the undefined privileges of the khotes, and their disputed claims of absolute property in the soil, neither they nor their reiyuts have the advantage of a secure and fully recognized tenure ; and there is, consequently, little inducement to invest capital in improvements. This circumstance alone would suffice to account for the backward state of the khotee villages compared with the koolargee.

47. The khotee seems to be one of the worst of landlords, claiming a more absolute power over the soil than is allowed to him by the cultivators : his endeavour is to prevent the latter acquiring any additional rights, and to reduce them to the position of tenants-at-will. He is frequently so deeply involved in debt, and his wuttun so sub-divided amongst numerous sharers, that were his inclination ever so good, he could yet do nothing for the advantage of his village. He is supposed to collect as rent from the cultivators, who are styled urdhelees, teerdhelees, and chowthelees, one-half, one-third, and one-fourth of the produce, respectively ; but in reality he may, and often does, collect much more, from the circumstance of there being no sufficient check upon his

estimate of the crop, upon which his share is settled. The khote is supposed to make the tour of all the fields in the village, and settle with each cultivator the quantity of the crop on which his share is to be struck; but he often settles this without visiting the field at all, and in any case can compel the cultivator to accept of his estimate. Formerly, in case of a difference, it was usual to refer the dispute to arbitrators, but the khote has become so powerful that this expedient is of little avail.

Vide 26th para. of Lieutenant Dowell's Report, at page 282 of Compilation.

48. The demand on the cultivator is practically only limited by the pleasure of the khote, and, owing to this circumstance, it is vain, in my opinion, to anticipate that the former will participate in any benefit that would result from reducing the assessment or abolishing cesses in khotee villages; for the khote would have it in his power to appropriate to himself the whole relief afforded by such measures, by simply raising a little his estimate of the cultivator's crop on which his rent is settled, and there is nothing, so far as I am aware, to lead us to suppose that he would not adopt this course. At present he is generally supposed to collect all that his cultivators of the urdhelee and teerdhelee class can pay, and it is probable that he would continue to do so, whatever reductions may be made in the Government assessment. I therefore look upon every such reduction, in the present state of affairs, simply in the light of a boon to the khotes, and as of no effect at all in ameliorating the condition of the cultivators.

Vide 15th para. of Mr. Coles's letter, at page 527 of Compilation.

49. In khotee villages the practice of *atveth*, or of exacting gratuitous service from the urdhelee cultivators by the khotes, has now become a great grievance, and should, in my opinion, be abolished. Not only the khotes themselves, but the members of their families, are in the habit of requiring this service; and in addition to working in the khotee fields, they make the urdhelees attend upon them during their visits to other villages, and carry their palanquins and baggage. For this service, they give the urdhelees a scanty allowance of food while it lasts; but no remuneration besides. In former times, when land, compared with the numbers of the population, was abundant, and yielded a sufficient and easily obtained subsistence to all, the cultivators had plenty of spare time on their hands, and it did not materially interfere with their maintenance for the khote to require them to work for him at stated times. The case, however, is widely different now, when the urdhelee's lands often do not afford him a maintenance for more than a few months in the year, and he is dependent on his own labour for his subsistence during the remainder. The obligation of serving the khote requires him to stay at home when he might find labour abroad, and interferes in many ways with his procuring a subsistence. The *atveth* is of little value to the khote, and probably is hardly worth the food he supplies to the urdhelees when serving him.

Vide accompaniment to Mr. Collector Glass' Report, dated 5th May 1837, at pages 453—458 of Compilation, for the particulars of the service exacted by the khotes, and also para. 6 of Mr. Coles's letter dated 6th October 1849, at page 504.

Vide 3rd para. of Mr. Collector Elphinstone's letter, dated 27th March 1845, at page 469 of Compilation.

50. The magnitude of the evils enumerated in the last paragraph seems to establish the second of the preliminary propositions stated in my 40th paragraph, viz. the desirableness of interference between the khotes and their *reiyuts*. The nature and extent of this interference remain to be considered.

51. One obviously desirable reform is the abolition of the *atveth*. The total abolition of this custom would not in any way be detrimental to the real interests of the khote, though it would probably curtail a little the parade with which he now travels, and induce him to substitute a pony, or perhaps his own legs, for the shoulders of his fellow villagers, as a means of conveyance. The continuance of the *atveth* is quite incompatible with much improvement in the condition of the cultivator, and as this compulsory service offers no countervailing advantages to any parties to compensate for the evils attendant on it, the time would appear to have come for putting an end to it. The khotes would lose little, in my opinion, by its abolition, and would hardly be entitled to compensation. In event of a survey, or any general revision of assessment, the abolition of the *atveth* might then conveniently be carried out; but even if no such revision take place, it should, I think, be done away with.

52. The abolition of *atveth*, however, would be far short of what is required to place the relation of the khote and the cultivators on a sound basis. The latter cannot, as far as

I can see, ever rise from their present position of poverty and degradation, while they continue completely dependent on the khote, as at present. We must, it appears to me, either determine to afford them adequate security against oppression on his part, and opportunities for bettering their own condition, or consent to confirm the khote in the absolute lordship of the soil, and of unlimited power over his dependent and starving peasantry. I can see no middle course that offers the smallest prospect of success. We should, I think, recognize the tenant-rights of the khote's cultivators, excepting, perhaps, in the case of gaweek land, and take measures for preserving these rights from encroachment on his part for the future. The peasantry are quite unequal to the task of upholding their own rights in opposition to the khote, and their condition will probably become still more wretched than at present, unless means be devised for preserving their status, independent of their own exertions.

53. In support of this view of the question, it may not be out of place to quote the opinion of Mr. Stewart Mill, who is generally admitted to be one of the ablest of living economists. When discussing the subject of peasant farmers, he says: "Rent paid by a capitalist, who farms for profit and not for bread, may safely be abandoned to competition; rent paid by labourers cannot. Peasant rents ought never to be arbitrary, never at the discretion of the landlord: either by custom or by law, it is imperatively necessary that they should be fixed; and when no mutually advantageous custom, such as the metayer system (of Tuscany), has established itself, reason and experience recommend that they should be fixed in perpetuity—thus changing the rent into a quit-rent, and the farmer into a peasant proprietor."

Vide vol. i.
of his Political
Economy, page
388, edition of
1848.

54. The teerdhelee and urdhelee reiyuts of the khotee villages are nearly all labourers farming for bread, not for profit: custom has established in their case, as in that of the metayers of Europe, a determinate proportion of the produce as rent; but I have endeavoured to show that this custom has become weakened in the course of our administration, and is likely to be eventually set aside altogether by the khotes, if matters be allowed to take their course. The intervention of Government seems absolutely requisite, therefore, to prevent the khotee reiyuts from sinking into the condition of mere tenants-at-will, obliged, by the difficulty of obtaining a subsistence, to accept whatever terms their landlord may offer, and burdened, besides, with the oppressive servitude of the atveth. Under such circumstances they would, probably, become debased and apathetic in character, and lose the industrious hard-working habits that now distinguish them. On the other hand, by taking measures for securing them against oppression on the part of the khote, and for giving them a real title to the soil they cultivate, they would be animated to fresh exertions, and we might expect to see, in the course of time, the khotee villages become as prosperous as those managed under the koolargee system.

55. With my limited acquaintance with the Konkun, and the details of its revenue management, it would be presumptuous in me to propose, with any confidence, the most suitable mode of attaining these objects. The suggestions I have to offer will necessarily be limited to the mere outline of a plan of settlement. They are submitted with much hesitation; and, if thought worthy of trial, would probably require considerable modification. The details of the changes proposed must unavoidably be left for settlement when adequate local experience shall have been obtained for the purpose.

56. The object of placing the reiyuts of the khotee villages in a position of adequate independence might, I think, be attained in two ways: 1st, By abolishing the office of khote, and by means of a survey apportioning the present assessment, or any other in lieu of it, upon the holdings of the permanent cultivators, and the occupants of gaweek land, with reference to their respective values; or by some other mode of distribution having reference to the past payments of these parties as chowthelees, teerdhelees, urdhelees, &c. as might on further local inquiry appear to be best.

57. By this arrangement, the khotes and the members of their families would not be dispossessed of any land they retain at present,—and they generally hold the best in their

villages,—but merely of the share of the grain-rents received by them from the reiyuts over and above what is paid by them to Government. This share, which constitutes the profit of the khote, is believed to be generally very small ; but it would be requisite, taking into account the lengthened periods for which the khotee tenure has existed, to afford the khotes an equitable compensation for the loss of it. The khotee villages would thus become koolargee, and one system of revenue management would suffice for the whole Collectorate. The measure, however, would be an extreme one, and, involving the total abolition of all the rights and privileges of the khotes, would seem to require for its justification that these last do not admit of being modified or reformed so as to be compatible with the welfare of the villages where they obtain.

2nd, By defining the relations between the khote and his permanent tenants, so as to place a limit on the future demands of the former, and thus convert the latter into peasant proprietors holding under a fixed or quit rent.

58. The latter alternative would be difficult to carry out satisfactorily, by means of a commutation of the claims of the khote at their existing value, owing to the small probability of obtaining correct information respecting the existing usages as to payments by the tenants to the khotes. The recognised shares of one-half, one-third, and one-fourth, paid by the urdhelees, teerdhelees, and chowthelees, are seldom those really collected, and, in addition, the teerdhelees and chowthelees are subject to the payment of various cesses, differing in name and value, according to the usage of the villages where they obtain. Lieutenant Dowell, twenty years ago, found it impossible to obtain true statements of these particulars, owing to the influence of the khotes, and there is far less probability of obtaining them now.

59. In the North West Provinces, where the revenue system and tenures bear a strong resemblance to those of the khotee villages of the Rutnagiri Collectorate, such a specification of village tenures, rights, and usages, is drawn out at the time of survey by the aid of the villagers themselves ; but there is little, if any, security for its accuracy, and none of the parties interested are bound to abide by its provisions. It is intended to be a record of existing rights and usages, but having no authority it can neither modify nor improve, and offers little security for even preserving these. A similar settlement might be made in the Koukūn, but it would, I am persuaded, fail of securing or establishing adequate tenant-rights in the khotee villages.

60. This desirable end might possibly be accomplished without the aid of a survey and valuation of the land, by making it obligatory on the khote to grant receipts for all payments made to him by his reiyuts, as now done by the koolkurnees in koolargee villages, and to enter in his tenants' receipt-books the tenure by which they hold the land, and the estimate of the crop on which the khote's share is struck. This rule would have to be supported by some summary process for estimating the quantity of the tenant's crop, in event of his dissenting from the valuation of it made by the khote. This provision, indeed, would be indispensable for the security of the reiyut under any arrangement, by which his rent may continue to be paid, as at present, by a proportion of the crop. Possibly a punchayat of five or three members, of whom one should be the Police Patel of the village, or a Government Carkoon, and the remainder chosen equally by the khote and his tenant, might be found to answer the purpose ; though I fear much that this, and indeed any other expedients for settling disputes between the khote and his tenant, would be found to work but indifferently at the outset of the experiment. It is probable, I think, that, for the convenience of both the khote and his tenant, the rent of the former would be continued at the same amount from year to year, so as to become in effect a quit-rent. It would be further desirable to confer on the tenant the right of converting this grain-rent into a fixed money-rent after the lapse of some specified period, at the average price of the grain paid by him to the khote during a certain number of preceding years.

61. Should the preceding plan be found inapplicable, a record might be framed of all the lands in each village held on the various tenures obtaining in it, and a share of the produce, as one-half, one-third, and one-fourth, &c. fixed for each tenure, as the maximum rent demandable by the khote from the permanent tenants; allowing him, however, to take what rents he may please within this limit, and also to arrange for the cultivation of the gawek land in any way he may think best, excepting that no rent in excess of one-half of the gross produce be in any case levied. This plan could only be carried into effect by means of a survey, more or less rough, for the purpose of ascertaining and recording the area and position of the land held on the several tenures with maximum rents, as above explained. In this case, as in the former, the tenants should have the right of converting their grain-rents into fixed money-payments. The mode of settlement here suggested, by placing a limit to the demands of the khote, might have the effect of diminishing his rents; and could hardly, therefore, be equitably carried out, without revising at the same time the assessment paid by him to Government.

62. These two are the only arrangements that occur to me as likely to be serviceable in raising the position of the khotee tenantry. The plan of settlement followed in the North West Provinces might be carried into effect in the khotee villages, but I fear that it would afford little relief to the peasantry, and might lead to their becoming even more dependent on the khote than at present. It, too, would involve a survey more or less minute, for the purpose of determining the assessment to be paid by the khote.

63. Unconnected with the peculiarities of the khotee tenure, however, there are other features of the existing state of things open to objection, and seeming to call for change or improvement. In both khotee and koolargee villages the assessment is generally complained of as being oppressively high, and I think must have the effect of preventing the improvement of the land to the extent of which it is capable. In the koolargee villages improvements are still taking place by the digging of wells, recovery of lands from the sea by means of embankments, &c., but to a limited extent; and in the khotee villages the outlay of capital on such works appears to be still less. Cocoanut plantations form the most valuable culture in the Collectorate, and might be largely extended. In answer to my inquiries as to the cause of these trees not being more extensively planted, the general reply was, that people were afraid to lay out capital in such plantations, from an apprehension that a future survey would be made, when such gardens would be subjected to the garden assessment, which is often injuriously high. I was assured that if Government would pledge itself to assess no new gardens for the next fifty years, they would be extensively made. It is possible, however, that such a measure might lead to the desertion of some of the most heavily assessed old gardens, and that it would be a desirable preliminary to revise the existing assessment of the whole garden lands.

For this particular of the Land Revenue, vide Mr. Collector Reid's Report of 6th December 1828, pages 213—232, and Appendix B. to Lieut. Dowell's Report, pages 361—374 of Compilation.

64. The present system of estimating the Government assessment in produce, of which a portion is converted into money at fixed rates, and another portion, when not received in kind, at rates fixed with reference to the prices of the season, to which are added various cesses, is cumbersome in the extreme, and gives rise to an immense deal of useless writing, and complication in the revenue accounts. These bulky compilations contain little information of real use, either to Government or to the reiyut. It would be a great improvement, and one presenting no unsurmountable practical difficulties in the way of its execution, to consolidate the present grain-rents and cesses into a fixed money-payment for each dhara (estate) and khotee village.

65. A grain-rent of fixed amount is also open to objection, on the score of pressing most heavily on the farmer in a year of scarcity, when his means are most crippled, for he has then to furnish the same amount of produce as in an abundant season, and the whole benefit of its enhanced price goes to the landlord. A grain-rent or assessment is thus highest in years of scarcity and lowest in years of abundance, which is a most unfavorable arrangement for the producer. A fixed money-rent, on the other hand, more nearly resembles a share of the net produce, for the grain for which it would

exchange will be greatest in a year of abundance when prices are low, and least in one of scarcity when prices are high, which is a greatly more favorable arrangement for the cultivator than a fixed grain-rent. The latter, however, has the great advantage of protecting the cultivator against an increase of assessment from a permanent fall in the prices of produce, to which he is always exposed when the assessment is fixed in money. This advantage, however, is only partially enjoyed by the Konkun cultivators, as part of the land-tax there, though nominally estimated in grain, is in reality a fixed money assessment; for it is converted into money at fixed rates, without reference to the market prices for the time being. Fixed grain and fixed money-rents have each their advantages and disadvantages: but in my opinion the fixed money assessment is much to be preferred, and its introduction into the Konkun would prove an important boon to the rent-payer, as well as be of great service in simplifying the Government accounts.

66. A serious obstacle to the progress and prosperity of the Collectorate is the obscurity resting on everything connected with landed property. The Government and village records contain no information whatever as to the boundaries of villages, estates, or minor sub-divisions, and there are no other records capable of supplying the deficiency. It becomes thus a matter of extreme difficulty to identify any particular piece of ground, and consequently to give a secure title of possession to the owner. Disputes concerning land are thus multiplied, and their adjustment rendered most difficult. They are carried in great numbers to the Civil Courts for adjudication, but the party obtaining a decree has, in nearly every case, to apply to the Court to place him in possession; and when this is attempted to be done, fresh litigants appear to bear further proceedings, on the plea that part of the land pointed out belongs to them. In this way half a dozen new suits may arise out of one original decree, and these may all be carried through the several Courts of Appeal, so that ten years may elapse before the party who obtained the original award can be placed in possession. A survey would remedy these evils in a great degree, but not altogether remove them, as the sub-divisions of landed property in the Konkun are frequently far too minute to admit of being made at a reasonable cost into separate survey fields or estates, bearing a distinct assessment. But, notwithstanding this, it would greatly facilitate the adjudication of any dispute concerning land, to know it to be situated within a certain survey sub-division, capable of easy identification by means of a village map, even although the latter might not exhibit the exact boundaries and dimensions of the land in question.

67. The want of any tolerable means of communication between different parts of the Collectorate is another great hindrance to progress. There are not even bullock-paths from many villages to the nearest market towns, and the whole of the produce sent there for sale is taken upon men's heads. Carts are unknown,—no attempt has been made to improve even the most frequented roads, or rather tracks, by which the chief traffic of the country has to be conveyed,—and in many parts the obstructions to transit are so great that their passage is positively dangerous to man and beast. Laden animals are jammed between rocks, obliged to slide down steep slopes of sheet rock, and to pick their way foot-sore among thickly strewn rolling stones. Nowhere have I seen a country more urgently in need of the improving hand of man to overcome the obstructions to communication interposed by nature, and yet no evidence of this is to be met with, saving the partial smoothing effected by the passage of men and animals for ages along the existing lines of communication; these remain to this day in a state of nature.

68. And yet a very trifling expenditure of skill and money would suffice to convert them all into very passable bullock-roads, and make some even available for wheeled carriages. The surface rock in most parts of the Southern Konkun is the laterite, which is so soft as to be easily removed without the aid of blasting, and forms itself, when properly smoothed, an excellent roadway. A few thousand rupees could not be more judiciously expended than in clearing the several ghauts and lines of road connecting them

with the chief ports of the Collectorate, by which a large traffic between the interior and the coast is now carried on. In addition to these, it would be of great advantage to clear at least three lines of road from one end of the Collectorate to the other, from north to south, viz. the present coast road, the central road, and that lying along the foot of the ghauts; by which a tolerable free means of communication would be established between the several districts of the Collectorate.

69. By these suggestions I do not mean to recommend the construction of regularly-formed roads, but merely the removal of obstructions from the present tracks, so as to convert them into serviceable roads for pack bullocks, and even carts, when no considerable difficulties intervene. The cost of doing this would be a mere trifle, while the improvement would be of incalculable advantage to the Collectorate.

70. In case of a survey being thought necessary, it may be well to consider of what kind it should be. The sub-divisions of land in the Konkun are so minute, and the country itself so rugged and difficult of access, that it would be a work of great time, cost, and labour, to survey separately the land of every proprietor. It would suffice, I think, in the case of rice and garden-land, and also in that of the more level portions of dry-crop land cultivated with the plough, to fix the limits and ascertain the area of the several dharas or estates in koolargee villages, and of the plots held on distinct tenures (urdhelee, teerdhelee, chowthelee, gaweek, &c.) in khotee villages. The limits of these estates and tenures on the steep hill sides, and other positions which only admit of hand-husbandry, might be left undetermined, as the difficulty of surveying them would be very great, and the land is so poor that the whole value of its fee simple would possibly not cover the cost of the operation. The boundaries of each village should, however, be surveyed with a view to the construction of a map of the whole area; and from this the total extent of hills and barren lands not surveyed in detail would be ascertained. Should a more minute survey at any future time appear desirable, it could be easily grafted on the operations required for the ascertainment of the above particulars, and no unnecessary expense would be incurred by so limiting the survey in the first instance.

71. The relative values of the plots into which the village would be sub-divided by this plan of survey could then be ascertained by means of a classification adapted to the peculiarities of the garden, rice, and dry-crop cultivations, so as to afford, with a record of the various tenures and other circumstances affecting the condition of the villages, sufficient materials for regulating the assessment when found to require amendment.

72. But in a densely-peopled district like the Konkun, where the land is generally considered to be private property, and has been extensively sold and transferred under various conditions, it would be well, I think, to make no change in this existing assessment that can be avoided. In villages where the present assessment is low, it is quite possible that population is denser and the land more sub-divided than in those where the assessment is high, so as to leave the individual holders no better off in the former than in the latter, and consequently equally unable to bear any increase of their present burdens. Land lowly assessed bears a higher price in the market, in consequence of its comparatively light assessment; and though periodical surveys and modifications of the assessment are features of the revenue management of the Konkun, it is to be borne in mind that the last survey took place so many years ago, as probably to have given to the landholders a feeling of trust in the continuance of the present assessment, or at least to have encouraged them to form their plans of life, as if no changes likely to increase their assessment would take place in their time. Government is, by the usage of the country, as well as on the general grounds of expediency, undoubtedly competent to revise and modify or alter the present assessment; but the circumstances of the Konkun are peculiarly those in which the utmost circumspection should be used before determining or altering a state of things which has subsisted in most parts for nearly a century. It might be found inexpedient to assess the land everywhere with reference to its value simply, as has been found practicable in the country above the ghauts, where the

population is thin, means of subsistence are abundant, and past assessments have been wholly wanting in the stability and endurance that have characterized those of the Konkun.

73. The present assessment of a large proportion of the Konkun villages is believed to be very burdensome, and it is probable that it would admit of being increased in very few instances indeed. A revision of assessment would most probably, therefore, occasion a considerable reduction of revenue, and this without any chance of the deficit being made good at some future time through an increase of cultivation ; for, as already explained in my 12th paragraph, the entire surface of the Collectorate is already under tillage. This, however, forms no valid reason against a revision, if found necessary for the welfare of the district, and this appears an object of sufficient importance to warrant the outlay necessary for its accomplishment ; but in order to arrive at a just conclusion as to the latter point, it seems very desirable to understand fully that no part of the expense of a survey would be repaid in the shape of an enhanced revenue, but that, on the contrary, the effect of such a measure would be a permanent reduction of the present land-tax.

74. I do not feel sanguine that the unpromising financial prospects of a survey would be compensated by any immediate or marked improvement which the measure might be expected to confer on the agricultural population. The chief causes of the poverty of the Konkun are its sterile soil and teeming population, and these a survey would fail in any degree to remedy. It might, however, be made the means of effecting many desirable reforms in connection with revenue management and landed tenures, as I have endeavoured to show, from which considerable good might eventually be anticipated ; but these reforms would be of comparatively slow operation, and their result would fall far short of the brilliant success that has followed the survey and revision of assessment of other parts of the country.

75. The question of undertaking a complete survey of the Collectorate would, perhaps, best be determined by means of an experimental survey and revision of assessment of detached villages. Several khottee villages are now under Government management, owing to the khotes having failed to discharge the assessment at which they are rated, and others may be expected every year to come into the same position. These might be surveyed and settled without difficulty, and the success or failure of the experiment in such instances would enable Government to decide as to the expediency of extending the survey to the khottee villages generally. Some of the koolargee villages, too, possessing facilities for an extension of garden cultivation, in which the present assessment is understood to be burdensome, and others also where it is supposed to be the reverse, might also be surveyed and re-assessed, in order to afford data for judging as to the feasibility of extending the survey to all the villages of this class.

76. A single officer of judgment and experience, with a small but efficient establishment of measurers, to which would have to be added a few classers when the operations are somewhat advanced, would suffice for the prosecution of this experiment, which might be brought to a close at the end of one or two seasons, by which time sufficient progress should be made to afford the means of judging of the result. This officer might have sole charge of the experiment, or be made subordinate to some one of the Superintendents of Survey ; and it would be very desirable, in my opinion, to leave the responsible Survey Officer uncontrolled in regard to all the details of the survey operations, and he should even be permitted to settle the assessment of a few villages, with the consent of the Collector, before being required to explain and record formally his plans and operations for the information and consideration of the Revenue Commissioner and Government. There can be no question that in an experiment of this kind it will not be possible to determine at the very outset the best modes of procedure. Several failures and fresh trials must be anticipated before success can be looked for ; and to hamper the judgment and proceedings of the settling officer, by requiring him to obtain the formal sanction

of Government to every step he may deem it desirable to take at this initiatory stage, would inevitably throw doubt and discredit upon the experiment, if it did not deprive it of all chance of success. Until the Superintendent can satisfy himself, by actual trial and successful execution, of the feasibility of any particular modes of survey and settlement, it would be obviously premature to require him to lay these before Government, or to bind himself to adhere to them. I feel satisfied that the best chance of success would be afforded by confining whatever instructions may be deemed requisite for his guidance at the outset to general principles, and to accord to him every possible latitude as regards details of execution.

77. In conclusion, I would crave the indulgent consideration of yourself and Government to the many defects of the present report, being fully sensible that I have not succeeded in mastering a difficult and complicated subject, though I have given my best attention to it ; and apprehending that many of the opinions and suggestions it contains, and which are submitted for consideration with much hesitation, may appear to be crude and unsatisfactory.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) G. WINGATE,

Supt. Revenue Survey and Assessment, S. M. C.

*Superintendent's Office, Camp Sunkleepoor,
Dharwar Districts, 30th January 1851.*



No. 10555 of 1851.

TERRITORIAL DEPARTMENT,
REVENUE.

To

E. G. FAWCETT, ESQ.,

Revenue Commissioner, Southern Division.

SIR,

I have been directed to acknowledge the receipt of your predecessor's letter, No. 1192, of 10th March last, transmitting a report from Captain Wingate on the subject of introducing a survey and revision of assessment in the Rutnagiri Collectorate.

2. The Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council postponed disposing of these papers until he could consult Captain Wingate, partly with a view of ascertaining whether he had the means of affording Government the assistance necessary to the prosecution of the Revenue Survey of Rutnagiri, so long since enjoined by the Hon'ble Court, but chiefly in order that His Lordship in Council might endeavour to mature some mode of operations adapted to the peculiarities of a Collectorate differing so widely as to tenures, customs connected with land, rights of property, and revenue administration, as Rutnagiri does from all parts of the Presidency in which it has hitherto been attempted to revise the assessment by means of a Revenue Survey.

3. Independent of these peculiarities, there are the great sub-division of the land, especially the rice and garden portions of it, and the hilly impracticable tracts over which the dry-crop cultivation is carried on,—serious difficulties, requiring to be considered and provided for in any well-matured plan of survey operations.

4. The Government are inclined to concur in an opinion which Captain Wingate has now expressed to the Right Hon'ble the President, that a preferable method to that suggested in the 70th paragraph of his report would be to measure off into sections, of any size found most convenient, the rice, garden, and portions of the dry crop land sufficiently level for the use of the plough, and to define the limits of these sections by boundary marks, when no natural marks are in existence, in a village map. The various fields and sub-divisions comprised in each of these sections should then be measured, classed, and assessed separately, and recorded as subordinate numbers within the section, and might also be shown upon a map of the section drawn on a larger scale than the village map, as was done in the case of the Kownaee Survey. The plan of operations here suggested is, in fact, the same as that proposed by Captain Wingate in a separate communication for Goozerat, excepting as regards the hilly portion of the dry-crop land, which Government agree with Captain Wingate in thinking it would not be worth while to attempt to survey, further than may be necessary for the purpose of laying down the boundaries of the village on the map. It is very possible the assessment of this land might be fixed in the lump, and then apportioned among the holders according to fractional shares settled with their concurrence, as in the case of the Kownaee dangs.

5. In the course of the survey, the particular terms on which each field is held, and the length of time it has been in the possession of the present holders and their ancestors, should be recorded in the survey papers, to afford data which might assist Government in determining the best mode of introducing the new assessment, and settling the various rights of the superior and inferior holders in koolargee villages.

6. His Lordship in Council has been pleased to authorize survey operations in the Rutnagiri Collectorate being undertaken at once, for the purpose of ascertaining what would be an equitable assessment, and for enabling Government to form an opinion as to the most suitable means of settling how this assessment is to be collected ; but, in the opinion of his Lordship in Council, practical effect cannot be given to a settlement in khotee villages and kecheree (mixed) villages without the aid of legislation.

7. Putting aside the difficulty of obtaining true information as to the respective rights of the khote and his permanent tenants and his tenants-at-will, and the extent of land properly assignable to each, and supposing that all these particulars were ascertained, Government could not, by so doing, define the relations of these parties, or put a limit on the exactions of the khote for the future ; and unless this can be done, the Governor in Council quite agrees with the opinion expressed in Captain Wingate's report, that it would be a waste of time and money to undertake the proposed survey at all.

8. To what extent it may be desirable to define or modify the relations of the khote and his tenants by legislative enactment, His Lordship in Council is not at present prepared to say ; but for the purpose of affording fuller information in regard to this point, he is of opinion an experimental survey of some villages is required.

9. There would appear to be a considerable resemblance between the khotee tenure and that of the talookdaree mehals of the North West Provinces. In the settlement of the latter it appears, from a circular order of the Sudder Dewanee Adawlut to the several Civil Judges of their provinces, dated January 31st, 1845, and to be found at page 152 of the printed directions for revenue officers, published by the Agra Government, that Regulation VII. of 1822, of the Bengal Code, reserves to the administrative authority the privilege and power of determining and directing which of two parties, possessing interests of different kinds in such properties, shall be admitted to engage for the Government revenue, and of securing the rights of the remaining parties, as well as of prescribing the manner and proportion in which the net rent or profit arising out of the limitation of the Government demand shall be distributed among the different parties possessing an interest in the lands appertaining to a mahal.

10. Similar powers to those here mentioned are indispensable to any satisfactory settlement of khotee villages, and though the administrative authorities here might be considered competent to exercise such powers without the intervention of legislation, on the grounds of settlements having been made at various times by former Governments, the Governor in Council is of opinion that the most eligible course would be to place this beyond doubt, by conferring the requisite powers by legislative enactment.

11. Although the Governor in Council does not consider Government are yet in a position to specify the various particulars to be introduced into such an enactment, he is nearly satisfied that this power should extend to the abolition of the practice of " atveth," and the absorption of all cesses into a single tax upon the land, and to the determination of the rents to be paid by the permanent tenants to the khote, and to the assignment to the latter of a per-centage in lieu of all claims, (and this whether or no it is found desirable to collect the rents direct from the reiyuts instead of through him,) and to declare the occupancies of these reiyuts while in permanent occupancy, and possibly also of the tenants-at-will, to be transferable and saleable at their own pleasure, and also in satisfaction of the dues of Government or of the superior holder.

12. Much local knowledge is evidently requisite for a settlement of the khotee and subordinate tenures, and His Lordship in Council is of opinion, therefore, that the experimental operations above adverted to could only be satisfactorily prosecuted under the immediate supervision of the Collector, Mr. Townsend's proposition that the operations should be conducted by Captain Wingate in person being incompatible with the requirements for that officer's services in other quarters.

13. You will be pleased to instruct Captain Wingate to detach Lieutenant Kemball to Rūtnagiri, with a small establishment of measurers and one or two classers, in the course of the present season, as soon as arrangements can be made for supplying his place; and in the mean time to instruct Mr. Coles to select a few villages, both koolargee and khotee, conveniently situated for the prosecution of the experimental survey. It would be desirable to select villages in which the present assessment is understood to be oppressive, more particularly in the case of the khotee villages, as the khotes of such villages would probably voluntarily and gladly accede to any arrangements that might be proposed for their future management, in the manner as above contemplated.

14. During the prosecution of the experimental survey Lieutenant Kemball is to remain attached to his present department, but will receive a deputation allowance of ten Rupees a day; his accounts should be distinct, and he himself be responsible for all the disbursements connected with the experiment, the Collector being authorized to meet his applications for advances for this purpose, which would be adjusted afterwards, on Lieutenant Kemball's bills for expenditure being passed, according to the practice followed in the other surveys.

15. Lieutenant Kemball should, while so employed, continue subordinate to Captain Wingate on all points connected with the interior management of his establishment, also in regard to the survey operations generally, in so far as may not interfere with the instructions he may receive from Mr. Coles. The latter officer is also to be authorized to correspond freely with Captain Wingate on all points connected with the projected operations upon which he may be desirous of consulting him.

16. Copy of your letter and the present reply will be sent direct to Captain Wingate and to Mr. Coles.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 8th November 1851.